Karen A. Lambert (M.S. PSYC ’81) Works Hard and Plays Hard Too…

Karen A. Lambert’s passion, hard work, and good luck landed her the position of a lifetime—president of Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital* in Barrington, Ill. Lambert wasn’t always interested in management, but her strengths allowed her to consider a management position. Although the role was not as hands-on as she originally wanted, it permitted her to “still influence how we provide care for people in need.”

Lambert had encountered rehabilitation counseling during her undergraduate years at the University of Delaware, but it was “the diversity of thought and people at IIT” that harbored her interest in playing the advocacy role that she mastered at IIT. “It’s not one person [that makes an organization successful], it takes all of us,” she says. At 23, Lambert was attracted to IIT’s Rehabilitation Psychology program because she was impressed with its commitment to preparing professionals to serve people with disabilities. Her I/O-focused courses at IIT encouraged Lambert to diversify and expand her view of the world.

Prior to her roles as vice president and then president at Good Shepherd, Lambert had various positions at Advocate Christ Medical Center, starting with inpatients/outpatients with disabilities and moving into leadership over various divisions within the hospital. She entered the IIT program to acquire the necessary skills to obtain a job and “came out with a career,” she says. Lambert believes her ability to assemble a group of associates and physicians, all rallied around a good cause and leading with the patient first, has made her successful at Advocate.

Lambert also takes on an important role in her community. She serves as a director of the Barrington Area Community Foundation and was a director of the Barrington Area Arts Council. Additionally, she has served on various other boards, and won the Carl Beese Award of Merit (Barrington Chamber of Commerce Leadership Award).

Lambert is part of a family of five and says she has been fortunate to work at a place that allows her to focus on her career while still maintaining a family atmosphere at home.

She offers insightful advice for those looking to follow her path. “Don’t go for the success. Do what you love, the other things will follow,” says Lambert. “Be yourself and that will come through. Actively look for coaches and mentors in your career and life. Align yourself with your organization and put its mission ahead of yourself. If you do that, people will be willing to help you; they will want to work with you.” Lambert adds, “You need to be willing to execute and get things done. You also need balance…work hard, but play hard, too.”

*Advocate Health Care is a faith-based not-for-profit health system. It is the largest, fully integrated health care delivery system in metropolitan Chicago and the State of Illinois. Advocate has more than 200 sites of care including nine acute care hospitals, two children’s hospitals, home health services, hospice, physician services, and health education programs.
From the Chair

Serving in a voluntary role as an IIT trustee and chair of the College of Psychology Board of Overseers carries with it certain honors. In addition to networking with wonderful people and being among the first to learn about exciting new research on campus, it is a privilege to thank the college’s generous donors. This issue includes an honor roll of psychology donors who have given during the past fiscal year. Such a list has not been printed in PsychLink for a while, and so a few interesting facts relating to psychology donors have been included. One fact not on the list but noteworthy is the generosity of the Board of Overseers. Each and every member contributed last year, which speaks volumes about their commitment to the faculty and students.

Outstanding among gifts this year is an anonymous donation to the college to establish a new endowment for graduate fellowships. The Phil S. and Harriett C. Shurrager Industrial/Organizational Endowed Fellowship will provide continual funding for students while honoring the Shurragers and their myriad accomplishments. The Shurragers led the Department of Psychology from 1946 until their retirement in 1972.

On October 21, the college celebrated the investiture of Ronald S. Landis as the first holder of the Nambury S. Raju Endowed Faculty Chair. The college’s Center for Research and Service, in partnership with many I/O alumni and friends, contributed to the effort. This milestone in the college’s history enables the all-important recruiting of superb faculty in the overall success of the college while recognizing former faculty whose work built the foundation upon which it grows today.

As the calendar year comes to a close, we send our appreciation to all those involved with IIT’s College of Psychology. If you haven’t contributed to the college this year, please consider a gift now. The university is in a fundraising campaign, and it is very important that we all demonstrate our enthusiasm for psychology, especially during this time. An envelope is included in this newsletter for your convenience.

With your support we can make an even greater impact on students and faculty next year. Thank you.

— Joe Calabrese

Shurrager Legacy Supports Students

Over the summer, the College of Psychology received a generous gift to establish a new endowed fellowship for a graduate student in the Industrial/Organizational division. The fellowship honors the 26-year legacy of Phil and Harriett Shurrager and will provide ongoing funding for future generations of I/O students. Psychology alumni and colleagues at IIT fondly remember the Shurragers for their advancement of psychology during a time of tremendous growth and change, for their leadership, and for their unflagging support of students.

Endowments provide donors an opportunity to give in honor or memory of a loved one and provide continual support through the interest income earned. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Shurrager Endowment may use the enclosed envelope to send his or her gift, or can do so online at www.iit.edu/psych; please designate the Shurrager Endowment in the comment section.

—Joe Calabrese

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Pictured above: (top) Dr. Phil and Harriett Shurrager; (bottom) [left to right] Dr. Waken, Harriett Shurrager, R.D. Dykman, Dr. Phil Shurrager, Dr. David Boder
We were very pleased that the university reinstituted convocation this year as part of the welcome to new students. I always liked the opportunity to look out at the fresh faces and feel the excitement of the start of the new academic year. This is a red banner year for undergraduate enrollment—we more than doubled the incoming class to psychology. Jack Spani deserves recognition for his hard work and unflagging dedication to psychology. In addition to undergraduate admissions, he handles graduate admission, psychology marketing, this newsletter, and our web pages. What an awesome employee!

In addition to the new students, we welcome new faculty to our ranks. We are delighted that Professor and Nambury Raju Chair of Psychology Ron Landis has joined the I/O program. Hailing from the University of Memphis, Landis is a quantitative psychologist who brings with him a grant from the National Science Foundation to study student science learning. Also new to the I/O faculty is Jordan Stein, assistant professor, with expertise in organizational justice, employment discrimination, and statistics. Jennifer Miller, assistant professor in the undergraduate program, joined the faculty, broadening our capacity with her expertise in development of communicative behavior, vocal and social learning, attentional processes, comparative analyses, and social networks. Finally, Molly Pachan is with us on a one-year appointment, supporting the clinical program. Having worked in Ghana, she is particularly interested in post-traumatic stress, families, and culture.

This past summer, and with the support and expertise of overseer George Langlois, the division heads and I met, along with Associate Dean Scott Morris, to plan for the future of psychology and set the priorities for the upcoming year. The division heads are now official members of the dean’s cabinet, serving as consultants to me as well as representatives of their divisional areas. With the departure of faculty members Tamara Sher and Dror Ben-Zeev, we recognize an opportunity to strategically refocus and rethink the clinical program as well as some other offerings. We are actively exploring the development of a pre-health undergraduate track and a health-focused clinical master’s degree. We have three faculty searches underway: one in clinical, one for the undergraduate program, and one for the rehabilitation program. The Center for Research and Service renewed the contract with Chicago Public Schools to screen gifted and talented CPS students, supporting the training of at least 20 psychology students.

It is our hope to host a panel on the future of health care in mid-March; please keep your eyes open for that invitation. There is so much happening in the university and the national arena in health care, and psychology is a major partner in that sector. The major causes of death are no longer pathogen based, as in the case of illness such as influenza and pneumonia, but instead, lifestyle related, as in the case of many cancers, heart disease, obesity, and the like. Everyone trained in psychology knows that lifestyle change is difficult, creating a tremendous opportunity in which psychologists can work.

As ever, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge our alumni and friends, many of whom also are donors. Please accept my thanks for your gifts because they make a difference in the lives of our students and faculty. Please be assured that we expend each and every dollar thoughtfully to assure the greatest impact. Please take our calls when we reach out; we want to know what you are doing and how things are going. We want to build our network to maximize opportunities for jobs, partnerships, and the future. Stay in touch; we love to hear from friends and alumni, and we want your news.

—M. Ellen Mitchell

Jack Spani ran the 2011 Chicago Marathon in 5:21:04 to help raise funds for clean water in Africa. Did you run a marathon this year? If so, tell us your time, your sponsor/charity and be sure to send photos. Email them to: thallina@iit.edu

From the Dean
Charles Morgan III spent 20 years in the United States Air Force and is now transitioning from that career to service of a different kind. He is pursuing his M.S. in rehabilitation psychology at the College of Psychology so that he can help veterans returning from service to live a full life while coping with the physical and psychological disabilities that can linger post-service.

“You leave the service, but you really tap into that past to enhance your future,” he says. “Before IIT, I thought I wanted to work for the VA. You need to have a CRC [Certified Rehabilitation Counselor certification] and an M.S. in rehabilitation counseling to work there…I think I’m truly best at helping veterans, and with training, I could be good at helping all kinds of people.”

After Morgan completes his practicum, he hopes to intern at the VA. In his current practicum location, he is obtaining a sense of the day-to-day activities in which he might be involved as a vocational rehabilitation counselor. He has been shadowing professionals, touring a number of helping non-governmental organizations, and conducting many intake interviews. He also has been developing individual plans for employment to help those in need of jobs do what they want to do. “A lot of what we do is verifying the eligibility for job placement services,” he notes.

Morgan, along with several other College of Psychology students, attended the American Counseling Association conference in New Orleans in March. He says, “The conference brought up a lot of multicultural issues in my work and also introduced me to other types of counseling.

“I am very pleased with the training I’m getting. The hands-on experience and internship-heavy program was the deal clincher for me to attend this program. Those experiences really drew me into the profession, and the faculty are top-notch.”

In his Air Force career, Morgan was stationed all over the world. At Fort Wainwright, in Alaska, he was a meteorologist working to put weather inputs into the USAF flight decision making process. He completed his associates degree in weather technology through the Air Force. He is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm and served two tours in Afghanistan.

Prior to starting his degree at IIT, Morgan taught Air Force JROTC at Wendell Phillips High School. He had become familiar with IIT when he accepted an instructor position with the Air Force ROTC detachment at IIT as the Commandant of Cadets.

His father, also a veteran, served on a U.S. Navy Destroyer during the Korean War. Morgan grew up in Mendenhall, Miss., and now lives with his wife and two sons in Munster, Ind.

“I am very pleased with the training I’m getting. The hands-on experience and internship-heavy program was the deal clincher for me to attend this program. Those experiences really drew me into the profession, and the faculty are top-notch.”
The IIT College of Psychology wishes to express appreciation to the following donors for their generosity during the past fiscal year, June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011. Your gift directly impacts the academic life of psychology students and faculty.

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All gifts may be designated to an area of your choice.

Fundraising is vital to the quality and stature of IIT and psychology by providing support for new initiatives and programs that are above and beyond the operating budget and would otherwise not be possible.

The majority of gifts received in psychology are designated for student scholarships and fellowships, yet students receive less funding at IIT than at most other schools offering comparable programs.

Psychology now has two endowed undergraduate scholarships, four endowed graduate fellowships, one endowed faculty chair, and myriad named and specialty funds that support each division and initiative.

To make a donation please visit www.iit.edu/psych

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Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this donor listing. Should you discover an error or omission, please contact Tess Hallinan at the College of Psychology at 312.567.3357 or thallina@iit.edu so that we may correct our records. Thank you!
PAPERS


PRESENTATIONS


FACULTY UPDATES

Patty Bach is the new president of the Association of Contextual Behavioral Science (ACBS), an international society with more than 4,000 members including researchers, clinicians, and graduate students interested in functional contextual approaches to understanding human behavior.

Patty Bach is on the conference planning committee for the Chicago chapter of ACBS, which will hold its first annual Chicago chapter conference on March 31, 2012.

*Alum  *Student

bold = faculty
IN MEMORIAM: KEN ZLATOPER (1954–2011)

Ken Zlatoper (M.S. PSYC ’00) was a graduate of the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Master’s in Human Resources division. He is survived by his wife, Diane, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zlatoper of Lyndhurst, Ohio.

THE GIFT OF NEW FURNITURE

George Langlois (M.S. PSYC ’82, Ph.D. ’89), vice chair of the College of Psychology Board of Overseers, donated a suite of professional office furniture to the college. Staff and faculty welcomed the furnishings enthusiastically, even though it was difficult to part with some pieces due to their historical significance and sentimental value.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP AWARDED FOR 2011

Graduate student Jialin Huang is the 2011 recipient of the Charles “Arch” Pounian I/O Graduate Fellowship award. Jialin is working on her Ph.D. and is interested in psychometrics, methodologies, statistics, and culture differences. She has been involved in several projects in terms of measurement equivalence, differential item functioning, structural equation modeling, emotional intelligence, and personality testing. In 2009, she received her master’s degree in developmental and educational psychology from South China Normal University, Guangzhou, China. Currently, she is working at Wonderlic Inc. as a research scientist.

Steven Pounian created the endowment in honor of his father, Arch Pounian (M.S. IO Psych ’51, Ph.D. IO Psych ’60), a psychology Board of Overseers member. This is the seventh year of awarding Pounian fellowships to I/O students.

BABY NEWS: IT’S A BOY!

Congratulations to Distinguished Professor Chow Lam and his wife, Irene Lam, the proud grandparents of James Lam, their first grandchild. James is the son of IIT alumnus Christopher Lam (M.S. SB ’06, Ph.D. ’09).
As university recruiting efforts become more competitive nationwide, we ask you to advocate for the IIT College of Psychology when talking with colleagues and friends who are making education decisions with their families. Your experience and positive comments can make a difference. Contact Jack Spani at 312.567.8945 or spanij@iit.edu for admission information.