The following appointments will be effective during the upcoming 2017-2018 academic year.

**Dr. Lance G. Bryant** has been appointed as Associate Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Science.

**Dr. Kris Biondolillo** has been appointed Chair of the Department of Psychology and Counseling.

**Dr. Paul Finnicum** has been appointed Chair of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences.

**Dr. Ron Towery** will continue as Interim Chair for the Department of Teacher Education.

**Dr. Joan Henley** has been appointed as Interim Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education beginning July 1, 2017.

**Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)**

The Self-Study for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) was submitted in March 2017.

We will be involved in responding to additional requests for information this summer in preparation for the site visit November 5-7, 2017.

We may be contacting alumni to participate in conversations with the Site Visit Team in November.

The final decision about the accreditation of our education programs will be made in April 2018 by the CAEP Accreditation Council.

**From the Dean’s Desk**

The mission of the College of Education and Behavioral Science is to generate and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research, and service, and to apply that knowledge to improve education and the quality of life for all individuals in a pluralistic and democratic society. We accomplish this with student-centered, intellectually challenging environment with faculty and staff dedicated to excellence. During spring 2017 semester we have had faculty engaged in preparing scholars, leaders, and teachers, while conducting meaningful research and participating in service that will have an impact on our communities and will improve the lives of our citizens.

Recruitment and retention of students have been a continuing impetus this semester. We have provided students with opportunities to present at national conferences, conduct research, and apply their academic knowledge and expertise. Faculty have continued to work assiduously on the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (COPE) with our self-study submitted March 10th. Our instrumental steering committee consists of Dr. Joanna Grymes, CAEP Coordinator, and the following standard leaders: Drs. Ron Towery, Gwen Neal, Audrey Bowser, Joan Henley, Jackie McBride, Dixie Keyes, and Ms. Mary Elizabeth Spence.

We have celebrated the achievements of our students at the Convocation of Scholars Annual Awards Banquet on April 10, 2017. Our students are highlighted on page 2 of this newsletter. The awards program also highlighted the College of Education and Behavioral Science (COEBS) Scholarship recipients. We are proud of the students and their many accomplishments. We also celebrated the achievements of our faculty. Dr. Karen Yanowitz from the Psychology and Counseling Department received the COEBS Achievement Award for Service and Dr. Kwangok Song, Teacher Education Department, received the Achievement Award for Scholarship. Another faculty of distinction was Dr. Dixie Keyes, Professor of Middle-level Education, who was recognized as the recipient of the esteemed Excellence in Diversity Award.

Another noteworthy accomplishment of our students was the presentations at the 7th Annual Create@State on April 20-21. Numerous COEBS students orally presented their research or conducted poster sessions of their research. The students were knowledgeable and well prepared. We appreciate the students and the faculty who mentored them.

We continue to have a variety of programs and degrees to meet the needs of today’s students. Our students’ accomplishments are noteworthy and moving. I encourage you to visit our web site [http://www.astate.edu/college/education/](http://www.astate.edu/college/education/) to view our students’ accomplishments, the activities of the college, and our outstanding programs.

Best regards,

Mary Jane Bradley, Dean
Distinguished Alumni

The College of Education and Behavioral Science at Arkansas State University recognized 18 outstanding graduating students for 2016-2017 during a Convocation of Scholars awards ceremony.

The College Honors Banquet was held on April 10, 2017 where we honored the following outstanding students and faculty of the college:

The Chancellor’s Scholar award for highest overall grade point in the college was presented to Ms. Jennifer Hacker of Jonesboro and Ms. Michaela Supple of Albuquerque, N.M.

Ms. Kathryn Collier of Harrison, Ms. Carissa Rogers of Harrison and Ms. Kristen Scarlett of Bryant received the 4.0 Graduate Award for completing their degree programs with a perfect grade point average.

The departmental awards were presented by Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Dean of the College, during Convocation of Scholars to the graduate in each degree program who has most excelled in scholarship, leadership and service to the department. Those receiving awards and their respective degree programs, by department:

Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education: Ms. Julie Roark of Jonesboro, Specialist in Education (Ed.S.), educational leadership; Mr. Garrett Andrews of Jonesboro, Bachelor of Science in Education (BSE), special education.

Department of Health, Physical education and Sport Sciences: Ms. Michaela Supple of Albuquerque, Bachelor of Science (BS), exercise science; Ms. Rachel Lovell of Springdale, BS, health promotion; Mr. Mitchell Weber of Rector, BSE, physical education; Ms. Christyal Holloway of Maumelle, BS, sport management; and Mr. Dalton Smith of Shirley, BS, athletic training.

Department of Psychology and Counseling: Ms. Madison Leigh Brooks of Benton, BS, psychology; Mr. Andrew J. Pearson of Maynard, Master of Rehabilitation Counseling; Ms. Karen M. Herrell of Marion, MSE, school counseling; Mr. Christopher R. Williams of Brookland, Ed.S., school psychology; and Ms. Joylyn G. Bartlett of Jonesboro, Ed.S., clinical mental health counseling.

Department of Teacher Education: Ms. Kristen Scarlett of Bryant, BSE, elementary education; Ms. Brooke Sheppard of Harviell, Missouri, BSE, middle level education; and Ms. Dereque Falls of Jonesboro, Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT).
Faculty Achievement Awards

Dr. Steve Bounds, Interim Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education, presented plaques to two faculty members for the College Faculty Achievement Awards. Dr. Karen Yanowitz, Professor in the Department of Psychology and Counseling and Dr. Kwangok Song, Assistant Professor in the Department of Teacher Education, were recognized for their outstanding contributions to their department and college.

Dr. Karen Yanowitz, Achievement Award for Professional Service and Dr. Kwangok Song, Achievement Award for Scholarship

NOTABLE RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Loretta Neal McGregor, Professor of Psychology, was named Honors Professor of the Year during the Honors College student recognition ceremony. Honors students nominated seven faculty members and voted on the award. Nominators said she develops a greater appreciation for psychology, teaches valuable life lessons, and challenges students to make a positive impact with their new knowledge. Dr. McGregor joined the A-State faculty in 2005.

Dr. Loretta Neal McGregor, Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychology and Counseling, was elected as President-Elect of the Faculty Senate for 2017-2018 and will serve as President for 2018-2019 academic year.

Dr. Dixie Keyes, Professor of Middle-level Education and Director of the Arkansas Delta Writing Project, received the 2017 Excellence in Diversity Award for her demonstrated commitment to achieving a more diverse environment on campus. The award was presented during the annual Excellence in Diversity Awards program. Recipients of the award are selected by a committee from among a slate of nominees.

During the annual Faculty Honors Convocation, a number of faculty members were recognized for their longtime service to Arkansas State University. Those who have achieved service milestones of 50, 45, 25, 20, and 15 years received a certificate of recognition from Dr. Lynita Cooksey, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research.
Mrs. JoAnn Nalley, Director of Childhood Services, was recognized for her 45 years of service.

Who’s Who Among Students is an organization recognized on campuses across the nation. The organization aids campuses in honoring students who demonstrate excellence. Arkansas State University joined Who’s Who in 1988. Two distinguished students were selected from the College of Education and Behavioral Science to join this prestigious organization. Jessica L. Holsted, Harrison, Arkansas, Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science; and QianQian Yu, Kaifeng, China, Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership.

Create@State

The seventh annual Create@State: A Symposium of Research, Scholarship & Creativity was held on Thursday, April 20 and Friday, April 21, 2017.

Create@State provides an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to present original work in a professional setting. There were four winners from the College of Education and Behavioral Science that presented at the symposium.

Poster Presentations

Justin Kostick, graduate, Student-Athletes and the Cost of Attendance Stipend (Mentor: Dr. David LaVetter)
Corinne Keller, undergraduate, Physical Education in Relation to Health (Mentor: Dr. Joyce Olushola)

Oral Presentations

Faison Bragg, graduate, Sports Facilities as Urban Development Catalysts (Mentor: Dr. David LaVetter)
Meagan Thomas, undergraduate, How Many Witnesses are Sufficient? (Mentor: Dr. Christopher Peters)

College News

Congratulations to faculty mentors, Dr. Amanda Wheeler, Dr. Jessica Curtis, Dr. Kimberly Davis, and Dr. Jacques Singleton whose students were selected to present abstracts of their work at the 31st Annual National Conference on Undergraduate Research. Students who made poster and oral presentations were Michaela Supple, Hannah Fielder, and Regan May.

New Faculty and Staff

Dr. Beth Bos joined the Teacher Education Department as an Associate Professor at A-State on January 1, 2017 from Texas State University as a Senior Research Fellow in the LBJ Stem Center. Dr. Bos completed her undergraduate degree at Brigham Young University with a focus on Independent Studies with a science emphasis and her M.Ed and Ed.D. degrees at the University of Houston on Math Education Curriculum and Instruction. Welcome Dr. Bos!

Ms. Robyn Klerk joined the Department of Psychology and Counseling as an Administrative Specialist on April 10, 2017. Robyn comes from East Arkansas Community College, Forrest City, Arkansas after 15 years of service. She began her career in 1980 with the University of Arkansas, Cooperative Extension Service in Little Rock before moving to Wynne, Arkansas in 2002.

Robyn has one daughter, Meghan, a 2017 graduate from Wynne High School. Meghan will be attending the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. Welcome, Robyn!

Farewell to Faculty

Dr. Julie Grady began work at Arkansas State University in 2007 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education teaching curriculum and statistics and research courses. In 2011 she changed positions to be Director of the Rural STEM Education Center (a non-tenure track position) supporting K-12 STEM education across Northeast and Northcentral Arkansas. In 2014, she was promoted to Associate Professor and received tenure when her position changed to a tenure-track position as Director of the Rural STEM Education Center and Professor of STEM education teaching K-8 science and math methods classes and Science for Teachers.

Her passion has been supporting preservice and in-service teachers as they develop their professional practices teaching K-12 science and mathematics.

Dr. Grady’s scholarly work has been outstanding. Her articles have been recommended and used, respectively, by National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and College Board during their professional development.

Dr. Grady also has significant grant attainment awards in math or science from a variety of agencies totaling multiple millions of dollars. Her role in improvising math, science, and technology instruction is a shining example to those that follow in her footsteps.

Dr. Cynthia Miller has worked at Arkansas State University since January of 2000 in a variety of related positions. She began as an instructor in the Department of Mathematics and
Springs. years before they moved to a 164 acre farm in Ravenden. In 1970, Agneta moved from Minneapolis to Chicago and lived there for three years while working as an au pair. Soon after, she moved to Minneapolis, where she met and ultimately married Don Sibrava. They returned to Sweden. She enjoyed her time in the United States so much that she came back to Duluth at 18 and began studying in the United States for one year as a foreign exchange student and reached out to encourage aspiring young women to explore careers in science. Her role in providing opportunities for in-service teachers to grow as math and/or science teachers cannot be overlooked. She is active in numerous professional associations including the Arkansas Curriculum Council where she held office.

As Director of the Delta STEM Center, Dr. Miller has assisted in the procurement of multiple millions of dollars in federal and state grant funds to assist the development of Science and Mathematics instruction in Arkansas. Dr. Miller has written numerous grants while with the Delta STEM Center which has expanded beyond staff development and reached out to encourage aspiring young women to explore careers in science. Her role in providing opportunities for in-service teachers to grow as math and/or science teachers cannot be overlooked. She is active in numerous professional associations including the Arkansas Curriculum Council where she held office.

Dr. Miller has been a leader in staff development in this region and her work will be sorely missed.

Dr. Patricia Murphy joined the Department of Teacher Education as an Assistant Professor of Reading and Language Arts in 2006 after completing her terminal degree at Tennessee State University. She taught in public school in Mississippi and Tennessee prior to engaging in her doctoral studies. Dr. Murphy received promotion in rank to Associate Professor and Tenure in 2012. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in reading, language arts and supervision of interns, Dr. Murphy served as the coordinator of the intermediate field experiences. She was also, counselor for the Kappa Delta Phi honorary society until shortly before her retirement.

A champion of the use of children’s literature in the classroom, Dr. Murphy also worked with the publication of Sparks, an electronic journal sponsored by the Department of Teacher Education.

We wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Ms. Agneta Sibrava first came to the United States from Sweden when she was 16. She lived with family in Duluth, Minnesota for one year as a foreign exchange student and then returned to Sweden. She enjoyed her time in the United States so much that she came back to Duluth at 18 and began working as an au pair. Soon after, she moved to Minneapolis, where she met and ultimately married Don Sibrava. They moved from Minneapolis to Chicago and lived there for three years before they moved to a 164 acre farm in Ravenden Springs. However, near the end of her life on the farm, after being out of school for almost 20 years, Agneta came to A-State. She graduated with her BSE in Physical Education in 1986. She continued to pursue a master’s degree in Exercise Science and graduated in 1992.

Immediately after graduating she began working at A-State in 1992 and was hired to teach a number of PE classes—and she taught quite a range—from gymnastics, swimming, golf, Pilates, theory and practice of fitness, theory and practice of racquet sports, personal health, and the list goes on.

Thankfully for Agneta, at the same time she was finishing her master’s degree, they moved off the farm and built a home next to Rolling Hills Country Club and that is where you will frequently find her in retirement.

Department News

Educational Leadership, Curriculum & Special Education

The National Education Finance Academy recognized Dr. Steve Bounds, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, as a Distinguished Research & Practice Fellow for his contributions to education on resource allocations, distribution and policy. At the academy’s conference, in Cincinnati, Dr. Bounds presented, “State of the States: Arkansas,” in which he gave an overview of public school and higher education funding changes over the past two years.

Health, Physical Education & Sport Sciences

The Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences is happy to announce the national recognition of the BSE in Physical Education program by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE). National recognition is dependent on the review of the program by representatives of NASPE. The program will be listed as nationally recognized on websites and/or other publications of the Specialized Professional Associations (SPA) and Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

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The Department is pleased to announce that the Commission on Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA) Board of Commissioners (BOC) recently awarded the Bachelor of Science in Sport Management and the Master of Science in Sport Administration with accreditation. At present, there are 483 colleges/universities with a Sport Management or Sport Administration degree and of those institutions, only 30 or 6% of those programs are accredited in the U.S.

Psychology & Counseling

Dr. Karen Yanowitz, Department of Psychology and Counseling, published an article titled Students’ perceptions
of the long term impact of attending a “CSI Science Camp” in the Journal Science Education and Technology, 25, 916-928.

Dr. Karen Yanowitz, Department of Psychology and Counseling, published an article titled, “Adults’ perceptions of children’s science abilities and interest after participating in a family science night” in School Science and Mathematics, 116, 55-64.

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The counseling faculty are enthusiastically working towards obtaining accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP) for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program. Faculty members Drs. Kris Biondolillo, Sharon Davis, Kasie Lee, Lacy Overley, Asher Pimpleton-Gray, and Instructor, Stephanie Gotay are partnering with Drs. Summer DeProw and Topeka Small in the Office of Assessment as well as a representative from Taskstream to develop an assessment management system designed to produce a comprehensive CACREP Self-Study report. In February 2017, Drs. Kasie Lee and Pimpleton-Gray attended a CACREP Self-Study Workshop in Arlington, Virginia to learn criteria for compliance with recently revised CACREP standards, effective strategies for program evaluation and assessment of student learning, and protocol for proper submission of the self-study report. The counseling faculty plan to submit the self-study by Fall 2017.

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On February 8, 2017, the counseling program hosted an open house in honor of National Play Therapy Week (February 5-11, 2017). The event was attended by undergraduate and graduate students along with faculty, administrators, and representatives from the Arkansas Counseling Association. The newly developed Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy Program admitted its first group of students in Fall 2016, and these students were on-hand to answer questions, provide tours of the play therapy room, and share their experiences with perspective students. Program Coordinators, Drs. Kasie Lee and Lacy Overley, are preparing students in the program to meet the needs of diverse populations of children and families. Additionally, Dr. Lee was recently appointed to serve as a board member for the Arkansas Association for Play Therapy (ArAPT). ArAPT is a state branch of the National Association for Play Therapy. The mission of its members is to promote the discipline of play therapy throughout Arkansas.

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The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) approved the Ed.S. School Psychology program and conducted interviews for two full-time tenure track Assistant Professor positions with a start date of August 2017. Two search and screen committees were formed of department faculty and licensed school psychology specialist field supervisors. There are 27 graduate students enrolled in the program. Seven students are interns and they are beginning to seek out employment opportunities for the next academic year following meeting requirements for graduation, licensure, and national certification. Nine students are currently enrolled in practicum and they are now seeking supervised internships both in and out-of-state. At least seven full-time first year students and likely several part-time students will be enrolled in practicum next year. Several students attended the NASP Annual Convention in March in San Antonio and three presented. Our School Psychology Advisory Committee which consists of five licensed school psychology specialists who are intern supervisors recently met and provided us important feedback and recommendations for enhancing the program of study. We will be transitioning to the NASP 2010 Standards for Training for Training and Field Placements during the next academic year. Finally, we are currently accepting applications for enrollment for the Fall 2017 student cohort. Please direct any potential applicants to us for further information about the program of study, profession, and application process.

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The M.S. in Psychological Science program welcomed its first cohort of students in Fall 2016. They have already impressed the faculty with their engagement and research endeavors. To further support the research needs of students in this program, as well as others, the Department of Psychology and Counseling recently acquired additional human research space. In addition, we are currently in the process of hiring an additional faculty member to contribute to the program. Our Advisory Committee (which consists of three community professionals) recently provided us with important feedback and recommendations. We look forward to accepting our second cohort of students next year and the continuing growth of the program.

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Congratulations to Dr. Heloisa Cursi-Campos, on being chosen by the College of Education and Behavioral Science (COEBS) Scholarship Committee as the recipient of the faculty award for release time to complete her study titled, Teaching Symbolic Behavior to College Students.

Teacher Education

Dr. Julie Grady, Associate Professor of Teacher Education and Director of the Rural STEM Education Center, led planning for the “Celebrating Future Women Leaders in STEM” conference in February. Approximately 100 young women from seven Northeast Arkansas public schools heard presentations by A-State representatives Dr. Kathy White Loyd, Dr. Maureen Dolan, Dr. Amanda Lambertos, Dr. Kim Pittcock, and Dr. Anne Grippo along with others from industry and business.

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Dr. Cynthia Miller, Director of the Delta STEM Education Center and Dr. Michael B. Dougan, Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus, led a group of teachers on an excursion down the Mississippi River on the Corps of Engineers boat, Mississippi V. Supported by a Library of Congress grant on teaching primary sources, the group was joined by members of the Mississippi River Commission and the Mekong River Commission.
The A-State College of Education and Behavioral Science (COEBS) along with the A-State Education Renewal Zone recently launched the A-State New Teacher Support Network. The launch was conducted via a “New Teacher Celebration” in the Cooper Alumni Center on the campus of Arkansas State University. A good turnout of interns and first year teachers were there along with faculty from the COEBS. The purpose of the network is to maintain professional relationships with first year and early career teachers who graduate from our teacher preparation programs. The A-State COEBS wants to provide support, resources and professional networking to these novice teachers from our Education Preparation Programs. With this kind of engagement the A-State COEBS hopes to promote retention of these new teachers in the field as well as making an impact on student achievement.

Twenty-five Blytheville High School seniors who have taken part in the College Preparatory Academy for the Delta (CPAD) program since their freshman year and met other criteria, were awarded iPads from A-State College of Education and Behavioral Science. Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Dean of the College, presented an iPad to each student. Assisting also in the ceremony were Dr. Ron Towery, Interim Chair of Teacher Education, and Mr. Bobby Ashley, High School Principal in Blytheville. The CPAD program is a partnership between the College of Education and Behavioral Science, the Education Renewal Zone, Blytheville High School, and the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation.

The program has been successful in preparing the high school students for success in college. Ms. Japhanie Gray, KAIT 8 News in Jonesboro, was the keynote speaker.

Education Renewal Zone (ERZ), along with the Craighead County/Jonesboro Public Library sponsored the first “Reading with the Stars of Jonesboro” at Microsociety Elementary School in Jonesboro on May 4, 2017. This was the first Reading Initiative for Student Excellence (R.I.S.E.) event and featured celebrity readers from Jonesboro. The readers included Ms. Symphonie Privett—KAIT-8 News Anchor, Mr. Rick Christian, with Jonesboro Radio Group, Sergeant Tim Doyle with the Jonesboro Police Department, and appearances by A-State’s Howl and Scarlet. A-State football players and volleyball players were also present to read to the students. The evening was an un-filled evening to promote a culture of reading in our community as well as our state.

Principal Misty Doyle of Microsociety Elementary was on hand to bring greetings to the audience and Dr. Beverly Boals-Gilbert was present as well to present information on A-State summer camps for students. The students received free books and enjoyed refreshments during the evening’s event.
Events and Recruitment Activities

Spring semester is a great time for recruitment in the College of Education and Behavioral Science. Dr. Jeannie Oliver, Academic Advisor in the College of Education and Behavioral Science, has visited several high schools and career fairs in the tristate area.

Finding the right college or job is very challenging in today’s society. However, this challenge did not stop students from Jonesboro High School, Hoxie High School and Lake Cormorant High School to visit with staff and college ambassadors. Students from grades 9th-12th visited with representatives and shared their interests in some of the programs offered such as teacher education, psychology, sport management, and physical education.

Cinco De Mayo

On May 5, 2017, Every Child is Ours (ECIO) celebrated its 12th Anniversary with a celebration at the Every Child is Ours headquarters in Tuckerman. The celebration featured dances from the ECIO chapter in Acuna, Mexico performing Mexican dances in traditional costumes. The dance group also performed for the Jackson County Schools in Swifton and, that afternoon at a Cinco de Mayo celebration at A-State. The A-State Education Renewal Zone, along with the College of Education and Behavioral Science, were sponsors of the event at A-State.

Jan Paschal, founder and president of ECIO said that this visit was the 7th time the Acuna dancers had visited and performed in Arkansas. ECIO has also facilitated cultural exchanges between students and schools in Tuckerman, Pine Ridge, South Dakota; and Kanana, South Africa, giving Arkansas students the opportunity to interact with Lakota Indian students from Pine Ridge to students from Kanana, South Africa. Bringing students of these diverse cultures together is a big part of ECIO’s mission.

Following are just a few photos we wanted to share with you of the dance group, Grupo Folkórico Cotzal de Acuña, from Acuna, Mexico.
Financial Gifts

The Mission of the College of Education and Behavioral Science is to generate and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research and service; and to apply that knowledge to improve education and the quality of life for all individuals in a pluralistic and democratic society. We accomplish this within student-centered, intellectually challenging environments with faculty and staff dedicated to excellence.

We in the College of Education and Behavioral Science would like to sincerely thank each and every alumnus and friend who recently made financial gifts. If you would like to be a part of the exciting things that are happening in the College, you can do so by making a donation. The donations are tax-deductible and provide important support for college-wide initiatives and faculty development. If you would like to help us fulfill our missions, please send your donation to: ASU Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 1990, State University, AR 72467. In the memo line indicate the account name for donation. Please include your name, address, phone and email address.

- Do you work for a matching gift company? If so, please enclose a completed Matching Gift form from your company along with your gift.
- If you are aware of grant opportunities in which the College of Education and Behavioral Science might become engaged, please let us know in the Dean’s Office by calling 870-972-3057.

Contact Information

Education Matters is the Official Newsletter of the College of Education and Behavioral Science at Arkansas State University and is published biannually (Spring and Fall). If you would like to be notified when a new edition is available, please call 870-972-3057 and let us know to add your name to our email notification mailing list. Email addresses will be used only for that purpose.

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