DEPARTMENT OF FOUNDATIONS AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

**Dr. Luciana Braga** joins us as Assistant Professor of Physical Education in the Department of Foundations and Secondary Education. Dr. Braga holds a Master of Education degree from Framingham State University, Massachusetts and a Ph.D. in Coaching and Teaching Studies from West Virginia University. Dr. Braga is from Brazil, where she spent 10 years teaching physical education at an American School in Rio de Janeiro. As a graduate assistant she taught several methods courses within a physical education teacher education program at West Virginia University for three years. Her research interests include the design, implementation, and evaluation of school-based interventions aiming at increasing opportunities for youth to be physically active. Dr. Braga is an advocate for active lifestyles and she can usually be found riding her bike, swimming or engaging in other outdoor pursuits.

Four of the COEHS students were honored at the 2014 PFLAG Jacks (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays of Jacksonville, Florida) Scholarship Banquet this month. Pictured are: **Dr. Hope Wilson**, faculty of the Foundations and Secondary Education Department and Pride Club advisor with **H. Baier**, a student in the secondary education department and UNF Pride Club president, and Kaitlin Legg, UNF LGBT Resource Center Director.
Foundations and Secondary Education Department faculty members Drs. Brian Zoellner and Richard Chant presented their paper: Making the Professional Personal: The Role of Examining Pre-Service Teacher Beliefs in their Professional Development Plans at the 11th Annual International Conference on Excellence in Education in Paris, France, July 7-10. Zoellner and Chant used the paper, co-written by Dr. Kosze Lee, to describe a qualitative research study using student work samples during student teaching internship within secondary education programs at the UNF.

DEPARTMENT OF LEADERSHIP, SCHOOL COUNSELING AND SPORT MANAGEMENT

Michele Verkerk joins the College of Education and Human Services as the Office Assistant for Leadership, School Counseling and Sport Management. She is originally from Memphis, Tennessee and moved to Delray Beach, Florida in June of 1995 where she spent 14 years before moving to the Jacksonville area. In her free time, she enjoys the outdoor life, gardening, riding bicycles and walking on the beach. Her interests include knitting, painting and studying the concept of good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle. Michele currently lives in Jacksonville Beach with her husband, step daughter and Chihuahua.

Dr. Anne Swanson will be serving as a Visiting Assistant Professor in School Leadership for the 2014-2015 academic year. Anne’s career in education began as a science teacher after graduating from Mount Holyoke College with a B.A. in Biology. After several years, Anne received an M.A. in Secondary Science Education from Columbia University Teachers College. Anne taught in grades 7-12 in North Carolina, Korea, Germany, Virginia and Illinois. In Illinois, she transitioned to administration and received her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Loyola University Chicago. Anne worked in school and district administration for the remainder of her career, retiring as an Assistant Superintendent Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability of a large district in Illinois.
Anne’s family vacationed for many years in Atlantic Beach, Florida, and moved to their home there permanently in 2013. She is delighted to be back in the classroom working with teachers and aspiring educational leaders. Her work is focused on assessment of student learning, school accountability and the larger school reform effort.

In August 2013, Jeff Wolfgang received his Ph.D. from the University of Florida in Counselor Education and Supervision. Previously, Jeff was the interim school counseling program coordinator for the University of Cincinnati. He is now a Visiting Assistant Professor for the school counseling program in the College of Education and Human Services at UNF. His research interests include exploring marginalized young children’s experiences with traumatic stress and difficult attachment as it pertains to their academic achievement, as well as developing ecological interventions to assist marginalized young children with their strengths and resources to enhance their academic success.

Congratulations to sport management bachelor’s and master’s degree graduate Lauren Pessolano who has recently accepted a position in Facilities Coordination with Madison Square Garden in New York City. Lauren completed her internship at SMG in Jacksonville and then accepted a full-time position with them in the area of facilities management. She also interned at the Plymouth Argyle football club in Plymouth, England on a TLO in 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF EXCEPTIONAL, DEAF AND INTERPRETER EDUCATION

Brenda Dale joins Exceptional, Deaf, and Interpreter Education as a Visiting Instructor. She was raised in Jacksonville, graduated from the University of Florida in Gainesville, and the University of North Florida where she received her Masters Degree in Special Education (Deaf Education). Prior to coming to UNF, she worked for the Duval County Public School District as the Program Specialist for the Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. She has completed 35 years in public education working with students and their families; and continues to be involved in the local deaf community.
Dr. Sherry Shaw pictured with Kelly Lindsey, graduate student in ASL/English Interpreting program at the Welcome Week Luau.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, LITERACY, AND TESOL

Dr. Candice Carter finished a book this summer which will be published in October. It is titled “Youth Literature for Peace Education” and the link to more information can be found here: http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/youth-literature-for-peace-education-candice-c-carter/?K=9781137362261.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ADVISING

Todd and Peg Parrish went to Maine for their summer vacation and when they crossed the border into Canada, they discovered there are still a few Canada geese in Canada. Possibly our vacationing UNF geese? They also visited the Bay of Fundy, home to the highest tides in the world. These photos were taken at Hopewell Rocks Park where the tide is 36-40 ft. high!
Megan Schramm-Possinger earned her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from Rutgers University in 2012, and soon thereafter began working as a Research Associate at the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey. From 2003 to 2012, she was an Assessment Specialist for the Rutgers Future Scholars Program and she taught courses at Rutgers on teaching, learning and assessment. Prior to that, Dr. Schramm-Possinger taught fourth and sixth grade in New Jersey. Her research interests are in the areas of assessment and measurement, graduate student retention, teacher’s professional beliefs, and teacher expertise. In her spare time, Megan enjoys spending time with her husband and two daughters as well as running, reading and going to the beach.

Pat Hanford, Director of Development for the COEHS recently completed the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) training. This international certification provides credentials based on rigorous standards that test their knowledge, skills, and abilities required of a fundraising executive. Pat’s hard work is often done with a look at the future, seeking planned gifts for the college, as well as endowments given by donors that have a longevity component. She has also been a steward for many faculty grant funding opportunities that are currently in operation in our college and she continues to seek donors for our COEHS. Congratulations, Pat for your achievement as a CFRE.

Chris Slack has joined COEHS as the new Development Meeting and Events Coordinator. She comes from a background in higher education and sports administration where she’s focused on event management and donor relations. Most recently, she was with Penn State York Continuing Education where she worked with area businesses on organization development, creating customized professional training and educational programs to meet their needs. Chris graduated from Penn State University with a degree in Journalism and attended Temple University for graduate studies. She lives with her husband Michael and two children in Saint Johns. Chris can often be found volunteering at her kids’ schools, including serving as Co-President of the CCE PTO this year, as well as running multiple races, including as many Ragnar long distance relays as she can convince her friends to enter.
Another successful Welcome Back BBQ!! Faculty and staff enjoyed another COEHS barbeque on Thursday, August 21. Thanks to Patti Robbins for planning the event and thanks to Mayes for providing the burgers, hotdogs and salads. After Interim Dean Marsha Lupi made a few announcements, the chairs and directors introduced their new faculty and staff.