Message from the Dean

Dear Faculty and Staff,

I’m looking forward to another great week ahead, as the College of Education continues doing exciting and important work. Just this month, the Department of Educational Leadership and the Chancellor’s office hosted the honorable James Hunt, North Carolina’s longest-serving governor (1977-1985 and 1993-2001) and his wife for an afternoon/evening event.

After seeing one of the new dorm buildings dedicated in his honor, Dr. Hunt gave a magnificent talk in Robinson Hall to a crowd of university and community members interested in education. His words still ring in my ears about respecting the hard work of teachers by paying them a living wage. He is known as the education governor, and it is clear why. He knows the field intimately. (He reads every issue of Education Week!)

As you know, Dr. Hunt spearheaded many initiatives in North Carolina while he was serving, including raising teacher salaries, developing the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, and creating Smart Start. His talk lamented the erosion of some of his major accomplishments. But he was encouraged by what we are doing here at UNCC. When I spoke with Dr. Hunt at the event, he asked me if we hire practitioners straight from the field to teach in our programs, and I assured him we do.

The evening ended with a question from the audience (read by Dr. Dawson Hancock), inviting him to announce his candidacy for the next gubernatorial race. It was an inspiring event and I want to thank all the faculty members who attended. See some of the terrific photos from this event.

Last week, our own Urban Education Collaborative hosted an equally exciting event, a conference on Pursuing Extraordinary Outcomes in Public Education. People from across the nation came to Charlotte to attend this conference planned by Dr. Chance Lewis, Dr. Stephen Hancock, and Dr. Ayana Allen. The conference focused on local initiatives to solve issues in urban education. Click here to see more about the success of this event.

Lastly, I want to remind you that it’s not too late to participate in GIVING GREEN. Our campus and College campaign champions, Dr. Misty Hathcock and Dr. Susan Harden, report that we are still shy of our goal. Let’s try to make this the year COED sets a record. See more details below...
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.
COED in the Community

The 8th cohort of the Middle Grades University (MGU) met on campus for the first time on September 21. MGU is a program partnered by TeenHealth Connection, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, and UNC Charlotte’s College of Education. Beginning in 2006, selected eighth grade students have had the opportunity to get a taste of campus life while working with an assigned mentor from the College of Education middle grades teaching program. MGU strives to help middle school students realize how present choices and goals can impact future success. Funded by the Page and George Bradham Family Foundation, participants meet two to three times a semester. Topics include identifying career interests, funding a college education, and healthy nutritional information. In addition, students have the opportunity to tour the college campus, attend a basketball game, AND, have lots of fun along the way. For more information, see Jeanneine Jones and Joyce Brigman in MDSK or Jean Vintinner in REEL.

Call for Articles

LDYC (Literacy Development in Young Children) - SIG is seeking articles for their next newsletter. The topic should be related to early language and literacy development/learning. The format of the article can be a research report, practical strategies, or book review. The ideal length of an article is anywhere between 1000 to 2000 words. The due date for submission is November 4, 2013. Please send articles to the newsletter editor, Pamela Shue at pamelashue@uncc.edu or to the chair, Myae Han at myaehan@udel.edu. Other ideas or announcements for the newsletter are also welcome.

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