

Fall 2003

Newsletter for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, Fall 2003

College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at WKU

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CEBS Spirit

NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

FALL 2003 ISSUE

Improving Teacher Quality: Five years of hard work pays off!

Good news for CEBS teacher education programs! Preliminary research collected as part of a five year, Federally funded, higher education grant indicates that educational improvements in the Renaissance Partnership Project's eleven teacher education programs have paid off in higher teacher education Praxis test scores. Praxis is the exam required by many state teacher certification bodies to evaluate a teacher's content and pedagogical knowledge. Project research indicates that successful performance on the Praxis-Principles of Learning and Teaching exam is significantly positively related to the Part-

nership's requirement that all pre-service teachers complete a Teacher Work Sample (TWS). The TWS involves the entire P-12 teaching and learning process, including pre-assessment, instructional design and development, post assessment, evaluation, and reflection. The eleven teacher preparation institutions in the Renaissance Partnership Project who collectively produce about 6,000 new teachers each year nationwide share the success of this project. Western Kentucky University is the lead institution for this collaborative teacher quality initiative. The goal of the initiative is to implement an accountability system measuring the impact of teacher graduates on student achievement. If preliminary findings hold true, more good news is on the way.

FALL 03 FACULTY HONORS

Vicki Stayton, 2003 Western Kentucky University Distinguished University Professor Award

FALL 03 ALUMNI HONORS

Psychology

Allison Maue, 1999, MA Industrial/Organizational Psychology, Lexis Nexus Ultimate Associate

Lorie Mullins, 1998, BA Psychology, Kentucky Association for Psychology in the Schools Best Practices Award

Jason Simpson and Emily (Wright) Seeger, 2002, BA Psychology, Kentucky Association for Psychology in the Schools Best Practices in Consultation Award

Elementary Education

Brandy Dashnaw, 2003, BS Elementary Education, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences Scholar and Ogden Trustees Award

Debra Ellis, 2003, BS Elementary Education, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences Scholar
Rhea Payne, 2003, BS Elementary Education, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences Scholar

CEBS STUDENT, FACULTY, AND ALUMNI HONORS

Counseling and Student Affairs

Briget Collins, 1997, MAE Student Affairs, appointed associate director of admissions at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business MBA program

FALL 03 STUDENT HONORS

Psychology

Sara Alvey, MA Psychology, Jennie Ewald Memorial Scholarship

Amy Schirmer, BA Psychology, Outstanding Senior in Psychology

Joshua Gunn, MA Psychology, Outstanding Graduate Student in Clinical Psychology

Jill Lawson, MA Psychology, Outstanding Graduate Student in School Psychology

Lynne Battista, MA Psychology, Outstanding Graduate Student in Industrial Organizational Psychology

Bridget Trame, MA Psychology, Outstanding Graduate Student in Experimental Psychology

Anna Marie Clayton, Psychology, First Place, Sigma Xi Student Research Conference Graduate Student Presentation

Young-Lim Lee, Psychology, Honorable Mention, Sigma Xi Student Research Conference Graduate Student Presentation

Amy Schirmer, Psychology, Honorable Mention, Sigma Xi Student Research Conference Undergraduate Student Presentation

Elementary Education

Ashley Johnson, BS Elementary Education, National City Award Incentive Scholarship

Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education

Serena Wheeler, MAE Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, International Division for Early Childhood Council for Exceptional Children Kathleen W. McCartan Award

From the Dean



As we approach the midpoint of the academic year, faculty, staff, and students within the College have been actively involved in experiences on and off campus, and the renewed spirit and enthusiasm characterizing Western is obvious in the work in the College. Faculty members are engaging students in learning opportunities associated with real world application/activities, and numerous students within the College have been recognized for their achievements. This past summer I observed members of the Psychology Department working with undergraduate students in experimental studies that provide valuable opportuni-

ties for individuals wishing to pursue graduate studies. More recently, I have observed faculty members working with elementary students on the weekends through varied experiences that challenge children to reach their fullest potential.

To help facilitate learning among students, the College is enhancing the learning environment in each classroom through the installation of technologies that will allow faculty members and students to connect with the larger world through the Internet. LCD projectors have been installed, and lecterns housing computers have been placed in each classroom. Faculty members are involved in a variety of professional development activities that will enhance their use of technology in instruction, and equipment has been purchased for faculty members who are working with students in off campus settings.

In addition to the ongoing instructional experiences on and off campus, faculty members in two program areas are preparing for upcoming program and unit accreditation visits. First, the Teacher Education Unit is preparing for continuing accreditation visits by personnel from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board. In addition, the Department of Counseling and Student Affairs is conducting program reviews as an initial step in submitting the programs for accreditation by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). As part of the accreditation process, programs undergo internal review in an effort to provide quality experiences for students within the programs. Finally, based upon feedback from graduates and findings of research, the Department of Educational Administration, Leadership, and Research is currently redesigning the Educational Administration program to better prepare graduates for the demands of schools for school leadership in the 21st Century. Many of you have and/or will be invited to provide feedback to the program areas during these review processes, and your input is greatly appreciated.

Part of the educational experience in many programs in the College is the placement of graduate and undergraduate students in clinical/practicum experiences. Many of you play a vital role in these experiences through the mentoring that you provide, and we are most grateful for your assistance to them. Without your support of current and future Western students we would not be able to provide quality programs to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the nation at large. Please know of our continuing gratitude for your help and guidance.

*Best Wishes,
Sam Evans*

New Associate Dean Named

Ric Keaster is the new Associate Dean for Administration. He will be supervising budgets and finances for the Dean's Office, as well as overseeing facilities, grants administration, and the NCATE Continuing Accreditation Process. Ric comes to Western from the University of Southern Mississippi where he chaired the Department of Educational Leadership and Research.

New Grants Administrator Named

Rachel Wurth is the new Grants Administrator for CEBS. Her responsibilities involve post award administration of CEBS grants and contracts. Rachel's previous position was with Kentucky Legal Aid, a non-profit law firm assisting low-income individuals, where she worked for 14 years as the Chief Financial Officer and for 4 years as the Grants Administrator.

Staff Leadership Institute

Sharon Hartz, CEBS Dean's Office Administrative Assistant and Building Coordinator, graduated May 21 from the first class of the WKU Staff Leadership Institute. Designed to enhance job performance and personal development skills, participants engaged in leadership development training throughout the year.

WKU Hosts NBCT Luncheon

This July, 58 new National Board Certified Teachers were honored with a luncheon on the WKU South Campus Carroll Knicely Conference Center. Dean's Office staff member, Lynn Hines, directs the National Board Certification Program.



Area teachers participating in the Kentucky Reading Project Summer Institute collaborate on a Literacy Learning Center task.

CEBS Happenings

WKU Teacher Education Pass Rate is 99 Percent!

With a 99 percent pass rate, Western Kentucky University had the highest score of Kentucky's public colleges and universities on a statewide exam for new teachers. Western's pass rate and rank I rating on the Praxis II exam for 2001-02 helped earn the University an

excellent rating on the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board Quality Performance Index. In the other two components, Western had a 99 percent pass rate on the 2000-03 Kentucky Teacher Internship Program and a high score on the 2002-03 New Teacher Survey. Western is the only public institution to achieve an excellent rating.

October 15 was the date of the annual Hensley Lecture Series, this year featuring best-selling author Mitch Albom. Host of ABC's syndicated radio program, "The Mitch Albom Show," panelist on ESPN's "Sports Reporters," and award-winning sports writer, Albom has authored seven books including the highly popular, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, required reading for all incoming freshmen at Western. Made into a 2000 Emmy-winning television movie starring Jack Lemmon and Hank Azaria, this non-fiction work chronicled the last days of Albom's college mentor and professor Morrie Schwartz, who was dying of ALS. Albom's newest book is *The Five People you Meet in Heaven*. Albom has been a guest on the Oprah Winfrey Show, Larry King Live, and is seen every week on ESPN. He has been named the top sports columnist by sports editors of America 13 times in the past 15 years.

Future Educators of America Summer Camp and Regional Fall Conference

In September, WKU and the Green River Regional Educational Cooperative (GRREC) hosted the Future Educators of America Regional Conference. Participants from nine FEA chapters participated in four competitions including impromptu speaking, chapter display, chapter scrapbook, and member essay. Guest speakers included Kentucky Teacher of the Year, Patrice McCrary, WKU Professor of Psychology Joseph Cangemi, and Eastern Kentucky University Professor of Education Carol Gabbard. During the week of June 23-27, 2003, aspiring teachers attended the FEA Summer Camp organized by the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. Students spent their week learning what it takes to become a teacher, exploring life as an undergraduate education major, and engaging in activities related to leadership and diversity.



Departmental News and Notes

Counseling and Student Affairs

The Department of Counseling and Student Affairs is in the process of pursuing national accreditation status from the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). CACREP is the national accrediting body for mental health counseling and student affairs graduate degree programs. Dr. Kelly Burch-Ragan attended accreditation training in Alexandria, Virginia, in October.

This fall, Kelly Burch-Ragan was appointed associate professor in the Department of Counseling and Student Affairs. She is a licensed and certified mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, and mental health service provider. She will be teaching Group Counseling, Social and Cultural Diversity, and Internship in Mental Health Counseling.

Administration, Leadership, and Research

The Department of Administration, Leadership, and Research continues to redesign its school principal preparation program as part of an initiative from the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and the Wallace Fund. The goal of the redesign is to develop a program that links the performance of school leaders to student learning. As part of a pilot program slated for the fall of 2004, the Department is developing a new administrator preparation program, program standards, and assessment tools. Gayle Ecton is the WKU contact for this collaborative initiative. Jeanne Fiene is coordinating the development of online modules to be used in the program.

The Department appointed three new associate professors this fall, Bill Kelley, Bud Schlinker, and Vickie Basham, all of whom come to the Department after distinguished careers in public education.

Bill Kelley recently retired from 30 years with the Hardin County school system where he served most recently as associate superintendent for finance and support services. Bud Schlinker retired from 36 years in public schools, most recently as assistant superintendent for instructional services for the Warren County Public Schools. He teaches courses in School and Community Relations and Administration of School Personnel. Vickie Basham was formerly the superintendent of Hancock County Schools and an Associate Commissioner of Education with the Kentucky Department of Education. She teaches graduate classes in school administration for prospective principals and superintendents.

Curriculum and Instruction (C & I)

Elementary Education

Regional elementary and middle school students competed in the Second Annual LEGO Robotics Competition November 8. The competition is designed to improve the science content knowledge and pedagogical skills of elemen-

tary and middle school teachers. The competition is a collaboration between Kathleen Matthew in the Elementary Education Program and Stacey Wilson in the Department of Science and Engineering. The theme of this year's competition was "A Trip to Mammoth Cave." Eleven teams of students designed and programmed a LEGO Mindstorm Robot to maneuver through a course representing a drive from Bowling Green to Mammoth Cave.

The following faculty joined the Department of Curriculum and Instruction this fall: Judy Davison, Kay Gandy, Lisa Murley, and Jamie Spugnardi. Kay Gandy recently returned from a Fulbright Seminars Abroad Program to South Africa. She teaches introductory education and education methods courses in the Elementary Education program. Lisa Murley was previously with the Kentucky Department of Education as a Core Curriculum Consultant. She is teaching introductory education courses along with courses in the Elementary Education program. Jamie Spugnardi recently served as director for Region Two Ser-

Psychology Colloquium

In October, David Buss, professor of psychology at the University of Texas Austin, presented "Sexual Treachery: The Co-Evolution of Conflict in Human Mating Strategies" in the new Mass Media and Technology Hall. The Colloquium is sponsored by the Department of Psychology with assistance from the Department of Biology, the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, and Ogden College of Science and Engineering. Dr. Buss has authored and co-authored more than 170 journals and 5 books. He ranks among the top 25 psychologists whose work is most frequently described in introductory psychology textbooks. His 1999 book, "Evolutionary Psychology: The New Science of the Mind," received the 2000 Robert W. Hamilton Book Award. He received the University of Texas President's Association Teaching Excellence Award in 2001.

vice Center in Bowling Green and is teaching education methods courses in the Elementary Education program.

Middle Grades and Secondary Education

Gov. Paul Patton reappointed Julia Roberts, director of the Center for Gifted Studies, to the Kentucky Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Education as a representative of Kentucky's public universities.

Special Instructional Programs

Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education

Darbi Haynes-Lawrence was appointed associate professor this fall. She comes to the Department from Indiana University in Bloomington and teaches assessment, curriculum, and parenting strategies classes in the Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education program.

Literacy

In June, 35 area elementary teachers participated in a ten-day summer institute at Western Kentucky University. The institute is part of the Kentucky Reading Project (KRP), a yearlong professional development program for Kentucky teachers focusing on student achievement and family involvement in literacy. The KRP is part of the Collaborative Center for Literacy Development: Early Childhood through Adulthood (CCLD) created by Senate Bill 186. The CCLD is a partnership with eight public universities and the National Center for Family Literacy to make quality family literacy training available to educators.

Psychology

The School Psychology faculty sponsored training on the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children – IV (WISC-IV) for regional school and clinical psychologists in August. Over 90 professionals attended this workshop provided by the Psychological Corporation.

Bill Pfohl provided training in Germany and Italy for European school psychologists called "Developing



Ginny Pfohl (First row, second from right), Psychology instructor, was team captain for the Sand in the City held at the Bowling Green Water Park. Sand in the City is a sand sculpture fund raising event for the Kids on the Block (KOB) program. KOB performs puppet shows for children on issues such as bullying, divorce, safety, and diversity.

School Based Crisis Teams and Crisis Response." He trained over 50 school psychologists from Germany, Israel, Netherlands, Poland, France, England, Switzerland, and USA.

Military Science

LTC John Baker joined the Military Science faculty this fall as Department Head. He comes to WKU from Japan where he was the Chief of Plans and Exercises.

Military science cadets completed a number of training sessions this summer. Eighteen cadets completed a critical component of their ROTC training at the National Advanced Leadership Camp (NALC) located at Fort Lewis, Washington. This 5-week camp is designed to evaluate and confirm the qualifications of future officers. Two cadets completed Cadet Command's Leaders' Training Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

This training is an introduction to the ROTC program for cadets without prior military education. Five cadets earned Airborne wings by completing parachute training at the United States Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Two cadets earned wings at the United States Army Air Assault School, an intensive 2-week course designed to develop technically proficient and confident soldiers capable of safely conducting immediate and sustained air assault operations. Finally, the ROTC program commissioned 13 Second Lieutenants for the United States Army in 2003. Our newest commissioned officer alumni are Second Lieutenants: Bradley Denisar, Jerrold Daugherty, Andy Haley, Demetrius Huntspon, Jennifer Miles, Chad Moreillon, Travis Murphy, Nae' Shara Neal, Tyler Rice, Maria Rothman, Micah Taylor, Patrick Thomas, and Michael Walters.

Development News

GIFTS OVER \$5,000

Graham B. Cooke, \$10,000, Bernheim Forest project for Super Saturdays

Dr. Warren Eisenstein, \$10,000, Scholarship for VAMPY

Dawn Marie Hitron, \$6,450.00, Scholarships for the Center for Gifted Studies

E. John Hornsby, Jr., \$8,000, Support for the Center for Gifted Studies

David Gregory Laird, \$10,000, The Laird Fund for Excellence in Gifted Studies

Dr. Bharati B. Mody, \$8,500, Scholarships for the Center for Gifted Studies

Vincent Perriello, \$29,767, Kelly Autism Project

Richard Roberts, \$10,000, The Center for Gifted Studies

CEBS GRANT AWARDS OVER \$15,000

Jim Berger, \$20,000, Council on Postsecondary Education

Sam Evans, \$3,908,250, Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board

Jeanne Fiene, \$18,330, Kentucky Department of Education

Cynthia Houston, \$19,059, MAE General Campus Ciudad de Mexico

Colleen Mendel, \$529,450, Governor's Office of Early Childhood Edu-

cation, Health and Human Services, KACCRRRA, Kentucky Cabinet for Families & Children

Alice Mikovch, \$25,000, Kentucky Department of Education

Katrina Phelps, \$993,500, U.S. Department of Justice

Sherry Powers, \$67,000, Council on Postsecondary Education

Julia Roberts, \$20,3418, Kentucky Department of Education

Richard Roberts, \$15,473, Kentucky Department of Education

Dan Roenker, \$86,507, National Institutes of Health

Vicki Stayton, \$145,567, Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services

Psychology Department Aids in Preventing Juvenile Delinquency

Western Kentucky University's Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Project, directed by Psychology professor Katrina Phelps, received a grant of \$993,500 from the U.S. Department of Justice. The project aims at preventing juvenile delinquency by improving families' access to resources, along with offering young people safe, productive ways to spend their free time. U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) secured the funding as part of fiscal year 2003 appropriations legislation. Western is working with schools and community agencies to develop structured daytime programs for students who have been removed from school and specialized after-school programs to help youth and their families. The project includes the ALIVE (A Local Information and Volunteer Exchange) Center, a clearinghouse of information on human services and volunteer opportunities in the region.



Your Bequest and Western Kentucky University

Notes on Development

BY KARL MILLER

You may have heard the story of the retired teacher who left Western Kentucky University over \$3 million, which created over 60 endowed scholarships. This was accomplished through the time-honored method of utilizing a bequest to support WKU.

In its simplest form, your will provides that Western Kentucky University is to receive a specified sum of money, a specific piece of property, or a stated percentage of your estate. You can even direct that the bequest be made as a lasting memorial to yourself or a loved one—permanent testimony of your generosity and concern for the future of Western Kentucky University.

Your estate can deduct— for federal estate tax purposes— the total dollar value of any property passing to WKU under your will.

You may also want to look at plans whereby your bequest can be deferred during the life of your surviving spouse or other members of

your family. Paradoxical as it may sound, you can actually increase the income available for your family's security by making a deferred bequest to Western.

Or your bequest can take the form of a trust under which a specified income will be paid to WKU for a specified number of years and the property will then be returned to your family. Again, meaningful tax savings can be anticipated.

We have a valuable booklet that explains some basic facts about wills—and the time-proven methods of making a bequest to WKU. If you would like a copy of our booklet, *Planning Your Bequests*, or more information on planning for a bequest or other types of planned gifts, please contact me at either 888-258-2586 or 270-745-7025 or by email at karl.miller@wku.edu.

*Until next time,
KARL*

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