Dear Faculty and Staff,

This issue of *Connections* features news and publications. If you have news or publications since September 8\(^{th}\) that is not featured here, please send it to Ellen for the next issue. You *must* put the word “Connections” in the subject line! These newsletters will come out only once a month or less often until we get a Communications Director. Thanks for your patience!

**Congratulations!**

**Dr. Drew Polly** was awarded the Innovator Award for service to teachers in the state of North Carolina by the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics.
Congratulations!

Funded at $12.5 million, the National TA Center on Improving Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment for Students with Disabilities (Transition Center) is the first major investment funded jointly out of RSA and OSEP to create a seamless transition process from high school through employment. The Transition Center, to be located at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, will work with states, school districts, and vocational rehabilitation agencies to implement evidence-based and promising practices and strategies to ensure that students with disabilities, including those with significant disabilities, graduate from high school with the knowledge, skills, and supports needed for success in postsecondary education and employment. Dr. David Test is PI.

Welcome!

Abby Moore, the new Education Librarian, comes to UNCC from University of South Dakota and is a graduate of the New York City Teaching Fellows program. Right now she is thinking of new and creative ways to teach your students information literacy skills and HOW TO DO ACADEMIC RESEARCH! If you’re interested in working with Abby, send her an email at amoor164@uncc.edu.

Publications:


Other Cool News:

The most recent issue of the journal Teaching Exceptional Children featured the “Best of TEC” based on the most downloaded articles of the past five years. One of the articles titled “Six Tips for Successful IEP Meetings “(originally published in March/April, 2012) was co-authored by two former UNC Charlotte special education doctoral students, Jennifer Diliberto (graduated 2005; now at UNC Chapel Hill) and Denise Brewer (graduated 2006; now at Appalachian State University).

Claire Spence, a former MEd student in CHFD, spenceclaire21@hotmail.com
She is teaching in Asheville and has been accepted to work with the Governors Teachers Network (GTN), pathway 1, and my "research" will be on kindergarten dramatic play and how it improves reading in young children.