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The *coE-News* is an electronic newsletter produced monthly during the academic year by the College of Education News & Publications Office to keep faculty and staff up to date on College news and activities. Click here to download a [PDF version of this edition of the coE-News](#). You will need a [PDF reader](#) to view this document.

GOT NEWS? Don't be shy. Submit individual or unit news and calendar events of Collegewide interest for publication consideration to news@coe.ufl.edu. All submissions must be in writing and include contact information for follow-up questions.

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

On rankings, education debt and outreach scholarship

In this month's column, Dean Catherine Emihovich speaks to how well the College is working in terms of national rankings, research and scholarship. [\(more\)](#)

TOP STORIES

Study examines why boys are lagging behind girls in schools

Thirty years ago, boys not girls, were the high performers in schools. Today, test scores, grades and dropout rates show boys are achieving at levels far below girls. To examine the factors that lead to male underachievement and the measures needed to raise the achievement of boys, Counselor Education Associate Professor Mary Ann Clark and two school counselor doctoral students have teamed with other faculty and student researchers from universities in England and Australia on an “Internationalizing the Curriculum” project. The research is supported by the International Center at the University of Florida. ([more](#))

UF student-teachers help schoolchildren develop writing skills

College of Education professors and prospective teachers have been teaming with Newberry Elementary School faculty this past year to implement a schoolwide writing program for nearly 550 students in kindergarten through fifth grade. The initiative helps the elementary students develop better writing skills and strategies. At the same time, UF student-teachers get to work with mentor teachers and gain the classroom experience they can't get from college textbooks and classes. ([more](#))

College announces Graduate Teacher of the Year

Mirka Koro-Ljungberg, assistant professor, Educational Psychology, has been named the College of Education's Graduate Teacher of the Year for 2006. ([more](#))

Broward County's Teacher of the Year is a COE grad

Brian Dassler, a UF College of Education alumnus, has been named Broward County Public Schools Teacher of the Year for 2007. ([more](#))

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FACULTY-STAFF HONORS & APPOINTMENTS

COE professor earns UF award for dissertation mentoring

Linda Behar-Horenstein, a professor in Educational Administration and Policy, is one of five University of Florida faculty members to receive the UF Graduate School's 2005-2006 Doctoral Dissertation Advisor/Mentoring Award. ([more](#))

Teacher-learning researcher receives early-career honor

Diane Yendol-Hoppey, assistant professor, School of Teaching and Learning, is the recipient of the 2006 Kappa Delta Pi/AERA Early Career Award for her studies on how different learning contexts and the diverse needs of students affect teacher learning and teacher leadership. ([more](#))

UF Research Professor title goes to COE faculty member

Craig Wood, professor, Educational Administration and Policy, has been named University of Florida Research Foundation Research Professor for 2006. ([more](#))

Following are some highlights of recent College faculty and staff honors and appointments:

- Thomasenia Adams, associate professor, School of Teaching and Learning, has joined the editorial board of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators' Fourth Monograph. Adams' appointment runs through the monograph's publication in fall 2007.
- Linda Serra Hagedorn, chair, Educational Administration and Policy, has been elected to the editorial board of the *Journal of College Student Retention: Research, Theory & Practice*. Hagedorn also will serve as the journal's book review editor.
- Luis Ponjuan, assistant professor, Educational Administration and Policy, has been named a new faculty participant in the AERA Division J Graduate Student/New Faculty Seminar at the April 2006 AERA conference in San Francisco. Ponjuan also will serve as a member of the AERA Division J program committee for the 2007 conference in Chicago.

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STUDENT HONORS

Following are some recent announcements of student honors:

- Dennis Beck, doctoral student in educational technology, has been named to the editorial review board of the *British Journal of Educational Technology*.
- School of Teaching and Learning graduate students Hakan Dedeoglou (children's literature) and Madeleine Ortiz-Rodriguez (educational technology) will take part in the AERA Division K Teacher Education Graduate Seminar at the AERA national conference in San Francisco in April. The students will meet with noted scholars and receive support for their own research interests.

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PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Following is a sampling of recent faculty and graduate student publications and presentations in the College:

- Linda Serra Hagedorn, chair, Educational Administration and Policy, presented “Increasing Transfer Rates of Hispanic Community College Students” at the UCLA Latino Summit held in March.
- Luis Ponjuan, assistant professor, Educational Administration and Policy, has the following publications:
 - “National Study of Job Satisfaction of Faculty of Color in Doctoral Institutions,” *Journal of the Professoriate* (2006), 1(1). (This is the journal’s inaugural issue.)
 - “Latino Educational Outcomes and the Campus Climate,” *Journal of Hispanic Higher Education* (2005), 4(3), pp. 235-251. (Co-author with Hurtado, S.)
- Linda Behar-Horenstein, professor, Educational Administration and Policy, has taken part in the following presentations:
 - “Teaching Styles Beliefs Among U.S. and Canadian Dental School Faculty,” annual meeting of the American Dental Educational Association held in March in Orlando. (Co-presenters: G.S. Mitchell and T.A. Dolan)
 - “Sustaining Schoolwide Literacy Reform: Challenges and Successes,” annual meeting of the American Dental Educational Association held in April in San Francisco. (Co-presenter: M. Lefave)
 - “Characteristics of Eroded Instructional Time,” annual meeting of the American Dental Educational Association held in April in San Francisco. (Co-presenters: C.A. Isaac, C.A. Davis, D.M. Seabert)
- P.K. Yonge instructors Mickey Macdonald, Theda Buckley and Marisa Ramirez presented “Using Digital Portfolios in Student-Led Conferencing” as part of the Global Thinking: Tools for Learning segment at the National Association of Laboratory School conference held in March in New York.
- Lynda Hayes, university school associate professor, P.K. Yonge, presented “Research in Action: Professional Development That Works” at the National Association of Laboratory School conference held in March in New York. The session highlighted a P.K. Yonge program that brings teachers from across Florida to visit classes and reflect on best practices in K-12 literacy education.

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RESEARCH-GRANTS

The following lists some new faculty research and grant activities:

- Linda Lamme, professor, School of Teaching and Learning, has received an Internationalizing the Curriculum grant to incorporate international issues into children’s literature courses. Lamme’s submission was one of 20 across the university chosen to receive a \$3,000 award.
- Linda Jones, assistant professor, School of Teaching and Learning, has received a development travel grant from the Center for African Studies. The award is one of

only two being given out at UF. Jones will work with an environmental education professor at the University of Botswana and teachers and students at the Okavango International School in Maun, Botswana.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for proposals under way for Centennial conference

The College of Education invites proposals for presentation of research-focused studies and professional papers that demonstrate innovative programs and exemplary practices that address closing the achievement gap for its year-end Centennial conference “Closing the Achievement Gap Through Partnerships.” The deadline to submit proposals is May 15. For information on the conference and submission guidelines, visit the conference Web site at <http://www.doce-conferences.ufl.edu/gap/speakers.asp>.

Professor Tyree to retire at end of term

Lawrence Tyree, professor, Educational Administration and Policy, will officially retire at the end of spring term. Tyree has served as the executive director of the National Alliance of Community and Technical Colleges and for a brief time as the College’s director of the Institute of Higher Education. Before joining the UF Education faculty in 2002, Tyree spent nearly 34 years working at six community colleges in four states; 26 of those years, he served as CEO in four community college districts. Tyree is uncertain of his plans for retirement. He says he may teach part time at Appalachian State University in North Carolina or even UF. One thing is certain, though. Tyree says he will be spending more time with his grandchildren and rediscovering his golf game.

College appoints new director of distance education

Chris Sessums has been named the new director of distance education for the College of Education. In this role, Sessums will oversee the daily operation of the distance education program, to include managing the development, delivery, evaluation and support of all online degree programs and courses. Sessums has a bachelor’s in English and a master’s in secondary English education from the UF. He is currently working on a doctorate in teacher professional development and educational technology. Before joining the College, Sessums taught 12th-grade English at P.K. Yonge and seventh-grade language arts. He also worked as coordinator of the Office of Correspondence Studies in the Division of Continuing Education. For now, Sessums office is in Norman Hall 173. His phone number is 392-0728, ext. 297 and his e-mail address is csessums@coe.ufl.edu.

Instructional technology hires help desk supervisor

Dan Brooks has joined the Office of Information and Instructional Technology as help desk supervisor. Brooks comes to the college from other departments within the university. He was a desktop support supervisor in operations analysis and an IT practitioner in the provost’s office. In the College of Education, Brooks will be responsible for updating and improving help desk operations. Brooks’ office is in Norman 121. He may be reached at 392-0726, ext. 249, or brooksde@ufl.edu.

Information session on college programs set

The Office of Recruitment, Retention and Multicultural Affairs is sponsoring an information session from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 22, for anyone considering a bachelor’s, master’s or doctoral degree in education. The location of this session is yet to be determined, but registration is needed by Monday, May 15. Contact Shirl Caliste at rma@coe.ufl.edu or 392-9196, ext. 22, to register or for more information.

Saturday summit addresses literacy, media, arts

Registration is currently under way for the Saturday Summit on Literacy, Media and the Arts. The daylong session is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 3 in the Terrace Room of Norman Hall. The summit is being organized by English Education faculty members Barbara Pace and Jane Townsend and will include teaching presentations, small-group discussions, and opportunities for sharing ideas and questions about the connections between literacy, media and the arts. There is no fee to attend, but registration by June 1 is requested to ensure adequate materials for participants. To register, send an e-mail with your name and the grade level at which you teach to saturdaysummit@yahoo.com.

Baby Gator invites comments on design for new center

Baby Gator Child Development and Research Center will hold a review of design proposals for a new center at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 24, in Norman Hall 158. Proposals have been submitted by third-year UF interior design students. For more information, contact Debra Harris at 392-0252, ext. 456, or debraharris@dcp.ufl.edu. Food and drinks will be provided. To RSVP, contact Jennifer at 392-2330.

Performing Arts Center at P.K. Yonge stages musical ‘Annie’

“Annie,” one of the most popular Broadway musicals in history, will hit the stage of the Performing Arts Center at P.K. Yonge beginning Friday, April 21. The production is directed by E. Sherwin Mackintosh and features an award-winning cast of P.K. Yonge students, a full orchestra of students from the UF School of Music, and sets and costumes by students from the UF School of Theater and Dance. Tickets are \$5 for students. Advance tickets are \$9 for adults; tickets at the door are \$10 for adults. Performances begin at 7 p.m. on April 21, 22 and 29, and at 2 p.m. on April 23 and 29.

Counselor Education students to perform ‘Instead of Dying’

The Beta Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota is sponsoring a presentation of Jani N. Sherrard’s “Instead of Dying” at 7 p.m., Friday, April 21, in the Terrace Room. The production will be performed by Counselor Education graduate students Becky Goldberg, Jennifer Pritchett and Jenna Teitelbaum. A brief talk back with the actors and playwright and wine reception will follow the play.

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coE-CALENDAR

APRIL 16

College Faculty Meeting

2 p.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Hazel Jones, ext. 98-252

APRIL 19

International Center Workshop for Teachers of Alachua County

8 a.m., Terrace Room

Contact: David Akombo, dakombo@ufl.edu

APRIL 20

Scholarship of Engagement Banquet

Featuring Provost Janie Fouke as guest speaker

5:30 p.m., Emerson Alumni Hall Ballroom

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

Education College Council meeting

6:30 p.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Theresa Vernetson, 2-1058, ext. 400

April 21

Alumni Lunch and Lecture

Featuring Linda Behar-Horenstein speaking on “The Role of Classroom Observation Research”

11:30 a.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

Development Board of Directors meeting

12:30 p.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Margaret Gaylord, 2-0728, ext. 290

Alumni Association Jimmy Buffet Cover Band concert

Followed by Urban Meyer Pep rally

6 p.m. (concert), 9 p.m. (pep rally)

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

“Annie” musical

7 p.m., P.K. Yonge Performing Arts Center

Contact: 392-1554, ext. 260 for ticket information

“Instead of Dying”

7 p.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Kitty Fallon, kfallon@coe.ufl.edu

APRIL 22

Alumni Board of Directors meeting

9 a.m., Norman Hall 158

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

Orange-and-Blue Barbecue and Game

Hosted by College of Education and Alumni Association

11 a.m. (barbecue), 1:30 p.m. (game)

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

“Annie” musical

7 p.m., P.K. Yonge Performing Arts Center

Contact: 392-1554, ext. 260 for ticket information

APRIL 23

“Annie” musical

2 p.m., P.K. Yonge Performing Arts Center

Contact: 392-1554, ext. 260 for ticket information

APRIL 24

Baby Gator design review

5:30 p.m., Norman Hall 158

Contact: Jennifer, 392-2330

APRIL 25

Brown bag lunch with the Dean

Dean Catherine Emihovich will talk about her recent trip to China and her observations on the education systems in that country.

Noon, Terrace Room

Contact: Mary McDonough, 2-0728, ext. 226

****UF classes end****

APRIL 27

COE Staff Awards Luncheon (luau theme)

11:30 a.m., Norman Hall Courtyard

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

Education College Council meeting

6:30 p.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Theresa Vernetson, 2-1058, ext. 400

APRIL 29

Second Annual Teaching INquiry and Innovation Showcase

8 a.m., P.K. Yonge

Contact: Nancy Dana, Center for School Improvement, 2-0728, ext.299

“Annie” musical

Two performances at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., P.K. Yonge Performing Arts Center

Contact: 392-1554, ext. 260 for ticket information

MAY 5

Lastinger Center board meeting

11 a.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Laverne Smith, 2-0726, ext. 301

MAY 6

Distinguished Educators Dinner

6:30 p.m., Presidents Dining Room, Reitz Union

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

MAY 7

Spring Commencement

10 a.m., Stephen C. O’Connell Center

Contact: Theresa Vernetson, 2-0721, ext. 400

MAY 10

Staff Council meeting

9 a.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Sabrina McLaughlin, 2-0726, ext. 262

MAY 21

Graduation: Baby Gator Child Development and Research Center

Featuring UF President Bernie Machen as keynote speaker

2 p.m., Norman Hall Auditorium

Contact: Lisa Roberts, 392-2330

MAY 22

COE Information Session

For people interested in degrees or certification in Education

4 p.m., Location TBA

Contact: Shirl Caliste, 392-9196, ext. 22, or rrma@coe.ufl.edu

MAY 26

Alumni Lunch and Lecture

Featuring Zhihui Fang speaking on “What Does It Take to Comprehend A Textbook?”

11:30 a.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

MAY 29

Memorial Day holiday

JUNE 3

Saturday Summit: Literacy, Media and the Arts

9 a.m., Terrace Room

To register, e-mail: saturdaysummit@yahoo.com

JUNE 14

Staff Council meeting

9 a.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Sabrina McLaughlin, 2-0726, ext. 262

JUNE 16

Alumni Lunch and Lecture

Featuring Paul George speaking on “Florida Education: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly”

11:30 a.m., Terrace Room

Contact: Jodi Mount, 2-0728, ext. 250

JUNE 22-23

Great Florida Teach-I

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IN THE NEWS

The following “media hits” from News & Publications news release distribution and media inquiries have occurred recently:

- The Lastinger Center for Learning and Director Don Pemberton are cited in an article on a center-conducted study on the state of child care in Collier County that appears in the March 19 edition of The Naples Daily News. The article may be viewed online at www.naplesnews.com/newes/2006/mar/19/wine_festival_organizers_release_study_child_care
- Dean Catherine Emihovich is quoted in an article on the pitfalls of the governor’s plan to link teacher pay to FCAT scores and how current teacher-education students are responding to the plan. The story appears in the April 6 edition of the Lakeland Ledger. The article may be viewed online at www.theledger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/200604/NEWS/604-60407.1004.
- Linda Serra-Hagedorn, chair, Educational Administration and Policy, is quoted in an article on ways to keep Latino students from falling through multiple cracks in the “educational pipeline” that appears in the April 4 edition of the Los Angeles Times. The article may be viewed online at www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-latino4apr04,1,745243,full.story?coll=la-headlines-california.

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QUICK LINKS

UF: www.ufl.edu

College of Education: education.ufl.edu

coE-News: education.ufl.edu/pubs

Education Times magazine: education.ufl.edu/pubs

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