Major grant will extend interprofessional work

A $652,059 grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Mich., has been awarded to the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice at Ohio State. The grant was awarded to help Ohio professional colleges and associations develop cooperative solutions for shared concerns facing their professions and society.

The Kellogg award will expand work begun in 1973 when the commission was established by a grant from the Ohio Board of Regents. The commission brings together students from seven professions for credit courses in ethical issues, changing societal values and interprofessional team care. It also sponsors continuing education conferences on social and ethical issues for members of affiliated state professional associations.

The Kellogg funds will be used to develop a full continuing education program of courses and institutes for practitioners; extend interprofessional courses for students and practitioners in clinical settings; expand the activities of the assembly of the commission, a state-wide educational forum for delegates from academic units and professional associations throughout the state; and create new instructional materials, formats and forms of instruction for adults and to promote similar programs in other states.

Members of the commission include Ohio State's colleges and schools of education, law, medicine, social work, allied medical professions and nursing; the Columbus Cluster of Theological Schools; related state professional associations; Ohio State's Mershon Center where the commission is located; and the Academy of Contemporary Problems.

"If the professions are going to make progress in understanding and solving society's complex problems, our efforts have to be collaborative," said Luvern Cunningham, an Ohio State professor of education administration and chairman of the commission.

Student courses and continuing education conferences have included interprofessional study of a variety of topics such as chemical dependence, gerontology, problem prevention in youth, death and dying, privacy and confidentiality, and genetics, taught by seven-member teams of faculty representing various professions.

"Although the interprofessional approach to common problems is a simple and workable idea," Cunningham said, "there is no other organization like the commission in the country."

"One of our major Interests is the dissemination of the idea of the commission," said Mary Janata, program director for the commission. "Requests for information on the commission and its findings have come in from other areas of the nation."

The Kellogg Fund, established in 1930, has made grants of more than $530 million in the areas of health, education and agriculture over the past five decades.
Conference will examine future stress on families

Will the American family be stressed to the breaking point as older and younger generations compete for shrinking government resources?

This and related questions concerning multi-generational families and older adults will be examined during the 19th semi-annual conference of the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice to be held April 26.

All Ohio State faculty, staff and students are invited to the conference, titled "Growing Older: Serving Families Interprofessionally." It will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the East Ballroom of the Ohio Union.

The keynote speaker will be Vern L. Bengtson, director of gerontology research at the Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California. Bengtson, who is editor of the book Grandparenthood, will examine issues of family relationships and aging in light of current and future social trends.

Also featured at the conference will be a multimedia presentation titled "Aging in Ohio," that will present information from the Ohio departments of Aging, Human Services, Health and Human Development, as well as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Bonnie Kantor, assistant professor of hospital and health services administration, researched and wrote the presentation.

In addition to the speaker and media presentation, there will be time for group discussion.

The Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, based at Ohio State, promotes interchange among professionals from eight disciplines, including allied medicine, education, law, medicine, nursing, psychology, social work and theology.

The cost of the April 26 conference is $6. Registration will be accepted at the door. A longer version of the conference will be held April 25 for human service professionals.

For more information contact the commission at 422-5621.
Baby-boomers will balloon future geriatric generation

By Kim Stock
Lantern staff writer

"Every week 204 Americans celebrate their 100th birthday," said Vern Bengtson, director of gerontology research at the Andrus Gerontology Center at the University of Southern California.

The ratio of adults over the age of 60 to the population as a whole is one in six, but by the year 2025 it is expected to be one in four, he said.

The future of America's rapidly growing elderly population was the topic of the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice's biannual conference, which was held at the Ohio Union Saturday.

"Aging is a growing interest because the greater segment of our population is getting older and older," said Cheryl Boots, continuing education coordinator at Ohio State.

"Because of the baby boom generation, there will be a great influx of elderly adults within the next 20 years, and that is going to affect a lot of human service professionals," Boots said.

The eight disciplines of professionals represented in the commission are allied medicine, education, law, medicine, nursing, psychology, social work and theology.

"We decided, in planning the conference, specifically to look at older adults within the context of families because that is an important aspect of all of our lives," she said.

Those 85 and above are currently the fastest growing age group, growing at a rate four times as high as the general population.

—— Vern Bengtson

Bengtson believes families are not only viable but will prove to be an untapped resource for the care of tomorrow's elderly.

"Regardless of how cataclysmic the future might be, families will act as a buffer and help us overcome any puzzling or threatening elements of change," he said.

Bengtson said the dramatic increase in the numbers and percentage of the aging population has not been anticipated by social scientists or policymakers.

Even with the increased number of elderly in today's society, contrary to what political leaders suggest, the ratio of dependents to the number of workers in the population will not change very much in the next four decades, he said.

"The older population itself is growing older," Bengtson said.

"Those 85 and above are currently the fastest growing age group, growing at a rate four times as high as the general population.

"As recently as 1971, the census bureau projected the U.S. population of adults over 85 would grow by 17 percent during that decade," he said. "But in 1981, that population had grown at the rate of 29 percent, a rate faster than the population of India grew during the same time."

Bengtson said since the turn of the century, life expectancy has increased by 27 years.

"One third of contemporary women can expect to live several years past their 65th birthday, he said."

"Those who suggest that the social security system is fast growing broke, and that the reason for this is the increase in the dependency ratio, are wrong, misinformed or just alarmists," he said.

Bengtson said the media is perpetually falsely predicting a decline of the American family. He presented statistics from a Roper study which he said illustrate that the family unit is far from demise and America's elderly are not isolated from or abandoned by their children.

- Four of five elderly parents have at least weekly contact with one of their children.
- Eight of ten parents live within one hour’s drive of their adult offspring.
- Most grandparents have regular contact with their grandchildren.
- Most Americans view intergenerational bonds as important to social and psychological well-being.
- 90 percent of the care required by America's dependent elders is given by family members.
Conference explores health care

By Karen Bockhorst
Lantern staff writer

A health care conference sponsored by Ohio State is addressing the problem of unequal opportunities in the American health care system.

Ronald Bayer, an associate for policy studies from the Hastings Center in New York City, said social responsibility in health care is decreasing and the poor are suffering for it.

Bayer is the keynote speaker today at the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice’s conference titled “Covering the Health Care Crack: A Vision for Sharing Professional Responsibility.”

Bayer said there is now a trend to limit social responsibility in health care and leave it up to individuals. The wealthy can afford a comprehensive health care plan and the poor cannot, which reduces equality, he said.

Bayer offered several solutions for an economical, fair health care system.

The first solution Bayer offered was prevention. He said an attack on environmental and occupational hazards should be waged and by limiting disease-producing behavior such as smoking and excess alcohol consumption, many costly diseases could be prevented.

The next solution Bayer offered was to carefully evaluate therapies, tests and surgeries.

“Certain diseases are expensive to treat. With our technology and knowledge, we are virtually unlimited in therapies we can create,” Bayer said. He then questioned whether the medical profession should have developed the artificial heart, stating that if every American who needed an artificial heart received one, the cost would be about $6 billion.

Bayer said the elimination of therapies that do not help anyone could save billions of dollars.

The ultimate decision of which therapies to create should be decided by our legislators – whose decision should be based on scientific ideas, Bayer said.

Bayer said the American health care system is more unequal than any other industrialized nation, including Great Britain, Canada and West European countries.

The conference also features five workshops on such topics as changing social values in the health care service and legal issues and costs.

Mary Janata, program director Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice said the conference grew out of a commission panel that developed a model for evaluating strategy for health care cost containment. The results of the panel will be presented at the conference.

The commission is composed of professionals from human services fields, including allied medical, medicine, nursing, law, education, psychology, social work and theology.
Conference to examine moral issues teens face

By Gemma McLuckie

Youth face many moral dilemmas. Sexual involvement, suicide, drug use and abortion are choices they have been called on to make. Many times, human service professionals must help teenagers who are facing these kinds of decisions.

How practitioners help youth is the focus of the 21st semi-annual conference of the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice.

The conference, “Youth and Ethical Choices: Respond, Refer or...” is geared to students and faculty in human service professions.

Sessions will be held from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the South Terrace of the Ohio Union.

James W. Fowler, professor of theology and human development at Emory University, will give the keynote address at 9 a.m. He will address the issue of moral development.

Fowler is the author of Stages of Life, which describes the way people hunt for meaning in their lives.

Registration for the April 25 conference is $6. The deadline is April 20. To register, call Judith Lyons, conference coordinator, at 292-5621.

The Commission on Interprofessional Practice, based at Ohio State, promotes interchange among professionals in allied medicine, education, law, medicine, nursing, psychology, social work and theology.

April 24 an expanded session on the same subject will be held for invited professionals.

The professional conference is funded through the Alfred L. Willson Funds of the Columbus Foundation. It is the fourth “Alfred L. Willson Symposium on the Prevention of Mental Health Problems in Early Youth.”
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- The Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice has received two awards from the National University Continuing Education Association.

The commission, based at Ohio State University, won first and second places for continuing professional education programming, according to Donna S. Queeney, director of the national association.

First place was for a commission program on "AIDS Policy: An Interprofessional Approach," conducted in autumn 1987. Second place went to the commission for "Children's Fears in a Stressful World," a program held in spring 1985.

Third place, "Training Institute for Health Care Personnel -- A Series," was won by the University of Arkansas.

The awards will be presented April 17 in Philadelphia at the national conference of the association's Division of Continuing Education for the Professions. Winners also will be honored at the association's luncheon April 18.

Judging was based on innovative format, meeting identified needs, timeliness, contributions to general continuing education, and financial accountability, said Judith Lyons, commission coordinator of continuing education.

Lyons said the local commission nominations were submitted by
Ohio State's Office of Continuing Education.

Commission board members include Ohio State, the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Pontifical College Josephinum, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, the Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, the Ohio Council of Churches, Ohio Education Association, Ohio Nurses Association, Ohio Psychological Association, Ohio Society of Allied Health Professions, Ohio State Bar Association and Ohio State Medical Association.

The Commission Assembly members include the universities of Akron, Cincinnati and Dayton; Capital, Case Western Reserve, Ohio Northern, Ohio, and Wright State universities, Ashland College and United theological seminaries; the Buckeye Association of School Administrators; the Ohio Dental Association; Ohio Hospital Association; Ohio State Chaplain Association; Ohio State Pharmaceutical Association; and the United Church of Christ.

Contact: Judith Lyons, commission coordinator of continuing education, (614) 292-5621
Commission receives two awards

By Kelley Griffith
Lantern Staff Writer

Ohio State's Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice won first and second place awards from the National University Continuing Education Association.

The commission is being recognized for the content of its two continuing education conferences, said Judith Lyons, its continuing education coordinator. The awards will be presented at the national conference of the Division of Continuing Education for the Professions on April 17 in Philadelphia.

Awards are given each year by the continuing education association to schools all over the country to recognize quality programs, she said.

Continuing education programs help professionals increase their skills and knowledge in their fields, Lyons said.

"AIDS Policy: An Interprofessional Approach," conducted during Autumn Quarter, was the commission's first-place winning conference, Lyons said.

I consider the awards a real tribute to interprofessional cooperation, because it begins with collaboration in planning and that is the only way it gains such quality.

Coordinator Judith Lyons

The conference examined the way AIDS policy is set for patients in schools, the work place and health care institutions, Lyons said. It also determined that policies should consider the needs of everyone involved with the AIDS patient, not just the patient, she added.

Second place went to the program, "Children's Fears in a Stressful World," which was conducted in the spring of 1986. It formulated ways of helping children deal with stress, Lyons said.

Judging to determine the award winners was based on the originality of the approach used in the conference, how current the issue of the conference was and the contributions the conference made to general continuing education, Lyons said.

"I consider the awards a real tribute to interprofessional cooperation, because it begins with collaboration in planning and that is the only way it gains such quality," she said.

Luvern Cunningham, director of the commission, said it has been making programs for 14 years.

The commission offers courses for students who enter the professions of allied medicine, education, law, medicine, nursing, psychology, theology and social work, Cunningham said. Within the courses, eight people, one from each area, work together to attack an issue and find a solution as a team, she said.

The commission also conducts continuing education conferences and policy analysis, Cunningham said. These conferences are designed for practitioners in the eight areas of course study, she said.

Lyons said by getting eight different perspectives on how to handle the same problem, the most effective solution can be reached.

Policy analysis includes public policy panels consisting of 15 people, two from each of the eight areas, analyzing a specific policy within an issue, Cunningham said.
Professionals to discuss suicide issues

The trauma of suicide not only troubles family and friends; it also haunts professionals who deal with the issue. The end of a life, the emotional strain for survivors and the unresolved questions create enormous stress for all who must cope with a suicide.

The “Conference for the Helping Professions on Suicide” will review this complex human issue for educators, medical practitioners, social workers, theologians, lawyers, nurses, psychologists and allied medical professionals.

The day-long session is from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Hilton Inn North, Worthington.

On Oct. 29, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., conference presentations will be repeated for University students, faculty and staff in the Ohio Union East Ballroom. Registration is $5. The Oct. 29 program will omit some of the detailed workshops of the Oct. 28 program, but will provide information of value.

The conference is sponsored by the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice; the Continuing Education Committee; the Commission Assembly of delegates from 45 professional associations and colleges in Ohio; and the Commission Board, with representatives from Ohio State, the Columbus Cluster of Theological Schools and nine professional organizations.

Psychiatrist Henry P. Coppolillo, author of *Psychodynamic Psychotherapy of Children*, will deliver the first Mary M. Janata Memorial Lecture.

He will review counseling sessions he had with a three-year-old child who witnessed her mother’s suicide.

Before entering private practice, Coppolillo was a professor of psychiatry for nine years at the University of Colorado. He also was employed at the Denver Children’s Hospital, Vanderbilt School of Medicine and the University of Michigan.

The memorial lecture honors Janata, a pioneer in interprofessional education and practice. She directed the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, which provides conferences and credit courses.

Other sessions Oct. 28 will focus on facts about suicide, legal questions, survivors, community education and prevention, ethical and moral issues, adolescent suicide, and treatment.

The conference is open only to professionals in the “helping professions.” Registration is $55. Some limited scholarships are available. The deadline is Oct. 21.

Participants may receive continuing education credit for attending the conference.

For more information, call 292-5621.
KELLOGG FOUNDATION MAKES GRANT TO INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- The Ohio State University's Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice has received a $44,250 grant to further the ongoing development of a national network of human services professions.

The grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Mich., will help fund two national conferences on children and youth at risk.

The Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice was founded at Ohio State in 1973 to bring together eight human service professions -- allied health, education, law, nursing, medicine, psychology, social work, and theology -- to address complex ethical, clinical, and public policy-related issues. Two grants of over $600,000 each from the Kellogg Foundation in 1981 and 1984 contributed to the growth of the Commission and allowed the establishment of a National Consortium on Interprofessional Education and Practice.

"This recent grant from the Kellogg Foundation will allow us to continue to disseminate on a national basis the importance of interprofessional collaboration on the critical issues facing society today," said Luvern Cunningham, director of the commission and chair of the national consortium. "The --more--
Foundation's support will strengthen the concept and implementation of a nationwide consortium of human services leaders focusing on complex issues such as AIDS, Alzheimer's Disease, and at-risk youth."

Currently 16 national associations participate in the National Consortium on Interprofessional Education and Practice, which is modeled after the Ohio State commission.

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation, established in 1930 to "help people help themselves," has distributed more than $1.2 billion in support of programs in agriculture, education, and health. Areas of emphasis within these broad fields include community-based, problem-focused health services; a wholesome food supply; and broadening leadership capacity of individuals. Projects in opportunities for youth are concentrated mainly in Michigan; support for economic development projects is provided only in Michigan. The Foundation is today among the largest private philanthropic organizations in the world. It supports programs in the United States, Latin America, the Caribbean, and southern Africa. Limited worldwide involvement is achieved through international networks of activities related to the Foundation's programming interests.

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Contact: R. Michael Casto, associate director of the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, (614) 292-5621.

(Melinda/557)
Homeless families

"A Vision of the Future — Homeless Families: A Challenge to Interprofessional Collaboration," a conference sponsored by the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 15 in Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 300 W. Broad St.

The Rev. Van Bogard Dunn, founding member of the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, will be the keynote speaker.

Other presenters include: Kent Beittel, executive director of the Open Shelter; Bill Faith, director of the Ohio Coalition for the Homeless; Theresa Long, medical director and assistant health commissioner for the Columbus Health Department; and David Smith, educational consultant for Adult and Community Education in the Ohio Department of Education.

In the afternoon, participants can attend six groups that will discuss affordable housing, access to health care, community stability in rural and urban settings, children, legislative action, and economics.

The conference is sponsored by the Commission of Interprofessional Education and Practice at Ohio State and the Columbus Foundation. Cost is $45 and includes tuition, materials, lunch and coffee breaks. Discounted fees are available for commission affiliates and students.

For more information, call 292-5621.
Conference to examine shrinking economy

A conference sponsored by the Commission of Interprofessional Education and Practice will examine "Making a Difference: Coping With the Frustrations of Professional Practice in a Shrinking Economy."

The conference will be held from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Ramada University Hotel, 3110 Olentangy River Road.

The conference will assist professionals in working together to maintain professional service and values while coping with the personal, systemic and organizational frustrations of a shrinking economy.

Cost is $60 and includes tuition, materials and lunch. Deadline for registration is Oct. 31. For more information, call 292-5621.
GENDER CONFERENCE PRESENTED IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH GEE

COLUMBUS -- How gender issues affect the professional workplace is an issue that was of deep concern to Elizabeth Gee, a faculty member at The Ohio State University and the wife of President E. Gordon Gee. Elizabeth Gee died in December of 1991, and her legacy lives on.

The university's Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, along with Ohio State's Center for Women's Studies, will present its next conference May 7 in memory of Elizabeth Gee. Titled, "Gender Issues in the Professions: A Humanities Perspective," the conference is designed to help practitioners in nursing, medicine, theology, law, education, psychology, and social work -- and their clients -- better understand how issues of gender affect their lives. Funded in part by the Ohio Humanities Council, the conference will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Veterans' Memorial, 300 W. Broad St., in downtown Columbus.

The Columbus City Council passed a Resolution of Expression on April 19 commending the Interprofessional Commission and the Center for Women's Studies for sponsoring the conference and for dedicating it to Elizabeth Gee.

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She received her doctorate from West Virginia University, and was a specialist in the fields of professional education, professional ethics, and gender related ethics. At Ohio State Elizabeth Gee held a senior research associate appointment in the Center for Women's Studies, and an adjunct assistant professorship in the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership. Her work concentrated on women's professional development and gender issues that related to professional ethics, and she was involved in projects with the Interprofessional Commission.

"I cannot imagine anyone more appropriate to dedicate this conference to than Elizabeth Gee," said Michael Casto, director of the commission. "She had a rare gift combining sensitivity to great issues with concrete methods for enacting change. This conference is in so many ways an extension of her work. It is designed to give practitioners expanded insight into gender issues, and then will offer ways to resolve those issues and enhance the lives of people they encounter in their work."

Specific areas of focus at the one-day conference include: Lifestyle issues for women and men; issues in the traditionally female professions; affirmative action and legal issues; changing roles of men at home and in the workplace; sexual harassment; intergenerational issues; family and work conflicts; and the "glass ceiling" which permits seeing the next level of achievement but not attaining it.

Many of the professional organizations offer continuing education credits. The conference fee is $80 to the general public, $40 for Commission Affiliates, and $20 for retirees. It includes tuition, materials, lunch and coffee breaks. Scholarships are available.

For more information, write the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, The Ohio State University, 1478 Pennsylvania Ave., Columbus, Ohio, 43201-2638, or call (614) 292-5621.

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Written by Greg Brown, (614) 292-8295.