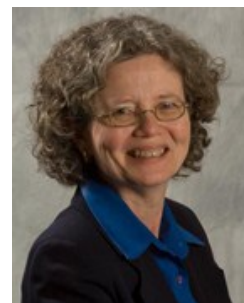


Fall/Winter 2012

## LETTER FROM THE DEAN



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### **Special Points of Interest**

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- Pioneering Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship at WP
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- Full STEAM Ahead! Science, Technology, Education, Art, Math
- Third Annual WP Educational Technology Conference
- Local Teachers Awarded PATSEL Scholarships
- Child Development Center Engaged Nurturing Life-Long Learners
- COE Education Club
- WP Recognized as NJ Distinguished Student Teacher, 2012
- Faculty Member and Student Present at National Conference

[www.wpunj.edu](http://www.wpunj.edu)

Happy New Year! This past year has been exciting for the College of Education, school and university partners, and alumni. We are proud to report our educational preparation programs at William Paterson University have received continuing accreditation from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education until 2019. Continuing accreditation is a validation of the joint commitment of the Colleges of Education, Science and Health, Humanities and Social Science, Arts and Communication and our school partners to preparing the highest quality educators in the region. In addition to this recent recognition, we and our partners have received support from our alumni and external agencies, including:

Funding from Dr. Marjorie Heller to provide continuing professional development for teachers, administrators, and other school professionals. A number of these events, such as the Global Math Symposium, are highlighted in this newsletter; Scholarships from alumna Evelyn Foote's estate for at least one annual full-tuition scholarship for elementary education majors and from alumna Claire O'Meara's estate for an annual scholarship of \$1,000 for an early childhood education major;

Alumni financial support for scholarships through the University's Charitable Gift Annuity program, which provides a life income to donors with the remainder to benefit the College of Education.

Selection as one of five universities in New Jersey to host Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellows (Colleges of Education and Science and Health and School Partners in Paterson and Passaic School Districts);

Funding from Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation for integrated, science, technology, art, and math curricula in Paterson Schools 2 and 7 (Colleges of Education, Arts and Communication, and Science and Health);

Funding from the U.S. Department of Education to fund preparation for pre- and in-service teachers of English learners and bilingual students for teachers in Paterson, Passaic, Clifton, and Lodi School Districts (College of Education and Humanities and Social Science); and

Continuing preparation of teachers for shortage areas, such as mathematics, science, bilingual, and English as a second language specializations, under the auspices of U.S. Department of Education-funded Garden State Partnership for Teacher Quality and the New Vistas Teaching Project.

Most recently, we have added two new programs--undergraduate certification for bilingual education (for all undergraduate education majors) and teaching students with disabilities (for early childhood education majors). The rest of this newsletter is dedicated to the wonderful work of faculty, staff, and schools.

*Continued on page 4*

# COLLEGE OF EDUCATION NEWS

## William Paterson University Receives Accreditation from NCATE

On December 12, 2012 the College of Education celebrated its reaccreditation by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) programs (NCATE). The College of Education has been accredited by NCATE for more than fifty years and submits to a rigorous review of its programs every seven years. NCATE commended the College on its assessment system and its collaboration with school partners via its Professional Development Schools Network. College of Education faculty and staff joined with President Kathleen Waldron, Provost and Senior Vice President Ed Weil, Associate Provost Steve Hahn and many other colleagues from across the university, community colleges and our public school partners to celebrate this accomplishment.



President Kathleen Waldron, COE Dean Candace Burns, William Morrison from Passaic County Community College



Yvonne Roux, COE Dean Candace Burns, Stephanie Koprowski-McGowan, Provost and Senior Vice President Ed Weil

Upon completion of the accreditation visit, the NCATE Board of Examiners (BOE) team commended the College of Education for numerous strengths in the preparation of teachers and other school professionals. The BOE wrote in its report that field experiences and clinical practice are rigorous and intense, allowing teacher candidates and other school personnel to reflect and apply their knowledge and professional skills in a variety of settings. The report further noted that “from the moment candidates are admitted to the education program, they are immersed in the school setting where they are involved in a variety of school-based activities directed at the improvement of teaching and learning. All candidates and alumni reported feeling “ready” to start their own classrooms and frequently found themselves in roles more often expected of veteran teachers.”

The accreditation report praises the Professional Development School (PDS) program. The visiting team states: “The PDS program improves communication with P-12 partners by providing a systematic way for information to flow from the unit to the schools and from the schools to the college.”

The report notes that technology is a strength of the College of Education, adding “the college has dedicated considerable resources, both financial and personnel, to the integration of instructional technology in every program and every class. The unit is equipped with several state of the art computer labs and media-ready classrooms.”



Dr. Hilary Wilder, center, with students/alumni of the Learning Technologies Program



Yvonne Roux, Director, Curriculum Library and Dr. Gladys Scott, Dept. of Languages and Cultures



David Ferrier, Garden State Partnership Grant site coordinator and Darleen Rankin, Professor in Residence



Dr. Anthony Coletta Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education and Margaret Renn, Assistant Director, Office of Field Experiences



Dr. Sondra Akins, Professor, Secondary Education, Dr. Heejung An, Dr. Laura Fattal, Professors, Elementary and Early Childhood Education



Dr. Cynthia Northington-Purdie, Professor, Secondary Education, Dr. Peter Griswold, Professor, Special Education



Dr. Stephen Hahn, Associate Provost and Nancy Norris-Bauer, Director, Office of Field Experiences

# William Paterson University Selected to Participate in Pioneering Woodrow Wilson New Jersey Teaching Fellowship Program

William Paterson University is one of five New Jersey colleges and universities selected to participate in the new Woodrow Wilson New Jersey Teaching Fellowship Program, which will recruit top science, technology, engineering, and math college graduates and career changers to prepare them to teach in high-need schools.

The program, which ultimately seeks to transform the way teacher candidates are prepared, was created by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation with nearly \$9 million in support from a consortium of foundations and private funders.

“Excellence in education begins in the classroom,” said New Jersey Governor Chris Christie in making the announcement. “Today, we are taking another important step to ensure our teachers are prepared before they are placed in high-need schools. It only makes sense that we give our teachers the experience and the tools they need before they are placed in challenging environments. Thanks to the Woodrow Wilson Foundation and our five New Jersey higher education institutions participating in this program, teachers will be ready to make a difference in struggling districts where their help is needed most.”

“We are thrilled to be among the New Jersey colleges and

universities selected to participate in the Woodrow Wilson New

Jersey Teaching Fellowship program and to continue with our commitment to addressing the shortage of math and science teachers in our state,” says Candace Burns, dean of the University’s College of Education. “The College of Education, in partnership with the College of Science and Health, has a long history of preparing excellent science and math teachers, particularly for high-needs districts, and we are excited to have the opportunity to collaborate even more intensively to develop innovative curriculum with our University colleagues and partner school districts.”

The University will develop a model, master’s level teacher preparation program for teacher candidates selected for the program that integrates coursework with a school-based clinical experience. William Paterson will partner with the Paterson and Passaic school districts to create a rigorous one-year residency program in their classrooms, a clinically based approach similar to that of medical schools.



## Heller Institute for Teaching, Learning and Leadership



The Institute for Teaching, Learning and Leadership has a new name in honor of Dr. Marjorie Heller, a College of Education alum. The new name, the Heller Institute for Teaching, Learning and Leadership, recognizes the ongoing support that the Institute has received from Dr. Heller and her very generous recent gift. Dr. Heller’s generosity has enabled the College to realize the mission of the Institute which is to support the

professional growth of educational professionals.

Professional development offerings supported by the Heller Institute include:

- Guest lecturer, Professor Yong Zhao
- Center for Lesson Study
- Global Mathematics Symposium
- Technology Conference

## INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

### Partnership with Arab and Israeli Schools

Last June, Drs. Dorothy Feola, Geraldine Mongillo, and Rochelle Goldberg Kaplan attended the *Fourth Bridges International Faculty Workshop* at the Western Galilee College (WGC) in Akko, Israel. This is a working conference at which the WGC faculty doing research with American faculty come together to share and provide feedback on their ongoing research projects. Among the other participants were faculty from Purdue University, Texas A & M, the University of Nebraska, the University of North Texas, and Westminster College.

Along with their Israeli colleagues (Vered Vaknin-



Naela Kbishe and Randa Abas at Hand in Hand Druz School

Nusbaum, Ari Neuman, and Randa Abas), Feola, Mongillo, and Kaplan presented their research on effective elementary language arts and mathematics teachers. The teachers

involved in the collaborative research came from one suburban and one urban school in New Jersey and from one Israeli and one Arab-Druz school in Israel.

In addition to the research presentations and

discussions, conference participants also visited schools in the area that were engaged in cross-cultural Arab-Israeli projects as well as other educationally



Drs. Mongillo, Feola, Kaplan with Vered Vaknin and Randa Abas

relevant sites. The result of the meetings led to joint proposals with our Israeli colleagues to American research conferences and an anticipated working

conference with the Israeli faculty at WP in June 2013. At that time, the faculty will review their data, meet with teachers from participating schools in New Jersey (School 11, Passaic and Smith



Hand in Hand Druz School

Elementary School, East Hanover), and prepare to write articles for publication. Other WP faculty working on international research projects will be invited to meet and share their work with the Israeli visitors.

### International Research

The College of Education is engaged in a cross-cultural study of school-based teacher education programs with Windesheim University of Applied Sciences in Zwolle, the Netherlands and Artevelde University College in Ghent, Belgium. The three partners have been meeting and reviewing each other's teacher education programs in an effort to identify best practices in school-based teacher education programs with a focus on preparing teachers to teach globally. The partners will be presenting their research to date at the National Association of Professional Development Schools (NAPDS) conference in New Orleans in March 2013.

#### *Letter from the Dean con't*

As alumni, I'm sure you are proud and excited about the new programs and initiatives taking place at your College of Education! I sincerely hope you will consider helping us to grow and enhance our educational programs to ensure William Paterson continues its tradition of preparing high quality educators for tomorrow's children.

A sincere thank you to those who financially support our programs and initiatives within the College of Education and to our school partners, faculty, administration, and staff.

Best wishes to you for 2013,

*Candace*

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOLS IN ACTION

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### Mathematics Specialist from Namibia Visits Professional Development School

In July 2012, Noah Gaoseb, a mathematics specialist from the University of Namibia, participated in our Global Mathematics Symposium. While he was here, he visited Professional Development School No. 9 in Paterson and the McNair Academy for Science to learn about how the Academy runs and provides enrichment for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders each summer. The program focuses on STEM subjects integrated with other key disciplines such as language arts and mathematics.



Mark Thompson, Paulette Szaly, Noah Gaoseb, Robert Tirri, Professor in Residence, Dr. Dorothy Feola



Nancy Norris-Bauer, Director Office of Field Experiences, Paulette Szaly, Noah Gaoseb, Dr. Dorothy Feola, Ana Alea

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### Integrating the Arts in Education: An Interactive Workshop for Professional Development School Partners

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, Professors in Residence and teachers from our Professional Development Schools were invited to participate in an all day workshop integrating the arts in education. The workshop, conducted by Michael Henry, helped participants value the contribution of the arts across STEM subjects.



Mr. Henry working with a PDS teacher.

Mr. Henry is a teacher in a PDS in Las Vegas, Nevada and presents regularly at the National Association of

Professional Development Schools (NAPDS) annual conference. The workshop was funded by the Dean's Office. Mr. Henry has been invited to return in the spring to offer another workshop.



Teacher and Professor in Residence, Kate DeLong, from William B. Cruise Memorial School, Passaic



Teachers from WP's Professional Development School Network

# Full STEAM Ahead! Science, Technology, Education, Art, Math

WP's new STEAM project was celebrated in Paterson Schools No. 2 and No. 7 during "Arts in Education Week" from September 9<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup> with the start of a new STEAM project developed by William Paterson University. STEAM stands for Science Technology Engineering Art and Math.



"Arts in Education Week" was sponsored by the National Art Education Association, and emphasizes the interrelationship among the arts and sciences. Albert Einstein said, "After a certain high level of technical skill is achieved, science and art tend to coalesce. The greatest scientists are artists as well."



Funded by a \$75,000 grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the project includes placing two Professors in Residence, who have expertise in art, in the schools, as well as providing support by professors from the William Paterson Colleges of Education, Art and Communication, and Science and Health. The professors will collaborate and work with teachers in the two Paterson schools to develop curricula in which art activities are meaningfully integrated with math and science.

## Dr. Yong Zhao: Creative, Entrepreneurial and Global 21st Century Education

On October 16, 2012 Professor Yong Zhao, Presidential Chair and Associate Dean for Global Education in the College of Education, University of Oregon, spoke to an audience of over 100 faculty, teachers and Professors in Residence in the main ballroom. Dr. Zhao is an internationally known scholar, author, and speaker. His work focuses on the implications of globalization and technology on education. He has designed schools that cultivate global competence, developed computer games for language learning, and founded research and development institutions to explore innovative education models. He has published over 100 articles and 20 books, including Catching Up or Leading the Way: American Education in the Age of Globalization and World Class Learners: Educating Creative and Entrepreneurial Students.



Kathy Coletta, Dr. Yong Zhao, Dr. Dorothy Feola, Dr. Candace Burns, Dr. Anthony Coletta

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## LIFE-LONG LEARNING

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### Third Annual Educational Technology Conference



This year's educational technology conference, organized by Dr. Heejung An, focused on the theme of "iPads in the K-12 Classroom: How Can They Add Value?" The conference was held on November 30, 2012 and was attended by more than 100 New Jersey educators and administrators. The keynote speaker, Dr.

Dominic Mentor, of Teachers College, Columbia University, discussed the promises and perils of using hand-held technologies, including iPads and cellphones.

Several engaging workshops were conducted by Dr. Sandra Alon, Dr. Heejung An, Christine Besko-Maughan, Lynn DiMatteo, Jayme Franci, Laurence Gander, Hurisa Guvercin, Dr. Carrie Hong, and Ko Jung. Conference hand-outs and lectures notes are all available on the conference website:

<http://www.wpunj.edu/coe/2012edtechconference/conference-program/>

In a response to popular demand, another series of workshops pertaining to iPads will be repeated on February 8, 2013. If you have any questions about the conference, please contact Dr. Heejung An at [anh2@wpunj.edu](mailto:anh2@wpunj.edu)

**For more information on workshops and conference offered by William Paterson University, please visit <http://www.wpunj.edu/coe/>**

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### Engaging English Language Learners in 21st Century Skills

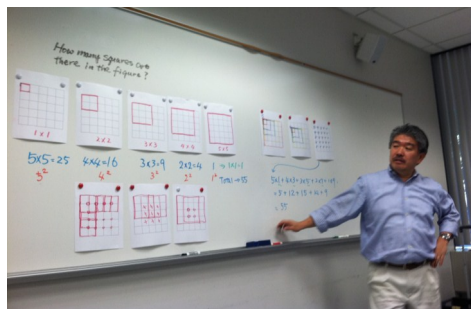
Dr. Carrie Hong and Yvonne Roux presented a workshop at the New Jersey Association of School Librarians Annual Conference in Long Branch on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. Their session, entitled *Engaging English Language Learners in 21st Century Skills*, assisted NJ school librarians in understanding the linguistic and cultural backgrounds of English learners. Session participants learned multisensory teaching strategies to help engage English learners.



Dr. Carrie Hong and Yvonne Roux

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### The Third Annual Global Math Symposium



Dr. Makoto Yoshida, Director of the Center for Lesson Study

The third annual Global Math Symposium was held on July 9th and 10th and included workshops offered on Lesson Study by Dr. Makoto Yoshida, Director of the Center for Lesson Study at William Paterson University. Dr. Henk Logtenberg from The Netherlands and Noah Gauseb from the University of Namibia shared their expertise on mathematics instruction in their respective countries.

To learn more about the Center for Lesson Study and future Global Math Symposiums, please visit <http://www.wpunj.edu/coe/>

## Novice Teacher Institute's *Survival Skills for First Year Teachers*

The Novice Teacher Institute's "SURVIVAL SKILLS FOR FIRST YEAR TEACHERS," was held at WP on August 15 and 16, 2012. Twenty-five out of the twenty seven participants are employed as teachers for the 2012-2013 school year. During the two days, Dr. Martin White, standing left, and Dr. Anthony Coletta, standing right, engaged participants in developing classroom management procedures, curriculum planning, integrating writing and Common Core Standards/21st Century Skills into lessons, and practicing parent- teacher communication strategies.

A panel of novice teachers, who have just completed their first year of teaching, shared their experiences offering valuable teaching advice to the group. Participants were able to ask questions of the panelists and gain insights into being a first year teacher.



Sitting from left to right are panelists: Mary Campomizzi, kindergarten teacher, Garfield; Donna Iannelli, special education resource teacher, Great Falls Academy Alternative High School, Paterson; Katelyn Cole, 5th grade language arts teacher, Bloomfield; Kathy Ruhle, in class support teacher in language arts, School #12, Paterson; and Alissa Vogel, high school English teacher at Essex Valley School, West Caldwell

## Local Teachers Awarded PATSEL ESL Scholarships

Preparing All Teachers to Better Serve English Learners (PATSEL), a national professional development grant awarded to the College of Education by the U.S. Department of Education, provides academic preparation and scholarships (equivalent to WP in-state tuition) for in-service teachers of math, science or technology to pursue ESL certification program at the graduate level. The PATSEL Admissions Committee has been very fortunate to receive a large number of exceptional applications this year. A total of 23 teachers have been accepted to begin their graduate study in the ESL certification program at WP, including teachers from our Professional Development schools in Paterson, Passaic, and Clifton. Among them are Lucinda Hatchell, Mary Garrity, and William Roman from the School of Government and Public Administration (GOPA) at Eastside (see photo). Congratulations to all of the scholarship recipients! For more information about the PATSEL ESL scholarship, visit the PATSEL website ([www.wpunj.edu/coe/patsel](http://www.wpunj.edu/coe/patsel)) and contact Project Director, Dr. Carrie Hong ([HongE1@wpunj.edu](mailto:HongE1@wpunj.edu)) or Co-Project Director, Dr. Gladys Scott ([ScottG@wpunj.edu](mailto:ScottG@wpunj.edu)) for any inquiry.



From left to right: Ms. Hatchell, Ms. Garrity, Mr. Roman, Dina Scacchetti, Professor in Residence, and Karen Johnson, Principal



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## Children “Walk for the Cure” and Raise \$2,072.16 for Breast Cancer Awareness

The teaching staff at WP’s Child Development Center has always made a conscientious effort to have the preschool children participate in community outreach programs sponsored by the University student clubs and campus groups. The children



decided that they would like to make and sell bracelets, cupcakes and lemonade to raise money “to help sick people buy medicine”. They participated walking along side many members of our university community. They chanted and encouraged them to “keep on walking, keep on walking, walk for the cure.”

Members of WP’s Education Club participated in many aspects of the curriculum. Many of the club members worked with the children helping to make bracelets and signs, baking cupcakes for the children to sell and walked with them the day of the event.

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## “Teaching and Learning with Monarch Butterflies” Professional Development

Together with EIRC, WP’s Child Development Center and the College of Education cosponsored a 2 day professional development workshop for teachers grades pre-k – 12. More than 125 educators were in attendance, including participants from NJ, NY, and Connecticut. The workshop provided hours of opportunities for participants to gain an understanding of the lifecycle of monarch butterflies. They worked in science labs handling live caterpillars, identifying instar stages, pupa, and chrysalides. They learned to feed and care for adult monarchs as well. Participants also spent time at the Lorrimer Sanctuary and in neighborhood milkweed gardens as field sites. Ba Rea, field biologist and children’s author/illustrator ,donated her time as a facilitator.

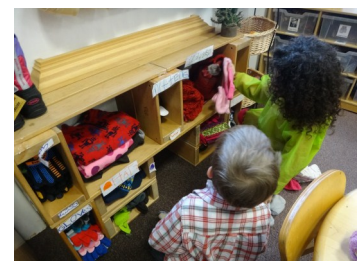
As a follow up to the Teaching and Learning with Monarch Butterflies workshop, 30 preschool teachers were invited to attend a full day curriculum-writing workshop. Together, the teachers created interdisciplinary units of study appropriate for preschool children.

(PNC Foundation for provided grant money to offset the cost of the registration cost for many preschool teachers.)

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## Children Help Other Children

After reading *The Mitten Tree* written and illustrated by Candace Christiansen, the WP Child Development Center children decided they wanted to give their mittens to children who needed them. After having a discussion with the teachers, the children decided they would keep their mittens but ask other people to donate mittens, hats, gloves and scarves to their warm clothing store. Together with the teachers, they created flyers and distributed them to the University community asking for donations. They wrote letters and sent them to teachers working in neighboring towns and told them to come shop “for free” if they knew any children that needed warm clothes. The children were thrilled when the teachers arrived with their lists ready to shop. They were even more thrilled when one of the master teachers from Passaic communicated with them through Voice Thread and placed an “online” order.



## STUDENT NEWS

### Kappa Delta Pi Scholarship Recipient

William Paterson University's Zeta Alpha Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, an International Honor Society in Education, is proud of its student-run leadership team. Ms. Tiffany Shenman, who recently became President of the chapter, received the prestigious 2012 Harold D. Drummond Scholarship Award from the Kappa Delta Pi Educational Foundation. According to the KDP Foundation, Tiffany's "strong application" demonstrated her ability to "be a wonderful representative for KDP educators nationwide."



After losing her home in a fire, Tiffany has maintained a record of excellence both in and outside of the WP classroom. Certified as a Teacher of Students with Disabilities through WP, she is currently teaching at Anna L. Klein School in the Guttenberg, NJ school district where she works with students with autism. In her spare time, Tiffany is also the Junior Varsity Field Hockey Coach at Northern Valley Demarest High School. As President of the KDP chapter at WP, Tiffany leads the planning and implementation of the induction ceremony, informational meetings, and charitable events for the highest-achieving graduate and undergraduate students in the College of Education.

### Faculty and Student Present at Annual Conference



Dr. Darlene Russell and Carolina James

Dr. Darlene Russell and Ms. Carolina James, an undergraduate student in secondary education, co-presented their research *To be young, full of promise, and female: Examining the impact of culturally responsive teaching on college readiness in female students* at the October 2012 American Educational Research Association's (SIG) Research on Women and Education (RWE) Annual Conference in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Ms. James is a research scholar in the **Nurturing Culturally Responsive English Equity Teachers (NCREET) Research Project**. The Project, founded by Dr. Russell, is designed to further groom English education students into culturally responsive teachers for social justice and equity.

### COE Education Club



Dedicated to outstanding service to the University and the local community, the Fall semester was a busy one for student members of the WP Education Club. Advisor, Dr. Sue Mankiw, reports that there are 62 members, representing all of the education majors. Projects included the WP Breast Cancer Walk and Children Helping Children mitten collection in which members worked closely with



the WPU Child Development Center; in addition members participated in a once-a-semester commitment to Habitat for Humanity in Paterson, NJ.

Club members pictured during their work for Habitat for Humanity: Amanda Harrison, Eleftheria Anastasopoulos, Rossana Miranda, Brittany Castellanos, Justina Granieri, Julia Romano, Colleen Devoti, Alexandra Anthony, Jeanette Balise

## Students Inducted to Counseling Honor Society



Professional Counseling students were inducted into William Paterson's Alpha Beta Chi honor society chapter. The mission of the Alpha Beta Chi chapter is to offer students from the Professional Counseling Program the opportunity to be a part of an honor society that not only promotes counseling excellence but also provides community service, creates valuable friendships and networks among peers and colleagues. The chapter also offers leadership opportunities which give members the opportunity to grow and learn in the profession. Pictured with chapter members are Dr. Paula Danzinger, Professor Karen Decker, and Dr. Tim Vandergast

## Student Awarded as NJ Distinguished Student Teacher



Katelin Loeffler, a K-12 English teacher candidate and recent graduate, was one of 16 individuals recently honored with the New Jersey Distinguished Student Teacher Award at Rider University in Lawrenceville.

The ceremony was hosted by the New Jersey Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (NJACTE)

and the awards were administered by the New Jersey State Department of Education.

Kaitlin was nominated by her university supervisor, Wallace Butler, and cooperating teacher, Ms. Heineman, from Mount Olive Middle School where she completed her student teaching. Kaitlin has been hired by the Mount Olive School District to continue her outstanding work with students.

### Alumni, we want to hear about you!

We want to hear from other alums about your accomplishments. Please e-mail [feolad@wpunj.edu](mailto:feolad@wpunj.edu) and your story may be included in an upcoming newsletter.

# READING CLINIC PROVIDES VITAL SERVICE

When Jeanne Norton's daughter Kelsey first began attending the William Paterson University Reading Clinic in 2009, the then-fifth grade special education student was reading at a kindergarten level. Today, after three years attending the clinic once a week, Kelsey, who is now in eighth grade, is reading chapter books on her own. "I can't tell you how much progress Kelsey has made," says Norton, who learned of the clinic from her daughter's school bus driver. "One month after we began at the clinic, she read me a sign on the street, which was an unbelievable moment. She just loves to go there."

Located in the University's College of Education, the Reading Clinic offers comprehensive tutoring, remediation, reading intervention, and enrichment services for local students in kindergarten through grade twelve, as well as incoming William Paterson University freshmen who need to increase their skills at reading on the college level.

But the clinic is much more than that. In addition to providing a vital service for students in academic need, the facility serves as a training ground for the University's master's degree candidates in literacy, who bring their enhanced instructional skills as reading specialists back to their own school districts.

"The clinic is truly a hidden gem on campus," says Candace Burns, dean of the University's College of Education. "We are helping students in great need, many from urban districts with more limited resources. And at the same time, we are training literacy coaches who can diagnose difficulties early in our school districts and work with struggling readers."

Reading skills continue to be a critical issue in New Jersey and across the country. According to the 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress, 22 percent of New Jersey fourth graders scored below the basic level on the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge, the state standardized examination. In addition, students eligible for free or reduced lunches—

an indicator of low family income—had an average score of twenty-five points lower than those who were not eligible.

"This is the population we target and typically serve in the Reading Clinic," says Gerri Mongillo, associate professor and chair of educational leadership and professional studies and a reading specialist who supervises the clinic along with Salika Lawrence, associate professor of educational leadership and professional studies. "And, since 2009, when many school budgets have experienced drastic cutbacks, reading remediation has been reduced or eliminated in many New Jersey school districts, so our services are crucial."

The clinic offers three tutoring sessions per academic year—fall, winter, and late spring—and currently serves seventy-five students per session. Due to increased demand, students are selected through a lottery; for this academic year, applications totaled four hundred. The program draws many students from Paterson, as well as from towns in Bergen, Passaic, Morris, and Essex counties. Students in grades kindergarten through twelve are charged a nominal fee of \$50 per semester, well below the fee that would be charged for private tutoring.

"To keep costs down, especially to our low-income families, the University is subsidizing a significant portion of the clinic's operation," says Burns. "Our alumni are incredibly dedicated to the clinic's philosophy, and many work for 50 percent less than they could charge by offering private services."

Burns says her goal is to expand the clinic's services. "There is such demand for the clinic's services, and we are seeking additional funding that would allow us to serve more students," she says.

"Reading is the foundation," Mongillo adds. "Students need a place where they can learn this most important basic skill in a nurturing and safe environment." *WP*

~ By Mary Beth Zeman

Please consider a gift to the Fund for WP – College of Education . Did you know that a gift of \$500 will help provide a professional reading tutor to a school-aged child in need of assistance? Our Reading Clinic provides year-round tutoring services to children in our neighboring communities and your tax-deductible gift in any amount will help a child succeed in school. Thank you! [Donate Online!](#)

## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

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D'Haem, Jeanne. (Spring, 2012). Responding to Minor Misbehavior Through Verbal and Nonverbal Responses. *Beyond Behavior* pp 29-34.

Fattal, L. (2012) "What Does Amazing Look Like? Illustrator Studies in Pre-Service Teacher Education " *The Journal of Visual Literacy (Ohio University Press) Fall 2012*

Fattal, L. (Summer 2012) "Art Obet: A Magical Adventure of Artist A to Z! DVD" *National Art Education Association*. Review

Mongillo, G., Lawrence, S., & Hong C.E. (2012). Empowering leaders in a master's in literacy program: Teacher candidates' self-efficacy and self-perceptions as literacy leaders. In C.J. Craig & L. F. Deretchin (Eds.), *Teacher Education Yearbook XXI*. Lanham, MD: Rowan & Littlefield.

Russell, D. (2012). *Seeing the invisible: Reading literature through critical lenses*. Iowa: Kendall Hunt Publishing.

Russell, D. (2011). *The Bluest Eye* and the power of culture scripts. In J.O. Milner & C. Pope (Eds.), *Engaging American Novels: Lessons from the Classroom*. Illinois: National Council of Teachers of English Press.

Strasser, J. (August, 2012) Transitioning to kindergarten.

<http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/child-development/transitioning-kindergarten>

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## College of Education Holiday Cheer

The College of Education held its annual potluck luncheon on December 10, 2012. This tradition was established several years ago and faculty and staff look forward to celebrating with each other and tasting the delicious specialties of our in-house gourmets and foodies.



The Faculty and  
Staff of the  
College of  
Education wish  
you a happy 2013.

