



## CENTER FOR CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP

University of Missouri-St. Louis—College of Education

### *Highlights 2012-2013*

#### *Dear Friends,*

We thank you for your on-going commitments to the best interests of children and to the Center's work in character and citizenship education. Highlights for 2012 and 2013 include accomplishments of our faculty, outreach in St. Louis and Missouri, as well as significant international involvement. The Center received \$2 million for grant-funded projects to advance character education. We felt great satisfaction in our graduate students' accomplishments and through contributions to several scholarly publications.

Co-Directors

Marvin W. Berkowitz and Wolfgang Althof



#### **Faculty Awards/Recognition**

The **Association for Moral Education (AME)** recognized the Center's Co-Directors, Wolfgang Althof and Marvin Berkowitz. AME provides an international forum for the interdisciplinary study of the moral and ethical dimensions of human development and education. **Wolfgang Althof** took office as President of the AME for a three-year term beginning October 2013 at the AME's annual convention in Montreal, Canada. The AME presented **Marvin Berkowitz** with the **Kuhmerker Career Award**, honoring him for his long-term contributions to both the AME and to the field of moral development and education.

**Wolfgang Althof** was elected in November 2012 to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Moral Education*, the leading journal in the field world-wide.

**Natalie Bolton**, a member of the Community of Scholars, received the **Gerald and Deanne Gitner Excellence in Teaching Award** at the University of Missouri's-St. Louis Chancellor's 2012 State of the University Address. The Community of Scholars is a collaborative group working together as a scholarly community to further the mission of the Center.

**Alina Slapac**, a member of the Community of Scholars, accepted the UMSL 2013 **Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award**. Alina was also recognized by Kappa Delta Pi (KDP), the international honor society for education. She received the KDP 2013 **Regional Counselor Award for the Midwest Region** and **Best Faculty Advisor of the Year** for her dedication and commitment to KDP at UMSL in 2013. In addition, Alina became an invited member of KDP's International Committee in 2013.

## Outreach – Regional and International

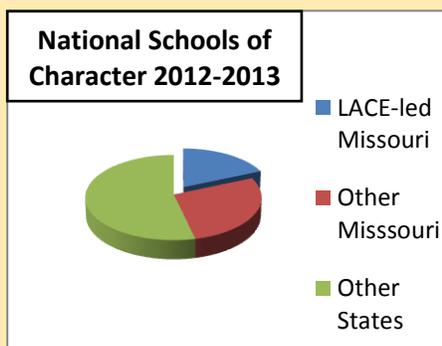
### Leadership Academy for Character Education (LACE)

In 2012 and 2013, [LACE](#) graduated 49 St. Louis area education leaders. A few of the 2012 graduates are pictured below.



The photo (from left): Becky Skillern, dean of William Holliday Elementary in Fairview Heights, Ill.; Jonathan Lee, teacher at Mark Twain Elementary School in Brentwood, Mo.; Andrea Deane, principal of Beasley Elementary in south St. Louis County; Julianne Woodle, coordinator of the Lindbergh Early Childhood Center in south St. Louis County; Christine Simokaitis, principal of Seckman Elementary in Imperial, Mo.; and Jeff Schultz, assistant principal at the Lincoln Elementary School in Troy, Mo. (Photo by August Jennewein)

More National Schools of Character have been recognized in the St. Louis region and Missouri than anywhere else in the country. As shown in the chart at the right, Missouri represents 46% of all National Schools of Character. The Center's efforts and Sanford McDonnell's insights and investments are clearly bearing fruit. Furthermore, during 2012 and 2013, 10 of the 15 of Schools of Character in Missouri and 10 of the 54 of the National Schools of Character include leadership from LACE.



In addition, there were two Illinois schools achieving this award who were led by LACE educators. Overall, LACE graduates are leading 22% of schools who have achieved the status of National School of Character in 2012 and 2013.

### Extending LACE

Thanks to the **HTC Foundation**, the Center has been able to expand LACE in two ways. **HT Cho**, Chairman of the HTC Foundation, received the **UMSL Partners for Greatness Award** at the

annual UMSL Founders Dinner in recognition of HTC’s generous support for extending the reach of character education through the Center.



First, the Center began a follow-up of workshops designed for LACE graduates, **Advanced LACE (A-LACE)**. Marvin Berkowitz and Mary Anne Hoppe (pictured left) have convened three workshops a year to support graduates in their character and citizenship work.

Second, the Center has developed a blended learning version of LACE (**Video-LACE** or vLACE) for export overseas. The Center has recorded and edited a series of video presentations which will first be subtitled in Chinese. We are very excited about having completed this project in 2013 and the possibilities for outreach with vLACE.

## LACE Graduates Recognized



**Dr. Kevin Goddard**, Sarcoxie R-II School District Superintendent, was selected for ASCD’s 2012 Class of Emerging Leaders Alexandria, VA. The Emerging Leaders Program recognizes and prepares young, promising educators to influence education programs, policy, and practice on both the local and national levels. Kevin Goddard is a 2005 LACE graduate.

**Brian O’Connor**, principal of Nottingham CAJT High School in the St. Louis Public Schools and a 2010 LACE graduate, was named the Peabody Leaders in Education “Educator of the Year”. Peabody Energy created the Leaders in Education program to honor education professionals – from teachers and coaches to librarians and counselors – to recognize the heroes in education who help children achieve their true potential.

**Rob Lescher** received the Teach for America *Maxine Clark Principal of the Year Award*. Rob is a LACE graduate at Busch Middle School of Character (SLPS), the only magnet school which is a School of Character. Teach for America’s goal is to eliminate educational inequity by enlisting the nation’s most promising future leaders to teach for two or more years in low-income communities.

## The Citizenship Education Clearing House (CECH)

A pioneer in civic education, the Citizenship Education Clearing House (CECH-pronounced “check”) has been conducting programs in citizenship education since the late 1960. From the beginning, CECH programs have sought to integrate participatory citizenship education into the curricula of middle and high schools and to facilitate the development and implementation of student-initiated action projects. Wolfgang Althof is the Executive Director of CECH which is now under the umbrella of the CCC. Currently, CECH runs two programs: Missouri Youth Engaged in Local Government (MY LOGO) and Kids Voting Missouri. Sandy Diamond is the program coordinator for both initiatives.

[MY LOGO](#) is another aspect of how the Center for Character and Citizenship reaches school age youth. Through MY LOGO, CECH helps students understand the important role local government plays in community development and also points out the significance of becoming active, engaged citizens. Bringing local community issues into the classroom and bringing the classroom into the local community encourages students to have a voice and actively participate in community decision making.



To accommodate individual student learning styles and diverse communities, MY LOGO has evolved into a unique hands-on learning experience about local government. In some school communities, students learn about local government with local officials, brainstorm local problems, and develop action plans to resolve those issues. Students then present their findings at a Spring Projects Fair. In other schools, MY LOGO students participate in a half-day Local Government Issue Forum. These forums provide students with an opportunity to meet local government officials and dialogue about current local government issues. Both formats culminate with either a Mock City Council Meeting or a Mock Town Hall Meeting. Also, MY LOGO continued our "Team Teach" project that matches classroom teachers with city officials to teach lessons in local government. "Team Teach" does not take students out of the classroom but gives MY LOGO the opportunity to work with more schools, teachers, and city managers throughout Missouri.

[Kids Voting Missouri](#) is an affiliate of the national non-profit, non-partisan *Kids Voting USA* program in which CECH participates. Through this program, students in grades K-12 study portions of Kids Voting USA's special Citizenship Activities Guide, participate in a simulated voter registration lesson, and then go to designated Kids Voting polls on or near Election Day to cast ballots on the same candidates and issues as the adult voters. Its mission is to promote an educated, engaged citizenry and demonstrate that young people can indeed have a voice in the democratic process.



During the 18-year history of Kids Voting Missouri at UMSL, more than 1,278,000 K-12 Missouri students have had the opportunity to learn about democracy, citizenship, and voting. Before ever casting a ballot, Kids Voting Missouri students learn about the candidates and issues on the ballot and also participate in a voter registration activity. In these 18 years, about 60% of all participating students or about 768,192 students have taken advantage of their opportunity to "vote" and have actually cast a Kids Voting Missouri ballot in state-wide or national elections.

## Summer Institutes in Character Education

**Greater St. Louis Area:** The 2012 and 2013 [Summer Institutes](#) were co-taught by Center Co-Director Marvin Berkowitz and Amy Johnston, retired principal and current UMSL doctoral student. The week-long workshops for school-based leadership teams are designed as an immersion in character education,



school-based team building, and strategic planning for the upcoming school year.

**Taiwan:** Marvin Berkowitz offered the first and second Annual Taiwan Summer Institute in Character Education in August 2012 and August 2013. Cumulatively, approximately 1000 school leaders (accounting for approximately 25-30% of all schools in Taiwan) were introduced to character education as well as principles of excellence and excellent principals. Berkowitz shared three case studies of St. Louis region exemplary principals and schools, including Karen Smith of Mark Twain Elementary in Brentwood, Amy Johnston of Francis Howell Middle School in St. Charles and Kristen Pelster of Ridgewood Middle School in Arnold.

## Additional International Outreach

The Center and its Community of Scholars have also been communicating character and citizenship ideas internationally in Greece, Germany, England, Japan, Singapore, Kenya, Spain and Thailand.

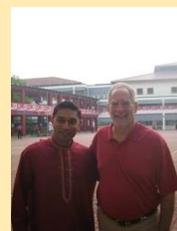
**Greece and Germany:** The Center's Community of Scholars members, **Brenda Light Bredemeier** and **David Light Shields**, served as visiting scholars in an interdisciplinary, research-based Master's program funded by the European Union and offered jointly by a consortium of leading European universities in the summer of 2012. The **University of Thessaly** at Trikala (Greece) and the **University of Leipzig** (Germany) hosted them to work with the universities' graduate students.

**England:** The University of Birmingham and the John Templeton Foundation have established the **Jubilee Centre for Character and Values**, under the direction of Professor James Arthur. The House of Lords in London hosted the launch. Center Co-Directors, Wolfgang Althof and Marvin Berkowitz attended the inaugural conference in Birmingham in December 2012, with Marvin Berkowitz as a keynote speaker.



**Japan:** Center Co-Director Marvin Berkowitz hosted Professors Shigeyuki Atarashi, Tsuyoshi Yamada, Norimune Kawai, and Tazuko Aoki for a week of site visits to award winning schools of character education, workshops and study. In 2013, Marvin Berkowitz conducted a workshop at **Reitaku University**. The Center is currently consulting on a research project *Measurement Tools for Moral Education* with Reitaku University. Pictured at the left during the Japanese Educational Psychology Conference reception, three professors are shown joining the artists in drumming (Marvin Berkowitz is second from the right).

**Singapore:** Marvin Berkowitz has conducted workshops in Singapore. Vik Veeramuthu, Head of Positive Discipline and Pupil Leadership at Evergreen Secondary School, is pictured at the right with Marvin Berkowitz. In addition, two representatives of the **Singapore Ministry of Education**, Lynette Yang and



Mei Xian Poon, visited the Center, and joined the Leadership Academy in Character Education in attendance at the November 2013, CHARACTERplus® National Conference.

**Kenya:** The Center continues to offer support through providing expertise, books and computer supplies to Arthur Oyange. He is a director of the **Global Peace Youth Corps** in Kenya and a strategic advisor for the Global Peace Foundation's Character and Creativity Initiative.



**Spain:** The Center hosted Dr. Francisco Esteban (pictured left), a visiting scholar from the **University of Barcelona**, for a one month sabbatical in August/September 2013. Dr. Esteban observed the Center's activities and participated in doctoral classes. Dr. Esteban's conducts research in values education and on ethical learning at universities.

**Thailand:** Wolfgang Althof, Center Co-Director, and Virginia Navarro, a Community of Scholars member, led a doctoral student exchange program with **Phranakhon Rajabhat University** in Bangkok, Thailand. This annual graduate program includes a visit of UMSL students to Thailand and a visit of Thai students to St. Louis. Students participate in a research conference, experience an intense scholarly and cultural exchange with faculty and doctoral students, and visit educational institutions and historical and other cultural sites.

## New Projects/Research

The John Templeton Foundation (JTF), the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation and the Harry S. Singer Foundation are generously funding the Center with \$1.5 million toward the development of a web-based resource for character education research, the **Character Education Research Clearinghouse (CERCh)**. Historically, the central purpose of schooling was to foster the intellectual development and strengths of character that youth will need to become virtuous and informed democratic citizens who have the capacity, desire, and opportunities to contribute to the common good. CERCh will serve these needs and move the implementation of character education forward by providing easy access to the information that stakeholders need to make the best choices. The project goals for the foundations are:

- **John Templeton Foundation:** Complete several systematic reviews of the scientific research literature directly related to the development of specific character traits designated in the JTF charter. The JTF funding will also support the initial development of an electronic infrastructure for the on-going housing and dissemination of these systematic reviews and the underlying materials to the field. The **Harry Singer Foundation** pledged matching funds for the project.
- **SD Bechtel Foundation:** Update of *What Works in Character Education 2000* (a previous project) to include the last decade of research, transported to the digital infrastructure, and made available in the multiple formats that desktop multi-media production techniques has made so easily and cost effectively accessible.

## Graduate Degree Programs



**The new Master of Education in Educational Psychology Program** accepted its first students. Students focus on general Educational Psychology, Character and Citizenship Education or Educational Research and Program Evaluation.

UMSL revised its **Educational Doctorate** (Ed.D.) to develop it into a true scholar-practitioner program. Center faculty created a thematic strand on character education and democratic school governance. Thirteen local educators enrolled in Fall 2013, among them two principals of National Schools of Character. Faculty involved include: Wolfgang Althof, Marvin Berkowitz, Natalie Bolton, Brenda Bredemeier, and David Shields. This degree program is part of the Carnegie Program for the Education Doctorate initiative.

The **Ph.D. in Education** with an emphasis in Educational Psychology continues with its strong base in character and citizenship research and scholarship.

## Awards and Scholarships Established by the Center

### Sanford McDonnell Memorial Scholarship

In appreciation of the immense contributions by Sanford McDonnell to the field of youth development and ethics, the Sanford McDonnell Memorial Scholarship was conceived in 2012. We are *2/3 of the way to our \$30,000 goal* in order to begin disbursing a scholarship to graduate students. Tax-deductible [donations](#) may be made to the Center specifically for the Sanford McDonnell Memorial Scholarship by check or through the University by specifying as designee “Other” – *Center for Character & Citizenship / McDonnell Scholarship*.

### Student Awards and Scholarships

Including Center Student Affiliate grants, over \$12,000 in tuition assistance was awarded to graduate students. Every Fall semester, nominations are taken for the [Victor A. Battistich Memorial Award](#). Competitive awards and scholarships honored doctoral students:

- Alena Tunprasert – 2012 Victor A. Battistich Memorial Award
- Erin C. Schulte – 2012 Adolph and Carol Frank Memorial Scholarship
- Mark Liston – 2012 and 2013 Des Lee Scholarships for Character Education, 2013 Adolph and Carol Frank Scholarship
- Catherine R. Shomper – 2012 and 2013 Des Lee Scholarships for Citizenship Education
- Erin C. Schulte – 2013 Victor A. Battistich Memorial Award
- Mark Liston – 2013 Adolph and Carol Frank Memorial Scholarship

Erin C. Schulte (center) is pictured with Sarah Battistich (left) and Caitlin Battistich Crocker (right), receiving the 2013 Victor A. Battistich Award. Sarah and Caitlin are the daughters of the late Vic Battistich, our wonderful colleague and friend who died in 2008 and is still sadly missed.



## Ph.D. Graduates

**Dr. Katie L. Bahm, Dr. Ying Liu and Dr. Shu Peng** completed their doctoral work. Pictured below is Dr. Bahm (right) with her advisor, Marvin Berkowitz, at the graduation ceremony. Katie Bahm's dissertation is titled: *The Integration of Character Education and Its Impact on Teachers' Professional Practice in 2012*.

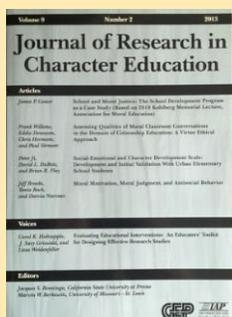
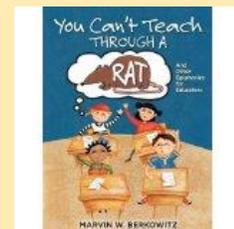


Ying Liu completed her dissertation titled *Investigating the relation between moral self-enhancement and self-deception: A cross cultural study of U.S. and Chinese College Students*. Ying Liu worked with the Center's Community of Scholars member Matthew W. Keefer as her advisor.

Dr. Shu Peng completed her doctoral work with Community of Scholars member Cody Ding as advisor. Her dissertation is titled: *Self-image and Psychological Well-being among Chinese Adolescents*.

## Publications

Selected publications by authors associated with the Center are listed in the next section, including the new book by **Marvin Berkowitz**, *You Can't Teach through a Rat and Other Epiphanies for Educators*, pictured at the right. This book presents a series of challenges to educators on how best to serve the academic and developmental needs of students.



Volume 9 of the *Journal of Research in Character Education* (2013), edited by **Marvin Berkowitz**, was published. In 2014, the focus will be changing. In addition to up-to-date research, manuscripts describing research-based interventions and results, conceptual/theoretical/philosophical analyses, thoughtful program descriptions, international perspectives, exemplary practices from the field, and book reviews, will interest practitioners as well as character education researchers. To reflect this content change, the journal has been renamed *Journal of Character Education*.

## Other Selected Publications

Althof, W. (2012) AC/DC and the case against idiocy in the digital age: How media literacy and civic literacy go hand in hand. On-line article: St. Louis, MO: Gateway Media Literacy Partners, Media Literacy Week: Featured Articles, Nov. 1, 2012: <http://www.gmlpstl.org>

Althof, W. (2012). Just Community. In W. Edelstein (Ed.), *ABC der Demokratiepädagogik*. Hamburg: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Demokratieerziehung. Online version at <http://degede.de/abc-justcommunity.0.html>

Althof, W., & Berkowitz, M.W. (2013). Character and civic education as a source of moral motivation. In K. Heinrichs, F. Oser & T. Lovat (Eds.), *Handbook of moral motivation. Theories, models, applications*. (pp. 567-583). Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.

Berkowitz, M. W. (2012). Moral and character education. In K.R. Harris, S. Graham, & T. Urdan (Eds.), *APA educational psychology handbook: Vol. 2. Individual differences, cultural variations, and contextual factors in educational psychology* (pp. 247-264). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Berkowitz, M.W. (2012). *You can't teach through a rat and other epiphanies for educators*. Boone, NC: Character Development Group.

Berkowitz, M.W., Althof, W., & Bier, M. (2012). The practice of prosocial education. In P. Brown, M. Corrigan & A. Higgins-D'Alessandro (Eds.), *Handbook of prosocial education, Vol. 1* (pp.71-90). Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Berkowitz, M.W., Pelster, K., & Johnston, A. (2012). Leading in the middle: A tale of pro-social education reform in two principals and two middle schools. In Brown, P., Corrigan, M. & Higgins-D'Alessandro, A. (Eds.), *Handbook of prosocial education: Vol. 2* (pp. 619-626). Lanham MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Berkowitz, M.W., & Bustamante, A. (2013) Using research to set priorities for character education in schools: A global perspective. *KEDI Journal of Educational Policy*, Special Issue, 7-20.

Shields, D., Althof, W., Berkowitz, M.W., & Navarro, V. (2013). What are we trying to achieve? Developing a framework for preparing character educators. In M. Sanger & R. Osguthorpe (Eds.), *The moral work of teaching: Preparing and supporting practitioners* (pp. 164-180). New York: Teachers College Press.

Slapac, A., & Dorner, L. (2013). The importance of classroom management in early language immersion: A case study of a new French immersion kindergarten class, *Journal of Immersion and Content-Based Language Education*, 1(2), 251-277.

## Looking Ahead



The Center for Character and Citizenship anticipates that 2014 will be a year in which we extend character and citizenship education efforts in curriculum development with the new Ed.D. student cohort, local and international outreach and publication. We also look forward to hosting a visiting scholar from Nanjing Normal University, Professor Gao Desheng. Look for our white paper on Common Core State Standards in mathematics and character education. We are excited to see character education research become easily accessible through the Character Education Research Clearinghouse (CERCh) as it goes online in 2014.

Please stay in touch. Visit us at our website: <http://www.characterandcitizenship.org>, on Facebook [UMSLCCC](#) or Twitter [CCC\\_UMSL](#). Our postal mailing address is: Center for Character and Citizenship, 402 Marillac Hall, St. Louis, MO 63121-4400.