

Electronic newsletter for faculty, staff, and students of the University of Florida College of Education

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You're reading **coE-News**, an electronic newsletter produced monthly during the academic year by the College of Education News & Communications Office to keep faculty, staff and students up-to-date on college news, activities and achievements. Click [here](#) to view the online version of this edition.

GOT NEWS? We want to hear it. Submit individual or unit news and calendar events of collegewide interest to news@coe.ufl.edu for publication consideration. All submissions must be in writing or via e-mail and must include contact information for follow-up questions.

SUMMER BREAK: GOIN' FISHIN' Starting next month, we'll be taking our yearly summer hiatus on production of coE-News, so this will be the last edition until fall semester. Enjoy your summer! (Now where's my tackle box?)

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Is your profile up to date?

When is the last time you checked out your Research Profile on the COE Web site? All you have to do to update it is send a current CV or any minor revisions or new information to [Rosie Warner](#) in the Office of Educational Research.

Join new Facebook group—and WIN!

Click the Facebook logo below to join the Official site for the UF College of Education.



This group provides news and upcoming events to alumni, students, staff, and faculty of the UF College of Education. Feel

Top Stories

Study: online classes can save schools money, expand students' learning time

University of Florida education technology researcher Cathy Cavanaugh (right) predicts more public school students in kindergarten through 12th grade will take classes online, have longer school days and more of them in the next decade. Academic performance should improve and schools could save money—an especially appealing pitch when budgets are tight. ([more](#))



Top teachers reveal 'secrets' of teaching success

What an intriguing idea for advancing school improvement: Round up several dozen of Florida's best public school teachers, pick their brains about how they teach and why their methods work so well, and then pass on their teaching secrets to educators throughout the state, and beyond. Such a gathering actually occurred, and now UF education researchers, led by Fien Professor Dorene Ross (*right, assisting student*), have compiled the teachers' top tips for a new, online guide of best teaching practices called "Secrets of Successful Teaching." ([more](#))



Girls are best allies against playground bullies--UF study

Playground bullies may meet their match from where they least expect – in the ranks of kids who are anti-bullies -- and most of them are girls, a new UF study finds. "Boys may be more likely to bully, but girls are more likely to defend those being bullied," said Jim Porter, who did the research for his doctoral dissertation in counselor education at UF. ([more](#))



EduGator Class of '09 perseveres to celebrate well-earned degrees

free to comment on the discussion boards or create one of your own. Keep in touch with friends and co-workers who are part of this group. Also, WIN! We will post a question of the week. All who answer correctly will be entered to win a prize. Drawings will be held every other week.

Follow the COE on Twitter!

Click the twitter logo below to follow the UF College of Education on twitter.



UF_COE provides news and upcoming events to alumni, students, staff, and faculty of the UF College of Education.

Calendar

June 28 - July 2
InterAmerican Congress of Psychology
Guatemala City, Guatemala

Fri, Sept. 4
COE's African American Anniversary Dinner, "The Golden Year of Change"
6-9pm, UF President's House
Contact: [Dr. Bowie](#)

Fri., Sept 11
Faculty Welcome & Recognition Reception
4:30-6pm, Location: TBD
Contact: [Jodi Mount](#)

Wed., Sept 23
COE Deans Serving Ice Cream Welcome Back for COE Students
2:45-4pm, Norman Courtyard
Contact: [Jodi Mount](#)

Thurs., Oct 15
Faculty Research & Engaged Scholarship Showcase
5-7pm, Best Western Gateway Grand
Contact: [Jodi Mount](#)

Fri., Oct 16
COE Alumni Gathering to watch the Homecoming Parade
11:30 a.m., Mellow Mushroom Restaurant
Contact: [Jodi Mount](#)
OPEN TO ALL COE ALUMNI, FACULTY & STAFF

CoE-News is produced by:

College of Education
University of Florida
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[Catherine Emihovich](#)

Members of the UF EduGator Class of 2009 will be remembered for many reasons, but especially for their perseverance and strong will as fighters and survivors. The '09 classmates endured three straight years of substantial college budget cuts, the threatened elimination of core undergraduate programs, the prospect of a tight job market in teaching after graduation, and even a nationwide swine flu scare that threatened their graduation ceremony. None of that seemed to matter, though, to the 130 undergraduates who marched across stage May 2 to receive their bachelor's degrees at the College of Education's commencement ceremony. ([more](#))



Ambitious effort to curb shortage of math, science teachers gets boost

A no-holds-barred effort at UF to reverse the dire shortage of science and mathematics graduates has received a welcome financial boost that promises to improve the recruitment and education of future teachers in the technical fields. *UFTeach*, a new teacher education program that takes a radically different approach to teacher recruitment in math, science and computer science, recently garnered a \$50,000 grant from the Frances C. and William P. Smallwood Foundation. ([more](#))

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Awards & Appointments

Ryndak named B.O. Smith Professor for novel special education research

Children with severe disabilities figure to benefit from groundbreaking research by UF special education researcher Diane Ryndak, in new studies supported by her appointment to the 2009 B. O. Smith Research Professorship. While occupying the prestigious three-year post, Ryndak, an associate professor, will investigate methods to improve educators' decision-making in the instruction and placement of students with disabilities in inclusive, general education classes. ([more](#))



3 faculty land UF opportunity grants



UF has awarded Faculty Enhancement Opportunity grants to three education faculty members for creative professional development activities that will advance their scholarly acumen and the institution's mission. (Pictured above from left:) Silvia Echevarria-Doan (counselor education), Ester de Jong (teaching and learning) and Kara Dawson (education technology) together received more than \$97,000 in the campuswide program, which UF President Bernie Machen started last year to support faculty professional development opportunities. ([more](#))

Graff receives national dissertation award for reading research

Jennifer Graff, a 2007 doctoral graduate in curriculum and instruction, has received the 2009 Dissertation of the Year Award from the International Reading Association for her research concerning young girls and their book preferences. Graff was cited for her work titled, *The Literary Lives of Marginalized Readers: Preadolescent Girls' Rationales for Book Choice and Experiences with Self-Selected Books*. Graff also has an M.Ed. in reading education and an Ed.S. degree from UF. She currently is an assistant professor in language and literacy education at the University of Georgia.

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Publications

Lefave, M., Behar-Horenstein, L.S. & Dix, A. C. (2009). *Productivity and relevance of the curriculum professors' research*. Journal of Faculty Development 22(3), 179-190.

Publisher creates online author's page for CSI Director Dana

Corwin Press has created an [author's page](#) on its Web site for Center for School Improvement Director Nancy Dana (*right*) that includes a link to the CSI's Web page. Among several book credits with Corwin, Dana is the lead author of the bestseller, *The Reflective Educator's Guide to Classroom Research: Learning to Teach and Teaching to Learn Through Practitioner Inquiry, Second Edition* (Corwin, 2009). Corwin Press publishes practice- and research-oriented publications for K-12 educators, teacher educators and advanced-level education students.



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P.K. Yonge News

Spotlight shines on C.A.M.P. Gator mentoring program

C.A.M.P. Gator, a joint UF-P.K. Yonge leadership program in which UF student-athletes and other student leaders serve as mentors to PKY middle school students, is garnering some local and national attention on several fronts: UF student mentor [Francesca Enea](#) of the No. 1 ranked Lady Gators softball team was honored for her community service work by the Daily Points of Light Institute, a national volunteerism advocacy group . . . The Collegiate Athlete Mentoring Program also received a 2009 Collegiate Group Volunteer Award from the local Work of Heart volunteer recognition group . . . Two ex-Gator football players—Phil Trautwein and Jason Watkins—who served as 2008 mentors, recently signed contracts with National Football League teams . . . The 2009 C.A.M.P. mentors include Gator Olympian swimmers Shawn Frazier and Brad Alley . . . C.A.M.P. Gator director is Matt Ohlson, an Alumni Fellow and Presidential Management Fellow in the college's educational administration program.

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In the News

ST. PETERSBURG TIMES (online blog) – Lastinger Center for Learning – May 14, 2009

On the Times' daily education blog called [The Gradebook](#), the college's Lastinger Center for Learning was mentioned for partnering with the Foundation for Excellence in Education (FEE) in the foundation's "[Secrets of Successful Teaching](#)" project. Lastinger Center researchers, led by STL's Dorene Ross, helped FEE produce an interactive guide of best-teaching practices based on what dozens of teachers told them after being named Florida's best teachers according to 2008 FCAT scores. The blog's staff writer, while acknowledging the controversy surrounding FEE's use of standardized test scores in choosing the top teachers, referred readers to the Web site for the useful tips in the online guide.

GAINESVILLE SUN -- UF COE Commencement -- May 3, 2009

The spotlight fell on new ProTeach bachelor's degree graduates Joshua Pate (the only male student marching) and Kristy Strength (age 35, dubbed "Mom" by her younger peers) in the Sun's front page (local section) article on UF's spring commencement ceremonies.

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS -- UF education students -- April 17, 2009

Two UF master's students in social studies education (Garardo Aponte and Faryn Bouse) were quoted in a print and [online article](#) about the tough job prospects that soon-to-be-graduates in teacher education will face upon entering the job market. This newspaper chain covers Stuart, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties on Florida's East Coast.

TAMPA TRIBUNE – Cathy Cavanaugh (Education Technology) – April 15, 2009

In an article reporting on the Florida Legislature's proposal to reduce the pot of funds that flows to the Orlando-based Florida Virtual School, Associate Professor Cavanaugh points out how increased enrollment in the virtual school relieves pressure on traditional public schools by reducing enrollment in crowded classrooms.

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