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THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, AMHERST



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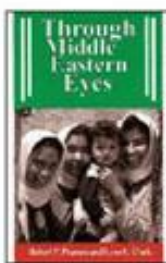
CIE's First Endowment Award Honors George Urch

Leon Clark - International Educator (1935-2003)

The CIE community was saddened to learn that Leon Clark collapsed and passed away unexpectedly while he and his wife Maria were hiking in Great Falls, MD. Leon had recently retired after more than 15 years as a professor at American University where he founded the International Education Program. Recently, Leon had a fellowship at his alma mater, Yale University, to write a book exploring the intersection of the Christian, Jewish, and Islamic faiths.



Leon came to CIE in the early 70s interested in the ways of learning about cultures. He had worked in Bangladesh, India and Ghana and developed the notion that cultures could best be understood by letting members speak in their own voices through autobiography, traditional and modern literature, historical and contemporary documents, letters and diaries. From this inspiration sprang a series of books. The first, *Through African Eyes*, was published in the early 1970s. By the 1990s the book had grown into two volumes and a teachers' manual which was widely used in schools.



While at CIE Leon worked with Bob Pearson, on the first edition of *Through Middle Eastern Eyes*; the fourth edition was published shortly before Leon's death. He was the General Editor of the CIE

World Cultures Series, which grew to include volumes on China, Japan and India as well. ...continued

Fund Drive Update

As of December 2003 the Endowment Fund Drive has pledges of \$133,000 from 125 people putting us a little more than half way towards our goal of \$250,000 and exactly halfway toward our goal of 250 contributors from the CIE family. See our website for the names of contributors. If your name isn't there, we hope to hear from you soon. Some of you may be aware that UMass has suffered very severe cuts in state funding. One of the effects of that will be a large increase in the cost of assistantships to programs—which will make the income from the endowment that much more valuable, especially for international students. PLEASE give serious thought to making a contribution today.

Check our Web Site for more updates.

USSR at CIE

In 1998 CIE began welcoming Muskie Fellows from the newly-independent states of the former Soviet Union. Each year a group comes to CIE for a two-year Masters' program. The fellows are supported by the Muskie/Freedom Support Act Graduate Fellows program of the Bureau of Cultural and Educational Affairs of the US Dept. of State. The program is administered through The Open Society Institute of New York. On campus, the program is coordinated by Professor Gretchen Rossman and administered by Barbara Gravin Wilbur.

Since 1998, CIE has hosted a total of 17 Fellows representing 12 different countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Moldova, Russia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Ukraine. There are currently 9 Fellows at CIE who bring a refreshing set of new ideas to the community, helping to broaden the perspectives addressed in classes and provide more visibility for the challenges of education in nations in transition.

In September 2003, CIE made its first award using proceeds from the CIE Endowment Fund. The award went to Mary Catherine Mukimba of Uganda and honored the thirty years of service by George Urch to CIE and the School of Education. George was a faculty member from 1967 until 1997 and, during that time, he had a significant impact on CIE, its programs and its students.



George chaired nearly fifty completed dissertations, introduced the Master's project as the final stage of the CIE Master's program, and worked with CIE projects in countries throughout Africa. George was instrumental in establishing the Global Education program at CIE that works to bring an international dimension to local school programs. George continues to be active as an emeritus professor, working with doctoral candidates who are finishing their dissertations, coming to Tuesday meetings, and providing the cheerful support that we all associate with his presence.

The award helps to finance the program of Catherine Mukimba, a doctoral candidate from Uganda who is starting her second year at CIE. Catherine is a former secondary school headmistress and is interested in teacher education and finding ways to more effectively involve communities in their schools.

As income from the endowment grows, we plan to make other awards in honor of the careers and contributions of other CIE members.

The CIE community wishes you a very happy holiday season.



Short Takes

Fritz Affolter (Ed.D. 2002) took up a position with UN Habitat in Kabul in January, 2003 as a Community Mobilization Training Advisor, in charge of designing, monitoring and evaluating community mobilization training for the National Solidarity Program in five Afghan provinces. NSP promotes a new development paradigm whereby communities are empowered to make decisions and control resources during all stages of the project cycle. His wife **Roja Affolter** (M.Ed. 2000) now works for CIE as its representative in Kabul both for on-going projects and to develop future activities.

Cliff Meyers (Ed.D. 1996) reports that he left Vientiane, Lao PDR after two years there. He and his wife Fumi now live in Bangkok where he is the UNICEF Regional Adviser - Education. In this job he supports countries that stretch from Mongolia in the north down through China and North Korea to the Mekong Delta countries, further south to Indonesia, the Philippines and East Timor to the Pacific nations and Papua New Guinea. He says "The learning curve is tremendous, but I am on the road about 40 percent of my time."

Jane Vella (Ed.D. 1979) reports that she is in good health and she has just published a book, *Dialogue Education at Work*. The book is the companion to *Learning to Listen, Learning to Teach*. Her book shows how educators worldwide have used Vella's methods to transform classrooms and organizations into vital places of learning. Written for adult educators, the book is filled with illustrative case studies. The section on International Education includes a chapter by **Gail von Hahmann** (Ed.D. 1984) called "Taking Time for Praxis in Cambodia."

Mansour Fakhri (Ed.D. 1995) Mansour was in Amherst in September working as a trainer with ITD for a group of Indonesian education leaders, most of whom were heads of Pesantrens—a type of Islamic boarding school. He also discussed having INSIST, his NGO for social transformation, serve as a satellite base for CIE in Indonesia. Mansour is active in the Helsinki Process—a forum created to address the effects of globalization in the South.

Leon Clark ...continued

His work pioneered a way of thinking and teaching about other cultures in American schools, an approach best captured in Leon's own words: *...The goal is to counteract the negative distortions of ethnocentrism by looking at [other cultures] from the inside out, rather than from the outside in. Only by trying to accept other cultures on their own terms -- by listening to their own explanations of why they function as they do -- can we fully, if ever, understand them."*

Short Takes

Babacar Mboup (M.Ed. 1997) is now an assistant professor of French at Valdosta State University in Georgia. He is active in outreach, working with local churches to bring a more accurate understanding of Islam to the local community particularly in light of current world affairs.

Jan Droegkamp (Ed.D. 1982) sent this picture of herself and **Edgardo Rothkegel** from the 25th reunion of CHP International, an organization specializing in training volunteers for Peace



Corps. She has worked for them periodically, but is now on the faculty at the University of Illinois in Springfield. Edgardo works for Peace Corps in Paraguay. Jan is in Botswana on sabbatical from October to December of 2003 where she is a visiting professor at the University of Botswana. While there she is living in the house of **Mercy Montsi** (Ed.D. 1978) - who will be at Stanford on sabbatical!

Contribute to CIE's Fund Drive

- Ask your employer for a match
- Ask friends & relatives to donate
- Have a Tag Sale, donate the profits
- Contact your CIE alumni friends

Gifts for Your Gifts

Tote Bag for a \$150 contribution
Mouse Pad for a \$250 contribution

First Malawi CIE Master's Graduates

In June 2001, CIE began a five-year partnership with the University of Malawi's Chancellor College, Malawi National Examinations Board (MANEB), and the Ministry of Education, Science & Technology. Its purpose is to build resources and institutional capacity for the planning and leadership of the education sector and to develop Chancellor College's capacity to offer post-graduate degree programs in Policy, Planning & Leadership and Testing & Measurement.



In December 2002, the first cohort of 10 M.Ed. students completed their degrees and returned to Malawi. A graduation ceremony honoring them was held in the Great Hall at Chancellor College in June 2003. In attendance were the Deputy Minister of Education, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Malawi, the USAID Mission Director, the Executive Director of MANEB, the Director of the Planning Division of MoEST, as well as many other dignitaries, the graduates and their families. The Vice Chancellor and Professor Rossman conferred the degrees on the new graduates.

Eight newly-selected M.Ed. students arrived in August 2003 to begin their studies. There are two continuing doctoral students; and 4 doctoral students in Malawi conducting field research until January 2004 when they return to UMass to write their dissertations and to prepare for their defenses.

New Publication

Dr. Gretchen Rossman recently published the second edition of *Learning in the Field: An introduction to qualitative research*. Co-authored with Sharon F. Rallis this book helps readers better visualize and grasp the concepts, issues, and complexities of qualitative inquiry. Published by Sage Publications.

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