Fall 2013

CEBS Magazine: The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at WKU, Fall 2013

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Dean’s Message

In a world characterized by change, faculty, staff, and students are engaged in a variety of innovative initiatives and learning experiences. They are connecting with real world challenges associated with the various disciplines in the college and are working with practitioners in collaborative initiatives. Each member of the faculty and staff is challenged to work toward the achievement of our vision “Leaders in scholarship and innovation” while maintaining a focus of helping students develop leadership skills and achieving success.

As a college, we are embarking on initiatives to help our students develop leadership skills to facilitate their own individual success while at the same time encouraging the success of others. Our Student Ambassadors are serving as mentors to a group of first time students in the college and other students in upper level undergraduate courses are being exposed to concepts of leadership they will be able to use in their professional and personal lives. Our goal is to ensure that all entering students have an opportunity to have a mentor and to ultimately serve as a mentor to others, and we are looking to expand our current initiatives through our clubs and individual academic programs. The development of relations with fellow students and connecting with others is a critical component of student success.

Complementing all initiatives related to peer mentoring, students across the college are engaged in various experiences connected with the world of practice in the field of their choosing. Faculty members and students in the college are currently engaged in a pilot clinical

Student Teachers in front of the Town Hall in Werne, Germany during their international student teaching internship, spring semester 2013.
Front row: Emilee Basham, April August, and Andrea McCarthy.
Back row: Allen Ehredt, Emily Conner, Mary Witsiepe, and Jonathon Lynn.

Tamela Smith receives her diploma during the May 2013 Doctoral Graduation in E.A. Diddle Arena.
Photo by Clinton Lewis
experience initiative that will have them working in area high schools two days per week for one year prior to their capstone student teaching experience. These teacher candidates are not just exposed to the world of practice from a conceptual perspective but are also seeing the concepts being implemented in 9th-12th grade classrooms and are having numerous opportunities to interact with students in a teacher/mentor role prior to entering their student teaching experience. For other students, the world of practice involves engaging in experiences in a variety of countries around the world. Graduate and undergraduates students in disciplines across the college are engaging in various experiences on six different continents and are having rich cultural experiences and opportunities to interact with others who are enriching their lives.

This year has been a very productive year for the college. Our students and graduates continue to be recognized in many ways for their accomplishments and our faculty members continue to be highly productive. By all indicators, 2014 will be another year of many accomplishments. We are looking at transforming our educator preparation program and currently developing new programs in education and psychology. Faculty members are reaching out and developing new partnerships that will result in expanded learning experiences for students and research opportunities for faculty and students.

With the development of new programming for students comes opportunities for graduates to enhance their knowledge and skills relative to their employment. We are pleased to be able to incorporate programming in Play Therapy through the Talley Family Counseling Center and will continue to welcome suggestions for ways that we can help our alumni, friends, and constituents of the college. I wish you the best in 2014.

Sam Evans, Dean

*Big Red interacts with students during the first annual CEBS Freshmen Fest. The event was held in the courtyard behind Gary A. Ransdell Hall. Photo by Clinton Lewis*
The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences Student Ambassadors serve as public relations and promotional representatives to academic programs within the College of Education & Behavioral Sciences at Western Kentucky University. The CEBS Ambassadors assist the College departments at events such as open houses, college fairs, campus preview days and the Academic Transitions Program. Additionally, members provide campus and building tours, participate in CEBS events, and serve as peer mentors to other students.

“I am very passionate about this college and the programs offered. My great-grandmother came here when it was still Western Kentucky State Teachers College,” said Stephanie Gahafer. “She always told me how much she loved it here.”

“Every time I pass by Gary A. Ransdell Hall, I always feel the need to point and say, ‘That’s my building!’” said Sarah Schell. “I have so much pride in being a part of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. I honestly can’t think of a more honorable position than to be an Ambassador for my college.”

CEBS Ambassadors support the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences’ vision as “leaders in scholarship and innovation” and its mission of “empowering individuals to lead and serve our dynamic world.”

For more information about the Student Ambassador program, please visit www.wku.edu/cebs/ambassadors.
The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences (CEBS) began a new Peer Mentor program during the fall 2013 semester. Through the peer mentor program, each of the 12 CEBS Student Ambassadors were paired as mentors with incoming freshmen who are participating in the program as mentees.

The program was implemented on November 19 with a meet and greet reception for the mentors and mentees. This was a time for the mentors and mentees to get to know each other and to meet other participants in the program. Throughout the remaining academic year, the pairs will stay in weekly contact with each other through face-to-face meetings, text messages, emails, and phone calls. During the upcoming spring semester, group activities will be planned that will help the students develop team building and leadership skills.

“The peer mentor program will help new students adjust to their college environment by pairing them with upper-level students who have experienced many of the same situations the new students are encountering for the first time,” said Dr. Sam Evans, Dean. “The mentors serve as guides for the new students by helping them identify resources the university offers and to help them develop the potential within themselves to succeed.”

For more information about the CEBS Peer Mentor Program, please contact Denise Hardesty (denise.hardesty@wku.edu) or Pam Pierce (pam.pierce@wku.edu) who are serving as the Peer Mentor Program Advisors.

Hall of Fame Member’s Teaching Certificate Presented to WKU

WKU’s College of Education and Behavioral Sciences accepted a generous gift from Mrs. Jessie P. Comer Jackson, a WKU graduate and member of the Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame.

Dr. Lisa Murley, Assistant Professor in the School of Teacher Education and Jackson’s granddaughter, presented Dean Sam Evans with her grandmother’s teaching certificate as part of a celebration for her 101st birthday, which was Thursday, Sept. 26.

In 1930, Jessie Pearl Comer Jackson enrolled in Western Kentucky State Teachers College. She obtained her degree by traveling over 60 miles and attending summer school, as well as Saturday classes. In 1956, Jackson received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education at WKU. After reaching her goal of seeking a teacher certification, Jackson returned to Monroe County and began her career in a rural, one-room, two-teacher school at Rocky Point.

In 2009, Jackson was inducted into the Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame. “Get all the education you can” is Jackson’s advice to anyone pursuing a career in teaching.
Clinical Experiences and Practices in Teaching—CEPT

A New Model in Educator Preparation

The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences and Potter College of Arts & Letters received one of three grants awarded by the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. The $500,000 grant is being used to create a new clinical experience model for teacher preparation model programs. This revolutionary program will transform teacher preparation in four primary areas: 1.) Clinical Teacher Preparation 2.) Curricular Enhancements 3.) Professional Development and 4.) Stakeholder Benefits.

Dr. Sam Evans, Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, stated, “We believe the preparation of high quality teachers is a shared responsibility between institutions of higher education and public school systems.” This collaborative project between the School of Teacher Education, Potter College of Arts & Letters, Bowling Green High School and Franklin-Simpson High School will allow WKU English and Social Studies teachers to better prepare students in Common Core State Standards and to be college and career ready.

The new Clinical Experiences and Practices in Teaching (CEPT) calls for dramatically different models and strategies for preparing teachers in clinical settings such as, more rigorous accountability; strengthening candidate selection and placement; revamping curriculum, incentives, and staffing; supporting partnerships and expanding the knowledge base.

“When I was in college pursuing my education degree, I did not get to experience a routine day in the schools in the beginning of my program,” said Pat Scott, a Bowling Green High School teacher who is participating in CEPT by hosting a teacher candidate in her classroom. “CEPT allows the education students to experience a routine day and all the dynamics that make up that day. They are put in a position of responsibility, but yet they have the safety net of the seasoned classroom teacher there to help them.”

The model builds and expands upon the lessons learned from WKU’s SKyTeach program and will ensure integration of the Common Core Standards, adopted as the Kentucky Core Academic Standards by the Kentucky State Board of Education in June of 2010.

The Clinical Experiences and Practices in Teaching model immerses secondary English and Social Studies candidates in an onsite high school clinical experience for an entire school day, two days each week. “The teacher candidates are not only learning the teaching theories in their education classes, they are seeing them in practice in the classrooms,” said Dr. Winnie Cohron, Co-Director of CEPT. “From my perspective, it is such a privilege to be part of this program.”

When the fall 2013 semester began, the CEPT model was launched at Bowling Green High School. In the spring 2014 semester, an additional model will be launched at Franklin-Simpson High School.

The School of Teacher Education faculty partnered with Jennifer Michael, a 2013 CEBS graduate, to develop a logo for the program. In her Business and Marketing class, her students examined the background information of the grant and explored various logo options. Then, individual students creatively constructed a logo that represented the ideas of the grant. The class reviewed all the designs and voted on the best design. Armin Sadikovic’s design was selected.

As a first year teacher in the Business and Marketing department at Greenwood High School, Ms. Michael incorporates many real-world tasks into her instruction like the CEPT design task.
Photos taken at Bowling Green High School by Clinton Lewis

From the top: Patrick White, WKU Junior from Glasgow, KY.
Laura Mahaney, WKU Junior from Gallatin, TN.
Jeremiah Prince, WKU Junior from Monticello, KY.

Winnie Cohron, Co-Director of CEPT; Sylvia Dietrich, Director, School of Teacher Education; Sam Evans, Dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences; Gary Fields, Principal, Bowling Green High School; Cassie Zippay, Co-Director of CEPT
Student Awards and Achievements

WKU’s College of Education and Behavioral Sciences presented its annual awards on April 28, 2013 at the Carroll Knicely Conference Center.

Counseling and Student Affairs
- Tiffany N. Polite of Bowling Green, Outstanding Graduate Student in Student Affairs
- Jacob M. Hamlin of Bowling Green, Outstanding Graduate Student in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling

Department of Military Science
- Rachelle Boucher of Tampa, FL, Superior Cadet Award MS4-Senior
- Jordan Chicks of Russellville, Superior Cadet Award MS3-Junior
- Noah Pollert of Columbus, IN, Superior Cadet Award MS2-Sophomore
- Caleb Sloan of Greenbrier, TN, Superior Cadet Award MS1-Freshman

Department of Educational Administration, Leadership & Research
- Michelle Bell of Burkesville, Outstanding Educational Leadership Student
- Ashley Brus of Elizabethtown, Outstanding Educational Leadership Student
- Michael L. Davis of Glasgow, Outstanding Educational Leadership Student
- Stephanie Delk of Franklin, Outstanding Educational Leadership Student
- Lauren Fitzmaurice of Owensboro, Outstanding Educational Leadership Student
- Jennifer Huskey of Bowling Green, Outstanding Educational Leadership Student
- Josh Meredith of Mount Washington, Outstanding Educational Leadership Student
- Judy Singleton of Louisville, Outstanding Adult Education Student

Educational Leadership Doctoral Program
- Heidi Crocker of St. Louis, MO, Outstanding Doctoral Student Postsecondary Specialization
- Lauren Martin of Greenville, Outstanding Doctoral Student P-12 Administration Specialization
- Audrey Harper of Bowling Green, Outstanding Doctoral Student Teacher Leader Specialization
- David Oliver of Bowling Green, Outstanding Doctoral Student Organizational Specialization

Department of Psychology
- Amanda C. Thorn of Horse Cave, named the 2013 CEBS Outstanding Graduate Student in Psychology. Ms. Thorn also received the John D. Minton award at the spring graduation ceremony.
- Mary K. Greenwood of Covington, Senior Academic Achievement Award, 4.0 GPA
- Emily A. Hogan of Glasgow, Senior Academic Achievement Award, 4.0 GPA
- Jessica M. West of Brandenburg, Senior Academic Achievement Award, 4.0 GPA
- Sheldon L. Dearing of Dawson Springs, Junior Academic Achievement Award, 4.0 GPA
- Breanna N. Nuckols of Fort Benning, GA, Junior Academic Achievement Award, 4.0 GPA
- Kaitlyn E. Snyder of Bowling Green, Junior Academic Achievement Award, 4.0 GPA
- Michael B. Armstrong of Owensboro, Undergraduate Research Award
- Allison A. Steen of Bowling Green, Undergraduate Research Award; Undergraduate Service Award
- Molly C. White of Louisville, Outstanding Graduating Senior in Psychology
- Laura E. Fisher of Big Clifty, Jesse Keeling Graduate Scholarship
- Lauren N. Weathers of Charlotte, NC, Outstanding Graduate Student, Psychological Sciences
- Tara C. Holaday of Bowling Green, Outstanding Graduate Student, Clinical Psychology
- Caley M. Foster of Bowling Green, Outstanding Graduate Student, I/O Psychology
- Christopher N. O’Bryan of Bowling Green, Jaggers-Cave Scholarship for Academic Merit
- Sarah M. Durham of Yosemite, Jaggers-Cave Scholarship for Academic Merit
- Shelby P. Finley of Paducah, Jaggers-Cave Scholarship for Academic Merit
- Krista M. Gawarecki of Big Clifty, Jaggers-Cave Scholarship for Academic Merit

School of Teacher Education
- Brandi Miller of Smiths Grove, Outstanding Undergraduate Student, Literacy
- Laura Beth Blanford of Bardstown, Outstanding Senior, Special Education
- Janet Poynter of Hiseville, Outstanding Undergraduate Student, Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education
- Kacee Lett of Lanesville, IN, Outstanding GSKyTeach Graduate Student, Science
- Mollie Robertson of Jeffersonville, IN, Outstanding GSKyTeach Graduate Student, Mathematics
Amanda Cook of Bowling Green, Outstanding SKyTeach Undergraduate Student, Secondary

Annie Goodrum of Bowling Green, Outstanding SKyTeach Undergraduate Student, Middle Grades

Amanda Rowlett of Bloomfield, Outstanding Middle Grades Undergraduate Student (Elizabethtown/Ft. Knox/Radcliff)

Jacob Bryant of Owensboro, Outstanding Middle Grades Undergraduate Student (Owensboro)

Samantha McMahan of Westport, Outstanding Secondary Education Student

Kelley Covert of Bloomfield, Literacy Education Program, Literacy Service Award

Casey Tabor of Bowling Green, Outstanding Graduate Student, Secondary Education

Krystal Martin of Bowling Green, Outstanding Graduate Student, Literacy Education

Charity J. Stoops of Tompkinsville, Outstanding Graduate Student, Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education

Amanda Kirves of Bowling Green, Kelly Autism Program, Undergraduate Leadership Award

Heather N. Blackwell of Louisville, Outstanding Graduate Student, Library Media Education

Megan Murphy Roper of Bowling Green, Outstanding Graduate Student, Elementary Education

Alicia DiTommaso of Covington, Outstanding Undergraduate Student, Elementary Education

Caroline Yandell of Utica, Outstanding Undergraduate Student, Elementary Education (Owensboro)

Jessica Mosgrove of Springfield, Outstanding Student, Elementary Education (Elizabethtown)

Cecilia Stephens of Tompkinsville, Outstanding Student Elementary Education (Glasgow)

Allen Corder of Alvaton, Agnes Duskey McCrory Scholarship

Katelyn Sams of Woodburn, Anna Mae Thurston Memorial Scholarship

Jennifer Timberlake of Bowling Green, Dr. Janice Ferguson Silver Cup, Special Education

Kelsey Blanton of Leitchfield, Agnes Duskey McCrory Scholarship; Dr. John A. Scarborough Scholarship; Katharine Christie Guy Phi Beta Lambda Scholarship

Londyn Craver of Bowling Green, Emma Hermann Lowe and Betty Boyd Scholarship

Brittany Stigall of Bowling Green, Phi Delta Kappa Scholarship

Brittany Madden of Bowling Green, Phi Delta Kappa Scholarship

Chelsea Pinto of Bowling Green, Phi Delta Kappa Scholarship

Natalie Broderick of Bowling Green, Phi Delta Kappa Scholarship

Maria Jose-Tomas of Bowling Green, Shawn Lindsey Vokurka Memorial Scholarship

Stephanie Willett of Bowling Green, Wanda Mayfield Page Scholarship

Casey Newton of Mammoth Cave, Kathryn Whitaker Scholarship

Three CEBS students were honored with a national award at the 2013 President’s Volunteer Service Award reception. The WKU ALIVE Center is a certifying organization for the award, which is coordinated by the National Conference on Volunteering and Service. Recipients of the award receive a gold, silver, or bronze pin for their service during the previous year.

Congratulations to these CEBS students:

Young Adult Silver Award:
Mariah Stiles, Psychology

Group Volunteers

Bronze Award:
Christian Student Fellowship—
Mary Kate Greenwood, Biology and Psychology
and
Katie Riley, Middle Grades Math and SKyTeach

Grace McCullough, a sophomore psychology major from Louisville, KY, Kaitlyn Snyder, a junior psychology major from Bowling Green, and Kirsten Tarter, a junior psychology major from Casey County, KY, were selected to serve as Spirit Masters for 2013-14. Spirit Masters are the official ambassadors of WKU.
Student Awards and Achievements

**Timothy Phelps**, a senior English for Secondary Teachers major from Shepherdsville, KY, is one of seven WKU students who were awarded funding through the U.S. Department of State Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program to participate in study abroad programs. He participated in the international student teaching program by student teaching at Anne Frank Gymnasium in Werne, Germany during the fall 2013 semester. He taught English to children in grades 4-12.

“Receiving the Gilman International Scholarship is an enormous honor,” he said. “As a husband and father, financial roadblocks were always the strongest deterrent for studying abroad. The Gilman International Scholarship erased those concerns for me, making my studies in Germany possible. I was proud to represent my family, Western Kentucky University, and the Gilman program in Germany.”

**Ashley Brown**, a spring 2013 English for Secondary Teachers graduate from Caneyville, KY, has accepted a position to teach at Guannei International School in Dongguan, Guangdong, China for the current school year. She participated in the international student teaching program in Barcelona, Spain during her last semester at WKU.

The Society of American Military Engineers has selected WKU Cadet **Sean Tedtaotao** as the nation’s Top Army Engineer Cadet for 2013. Tedtaotao, a senior mechanical engineering major and military science minor from Guam, competed with fellow Army cadets who represented the other 273 host ROTC programs from around the country.

**Jessica Brumley**, a senior English for Secondary Teachers major from Lawrenceburg, KY, is one of four students in the Chinese Flagship Language Program at WKU who have been awarded a U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarships. The scholarship enabled her to travel to China during the summer 2013 semester.

**Ameliah Given**, a spring 2013 English for Secondary Teachers graduate from Bowling Green, KY, received a Fulbright grant for an English teaching assistantship in Israel. Benefits for English teaching assistantships include round-trip transportation and maintenance for the academic year.

**FUSE Grant Recipients**

**Juliana Eovino**, a sophomore Psychology major from Louisville, KY, and **Madison Moore**, a senior Middle Grades Science Education major from Brownsville, KY, each received a FUSE grant for the 2013-14 academic year. FUSE grants are designed to support undergraduate students’ intellectual development by fostering active engagement in the areas of research, creative and scholarly activities, and/or artistic performances.

Juliana Eovino’s FUSE grant project involves examining collective punishment vis-à-vis the lens of team identification.

**Madison Moore’s FUSE grant project involves examining the effectiveness of Science & Technology interpreted through Engineering & the Arts, all based in Mathematical elements (STEAM) approach to teaching engineering design.**

**SKyTeach UTeach Conference**

Students, faculty and staff in WKU’s SKyTeach program presented five research posters, one program promotional poster, and conducted two panel discussions recently at the 2013 UTeach Institute’s National Conference in Austin, Texas.

SKyTeach graduates **Shelby Overstreet** of Crestwood, KY and **Amanda Cook** of Worthville, KY were awarded first place in the student course exposition poster competition for “Fireworks: An Explosive Way to Teach Chemical Reactions in Using Project-Based Instruction.” SKyTeach student **Dagan Conatser** of Albany, KY was awarded first place in the student research division for “Defining a Math Person.” The students were mentored by Dr. Jennifer Cribbs, Assistant Professor of Mathematics Education for the SKyTeach program.

Other SKyTeach students who presented posters at the May 21-23 conference were **Shelby Fisher** of Scottsville, KY who presented a course exposition poster titled “Chili Today or Hot Tamale: Engineering a Solar Oven” and **Madison Moore** of Brownsville, KY who presented in the course exposition category with a poster titled “Challenging Students to Rise Above the Content: A 5E Lesson on Cellular Respiration and Fermentation.” Both students were mentored by SKyTeach Co-Directors Dr. Les L. Pesterfield and Dr. Martha M. Day. Other SKyTeach faculty in attendance were Master Teachers Catherine Poteet from WKU-Glasgow and Catherine Rogier from WKU-Owensboro.
The Western Kentucky University Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) chapter was represented by two students, Rachel Glass and Kateiri Kintz, along with faculty advisor, Dr. Rebecca Stobaugh, at the ASCD Annual Conference in Chicago, IL on March 16-28, 2013. The group presented “Technology Used to Create a Whole Child Classroom” in an intense five-minute presentation during an Ignite session. This presentation was broadcast live. Faculty advisor, Dr. Stobaugh, also presented a session on embedding critical thinking in the classroom.

The WKU Chapter of ASCD also presented at TeachMeet KY on October 3, 2013. TeachMeet is an unconference for educators across Kentucky held annually at WKU. The conference’s main focus revolves around educational technology.

The chapter gave two different presentations to an audience of around 30 teachers. One presentation was “Technologies to Ignite Student Engagement: Creating a Creative, Collaborative, and Critical Thinking Classroom,” presented by ASCD President Rachel Glass and member Jim Russell. This presentation focused on various online technologies that allow teachers to foster creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking in their instruction.

Another presentation given at the conference was titled “ABC’s of 21st Century Skills: Technology in the Classroom,” presented by ASCD Vice-President Kelli Ralston, Secretary Kateiri Kintz, and member William Bryant. This presentation profiled eight online technologies with examples and ideas for classroom use. The presentation also focused on using such technology to promote higher-level thinking skills in the classroom.

Also during the month of October, the ASCD chapter presented at the Kentucky Council for Social Studies Conference which was held at the Holiday Inn University Plaza in Bowling Green. The presenters were ASCD faculty advisor Dr. Rebecca Stobaugh, Vice-President Kelli Ralston, and Secretary Kateiri Kintz. They presented to Kentucky educators on educational technologies that can be used to promote 21st Century skills in the classroom. The presentation was based on an article authored by two of the presenters, Dr. Stobaugh and Kelli Ralston, along with WKU professor Dr. S. Kay Gandy and student Ethan Morris. The article, titled “Avatars, Blabberize, and Cell Phones: ABC’s of 21st Century Skills to Teach Social Studies,” was published this summer in the Georgia Social Studies Journal.

CEES Stream Exploration—Water Quality Education

For the past eight years, the Center for Environmental Education and Sustainability (CEES) at WKU has been working with schools on a special initiative which provides children with exciting learning opportunities at area creeks and streams. The students, their teachers, along with CEES staff and volunteers from the Corvette plant in Bowling Green, literally got their feet wet while visiting local bodies of water to conduct water quality monitoring by performing chemical tests, sampling for aquatic insects, and assessing the stream’s physical attributes.

This initiative is part of the Global Rivers Environmental Education Network program (GREEN), which is sponsored nationally by General Motors and provides opportunities for young people to learn more about the watersheds they live in and to use their findings to create lasting solutions for pressing water quality issues.

According to CEES director Dr. Terry Wilson, educators are connected to local partners like GM environmental engineers and other staff, who assist with water quality monitoring, offer classroom support, help make community connections, and coordinate events.

“Our center does a lot of training with teachers, so it was a natural thing to do,” Dr. Wilson said. “These investigations help students learn about what a stream environment is like. For some of the children, it is their first time wading in the water. If fact, for some of our local children it is the first time to even be at a stream,” he said. “So, it helps them assimilate what they are learning indoors with the real world outdoors.”

Each fall and spring, hundreds of students get to take advantage of this wonderful chance to learn though this special type of experience, as their schools work in partnership with the Center. “Getting your feet wet” takes on a whole new meaning for these students and their teachers.
International Experiences...*in their own words*

Student teaching abroad was a once in a lifetime experience! It was one of the best decisions I could have ever made to influence my education and career. I will admit there were struggles along the way but once overseas in Sweden I could not have asked for a better way to spend the last four weeks of my student teaching. Being exposed to such a diverse classroom and many unique ways of teaching will not only benefit me but my future students as well. - **Nikki Meyer**

Student teaching in Barcelona, Spain was one of the most amazing experiences of my life. I recommend it to all those pursuing a teaching degree at WKU. The schools in Barcelona are very different, and being there gives you the chance to see education from another perspective, to adopt the strengths of each culture and to gain a deeper understanding of your students’ cultural backgrounds. Being able to understand and respect your students is one of the most integral parts of teaching, and teaching abroad with an open mind allows you that opportunity. - **Ashley Brown**

My time in Italy was a whirlwind of excitement that didn't cease from the moment I arrived in Milan to the moment I touched down again in America. The opportunity to teach in classrooms so different from the American classrooms I have always known was incomparable and opened my eyes to the various ways that students all around the world learn. I not only grew in the classroom, but also as a person. The Italian culture is so rich and deep in religion, art, and beauty. From the Colosseum to the Leaning Tower of Pisa to taking a gondola ride in Venice, my experiences in Italy are some that will always resonate in my mind as the best experiences of my life. - **Lauren White**

An experience of a lifetime! A simple way to explain it. I am so blessed to have had this opportunity to finish my student teaching in Barcelona, Spain. I experienced a whole new lifestyle, a different education system, and got to travel to experience new parts of the world. It has been simply amazing and I would recommend it to any student, anytime. Thanks for this opportunity WKU! - **Abby Browning**

Heike Armbrust, facilitator of international student teaching at the Anne Frank Gymnasium in Werne, Germany, travels to WKU every semester to meet with students who plan to complete their international student teaching experience at her school. After getting acquainted with the student teachers, Armbrust arranges housing with the families of children who attend her school. The families graciously accept the WKU students into their homes free of charge.

An apple tree, which has been planted in the yard of one of the host families, plays an integral role in the Werne, Germany student teaching experience. “The tree represents all the student teachers who have traveled to Werne to student teach,” said Ms. Armbrust. “During their visit, each student teacher takes part in a tradition of watering and nourishing the tree.”
My majors are English for Secondary Teachers and Literature, but I am also a student in the Chinese Flagship Program here at Western. I have intensive Chinese classes everyday, and in two years of study, I had learned enough to sign a language pledge, meaning that for the duration of the trip, I would speak Chinese. If this sounds daunting, it was. There were many times where the frustration was almost overwhelming. I had college-level thoughts, but only a kindergarten vocabulary to express them. And, I was living in China.

My experience in Suzhou allowed me to use the language skills I had been practicing in America in real-life situations, and actually see the progress that I have made in my target language. I asked for directions when I was lost, I exchanged money at the bank, I had multiple conversations with students on campus, and I even made friends with some of the local children and restaurant owners. All this using a language that just two years ago had seemed so foreign and so daunting to me.

It is one thing to read about Suzhou’s famous gardens or eating eel, a delicacy of the Suzhou area, but it is another thing entirely to actually experience it. No book can contain such serene beauty in words, nor could I accurately explain the sensation of trying the local cuisine for the first time. The Chinese Flagship program thus gave me a newer appreciation of task-based learning, which made all the learning I had experienced in the classroom setting more personal to me. I was forced to use vocabulary that we had learned in class, because it literally was necessary for my day-to-day life.

This type of learning benefited me as a student, but also benefited me as a future teacher. The genuine connection that I experienced with my teachers and tutors in China taught me the importance of being relatable and understanding students’ strengths and weaknesses. The real-life situations I was placed in made learning the language less monotonous, more engaging, and dare I say it, fun. As a future educator, I will use these types of strategies with my students, allowing them to experience the material we are learning, instead of just reading it in a book.

China was a truly unforgettable experience. Whether it was riding in a rickshaw along the bustling streets of Suzhou, or visiting a local Buddhist temple, there was something new to experience at every turn. I had adopted the Chinese way of life, and when my trip was over, I had mixed thoughts about going home. It was then that I realized, what makes me set apart is not the accolade that I had received, it was not the picture on the wall. It was the small glimpse I got into another culture, and the memories that I would be able to cherish for a lifetime.- Jessica Brumley

Below, Jessica practices the art of Chinese calligraphy.
International Journal of Leadership and Change

The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences and the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program have launched a new journal titled International Journal of Leadership and Change.

The first issue was published in September, with two issues per year expected for the next few years, then moving to three issues per year. The journal will be published both electronically and in paper format. The first issue was sent to over 1,200 colleges and universities in the United States and abroad, as well as several selected individuals and organizations.

The journal has two editorial boards for blind review purposes; one for research-oriented articles and the other for applied/theoretical articles.

The journal’s interests are in manuscripts that relate to its title, with a focus on issues of interest to leaders and others in higher education. Articles on leadership and change in other venues such as business, industry, the military, etc. will be considered. Articles should have a maximum of 7,000 words and conform to APA 6th edition style. Submissions are welcomed.

The editor of the journal is Dr. Joseph Cangemi, Psychology Department; associate editor is Dr. Tony Norman, Director of the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program. For more information, please email Dr. Cangemi, joseph.cangemi@wku.edu.

Graduates of the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program

SPRING 2013
Heidi Crocker
Kim Cunningham
Sonya House
Andy Moore
Tamela Smith
Gary Wiser

FALL 2013
Dana Clayton
Nadia De Leon Sautu
Christopher Gaddis
Terry Ryan Hall
Lynn Hines
Leann Howell
Mary Lloyd Moore
David E. Oliver
Rachel B. Rosales

Welcome
New Faculty

Department of Educational Administration, Leadership, and Research:
Dr. Kirsten Wilson
Associate Professor

Military Science:
LTC Scott Walker
SFC David Henderson
SFC Andrew Black

School of Teacher Education:
Ms. Angela Hagan
SKyTeach Master Teacher
Dr. Susan Keesey
Assistant Professor
Dr. Christina Roantree
Assistant Professor
Ms. Kandy Smith
Instructor, Literacy

Psychology:
Dr. Krisstal Clayton
Pedagogical Assistant Professor
GRREC Awarded $5M for Leadership Program

The Green River Regional Educational Cooperative (GRREC) was awarded a $5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s School Leadership Program to boost leadership in Allen, Barren, Grayson and Todd county schools.

GRREC is the only organization in Kentucky to receive the award.

“Having served as a superintendent for many years, I learned that without question it takes a successful principal to have a successful school,” GRREC Executive Director George Wilson said in an email. “I am proud that GRREC was able to secure additional resources for schools in Allen, Barren, Grayson and Todd to recruit, train and mentor the leaders needed for their students to excel.”

The $5 million grant will fund a partnership between GRREC and WKU to support the professional growth needs of both practicing and aspiring administrators. The Department of Educational Administration, Leadership, & Research will provide coursework for three cohorts of up to 20 aspiring principals from four Kentucky counties. Up to 60 new principals will be certified, and more than 800 teachers and 14,000 students will benefit from the program.

“Leadership matters,” Barren County Superintendent Bo Matthews, who is chairman of the GRREC board of directors, said in an email. “Next to effective classroom instruction, it is the most important ingredient in student achievement. As our district begins to implement Kentucky’s new Professional Growth and Effectiveness System to improve educators’ performance, this grant will be invaluable to our work to raise the bar on achievement.”

Please visit School Leader, an education administration blog by Dr. Gary Houchens, to stay informed about recent news and events occurring within the Department of Educational Administration, Leadership, and Research—schoolleader.typepad.com

Western Kentucky University Center for Economics Education: Building Programs and Partnerships

It has been an exciting year as the WKU Center finishes a rebuilding and reorganizing year. New Center Director, Dr. Jana Kirchner, has offered several workshops for teachers and developed partnerships with economics organizations throughout WKU’s service area.

In June, teachers participated in a workshop entitled “Scarcity, Markets, Resources...Oh My” and learned how to integrate economics into their social studies classes using the Adventures in Economics and U.S. History curriculum.

A summer economics workshop was offered for graduate credit in WKU’s Teacher Leader master’s program. Twenty-six teachers and WKU undergraduate teacher candidates attended the “Teaching Economics Using Children’s Literature” workshop in September led by Erin Yetter from the Federal Reserve Bank.

Dr. Kirchner presented a session at the Kentucky Council for Social Studies conference in October and promoted the Center for Economics Education.

The WKU Center partnered with the Bowling Green, Glasgow, Elizabeth-town, and Owensboro Junior Achievement coordinators to train 40 WKU secondary and middle grades teacher candidates to teach economics lessons in middle and high schools throughout the four counties. WKU students developed and refined their teaching skills while promoting economics concepts and financial literacy in area schools. Dr. Kirchner also presented this partnership and highlights at the Junior Achievement Board of Directors luncheon.

For more information about the WKU Center for Economics Education and upcoming workshops, please visit the website www.wku.edu/ste/cee.

Photo: Teachers learn about choices at the “Teaching Economics through Children’s Literature” workshop with Erin Yetter of the Federal Reserve Board.
Lt. Col. Scott Walker, a 1990 WKU graduate, is the new head of the Department of Military Science.

Walker arrived at WKU as a walk-on football player after graduating from Taylor County High School in 1984.

“I had no intention of joining the Army,” he said. “After three semesters of no scholarship, I needed help to continue college. But what I really needed was something that was going to help me mature. I found that by enlisting in the Kentucky National Guard.”

Walker left WKU for basic training and advanced individual training. “I returned to Western as a better student and a better football player. I didn’t realize it, but I was leveraging the Army’s values (loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage).”

When he returned to campus, he earned a full scholarship to play football, got involved with the Hilltopper Battalion Army ROTC program and finished his last two years at WKU.

After graduating in 1990 he entered active duty in field artillery.

Walker’s career includes three tours of duty since 9/11 and other deployments that include Kuwait, Iraq and Somalia. In addition, he spent many years deployed to Latin America in support of U.S. counter drug efforts. Most recently, he served as a Brigade Operations Officer for the Army Marketing and Research Group at Fort Knox.

Leading the Military Science and ROTC programs, which are housed in WKU’s College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, is more than a job for Walker. “This is more than a career. This is a lifestyle,” he said. “We are preparing our future leaders not only in military service, but as future assets to their communities. Military leadership attributes will make them successful on or off the battlefield and in or out of the classroom.”

Cadets in the ROTC program come from all walks of student life – ranging from the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines to nursing, music and history. Also, athletes make great ROTC candidates since they are natural leaders and comfortable in the fluid environment.

The ROTC program also plays an important role in WKU’s retention efforts. “Incoming freshmen want to belong to organizations and the ROTC can provide that team environment and a sense of belonging,” Walker said.

Chinese Language Flagship, Army ROTC Partnership

Thanks to a new agreement between the U.S. Army and the National Security Education Program, future WKU students can combine interests in the Army ROTC and the Chinese Language Flagship Program.

The partnership will allow students to take advantage of a new opportunity to reach the Superior level of Chinese language proficiency while completing their ROTC training at WKU.

In addition to the competitive academic scholarship packages available for ROTC students at WKU, cadets who apply to the Chinese Flagship and remain in good standing in both programs are eligible for guaranteed support for multiple study abroad programs, including a fully funded Capstone Year in China. As part of this agreement, cadets may postpone their commissioning to occur following their Capstone Year, typically a fifth year taken after fulfilling their academic coursework at WKU.

The Chinese Language Flagship Program at WKU is an immersion-style program designed to bring students with no prior exposure to Chinese to the Superior level of professional proficiency by the time they graduate.

Dr. Jianjun He, Academic Director of the Flagship program, explained: “Although the goal is a challenging one, students of the program are meeting and exceeding these language proficiency goals while building leadership skills and cultural literacy.”

Open to nearly any major, students develop their language skills through intensive coursework on campus and participation in study abroad and professional internship opportunities.
Departments Present Research at Conferences

TEACHER SERVICES:

**Dr. Fred Carter,** Director of Teacher Services, presented "Development of Study Abroad Programs and Partners" and "Forming Partnerships with Organizations, Universities, and Schools Abroad" at the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors (NAFSA) International Annual Conference and Expo in St. Louis, MO.

**COUNSELING AND STUDENT AFFAIRS:**

**Drs. Imelda Bratton, Lacreitia Dye,** and **Cynthia P. Mason** presented “Heart, Mind, and Body Counseling” at the Kentucky School Counselor Association Leadership Conference in Lexington, KY.

**Drs. Cynthia Mason** and **Lacreitia Dye** presented “School Counselors’ Activities in Predominantly African American Urban Schools” at the Institute for the Study of the African American Child (ISAAC) in Hilton Head, SC.

**Dr. Lacreitia Dye** presented “Heart, Mind and Body Counseling in Urban Schools” at the 24th Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference in Savannah, GA.

**Dr. Aaron Hughey** presented three webinars: “How to Enhance Your Credibility as a Professional: Things to do—Things to Avoid,” Innovative Educators; “Adult Learners: Academic Integration,” Paperclip Communications; and “7 Counseling Skills All Student Affairs Professionals Need,” Magna Online Seminars. Dr. Hughey also presented “Stress and Violence in the Workplace and on Campus: A Growing Problem for Business, Industry and Academia” at the 11th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Education in Honolulu, HI.

**Drs. Monica Burke** and **Aaron Hughey** presented "Overcoming a Culture of Entitlement: Implications for Students and Student Affairs” at the 2013 Southern Association for College Student Affairs (SACSA) with the National Association of Student Personnel Administrator (NASPA) Region III Annual Conference in Norfolk, VA.

**Dr. Monica Burke** presented “Momentum in Spite of Minimal Movement: Strategies for Coping and Career Capital for Diversity Affairs Professionals” with Dr. Monique Wright Robinson, Dr. Michael Snowden & Dr. Joelle Davis Carter at The National Conference of Race & Ethnicity (NCORE) in New Orleans, LA. At the same conference, Dr. Burke presented “Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired: How Diversity Professionals Manage Racial Battle Fatigue” with Dr. Katrice Albert & Chaunda Allen.

**Dr. Jill Duba Sauerheber** presented “For Better and Forever: An Alderian prescription for a Premarital Preparation Program” and “Thoughtfulness and Mindfulness in the Pause Between Listening and Speaking” at the North American Society of Alderian Psychology (NASAP) Conference in San Diego, CA.

**PSYCHOLOGY:**

**Dr. Jenni Redifer** presented “Do Students Know What They Don’t Know: Contributions of Working Memory Capacity to Metacognitive Accuracy During Mathematical Problem Solving” at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association in Honolulu, HI. At the same conference, Dr. Redifer also presented “Theories of Creativity: Changing Students’ Beliefs about Creativity as a Fixed or Malleable Ability.”

**Drs. Carl Myers, Libby Jones, and Bill Pfohl,** along with **Heather Orten** and **Jordan Davis Jesse,** School Psychology alumni, presented their research at the National School Psychology conference in Seattle, WA.

**Drs. Bill Pfohl** and **Carl Myers** presented at the International School Psychology Association Annual Conference in Porto, Portugal. Dr. Pfohl, a past president of the association, gave a keynote address at the conference.

**GSkyTEACH, PSYCHOLOGY, and SCHOOL OF TEACHER EDUCATION**

Students, faculty and staff in WKU’s GSkTeach program, Psychology Department and School of Teacher Education presented a research poster and four research papers at the 2013 Education and Math and Engineering Technology Conference hosted by Hawaii University International Conferences in Honolulu, June 2013.

**Drs. Pamela Jukes** and **Lisa Murley,** School of Teacher Education, presented a research paper titled, “Technology and Teacher Candidates: Setting the Bar Higher.”

**Dr. Lisa C. Duffin,** Department of Psychology and SkyTeach, presented a research poster titled, “What Motivates People from STEM-Related Career Trajectories to Change to Teaching?”

GSkyTeach graduates **Mollie Robertson** and **Lori Froedge** presented research papers titled, “5E Instruction Model Workshop: The Underpinning of Extraordinary Mathematics Lessons” and “Grade Cam Making Grading as Easy as Snapping a Picture,” respectively.

**Dr. Martha M. Day** presented a research paper titled, “GSkyTeach at Western Kentucky University, Preparing STEM Teachers for Service in High Needs High Schools.”
Faculty Publications: 2013


Roberts, J. L. Guest Editor, (2013, Summer). [Special Issue on Special Schools]. Gifted Child Today, 6(3).

The Mary E. Hensley Lecture Series and the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at Western Kentucky University presented Cynthia Lowen, filmmaker of the award-winning documentary Bully at VanMeter Auditorium in September.

Cynthia Lowen is the producer and writer of Bully, a feature documentary that focuses on America’s bullying crisis, which she developed, produced, and wrote in partnership with award-winning director, Lee Hirsch.

This lecture series is in honor of Mary E. Vass Hensley, 1906-1966. Mrs. Hensley’s educational career spanned 39 years from teaching at a one-room school in Clay County, KY to teaching English and History in Hart County, KY. Mrs. Hensley received her bachelor’s degree (1952) and master’s degree (1958) from Western Kentucky State College.
Dr. Sylvia Dietrich is the new Director of the School of Teacher Education and Associate Dean in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee in Special Education with an emphasis in Inclusive Early Childhood Education and has been a member of the WKU faculty since 2005.

Dr. Imelda Bratton, Assistant Professor, Counseling and Student Affairs, is the new faculty advisor for Chi Sigma Iota, the national honor society for counselors.

Dr. Barbara Burch, Provost Emeritus, was inducted into the Valley High School Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame recognizes graduates who have had successful careers and have played a significant role in the Valley High School story.

Drs. Karena Heyward and Imelda Bratton were appointed as the Co-Directors of the Talley Family Counseling Center at WKU.

Dr. Aaron Hughey, Professor, Counseling and Student Affairs, has been appointed co-editor (with Dr. April Heiselt, Mississippi State University) of the College Student Affairs Journal. The CSAJ is a national peer-reviewed academic journal published by the Southern Association for College Student Affairs.

Dr. Gary Houchens, Associate Professor, Educational Administration, Leadership, and Research, and Dr. Sylvia Dietrich, Director, School of Teacher Education, appeared as guests on the WKYU-PBS program, “Kentucky Outlook,” hosted by Barbara Deeb. The topic of discussion was the Common Core Standards and the new Kentucky Teacher Professional Growth and Evaluation System in recent education reforms.

Dr. Cynthia Houston, Associate Professor, School of Teacher Education, has been appointed to the NCATE Board of Examiners representing the American Association of School Librarians. The appointment is for 2013-2016.

Dr. Cynthia Mason, Dr. Monica Burke, and Ms. Belinda Wisdom, Counseling and Student Affairs Department, were selected by the Office of Diversity Programs as the 2013 recipients of the “Hats Off to Women” Awards.

Bill Murphree, CEBS Advisory Board, and Pat Richardson, The Center of Gifted Studies and CEBS Advisory Board, each received a university-wide volunteer of the year award at the WKU 2013 Summit Awards ceremony held on October 24, 2013. Richardson was also recognized as one of the university’s top volunteers and was presented with a Distinguished Service Medal.

Dr. Jacqueline Pope-Tarrence, Associate Dean for Accountability and Research, has been appointed to serve as chair on the board of directors for the Commonwealth Health Corporation. She will serve a four-year term beginning in January 2014.

Dr. Julia Link Roberts, Mahurin Professor of Gifted Studies, was reelected to a four-year term on the Executive Committee for the World Council for Gifted Education and Talented Children.

Dr. Jill Duba Sauerheber was elected President-elect of the North American Society of Adlerian Psychology. She will serve as President from 2014-2016.

Dr. Jie Zhang, Assistant Professor of Educational Research, was selected as a 2013 National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellow. The fellowship award is a $55,000 grant intended to provide release time from teaching in a two-year term 2013-2014. The grant will also be used to conduct research for Morphological Awareness and Word Learning in First and Second Languages.

The Department of Psychology and River Valley Behavioral Health Systems (RVBH), a mental health provider in Owensboro, Kentucky, are working toward an agreement that will allow the two groups to collaborate on several projects; the long-term goal is for the group (the River Valley Research Group) to become the research arm of RVBH. Over the summer, members of the Department of Psychology (Rick Grieve, Sally Kuhlenschmidt, Libby Jones, and Ronda Talley) met with representatives of RVBH (Gayle De- Cesare and Lionel Phelps) to explore the possibility of working together. The result is a Memorandum of Understanding between the two groups that is presently under consideration. The group is exploring at least two different projects at this time. The first project examines evaluation and treatment of suicidal behavior in RVBH facilities. A second project involves implementing the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies program (a mental health program used in England) within the RVBH system.
The University annually recognizes outstanding contributions by faculty members in the areas of Teaching, Research/Creativity, Public Service, and Student Advisement. The following faculty members have been selected by the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences for awards this year.

**Joseph P. Cangemi Award for Excellence in Leadership in Psychology/Education**
Dr. Rebecca Stobaugh, Assistant Professor
School of Teacher Education

**CEBS Annual Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching**
Dr. Lisa Duffin, Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology

**CEBS Annual Faculty Award for Excellence in Research/Creativity**
Dr. Rick Grieve, Professor
Department of Psychology

**CEBS Annual Faculty Award for Excellence in Public Service**
Dr. Martha Day, Associate Professor
SKyTeach Education Co-Director and
GSKyTeach Executive Director
School of Teacher Education

**CEBS Annual Faculty Award for Excellence in Student Advisement**
Dr. Ric Keaster, Professor
Department of Educational Administration,
Leadership, and Research

**13th Annual President’s Award for Diversity**

Dr. Monica Burke, Assistant Professor, Counseling and Student Affairs, received the President’s Award for Diversity at the annual President’s Convocation in August. In addition to her current position, Dr. Burke has served WKU in several roles since 1993 including working with the Governor’s Minority Student College Preparation Program, Office of Diversity Programs and NAACP/NASA STEM Scholars Academy.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to receive the President’s Award for Diversity. This prestigious award reflects my passion and dedication to fostering and promoting diversity awareness and understanding at WKU," Burke said.

**Kentucky Reading Project**

WKU’s 2012-2013 class of the Kentucky Reading Project (KRP) met for an intensive two-week summer institute at Cumberland Trace Elementary School in June and will continue to meet throughout the year. The Kentucky Reading Project is a selective professional development initiative for public school elementary teachers in Kentucky. Dr. Nancy Hulan serves as WKU’s director of KRP.

“This year we have 15 fantastic teachers participating from Barren, Muhlenberg, Warren, Allen, and Davies counties,” Hulan said.

During the summer institute, teachers participated in workshops with various experts in the field of education and studied literacy issues related to technology, development, assessment, diversity, writing, family involvement, and differentiation. A collaboration between KRP and the WKU Writing Project brought Kentucky author George Ella Lyon to Bowling Green. Ms. Lyon, shown here with KRP participants, led teachers through various writing exercises and described her personal writing process.
Congratulations to the 2013 CEBS Retirees

**Dr. Tabitha Daniel**, Professor, School of Teacher Education, began her teaching career in 1973 in Norfolk, VA. Since then, she has taught in Butler County Schools and at the University of Kentucky. She began her career at WKU in 1989. During her time at WKU, Dr. Daniel received the CEBS Faculty Award of Excellence for Public Service (1995) and the WKU Faculty Award of Excellence for Public Service (1995).

**Dr. Judy Davison**, Associate Professor, School of Teacher Education, began her teaching career in 1972 in Norfolk, VA. From there, she taught in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Alabama. She began her career at WKU in 2003.

**Dr. Barbara Kacer**, Associate Professor and Instructional Designer, School of Teacher Education/FaCET, began her teaching career in 1969 at East Union High School in Kentucky. Since then, she has taught in Owensboro Public Schools and at the University of Iowa. She began her career at WKU in 1989.

**Mrs. Peggy Marcum**, Office Associate, Department of Psychology, began her career at WKU in 1986 in the Office of Grants and Contract Services. From there, she went to work in the Department of Psychology. She served a total of 26 years at WKU.

**Dr. Vernon Sheeley**, Professor, Department of Counseling and Student Affairs, began his career as a high school History teacher in 1951 in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. In 1964, he earned his Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling from Arizona State University. For several years, he taught History and was a Guidance Counselor in high schools in Los Angeles, CA and then in Laramie, WY. He began his career at WKU in 1968. Throughout his time at WKU, Dr. Sheeley received the CEBS Outstanding Teacher Award (1990), the CEBS Faculty Award of Excellence for Public Service (1997), CEBS Faculty Award of Excellence for Research & Creativity (2003), CEBS Faculty Award of Excellence for Student Advisement (2006), and the CEBS Faculty Award of Excellence for Teaching (2007).

**Dr. Cassie Zippay**, Assistant Professor, School of Teacher Education, began her career as an English and Spanish teacher at Woodford County High School in 1980. In 2001, she joined WKU as an Adult Education Specialist in the Veterans Upward Bound program. Throughout her career, she has been a Literacy Instructor in the Kentucky Adult Literacy Institute and the CEBS School of Teacher Education.

During the retirement reception held in Gary Ransdell Hall on May 9, 2013, Dr. Vernon Sheeley was commissioned into the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels. Dr. Richard Miller, Associate Provost/Chief Diversity Officer, presented Dr. Sheeley with his Kentucky Colonel certificate.
ALUMNI RETIREMENTS:

Allen County School District:

Pat Witcher, who has 30 years of experience in education, retired from her position as a special education teacher. She began teaching in 1983 at Allen County-Scottsville High School where she taught for six years. She then moved to James E. Bazzell Middle School where she taught for 23 years. Last year, Witcher moved back to the high school to complete her career.

Bowling Green Independent School District:

Marsha Ingram, who has 28 years of experience in education, retired from her position as the principal of W.R. McNeill Elementary. She has served the students and families of W.R. McNeill Elementary and Bowling Green City Schools since 1985, working as a 4th and 5th grade teacher, teacher leader, and academic team coach before being named the principal of the school in 2006.

Warren County School District:

Kathy Benz, who has a total of 29 years in education, spent the past 22 years as a music teacher at North Warren Elementary.

Janis Cone, who has a total of 30 years in education, spent the last 22 years as a teacher at Warren Elementary.

Terry Cook retired from his position as principal of South Warren High School. Cook has been in public education since 1986 and in Warren County Public Schools since 1988. A teacher and coach at Warren East High School from 1988 until 1999, he then spent 10 years as Bristow Elementary School’s principal before taking the reins at SWHS.

Jena Denney, a teacher at Warren East Middle School, has 29 years of teaching experience and has also taught at Bristow Elementary and Oakland Elementary.

Rita Ellis, a 27-year veteran physical education teacher, taught the past 21 years at Alvaton Elementary.

Mary Ann Hext has taught business at both Warren Central and Greenwood high schools during her 30-year career.

Linda McKinney spent the last 11 years of her 17 years in education as a guidance counselor at Cumberland Trace Elementary.

Beverly Oliver, Greenwood High School art teacher, has also taught at Warren East Middle School during her 30-year career in education.

Damon Tabor, who has a total of 35 years in education, retired from his position as the principal of Warren East High School. Before his tenure at Warren East, he spent nine years as the principal of Rockfield Elementary. During his career in education, he coached the Warren Central High School girls’ basketball team for two seasons. He also coached five years in the Franklin-Simpson High School’s boys’ basketball program and then spent 11 years as the head coach for the girls’ basketball team.

ALUMNI NEWS:

Matt Bastin, who spent the past four years as Director of Alternative Programs for Warren County Public Schools, is the new Assistant Principal at Warren East High School.

Kelli Brooks is the new principal at W.R. McNeill Elementary School. She has been a faculty member of the school since 1997 and was recently serving as a first grade teacher. In 2006, she was named the 2006 Kentucky Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Cheryl Bunton is the new Student Services Coordinator at Warren Central High School. A 13-year veteran of public education, Bunton will oversee the Freshman Academy at WCHS. She replaces Todd Steward, who retired after the 2012-13 school year.

Nicole Clark is the new principal at Warren East High School. For the last four years, she has been serving as the assistant principal at the school. Clark taught English for four years at Warren Central High School before her move to Warren East High School in 2008.

Rodney Cohen, Assistant Dean and Director of the Afro-American Cultural Center at Yale University, is the new president of the Association for Black Culture Centers.

Mary Taylor Cowles is the new principal of alternative schools for Warren County Public Schools. Cowles will oversee the Lighthouse Academy High School and the Jackson Academy school for middle school students.

Michael Davis is the new assistant principal at Barren County Middle School. For the past seven years, he has taught at Eastern Elementary as an Exceptional Education teacher.

For updated alumni information, please visit www.wku.edu/cebs/alumni
Mary A. Evans, Principal, Cumberland Trace Elementary, is among 61 outstanding elementary and middle school principals from across the nation and abroad who have been named as 2013 National Distinguished Principals (NDP) by the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). The NDPs were honored Oct. 25 at an awards banquet at the Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C. as part of a two-day program.

Dr. Jim Flynn, Superintendent of Simpson County Schools, has been elected President of the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents (KASS).

Jason Grissom is the new assistant principal at South Warren High School. Grissom comes to SWHS from Drakes Creek Middle School, where he served as assistant principal for the 2012-13 school year.

Amy Hardin has accepted a position at Middle Tennessee State University as the Director of Development for the College of Basic and Applied Science.

Jenny Hester is the new principal at South Warren High School. For the past three years, she has been serving as the assistant principal at the school. Hester has been employed in Warren County Public Schools since 2000. She taught English at Greenwood High School for five years and then served as the assistant principal from 2006 until 2010 before her move to South Warren High School.

Aubrey Holt, currently the Director of Student Life at Arkansas Tech, is this year’s recipient of the New Professional Award from the Southern Association for College Student Affairs (SACSA). She received the award in November at the annual SACSA conference which was held in Norfolk, VA.

Sarah Johnson is the new principal at Alvaton Elementary School. For the past 14 years, she has been a teacher at Lost River Elementary and more recently the curriculum coordinator at the school. Recently, Johnson has been named the 2013 Kentucky Building Assessment Coordinator of the Year for her work at Lost River Elementary School during the 2012-13 school years.

Eric Keeling is the new principal of the Warren County Area Technology Center located in the Warren County Transpark in northern Warren County. Keeling comes from a position as principal of the Russellville ATC.

Doug Lathrem, a sixth grade teacher at Warren Elementary School, received this year’s Teacher Hero Award from the Save Our Kids Coalition. He was honored at the coalition’s 8th Annual Teacher Hero Banquet held April 18th and received $500 to be used for classroom supplies. The Teacher Hero Banquet was established as a way to honor area teachers who have had a positive impact on the lives of young people in the Warren County community.

Three Warren County Public Schools teachers and CEBS alumni — Marla Lee of Greenwood High School, Anthony Spires of South Warren Middle School, and Jessica Roberts of North Warren Elementary — each received an Excellence in Teaching Award from Campbellsville University. Through the awards program, the university honors teachers in each grade level (pre-school/elementary, middle, and secondary) selected by their district.

Christa Lemily, a math teacher at South Warren Middle School, has been hired as a Master Teacher by the BetterLesson online company. She is one of only 28 teachers selected nationally. Lemily will have a one-year contract to create and upload an entire 8th grade curriculum of lessons, plans, assessments, videos, and student samples that can be accessed by math teachers throughout the country.

Melanie Llontop is the new assistant principal at Greenwood High School. This is Llontop’s 22nd year in education. She taught Spanish and English as a Second Language for 19 years, 16 of those at Greenwood, before moving into administration. Llontop was the Dean of Students at Greenwood for the last two years before being named Assistant Principal.

Dr. Annette Parker, Educational Leadership Doctoral Alumna, is the new president of South Central College, which has campuses in Faribault and North Mankato, Minnesota. Recently, Dr. Parker was also named to serve on the National Advanced Manufacturing Partnership Steering Committee. The committee was established by President Obama as part of a continuing effort to maintain U.S. leadership in the emerging technologies that will create high-quality manufacturing jobs.
Brandon Pharis is the new 4-H Youth Development agent at the Clinton County Extension Office. Pharis was a social studies teacher, as well as the freshmen boys’ basketball coach and assistant coach for the varsity team at South Warren High School.

Penny Reece, who guided Greenwood High School’s fast-pitch softball team to the first undefeated season in Kentucky softball history this year, was named MaxPreps National High School Softball Coach of the Year. Greenwood completed a 44-0 season by winning the state championship in June.

Dr. Leigh Ann Roden, Educational Leadership Doctoral alumna, has accepted a full-time teaching and clinical supervising position in the Communication Disorders Department at WKU.

Dr. Gregory Ross, Educational Leadership Doctoral alumnus, has been named the Director of Next Generation Professionals at the Kentucky Department of Education.

Dr. J. Dan Skean, Jr. and Marisa Jones Duarte were both inducted into the Bowling Green High School Alumni Association 2013 Hall of Honor this past spring. Dr. Skean is a Professor of Biology at Albion College in St. Albion, Michigan and Ms. Duarte is the Director of the Academy at 11th Street, Bowling Green Independent School District.

Ada Skillern, English department chairwoman at Bowling Green High School, received one of four $500 Mildred McMurtry Memorial Continuing Professional Development 2013 scholarships from the Kentucky Association of Professional Educators (KAPE).

Celeste Thurman, third grade teacher, was named the Teacher of the Year at Portland Gateview Elementary School, Portland, Tennessee, during the 2012-2013 school year.

Joe Tinius, Superintendent of the Bowling Green Independent School District, was named the Superintendent of the Year by the Kentucky Association of Pupil Transportation (KAPT) at the organization’s 23rd annual leadership seminar this past summer.

Brad Tolbert is the new principal at Warren Central High School. Since 2001, he has served as the assistant principal at Greenwood High School. Before that appointment, he served as a history teacher, social studies teacher, student services coordinator, and dean of students at the school.

Todd Tolbert is the new Student Services Coordinator at Greenwood High School. Tolbert is beginning his 27th year in education, all in the Warren County Public School District. He is one of four remaining faculty members from the original staff at Greenwood, which opened in 1990.

Beth Watson is the new principal of Spottsville Elementary School, Henderson County School District. For the past two years, she has served as the curriculum specialist at Jefferson Elementary. Ms. Watson was previously a teacher at Niagara Elementary for 22 years.

**Alumni News...continued**

**Events**

CEBS hosted the TeachMeet Un-Conference for the second year and provided the venue for over 275 area teachers, technology personnel, and administrators.

TeachMeets are unconferences focusing on educational technology. Typically TeachMeets are fast paced (20-minute sessions), tech sharing, friend making, and never boring gatherings of people sharing web 2.0 tools for education.

CEBS hosted Freshmen Fest 2013 for the college’s first year freshmen. The event included free food, drinks, and t-shirts. Various clubs of the college set up booths in which students could learn more about the many different ways to become involved in their majors and offered various games to play. Prizes were given away throughout the event. Andre Dowell, an Elementary Education major from Brandenburg, KY was the grand prize winner of a Kindle Fire HD.

Send us your news!

If you are a graduate of CEBS, then keep us updated on your promotions, awards, publications, etc. We want to recognize you for all your outstanding accomplishments. Email your information to Pam Pierce, pam.pierce@wku.edu.
Introducing the Play Therapy Institute at WKU

The Talley Family Counseling Center (TFCC) is now offering play therapy for the WKU and Warren county community.

Play therapy and expressive arts are viable counseling techniques used throughout the United States and internationally. As children are often unable to respond effectively with talk therapy, play therapy and expressive arts use the natural medium of play to assist them in expressing and working through their emotions and feelings. A plethora of toys and various art, music, and books are used to assist in the therapeutic exploration of negative and unhealthy emotions. Effective use of play therapy and expressive arts are learned skills that require education and supervision.

Play therapy uses the child’s natural medium of play to facilitate exploration of emotional issues. Through the use of toys and expressive art activities, children may express their feelings and thoughts. Play therapists implement developmentally appropriate strategies to assist children in discovering solutions to their problems. Children experiencing difficulties with social, emotional, learning, and behavioral issues such as abuse, anger management, trauma, and adjustment disorders may benefit from play therapy.

The TFCC is located on the first floor of Gary A. Ransdell Hall. Services are offered at no charge and are always confidential. Counseling services are offered on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. until 8 p.m., Wednesdays from noon until 6 p.m., and Thursdays from 1:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. For more information, contact the TFCC at (270)745-4204.

The school psychology graduate program celebrated National School Psychology Awareness Week (November 11-15) with a variety of activities. The graduate students in the program promoted awareness by giving a presentation on school psychology to the undergraduate psychology club. They also held their annual bake sale where all proceeds (typically over $300 every year) were added to the Jessie Keeling scholarship fund. The scholarship is awarded annually to a graduate student in the school psychology program. This year’s recipient was Laura Fisher, a psychology alumna from Big Clifty, KY.

The Association for the Gifted (TAG), a division of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), held its biannual meetings Sept. 6-7 at WKU. "It is a rare opportunity to have so many national leaders presenting in one location," said Dr. Julia Roberts, Mahurin Professor of Gifted Education at WKU and CEC-TAG President. "Certainly, it was a pleasure to have the TAG board here to present and then to conduct the business of the organization." The theme of the 2013 TAG Fall Institute was “Celebrating Diversity Among Gifted Children.”

The CEBS International Quiz Bowl was held on Monday, November 11, 2013. Seven teams competed in 25 minute rounds. The winning team, Murphy’s Law, was composed of faculty members Guy Jordan, Jeffrey Budzialek, Roger Murphy, and Helen Sterk. The group graciously gave up the first place prizes of mini iPads to the second place winning team, The Comebacks. Members of the team were Brandon Pruitt, Kaleb Satterly, McGavinn Brown, and Zach Smith. The event was coordinated by Dr. S. Kay Gandy, Associate Professor, School of Teacher Education and Travis Taylor, Graduate student, Department of Counseling and Student Affairs.
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**CEBS MAGAZINE**

**THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

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The front and back covers feature the 2013-2014 CEBS Student Ambassadors.
Front cover—in front of Gary A. Ransdell Hall.
Back Cover—the grand staircase inside Gary A. Ransdell Hall.

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**Student teachers in Werne, Germany at the Anne Frank Gymnasium with their host, Heike Armbrust.**

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