What’s New in CEHS

News and information from around the college

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Counseling and Educational Leadership

Based on her work with closing the achievement gap in West Orange, Darlene Berg, a graduate from Educational Leadership (now a math supervisor in West Orange School District) has authored a chapter in a new book, Excellence Through Equity. The book is edited by Pedro Noguera and Alan Blankstein through Corwin publishers, and includes a forward written by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. According to Berg, “My time in your program helped me to define my voice and my belief in knowing what we have to do for every student to succeed...and this book was a magical opportunity to share the little story of success that supports the bigger message”.

Dean’s Office

Tammy J. Samuels was elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers (EACE), as Director of Leadership Development for a two-year term.

Megan Kearney, a graduate student in the MA in Counseling program, has been selected as this year’s recipient of the Graduate Student Dean of Students Award.

Ms. Kearney is a graduate assistant in the CEHS Dean’s Office, an officer of the University's Graduate Student Organization, and a member of the Alpha Epsilon Lambda and Chi Sigma Iota graduate honor societies. She will be presented with the award at the Awards Ceremony on May 5, where she will also be sharing remarks.

Early Childhood, Elementary, and Literacy Education

Associate Professor, Tamara Spencer, presented with doctoral candidate Adrian Martin (TETD) and Masters Student Elisa Lee (ECELE) at the 2015 AERA conference in Chicago, IL. The session was titled: “Complicating what counts as a text for young children: Teaching multicultural literature in teacher education courses”

Dr. Sumi Hagiwara was invited to serve on a panel for the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Technology, sponsored event, Games for Learning Summit in New York City. The Mining for Education Redstone session focuses on Minecraft, one of the world’s most popular video games with over 100 million registered users worldwide. Minecraft has become much more than just entertainment. Educators have begun using Minecraft to teach everything from farm-sharing to coding to history to quantum physics, and still the possibilities seem endless. Looking at Minecraft as an example, this session focuses on the ways that games can be successfully integrated into classrooms, bringing perspectives from both educators and developers of Minecraft, along with Microsoft Education, E Line Media, and TeacherGaming. Dr. Hagiwara contributes her research on the integration of the Minecraft for learning and assessment through the epiSTEMic summer program and collaborations with partner teachers.

On April 25, Dr. Victoria Puig and Minsun Shin co-coordinated the conference “Relationships: The True Core of Early Childhood Development and Learning” with Dr. Rosemarie Truglio, the Sr. Vice President of Curriculum and Content at Sesame Workshop, as the keynote speaker. The event was cosponsored by the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Literacy Education and the P-3 Modified Alternate Route Program (MAR). At least two-hundred and fifty early childhood educators attended workshops presented by MSU students, alumni, faculty and other experts from the field.
Education Foundations

MSU ASCD is a student chapter of ASCD, a nonprofit organization of 160,000 educators worldwide that aims to support pre-service teacher education through professional development workshops and networking opportunities.

120 students participated in MSU ASCD’s professional development event, New Teacher Bootcamp on April 18, 2015. Bruce Arcurio, our keynote speaker and a Principal in Hopewell Valley Regional School District, provided an inspiring perspective on what administrators are really looking for in new teachers and a reminder of what matters when interviewing for a teaching position. Students reported that Principal Arcurio’s presentation was relevant, informative, and engaging. For the remainder of the day, students attended four breakout sessions on 16 different topics ranging from how to engage in formative assessment to creating a demo lesson. 25 K-12 school administrators (supervisors, principals, and superintendents) from across NJ served as mentor educators throughout the event.

Please ask students to email ascdu@gmail.com to join.

Exercise Science and Physical Education

Susana Juniu received a Fulbright award, and will be a U.S. Fulbright Scholar lecturing and conducting research at the University of Costa Rica (UCR). She will focus on the effectiveness of educational programs to prepare P-12 teachers and university faculty to integrate Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) into their teaching and research practices. Congratulations!

Family and Child Studies

Graduating Senior, Victoria Simeone, is currently doing her Internship with victims of child abuse at Ginnie’s House in Sussex County. She was featured in the NJ Herald because as an intern, she has developed an awareness project for the organization that has gained notice throughout the county.

FCST held it’s Annual Internship Conference at the end of March, for the first time including a Student Panel and a Community Partner Fair. The event was a great success, with participation from more than 10 community organizations, and one of our largest student turnouts to date.


Connie Gager published a paper in 2010 in The Journal of Family Issues that found that couples who spent more time on housework had more frequent sex. Now Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook COO and author of the book Lean In has started a new campaign, following up on Lean In -- directed at women at work -- is pushing men to "lean in" at home and share housework and child care. Sandberg cites Connie’s article to argue that there are benefits to men doing more housework. Sandberg wrote an Op Ed in the Sunday New York Times citing the paper and there have been many follow ups: a Podcast on Choreplay, a Business Insider article, and multiple others in international newspapers.

Alyssa Willis - President, Montclair Students Council on Family Relations and Jessica Bonjione - Outstanding Student Leader Award

Through their leadership skills and initiative, these students have made a significant impact on the MSU community throughout the past academic year. Nominees have influenced the development and mentoring of future leaders of the university. They must demonstrate examples of outstanding service to others and within the community. Award recipients are selected based on breadth and depth of involvement and leadership in co-curricular activities, leadership in an employment role on campus, service in the community, involvement in professional, academic, and leadership development experiences, and the overall impact on campus life and learning for students. Students are recognized for momentous achievement at MSU.
Ashley Favato - Outstanding Community Service Award
Nominees have maintained academic excellence while committing their time, energy, and resources to making a difference by volunteering in the community. Demonstrating a passion to serve others is an important quality this nominee should possess.

Health and Nutrition Sciences
The MSU Public Health Program celebrated National Public Health Week with a moving film screening and discussion. The Department of Health and Nutrition Sciences hosted more than 125 students and community partners, including local legislators and community agency directors, at its fifth annual NPHW event: “God Grew Tired of Us, Film Screening and Panel Discussion”. The event, held on April 9, 2015 in the Conference Center, featured a screening of the film, God Grew Tired of Us, and a visit with Nathaniel Nyok, one of 20,000 “Lost Boys of Sudan”. The film, which describes their journey by foot through Africa to a refugee camp in Kenya to their eventual resettlement in the USA, provided a moving backdrop for the panel discussion with Mr. Nyok and public health faculty on a wide range of public health issues. The event sought to address public health issues related to war, poverty, immigration, cultural awareness, mental health, global health, racism, and social justice. A mini-documentary using segments of the film focused on public health and social justice, was followed by a presentation by Nyok and panel discussion on the public health implications of acculturation, trauma and stress; social determinants of health; mental health and trauma as it pertains to immigrants and communities of color, and the role of food in the immigrant experience. Participants were moved by the countless challenges faced by the Lost Boys of Sudan during their journey, and in transitioning to life in the United States. Nyok brought a personal perspective to this already moving film, reflecting on both the challenges and strengths of life in the USA.

Talia Philippsborn, one of our dietetic interns, is the recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Dietetics Student Award for a Dietetic Internship given by the New Jersey Dietetic Association, an affiliate of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Talia also completed her BS and Didactic Program in Dietetics at MSU.

Also, Lauren Purdy, one of our DI alumni from the Dietetic Internship Class of 2011, just notified us that she has received the 2015 Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year Award from the NJ Dietetic Association. She also received her BS and completed her Didactic Program in Dietetics at MSU.

Secondary and Special Education

Upcoming Events
CEHS Summer Tech Camp,
Tuesday, June 2nd, 9:00am-4:15pm, ADP Center UN 1120
Join us for a day of conversation, sharing of best practices and hands on discovery to help you with your inclusion of technology in teaching and research! We will break the day into four topical sessions: Video and Media in the Classroom, Presentation Innovations, Technology in Research, "Snow Day" Survival. Each session will include best practice examples and technology overviews as well as time to collaborate with facilitators and peers on how you can incorporate your ideas for Fall 2015. The ADP Center will use these topics as a basis for our professional development opportunities next year!

Registration begins at 8:30 AM in UN 1120 with sessions starting at 9:00 AM.
Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Attendees will be entered to win an Apple TV.
Sign up today: https://cehstechcamp2015.eventbrite.com

What’s New in CEHS is a monthly e-mail publication for the faculty and staff members of Montclair State University’s College of Education and Human Services. If you have news, please send it via e-mail to Brittany Nowicki at: nowickib@mail.montclair.edu.