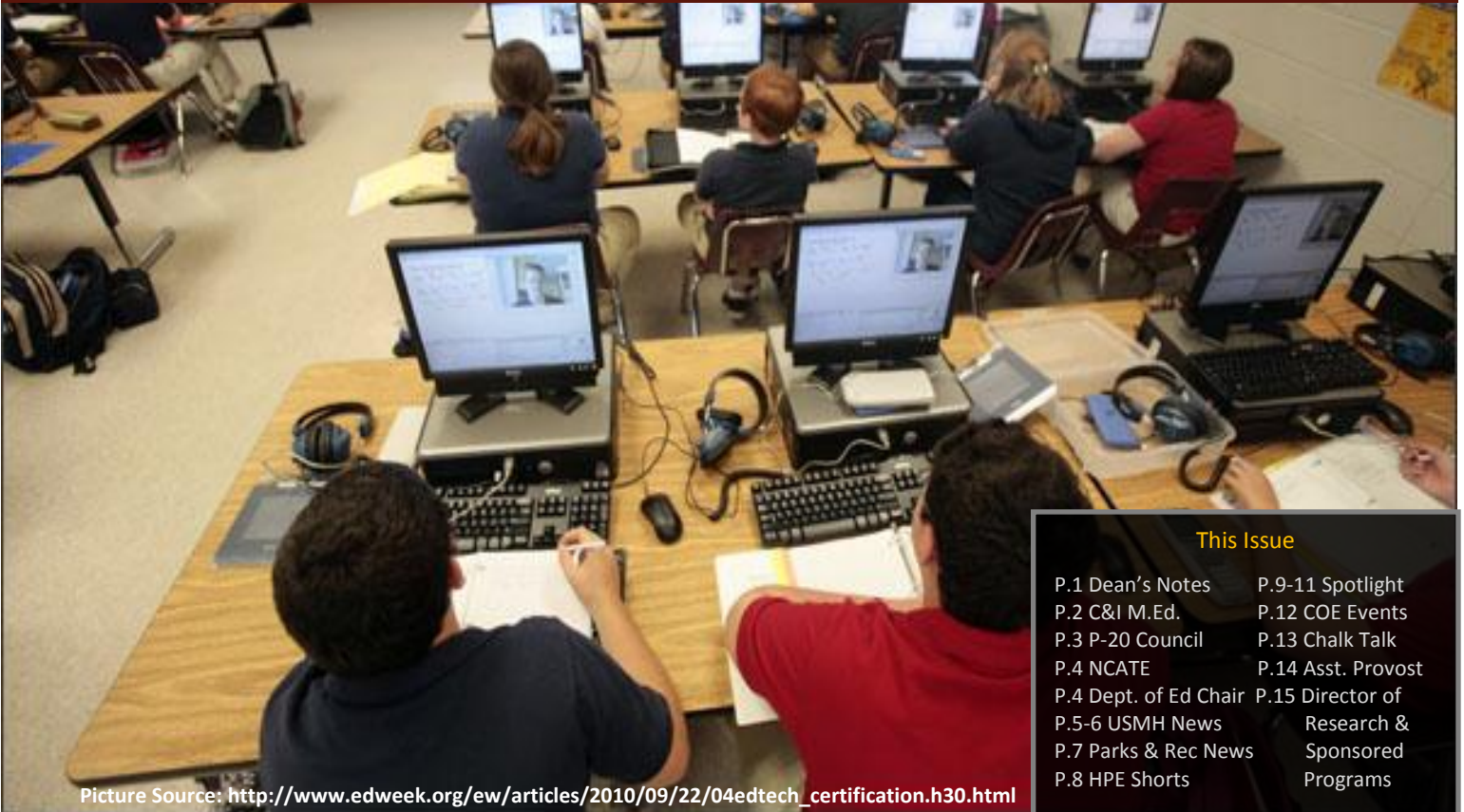


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College of Education, Frostburg State University
Faculty/Staff Newsletter Spring 2012

ISSUE 04 May 2012



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Spring Newsletter

The purpose of this publication is to share program updates, offer insight to the innovations taking place in the college, provide news of select projects and activities being conducted by our students and faculty, and keep our friends informed about the exciting progress of the college.

"If we teach today as we taught yesterday, we rob our children of tomorrow."

-John Dewey

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Dean's Notes

The 2011-2012 academic year has proven to be one of our most challenging, yet successful terms in the College of Education. Frostburg State University received final approval to offer a doctorate of education in Educational Leadership, with the first students to begin studies in the fall. The program will be administered in the College of Education's department of Educational Professions.

The Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction has been totally redesigned by a committee of faculty, local school central office personnel, and teachers.

The Master's in Special Education is moving toward an online delivery system. The opportunity for students around the world to participate in this Master's Degree program will open many doors. The redesign of structural components for secondary education and the development of FSU's first Middle School Program are both in the making.

Dr. Kim Rotruck, chair of the department of Educational Professions is facilitating the revision of our programs for meeting standards for accreditation by NCATE March 2013.

The faculty and staff at USMH have been busy developing P-20 initiatives in Washington and Frederick Counties. Initiatives include: Common Core curriculum, STEM training, and providing Action Research workshops for teachers.

Dr. Diane Blankenship, along with classmates and friends of Bob Norr, came together to organize "***I Swim for Bob Day***" in the department of Recreation and Parks Management. The university established the Robert A. Norr Presidential Merit Scholarship in Bob's memory through the efforts and contributions of his parents, family, and friends.

Dr. Fred Surgent in the Department of Health and Physical Education is the longest serving member of FSU's faculty and will be retiring with 44 years in teaching. Dr. Troy Strieby was awarded the Simon McNeely award for service and teaching---***these are interesting times in the College of Education!***

Dr. Clarence Golden, Interim Dean

- *Approval of the Doctorate in Educational Leadership*
- *P-20 Council Moving Forward*
- *Accreditation*
- *New Chair of Educational Professions*
- *"I Swim for Bob Day"*
- *HPE SHORTS*
- *Sarah Kuhn, FSU Education Student*
- *COE Events*



Almost There: Frostburg's Ed.D. Nears Launch

After three years of work by faculty and administration at Frostburg State University, the Doctorate in Educational Leadership (Ed.D) is nearing reality. Applications will be reviewed by the admissions committee, and selected applicants will be invited to interviews that will be conducted during June. Admission will be offered thereafter to the first doctoral cohort in the history of Frostburg. The program is scheduled to begin in Frostburg this fall with a cohort of 25 students. Another cohort will be admitted at the USMH center in the fall 2013.

Applications for the new program will be processed through the Office of Graduate Services and can be received immediately. Contact information for Graduate Services is:

Office of Graduate Services
Frostburg State University
101 Braddock Road
Frostburg, MD 21532-2303
Phone: 301-687-7053 Fax: 301-687-4597
E-mail: gradservices@frostburg.edu

-Dr. Bill Childs, Acting Associate Dean

M.Ed. Program in Curriculum and Instruction

In an effort to address immediate calls for universities and colleges of education to re-examine and redesign their traditional master's degree programs, a committee involving faculty and local school central office personnel and teachers participated in the revision and update of the Curriculum and Instruction Master's Degree Program at Frostburg State University.

The program redesign includes a restructured professional core, three specialization tracks (two newly developed tracks—the *National Board Certification Track* and the *Teacher Leadership Track* which allow candidates to extend their career options by pursuing either a national advanced certification or leadership roles—and the revised *Educational Technology Track*), and a revised capstone course. The redesigned program offers:

➤ **An Applied Job-Embedded Professional Development Opportunity that Leads Teachers to Redefine and Personalize Their Immediate Professional Needs and Goals.**

One critical element highlighted by current national education reform initiatives is the imperative need for universities to redesign their Master of Education (M.Ed.) programs to more closely meet the needs of practicing teachers. In response to these calls for reform, the revised M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction is designed specifically to increase and redefine the professional development of teachers by offering a program that is commensurate with ongoing professional development for on-the-job teachers.

Within this context of reform, the C&I program redesign process grew from stronger developed partnerships between FSU education faculty and central office personnel and classroom teachers in the area public schools involved with teacher preparation programs. A team of education faculty, central office administrators and school teachers participated in the refinement of courses in the revised program.

➤ **A Path to Increase the Professionalization of Teachers, and to Enhance the Status of the Teaching Profession**

Another key element highlighted by current national education reform initiatives emphasizes the urgency for universities to redesign their master's degree programs to increase the professionalization of teaching. Accordingly, the revised C&I Program is designed to redefine and increase the status of the teaching profession by aligning its program outcomes with the core propositions for the *National Board for Professional Teaching Standards* (NBPTS). The NBPTS responds to the claim that the teaching profession has no codified knowledge, skills and dispositions that frame accomplished practice and that certain misconceptions about what constitutes good teaching continue to exist. Therefore, the NBPTS system was created to recognize accomplished teaching and has demonstrated proven positive impact on the enhanced status of the teaching profession.

➤ **An Avenue to Becoming a Highly Effective Teacher and Leader**

The M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction is designed as an avenue for practitioners who aspire to advance in their career ladder by becoming highly effective teachers and leaders in their practice. The redesigned courses are rooted in authentic experiences, case studies, problem-based learning activities, and integrated practica that allow the program to remain contemporary and relevant through ongoing reform initiatives and prepare on-the-job teachers for current K-12 school requirements. Coursework will provide candidates with opportunities designed to broaden their theoretical knowledge and incorporate this knowledge in real-world practice. Thus, many of the course assessments emanate from experiential activities in the field.

Students in the program will be required to complete 36-39 hours of graduate study in the following areas: 15 hours in updated curriculum and instruction core courses, 9 - 12 hours in a chosen specialization track (9 hours in either the National Board Certification track, or the Teacher Leadership track; or 12 hours in the Educational Technology track), and 3 hours in the capstone-Action Research course.

By offering an applied M.Ed. program that is commensurate with ongoing professional development for on-the-job teachers, the program holds the promise of preparing them in the context of current educational reform initiatives.

For more information about this program, contact Dr. Doris Santamaria-Makang, Program Coordinator, at dsantamaria@frostburg.edu.

P-20 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

A Collaborative Partnership with Public Schools to Support our Teacher Preparation Programs

What is it?

In spring 2010 a group of education faculty met with Dr. Janet Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of the Allegany County Public Schools (ACPS) to explore strategies for collaborative participation in events that are mutually beneficial to both organizations as we work together to prepare effective teachers. This marked the beginning of the P-20 Executive Council, an education body that developed into a collaborative partnership among Frostburg State University (FSU), PK-12 area Schools, and Allegany College of Maryland (ACM) to support our common efforts towards strengthening our education programs for the preparation of new teachers and the professional development of current practitioners. Furthermore, the P-20 Executive Council serves as the informational platform to share and discuss issues & trends relevant to current reform initiatives and their impact on our teacher preparation programs.

What is its Agenda?

The P-20 Council agenda is fluid and it is dictated by the issues and tasks that need to be addressed and completed by its members. For example, the P-20 Council's current agenda focuses on the Common Core State Standards, the work that the schools are doing to facilitate transition and implementation, and its implications in our teacher preparation programs. The P-20 Council organized and conducted forums on this topic at different occasions for students and faculty.

In order to efficiently accomplish these different tasks, the P-20 Council organized "Focus Groups" specific for each task. These focus groups are co-coordinated by one member from ACPS, and one member from FSU.

What is the P-20 Council's Membership?

Currently, the *P-20 Executive Council* membership includes representatives from:

- Allegany County Public School: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Professional Development Director, and Curriculum Supervisors across grade-levels and content areas.
- Frostburg State University: College of Education Dean and Associate Dean, Program Coordinators for Undergraduate and Graduate Programs, Field Experiences Coordinator, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean, and faculty members involved with public schools.
- Allegany College of Maryland: Director of Teacher Education and Field Placement Coordinator.
- Focus Groups membership consists of PK-12 schools principals, teachers, and education faculty.

For more information about the P-20 Executive Council, please contact Dr. Janet Wilson at janet.wilson@acps.k12.md.us or Dr. Doris Santamaria-Makang at dsantamaria@frostburg.edu.



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT – NCATE ACCREDITATION PROCESS

The Professional Education Unit at Frostburg State University has started its preparation process for the next National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) continuing accreditation site-visit scheduled for spring 2015.

NCATE is the major authorized accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for schools, colleges, and departments of education that provide professional preparation for teachers. The Frostburg State University - Professional Education Unit received its continuous accreditation by NCATE in fall 2007. Under the leadership of Dr. Clarence Golden, Interim Dean of the College of Education, we continue to review and revise our programs to assure that they meet the high standards of our specialty professional organizations: the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and NCATE.

To facilitate this process and advance the program-specific tasks, faculty within the Professional Education Unit is organized within four Committees respectively aligned with NCATE standards: Program Knowledge, Skills and Dispositions; Assessment System; Field and Clinical Experiences; and Diversity Committees. Concurrent with this process, Unit faculty is engaged with the development of individual Program Reports which will be submitted to their respective Specialized Professional Associations (SPA) for review and approval by spring 2013.

In an effort to support faculty with this process, the Unit has requested and scheduled with the collaboration of NCATE and specific SPA's the delivery of three online Program Report Compiler Webinar Sessions, designed to assist faculty in the process for developing their program/SPA reports:

- NCTM/NCATE: Training webinar for the Mathematics Program SPA
- NSTA/NCATE: Training webinar for the Science Program SPA
- NCTE/NCATE: Training webinar for the English Program SPA

This effort is spearheaded by the COE Dean and the NCATE Coordinator. For more information about the NCATE accreditation process, please contact Dr. Doris Santamaria-Makang, NCATE Coordinator, at dsantamaria@frostburg.edu

Dr. Kim Rotruck Takes Over as Department of Education Chair

Dr. Kim Rotruck became the Chair of the Department of Educational Professions in January 2012. Dr. Rotruck has an Ed.D. from West Virginia University in Curriculum & Instruction. She has a Master of Education and an elementary education bachelor's degree from Frostburg State University. Dr. Rotruck has been a member of the department since 1998 having previously served Washington County Public Schools as a teacher for fifteen years. She was the Education Programs Coordinator at the Frostburg State University Hagerstown Center and later at the University System of Maryland Hagerstown Center. She was also the Coordinator for the Master of Arts in Teaching Elementary program in Hagerstown for eleven years before she relocated to main campus to become the Early Childhood Elementary Coordinator. Dr. Rotruck was the Associate Chair for two years previous to her assuming the role as Chair. When asked about her plans for the department, Dr. Rotruck indicated she is working with the faculty to prepare for the upcoming accreditation visit. She established two leadership teams that will lead the program faculty in updating department information and organizing assessment data. Dr. Rotruck said she is appreciative of the faculty members in her department for all their hard work and dedication, and plans to serve their interests during her term as Chair.



Educational Professions Happenings in Hagerstown (USMH)



MAT-E 2011-2012 working at Food Resources as part of a Service Learning Day

The 2011-2012 school year for the College of Education has been one of the most rigorous and successful years since the opening of FSU @ USMH in 2005. Among the many initiatives we have been a part of is the development of a P-20 network with our partnering school systems (Frederick and Washington counties). This has provided us with an opportunity to attend staff development for the Common Core curriculum; the Charlotte Danielson evaluation system; and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) training. We have also been the leaders in professional development opportunities in each county by providing Action Research workshops in Frederick and job embedded co-teaching training in Washington County.

This year, we are graduating 13 students in the ECE/Elementary program, 12 students in the Master of Arts in Teaching-Elementary program, and 4 students in the Master of Arts in Teaching-Secondary program.

FSU@USMH includes the College of Business, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the College of Education. We have added an undergraduate degree program in Psychology with Dr. Christopher Masciocchi acting as program coordinator. This degree, along with those in Sociology and Liberal Studies, gives students the ability not only to acquire a bachelor's degree and to enter either the MAT-E or MAT-S program for initial teaching certification but also to obtain a graduate degree.

Of the goals in the Strategic Plan for FSU@USMH College of Education, we would like to share our achievements in Goals 1 and 4:

GOAL 1: Increase enrollment of all programs year by year.

We are pleased with our recruiting efforts in the initial certification programs this past year for the 2012-2013 academic year, and we project that there will be the following:

73 ECE/Elementary undergraduate students

35 MAT-E graduate students

5 MAT-S graduate students

During 2012-2013, the FSU COE @ USMH will continue to focus on the initial certification programs and expand our enrollment in the Master of Education program. We are preparing for the Ed.D. for FSU COE @ USMH to begin in fall 2013.

GOAL 4: Increase market awareness of FSU@USMH.



We have a new position of FSU @ USMH Program Manager filled by Kathy Griemsmann, previously the administrative assistant for the College of Education at FSU @ USMH. As program manager, Kathy assists current and prospective students in FSU courses and programs, providing guidance in the areas of admissions, financial aid, program selection, and logistics, as well as supporting the faculty members of FSU@USMH in their promotion of programs.

We are looking forward to the many opportunities coming our way at FSU @ USMH in the next year. We will continue to focus on recruitment as we develop curriculum to address the Common Core standards, the Charlotte Danielson model of evaluation, and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), with a spotlight on P-20 initiatives with Frederick and Washington counties.

-Dr. Jamey Tobery-Nystrom



News from Recreation and Parks Management

'I Swim for Bob Day!'

Tragically in January, the Recreation and Parks Management program lost one of its students, Bob Norr, in a kayaking accident. Throughout his time at Frostburg, Norr inspired so many people with his kind and selfless actions, so much so that his friends, classmates and Dr. Diane Blankenship, an associate professor in Recreation and Parks Management, came together to organize "I Swim for Bob Day" in mid-April, which, in the spirit of activities Norr loved, included water polo and relays. The event also served as a fundraiser for the Robert A. Norr Presidential Merit Scholarship, which was established in loving memory by Norr's parents, family, and friends.



The event, which 100 people attended, was a time for Norr's friends and family to meet, share stories and enjoy time together. Norr's family gave very generous gifts, and through the efforts of the recreation senior seminar class, students raised \$4,500 before "I Swim for Bob Day!" for the scholarship. In the end, the scholarship was endowed with over \$28,000!

To make a gift to the scholarship in support of FSU students and in Norr's memory, contact Cherie Krug, director of major gifts at the FSU Foundation, at ckrug@frostburg.edu or visit www.frostburg.edu/waystogive.

To learn more about the FSU Foundation, visit www.frostburg.edu/foundation.

-Dr. Diane Blankenship

Proposed Developments at the Climbing Wall

The Department of Recreation and Parks Management has been successfully utilizing the climbing wall on campus for more than 15 years for student training purposes. The climbing wall, located in Room 170 in the Cordts P.E. Center, has been greatly attended by students, with an average of 25 to 30 students climbing during the open climb hours. In addition to the use by students majoring in Recreation and Parks Management, the climbing wall has been a great place of learning, physical exercise, and socialization for students coming from different departments on campus. The experiences provided at the climbing wall, both educational in nature (e.g. planning and organizing a climbing competition each semester, collecting user data for research purposes, conducting team building and leadership projects) and recreational (e.g. open climb hours, activities on the high ropes course), have been a great source of engagement and service learning for the students majoring in recreation and beyond.

Due to an increased need for classroom space, the current climbing wall will be moved to one of the squash rooms in the Cordts Center this summer. The plans are to have the new climbing facility ready for student and academic use at the beginning of the fall 2012 semester. The faculty and students in the Department of Recreation and Parks Management are looking forward to the new climbing facility and the educational and recreational opportunities it will provide. Our students have already had the opportunity to provide input for the new facility, and consequently, they are extremely excited and eager to see and experience in the fall the climbing challenges that the new facility will bring. We will make sure to let everybody know of the progress made on the project and hopefully invite everybody to a great opening of the new facility in the fall.

- Natalia Buta, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of Recreation and Parks Management

HPE SHORTS

In the news from the Department of Health and Physical Education (HPE), **Dr. Fred Surgent**, who has been the longest serving member of FSU's faculty for 44 years, is saying it has been a GREAT run, but now it is time to start training the grandchildren. Fred will return as an emeritus professor in the fall and teach only a half load.

Speaking of the glory days, **Jeanie Cordts** was talking at lunch during the Wellner Scholar program about what it was like when she and Dr. Harold Cordts came to Frostburg in 1958. There were three members of the faculty back then, one being Dr. Lillian Wellner. Lillian soon went on to become the Registrar, and Dr. Cordts started growing the HPER and Athletics department. Upon her retirement, Dr. Wellner established a very generous visiting scholar program that has allowed us to bring in a nationally known expert in the field. This year it was **Dr. Linda Griffin** from UMass/Amherst who has written numerous textbooks on teaching pedagogy. How is this for a left-handed compliment? A couple students were heard complaining at the presentation that the information wasn't new – it was what they had already learned in the TOPE (Topics in Physical Education) curriculum. Sounds more like a compliment to me. **Nicole Bosley** did a great job organizing the Wellner Scholar Program this year.

Also in the news this year, **Dr. Troy Strieby** was awarded the Simon McNeely Award for Service & Teaching from the state association MAHPERD (Maryland Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance).

Dr. Lisa Simpson successfully defended her dissertation, received her doctorate, and was granted tenure. Way to go Lisa, now it is time to get fired up for NCATE.

Mary Siemann is working on certification as a health coach through the National Institute for Integrative Nutrition.

This year's Western Maryland Regional Science and Engineering Festival, Allegany County's satellite STEM conference promoting science, technology, engineering, and math to area elementary, middle, and high school students, was a huge success with over 500 children participating. **Dr. Art Siemann**, who served on the executive planning board, made sure Exercise Science was well represented.

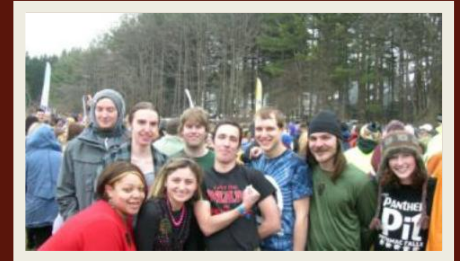
Top honors students this year were: **Meische Cox** and **Albert Pannone** for Athletic Training, **Lydia Valenta** for Exercise and Sport Science, and **Tim Sutcliffe** for HPE/Teacher Ed.

Spotlight On...

Recreation Society, FSU Student Organization

Recreation Society Does Deep Creek Dunk!

The FSU Recreation Society participated in the Deep Creek Dunk in late February and raised \$690 for the Maryland Special Olympics. The members of the team included Robert Wright, Jr., Timothy Iverson, Sean Knox, Kathleen Lett, Chris Polhemus, Andrew Routzahn, Sakinah Stewart, Tyler Baxter, Dylan Mayes and Dr. Natalia Buta.



Sarah Kuhn, FSU Education Student

Sarah Kuhn is a senior education student at FSU who just recently finished up her six-week internship at George's Creek Elementary in a third grade classroom. But that's not all she is. Besides pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood/Elementary Education, Sarah is involved in ten different organizations on campus, and in some of them she holds leadership roles. Her involvement includes: Bobcat Ambassador, Student Program Manager for ECHOSTARS community service program, President of Colleges Against Cancer, Co-Coordinator for Relay for Life, Student Alumni Ambassador, President's Leadership Circle member, National Residence Hall Honorary member, Frostburg Student Education Association member, Free Rhymes of Our Generation member, and will soon be inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success this May.

It's difficult to fathom how a student can manage her time between so many activities.

Sarah says that she balances her extra-curricular activities and academics by writing everything down in her planner. She makes sure to devote time each day to both academics and organizations, all the while giving 110% in everything. When asked why it is important for her to be involved in so many organizations and activities, Sarah responded this way: "These activities have helped me become the person that I am today. Getting involved my freshman year in the HallStars Program, now ECHOSTARS, really helped me make friends that enjoyed the same things I did, such as volunteering. As a freshman, I was very shy and never thought that I would have the leadership roles that I have today, and it is all because I wanted to get involved. I came to Frostburg for the Education Program, but I think it is important to also be involved outside the classroom and do more for the community while improving your leadership skills." Dr. Emily Milleson, one of Sarah's education professors, has recognized her hard work and dedication. To quote Dr. Milleson, "Sarah has shown herself to be a rising leader. She has demonstrated initiative in her efforts as a developing teacher, and it is amazing how she is able to effectively balance her role as an intern in the public schools with leading the efforts for Relay for Life. Miss Kuhn is a shining star and the future for her is bright. I am proud that she has chosen education as her career."



Sarah believes that FSU has opened so many doors and offered her once in a lifetime opportunities relating to leadership and experiential learning. Along with providing multiple internship experiences in different grade levels, she has also had the opportunity to travel to New Orleans for an Alternative Spring Break trip, travel to Prague to participate in an International Youth Leadership Conference, attend the SLOOP Institute for Excellence in Leadership, speak at the Regent's dinner, volunteer at many different events throughout Allegany County, and meet with President Gibraltar for resume advice, to name a few. To pull an anonymous quote that Sarah used in her speech at the Regent's dinner, "On our own, we each can make a difference in the world, but collectively we are a force for good that exponentially surpasses what we can do alone." It is clear that Sarah embodies this ideal, and it is shown in the superlative student that she has grown into which she attributes to her time at FSU.

**LeeAnn Zlomek, Allegany County Teacher of the Year
Frostburg State University Graduate**

It can be said that local teacher LeeAnn Zlomek, who has been a student at Frostburg State University since 1988 when she started her undergraduate studies, has had a successful teaching career. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary/Middle School Education, and then transitioned immediately into working on her Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision, both of which she received from FSU. Two years after attaining her Master's Degree she gained National Board Certification for Early Adolescence Mathematics from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (and became recertified in 2011). In 2006, LeeAnn became certified in secondary mathematics by taking classes again at FSU. To quote LeeAnn, she now "just takes classes for fun" at FSU.

LeeAnn's teaching experience (in order from earliest experience to current positions) includes being a 5th grade teacher at South Penn Elementary, a 7th & 8th grade Math instructor at Washington Middle, a Math School Improvement Specialist at Washington Middle, an Educator Effectiveness Academy Master Teacher for MSDE, a Beginning Algebra instructor at Allegany College of Maryland, and an Algebra I teacher at Mountain Ridge High School. Her current responsibilities at Mountain Ridge include being a part of the School Improvement Team, the Algebra I Curriculum Transition Team, the Bridge Project Monitor and Coordinator, and the freshman class advisor.

With all of LeeAnn's experience and her wide range of knowledge, it is no wonder that she was named Allegany County Teacher of the Year for the 2011-2012 school year. But even before being awarded with this significant accolade, she was named Teacher of the Year at Washington Middle School, Teacher of the Year by the MD Council of Teachers of Mathematics for Middle Schools, and Teacher of the Year at Mountain Ridge High School. What has been LeeAnn's secret to her success? On the following page, she shares some of her stories about life-changing professors at FSU and offers helpful advice to teacher candidates with similar aspirations.

What I learned at FSU:

Several professors at FSU had a profound impact on my teaching style:

- •Dr. Karen Parks – When I was a freshmen or sophomore at FSU, I was talking Calculus (I can't remember if it was Calc I or II) in the summer and hit a topic that I just couldn't understand. I had a test the next day and was panicking because I knew I would fail if I didn't get help. I called Dr. Parks (she wasn't even the instructor of that course – I had her for an earlier course and knew she explained things so well) and asked her if she could meet with me that day to explain the concept (it was so traumatic, I don't even remember what the topic was!) What I DO remember is that she met with me immediately and spent a couple of hours with me, covering a chalkboard in some classroom with calculus problems to explain things to me. She was so patient and understanding. And like I said, she wasn't even my instructor at the time. I will never forget how helpful she was and how willing she was to help a student that wasn't even hers. I do that with students now. I just can't say no to anyone who calls me and needs help with math.

- •Dr. Ornstein and Dr. Bingman – Their energy and passion for teaching are contagious! They both are always in such a good mood and are so positive. They got to know each of us personally and that made a huge difference. I try to do that too. I get to know my students and convey my love of teaching and math with enthusiasm and energy.
We had FUN in block and learned even more because of it. They were my first example of team teaching, and I've used their model when I've team-taught.
I remember waiting anxiously as a college student to see what comments they wrote on my paper and if I got a sticker 😊. Teachers at the high school make fun of me for putting stickers on my students' papers, but they love them and complain if I forget. I even put them on my students' quizzes at Allegany College. I've had comments in the course evaluations about how cool it is and how "you're never too old for stickers."

- •Dr. Edward Root – I had my first migraine headache as a result of School Law with Dr. Root! I've never been so conflicted over a course before. I got so caught up in listening to him talk about court cases that I would forget to take notes. Then I stressed out over the tests because they were detailed, and I knew I'd missed some of the content because I was enthralled with just listening to him. It's been my favorite class at FSU and the one that caused me the most sleepless nights, grinding teeth, and headaches, but in a good way. I am impressed with how he always remembered names, dates, and details and never seems to consult any notes. He is always well prepared. I strive to be the same with my students.

My advice for teacher candidates:

1. Don't be afraid to try new things: new manipulatives, new activities, new strategies. Read blogs and subscribe to every online resource you can find.
2. Find a mentor wherever you go. During your first few years in your own classroom especially, you will need someone to ask questions about those things that no one thinks to tell you about. You will need someone to brainstorm with, reflect with, vent to, and rely on to give you good advice. Ask the principal to recommend someone.
3. Get to know each of your students. When they know you care about them and are interested in them, they will achieve and be successful. And isn't that what teaching is all about??

-LeeAnn Zlomek



COE Events



Pirates Ahoy!

Wednesday, July 11th, 2012



Ahoy me hearties! The *Frostburg State University Children's Literature Centre*, and *Frostburg First* are teaming up to provide pirate tales, crafts and treats all the live-long day!

The event will begin in the morning at Frostburg's City Place, for pirate registration. Following registration, all buccaneers can take part in a pirate treasure hunt about Frostburg and solve mystery clues to find some special goodies to add to their loot. There will be a flurry of activities at City Place on Water Street, including face painting, craft workshops and a costume contest. Young buccaneers will also be entranced by a presentation by a children's author/illustrator in his pirate den!

All pirate fun is free, but spaces for Frostburg Pirates Ahoy! are limited, so please call or email to register your pirate tribe for groups of five or more. Bring your buccaneers, and don't forget your pirate costumes!

Want more information?

Website: <http://www.frostburg.edu/clc>

Email: clc@frostburg.edu,

Phone: 301-687-3133

FSU Teachers of Promise

In an effort to attract the best and brightest university students to Maryland schools, the Maryland State Department of Education, SMART Technologies, Comcast, and the Maryland Independent College and University Association (MICUA) brought together 75 Teachers of the Year and other award-winning educators, and more than 150 outstanding graduating seniors identified by schools of education in 20 Maryland colleges and universities. Teachers and students were paired in mentor-protégé relationships and engaged in interactive discussions focusing on issues around teaching, learning, and educational change.

-Taken from MSDE Media Release

This year at the 6th Annual Teachers of Promise Institute on April 25th, five Frostburg State University graduating seniors from the College of Education were recognized. Left to right are Kelsey Nightingale, Dameca Oliver, Brooke Tapman, Chelsey Miller, and Claire Houseknecht. We congratulate them on this outstanding achievement!



CHALK TALK

Online Education vs. Tradition Classrooms: What should it be?

With the inevitable push towards a more technologically advanced nation, it is no wonder that schools of all levels are supplementing traditional classroom instruction with online tools. Institutions of higher education around the country are offering classes and degrees purely online, eliminating the need for face-to-face meetings. The ever-growing network of web-based collaboration, social networking, management, and accessibility tools has made the idea of an online college education not just feasible, but effective. Some pros of this are obvious: With innovative online deliveries, instructors are able to include students who are learning all over the world; lessons, assignments, and lectures are more readily available; in-class distractions are limited; and certain programs, such as Blackboard Collaborate (formerly Elluminate), allow for class sessions to be recorded for later reference and review.

A study done by the Department of Education, revised in 2010, concluded that “On average, students in online learning conditions performed better than those receiving face-to-face instruction.” They focused on comparing results from colleges and adult continuing education programs. The New York Times wrote a summary of this study saying, “The report examined the comparative research on online versus traditional classroom teaching from 1996 to 2008...The analysis for the Department of Education found that, on average, students doing some or all of the course online would rank in the 59th percentile in tested performance, compared with the average classroom student scoring in the 50th percentile.” For the entire study, visit <http://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/tech/evidence-based-practices/finalreport.pdf> or to view the NY Times article, visit <http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/08/19/study-finds-that-online-education-beats-the-classroom/>.

Not all arguments support the use of online education in place of the traditional classroom. Besides the obvious fact that it is not possible to participate in an internet-based course without computer access and being technologically proficient, some people believe that online instruction does not provide a comparable form of social interaction to develop social skills. It has also been argued that motivation decreases if not in an actual classroom setting; the incidence of cheating and distractions can increase; and technology glitches make online learning unstable. Whether we like it or not, it is an age of technological dependence, but how should it be utilized?

“I believe online education offers great opportunities to incorporate all learners. Nowadays people have very busy lifestyles. By incorporating online education, more and more people are able to attend classes. Elluminate is such a wonderful program that allows teachers to record class sessions so they are available to students for future reference. Online education presents a more accessible chance for additional students to gain an education.”

-Kendra Roberts, Graduate Student

“Developing community within an online course where appropriate risk-taking allows for high-quality interaction between students and their teacher is pivotal to the value of any online educational experience. Recent research (Jung, 2011) also suggests that the quality of the online experience from the learner’s perspective is enhanced when there is strong staff support, a high degree of pedagogical integrity which is combined with relevant, meaningful learning tasks. As Frostburg continues to develop its online presence, articulating and refining these elements will become increasingly important in the delivery of effective online education.”

Jung, I. (2011). The Dimensions of e-learning quality: from the learner’s perspective. Educational Technology Research & Development. August 2011, Vol. 59 Issue 4, p445-464.

-Dr. Roger Dow, Graduate Reading Program Coordinator

FSU Hires Assistant Provost for Student Success and Retention

Dr. Terri Massie-Burrell was recently appointed as Assistant Provost for Student Success and Retention at Frostburg State University in support of FSU's strategic planning priorities to improve retention and graduation rates and reach new levels of academic excellence.

"Dr. Massie-Burrell is an experienced and dynamic individual who will provide leadership and coordination for University-wide programs and efforts that will support a higher degree of student success and retention," said Dr. Stephen Simpson, provost at FSU.

In her new role at FSU, Massie-Burrell will be responsible for a variety of critical initiatives, including developing and implementing an undergraduate retention and advising plan and programs to improve University retention and graduation rates, as well as promoting and facilitating more collaboration between FSU's Academic Affairs division and Student and Educational Services. Massie-Burrell will also focus on assisting students in finding the appropriate staff and faculty resources to address issues that might challenge their ability to continue with their education.

Massie-Burrell has spent her first few months at FSU meeting with a variety of colleagues and students, as part of assessing FSU's current issues and challenges relating to retention and graduation rates.

"I have found that we have a very welcoming community at FSU, so I'm looking forward to building upon the strong institutional practices that currently exist," she said. "Once I learn more about what we do, I can share my expertise and collaborate with our faculty and staff to establish new academic and co-curricular programming goals."

Prior to joining FSU, Massie-Burrell served as director and learning specialist at Towson University's Academic Achievement Center. She has a doctorate in counseling and personnel services from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a master's degree in human resources and behavioral management from Johns Hopkins University. She was the recipient of the 2010-2011 Outstanding Research in Developmental Education from the Maryland state affiliate of the National Association of Developmental Education.

To learn more about the FSU's Strategic Plan, including its emphasis on graduation and retention rates, visit www.frostburg.edu/splanning.

For further information on this release, contact:

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Article taken from FSU News Release on 4/2/12

New Director of Research and Sponsored Programs Joins FSU



Frostburg State University welcomes Aaron Hoel as its new Director of Research and Sponsored Programs, the office responsible for seeking and administering sources of external funding for FSU, such as that available through foundation and government grants.

Hoel has international work and travel experience and holds a number of certificates in financial management and federal appropriation law regulations. He has served as a grants and contracts manager for several years, most recently as a senior sponsored projects and performance manager at the J. Craig Venter Institute in Rockville, MD.

“I am looking forward to increasing the sponsored projects portfolio at Frostburg State University, to increase learning opportunities for students and research opportunities for faculty development,” Hoel said, noting that some great areas of potential for the University include conservation, ecological development and green living, scientific research, education and the arts. “There are many resources already available at the University which makes it particularly competitive for such programs, and my goal is to increase these resources to help support the University’s continuing quest to become a nationally recognized institute of higher learning.”

Hoel earned a Master of Arts in Russian and East European studies from the University of Kansas and bachelor’s degree in Russian language, history and music from the University of Northern Iowa.

For info, contact the FSU Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at x7097.

Article taken from FSU News Release on 4/9/12

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