

***Graduate School of Education's Newsletter, January 20, 2004***

Please submit items to Gail Haller ([ghaller@gmu.edu](mailto:ghaller@gmu.edu)) by Thursday of each week.

**Faculty News**

**David Brazer, Mark Hicks, and Anastasia Kitsantis** have been selected by the 2004 Teaching Awards Committee as finalists in the George Mason University Teaching Awards process.

**Jennifer Garvey Berger** gave an invited presentation at the Harvard Graduate School of Education on Monday, December 8 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The topic of her presentation was "Psychological Spaciousness Reconsidered: Combining Theories of Motion with Theories of Stability."

**Simone Lambert** will be attending the American Counseling Association 2004 Legislative Institute February 22-24 in Alexandria.

**Simone Lambert** was the lead presenter for two sessions at the Virginia Counselors Association in Williamsburg. His sessions were titled "Connecting in Couples Counseling: Maintaining Intimacy Through Spirituality" with M. Briggs and "Counseling Clients with Chronic Illnesses and Their Families: Strategies for the Professional Counselor" with M. Cowin-Gantz.

**Simone Lambert's** article "Pre-teens Talking to Parents: Perceived Communication and School-Based Aggression" has been accepted for publication in the next issue of *The Family Journal*.

**David Anderson** conducted two workshops for approximately 250 new grantees of the U.S. Department of Education on December 12, 2003. The workshops were titled "Evaluation and Accountability: From Goals to Results." These workshops provided grantees in character education, physical education, corrections, mentoring, and related issues with perspectives and tools on evaluation strategies. The workshop materials and related resources are posted on the web site of the Center for the Advancement of Public Health ([www.caph.gmu.edu](http://www.caph.gmu.edu)).

**Patricia Moyer** and Elizabeth Mailley published a journal article titled, "Inchworm and a Half: Developing Fraction and Measurement Concepts Using Mathematical Representations" in the January 2004 issue of NCTM's *Teaching Children Mathematics*. This article is the Lead Feature article for the issue, with a photograph taken by Patricia Moyer during the classroom data collection as the cover story for the journal.

**David Anderson** made a presentation to leadership personnel at the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles on mature drivers on December 18. His presentation was represented in the "Strategic Planning for Mature Drivers: Foundations and Strategies" document he prepared. This session also included representatives from the Virginia Department of Aging and the Virginia chapter of AARP. This will serve as the foundation for a detailed strategic plan regarding older drivers for Virginia.

**Barbara Given** gave a presentation titled “Research on Phonemic Awareness for Middle School Students” at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, January 3-6, 2004.

**David Wiggins** edited a two-volume historical dictionary titled *African Americans in Sports*, Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, 2004.

**Shane Caswell** co-presented a research paper with Michael Hann and Richard Deivert, titled “Power Output and Pain Perception of Three Common Rehabilitation Exercises for the Supraspinatus Muscle” at the 56th annual Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association Convention in Philadelphia on January 3-6.

**Laura Lawton** has joined the Editorial Board of the *International Journal of Tourism Sciences*. She is currently the Editor-in-Chief of *Tourism Review International*, an international refereed journal.

**Linda Rikard, Susan Johnson** and **Ava Walker** presented clinics on nutrition, hydration and conditioning/warm-up exercises for snow shoeing participation as part of the ninth annual Winter Trails Day January 17 at Wintergreen Resort. The focus was to encourage moderate to vigorous physical activity for children and adults during the winter months. The event featured The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and the American Hiking Society.

### **PhD Students**

**Celeste Pea** presented her doctoral dissertation proposal titled “Teachers’ Beliefs About Science Teaching and Context Factors: Implications for Teaching and Learning Science at the Middle School Level” on December 12. Committee members included Elizabeth Sturtevant, Chairperson, Tom Scruggs and Anastasia Samaras.

**Marilyn Rahilly** will defend her doctoral dissertation titled “Affective, Literacy and Cultural Influences on the Development of English Composition Skills: Perceptions and Experience of Adult ESL Students in Academic ESL Writing Program” on January 27 from 10:00AM – 12:00PM in Robinson A251. Committee members include Joe Maxwell, Chairperson, Virginia Collier, Jack Levy, and Mark Goldin.

**Lynn Hetrick Leavitt** will present her doctoral dissertation proposal titled “A Study of Freshman Learning Styles in a Cohort-Based Learning Community Curriculum in Relation to Academic Achievement and Retention in a Coordinated Studies College” on January 23 from 2:00PM – 4:00PM in Robinson A251. Committee members include John O’Connor, Chairperson, Ann Baker and Tom Scruggs.

**Diane Staehr Fenner** will present her doctoral dissertation proposal titled “Special Education for Adolescent Hispanic Students with Limited Formal Schooling” on January 27 from 2:45PM – 4:45PM in Robinson A251. Committee members include Evelyn Jacob, Chairperson, Elizabeth Sturtevant and Becky Fox.

### Grants/Proposals

**Eamonn Kelly, Anastasia Kitsantas and Nancy Robert** submitted a \$100,000 grant application to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the National Institute of Health titled, "Using LSA Technology to Close the EBM-Practice Gap." The study tests whether latent semantic analysis technology can be used to construct attitude and belief profiles that capture medical residents' cognition needs, learning beliefs, and self-efficacy beliefs about the use of evidence-based medicine in daily medical practice.

**David Anderson** received a new award titled "Evaluation of Collegiate Impaired Driving Initiative" in the amount of \$25,000 from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

**David Anderson** received a new award titled "Traffic Safety Public Awareness Initiative" in the amount of \$4,700 from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles/US Department of Transportation.

**David Anderson** received a new award titled "HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse Prevention" in the amount of \$22,500 from SAMHSA.

**Susan Burns** received a new award titled "Research and Reflection Based Professional Development in Early Literacy" in the amount of \$60,000 from the U.S. Department of Education.

**Gary Varrella** with faculty associate **Farnoosh Shahrokh** submitted a proposal titled "Middle School Social Studies Pre-service Curriculum Development Project for Azerbaijan" to the International Research and Exchange Board.

**Gary Galluzzo** and **Steve White** submitted a proposal titled "Performance-Based Reading Assessment of Middle Grade Teachers: A Multifaceted Approach to Scale Development" to the U.S. Department of Education.

**Julie Kidd** and faculty associates **Robert Pasnak** and **Susan Burns** submitted a proposal titled "Making Connections With Information Text: Promoting Reading Comprehension in Struggling Readers" to the U.S. Department of Education's, Institute of Education Sciences.

**Farnoosh Shahrokh** submitted a proposal titled "Elementary School Curriculum Development and Teacher Education Project for Azerbaijan" to the Department of State.

### Conferences

(The following conference announcements were listed previously and will continue to appear until the conference date)

The 56<sup>th</sup> Annual AACTE Meeting will be held February 7-10, 2004 in Chicago. Information is available in the Dean's office or at [www.aacte.org/Events/meeting\\_exhibits.htm](http://www.aacte.org/Events/meeting_exhibits.htm).

The Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education International Conference will be held March 1-6, 2004 in Atlanta. Further information can be found at <http://aace.org/conf/site>.

The Professional Development Schools National Conference will be March 4-7, 2004 in Orlando, Florida. Further information is available in the Dean's office or at [www.ed.sc.edu/pds/pds.htm](http://www.ed.sc.edu/pds/pds.htm).

The Mid-Atlantic Conference on the Scholarship of Diversity will be held March 18-19, 2004 at Virginia Tech. Further information can be found at [www.conted.vt.edu/macsd/](http://www.conted.vt.edu/macsd/) or in the Dean's office.

The 18<sup>th</sup> BIENNIAL Conference on Human Development will be held in Washington, DC, April 23-25, 2004. Information is available at <http://adp.gmu.edu/CHD2004>.