



Bloomsburg University

College of Education - Newsletter

Editors: Dr. B Wert, Dr. Fran Kendris, and Craig Young

Message from the Dean

Elizabeth Mauch



Happy Spring! I am delighted to introduce the Spring 2010 newsletter. This is the first newsletter that I have overseen and I am sure that you will be delighted with the contents. I'd like to thank the members of the Public Relations Committee for compiling the newsletter for the College of Education.

In the College of Education, we continue to make changes as mandated in the Pennsylvania Department of Education Chapter 49-2 legislation. We have already enrolled our first class of students who will graduate under the new guidelines. The departments of Early Childhood and Elementary Education and Exceptionality Programs will begin to modify and add master's degree programs which satisfy the legislation directives in fall 2010. The department of Educational Studies and Secondary Education is awaiting new guidelines for our secondary education curriculum. We had a new Principals' Certificate Master's Program accepted by the state, as well as a brand new Superintendent's Academy.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (emauch@bloomu.edu) if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth K. Mauch, Ph.D.

Interim Dean

College of Education



Calendar

Date	Event
January 19 th	Classes Begin
March 8 th -12 th	Spring Break (No Classes)
March 27 th -28 th	Interpreter Student Conference
May 4 th	Finals Begin
May 7 th	Graduate Commencement
May 8 th	Undergraduate Commencement
May 13 th – 14 th	BU Reading Conference

Early Childhood and Elementary Education

Graduate Students Publish

Seven graduate students recently had book reviews published in the Association for Childhood Education International's journal, *Childhood Education*. These reviews were written for an assignment while students participated in the course, *Language Arts in the Modern School* with Dr. Ruth Kennedy. Kristin Szwajkowski and Dominique Poaches' reviews were published in the summer 2009 issue (vol. 85, issue 5, p. 323). Nicole Rumore, David Hendershot, Harry M. Schwartz, Kristin Yetter, and Kimberly Bridy's reviews were published in the fall 2009 issue (vol. 86, issue 1, pp. 52-54).

Learning Centers at Bloomsburg Public Library

On October 13, 2009, the undergraduate and graduate students in the course *Methods and Materials in Early Childhood I* set up learning centers at the Bloomsburg Public Library. Children from the community participated in the science and math activities. On October 26, 2009, children from the community enjoyed interacting with the graduate students taking the course *Language Arts in the Modern School*; these learning centers focused on the poetry of Shel Silverstein.



Math Night at Millville Elementary School



Dr. Frank D'Angelo's graduate level elementary education classes have been teaming up with Millville Elementary School in order to coordinate what has become affectionately known as "Millville Math Night." In exchange for course credit, graduate students prepare a plethora of creative, interactive, hands-on math activities while incorporating overarching themes, which have included "Monkeying around with Money" and "Carnival Night." On October 21st, approximately 300 students and parents flocked to Millville Elementary School to partake in the festivities, which focus on math concepts that will be emphasized in the upcoming PSSA tests in Spring 2010. This once a semester event provides pre-service teachers with practical "hands-on" experiences engaging with students. Additionally, it has developed into a night many of the elementary students look forward to attending.



Educational Studies and Secondary Education

Graduate Program in School Counseling and College Student Affairs



Bloomsburg University Graduate Counseling Program in School Counseling and College Student Affairs co-sponsored, along with the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Action Coalition of Columbia and Montour County, a yearly conference for over 100 local high school students. The *Self-Esteem, Communication, the symbols for male and female, Respect, and Equality* (S.C.O.R.E.) Conference brought over 100 students from eight local high school districts to Bloomsburg University to discuss issues pertinent to dating and intimate relationships. Bloomsburg University students in the group BUSTED (an acting club on campus) performed the "keynote address" for this conference. Students in the Graduate Counseling Program facilitated groups of high school students in activities promoting communication and respect for the rest of the day. This collaborative effort between the Bloomsburg University, local community mental health agencies, and numerous local high schools took place in Kehr Union at Bloomsburg University on March 31, 2010. This event provided local high students the chance to spend a day on campus while learning about important aspects of communication, equality and intimate relationships.





Exceptionality Programs

Bloomsburg University's Education of the Deaf/HH Program Reaccredited



The Education of the Deaf/HH Master of Science Program at BU recently received certification from the national Council on Education of the Deaf (CED) for its 10-year accreditation review. Pictured from left to right are Dr. Lawrence Fritz, Assistant VP and Dean of Graduate Studies; Dr. Tony Martin, CED Site Visitor (Lamar University, Texas); Dr. Elizabeth Mauch, Interim Dean, College of Education; Dr. David Soltz, University President; Dr. Ira Blake, Interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs; Dr. Sam Slike, Professor/Curriculum Coordinator, Education of the Deaf/HH Program; Dr. Zanthia Smith, CED Site Visitor (Lamar University, Texas); and Dr. Deborah S. Stryker, Assistant Professor, Education of the Deaf/HH Program.

BU's Education of the Deaf/HH Program was established in 1971 by Dr. Gerald Powers and received its first CED accreditation in 1989. It is the only Deaf Education graduate program in the state of Pennsylvania, one of 72 Deaf Ed Programs in the United States, and of those, one of 37 Programs nationally certified by the Council on Education of the Deaf.



Student Apprenticeships in Positive Behavior Support

Since the 2007-08 academic year fifteen (15) students at Bloomsburg University have been competitively awarded an Apprenticeship in Positive Behavior Support (PBS). The Apprenticeship in PBS is an individualized enrichment program that is directed by Dr. Tim Knoster. Each Apprentice in PBS is required to develop a personal Action Plan that serves as a navigational device for each given apprentice to further develop advanced knowledge, skills and dispositions in implementing positive behavior interventions and supports in home, school and/or other community settings. Dr. Knoster serves as a professional mentor for each Apprentice. Further, each Apprentice receives a fully funded student membership in the Association for Positive Behavior Support as a part of this program. Apprentices have historically been engaged in a variety of experiences over the years including, but not limited to: 1) participating in expanded field experience and professional development opportunities associated with programs for students with behavioral challenges, 2) shadowing professionals in the field in their work with students who have a history of behavioral problems, 3) conducting interviews and engaging in collaborative endeavors with colleagues of Dr. Knoster in other areas of Pennsylvania (e.g. Philadelphia, Lehigh Valley, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh), 4) working directly with children, families, schools and members of the advocacy community concerning behavioral matters and 5) working with school-based teams in school-wide prevention programs. Contact Dr. Knoster (tknoster@bloomu.edu) to learn more about upcoming apprenticeship opportunities.

American Sign Language/English Interpreting Program



(Photo of Jessica Bentley-Sassaman, Instructor)

Every semester the interpreting club gives back to the Deaf community by hosting an all you can eat Spaghetti Dinner for the Deaf. The Interpreting Club members work diligently to make the food for the event. They send out flyers to the Deaf community inviting them to come to the Spaghetti Dinner. The Interpreting Club brings members of various Deaf communities to Bloomsburg through the orchestration of this event. There have been people who have traveled from as far as Harrisburg and Allentown to attend. Every time there is a great turn out, about 30 Deaf people attend. The students need to attend events where Deaf people are present in order to learn American Sign Language (ASL) and see how ASL is used by native signers. This gives the students exposure to the Deaf community and an opportunity to



interact using the ASL that they have learned in class. These Spaghetti Dinners are not limited to only Interpreting Club members, but any student who has a desire to improve their signing ability is welcome to attend no matter their major. For more information you can email the Interpreting Club at bu_interpclub@yahoo.com



Also this spring semester, the Interpreter Club hosted their biennial Interpreter Student Conference. Previous conferences were represented by students from four different colleges and universities. The Interpreting Club works very hard organizing this event. Teachers and interpreters from states such as New York, Maryland, and Pennsylvania will be presenting at this year's conference. The conference is held in March each year. The breakout seminars include skill development, professionalism, and informational presentations. Any student who uses sign language is encouraged to register for the conference. For more information, please email the Interpreting club at bu_interpclub@yahoo.com