Dear Colleagues,

Time flies fast. New Year’s is around the corner again. May you all have a wonderful holiday season and another productive and innovative new year!

2010-2011 was the year to “Take Action—Work Collaboratively for the Best.” This academic year, we are to “Make a Change—Work Collaboratively for an Innovation.”

In 2011, with a collaborative effort, we made a success in NCATE visit, had Childhood Education and TESOL Certificate programs approved at the university level, and two of our faculty members received UNF Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards. In scholarship, we published two books, two book chapters and six journal articles; presented 19 papers at international, national and state conferences. In addition to the publications and presentations, we had six faculty awarded seven grants of total $183,164, from which one was an external grant (PI-Dr. Weber, $127,164). In service, we represented well at national, state, and university levels, and in the college, department and community as well. Our dedicated services were highly appreciated by UNF and the community. Overall, we made the best in teaching, scholarship and services in 2011; we had a very productive 2011.

At the end of the year, we are celebrating our achievements. Meanwhile, we are to make changes by remapping our programs, syllabi and instruction with an alignment and implementation of new FEAPS, new Reading Endorsement Standards and new TESOL standards. We should continuously enhance our collaborative effort to open an innovation page in 2012.

Thank you!
John Ouyang

Dept. of Childhood Ed.

Highlights of Achievements (2011)

Dec. 2, 2011

Happy Holiday Season and Happy New Year!!

Achievements in Teaching

Dr. Jin-Suk Byun developed and taught a new course, TSL 6252 Principle of Linguistics in ESOL during Fall 2011.

Dr. Gigi David has been accepted into the University of North Florida’s 2011-2012 Community Scholars Program Cohort. With this program, she will participate in the Community Scholars Orientation Day hosted by President and Provost, attend and participate in 6 3-hour seminars during the year of 2011-2012, and work on her Community Scholars’ project.

Dr. Elizabeth Fullerton and Dr. Katie Monnin were nominated for 2011-2012 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards.

Dr. Christine Weber revised EDG 3324 for alignment with Common Core Standards.

Dr. Lunetta Williams and Dr. Katrina Hall received the 2010-2011 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards.

Achievements in Research

Publications:

Dr. Jin-Suk Byun has had an article published “Power law of practice in SLA through computer technology”. This article was published in the Journal of Korea Knowledge Information Technology Society.

Dr. Wanda Hedrick got her article “An investigation of current secondary reading programs” published in Literacy Research and Instruction.

Dr. Stacy Keller reviewed the book Mathematics curriculum: Issues, trends, and future directions, seventy-second yearbook. She also had her article, “Make 'em want to be there!” published in the Journal of Teaching Children Mathematics.

Dr. Katie Monnin had an article, “Teaching media literacy with graphic novels” published in Horizons International Journal

Dr. Nile Stanley had an article, “Predicting FCAT reading scores using prior performance on the Reading-Level Indicator” published in Reading Psychology. He also had an article, “Making learners click with digital storytelling” published in Language Magazine.
Publications (cont.):

Dr. Ronghua Ouyang had his book *Education Technology* published by the Renmin University Press in Beijing, China. He also had two book chapters published in *Education Technology*, “Theories and Research in Education Technology”, and “Educational Technology in Teaching Mathematics.”

Presentations:


Dr. Jackie Batey gave a presentation at the Council for Exceptional Children Convention and Expo, *Cross cultural learning opportunities through International field experiences: Research and practice*. She also gave a presentation at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, *Reflections on surface and deep cultural changes developed through a short-term international internship*.

Dr. Jin-Suk Byun was invited as a guest speaker for a presentation at the Northeast Florida TESOL: *Believe your ELL has great potential*.

Dr. Gigi David gave a presentation at the Young Writers’ Conference at Summer Elementary in Lake City, Florida.

Dr. Gigi David, Dr. Katrina Hall, and Dr. Lunetta Williams had an essay “ABC Literacy: Art, Books, Community- Empowering families to engage in interactive read aloud and arts-infused activities with their children” presented at the National Association of Young Children National Conference with teacher candidate Buca Forrester.

Dr. Elizabeth Fullerton and Dr. Gigi David gave a presentation, *Social skills: Promoting preschool friendships, addressing challenging behavior*, at the National Institute on Effective Practices/Supporting Young Children’s Social and Emotional Development.

Dr. Elizabeth Fullerton, Dr. Gigi David, and Dr. Katrina Hall had a research essay presented at the National Association of Young Children National Conference named “Intentional Partnerships: Preparing the Early Childhood Teacher (birth through age 8) to be a Community Leader” with teacher candidates Julie Glass & Megan Decubellis. The three also had their research presented, “Intentional Partnerships: Preparing the Early Child Teacher to be a Community Leader”, at the 2011 International Institute for Partnerships.

Dr. Katrina Hall, Dr. Wanda Hedrick, and Dr. Lunetta Williams presented a paper, *Are They Really Reading? Development of a Reading Engagement Instrument*, at the American Educational Research Association Annual Conference, *Dr. Katrina Hall and Dr. Wanda Hedrick* also had their research essays with Dr. Lunetta Williams named *Expanding access, knowledge, and participation during in school independent reading time and Measuring reading engagement during independent reading* presented at the Literacy Research Association and the 13th Annual International Conference in Education in Athens, Greece, respectively.

Dr. Katrina Hall had an essay, “Nurturing knowledge from the coach to the teacher of birth-five children: A professional development model”, presented at the National Association of Young Children National Conference.

Dr. Katie Monnin gave a presentation, “Teaching graphic novels in deaf education settings”. This was presented at The Learning Center for the Deaf in October 2011. She also has a monthly television interview on Action News Jacksonville entitled Katie's Korner, focused on current events in literacy.

Dr. Nile Stanley was invited to lecture at the Shannxi Normal University in China, *Current trends of pre-k/elementary education*. He also gave a presentation, *Unleashing children’s brilliance with performance literacy*, at the Florida Fund for Minority Teachers: 15th Annual Teacher Recruitment & Retention Symposium.

Dr. Ronghua Ouyang had his research presented at printed in the Proceedings of *Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference 2011*; “Useful Digital Tools for Teachers: Picasa, Audacity and PhotoStory3” and “Best Practice and Performance-Based Learning: An Analysis of Technology Training Activities for Enhancing Pre-Service Teachers’ Technology Skills”. He also presented “Open University of China: Development trends and issues” at the 17th ACPSS International Conference in Columbia University, New York.

Dr. Christine Weber gave two presentations at the 19th Biennial Conference, World Council for Gifted and Talented Children International Conference, Prague, Czech Republic. *Using case studies to enhance professional development in gifted education and A 3 tiered comprehensive approach to providing online training and certification to gifted teachers*. She also hosted Three sessions at the National Association for Gifted Children Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA. *What’s the plan? Designing a teacher support system for developing model lessons for gifted learners; Exploring case studies in professional development; and A 3 tiered comprehensive approach to providing online training and certification to gifted teachers.*
Grants:

Dr. Jackie Batey was awarded the *Transformational Learning Opportunity Grant* by the NF Office for International Studies for $25,000. She also received a grant of $1,500 for her *CBTL Course Designation Pilot Project* from the UNF Center for Community-Based learning.

Dr. Elizabeth Fullerton, Dr. Gigi David, and Dr. Katrina Hall received $12,000 for the *Community-based Learning Engaged Department Grant: PreK Primary Department* from the UNF Center for Community-Based learning.

Dr. Katrina Hall was awarded the UNF Academic Affairs Faculty Development Teaching Grant for *Developing a digital library for literacy courses* for $7,500.

Dr. Ronghua Ouyang was awarded the *UNF International Faculty Study Abroad Project Grant: Exploring Collaboration Project of Student Interns* for $2,500.

Dr. Christine Weber received a grant of $127,164 from the Florida Department of Education for being the Principal Investigator of *Working on gifted issues 2010-2011*.

Dr. Lunetta Williams was awarded the UNF Academic Affairs Faculty Development Teaching Grant by GLOBE for $7,500.

In progress:

Dr. Katie Monnin has a column, Katie’s Korner: Graphic novel reviews for your school or library. This is a monthly review column of two graphic novels for teachers and librarians. She has had two books accepted for publication by Maupin House: *Really Reading Graphic Novels: How Graphics Novels Are Making Kids Smarter* and *Teaching Content Area Graphic Novels*. She has also had two articles, one being in review, and the other in press. “Early reader comics and reading comprehension: A second grade case study” in SANE is currently in review for 2012; and “Aligning the IRA/NCTE standards to graphic novels: An ELA pedagogy of multiliteracies” is currently in press in InLand Journal. Dr. Katie Monnin was also invited to write an article for SANE, “Why all educators should care about teaching comics and graphic novels”.

Dr. Christine Weber had a sabbatical approved for completion of a book on *Enhancing professional development: Examining issues in gifted education* with Prufrock Press and a possible co-publication with the National Association for Gifted Children.

Dr. Lunetta Williams had her article “Using digital texts to motivate fluent readers” accepted for publication in *The Reading Teacher*.

Dr. Christine Weber has an invited International article in press, *A comprehensive plan for differentiating the training of teachers of the gifted online at the state, district and university level in Florida, USA*, in Gifted Education International. She also has in press *A lack of awareness and emphasis in pre-service teacher training experiences: Preconceived beliefs about the gifted and talented* in Gifted Child Today. Her article was accepted, *Educating parents of gifted children: Designing effective workshops for changing parent perceptions*, in Gifted Child Today.

Achievements in Service:

Dr. Gigi David participated as a children’s author at the Cummer Museum Book Fair, and is a member of the design team at Ortega Museum Magnet.

Dr. Katrina Hall has provided outstanding service as the President in the Board of Trustees, JWI Seaside Playgarden Member Planning team for Coaches Institute, JCC, ECS, JU; and the Faculty Enhancement Committee at University of North Florida.

Dr. Shari Little helped host a panel of educators from the Republic of Georgia sponsored by Global Jax. The panel shared, through an interpreter, the Georgian models of bilingual and trilingual education as well as a cultural overview of the country. The panel visited Dr. Little’s secondary content area course.

Dr. Christine Weber served as the Co-director in Camp Composition: Florida Writes! She served as a NAGC (National Association for Gifted Children) 2011-2012 Awards Committee Member and is involved with being the FLAG (Florida Association for the Gifted and Talented) Board of Directors secretary.