



The Educator's Voice

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Special Points of Interest

- A Fond Farewell
- Outstanding Staff Award
- Graduate Spotlight
- Quest for Quality Awardees
- EPI Center News

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Greetings from the College of Education

The College of Education has engaged students in online learning for several years. Historically, our first online program was the superintendent certification program. This program was the first of its kind and was a significant start. Over the next several years, graduate courses were changed to the online format. Whole programs followed. Today, all of the College's master level programs are online. To ensure the quality of the candidate learning experience, the College has been improving each online course by aligning the course with the Quality Matters (QM) standards. We hope to submit several courses this year for national recognition by QM.

Our online graduate programs are receiving recognition. Recently, the programs were nationally recognized by US News and World Report, The Best Schools, and Nonprofit Colleges Recognition of Students before Profits. These recognitions attest to the faculty members' dedication to creating world-class courses and providing world-class support for our candidates. You can read about these awards by logging on to the College of Education website (<http://www.angelo.edu/dept/ceducation>). The undergraduate program has several areas where online courses are offered to the students in Special Education and secondary pedagogy. The "Introduction to Special Education" course, created by Dr. Banker, is nationally recognized by QM.

Faculty have garnered recognition for their use of technology. Dr. Kim Livengood has been recognized by Blackboard for the development of an exemplary online course using the Blackboard Learning Management System (LMS). Dr. Deborah Banker has been recognized by 2014 Quest for Quality in the category of Exemplary Faculty Practices. This recognition was based on Dr. Banker's use of Second Life in preparing special education teachers.

Other faculty recognitions include Dr. Christine Purkiss, who received the 2014 Chapter Counselor Award for the West Region by Kappa Delta Pi. Dr. Purkiss, as counselor, mentors students in the Mu Gamma Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, and the Chapter has garnered several national awards and

recognitions. Dr. Purkiss also was chosen for the *Gary and Pat Rodgers Distinguished Faculty Award*. This peer nominated award is awarded to one faculty member per year. Dr. Alaric Williams, Associate Professor, was named the [2014 President's Award for Faculty Excellence in Leadership/Service](#). This award recognizes the one faculty member at ASU who exemplifies this area. Dr. Lesley Casarez, Assistant Professor, received the [2014 Love of Learning Award](#) from Phi Kappa Phi.

Congratulations to the faculty and staff. Their service to students is exemplary. Keep in touch. Send your thoughts about your experiences at ASU and what it has meant to your success. We may feature you in a future newsletter or on our College website. Write to us at college.education@angelo.edu.

John Miazga
Dean, College of Education

EPI Center in the News



The EPI Center would like to congratulate Christine Pruitt, College of Education Certification Advisor, for winning the 2014 ASU Homecoming Award for Outstanding Staff this Fall.

The staff of the EPI Center attended several conferences and trainings this semester. They attended the National Academic Advising Association's (NACADA) National Conference, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP Fall Conference), and the Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education (CSOTTE) Conference.

The staff advised over 975 undergraduate and graduate candidates. They also had 72 candidates participate in the Mandatory Clinical Teaching Meeting. This semester, the Center placed 227 candidates in Field Experience Placements. The Center will have 80 candidates Student Teaching this coming Spring 2015 Semester.

Some Tidbits of Information:

- Student Teaching is now called Clinical Teaching in response to a TEA legislative update.
- Starting this Fall, all candidates entering into the EPP had to have a 2.75 GPA. Their Overall GPA, Teaching Field GPA and Professional Education GPA now must all have a minimum of 2.75.
- Starting Spring 2015, it will be required that candidates eligible to take the Core Subject EC-6 TExES (formally EC-6 Generalist) must pass all five domains of the revised test. The domains are: 1) ELAR 2) Mathematics 3) Social Studies 4) Science 5) Fine Arts, Health and Physical Education.
- Starting Spring 2015, it will be required that candidates eligible to take the Core Subject 4-8 TExES (formally 4-8 Generalist) will have to pass all four domains of the test. The domains are: 1) ELAR 2) Mathematics 3) Social Studies 4) Science.

The College of Education Bids Farewell



Dr. Mary McGlamery

Dr. Mary McGlamery has been making a positive impact on her students and colleagues at ASU since the fall of 2006. Prior to her years here, she taught high school, worked with students with exceptionalities, and worked with a number of students as a school counselor. In that time she has made a difference in the lives of many people.

Her degrees include a BS in Speech and Theatre, MS in Elementary Education, MS in Psychology, and a PhD in Educational Psychology. Additionally, she holds a School Counselor Certification and is also a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, Licensed Psychological Associate, Licensed Professional Counselor and a Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor.

Since coming to ASU, Dr. McGlamery has taught both hybrid and online courses. She developed a completely

online Master of Education program in Guidance and Counseling, which has been recognized nationally by Nonprofit Colleges Online, U.S. News and World Reports, and TheBestSchools.org. The program has opened the door for many non-traditional students to continue their education while still providing for their families.

Dr. McGlamery's passion for those who work in the field of Guidance and Counseling and her commitment to their success has assured her a place in the hearts of many students and faculty. However, those who know her best have a great appreciation for not only her, but also her commitment to her field.

We send her into retirement with hearty applause and heartfelt gratitude for her years of service to Angelo State University.

2014 ASU Homecoming Award: Outstanding Staff

An education certification specialist in the Educator Preparation Information (EPI) Center, Pruitt assists all ASU students seeking Texas teaching certification.

“I basically advise and guide any candidate who aspires to become a teacher,” she said. “I have to ensure they meet all the requirements set by the state and keep up because those requirements change constantly. I don’t just deal with undergraduates. I deal with graduates, post-graduates, professionals, anything in the education realm across campus and the community.”

Pruitt’s duties include monitoring admission to the EPP, approval for state certification exams and data reporting to various agencies. She is also happy to lend a hand to her co-workers.

“Anytime she is needed to serve, Christine steps up to the plate,” said Dr. Amy Williamson, Associate Professor of Curriculum and Instruction. “If someone in the EPI Center is unable to complete a task, Christine fills their shoes seamlessly.”



Christine Pruitt

For her expertise and enthusiasm, Pruitt has been selected for the ASU Alumni Association’s 2014 Outstanding Staff Award.

After taking a break from her own education to raise a family, Pruitt earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees and teacher certification at ASU and then joined the EPI Center in 2011.

“As a non-traditional student,” she said, “I think my experience has really helped me because no matter what you tell me, I’ve been there, done that, and I can help you.”

Pruitt has also been named a Wonderful Woman of ASU, earned a RamStar Staff Award and been nominated for the President’s Award for Staff Excellence in Customer Service.

“I love education and I encourage everyone,” Pruitt said. “You find your niche, and this is where I’m supposed to be.”

Article Courtesy of the ASU Magazine
<https://www.angelo.edu/content/news/6946-christine-pruitt-a-guiding-light>

Spring 2014 Quest for Quality Exceptional

The Quest for Quality project was designed to highlight exemplary quality in university-based teacher preparation programs in Texas. The project partners with universities to identify and highlight exceptional students and faculty, exemplary instructional and programmatic practices, and applicable research. The Quest for Quality project supports the goals of Closing the Gaps.

The Quest for Quality Teacher Preparation in Texas project is a collaboration between the Center for Research, Evaluation and Advancement of Teacher Education (CREATE) and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, funded through a grant from Sid W. Richardson Foundation to the College for All Texans Foundation. While the Quest for Quality initiative is undergoing some changes this year, the Texas Directors of Field Experience will continue to nominate exceptional teacher candidates for state and national recognition. <http://www.questforquality.org/about/about>

Anthony was an ASU Student Teacher in the Spring of 2014. His certification level is ECH-6 with Special Education and completed his student teaching in Fort Stockton in Special Education and Kindergarten. He graduated from Angelo State University in May of 2014. and is currently teaching Special Education in Big Spring.



Anthony Agundiz

When asked about his career choice, Anthony said, “inspiring students to discover their full potential helped me decide that education was my true calling. I teach my students to search for authentic examples. Letting my students know my expectations and that I want the best life for each of them has helped my students take responsibility for their learning. I want my students to realize that anything is possible as

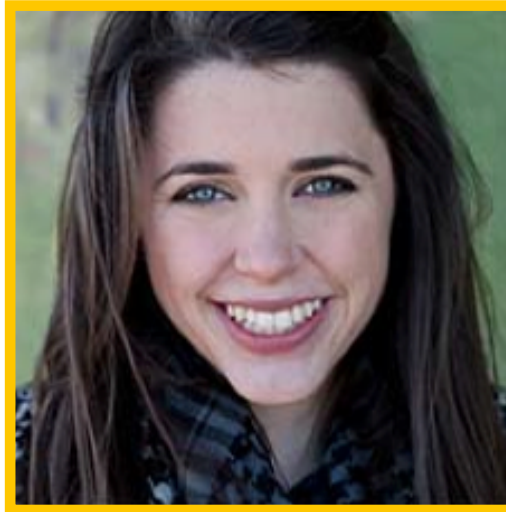
long as they are committed and are willing to put forth their best effort.”

When asked about Anthony’s teaching style, his University Supervisor stated that “the art of teaching is knowing what is important for the learner. Anthony scaffolds his lessons by starting out as a group and then moves the students to create an independent written product. He layers the learning and helps them create links to

learning and how it all comes together. He plans lessons that reflect the academic and social needs of his students.”

His Mentor Teacher echoes this praise by stating that “Anthony has shown that he is and will be completely invested in the learning of each child he works with. He is a great listener and learns quickly. He is passionate about his craft.”

Congratulations, Anthony, on this well-deserved award!



Sydney Morris Holcomb

Sydney was an ASU Student Teacher in the Spring of 2014. Her certification level is 8-12 English. She completed her student teaching at Central Freshman Campus. She graduated from Angelo State University in May of 2014.

When asked about her teaching style, she said, “I have focused on improving interactions, particularly through silent discipline, opportunities for peer interaction and showing respect to my students. I help students to practice positive interactions with each other. My experiences in the classroom have provided abundant opportunities for me to practice and learn how to have a classroom that promotes learning and personal growth for students.”

When asked about Sydney, her University Supervisor stated that “Ms. Morris is knowledgeable about content specific pedagogy which anticipates common student misconceptions and uses strategies to dispel the misunderstandings. She maintains high expectations for all her students. She interacts with the students during the lesson, and has established that she cares for them and wants

them to succeed. The students take pride in their work as a direct result. Ms. Morris is a compassionate, conscientious teacher with a desire to improve on a daily basis so she can become a better teacher.”

Her Mentor Teacher stated that “Sydney is a contributor in our Professional Learning Community. She attends each meeting and provides input to not only the evaluation of lessons taught, but also the planning of future lessons. Her knowledge of the English curriculum has been unmatched by any other student teacher. She is very strong in her work with the writing process. She is a talented writer herself who knows the value of the writing process for students. She has the ability to break down the process, so the struggling writers become less intimidated. Her critiques have been accurate and extremely helpful to our students.”

Congratulations, Sydney, on this well-deserved award!

Graduate Student Spotlight



Thinkh Nguyen

Thinkh Nguyen is a graduate student in the Student Development and Leadership in Higher Education program and graduated this December. Thinkh's experience as an undergraduate student, graduate student, and staff employee at Angelo State University has been nothing but stellar. Thinkh stated, "thinking back of my years at ASU, the University has been part of the most rewarding aspects of my life thus far such as receiving my first degree in English specializing in Technical Writing and developing a career from the opportunity afforded to me by ASU."

Obtaining his master's degree in December was his next achievement with ASU. Thinkh decided to pursue a Student Development degree after hearing so many great things about the program from fellow colleagues and students. It was also the next best step after being employed in higher education for four years.

According to Thinkh, the program has been an eye-opener, providing great insight and research that he has been able to actually apply in his current position with ASU. "I was afraid of starting an online

program, because I thought there would be a lack of active interaction and discussion. Fortunately, I found that the program still allowed for in-depth conversations amongst student and instructors," Thinkh stated. The flexibility of the online program also is ideal for a busy work schedule. At ASU, Thinkh is the Communications Supervisor for the Enrollment Management department. Thinkh is a member of the English honor society Sigma Tau Delta and is looking into becoming a member of Kappa Delta Pi. Thinkh lives in San Angelo, Texas, and spends a lot of his off time learning about new technology and playing video games. He enjoys staying active in the community and volunteers at local events when time permits.

2014 San Angelo Standard-Times' 20 Under 40 Recipient



Dr. Alaric Williams, Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, was recently honored as part of San Angelo Standard-Times' 20 under 40 program. Winners are chosen based on the merits of career development, community involvement, and leadership potential.

Photo Courtesy of the San Angelo Standard Times
<http://www.gosanangelo.com/news/local-news/20-under-40-64130104>

College of Education Student Organizations

New Student Association

The Student Government Association has approved the constitution for a new association, suggested by students Stacey Good and Bailey Webster. The *Speech Therapy Association* will be mentored by faculty member Dr. Sandra Maxedon, a former speech-language pathologist. Students interested in speech-language-hearing

professions are invited to attend informative and informal meetings approximately once a month. The meetings will highlight quality graduate programs for students, job descriptions in the profession, speakers from the community, fellowship, food, and door prizes. All interested students from across campus are invited.

Phi Delta Kappa



Phi Delta Kappa held their Fall Meeting on November 11, 2014. In honor of Veterans' Day, the guest speaker was Chief Master Sergeant Kathleen Prince. Chief Prince is a JROTC Instructor at Central High School in San Angelo ISD. She shared stories of her own education, as well as observations from working in the military and in the school. As a service project, the meeting was held at Meals for the Elderly, where



Volunteer Director Leann Criswell gave an overview of the program and the ways that it benefits the community. At the meeting, attendees created bags to be used for sack lunches that are delivered to the homebound population served by Meals for the Elderly. If anyone is interested in joining PDK, please contact our Membership/ Programs Representative Joe'L Sefcik via email at Joe'l.Sefcik@angelo.edu.

Phi Delta Kappa Service Project



The Concho Valley Texas Chapter of PDK would like to sincerely thank everyone who donated to the latest service project: 33 pillows and 36 blankets were presented to SAISD's Central Freshman Campus to distribute to students in need!

Kappa Delta Pi



Thirty-one undergraduate and graduate students were initiated into the Mu Gamma Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education on October 28th, 2014.



Five members of the Mu Gamma Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education will be graduating in December 2014. The following members were presented with their honor cords at the fall initiation banquet held on October 28, 2014. (L to R) Katelyn Millican, Lacy Rollwitz, Jessica Hicks, Margaret Marshall, and Jordan Yedica.

Texas Classroom Teachers Association



"Trunk or Treat"

Pictured here are TCTA members facilitating different activities for pre-k students and their families who are enrolled at the Little Rascals Day Care Center. To learn more about joining TCTA, please contact Dr. Charlene Bustos at charlene.bustos@angelo.edu or 325-486-6950.



Jim Bass Ford Fall Festival

TCTA members at Jim Bass Ford Fall Festival applied washable tattoos, painted faces, and hosted an Etch-a-Sketch table for students with cognitive impairments.

College of Education Grant Programs

West Texas Mathematics Consortium - Middle School Mathematics Teachers



Middle school math teachers had an opportunity to explore measurement this summer in the West Texas Mathematics Consortium Middle School Mathematics Teachers Teacher Quality Grant. Measurement tends to be the lowest scoring area in mathematics on the STAAR throughout Texas. The project included a two-week intensive workshop, held at ASU on July 7th – July 18th, followed by several meetings continuing throughout the school year. During this school year, teachers are analyzing lesson development, teaching practices, and student achievement through Lesson Study. Hosted by Dr. Donna Gee, Department of Teacher Education, and Dr. Trey Smith, Department of Mathematics, this program follows several previous, very successful, mathematics teacher quality grants. Benefits include \$1,500 stipends, 120 professional development hours, iPad, TI Nspire calculator, and materials.

Pearl of the Concho



2014 Teachers Writing Camp Participants, led by Dr. Marva Solomon, Assistant Professor in the Department of Teacher Education.

Earth Science: It's Elementary for 4th and 5th Grade Elementary Teachers



Earth Science concepts were one of the lowest scoring areas on the STAAR. This Teacher Quality grant aimed to improve teacher knowledge on Earth Science concepts aligned to the 4th and 5th grade TEKS. The program consisted of 20 fourth and fifth grade teachers participating in a two-week intensive workshop held at ASU on July 21st – August 1st, 2014 and will continue to meet six times throughout the 2014-2015 school year. Benefits include stipends, classroom materials, Zoomy microscopes and laptops, and attendance at the State Science Conference. For further information contact Dr. Christine Purkiss at cpurkiss@angelo.edu or call her at 325-486-6954.

The College of Education Goes Abroad this Summer

Professor Travels to Korea to Teach



This summer, Dr. Amy Williamson, Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, had the opportunity to teach as a Visiting Professor at Duksung Women's University in Seoul, South Korea. Here she is pictured with staff from Duskung, eating at a traditional Korean restaurant.

2014 Summer Study Abroad Program



Students from the College of Education had the opportunity to travel to Greece and Italy this summer. Students were led by Dr. Donna Gee and Dr. Charlene Bustos from the Department of Teacher Education.

Upcoming 2015 Study Abroad Program



The College of Education is sponsoring the Fiji and New Zealand Education Study Abroad Program Summer 2015.

There are 6 hours of education undergraduate or graduate courses that will be offered as part of this program.

The Fiji and New Zealand education study abroad is planned for June 6 – June 30. As part of the study abroad in Fiji students will visit local schools and explore the surrounding area. In New Zealand, students will stay in Auckland on the north island and Queenstown on the south island, visiting educational institutions and cultural sites.

For more information contact:

Dr. Gee at donna.gee@angelo.edu or Dr. Bustos at charlene.bustos@angelo.edu

Thank you!!!

We would like to thank the following people/entities for their contributions to this Newsletter.

We could not do it without you.

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Dr. Amy Williamson

Dr. Charlene Bustos

Dr. Christine Purkiss

Dr. Marva Solomon

Dr. Donna Gee

Dr. Deborah Banker

Wendy Storms and The EPI Center

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Maggie Blair

Angelo State University Communications
and Marketing

San Angelo Standard Times

ASU Chapters of:

Phi Delta Kappa

Kappa Delta Pi

Texas Classroom Teachers Association

Speech Therapy Association