From Dean McIntyre:
Dear College of Education Faculty and Staff,
I hope you all have a terrific, restful, healthy, and happy Thanksgiving weekend. I know many of you feel as I do that we are lucky to get to do the work we do in the place we are doing it. I will be reflecting on so much this month, especially on all I am thankful for.

Congratulations:
David Test (SPCD) received the Oliver P. Kolstoe Award at the Division for Career Development and Transition annual conference. The award is a premier award in Special Education and presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the field of career development and transition through means other than direct classroom instruction.

Zoi Phillippakos (REEL) served as the Keynote Speaker at Fall Literacy Symposium at Monmouth University. Zoi is pictured to the right.

Erin Miller (REEL) culminated work chairing the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)'s task force on Equity and Early Childhood Education. This task force wrote a series of research-policy briefs in the publications section of this newsletter.

Gloria Campbell-Whatley (SPCD) went to London, England and presented at Sunderland University, London campus, where she participated in planning the 54th Learning Disabilities Worldwide Congress (LDW) in September. Next year, she will co-chair the Congress held in Orlando, Florida. She is on the board of the organization and is the consulting editor for “Insights for Learning Disabilities”, one of several journals produced by LDW.

Karen Cross (REEL) just published a children’s book, A Special Place for Alex. This funny heart-warming story a young boy name Alex is feeling left out once the new baby comes into the family. He sets out on a quest to find a special place that he can call his own. Karen is pictured to the left.

Michelle Stephan (MDSK) and David Pugalee (C-STEM) have recently published a new book titled, “Lesson Imaging in Math and Science: Anticipating Student Ideas and Questions for Deeper STEM Learning.” The book was co-authored by Julie Cline, Middle School Mathematics Teacher, C.C. Griffin Middle School; and Chris Cline, Middle School Mathematics Teacher, C.C. Griffin Middle School. A review reads- "From respected voices in STEM education, comes an innovative lesson planning approach to help turn students into problem solvers: lesson imaging.”
College of Education Charrette
Do not miss the COED Charrette, November 15, 9:30-3:00, SACS Salons D and E. The morning session will feature poster presentations and “TED-Ed” talks from current candidates and recent graduates, describing UNC Charlotte’s preparation programs. The afternoon session will include interactive discussion groups with P12 stakeholders on ways to improve teacher preparation at UNC Charlotte. To register, link the link: http://uncc.surveyshare.com/t/COED-Charrette.

edTPA TPALs in November
November 14, 1:00, COED 110. Joan LaChance (MDSK) will be the featured presenter. She will share strategies and tips for assisting candidates with Academic Language concepts. All faculty who teach edTPA courses are encouraged to attend.

College Research Colloquia
The next Colloquia will be Wed. November 16, 10:30 am to noon, in COED 110. Presentations include:
“The Educational Mission of Cultural Institutions: Partnerships, Curriculum Development, Evaluation, and Implications for Communities” - Susan Harden (MDSK)
“Recognizing Science from Non-science: Preservice Elementary Teachers Determining the Appropriateness of Including Creationism and/or Intelligent Design in a K-12 Science Curriculum” - Ian Binns (REEL)

News from the Child and Family Development Program
On Nov. 4 from 5:30-9:00 PM there will be "The Bookies" A 2016 CLT Area Literacy Awards Celebration! In Charlotte. Information about how to nominate teachers, tutors, and volunteers can be found here- http://bit.ly/2aSppdk.

Cato Naming Event
On November 11 at 11:00 a.m., there will be an event to celebrate the naming of the Cato College of Education here in the COED building.

Teacher Education Institute
UNC Charlotte will host a Teacher Education Institute from June 27 to 30, 2017 on campus. There are opportunities to participate in the planning at the following days and times:
October 31, 10 a.m., COED 110 for an information session
November 13, 1:30- 3 p.m. for Faculty, 3:15-4:30 p.m. for Supervisors, all in COED 110

NC New Teacher Support Program Fall Institute
Submitted by NC NTSP Coaches: Tierney Fairchild and Kim Ramadan
The UNC Charlotte Cone Center was abuzz with excitement Friday, September 23, as first-year teachers gathered for the three-day Institute. Approximately 80 teachers from the western and central regions of North Carolina represented Alamance-Burlington, Charlotte Mecklenburg, Cherokee Central, Cleveland, Edenton-Chowan, Graham, Jackson, Lenoir, McDowell, Person, Richmond, Rockingham, Scotland, Stanly, and Union Counties. Participants kicked off their weekend with a “trash” and “treasures” activity that encouraged them to frame their thinking for the weekend and beyond.

Teachers then attended self-selected sessions that were designed and facilitated by NC NTSP Instructional Coaches and aligned with the North Carolina
Teaching Standards. Sessions were rich with discussion and real world applications of strategies to Establish a Respectful Environment for Your Students, Facilitate Learning, Contribute to the Success of Your Students, Demonstrate Leadership, and Share Content Knowledge with Your Students.

On Saturday during lunch, a panel of second- and third-year teachers who are NC NTSP alumni shared their experiences and answered questions from Institute participants. A highlight of the weekend was an inspirational keynote address from UNC Charlotte alumna and NC Teacher of the Year, Bobbie Cavnar. Coleen Hill, first-year teacher at Union Elementary said, “Thank you to all the Instructional Coaches who were at the Institute this weekend. This was by far the most beneficial and exciting instructional workshop I have ever attended. By attending this Institute I have gained some wonderful ideas and strategies on effective and exciting instruction to implement in my classroom. I am so excited to begin implementing these new strategies in my classroom on Monday.”

NC Occupational Course of Study Program
Submitted by Kelly Clark

This summer high school students with disabilities from Mooresville Graded School District (MGSD) came to work on our campus as part of their NC Occupational Course of Study program. Kelly Clark, a doctoral student in special education, set up the program and campus job sites along with her advisor, Dr. David Test. Kelly worked with MGSD’s transition specialist, Tracy Spears. Tracy Spears to add the UNC Charlotte as a job site for their district and identify students to work on the campus. Alex Herendeen, a 19-year-old rising senior at MHS, worked with the athletic department in the football equipment room with the equipment manager Demetrious Gibson. His job tasks included sorting laundry, organizing equipment, adding labels to equipment, running errands, and cleaning around the equipment room. Alex shared how much he enjoyed working with the football team and that this was “a dream come true!” Every day he was excited to share any new job tasks he was able to do. He expressed that he wanted to continue working at the university and wants to be able to attend college at UNC Charlotte in the future.

Jennifer Carroll, an 18 year old rising senior at MHS, worked in the National Technical Assistance on Transition (NTACT) office located in the College of Health and Human Sciences Building with the administrative assistant, Florence Parkhill. Her job duties included shredding, organizing, making copies, and cleaning around the office. Jennifer shared that her favorite job was shredding and working with Miss Flo. She also shared that she would like to keep working at UNC Charlotte and enjoyed being a “college kid.” After working this summer in the NTACT office, Jennifer set a new goal of wanting to have an office job in the future.

Hannah Maus, a 20 year-old rising senior at MHS, worked in the Special Education Department offices in the College of Education Building. She worked with both administrative assistants, Amy Palmer and Micki Crowder. Her job duties included shredding, watering plants, organizing, running errands, and cleaning around the offices. Hannah shared that her favorite job tasks were cleaning and shredding. She was able to quickly learn new tasks and wants to have a job in the future.

In order to provide adequate supervision, three doctoral students in special education agreed to help Kelly with the project by being job coaches for the summer. Misty Terrell, Dana Rusher, and Kathryn
Haughney helped supervise the students, taught them skills, and evaluated students on their job performance. The job coaches and Kelly took the students to lunch each day in the student union. During lunch, students worked on independent living skills, social skills, and explored the bookstore. By the end of the summer, all students knew how to navigate parts of campus, purchase items from a drink machine or the bookstore with minimal assistance, and interact with other students on campus.

At the end of the program, parents and job site supervisors were asked to fill out a survey on their perception of the program. All of the parents said that it was a wonderful experience for their student and they would love to have them participate in something similar again. Additionally, they expressed how much their students grew in independence and confidence by working on campus this summer. Job site supervisors commented on how students exceeded their expectations and they wished the students could continue coming throughout the school year. They all agreed that they would be willing to be a job site again in the future.

Publications


"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."
-William Butler Yeats

Please send Connections content to drew.polly@uncc.edu. Please include the word “connections” in the subject line. November-December content is due by November 30.