

## SHSS REACHES OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

### Upcoming Events:

- Start of Winter Trimester – January 9
- Residential Institute— February 18-22
- STUEY Awards – April 4
- End of Winter Trimester— April 7
- Open House—April 22

### International Day of Peace

September 21 marked the International Day of Peace – a day set aside by the United Nations to celebrate peace and non-violence around the globe. The Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution (DCAR) at the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) recognized the day with a celebration of peace at the Alvin Sherman Library. The day included representation by numerous civic, student, and peace building organizations as well as various workshops, films, and activities promoting peace.



The opening ceremony featured talks by Marion Kminek from Peaceful Tomorrows and Kathy Hersh from the Non-violence project. Both speakers relayed the importance of peace in today's world through their own experiences. The closing ceremony featured NSU alumna Florence Ross, Ph.D. Ross is the founder of the Institute for Peacemaking Elders at NSU and a graduate of the Department of Conflict Analysis and

Resolution at SHSS. The International Day of Peace ended with Rev. Marcy Roban's of Metaphysical & Holistic Education and Services closing remarks.



Julia Chaitin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies at SHSS, initiated the planning of the International Day of Peace at NSU by gathering together various people and organizations from throughout the NSU community. Together, the peace day planning committee was able to combine efforts and create a day indicative of what the United Nations envisioned.

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### Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts

Family therapy faculty and family therapy graduate students were recruited for emergency response teams to go to southern Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina. Sparkle Callender, doctoral candidate in the Department of Family Therapy traveled to Mississippi as part of the Hurricane relief effort with HPD.

### Hurricane Wilma Workshop

SHSS reached out into the community once again after the destruction of Hurricane Wilma. Robin Cooper, the Graduate Assistant for Community Resolution Services (CRS) presented a workshop entitled "After Wilma-Communication and Conflict Resolution in Times of Crisis" on November 15. The workshop covered topics such as feuding with neighbors over hurricane damage, frustration involved in getting the assistance of service provides, and tension amongst family members as a result of stress.

The two-hour workshop was open to both the NSU community and the public to help provide strategies for coping successfully in times of crisis. It explored how you can communicate effectively when feeling frustration and fatigue, and what steps you can take to resolve conflicts arising as a result of the hurricane.



## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

### FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

- Green, S., & Flemons, D. (2005). From Lingua Franca to Scriptio Animi: Carolyn Ellis's writing of the heart. In N. Denzin (Ed.), *Studies in Symbolic Interaction: A Research Annual*
- Rambo, A., & Green, S. (2005). MFTs and models: Some historical reflections. *Family Therapy Magazine*, Sept./Oct, pp. 15-17.
- Rambo, A., Hibel, J., Green, S., & Cole, P. (2005). New ventures in syllabi writing: Getting the core competencies into concrete, behavioral, measurable learning objectives. *Family Therapy Magazine*, July/August, p. 19.
- Kacen, L. & Chaitin, J. (forthcoming). The times they are a changin': Undertaking qualitative research in ambiguous, conflictual and changing contexts. The Qualitative Report.
- Davidheiser, M. (2006). "Joking for Peace: An Anthropological Case Study of Social Organization, Tradition, Change, and Conflict Resolution." Forthcoming in *Cahiers d'Etudes Africaines*. No. 183-184.
- Davidheiser, M. (2006). "Culture and Mediation: A Contemporary Processual Analysis." Forthcoming in *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*.
- Essoh, J.M.C. Essis (2005), "From Individual State Preferences to Collective Decisions: An Analytic Account of the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference." *International Negotiation 10*: p. 513-539,

### FACULTY & STAFF UPDATES

**Dr. Chris Burnett, Assistant Professor of Family Therapy**, presented an overview of Bowen Family Systems Therapy at the IPPC forum chaired by Dr. Quintar on December 2 and 9.

**Janice Burgoyne, Interim Assistant Dean for Operations and Director of Finance and Administration**, was promoted to the position of Assistant Dean for Operations in December.

**Julia Bilia** joined SHSS as Administrative Assistant to the Department of Family Therapy on November 28.

**Dr. Julia Chaitin, Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies**, was asked to give a talk at the upcoming conference of the Association of Jewish Studies in Washington, D.C. on December 18-20. The name of the talk was: Memories of Mother and Father: Child Survivors' Narratives of Parent-Child Relationships during the Holocaust. Dr. Chaitin has also been asked to chair a panel. The title of the panel is: The Reliability of Holocaust Memories between Subjective Truth and Historical Accuracy II: Interviews and Radio Plays.

**Dr. Mark Davidheiser, Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Anthropology**, presented "Mediation and Legal Reform: Sustainable Development through Indigenous Dispute Resolution." V. International Conference of the World Mediation Forum. Crans-Montana, Switzerland; Sept. 2005. He also participated in an interview with Radio France International and spoke about the role of joking relations in conflict management. The radio program was broadcast worldwide on December 27.

**Dr. Shelley Green, Associate Professor of Family Therapy**, presented an all-day institute entitled "Approved Supervision Refresher Course: Having Fun Jump-Starting Supervision" at the annual conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy in Kansas City, MO on October 20, 2005.

**Dr. James Hibel, Director, Institutional Assessment, Planning and Relations and Assistant Professor of Family Therapy**, was promoted to the position of Senior Directorship in December.

**Dr. John Linstroth, Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Anthropology**, served as Special Editor

for the Fall 2005 issue of the *Peace and Conflict Studies*.

**Dr. Susanne Marshall, Director of the Master of Arts in Cross-disciplinary Studies and Special Assistant to the Dean for Academic Affairs**, was promoted to the position of Senior Director of Student and Academic Affairs in December.

**Dr. Judith McKay, Chair of the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution/Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Community Studies**, is working on a federally-funded project she designed called Community Resources, Partnerships, and Solutions (CRPS). CRPS involves identifying and enhancing community resources, establishing viable partnerships within the community, including building social capital, training law enforcement, service providers and community leaders, creating a website, and conducting a pilot study to provide services to families and communities. CRPS is designed to help communities address community and family violence by creating collaborative infrastructures and partnerships to support multi-modal approaches. She also gave two presentations at the Association for Conflict Resolution Annual Conference in October in Minneapolis, "Quality Assurance in Graduate Conflict Resolution Studies: Comparative Models for Educating Tomorrow's Practitioners" and "A Comparative Analysis of Developmental Trends in Graduate Conflict Resolutions Programs in the United States and Canada."

**Janelle Miller** was promoted from her Receptionist position to the Administrative Assistant for the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

**Dr. Debra Nixon, Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy**, was promoted to Associate Chair for the Department of Family Therapy.

**Dr. Honggang Yang, Dean of SHSS, Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies**, co-facilitated the 3rd Annual Forum on U.S.--China Higher Education Administration in Washington, D.C. on Feb. 3rd and 4th.

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

### STUDENTS

**Yanira Aleman, J.D., DCAR doctoral student**, was appointed as faculty, in a tenure-track position, for the General Social Sciences program of the Department of Social Sciences at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. She will be starting the new position in January.

**Shatavia Alexander, DFT doctoral student**, received a grant for \$2,000 on December 15 from the Santana Moss (U.M. Alumnus, NFL Washington Redskins player and Probowler.) The funds were used for North Side Elementary school families affected by Hurricane Wilma. Any remaining funds will be used for next year's Christmas gift fund as directed by the school principal.

**Adrienne Franco, DFT doctoral student**, was awarded Health Care Professional of the Year, by the South Florida Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. She also taught a teleconference on Work, Disability, and Rehabilitation for the National MS Society in December.

**Tony Gaskew, DCAR Ph.D. candidate**, submitted a piece to the ACR Newsletter on the culture of terrorism, which explores, among other things, the idea of seeing the foundations of terrorism through the lens of the violence triangle a construct that begins with direct violence as the event that is intended to insult the basic needs of others.

**Tina Jaeckle, DCAR student**, was awarded by Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) for her endeavors in Crisis Intervention.

**Elisabeth S. Jellinek, DCAR student**, received the following scholarships for the 2004-2005 year: a \$1500 scholarship from the Community Foundation of Broward, specifically the Mary Houlston MacDonald Scholarship for Women. The scholarships she received for the 2005-2006 year included: a \$2000 scholarship from the Community Foundation of Broward, also the Mary Houlston MacDonald Scholarship for Women; a \$1000 scholarship from the Broward Women's Alliance; a \$1500 scholarship from USA Funds Access to Education; and a \$500 scholarship from Mensa Education and Research Foundation, National Scholarship Program, specifically a Kuhnel Scholarship.

**Siva Jeva, DFT master's student**, received a scholarship from the Broward International Women's Club for \$1,400 on October 21st during a reception at the Renaissance Plantation Hotel.

**Mary Kammerman, DFT doctoral student**, presented her Applied Clinical Project entitled *Forgotten Fathers: A Resource Guide for Fathers Following Miscarriage* on November 7 in the Maltz Building.

**Barbara Manouso, M.P.H., T.C.A.M., DCAR doctoral student**, in has two upcoming speaking engagements: The ACR Dallas Chapter on February 9, 2006, in Dallas, TX *Elder and Adult Guardianship Mediation Services: A Practical Perspective*. And the Texas Association of Mediators (TAM) on February 23, 2006, in Austin, TX *Volunteerism versus Commercialism: What is your Value as a Mediator?*

**Andrew Rusatsi, DCAR doctoral student**, was invited to attend the International Congress on Intercultural and Interfaith

Dialogue "New challenges in a World longing for Peace" held on December 11-13 in Bilbao, Basque Country, Spain.

**Gregory M. Vechhi, DCAR Ph.D. Candidate**, published "Crisis (hostage) negotiation: current strategies and issues in high-risk conflict resolution" in the *Aggression and Violent Behavior 10* (2005) journal.

**Merav Yeshayahu, a DCAR master's student**, received a scholarship from the Broward International Women's Club for \$1,400 on October 21st during a reception at the Renaissance Plantation Hotel.

### ALUMNI

**Dr. Khawla Abu-Baker, DCAR Alumna**, will begin a lecture series in the United States on her book, *Coffins on Our Shoulders: The Experience of the Palestinian Citizens of Israel* starting with a lecture at Yale University on November 11, then two lectures at Colgate University Hamilton on November 14-15, a lecture in Harvard University on November 16 and a lecture at Columbia University on November 17. She will also be giving several radio interviews during her lecture series.

**Jaime Arango, DCAR Alum**, was the 2005 Fourth Quarter Winner of the Helen Graham Employee Achievement Award of Excellence at NSU. Jaime works as the Institutional Review Board Administrator in the Office of Grants and Contracts and has been an employee at NSU for almost 10 years.

**Dr. Clyde A. Baliey, DFT Alum**, upon his graduation from SHSS, earned a fulltime job as a Clinical Therapist at the Center for Family Services in West Palm Beach. The agency is over 30 years old and serves a wide cross section of the community including offering Employees Assistance Programs to various companies and organizations within the county.

**Dr. LaVena Cook, DCAR Alumna**, has been teaching the fundamental class at Ford Motor Company and was invited back to teach three more sections. LaVena has also designed a half-day workshop for the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice, and has presented it as part of their leadership training for the past two years. Currently, she is working with Tony Belak, the Executive Director of the International Center for Dispute Resolution at Sullivan University, on a two-day training for a group in London, England.

**Emily Gonzalez-Abreu, DFT Alumna**, was featured in the Sun-Sentinel among a panel of experts in an article discussing the recent violence against the homeless by teenagers in Fort Lauderdale.

**Dr. Barbara Timmons Strahl, DCAR Alumna**, presented at the VOMA (Victim Offender Mediation Association) Conference in Philadelphia October 24-28, 2005. The presentation is titled FORUM: A restorative justice experiment in re-entry.

**Shela Wannemacher, DCAR Alumna**, recently became the Human Resources Director for a medium sized, non-profit company that has over 250 employees. In the position she has been conducting trainings, working on organizational development, and developing an internal communication plan. She has also been volunteering to mediate at a local mediation agency.



# FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

Dear SHSS Students and Alumni,

Happy New Year to everyone! The winter semester has begun and I would like to extend a sincere welcome to all new and returning students. Our first semester on the Main Campus has come a successful end and I am looking forward to the many opportunities that the new year will bring.

2006 will be a dynamic and productive year for SHSS students, faculty, staff, and alumni. A new Family Ministry program is moving forward in 2006 as well as a Family Therapy online program. SHSS has begun

Internships, clinical training, and experiential learning between now and 2010, strengthening and highlight student learning beyond the classroom. SHSS is also working with CPS colleagues and students for multidisciplinary and multi-professional initiatives in the new year.

I will continue to hold office hours every Wednesday from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. In addition, I am also available for individual appointments. If you

should need to make such an appointment, please contact my Assistant Ann Zomerfeld via email at [azomerfel@nsu.nova.edu](mailto:azomerfel@nsu.nova.edu) or 1-800-541-6682, extension 3048.

I wish everyone health and success in 2006!



## SHSS ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

The Schoolwide Luncheon was held on September 28<sup>th</sup> in the Carl DeSantis building. The luncheon was dedicated to the SHSS staff by faculty.

Family therapy faculty and family therapy graduate students were recruited for emergency response teams to go to southern Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina. Sparkle Callender, doctoral candidate in the Department of Family Therapy traveled to Mississippi as part of the Hurricane relief effort with HPD.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Residential Institute for distance learning students was held on October 15-19.

"Conflict Structure and Dynamics: A Panel Discussion on Ongoing Conflict Situations in Africa (Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Sudan and Uganda)" was given during Residential Institute on October 17. Panelists included DCAR students: Altayeb Altayeb (Sudan), Michael Fonkem (The Cameroons), Jacques Koko (Cote d'Ivoire), Andrew Rusatsi (Uganda).

Dr. Neil Katz was the keynote speaker at the October Residential Institute. His presentation was entitled "The Making of Practitioner/Scholar in Organizational Conflict and Resolution."

The Graduate Certificate in Family Ministry has been launched and recruitment has begun for the new program.

Students, staff, and faculty formed team SHSS United and participated in this year's intramural soccer season at NSU.

Family Therapy master's students, together with high school students, raised money for holiday gifts this past holiday season. The group has committed to raising the money again next year.

Family therapy master's students also put together 150 backpacks filled with school supplies for children displaced by Hurricane Katrina this past fall.

DCAR faculty presented five sessions on "Becoming a Graduate Student" during Residential Institute for first year students. Faculty members also presented on special topics during the week-long event. Dr. Chaitin presented "Soldiers and the Military in Israel - personal experiences; psycho-social understandings" and Dr. Essis presented "Funding your Education: Looking for scholarships, grants, and other funding opportunities."

The SHSS Student Association held its annual social at the Signature Grand during Residential Institute on October 16.

SHSS co-sponsored the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Solution-focused Brief Therapy along with the Solution-focused Brief Therapy Association (SFBTA) November 3-5 on the Main Campus, over 150 people attended. Dr. Lee Shilts was the chair of the conference, Lauren Hill facilitated the conference preparations and operations, and Dean Yang welcomed all participants at the opening plenary.



SHSS hosted a workshop, *Relational Therapy across the Generations: Creativity and Resources* on November 11 in the Maltz building. The workshop is being facilitated by Argentinean therapist Susy Jutoran. CEU credits are available.

Robin Cooper, CRS Graduate Assistant, presented a Hurricane Wilma recovery workshop entitled, "After Wilma-Communication and Conflict Resolution in Times of Crisis" on November 15.

## THE DISSERTATION PROCESS: FROM A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Mary Neal started the Ph.D. program in the Department of Family Therapy in August of 2000. She began the process of writing her dissertation after three years in the program and after completing her internship. Miranda has been working on her dissertation for two and a half years.

She defended her proposal on February 2 and hopes to finish and do her final defense by June 30, 2006. The title of her study is *Understanding Others/ Enabling Ourselves: A Collaborative Approach to In-service Early Childhood Teacher Training*.

What was the biggest challenge you faced during the dissertation process?:

I spent a great deal of time was spent simply trying to formulate my question and what approach to use in addressing that question. Explaining my challenges to you seems so simple now as the process is coming to a conclusion. However, I have a box full of previous drafts that chronicle my journey to formulate and refine, and formulate and refine even more, the attempts to address the question. But each attempt brought me closer to what I wanted to say.

Who did you turn to for assistance and support?:

My chair is as passionate about applying systems thinking to larger systems as I am and was supportive of my work. However, meeting with some of my colleagues from time to time gave me an opportunity to articulate my thoughts and get their feedback, time that my chair did not have to commit to me. I also have three fabulous friends who have tolerated "my pregnancy" and listened to me talk incessantly about my developing ideas. They feel a part of this process and are eagerly anticipating the "birth" of this project (hopefully, arriving in the spring).



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### Anita Vestal honored at the Celebration of Excellence

Dr. Marilyn Anita Vestal, a 2001 doctoral graduate from the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution was honored at the Celebration of Excellence on January 26 at the Signature Grand. Dr. Vestal received a Bachelor of Science degree in Child and Family Development from Virginia Technical University, a Master's in Business Administration from Texas Tech University, and her Ph.D in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from NSU.

While a doctoral student, she received an award from the American Bar Association's Dispute Resolution Section for outstanding student paper. She was also awarded a Head Start grant to conduct her dissertation research.

Since 1990 Dr. Vestal has had a practice in organizational development and mediation with family, workplace, and community parties. She was a program Administrator for a statewide migrant Head Start program in Florida, served in the Peace Corps for two years in Latin America, and was the founding Executive Director of Child Care Consultants, Inc., in York, Pennsylvania. She was also on the board of several organizations including a community mediation center in Pennsylvania.

She has served as an Associate professor at Eastern Mennonite University and at Mountain State University where she was able to combine her expertise in organizational development, leadership, and dispute systems design. She has also taught classes in the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution at NSU. Dr. Vestal has also conducted research on bullying in schools, the impact of conflict resolution training on teachers, and is actively engaged in projects involving the use of appreciative inquiry.

Dr. Vestal has published over ten articles on topics such as mediation, parental alienation syndrome, bullying in schools, using conflict resolution in Head Start programs, conflict management in organizations, and using conflict resolution in everyday activities. She has been recognized nationally for her expertise in the impact of parental alienation on family mediation. Dr. Vestal has devoted her professional career to encouraging and supporting individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in their desire to build more peaceful and effective relationships and environments. In her spare time she enjoys tennis, meditation, family and friends, including spending time with her son Davon.

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### SHSS TEAM WINS THE 1ST ANNUAL ETHICS BOWL

NSU's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Ethics Bowl, held on Saturday, October 8, 2005 on the Main Campus, consisted of eight teams who competed against each other on ethical issues pertinent to today's societal beliefs and value systems. The Social Constructionists, representing Dr. Roxanne Bamond's Ethics of Marriage and Family Therapy class, displayed an incredible amount of team spirit when they competed against their peers. Their hard work paid off when they conquered seven other teams. Gary Forrest, Mike Rhodes, Ronella Frierson, and Nina MacLean took home the trophy. The winners received a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble, as well as the opportunity to attend the Southeast Regional Ethics Bowl in St. Petersburg, Florida.



The Ethics Bowl was designed for NSU students to think critically about life purpose and meaning, while introducing them to "real world" ethical dilemmas. In a fast-paced world where values and beliefs are questionable, having students engage in a truthful and intense exchange of viewpoints while building community spirit through a healthy competition and dialogue is essential to university growth. NSU's 1<sup>st</sup> Ethics Bowl has set a tradition of greater deliberation of meaningful life questions among the student population.

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## NEW FACES AT SHSS!

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Julia Bilia joined the Department of Family Therapy as an Administrative Assistant on November 28, 2005.

Julia has a wide range of administrative experience working at the NSU La Bonte Institute, Sunrise Radiator, Kibbutz Maagan in Israel, and Drogueria Quinfica in Guatemala. Her most recent position has been at the Banco Popular, North American in Miami.

Julia received a B.S. in Business Administration at the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and is a Real Estate Associate.



Erica Guterman joined SHSS on January 30, 2006 as the new Assistant to the Office of Student and Academic Affairs. In her position, Erica will work with both Susanne Marshall, Ph.D. as well as with Jim Hibel, Ph.D. in his capacity as the Senior Director of Institutional Assessment, Planning and Relations.

Erica comes to us with experience in the academic environment. She served first as Undergraduate Program Secretary in the Geography Department and then as an Admissions Counselor at York University in Toronto in the 1990s. Most recently Erica has helped lead her husband's construction company.

Erica has lived in a variety of different countries including Canada, the U.S. and Colombia over the past two decades. She is fluent in English, Spanish, Hungarian, and Hebrew and also understands some French.

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## 2005-2006 STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS BOARD

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Yulia Watters has joined the SHSS Student Association as the new secretary.



Graduate School of  
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The Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) offers interdisciplinary programs in conflict analysis & resolution, family therapy, cross-disciplinary studies, college student affairs, peace studies, family studies, health care conflict resolution, family systems health-care, advanced family systems, and joint programs with the other NSU units. SHSS is also a home of the two academic journals: "Peace and Conflict Studies," and "The Qualitative Report." For more information about SHSS, visit the website at: <http://shss.nova.edu> or us call (954) 262-3000.

**We're on the Web!**

**[shss.nova.edu](http://shss.nova.edu)**

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; telephone number 404-679-4501) to award bachelor's, master's educational specialist and doctoral degrees.

NSU admits students of any race, color, religion or creed, sex, pregnancy, national or ethnic origin, nondisqualifying disability, age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, status as a disabled veteran, or political beliefs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at NSU and does not discriminate in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.