

## Conscience Project Meeting 8-13-05

The meeting was conducted at Tamara's home. Present were Meg Gaffney, Matt Galvin, Patricia Garcia, Tamara Hamilton, Sue London, Sister Mary Satala and Barb Stilwell.

Patricia introduced herself and her work as well as her research interest in cultural diversity and spirituality. She had learned about the Conscience Project from Sister Mary Satala and saw potential intersections and overlaps with her areas of interest. She hopes that after she completes her thesis requirements that she will be able to develop new (and/or contribute to ongoing) conscience sensitive projects.

Sister Mary introduced herself. She is a Daughter of Charity who received her doctorate at CTS in counseling and pastoral care. While this was the first time she could be present for a meeting, She had already become engaged in, and made contributions to, the Conscience Project as reflected in previous summaries. Sister Mary indicated her interest, and willingness to collaborate with Matt, in developing her original ideas and comments about **The Otters of Conscience-Berg** into a study guide.

Sue obtained the necessary authorizations for the use of Matt's photographs of the plush animal and puppet otters for the abovementioned story. Under the auspices of her grant, Sue secured four licenses for the ADOBE software necessary for rendering documents in PDF format, the preferred format for submissions to **Conscience Works**. She had used two of the licenses when installing ADOBE on the computers she will require for her work at the library and provided the CD for Matt to install in the I.U. Conscience Project laptop. There is, therefore, one license left. Sue demonstrated the new laptop computer she had acquired under the auspices of her grant. It was suggested by Sue's supervisor that she conduct research on archival uses of consumer level materials---comparing users' (teachers, youth, parents) satisfaction with different modes of conveying our moral psycho-educational information (e.g. html-interactive versus PDF-status versus on-demand print-outs). Sue indicated her sustained interest in the connecting her project up with NIH software, the UMLS system and automatic indexing. She is collaborating with Amy Hatfield who is primarily involved with the Bioethics Digital Library but who has also been concerned with the I.U. Center for Bioethics home- page and its (now established) link to **Conscience Works**. Sue regretted to inform us that any back-up copy of the 1998 Psychiatry Grand Rounds on Conscience Sensitive Medical Education, which we had hoped might have been retained by the successor to MERP, was long ago discarded. Our 1997 Grand Rounds videotape remains in our keeping, however. Matt's transcription of this (sans panel discussion which still awaits transcription) has been put up on **Conscience Works**. The Conscience Centered Psychiatric Ethics Course (CCPE) materials are appended. Sue will be presenting a poster at the Midwest chapter of the Medical Library Association Meeting in Fargo, North Dakota. She also circulated a call for exhibitors at the 2005 Kids Count in Indiana Conference: Tuning in to Youth. The exhibition date is Friday, 11/18/2005 8:00 AM –5:00 PM. Deadline for registration: September 12<sup>th</sup>. Sue indicated she would make the submission by the deadline if Conscience Project members would commit to being on hand for the exhibit. Tamara, Barb, And Matt expressed their willingness to be on hand. There was discussion about having inviting narratives and conscience drawings from exhibit attendees, perhaps having a dry-erase board or, as Sue suggested, magnets and a smart-board.

Barb recalled the conference in 2002 at Dartmouth, **Hardwired to Connect**, at which she presented on the consolidation of conscience in adolescence. The collected works from that conference are expected to be published in 2006. A 'spin-off' of the conference was a policy statement directed to youth agencies. Two 'planks' of the policy statement had to do with conscience. Barb thought that one of the agencies sponsoring the aforementioned exhibit was addressed.

Barb reviewed her notes on Tamara's forty-minute presentation at Park Tudor. The audience was comprised of about 60 kids. Barb especially liked the progression Tamara made from a non-moral to a moral approach to the kids concerns. Barb indicated she is beginning to think about suitable topics for a poster session submission to the Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Annual Meeting in October of 2006.

Tamara described her innovative psychotherapeutic modality, 'The Conscience Box' for the new participants. She will be conducting a workshop on bullying—including 'cyber-bullying' --at New Perspectives. She will emphasize how to promote pro-social behaviors. She indicated that Mr. Joe Fumusa, the Dean of Students in the upper school at Park Tudor is interested in an ethics curriculum, and perhaps even a conscience sensitive approach to an ethics curriculum.

Matt gave an operational description of the Value Matrix, referred to in recent paper submissions to The **Journal American Academy Child Adolescent Psychiatry** (JAACAP) and to the Colloquium for the Philosophy of Science at Boston University. Barb had sent a revised version of the paper on youth suicidality, a copy of the companion/background article intended for **Conscience Works** and a cover letter to the editor addressing the reviewers' comments and criticisms. The paper currently in submission to JAACAP is entitled *Assessing Meaning of Suicidal Risk in Adolescents: Three Exercises for Clinicians*. Meg promised to circulate the paper accepted by the Colloquium at Boston University where she will be presenting it September 23. The title of that paper is *A Conscience Sensitive Approach to Ethics and Teaching Caring Attitudes*. Meg provided an update on conscience-related educational activities, specifically the course entitled Conscience Centered Psychiatric Ethics conducted August 3, 10, 17 and 24. Matt provided the schedule for this year's conscience sensitive group therapy at Children's Bureau Inc. Retreat residential program for youth and selected 'paired learning' sessions that will involve the IUSOM Introduction to Clinical Medicine I medical students at Retreat.

The next meeting, which falls on Barb's birthday, will be conducted with a cake to celebrate on November 5, 2005 at 10:00 AM at Meg and Matt's home 2113 W. 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. If you are able, RSVP 347-8947 by November 4<sup>th</sup> but, be assured, none will be turned away.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Galvin.  
9/29/05