

Preparing the Competent Professional Educator
THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Southeast Missouri State University
Cape Girardeur, Missouri
65616-0000

The Department of Early, Elementary & Special Education



NEWSLETTER

February 2009

Students Attend Inauguration

Two students associated with the Department of Early, Elementary & Special Education attended the Presidential Inauguration of Barack Obama in Washington D.C. Arlington Tally, a student worker for the EESE Department, and Shamone Mitchell, an Early Childhood Education major, made the thirteen hour ride to D.C. on a bus with seventeen other Southeast students.

As we know there were more tickets sold to the inauguration than there was space, but Arlington and Shamone were fortunate in getting a space a half block away from the capital building on Pennsylvania Ave. Shamone recalls the experience as being “unbelievable because it was like a dream and I just couldn’t get over the fact that I was actually there. Even though it was cold, my excitement helped me to not think about not being able to feel any of my body parts!” Arlington remembers just being in awe of D.C. He said during the event “people were screaming and literally dancing in the streets.”

“When President Obama made his speech you could tell he was really reaching the crowd,” said Arlington. Both Shamone and Arlington both hope that President Obama can deliver on his campaign promise and bring about change for the better for our nation. Shamone hopes that President Obama can change the state of our economy, change how people view teachers (and raise teacher salaries), provide affordable healthcare to those who can’t afford it, create more jobs, and end the war.

Despite the extremely long trip to and from Washington D.C., the freezing cold and the crushing crowds, Arlington and Shamone were able to witness history in the making. “I can tell my grandkids one of these days that I was there; I saw Barack Obama become America’s first black president,” said Arlington.

College of Education Receives National Recognition

The College of Education has received national recognition for excellence from National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) & Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). This recognition highlights the College of Education's commitment of providing education of the highest quality and standards to students.

Thank you to all faculty members, administrators, and staff for all of your hard work preparing the department for the review process.

Students who would like to know more about NAEYC, CEC & ACEI and the role these organizations play in improving teacher education here at Southeast can go to:

<http://www.naeyc.org/>

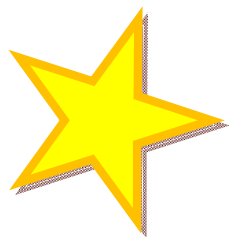
<http://www.cec.sped.org/>

<http://www.acei.org/>

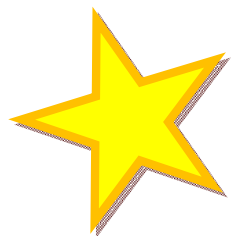
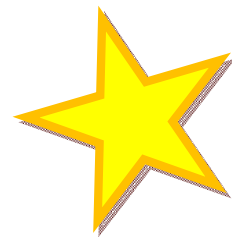
National Early Childhood Conference

Six education majors from Southeast Missouri State University recently made presentations at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) conference in Dallas, TX. The NAEYC Annual Conference is the largest early childhood education conference in the world, where tens of thousands of educators choose from hundreds of presentations and exhibits.

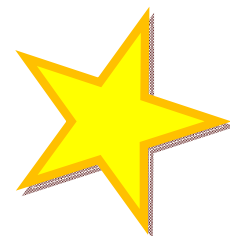
With faculty support from the Elementary, Early & Special Education department, these senior education majors prepared and presented three different hour-long sessions at the national conference. Hayley Buchheit, Piccola Humphrey and Natasha Bennett presented on the topic "Oh, the Places You'll Go! Planning and Implementing Enriching Field Trips for Kindergartners." Malissa Beecham and early childhood faculty member, Dr. Julie Ray presented the topic "Families in Transition: Standing beside Children and Families Going Through Difficult Changes." Kathryn Ebers, Amy Kavanaugh and early childhood/elementary faculty member, Ms. Sharon Deees, presented the topic "From Scribbles to Script: Evaluating What Children Want to Say."



GOOD NEWS & WORK



FROM THE FACULTY



Dr. Julie Ray's book, Home, School, and Community Collaboration has been published by Sage Publications Inc. Dr. Ray co-authored this book with Dr. Kathy Grant of SUNY Plattsburgh. The text demonstrates how to prepare readers to work with children from diverse families using the culturally responsive family support model. Dr. Ray has also been invited to be one of the speakers at the Mesa, AZ Public School "Parent University" on March 10th. She will also do a presentation for the Pre-K teachers in the Mesa School district on March 11. The topic for both presentations is "*Families in Transition: Helping Children Adjust to Difficult Changes.*" She is also serving as a consultant for Hendrix College, Conway, AR for 2008-2009, guiding their Early Childhood program in their NCATE / NAEYC accreditation efforts.

Dr. Amy Freshwater and her co-author Dr. Elizabeth Sherwood (SIUE) have had their previously published article *Early Learning Standards in Action: Young Children Exploring Motion* selected by the National Association for the Education of Young Children to be included in the new edition of Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs. This book, in its 3rd edition, has been an essential resource for early childhood educators and a tremendous influence upon educational practice since 1987. The new edition, published by NAEYC, updates and articulates the principles that guide decision making in working with children from birth through age eight.

Dr. Nancy Aguinaga has upcoming presentations at three different conferences. At the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education international Conference (SITE) in Charleston, SC she will be presenting "*Preparing the Next Generation of Teachers to Integrate Special Education Technology in Inclusive Classrooms*" and "*Universal Design for Learning and Technology Integration in Higher Education: Can We Meet the Needs of Students with Disabilities in University Classrooms?*" Next she will be presenting "*Promoting Self-Regulation Within Students with Emotional and/or Behavioral Disabilities Using Biofeedback Assistive Technology*" at the CEC Convention & Expo at Seattle, Washington. And later this summer Dr. Aguinaga will be traveling to Alicante

Spain to present “*Applying the Principles of University Design for Learning (UDL) in Higher Education*” and “*True Leadership in Special Education Requires Unity between Rhetoric and Actions*” at the International Association of Special Education Conference (IASE).

Dr. Cheryl Mader has had a presentation accepted for the IRA's Annual Convention 2009 in Minneapolis, MN in May. The title is, "*Hearing Voices: Implementing Virtual Literature Circles in Online Teaching.*"

Instructor Susan Reinagel is presenting at the DESE Interface Professional Development Event on February 20. The title is “*Raising MAP Scores through Collaboration of Special and Regular Educators*” This presentation discusses proven methods of raising MAP scores through a collaboration between special educators and regular classroom teachers. It includes simple, straight-forward ideas used in a classroom of low-achievers that contributed to an improvement of 14.4% in Mathematics MAP scores in one academic year. The presentation has both technology based ideas and old ideas with a new approach. Mrs. Reinagel has also had a proposal accepted for the Midwest Education Technology Conference . Its title: “*Using SMARTboards as Motivation with Low-Achieving Math Students.*”



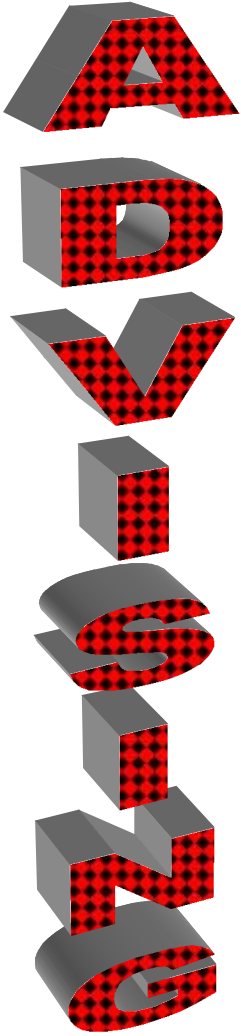
Congratulations



From the College of Education

Dr. Huskey sends Congratulations to the students who have been successfully retrieving their alt pins from their cell phones when needed. Only about 10% or fewer of the advisees advised last semester lost their alt pins during enrollment for this spring. That is great news considering that at one time as many as 40-50% of advisees had to request their alt pins when they lost or misplaced them after advising. Students who have cell phones bring them to advising sessions and store alt pins in them when they receive them on site. Also, results from the most recent CBASE indicate improvement in scores, especially in the social studies section. Several students who had not passed this section earlier received passing scores on the CBASE test administered in December 2008. From student feedback it appears that this improvement was possible through use of the CBASE library in the Advising Center which is administered by Alicia Lincoln and Amanda Noyes. Additionally, the A Plus computerized tutorial program available through the Advising Center and through the lab in Scully 210 has also helped students master some of the CBASE. Thanks go to Alicia Lincoln, Jennifer French and graduate assistants Amanda Noyes and Paul Maddox for their assistance with this program which was obtained through a grant received by Dr. Larry Bohannon.

Instructor Doris Shands reports that eleven students from Southeast Missouri State University – Poplar Bluff were initiated into Kappa Delta Pi, a national education honor society on November 6, 2007 at TRCC. These students are Kerri Lovette, Rebecca Taylor, Melissa Cook, Olivia O'Dell, Kathy Hopper, Marissa Howell, Charles M. Crain, Craig Thurman, Glennell Stilwell, Chris Armstrong, and Patti McCoy. Dr. Gunn (professor), Dr. Lo (EASE chair), Debbie Wethington (MSE Field Experience Coordinator) and Doris Shands (Instructor) were also present.



- ✿ Students need to check emails often for information about spring advising sessions. Students who are in EL120 *on campus* this fall will *not* need to schedule an advising session. Dr. Huskey will be coming to their classes for advising.
- ✿ CBASE study guides are available in Scully 304. Most of these are for the social studies section.
- ✿ CBASE dates are available at www.semo.edu/cea (testing link)
- ✿ Anyone interested in taking block II for elementary education at the Perryville location for FALL, 2009 should contact Dr. Huskey at jhuskey@semo.edu or Mrs. Dees at sdees@semo.edu. One great advantage for taking blocks at Perryville is the great parking ... never a problem
- ✿ Background checks are now required for all block field experiences beginning with fall, 2008. Background checks are usually good for six months and can be renewed free of charge.
- ✿ There is a CBASE study aid program called A+ available for student use. Go to the Advising Office in Scully 304 to sign up.

Scholarships Available

For Missouri teacher scholarships go to <http://dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/scholarships/>
For Scholarships available through SEMO, follow this link [Endowed and Sponsored Scholarship Application for Continuing, Graduate and Transfer Students](#), print application, and fill it out. Return application to Student Financial Services Rm 123 Academic Hall. Contact Cheryl at cgelsheimer@semo.edu or 651-2829 for additional information.

Experience Southeast...*Experience Success*