

CCE Newsletter

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Fall, 2007

Special points of interest:

- 2007 Midwest Regional Conference
- Washington, D.C. Internship Experiences
- Faculty Associate Profiles
- Alumni World: From Greece to China

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Message from the Director

Faculty and student associates of the Center for Comparative Education have been very much on the move. In the last issue of the Newsletter, we reported that the Center's Associate Director, Professor Noah Sobe, gave the keynote address at the Mexican History of Education Society meeting in Guanajuato, Mexico. Professor Robert Roemer is currently spending the year on leave in Romania as a Fulbright Professor at the University of Bucharest. Last June I gave the keynote address (in Spanish) at the meeting of the Argentina Society for Comparative Education in Buenos Aires, and in November, I will be lecturing in England as a visiting scholar at the invitation of the comparative education program at the University of Oxford. Several of our graduate students have been working on their research in such places as Armenia, Australia, Colombia, Estonia, Lithuania, Mexico, North Korea, Puerto Rico, and Spain.

As in past issues, this issue of the Newsletter features profiles on a few of our faculty, student, and alumni associates. A major story relates to our hosting of the 2007 Midwest Regional Meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society at the beginning of November. It is the third Midwest Meeting of the Society that Loyola has hosted — the previous meetings having been in 1972 and 1999. Although this is to be a "regional" meeting, participants are coming from as far away as Africa, Singapore, Hawaii, and New York City. Indeed, counted among the participants are three past presidents (including me) and a future president of the Comparative and International Education Society. The Center, along with our very active and dedicated Comparative and International Education Graduate Students Association, is proud to host such distinguished comparativists and the many wonderful students and faculty from institutions in the Midwest and beyond who are coming to Loyola for this event.



Erwin H. Epstein,
Director of the Center
for Comparative
Education

Erwin H. Epstein
Director

Faculty Associate Profiles



Professor Ottati,

The Center for Comparative Education congratulates CCE faculty associate Prof. Victor C. Ottati on his recent promotion to full professor. Professor Ottati is a social psychologist whose work focuses on political attitude formation, metaphor and communication, social cognition, stereotyping,

persuasion, and evaluation. He is the author of numerous journal articles and book chapters, as well as the co-editor of a 2002 volume entitled The Social Psychology of Politics. In his work on the determinants of political opinion Professor Ottati has investigated whether individuals derive their political issue opinions on the basis of a deliberative analysis of the consequences associated with a policy initiative, or whether they respond more on the basis of affective reactions. His work on metaphor focuses on how metaphorical language influences the process

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Internship Experiences of CCE Student Associates in Washington D.C.



*Josefina DiGiovanna,
M.A. Student Associate*

After her successful stint at the Embassy of Mexico in 2006 under the Washington Center for Seminar and Internship NAFTA Program, Josefina DiGiovanna, a CCE M.A. Student Associate, is back in D.C. again. This time she is interning with the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in the Area of Sustainable Development and Environmental Health, under the Senior Advisor of the Millennium Development Goals and Health Targets. About 30 interns from all over the globe work at PAHO; Josefina is one of four interns working on the Millennium Development Goals.

According to Josefina, interning in Washington, D.C. is to experience what policy work is really like. Some of the lessons Josefina learned from her time at the Embassy of Mexico, which are being rein-

forced at the OAS and PAHO, are:

1. Importance of computer/internet skills
2. Language Skills
3. The ability of multi tasking
4. Importance of communication skills - written and oral
5. Knowing how to formulate a good question/Critical thinking Skills
6. Using resources and networks
7. Individuals going into policy not only need to be competent in the technical aspect of their work, but they need to know how to lobby for resources and conduct themselves in the bureaucracies and politics that exist in policy-making.

In summer 2007, Mousumi Mukherjee, another CCE M.A. Student Associate, interned with the Institute of International Education (IIE) in Washington D.C. for the Fulbright Hubert H. Humphrey program. Mousumi did her internship under the Washington Center for Seminar and Internship International Affairs Program.

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CCE Alumni Associate Profile: Hee Kyung Hong, Ph.D. 2006



Dr. Hee Kyung Hong

Although a native South Korean, Hee Kyung Hong grew up in Hong Kong, where she earned a Bachelor of Social Sciences and Postgraduate Certificate of Education at the University of Hong Kong. After teaching languages for two years at an international secondary school in Hong Kong, she continued her studies at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, graduating with an M.A. in International Education. Having attended the World Congress of Comparative Education Societies in 2001 in South Korea, she decided to enrol in the Cultural and Educational Policy Studies program, with a concentration in Comparative Education, at Loyola. Concurrent with her pursuit of a Loyola Ph.D.

degree, which she received in 2006, Hee Kyung completed another M.A. in International Relations from the University of Chicago. Her Ph.D. dissertation was a longitudinal analysis of the influence of economic development on student achievement in math and science in both developed and developing nations. She used TIMSS datasets and was selected in 2005 to participate in the TIMSS Database Training Seminar with the U.S. Department of Education National Center for Educational Statistics.

Hee Kyung taught foundations of education at Loyola and National-Louis University during the 2006-2007 academic year. Since the summer of 2007, Hee Kyung has been based in Beijing, China, working as a Research Fellow at Peking University's China Institute for Educational Finance Research. The Institute operates as a leading think tank on educational policies, and works closely with the central government's Ministry of Education (MOE) and Ministry of Finance (MOF), as well as with the World

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Profile of New Student: Nicole Ortegón

Nicole Ortegón earned her Ed.M. degree in Technology in Education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Prior to that, she completed her BA degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences with a major in anthropology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As an undergraduate student, Nicole was particularly interested in cultural anthropology. During her senior year, one of Nicole's course research projects focused on a qualitative understanding of the student to faculty ratio through examining the relationships and interactions between faculty and students in University settings. In addition, peer-peer relationships and interactions were examined as was the role of online learning technologies in building relationships and facilitating the learning process. Thus, Nicole developed an interest in exploring the intersection of the fields of anthropology and education. While at Harvard, she took a course on leadership in education, which engendered an interest in educational policies and educational technology policies at various levels of government.

After graduating, she worked as an education outreach specialist for BUILD, Inc. (Broader Urban Involvement and Leadership Development), assisting low-income and 1st generation students in establishing and attaining their postsecondary academic and professional goals.

Before joining Loyola University Chicago as a full-time Ph.D. student, Nicole took a course in American School Policy, ELPS 444, with Dr. Noah Sobe. After taking this course, she decided to pursue her PhD studies in Cultural and Educational Policy Studies at Loyola, believing the program offered a strong base and grounding in theory, while maintaining an emphasis on professional applications. Nicole's anthropological background strongly influenced her to pursue comparative education in particular, as did her exposure to the field of comparative education through ELPS 455, Comparative Education, with Dr. Erwin Epstein.



Nicole Ortegón, Ph.D.
Student Associate

Nicole elected to pursue comparative education as her area of concentration based on the field's concern with schooling in a variety of countries, its attention to social context and educational issues that transcend national boundaries, and the opportunity it affords to jointly employ theories and methodologies of various disciplines in examining educational issues.

CCE Alumni Associate Profile: Angelyn Balodimas-Bartolomei, Ph.D. 2004

Angelyn Balodimas-Bartolomei was born in Chicago to immigrant Greek parents. Her determination to master the Greek language brought her to Greece, where she earned her B.A. in Greek social work and Greek Studies at Deree College in Athens. Angie then entered the Pedagogical Academy of Greece. The difficulties and frustration of her new identity as an immigrant student would leave a lasting impact on her and her future dedication to immigrants. Upon graduation from the university in Greece, Angie returned to the USA to study for an M.A. at Northeastern Illinois University in Linguistics and English as a Second Lan-

guage (ESL). She then went on for a Ph.D. degree at Loyola, which she received in 2004 in Educational and Leadership Policy Studies with a concentration in Comparative Education.

Angie has designed numerous curriculum materials for Greek community schools and founded the GSL (Greek as a Second Language) program at St. Haralambos Aristotle Greek School in Chicago. She has taught ESL for adult immigrants and continues to study languages. She has been a translator and organizer for Sister Cities International and designed the Teach Olympics-2004 Sixth

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To make a contribution to the next CCE Newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Managing Editor, Louis Rizzo via e-mail at lrizzo@luc.edu. Submission deadline for the Spring 2008 Newsletter will be February 1, 2008.

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Faculty Associate Profiles *(continued from page 1)*

of persuasive communication and impression formation. Professor Ottati recently received a National Science Foundation grant to conduct further experiments on the role of metaphor in communication. In addition to regularly presenting his work at national conferences, Professor Ottati has been an invited lecturer at universities in Chile, China, and Spain.

Adjunct Assistant Professor Jung-Ah (Christine) Choi

The Center for Comparative Education welcomes new faculty associate, Professor Jung-Ah Choi. Professor Choi is an adjunct assistant professor at Loyola and currently teaches courses in the Sociology of Education and Qualitative Research Methods.

Prior to coming to Loyola she taught for four years at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. Professor Choi received her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her scholarship brings interpersonal, institutional, social and epistemological critical theory perspectives to bear on educational equity issues. In addition to articles in the British Journal of Sociology of Education, the Urban Review, and the International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education, Professor Choi is currently co-editing a volume on neoliberal reform in Korean education. Her present research focuses on Korean immigrants and their racial development in relation to the growth of co-ethnic communities.

Upcoming Event

“Gaining Educational Equity Around the World”

52nd Annual Meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES)

March 17-21, 2008
New York, N.Y., USA
More information online at
<http://www.cies.ws/>

Internship Experiences of CCE Student Associates in Washington D.C. *(continued from page 2)*

Mousumi claims that her time in D.C. was similar to her 10 month Fulbright experience in 2005, enriched not only by the internship but also by participation in Leadership Forum lectures and International Affairs events organized by the Washington Center.

An independent nonprofit founded in 1919, IIE is among the world's largest and most experienced international education and training organizations. IIE's mission is to promote closer educational relations between the people of the United States and those of other countries, strengthen and link institutions of higher learning globally, rescue threatened scholars and advance academic freedom, build leadership skills and, enhance

the capacity of individuals and organizations to address local and global challenges. IIE manages over 250 programs for the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Department of Energy, World Bank, Cisco Learning Institute, Ford Foundation, MacArthur Foundation and several other governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations.

At IIE, Mousumi worked on the Year-End Evaluation Survey of 2006-2007 Humphrey fellows. The survey included both structured and open-ended questions. Working with the survey data helped Mousumi to gain valuable insight into the varied effects a year-long study abroad program has on individuals from different parts of the world. She also had a wonderful opportunity to gain insight on how policies regarding various educational and cultural exchange programs are made and implemented. She also worked on the new Humphrey program website and helped in its content development.



Left to Right: Mousumi Mukherjee, M.A. Student Associate and Dr. Allan Goodman, President, Institute of International Education (IIE)

CCE Alumna Profile: Angelyn Balodimas-Bartolomei, Ph.D. 2004 *(continued from page 3)*

Grade Teachers Resource Guide for the Chicago Public School District. Angie was chosen to attend the Athens 2004 Olympics as a volunteer, where she used her command of several languages to assist spectators.

Angie is interested in comparative and international studies, Greek studies, and ESL and language studies. She has presented papers at several conferences for organizations such as the Comparative and International Education Society, Greek Teachers Association, Italian Teachers Association, and the Modern Greek Studies Association. She is currently on the board of the Illinois Teachers of English and Bilingual Educators. She has served on numerous foreign language committees and currently serves on the education committee at the Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center in Chicago. In conjunction with her doctoral dissertation, Angie has done extensive Greek,



Dr. Angelyn Balodimas-Bartolomei in Delphi, Greece.

Italian and Jewish studies. She is currently researching Greek identity among second, third, and third-plus generation Greek Americans.

Angie is Associate Professor in the School of Education at North Park University. She is the coordinator and primary instructor of the ESL Teachers Endorsement Program.

Recently she began teaching Comparative and International Education for students in the M.A program. She also directs and teaches a summer program entitled "Academic Odyssey to Greece."

Angie is married to Paul, who immigrated from Italy to the United States as a child. Their three grown children were raised learning foreign languages and traveling back to their parents' ancestral lands. Angie is currently writing a children's book, "A Kids Guide to Athens Greece," and, whenever the opportunity arises, she runs to Greece to photograph her favorite place — Athens.

Angie has done extensive Greek, Italian and Jewish studies. She is currently researching Greek identity among second, third, and third-plus generation Greek Americans.

CCE Alumnus Profile: Dr. Hee Kyung Hong *(continued from page 2)*

Bank. Hee Kyung is currently involved in a long-term research project that examines the financial regulation of private higher education in Asian countries that have seen a rapid market expansion of colleges and universities. She is also engaged in a project focusing on implementing compulsory education in rural areas and schooling opportunities for both girls and boys in China. In addition to her memberships in the Comparative and International Education Society and Hong Kong Comparative Education Society, Hee Kyung will be joining the Chinese Comparative Educa-

tion Society and plans to present at their bi-annual conferences. She is also currently serving on the editorial board of Educational Policy and Analysis Archives, an online peer-reviewed journal based in the United States.

In Beijing, Hee Kyung is busy practising and perfecting her Chinese language by memorising an infinite list of vocabulary; learning about cultural norms and practices; trying to think, speak and dream in Chinese; and delighting in the authenticity of Chinese cuisine. She is also experiencing the intensity and excitement leading up to the 2008 Bei-

jing Olympics, as the city is completing its new stadiums and sports infrastructure. Besides the evident indicators of modernization in cities like Beijing and Shanghai, many other cities in China are still historically and culturally rich. An ever inquiring comparativist, Hee Kyung hopes to travel to the different parts of the Middle Kingdom and appreciate their unique characteristics while residing in Beijing.

Hee Kyung is busy practising and perfecting her Chinese language by memorising an infinite list of vocabulary...

A Brief History of the Center for Comparative Education

Comparative Education at Loyola University Chicago had a distinguished history well before the Center for Comparative Education was established in 2005. Emeritus Professor John Wozniak taught the first Comparative Education course at Loyola in 1961. Indeed, Comparative Education played a role in the founding of Loyola's Rome Center, being among the very first courses taught there (by Prof. Wozniak jointly with Fr. Felice). Professor Wozniak continued to teach Comparative Education at Loyola until 1977, joined thereafter by (Emeritus) Professor Gerald Gutek. Emeritus Professor Steven Miller also occasionally taught Comparative Education courses until his retirement in 2006.

Among the most important Ph.D. dissertations in the field of Comparative Education was authored at Loyola by Erwin Pollack under Professor Gutek's direction. That dissertation contains the field's most definitive analysis of the work of Issac Kandel, arguably the most prominent comparativist of education in the 20th century.

Two years after Prof. Gutek's retirement in 1996, Professor Erwin H. Epstein, who had been Director of the University Center for International Studies at the Ohio State University, came to Loyola to chair the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership and teach courses in Comparative Education. Assistant Professor Noah Sobe joined the Comparative Education and History of Education programs in 2003 and became Associate Director of the Center for Comparative Education at the Center's founding.

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For more information, visit us online at

CCE: <http://www.luc.edu/cce/>

2007 CIES Midwest Regional Conference

On Friday, November 2 and Saturday, November 3, Loyola University Chicago's Center for Comparative Education along with the School of Education and the Comparative and International Education Graduate Student Association will be hosting the 2007 Midwest Regional Meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society at the beginning of November. This conference will be the third Midwest Meeting of the Society that Loyola has hosted — the previous meetings having been in 1972 and 1999.

While this is to be a "regional" meeting, Loyola looks forward to welcoming participants who are coming from as far away as Africa, Singapore, Hawaii, and New York City. Indeed, counted among the participants are three past presidents (Dr. Erwin Epstein, Dr. Robert Lawson and Dr. Victor Kobayashi), and future presi-

dent, Dr. Gita Steiner-Khamsi, of the Comparative and International Education Society.

The conference will open on Friday at 11:30 am with a reception hosted by Dr. David Prasse, Dean of Loyola's School of Education, followed by a keynote address to be given by Dr. Robert Lawson, The Ohio State University and will close with a plenary session to discuss plans for next year's regional conference.

