What’s New in CEHS

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News and information from around the College.

Ben Samuels Children’s Center

- **Corinne Catalano** has been named this year's recipient of the Lucille Weistuch Early Childhood Special Education Award from the New Jersey Division for Early Childhood (NJDEC). Ms. Catalano is a School Psychologist at the Ben Samuels Children's Center and a doctoral student in the EdD program in Teacher Education and Teacher Development. Each year, NJDEC presents this award to a member of the Early Childhood Special Education community in New Jersey whose body of work reaches beyond the classroom to significantly impact the lives of many. The award is named in honor of the former president of NJDEC, Lucille Weistuch. The award will be presented at the NJDEC Annual Fall Conference, to take place on Friday, October 28, 2011 at the University Center of the campus of Kean University. Ms. Catalano's award will be presented at 10:00 A.M., immediately following the keynote address. The award ceremony is open to the public.

Counseling and Educational Leadership

- **Katrina Bulkley** and **Suzanne McCotter** received an award for $40,000 from the Spencer Foundation for the project entitled: “Data Use and Leadership Preparation: Multiple Pathways to the Data-driven Principalship.” The project will involve an in-depth qualitative study of the development of prospective leaders’ thinking around the role and use of data in supporting student learning and school improvement as they travel through several of these preparation programs based in one urban district, New York City. This study promises to develop theoretical insights as well as concrete strategies related to working with prospective school leaders around data and data use.

Curriculum and Teaching

- As part of a $5.75 million grant from the Knight Foundation to contribute to and expand the emerging field of digital and media literacy for civic engagement, Queens University held an inaugural forum of "best minds" in the field September 28-30 in Charlotte, NC. **Vanessa Domine** was one of three facilitators invited to host a session to generate Statements of Intent that will serve as inspiration for future community engagement, research, teaching and learning. The results of "DM3C Live" will be digitized and shared for public dissemination and future collaboration.

- **Jennifer Gooke** was awarded $272,594 in year one of a five year, $1.4 million grant from the US Department of Education, for a project entitled: "Restructuring Preservice Preparation for Innovative Special Education." The project will restructure MSU's existing post-baccalaureate MAT Dual Certification program to prepare middle and secondary educators through three interdisciplinary strands of teacher preparation: inclusive pedagogy, intensive content area preparation in mathematics or science, and integrative STEM education. Innovative features of the program will include coursework that integrates high-incidence disability-specific content, a
combination of on-campus and carefully designed hybrid/online coursework, field experiences with mentor teachers, a summer Design Research Intensive, and on-going high quality mentoring, induction, and professional development. Partners include five urban school districts, College of Education and Human Services and College of Science and Mathematics faculty, the NJ Department of Education, the National Network for Education Renewal, and the NJ Technology Education Association.

Dean’s Office

- The effects of Hurricane Irene caused severe damage to many people’s homes along the east coast, including the communities surrounding our campus. Some facilities in the Paterson Public Schools, one of our MSUNER districts, suffered water damage. Paterson Public School #28, which is directly across the street from the Passaic River in downtown Paterson, suffered major water damage resulting in the school closing and displacing students and staff for several days. College faculty and staff members were encouraged to purchase a children’s book and gift card from either Wal-Mart or Target for the children in Paterson. Takeem L. Dean coordinated this effort with Marc Medley, Paterson Public School #28 Principal. Close to 30 gift bags were donated to deserving children in the school, and included a book, gift card, and a package of pencils. Mr. Medley, in a letter to Dean Cutler and Takeem, thanked the faculty and staff in CEHS for thinking of the students at School #28.

Dean Cutler and Takeem would also like to thank those who supported this effort and even those who had the desire. “We are truly helping to raise the village around us!”

Early Childhood, Elementary and Literacy Education

- Erik Jacobson was awarded a grant in the amount of $20,000 from the NJ State Employment and Training Commission (NJSETC) for the project entitled “Literacy System Analysis Project.” Dr. Jacobson will collect and analyze adult literacy system data, review relevant models from other state literacy systems, and will submit a report and recommendations to the NJSETC.


- Linda Wise and Margaret Freedson received a $723,900 contract from Paterson Public Schools for: “Paterson Public Schools: Reading Specialist, Bilingual & Specialist Education Endorsement/Certificates”. The program will prepare educators to meet present and future demands as literacy leaders in the Paterson Public School district.

- Linda Wise also received an additional $129,052 contract from Paterson Public Schools for: “Reading Specialist Endorsement Program.” The supplemental contract will prepare an additional 19 Paterson teachers in becoming reading specialists through participation in the Masters of Arts in Reading program.

Family and Child Studies

- Jonathan Caspi had a new book entitled published by Springer Publishing in New York, New York, entitled Sibling Aggression: Assessment & Treatment

Health and Nutrition Sciences

- Samantha Kwiatkowski, a student in the Master of Public Health program, was selected as an American Public Health Association (APHA) Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Section Fellow for 2011-2012. Ms. Kwiatkowski is one of only 12 fellows selected nationally. The Review
Committee was impressed with her academic record and her demonstrated interest in public health and in maternal and child health in particular. The overall goal of the Student Fellows Program is to foster the development of leaders in science, program and policy related to the health of women, children, and their families. The fellowship is designed to provide student fellows an opportunity to enrich their professional experience by participating in professional education and policy development at a national level.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Faculty Dinner Series
The College has partnered with Residential Education & Services to be a part of their faculty dinner series. The series allows faculty to interact with students beyond the classroom and their offices. Faculty members present their research or a current event topic to students in the new Sam's Place Dining Hall. The program begins with dinner, then is followed by an informal discussion led by the faculty member, and concludes with a question and answer session. Below is a list of faculty members who are involved with the series this semester and the topics they will be presenting. If you are interested in participating in future faculty dinner series events, please contact Takeem Dean, who coordinates our involvement in this initiative.


October 20: Dr. Pearl Stewart, Family and Child Studies. Topic: Perception: The Impact of Socioeconomic Status of Students.

October 27: Dr. Fran Greb, Early Childhood, Elementary, and Literacy Education. Topic: Why teach?

Professional Development Workshops for Graduate Assistants and Doctoral Fellows
Following is a list of the Professional Development Workshops being offered this Fall for graduate assistants and doctoral fellows in the College. At the end of the semester, those completing the workshop series will receive a Certificate of Attendance from the College. These workshops have been put together in response to suggestions students, faculty mentors and department chairs.

Participants must register by at least 2 days before the session(s). They will receive a confirmation email the day prior to each session for which you are registered.

To register for any of these sessions, please visit the following web site.
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KPKW5QX

October 19: Conducting Effective Literature Searches Using the Library Web Site
4:00 - 5:15pm, University Hall 2040
If you would like to improve your skills in searching library databases and conduct more effective searches, this session is for you! Presented by Dan Cinotti and Jill Whittaker, Doctoral Students.

November 3: Beyond the Assistantship/Fellowship: Using Your Time Outside of the Classroom and Office for Other Opportunities
4:00 - 5:15pm, University Hall 2040
Are you interested in making connections with other faculty members in your department or in the College for potential research collaboration? Would you like to apply your skills or access resources here on campus or in the local community to
further boost your resume/CV? Join Associate Deans Tamara Lucas and Kim O'Halloran for a discussion of ways that you can leverage your time during your graduate program.

**November 16:** Writing Literature Reviews  
*4:00 - 5:15pm, University Hall 2040*  
Once you have mastered the art of effective searching, learn how to summarize and synthesize what you’ve found in a comprehensive literature review to support faculty research or submit for potential publication. Presented by Kathryn Strom, Doctoral Student.

**Other Events:**

**October 26:** Families, Children, and Communities Conference: Professions and Careers  
*University Hall Room 1020, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm*  
The Department of Family and Child Studies will be launching a “Families, Children, and Communities” Conference Series. The first conference will highlight professions and careers in non-profit organizations serving youth and families. This conference is for FCST Students and the larger campus community. The conference will include officers from major 501c(3) organizations including: The American Red Cross, The All Stars Project, and The Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and will focus on different career aspects of non-profit organizations. Many times students disqualify themselves from applying for internships and positions in operations, management and development. The Department’s hope is that our guest speakers will open their eyes to a variety of jobs and career tracks that they may not have considered. Contact Sean Schofield at schofields@mail.montclair.edu for further information.