Our move into the 2008-09 Academic Year brought the promise of new beginnings. Provost Christine Wiseman, upon the recommendation of School of Education Dean David Prasse and School of Law Dean David Yellen, approved the proposal for the establishment of a new Comparative Education/Comparative Law M.A./J.D. dual degree program focusing on the legal right of children to an education. The program will be a shared responsibility of the Center for Comparative Education (CCE) and the Law School’s Civitas ChildLaw Center. It will be co-directed by me and Prof. Michael Kaufman, Director of the ChildLaw Education Institute and Associate Dean of the Law School. Prof. Kaufman is also a Faculty Associate of the CCE and is profiled in this issue of the Newsletter.

As globalization increases the interconnectedness of people, human rights issues have become incrementally more complex. Legal frameworks affecting human rights intersect and often clash at national, regional, and international levels. The complexity of laws is compounded by the complexity of issues of education—especially global issues relating to accessibility and opportunity. The new dual degree program will prepare lawyers with the educational policy expertise to effectively address these issues. The program will formally begin August 2009.

The new dual degree program is setting the framework not only for graduate careers, but also for research in our Center and collaboration with other Loyola centers. CCE Associate Director, Noah Sobe, just received a grant from Loyola’s Center for the Human Rights of the Child to do research on the effects of the post-Communist transition on children’s educational rights in Central/East Europe. Prof. Sobe has also been asked to chair the nominations committee of the Comparative and International Education Society.

As another new beginning, the “Historian’s Corner” web page was just launched under my direction on the Comparative and International Education website (www.cies.us). The Historian’s Corner expands the CIES Historian’s responsibility to “supervise the collection of new documents [and] facilitate research projects . . . related to the archives of the Society” by making crucial documents relating to the history and functioning of Comparative Education accessible to the membership through the Society’s website. See Maria Trakas’ article in this issue for a comprehensive description of this new web page.

These developments represent new beginnings, but even our continuing projects contain some new beginnings. In particular, our CIECAP (Comparative and International Course Archives Project) program, which has generated global interest as a major teaching resource, recently initiated a survey and analysis of Comparative Education programs at universities around the world.

In this issue of the CCE Newsletter, we feature profiles on our students, faculty, and alumni associates. Faculty Associate Prof. Michael Kaufman of the School of Law, as I mentioned earlier, is profiled, as is Karie Karasiak, one of our new M.A. student associates. As this message focuses on new beginnings, we also feature a new alumna associate: Katrin Raie, who recently received her M.Ed.

Finally, again to showcase new beginnings, I was recently appointed to the advisory boards of several organizations, including the Eurasia Center, located in Washington, D.C.; the Gerald Read Center for Intercultural and International Education at Kent State University; and the International Academic Committee of the Revista Argentina de Educación Superior (Argentine Journal of Higher Education). Adding these to my responsibilities as Historian of the Comparative and International Education Society and as Director of the CCE, I anticipate a very busy year.

Erwin H. Epstein
Director
Historian’s Corner

By Maria Trakas, M.A. Student Associate

The Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) website will soon feature a new page entitled “Historian’s Corner,” initiated by and under the supervision of the Society’s Historian, Erwin H. Epstein. The new page will be dedicated to providing CIES members with historical documents and links relating the history of the field and the Society. This page will ensure that documents critical to the field will endure and be available to the membership.

The Historian’s Corner, http://www.cies.us/history.htm, replaces the “Documents and Papers” link and will be accessible from the CIES home page. It builds on the earlier CIES History Page maintained by the Society’s first Historian, Elizabeth Sherman-Swing.

The contents of the Historian’s Corner is divided into sections that feature Basic Documents, Lists of Important Figures in CIES History, a link to the Comparative and International Education Course Archive Project (CIECAP), a CIES Membership Analysis (to come soon) as well as a Photo Gallery.

The first section, Basic Documents, includes the Society’s Constitution, Bylaws, links to the CIES Archive at Kent State University; guidelines for use of the Archive; an article on the Archive’s development; the Comparatively Speaking video; the CIElopedia website; a chapter by Elizabeth Sherman-Swing on the history of the Society; a chapter by Vandra Masemann, Mark Bray, and Maria Manzon on the history of the World Council of Comparative Education Societies; and a chapter by Erwin H. Epstein on the professionalization of Comparative Education (all posted with permission). In addition, this section includes historical lists of the Society’s important figures and award winners (including past presidents, boards of directors, honorary fellows, as well as Bereday and Kelly Award winners).

(continued on page 5)

Alumna Profile: Katrin Raie

Katrin finished Tallinn Teacher Training College in her home country of Estonia before arriving at Loyola University Chicago in January 2004. She had also studied in Denmark, Austria, Spain, Lithuania, and the United Kingdom. After serving as Vice President in an experimental quasi private integrated culture and education center in the newly independent Estonia, Katrin received a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship to study in the U.S. As Katrin was considering programs in educational administration, a former student of Loyola’s School of Education who was working at Rotary International informed Katrin about Loyola’s Comparative and International Education Program. This discovery, together with the fact that Katrin’s mentor in Estonia had been a co-founder of that country’s School of Sociology, caused Katrin to focus her Rotary scholarship on the impact of education on society and to do so at Loyola. To Katrin, the sociological approach seemed far more fascinating, comprehensive, and multi-layered than studying educational administration. Later, at a CIES conference, Katrin realized that she had come to one of the top universities in the world for the study of comparative education. Katrin is presently serving as the Secretary General of the National Logistics and Freight Forwarding Association, with special responsibility for vocational education and launching an internationally accredited competence-based training program for industries in Estonia. Katrin also belongs to the working group of international experts to develop standards and validating training programs for the Advisory Body for Vocational Training, a world organization.

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To catch the reader’s attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.

Prof. Erwin Epstein, as CIES Historian, monitors the official CIES Archive at Kent State University.

A close look at the flash drive containing the latest five volumes (five years worth) of the Comparative Education Review.

CIES Historian Erwin Epstein dangles a flash drive containing five years of CER records, against a backdrop of unprocessed CIES paper files.

Prof. Epstein, CIES Historian, with Dr. Linda Robertson, Director of the Read Center for International and Intercultural Education at Kent State University.

Cara Gilgenbach, Special Collections Archivist in charge of the CIES Archive.
Xavier University Chicago in 2005 with a B.A. in Spanish for Social Services. After college, she became a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic and lived in a rural region with no running water and unreliable electricity. She helped to install the community’s first library and worked with the local school teachers to help improve literacy skills. This experience was a big influence and shaped Karie’s desire to study Comparative and International Education. After returning home to the States and before starting at Loyola, Karie also worked as the Program Coordinator for the Hispanic/Latino Health Coalition of Elkhart County in Indiana near her hometown of South Bend. Both her Peace Corps experience in the Dominican Republic and working locally with Hispanic populations inspired Karie to focus her studies on educational issues in Latin American countries. At this time, Karie came across one of her fellow Peace Corps Volunteers, Elena DiGiovanna, twin sister of Josefina DiGiovanna, a student in the Comparative and International Education program at Loyola. Without knowing Josefina’s academic background, Karie mentioned her interest in joining the program at Loyola. Since Josefina recently completed her coursework for the program she received positive input about the program from her. Karie’s own research related to the comparative aspect of the program at Loyola University Chicago and further confirmed her decision to join the program. Currently, Karie is a Spanish instructor at Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana and she hopes to continue working in higher education whether it be in the U.S. or abroad.

Faculty Profile: Michael Kaufman

Dean Kaufman received his undergraduate degree magna cum laude, with high honors in political science and with distinction in both his majors, political science and English; he was named to Phi Beta Kappa and served as the editorial assistant on The Kenyon Review. At the University of Michigan Law School, he received the American Judicature Society Award and was the senior editor of the University of Michigan Yearbook of International Legal Studies. He clerked for the Honorable Nathaniel R. Jones of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Dean Kaufman practiced securities, antitrust and civil rights litigation in a major Chicago law firm before joining the Loyola faculty. He also has been elected to three terms on the Board of Education of a large school district in the Chicago area, serving as the Board’s President and Vice-President. Dean Kaufman is the Director of the School of Law’s Childlaw and Education Institute where he leads research, teaching and outreach efforts in the area of comparative education. He is the author of the leading Education Law text and countless articles touching upon international and comparative education law and policy issues.
Comparative Education at Loyola University Chicago had a distinguished history well before the Center for Comparative Education was established in 2005. Emeritus Professor John Wozniak taught the first Comparative Education course at Loyola in 1961. Indeed, Comparative Education played a role in the founding of Loyola’s Rome Center, being among the very first courses taught there (by Prof. Wozniak jointly with Fr. Felice). Professor Wozniak continued to teach Comparative Education at Loyola until 1977, joined thereafter by (Emeritus) Professor Gerald Gutek. Emeritus Professor Steven Miller also occasionally taught Comparative Education courses until his retirement in 2006.

Among the most important Ph.D. dissertations in the field of Comparative Education was authored at Loyola by Erwin Pollack under Professor Gutek’s direction. That dissertation contains the field’s most definitive analysis of the work of Issac Kandel, arguably the most prominent comparativist of education in the 20th century.

Two years after Prof. Gutek’s retirement in 1996, Professor Erwin H. Epstein, who had been Director of the University Center for International Studies at the Ohio State University, came to Loyola to chair the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership and teach courses in Comparative Education. Assistant Professor Noah Sobe joined the Comparative Education and History of Education programs in 2003 and became Associate Director of the Center for Comparative Education at the Center’s founding.

Since the 1990s, the number of graduate students in Comparative Education has grown from a handful to more than 40 today. The Center for Comparative Education, in terms of students, faculty and coursework, hosts the largest program in Comparative Education in Illinois and among the most prominent in the U.S. and, indeed, the world. The Center’s graduate students and alumni come from many parts of the U.S. and a wide array of countries, including: Benin, Cameroon, Colombia, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Liberia, Lithuania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Spain, Thailand and Venezuela.

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For more information, visit us online at CCE: http://www.luc.edu/cce/

Historian’s Corner (continued from page 2)

A link to the Comparative and International Education Course Archive Project (CIECAP) is also found on the page along with a Photo Gallery. A CIES Membership Analysis will be forthcoming.

The Kent State University Archives have been the official depository of the records of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) since October 1980. The CIES Archive contains records from the Secretariat, various presidents of the Society, and the Comparative Education Review. The links to the Comparatively Speaking interviews and CIEclopedia database, initiated by Teachers College, Columbia University, provide interviews with and biographies of, respectively, important contributors to comparative and international education, giving our members a glimpse of those who have shaped the field and the range of their work and professional activities.

The CIECAP is a special online database housed in the Center for Comparative Education at Loyola University Chicago. The database is an accessible archive of key elements of the introductory course including unit topics, referenced articles, journals and texts, as well as the interests and specializations of comparative education course instructors.

The documents and links in the Historian’s Corner may change from time to time. The Society’s Historian will choose those documents and papers for inclusion that he/she believes are vital to sustain the Society’s institutional memory and knowledge of the field.