Message from the Dean:
Welcome back and Happy New Year! It is going to be a wonderful semester with the many new initiatives just underway and a few more celebrations to come. As our College Principles indicate to us, do take time to reflect on the wonderful work we get to do. I wish you the best this semester. It will go too fast.

Congratulations to:
Tina Heafner (MDSK) represented the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) as an invited speaker on the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Panel at annual conference for the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) held in New Orleans in the late fall.

Gloria Campbell-Whatley (SPCD) was named a UNC General Administration Fellow for Diversity Initiatives.

Brian Kissell (REEL) was selected to lead a seminar on digital storytelling for the Charlotte Teachers’ Institute.

Teresa Petty (MDSK) was selected as a Quality Matters Fellow for the UNC Charlotte Center for Teaching and Learning.

Rich Lambert, the CEME Director, has been appointed by the College Board to serve as a Question Leader for the 2016 AP Statistics Exam. As Question Leader, Rich will lead a team responsible for developing and refining a grading rubric, training graders, and monitoring inter-rater reliability.

Adriana Medina (REEL) and Mike Putman (REEL) for being inducted into the MU Chapter (UNC Charlotte's chapter) of the Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society. The induction ceremony coincided with International Education Week in November. Adriana and Mike are pictured below with Erik Byker (REEL), a fellow member of Phi Beta Delta.

Michelle Stephan (MDSK), in her role as the President of the North Carolina chapter of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE-NC) was recognized in an Editorial in the Raleigh News & Observer for her contribution in supporting keeping the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics here in North Carolina.
Workshop on Child Development
Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs presented by Jamie Brown (CHFD) and Deanna Murphy (CHFD) will be February 9 from 6:00- 8:00 PM at the Center City Campus. Registration is here- http://llll10.eventzilla.net/web/event?eventid=2138844520

The latest issue of the Journal of Applied Education and Policy Research has just been published. The journal is part of the Center for Educational Measurement and Evaluation. Articles can be found here- https://journals.uncc.edu/jaerp/issue/current, and include manuscripts from Lisa Merriweather, Chuang Wang (EDLD), Mark D’Amico (EDLD), and Jim Bird (EDLD).

Public Forums on Charlotte-Mecklenburg School’s Student Assignment
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg League of Women Voters is hosting two public forums about school reassignment. Both are 10-11:30 a.m., January 30 at South Charlotte Regional Library, and February 6 at North County Regional Library.

Nominations for College of Education Awards
Recognize the incredible work of your colleagues! Nominate colleagues for the UNC Charlotte College of Education Awards. Information is here: http://oeo.uncc.edu/awards-excellence-college-education

Mark Your Calendar
January 25, 10 a.m., Rollanda C. O’Connor, What Matters in Literacy, Center City Campus. Information: http://oeo.uncc.edu/read
January 29, Boldy Engaging through Culturally-Relevant Teaching Conference (BEST), Center City Campus. Information: http://oeo.uncc.edu/best
February 19, 9:30 a.m., College Faculty Meeting, COED 065
March 8, Teacher to Teacher Conference, College of Education Building

Publications


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.


Grants and Contracts
Susan Harden (MDSK) and Heather Smith (Geography) were awarded a $33,000 contract by the Levine Museum of the New South to complete an evaluation of the exhibit and programs of NUEVolution: Latinos in the New South.

Scott Kissau (MDSK), Tehia Glass (REEL), and Florence Martin (EDLD) earned Faculty Research Grants.

David Pugalee (C-STEM), Jean Vintinner (REEL), and Paola Pilioneta (REEL) earned Scholarship of Teaching and Learning grants.

Drew Polly (REEL), Adriana Medina (REEL), and Mike Putman (REEL), have received a subcontract to serve as evaluators of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools’ Beacon Initiative, which aims to support low-performing schools. Chuang Wang (EDLD) will also collaborate on this project.

Please send Connections content to drew.polly@uncc.edu. Please include the word “connections” in the subject line. February content is due February 12, 2016.

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.