

CONNECTIONS

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FROM THE DEAN

Dear College of Education Alumni,
Partners, Students and Friends,

As Dean of the College of Education, I am pleased to welcome you to the new and improved College of Education *Connections Magazine*. For the first time, many of you will be receiving this electronically and we are hopeful that you will take the time to peruse the many great things that are happening in the College of Education at Lewis University.

At Lewis and in the College of Education, we are all about connections. We believe it is our connections with our students that result in the next generation of teachers and administrators who can truly transform their students and their schools into welcoming, remarkable places of learning. Our emphasis on social justice and equity is a key component of every class and field experience.

As you read through the following pages, you will see that we have much to be proud of in the College of Education. Last May, we received full recognition for our educator preparation programs from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. In addition, all of our programs have received recognition from their professional organization and the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board of Illinois. We added several new programs including a Middle Level Licensure program in the areas of English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies and a Foreign Language Licensure program in Spanish.

Our Secondary Education Department in collaboration with Math and the Sciences from the College of Arts and Sciences was awarded a Robert Noyce Grant through the National Science Foundation for \$1.44 million over five years to be used for scholarship support for candidates to obtain middle or secondary licensure in math or science for high-need schools. The Early Childhood program received a grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education for innovation and partnerships to increase and improve



Dr. PAMELA JESSEE

Early Childhood Education in the state of Illinois. Congratulations to the many faculty and staff at Lewis University who have worked tirelessly to make these recognitions and awards a reality for our College.

We are also connected to our Catholic and Lasallian heritage through the work of the Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education. Through the Institute, we provide support to Catholic schools in the Joliet Diocese and beyond through preparation of competent teachers and administrators as well as professional development. We continue to ground our work in the principles of Lasallian education including development of the whole child, education as a basic and fundamental right and the worth and dignity of all humans.

These are challenging but exciting times in the field of education and we, the faculty, staff, students and alumni, are committed to high quality education for all children everywhere. The need for highly competent teachers continues to grow nationwide and we believe that our teacher candidates leave us with more than a license or ability to plan a lesson - we believe that they leave us understanding that they have been called by God to this work.

Sincerely,

SCHOLARLY WORK

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL AND LOCAL CONFERENCES

In January of 2015, **Dr. Dorene Huvaere**, **Dr. Barbara Mackey**, **Dr. Pamela Jessee** and **Dr. Christopher Palmi** were invited to present at the Lasallian Association of Elementary and Middle Schools in Eatontown, New Jersey. The two-day presentation focused on helping faculty build resilience and grit with students from economically marginalized environments. Their work explored research based concepts and strategies that help students to be successful despite the challenging circumstances they may face both in and out of school.

In January of 2015, **Dr. Mitra Fallahi** was invited to present a paper at the Persian Circle of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago. The same paper "A Comparison of the Patterns of the Immigration of Iranians to the United States Before and After the Revolution of 1979 and Status of Iranians In American Society" was presented at the DANESH Conference on October 24, 2015 at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

In February of 2015, **Dr. Dorene Huvaere** and **Dr. Christopher Palmi** presented on how to design a middle level licensure program at the Association of Teacher Educators Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. The focus included revised Illinois requirements and the ways in which Lewis University may address those changes while staying committed to the tenets of the Lasallian mission.

In April of 2015, **Dr. Mitra Fallahi** presented a paper at the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) Conference on Graduate programs in the 21st Century: "Factors that impact sustained healthy growth and progress for graduate programs" during the association's annual conference held at St. Louis, Missouri. The paper was an analysis and summary of data from graduate students' interviews and an extensive review of literature.

In early November 2015, **Dr. Nancy Kennedy** and **Dr. Seung Kim** presented at the International Visual Literacy Conference held at the de Young Museum of Fine Arts in San Francisco, California. Many speakers from the United States and several foreign countries presented materials that support the importance of Visual Literacy in the 21st century and in our global society. Drs. Kim and Kennedy collaborated their work in the College of Education working with students in the Child and Adolescent Literature and Integrated Fine Arts classes with an Instructional Technology class. Students took a storytelling project and added a digital component to it, making the storytelling more engaging and motivating to all learners. The title of the project presented was "Visual Literacy Strategies for Pre-Service Teachers in the Elementary Education Program."

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio published her first book, *Developing Mathematical Knowledge for Teaching*, on July 13, 2015. The two questions that frame the research in this book are: (1) How do pre-service teachers develop mathematical knowledge for teaching during a coordinated math methods course and field experience? And, (2) What types of portfolio tasks lend themselves to documenting mathematical knowledge in teaching? Research results illustrated the growth of mathematical knowledge for teaching that occurred for each participant. Implications for the field of mathematics education, future research and teacher preparation programs are also discussed. The book is published by LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing Company.

Dr. Mitra Fallahi's research on teacher burnout led to the development of an article, co-authored by **Dr. Pam Jessee**, on the aspects of teacher preparation programs that can better prepare teacher candidates for handling stress that leads to teacher burnout for novice teachers. The title of the article is "Looking Beyond the Licensure in Teacher Preparation Programs: Planning School-Based Experiences Aimed at Reducing Teacher Burnout." The article has been accepted for publication in the upcoming edition of the *Critical Issues in Teacher Education* magazine.

Dr. William Blackwell's research on communicating assessment results to parents and teachers of children with disabilities has been accepted for publication in a forthcoming book titled *Special Education: Developments, Teaching Strategies and Parent Involvement* (NOVA Science Publications). Dr. Blackwell interviewed 36 participants to: a) learn about their experiences with assessment reporting and b) understand their opinions on a pilot format for reporting assessment results to parents and teachers. The findings will hopefully inform assessment practices at the state and local levels.

ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Fisher, M.; Buss, J.; & Cisco, K. (2015, February). Teaching ableism with literature: What might happen when teachers and then their students linger in a text. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association of Teacher Educators, Phoenix, AZ.

Rentfro, L.D. (2015, March). edTPA and methods for teaching science courses: Ideas for increasing teacher candidate success - part 2 - updates and data. Presentation at the National Science Teacher Association Annual Expo & Conference, Chicago, IL.

Fisher, M.; Blackwell, W.; & Buss, J. (2015, November). Teaching ableism with literature: What might happen when teachers and then their students linger in a text. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Phoenix, AZ.

Kim, J.; Paris, D.; Petrone, R.; San Pedro, T.; Thomas, E.E.; & Wynhoff Olsen, A. (2015, November). Educational justice and demographic change: Indigenous, Asian American, Latino/a, African American and rural perspectives (Symposium). "Meeting the Needs of Asian Pacific Islander Americans: Research and Practice" (Individual paper). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council for Teachers of English; Minneapolis, MN.

Cridland-Hughes, S. & Kim, J. (2015, November). Integrating being and learning: Renegotiating binary perspectives of literacy in and out of school. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council for Teachers of English; Minneapolis, MN.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

In addition to presentations, publications and grant writing, the faculty of the College of Education routinely offer their intellectual and educational leadership to private and public schools. The following activities are excerpts of such leaderships for these schools:

Roberts, C. (2015, Summer). Understanding by Design (UBD), three day districtwide workshop for District 86, Joliet, IL.

Roberts, C. (2015, Fall). Understanding by Design (UBD), mini-workshops offered for Hufford Junior High and Gompers Junior High, District 86, Joliet, IL.

Palmi, C. (2015). Incorporating the Common Core Standards for Literacy. Presentation delivered at St. Jude School, Joliet, IL.

Palmi, C. (2015). Elements of Curriculum Mapping. Presentation delivered at St. Jude School, Joliet, IL.

FACULTY-LED STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Rentfro, L.D.; Reimer, K.P.; & Hinton, A. (2015, March). Fact or Fiction? Applying Critical Pedagogy Skills in the Science Classroom and Beyond -- Results of Pilot Program. Paper presented at the National Science Teacher Association Annual Conference & Expo, Chicago, IL.

Rentfro, L.D.; Albers-Lopez, T.; & Blogg, C.J. (2015, March). Four pics, one word? Vocabulary games and activities to enhance academic language usage. Paper presented at the National Science Teacher Association Annual Conference & Expo, Chicago, IL.

Snedeker, C.M. & Rentfro, L.D. (2015, May). Full STEAM ahead: Engineering engaging engineering activities. Presentation at the National Science Teacher Association STEM Conference & Expo, Minneapolis, MN.

Albers-Lopez, T. & Rentfro, L.D. (2015, November). Academic Language: It's more than vocabulary... language function, discourse and syntax in the sciences. Presentation at the Northern Illinois Science Educators Conference, Naperville, IL.

Albers-Lopez, T. & Rentfro, L.D. (2015, November). Academic Language: Vocabulary strategies to enhance engagement and learning. Presentation at the Northern Illinois Science Educators Conference, Naperville, IL.

Reimer, K.; Hinton, A.; & Rentfro, L.D. (2015, November). Critical literacy meets science: Distinguishing fact from fiction. Presentation at the Northern Illinois Science Educators Conference, Naperville, IL.

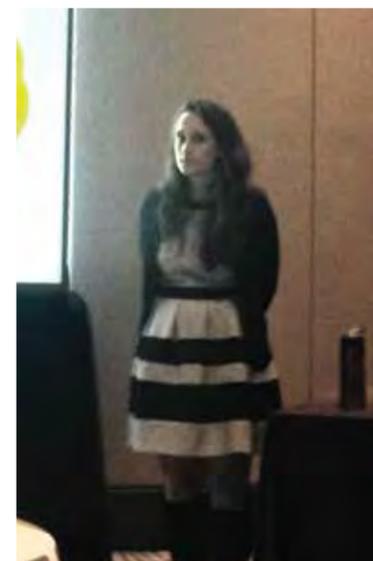
O'Brien, A. (2015, April). Breakout session facilitator for Northern Illinois Science Educators. Professional Development Seminar for K-2 Science Teachers, Romeoville, IL.

Buss, J. (2015, August). Instructional Assistant Training, Special Education, Lockport High School, Lockport, IL.

Buss, J. (2015, October). Region Three Institute, Access 101/Gifted Education, St. Paul Catholic School, Joliet, IL.

Augsburger, D.; & Huvaere, D. (2015). Professional Development in Literacy, Assessment and Differentiated Instruction, Our Lady of Mercy, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Kelly Reimer (left) and Allison Hinton (right), Secondary Education majors, presented the findings from a study on the application of critical literacy skills to analyzing science reports via a variety of media sources. The presentation proposal was accepted for the National Science Teacher Association's National STEM Expo and Conference in New Orleans.



CJ Blogg and Tiffany Albers-Lopez, Secondary Education majors, presented their work on creative works to teach the academic vocabulary of the science classroom. Their presentation was at National Science Teacher Association Conference & Expo in Chicago in March 2015. Their session was attended by over 150 educators from around the U.S.

GRANTS

NSF ROBERT NOYCE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP

Lewis University received a \$1.44 million National Science Foundation Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Grant to support the Creating Educational Opportunities in STEM project. The funds provided by the Grant will be used to prepare those who aspire to become teachers of mathematics or science in grades 6-12.

Over a five-year period, 36 two-year scholarships will be awarded to biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics undergraduate majors, or recent recipients of a science or math baccalaureate degree, who will pursue a teaching license in middle or secondary education and commit to program requirements. Three main components of the Lewis University Noyce Scholar program include academic scholarships, teacher preparation for working in high-need school settings and collaboration with community partners.

A team of faculty members from the College of Education and the College of Arts and Sciences wrote the Grant. Dr. Dorene Huvaere will serve as the primary investigator with Dr. Ray Klump (Math) and Dr. Jerry Kavouras (Biology) serving as co-investigators. Additional collaborators on the Grant include Dr. Joseph Kozminski, Dr. Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio, Ms. Jeannette Pifer, Dr. Lauren Rentfro and Mr. Jeffrey Ritchie.

Lewis University will collaborate with Joliet Junior College, College of DuPage, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Three Rivers Manufacturers Association, Valley View Public School District U365, Joliet District 86 and Oak Lawn District 218 for the recruitment of students and implementation of the Noyce Teacher Grant. In addition to recruitment of the potential Noyce scholar candidates, faculty of the Joliet Junior College and the College of DuPage will partner with Lewis faculty to promote STEM teacher preparation by hosting pedagogical and content knowledge workshops

throughout the year. Community based partners, including the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie and the Three Rivers Manufacturers Association, will provide summer internships for scholars to engage in a six-week Reality-Based Learning Summer Practicum. Scholars will participate in activities with STEM faculty and STEM and/or educational professionals working in the community, discovering how research translates into practice in the real world and how it can be applied to their future classrooms.

Noyce Scholars will work with a mentor during their coursework at Lewis University and will continue their relationship for two-years after graduation to help them transition from a novice teacher to an experienced classroom instructor.



Dr. SEUNG KIM

LASALLIAN RESEARCH GRANT

Dr. Seung Kim received a Lewis University Lasallian Research Grant for the academic year 2015-2016. The research grant is for a study entitled, "Diffusing Mobile Technologies in Students' Learning and Daily Life in Lasallian Universities." The aims of this study are: a) to examine what students in Lasallian universities across the world expect and experience on mobile learning and b) to gain useful knowledge to design an exemplary instructional model using mobile technologies to enhance the 21st century learning skills. Approximately 500 students in four Lasallian universities from the United States, Indonesia, Philippines and Mexico will participate in this study. The outcome of this research study will be used to develop effective instructional guidelines for pedagogical usage of mobile technologies in a global Lasallian community.

EVENTS

NEWLY APPROVED GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The faculty and administration of the College of Education have been busy developing new and revised program proposals. The recently approved programs to be offered are:

Middle School Licensure: The Department of Secondary Education, in collaboration with several departments in the College of Arts and Sciences, developed two proposals for programs leading to licensure to teach middle school in the areas of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. The program will be offered at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Foreign Language Educator Licensure: The Department of Secondary Education, in collaboration with the Department of English, also developed proposals

to offer a K-12 Foreign Language educator licensure program. The proposals were approved by the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board and will be available to individuals seeking licensure to teach Spanish in K-12 school settings beginning spring of 2016 at the undergraduate or graduate level. The program is available for undergraduate students majoring in Spanish who are interested in teaching Spanish. Individuals with a baccalaureate degree with a minimum of 12 credit hours in Spanish are eligible to apply to the program at the graduate level.

To learn more about degree programs and endorsements in the College of Education, we invite you to join us at our open house on April 16, 8:30-11:30 am, or e-mail grad@lewisu.edu.



Kelsey Filippone poses with her buddy.

BEST BUDDIES PROGRAM AT LEWIS

The goal of the Best Buddies program is to create opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Best Buddies chapters across the nation are located in middle schools, high schools and colleges and are dedicated to including students with and without intellectual disabilities in one-to-one friendship opportunities. Students must be enrolled at a school with a Best Buddies chapter or an affiliated service provider/agency.

Members with intellectual disabilities must be at least 18 years old to join a college chapter. Currently there are over 80 members in the Lewis University Chapter and includes over 40 Buddies from across the Will County region. Various activities are planned monthly throughout the year and include—but are not limited to—bowling, attending sporting events, trips to Chicago, talent shows and the annual Buddy Ball. The University students also reach out to their buddy for individual events in between the scheduled activities.



Best Buddies at a karaoke event.



Best Buddies at a game day event.



ADA 2015 CHICAGO

**CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**

Lewis University celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) with a series of presentations by Lewis faculty and renowned authors, a presentation and discussion of films and other thought provoking activities for students, faculty, staff and the local community. Among the presenters were nationally known author and motivational speaker, Jonathan Mooney; Kathy Nimmer, 2015 Indiana Teacher of the Year; Dr. David Perry, a freelance journalist and disability activist and a great number of presentations by faculty from different disciplines. The celebration

of the anniversary of the ADA was the focus of the Lewis 2015 Teach-In efforts that have taken place at Lewis during the year.

According to the Department of Justice, "the ADA is one of America's most comprehensive pieces of civil rights legislation that prohibits discrimination and guarantees that people with disabilities have the same opportunities as everyone else to participate in the mainstream of American life -- to enjoy employment opportunities, to purchase goods and services and to participate in State and local government

programs and services." Modeled after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin – and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 – the ADA is an "equal opportunity" law for people with disabilities.

The Americans with Disabilities Act has established for the disabled members of society the right and access to equal public services, accommodations and health care. Despite the fact that disparities exist in many areas such as earned income, housing, employment



Dr. JENNIFER BUSS presents on faculty knowledge and understanding of students with disabilities in higher education.



KATHY NIMMER, the 2015 Indiana Teacher of the Year, speaks on navigating as a professional educator in a sighted world.



Dr. RUTH OSUCH presents on Invisible Disabilities.



Dr. WILL BLACKWELL, committee co-chair, introduces the ADA week

and health care, the ADA law has become the vehicle for moving toward equality and the attainment of social justice in society.

The weeklong celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the Peace Education Committee members. This year, the committee was led by Dr. William Blackwell from the College of Education and Dr. Karen Trimble-Alliaume from the

College of Arts and Sciences. The committee also included Dr. Tennille Allen, Dr. Christy Billups, Dr. Jennifer Buss, Dr. Mary Fisher, Lindsay Harmon, Dr. Pamela Jessee, Dr. Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio, Dr. Sheila Kennedy, Kelley Plass, Dr. Anne Rapp and Dr. Christy Roberts. Our sincere appreciation goes to all the committee members who made the 25th anniversary celebration of the ADA a successful week of teaching, learning and reflection.



BROTHER JOHN VIECTORIS, FSC presents on our disabled president, Franklin Roosevelt and a postscript.



JONATHAN MOONEY, keynote speaker, signs books for the Lewis students.



Dr. ERICA KWIATKOWSKI- EGIZIO introduces Jonathan Mooney.



Dr. KAREN TRIMBLE-ALLIAUME presents on Deconstructing Disability.



STUDENTS AT THE ADA PRESENTATION listen as Dr. Jennifer Buss speaks.



Dr. DAVID PERRY talks about being the parent of a child with a disability and his activism for disability rights.

AWARDS

KAFFER OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL AWARD

The Sixth Annual Bishop Roger L. Kaffer Outstanding Principal Award was presented to Mrs. Rita Stasi, Principal of Saint Joseph Catholic School, Downers Grove on April 30. Dr. Pamela Jessee, Dean of the College of Education and emcee of the event, welcomed those in attendance.

Mrs. Stasi attended Mundelein College (B.A. 1966), DePaul University (M.A. 1971) and Governors State University (M.A. 1998). She began her career in the Chicago Public School System serving 41 years as a teacher, special education case manager and Principal of Corkery Elementary School. Since 2007, she has served as the Principal of St. Joseph Parish Catholic School in Downers Grove.

Mrs. Kelly Roth, one of Mrs. Stasi's nominators, said, "My three children have received a wonderful, faith-based education at St. Joe's, in large part due to Mrs. Stasi's efforts. She shows her commitment to our faith in everything she does. She is a hard-working, faith-based leader and exemplifies what it means to be a caring, loving, supportive Catholic school principal."

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE BISHOP KAFFER OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL AWARD:

2014 - Frank Glowaty, retired principal of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish School

2013 - Maureen White, retired principal of St. Irene Parish School

2012 - Maryann O'Neill, principal of Montini Catholic High School

2011 - Dr. Mary Kelly, retired principal of St. Petronille Parish School

2010 - Sister Carolyn Sieg O.S.B., retired principal, St. Joan of Arc Parish School

DR. KAREN SULLIVAN PRESENTED WITH EDUCATIONIS LUMEN AWARD

On behalf of the College of Education, Dr. Pamela Jessee, Dean, presented Dr. Karen Sullivan with the 2015 *Educationis Lumen Award* during the annual recognition ceremony on Dec. 9. A leader in the field of education for the past 34 years, Dr. Sullivan personifies the Catholic and Lasallian values honored in the *Educationis Lumen Award*. A native of Springfield, Dr. Sullivan attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she received her B.S. in Speech and Hearing and M.S. in Speech/Language Pathology. Dr. Sullivan was a member of Lewis University's inaugural Ed.D. graduating class in 2009 when she earned her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership for Teaching and Learning.

Dr. Sullivan began her career as a Speech/Language Pathologist in the Flossmoor-based South Metropolitan Association, a special education cooperative that provided services to south suburban school districts. She went on to lead the group's parent/infant program and later was named the Director of Grants and Special Projects.

In 1995, she began her Indian Prairie District 204 career as the Principal of the Prairie Children Preschool where she proposed, opened and provided building level leadership in operations and curriculum development for an inclusive district-operated community preschool of approximately 575 students. Prairie Children Preschool received wide local and national acclaim for its inclusive philosophy of serving all preschoolers together, including those with disabilities. Dr. Sullivan also led the development of the first specialized autism spectrum early childhood classrooms in the district.

After serving as Director of Student Services from 2000-2005, she became the Principal of Mary Lou Cowlshaw Elementary School, a K-5 Title I targeted assistance school. With her school improvement team, Dr. Sullivan led an effort that resulted in increased overall



Brother James Gaffney, FSC, presents the *Educationis Lumen Award* to Dr. Sullivan with Dr. Pamela Jessee.

student achievement by 12-15% while narrowing the achievement gap.

In 2009, Dr Sullivan joined Elmhurst District 205 as their Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. There, she introduced and implemented the RtI/Problem Solving Model and tiered system of interventions to better support students with special needs.

In 2009, she returned to Indian Prairie School District 204 as the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and three years later became the Superintendent of the fourth largest school district in Illinois. In September, 2015, Dr. Sullivan was recognized by the DuPage NAACP for "Community Leadership in Education."

As a member of the League of Innovative Schools, Dr. Sullivan was asked by the organization to be a part of their Digital Promise Leadership Coaching Program. She coaches other superintendents and their districts as they work through their digital transformation and technology integration initiatives.

OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARDS

Every year the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry honors outstanding Joliet area elementary, intermediate and secondary teachers. In 2015, three graduates of Lewis University College of Education received the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry Award for their outstanding performance in teaching. Yenny Munoz-Swaninger, a graduate of the Elementary Education program at Lewis University, is a second grade bilingual educator at Sator Sanchez Elementary school. Arlene Roderick received her graduate degree from Lewis in Curriculum and Instruction/ English Language Learner. She is an ELL specialist for kindergarten through fourth grade at Troy Shorewood Elementary School. Dana Schuster received her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction at Lewis University. She teaches life skills at Gompers Junior High School.



Pictured from left to right: Dr. Todd Koehl, Superintendent of Troy School District 30-C; Lisa Marie Moreno, Principal of Sator Sanchez Elementary School in Joliet District 86; Yenny Munoz-Swainger, outstanding teacher; Mary Jaworski, President of the Joliet Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Russ Slinkard, CEO of the Joliet Chamber of Commerce.

THE INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CATHOLIC AND LASALLIAN EDUCATION



The inception of the Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education at Lewis University goes back a few years. It began as both a vision and a directive, according to Larry Wiers, Director of the Institute.

"Dr. Jeanette Mines, Dean of the College of Education at the time, had the vision that we needed a way to meet the needs of some of our area Catholic schools," Wiers said. "Around the same time, Bishop Joseph Sartain of the Diocese of Joliet met with Br. James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University. Bishop Sartain asked the universities in the Joliet Diocese to assist the Catholic K-12 schools in the Diocese," explained Wiers. The Institute is the hub of this type of work at Lewis University.

There are six areas of focus for the Institute:

1 Leadership Development which offers a tuition discount for aspiring Catholic school leaders that makes it more affordable for them to obtain a master's degree and additional state licensure.

2 Teacher Preparation has always been the foundation of the College of Education, which emphasizes service and education for those most marginalized, throughout their programs.

3 Professional Development has been provided to Catholic and Lasallian schools by the faculty of the College of Education. Presentations have been offered on Response To Intervention, Differentiated

Instruction, formative and summative assessment of learning, curriculum modifications for students with disabilities, inquiry based science instruction, Common Core Standards and working with English Language Learners in the classroom. Faculty customize these presentations and others, to fit the needs of local schools.

4 Outreach and Consulting has been provided by several of the colleges at Lewis University. Technology consultation, an online Theology course for high school seniors in Michigan, marketing and communication consultation to help with boosting enrollment, work with health and immunization records and administrator mentoring are just a few of the ways the various colleges at Lewis University have assisted Catholic and Lasallian schools.

5 Lewis University and the College of Education continually seek **grant funding**, as well as **research**, that will benefit Catholic and Lasallian schools.

6 Finally, the Institute offers a wide variety of **mission-based professional development** opportunities to expand and deepen faculty/staff understanding of Lasallian history, pedagogy and spirituality, as well as Saint John Baptist de La Salle's educational philosophy and his contributions to the teaching profession. An example of this is "Exploring Lasallian Mission (ELM)" a formation program especially designed for those who work in Lasallian schools and universities.

"Most of our requests come by word of mouth," says Wiers, who also travels around the Diocese visiting schools and determining how the College of Education can best serve them. "If a school is able to pay for the services, they do. However, if they are not able to pay we make arrangements through the Institute. Our goal is to assist the underserved schools."

For more information on the Institute, please contact Mr. Larry Wiers, College of Education at wiersla@lewisu.edu or (815) 836-5790.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

LEWIS UNIVERSITY COE ALUM TO LEAD TEACHERS IN CHINA

Many people love challenges in their lives, but some professional challenges are more difficult than others. For the second year, Lewis University graduate, Sabrina Dubik (class of 2007, English/ Education), is taking on the position of principal/curriculum director at Kinglee International High School in Zhengzhou, China, a town of 10 million people. Following her graduation from Lewis and before her role as principal, Sabrina taught English at Minooka High School. She was an outstanding teacher at Minooka, teaching Advanced Placement English courses, coaching the dance team to a state championship and acting as Assistant Director of Activities.

Kinglee High School currently has 185 students who will be instructed in English while taking all suggested courses for graduation including a third foreign language (either Spanish or French). The school will have the latest technology and the teachers will bring the latest in educational strategies and best practices to China's students.

Sabrina is very excited to serve as principal of Kinglee for a second year. This opportunity was just too great to pass up. Many people love challenges in life, and Sabrina Dubik is definitely one of those individuals.



Golden Apple scholar Abby Michels '15 is pictured with Dr. Nancy Kennedy, her former professor and mentor. Abby is currently a Lasallian volunteer teaching in a Lasallian middle school in Concord, Calif.

THE GOLDEN APPLE SCHOLARS

The Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois is a scholarship program that identifies talented high school seniors, as well as first- and second-year college students who have the promise and drive to be excellent teachers in high-need schools.

More than a scholarship program that simply awards funding, Golden Apple provides four years of residential summer institutes, which offer on-site classroom experience, as well as mentoring from a Golden Apple teacher.

Lewis University's Golden Apple Scholars for the 2015-16 academic year are Miguel Silva and Melissa Lonero. Miguel Silva, a 2013 graduate of Bolingbrook High School, is a junior History and Secondary Education major who is also minoring in Math. A 2014 graduate of Glenbard North High School, Melissa Lonero is a sophomore Special Education major with a minor in Psychology.

Lewis' newest Golden Apple Scholar is Omar Gomez, a 2015 graduate of De La Salle Institute, Chicago.



KELLY CISCO

LASALLIAN SPEAKER

Kelly Cisco was a non-traditional undergraduate: wife, mother and grandmother. Now, she can add another title - college graduate. The 44-year-old Joliet resident earned a bachelor's degree in Special Education/Elementary Education with Endorsements in English/Language Arts and Social Studies at the December 20, 2015 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony. During the ceremony, Cisco spoke from her unique perspective to the graduating class

about "the responsibilities we have as Lasallian graduates to go forth into this world and create change". Each Commencement, one graduating senior is chosen to deliver the Lasallian Address, a speech that reflects the principles that guide the University's Mission. Her dedication to academics is obvious in her 4.0 GPA that she earned. She credits Lewis University with inspiring her to go beyond the books. She said, "I have learned about more than just becoming an educator."

FACULTY UPDATES

NEW FACULTY



DR. ERICA DAVILA

Dr. Erica Davila is the newest member of the Department of Educational Leadership in the College of Education, joining the faculty as an Associate Professor who will teach in the Ed.D. Program.

Davila earned her doctorate and master's degree in Educational Policy Studies from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Sociology is from Northeastern Illinois University. She comes to Lewis University from Arcadia University in Glenside, Pa. where she most recently served as Director of Middle and Secondary Education in the Department of Teaching and Learning in the School of Education. She has presented at numerous conferences, most recently in the fall 2014 at the Puerto Rican Studies Association Symposium at Rutgers University in Newark, N.J. She has published many articles regarding urban education and Latino education.



DR. LAURA QUAYNOR

The Department of Educational Leadership welcomes Dr. Laura Quaynor as a full time Assistant Professor in the English as a Second Language Program. According to Dr. Barbara Mackey, "Dr. Quaynor's work in a dual language/immersion school and her international research in education will bring new ideas for best practice in teaching English language learners as well as native English speaking students."

Dr. Quaynor earned her doctorate degree in Educational Studies from Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. She earned a master's degree in Education: French and ESL and a bachelor's degree in French and African Studies with a minor in Foreign Affairs, both from University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va. She taught at both the elementary and secondary levels before joining the ranks of college faculty member.

She previously worked at the University of South Carolina Aiken in the School of Education, teaching ESL pedagogy and foundations courses, and in the K-12 system as an ESL and French Immersion teacher. Her scholarship focuses on citizenship education and language education in contexts of migration and conflict, particularly in West Africa and the United States.

RETIREMENTS



DR. SUZANNE O'BRIEN

Dr. Suzanne O'Brien retired from Lewis University in December of 2015. Dr. O'Brien began her career in the Department of Elementary Education as an adjunct before being hired as a full time faculty member in the Fall of 2003. Dr. O'Brien assumed the position as chair of the Department of Elementary Education in the Fall of 2012. In addition to teaching and leading the department, Dr. O'Brien was also the advisor to all graduate elementary education students. In 2009, Dr. O'Brien led the development of the Early Childhood program. Dr. O'Brien has served as President of the Illinois Branch of the International Dyslexia Association.



DR. BARBARA MACKEY

Dr. Barbara Mackey joined the faculty of the Educational Leadership Program in August, 2003 following a successful career in education as Superintendent of Cook County School District 130 in Blue Island. Dr. Mackey's dedication to the support and promotion of the Lasallian tradition has been manifested not only in her teaching but in her tireless efforts in the foundation, teaching and leadership of the English as a Second Language program in the College of Education. Throughout the years, Dr. Mackey has been instrumental in the recruitment and education of hundreds of practicing teachers who have pursued an ESL endorsement or a master's degree from the College of Education at Lewis University.

Dr. Jeanette Mines, who hired Dr. Mackey in 2003 said, "Dr. Mackey brought to the College of Education and Lewis University extensive experience in urban education with a deep commitment to students most in need. Her experiences as a teacher, mid-level administrator and superintendent in the public schools and her academic preparation provided Lewis University students with a wealth of knowledge from both experiential and theoretical perspectives. Her understanding of public school funding and the educational political process engaged the students and made difficult material relevant and practical."



DR. LAURA SLOAN

Upon the retirement of Dr. Laura Sloan, Professor in the Department of Special Education, Dr. Pamela Jessee, Dean of the College of Education, shared the following remarks at the COE meeting in May, "Dr. Laura Sloan is completing her 20 something year here at Lewis in the Department of Special Education and has served as Department Chair and was the founder and faculty sponsor of Best Buddies." At the 16th annual Buddy Ball held in March, Dr. Sloan received the "Best Buddies Legacy Award" from the State of Illinois. Dr. Sloan was recognized for helping to establish the Best Buddies Ball as an annual event at Lewis University and for her dedication to those with intellectual disabilities and to educating students to serve this population. Dr. Jessee continued, "The students love her - all of them. They recognize her passion, dedication and commitment to make them the best teachers. As one of the founding faculty in the College, Laura was instrumental in the development of all the programs, the increases in enrollment, state approvals and accreditation. We must never forget that it is Laura's work in the early days that has paved the way for us to be a recognized entity for educator preparation. And now she deserves and has earned a rest, although a short one because Laura will return to teach Sign Language."

Dr. Laura Sloan was awarded Professor *Emeritus* status in May, 2015.



MR. RICHARD CLISH

Dr. Jeanette Mines, Academic Associate to the Provost, shared some memories of Richard (Dick) Clish upon his retirement from the College of Education in May. Mines, Dean of the College of Education when Clish was hired, said, "Because of a sabbatical in 2003, we hired Dick Clish as an adjunct to teach one class. Later, because of another sabbatical in 2006," she continued, "Dick was hired to serve as interim Department Chair in the Department of Secondary Education. He has served that Department, the College and the University as a dedicated faculty member ever since. We hired him because of his extensive teaching and administrative experiences as an English teacher, department chair and principal of Proviso West High School in Hillside. That was what got him hired, but what kept him at Lewis, beyond his one year contract, was his incredible advocacy for students, his outstanding teaching and his willingness to serve in multiple capacities wherever and whenever needed."

"Dick often says, 'Teaching is not about content—it is about relationship,'" Mines said. "I'm not drawing any parallels here, but don't those words sound similar to what St. John Baptist de La Salle said about 'touching hearts?'"

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Clish has been an avid volunteer for the College of Education trips to San Miguel Back of the Yards Middle School in Chicago, he volunteers for local Chamber events, is a supporter of the Great Teacher Banquet, has served on his parish school board and is an active member of the Knights of Columbus. In addition, he has served on many College of Education committees, as well as several University committees.

BROTHER JAMES GAFFNEY, FSC

CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU

The faculty and staff of the College of Education would like to extend the warmest of wishes to Brother James Gaffney, FSC, upon the occasion of his retirement in June of 2016. Brother James has been a steadfast support to the College of Education and a champion for Lasallian education. We express our gratitude for his leadership over these many years and offer our prayers for many happy and healthy years ahead.

PRESENTATION OF COLLEGE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM AWARDS

Brother James Gaffney, FSC, presents the College of Education program awards on December 9, 2015.



Drew Magis with Dr. Dorene Huvaere
Graduate, *Secondary Education*



Delia Ercoli
Undergraduate, *Secondary Education*



Lindsey Jones with Ms. Ann O'Brien
Undergraduate, *Elementary Education*



Kelly Cisco with Dr. Jennifer Buss
Undergraduate, *Combined Special Education, Elementary Education*



Michael Jaeger with Dr. Jennifer Buss
Undergraduate, *Special Education*



Nancy May with Dr. Rebecca Pruitt
Undergraduate, *Early Childhood Education*



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SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS will be held in June and August of 2016. Go to our College of Education web page for more information. lewisu.edu/academics/coe/

Be sure to visit our **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION FACEBOOK PAGE** to learn more about our faculty, current and past students activities. facebook.com/LewisUniversityCollegeofEducation

The College of Education invites you, the reader, to **SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS WITH US!** If you have recently changed positions, completed a new degree, lectured on a topic related to education, attended a seminar, or just have a good story, you can share your experiences with fellow educators in our next magazine or on our Facebook page. Submit your news, notes and announcements via email to Jean Lucas at lucasje@lewisu.edu.