



EducationMatters

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Vol. 13 No. 1

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2014

Administrative Changes

A team of individuals have assumed interim duties in the college for one year. They are as follows:

Dr. Steve Bounds, Interim Chair for the Center for Excellence in Education and the Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education. Email address: sbounds@astate.edu

Ms. Sandra Hawkins, Interim Director for Education Renewal Zone. Email address: shawkins@astate.edu

Dr. Paul Finnicum, Interim Chair for the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences. Email address: pfinnicu@astate.edu

Dr. Kris Biondolillo, Interim Chair for the Department of Psychology and Counseling. Email address: kdbiondo@astate.edu

Dr. Ron Towery, Interim Chair for the Department of Teacher Education. Email address: rtowery@astate.edu



From the Dean's Desk

Welcome to the fall semester!!! We have started the school year with lots of energy and “newness.” As you will note, we have an interim administrative team in place that is working diligently to ensure we are meeting all of our obligations and nothing is falling through the cracks. Concomitant with that, we are planning for the future. We have made very good progress over the last two+ months and you will see some of the products of that work when you read the next version of our newsletter.

I will note that some of the areas of focus this fall are NCATE/CAEP accreditation pieces which are numerous, restoring the Council on Professional Education including the Professional Education Faculty group, working with the university on the online assessment piece for the Higher Learning Commission and creating/renewing/redesigning curriculums in almost all department areas. The experiences that I have had working with the faculty and staff to date have been wonderful.

We are also planning some “college” events including a distinguished alumni award ceremony in the fall and a convocation of scholars program for our outstanding students and faculty in the spring. We will continue to work on establishing some “Centers” in the college and I hope we can talk more specifically about those in the spring. There are unlimited opportunities and possibilities.

Childhood Services has been operating at its usual 100 mph speed. With all of the licensure changes, Dr. Bradley and her team have been working overtime to keep up. ERZ is still doing programmatic and impactful work and our thoughts are with Rick Hux during his extended medical leave. Our Delta and Rural STEM Centers continue to be productive and provide the educational base necessary for our student and teachers (see newsletter for additional info).

A large number of our esteemed faculty and staff have “retired” (see dedicated coverage). We have added an emeriti section on our website where a few of them have left contact information. I would appreciate feedback from any of you on things we need to enhance, add, reconsider, etc. as we plan our work for this fiscal year. I can always be reached at hanrahan@astate.edu.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Susan Hanrahan, Interim Dean
College of Education and Behavioral Science



New Faculty and Staff

Ms. Tara Allen joined the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences as a one-year Instructor. Ms. Allen completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Arkansas State University focused on exercise science curriculums. She previously served as a Massage Therapist at The Spa & Riston Fitness in Blytheville, Arkansas.

Ms. Sylvia Hiatt joined the School of Teacher Education and Leadership at the Beebe campus as an Instructor of Education. Ms. Hiatt completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Harding University with a focus in elementary education and early childhood special education. She joins the faculty at our Beebe campus as a full-time Instructor.

Dr. Daniel O'Meara joined the School of Teacher Education and Leadership as an Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership. Dr. O'Meara completed his undergraduate degree at The University of Arizona with a focus on borderland studies and his graduate degree at Northern Arizona University with a focus on higher education in America, the community college. Dr. O'Meara completed his Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Management from Drexel University. He comes to ASU after serving as an Associate Faculty at Cochise College in Douglas, Arizona.

Ms. Evone Roberts joined the College of Education and Behavioral Science July 1, 2014 as the Research Assistant for the School of Teacher Education and Leadership. Ms. Roberts came from the position of Coordinator in Continuing Education and Community Outreach. Prior to that, she served the university in Academic Affairs and Research. Her current interests and service efforts include memberships with the Chamber of Commerce Community Benefits Committee, the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance and serves as director of Joseph's Storehouse Food Pantry.

Dr. Ashley Thrasher joined the Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences as an Assistant Professor of Athletic Training and Exercise Science. Dr. Thrasher completed her undergraduate degree at Anderson University with a focus of exercise on athletic training and biology; and her graduate degree at Western Michigan University in exercise and sports medicine: athletic training. Dr. Thrasher completed her Ed.D. in Adult, Higher, and Community Education Cognate: Biomechanics at Ball State University. She previously served as an Instructor at Ball State University.

Ms. Mikah Tilley, joined the Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences as an Instructor in Physical Education. Ms. Tilley completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Arkansas State University. Her undergraduate degree focused in education and physical education and her graduate degree focused in physical science. She has served as an Adjunct Instructor at Astate since 2009.

Farewell to Faculty and Staff

Dr. Nola Christenberry retired from Arkansas State University after 25 years of teaching and service. She earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Memphis. She taught many undergraduate and graduate courses in the Department of Psychology and Counseling. In addition to her many contributions to teaching, Dr. Christenberry was known for her extensive professional service to the University and professional organizations. Her leadership in the American and Arkansas Counseling Associations was extensive. She was instrumental in the development and advancement of a number of the graduate degree programs including an MS in College Student Personnel Services, the M.Ed. in School Counseling, and the Ed.S. in Psychology and Counseling which includes a clinical mental health track and a nationally approved school psychology track. Dr. Christenberry's research interests ranged from the supervision of counseling interns to the rehabilitation of adolescent offenders.

Dr. David Cox began his teaching journey as a high school science teacher. He began his career in higher education at Broward Community College in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida as Director of Counseling, then Student Development Consultant and on to the Dean of Students at the Pompano Beach, Florida campus. He became Assistant Professor at the University of Mississippi-Oxford, going on to become an Associate Professor and the Chair of Educational Leadership and Education Psychology. He left there to join Arkansas State University in 1992 as the Chair of Educational Administration and Secondary Education. Dr. Cox's approach to teaching is one that allowed students to experience a classroom environment of safe and emotionally secure learning while exploring their inner most self in order to cultivate leadership from within.

Mrs. Robyn Doyle began her career with Arkansas State University (ASU) 23 years ago. She served numerous young children and families throughout our state, particularly in the Delta region. In various job capacities, from her time as a classroom teacher in some of Arkansas' first publicly-funded preschool "Even Start" programs, to her role as program coordinator for ASU Childhood Services Programs for Children and Families in the Delta, Robyn consistently focused her time and dedication to provide quality early childhood experiences for young children. Robyn's daily mission was to utilize her education, her passion, her resourcefulness, and her creativity in order to stand up for Arkansas' young children and their families.

Dr. George Foldesy began his teaching career in the public school system as a biology and science teacher, then going into administration as a high school principal and assistant superintendent. Dr. Foldesy began his career in higher education at North Dakota State University in Fargo, continuing on as the Department Chair and Associate Professor at Tri-College University in Fargo. He became Department Chair and Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at the University of Nevada-Reno

and left there to join Arkansas State University in 1992 as the Director of the Center for Excellence in Education. Over the span of 49 years, Dr. Foldesy has made a lasting impression upon the lives of students he has taught, faculty that he has mentored and fellow colleagues.

Dr. D. Lynn Howerton retired from Arkansas State University July 2014 after 40 years of teaching and service. He earned his Ph.D. in General/Experimental Psychology from Southern Illinois at Carbondale. He served as department chair for 13 years until 2004 when he returned to full-time teaching. His honors and awards are numerous. He served the Mid-South Educational Research Association as long-time editor for the *Researcher* and as a member of their governing board. He taught many different psychology courses over his tenure. He also established the first psychological laboratory for training undergraduates in research methods. Dr. Howerton's scholarly publications and presentations range from a co-authored book on descriptive statistics to peer-reviewed articles on focus of control, psychological and educational testing, behavior management, teaching of psychology, and reinforcement schedules.

Dr. Robert Johnson retired from Arkansas State University (ASU) after 37 years of teaching and service. He earned his Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of Georgia in 1975. He was the first social psychologist hired by ASU. Dr. Johnson taught many courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. His research focused on diverse issues ranging from deindividuation to the factors that influence perceptions of others' behavior. He was actively involved in service contributions at all levels of the university, community and his profession throughout his career. Dr. Johnson was a long time faculty advisor to the ASU-J Chapter of Psi Chi which is the National Honor Society in Psychology for undergraduate students.

Dr. Carol Ann Ross joined the faculty in the School of Teacher Education and Leadership in 2001 after teaching physical science laboratories in the Department of Chemistry and Physics since 1994. She previously served as a high school science teacher at Westside School. Dr. Ross was a co-principle investigator for two National Science Foundation grants totaling over two million dollars for Crime Scene Investigations (CSI) Institutes for secondary teachers and students. She published articles with and made numerous presentations to learned groups in her specialty area of science, including the National Science Teachers Association. Her research and publications occurred at the state, regional and national/international levels. As a faculty member, Dr. Ross was a strong teacher and mentor. She was a dedicated, compassionate teacher willing to go the extra mile.

Dr. Josephine Welsh joined the College of Education and Behavioral Science in the Center for Excellence in Education since 2012. She has served on various dissertation committees as well as serving in her role as Arkansas State University's (ASU) Director of Assessment. Dr. Welsh is

leaving ASU for Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. We wish her well!

Distinguished Alumni

A ceremony will occur on October 4, 2014 to honor distinguished alumni of the college.

Rachel Barker, B.S., M.R.C.
Instructor in Department of Psychology and Counseling
Arkansas State University

Ms. Barker is a graduate of Arkansas State University (ASU). As an undergraduate student, she graduated Magna cum Laude earning a B.S. degree in Psychology. She earned her Master's in Rehabilitation Counseling. Rachel is currently employed as an Instructor in the Department of Psychology and Counseling in the College of Education and Behavioral Science. She was named "University College Outstanding FYE Instructor" for the 2011-2012 academic year and received the "You Make a Difference" advisor award for the 2013-2014 academic year. Ms. Barker describes her experience at ASU as a "blessing."

Heather Baxter, B.S., Ed.S., M.R.C.
Adjunct Instructor for Crisis Counseling, Mental Health
Counseling Program
Arkansas State University

Ms. Baxter is a graduate of Arkansas State University (ASU). She began working at a residential crisis unit through MidSouth Health Systems and in 2011 she assisted Craighead County with implementation of the first mental health court in the state of Arkansas. Since 2012, she has functioned as the coordinator for an inpatient forensic unit with MidSouth Health Systems in Jonesboro. She continues to stay involved with the development of future counselors by serving on the advisory board for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at ASU. Ms. Baxter's education and experience at ASU has allowed her to enjoy a fulfilling career where she can work both in clinical and educational settings.

Kathy Farris, B.S.E., M.S.E., Arkansas State University
Teacher, Visual and Performing Arts Magnet School
Jonesboro, Arkansas

Mrs. Farris is a fourth grade teacher at the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet School in Jonesboro. She began her 37th year as a classroom teacher. During these years Mrs. Farris has distinguished herself by serving on the Reading Language Arts committee for the state Benchmark testing program for 4th and 5th grades, serving on NCATE accreditation committees for Arkansas State University (ASU), assisting in the beginning development of the field and intern placement guidelines for the teacher education program at ASU as well as several various services. She is a leader within her school community. Mrs. Farris was named West Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2006-2007 and received

the Golden Apple Award for the Jonesboro Rotary Club that same year.

Dana McFarland, B.S., Masters, Arkansas State University
Teacher, Health, Wellness and Environmental Studies School
Jonesboro, Arkansas

Mrs. McFarland is a sixth grade math teacher at the Health, Wellness and Environmental Studies in Jonesboro. Her degrees include a BS in Accounting, Program of Study in Middle-Level Education, and a Master's in Educational Leadership. She was awarded the District Cane Award for 2011-2012, and Teacher of the Year for Health, Wellness and Environmental Studies Magnet School for 2012-2013. Mrs. McFarland has served on several committees including School Leadership, Math Leadership, and Arkansas Consolidated School Improvement Planning Committee for Math; and also served in the capacity as a clinical supervisor for a field II middle-level student.

Catherine N. Rasberry, Ph.D., CHES
Health Scientist, Evaluation Research Team
Division of Adolescent and School Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Rasberry is a Health Scientist for the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia. After earning her B.S. in Health Promotion from Arkansas State University (ASU) in 2001, she went on to receive a Master of Science in Health Promotion from Purdue University and a Ph.D. in Health Education from Texas A&M. She honed her teaching skills by independently teaching more than 30 health promotion and education classes. However, her love of research led her to leave academia for an opportunity to join the CDC as a Health Scientist in CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health. Dr. Rasberry has written and managed more than \$7 million worth of evaluation contracts, and her CDC research has covered many types of school-based health programs and practices. However, Dr. Rasberry never forgets home. In fact, when a recent CDC evaluation project led her to Kennett, Missouri, she engaged staff and students from ASU to assist in the research. She remains strongly connected to Jonesboro, her hometown and family.

Beineke Cited as Outstanding Alumnus

Congratulations to Dr. John A. Beineke, Distinguished Professor of Educational Leadership and Curriculum and Professor of History, upon selection by his alma mater to receive the Ball State University Teachers College Outstanding Alumnus Award. Dr. Beineke and a co-recipient were honored recently at Ball State. Among his many professional honors, he has received A-State's Faculty Achievement Award for Scholarship, and two of his books are Critics Choice Award winners.

Promotions and Tenure

There were six faculty members in the College of Education and Behavioral Science that have been promoted and/or been awarded tenure effective with the new academic year.

Dr. Amy Pearce and Dr. Karen Yanowitz were promoted to full professors and are in the Department of Psychology and Counseling.

Tenure was awarded to the following faculty in the College:

Dr. Audrey Bowser-Brown, Assistant Professor of Secondary Education and Technology

Dr. Sharon Davis, Associate Professor of Counseling

Dr. Julie Grady, Associate Professor of Teacher Education

Dr. Zelda McMurtry, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education

Presentations

Dr. Jeonghee Choi, School of Teacher Education and Leadership presented, *Rethinking Gender Identity Construction in a Creative Writing Practice* at the Whole Language Umbrella, Literacy of All in Pasadena, California, July 17-19, 2014.

Dr. Brian Church, Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences presented, *Comparison of 1 Repetition Maximum Barbell and Dumbbell Bench Press* at the NSCA National Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, July 9-11, 2014.

Dr. Natalie Johnson-Leslie, School of Teacher Education and Leadership and **Mr. H. Steve Leslie**, Interactive Teaching and Technology Center presented, *APPs for Teaching, APPs for Learning, APPs for Playing: So many APPS Today* at the International Learning Conference in New York, July 14-18, 2014.

Dr. Natalie Johnson-Leslie, Department of Teacher Education and **H. Steve Leslie**, Interactive Teaching and Technology Center presented, *One Freshman, One IPAD: A Pilot Study* at the International Learning Conference in New York, July 14-18, 2014.

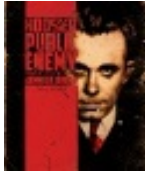
Dr. Lina Leatherwood Owens and **Dr. Beverly B. Gilbert** both of the School of Teacher Education and Leadership presented, *Across People, Time, and Places: Connecting Literature and Social Studies* at the National Social Science Association Conference, in San Diego, California, August 3-6, 2014.

Dr. Lina Leatherwood Owens and **Dr. Beverly B. Gilbert** both of the School of Teacher Education and Leadership presented, *Entering the Decision-Making World Through Literature*, at the National Social Science Association Conference in San Diego, California, August 3-6, 2014.

Dr. Dennis Perkey, Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences presented, *A Comparison of the Professional Quality of Life between Athletic Trainers and Physical Educators* at the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association Annual meeting in Frisco, Texas, July 16-18, 2014.

Publications

A new book by John Beineke, Distinguished Professor of Educational Leadership and Curriculum and also Professor of History, was published in May. *Hoosier Public Enemy: A Life of John Dillinger*, a young adult book published by the Indiana Historical Society Press (HSP), was selected to represent the state of Indiana at the Library of Congress National Book Festival over Labor Day weekend in Washington, DC. The book is a part of the young-adult biography series by the HSP. The Common Core State Standards Initiative has called for increased non-fiction/informational texts in the middle school and high school curricula.



Recently, Jacques Singleton, Gwendolyn Neal and Julie Lamb-Milligan received an acceptance for the publication of "Preparing Effective Administrators of Special & Gifted Education Programs: The University's Role." In the ever changing world of education and administration, teacher candidates for programs in special education must be well-versed in global issues, technology and affective issues related to their school population. The article is scheduled to be published fall of 2014 in the Journal for Higher Education, Theory & Practice.

Arkansas Science Festival

The inaugural Arkansas Science Festival (ASF) is slated for October 3 through October 11 in Northeast Arkansas. The ASF will feature public events that showcase a variety of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and health professions-related activities. Attendees will experience exciting demonstrations, workshops and performances that capture the unique fabric of science in Arkansas. The



Arkansas Science Festival is supported by funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and A-State's College of Education and Behavioral Science, College of Sciences and Mathematics, and the Arkansas Biosciences Institute. Festival director and co-directors Drs. Amy R. Pearce, Anne

Grippio and Karen Yanowitz, also are mentored and provided with resources by the [Science Festival Alliance](#), a national group that develops new festival initiatives and shares best practices in science festival planning and implementation.

Contact Information:

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'Follow' us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/arkansassciencefestival>

STEM Education Centers

The mission of the ASU Rural STEM Education Center is to strengthen preK-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teaching and learning in Northeast and Northcentral Arkansas. The service area includes ASU and 11 counties. Center staff include Ms. Debby Rogers (ADE Science Specialist), Dr. Danita Gibson (ADE Mathematics Specialist), Ms. Lara Buford (Administrative Specialist) and Dr. Julie R. Grady (Director). In addition to supporting various ADE STEM



initiatives (e.g., Common Core Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, Picture Perfect) during the spring and summer of 2014,

the Center also hosted three grant-

funded institutes for teachers.



The ASU Delta STEM Education Center serves seven counties. The Center staff includes Ms. Linda Kellim, Science Specialist and Ms. Dianne Bounds, Mathematics Specialist. The specialists collaborated with the Crowley's Ridge and Great Rivers Co-ops to give professional development focused on content and strategies to address the Mathematics Common Core State Standards. Sessions on instructional technology, interactives, and PAARC were given at the Phillips Community College STEM Summit to teachers and college faculty. "Interracial Interactions: Lessons from the Southern Tenant Farmers Union" trained 15 teachers in how to incorporate the history, math, science, literature, and music of the Museum into instruction.

College News

Health, Physical Education & Sport Sciences

Bodpod

The Bodpod was purchased for the Human Performance Laboratory as the newest and most practical method for accurately assessing body composition. The Bodpod uses air displacement as opposed to water displacement (hydrostatic weighing) for a much faster and easier determination of body fat and lean mass. In the past year, three graduate students and one undergraduate student have used the Bodpod to collect data for theses and independent study courses.

Partnership with Osceola School District

The Osceola School District and ASU Department of Health, Physical Education & Sport Sciences (HPESS) have formed a

collaborative partnership in which ASU students from an Adaptive Physical Education class will develop lesson plans and implement activities that accommodate students with unique needs or disabilities. This class enables the teacher candidates to understand the value of physical education for students with disabilities and also plan programs designed to assist students with physical, mental, and emotional disabilities. This experience will also serve as a resource for the faculty to see a number of diverse teaching strategies that they can take back to their own classes.

Psychology & Counseling

Rising Star Program

Over the past year, Dr. Gill Strait has teamed with ASU psychology, school psychology, and counseling students to create Arkansas State's Rising Stars Program (RSP). The RSP is an applied research and service-learning program, which provides ASU students with opportunities to implement and evaluate academic and behavioral interventions. Please contact Dr. Gill Strait about at gstrait@astate.edu if you are interested in collaboration or learning more about the Rising Star Program.

Dr. Loretta Neal McGregor was an invited guest speaker at the *Women Can! 2014 – Empowering the Professional Woman*. This conference is an opportunity for professional women from around the state to come together to discuss leadership strategies, career empowerment, professional development and networking.

Dr. John Hall Professor of Psychology and Counseling was appointed to serve as the ASU Faculty Senate Representative for the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COLA). This coalition is an alliance of faculty senates from NCAA Football Subdivision (FBS) schools. Their mission is to provide a national faculty voice on intercollegiate sports issues.

Dr. Lacey Overley, Assistant Professor of Counseling, graduated from the Association for Play Therapy Leadership Academy and was appointed Northeast Arkansas representative for the Arkansas branch of the Association for Play Therapy.

Undergraduate students joined **Dr. Irina Khramtsova**, Associate Professor of Psychology, who was awarded the Middle East Studies Grant, on a recent trip to conduct research in collaboration with Al-Hussein Bin Talal University in Jordan. Dr. Khramtsova is also engaged in continuing collaboration with Bashkir State Pedagogical University in Russia.



Long awaited renovations in the department have come to fruition resulting in exciting opportunities for faculty and students alike. A revamped laboratory space provides students and faculty with contemporary space and equipment to conduct research with human and non-human subjects. These facilities support basic research programs and offer exceptional opportunities for grant supported research and hands-on student involvement including independent research and thesis projects. Clinic space, adjoining the research facility, provides a large group counseling room, individual client rooms and space dedicated to play therapy. All counseling rooms include modern audio/visual recording equipment for use in applied research projects, provision of services, and training for counseling students.

School of Teacher Education & Leadership

Regional children were invited to attend a summer

enrichment program in July; the MSE candidates prepared curriculum and events for the children in order to complete the practice teaching component of their internship. This summer an amazing group of 15 teachers participated in this summer



event. They came from Idaho, Indiana, Missouri, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana and all four corners of the state of Arkansas. Approximately 50 children from Jonesboro and the surrounding area benefitted from activities prepared by these teachers. About the experience one teacher said, "The online program has been intense and beneficial, and what better way to conclude than getting to come to Arkansas to practice what I've learned. I feel confident that I can now take back this unit and do a better job with my own students."

Teacher of the Year

Ms. Donna C. Dillahunty has been named as one of the four finalists for the Arkansas Teacher of the Year! Ms. Dillahunty is a graduate of the Ed.S in Reading program offered by the School of Teacher Education and Leadership at Arkansas State University (ASU). She has been a co-director of the Arkansas Delta Writing Project at ASU since 2011 and she facilitates the site's summer writing institute for teachers. Donna has presented her curriculum ideas and research to state and national audiences over the past few years in forums such as the Arkansas Curriculum Conference and the American Educational Research Association. Ms. Dillahunty is a board member of the Arkansas Council of Teachers of English (ACTELA), a state affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of English. The 2015 Arkansas Teacher of the Year will be recognized at a surprise notification event later this fall.



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. Donations are tax-deductible and they 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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