



College of Education Connections

April, 2015

College of Education Election Results:

Here are the results of the College of Education election for the 2015-16 academic year.

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| Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee | Adriana Medina (REEL) , Representative Mark D'Amico (EDLD) , Alternate |
| Faculty Employment Status Committee | Bob Rickelman (REEL) , Representative Jeanneine Jones (MDSK) , Alternate |
| Faculty Info. & Tech. Services Advisory Committee | Teresa Petty (MDSK) , Representative Florence Martin (EDLD) , Alternate |
| Faculty Research Grants Committee | Jae Hoon Lim (EDLD) , Representative Erik Byker (REEL) , Alternate |
| Graduate Council | Kelly Anderson (SPCD) , Representative |
| Honors Council | Amy Good (REEL) , Representative Paul Fitchett (MDSK) , Alternate |

Dates:

edTPA College-wide TPALS Meeting (all invited), Monday April 13, 1-2:30 p.m., COED 110
College of Education Faculty Meeting, Friday April 24, 9:30 – 10:50 a.m., COED 010
College Scholarship and Awards Event, Friday May 8, 5- 6:30 p.m., COED
College of Education End of Semester Party, May 8, 6:30- 8, COED
Professional Development Week (Details forthcoming), May 11 – 15, COED

College Professional Development Opportunities

The College of Education is hosting a few Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) workshops in the next few weeks. The full calendar is here- <http://teaching.uncc.edu/calendar>.

Congratulations to:

Tracy Rock (REEL) was awarded the 2015 Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching.
Elizabeth Coleman (REEL) for receiving funding for her Faculty Research Grant entitled, "Facilitating Elementary Teachers' Identity Development Through Science Curriculum Design."
Lisa Merriweather (EDLD) and **Sandra Dika (EDLD)** received a Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Grant in collaboration with colleagues Min Jiang (Communications) and Jane Dalton (Art Education) for their project "JustUs: Breaking Boundaries with Images." The project featured photography exhibits by internationally renowned North Carolina human rights artist Todd Drake (<http://www.the-equalist.com>) at both UNC Charlotte campuses, an artist lecture at Center City (March 10), a photography workshop on the main campus (March 11), and a selfie contest encouraging participants

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.

to take a photo with their favorite photograph by the artist and share what diversity means to them (#diversitytoyou). The photo workshop drew over 80 participants from the community and local high schools, along with UNC Charlotte students. The project was also featured in a March 8 article in the Charlotte Observer (<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/community/city-news/article12610223.html#/tabPane=tabs-b0710947-1-1>). The selfie contest runs through April 13, as does the photo exhibit on the 2nd floor at Center City.

Congratulations to Cathy Howell and her Chair **Mark D'Amico (EDLD)** for winning the 2015 EDLD Legacy Award. This award is given to an EDLD graduate based on a dissertation that addresses critical issues in effective programs or practices that may impact students and families. The title of Cathy's dissertation is "Black Women Doctoral Students' Perceptions of Barriers and Facilitators of Persistence and Degree Completion in a Predominately White University."

Bruce VanSledright (REEL) will be giving an invited Keynote Address at the conference "Teaching History: Fostering Historical Thinking Across the K-16 Curriculum" at the University of California, Berkeley on May 1 and 2, 2015. His talk will address the relationship between beliefs about what history is and how teachers go about teaching it, work drawn from a forthcoming handbook chapter on epistemic cognition in history.

Teresa Petty (MDSK) was elected as Associate Chair for the Distance/Flexible Learning SIG for the Society for Information Technology in Teacher Education.

Elementary Education major Brianna Parham was selected as a scholarship recipient for the Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement based on her essay, "I Choose To Be An Educator: Let Me Tell You Why!" Brianna received one of fifteen awards issued to undergrads across the state.

Pattie Rodwell, a graduate student in the distance education program of the **Dept. of Special Education and Child Development**, received the Student Scholarship Award at the annual conference of the American Council on Rural Special Education. The ACRES award consists of \$1,000 given annually to a student who intends to become a special education teacher in a rural school district.

Condolences:

We send our condolences to **Michelle Stephan (MDSK)** and her family regarding the passing of her brother.

School Partnerships:



On March 26, 150 second grade students from Nathaniel Alexander Elementary School participated in the Literacy Alive! Read-In event hosted by the Omicron Pi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi. The day-long event included a campus tour, lunch at Bojangles, STEM activities,



campus life panel, and an interactive read aloud. The Center for Adolescent Literacies, Center for STEM Education, Teacher Education Learning Community, Alumni Association, and the Office of Community Affairs were partners with KDP and the College of Education in hosting the visit.

Teachers from Albemarle Road Elementary School, one of the College's Professional Development Schools attended 2 on-campus events as part of their Developing Multicultural Self-Efficacy Project. The first event speaker was Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt, journalist, photographer and expert on Southeast Asia. The second speaker was Melissa Harris-Perry who discussed "Mommy, Mammy and the Maid: Race, Class and Women's Political Power" during UNC Charlotte's ninth annual Women's and Gender Studies Speaker Series.



Students in Heather Coffey's LBST course, *Citizenship and Education*, recently participated in the West Charlotte Greenhouse workdays. The class is partnering with Ms. Erin Burns, a biology teacher at West Charlotte (and one of Heather's former service-learning students) to restore this old structure to a fully functioning aquaponics greenhouse. There will be more opportunities to help out on **Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18 from 9am-12pm**. If you have any interest in serving, please join Heather's students...bring your garden gloves, shovels, etc! For more information contact Heather at hcoffey@uncc.edu.

In March the **Center for STEM Education** hosted a Mathematics Super Competition, a Chemistry Contest, and a Physics Contest. The Mathematics Super Competition is a qualifying site for state and national competitions. The UNC Charlotte Super Competition is an outreach event consisting of a day of academic competitions for high school students, held annually in cooperation between the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics, Chemistry, Physics and Optical Science, and the College of Education's Center for STEM Education. The event is coordinated by **Dr. Ian Binns (REEL)** and the **C-STEM Staff**.



Florence Martin (EDLD) and **Patti Wilkins (EDLD)** presented "Research on Gaming in Education" at a day-long technology training in Charlotte Mecklenburg schools on Thursday, April 2nd.

Publications:

- Binns, I. C.**, Koehler, C. M., & Bloom, M. A. (2015). Dispositions of scientists in mainstream films: The extraordinary person called a scientist. In K. D. Finson & J. E. Pedersen (Eds.), *Application of visual data in K-16 science classrooms* (pp. 27-49). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Bonner, F., Banda, R., Robinson, P., **Lewis, C.** & Lofton, B. (2015). *Priorities of the professoriate: Engaging multiple forms of scholarship across rural and urban institutions*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age.
- Coffey, H.** & **Fitchett, P.** & Farinde, A. (2015) It takes courage: Fostering the development of critical, social justice oriented teachers using museum and project-based instruction. *Action in Teacher Education*, 37(1).

"Good teachers know how to bring out the best in students." Charles Kurait