WOODLAND ACRES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TOUR

This spring, community members were once again invited to a behind-the-scenes look at one of our national award-winning North Florida Urban Professional Development School Partnership (UPDS) sites. Woodland Acres Elementary School is one of four local schools chosen to participate in this innovative partnership between UNF and Duval County Public Schools.

In Duval’s model, a Resident Clinical Faculty member (master teacher) and one or more UNF faculty are assigned to the UPDS site. These urban education specialists are based at the school. This enhanced supervisory capacity allows greater numbers of university students to participate in rich, clinical experiences and instruction at the partner school. In some cases, over 100 UNF students may be placed at one UPDS site in a single semester.

Other benefits include:

- The additional “teacher power” provided by UNF students allows children to receive more small group and one-on-one instruction
- Existing teachers benefit from the customized professional development and mentoring designed to increase effectiveness

Tour participants learned more about the program’s impact on Woodland Acres from school leaders, teachers and COEHS faculty. The morning’s activities included opportunities to observe COEHS pre-service teachers in the classroom and working one-in-one with Woodland Acres’ children.
Congratulations to the following College of Education and Human Services students who were awarded Journey Scholarships by the UNF Alumni Association Board of Directors for study abroad:

- **Ashley Kirkham**
  (Student teaching in Plymouth England with Dr. Marsha Lupi)

- **Tara Brown Ogilvie**
  (Translation/Interpretation Studies in Austria and Slovenia with Dr. Sherry Shaw)
DEAN’S EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL PROFILE: Harvey Pies

Harvey Pies has been a member of the Dean’s Education Advisory Council since 2004. This graduate of Cornell University and Harvard Law School has always had an intense interest in education, especially higher education. In addition to the Cornell and Harvard Law degrees, Pies has a Master’s Degree in Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health. This degree proved to be of particular benefit when he became Minority Health Counsel to the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee from 1975-1982.

Pies practiced law for many years in Boston and Washington, D.C. In December 1983, he moved to Jacksonville when he took a position in the legal department at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida. He retired from Blue Cross in 2005 as Vice President and Deputy General Counsel.

Pies grew up in Batavia, N.Y, a small town in western New York State. He is married to Rena, a former federal lobbyist who founded and managed a non-profit affordable housing program in Jacksonville. Their son, Jeffrey, is involved with the film industry in Los Angeles.

“My involvement with the Dean’s Council has been extremely rewarding. I am very concerned about K-12 education, as I believe it is one of the most critical needs for our community and our country.”

Pies says that, “Being involved with the Dean’s Council has provided me with an opportunity to learn more about how to meet K-12 needs in our community and to work with Dean Larry Daniel and his fine staff to help in that effort. I have enjoyed learning about the various programs the College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) offers. I’ve also become aware of the many ways UNF (and COEHS in particular) not only provides a superior educational experience and training for our future teachers, but also helps serve our community in so many ways.”

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“I have especially appreciated the opportunity to meet COEHS faculty and students. Getting acquainted with these dedicated individuals has helped me to learn about the many excellent programs the college offers. I am particularly interested in the programs for teaching and working with the deaf.”

For the coming academic year, Pies is looking forward to working with DEAC as they launch a new strategic planning process. He is enthusiastic about helping COEHS meet its many important objectives, including its ongoing partnerships with Urban Professional Development Schools in Jacksonville, continuing to develop programs such as American Sign Language/English Interpreting and Deaf Education, helping students obtain goals through scholarship programs, and working with schools in Belize.

“I want to do what I can to help the college continue its progress.”

Congratulations to all UNF College of Education and Human Services Spring 2011 graduates! Good luck and best wishes to you!
UNF BREAKS GROUND ON TWO-STORY ADDITION TO COEHS

The University of North Florida’s College of Education and Human Services and its Division of Student Affairs broke ground on January 14, 2011 on a two-story addition to house four university units. The units include the Disability Resource Center, the Military and Veterans Resource Center, the On Campus Transition Program and the Institute for Values, Community and Leadership. The structure will comprise nearly 16,000 square feet and will cost about $5.6 million. It will be contiguous with the southwest corner of the College of Education and Human Services Building.

The addition will follow UNF’s other new building on campus as a “green” building, meaning it uses energy-saving measures, recycled materials and natural light to improve the work environment. Baker Barrios Architects in Orlando designed the facility and PPI is the construction management firm for the project. The building is estimated to open for occupancy in January, 2012.
A reception was held on February 16, 2011 to celebrate the 20 year anniversary of UNF’s first doctoral program and to honor the 160 alumni of the program in Educational Leadership. Speakers included UNF President John Delaney, COEHS Dean Dr. Larry Daniel, Doctoral program founder and leader Dr. Kathe Kasten, program alum Dr. Kelley Ranch and current doctoral student Maira Martelo. Throughout its 20 year history, UNF’s doctoral program in Educational Leadership has been a key player in building leadership in the First Coast’s K-12 and higher education institutions. Because of the program’s over-arching leadership focus, graduates also serve as leaders in industry, health care, religion and non-profit management throughout the region.
Rebekah Wallis Kelemen was born in Fairfax, Virginia, but grew up in Jacksonville. She graduated from the College of Education and Human Services at UNF in spring 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts in Education, with a concentration in Exceptional Student Education. Kelemen originally chose UNF so she could stay close to family, but once she began to develop relationships with students and faculty, she said “I realized choosing UNF was one of the best decisions that I have ever made.” Once at UNF, Kelemen joined the Student Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC) and is also a member of Florida APSE, Pi Lambda Theta and the Duval County Reading Council.

Kelemen applied for and received the St. Joe Company Endowed Scholarship/Fellowship in the fall of 2010. Being awarded the St. Joe Scholarship helped her to complete the final semesters of her undergraduate work without taking out another student loan. “The fact that I was selected for this scholarship encouraged me to continue persevering and doing my best even when outside factors posed hurdles. Receiving the St. Joe Scholarship helped me overcome such hurdles.”

This year, Kelemen was also selected to receive the Albert D. Ernest, Jr. Caring Award. This award was established in 1992 by the friends of Albert D. Ernest, Jr. and Barnett Bank of Jacksonville, N.A. (currently Bank of America).

It is awarded to a UNF student who demonstrates the spirit of caring, humanitarianism and volunteerism exemplified by Albert D. Ernest, Jr.

In nominating Kelemen for the award, COEHS faculty member, Dr. Sue Syverud said “Rebekah’s actions display the spirit of caring, humanitarianism, and volunteerism that this award represents. Rebekah is an excellent student who has already displayed a tremendous amount of commitment to making a difference in the lives of both struggling learners and refugees in our community, two populations of people that are in great need of change.”
Kelemen said that receiving the award is an incredible honor. “I hope that my acceptance of this award will help others to get involved in the community and reach out to those in need.”

Kelemen also received the 2011 Outstanding Student Award for the Exceptional Student and Deaf Education Department.

While her UNF studies keep her busy, Kelemen also coordinates a weekly after-school tutoring program for inner-city students in the Springfield neighborhood. She has been involved with the Jacksonville chapter of World Relief, a nonprofit organization that helps to resettle refugees in our community. Her husband, Matthew, is also a student at UNF and works at World Relief.

Kelemen enjoys playing a variety of instruments including the guitar, piano, bass, mandolin, cello, and banjo. She likes to knit and read.

Kelemen said the experience that had the most impact on her while at UNF was being able to put theory into practice in the assorted methods and field courses that were part of her undergraduate requirements. “It’s one thing to learn about teaching strategies and how to interact with diverse groups of students, and yet another to actually have the opportunity to authentically experience what it is like to implement those strategies and work with diverse learners.”

When asked about her plans for the future, Rebekah said “I would like to teach in an urban school in Duval County where I can work with students who don’t have the luxuries that we often take for granted. In addition, I hope to eventually pursue master’s and doctoral degrees.”
Congratulations to COEHS faculty Katrina W. Hall (Childhood Education) and Lunetta M. Williams (Childhood Education) for receiving the 2010-2011 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards. Nominations came from students, faculty colleagues, administrators and alumni.

Recipients receive a cash award and will be honored with a commemorative plaque at the 2011 fall convocation. The awards are funded through unrestricted gifts from the UNF Foundation, Inc. and Academic Affairs.

Congratulations to the following COEHS faculty for receiving a Transformational Learning Opportunity (TLO) award. A transformational learning opportunity, whether inside or outside the classroom, has the potential to enrich student learning and personal development. Such transformation experiences are an integral part of UNF’s strategic plan and institutional mission. This year, the following professors were successful in obtaining TLO’s for study abroad:

- Dr. Marsha Lupi and Dr. Jacque Batey: Creating Transformational Learning Opportunities: Student Teaching in Plymouth, England
- Dr. Elizabeth Fullerton: Inclusive Education in Cusco, Peru
- Dr. Sherry Shaw: Interpretation Studies in Austria and Slovenia
Calendar

May - August

May 16 – Classes Begin, Summer Session A and C
May 30 – Memorial Day, UNF Closed
June 24 – Classes End, Summer A
June 29 – Classes Begin, Summer B
July 4 – Independence Day, UNF Closed
August 5 – Classes End, Summer B and C
August 22 – Classes Begin, Fall Semester

This Newsletter is published semi-annually by the Office of the Dean, College of Education and Human Services.