

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Human Trafficking Team

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has 6 faculty and a conference service that are involved in anti-trafficking studies, efforts, and the proposed conference.

In the College of Business Administration Professors **Dwayne Ball** and **Ron Hampton** of the Department of Marketing are publishing their survey results from Eastern Europe to estimate the number of people being trafficked and to analyze the marketing channels through which people are trafficked. Results have shown that the problem is far more serious than previously thought, and that careful analysis of the marketing channels for international trafficking is required. Professor **John Anderson** of the Department of Economics also has experience advising governments in Eastern Europe and the Balkans on economic transition and reform, including policies to reduce and prevent smuggling and corruption.

Sriyani Tidball, a lecturer in the College of Journalism at UNL, has spent most of the last 12 years working in Sri Lanka in the area of child trafficking. The 27-year-old-NGO founded by her and her husband has received several grants. They founded an orphanage and a home that cares for trafficked and abused women and children. She has been recognized as a leader in the field of human trafficking and has been asked to represent Sri Lanka at two leading international conferences on trafficking (UN GIFT conference in India, 2007, and UN GIFT conference in Vienna, 2008).

In the College of Arts and Sciences, Professor **Donna Akers** of the Department of History and the Ethnic Studies program has been active in the fight against human trafficking for several years. In 2007, she founded Traffick-Jammers, a campus/community activist organization to fight human trafficking. Traffick-Jammers is co-sponsoring a presentation of the play, "Body and Sold", which deals with the effects of sex trafficking on young people in the United States on May 4, 2009, at the Loft at the Mill, and again in October, 2009. In 2007 she presented her research on trafficking at a major conference in New Delhi, India and met with activists in the region to discuss ways to educate and protect Nepalese Indigenous women from being trafficked to Mumbai. On campus, Dr. Akers has worked to raise awareness through numerous film showings and class and campus-wide presentations. Dr. Akers' is currently working on a major research project on trafficking in the Lincoln-Omaha region which will provide important data for legislators, law enforcement, social service providers, and others involved in the fight against trafficking in Nebraska. Her groundbreaking work on the effects of human trafficking on the world's Indigenous people was recognized at the World Indigenous Peoples' Conference in Melbourne, Australia this past December, and she is currently working on an article on domestic child sex trafficking.

Professor **Anchalee (Joy) Panigabutra-Roberts** of the UNL Library has been active in developing bibliographic resources on the topic of human trafficking. She is on the UNL Libraries Team to explore data curation on UNL campuses and doing research on human trafficking data resources in the United States. Prior to coming to UNL, she co-organized a human trafficking conference at St. Cloud State University, Minnesota, in 2007, and was previously a faculty affiliate with a London, Ontario Center for Research on Violence Against Women and helped organize a workshop on human trafficking.

Seminars and conferences supported by the Human Trafficking Center can be managed by the UNL Academic Conferences department under the Director **Roméo J. Guerra**, which has decades of experience in managing conferences