



## College of Education **Connections** November, 2015

### Message from the Dean:

I wish you a happy, restful, fulfilling Thanksgiving weekend, as well as an efficient finish to the semester following the holidays. I look forward to celebrating with you on December 10th with music and food and joining you at Commencement where we recognize our students and their families. **-Dean McIntyre**

### Congratulations to:

**David Test (SPED)** was invited to be one of a select group of special education scholars to speak at the 40th Anniversary Celebration of IDEA hosted at the White House on Nov. 17th.

Winners at the Foreign Language Association of North Carolina Conference (FLANC). UNC Charlotte stole the show at the annual conference of the Foreign Language Association of North Carolina (FLANC) that was held October 19 thru 24 in Durham. **Scott Kissau (MDSK)** won the 2015 Higher Education Teacher of the Year award, **Rosalyn Rhodes**, a candidate in the M.A.T in foreign language program and teacher at Hopewell High School, received the K-12 Teacher of the Year award, and **Emily Light**, an undergraduate student in the Minor in Foreign Language Program was the 2015 recipient of the Manolita Buck-Jane Mitchell Scholarship of \$1,000.

**Rebecca Shore (EDLD)** was named the North Carolina Higher Education Art Teacher of the Year for 2015-2016 by the North Carolina Art Educator's Association.

**Brad Smith and Kevin Parsons (TEAL-R)** presented at the National Academic Advising Association. Brad presented a Poster session, Advisors as Co-Teachers: Partnering with Faculty to Implement an Institutional Initiative and Kevin led a workshop, Building Community Partnerships to Better Advise Online Graduate Students in Teacher Education Programs.



**David Pugalee, Director of C-STEM**, presented the invited keynote "Using STEM Content to Build Literacy Skills" at the annual North Carolina Science Leadership Association meeting in Winston-Salem on Nov. 11.

**Tina Heafner (MDSK)** became Chair of the National Council for the Social Studies' College and University Faculty Assembly (the research organization of NCSS).

**Karen Cross (REEL)** on the birth of her child Alise' Lea Cross August 27, 2015. Alise' was 6 pounds and 14 ounces.



**Alicia Saunders**, former doctoral student in SPED who currently works full-time on the *Solutions* special education grant. Her paper titled "*Effects of Modified Schema-based Instruction Delivered through Computer-based Video Instruction on Mathematical Word Problem*"

*Solving of Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Moderate Intellectual Disability*” was selected to receive this year's CEC Division for Research Student Research Award in the single-case design method category. Congratulations to Alicia and her dissertation advisor **Ya-Yu Lo (SPED)**.

**Counseling Graduate Students. North Carolina School Counselor Association 1st Place Graduate Student Poster Winners:** Carol Sims, Zachary Campbell, and Beatriz Freidmann. Their poster was entitled, *"Connecting families: Improving middle school student outcomes through parent partnership"*. We also had 6 other poster presentations by 13 M.A. School Counseling Students.



Several **IDEAL Learning Community** students have completed service work with Special



Olympics North Carolina. Thanks to Michael Shaw, Tori Hernandez, and Casey Sarano who were fabulous volunteers with Special Olympics golf. Pictures are attached of their great time at State Games with athletes!

#### **In the News**

Charles Hutchison's new book, *Experiences of Immigrant Professors: Challenges, Cross-Cultural Differences, and Lessons for Success* (Routledge) is being featured in Relocate

Global magazine of the UK. Last month, it was featured in Times Higher Education of the UK. The link to the related article is

<http://www.relocatemagazine.com/news/david-sapsted-10-d2-2015-7659-challenges-facing-immigrant-professors-under-the-microscope>

#### **In the Field**

**Warren Dibiase (MDSK)**, the Noyce Students, Sara Baker & Adriana Jerez, and **David Pugalee (C-STEM)** helped with the 2nd Annual STEM Day with over 1200 regional middle and high school students in October. This event is a co-sponsored event with the College of Education Center for STEM Education and the College of Engineering.

Warren also participated in the 5th Annual Catawba River STEM Festival along with Center for STEM Education staff, Taylor Raushenburg, Sarah Smith, Prem Pugalenthi and Alissa Wickliff. This event hosted over 600 5th graders from CMS, Gaston and Lincoln Counties.

#### **Kappa Delta Pi Awards**

Misty Hathcock (REEL) shares: Established in 1995, the Achieving Chapter Excellence Award (ACE) Awards Program recognizes Kappa Delta Pi chapters that exhibit outstanding programming in support of the Society's mission and strategic goals. Since its inception, chapters across the country have aspired to offer creative, purposeful programming and a full slate of chapter activities with the hope of earning this coveted award. The Omicron Pi Chapter received its second ACE Award - the ONLY KDP chapter in NC, 1-of-3 in the Southeast, and 1-of-25 internationally.

Literacy Alive! is Kappa Delta Pi's signature service initiative that invites members to create programs

and events in their communities that bring empowering literacy skills to their participants. The Omicron Pi Chapter received the Gold Award - the highest award - for their Literacy Alive! Read-In project.

### COED Abroad

Last month, Dr. Erik Byker (REEL) was in India conducting field research. Erik was working with Pratham International, an education-focused NGO in South Asia. He was studying Pratham's initiative called "citizen-led basic learning assessments." Similar to a door-to-door census, the initiative's purpose is to conduct an annual, India-wide survey of children's ability to read and complete basic math problems. Pratham International recruits citizens, who are typically college undergraduates, to volunteer for this



important data collection. The assessment is called the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) and is the world's largest household survey of India's children; annually surveying almost a million children in rural villages across India. Erik was a participant observer in the ASER data collection and interviewed many Indian undergraduate students to identify what compelled them to volunteer for the ASER survey. Among his research questions, Erik investigated whether volunteering for ASER contributed to a further interest in a future career in education and teaching in India? The research was supported in part by a Faculty Research Grant from UNC Charlotte.

### International Conference on Urban Education

The Urban Education Collaborative is pleased to announce the **2016 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN EDUCATION in San Juan, Puerto Rico on November 3-5, 2016**. For more information visit the website: <http://www.theicue.org/>.

### Mark Your Calendar

December 10, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., COED Holiday Lunch, COED Building  
January 15, 9:30, COED Faculty meeting, COED 010

### Publications

- Baggerman, M., Ault, M. J., Collins, B. C., Spriggs, A. D., & Slocum, V. (2015). The effect of coaching on a faith community volunteer's use of effective teaching behaviors. *Research and Practice in Severe Disabilities, 40*(4), 294-306.
- Byker, E. J. (2015). The one laptop schools: Equipping rural elementary schools in South India through public private partnerships. *Global Education Review, 2*(2), 126-142.
- Fox, B.L. & Byker, E. J. (2015). Searching for equity in education: A critical ethnographic exploration of Cuba. *Journal of Ethnographic and Qualitative Research, 9*(3), 183-196.
- Preston, A. I., Wood, C. L., & Stecker, P. M. (2015). Response to intervention: Where it came from and where it's going. *Preventing School Failure*. Advance online publication. doi: 10.1080/1045988X.2015.1065399

### External Funding

- Shore, R. & Lambert, R. (2015). An evaluation of the Early Childhood Directors Leadership Institute 2013-2015. *Center for Educational Measurement & Evaluation*, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.
- Wickliff, A., & Pugalee, D.K. (2015). NC Junior Science & Humanities Symposium grant (\$21,000).

Please send Connections content to [drew.polly@unc.edu](mailto:drew.polly@unc.edu). Please include the word "connections" in the subject line. December content is due by December 11.

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.