School of Education
Student Communiqué

Honoring Our School of Education Students!

CONGRATULATIONS - We Are So Proud of You!

Congratulations to the following Education majors who will be graduating May 12, 2007 with academic honors:

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE Graduates - (3.95 & Above GPA):**
- Stephanie Blanton
- Teresa Cummings
- Tammy Smith

**MAGNA CUM LAUDE Graduates - (3.75-3.94 GPA):**
- Deborah Anderson
- Sarah Bell
- Melissa Benanti
- Amanda Calloway
- Kenneth Harper
- Lisa Payne
- Ashley Powell
- Nathan Pressley
- Halley Warbel

**CUM LAUDE Graduates - (3.50-3.74 GPA):**
- Kendaley Atkinson
- Ashley Barnes
- Lauren Crabtree
- Ashley Davis
- Ashley Eggp
- Valen Griffin
- Leah Hood
- Candice Shaw
- Patrick Shirah
- Carter Smith
- Jennica Smith
- Charles Thompson
- Jessica Weins
- Amanda Williamson

**SCAPHERD is accepting applications for the Robert Hampton Scholarship Award in the amount of $1000 - $2000. The application deadline is May 4, 2007.**

To qualify, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Enrolled as a full-time student at his/her university when the scholarship is awarded.
2. Serves as a positive role model for the profession and his/her peers.
3. Assumes responsibility for his/her professional growth.
4. Shows evidence of professional commitment through membership and involvement in local, state and national organizations.
5. Has a financial need for the scholarship as determined by the Scholarship Committee.

If you are interested in applying, please see your advisor or Dr. Cavanaugh for an application.

Visit the SOE website for up-to-date information, photo gallery, etc.

http://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/education/default.aspx?id=2489

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Jenna Paris, an Early Childhood Major, Volunteers in Mission Field!

Jenna Paris, a Junior Early Childhood Education major, packed her suitcase for Nicaragua believing she would be helping others. To her surprise, she realized the community she was reaching out to was blessing her in return.

Ms. Paris left for Nicaragua, along with her colleagues from the Baptist Medical and Dental Mission International, March 5th. Their mission was to serve the community of Las Calabazas with medical, dental, and optometry care. Here, they ministered to 3,709 patients, filled 20,400 prescriptions, pulled 927 teeth, and provided over 1,615 pairs of glasses! They were also able to give out 450 boxes of clothing, shoes, and toys.

Ms. Paris stated that, “I went expecting to give to the people, but I had no idea how much they would bless me.” The team is scheduled to return in September 2007 and Ms. Paris hopes to join the team again in this outreach project!

Dr. Joellen Harris Publishes on Teacher Dispositions!

The South Carolina Association of Teacher Educators (SCATE) invites fellow educators to submit manuscripts for potential publication in the professional, peer reviewed journal, The Teacher Education Journal of South Carolina. This publication is released each spring and is disseminated to all colleges and universities and at least one copy is disseminated to each school within South Carolina.

Dr. Harris’ article is entitled, “Humor as a Desired Disposition for Teacher Candidates” and will appear in the May issue.

Congratulations Dr. Harris for this accomplish-
Dr. Steve Tipps Publishes *Guiding Children’s Learning of Mathematics*

A large box arrived on March 15 holding copies of the 11th edition of *Guiding Children’s Learning of Mathematics* co-authored by Steve Tipps, associate professor of education. The cover of the book shows brightly colored mathematics manipulatives to entice students into an exciting world of teaching elementary mathematics. The content of the book is a balance between the principles and standards for teaching mathematics and many lessons, games, and activities for teaching. The textbook is adopted by over 100 universities across the United States and internationally.

“Writing a textbook is a never-ending task because you must keep up with professional reading so that you are presenting the most current information in the book. Each time we undertake a revision, I am surprised how much mathematics education has changed. New research on learning, new teaching ideas, new technology, and changes in curriculum occur constantly,” Tipps reports. “In this edition, we have focused on early childhood and primary grades in “developing” content chapters and the upper elementary grades in “extending” content chapters. This makes use of the textbook more flexible for students and instructors. Students often tell me that they hold on to the textbook because it contains many teaching suggestions and resources. We really try to make the book reader friendly and practical.”

Tipps has been on the writing team for the textbook published by Wadsworth/Thomson since 1984 when he did a thorough content and style review for Leonard Kennedy of California State University in Sacramento. For the next edition in 1987, he was asked to join the author team. In 2002, Tipps retired from the University of North Texas and was hired at Upstate. A new co-author Art Johnson of Boston University joined the team in 2002 and coincidentally last year he retired and now lives in Cheraw, South Carolina, where he is restoring a 120 year old house.

**Physical Education Students and Faculty Meet with Dr. Rink!**

On March 23, 2007 five students, Jamie Bright, Natalie Christmas, Ashlen Foster, Matt Ramsdell, Tammi Trammell, and two faculty members: Dr. Jeff Kramer and Dr. Cindy Cavanaugh, attended a South Carolina Physical Education, Assessment Program at H.E. Corley Elementary School in Lexington, SC. At the conference the students had an opportunity to be introduced to Dr. Judith Rink (USC - Columbia), the lead contributor to the South Carolina assessment and the lead contributor to the NASPE national standards, as well as, various physical education educators at the university and public school levels.

The focus of the conference was to discuss the latest impact the new assessment standards have had on different elementary physical education programs across the state. The students and faculty were then informed about the different elementary performance indicators that are currently being used to evaluate second and fifth graders across the state, such as how the teacher can evaluate and assess each indicator for their students, equipment needs, placement of video camera, and the appropriate protocols.

What an opportunity to collaborate with lead professionals!
On March 24th, members of TEACH, sponsored by Dr. Cece Toole, participated with Lapsits for Early Literacy to promote early literacy through the Cat and the Hat day celebration. Some members volunteered to paint faces, read books, and create paper bag puppets for children to color. Others made Dr. Seuss hats, distributed Dr. Seuss stickers, and greeted families with goodie bags. Thanks to the many students who volunteered their time!

Adding on Another Certification Area...

Have you ever considered adding on an additional certification area? Although we do not have a dual-certification program, you can complete the necessary coursework to add on a second certification area upon graduation.

If you are interested, you will need to refer to the S.C. State Department’s Certification manual, find the area you are considering, and look up the additional coursework you will need. After you graduate and receive your initial teaching certificate, you can complete the necessary steps to add on the second area.

Drs. Beck and Toole Host Successful Project Learning Tree Workshop!

On March 23, 2007, 19 pre-service and in-service teachers were engaged in a Project Learning tree workshop on the USC Upstate campus. Project Learning Tree® is an award winning, multi-disciplinary environmental education program for educators and students in PreK-grade 12. PLT, a program of the American Forest Foundation, and sponsored in South Carolina by the S.C. Forestry Commission, the State Department of Education, and the S.C. Forestry Foundation is one of the most widely used environmental education programs in the United States and abroad.

Participants learned to use the forest as a "window" on the world to increase PreK-12 students' understanding of our environment; stimulate critical and creative thinking; develop the ability to make informed decisions on environmental issues; and instill in PreK-12 students the commitment to take responsible action on behalf of the environment. More environmental education workshops are on the horizon…be on the lookout!

Who’s Who?

Can you identify Dr. Judy Beck and Dr. Cece Toole in the photo?

Dr. Beck and Toole presented sessions at the 2007 National Science Teacher Association National Conference on Science Education in St. Louis, MO. from March 28 – April 1. One session was titled Science Magic: Discrepant Event Demonstrations and the other was Forensic Science in the Classroom. Both sessions were well attended and received very good reviews. In addition to the extensive number of workshops, the exhibit hall included over 400 exhibits featuring materials and tools for science teachers.

One exhibitor was Sea-world/Busch Gardens who brought along the penguins in addition to other animals to publicize their adventure camps.

Hey. Do you think anyone back at USC Upstate will notice the change?

To be eligible to take any 400+ education courses, you must be accepted to the SOE Professional Program. You may stop by the SOE office (Media 118) to pick up an application or visit the SOE Homepage, under “Student Resources”.

http://www.uscupstate.edu/u/academics/education/default.aspx?id=6938
The University of South Carolina Upstate is one of eight partners in the Vision Education Partnership. This partnership was formed in 2002 to create a new master’s degree program at USC-Upstate in the area of visual impairments with SCSDB as the clinical training site. The mission of the Vision Education Partnership is to “ensure high quality education for children with visual impairments through teacher education and professional development”. The goals are to support the preparation of professionals in visual impairment education and orientation and mobility and to facilitate public awareness and recognition of programs, agencies, professional organizations and the professionals involved in the provision of educational and rehabilitative services to children and youth with visual impairment.

On March 16, 2007 the Partnership hosted the Vision Summit: 2007 Pathways to Success for South Carolina’s Students with Visual Impairment at the SC Archives and History Center in Columbia, SC. Representatives from all partnership groups signed the partnership agreement in a formal signing ceremony.

Left to right in photo:
Martha Veto (President SC Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired); Marty McKenzie (Access Technology Coordinator, SCSDB); Dr. Susan DuRant (Director, Office of Exceptional Children SC Department of Education); Dr. Rebecca Stevens (Director, University of South Carolina Upstate Graduate Programs); James Kirby (Commissioner, SC Commission for the Blind); Dr. Sheila Breitweiser (President, SC School for the Deaf and the Blind); Seated Dr. Stephen Morse (Medical University of SC Storm Eye Institute)

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6th Annual Special Education Graduation Picnic Celebration!

**RSVP:** Contact Dr. Pae regarding your attendance and number of guests no later than May 2: 864-503-5556, 574-4678, or hpae@uscupstate.edu.

**Cost:** $2.00

**What to Bring:** bring a side dish - the hotdogs, burgers and paper products will be provided.

**Directions:** Take Union Street (Rt. 56) 1.6 miles past the SC School for the Deaf and the Blind, through the intersection (the road is now named Cedar Springs) and turn left on Dairy Ridge Road (There is a brown sign stating “Croft State Park”). Continue on Dairy Ridge Road .25 of a mile and turn right onto Croft State Park Road. Take this road into the park. Shelter #1 will be on your left (note—this is a new location).

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Who: Special Education Graduation Candidates

What: Picnic Celebration

Where: Croft State Park

When: Saturday, May 5th from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.