



Message from the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

This week we had the chance to honor the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his legacy of social justice and equality. For many, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day represents an opportunity to reflect on the life and work of this great man, as well as on the work we still must do to improve race relations, equality of opportunity, and peace. I realized on Monday that Dr. King wrote a lot about income inequality too, a topic on many of our minds today. In a 1967 speech, he said, "Our nation is so rich, so affluent; we often fail to see the poor. So many white people don't see the poor because they are busy getting to the suburbs to the fresh air of the suburbs. They go into the city and work then they get on the expressway and go on back home. They never see the poor Negro who is struggling, devoid of hope. There are some Negroes who don't see the poor. There are some Negro members of the middle class who somehow sail the flotsam out of the muddy waters and move into the fresh flowing waters of the mainstream. They've forgotten the stench of the backwaters and the ghettos of our nation and the least of these. We must all be concerned about the least of these." In reading this I am reminded that our work is concerned with racial and income inequality as we work to provide opportunity to youth through education. I hope we can remember the seriousness of what we do every day while also finding the joy in it.

I am proud of our College and share its strengths everywhere I go. As I said at the faculty meeting, please indicate what you think should be the most important message or stories about our College that our community should know. What would people in the Charlotte Chamber be interested in hearing about? I look forward to receiving your ideas.

Thanks, and here's the news:

One Last REMINDER: On Friday, January 24 from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m., 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.

Upcoming Events:



Spring 2014 K-12 Initiatives



National History Day



A competition that allows students from grades 6-12 to broadcast their knowledge of historic, cultural, and social experiences of the past. Students are inspired through competitions and they use projects as a platform of learning.
Registration is only \$5!

When? February 21, 2014

For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Jennifer Townsend at jatownse@uncc.edu or at 704.687.8998

Register at: <http://education.uncc.edu/oeo/nhd>



The Kenneth E. Selving
NATIONAL HISTORY DAY CONTEST

To receive a FREE "Get Started" packet for National History Day please email us with your mailing address!

Office of Educational Outreach <http://education.uncc.edu/oeo> (704) 687-8998 ed.outreach@uncc.edu

Julia Robinson Mathematics and Computing Festival

The Julia Robinson Mathematics and Computing Festival was founded in spring 2007 to encourage middle school girls to investigate diverse areas of mathematics they would not ordinarily encounter in the classroom. Mathematicians ranging from college undergraduates to first-rate professionals host tables devoted to different activities; students work on the activities with each other and with the activity leader. Students spend perhaps 30 minutes on each of 6 activities that they choose from the several dozen available. **Pre-Registration is \$5; on-site registration is \$20.**



When? March 29, 2014

For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Jennifer Townsend at jatownse@uncc.edu or at 704.687.8998

Register at: <http://education.uncc.edu/oeo/jrmf>



New Publications

McIntyre, E., Walkowiak, T., Thomson, M., Carrier, S., Lee, C., Greive, E., Zulli, R.A., Maher, M.J., & Difrancesca, D. (2013). A STEM-focused elementary teacher preparation program: Candidate and alumni perceptions. *Teacher Education and Practice*, 26, 670-687.

Kissel, B., Stover, K., & **Glover, C.** (2014). Bringing lives into literacy: Teachers learn about choice, audience, and response through multigenre writing. *Reading Horizons*, 14, 41-45.

The College of Education Connections is compiled and edited by Latricia Boone, Communications Director.

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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.