Message From The Dean...

Warm wishes as we reach the midpoint in this fall semester of 2010. We are embracing another year which promises continued success and developments. The University of South Carolina Upstate School of Education is a regional and national pacesetter in the delivery of high quality educational programs. The strength of any educational enterprise rests with its faculty. The USC Upstate School of Education (Spartanburg, Sumter and Greenville campuses) is home to many outstanding and distinguished educators. The faculty and administration take seriously their responsibility to produce outstanding teachers who make positive differences in the lives of children every day.

Attracting, preparing, and retaining high-quality teachers for South Carolina’s students and schools must be our state’s top education priority. A number of challenges contribute to the complexity of putting a highly qualified teacher in every South Carolina classroom. Among them are the retirement of career teachers, a significantly high turnover rate and competition from other employment sectors and most recently, the downturn of our state’s financial system. In spite of these challenges, the need for talented teachers has never been clearer. Research has confirmed over and over that highly qualified teachers are the single most important variable for student success. The economic health of our state will continue to rely on a strong cadre of educators in the classroom and in school leadership roles.

The School of Education at the University of South Carolina Upstate is addressing these issues through the development of new programs and degree offerings. We are in the planning stages of the following new degree programs:

1. Bachelor’s degree in Exercise Science. This degree will prepare our students for careers in exercise physiology, cardiac rehabilitation, nutrition, and sport strength and conditioning.
2. Bachelor’s degree in Sports Management leading to careers in the management, marketing, public relations, legal, event management, and sales areas of the sport and leisure industry.
3. Bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood concentrating on birth to age 6.
4. Masters degree in Curriculum and Instruction (K-12) with concentrations in Reading, Technology, Early Childhood, and Elementary Education.
5. Masters of Arts in Teaching in Middle Grades.

In this issue of the School of Education News, we will highlight some of the important activities in which our faculty and students have been engaged. These are just snapshots of the many activities and programs in the School of Education.

~ Charles Love
NEW POLICY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2011 - IMPORTANT!!

Deadlines will NOW be enforced regarding admission to the SoE Professional Program! Beginning January 2011 (next semester), NO students will be allowed to take 400+ level courses if they have not been admitted by the appropriate deadline. Please speak with your advisor if you have additional questions.

Deadlines for Admittance to the Professional Program (effective Jan. 2011):
- June 1 for Fall Admittance
- November 15 for Spring Admittance

If you miss the deadline, you will NOT be allowed to register for or take professional program courses until the following semester.

Two Education Majors Win Math Scholarships!

Each fall, the South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics (SCCTM) accepts applications from preservice teachers majoring in mathematics education and awards three individual scholarships in the amount of $1500 each. Two USC Upstate students were selected to each receive this scholarship. CONGRATULATIONS to both Cassie Sarmiento and Thomas Gioia on this accomplishment and to Dr. Wiegert for making the student recommendations! Well done!

Fridays are “Show Your Spartan Green Spirit Day”...

Every Friday until the end of the semester, all faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to show their support and enthusiasm for USC Upstate by dressing in the University colors. Through this campaign, we hope to enhance the University’s image among business and opinion leaders, alumni, students, and the community at large, as well as build a strong foundation of brand awareness.
Cow Visits Dr. Beck’s Science Methods Class at Our Greenville Campus!

The Chick-Fil-A Cow visited the School of Education Greenville campus as part of Faculty & Staff Appreciation day. Pictured is Dr. Beck’s science methods class. Greenville Campus TEACH members are selling Chick-Fil-A calendars as a fundraiser to benefit needy children. Please contact Dr. Cece Toole if you would like to purchase one (or more!).

Dr. Beck Named President of SCATE!
Professors Present at the October SCATE Conference...

Dr. Judy Beck, Cece Toole, and Ms. Laura Kaufmann presented at the 2010 South Carolina Association of Teacher Educators Conference at which Dr. Beck was sworn in as President of the organization. Drs. Marilyn Izzard (Awards Committee Chair) and Joellen Harris (Secretary) were also in attendance. Check out the TV news clip from NBC affiliate WSAV-TV Savannah, Ga. at: http://wsav.com/ar/913526/

Greenville Education Classes GO WILD!...

Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education/Learning Disabilities teacher candidates on the Greenville campus took part in a Project WILD workshop on September 24th. They received teacher guides for Project WILD, WILD Aquatic and the new early childhood curriculum, Growing Up WILD. Candidates dissected owl pellets, investigated wiggling worms, created a human spider web, played deer tag, feasted on owls, and were “positively” scared by bats, spiders and bears, OH MY!
Real Men Teach General Information

Real Men Teach (RMT) is designed to support and increase the productivity of male students interested in majoring in teacher education. It is through RMT, that USC Upstate male pre-service teachers will gain a heightened visibility, preparation, as teacher leaders, and serve as Ambassadors for the teacher education.

- **Program Overview**
  The primary objective of the Real Men Teach Initiative is to prepare males majoring in education at USC Upstate to become strong teacher/leaders. This objective is accomplished by program participants matriculating through a leadership curriculum and a mentoring component. At the conclusion of the program, student participants serve as mentors to minority high school students in the local community.

- **Leadership Curriculum**
  The leadership curriculum will expose participants to the current leadership trends and issues significant to future teacher/leaders. Program participants will be required to read a series of leadership articles and provide a comprehensive response that is shared with other program participants. In addition, workshops focusing on leadership, personal finance, and etiquette are also implemented.

- **The Mentoring Component**
  Each protégé is assigned an academic, personal and social mentor. The mentor exists to provide each protégé with informal insights of the profession from a seasoned practitioner. Mentors are chosen from a wide range of professions as they make a two-year commitment to the program. Although there are some specific program objectives governing the mentor/protégé experience, the mentor is encouraged to expand his relationship with his protégé.

For more information, please contact: Dr. Elaine Wiegert or Dr. Holly Pae, Project Coordinators at 864-503-5560 or hpae@uscupstate.edu and ewiegert@uscupstate.edu

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Teresa Hough’s Play Debuts at Chapman Cultural Center - A Must See!

On October 28, 29, and 30, *October Daisies*, written by our own Teresa Hough debuts at the Chapman Cultural Center! *October Daisies* tells an incredible story of five strangers brought together by a mutual friend’s funeral. The women initially appear to have nothing in common except that of a mutual friendship with the deceased. After sharing stories, trying to unravel the mystery of why their late friend has brought them all together, and lending support as each other face tough times, the women soon learn that they have much in common and become fast friends. The play is also a tribute to breast cancer survivors. Click here for more information.
For those that do not know me, my name is Christine Nelson and I am a USC Upstate Education Major with the Sumter campus. My husband is in the Air Force and we recently received orders to Sheppard AFB, TX. Luckily, I was able to finish all of my course requirements at the USC Sumter campus before our move to Wichita Falls, TX in May 2010. I am currently finishing my student teaching semester here in the WFISD (Wichita Falls Independent School District) as a guest student at MSU (Midwestern State University). Since I am not a local college student I have been corresponding through WFISD education liaison, Maureen Steed for all of my placement information and also with Dr. Izzard for requirements.

I received my student teaching placement information about two weeks after my move to Texas. My placement is at Washington Jackson Elementary School located at the far eastside of Wichita Falls in one of the lowest economic living areas for the district. I was given two separate cooperating teachers at the same school. My placement was split into two six week periods; six weeks with Ms. Gossett’s second grade class and six weeks with Mrs. Lasater’s fourth grade class.

In WFISD the school year began on August 23, 2010. My placement actually began on August 16, 2010, which was one week prior to the first day of school. On August 16, 2010 the entire school district, forty some schools ranging from Head-start up to high school all met at a downtown church for a back to school pep rally. On that day I met my school principal, Mrs. Sandy Camp who is also my district supervisor, and I also met my first placement cooperating teacher, Ms. Gossett. During that morning presentation we had a key note speaker come and give a presentation on the importance of parent and community involvement for student success. The afternoon was spent back at the Washington Jackson Elementary campus for staff development meetings and introduction of new staff; i.e. new school principal, new kindergarten teacher, etc. The rest of the week consisted of training on the adoption of the new Language Arts textbooks as well as new grade book system, new school wide expectations: Leopard Expectations and discipline policy and other important information pertaining to the new school year. On the Thursday and Friday afternoons before the first day of school all staff were given time to set up their classrooms and prepare for the new school year. This week counted towards my first six week placement, so my first placement in second grade was only for five weeks.

On the first day of school I was in the second grade. Since it was the beginning of the school student expectations, rules and procedures were all introduced and practiced by the class. The entire school had a set time schedule for the first three weeks of school to practice Leopard Expectations: Hallway, Bathroom, Cafeteria and Playground behavior. My second grade class consisted of 17 students; 9 girls and 8 boys. Most of the students in my class were below grade level readers, so we had to start the year out really slow and have lots of review from first grade. The first three days of school I observed my cooperating teacher and assisted as needed. During the first week of school on the fourth and fifth day, I began teaching all math lessons and continued to teach them until the end of my placement. During my 3rd week of school I created and began a science unit with my second graders that I used as practice for my TWS. I later created an ELA unit for my TWS that I would teach during my 2nd placement in 4th grade. By week four of my 2nd grade placement I added Language Arts and Social Studies to my agenda and I was teaching all subjects and managing the entire classroom as if my own. Before I knew it, the time flew by and by the fifth week I wasn’t ready to relieve myself of my teaching duties, so my cooperating teacher gladly allowed me to continue being in charge up until my very last day. I really enjoyed my teaching experience in 2nd grade and feel that I have grown as an individual and have developed my teaching skills and abilities. I have gained a variety of instructional and classroom management strategies that I can take with me and use in future classrooms. My cooperating teacher, Ms. Gossett was absolutely wonderful and very helpful in assisting me in any way. She gave me the opportunity to have free rein of the entire classroom and I am grateful for the experience. My 2nd graders were the best and I love them all, even the behavior problem ones…lol. I already made plans to attend their fieldtrip on December 3rd to see the “Nutcracker”.

My second six week placement in fourth grade began on September 27, 2010. My cooperating teacher is Mrs. Lasater and she was nominated and chosen to be the teacher of the year for the West Teacher Excellence Award. She is an outstanding teacher and I know I will learn many great teaching strategies from her. My fourth grade class consists of 17 students; 9 girls and 8 boys. I noticed this first week that there really is a huge difference in the fourth graders independence and reading abilities compared to my second grade class. Also, I have already begun writing in my personal journal for instructional and classroom management ideas. One idea that I absolutely love is a reward for weekly conduct. My cooperating teacher allows students who did not receive a weekly conduct cut to eat their lunch outside with her in the school courtyard. I participated in this event on Friday, October 1st and could tell the students really enjoy the privilege. So far I have only been observing in this class and will begin teaching math next week on Oct. 4, 2010 using the online CSCOPE curriculum for direction.

This school year is the first time WFISD has begun using the CSCOPE Math Curriculum. CSCOPE is an online research based curriculum that was developed by experts to reach the grade level objectives students should be learning based on the state standards. Next year the district will begin using CSCOPE for all other subjects. Teachers are required to follow the yearly unit plan outline, but can supplement materials/resources as needed.

I am looking forward to beginning teaching in fourth grade and getting to implement my unit plan created for the TWS. I only have five weeks left of my student teaching experience and hope that fourth grade runs as smoothly as second grade did. It’s hard to believe that graduation is just around the corner. I just hope and pray that Texas accepts my Praxis II scores from South Carolina that I already passed. I plan to substitute teach after student teaching until all of the certification process is complete and I can finally apply for a teaching position.
On November 12-14, 2010, 16 students will be traveling to Myrtle Beach, SC to participate in the South Carolina Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (SC AHPERD) Convention. Four students, Kim Brasil, Jennifer Pearson, Danny Swanger, and Cameron Willis, will be presenting along with Dr. Jim Kamla a session titled, “Let’s Work Together.” The session will feature new team building games that the physical education teachers that attend can take back with them to their schools when the conference is over. The majors attending the conference are currently conducting two fundraisers to offset the costs of the convention. They are selling Upstate physical education t-shirts for $15 and are also participating in a fundraiser at the Pizza Inn in Duncan on Thursday November 14, 2010. The students will work at the Pizza Inn that evening and earn a percentage of the money made that evening for their trip. If you have any questions about any of these fundraisers, feel free to call Dr. Jim Kamla at 864 503-5851 or email him at jkamla@uscupstate.edu.

March 1, 2011 is the FAFSA Deadline! Do not forget!

“Got...SPECIAL EDUCATION”...?

Are you thinking about a teaching field? Consider Special Education!

Did you know...

- The Learning Disability Program K-12 now offers the option to add-on Elementary Education certification (without enrolling in additional coursework)?

- The TEACH Grant Program offers $4,000 per academic year - $16,000 undergraduate maximum to students pursuing a Special Education degree?

- According to the S.C. Fall 2009 Teacher/Administrator Supply & Demand Survey report, the greatest share of job vacancies was held by Special Education positions at all grade levels?

For more information, please contact Dr. Holly Pae in the SoE.
NCATE is the National Council of Accreditation for Teacher Education - so what? Well, professional accreditation of preparatory programs is the bedrock upon which all professions have built their reputations (e.g., architecture, engineering, medicine, law). It assures that those entering the respective field have been suitably prepared to practice through assimilation of a body of knowledge and preservice practice in the profession.

When a school of education is **NCATE accredited**, it provides an assurance that the school’s teacher preparation program has met national standards set by the teaching field at large and has undergone rigorous external and impartial review by professionals, policymakers, and representatives of the public. **USC Upstate is proud to be NCATE Accredited!**

In order retain this distinction, the School of Education must be reevaluated every 7-10 years - which will be this academic term. The process is very intense and involves the ENTIRE education family (students, faculty, K-12 schools, the SC Department of Education, and the university at large). Therefore, you will soon see two program specific informative posters in our HEC classrooms and at each campus. Below are our Five Goals and our Pathway to Certification is on the next page.

![Diagram of University of South Carolina Upstate Education Professional Program Conceptual Framework Goals]

- Demonstrate Commitment to Professional Responsibility
- Demonstrate Reflective Teaching Practice
- Demonstrate Reflective Professionals
- Demonstrate Performance-Based Assessment
- Demonstrate Learner-Centered Pedagogy
Education and Nursing Partnering for Backpack Program...

SC Upstate - Greenville Schools of Education and Nursing are partnering with Harvest Hope Food Banks on their Backpack program. Upstate students will be stuffing the backpacks with nutritional food and delivering them to a local school. Children who are at risk of hunger will take the packs home with them over the weekends so that they will have nutritional food while away from school.

- Graduation Application for May Candidates are Due December 1, 2010!!
- Praxis II is now phasing in Computer-based Testing. One Elementary Exam is now available in this format. Click here to view the details!
- Advisement Survey - Please provide feedback regarding your advisement for Spring 2011!
Want to Travel to Chile While Earning Credit?...

The School of Education at the University of South Carolina Upstate announces opportunities for international travel for the 2010-2011 academic year. Our second visit to Santiago, Chile is planned for Maymester 2011. Last year’s Chilean earthquake prevented us from taking this trip but we are making plans for this year’s visit. The trip is part of an exchange agreement with Finis Terrae University in Santiago. Santiago is a fantastic city of five million people at the foot of the Andes Mountains and less than an hour from the Pacific Ocean. Finis Terrae is located in an upscale residential community in Santiago and is close to shopping, restaurants and residences. Finis Terrae is a private university with 4,000 students. The “Chilean Experience” is for two weeks. Many opportunities are given for our students to interact with the Chilean students. Most mornings begin with a lecture by a prominent faculty member, in English, followed by cultural tours to historic sites and museums in various areas along both the included. The cost of the trip includes transportation. There is plenty of free students to enjoy shopping, salsa dances, cafes. Course credit is available for this education majors are also welcome to all of our sponsored trips, students may apply for a scholarship available from the university eligible for a small scholarship in addition if you have used up all of your funds.

Additional international travel opportunities are also being investigated at this time and that information will be posted in subsequent newsletters. Besides the Chile trip, we have an established experience in Japan which also includes the opportunity for future employment. Trips to Finland, China, South Africa and Germany are also being explored.

We hope that all of you will consider joining us as we discover more about other countries and their cultures as well as more about ourselves. Travel to other countries is a life-changing experience. We hope you will take full advantage of these opportunities to grow as a person and as a teacher. For further information, please contact Dr. Becky Faulkner, 864-552-4229.

ETV Streamline and Promethean Board Software...

If you do not have an ETV Streamline account, a free resource for educational videos like The Magic School Bus, use the following access code and website to create your own! 6345 – 634A


If you would like to download the software for creating Promethean Board flipcharts, use the following website and certificate code! 00156099655295523552

http://support.prometheanplanet.com/server.php?show=nav.19251
“WE ARE - UPWARD BOUND”!

“I AM UPWARD BOUND!” That’s what the students from eight local high schools shouted as they kicked off their year-long academic journey with the Upward Bound Program at the University of South Carolina Upstate. Sixty Spartanburg and Cherokee county students gathered together on August 28, 2010, for an orientation that offered details about the upcoming year.

“This program is designed to provide students with the support and guidance needed to make the transition from high school to college,” stated Dr. Charles Love, Dean of the School of Education. Love gave opening remarks and introduced the new director of the program, Dr. Cassandra Mitchell. “We are packing your parachute for your journey, and we have good resources to make sure you have a safe trip,” Love stated as he painted an analogy between this experience and that of soldiers who rely upon others to aid them in their most critical time.

During orientation the staff of the program extended a hearty welcome and provided the guidelines and policies of the program. Parents and students were not only informed about what it takes to be an Upward Bound student, but they were also enlightened about the many opportunities that awaited them. It wasn’t very long before their calendars started to fill up with excitement and adventure.

On September 28, 2010, the participants traveled to the Peace Center in Greenville, SC to witness a performance by the dance troop “Diavalo.” This cirque du soliel-like theatrical performance aptly named “The Day I Fly,” had acrobatic dancers using ordinary objects such as doors, ladders, chairs, and stairways to express the true essence of movement. With minimal props and spoken lines, the performers used their bodies to make stories about key concepts such as trust, teamwork, creativity, and work ethic.

“The performance exemplified the purpose and goal of Upward Bound,” stated Mitchell, the director. “It showed our students how effortless and fun life can be when you practice, prepare yourself and cooperate with others.”

Continued on next page...
The fun continued on October 2, 2010, with a night of fine dining and theatre. The CLC Ballroom was turned into a five-star restaurant, and afterwards the participants were able to catch a Thornton Wilder production called “Our Town.” This play, set in the early 1900s in Grover’s Corners, New Hampshire, told the story of everyday people experiencing life during a simpler time.

“This was a perfect night,” said Georgia McCarroll, Upward Bound’s administrative specialist and member of the USC Upstate Shoe String Players. “These students need to learn how to appreciate the arts and be exposed to things on an elevated level.” It was an ideal situation for our students who had recently participated in a workshop on dining and theatre etiquette, facilitated by Ms. Sybil Davis, certified protocol specialist from the Millie Lewis Agency of Greenville, and Jimm Cox, Department Chair of Fine Arts and Communications Studies at Upstate.

Most recently the students traveled to South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC for Youth Day. On October 9, 2010, they were afforded an opportunity to speak with key personnel and inquire about the many program areas at the university. They also took part in field day events and attended a “Bulldog Game” where the team brought home a 34 -13 victory.

“It was a long day, but a lot of healthy conversations took place along the way,” said Nazarene Rice-Edmonds, program assistant and alumni counselor. “These are the times when you can make casual conversation and learn so much about the student and what they need.” For most participants this trip to South Carolina State University was their first college experience.

These are just a few of the activities that have started the ball rolling for the year. “Our students are truly excited and ready for the next adventure, and there’s always something to do,” said Yolanda Simuel, an Upward Bound alumni and USC Upstate graduate.

“When I started the program I was very shy and reserved, but once I got involved I got out of my comfort zone and started to explore.” That’s probably one of the reasons Simuel remains here at Upstate serving as the main counselor for the program.

Upward Bound is an intensive, academic intervention program that prepares students for higher education through various activities. Once a month the participants meet at the Health Education Complex at Upstate for their academic preparatory sessions. During these sessions participants receive instruction in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Foreign Language to enhance and strengthen their skills in these general educational areas. Upward Bound is one of seven federally-funded TRiO programs sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. Currently TRiO serves over 800,000 students from middle school through post-graduate study across America. There are approximately 775 Upward Bound programs throughout the United States.
A requirement of the Early Childhood Education Program is to integrate knowledge gained from more than one course and provide the preservice teachers with an opportunity to act with diverse families. As a class, preservice teachers planned and executed a Family Literacy Night program for the families of the children attending Dunbar Child Development and Family Learning Center and Woodruff Primary School. Having learned the theoretical basis for involving parents in their young children’s education as well as strategies that support emerging literacy, the preservice teachers gained experience planning and implementing the program for parents. Preservice teachers collaboratively determined what was needed to execute the event. They discovered the need for organization and division of labor, as well as finding donations for the event. The preservice teachers also learned to work collaboratively with their peers and address the challenges of working with others who may approach a task differently. Their plans came together and resulted in well attended and fun programs.
Announcements and Reminders!...

- **SECONDARY EDUCATION MAJORS:**
  Be sure to consider declaring a minor in your area of concentration. For most areas, this is an automatic addition to your degree if you complete the change of major form. Check with advisor for more details.

- **ATTENTION SPRING 2011 STUDENT TEACHERS:**
  - If you are Student Teaching in a Spartanburg, Union, Cherokee schools, your Orientation Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 16th at 4:00 in the CLC Ballroom.**
  - If you are Student Teaching in Greenville, Pickens, Laurens, Anderson schools, your Orientation Meeting will be held in Greenville and Dr. Beck and I will notify each candidate of the date, time and exact location.
  - If you are Student Teaching from the Sumter Campus, you will work with Dr. Izzard on the plans for Orientation Meeting.

- **ATTENTION FALL 2011 STUDENT TEACHERS:**
  If you will be student teaching Fall 2011, please [click here](#) to access the application information due no later than January 20, 2011!

- **SEDF 200:**
  All students are now required to complete SEDF 200 prior to admission to the professional program! This was effective January 2009. See your advisor regarding any questions you may have.

- **PRAXIS I and II:**
  [Click here](#) for information regarding Praxis I and II.

- **GRADUATION APPLICATIONS FOR MAY 2011 ARE DUE DECEMBER 1, 2010!:**
  If you will be graduating in May, you must complete and submit your application by 12/1/10. These are located on the wall of the SoE.

- **SPANISH 101 JUST FOR EDUCATION MAJORS!:**
  There is now a section being tailored specifically to meet the needs of education majors! This is a phase in plan beginning with Spanish 101 and moving to Spanish 102 Fall 2011. If you need Spanish 101, consider taking section 357091 this spring!