COE, BRODY PARTNER TO TRANSFORM MEDICAL EDUCATION

The College of Education Adult Education program is working with faculty at the Brody School of Medicine (BSOM) on a project designed to revolutionize the field of medical education.

The project was developed as part of a $1 million grant that BSOM received from the American Medical Association this past summer, to implement the REACH Initiative (Redesigning Education to Accelerate Change in Healthcare). BSOM was one of 11 schools, including NYU, Mayo Medical School and Penn State, chosen to receive the grant.

As part of grant-related efforts, 38 BSOM faculty members have become TQA (Teachers of Quality Academy) Fellows. TQA Fellows will be engaged in a rigorous course of study that focuses on teaching skills, instructional methods, and educational evaluation; all in the context of medical education. The goal is to create medical educators who can teach their students about systems-based practice, patient safety, and meaningful team-based healthcare.

As part of this program, all TQA Fellows will take three Adult Education courses, complete several online education modules and will attend seminars, lectures and other activities. The first of the three adult education courses, Introduction to Medical Education, will be offered to TQA Fellows in the summer of 2014.

HACE EARNS CACREP ACCREDITATION

The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), a national accrediting body for professional preparation programs within academic institutions, has granted accreditation to the following master of science programs in the Department of Higher, Adult, and Counselor Education (HACE) in the College of Education:

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- School Counseling
- Student Affairs and College Counseling

The decision to pursue CACREP accreditation began approximately seven years ago when Counselor Education faculty determined that for long-term sustainability, and for the benefit of students within the program, it would be critical to attain such recognition.

“We are extremely excited about earning this distinction,” said Dr. Scott Glass, interim department chair of HACE. “It took an incredible amount of work on behalf of our faculty, mostly done for little or no personal gain. We were successful because of the hard work of a few people who believed in the importance of this task.”

A number of benefits result from having a program seek accreditation including:

- Provides program enhancement through a thorough self-assessment
- Stimulates self-review and self-directed improvement
- Improves the quality of students seeking enrollment in program
- Demonstrates a commitment to meeting the highest academic standards
- Additional licensure and career benefits

Many thanks go out to all who participated and helped the Counselor Education program achieve the CACREP accreditation. In particular, the Counselor Education program would like to recognize the efforts of Dr. Kylie Dotson-Blake. She took on the responsibility of guiding the program through the process, and the program would not have experienced this level of success without her work. It was a team effort that should benefit students and stakeholders for many years to come.
Service-Learning Component to MSA Degree Recognized

The master of school administration degree (MSA) in the College of Education prepares individuals to become school leaders. The MSA degree includes a significant service-learning component that requires students to complete six student service learning projects (SLP) in schools.

Megan Newman, a Principal Fellow student, is conducting ongoing training sessions with beginning teachers at Wintergreen Primary School and Wintergreen Intermediate School in Greenville, N.C., as part of her SLP. Through this project, Newman aspires to improve teaching and learning in the participants’ classrooms and provide the opportunity for these novice teachers to network with other teachers in various grade levels and subjects. The sessions are held once a month after school and the teachers are then observed in a non-evaluative format to receive feedback on the new teaching strategies that they are using in their classrooms. The teachers participating in this SLP with Megan Newman shared that the ongoing professional development has helped them become better teachers thanks to the collaboration among the group and the sharing of ideas.

Like this SLP, MSA students are helping schools as they learn how to become principals. Seventy students entered the program the same time as Megan and by the time these 70 students graduate in May 2015, eastern North Carolina schools will have benefited from 420 different projects.

COE Online Programs Recognized

The College of Education has been recognized as a top college for teacher education by the Online College Database’s new ranking, “Top Colleges in North Carolina Shaping the Next Generation.” The organization honors the post-secondary institutions in the state that graduated the most education and teaching professionals in 2012.

Two programs in the College of Education were rated as “best buys” in a report released by geteducated.com that has ranked online colleges and universities with affordable online degree programs. The master of arts in education degree is ranked No. 2 and the master of library science is ranked No. 1 in a list of online master degree programs.

Faculty and Departmental News

Dr. Allison Crowe (left), assistant professor of counselor education, was a presenter in the Gender to a Tea – Spring 2014 Faculty Lecture Series in Women's and Gender Studies on Thursday, February 6, 2014. Her presentation was titled “Stigma, Intimate Partner Violence, and Social Media: See the Triumph Research Project.” To learn more about the See the Triumph research campaign, you may visit the campaign website at www.seethetriumph.org.

Dr. Tammy Lee, teaching instructor of science education, published an article titled “Close Encounters of the Amphibious Kind” in the February issue of Science and Children.

Dr. Steven Schmidt (left), associate professor of adult education, was sworn in as president of the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE) at the association’s annual conference that was held in November in Lexington, Kentucky. For more information about AAACE, visit their website: www.aaace.org.

Dr. Mark L’Esperance, associate professor of middle grades education, is one of six local WNCT Roundtable panelist on the topic of gangs. The goal of the discussion is to shed a light on the problem of gang violence, highlighting aspects many may not have before considered. The panelists investigated the effect of gangs on children, families and communities in search of a solution. The segment is scheduled to air late February and the exact date and time will be announced once determined by WNCT.

Dr. Lisa Rogerson, Elementary and Middle Grades Education, College of Education, published an article titled “Differences in Populating First Year Seminars and the Impact on Retention and Course Effectiveness” with Dr. Mike Poock. It was published in volume 15 of The Journal of College Student Retention: Research, Theory and Practice.

MSITE News Blog

Stay up-to-date on all Department of Mathematics, Science and Instructional Technology Education news and student, alumni and faculty achievements by visiting the MSITE news blog: blog.ecu.edu/sites/msite.
College of Education Students Honored for Academic Excellence

Fifty-two East Carolina University freshmen and full-time transfer students with an intended teacher education major were honored during the College of Education ECU EXCELS event on February 7, 2014. The annual ECU EXCELS program recognizes first-time, full-time freshman or on-campus transfer students who earned a 3.0 GPA or higher during the fall semester.

In total, the college hosted 170 honored students and their guests at this event. Dr. Vivian Martin Covington, executive director of teacher education, provided the words of recognition to the award recipients. Students received a Certificate of Academic Achievement and had an opportunity to interact with College of Education faculty while enjoying light refreshments at the event. A video of the recipients is available to view along with the full list of recipients.

Any questions regarding the ECU Excels event for the College of Education should contact Dr. Laura Bilbro-Berry, Assistant Director of Teacher Education, at 252-328-1123 or bilbroberryl@ecu.edu.

Student and Alumni News Briefs

Felicia Buckner, an elementary education major and State Employee Credit Union Partnership East student, graduated in December after an accident that left her with brain and back injuries and a widow four years ago. Buckner has overcome huge obstacles to fulfill her passion of becoming a teacher and graduate from the College of Education at ECU. She shared her story in December with WLOS news in Asheville.

Jen Smyth, a current master of arts in education student studying English education and Teacher Consultant with the Tar River Writing Project, is featured in International Reading Association’s Reading Today Online publication in a story written by Terry Atkinson, associate professor and graduate director in the College of Education. Smyth is also a teacher at the Hertford County Early College High School and was named the North Carolina English Teachers Association’s 2013 Outstanding English Teacher award winner.

Robin Calcutt was honored as the Sandhills/South Central Regional Principal of the Year. She is in her third year as principal at New Century Middle School in Moore County. She began in 1984 as a visual arts teacher, and she is also licensed in instructional technology and administration. Robin holds an MAEd in instructional technology from ECU and is pursuing a doctoral degree in educational leadership at ECU as well.

Frances Herring, principal of Contentnea-Savannah K-8 School, was named Southeast Region Principal of the Year. As Lenoir County Public School’s Principal of the Year in October, Herring is one of eight finalists from across the state who will interview in April for the title of North Carolina Principal of the Year. Herring graduated from ECU in 2010 with a master of school administration degree.

Charlene Evans, a Plymouth High School mathematics teacher for Washington County Schools, is the Northeast Region Teacher of the Year for 2013-2014. Evans holds a master of arts in education degree in mathematics education from ECU.

Dr. Bonnie Vause, who earned her masters in special education in 2006 at ECU, has recently published a book titled Fast Escape.

Keith Parker ’08 ’10, social studies teacher at Southwest Edgecombe High School and COE history education BS and MAEd graduate, is the Outstanding Social Studies Teacher of the Year and will be honored at the North Carolina Council of Social Studies Conference at the Council’s Annual Conference on February 20, 2014 at Greensboro’s Koury Center.
**Development Report**

Julianne Mehegan agreed to fund four $2,500 scholarships each year for four years, totaling a $40,000 investment in our students.

Pat and Lynn Lane agreed to fund two $14,000 scholarships next year. Their scholarship recruits and retains teachers in eastern NC.

Wayne Staton designated $75,000 of his estate to support the Ellen Boone Staton Scholarship Fund which provides scholarships to elementary education students in honor of Wayne's mother.

Martha MacDonald established a $25,000 scholarship in honor of her parents who were both educators.

Bill and Stephanie Wester gave $20,000 to their existing scholarship fund that supports COE graduate students.

Bill and Betsy Baggett gave $25,000 to their existing scholarship fund that supports COE undergraduate students.

Jim Bearden and Adminta Coeyman have each made $5,000 gifts to the Educators Hall of Fame.

**2014 Educators Hall of Fame**

Please consider honoring recently retired or deceased faculty, former students, fellow faculty and staff members, and anyone dedicated to the field of education by inducting them into the College of Education 16th annual Educators Hall of Fame.

**Upcoming Events**

**Volunteer Recognition Ceremony**

The College of Education is celebrating the volunteers who have donated their time to support the college’s mission in the past year during a ceremony on **Friday, February 21, 2014**, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Yankee Hall Plantation.

**COE Spring Graduate Recognition Ceremony**

The College of Education’s spring Graduate Recognition Ceremony will be held on **Saturday, May 10, 2014**, at 12:00 p.m. in Minges Coliseum. All faculty and staff are encouraged to participate. A request for faculty RSVPs will be made at a later date via e-mail.

**In Case You Missed It!**

**Dean’s Holiday Luncheon** - December 6, 2013

Dr. Linda Patriarca welcomed almost 75 donors, COE faculty, staff and students at her home for the third annual College of Education Holiday Lunch.

Left: LuAnn Sullivan (COE staff member), Ella Harris (COE Professional Advisory Board member), Dr. Linda Patriarca (COE Dean)

Right: Junior Advisory Board members Savanna Hersh, Rachel Vernon, Laura Cahoon and Skylar Mills

**Teacher of Year Celebration** - December 9, 2014

The College of Education honored 22 Teachers of the Year from eastern North Carolina at an event in the Murphy Center. The event titled Teach Like a PIRATE served as a celebration of outstanding educators and their positive impact within the region. Joining the Teachers of the Year were first- and second- year educators.

Top right: Dr. Linda Patriarca making her opening remarks at the fall 2013 COE Graduate Recognition Ceremony. Above and right: Graduates celebrating at the ceremony.

**Fall Graduate Recognition Ceremony** - December 13, 2014

The fall 2013 College of Education Graduate Recognition Ceremony recognized approximately 300 graduates.

**Cap Peck at COE Faculty & Staff Meeting** - January 9, 2014

Dr. Charles (Cap) Peck, professor of special education at Washington State University, made a site visit the College of Education to gather information on how assessment is being used in teacher education at ECU. He shared his experiences during the latest faculty and staff meeting.