## 2008 UF COE Writing Contest Entry

(This is one of 27 entries submitted in the College's recent writing contest on the topic of "What's Good in Education?". Visit the <u>writing contest home page</u> for links to other entries, including the winning one.)

## WHAT'S GOOD IN EDUCATION?

## Through these pools of empathy...

## By CYNTHIA WORRALL-TIMMONS

8ED, curriculum and instruction (curriculum design)

Through these eyes, I see bright, blue pools of empathy. These pools of empathy pour slowly, at times, then rush like an overflowing river.

These pools of empathy run deep, beyond the unusual. They keep reaching and swimming through waves of obstacles. They do not stop; they pursue; they survive.

These pools of empathy want to know why and how you learn. They are inspired by the differences in you; they respect you.

These pools of empathy want to know, "what can I do to make a difference?"

These pools of empathy emerge from compassion. They emerge from learning how to lose gracefully and knowing how to learn from those losses.

These pools of empathy surface through years of challenging, yet rewarding work.

These pools of empathy are my eyes. They have, in the most profound and enlightening ways, graced my life through personal journeys.

My heart, mind and soul have a clear, concise meaning to...open more doors for education; collaborate with other professionals; design curricula to meet the needs of the students; reflect upon lessons learned; and provide opportunities for all so they may apply their gained knowledge into this ever-changing, technological and diverse world.

Let's wrap our arms around education!

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