

COE NEWS

A Publication of the College of Education at Texas State University

From the Dean's Desk

Greetings!

You are reading the most recent iteration of what has become an occasional newsletter from the College of Education at Texas State. We intend to publish more regularly in the coming semesters and years, because we have so much to share and so many wonderful stories to tell. Our faculty and staff are actively working every day to serve the citizens of Texas and America – indeed, the whole world!



In this edition you will find news of faculty research and other achievements, student awards and activities, items of interest about all of our departments and programs, and much more. If you have something to share with your fellow constituents and alumni of the COE, please write to Amy McAllister at mcallister@txstate.edu. Enjoy!

Stan Carpenter, Dean
College of Education

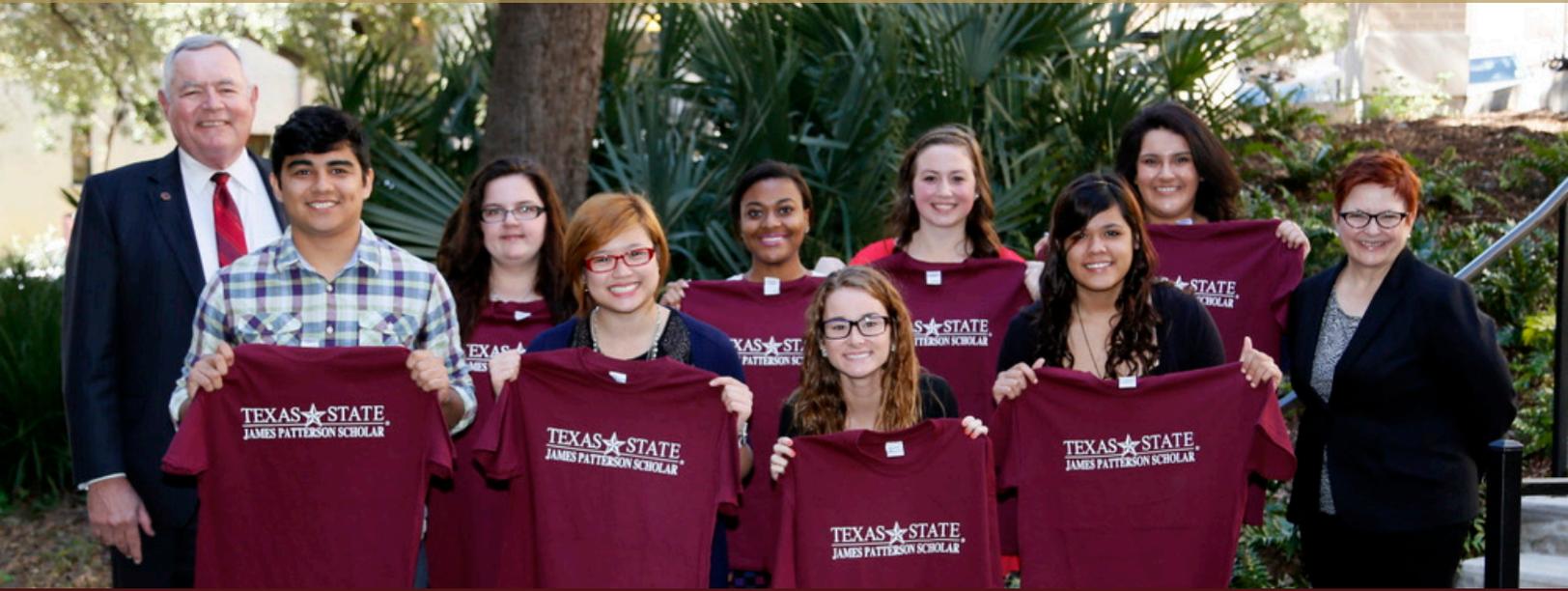
★ Our Mission

As a premier professional school, Texas State University's College of Education is dedicated to enhancing human potential for all through excellent teaching, relevant scholarship, and community engagement.

Inside this issue

- Patterson Scholars.....2
- Research Highlights.....3
- Graduates Recognized as Teachers of Promise.....3
- Faculty & Staff Spotlight.....4
- New Rho Phi Lambda Chapter....5
- Play and Inquiry Workshop Reaches out to ELL's.....5
- Spring Screening for Quetzal Critical Film Series a Success.....5
- COE Featured Program.....6

Patterson Scholars



The Patterson Family Foundation funds the James Patterson Teacher Education Scholarships for students who are studying education and are committed to teaching careers. In this first year of the scholarship, the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Texas State University has selected eight undergraduate freshmen who have demonstrated academic talent and a passion for learning and teaching.



Alexandra Alldredge (League City, Texas) plans to be an elementary teacher. She enjoys figuring out each child's own way of learning. She believes that reading is the foundation of education.



Huyenchau Nguyen (Katy, Texas) is studying to be an elementary teacher. She wants to be a positive, caring influence on children's lives. Nguyen believes reading made her enthusiastic about learning.



Abigail Crotts (San Antonio, Texas) is a math major seeking certification to teach middle school or high school math. Crotts believes reading is important in every aspect of life, including math.



Yolivette Vivas (Cypress, Texas) wants to teach elementary students because children hold a special place in her heart. "I love to see children's faces light up when they learn something new," she says.



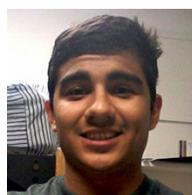
Mariely Herrera (Seguin, Texas) grew up in a Spanish-speaking home and wants to be a bilingual teacher to help children have the same opportunity to succeed as she has. Herrera believes books can teach you about life.



Baleigh Whitman (Marble Falls, Texas) plans to be an upper elementary teacher. Whitman says kids are amazing and she enjoys the feeling she gets when she explains something and they "get it."



Ke'Ana Jones (Dallas, Texas) wants to be an elementary teacher because she loves to see that "aha" moment on children's faces when they learn new things. She wants to teach in low-income, low-performing areas.



Mathew Zuniga (Rio Hondo, Texas) intends to be a high school English teacher so he can share his love of literature and writing. Zuniga believes that "words are art." He has a passion for teaching kids to dig deeper into what they read.

Research Highlights

C & I Lecturer Awarded Grant

Dr. Jo Beth Oestreich, a senior lecturer in Curriculum and Instruction, was awarded a grant from the Texas Fund for Geography Education grant program. The grant will support her research, titled “Bridging the Human and Physical Experiences of Africa.”

Oestreich’s research will provide a curricular module to include evaluated lesson plans, case studies, podcasts and webinars on the diverse human and physical study of Africa, developed for sixth grade social studies teachers, high school world geography teachers and pre-service teachers. The module will cover four different elements, including (1) physical geography, (2) culture, art, and religion, (3) political and socio-economic status and (4) inquiry-based lessons on issues facing Africa, including water and health issues. ★

Evaluating the Efficacy of Positive Behavior Interventions in Juvenile Prisons

In February 2014, Dr. Brenda Scheuermann began a new research project with the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD). The new project will evaluate the efficacy of implementing positive behavior interventions and supports (PBIS) as a behavior management framework for use in all areas of the five maximum-security juvenile prisons in Texas.

The new project aims to build upon the current work being done by TJJD and Scheuermann in terms of establishing PBIS in education programs of the secure facilities. Scheuermann will provide guidance on the design of critical elements of PBIS, training and coaching for TJJD personnel, evaluation of fidelity of PBIS implementation, and evaluation of efficacy of PBIS on measures of discipline, safety, order and social validity. ★



Graduates Recognized as Teachers of Promise

Two Texas State graduates of the Teaching Residency Program for Critical Shortage Areas have been recognized as the Teacher of Promise at their respective campuses.

Jackie Laflamme, a biology teacher at Akins High School, and Jessica Holdway, an integrated physics and chemistry teacher at Memorial East High School, will be recognized at the Austin Independent School District’s Tribute to Excellence Salute Ceremony in May.



*Jackie Laflamme,
biology teacher*

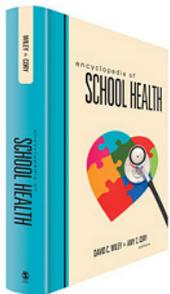


*Jessica Holdway,
integrated physics
and chemistry
teacher*

The AISD Teacher of Promise awards recognize campus first year teachers who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the profession and an overall understanding of the components of quality teaching. ★

Faculty & Staff Spotlight

Wiley Publishes Encyclopedia of School Health



Dr. David Wiley, professor in the Department of Health and Human Performance, co-edited the newly published “Encyclopedia of School Health.”

This work is the first of its kind to focus exclusively on health education and services provided in schools.

This work involved over

200 authors and over 300 entries focused on school health. The “Encyclopedia of School Health” includes valuable guidance on developmental stages, acute and chronic illnesses, special education, nutrition, crisis response, prevention and more. ★



Furney Receives Dunaway Medal



Dr. Steve Furney, university distinguished professor of health and wellness promotion in the Department of Health and Human Performance, received the 2014 Dunaway Medal from the Southern District of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. The Donna L. Dunaway Medal is the highest award given to a member by the Southern District of AAHPERD. ★

Ybañez receives Presidential Award

Dr. Kathy Ybañez-Llorente, associate professor in the Department of Counseling, Leadership, Adult



Education, and School Psychology, received the 2013 Presidential Award for Excellence in Service from Texas State University. Her professional service includes roles as president, committee chair, committee member, reviewer and editorial board member for professional counseling organizations. She was honored by the Texas Counseling Association with the Advocacy Award and was named in Senate Proclamation Number 543, commending her advocacy efforts within the counseling profession. ★

Advising Center Staff Presents at Conferences

Staff and faculty at Texas State regularly attend conferences to present their work and research. Last year, several College of Education Advising Center staff members have had the opportunity to present at annual conferences in their field. Advising Center supervisor Joya Konieczny presented at the 2013 National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) conference in Salt Lake City, Utah in October. She gave two talks on communication strategies in academic advising. Academic advisers Bailey Verschoyle and Naomi Wilson presented at the Texas Academic Advising Network (TEXAAN) conference in Waco, Texas in February. Their session was titled “Confessions of a Former Administrative Assistant.” ★



Joya Konieczny (left) and Arin Ely (right) at the NACADA conference.

Texas State Hosts New Rho Phi Lambda Chapter

Texas State University has been approved to host the newest chapter of Rho Phi Lambda, a National Honorary Professional Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Fraternity. This national fraternity serves to recognize superior students in the field as well as promote professional growth and amity among students in recreation, parks and leisure. A chartering ceremony will be held on campus April 11, where the first members of the Beta Epsilon Chapter will be inducted. National Board representative Dr. Donna K. Lindenmeier, Associate Professor at Oklahoma State University, will preside over the chartering and induction ceremonies. ★



Play and Inquiry Workshop Reaches out to English Language Learners

The Texas State Play and Inquiry Workshop has been a service to the San Marcos community as well as a laboratory teaching environment for Texas State students for over three decades. Housed in a local elementary school, the workshop offers a daily, four-hour, academically-focused program that employs constructivist, inquiry-based and play-centered teaching methods to 120 San Marcos students ages 3 to 8.



The workshop will begin an initiative with



the San Marcos Consolidated Independent School Districts this summer to provide 50 percent of its students scholarships. The scholarships will be based on students' voluntary enrollment in a state-mandated English as a second language summer program. This initiative aims to attract language diversity in the workshop program and to better serve the San Marcos community, while providing pre-service teaching students experience serving English language learner populations. ★

Spring Screening for Quetzal Critical Film Series a Success

Despite icy weather, the Quetzal Critical Film Series had a successful spring screening of the documentary "Stolen Education." Over 300 students, professors and community members braved the cold to attend the event. The film's producer, Dr. Enrique Alemán, and director, Rudy Luna, attended to speak about the film's production and lead a question and answer session after the screening.

Attendees came from as far as San Antonio, including a group of students from Poe Middle School who attended because they will be performing a play based on the narratives of the film.



The Quetzal Critical Film Series was created by Drs. Charise Pimentel and Lori Assaf with the goal of addressing critical education issues by showing and discussing films. One film will be selected and screened each semester. ★

Give to the COE

In the College of Education, we're preparing tomorrow's educators, counselors, health and wellness professionals, and athletic trainers.

Your support helps fund scholarships for the bright and the deserving, brings nationally known scholars to classrooms and labs, drives research projects, and launches the expansion of learning facilities.

Your support is a gift to future generations.

To give, visit www.ua.txstate.edu or call University Advancement at 512-245-2396.

COE Featured Program

Clinic for Autism Research, Evaluation and Support

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, autism affects one in every 88 U.S. children. This creates formidable barriers to learning and independent functioning for those affected, as well as significant challenges for their families, teachers and communities.



In response to these challenges, the College of Education created the Clinic for Autism Research, Evaluation and Support (CARES). The clinic provides services such as diagnostic assessment and evaluation, clinic- and home-based educational programs, social skills groups, job coaching and leisure skills training. These services help train school and agency personnel to apply research-based practices for individuals with autism and their families.

CARES combines the expertise of faculty and staff from programs in School Psychology, Special Education, and Exercise and Sport Science, advancing research that improves life for people with autism.

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