



*This year marks my tenth anniversary as the head of the School of Business and Nonprofit Management at North Park University. I look back on these years and quickly notice all the changes reflected in our growing programs—new campus location, new degrees, rejuvenated curriculum, and new professors. A lot has changed.*

*The biggest change is the fact that ten years ago I didn't really know many alumni from our current programs. Over these years I've had the pleasure of reading the names of close to 1,000 graduates on the stage at our two commencement ceremonies each year. Some of these students I've had in class, many I've signed various forms for so that they could complete their programs, and others I've known at honors convocations and other events where I've represented SBNM.*

*This newsletter highlights the worldwide contributions of some of these alumni. We're celebrating their unique roles, not only in Chicago area, but around the world. We have a truly amazing group of alumni.*

*Finally, in this day of social media, you can link up with your fellow alumni in several places. Follow me on Twitter, join our LinkedIn Group (North Park University School of Business and Nonprofit Management), like the Axelson Center on Facebook, and like North Park on Facebook. See you online!*

Sincerely,

*Wesley E. Lindahl*

Dr. Wesley E. Lindahl, Dean  
and Nils Axelson, Professor of  
Nonprofit Management



Follow Dean Wesley Lindahl on Twitter  
@DeanSBNM



## Painting the World Blue and Gold

By Katherine Acles

We all know that North Park and SBNM embrace the city of Chicago as an extended classroom. In this process, Chicago influences us and we continue to make positive impacts on the city and the surrounding communities (see the Summer 2011 SBNM Newsletter for illustrations of SBNM impacts on Chicago). But were you aware that the North Park influence reaches much, much farther than the city limits? Farther than the state line? Farther than the United States border?

North Park draws students from around the globe and SBNM graduates leave a distinctive coating of North Park “blue and gold” wherever they go, whether they continue their career pursuits in their respective homelands or relocate to different regions of the world to launch new careers. SBNM alumni are blanketing the globe, making impacts in the private, nonprofit/NGO, and government sectors. They are helping residents of developing countries obtain clean drinking water, launching new companies and social ventures, steering fundraising efforts, delivering social services to struggling communities, managing businesses, leading the charge for social justice, managing foundations . . .

and the list goes on. Not bad for a school with humble beginnings.

North Park had its beginnings in the Minneapolis Business School and Bible Institute, founded by the Evangelical Covenant Church in 1891. Classes in music, religion, language, and business gave Swedish immigrants the education and skills they needed to prosper in America. The school relocated to its current Chicago location in 1894.

Shortly thereafter, the first campus building was erected. This one building (now named “Old Main”) housed all departments of the school — classrooms, faculty offices, and sleeping quarters, as well as the library, gymnasium, and dining room. In the early days of aviation, pilots used the cupola atop Old Main as a landmark to find Orchard Field (now O’Hare International Airport).

By 1910 the business program, then housed in a “School of Commerce,” was offering classes in bookkeeping and basic business disciplines. North Park was a junior college until 1960, when the first four-year degrees in business and economics were awarded.

*Continuation of feature article*

## Painting the World Blue and Gold

As we approached the new millennium, the business program really began to take off. In 1991 an MBA program was added, via the creation of the “Center for Management Education” (CME). A few years later, a Master of Management degree was developed along with a certificate program.

A defining moment occurred in 1997. Following the retirement of the president of Covenant Ministries of Benevolence, Nils Axelson, a group of his coworkers and friends raised money in his honor to endow a full-time faculty position at North Park—the Nils Axelson Professor of Nonprofit Management. This faculty position was expressly created “to teach nonprofit courses and conduct research to expand the collective understanding of the nonprofit sector.” As a result of the initial research project, which surveyed 4,500 Chicago area nonprofit leaders, it was determined that there was a need for an entity to serve the general nonprofit community by facilitating education, providing networking opportunities, and assisting in the identification of resources. Hence, the Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management was formed in 1999.

In 2002 the School of Business and Nonprofit Management was formed, combining both the undergraduate and graduate programs under one school. Subsequently, a concentration in nonprofit administration was added to the Master of Management degree in 2003. A concentration in human resources was added to the Master of Management degree in 2004 and a concentration in Higher Education Administration was added in 2006.

In 2008, the graduate program curriculum was restructured to offer five separate degree programs: Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Management (MM), Master of Human Resource Management (MHRM), Master of Nonprofit Administration (MNA), and Master of Higher Education Administration (MHEA). The number of graduate certificate programs was expanded, offering more options for non-degree seeking and degree-seeking students who wish to sharpen their skills and knowledge in specific areas. Additionally, partnerships were formed with North Park Theological Seminary and the School of Nursing to offer dual-masters degree programs.

As the SBNM has grown, evolved, and progressed, so has our impact and reach. The community surrounding the main North Park campus is considered one of the country’s most diverse areas. There are visible influences from many ethnicities: Swedish, Korean, Middle Eastern, Thai, Indian, Mexican, and more. North Park proudly embraces these influences and this world-class city. Even though this community is but a small, quaint, cozy settlement on the world map, SBNM tentacles are far-reaching.

You might expect our alumni to live and work in Illinois and our neighboring states, and they do. Quite a few are located throughout Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan. But our alumni are not just toiling throughout the Midwestern U.S. You might be surprised to hear of some of the other places where SBNM alumni currently reside and work across North America, including:

- Eagle River, Alaska
- Fairbanks, Alaska
- Meza, Ariz.
- Phoenix, Ariz.
- North Little Rock, Ark.
- Palo Alto, Calif.
- San Francisco, Calif.
- San Jose, Calif.
- Miami, Fla.
- Valrico, Fla.
- Cartersville, Ga.
- Kansas City, Kan.
- Louisville, Ky.
- Brighton, Mass.
- Potomac, Md.
- Rockville, Md.
- Billings, Mo.
- Clancy, Mo.
- Hamptons Bay, N.Y.
- New York, N.Y.
- Charlotte, N.C.
- Harwood, N.D.
- Lewis City, Ohio
- Corbett, Ore.
- Veneta, Ore.
- Carrollton, Texas
- Harker Heights, Texas
- Christiansburg, Va.
- Bellingham, Wash.
- Gig Harbor, Wash.
- Canada
  - Waterloo
  - Vancouver
  - Toronto
  - Norquay (Saskatchewan)

And, in addition to those laboring inside of the U.S., there are many SBNM alumni at work in far-reaching countries:

- Africa
  - South Africa
- Asia
  - China
  - Korea
  - Mongolia
  - Sri Lanka
  - Uzbekistan
- Europe
  - Bulgaria
  - Norway
  - France
  - Sweden
  - London
- Middle East
  - Israel
- South America
  - Ecuador

The North Park mission is to prepare students for lives of significance and service. SBNM alumni are taking this message around the world, demonstrating, to those across the planet, just what lives of significance and service look like. They are not only showing their “blue and gold,” but are also motivating others to follow their examples. And, as the number of people influenced by this movement grows, the wave of “blue and gold” continues to gently blanket our globe.

# SBNM News and Events

## SBNM Co-sponsors Diversity Event

This year SBNM had the honor of co-sponsoring a lecture with the Office of Diversity and Intercultural Learning. The lecture, entitled “Socially Responsible, Good for Business,” was



delivered by Ms. Graciela G. Meibar, the vice president of global sales training and global diversity for Mattel, Inc., on March 29.

Meibar outlined how social impact is now among the marketplace pressures that business leaders face, and she illustrated how Mattel is stepping up to that responsibility. In her role as vice president of global diversity, Meibar has developed a global strategic diversity initiative for Mattel, helping Mattel address its need for a truly diverse employee population. She is responsible for rolling and implementing all aspects of this strategy.

**“Diversity is a reality; inclusion is a choice.”**

*—Graciela Meibar*

Meibar shared a very specific example with our students on how cultural issues can play a role in business. She spoke about Mattel’s challenges regarding relationships with the Latino community in Chicago several years ago. She was asked to help with communications, given her fluency in both Spanish and English and her high position within the company. She was able to help soothe the situation and Mattel was successfully able to address the concerns of their customers in the Latino community.



## Anhui University Delegation Visits North Park

In April, North Park hosted a delegation from China’s Anhui University. The Anhui delegation engaged in discussions with Provost Joseph Jones, Dean Wesley Lindahl, and Dean Charles Peterson on potential cross-institution partnership programs. Several possible partnership program structures were discussed. This meeting was a high point in our growing partnerships with several Chinese universities.

In 2010 our dean, Wesley Lindahl, taught a Change Management course to a group of 16 students at the Guangdong University of Foreign Studies. Over a six-month interval in 2011, SBNM hosted two visiting professors, Dr. Ming Fang and Dr. Xiwu Cheng, from AnHui University. Prof. Al Kamienski traveled to AnHui University for four weeks that year to teach two courses on macroeconomics—one to 35 graduate students and the other to 40 professors.

In March of this year, SBNM graduate students and faculty traveled to Hong Kong and Guangzhou on SBNM’s annual International Business Experience trip. During this trip, the group visited the Institute for Civil Society at Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou (the capital of Guangdong province). Additionally, a group of MBA students from Guangwai MBA Educational

Center accompanied the group on a factory tour. See the separate article entitled “China is a Magical Place” for a recap of this trip.

Most recently, during this summer, two SBNM faculty members, Prof. Al Kamienski and Prof. Catherine Marsh, are teaching separate four-week courses at Anhui University. Pictured here, a local vendor and lunchtime companion of Prof. Kamienski, sports the lovely North Park blue and gold t-shirt.



Specific details are still being worked for two additional SBNM undertakings this fall; SBNM will host exchange professors from Anhui University, and a guest speaker from Sun Yatsen University will give a lecture on nonprofit organizations in China.

## SBNM Student is Finalist in Best New Ad Collegiate Contest

SBNM is proud to announce that Laura Sorg, a current North Park undergraduate business student, was a finalist in the Best New Ad Collegiate Competition.

The Best New Ad Collegiate Competition is a partnership between educators and the business community. Company sponsors define ad projects and place them on the site. There are separate competitions for video ads, audio ads, and print ads. This is the second year that students from Prof. Crendalyn Fitzgerald's Integrated Marketing Communications course have entered the competition. Students select a specific sponsor's competition to enter and post their submission on the site where it can be viewed by anyone visiting the site. Company representatives review and rate

the ads, and ultimately select a winner who is awarded a cash prize.

Laura entered the competition to design a print ad for College Bed Lofts. At the conclusion of the competition, she was awarded an Honorable Mention for her design. Congratulations to Laura. You can see Laura's ad here: [www.northpark.edu/sbnm/laurasorg](http://www.northpark.edu/sbnm/laurasorg).



*SBNM Advisory Board member, Martha Trott (right), and SBNM Graduate student, Karlton Gilton (left).*

## Advisory Board Networking

Our SBNM Advisory Board meets twice per year. At the most recent meeting, on April 27, a networking session with graduate students was held over lunch. Students shared their comments and concerns regarding their North Park experiences, which were

summarized by the board members to share as feedback for SBNM administration. As they chatted, our Advisory Board members also provided counsel and suggestions for the students. Our thanks to the students for their candid comments, and also to our Advisory Board members for sharing their time and advice.

## North Park Breakfast Series

### What is private equity? Is it good or bad for the economy?

By Melissa Patterson

On April 17, North Park University hosted its sixth Breakfast Series at the University Club in downtown Chicago. This series of talks was established to bring North Park students, alumni, staff, and friends together to engage in a dynamic, informative dialog around a relevant, current topic. The popularity of the Breakfast Series has grown over time and has covered a range of topics from the newspaper industry to healthcare to real estate.

The topic for April's breakfast focused on the private equity markets. As you can imagine, there was much to discuss. The central speaker and moderator was Thomas Bagley. Mr Bagley is the Founder and Senior Managing Director of Pflingsten Partners, an operationally-focused private equity firm managing \$1.2 billion in capital. Also included on the panel were Charlie Huebner and Bruce Ettelson. Charles Huebner is a managing principal and co-founder of RCP Advisors. RCP is a Chicago-based private equity fund of funds manager which specializes on the North American small market buyout sector. Bruce Ettelson is a

partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP and he leads the firm's Private Funds Group.

Bagley kicked the morning off with a brief overview of the private equity industry and then initiated a question and answer session with the panel. We learned that private equity is an alternative asset in an asset allocation model and private equity firms are asset managers that make and manage investments in private companies. The cycle for a private equity fund is as follows: raise

capital, generate investment opportunities and process transactions, manage investment portfolio, and liquidate investment. The private equity market is made up of \$2 trillion in capital commitments with 45% of global investments being made in the United States.

The Breakfast Series will resume in the fall of 2012 with another interesting topic. Please look for more details in the coming months.



*Pictured from left to right: Wesley Lindahl, Tom Bagley, Charlie Huebner, and Bruce Ettelson*

## Crystal Ball Dinner

SBNM hosted its annual Crystal Ball Dinner on February 4 at Via Veneto restaurant in Chicago. This event was formerly called the “Economics Panel,” but was recently renamed as the “Crystal Ball Dinner” to better reflect the relaxed—and often amusing—event that it has become.

Dean Wesley Lindahl, facilitated the evening. In attendance were SBNM alumni, current students, faculty, and friends. Although the individual dinner tables were engrossed in stimulating conversations of their own, the highlight of the evening was the commentary from the distinguished panel.

The panel was comprised of four members of the SBNM faculty: Al Kamienski, Pier Rogers, Lee Sundholm, and Gian Farruggia. These panelists gazed into their crystal balls to make predictions for financial market and charitable giving indices for the coming year. The pinnacle of the evening was the presentation of the Crystal Ball award for the most accurate predictions from last year. Winners were named in



*Pictured from left to right: Al Kamienski, Pier Rogers, Lee Sundholm, and Gian Farruggia*

two categories. Lee Sundholm took home the prize for last year’s predictions on the charitable giving indices, and Gian Farruggia claimed the prize for last year’s prediction on the major financial market indices. Congratulations to Professors Farruggia and Sundholm, who will get to

prominently display their trophies until next year’s dinner. At that time, we will see who next stakes their claim on the trophies.

Overall, it was a fun-filled evening of stimulating conversation and fellowship, and a great time was had by all.

## It’s All In The Family North Park alumni bring mission to action

By Dr. Gianfranco Farruggia

In 1979, long before joining the faculty here at North Park, I founded Community Human Services, Inc. (CHSi), a nonprofit organization which is located in Chicago’s Albany Park community. Albany Park is an adjacent neighborhood just south of North Park’s main campus. Recently, while reflecting upon the 30+ year journey of CHSi, I was reminded just how well North Park’s mission “to prepare students for lives of significance and service” is exemplified in our graduates, and furthermore, I came to appreciate the fact that CHSi itself is a perfect illustration of this mission in action.

Over the years, CHSi has been attracted to our students’ demonstrated commitment to the community (service) and the diverse spectrum of talents and experiences (being of significance) that they bring to the table. CHSi’s current General Manager, Joe Hemphill, is a graduate of North Park

University (BSE, 2006 and MNA, 2011). CHSi also employs three other North Park graduates: Jerwane Ford (Communication Arts, 2008), Don Thomas (Politics and Government and Biblical and Theological Studies, 2008), and Monica Thomas (Sociology with Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Certificate, 2009). Some may presume that, given that I have a history with CHSi, I may have had a hand in the hiring of these North Park alumni. Not so. I have not been actively involved in the day-to-day management of the organization for a while. The leaders of CHSi are familiar with the mission and focus of North Park and just how well our graduates personify our mission.

Committed employees who have a passionate desire to serve others are extremely important for CHSi. The organization originally began by offering services to adjudicated delinquents, later expanded to offer various employment and training services, and its current programmatic emphasis is on

the provision of case management services to young probationees in the juvenile justice system and parolees who are re-entering their respective communities. Based on their combined academic studies at North Park University and life experiences, Joe, Jerwane, Don, and Monica provide greatly-needed services to Albany Park and the broader Chicagoland community.

We here in SBNM are proud of these alumni and their contributions to the surrounding community. This is truly an outstanding illustration of the North Park mission in action. And we take every opportunity we can to note how our SBNM program played a part in shaping not only the lives of these alumni—but also indirectly—the lives of those being served by CHSi as well. Visit [www.chsi-chicago.org](http://www.chsi-chicago.org) to learn more about CHSi and the wonderful work that our North Park alumni are doing in the community.

# Meet the Faculty : Dr. Gianfranco Farruggia

## What sparked your interest in the nonprofit field and why did you decide to teach in this field?

This actually goes back all the way to my days in high school. I had an interest in psychology and was intrigued by why people behave in certain ways and what motivates people. As an undergraduate student, I majored in psychology, and I went on to pursue a clinical psychology degree at the graduate level. Halfway through my graduate program, I made a discovery; DePaul University was offering an intensive weekend certificate program that offered courses which delved into administration of rehabilitation services. I explored this program and put my master's program on hold in order to explore this area. I began working with an organization which supported people with developmental and psychological disabilities. After that, I began working for a for-profit organization (developed by insurance companies) which provided rehabilitation services.

My exploratory work in this field brought me to the realization that I enjoyed the managerial aspects of rehabilitation services more than the direct service aspects. The management aspects simply intrigued me and brought out my dormant entrepreneurial spirit.

## Do you consult with nonprofits regarding the structure and management of their organizations?

Yes. I'm on the board of the Albany Park Community Center. This organization has made tremendous progress recently as they have matured and expanded their programs and services. They have built out their executive leadership team and have broadened their reach and boosted their impact on the surrounding community. I also consult with Community Human Services, Inc. (editor's note: see article on page 5). It has been very gratifying to watch this organization evolve to provide a host of much-needed services to disenfranchised Chicagoans.

Previously, I served on the boards of the Lion's Club and the Illinois Association of Vocational Rehabilitationists, and the boards of various rehabilitation counseling associations.

## Have you have found your true calling in this work?

I think that I have met my calling, and reached fulfillment, on two levels. Part of my motivation for pursuing doctoral studies was that I wanted my daughter to be able to say, "Here's my dad, Dr. Farruggia." It's an awesome feeling to know that my daughter is proud of her dad's accomplishments. In addition, it sets an example for her, that if you set your mind on a goal and work hard, you can accomplish it.

I also had a final goal of teaching full-time. I had been an adjunct instructor for DePaul University and Kendall College. I realized that I really enjoyed being in front of individuals, sharing my experiences with them. I enjoyed leading them through the learning process as I discussed the challenges of managing nonprofit organizations through the various ups and downs involved. Furthermore, I have learned that, at the graduate level, an instructor can learn just as much from the experiences that the students bring to the table. It is always interesting to see how they would handle similar experiences.

Having this academic discussion in front of individuals is extremely fulfilling. I tell my students that "If I can't learn as much from you as you can from me then we don't need to be here."

## Do you maintain ongoing connections with your students?

I maintain some level of contact with about 25 percent of my students after they graduate. Next fall, I will be in my 10th year of teaching. Some of the students that I keep in touch with are employed at the Albany Park Community Center here in Chicago. Others are in different states and different countries as well. One of my former students from Uzbekistan, Yusup Karadaliev, worked for a non-governmental organization (NGO) there that helped folks obtain potable water. Another student, Roosevelt Brown, lives in Alaska. He actually completed his degree online with us and has remained there working in Alaska the whole time. Also, I have one former student who is currently in Africa and another who lives in China. All of these students keep in touch. It's encouraging to hear about the various socially-responsible ventures that they are involved in.

## How did your students who are from other countries learn about North Park University and its nonprofit programs?

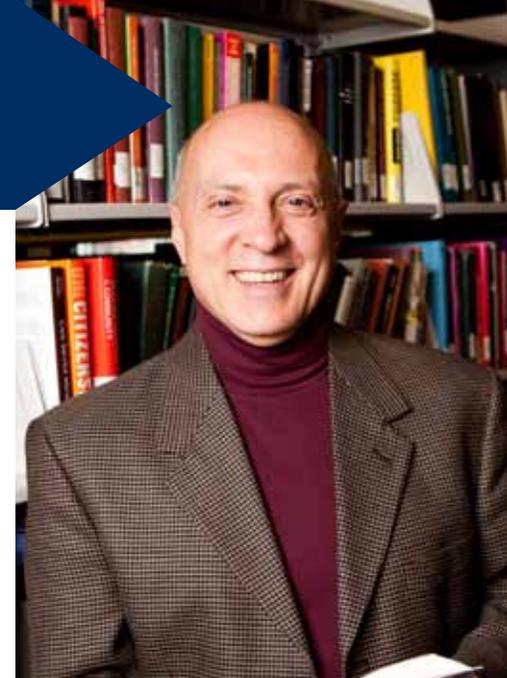
Some my students were connected to North Park University by international agencies. I believe that our reputation among various supporting agencies is what leads international students to us.

## How do you counsel students who say that they are interested in working in the nonprofit sector?

I stress that they are not here to be a direct service person, as most people pursue higher level degree or certificate in the nonprofit area in order to ultimately secure a management position. So I speak to them from that perspective. I inform them that "nonprofit" does not mean "no profit." As such, I advise them to seek out organizations that believe that making excess revenue in the organization is morally, legally, and financially responsible. They are here to make that organization secure and enable them to not just live hand-to-mouth. Cause, mission, and purpose are extremely important, but they need to be looking for an organization that is financially responsible and doesn't neglect the other aspects in hopes that "God will provide." I tell them to run from any organization where that is the case.

## Besides volunteering, what do you enjoy doing in your leisure time?

I love to rest, relax, and attend my daughter's soccer games. She plays the positions of sweeper and stopper. I also enjoy doing decorative yard work.





*SBNM group with MBA students from Guangwai MBA Educational Center*

## China is a Magical Place

By Karen DuVall (with contributions from Chris Nicholson)

As I stepped off the CTA Blue Train Line at O'Hare Airport, I was eager to find the international terminal and meet up with my group of fellow travelers from the School of Business and Nonprofit Management. Our group was comprised of a mix of graduate students, alumni, faculty, and spouses. Fifteen hours after we boarded our plane, we landed in Hong Kong.

After 99 years of British rule, Hong Kong was officially reunified with mainland China in 1997. It now functions under a "one country, two systems" structure, meaning that Hong Kong has its own currency, taxation laws, democratic elections, and capitalist economic system. Several of our group members remarked that Hong Kong resembled downtown Manhattan with its towering skyscrapers and focus on banking and retail malls. Our tour guide, Daniel, explained that one of the biggest challenges that Hong Kong faces is housing. With its rapid growth over the past decade, both the population and income inequality has increased, so space is at a premium.

Our hotel itself turned out to provide us with some insight into Hong Kong's nonprofit sector. The Scouting Association of Hong Kong was able to leverage its relationship with an infrastructure developer to build the BP

Simon Galpin, CEO of InvestHK, an organization promoting business and investment in Hong Kong, noted that one of the significant hurdles to overcome in attracting top talent and business to Hong Kong is the dearth of slots in private schools for executives' children.

A major highlight of SBNM International Business Experience trips is the fascinating organizations that the groups visit, including corporations, nonprofits, and universities.

According to Walter Dias, United Airlines' managing director for Greater China and Korea, China has over 100 cities with a population of over 1 million. The U.S. has 17. With just a fraction of the Chinese market served by air service, China represents an unprecedented opportunity for United.

International Hotel 18 years ago. Currently, the profits from the hotel help support the Scouts Leadership Training Institute, which provides experiential learning opportunities to young women and men. This business model is much more sustainable than relying on donations and government subsidies.

Our time in Hong Kong struck a balance between planned organizational tours and free time for exploring. On our last full day in the city, I teamed up with another group member to visit the Big Buddha and Po Lin Monastery on Lantau Island. An incredibly efficient, user-friendly, and clean subway system whisked us off to Lantau Island. As we stood at the feet of one of the world's tallest statues of the Buddha, we looked out over a breathtaking wooded landscape.

After four days in Hong Kong, we took a three-hour train ride to Guangzhou, the capital of Guangdong province. Daniel helped us navigate through the border crossing between Hong Kong and mainland China. We met up with Jenny, our second tour guide. When we arrived at the luxurious Garden Hotel, we learned that many American families stayed there as paperwork was finalized for their newly-adopted baby girls. This international adoption process is one derivative of China's one-child policy, which has been under



(Continued from page 7)

## China is a Magical Place

increased scrutiny lately as activist Chen Guangcheng sought refuge in the American Embassy in Beijing.

During our visit to the Institute for Civil Society at Sun Yat-sen University, Dr. Zhu Jiangang provided an overview of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in China. Technically, the Chinese constitution does not allow for organizations to exist that are not affiliated with the Communist Party. However, NGOs have become more common since 1995 due to a focus on labor rights, environmental protection, and community service. A separate set of organizations have developed—"government-organized non-governmental organizations" (GONGOs). Dr. Zhu acknowledged this irony, and said that whenever he and his colleagues encounter a contradiction like this one, they shrug and say, "China is a magical place."

We also had the opportunity to tour a state-owned holding group and a factory. A group of MBA students from Guangwai MBA Educational Center accompanied us to these tours. We were happy to have the chance to talk with them about their experiences as students in Guangzhou.

Touring cultural sites was a part of our itinerary, including Guangzhou Uprising

Dr. Jiangang Zhu, Professor and Managing Director of the Institute for Civil Society at Guangzhou's Sun Yat-sen University, who studies NGOs in China, noted that the mass of volunteers who assisted in the days following the terrible 2008 earthquake in Sichuan, which claimed over 68,000 lives, marked an important turning point in Chinese attitudes about volunteerism, and has fostered increased Chinese interest in NGOs and social welfare efforts.

While visiting Happy Household International, a mid-sized mail order company in Guangzhou, COO Alfred Chan indicated that most orders are taken over the phone between 9-10 a.m. each day, right after people arrive to work. Mr. Chan commutes to Guangzhou each week from his residence in Hong Kong, noting he prefers the more relaxed socio-cultural environment Hong Kong offers.

The proprietors of a Christian bookstore in the heart of Guangdong, noted that many church services are conducted in private homes in China, so as not to attract interest of Chinese officials.

Martyrs Cemetery which turned out to be a large beautiful park with groups of people participating in tai chi, ballroom dancing, and music lessons. The Chen Family Academy was also a highlight. As one of the few family centers spared from destruction during the Cultural Revolution, the academy is now a museum of folk art.

As our time in China drew to a close, our group gathered for a farewell dinner. Dean Lindahl invited each of us to reflect on our favorite moments. I continue to think of Dr. Zhou's comment: "China is a magical place." I was able to see a small glimpse of China's successes and challenges in its complex social, political, and economic systems. The United States is China's largest trading partner, and we face our own triumphs and setbacks with these same issues, played out in different ways.

During a conference on East-West monastic dialogue in 1968, theologian and social activist Thomas Merton said, "The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another, and all involved in one another." The world is a magical place, with complexities and contradictions all involved in one another.

## Join SBNM's 2013 International Experience!

The destination for the 2013 SBNM International Experience will be announced in early September. Wherever the location, consider joining SBNM faculty, staff, and students over spring break for an unforgettable experience to one of the world's great cities. The trip will include meetings with educational, corporate, and nonprofit organizations, as well as cultural activities. You may take the trip for credit (SBNM 5570), or simply for pleasure. Be sure to check the SBNM website for further details, or contact Chris Nicholson at (773) 244-5518 or [cnicholson@northpark.edu](mailto:cnicholson@northpark.edu).



Find resources, tips, and networking opportunities for nonprofits in Chicago at [www.northpark.edu/sbnm/nonprofit-chicago](http://www.northpark.edu/sbnm/nonprofit-chicago).

## Axelson Center Hosts Region's Largest Nonprofit Management Conference

By Christa Beall Diefenbach

More than 540 nonprofit leaders and volunteers gathered June 4-5 to learn new and effective strategies that will help them lead, be innovative, and enhance organizational funding, communication, and growth. They were attendees at North Park's 13th Annual Axelson Center Symposium for Nonprofit Professionals and Volunteers. The theme of this year's Symposium was "Reignite Your Vision."

The event provided a unique combination of information sharing and networking as noted by attendee Hollen Reischer, assistant director at Neighborhood Writing Alliance. "I was really inspired by all of the speakers," said Reischer. "I was most inspired by the vision people had for really taking care of the mission and values of their organizations, and using that as a way to build a bridge to corporate and pro bono relationships. This is a great opportunity for networking and hearing from lots of seasoned professionals. I've been taking notes all day."

The Symposium drew a cross-section of nonprofit leaders from large and small organizations, and people planning careers in the nonprofit sector. Robert Egger, founder and president, Washington-based DC Central Kitchen, inspired attendees by pointing out the potential influence of U.S. nonprofits in the political process and society. Participants also heard from Aaron Hurst, president and founder of the Taproot Foundation, New York City, who told the nonprofit leaders how to use pro bono resources to accomplish their missions. Workshops focused on topics such as communication,

strategic planning, board engagement, funding, and giving trends.

Winners of the annual Axelson Center awards recognizing Chicago-area nonprofits were announced at a luncheon emceed by Ana Belaval, feature reporter for Chicago's WGN Morning News.

- The Excellent Emerging Organization Award went to Empowerment Through Education and Exposure. This award is presented to one young organization with potential for growth and greater effectiveness. A capacity-building package valued at \$50,000 was presented to the winner. A \$2,500 cash grant was also included, funded by Curtis Jones and Paula Banks-Jones.
- The prestigious Alford-Axelson Award for Nonprofit Managerial Excellence went to Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation and Center on Halsted. This award recognizes nonprofit organizations that embody exemplary management practices. Grants of \$7,500 were presented to each organization, sponsored by Fifth Third Bank.

Established in 1999, North Park's Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management seeks to enhance the performance and effectiveness of individuals and organizations in the nonprofit sector through education, service, and resources. For more information, visit [www.northpark.edu/axelson](http://www.northpark.edu/axelson).

## Alumni Career Updates

Darren P. Coady (MNA 2012)

Darren Coady recently joined Rainbows For All Children ([www.rainbows.org](http://www.rainbows.org)) as grants officer. We wish Darren much success in this new role.

India Ehioba (MNA 2012)

India Ehioba was named as the executive director of the Million Dollar Round Table Foundation. All the best to you, India.

Lisa Frey (MNA 2009)

Lisa Frey was recently named as the new director of development for the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society. In her new role, Lisa will be responsible for the management of the membership and major gift programs as well as focusing efforts on the future vision and expansion of the Historical Society. Our congratulations to Lisa.

Portia Hoeg (MBA 2008)

Portia Hoeg (formerly Portia Lowe) was named director of athletics and recreation at Allegheny College in Penn. Prior to taking this position Portia had served as the associate director of athletics at Lake Forest College. Our congratulations to Portia.

Bond Lammey (MM 2005)

Bond Lammey was promoted to director of prospect research within Alumni Relations and Development at the University of Chicago in November 2011. Bond has been in prospect research at the University of Chicago since July 2008. All the best to you, Bond.

Andy Nordstrom (MNA 2008)

Andy Nordstrom was recently named as the chief development officer for the Albany Park Community Center. We wish Andy well in this new position.

Becky Whitehurst (CFRM 2012)

Becky Whitehurst completed her certificate in fundraising management earlier this year, and in March started at the University of Chicago as an assistant director for alumni relations and annual giving. All the best to you, Becky.

# Congratulations to SBNM 2011/2012 Graduates



## December 2011

### UNDERGRADUATES

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Nina Elizabeth Bennett, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Marlee Joy Benson, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, magna cum laude*  
Katherine M. Chambers, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Sheryl Marie L. David, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, cum laude*  
Joseph Ray Espanol, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Evan Richard Gawel, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Sehten Hills, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Cameron Avery Hodgkinson, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Vanessa Raquel Magana, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics and History*  
Julie Tran Nguyen, *Bachelor of Science, Advertising, magna cum laude*  
Justin Andrew Prevost, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Krista Margaret Rasanen, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Valentina Rodriguez, *Bachelor of Science, Advertising*  
Scarlett Shamiram Saltan, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Joshua A. Velazquez, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Andrew James Wery, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*

### MASTERS

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Roxanna Eda Marie Anderson, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Mosilda Asanji-Lindsay, *Master of Business Administration*  
Arielle Ruth Augustyn, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Trisha Lee Bolthouse, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Dawn M. Briskey, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Denise Marie Bronski, *Master of Business Administration*  
Roosevelt Brown, *Master of Human Resource Management, with distinction*  
Stephen Brown, *Master of Management, with distinction*  
Thor Sandnes Edvardsen, *Master of Business Administration*  
Katelin Jane Elliott, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Ivaylo Angelov Garkov, *Master of Management*  
Isabel Gomez, *Master of Business Administration*

Rebecca Elizabeth Johnson, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Maria Paula King, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Cheryl Dana Lamm, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Jason Robert Lindh, *Master of Business Administration*  
Jeanette Lynn Triantafillo Main, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Anne H. McCullah, *Master of Higher Education Administration, with distinction*  
Sara Anne McGrath, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Cherylyn McHugh, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Tammie T. Morris, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Rhonda Gail Nanevie, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Kristopher Joseph Newbauer, *Master of Human Resource Management, with distinction*  
Zheng Bin Ng, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Olivia Olivares, *Master of Business Administration*  
Eran Orgad, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Amy E. Oxendale, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Bei Pan, *Master of Business Administration*  
Daniel Joseph Payne, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Leah Darlene Sandri, *Master of Business Administration*  
Anita Alexandra Serbanescu, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Sara Lynn Springer, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Annette M. Swanson, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Rita Vazquez, *Master of Higher Education Administration*  
Linda Marie Vrasich, *Master of Business Administration*  
Leonard C. Wilson, *Master of Business Administration*  
Martha Youkhana, *Master of Human Resource Management*

## May 2012

### UNDERGRADUATES

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Sara Almarouf, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Florin Adalian Avram, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Karen Marie Bittner, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, Cum Laude*  
Joel Richard Bonnett, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Kevin Contreras, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Andrew Charles Duncan, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*

# Congratulations to SBNM 2011/2012 Graduates

Scott Richard Fayer, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Fred Ramah Flihan, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Paul Frank Garcia, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Austin Zane Hamilton, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics, Magna Cum Laude*  
Hannah A. Haugen, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, Magna Cum Laude*  
Mark Gregory Howard, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, Magna Cum Laude*  
Kelly Chanel Hunziker, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Ryan Michael Javech, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, Summa Cum Laude*  
Herve M. Kabengele, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Meelis Marcus, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Christopher Erik McCallister, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Ryan Robert McNaughton, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, Cum Laude*  
Katherine Marie Eileen Mook, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Kimberly Ann Motorozesku, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Erick Navarrete, *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
James T. Needleman, *Bachelor of Arts, Advertising*  
Emilee Grace Robertshaw, *Bachelor of Science, Advertising*  
Cassia Grace Shumate, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, Magna Cum Laude*  
Ina Adele Solberg, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, Summa Cum Laude*  
Christina Marie Soto, *Bachelor of Arts, Advertising*  
Nicholas James Stavropoulos, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Christopher D. Sundell, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*  
Stefanie Lynn Wessel, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics, Magna Cum Laude*  
Frank W. Wheelwright, Jr., *Bachelor of Arts, Business and Economics*  
Qing Xu, *Bachelor of Science, Business and Economics*

## MASTERS

Krystyna Kyleen Anderson, *Master of Management, with distinction*  
Joseph Andrew Angileri, *Master of Business Administration*  
Seth M. Awes, *Master of Business Administration*  
Mary M. Basel, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Peggy S. Berry, *Master of Human Resource Management, with distinction*  
Kim A. Bianco, *Master of Business Administration*  
Lorelei Camp, *Master of Management*  
Lilian Caraballo, *Master of Business Administration*  
Rena Carrizoza, *Master of Human Resource Management*  
Gina Marie Cialoni, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Nancy Ann Cummings, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Deborah L. Drewke, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
India Alexis Ehioba, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Michelle Elizabeth Ann Fehsenfeld, *Master of Higher Education Administration*  
Nathan Jackson Behling Finch, *Master of Business Administration*  
Tanya N. Ford, *Master of Higher Education Administration*

Emily F. Fordham, *Master of Business Administration*  
Gregory P. Formica, *Master of Business Administration*  
Stephanie Lyn Gaspary, *Master of Management*  
Matthew A. Goddard, *Master of Human Resource Management*  
Cory Danielle Gumm, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Jill Marie Gunter, *Master of Higher Education Administration, with distinction*  
Eric Vincent Hampton, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Eric Wishart Hedberg, *Master of Business Administration*  
Andrew Edward Jones, *Master of Business Administration*  
Juliann M. Kauss, *Master of Business Administration*  
Injae Kim, *Master of Business Administration*  
Elizabeth A. Lamberti, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Eric Charles Laufer, *Master of Business Administration*  
Valerie Anita Stanley Lawson, *Master of Higher Education Administration, with distinction*  
Megan J. Lee, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Delton Keon Long, *Master of Business Administration*  
Adam M. MacLeod, *Master of Business Administration*  
Diane Marie Marshall, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Kelly Lynne Merrill, *Master of Business Administration*  
Chad J. Mohamed, *Master of Business Administration*  
Vannessa Moreno, *Master of Business Administration*  
Khatanbuuvei Munkhtur, *Master of Business Administration*  
Karli M. Nelson, *Master of Business Administration*  
Konstantinos P. Nikolopoulos, *Master of Business Administration*  
Gregory J. O'Brien, *Master of Business Administration*  
Breanna Leigh O'Day, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Amy Elizabeth Oxendale, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Linda Mae Palmer, *Master of Higher Education Administration*  
Molly Rose Philosophos, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Michal Polaczyk, *Master of Business Administration*  
Sarah M. Pontious, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Nancy Beth Powers, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Reena Dhru Radadia, *Master of Business Administration*  
Catherine Anne Reese, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Brenda W. Robinson, *Master of Business Administration*  
Raul Leslie Saleme, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Gerardo J. Salvacion, *Master of Business Administration*  
Ifticar M. Sayidine, *Master of Business Administration*  
Jose F. Segarra, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Emily Noelle Simpson, *Master of Business Administration*  
Kathleen Joan Sinclair, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Gerardo Soto, *Master of Human Resource Management*  
Mary Vaccarezza, *Master of Business Administration*  
Jordan Kurt Vernoy, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Karl Thomas Voigt, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Matthew D. Ward, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Diana M. Watkins, *Master of Nonprofit Administration*  
Laura J. Wilkinson, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*  
Laurie A. Wille, *Master of Business Administration*  
Leeann Z. Wright, *Master of Nonprofit Administration, with distinction*  
Maria Christina Isip Yabut, *Master of Business Administration*  
JoAnn Zahn, *Master of Business Administration, with distinction*

# SBNM Faculty and Staff

## SBNM STAFF

Katherine Acles  
*Director of Operations*  
kacles@northpark.edu

Mera Anderson  
*Office Assistant*  
manderson1@northpark.edu

Chiku Jallah  
*Operations Coordinator*  
cjallah@northpark.edu

Wesley Lindahl  
*Dean and Nils Axelson Professor of Nonprofit Management*  
wlindahl@northpark.edu

Chris Nicholson  
*Director of Graduate Admission*  
cnicholson@northpark.edu

Melissa Patterson  
*Graduate Advisor and Operations Specialist*  
mpatterson2@northpark.edu

Ken Schaeffe  
*Individual and Organizational Recruitment*  
kschaeffe@northpark.edu

## FULL-TIME FACULTY

John Bonie  
*Associate Professor of Operations and Finance*  
jbonie@northpark.edu

Gianfranco Farruggia  
*Associate Professor of Nonprofit Management*  
gfarruggia@northpark.edu

Crendalyn Fitzgerald  
*Associate Professor of Marketing*  
cmcmath@northpark.edu

Ann Hicks  
*Associate Professor of Accounting*  
ahicks@northpark.edu

Robert Hirsch  
*Professor of Management*  
rhirsch1@northpark.edu

Alvin Kamienski  
*Associate Professor of Finance and Economics*  
akamienski@northpark.edu

Catherine Marsh  
*Associate Professor of Management*  
cmars@northpark.edu

Pam Schilling  
*Assistant Professor of Finance and Accounting*  
pschilling@northpark.edu

Lee Sundholm  
*Professor of Economics*  
lsundholm@northpark.edu

Michele Wayte  
*Professor of Marketing*  
mkwayte@northpark.edu

## AXELSON CENTER FOR NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT

Christa Beall Diefenbach  
*Associate Director*  
cbeall@northpark.edu

Pier Rogers  
*Director and Professor of Nonprofit Management*  
progers@northpark.edu

Tracey Starkovich  
*Program Manager*  
tstarkovich@northpark.edu

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Christa Beall Diefenbach  
*Associate Director, The Axelson Center  
Campus Executive Director—Non Profit  
Leadership Alliance, North Park University*

Karen DuVall  
*North Park University*

Gianfranco Farruggia  
*Associate Professor of Nonprofit Management,  
School of Business and Nonprofit  
Management, North Park University*

Wesley Lindahl  
*Dean of the School of Business and Nonprofit  
Management, and Nils Axelson Professor of  
Nonprofit Management, North Park University*

Chris Nicholson  
*Director of Graduate Admission,  
North Park University*

Melissa Patterson  
*Graduate Advisor and Operations  
Specialist, School of Business and Nonprofit  
Management, North Park University*

## NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Katherine Acles  
*Director of Operations, School of Business and  
Nonprofit Management  
North Park University*

Chiku Jallah  
*Operations Coordinator, School of Business and  
Nonprofit Management  
North Park University*

# SBNM Internships Spring 2012

Alsing, Christian  
*City of Evanston*

Anderson, Anthony  
*JAB Real Estate*

Beach, Maggie  
*Paul Carlson Partnership*

Connery, Colleen  
*Community Counseling Centers of Chicago*

Contreras, Kevin  
*QR Tax Service*

Duncan, Andrew  
*Varimants Murniek*

Fayer, Scott  
*Varimants Murniek*

Fry, Dwayne  
*Adams Counseling Services*

Glaubke, Rebecca  
*City of Evanston*

Harner, Daniel  
*Swedish Covenant Hospital*

Joelsson, Oskar  
*Infocube*

Lindus, Haley  
*Fashion Chicago Magazine*

McNaughton, Ryan  
*Covenant Trust*

Mook, Katherine  
*Covenant World Relief*

Mulhim, George  
*Louis E Najjar Tax Advisor CPA*

Peters, Shelby  
*Edleheit and Edleheit LLC*

Robertshaw, Emilee  
*Bear Necessities*

Rodriguez, David  
*Dominic's*

Solberg, Ina  
*Merrill Lynch*

Sorg, Laura  
*ICM Properties*

Stavropoulos, Nicholas  
*Para Medical Services*

Xu, Qing  
*Atema*