Message from the Dean...

The end of this academic year has quickly come upon us. What a successful year we have had! College of Education faculty and staff have all worked diligently to provide a quality learning environment for our students. Even through a national recession and state budget cuts, our efforts have paid off immensely. Students continued to enter into the Professional Education Unit enthusiastically ready to become teachers. As they embarked into their courses of study, students found new horizons through the specialized support of the online FCAT preparation sessions, the electronic Task Stream system for developing their portfolios, and the College’s intensified focus on action research. With the increased emphasis on multi-level assessment, students also experienced more active learning opportunities in their courses. Case studies, simulations, and diverse field experiences are all working to better prepare them for the reality of teaching and learning.

Two exciting events were facilitated in fall 2009 and spring 2010. The College implemented its Research, Reading and Writing initiative. Undergraduate and graduate students in several courses, including those who were interning, planned and conducted research projects in schools throughout the community. Faculty guided them as they worked individually or in groups on topics critical to education. A few of the highlighted questions researched included:

- What are the health and wellness behaviors of fifth grade students?
- How do teachers think that student behavior has changed over the past 10 years?
- How can the use of electronics enhance student performance in the high school band?
- What is the impact of choral reading, partner reading, read alouds, and independent reading on student comprehension?
- What factors impact students’ performance levels in physical activity?
- Males are better in mathematics than females: Is this a myth?
- How do teachers use the teaching strategies that students learn during pre-service education?
- How can a child’s attitude toward homework and class work affect academic performance?
- Which strategies help English language learners understand mathematics effectively?

The College of Education was extremely proud of our junior researchers! Many of them plan to continue their initial investigations and utilize the results of their studies during the next semester.

While students have benefited from our commitment to high quality, applied learning, the administration, faculty, and staff collaborated to prepare for the NCATE re-accreditation site visit schedule for fall 2010. We believe that the many hours of program revision, data collection, and report writing will result in full approval.

I want to take this opportunity to thank members of our COE team, both faculty and students. Bravo! This year was a “job well done!” Each of you stepped up to the table, was open to change, and strived for success. With this kind of dedication, I can only be optimistic that next year will be an even more successful one!
Dr. Charles J. Stanley

College in Alabama. He earned both his master of arts in education in 1945 and the doctor of philosophy degree in Education in 1949 from Yale University.

His first faculty employment after graduation from Yale was at Albany State College in Albany, Ga. as an assistant professor and the registrar in 1949. After his arrival at Albany State, there was a major flood that severely affected the majority of the campus. As a result, Dr. Stanley inquired and was accepted as a tenure earning faculty member in the College of Education at Florida A&M College in 1949.

At FAMU, Dr. Stanley was a scholar and prolific writer. He authored numerous articles in refereed journals, presented papers, consulted and facilitated at professional conferences. Dr. Stanley enhanced his education credentials as a postdoctoral student at the University of Miami for a year and by touring historic sites in the Indian sub-continent.

His leadership recognition included department chair of the Department of Foundations in the College of Education, president of the southeastern region of the Philosophy of Education, and secretary-treasurer of the Florida State Teacher Association. The Faculty Senate recognized him several times as Teacher of the Year. In addition, Dr. Stanley was a veteran of World War II and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

The administration and faculty at FAMU, and in the College of Education, deeply mourn the loss of our friend and Distinguished Professional.

Faculty Reminisce....

“Dr. Stanley was vigilant about attending his 50th and 60th graduation anniversaries from Talladega College in 1993 and 2003 respectively. It was marvelous seeing Dr. Stanley and his classmates talk the "good ole' days" as they shared information about Talladega College in the early 1940s. It was good to see him with a few of his classmates and how they enjoyed their class reunion at Talladega.”

“At a meeting of Merrill-Lynch in Tallahassee, Dr. Stanley was treated royally by all the employees of that organization due to his investments in the company. It was amazing to see how they almost worshipped Dr. Stanley.”

When Dr. Stanley retired, I really missed seeing his smiling face as he walked down the hallways of the College. He walked everywhere. One day I saw him walking down the street and, when I stopped, he told me he was walking to his doctor appointment. I drove him there, since it was miles away!”
The College of Education held its first “Meet and Greet” for new or potential majors on September 24, 2009 in the Teaching and Learning Institute Conference Room. Faculty members from all Departments welcomed students, introduced themselves, and gave a short presentation about their programs.

The many students who attended found the information very beneficial and enjoyed meeting other attendees and the faculty of the College.

Similar events will be held each semester. For more information, please contact, Dr. Patricia Green-Powell, Assistant Dean or department chairpersons.

An Exciting Day for Head Start!

On Monday, September 14, 2009, the HBCU Head Start Partnership in collaboration with the Florida A&M University College of Education hosted a Forum and Workshop entitled: “Strengthening Partnerships with Florida Head Start Programs.”

The event was held at the new Multi-Purpose Center/Teaching Gym and included directors and staff from the following Florida counties: Alachua, Calhoun, Citrus, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Hernando, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Marlon, Sumter, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton, Washington.

The purpose of the forum aligns with the 1998 reauthorization of the Head Start Act which contains provisions to improve Head Start program quality and accountability. Accordingly, with Florida A & M University’s excellent reputation throughout the state, the College of Education’s PreK/Primary Education program would be a tremendous resource for all Head Start personnel.

The HBCU Head Start Office is looking forward to partnering with Head Start directors and their staff to bring education services to program staff and teachers. We are excited about this excellent potential to strengthen the relationship with FAMU faculty and address issues dealing with young children and families around the state.

For more information, please contact: Dr. Patty Ball Thomas, Principal Investigator of the HBCU Head Start Grant Partnership, at 850-599-3107 or via e-mail at patty.thomas@famu.edu.

Papa’s Got a Brand New Bag

Through the Teachers for a New Era’s Teacher Induction Center, student interns are now equipped with a set of tools to assist them as they begin the last stages of their pre-professional development.

Each intern receives a bag of helpful items including pencils, pens, markers, paper, tissues, hand sanitizer, and a copy of the important school laws in the state. Through this “bag” the interns embark on a great new adventure in the world of teaching.

TNE and the COE want to ensure that our interns are prepared to deal with the stressors that come along with the first time they are officially “teachers” in the classroom.
Dr. Patricia Green-Powell On October 15-18, 2009, will attend the Southern Regional Council on Educational Leadership Conference, held in Atlanta, Georgia on October 15 – 18, 2009 and present on, "Mentoring as Professional Development toward the Professoriate".

On October 6, 2009, Dr. Green-Powell presented at the Lunch and Learn Series sponsored by Teachers for a New Era. Presentation title: "Developing Professional Student Dispositions at the Initial and Advanced Levels."

Dr. Green-Powell was also selected as a Faculty Research Associate with the newly created Florida A&M University Juvenile Justice Institute

Drs. Warren Hope, Ada Puryear Burnette, and Ghazwan Lutfi submitted a leadership grant to the federal government on September 30. This grant was to provide the opportunity to see if there is a correlation between letter grades schools receive and the evaluations received by their principals.

Drs. Nancy McConnell, Patricia Green-Powell, Elizabeth Davenport, Ghazwan Lutfi, and Ada Burnette have worked with others to write grants or are working with funded grants.

Mr. Erick Farmer, Mr. Carl Starling, Mrs. Sheila Merritt Jackson, and Ms. Lisa Ross, Ph.D. students and Dr. Ada Puryear Burnette participated in a TNE Symposium in September at which Dean Genniver C. Bell made a presentation.

Dr. Oare' Dozier-Henry and her husband celebrated with their friends upon the completion of her residency in neonatal care by their daughter and the completion in 3 years of their son's Ph.D. in engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Dr. Janet Sermon, Dr. Steve Chandler, and Dr. Gayle Sherrod are all serving as president or president elect of respective associations with the Florida Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Dance and Sport (FAHPERDS). All, along with Drs. Barbara Thompson and Brian Hickey presented at the annual conference in Orlando in October. Dr. Steve Chandler’s paper was entitled, “Facility Planning: From Idea to Opening Day.”

Dr. Nancy Fontaine, Department of Elementary Education, PreK/Primary Education Program submitted a recent grant proposal entitled, “An Exploratory Study of the Conditions for Success Necessary for State Mandated Interventions to Increase Early Literacy Performance in Chronically Low Performing Rural School Systems” to the Institute of Education Sciences.

Dr. Nancy Fontaine presented a grantwriting workshop at the May 29—30, 2009 Provost’s Induction Symposium entitled, “Accomplished Teaching for the 21st Century… From Cradle to Career.” She also presented the PreK/Primary Education Program, along with Dr. Gwendolyn Dixon, at the September 14 COE/Head Start Partnership-sponsored Head Start Forum.

Mr. Donald McBride was selected as a History Fair Judge in the 2009 Leon County History Fair.
Faculty Accomplishments

♦ Dr. Genniver Bell was a reviewer for the recent Symposium. Ph.D. students in Educational Leadership, Erick Farmer, Shelia Merrit-Jackson, Carl Starling, and Tanya Robinson participated during this Symposium.

♦ Dr. Yolanda Bogan received a substance abuse and mental health grant through the Morehouse College of Medicine. She was also selected for attendance at a competitive program in spring 2009.

♦ Dr. Yolanda Bogan received funding for a grant and was selected as a distinguished fellow.

♦ Dr. Mary Moore was responsible for 14 legal briefs and for other work the Florida Board of Bar Examiners at its recent meeting in Tampa, Florida. Dr. Moore is also involved with the Boys and Girls Club of Tallahassee.

♦ Dr. Mary Moore worked with a work group of the Florida Teacher Certification Exam in developing the latest version of the Counseling Education subject area test.

♦ Mrs. Kimberly Eddington, a doctoral student in Educational Leadership will go to Europe this fall to teach for a couple of weeks.

♦ Dr. Ada Puryear Burnette, Chair of the Educational Leadership and Human Services Department in the College of Education at Florida A&M University had overall responsibilities for four graduations for Certified Public Managers graduates in Florida. The graduations were held in Tallahassee, Tampa, Ft. Lauderdale and Orlando.

♦ At the American Academy of Certified Public Managers, Dr. Burnette received an award "In recognition and gratitude for your dedicated service as 2009 Committee Chair of the Leadership Institute" of the American Academy of Certified Public Managers in Orlando.

♦ Dr. Ada Burnette serves as one of 4 members of the Executive Committee of the National Association of African American Studies and Affiliates (National Association of Hispanics and Latinos, National Association of Native Americans, and International Association of Asian Americans). The Association is currently accepting proposals for presentations, a refereed journal, and conference proceedings. Please write Dr. Burnette at ada.burnette@famu.edu to get information.

♦ Dr. Ada Puryear Burnette was honored by the American Academy of Certified Public Managers (AACPM) for serving with distinction as their Leadership Committee Chair and pulling together a program previously worked on by previous committees.

♦ Dr. Ada Puryear Burnette serves on the executive board of the National Association of African American Studies and Affiliates and attended a planning meeting in July. She also participated in a Department of Education meeting and became qualified to led teams and serve on committees to evaluate educational leadership programs in the state of Florida.