Congratulations Graduates!!

On May 8, 2015, IDD&E held their annual Ice Cream Social and Graduation Party outside of 330 Huntington Hall. Faculty, alumni, students, friends, and family gathered to celebrate this year’s graduates and their outstanding achievements. Recognition gifts were presented to the graduates in honor of all of their hard work.

Left to right: Pimsiri Aroonsri, Mengying Jiang, Tianxiao Yang, and Mary Wilhelm-Chapin.

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<td>Audrey Hicks (IT)</td>
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<td>Jennifer Reece-Barnes</td>
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<td>Sammya Almohous</td>
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<td>Susan Torrell-Szarek (Ed Tech)</td>
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Throughout my life, I have encountered individuals who have left an everlasting impression on me. My interactions with such individuals may have been very brief or covered a long period of time. The experience may have been so memorable because of something they did, said or an aura about them that made the experience unforgettable. In the late 1980’s I had the privilege of taking a course, Diffusion of Educational Innovations, taught by Dr. Don Ely, and I will never forget how it was truly an enlightening and enjoyable experience. For not only did I have the opportunity to be taught by someone who was a renowned expert within his field, but also I was given the chance to be in the company of someone who had a deep appreciation for learning and for students.

I was taking the course as an elective, since I was pursuing a degree in Higher/Post-secondary Education. I recall at the first class meeting Dr. Ely had us all do desk name plates; it was so important to him that he remembered the names of students. Much to my amazement, it was equally imperative that he get to know at least one thing about each student. This would require him to be selfless and focus all of his energy on observing you, the student. Midway through the semester he would share his observations and when it came to me, he had described me as a “change agent.” Strange as it may have seemed at that time, I had not seen myself in this role. However, as my years in higher education have progressed, I am frequently reminded of the accuracy of Dr. Ely’s observation and the importance of bringing about change that will be beneficial to the students we are here to serve.

As Vice President/Chief Diversity Officer at Onondaga Community College I strive to make sure students feel welcomed and valued on our campus. I remain grateful to Dr. Ely for showing me how important our roles are, and I will always value my experience in his class.
Congratulations Linda on your 26 years working anniversary at IDD&E!!! I believe everyone has their own private memory with Linda when they were or are at IDD&E. Linda to a lot of our peer IDD&Eers is truly like a mom. She takes cares of basically everything when you encounters a problem. “Ask Linda” is the most frequent phrase you probably will hear every time when you have questions about what needs to be done. In Linda’s eyes, everyone in IDD&E is like her family. She feels connected to faculty and students here which makes her always willing to help with others.

Starting in 1989, Linda begins her journey at IDD&E. Working at a full-time job, she has to fulfill her responsibility to the department while taking care of her own children. Being an office coordinator, Linda is not only doing secretarial work, as well as serving as an office as an office manager. She is constantly using a high standard in her work so that all of us are able to concentrate on our academic work while we are at IDD&E.

Talking to Linda, I feel comfortable and relaxed. Although for most of the time, she is quieter, she listens and deeply cares about everyone. Thank you Linda for everything you have done for us and for our department! We appreciate all of your help, and we wish you happiness and healthy everyday!

- Articled by Yufei Wu

Faculty News

Never Send a Human to Do a Machine’s Job: Correcting the Top 5 EdTech Mistakes, a book that Dr. Jing Lei co-authored, was just published by the SAGE. This book analyzes five common mistakes about educational technology and ways to fix them: 1. The wrong relationship between technology and teachers: complementing in an ecosystem versus replacing in hierarchy; 2. The wrong application: technology as tools for consumption versus tools for creating and producing; 3. The wrong expectation: technology to raise test scores versus technology to provide better education; 4. The wrong assumptions: technology as curriculum versus digital competency; and 5. The wrong technology implementation: top down versus bottom up. For more details about this book, please visit the SAGE book page and the Washington Post article: ‘Never send a human to do a machine’s job:’ Five big mistakes in education technology and how to fix them by Valerie Strauss and Yong Zhao.
Katherine Beissner (PhD. ’91) has taken a new position at Upstate. In, out, and back around to Instructional Design, Development and Evaluation. As a junior faculty member in the physical therapy (PT) program at Ithaca College, my original goal when entering the IDDE PhD program way back in 1987 was to design instruction to develop higher order thinking skills to prepare graduates for contemporary practice. The profession of PT was progressing toward greater autonomy with the goal of treatment without physician referral, and it is important for therapists to determine when a patient has a condition requiring medical attention versus PT intervention.

Through the course of my IDDE program I was inspired by the coursework, faculty, and fellow students, and almost left my original profession. But, PhD in hand I was awarded tenure at Ithaca College and used my instructional design background to improve my courses, and through team teaching I worked with colleagues to increase student engagement in the classroom. Since things were progressing well in the classroom I found my scholarly work directed more toward PT-related topics. That was the path for a while, but the IDDE influence kept percolating up. Through my interest in aging I became involved in the design and development of web-based modules and podcasts to teach health care providers about geriatric pain management. That is PT, right? What about the design of a program that integrates pain management instruction with exercise for older adults with chronic pain? And then the next project required training over 250 physical therapists to deliver pain self-management training to patients receiving home care. Ahh, now that sounds like instructional design, doesn’t it?

The integration of my two disciplines happened incrementally, almost imperceptibly. Recently I changed academic institutions, and now Chair the Department of Physical Therapy Education at Upstate Medical University, a stone’s throw away from Huntington Hall. It seems a fitting move because my IDDE background provided a perspective that shaped my scholarly path, and is now the focus of my future work. What a wonderful journey it has been!

Lansing Dimon (VPA ’94, ’05, EDU and IDD&E ’05) was invited as a guest speaker in a music education class in Spring 2015. Lansing Dimon teaches in a district committed to 1:1 digital learning with iPads in the classroom. He focuses on 1:1 learning in the context of the music classroom as a transformative experience. His experience is grounded in teaching music, but many of the same technologies cross curricular boundaries. His talk discussed workflow using iPads, Google Drive, different assessment applications, Notability and other apps. He also spoke to the inherent concerns in converting 1200 students, 100 staff, parents and everyone else to this paradigm.
Alumni News

Dr. Thomas Reeves is a ’75 (M.S.) and ’79 (Ph.D.) grad of IDDE. He has been invited to speak at E-Learn in Hawaii later this year. The title of his talk is "Here’s the Thing" or "Here’s the Problem"? A Reexamination of the Focus of E-Learning Research. The session will provide guidance for reorienting e-learning research to addressing head-on the important educational issues faced by practitioners and society at large. For more information, please check: http://www.aace.org/conf/elearn/speakers/2015/reeves.htm

There is also a forthcoming book of Dr. Thomas Reeves titled “MOOCs and Open Education Around the World”. For more information, please check: https://online.uga.edu/node/638

Deborah J. Tyksinski (PhD, ’09), was recently named the founding dean of Villanova University’s new College of Professional Studies (CPS), effective May 29, 2015. CPS, the first new College at the University in 50 years, was created to meaningfully serve adult learners in the evolving higher education landscape.

Villanova president, Fr. Donohue, says, “Dr. Tyksinski brings a depth of knowledge, commitment to values-driven learning and an entrepreneurial spirit that will serve the College of Professional Studies well. Her experience and passion for serving busy adults through innovative teaching will be a valuable resource as we work to bring CPS to new levels of excellence.”

Tyksinski currently holds the position of Associate Provost at SUNY Polytechnic Institute (SUNY Poly) where she leads college-wide initiatives that support online degree programs, institutional assessment, faculty and student engagement, research and scholarship, and the attraction of new resources to fulfill strategic goals.

Among Tyksinski’s accomplishments is conceiving and building SUNY Poly’s continuing professional education program, which supports part-time and non-matriculated students, non-credit professional education, credit-bearing summer and special sessions, customized certificate programs, professional administration for strategic community education partners, member-supported community programs and research collaborations.

Tyksinski previously held leadership positions at Syracuse University, including serving as Administrative Director of the Northeast Parallel Architectures Center, a high performance computing research center, which she helped establish. A life-long learner herself, Tyksinski earned a Master’s and PhD in Education: Instructional Design, Development & Evaluation from Syracuse University; a Master’s in Management from Binghamton University; and a Bachelor’s in Human Services from SUNY College of Technology. Most recently, she received a fellowship from the American Council on Education in 2013-14.
Alumni News

Dr. Deniz Eseryel (PhD, ’06), who has a doctoral degree from IDD&E in 2006, recently joined North Carolina State University as a Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program cluster hire in the Digital Transformation of Education. The Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program at NC State is bringing some of the best and brightest minds to join NC State University’s interdisciplinary efforts to solve some of the globe’s most significant problems.

Dr. Eseryel serves as an Associate Professor in the Digital Learning and Teaching program. She is also a Senior Research Fellow at the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation. The important but little understood question that has motivated her program of research is: How can we effectively and efficiently promote cyber-learning in complex knowledge domains. Prior to joining NC State, Eseryel was an Associate Professor in the area of psychology and technology at the University of Oklahoma. She received her doctorate in 2006 from Syracuse University, where she also completed her post-doctoral training. She recently co-edited a book for Springer titled “Assessment in Game-based Learning” and a special issue for Educational Technology Research and Development (ETR&D) titled “Towards Innovation in Complex Problem Solving Research: Implications for Instructional Design and Technology.” She is currently co-editing a book series for Springer titled “Advances in Game Based Learning.”

Andrea Sanrocco (MS, ’12). Is currently teaching a graduate level class, as an adjunct professor, at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY. Her class is Project Management in the School of Education and it is a fully online course, which she also designed. It has been a wonderful experience. She has loved watching her 18 students learn and grow this semester! Watching my course design work to create and engaging, learning environment online is like magic. It has been very validating and has clearly demonstrated the power of the SU IDD&E program. Her course includes the tenants of my program, Change Management and High Performing Work Teams, and of course lots of reflection!

Martha Roman (MS, ’06), co-authored an article that was recently published in the International Journal of STD and AIDS, on March 29, 2015. The title of the article is “Preemptive antiretroviral therapy modifications for the management of potential clinically significant drug interactions with direct acting hepatitis C therapies”.


Leigh Tolley: She was invited by SU's The Graduate School to present a session for the Teaching Assistant (TA) Program Series about how TAs can use and share data from course evaluations that students completed about their teaching. The session, titled "Interpreting, organizing, and using course evaluations: Skills for furthering growth as a teaching assistant and educator," was held on February 20, 2015. She also served as a member of the Excellence in Graduate Education Faculty Recognition Award committee for The Graduate School in Spring 2015. Along with several other graduate students across SU, including fellow IDD&E doctoral student Monica Burris, we reviewed nomination materials from students and faculty to recognize excellence in graduate teaching and mentoring. For the third year, she serves as the "Über-TA," and writes an advice column for Teaching Assistants (TAs) that appears in the Graduate School Newsletter She has had two new columns published so far this academic year.

Ashley Gouger: in November she is going to be taking on the position of Secretary/Treasurer for the Division of Systemic Change for AECT. She has been the graduate student representative for Systemic Change for two years now. http://www.aect.org/Election/ has all the election results in case there's any other SU alumni/friends of IDDE on there.

Jacob Hall: Jake has been selected as a Graduate School 2015-2016 Teaching Assistant Mentor for 2015 Summer. “Thank you for representing IDD&E so well”, Dr. Nick Smith shared his congratulations with students.

Mirit Hadar: Mirit, first year doctoral student, designed and facilitated two workshops named “New American Beat”, exploring cross-cultural communications and attending American universities at international students center (Slutzker Center) in Spring 2015.

Lina Souid: Lina, second year doctoral student, presented her dissertation work at the AERA 2015 convention in Chicago. In a roundtable session, Lina shared an overview of her proposal including the problem context, research questions, literature review, and planned methodology. This session was a great opportunity to talk to others about her work and receive feedback.
Student News

Jimmy Jang, a 3rd year IDD&E doctoral student, has been accepted into the 2015 Class of the Baltimore City Mayoral Fellowship Program.

The Mayoral Fellowship is a competitive and prestigious national program that selects only 5% of its applicants. Fellows are assigned to projects that focus on a number different urban public policy issues and challenges, and they work under the direction of senior-level city government officials. This summer, Jimmy will serve as the Mayoral Fellow to the Mayor’s Office of Health, Human Services, Youth, and Education, where he will be working on researching and developing Baltimore City’s KidStat™ program. At the completion of the fellowship, Jimmy’s research findings will be recommended to the Mayor and her team for City wide implementation.

Jimmy also presented his research findings in Washington D.C., as part of the Office of the State Superintendent of Education agency’s inaugural Local Education Agency (LEA) Institute on May 2, 2015.

Jimmy shared his research findings in a presentation titled: Leveraging Technology: Facilitating Teacher Development via Video Self-Analysis, to K-12 teachers and school/district administrators. Through his presentation, Jimmy was able to engage with classroom teachers and school leaders, and share strategies and best practices in applying his research findings into practice.
Recent Publication

Books/Booklets


Publications


Publications (Continues)


Invited Speaking (Key note) Engagement:


Conference Presentations:


New Visiting Scholar from China

IDD&E’s visiting scholar, Professor Tingjin Zhi, comes from East China Normal University in China. Professor Zhi’s research interests focus on education management, education administration and education policy. She has published multiple papers and books in these fields. She will spend her fall semester with IDD&E Community.
Giving Back

IDD&E faculty and students are most grateful to our alumni and faculty who through their generosity provide additional funding that helps us encourage and support our students. Gifts have been used to sponsor students in conference travel, R&D activities and dissertation work, like those showcased in this newsletter. THANK YOU to our alumni, faculty, and friends who have contributed to our development funds. We hope that these stories demonstrate how much YOUR support has enriched so many. We humbly ask that you continue to remember IDD&E in your future giving.

Please visit The Syracuse University Giving webpage at http://giving.syr.edu/giving-to-su/give-now/, or call 877-2GROWSU (877-247-6978) or mail gift with form from SU Giving website. Please also remember to write or say that you wish your gift to be used in the IDD&E Professional Development Fund or Department. You can also call us at 315-443-3703.

Thank you so much for your ongoing generosity... Your gift makes a difference!