

Connect.ED

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

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Message from the Dean

Welcome to the first issue of Connect.ED. As I begin my second semester, I am amazed at the important work we do. FSU is a very special place with highly dedicated faculty, students, staff, and alumni. The college strives to be progressive, innovative, and a leader in the preparation of educator professionals. This was most recently evident when the college received NCATE accreditation; MSDE full program approval; CAAHEP, CAATE and COAPRT accreditation in Educational Professions and Kinesiology and Recreation respectively. Accreditation is the hallmark of any profession and the guarantee to the public that the college has met national standards. Our faculty in both departments are engaged in preparing the next generation of scholars, coaches, athletes, trainers,



leaders, administrators and teachers; meeting the needs of all candidates through programs, special projects, and centers. Frostburg State University's College of Education has a proud past of educating educators and a bright future. Please take a moment to read about all of the exciting events. If you want to learn more, please reach out to us- *"Our Door is Always Open!"*

COE Receives Full Approval from MSDE

Recently FSU received word from the Maryland State Department of Education regarding the state of its program approval. In part the letter read, "Frostburg State University is commended for the intensity of effort in addressing all concerns expressed by the 2015 Peer Review Team. The reviewers are impressed with the development of a comprehensive assessment system designed to ensure ongoing accountability and improvement both at the unit and program levels. In addition, reviewers commend the university for its innovative partnership efforts with

Coppin State University, designed to assure a diverse experience for each intern. The MSDE will be most interested to both participate and observe this process as a promising best practice.

With all standards of the Institutional Performance Criteria met without conditions, the Review Team recommends to the State Superintendent that all educator preparation programs of Frostburg State University be Fully Approved with no conditions."

Source: Maryland State Department of Education



Frostburg State University College of Education Nationally Accredited

Frostburg State University's College of Education recently received accreditation for an additional seven years, based on the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) standards. NCATE's performance-based accreditation system for teacher preparation ensures that teacher candidates are prepared to make a difference in P-12 student learning.

"I am proud that FSU is continuing its century-long tradition of preparing the best teachers in the state of Maryland," said FSU President Ronald Nowaczyk. "I congratulate the College of Education on this achievement."

"NCATE accreditation confirms the strength of our teacher preparation program that I have witnessed since arriving at Frostburg," said Dr. Boyce Williams, interim dean of the College of Education. "Frostburg has been continuously accredited by NCATE since 2002, which attests to the consistency of this program."

Williams said that educator accreditation is the hallmark and seal of approval that assures quality in educator preparation. Accreditation makes sure that educator programs prepare new teachers to know their subjects and their students, and to have the clinical training that allows them to enter the classroom ready to teach effectively.

Accreditation provides a framework that has pushed educator preparation programs to continually self-assess and conduct evidence-based analysis of their programs and their efficacy. These evidence-based shifts, rooted in continuous improvement, are helping to ensure that preparation programs are more likely to produce successful educators.

Frostburg State University was founded in 1898 as Maryland Normal School no.2 to prepare teachers, and the College of Education has been producing outstanding teachers for more than 100 years. The college offers programs at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels, and it includes a diverse, recognized and credentialed faculty committed to excellence in teaching, learning and scholarship. For more information about FSU's College of Education, visit the website at www.frostburg.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/College-of-Education/index.php.

Providers accredited based on NCATE standards, as well as those accredited based on the Teacher Education Accreditation Council Quality Principles, are now served by the single specialized accreditation system for educator preparation in the United States, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). More than 840 educator preparation providers participate in the CAEP accreditation system. For more information, visit caepnet.org.

Situated in the mountains of Allegany County, Frostburg State University is one of the 12 institutions of the University System of Maryland. FSU is a comprehensive, residential regional university and serves as an educational and cultural center for Western Maryland. For more information, visit www.frostburg.edu or facebook.com/frostburgstateuniversity. Follow FSU on Twitter [@frostburgstate](https://twitter.com/frostburgstate).

Source: FSU News and Media Services

College of Education



FSU Education Students Attend a Pathways to Professions Leadership Academy

On September 28 and 29th, twenty-nine FSU teacher education students, nine local teachers and public-school administrators, and nine FSU Educational Professions faculty members traveled to Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, Maryland for a two-day leadership academy. This academy was part of collaborative grant between Frostburg State University (FSU) and Coppin State University (CSU) through a Pathways to Professions Teacher Quality Partnership award from the US Department of Education. FSU and CSU faculty members have been developing MicroCredentials and opportunities for clinical rounds and clinical rotations over the past year. The academy was the inauguration of these learning experiences for the students.

Education students listened to panel discussions involving state level leaders. The panel discussions each day focused on Creating Educational Solutions. The first day's panel targeted the national perspective and the second day's panel focused on state level initiatives. Dr. Boyce Williams, the Interim Dean at FSU, served on the panel both days. Other participants included, Dr. Wendy



Main, Allegany County Public Schools; Ms. Jessica Bancroft, Ms. Michelle Dunkle and Ms. Cecelia Roe from Maryland State Department of Education; Dr. Emily Dow, Maryland Higher Education Commission; Mr. DeWayne Morgan, University System of Maryland; Ms. Marietta English, Baltimore Teacher's Union, and Dr. Leontye Lewis, Provost at Coppin State University. Dr. Richard Ingersoll, renowned researcher on teacher retention, was the keynote speaker. Students attended breakout sessions, which discussed MicroCredentials on Culturally Responsive Teaching and visits to urban and rural classrooms.

FSU education faculty members on the grant's research and development team include Dr. Kim Rotruck (co-principal investigator), Dr. Janet Mattern (grant manager), Dr. Jodi Nichols, Dr. Jennifer Rankin, Dr. Fannia Boayue, Mrs. Sarah O'Neal and Mr. Toby Eirich. Dr. Yi Haung, Associate Dean at Coppin State University (CSU), is the principal investigator and author of the grant. CSU partners include Dr. Daniel Joseph, Mrs. Sandra Welty, Dr. Jean Ragin, and Dr. Mabel Murray.

For more information, please contact Dr. Kim Rotruck at krotruck@frostburg.edu.

Frostburg Teaches

On October 10, 2017, a team of faculty from the College of Education accompanied by eight current students and fifteen alumni traveled to Martin's West in Baltimore to host the "Frostburg Teaches" event. The event focused on recruiting prospective students interested in the field of education to our programs here at FSU. Also involved in the planning and execution of the event were staff from the FSU admissions office. During the first part of the evening, prospective students had the opportunity to talk with faculty, current students, alumni, and an

admissions representative. Later, a panel was assembled and prospective students had a chance to hear personal stories from current students and alumni about their experiences in the education programs at FSU. The evening concluded with the opportunity for students to fill out applications to FSU. Many interested students applied and have already received their acceptance letters as well as scholarship offers. The "Frostburg Teaches" event was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the variety of programs and unique experiences that we offer here at FSU in the College of Education.



Children's Literature Centre News



Harry Potter Night

The evening of February 2nd, 2018 will mark our 4th annual Harry Potter Book Night. The event has evolved immensely since its humble beginnings in the CLC in 2014. The event is hosted by the Lewis J. Ort Library, and involves a collaborative effort from staff at the Children's Literature Centre, the Lewis J. Ort Library, and the Lane University Centre. The event, a series of activities celebrating J.K. Rowling's wizarding world is free and open to Harry Potter fans of all ages. The evening includes a trip to platform 9 ¾, a Hogwarts house sorting ceremony, Charms classes, Potions classes, Quidditch lessons, Care of Magical Creatures classes, facepainting, games, readings and quizzes. Last year, an estimated 400 children attended the event, from throughout the tri-state region.

Spring Festival of Children's Literature

2018 will mark the 36th Spring Festival of Children's Literature. Traditionally held on the last weekend in April, this annual event attracts participants from the Eastern United States. Its purpose is to provide librarians, educators, students, and other advocates the opportunity to experience first-hand interaction with celebrated authors, illustrators and storytellers. The annual event will be held on April 27th and 28th 2018. This year, we are honored to welcome internationally renowned, award-winning authors and illustrators: Cece Bell, R. Gregory Christie, PJ Lynch and Steve Sheinkin. In addition to presenting to festival

attendees at Frostburg State University, our renowned authors/illustrators will also be visiting young readers in local schools and libraries. Festival attendees will also have the opportunity to engage in a selection from 11 Professional Developmental Workshops, given by experts in the field of children's literacy and literature. The festival concludes with the presentation of the Betty Roemmelmeyer Children's Literature Advocate Award, given to an area teacher, librarian, or individual that possesses and nurtures a love of literature.

Adopt-a-School Activities

The Children's Literature Centre's current literacy partner under the Adopt-a-School initiative is Wiley Ford Elementary. Once a month, CLC staff visit the school and read-aloud the most current books in the world of children's literature with all grade

levels in the school. The CLC regularly organize for award-winning authors and illustrators to visit and give presentations to students in the Adopt-a-School each semester. School staff are encouraged to participate in Centre events that are held each year.

Storybook Holiday

Each year, the City of Frostburg is transformed into a holiday winter wonderland, as local organizations come together to present "Frostburg's Storybook Holiday," a festive, community celebration through children's literature. Storybook Holiday is the result of a collaborative effort between The Children's Literature Centre, The Main Street Program of Frostburg, the City of Frostburg, and Frostburg State University. This year's daylong event of reading and fun-filled activities was held on Saturday, December 2nd, and featured a range of new events to mark the event's 14th year. Festive events on the day included: Breakfast with the Elves, the Mountain City Cookie Contest, Elf Olympics, storybook readings in local churches, the Storybook Holiday parade,



and the much-loved Elves' Secret Workshop in City Place. We also welcomed our two Storybook Holiday authors/illustrators Lezlie Evans and Joan Waites, both members of the Children's Book Guild of Washington, D.C. Lezlie and Joan gave Storybook Holiday presentations and visited the students in our Adopt-a-School, Wiley Ford Elementary, as part of the event.

School Counseling M.Ed. Program

The School Counseling Program started the 2017 fall semester with a long-standing tradition of welcoming all new and returning students to the Orientation/Kick-off meetings held August 22nd and August 24th at the USMH and FSU Main campuses, respectively. During the orientation program, Dr. Boyce Williams, Interim Dean, extended a welcome back to the students and faculty members in attendance, Mr. Patrick Deasy, Dr. Kristine Jackson, and Dr. Karla Diehl with Jake the dog. A special welcome was also extended to Barbara Gift, a new adjunct faculty member to the program and FSU. A veteran elementary teacher and school counselor in the Washington County Public Schools, Mrs. Gift brings to the counseling students her practical experience and passion for school counseling. The school counseling

program has a current enrollment between the two campuses of 52 students representing Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. The 2017 cohort has 24 members representing both campuses with nine USMH campus students, and 15 at the FSU Main campus. With 17 candidates in their field placements this fall, the part-time counseling students complete the roster.

Beginning her second year as program coordinator, Dr. Joyce Henderson hosted the bi-annual School Counseling Program Advisory Council and reviewed program initiatives, increased enrollment, fall semester field placements supported by four Maryland counties and Mineral County, WV, along with the strengths and needs evidenced by the program's spring assessments (SPA) data. The

M.Ed. Advisory Committee met in September to review the program and discuss ideas to enhance the program to include better alignment with CACREP Standards and grading options for field experiences.

This fall semester is busy with the new cohort beginning their journey to become school counselors and the seventeen candidates in field placements in Mineral County, WV and Allegany, Garrett, Washington, and Frederick counties. In December, the following three candidates anticipate graduating from the school counseling program: Eric Bologna, Molly Devilbiss, and Mary (Sydney) Sibley. We are very proud of our three school counseling M.Ed. candidates along with all other students who accomplish their goals and graduate with degrees.

Dean's Reception

On August 31, 2017 Dr. Boyce C. Williams, Interim Dean of the College of Education, hosted a Welcome Back Student Reception for students within the College. The reception gave the students an opportunity to mingle with other students from the college as well as meet the Dean and interact with faculty members of the college. Thompson Hospitality from Reston, Virginia sponsored the reception and Chartwells prepared and served the food. Professors from Educational Professions and Kinesiology and Recreation and Parks brought their classes to the reception. Several others dropped by to meet the Dean. Many of the students commented on how

exciting it was to be able to meet the dean and faculty in an informal setting.

A Welcome Back Reception for College of Education students at the Hagerstown campus was held on September 21, 2017. This corresponding event allowed nearly sixty students from the Hagerstown campus to meet and converse with the Interim Dean of Education.

Dr. Williams is also implementing suggestion boxes and a monthly "Coffee, Cocoa, and Chat with the Dean" in addition to having an open door policy for all faculty, staff, and students in the College.



Frostburg State Sport Science Program Earns Accreditation

Frostburg State University's Exercise and Sport Science program has been granted initial accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation for the Exercise Sciences.

"Attaining CAAHEP accreditation is the ultimate measure of quality in the Exercise and Sport Science program," said Boyce Williams, interim dean of the College of Education. "It is a professional seal of approval because it assures the public across the board — parents, business leaders and policymakers — that candidates coming from Frostburg State University have been prepared in exercise and sport science using rigorous national standards."

Initial accreditation recognizes the program's compliance with nationally established accreditation standards in the field.

Graduates of Frostburg's program are prepared for graduate programs in health-related fields like human performance, kinesiology, physical therapy, occupational therapy and exercise physiology through a science-based curriculum. Exercise and sport science majors also gain the skills and credentials needed to work immediately after graduation.

"A lot of students come in wanting to do physical therapy, and then they change their minds. The good thing about them starting with this major is that now they have credentials," said program coordinator and assistant professor Melody Kentrus. "Now they've got experience. They can actually get a job. For the ones who change their minds, it's really beneficial to have this background in exercise and sport science."

Students will take one of two national exams, both of which require a bachelor's degree. Some seek to

become a certified strength and conditioning specialist through the National Strength and Conditioning Association. Others attempt to become a certified exercise physiologist through the American College of Sports Medicine.

Both credentials qualify graduates for careers in the growing health and fitness industry, such as health fitness specialist, wellness coach, strength and conditioning coach, personal trainer or owner-operator of a training facility. Like athletic trainers, such careers focus on improving health and athletic performance, but exercise and sport science clientele have different needs. "Athletic trainers work with injured athletes, while exercise and sport science professionals work with healthy athletes," explained Kentrus. "They are both trying to make the athlete better, but they're doing it in different ways."

Source: FSU News and Media Services

Governance News from the COE

KINESIOLOGY & RECREATION

Dr. Natalia Buta was selected as the chair of FSU's Department of Kinesiology and Recreation in fall 2017. Buta has been a faculty member in the department for seven years, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the Recreation and Parks Management program.

The department plans to continue to build on the current department culture of assessment and evaluation to provide quality academic programs that integrate innovative practices and respond to student educational needs.

In spring 2018, Dr. Buta will serve as part-time Acting Assistant Dean for the COE.

EDUCATIONAL PROFESSIONS

Dr. Kim Rotruck was selected as Acting Associate Dean for the College of Education for the 2017-2018 academic year.

A special thank you is extended to Dr. Jodi Welsch for her service as Acting Department Chair for the Educational Professions Department in fall 2017. Dr. Welsch did an excellent job and the College of Education is most appreciative of her work. Dr. Kim Rotruck will serve as the Interim Department Chair for Educational Professions during spring 2018. The COE also welcomes Dr. Judith Brooks-Buck as a part-time non tenure track faculty for the 2017-18 academic year.

The College of Education is indebted to all faculty and staff who continue to render service to the College of Education, unconditionally.



Changes Coming to the FSU Major in Adventure Sports Management

In 2015, the Department of Kinesiology and Recreation in collaboration with Garrett College has offered for the first time a major in Adventure Sports Management. The first cohort of students graduated from the program in Spring 2017. The program was offered and is currently offered on the Garrett College campus. However, starting Fall 2018 all the FSU adventure sports courses will be offered on the Frostburg campus. This model will allow the students to start and finish a major in Adventure Sports Management at FSU, while taking a series of adventure sports skills classes on the Garrett College campus. Students could also finish their Associates Degree at Garrett College and transfer to FSU and major in Adventure Sports.

This program is designed for individuals who aspire to work in the outdoors. Classes help teach soft skills

such as leadership and management, along with hard skills such as rock climbing and kayaking. Adventure sports management as a field spans several workforce categories, including recreational work and business leadership, which creates opportunities for employment in numerous related fields. Demand is rising for outdoor adventure experts who are not just great at what they do, but are also proven leaders and managers.

Frostburg State University's Adventure Sport Management program graduated eight students over the last year. Alumni Nathan Watt stated, "Frostburg helped me develop my skills as an outdoor professional and provided me with the tools necessary to work internationally." He is a Trail Crew Leader at Patagonia Frontiers in Chile and assists on educational and recreational expeditions.

This year the program has four students, who are actively engaged in classes, outdoor recreation, and are planning for the spring LIFE semester, where students will learn through educational experiences at local and regional organizations such as Sultana Projects, White Grass and Seven Springs ski resort, as well as the Greenbrier River. The highlight of the fall semester was an expedition to Virginia's Owl Cave to study risk Management.



The Academic Minor in Sports Coaching

The academic minor in sports coaching has had a long history in Frostburg State University's College of Education. For several decades it has utilized the expertise of numerous faculty members from the fields of physical education, athletic training, and exercise and sport science, the knowledge and talents of many of Frostburg State's coaches of intercollegiate athletic teams, and the daily supervisory work of coaches of area interscholastic sports teams. The primary purposes of the coaching minor are to provide prospective coaches with a program of study that will enable them to acquire theoretical and practical understandings of at least two sports of their choice and to enhance their knowledge of the philosophical, legal, ethical, social, and psychological aspects of successful coaching. They should leave the program with a genuine

awareness of whether or not a coaching lifestyle is appropriate for them.

There are currently 24 students who are enrolled in the coaching minor. Their academic program includes 19 credit hours of classroom work and study and a one-semester field experience at one of the high schools in western Maryland or at FSU; occasionally, students choose to work with a youth sports team in their home community. Regardless of where students decide to have their field experience, they must commit 135 hours to working with their team. Some students choose to give even more hours to their team than the minimum requirement. Without question, most of the university's student coaches make significant contributions to the teams to which they connect, and the schools' head

coaches regularly express their appreciation of the good work of FSU's student coaches.

Over a span of many decades, alumni from Frostburg State Teachers College, Frostburg State College, and now Frostburg State University have enjoyed much success in sports coaching. Many Frostburg graduates have coached one or more state-champion teams and individuals in Maryland and in other states as well. Clearly, they have made important contributions to the lives of numerous young athletes and their communities that far outweigh the importance of winning. We hope that present and future Frostburg students will continue this tradition of excellence in the unique educational environment that we call sports and that they will do it in ways that are positive, beneficial, and honorable for everyone who is involved. –Dr. Bob Lewis

CONTACTS

Dr. Boyce Williams
Interim Dean
bcwilliams@frostburg.edu
301.687.4357

Dr. Kim Rotruck
Acting Associate Dean
krotruck@frostburg.edu
301.687.4216

Dr. Natalia Buta
Acting Assistant Dean
nbuta@frostburg.edu
301.687.4458

Ms. Linda Brumage
Executive Administrative Assistant
lbrumage@frostburg.edu
301.687.4759

Ms. Linda Lewis
Executive Administrative Assistant
llewis3@frostburg.edu
301.687.3184

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
101 BRADDOCK ROAD
FROSTBURG, MD 21532-2303

301.687.3184 PHONE
301.687.7798 FAX
www.frostburg.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/College-of-Education

Athletic Training News

Quiz Bowl- Over the summer, three seniors participated in the annual Athletic Training Quiz Bowl during the state convention. FSU seniors competed in a jeopardy-style game against Salisbury University and Towson University.

Athletic Training Club- Senior, Holly Biggs, re-established the Athletic Training Club, including bylaws, and has organized a formal executive board: Holly Biggs (President), Kourtney McLain (Vice President), Heather Martin (Secretary), and Haley Squires (Treasurer). The club is actively raising money for their District Convention this May. They will need to fund registration fees and hotel rooms. Be on the lookout for fundraising events!

The Future of the Athletic Training Program- The Athletic Training undergraduate program at FSU has been nationally accredited for 13 years. Currently, we are working on a graduate Athletic Training Program. This will be a combined Bachelors-Master's program with Exercise & Sport Science. The new program is organized in a 3+2 structure where students earn a Bachelor's degree in EXSS and a Master's degree in AT within five years. Also, students holding a Bachelor's degree from FSU or another higher education institution may also apply into the AT Master's Program. If approved, this will be the first combined AT Master's program in Maryland.

Recreation and Parks Management News

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) Exam Committee- Diane Blankenship spent two fun filled days working with the NRPA CPRP exam committee in Ashburn, VA. She is the only academic member of the committee and worked with the professionals on exam item analysis, revising of exam items, and writing exam items to be included in the certification test bank. The only challenge for her was answering the questions she wrote correctly! Not an uncommon experience for committee members taking the practice exam. Her six years of service on this committee is coming to a close and she has been invited to help develop instruction units for agencies to use in

preparing staff for the national CPRP exam. She is looking forward to this new opportunity to serve at the national level.

Recreation and Parks Management Students Take on the NRPA Conference in New Orleans- Diane Blankenship and eight Recreation and Parks Management students attended the NRPA conference which was attended by over 7,000 professionals from across the nation. This was a tremendous networking opportunity for the students to meet and talk with professionals who work in the recreation industry and to gain insight about how to use their college experience to be competitive in the job market. Students gained information about national trends, what agencies are doing in various areas across the industry and were able to cultivate internship opportunities.

College of Education

**Upcoming Events**

Spring Festival of Children's Literature- April 27 & 28, 2018