



## Message from the Dean

Dear Colleagues –

Have you wondered how the pay scale for Project LIFT works? Have you heard the concept of “opportunity culture” but not clear of its meaning for schools? Are you interested in the half million dollars recently provided by Belk Foundation to scale up the Project LIFT pay plan to nearly half of CMS schools? How will this be sustainable? Is it good for teachers? What about for children? Should it be a state model for how to pay teachers? If you wondered about any of these questions, I encourage you to join us at the College meeting this Friday to hear Denise Watts, Area Superintendent of LIFT schools, and Daniel Swartz, Human Capital Specialist for Project LIFT describe these concepts. Daniel has met with our seniors to explain how they might one day be eligible for an elevated salary for a teacher leader position.

Additionally, many new initiatives are underway regarding graduate education at the University and within our College. Come to Friday’s meeting to hear what is going on. Also, important progress has been made with edTPA and state “evidences” for our candidates, and you will hear about this as well.

See you Friday!

Here’s the news:

We would like to congratulate **Dr. Erin Miller** on receipt of the SOTL grant, ***Pre-Service Teacher’s Preparedness to Teach African American Boys: The Impact of an Urban Collaboration on the Development of Afro-Centered Cultural Knowledge in an Elementary Education Program.***

**Don’t Forget:** On Friday, January 24 from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (COED Room #010), the **Center for STEM Education** will host Dr. Renee Cole, associate professor of chemistry at the University of Iowa, who will be presenting a talk titled, “Sociochemical norms in chemistry classes,” as part of the NOYCE Scholars program. Dr. Cole’s research focuses on the social and sociochemical norms that are critical for creating a student-centered, problem-based chemistry class. If you are interested in receiving a copy of Dr. Cole’s paper, please email Michelle Stephan.

## New Publications

Kissel, B., **Miller, E.**, & Hansen, J. (2013). What's new about Writers' Workshop: Using retro ideas to re-envision student led agendas. In K. Wood, J. Paratore, R. McCormack, & B. Kissel (Eds.) *What's new in literacy teaching? IRA E-ssentials series*. Newark, DE: International Reading Association.

Ma, W., & **Wang, C.** (2014). *Learner' privilege and responsibility: A critical examination of the experiences and perspectives of learners from Chinese backgrounds in the United States*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.

**Matthews, M. S.** & Castellano, J. (Eds.). (2014). *Talent development for English Language Learners: Identifying and developing potential*. Waco, TX: Prufrock Press.

**Miller, E. (2014)**. Whiteness, discourse and early childhood: An ethnographic study of three children's construction's of race in home and community settings. In Kabuto, B. & Martens, P. (Eds.). *Linking families, learning, and schooling: Parent researcher perspectives*. Urbana, IL: National Council of Teachers of English.

Nash, K., Morton-Rose, C., Reid, L., **Miller, E.** & Mosso-Taylor, S. (2013). Literacy in the Multicultural Classroom: Broadening Definitions and Visions. *Language Arts, 91 (2)*, 113-118.

**Polly, D., Margerison, A., & Piel, J.A.** (2014). Kindergarten teachers' orientations to teacher-centered and student-centered pedagogies and their influence on their students' understanding of addition. *Journal of Research in Childhood Education, 28(1)*, DOI: 10.1080/02568543.2013.822949.

**Salas, S., Musetti, B., & Plaisance, M.** (2014). Latino transnationals (not) in advanced academics: Asking hard questions together. In **M. S. Matthews** and J. A. Castellano (Eds.), *Talent development for English Language Learners: Identifying and developing potential* (pp. 87-100). Waco, TX: Prufrock Press

The College of Education Connections is compiled and edited by Latricia Boone, Communications Director. Send all news to [lboone10@uncc.edu](mailto:lboone10@uncc.edu)

*The mission of the College of Education at UNC Charlotte is to prepare highly effective and ethical professionals who have a positive impact on children, youth, families, community, and schools and who are successful in urban and other diverse settings. This mission is accomplished through teaching, research, and community engagement that lead to improved practice and by working in partnership with schools, communities, and university colleagues.*