Dean’s Message

Live, Learn, Work, Play, Create. These words surround our campus and reflect a new energy and excitement here at WSU, evidenced by increased enrollment and the largest number of student credit hours in the university’s history.

Innovation and change are everywhere at Wichita State these days, including in the College of Education. One such example of innovation is happening in our Human Performance Lab where faculty and students work every day on the development of new approaches and technologies to solve real-life problems. This approach has resulted in the development of more than 20 businesses with roots in the HPL over the past few years. The following link provides a brief highlight of the lab and some of the innovations emerging there.

Human Performance Lab sparks innovation

The newly launched Kansas Mentor and Induction Center (KMIC), is now in full swing, providing mentor training to more than 25 teachers and faculty. These individuals are engaging in a year-long series of professional learning experiences that will enhance their ability to support pre-service and early career teachers. Hats off to Dr. Sherry Goodvin and Glenda Vansant for their work in directing the activities of the KMIC and ensuring high quality mentoring for Kansas’ newest teachers!

Our students, also, are experiencing change and new initiatives. This fall, we launched the College of Education Living Learning Community. This group of students living in Shocker Hall has been busy attending campus events, the college Welcomefest (see the “ice bucket challenge” photo on the last page of this newsletter) and bowling with the dean at the RSC. They’ve planned some service projects for later this fall.

Changes within our faculty and staff ranks include Clay Stoldt as Associate Dean and Mark Vermillion as Chair of the Department of Sport Management, as well as the new faculty and staff introduced on the following pages.

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve as dean of the college and to be involved with such talented faculty and staff who demonstrate their commitment to our students every day. I am proud of the professional achievements of our faculty which are far reaching, benefitting people in our community and around the world. I invite you to visit our college and to become involved in the innovations and initiatives happening here.
Welcome new faculty and staff

The Department of Counseling, Educational Leadership, Educational and School Psychology announces the addition of assistant professor Jiaqi Li, who holds a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from Texas Tech University, an M.A. in School Counseling from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green and a B.A. in English Education from Liaoning University in Dalian, China. Dr. Li is teaching counseling courses and his research interests include multicultural counseling, racism and mental health, and play therapy.

A visiting assistant professor in CLES, Beata Latawiec holds a Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, with emphasis on cognitive sciences of teaching and learning, and language and literacy; an M.A. in English Studies with Teaching Specialization from University of Warsaw, Poland. Dr. Latawiec teaches Theories of Human Development, Educational Statistics and Social Psychology of Education courses.

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction announces the addition of new faculty: Brenna Haines is assistant professor of mathematics. She holds an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Pedagogy from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., an M.S. in Applied Economics from University of Delaware and a B.S. in Resource Economics from University of Connecticut. Dr. Haines’ research interests include statistic teaching and learning, as well as latent variable modeling. She teaches Pre Student Teaching Middle Level and Secondary Math and Math Methods courses.

SoonChun Lee is assistant professor of STEAM/Engineering Education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math). He earned a Ph.D. in Science Education, as well as an M.A. in Science Education from The Ohio State University. He also earned an M.Ed. in Science Education from Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea. His bachelor’s degree is in physics, from Kyung-Hee University in Seoul.

A visiting assistant professor, Nicole Niessen has taught Pre Student Teaching and Language Arts Methods courses at WSU in the past. She is teaching Knowledge and Beliefs about Reading, Reading Instruction and Assessment, Multicultural Education and Organizing a Reading Program. She also observes students in the Master’s Early Childhood Unified program. Dr. Niessen earned a Ph.D. in Communicative Disorders and Sciences from WSU, an M.A. and B.A. in Speech-Language and Hearing from the University of Kansas.
Welcome new faculty and staff (continued)

Aaron Rife is Assistant Professor of History and Government. Dr. Rife earned a Ph.D. and M.S. in Foundations of Education from The University of Kansas and a B.A. in History Teaching/Secondary Education from Brigham Young University. Dr. Rife is teaching Pre Student Teaching Middle and Secondary Level History/Government and History Methods courses. His research interests include the history of urban education, race and class in schools, educational opportunity and social inequality.

Stacie Ogborn is the Licensure Specialist in the Education Support Services office. Stacie earned a B.S. in English/Secondary Education from Kansas State University. She has worked in the banking industry, city government and the non-profit sector. For the past eight years she taught English at Wichita Northwest High School.

Deb West is an Elementary Education Liaison for the Wichita Teacher Quality Partnership. She earned a B.A. in Elementary Education and an M.Ed. in Education and Supervision from Wichita State University. Deb was a classroom teacher in grades 1 through 4 in USD 259 for 12 years. After that she served as campus support, was a math coach and instructional coach, again, for Wichita Public Schools. As Elementary Liaison, Deb will observe and support our Elementary Education students in their field placements.

Klose Scholarship Competition

Do you know a high school senior wishing to pursue a career teaching math or science at the middle or high school level? They may be eligible for a Klose Scholarship - a package that pays tuition, books and fees.

Go to our website for details: Klose Scholarship

College of Education faculty and staff gather for the first college meeting of the academic year.
Faculty News

- Dr. Gayla Lohfink reviewed recently published children’s books in relationship to teaching the Kansas College and Career Ready Standards for the Kansas Journal of Reading.
- Dr. Susan Unruh presented "Struggling International Students in the United States: Do University Faculty Know How to Help?" at the International Conference on Education in Athens, Greece in May.
- Dr. Katherine Mason was appointed to serve as a member of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Academic Studies Advisory Committee for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Dr. Mason also published "Out of the Closet and onto the Playing Field: Two Decades of Lesbian Athletes in Young Adult Literature" in the September 2014 issue of English Journal.
- Dr. Mara Alagic presented collaborative research on system analysis of the ThirdPlaceLearning theory at the 2014 Terminology and Knowledge Engineering Conference in Berlin.
- Dr. Susan Bray presented "Research on Counselors who Work with Clients Living in Poverty: Practice and Training at the Association for Assessment and Research in Counseling national conference in Moline, IL.
- Dr. Wonyoung Kim presented "Why do governments subsidize sports facilities? The social impact perspective,” as an invited lecturer at the 19th Annual Conference of the East Asia Sport and Exercise Science Society, Pusan, South Korea. Dr. Kim also presented, “Globalization and sport management: The trend,” as an invited lecturer at the Mokpo National University Distinguished Speaker Seminar, Mokpo, South Korea.
- Rick Pappas, HPS Physical Educator, was the lead representative in obtaining a $24,000.00 grant from the Kansas Health Foundation. The grant, titled “Mandatory Recess,” is for support in educating school leaders and other stakeholders regarding the importance of recess and to seek a policy change from the State School Board which would support mandatory recess that emphasizes physical activity, and which could not be withheld for punitive or academic reasons for all students in the state of Kansas.
- Dr. Mark Vermillion presented “Students’ perceptions of forced crowdsourcing as social change” at the World Association for Sport Management conference in Madrid, Spain.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, November 11
- COE Advisory Council, Woodman Alumni Center

Thursday, November 13
- COE Faculty/Staff meeting, 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Heskett Center

Friday, November 14
- Education Career Fair, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Hughes Metropolitan Complex

Wednesday, November 26 - Sunday, November 30
- Thanksgiving Break

Saturday, December 6 - Friday, December 12
- Final Exams
Welcomefest

The College of Education Welcomefest event included cookies, ice cream sundaes, an outstanding live music performance, information tables about student organizations and academic programs, an ALS ice bucket challenge, and the ever-popular Corbin Duck Races.

This year’s theme:

**Angry Ducks**

Would faculty like to dump buckets of ice water onto students for a good cause? Why, yes, they would!

These lucky students will get to list “Duck Wrangler” on their resumes.

Dean’s Office Duck to the rescue! Once again, this duck with the pom-pom scepter helps other ducks along the route... even the GIANT ones.

And the winners are:

Ducks entered by the Department of Human Performance Studies swept both races: Natural Ducks and Performance Enhanced Ducks. (We think they might be doing Avian Performance Studies, too.)

A young duck racer finds the sideways swimming ducks hilarious!

College of Fine Arts faculty and friends jazz up the festivities.