Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health

The New Jersey Governor’s Council for Medical Research and Treatment of Autism has awarded Montclair State University’s Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health a $1.5 million, five-year grant to serve as the State’s Coordinating Center. The grant is part of a total of $8 million in autism research grants supported by the Governor's Council for Medical Research and Treatment of Autism. State officials at the Ben Samuels Children’s Center, including Mary E. O'Dowd MPH, Commissioner of the Department of Health and Senior Services, First Lady Mary Pat Christie, and Dr. Caroline Eggerding, Chair of the Governor’s Council for Medical Research and Treatment of Autism. “With the creation of the Autism Center of Excellence we will have one voice leading New Jersey's research of ASDs,” said Commissioner O'Dowd. The Center of Excellence will serve as a coordinating center to share and promote clinical research done by Council grantees and will work in partnership with the Governor's Council on new collaborations.”

Center of Pedagogy

The Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children (IAPC) held its Summer Residential Workshop in Philosophy for Children on August 4-11. The workshop was run by Maughn Gregory and David Kennedy of the Department of Educational Foundations and Joseph Oyler, IAPC Program Coordinator. The 24 participants from around the world included teachers and philosophers from Australia, Portugal, South Korea, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom and the US. The week was spent in intensive study of the theory and practice of using philosophy to help develop children's capacities for critical and multi-dimensional thinking.

Counseling and Educational Leadership

Amanda Baden will be co-chairing a conference entitled “Best Interests of the Child?” Race, Religion, and Rescue in Adoption”. St. John’s University will be hosting the Seventh Biennial Conference on Adoption at their downtown New York campus on October 18th through the 20th. The conference will consider the implications of the phrase “best interests of the child” as it is commonly applied in child welfare and adoption.

Edina Renfro-Michel is part of a multi-university (MSU, NJIT, CUNY – Long Island) and multidisciplinary team that has been awarded a $650,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for a project entitled “Collaborative Project: Integrating learning resources for Information Security Research and Education (iSECURE).” This project is linking and integrating multi-media teaching materials (slides, videos, textbooks, etc.) used in Information Security online courses. The Ultimate Course Search (UCS) tool helps students build upon existing knowledge as they are being introduced to unfamiliar material, by creating subject specific searches of all course content. This tool will change online learning by making course content more organized, interactive, and instantly accessible while adding individualization options for learning preferences and special learning needs.
Edina Renfro-Michel is the Editor of the Journal of Counselor Preparation and Supervision, a journal sponsored by the North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision.

At an awards ceremony on September 14th, Larry Burlew, Les Kooyman, Kim O'Halloran, Edina Renfro-Michel, Catherine Roland and Kevin Schafer (Associate Director of Housing Services in Residential Education and Services), were awarded a Red Ribbon Fellowship Award from the Division of Student Development and Campus Life for their work developing and implementing the Mediation Resource Center (MRC). This award recognizes a team that has demonstrated through positive interactions with others, a respect and value for differing backgrounds, ideas and points of view within the University Community. This Center was developed to make a difference in 1) helping students learn life skills for dealing with conflict; 2) intervening into conflict situations before they escalate causing distress for students; 3) assistance with the adjustment to college and 4) assisting in retention of students. The MRC, staffed with MA in Counseling Graduate Assistants, provides conflict resolution, preventative programs, a mandatory BlackBoard course, and multicultural training for residents.

Emile Talarico, Program Coordinator for the Educational Leadership Online Program, is a new member of the NJ Department of Education’s Model Curriculum Project related to the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards. As a member of this team, Emile participates in determining instructional units aligned to Common Core State Standards and the Core Curriculum Content Standards’ Cumulative Progress Indicators. The committee composes student learning objectives for the assigned grade levels K-12, collaborates to ensure that learning progressions are met across grade levels, and determines/writes appropriate assessments to measure those student learning objectives.

Early Childhood, Elementary, and Literacy Education

Felicia M. Hines, who has worked in the Department for over 6 years, was recently named the President of the MSU Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP). Felicia has also served on the Administrative Assistants Executive Committee for CEHS for over two years. The IAAP is a 60 year old, worldwide network of administrative peers, trainers and managers working with its members in gaining essential insights into changes within the profession and key business trends. IAAP members can be found in large Fortune 500 companies, thousands of mid and small-sized businesses, as well national colleges and universities. The chapter, which meets on campus once a month, currently has 18 members and is open to all administrative professionals on campus. Please contact Felicia M. Hines at extension 5407 regarding membership.


Bree Picower also had an article entitled “Using their words: Six elements of social justice curriculum design for the elementary classroom” published in the International Journal of Multicultural Education.

In July, Bree Picower provided a keynote address on race and social justice education at the Schomburg Center for Black Culture’s Summer Institute called Black History 360.

Educational Foundations

Jeremy Price recently had an article entitled “Epistemological threads in the fabric of pedagogical research” published in Teachers College Record, Volume 114 number 4. Coauthors include P.A. Alexander and M. Chambliss.

Alina Reznitskaya is a Co-Principal Investigator on a three-year, $1,447,711 grant awarded by the
Institute of Educational Sciences, US Department of Education. The project is entitled “Dialogic Teaching: Professional Development in Classroom Discussion to Improve Students’ Argument Literacy”. Its goal is to produce a professional development program in dialogic teaching to foster teachers’ knowledge, skills, and expertise in how to conduct classroom discussions about text to promote students’ argument literacy. The research will be conducted in collaboration with the Ohio State University (OSU). During the project, teachers from Grade 5 classrooms will work in study groups as they collaborate with researchers to learn about classroom talk, discussion, and reasoning, as well as to develop the materials for the professional development program for future teachers.

**Exercise Science and Physical Education**

Athletic Training students **Kelsey Pengitore** and **Joe Fusco** were recently called upon to put their emergency medical clinical skills to the test. During a freshman football game at their clinical site, one of the athletes sustained a possible neck injury. Kelsey and Joe, under the watchful eye of their clinical instructor and alumna Danielle Caroli Skiba, assessed and stabilized the injured player. Kelsey, in her fifth clinical semester, took charge of the situation, kept everyone calm and led the application of a spineboard and coordination with emergency medical services. Both students’ efforts were commended by the athlete, coaches, athletic director and a member of the board of education who was present at the game. The Athletic Training faculty would like to commend them on an excellent job of providing athletic health care.

**Health and Nutrition Sciences**

**Amanda Birnbaum** was appointed Associate Editor of the *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*.

**Stephanie Silvera** received a highly competitive grant from the National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01). The grant of $555,159 over 4-years will support for her study entitled: “Exploring Sociodemographic and Behavioral Factors Underlying Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Cancer Prevention Behaviors in New Jersey”.

**Ndidi Amutah** is beginning her term as President of the **Society for Analysis of African-American Public Health Issues (SAAPHI)**. SAAPHI is an affiliate of the American Public Health Association, and is dedicated to promoting research that improves understanding of the health needs of African-American communities and advocating for public policies and programs that meet these needs.

In June, **Eva Goldfarb** was invited to Washington DC to participate in a White House Policy Briefing on education and health policy. During the day-long event, Dr. Goldfarb and other representatives from New Jersey also had the opportunity to engage in roundtable discussions with senior policy officials about issues of particular interest and concern to citizens of our State.

In May, **Jhon Velasco** led a delegation of ten MSU undergraduate and graduate students to Cuba to study its public health systems. The trip was arranged in conjunction with MSU’s Global Education Center, and with Witness for Peace, the Washington DC-based national organization. In addition to understanding the public health system and universal healthcare in the United States, this new summer course offered students a unique look into Cuba’s healthcare system and politics during an important phase in the socioeconomic evolution of the island. Students examined Cuba’s system of socialized medicine and medical diplomacy in addition to understanding the critical issues in health policies and protocol, Cuban history, culture, and art.

The department’s new **Master of Public Health** program was accepted as an applicant for initial accreditation by the **Council on Education for Public Health**.
Secondary and Special Education


Upcoming Events

The Professional Guinea Pig: Big Pharma and Risky World of Human Subjects
Tuesday, October 2, 2012, 2:30-4:00pm, Dickson Hall, Brantl Hall Lecture Room
Sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, Research Compliance, Provost Office & Department of Health and Nutrition Sciences

Anthropologist Roberto Abadie will discuss his latest book, The Professional Guinea Pig, where he documents the emergence of the professional research subjects in Phase I clinical trials testing the safety of drugs in development. Drawing on ethnographic research among self-identified “professional guinea pigs” in Philadelphia, Abadie examines their experiences and views on the conduct of the trials and the risks they assume by participating.

Information Sessions for the EdD in Teacher Education and Teacher Development (TETD) Program
Thursday, September 27 - University Hall, Ferraro Lounge, 1st Floor, 5:00pm
Thursday, October 11 - University Hall, Ferraro Lounge, 1st Floor, 5:30pm

The TETD is the first of its kind in the region--and one of only a few in the country--and is based on the most current research in teacher preparation and learning. It builds on Montclair State University's nationally recognized programs in teacher preparation, and provides a unique opportunity for those who wish to become future leaders in the preparation and development of teachers.

To register for either session, please visit: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5RTJCPR
For program information: http://www.montclair.edu/cehs/academics/programs/teacher-ed-dev/

Information Sessions for PhD in Family Studies Program
Thursday, September 27 - Online session, 6:00pm
Sunday, October 21 - University Hall, Ferraro Lounge, 1st Floor, 12:00pm

The PhD in Family Studies is a multi- and interdisciplinary field, drawing on a range of social science disciplines including sociology, social work, education, gerontology, and community and developmental psychology. The Ph.D. in Family Studies program considers family life within larger socio-cultural contexts and explores how issues of power, privilege, and social justice interact to differentially impact family configurations.

To register for either session, please visit: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LLJHWLN
For program information: http://www.montclair.edu/cehs/academics/programs/family-studies/

CREEHS Evaluation Workshop
Professional Development Workshop: What can evaluation do for my organization and program?
October 5, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm, University Hall

This one-day evaluation workshop will enhance an organization’s ability to:

- Compete for grants
- Improve your programs
- Serve your community better

The workshop is geared for:

- Decision makers and managers who want to learn how to use evaluation to maximize their organizations’ resources most effectively, and,
Those with or without evaluation responsibilities, who want to systematically strengthen their evaluation knowledge and skills to enhance their work.

Online registration:  http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y6TMXX7

Questions about logistics: Please call Tina J. Seaboch at 973-655-4247 or send e-mail to seabocht@mail.montclair.edu

Information Session for PhD in Counselor Education Program
Wednesday, October 17 - University Hall, Ferraro Lounge, 1st Floor, 4:00 p.m.
Monday, November 5 - University Hall, ADP Center, 1st Floor, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 4 - Online Session, 4:00 p.m.

The PhD in Counselor Education is the only doctoral program in counselor education and supervision in the greater New Jersey/New York area. It is built on the national accreditation standards for master’s-level counseling programs. The primary objective of this program is to prepare outstanding scholars, academics, supervisors, and advanced practitioners to become leaders in maximizing the mental health and quality of life for individuals, families, communities, and educational organizations. Students are prepared to work in the field of counseling as professors, clinicians, supervisors, deans or high level student affairs professionals, directors of school counseling and agency programs, and consultants. To register for any session, please visit:  http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LLGTLJ5

For program information:  http://www.montclair.edu/cehs/academics/programs/counselor-ed/

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 Melissa Harris at harrism@mail.montclair.edu. What’s New in CEHS is published during the second week of each month during the academic year, and the deadline for submissions is the first Friday of each month.