



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to  
*Dennis Holt, Marcelle Lovett,  
Elinor Scheirer, Chris Weber and  
Jennifer Kane.*



## CHARACTER IS POWER.

**Booker T. Washington**

The ACEI student chapter raised nearly \$1,000 during their November 2006 fundraising walk for Heifer International whose mission is to help needy people around the world become self-reliant. The funds went toward the purchase of some water buffalo, two sheep, a trio of rabbits, and multiple flocks of chicks, ducks, geese, etc. Many thanks to the faculty and students who contributed money and time for the effort.

## HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES

Visit [www.alumni.unf.edu](http://www.alumni.unf.edu) to download a brochure or visit <http://www.unf.edu/homecoming/> for a complete list of homecoming events.

**Comedy Show:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3 in the UNF Arena, featuring comedians Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood from the Emmy nominated *Whose Line is it Anyway?* Tickets are on sale at the Ticket Box Office at ext. 2878 or can be purchased at the door. Admission is free for UNF students, \$5 for alumni and \$10 for the general public.

**Emeriti Luncheon:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7 in the University Center. Retired alumni, faculty and staff are invited to enjoy lunch, guest speakers and entertainment. The event is free and guests and companions are welcome. RSVP requested.

**Alumni Recognition Dinner:** 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8 in the University Center. Each year a distinguished group of UNF alumni is honored for outstanding personal and professional achievements. A reception will be followed by a seated dinner and the awards presentation. RSVP requested. Cost is \$35 per person, attendees are asked to dress in business attire.

**Career Connections Panel Discussion and Luncheon:** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 in the University Center. Successful young alumni have been invited back to campus to discuss how they got on the fast track in their professions. Students and young alumni are invited to participate. The event is free, but seating is limited. RSVP requested.

**Omayra Amaya Flamenco Dance Company Pre-concert Reception:** A free wine and cheese reception before the performance from 6 to 7:15 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 in the Fine Arts Center Nichols Room, Room 2011. Tickets are required for the performance (call the UNF Ticket Box Office ext. 2878). RSVP for the reception.

**It's Electric! '80s Theme Party and Casino Game Night:** 8 p.m. to midnight Friday, Feb. 9 at the University Center. Flash Dance to music by local band, 80z Enuff, and play casino games such as Texas Hold 'Em poker, roulette, and blackjack. Cost is \$20 per person, which includes hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. RSVP requested.

**Homecoming Basketball Double Header:** Lady Ospreys play at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, Men play at 4 p.m. Get up and SWOOP!

### UNF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES EXCEPTIONAL ALUMS

UNF's Alumni Association will recognize several exceptional alums for their exemplary service and contributions to the University during the 12th Annual Alumni Recognition Dinner at 6 p.m. Thursday, February 8, at the University Center. Cost for the event is \$35. Go to <http://www.unf.edu/development/news/pressreleases/releaseview.php?id=498> for more information.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS FROM THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES:

#### **Deirdra L. McDowell-Sutton**

Bachelor of Arts in Education, 1993  
Doctor of Educational Leadership, 2000

Deirdra McDowell-Sutton has served in public education for the past 14 years, teaching special needs students in elementary and middle school. She served as Vice Principal at Ribault Senior High School as well as Kernan Middle School during its inaugural year. Deirdra currently holds extensive certification in the areas of Specific Learning Disabilities and Educational Leadership. She also holds several training certifications and has taught in the College of Education Masters Program at UNF and Nova University.

Through her leadership, Deirdra Sutton has made a great impact in our schools. While serving as a district level coach, Deirdra was instrumental in Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) standards-based reform. As Director of Elementary Programs, Deirdra facilitated the district-wide educational specifications for DCPS K-8 project. She also spearheaded DCPS implementation of the State of Florida Reading First grant in 33 schools.

Deirdra Sutton is currently the principal of North Shore Elementary School in Duval County, which is one of five Professional Development Schools partnering with the UNF College of Education and Human Services. She is a strong advocate for the program and creates a collaborative environment that is designed to benefit students and faculty of UNF and the students and teachers at the partner school. Deirdra facilitates a most effective relationship with UNF, offering the opportunity for on-site courses and student internships for education majors.

The College of Education and Human Services is pleased to honor Deirdra McDowell-Sutton as Outstanding Alumna. She is an accomplished educator, a leader among her peers, and an active participant in the professional development of future educators.

#### **Linda Carlson Gunn**

Bachelor of Arts in Education, 1976  
Master of Education, 1977

Linda Carlson Gunn, who passed away in August of 2005, made great contributions to education and the community during her lifetime. Born in Camden, New Jersey on July 29, 1954, she moved to Jacksonville in 1965 with her family. After graduating from Terry Parker High School in 1972, Linda attended the University of North Florida. Majoring in Elementary Education, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education in 1976 and followed with a Master of Education in 1977.

Linda made many contributions to the community as a teacher at Beauclerc Elementary School from 1976 to 1984. Known for being a model wife and mother, Linda Gunn also developed an illustrious career in Christian Ministries, making an impact through music and volunteer service.

Linda began her music ministry as a teenager with her involvement in the Christ the King folk group, "Lend-A-Hand". With the writing and production of numerous songs, her ministry continued to flourish. In 2002, she was awarded the Gospel Music Association's Songwriter of the Year for her song, "I am Calling You". Her inspirational music has touched the hearts and minds of many listeners.

Linda Gunn was actively involved with Give Kids the World, Feed the Children and the City Rescue Mission. She founded a non-profit charity called Rescue Me Ministries to raise money for the homeless. Her faith and commitment to God led her to help others, not only in Jacksonville, but all over the world.

The College of Education and Human Services is honored to name Linda Carlson Gunn an Outstanding Alumna. Her gentle spirit and her gift of service to mankind will live on through her music and the lives she touched.

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**Nile Stanley** has received a gift of \$10,000 from the Cummer Family Foundation of Boston to support the expansion of the Poetry Stars Project, an arts based literacy initiative for high risk youth.

**Nile Stanley** published an interview, "Rick Wormeli, the Intrepid Teacher: Compassionate, Witty and Wise" in the *Florida Reading Quarterly*, Winter Issue, 43, 2, 26-31. Mr. Wormeli was the invited speaker for the Andrew Robinson Eminent Scholar Lecture in September.



In January, **Christine Weber and Laura Langton** presented a workshop on "Using conceptually based teaching and learning strategies: Preparing high quality elementary teachers" at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii International Conference on Education in Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Christine Weber** also presented a workshop on "Working on gifted issues: Marking the course" at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii International Conference on Education in Honolulu, Hawaii.



**Ethel Hernandez** is a graduate assistant helping Nile Stanley. She is from beautiful Belize, the land of sea and sun. Ethel enjoys traveling, reading, cooking and sporting activities. She is very appreciative of the opportunity to pursue her master's in elementary education at UNF and she looks forward to enjoying the Jacksonville experience.

**DEPARTMENT OF FOUNDATIONS AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**



**Jezmyn Kimelman** is a graduate assistant earning her master's degree in elementary education. She plans to graduate in spring 2008. She graduated in 2005 from Florida State University with a bachelor's degree in sociology. Her interests include distance running, art, and

spending time with her family. She was born and raised in Charlottesville, Virginia and her parents and younger brothers now reside in Mainz, Germany. She has lived in Jacksonville for the past year and she is delighted to be working as a graduate assistant for Matt McCrudden and Pritchey Smith.

**Marianne and Lehman Barnes** presented a session, *Teacher Action Research - Meaningful Professional Development toward Closing the Achievement Gap*, at the Association for Science Teacher Education annual meeting in Clearwater, Florida on January 5.

**Paul Eggen and Suzanne Schellenberg** collaborated on the paper "Policy Implications for Preparing Expert Teachers: Applications of Cognitive Load Theory", which Paul Eggen presented at the Asia Pacific Educational Research Association Annual Conference in Hong Kong in November.

**DEPARTMENT OF LEADERSHIP, COUNSELING AND INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY**



Congratulations to newlywed, **Linda Walters**, who recently married Charles Runyon in Cannonsburg, Kentucky on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Linda and Charles had a small wedding ceremony attended by family and friends followed by a reception in the church parlor. Linda's last day at UNF was January 12<sup>th</sup> and then she moved to Rush, Kentucky to join her new husband on their farm. The

college wishes Linda and Charles Runyon the best as they ride off into the sunset.

In January, **Terry Cavanaugh** presented a "5 Easy Steps to Digital Photo Story-telling" at the Florida Educational Technology Conference (FETC) in Orlando, Florida. Terry also had two publications this month: *Amazon.com as the Librarian's Assistant for Book Analysis* in Multimedia & Internet @ Schools magazine and *Reading and the Cell Phone: an Up and Coming Romance* in the Florida Reading Quarterly.

**Marcia Lamkin**, in collaboration with Amany Saleh of Arkansas State University, has been accepted to present the paper "Designing a course evaluation tool" at the Sixth International Association of Science and Technology for Development (IASTED) International Conference on Web-based Education, March 14-17 in Chamonix, France.

**Cathy Cavanaugh's** chapter on "Student Achievement in Elementary and High School" will be published in March in the Handbook of Distance Education from Erlbaum books.

In January, **Cathy Cavanaugh** presented sessions at the Florida Educational Technology Conference in Orlando about K-12 online learning research and evaluating a statewide laptop program.

**Cathy Cavanaugh** has just begun a term as chair of the North American Council for Online Learning Research Committee.

*Seeing and Valuing Diversity in Film: An Approach to Kinesiology and Physical Education* was presented by **Jason Lee, Jennifer Kane, Richard Kane** and Dan Drane, University of Southern Mississippi on January, 4<sup>th</sup> at the 2007 National Association for Kinesiology and Physical Education in Higher Education (NAKPEHE) National Conference in Clearwater, Florida.

**EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER**



**Lauren Lipton** is a student assistant studying English and American Literature with a minor in history. Just last semester, she interned with Episcopal Children's Services' Head Start and is currently awaiting acceptance to Florida Atlantic University's mental health counseling master's program for the fall of 2007. In her spare time, she enjoys biking, swimming, and working with young children.

**OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ADVISING**



**Megan Santaw** is a new student assistant working in the Office of Academic Advising. She is a sophomore in years but a junior in credits. She enjoys drawing, reading, and photography. Megan lives in Orlando, Florida but is originally from Massachusetts. She is currently majoring in Art History.



**Whitnie Scruggs** is a new student assistant in the Office of Academic Advising office. She is originally from Anchorage, Alaska. Her major is communications with a track in journalism. Whitnie enjoys reading and loves to write. Her favorite activity on campus is her role in leadership for the campus ministry Intervarsity. She is in her second year at UNF but is a Junior.

**Shanine Campbell, Ethel Hernandez, Christa Hulse, and Marilynn Tulcey** from our Belize master's degree cohorts have matriculated for classes on campus to complete their degrees in Jacksonville. Please extend a typical UNF welcome to our new on campus international students.

Belize students, **Merlene Guzman and Shirley Samuels**, graduated with their master's degrees in elementary and secondary education on December 15. Both have returned to Belize to continue their work in the Belizean educational system.



**Lois King's** son, Staff Sgt. Nathan Boehm, has been with the Air Force for nine years and has just received an award for the 2006 NCO of the Year by the commander of the 116<sup>th</sup> MXS.



**Shanine Campbell** is a graduate assistant from beautiful Belize, the land that is so free by the carib sea. Shanine will be assisting John Kemppainen with his class. She is majoring in secondary education with a minor in biology. She enjoys meeting new people, conversing, shopping and reading.

**DEPARTMENT OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT AND DEAF EDUCATION**



**Erin Frances** is a new student assistant helping the Department of Exceptional Student and Deaf Education. Erin enjoyed her work experience so much at the Citrus County Supervisor of Elections Office during the 2006 election cycle that she decided to major in Political Science. She is a junior at UNF.



**John Venn** has a new granddaughter, Edén Joy, born on January 8<sup>th</sup> to the proud parents of Jenny and Jason Venn. Edén Joy was 7½ pounds and 17 inches long at birth. Congratulations to the Venn family for their new bundle of joy.

**INTERESTED IN A SNEAK PEAK OF THE NEW COEHS BUILDING DESIGN?**

Go to this link for the design:  
[http://www.unf.edu/coehs/new\\_building/index.html](http://www.unf.edu/coehs/new_building/index.html)

**DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO RUSSELL MAYS AND MARIANNE BARNES FOR THE LOSS OF THEIR LOVED ONES.**

## February Calendar

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| <p>2 Deadline to apply for Graduation<br/>Deadline to withdraw with 25% refund<br/>Deadline for reinstatement<br/><b>Ground Hog Day</b><br/>9:30 a.m. First Friday Celebration (documents room)<br/>12:15 pm Faculty Assembly (51/1103)<br/>10:00 a.m. FSE Leadership meeting (counseling lab)</p> <p>3 <b>UNF Homecoming Week - Nest Fest 2007 (Feb 3 – 10)</b></p> <p>5 11:00 a.m. Advising Staff meeting (documents room)<br/>10:00 a.m. ESDE Dept. meeting (12/2116)</p> <p>6 <b>Happy Birthday Dennis Holt!</b></p> <p>7 9:30 a.m. Dean's Council (documents room)<br/>10:00 a.m. FSE Curriculum Committee meeting (9/2121)</p> <p>9 12:00 p.m. FSE Faculty meeting (9/1233)</p> <p>12 11:00 a.m. Core Council (documents room)<br/>10:00 a.m. ESDE Dept. meeting (12/2116)<br/><b>Lincoln's Birthday</b></p> | <p>13 <b>Happy Birthday Marcelle Lovett!</b><br/>2:00 p.m. Counseling Education Faculty meeting (doctoral workroom)</p> <p>14 <b>Valentine's Day</b><br/>1:00 p.m. Technology Committee (documents room)</p> <p>15 2:30 p.m. Educational Leadership Faculty mtg (doctoral workroom)</p> <p>19 10:00 a.m. ESDE Dept. meeting (12/2116)<br/><b>President's Day</b></p> <p>20 <b>Happy Birthday Elinor Scheirer!</b></p> <p>21 9:30 a.m. Dean's Council (documents room)</p> <p>24 <b>Happy Birthday Chris Weber!</b></p> <p>25 <b>Happy Birthday Jennifer Kane!</b></p> <p>26 10:00 a.m. ESDE Dept. meeting (12/2116)</p> |
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This Newsletter is published by the Office of the Dean, College of Education and Human Services. Please submit any news items to the Dean's Office by the third Wednesday of each month.

No one like you.  
No place like this.



## COEHS NEWS

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## Dean's Message

Our College of Education and Human Services continues to offer rigorous, research-based teacher education programs that combine general education, specific content expertise, teaching methods and pedagogy, and realistic classroom experience. Our programs are all approved by the Florida Department of Education, and our College is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the gold standard for recognition of outstanding teacher education programs in the United States.

Teacher education is frequently the subject of comment and critique by everyone from teacher educators themselves to politicians. Many options exist for persons to become certified to teach that focus largely if not exclusively on content mastery and the ability to pass a teacher certification test alone. These options do not provide prospective teachers with preparation in how to teach, how to assess learning, how to plan instruction, how to manage a classroom, or how to work effectively with children and adolescents. Recently, researchers have begun (appropriately) to look at the impact of the type of teacher preparation one obtains on teachers' classroom performance, their likelihood to stay in the profession, and their impact on students' learning. A recent study by Tom Kane, Doug Staiger, and Jonah Rockoff published in *Education Next* (Hoover Institution) made claims that teachers who become certified via content knowledge and teacher testing alone do no worse than those who have completed rigorous teacher education programs, such as those offered at NCATE-accredited institutions.

A further analysis of the study's data yields a different conclusion, however. NCATE and the Center for Teaching Quality have issued a joint statement (<http://www.ncate.org/documents/NCATENews/NCATEStateline.pdf>) that offers a far different view of the study's data. A portion of the statement reads as follows:

[The researchers] found that while alternatively certified teachers fare worse as rookie teachers than certified teachers, they catch up by the end of year three. On the basis of this, they conclude, incorrectly, that teacher preparation does not matter. They ignore the fact that teacher preparation develops the knowledge and skill that gives certified teachers their initial advantage and subsequently helps the alternately certified New York Teaching Fellows (the majority of those alternatively certified teachers studied) to catch up. By the end of Year 3 the New York City Teaching Fellows, if they remain in teaching, actually **have been trained in "how to teach" and have earned a subsidized master's degree from schools of education.** The study did not take this learning into account. Most of the *Teach for America* teachers who are not required to attain a master's degree had left by Year 3, after proving less effective with their students for the two years they taught.

While various routes to teacher certification may be available, they are clearly not all created equal. The rigorous preparation afforded teachers in our NCATE-accredited programs still leads to the most well-prepared classroom professional. Quality alternatives to four-year programs are available (such as those offered by the College of Education and Human Services through our grant supported SUCCEED program), but it is clear that teachers need more than content knowledge to be successful as teachers. The University of North Florida remains committed to quality teacher education that recognizes teachers as professionals who possess specific knowledge, skills, and dispositions essential to success. Content knowledge is only one piece of the large jigsaw puzzle of teacher quality.

