57th Annual Piedmont Region III Science Fair
(Serving public, private and home school students in the counties of Cherokee, Chester, Lancaster, Spartanburg, Union and York)

On campus in the University Readiness Center

**Thursday, February 23rd 9:30am to 1:00pm** -- Science Fair is open to the public.

**Saturday, February 25th 10:00am** -- Awards Ceremony in the Campus Life Center ballroom (3rd floor)

**Service opportunities are available:**
- Tuesday, February 21st, 12-1:30pm
- Wednesday, February 22nd, 12:30-5:30pm
- Friday, February 24th, 12-1:30pm

For more information, or volunteer opportunities, contact Carolyn Culbertson at cculbertson@uscupstate.edu

**Inside This Issue...**

- Movers and Shakers
- News You Need
- Conferences and Opportunities
- Trips and Scholarships
- Updates from Upward Bound and other SoE Programs
Our partnership with Japan’s Izumi Chao Kindergarten internship program provides an opportunity for our students an international teaching experience during the summer months. This program recently hired one of our graduates, Alicia Bridges, for one year teaching position.

Congratulations Alicia!

Find out more about our Japanese partnership:
https://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/international_studies/default.aspx?id=31622

Laura Dickson, graduate student in the Elementary Program at Upstate, was recognized as the 2010 National All Star Teacher of the Year award from Project Fit America and also as Teacher of the Year for Spartanburg District 1 last spring. She is currently competing at the state level for Teacher of the Year. The announcement of the winner will be made later this spring.

Laura (in black) is pictured with Molly Metz-Mary Black Foundation, Laura Dickson-O.P. Earle P.E. Teacher, Nita High-Principal, and Dr. Ron Garner-District One Superintendent.
From Directed Teaching Field Coordinator, Mrs. Debbie Whittingham:

- A new cohort of USC Upstate students will be selected for the District 6 Internship Program during this semester. The internship will be for the fall and spring of 2012-13 semesters. Upstate students, that are interested and selected to participate in the program, will have their last clinical placement in the fall within a classroom in District 6 and then will continue to student teach in that same classroom in the spring of 2013. In order to be selected, your schedule will have to meet those guidelines. An information session will be held on Monday, March 19th from 5:00-6:00 in HEC 2005. Please mark you calendar if you are interested in hearing about the program and going through the interview process for the internship. The interviews will be held in early April.

- Spring 2012 student teachers are all settled in their placements and working towards teaching full time. They are excited and meeting new challenges each day. Their placements will end April 20th with the Share and Recruitment Fair to be held on April 24th.

- Students eligible to student teach beginning in the Fall 2012 are completing their online certificate application with the State Department of Education and the full FBI/SLED fingerprinting through L-1 Solutions. These requirements are to be completed before February 15th.

- Fall 2012 student teachers will be required to schedule an interview with Mrs. Whittingham during Fall Advisement. When you schedule your advisement with your advisor, schedule an interview time on Mrs. Whittingham’s door, HEC 3025.

- Students that are going to be eligible for student teaching in the Spring 2013 will find the DT documents available online at the School of Education website in mid-February. A notice will be sent out to ALL STUDENTS that the DT information is posted when it is available.

- Remember that all students enrolled in a clinical must have a valid SLED report in their file in the School of Education and a valid National Sex Offenders Registry search results. The NSO is required each semester for any and all students that are placed within the public schools in SC. Please work with your clinical instructor/professor to make sure that you are cleared to be in the clinical placement. Instructors/professors will not give placement assignments to students that have not been cleared with a valid SLED and NSO reports.
The Teacher Cadet class at Spartanburg High School got a visit from some Upstate Teaching Fellows during the month of January. Fellows Brittany Cash and Rebecca Mills shared pointers for working with cooperating teachers and classroom management with the Cadets who are preparing to begin their field experience in local elementary schools. They played a game to share some facts about college life with the students and gave sticker packets as prizes that the Cadets will be able to give to the students when they teach. We look forward to every opportunity to strengthen our college partnership with area high schools through the Teacher Cadet program, and expect to plan more classroom visits next semester.

The Teaching Fellows met on January 19th to discuss their plans and activities. Everyone signed up for service hours to help at the upcoming Piedmont Region III Science Fair.

The Early Childhood Education students in the Junior Block have begun their Clinical placement in 4K classrooms at Greenview Child Development Center in Greenville County. The school serves four year olds who have demonstrated a need for assistance in school readiness. Upstate students will have the opportunity to work with diverse families, see best practices in action and determine what developmentally appropriate practice looks like by working alongside some of Greenville’s best early childhood professionals. Our students will develop and implement a family night learning celebration with the teachers at Greenview CDC in addition to creating and teaching lessons and administering assessments specific to early childhood. Upstate Greenville Campus students are very excited to get the semester started in a teacher’s “real world”!

Charles Lea Educational Experience Program

This program is offered each semester for developmentally disabled upstate community members who would like to take classes at USC Upstate. Twelve different classes are held for 10 weeks on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:15 in the Health and Education Complex (HEC building). Student assistants are needed to help and will receive clinical/observation hours for their service. For more information, contact Dr. Lori Tanner: ltanner@uscupstate.edu
Upcoming Spring Semester Meetings

Location: HEC 2039

Thursday, February 23- 4:00
Topic: Serving Students with Diverse Needs

Wednesday, March 14- 6:30
Topic: Q&A with Teachers in the Field

Thursday, April 12- 4:00
End of the Year Ceremony, including introduction of officers and recognition of graduating seniors

Contact for more information:
Amber Harris at harris45@email.uscupstate.edu or 864-593-5074
From Dr. Charles Love,
Dean, School of Education:

Criminal Background Checks / National Sex Offender Registry
Thank you for your interest in a major in the School of Education. We are delighted that you have decided on a career in teaching. Following is important information for you regarding a mandatory requirement for School of Education students. In order for the School of Education to be in compliance with the University’s contractual agreements with our public schools and community agencies, all education majors must complete a South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Criminal Record Background Check and a National Sex Offender Registry check prior to participating in any field experiences. All Professional Education courses have a field experience requirement. If a potential candidate has been found guilty or has pled no contest (nolo contendere) to crimes involving drugs, physical violence, the illegal use or possession of weapons, fraud or dishonesty, the School of Education cannot permit that student to participate in field experiences or be admitted to the Professional Program in education without specific approval of the dean. In order for the School of Education to accept you as a continuing student, you must provide this office with the results of your SLED Criminal Background Check and National Sex Offender Registry check. Information is past due as of January 15, 2012.

Directions for Obtaining your SLED Criminal Record Background Check: NOTE: Before logging on, have credit card information ready and please ensure that your printer is working since results are returned immediately to your computer. SLED will not reimburse fees if you are unable to print the results.

- Log on to www.sled.sc.gov
- Click on Criminal Record Check
- Accept Terms and Conditions
- Click “Not Eligible”
- Provide requested personal identification information.
- Provide Credit Card Information
- Click Submit
- Print out the results
  Take the Original Printed Copy (not a photocopy) to your clinical instructor

Directions for Obtaining your National Sex Offender Registry check:

- Log on to www.nsopw.gov
- Click on Search for Sex Offenders
- Accept Terms and Conditions
- Enter verification code
- Provide last name, first name
- Click Submit
- Print results
  Take the Original Printed Copy (not a photocopy) to your clinical instructor

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 864-503-5577.
**Diversity Conference 03/15/2012**

“Everyone Has a Story to Tell”

The USC Upstate School of Education Diversity Committee will sponsor the 20th annual diversity conference on March 15th. The purpose of the conference is to bring teacher candidates together on the topic of diversity in the classroom. Student Teachers from several South Carolina colleges and universities will attend the one day conference to be held at the Chapman Cultural Center in downtown Spartanburg. The teacher candidates will enjoy a keynote speaker, break-out sessions, and entertainment by local school children.

The keynote address will be made by Michael Fosberg, an actor, teacher and writer. See incognitotheplay.com for more information. Some of the topics for break-out sessions include: music and movement, family diversity, dialectic awareness, and multicultural activities for classrooms. For more information contact Dr. Greta Freeman at 503-5524 or Dr. Marilyn Izzard at 803-938-3709.

**Featured Speakers:**

- Michael Fosberg
- Jennifer Collins
- Patrick Suber
- Dr. David Marlowe

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**SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITY**

Cowpens National Battlefield is looking for a Youth Conservation Corps Youth Leader May 20th through August 11th, 2012. Deadline for application is February 8, 2012. For more information, contact:

Kathy McKay, Chief Ranger
Cowpens National Battlefield
864-461-2828 Kathy_McKay@nps.gov

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**The Women’s Leadership Institute**

is now accepting nominations and applications for our NEW Leadership Residential Intensive Training to be held May 14-17, 2012 on the campus of Auburn University. The program offers one-on-one training with top leaders in nonprofit management, politics, education, and social media, and the keynote event is a book-signing luncheon with Fair Pay Activist, Lilly Ledbetter. The NEW Leadership Residential Training is open to all women currently enrolled in an institution of higher education. For more information or to nominate students, or to apply please visit www.auburn.edu/womensleadership

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**Preparing for the Praxis?**

Get advice from an expert!

**PRAXIS WORKSHOPS**

Sponsored by

**Saturday, February 4, 2012**

Palmetto State Teachers Association office
2015 Assembly Street
Columbia, SC 29201

**PRAXIS I:** 10:00 – 1:00
**PRAXIS II/PLT:** 2:00 – 5:00

Visit www.palmettoteachers.org to register online!
Maymester in Germany

During Maymester a group of students will be traveling to Stendal, Germany. During this time we will visit schools, participate in seminars with students from the Universität Magdeburg-Stendal and tour the surrounding areas. Although most of our time will be spent in Stendal, we will also visit Weimar and Berlin. Speaking German is not a prerequisite for this trip. If you are interested in going and would like an introduction to the German language, the Center for International Studies offers an Introduction to German Class through the World Languages Institute. Classes this spring begin the week of February 13. This Introduction to German class is not required. For more information on the German language class visit http://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/international_studies/default.aspx?id=15470

May 12 –28, 2012
$2,800

Please contact Dr. Laura Hooks (lhooks@uscupstate.edu) or Dr. Elaine Wiegert (ewiegert@uscupstate.edu) for more information.

Scholarship Opportunities

Phi Kappa Phi
Study Abroad Scholarship
studvabroad@phikappaphi.org

Boren Scholarship
http://borenawards.org/boren_scholarship

Benjamin A. Gilman
International Scholarship
www.iie.org/GILMAN

Fulbright Summer Scholarship
www.iie.org/fulbright

Travel Funds for Study Abroad Available

through USC Upstate’s Center for International Studies of up to $1000 for study abroad.

Application deadline is March 1st.

For more information, contact Dr. Deryle Hope dhope@uscupstate.edu

CHILE IN MAY

Expand Your Horizons, Become a Better Teacher

How: Join Drs. Beck and Reed on an exciting excursion to Santiago, Chile

Funding: Use your student loans even if they have been expended for the year. You are eligible for additional funds for educational trips. Apply for several different scholarships offered by the university.

Who Can Go: All USC Upstate students and students from other colleges and universities. Bring your friends!

Course Credit: You may apply for certain course credits including electives and humanities. This is subject to Dean approval.

How to Sign Up: Send a check to Drs. Beck or Reed for $100

May 17- 31, 2012
$3500
includes lodging, airfare, most meals and tours

For more information, contact Dr. Rebecca Faulkner rfaulkner@uscupstate.edu
864-552-4229

SEE THE WORLD!
Serving the community is one of the key components of the Upward Bound program at USC Upstate. The participants are required to complete monthly two-hour community service projects in our local area. Our first project of the academic year was the Children’s Shelter Wholesale Shop located on Ashville Highway. The students organized the shop’s donated items, which included clothes, shoes, books, tableware, and other household items. Jeff Blanton, who serves as the coordinator of the Wholesale Shop, taught the students how to estimate and mark the value of each item based upon their clientele. The participants truly enjoyed working for such a wonderful organization where all proceeds go back to the shelter.

The Upward Bound students also completed a community service project at the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen. They were given the tasks of organizing the shelter’s pantry and assisting with the soup line. They were also asked to donate items for this outreach activity, and most showed up with bags full of clothes, shoes, blankets, and other useful items to help the needy stay warm during the winter season. “These types of activities are vital to our program,” stated Dr. Cassandra Mitchell, the program’s director. “They are teachable moments, exposing students to the reality of the economic downturn that our nation is facing.” At the soup kitchen students learned firsthand how important it is to be grateful for the things they have. “They gained a valuable lesson in humility.”

From a cultural standpoint, select participants had the opportunity to visit the Peace Center to see a presentation titled “Letters Home.” This show dramatically depicts the war in Afghanistan and Iraq and narrates from actual letters written by the soldiers serving. It promotes patriotism and shows the experiences of our soldiers serving our country through acts of bravery, compassion, social responsibility and brotherhood. Yolanda Simuel, head counselor of the program, stated that the experience was both timely and important due to the impact and insight it had. “Our soldiers are starting to come home, so we need to realize what they’ve gone through,” she said.

To wrap up 2011, the Upward Bound program celebrated the holiday season with its Annual Alumni Social. The social is hosted for current students, recent graduates and all alumni members of the Upward Bound program. It’s a time to allow them to come together to share in their college experiences. Georgia McCarroll, the alumni counselor of the program, coordinated the event. “It was a wonderful occasion,” she stated, “it was a great way for staff to connect with the current and past participants in an effort to find out what has transpired in their lives and to get pertinent information while having a little fun in the process.” Locally- famed artist Simone Mack of the jazz band Okra gave a wonderful performance, and Co-Co’s Carribean Soul provided a tasty treat for all to enjoy. The event took place at Summit Point and approximately 75 guests were in attendance.
SoE Leadership...

- Dean
  Dr. Charles Love
- Associate Dean
  Dr. Jim Charles
- Graduate Programs Director
  Dr. Tina Herzberg
- USC Upstate
  Greenville Campus Director
  Dr. Judy Beck
- USC Upstate
  Sumter Campus Director
  Dr. Marilyn Izzard

Upcoming Dates...

- March 5-9
  Spring Break
- March 11
  Daylight Savings Time Begins
- March 19-30
  begins advisement - sign up for appointment on advisor’s doors in advance!
- April 2-13
  Registration
- April 23
  Last day of classes
- April 24-30
  Final Exams

USC Upstate School of Education

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www.uscupstate.edu/academics/education