Dear Faculty, Staff, Students and Friends:

Welcome back for the Spring 2005 Semester. I hope that you had a very happy Christmas and are anticipating a joyous and productive New Year. This is the first newsletter of the 2004-2005 academic year and I hope that you will find it informative. We have great expectations for the newsletter and intend to use it as one of our major communication tools in the future. Please join me in expressing our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Newton Jackson for serving as editor of our newsletter last year. He stepped up and assumed this important task and did an outstanding job. Now join me in welcoming our new editorial team for the 2004-2005 academic year. Mr. Wei Gu, Director of Information Management and Assessment for the College of Education will serve as editor, and Ms. Wonda Martin, Instructor, will serve as co-editor. Please welcome them to this critical endeavor and support them in producing a high quality document. Each department and program is asked to develop an informative column presenting to your faculty, staff, students and friends important activities and issues being addressed by your department or program on a monthly basis.

As many of you know, earlier this year, the College of Education conducted its NCATE/DOE self study and site visit. The official report from the self-study and site visit has finally arrived and we are happy to report that NCATE will continue accreditation of FAMU’s initial teacher preparation programs (primarily bachelor’s level) and continue, with conditions, accreditation at the advanced preparation level (primarily master’s programs). NCATE granted conditional accreditation to the advanced level programs because of concerns about the assessment system that we had in place for our master’s degree programs. If you have been keeping up with the climate in education in recent years, you are aware of the increased emphasis on accountability in education. Public schools in Florida and around the Nation have faced accountability issues for over a decade. Now the issue of accountability has swiftly emerged into universities’ teacher preparation programs. The NCATE/DOE teams were not satisfied with the number of transition points in our graduate programs, or in other words, the stages in the program where we collected data verifying our students’ accomplishment of program goals and objectives. The data collected at these transition points must be used to make decisions and adjustments in the programs with the expectation that these changes would result in a better education for you and the students that you work with on your jobs. We have two years to make the adjustments in our advanced degree programs, with a site visit from NCATE, focusing on the assessment standard, occurring no later than Fall 2006. Possible outcomes from that review are that all advanced degree programs will be approved by NCATE, but if they are not approved by NCATE, the following initial certification program graduates would not be eligible for State certification: School Psychology, Counselor Education and Education Leadership. We understand their concerns and are committed to conforming to their requirements and retaining the accreditation of our master’s degree programs.

The conditional approval of the advanced degree programs will not affect their degree or status in any manner, provided we make the required changes within the two year period. The University will make these adjustments immediately. In part, these adjustments will require that all master’s degree seeking students who entered the University this Fall 2004 and thereafter pass a comprehensive examination in their major field of study, and develop a portfolio that contains evidence of the student having achieved standards prescribed in the Florida Professional Accomplished Practices or the National Boards Professional Teaching Standards before graduating. Faculty will need to systematically analyze the results of these and other assessments and make adjustments to the curriculum and/or teaching methods as appropriate to improve performance. Your role will be pivotal in helping us meet the NCATE requirement. We will work with a consultant and Dr. Ohia, Director of Assessment, to develop an assessment system. It is our belief that instituting a formal assessment system that includes the adjustments in our master’s degree programs will help to bring our graduate degree programs into compliance with NCATE/DOE and NBPTS requirements, and provide additional evidence to the public that our students are accomplished educators.

Please join us in our efforts to inform master’s degree students of the new degree requirements and of the importance of following through in working to meet these new requirements. We appreciate you and the contributions that you make to the teacher preparation programs. We know that with your skills, talents and support we can ensure that our students are provided a first class education that will enable them to address the instructional needs of the students that they are responsible for educating.
Presentations Continued

Dr. Lenford Sutton presented a paper entitled “Public school and student outcomes in the State of Florida at the 16th Annual Southeast Evaluation of Florida Spring Conference. January 2004.


Research

Dr. Yolanda Bogan is Co-Principal Investigator along with Dr. Otis Kirksey on a grant award in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The title of the grant is Development of Curriculum for Health Disparity Education Utilizing National Library of Medicine On-line Resources. It is administered by the UNCF Special Programs and funded by the National Library of Medicine. September, 2004.

Dr. Poole serves as Co-Principal Investigator along with Dr. Luttabingwa and as Director of a Competitive Cross Hemispheric Partnership Award sponsored by UNCFSP and USAID. The purpose of the project is to promote curriculum development for preservice teachers through a partnership between FAMU and Universidade do Estado da Bahia in Brazil.

Other News

On January 3, 2005, Dr. Bogan became the Interim Director of the FAMU Counseling and Assessment Center. She has begun an internship program through the Counselor Education program and an externship program with the School of Social Work.

Dr. Bogan was re-elected as the secretary for the Capital Chapter of the Florida Psychological Association.

Dr. Warren Hope has been approved for Sabbatical Leave for the Spring Semester 2006 to conduct research on African American Principals In The Era of Segregation, 1940-1970. This Oral History project seeks to preserve the lived experiences and perspectives of African American principals during the time of segregation.
Presentations

Drs. Brian Hickey, E. Newton Jackson, Jr., & Sarah Price had a paper accepted for the Annual National Association for Kinesiology and Physical Education in Higher Education (NAKPEHE) Conference in January 2005 in Tucson, AZ.

Other News

Dr. Sarah Price, as the PEPS Club advisor, took 14 majors to the 55th Annual Florida Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance (FAHPERD) Conference in Orlando during October 2004. This was the largest turnout of FAMU’s students since 1998. Other faculty joining them at the conference were Drs. Thompson, Sellers, Hickey, Chandler, and Jackson.

In December 2004, 45 physical education and pre-teacher/physical education majors participated in the St. Jude Children's Hospital "5K Prediction Run." The HPER students raised $500.00 for the Hospital. COE-HPER faculty members, Dr. Steve Chandler was the event coordinator, and Dr. Brian Hickey also assisted.

Dr. Maria Okeke organized a university wide event on "World AIDS Day" on December 1, 2004.

Mr. Jorge Olaves was invited to join the American Red Cross as an author for the new upcoming textbook on Lifeguard Training. Only ten individuals were invited throughout the nation to participate.

Senior Physical Education major, Ms. Tikara Mosely was the 1st recipient of the Pete Griffin/Hansel Tookes, Sr. Scholarship this Fall.

Research

An interdisciplinary faculty team begins the third year of an innovative project (Faculty Innovation Institute) that is designed to reduce the disproportionate number of minority children who are referred to special education. The project is funded by Florida Department of Education and is designed to increase the competencies of our pre-service teachers once they become employed as general education teachers. The team includes Drs. Dixon, Newell, Williams, Robinson, and Mrs. Washington. The group welcomes other faculty members who might be interested in becoming involved in this project and may contact any of the members listed above.

Other News

Dr. Gwendolyn Dixon was recently appointed to serve as North Florida’s representative for Early Childhood Association of Florida (ECA). She will also serve on the board of directors. This group advocates on the behalf of young children and their families in the state.

Publications


Other News

Please join the Department of Business and Technology Education in welcoming Dr. Dawn Holley-Dennis back.
**SACS Visit**

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Site Visit is coming soon. Let’s team up and get prepared for a positive outcome! For more information about SACS, please contact Dr. Walter Mercer at 561-2440.

---

**Recency of Experience**

The deadline for faculty members to submit documentation for Recency of Experience is February 9, 2005. All faculty members teaching courses that prepare students to become teachers are required to fulfill this mandate. For more information on “Recency of Experience,” please contact Dr. Marian Smith, Assistant Dean for Administrative Affairs, in Room 300 GEC-B.

---

**Departamental News Continued**

**Secondary Chairperson Leads Gadsden County School District Partnership Roundtable**

The Partnership Roundtable met at Florida A&M University (FAMU) on January 18, 2005, to explore partnership opportunities between the Gadsden County School District and Florida A&M University College of Education. A partnership between the College of Education and the Gadsden County School District would realize **outreach goals** of the College of Education (COE) and the Department of Secondary Education and Foundations. Mr. Reginald James, Superintendent of the Gadsden County District, was accompanied by his director of Elementary Education, director of Secondary Education and his director of Staff Development. The FAMU group was led by Dr. Barbara Barnes, Chairperson of the Department of Secondary Education and Foundation. Dr. Barnes served as convener and leader of the Roundtable. The deliberations of the Roundtable focused on the needs of the Gadsden County Schools in the general areas of the improvement of teaching and learning and how the expertise and resources of the College of Education could contribute to the desired improvements. The deliberations of the Roundtable identified the following areas as ripe for near term partnership initiatives:

1. a reading endorsement program to be provided by the COE to Gadsden County teachers;
2. in-service training in classroom management for beginning Gadsden County teachers;
3. staff development programs and activities for Gadsden County school personnel on an ongoing basis;
4. increased placement of COE teacher interns and graduates in the Gadsden County schools;
5. workshops for parents relating to how parents can help improve their children’s learning and test performance;
6. coordinated participation of COE faculty seeking recency of experience in instructional activities in Gadsden County schools; and
7. concentrated preparation of Gadsden County teachers for National Board Certification.

Mr. James assessed the initial roundtable as a **“great start”** and looks forward to a productive long-term partnership. Dr. Barnes stated that a partnership between the College of Education and the Gadsden County Schools would be mutually beneficial and expressed confidence that University executives will actively support the partnership being developed. The second meeting of the Partnership Roundtable will be held at FAMU on Tuesday, February 1, 2005. FAMU personnel desirous of receiving briefings on the emerging FAMU-Gadsden Educational Enhancement Partnership should contact Dr. Barbara Barnes via E-mail at barbara.barnes@famu.edu or by phone at 599-3123.

---

**Newsletter**

The deadline for submission of items for the College of Education Newsletter is the 15th of each month. Any items received after the deadline will be published in the next month’s newsletter. Note, when submitting publications, please remember to include the journal or textbook name, publisher, volume number, issue number, page number(s), etc.
“Strengthening Student Success Through Academic Advisement”

Thursday, March 3, 2005
2:00 – 3:15 p.m.
Room 100 GEC-B

Sponsored by the Center for Teacher Preparation

APPLE PINNING CEREMONY

The Apple Pinning Ceremony for the Fall Semester 2004 was held at Bethel A.M.E. Church on December 10, 2004. According to surveys completed by the graduates, the ceremony was well received. Many graduates indicated that they enjoyed the location, speaker (Dr. Debra Austin), and the time frame of the ceremony.

Anyone interested in serving on the Apple Pinning Ceremony Committee for the Spring Semester 2005, please contact Dr. Marian Smith at 599-3106.

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY LIST

Dr. Mary Moore January 4
Dr. Mary Ramirez January 8
Dr. Marian Smith January 17
Dr. Walter Mercer January 20
Mr. Donald McBride January 24
Mrs. Melinda Norton January 25
Mr. Tamares Cockfield February 5
Dr. Tony Manson February 6
Dr. Milagros Ignatz February 9
Mrs. Elsie Duval February 17
Dr. Willis Walter February 26

RETIRED PROFESSOR DONATES PROFESSIONAL BOOKS

Dr. Anne Richardson Gayles-Felton, a June 2003 retiree of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (The College of Education) recently donated her library holdings of fifty-five years to the College of Education. Dr. Robert Lemons, Dean of the College of Education graciously acknowledged the books in a letter to Dr. Gayles-Felton. He said, “On behalf of the College, I wish to express our sincere appreciation for the excellent gift of books from your professional library; this collection of books will be stored in a section of the Curriculum Laboratory and made available to our students who wish to do research on the different aspects of the history of education in the United States.”

The collection of books, plus the many books given to individual faculty members, totaled over a thousand books. These books covered all major periods, areas and levels of education; a large number of books considered as “classics” in the areas of sociological, philosophical and psychological foundations of education; and many excellent and timely professional books in the areas of secondary education, higher teacher education, multicultural education, psychology (general, adolescent and educational), sociology and the social studies/social sciences.

The content of the books emphasized the mental, social, emotional physical characteristics of an effective teacher educator; the teaching competencies of an effective teacher; and the kind of teacher-learning process needed for effective teaching and quality learning.

Dr. Gayles-Felton has been labeled as a “Master Teacher” through the years. Therefore, one is inclined to believe that she learned well from her collection of books. Hopefully, our students will take advantage of the wealth of information and be helped to translate the theory into action and become exemplary teachers.
Mr. Phillip Solomon Stewart is an Elementary Education major from Miami, Florida.

Miss Temia Walker is an Elementary Education major from Jacksonville, Florida.

**Professional Development Forums**

Professional Development Forums provide administrators and faculty of the College of Education the opportunity to dialogue with students concerning issues relative to the teaching profession in general and those issues that relate specifically to teacher education programs within the Professional Education Unit. Forums scheduled for the Spring Semester 2005 are listed below. All forums will be held in the Lee Hall Auditorium.

- January 25th
- February 24th
- March 24th
- April 14th

**FALL SEMESTER 2005 INTERNSHIP**

Students seeking internship for the Fall Semester, 2005, must complete the pre-application process by February 21, 2005. For more information on the Student Teaching Pre-Application process, please contact the Center for Teacher Preparation (Room 200 GEC-B).

**Florida Teacher Certification Examination (FTCE) Study Materials**

Effective June 2002, all students expecting to graduate from a “state approved” teacher education program must pass all parts of the FTCE before interning. Information on purchasing study guide materials for the FTCE is available in the Center for Teacher Preparation (Room 200 GEC-B).

**Attention Spring Graduates**

The Spring Semester 2005 Apple Pinning Ceremony will be held on Friday, April 29, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. The location for this ceremony will be announced at a later date. For more information on the Apple Pinning Ceremony, please contact Dr. Marian Smith at 599-3106.

Please remember to order your Graduation Cap and Gown!

**College of Education Sash**

If you are interested in ordering a College of Education Sash, please contact Dr. Marian Smith in Room 300 GEC-B.

Price: $20.00