CEHD Newsletter, March 24, 2008

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

Faculty News

Sally Murphy (cmurphy@gmu.edu) has been named the Virginia School Counselor Educator of the Year by the Virginia School Counselor Association and will be honored at a dinner during the VSCA Annual Conference on April 3. Sally serves as the American School Counselor Association representative on the governing board of the American Counseling Association and as chairperson of the Northern Virginia School Counseling Leadership Team. Sally is being recognized for her many contributions to the profession and for her leadership in the preparation and training of school counselors.

Fred Bemak (fbemak@gmu.edu) offered an invited 2 day training at HELP University in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on March 1 and 2. The training was titled “Counseling Malaysian Youth and Families At-Risk.”

Becky Fox (rfox@gmu.edu), Gail Ritchie (Gail.Ritchie@fcps.edu), and colleague Cynthia Lassonde (State University of New York at Oneonta) have published a book chapter titled “How Teacher Research Can Become Your Way of Being” in Teachers Taking Action: A Comprehensive Guide to Teacher Research (2008), edited by C. Lassonde & S. Israel. The volume is published by the International Reading Association.

Anastasia Samaras (asamaras@gmu.edu) gave an invited lecture titled “Arts-Based Self-Study Research” for the Master’s Capstone Research Course at the University of Hawaii, Manoa on February 5.

Anastasia Samaras (asamaras@gmu.edu) gave an invited lecture titled “Articulating Your Research Question Using Haiku” for the Doctoral Research Proposal Course at the University of Hawaii, Manoa on February 6.

Anastasia Samaras (asamaras@gmu.edu) gave an invited faculty talk titled “Conversations on Self-Study Research and Implications for Teacher Education” at Victoria University, Footscray Park Campus in Melbourne, Australia on February 27.
Anastasia Kitsantis (akitsant@gmu.edu), Pangiota Kitsantis (pkitsant@gmu.edu), and colleague A. Anagnostopoulou published an article titled “A Cross-Cultural Investigation of College Student Alcohol Consumption: A Classification Tree” in *The Journal of Psychology: Interdisciplinary and Applied*, 142(1), 5-20 (2008).

Burl Self (bself2@gmu.edu) has been selected to teach a session at the Osher Lifelong Learning Center in May on “VA Indians – Pre-History To European Contact.”

Burl Self (bself2@gmu.edu) designed and implemented a Land Navigation-based Alexandria youth fitness outdoor curriculum within the geographical confines of the Alexandria municipality.

Burl Self (bself2@gmu.edu) was invited to attend the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee and National Council on U.S. Arab Relations Middle East Policy Briefing on March 19.

Burl Self (bself2@gmu.edu) is developing a Mason Middle East and Insurgency Social Studies curriculum with contributions and suggestions from Syria, Iraq, Morocco, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency, and the U.S. Department of Defense’s Joint Defense Intelligence College. Review, critique and evaluation by ambassadorial staffs, operators, and practitioners representing these countries and federal agencies will ensure a professional, well received, realistic, and insightful course for interested Mason social studies students. The Middle East in particular and insurgencies in general are increasingly occupying an ever larger share of classroom discussions, teacher interests, and Virginia SOL’s.

Burl Self’s (bself2@gmu.edu) Urban Planning class is supporting and involved with Fairfax County Planning Department’s Fairfax Center’s Comprehensive Plan development.

Joe Maxwell (jmaxwell@gmu.edu) gave the keynote lecture titled “Epistemologies for Qualitative Research” at the annual conference of the Center for Qualitative Psychology, an organization of European qualitative psychologists, in Oulu, Finland on March 1.

Joe Maxwell (jmaxwell@gmu.edu) with colleague Barbara Miller published a chapter titled “Categorizing and Connecting Strategies in Qualitative Data Analysis” in the *Handbook of Emergent Methods*, edited by Sharlene Hesse-Biber and Patricia Leavy ( Guilford Press, 2008).

Layne Kalbfleisch (mkalbfle@gmu.edu) was vice-chair of neuroscience for the NSF “Studying Design Creativity” meeting in Aix-en-Provence, France on March 10-11. She presented a paper titled “Potential Constructs and Cognitive Components in Design Creativity: Paradigms from Educational Psychology and Neuroscience.”
Layne Kalbfleisch ([mkalbfle@gmu.edu](mailto:mkalbfle@gmu.edu)) presented a talk titled “Getting to the Heart of the Brain: Talking About Educational Neuroscience and its Potential to Impact Classroom Learning and Teaching” to the Department of Neuropsychology at the University of Maastricht, Netherlands on March 12.

Laurie Harmon ([lharmon@gmu.edu](mailto:lharmon@gmu.edu)) was invited to give an afternoon Envirothon training session titled “Recreational Impacts on Natural Resources” in Richmond on February 23. The session was part of the training for competing students in the Richmond region. The Canon Envirothon is an annual competition in which winning state/provincial teams compete for recognition and scholarships by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management.

Elavie Ndura ([endura@gmu.edu](mailto:endura@gmu.edu)) presented a paper titled “Education in Post-Conflict Burundi: Cultivating a Culture of Peace Through Collaboration” at the Prince William County Schools’ Center for International Studies and Languages Conference in Woodbridge on March 6.

Mary Kayler ([mkayler@gmu.edu](mailto:mkayler@gmu.edu)), Debra Sprague ([dspragu1@gmu.edu](mailto:dspragu1@gmu.edu)), and colleague Chris Dede published a chapter titled “Online Gaming: Building Bridges that Enhance Cultural Understandings” in *Educational Technology and Sustainable Development* in a volume in the series *Current Perspectives on Applied Information Technologies* (North Carolina, Information Age Publishing, Inc.).

Mary Kayler ([mkayler@gmu.edu](mailto:mkayler@gmu.edu)) and Laurie Sullivan ([Laurie.Sullivan@cox.net](mailto:Laurie.Sullivan@cox.net)) presented “Integrating Learner-Centered Theory and Technology to Create an Engaging Pedagogy for K-12 Students” at the 2008 Teachers for the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education International Conference in Las Vegas on March 6.

Farnoosh Shahrokhi ([fshahrok@gmu.edu](mailto:fshahrok@gmu.edu)) served on the selection committee for Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA) to select the foreign participants from Eurasia and South Asia. Strong pools of finalists were selected to participate in the program in fall 2008.

Margo Mastropieri ([mmastrop@gmu.edu](mailto:mmastrop@gmu.edu)) gave the keynote address titled “Maximizing Learning for Today’s Schools” at the Annual Learning Disabilities Association meeting in Chicago on February 28.

Margo Mastropieri ([mmastrop@gmu.edu](mailto:mmastrop@gmu.edu)), Tom Scruggs ([tscruggs@gmu.edu](mailto:tscruggs@gmu.edu)), and colleagues Lisa Marshak ([lmarshak@gmu.edu](mailto:lmarshak@gmu.edu)) (Ph.D. candidate) and S. Berkeley published an article titled “Improving Content-Area Instruction Using Evidence-Based Practice” in *Insights on Learning Disabilities, 5*, 73-84.
Soojin Jang (sjang6@gmu.edu) and Estela Landeros-Dugoud (elandero@gmu.edu) presented at the California State University at Northridge 23rd Annual Conference March 13-15. They demonstrated the use of Smart Boards and software programs designed specifically for students with significant cognitive disabilities. Approximately 60 participants actively participated in the technology demonstration. They have been invited to present at Closing the Gap/ North Carolina Assistive Technology Program in the fall of 2008.

Judith Fontana (jfontan1@gmu.edu) conducted a Literacy Institute session at the 41st annual convention of the Virginia State Reading Association in Richmond March 13-15. The interactive session titled “Literacy: The Key to Content” engaged participants in a variety of research-based content applicable literacy activities. Technology support via MS Word applications and graphic organizer software were included in the session.

Karen Berlin (kberlin@gmu.edu) presented an overview of the Ziggurat Model to over 120 participants at Commonwealth Autism Service’s 7th Annual Conference titled “Transition: Heading for the Bright Lights” in Richmond on March 13.

The conference break-out session utilized a case to examine this model developed by Ruth Aspy, Ph. D. and Barry Grossman as a framework for designing comprehensive Interventions for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Bill Brozo (wbrozo@gmu.edu) gave a presentation titled “Making Reading and Writing a Guy Thing” at the 4th Annual Adolescent Literacy Fair in Williamsburg on March 17. The conference was attended by middle and high school teachers from across the state and was sponsored by the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV).

Bill Brozo (wbrozo@gmu.edu) has been appointed to serve another year on the Adolescent Literacy Committee of the International Reading Association. The committee is responsible for identifying promising secondary literacy programs, communicating to policy makers, and making recommendations to the IRA regarding publications and other services to support middle and high school teachers.

Shane Caswell (scaswell@gmu.edu) and colleague Trent Gould published an article titled “Individual Moral Philosophies and Ethical Decision-Making of Undergraduate Athletic Training Education Students and Educators” in The Journal of Athletic Training, 43(1), 205-214.

PhD Students
Judith Ann Weingartner (wjrba@sbcglobal.net) will defend her doctoral dissertation titled “From Teachers’ Perspective: Implementation of Literacy Materials in Middle School Science” on March 26 from 9:00 – 11:00 AM in West Room 2201. Committee members include Betty Sturtevant (esturtev@gmu.edu), chairperson, Joe Maxwell (jmaxwell@gmu.edu), and Kristy Dunlap (kdunlap@gmu.edu).

Mollianne Logerwell (mglogerwell@yahoo.com) will defend her doctoral dissertation proposal titled “The Effects of a Summer Science Camp Teaching Experience on Preservice Elementary Teachers’ Science Teaching Efficacy, Science Content Knowledge and Understanding of the Nature of Science” on April 1. Committee members include Gary Galluzzo (ggalluzz@gmu.edu), chairperson, Anastasia Kitsantis (akitsant@gmu.edu), and Wendy Frazier (wfrrazier@gmu.edu).

Chonda Sanders (esander2@gmu.edu) will defend her doctoral dissertation titled “The Role of the Mentor in a Virtual High School Geometry Course: Preceptions of Students and Mentors” on April 3 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Commerce II 100. Committee members include Priscilla Norton (pnorton@gmu.edu), chairperson, Margret Hjalmarson (mhjalmar@gmu.edu), and Joe Maxwell (jmaxwell@gmu.edu).

Anne Little (alittle@gmu.edu) will defend her doctoral dissertation titled “An Examination of Motivational Strategies and Academic Achievement in an Online High School Learning Environment” on April 4 from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM in Commerce II Room 100. Committee members include Priscilla Norton (pnorton@gmu.edu), chairperson, Margret Hjalmarson (mhjalmar@gmu.edu), and Penny Earley (pearley@gmu.edu).

Kristine Miller Calo (kcalo@gmu.edu) will defend her doctoral dissertation titled “An Exploration of Middle School Literacy Coaching Across the United States” on April 4 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM in West Room 2201. Committee members include Betty Sturtevant (esturtev@gmu.edu), chairperson, Steve White (cwhite1@gmu.edu), and Ana Taboada (ataboad1@gmu.edu).

Eric Barna (ebarna@gmu.edu) will defend his doctoral dissertation proposal titled “A Comparative Analysis of Students’ Perceptions of Classroom Quality in Selected High School Classes Taught by Traditionally-Prepared Teachers and Second Career Teachers” on April 14 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM in West Room 2201. Committee members include Gary Galluzzo (ggalluzz@gmu.edu), chairperson, Anastasia Kitsantis (akitsant@gmu.edu), and Herb Ware (hware@gmu.edu).

Deanna Breslin (dkbreslin@gmail.com) will defend her doctoral dissertation proposal titled “New Directions in Education Research: Using Data Mining Techniques to Explore Predictors of Grade Retention” on April 16 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM in West 2201. Committee members include Angiota Kitsantas (pkitsant@gmu.edu), Tom Scruggs (tscruggs@gmu.edu) co-chairpersons, and Margo Mastropieri (mmastrop@gmu.edu).

Grants/Proposals
Farnoosh Shahrokhi (fshahrok@gmu.edu) submitted a proposal titled “Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA) – Eurasia/South Asia” to the U. S. Department of State.

Farnoosh Shahrokhi (fshahrok@gmu.edu) and Sherry Steeley (ssteeley@gmu.edu) submitted a renewal proposal for the 2008 Teaching Excellence and Achievement Award funded by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) in the amount of $155,000. The award involves a training program for 20 secondary school teachers from Eurasia and South Asia to be conducted in Fall 2008.

Burl Self (bself2@gmu.edu) received a Geographic Alliance Grant to provide GIS and Middle East curriculum materials to area K-12 teachers.

Kenneth DeJong (kdejong@gmu.edu) and co-investigators Anastasia Kitsantis (akitsant@gmu.edu), Nada Dabbagh (ndabbagh@gmu.edu), Layne Kalbfleisch (mkalbfle@gmu.edu), and Alexei Samsonovich (asamsono@gmu.edu), with faculty associates Lynne Schrum (lschrum@gmu.edu) and Erin Peters (epeters1@gmu.edu), submitted a proposal titled “KRASNOW: Cognitive Constructor as a Building Computational Model of Student Learning” to the U.S. Department of Education.

Jennifer Suh (jsuh4@gmu.edu) submitted a proposal titled “A.C.T. Now: Algebraic Connections and Technology in Middle Grade Mathematics” to SCHEV.

Kelley Regan (kregan@gmu.edu) submitted a proposal titled “Special Education Pre-Service Training Improvement Grant” to the U.S. Department of Education.

Donna Sterling (dsterlin@gmu.edu) and co-investigator Wendy Frazier (wfrrazier@gmu.edu) submitted a proposal titled “Physics and Meteorology: Science for Preservice Elementary Teachers” to the State Council on Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV).

Jenice View (jview@gmu.edu) submitted a proposal titled “Developing Historians: Bringing the Founding Documents to Life Through the Civil Rights Movement” to the U.S. Department of Education.

**CEHD News**

The Training and Technical Assistance Center (T/TAC), a regional branch of the Virginia Department of Education, operating by a grant under the umbrella of KIHd, hosted its annual Advisory Board meeting on March 11. Twenty educators representing many of the 19 school divisions served by the Region 4 T/TAC met to receive updates on VDOE Priority Projects. Participants discussed current issues confronting them and were tasked to offer suggestions on how T/TAC might assist their schools or school divisions to meet the challenges of RtI, differentiation of instruction, and inclusion, as well as assistive technology and transition to adult life for students with disabilities.
Please send requests to update the CEHD web sites as follows:

GSE ACADEMIC PROGRAM CONTENT:
Joan Isenberg (jisenber@gmu.edu), cc: Mary Miller (mmillerw@gmu.edu)

GSE FACULTY/STAFF INFORMATION
Martin Ford (mford@gmu.edu), cc: Pat Nash (pnash@gmu.edu)

GSE STUDENT INFORMATION:
Ellen Rodgers (erodger1@gmu.edu), cc: Amie Fulcher (afulcher@gmu.edu)

SCHOOL OF RHT INFORMATION (academic programs, faculty/staff, students)
Dave Wiggins (dwiggin1@gmu.edu), cc: Lisa Reeves (lreeves1@gmu.edu)

CEHD WEB INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM (design, impact, impression)
Jeff Gorrell (jgorrell@gmu.edu), cc: Martin Ford (mford@gmu.edu)

EXCEPTION:
Center and Office Directors may continue to manage their own web sites.