



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

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> news and events

> contact

Faculty members in the COE spent last Friday, January 27 analyzing their students' performance outcome data along with program quality data gathered from current students, alums, and advisory council members. Huddled over notebooks of data, and furiously working to complete electronic planning templates on their laptops, the faculty brainstormed ideas and articulated specific objectives and outcomes for 2012-2013. Of course, they also spent time laughing and enjoying each other's company over lunch! I was reminded of Margaret Meade's words: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." I'm so proud to be affiliated with the College of Education!

Faculty members from Family & Consumer Sciences, **Ms. Donna Bell, Dr. Laura Bloom, Dr. Rachel Mathisen, and Dr. Donna Burnett, presented a session entitled, "Teen Obesity, Bullying & Suicide: Making Connections Across the Curriculum"** at the Alabama Association for Health, Physical Activity, Recreation and Dance conference last November. In January **Dr. Burnett** and **Dr. Mathisen** also presented at the Third Annual International Conference on the Health Risks of Youth in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Their presentation was on *"Adolescent Suicide and Obesity: Risk Factors and Prevention Strategies."*

Congratulations to **Dr. J. K. Davis** who was invited to participate in a roundtable discussion about the effects of caffeine on physical performance. The invitation was extended because of Dr. Davis' contribution to a research study that will be in print this fall. The full article is available now online and will appear in the journal in September. *James JJ, Bloomer RJ, Cox G, Davis JK, Desbrow B, Graham T (September, 2012). Roundtable Discussion: Caffeine and Physical Performance. Journal of Caffeine Research. 1(3), 145-151.*

Dr. Carolyn Miller's KNES 499 (Fitness Programming and Design) class is working with The Montevallo Boys and Girls Club twice each week to implement the "Wanna Play?" program, an initiative sponsored by Major League Baseball (MLB). The program encourages boys and girls to increase their overall fitness and health through physical activity and nutrition. Other kinesiology students are also participating in the world of practice through wellness fairs sponsored by the Alabama Department on Aging at various locations in Shelby County; blood pressure reading and BMI testing at the Montevallo Senior Center; and body composition assessments at the university's Student Activity Center. We appreciate Dr. Miller's commitment to helping kinesiology students practice and apply the skills they are learning in their courses.

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Congratulations to the faculty in our M.Ed. **Counseling Program!** The Board of Directors of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) met January 5-7, 2012. All three tracks (Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family, and School Counseling) were accredited for an eight year period through March 31, 2020! We appreciate everyone's hard work in making this effort a success!



Kudos to **Dr. Hollie Cost** who developed a teacher's behavior management handbook during her sabbatical. The text is entitled, *The Behavior Manager's Handbook: Simple and Effective Classroom Interventions for Students with Behavioral Difficulties*. Assistant Professor of Social Work, *Dr. Jason Newell*, contributed a chapter on self-care.

Rebecca Richardson and **Dwight Jinright** are participating in “*The Leader In Me*” Alabama Symposium at Athens State University on February 2-3. There are currently three schools implementing the program (Vincent Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Watwood Elementary). The remaining elementary schools in Talladega County and those in Sylacauga City are expected to begin the training process within the next two years. Vincent Elementary School, our first designated Leadership School, held a Leadership Day on January 11 to showcase their efforts and continue their progress toward achieving Covey’s coveted Lighthouse status.

The Regional In-service Center will offer “*The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*” Signature Program Training February 28-March 1 from 8:30-3:30 each day. The only cost to participants will be \$90 which covers the guide notebook needed for the training. Contact Lynn Graham (grahamla@montevallo.edu) to register.

Jennifer Dick will be at the Regional In-service Center in Pelham on February 20 to certify first responders in First-Aid, CPR, and the use of the AED. If anyone is interested in joining this training session, contact Dwight Jinright (jinrightd@montevallo.edu). The cost is \$60 for certification in First-Aid and CPR/AED or \$35 for one or the other.

Jeff Loper recently made a presentation at the very first CRM (Customer Relationship Management Software) User Group meeting in Alabama. This software tracks all of the AMSTI teacher trainers from eleven sites, their kit usage, and warehouse inventory, as well as related school information for each site. Microsoft asked Jeff to speak because they wanted to showcase what could be done with the software when one applies a little “out-of-the-box thought and planning.” Way to go, Jeff!

The Collaborative/Special Education alternative master’s degree program is excited to announce that it is up and running with eight students seeking grade K-6 certification, five students seeking grade 6-12 certification and one student seeking P-12 DHH certification. The program is designed to accommodate currently employed teachers who want to become initially certified in Collaborative or Deaf Education. Classes will be taught online, via distance learning, and/or on campus during the evenings or summers. On a related note: **Dr. JoLynn Suell** is the first faculty member in the COE to use our new **Podcasting Studio** (located adjacent to the Digital Café) to prepare video podcasts for her online and hybrid courses. Thank you for blazing the trail for us, JoLynn!

Dr. Walt Fenn (Instructional Leadership) and graduate student, **Cynthia Cruse**, will attend the annual meeting of the Association of Teacher Educators in February—Orlando, FL. Cynthia will present as part of the ATE Special Interest Group-

Students in Teacher Education. The title of her presentation is "*Training Middle School Teachers How To Vanquish Harassment and Bullying in Just Ten Short Minutes.*"

Congratulations to **Dr. Donna Burnett** on a co-authored manuscript soon to be published: Franks, R (University of Alabama at Birmingham, Counselor Education); Burnett, D (University of Montevallo, Nutrition & Wellness); Evans, R (University of Alabama at Birmingham (Health Education): *Risk Factors and Prevention Strategies for Suicide Among the Elderly.*

Senator Cam Ward will be presenting a \$1000 check of support for the **Backpack Buddies Program** at Randolph Elementary School in Bibb County. Students and faculty from Family & Consumer Sciences, Social Work, the Student Dietetics Association, and the Social Work Club will be on hand to participate in the presentation ceremony. Special thanks to all who continue to supply food items and help to sustain this good work!

> in the spotlight

2008 FCS alum, **Jana Morrow Clark**, received the High School Teacher-of-the-Year award for the Andalusia Chamber of Commerce in Covington County. Jana teaches FCS at Florala High School. Congratulations, Jana!

Brooke Kelso, one of our secondary education alums, received a 2011-2012 Alabama Power first-year teacher grant. Brooke currently teaches English at Hewitt-Trussville High School and was nominated by **Dr. Glee Whitsett** for the award. Congratulations, Brooke!

Congratulations to **Jasmine Pearson**! Jasmine's research on "*Effective Methods and Strategies used in Inclusive Classrooms to help Student's with a Learning Disability in Reading,*" was approved for presentation at National Council for Undergraduate Research (NCUR) 2012 at Weber State University. Jasmine's abstract was chosen from more than 3,500 submissions. She was also a McNair Scholar last summer. Congratulations to **Dr. Tarsha Bluiett** as well, who serves as Jasmine's mentor!

Thank you for not printing this newsletter.