



EducationMatters

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

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ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring 2016

Dr. Mary Jane Bradley has been selected to be the next dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Science at Arkansas State University. She is a veteran faculty member and administrator at A-State.

"Dr. Bradley steps into the position of dean at an important time for Arkansas State and for the College of Education and Behavioral Science," Chancellor Tim Hudson said. "We look forward to her leadership."

"Dr. Bradley's passion for Arkansas State, the College of Education and Behavioral Science, and her wealth of experience will make her a strong leader for the college," Dr. Lynita Cooksey, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research said. "She has deep roots as an alumna and her knowledge of A-State as a faculty member will make her acclimation to the dean's position brief."

"I am excited about serving as the Dean of Education and Behavioral Science, my alma mater," Dr. Bradley said. "I look forward to working with the A-State faculty, staff, administration, and students within the college and the unit as well as public schools, community and other stakeholders as we move forward with accreditation renewal, reviewing curriculum and programs, and implementing innovative ideas."

A faculty member at A-State since 1987, Dr. Bradley has been serving as director of Professional Education Programs and the professional licensure office within the college. She also holds academic rank as associate professor of education.

Among her professional activities, she served as president of Arkansas Association of Teacher Educators, president of the Arkansas Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, and chair and member of numerous college and departmental committees. She also is active in Kappa Delta Pi and Phi Delta Kappa, professional honor societies in education.

The Missouri native completed her doctoral degree in curriculum and instruction at the University of Memphis. Her specialist degree in educational administration, master's in reading, K-12, and bachelor's in elementary education are from Arkansas State.

More than 3,800 students were enrolled last fall in the A-State College of Education and Behavioral Science, which includes the departments of Teacher Education; Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education; Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences; and Psychology and Counseling. Also included in the college are professional outreach and service areas: the Education Renewal Zone, Childhood Services, Rural and Delta STEM Education Centers, Behavioral Research and Evaluation, and Professional Education Programs.

A total of 33 degree programs at the graduate and undergraduate levels are accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. In addition, programs in counseling, undergraduate and graduate degree programs are accredited by specialized agencies for those disciplines.

Bradley and her husband Frank have two children, Jason Bradley and his wife Misty, and Jessica McCanless and her husband Mike, and a granddaughter, Adalynn Bradley.

The appointment takes effect July 1.



Mary Jane Bradley, Dean

College of Education & Behavioral Science Honors Banquet—April 4, 2016



College Award Recipients

The College of Education and Behavioral

Science recognized 25 outstanding
graduating students for 2015-2016 during the Convocation of Scholars awards ceremony on April 4, 2016.

The Chancellor's Scholar award for highest overall grade point in the college was awarded to **Jennifer L. Walker** of North Little Rock, who has a 4.0 in the Bachelor of Science in Education in Middle-Level education program.

Hannah McClung of Jonesboro received the 4.0 Graduate Award. When a tie occurs, the Chancellor's Scholar is the individual with the most credit hours.

The departmental awards are presented during the Convocation of Scholars to the graduate in each degree program who has most excelled in scholarship, leadership and service to the department.

Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education

Amy Montgomery of Russellville, Master of Science in Education (MSE), curriculum and instruction; **Joshua Robins** of Paragould, MSE, educational leadership; **Heather Slater** of Cherokee Village, Master of Science in Education (MSE), special education instructional specialist P-4; **Wendy Winston** of Walnut Ridge, MSE, special education instructional specialist 4-12; **Judy Beard** of Hot Springs, MSE, special education, gifted, talented and creative; and **Misty Doyle** of Jonesboro, Specialist in Education (Ed.S.), educational leadership.

Department of Health, Physical Education & Sport Sciences

Lyric Hupp of Lee's Summit, Missouri, Bachelor of Science (BS), athletic training; **Kaitlin A. Sellers** of Hardy, BS, exercise science; **Daisy C. Reding** of Jonesboro, BS health promotion; **Kara DeShazo Taylor** of Imboden, Bachelor of Science in Education (BSE), physical education; and **Miles Clover** of Fort Smith, BS, sports management.

Department of Psychology and Counseling

Cathryn Elizabeth Hall of Jonesboro, Bachelor of Science (BS), psychology; **Ariel Nations** of Marmaduke, Master of Rehabilitation Counseling; **Savanna Foster** of Poplar Grove, MSE, school counseling; **Michelle Cebada Senci3n** of Veracruz, Mexico, Ed.S., school psychology; and **Ginah Smith** of Whitehall, Ed.S., clinical mental health counseling.

Department of Teacher Education

Abbie Wilbanks of Jonesboro, BSE, early childhood education; **Carson E. Gill** of Paragould, BSE, middle-level education; **Margaret "Maggie" Campbell** of Melbourne, MSE, reading; and **Gary Jackson** of Pocahontas, Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT).

Center for Excellence in Education

Three individuals who are graduating with the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in educational leadership degree were named recipients of the Dr. Eugene W. Smith Fellowship Award. They are **Rodney Lancaster** of Paragould, **Dalia Tejada** of Jonesboro, and **Suhair Mrayan** of Jonesboro.

Department Award Recipients

Pictured below, Dr. Mary Jane Bradley presented certificates to the department's award recipients for their outstanding academic accomplishments as well as in scholarship, leadership and service to the department. (Not available for photos were Ms. Jennifer L. Walker, Chancellor's Scholar; Ms. Misty Doyle, Specialist in Educational Leadership; Mr. Joshua Robins, MSE in Educational Leadership; Ms. Heather Slater, MSE in Special Education Instructional Specialist P-4; Ms. Wendy Winston, MSE in Education Instructional Specialist 4-12; Ms. Margaret Campbell, MSE in Reading; and Ms. Judy Beard, MSE in Special Education, Gifted, Talented & Creative)

Banquet photos provided by Ms. Pam Mangrum



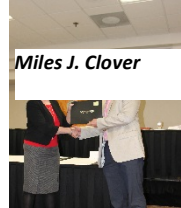
**Michelle Cebada
Sención**



Lyric Hupp



Amy Montgomery



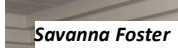
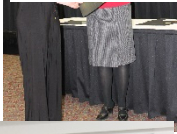
Miles J. Clover



Ariel Nations



Abbie Wilbanks



Savanna Foster



Hannah McClung



Gary B. Jackson



Ginah Smith



Carson E. Gill



Cathryn Elizabeth Hall

Daisy C. Reding

**KaKaitlin A. Sellers
Ta**

Not pictured: Ms. Jennifer L. Walker, Ms. Misty Doyle, Mr. Joshua Robins, Ms. Heather Slater, Ms. Wendy Winston, Ms. Judy Beard, and Ms. Margaret Campbell

Posthumous Recognition

Ms. Lacy Anthony-Speed earned the following degrees over the course of her education career at Arkansas State University. She was awarded a B.S. in Computer and Information Technology on May 9, 2009, an M.S.E. Business Technology on August 6, 2010; and an S.C.C.T. in Community College Teaching on December 15, 2012. Ms. Speed was pursuing an M.S. in College Student Personnel Services before her passing. The posthumous degree was awarded on December 19, 2015.

We honored Ms. Speed's legacy by awarding her a Master of Science in College Student Personnel Services posthumous to her sons, Lawrence and Kevin pictured below.



Family & Friends of Ms. Speed



Sons of Ms. Speed



College Faculty Achievement Awards

Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, incoming dean, presented plaques to three faculty members for the College Faculty Achievement Awards for their outstanding contributions to their department and the college:

Dr. Loretta Neal McGregor, Achievement Award for Advising

Dr. Ashley Thrasher, Achievement Award for Scholarship

Dr. Ryan Kelly, Achievement Award for Teaching



***Loretta Neal McGregor,
Faculty Achievement
Award for Advising***



***Ashely Thrasher, Faculty
Achievement Award for
Scholarship***



***Ryan Kelly, Faculty
Achievement Award for
Teaching***

Convocation of Scholars News

Dr. Loretta Neal McGregor, Professor of Psychology, was recognized as recipient of the Faculty Award for Excellence in Academic Advising. She was recognized for her work with students. Dr. McGregor requires her advisees to update their plan of action every semester, and she also advises on graduate school requirements and employment expectations. Dr. McGregor, who joined the faculty in 2005, completed her doctoral degree at Wichita State. Congratulations, Dr. McGregor!

Mr. Kyle Barnes, Department of Health, Physical Education & Sport Sciences; **Ms. Sky Johnson** and **Ms. Caraline Vaughn**, both of the Department of Psychology & Counseling, were the Arkansas Department of Higher Education SURF Awardees.

In College News

Dr. Zetta Elliott, black feminist writer of poetry, plays, essays, novels, and stories for children, spoke at A-State on Monday, November 2 in the Multicultural Center in the Student Union. Her topic was, "Afrofuturism and Historical Fantasy as Social Justice Genres."

She resides in Brooklyn and has a Ph.D. in American Studies from New York University (NYU). Her poetry has been published in the Cave Canem anthology, *The Ringing Ear: Black Poets Lean South*, *Check the Rhyme: an Anthology of Female Poets and Emcees*, and *Coloring Book: an Eclectic Anthology of Fiction and Poetry by Multicultural Writers*.

This event was sponsored by the A-State Office of Diversity and the Arkansas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts (ACTELA).



Dr. Zetta Elliott

Promotions and Tenure

There are three faculty members in the College of Education and Behavioral Science that have been promoted and/or been awarded tenure and promotion.

Dr. Dixie Keyes was promoted to full Professor of Middle-Level Education in the Department of Teacher Education.

Dr. Amanda Wheeler was promoted to Associate Professor of Athletic Training and awarded tenure. Dr. Wheeler is in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences.

Dr. Claudia Benavides Espinoza was promoted to Associate Professor of Sports Management and awarded tenure. Dr. Espinoza is in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences.

Congratulations to each!

Student Research Travel Awards

The College of Education and Behavioral Science Student Travel Fund (STF) Committee was established in 2010. Believing that conference presentations are essential for the academic growth and development of students attending Arkansas State University, the committee was established to financially assist our college's students (both graduate and undergraduate) while presenting at conferences. The STF committee receives applications throughout the year and is pleased to award funding for students twice each year. The following students were awarded funds for 2016: **Angela Caldwell** (Center for Excellence in Education); **Meagan Thomas**, **Erica Bearden**, **Tabitha O'Neal**, and **Jordan Cox** (all students in Psychology and Counseling).

Department News

Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education

Dr. Julie Lamb Milligan, Professor of Gifted, Talented & Creative Education, was one of 21 faculty members to present at Learn@State. The presentation was on their findings in making the educational experience more effective for A-State students.

Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences

Dr. Blair Dean was recently awarded the Fuel Up to Play 60 Champion Award by the Midwest Dairy Council. Fuel Up to Play 60 is an in-school nutrition and physical activity program launched by National Dairy Council and the National Football League.

(NFL), in collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), to help encourage today's youth to lead healthier lives.

Congratulations to **Ms. Michelle L. Gaines** on being selected as the recipient of the prestigious SHAPE Florida Health Educator of the Year Award. The award honors exemplary, innovative work that impacts teacher education. This individual exemplifies the highest standards in accomplishment and innovation, in strong and vigorous leadership, and in significant scholarship within the field of health education. Michelle received the award for her service, unique collaborations and contributions that have significantly benefitted the Health Education profession in Florida.

The award was presented during the SHAPE Florida Convention Awards Opening Session on October 16, 2015 in St. Petersburg Beach, Florida. Thank you for representing FDOE so well, Michelle!



Ms. Michelle L. Gaines

Dr. Lance G. Bryant, Professor of Physical Education, is co-author of an article in *Strategies: A Journal for Physical and Sport Educators*. The article, "Using Social Media within Physical Education Teacher Education," describes how a professional Facebook group was used by students at a university in England and another at A-State to provide a collaborative forum for dialogue and exchanging ideas on teaching learning and becoming a qualified teacher.

Dr. Amanda Wheeler, Assistant Professor of Athletic Training, has been selected by the Learning Outcomes Advisory Council and Office of Assessment at A-State as the March 2016 Professor of the Month. Dr. Wheeler was recognized, especially for her ability, to create an environment of student-faculty trust in the athletic training education program.

Dr. Joyce Olushola, Assistant Professor of Sports Management, performed an African interpretive dance as a means of illustrating the dialectical nature of music and dance in this culture during "A Night of African American/African Culture and History during Black History Month in February.

Dr. Olushola published a book chapter in *Women in Sport Coaching* entitled, *Women coaches of color: examining the effects of intersectionality*.

Dr. Joyce Olushola, Assistant Professor of Sports Management, moderated a panel on women in Sport Academia in Detroit, Michigan entitled, *The Women in Sport Forum*. The keynote speaker was Jemele Hill from ESPN's, *His and Hers*. The website is the womeninsportforum.com

Lausanne Collegiate School is the recipient of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Safe Sports School award for its stellar athletic program. The award champions safety and recognizes secondary schools that provide safe environments for student athletes and reinforces the importance of providing the best level of care, injury prevention and treatment. The Lausanne Athletic Training Team is **Cody Tubbs**, a 2012 A-State graduate of our Athletic Training program, and Marty Scruggs.



Lausanne Athletic Training Team, Cody Tubbs and Marty Scruggs

Psychology and Counseling

The Department of Psychology and Counseling will offer a Master of Science degree in the field of psychological science beginning Fall 2016. The program will open many career and academic doors for students in the region. It will focus on research and data analysis, in addition to key content areas in psychological science. Admission requirements are posted on the program website <http://www.astate.edu/info/academics/degrees/degree-details.dot?mid+9a43935d-cba5-46c1-a172--c8cc5e88b19d>

The department will also offer a graduate certificate in play therapy beginning Fall 2016. The certificate is intended for graduate students already enrolled in a counseling program as well as individuals who already hold a graduate degree in counseling or a closely related field. Individuals interested in the certificate should contact Dr. Lacy Overley at lcrumrine@astate.edu who will direct the program.

Dr. David Saarnio, Professor of Psychology and Director of the Center for Community Engagement, is collaborating with the Arkansas Department of Education which received a \$5 million State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG). Dr. Saarnio and A-State colleagues will provide resources and develop modules for web-based and face-to-face training in the area of positive behavior interventions and support.

Dr. Asher Pimpleton, Assistant Professor of Counseling and colleagues have presented at two national conferences. In February she presented the program, *Intercultural communication: An application to group work*, at the bi-annual conference sponsored by the Association for Specialists in Group Work in Washington, DC and in June, Dr. Pimpleton will be part of a panel presenting the program, *From Egg and Sperm to Worm: African American Sexual Scripts by Gender Across the Lifespan*, at the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She has also been an author in two recent publications. She co-authored the book chapter, *50 Shades of Brown: Understanding the Social, Sensual and Sexual Black American Woman*, which has been included in the book, *Black Culture and Experience: Contemporary Issues*, published Fall 2015. She also co-authored the manuscript, *Intercultural communication: An Application to group Work*, which was published in the national and peer-reviewed journal, *The Journal for Specialists in Group Work* in November 2015.

Dr. Dawn Weatherford, Assistant Professor of Psychology, has co-authored a chapter in *Game of Thrones Psychology: The Mind is a Dark and Full of Terrors*. Her chapter explains problem solving and decision making strategies in the popular series from a cognitive psychological perspective. The book will be released in April 2016. In addition, Dr. Weatherford was recently **named 2016 Psychology, Counseling and Special Education Alumni Ambassador by the Texas A&M University-Commerce Alumni Association** and the Division of Academic Affairs. She participated in a recognition forum on February 25th.

Dr. John Hall, Professor of Psychology, presented the project *A Training Model for NASP Standard III: Consultation and Collaboration Using an In-Service/Staff Development Activity* at the annual conference of the Trainers of School Psychology in New Orleans, Louisiana in February 2016.

Dr. Loretta Neal McGregor, Professor of Psychology, was elected by the Council of Representatives of the American Psychological Association (APA) to serve a three-year term on the APA Board of Educational Affairs. The board recommends educational policy, program changes and operational priorities to the APA Board of Directors and Council of Representatives.

Dr. Christopher Peters, Assistant Professor of Psychology and **Dr. Wayne Wilkinson**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, will present a total of six papers at the upcoming American Psychology and Law Society in Atlanta, Georgia in Spring 2016. The papers represent a wide-range of topics including individual beliefs regarding the legal system, jury decision making, and antigay hate crimes. Seven undergraduate student collaborators will also represent A-State and the Department of Psychology and Counseling at the conference.

Mr. Stephen Berry, graduating senior in the BS Psychology program was awarded the Distinguished Service Award. The recipients of this prestigious award are selected based on their commitment to scholarship and service to the university and its students. **Dr. Wayne Wilkinson**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, is his academic advisor and research mentor. Stephen is applying for admission to graduate programs in counseling and counseling psychology for Fall 2016. Congratulations, Stephen!

B.S. Psychology students, **Laura Tedder**, **Libby Lane** and **Olivia Hitchcock** presented the project, "Thinking like MacGyver: Overcoming functional fixedness in insight problem solving" at the annual Create@State conference held April 6 and 7. The project received first place recognition for poster presentation in the behavioral science category. This empirical project was supervised by **Dr. Dawn Weatherford**, Assistant Professor of Psychology. Congratulations!

Ms. Prathima Appaji, Administrative Specialist, was recognized as the university's Distinguished Performance Award recipient for 2015-2016 *Team Player* at the 23rd annual Distinguished Performance and Service Recognition ceremony on May 10.

Teacher Education

A Forrest City teacher was awarded a grant from the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). **Mr. Brycial Williams** is a kindergarten teacher who was one of several people awarded a *Teacher for the Dream* grant.

Brycial has several degrees in education from Arkansas State University (ASU) and is currently completing his education specialist degree in reading at ASU.

The Arkansas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts (ACTELA), a state affiliate of NCTE, partnered with the national agency to provide him with unique opportunities in professional networking and leadership in the field of literacy education.

Brycial is the first recipient of the *Teacher for the Dream* award in the state. He was recognized at the Arkansas Curriculum Conference on November 5, 2015. "We are proud of Brycial and his school and district for committing to professional development at state and national levels with other ELA educators in Arkansas," ACTELA President and Associate Professor of Education at Arkansas State, Dixie Keyes said. "ACTELA wants to recognize exemplary educators throughout their careers and provide them with a network of professional support and encouragement. We are certain Brycial will become a longstanding member of our board."



Left: Dr. Rob Lamm, Professor of English (ASU) and Mr. Brycial Williams

Dr. Dixie Keyes, Associate Professor of Middle-Level Education and **Dr. Ryan Kelly**, Associate Professor of Reading, joined with five other university literacy and English professors and teachers to present a session at the National Council for Teachers of English Annual Conference in Minneapolis in November 2015. The session entitled, "State Affiliate Inquiry Teams and Building Capacity on the Literacy and Learning Exchange" allowed Drs. Keyes and Kelly to partner with other executive board members of the Arkansas Council of Teachers of ELA to share a collaborative inquiry project housed on the National Center for Literacy Education's "Literacy and Learning Exchange." This forum is available and free to educators and provides valuable resources and help to teacher or organization teams who want to develop an inquiry to enhance capacity building for their groups.

The ACTELA CIT (collaborative inquiry team) began in 2012 and is currently featured in an NCLE "Portrait of Change," written and narrated by Dr. Keyes, ACTELA's president and Cindy Green, ACTELA's vice-president. The link to this "Portrait of Change" can be found at: <http://www.literacyinlearningexchange.org/vignette/finding-the-time-and-space>

Dr. Natalie Johnson-Leslie, Associate Professor of Teacher Education, and **Dr. H. Steve Leslie**, Assistant Professor of Business Communication, have relaunched their children's book, "ABCs of Surviving School Violence." The goal of their easy reader, published by AuthorHouse for children in prekindergarten to fourth grade, is to inform and educate young learners with practical tips they can use if they experience acts of violence in their schools.

Ms. Eileen Garris, of Blytheville Public Schools, was awarded the 2015-2016 teacher of the year for Blytheville Primary in April. Ms. Garris graduated from A-State in Spring 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Education in Early Childhood Education and a Master of Science in Education in Educational Leadership in 2015. Congratulations to Ms. Garris!

Education Renewal Zone

College Preparatory Academy for the Delta (CPAD) hosted its 2nd Annual Student Recognition Ceremony on March 15, 2016. Thirty-two seniors from Blytheville High School were honored along with their families for their commitment and participation in the CPAD program. These seniors were the second cohort to go four years, starting as freshman, through the College and ACT preparation program. The program is in partnership with the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, A-State Education Renewal Zone, College of Education and Behavioral Science (COEBS), Sponsored Programs, Arkansas Northeastern College (ANC), and the Blytheville School District.

Jill Clogston, Director of the Education Renewal Zone and CPAD Coordinator, welcomed guests and introduced Dr. Gina Hogue, Interim Dean, to bring words of welcome and congratulations. Others attending from the college were, Dr. Ron Towery, Interim Chair, Department of Teacher Education and Dr. Greg Meeks, Associate Professor, Department of Teacher Education. Dr. Jeff Flannigan, Principal, STEM Academy at Jonesboro High School was the keynote speaker.

Each student received a framed certificate, a graduation chord and an Apple iPad. Ms. Emily Crosskno, Blytheville High School and Ms. Melissa Arledge, ANC, serve as onsite administrators for the program. The students were then treated to a reception following the ceremony. The event was held in the auditorium of Carl Reng Student Union on the A-State campus.



Dr. Jeff Flannigan, Principal, Blytheville Graduating Seniors School

P-20 Town Hall

The Arkansas State University Education Renewal Zone, in collaboration with the College of Education and Behavioral Science and University College, held a regional P-20 Town Hall in February on the A-State campus. **Ms. Jill Clogston**, Director of A-State's Education Renewal Zone (ERZ) called the Town Hall to order followed by Chancellor Tim Hudson bringing words of welcome. Shane Broadway, Vice President for University Relations, Arkansas State University System, presented an overview of the meeting and facilitated the conversation. Three panels were convened that included the "Workforce Needs of Business & Industry;" "Partnering for Solutions;" and "Partnerships at Work."

There were a total of 24 business, industry and education leaders serving on the panels, as well as policy-makers and higher education leaders and faculty. Some of the panelists included Randy Zook, President & CEO, Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce; Mark Young, Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce; Rep. Chris Richey, State Representative; Johnny Key, Commissioner of Education, Arkansas Department of Education; Dr. Charisse Childers, Director, Arkansas Department of Career Education; Dr. Brett Powell, Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education; Jon Collins, Superintendent, West Memphis School District; Jody Wiggins, Assistant Superintendent, Siloam Springs School District; and Dr. Shane Hunt, Dean, College of Business.

Over 200 were in attendance and provided important, real-time feedback and input as part of the "Solutions-Driven Conversation" Town Hall format. Next steps include putting together a Northeast Arkansas Regional Task Force made up of education leaders, policy-makers, as well as business and industry leaders. The task force will facilitate efforts to develop partnerships between schools, business and industry with the purpose of closing the skills gap to better prepare our students for success in post-secondary education and for the world of work.



P-20 Town Hall Participants

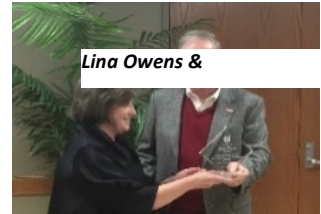


Ms. Jill Clogston and Dr. Tim Hudson, Chancellor

Farewell to Faculty

Dr. Lina Leatherwood Owens began her teaching career as a classroom teacher in Corinth Municipal Schools and Lafayette County Schools in Mississippi after completing her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Harding University. She then completed an M.Ed and a Ph.D. in Elementary Education from the University of Mississippi. Prior to her work at A-State, she held faculty positions at the University of Mississippi and at Harding University.

Dr. Owens began her career at A-State in the fall 1999 as an Assistant Professor of Elementary Education. Among her many accomplishments, Dr. Owens was editor of the SPARKS on-line journal, which she was instrumental in reviving and brining to life. Ultimately, because of her work with the journal, thousands of books were added to the Children's Literature section of the Dean B. Ellis library through the journal's book review process. This collection not only impacts education majors on our campus but also provides reading material to the children of faculty and students from all across our campus. Dr. Owens' positive impact will be felt for generations to come.



Lina Owens & Ron Towery

Dr. Owens also played a pivotal role in the development of the field experience courses for the Early Childhood Education Program and in enhancing the partnerships between A-State and area schools.

We wish the best to Dr. Owens as she begins a new chapter in her life.

Dr. Mitch Holifield, former department chair for Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education, and Professor of Educational Leadership will retire May 15, 2016. Dr. Holifield joined A-State in August 1990 as an Associate Professor of Education. Prior to his tenure at A-State, Dr. Holifield served public education as a high school English teacher at Piggott, Arkansas for two years and, for eighteen years, served in the roles of a middle school English teacher, assistant principal, principal, and district testing coordinator in the Dexter R-XI School District in Dexter, Missouri.

Dr. Holifield's history with A-State began in the fall of 1966 when he was a freshman. He returned to his Alma Mater in 1990 as an Associate Professor of Educational Leadership. The first major project that he encountered was to be a member of the team



that planned and implemented the institution's first doctoral program, the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership. In 2001, he became Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum, and Special Education, a position in which he served thirteen years. During that time, the department established several graduate degree programs and received authorization from the Arkansas Department of Education and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to deliver the first online teacher licensure program in the state's history, and established the Arkansas State University Advanced Placement Institute.

At A-State, Dr. Holifield received the Burlington Award for Teaching and the Arkansas State University Service Award. He published numerous referred articles in national referred journals and presented papers at international, national, and regional scholarly forums. He was involved in a host of service activities.

Mitch Holifield

Dr. Holifield is also co-founder of the Arkansas Association of Professors of Educational Administration and served as its first president. He represented this association on Arkansas's first Professional Standards Licensure Board from July 2008 until July 2013. During that term, he was one of the primary authors who composed the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators and served two terms as the board's president and seven years on the board's Ethics Subcommittee in the roles of chair and member.

Dr. Holifield received a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Southern Illinois University, an Ed.S. in Educational Leadership from Southeast Missouri State University, an M.A. in English from Arkansas State University, and a B.S.E. in English with a minor in Philosophy from A-State.

We wish you the very best!

Dr. Andy Mooneyhan, former Associate Professor of Physical Education in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences. Dr. Mooneyhan joined A-State in 1999 as an Instructor in Physical Education. He later earned his terminal degree in Kinesiology from the University of Arkansas in 2006, both his M.S.E. and B.S.E. in Physical Education from Arkansas State University 1998 and 1993 respectively.

He has authored many articles and presented to many learned forums and collaborated with a number of colleagues at A-State and other universities.

He received the University Service Award from A-State for 2012-2013 and served the university and profession in a variety of roles. Dr. Mooneyhan served on the board of the Arkansas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance since 2002, and served as the Executive Director of the organization since 2009. Additionally, he served on numerous committees at A-State, including the Faculty Senate, and was elected as President of the Faculty Senate for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Dr. Mooneyhan taught many health and physical education courses during his time at A-State and assisted many students in reaching their academic and professional goals.

Beyond his work at A-State, Andy and his wife, Christeena have seven children—Jacquelynn 22, Jordan 12, Jared 10, Joseph 8, Jonathan 7, Jayden 6, and Juliana 4.

Dr. Mooneyhan will be remembered for his love of A-State and his willingness to do whatever was asked of him. He will be missed.

We wish the best to him and his family!

Dr. Ashley Thrasher, joined A-State in the fall 2014 as an Instructor in Athletic Training in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences. She was awarded her Ed.D. in fall of 2014 from Ball State University, an M.S. in Exercise and Sports Medicine: Athletic Training from Western Michigan University, and her B.A. in Athletic Training and Biology from Anderson University.

Her brief stay at A-State has been a productive one. In 2014 she and a colleague were recipients of the Provost's Scholar Award Faculty Seed-Grant, entitled "The effects of subcutaneous adipose tissue on cooling rates using ice immersion and commercial cold packs." Dr. Thrasher most recently was awarded the College Faculty Achievement Award for Scholarship.

Best of luck in your new adventures!

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

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.

Four distinguished students were selected from the College of Education and Behavioral Science to join this prestigious organization.

Stephen D. Berry, Mountain Home, Arkansas, Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Miles J. Clover, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Bachelor of Science in Sport Management

DeAnna L. Watson, North Little Rock, Arkansas, Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion

Gary B. Jackson, Altheimer, Arkansas, Master of Art in Teaching (*not pictured*)



Arkansas Science Festival

"The Arkansas Science Festivals of 2014 and 2015 brought the fun of science to literally thousands of participants from Northeast Arkansas and beyond," said Dr. Anne Grippo, Associate Dean of the College of Sciences and Mathematics and one of the Science Festival organizers. "Through the generosity of the Kays Foundation, we look forward to building on these experiences to hold the 2016 Arkansas Science Festival's Super Science Saturday events. Planning has already begun."

Events offered on Super Science Saturday will include hands-on science activities, science and math-themed educational performances, a fun run, and programs coordinated with our local libraries and museums. Target dates are early October 2016.

Terry Carty, executive vice president, said the grant is part of the foundation's ongoing commitment to assist the university through grants in support of projects that advance its academic, service and research missions. The Foundation board reviews grant requests annually.

The Arkansas State College Foundation for the Advancement of Higher Education, which does business as Kays Foundation, traces its beginnings to 1911 and the administration of V.C. Kays, the founding president of the institution that evolved into Arkansas State University.



(From Left) Amy Pearce, Karen Yanowitz and Anne Grippo accept a grant authorization from Terry Carty, Tom Bishop and Richard Carvell

Kappa Delta Pi

Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education, is pleased to announce that 57 initiates have been invited and inducted into its membership through the Eta Delta Chapter of Arkansas State University.

The banquet and initiation ceremony took place on April 27 at the Cooper Alumni Center on the A-State campus, with the initiates and their invited guests, faculty representatives, and administrators in attendance. The initiates included qualifying Teacher Education students who accepted membership in the Society from ASU Beebe, ASU Mountain Home, ASU Mid-South, and A-State Jonesboro campuses. The chapter officers for 2016-2017 are: President Morgan Todd; Vice President, Madison Cate; Historian, Karrie McCurry; Secretary, Natalie Lipsky; Publicity Chair, Livia Throesch. The faculty chapter co-counselors are Dr. Joan Henley and Ms. Sandra Hawkins.

The event program included as guest speaker, Dr. Beverly Boals Gilbert. Dr. Mary Jane Bradley presented the Lillian Barton Scholarship, supported by Kappa Delta Pi, to Mr. Jimmy Porter, who also received his Kappa Delta Pi award of first year membership into the international honor society.

The Society inducts only those individuals who have exhibited the ideals of scholarship, integrity in service, and commitment to excellence in teaching and its allied professions. Selection as a member of Kappa Delta Pi is based on high academic achievement, a commitment to education as a career, and a professional attitude that assures steady growth in the profession. At A-State, members must meet the international requirements including the Eta Delta Chapter requirement of 3.20 GPA or higher.

The Eta Delta Chapter at A-State was chartered May 19, 1951 and has sustained an honored community of diverse educators by promoting excellence and advancing scholarship, leadership, and service.

Congratulations to the new inductees!



Inductees participating in ceremony with Sandra Hawkins

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. Contributions 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

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