

College of Education and Behavioral Science



Newsletter Fall 2021

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From the Dean's Desk



The students, faculty, staff and administrators have worked together for an effective beginning of the 2021-2022 school year. Rather than focusing on any uncertainties, we have embraced the transformation caused by the pandemic. No doubt, this time in history will change the face of education. First of all, digital transformation is accelerating. Since the beginning of the pandemic “97 percent of institutions said COVID-19 caused them to engage in some level of digital transformation (Povejsil, 2021).” Higher education realized that they needed technology for providing education to students. Furthermore, the convenience of technology has changed the modality of educational delivery for students with institutions of higher education now using hybrid learning more. No doubt, other changes will evolve.

The College of Education and Behavioral Science (COEBS) has moved forward in the achievement of college, department, program and student activities during the Fall 2021 semester. The newsletter highlights some of the accomplishments. Notably, Arkansas State University College of Education and Behavioral Science has been selected as one of eight Arkansas universities participating in a program designed to help transform K-12 teacher recruitment, training and retention. This initiative, funded by Forward Arkansas, focuses on the goal of transforming learning, building educator capacity and providing equitable resources to ensure that every student is learning and is prepared for life and career opportunities. A-State College of Education and Behavioral Science will strive to recruit qualified educators to meet the challenges of the classroom to ensure all students are achieving.

During the Fall 2021 semester we enjoyed many events. One event, 2021 Arkansas Science Festival: The Science of Sound, was enjoyed by all participants. Also, in October Jo Ann Nally was recognized by Arkansas Advocates for Children and Family (AACF) as being an outstanding advocate who ensures that Arkansas kids have the resources and opportunities for a healthy and successful life. During the Homecoming Celebration held on November 6, the following four alumni were recognized: Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, Educational Leadership, Curriculum, and Special Education; Dr. Blair Dean, Health, Physical Education & Sport Sciences; Dr. Robbie Cline, Psychology & Counseling; Mrs. Randi House, Teacher Education. We enjoyed celebrating the accomplishments of our outstanding alumni.

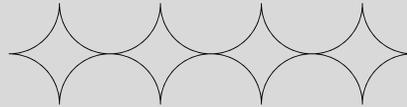
I encourage you to visit the college web site <http://www.astate.edu/college/education/> to view the accomplishments and happenings.

Best Regards,

Mary Jane Bradley, Dean

Alumnus Achievements

Ed.S. Reading Alum Publishes State Journal Article



Ed.S. Reading (2001) alum, Ms. Angelique Gray of Mountain View, Arkansas, has just published an article, “Active and Critical Learning: A Journey in Semiotic Domains,” in the Fall 2021 edition of the Arkansas English Journal. AEJ is the peer-reviewed journal for the Arkansas Council of Teachers of English and Language Arts (ACTELA), which is the Arkansas state-level affiliate for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), a premiere organization in the field of literacy and language arts education.

Angelique originally developed her manuscript as a candidate in the course RDNG 7542 New Literacies as part of the Ed.S. Reading program in 2020. “I researched and wrote about a topic that was important to me and my teaching philosophy,” Gray said. “During my research, I found new strategies to implement in my own classroom.”

“My ultimate hope,” according to Dr. Ryan Kelly, Professor of Reading and Professor of the New Literacies course, “is that candidates are able to develop their thinking and writing in the course to the point of submission to a state-level journal.” In this particular Ed.S. course, candidates examine various New Literacies Theories and then develop a classroom implementation that gives life to the theory they explore. “Program candidates become familiar with a state-level journal early in the course and revise their paper with submission in mind at the end of the course.”

“This experience allowed me to reflect on my own teaching and continue to grow as an educator,” Gray added. “There is a lot of work that goes into getting an article published, and it was definitely intense at times.”

Making an impact in their field is not only an aim for students within the course but is also an aim of the Ed.S. Reading program itself, as guided by the program standards. “This has been an amazing experience,” Gray said, “and one that has been so rewarding.”

Angelique currently works as a Reading Specialist and Dyslexia Therapist at Mountain View Middle School in Mountain View, Arkansas. She is a graduate of Arkansas Tech University (Early Childhood Education), and holds a Master’s degree (Reading with a Dyslexia endorsement) from the University of Arkansas Little Rock. She completed her Specialist in Education degree (Reading) at Arkansas State in Spring 2021. Her article can be found via the ACTELA website: <http://actela.weebly.com> And, more specifically, with the current edition of the Arkansas English Journal: <https://arkansas-english-journal.weebly.com>.

Student Achievements

COEBS AMBASSADOR'S 2021-2022



In September six exceptional students were chosen to be the College of Education and Behavioral Science Student Ambassadors for the 2021-2022 academic year. The students applied in the early fall and participated in an interview process with the college's academic advisors, Antwanet Wade and Bowyn Hendrix. We are proud to announce Maddyson Lamb has been selected as the Director, Bryson Woods has been selected as Co-Director, both are Exercise Science majors in their senior years. You may recognize Maddyson's name as this year's Homecoming Queen. We welcomed Tiffany Fulcher as the Committee Leader for Academics, Scholarships, & Diversity. Tiffany is a Middle Level Education major, and is also a senior. We also welcomed Matt Davis as Committee Leader for Publicity, Events, & Recruitment. Matt is an Exercise Science Major in his senior year, who hopes to attend grad-school here at A-State for Physical Therapy. Our two youngest members are Mattie Ballard, and Elizabeth Walton. Mattie is an Exercise Science Major and is currently a Junior. Elizabeth is an Elementary Education Major and is in her Freshmen year. We have a fantastic group of students who have already started working at our recruitment events and planning for more opportunities in the Spring.

Faculty Led Research



Duyar and His Research Mentees Delivered Five Presentations at International Conference

Dr. Ibrahim Duyar, a Professor of Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, and his research mentees delivered five research papers at the 2021 World Educational Leadership Symposium (WELS). The conference was held online on September 28-30, 2021. Dr. Duyar serves as a mentor to emerging scholars across the world through several national emerging scholar mentorship programs, including the University Council of Educational Administrator's (UCEA) "Jackson Scholars Network," the Leadership for School Improvement-SIG of American Educational Research Association's (AERA) "Researcher Development Program," and the Politics of Education Association's (PEA) "William Boyd National Politics Workshop." Some of these mentorship programs, such as the Jackson Scholars Network Program, are dedicated for emerging scholars with nonprivileged backgrounds. Presenting mentees were from four different countries. USA; UAE, China, and Turkey.

Faculty/ Student Research

Parker Presents at Arkansas Psychological Association

Adam Parker, MS Psychological Science, working under the supervision of Dr. Karen Yanowitz, presented his research "College Student's Schemas of Stalking" at the annual conference of the Arkansas Psychological Association. The primary goal of the study was to examine which stalking behaviors and emotional reactions are deemed schema-consistent or schema-inconsistent.



Beyond the Classroom



Arkansas Science Festival directors, Drs. John Artim, Karen Yanowitz, Amy Pearce and Tanja McKay.

2021 ARKANSAS SCIENCE FESTIVAL: THE SCIENCE OF SOUND



Attendees making music buddies at the 2021 Arkansas Science Festival Event “Good Vibrations: The Science of Sound” hosted in collaboration with the A-State Art program, Delta Symphony Orchestra and Huntington Square.

This year’s Arkansas Science attendees rock’n’rolled at the Arkansas State University Museum, shared science comedy laughs on stage with Science Riot and Drs. Artim and Rolland, Biological Sciences, and drummed away with the Delta Symphony Orchestra and Dr. Pat Glascock, Counseling Center, at Huntington Square. Student volunteers from the Society for Neuroscience and the Psi Chi: International Honor Society in Psychology collected evaluation data and engaged audiences in hands-on activities while Dr. Whiteland, Professor of Art Education, hosted a make-your-own music buddy craft. In addition to A-State support, Arkansas Science Festival directors received a grant from the King Foundation.



COEBS Faculty Member Participates in “Women in STEM Career Fair”



Beyond the Classroom



The Academies at Jonesboro High School hosted a “Women in STEM Career Fair” Thursday, December 2nd inside their Performing Arts Center. Women working in science, engineering, medicine, and pharmacy shared highlights of their education and career path. Invited speaker, Dr. Amy R. Pearce, Professor of Psychology, hosted an activity/information booth about psychology and neuroscience.

2021 Friends of Children Annual Luncheon



In 1977, a group of 10 concerned Arkansans founded Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families (AACF), believing that children needed an independent voice to speak up for their interests. In that spirit, AACF hosted our 2021 Friends of Children Annual Luncheon on Tuesday, October 19. This special event celebrated the power of advocacy in improving the lives of children and families across our state. This year, we were privileged to honor JoAnn Nalley, Dr. José R. Romero and Rhonda Sanders for their important work on behalf of our state's children, and for all they've done to ensure that kids in Arkansas have the resources and opportunities they need to be healthy and successful.



A-State Selected for Educator Preparation Program Design Collaborative



Arkansas State University is one of eight Arkansas universities participating in a program design to help transform K-12 teacher recruitment, training and retention, according to Forward Arkansas, a non-profit organization leading an effort to recruit and retain qualified K-12 teachers.

A-State will receive a \$100,000 grant as part of Forward Arkansas's Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Design Collaborative. "We want to support and champion Arkansas institutions that have the bold ideas and committed leadership needed to transform our state's teacher pipeline." said Ben Kutyllo, Forward Arkansas's executive director. "Through the collaborative, we aim to help Arkansas recruit more qualified teachers, better prepared educators for the challenges of the classroom and to improve overall teacher retention rates." Dr. Mary Jane Bradley, Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Science, said "This program is a logical step forward for A-State, which has historically been a state leader in teacher preparation for decades."

"We are excited to be a part of the grant that affords us the opportunity to transform K-12 teacher education by recruiting, preparing and retaining teachers," she added. "This collaborative will strengthen the partnerships between K-12 schools and A-State College of Education and Behavioral Science, leading to better education for all students." In the summer of 2022, a select number of institutions will have the opportunity to pursue additional funding for implementation.

The goal of Forward Arkansas, established in 2014 with grants from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation and Walton Family Foundation, is improving outcomes for all students. It works with districts, schools, educational partnerships and state leaders to transform learning, build educator capacity and provide equitable resources to ensure every student has access to, and is prepared for, opportunities in life and career.

Homecoming

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OUTSTANDING ALUMNI HONORED AT HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

The College of Education and Behavioral Science held its annual Fall Alumni Celebration on November 5, 2021. Four outstanding alumni representing each department within the college were individually honored on this night. Honoree families, friends, faculty, staff, students and administrators attended.

Above, Dr. Mary Jane Bradley speaks to everyone gathered for the celebration.

The 2021 College of Education and Behavioral Science Fall Homecoming Honorees: (left to right) Dr. Robbie Cline, Psychology & Counseling (not Pictured); Ms. Randi House, Teacher Education; Dr. Blair Dean, Health, Physical Education & Sport Sciences; Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, Educational Leadership, Curriculum, and Special Education (bottom).



Homecoming Reception Gallery



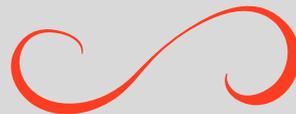
Faculty
Spotlight



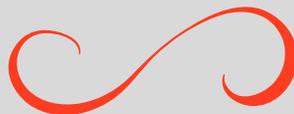
Duyar Speaks at International Conference

Dr. Ibrahim Duyar, Professor of Educational Leadership, delivered two paper presentations at the 2021 European Educational Research Conference (ECER), held online.

Duyar led the paper presentation titled “Schools as Learning Organizations: Analysis of Teacher, Principal, and Environmental Predictors of Learning Organization in Successful and Failing Schools.” He also was a co-presenter of “Organizational Determinants of Teachers’ Job Engagement and Organizational Commitment: A Cross-National Study.”



Dr. Stephanie Gotay was recently selected for the Roger Herring Research Award by the Arkansas Counseling Association (ArCA).



Amy R. Pearce, Professor of Psychology, will serve as an invited reviewer for grant proposals submitted to the National Science Foundation in 2022.



Faculty Spotlight



Dr. Ying Hu, China



Ms. Fatema AlAttar, UAE



Dr. Ibrahim Duyar



Dr. Lloyd Jackson, USA



Ms. Khuloud AlHammadi, UAE



Dr. Ayhan Ozturk, Turkey

The following presentations were delivered by Dr. Duyar and his mentees at the 2021 WELS:

Ibrahim Duyar & Lloyd Jackson, A Validity Study of DLOQ for Analyzing Determinants of Learning Organizations in High and Low-Achieving Schools.

Fatema AlAttar & Ibrahim Duyar, Influence of Organizational Constraints on Teachers Affective Commitment to Change: Moderating Role of Leader-Member Exchange (LMX) in the UAE Public Schools.

Ayhan Ozturk & Ibrahim Duyar, Analyzing Influence of Authentic Leadership, Organizational Identification, and Perceived Organizational Support on Teachers - Job-engagement and Commitment: A Cross-National Study.

Ying Hu & Ibrahim Duyar, Paradigm Change in Learning through School Museums: A Closer Look at Influence of Principals toward Change, and Collaborative Learning Culture.

Khuloud Al Hammadi & Ibrahim Duyar, Influence of Coping with the Organizational Change on Work-related Uncertainty and Work Engagement: Role of Organizational Support.

Faculty Spotlight



Dr. Rob Williams, Assistant Professor of Education, went to Doha, Qatar, to teach classes, promote A-State programs, and consult with local schools. The Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education has begun offering a master's in educational leadership in a hybrid format. The Qatar students not only have asynchronous access to instructional materials, communication, and submitting assignments, they also gather in a classroom there as the A-State professor provides synchronous weekly instruction via Zoom.



It is a great honor to have the following advisors from the College of Education and Behavioral Science be nominated for the "You Made a Difference" Advisor of the Year. Jessica Curtis and Allison Paolini, Psychology & Counseling and Antwanet Wade, Academic Advising. The award is presented by the Wilson Advising Center in recognition of excellence in academic advising. This award is student-nominated, student-selected, and recognizes an outstanding advisor for their exemplary service.



Faculty Spotlight

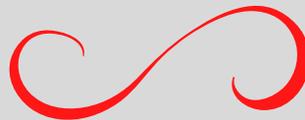
Dr. Timberly Baker collaborates on article publications in 2021

Swain, A. & Baker, T.L. (2021) "Whiteness owns it, Blackness defines it: Rural reality in the Black Belt". *Theory & Practice in Rural Education*. 11(2) pp. 15-27 <https://doi.org/10.3776/tpre.2021.11n2p15-27>

Baker, T. L., & Howard, J. (2021) *Cultural Literacy Versus Racial Literacy: Developing an Understanding of the Difference*. Teachers College Record.



Baker, T., & Howard, J. (2021). Counter-Movements to Trouble Whiteness in Teacher Education at a PWI: A Pedagogical Approach. *Taboo: The Journal of Culture and Education*, 20 (1). <https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/taboo/vol20/iss1/9>



Dr. Baker also became a Co-President of Critical Race Studies in Education Association for 2022

A national organization whose mission states: "The Critical Race Studies in Education Association (CRSEA) is an interdisciplinary consortium of experts who recognize global implications of race and education for minoritized people. Through scholarship, we identify and expose inequities for the ultimate eradication of white supremacy. As a community, we are committed to (1) countering and combating systemic and structural racism with scholarship and praxis, (2) recognizing the multiple locations of oppression and the myriad manifestations and effects of their intersections and (3) co-constructing liberating knowledge that facilitates collective agency to transform schools and communities.

With this mission, the annual Critical Race Studies in Education Association (CRSEA) conference brings together scholars, activists, educators, students and community members who use critical race studies as a tool to frame, examine, document, understand and transform racial inequalities in education and in the broader society (Cress.org).

Faculty Spotlight

John D. Hall, Ph.D. Meagan B. Medley, Ph.D., Kristin N. Johnson, Ph.D., (Not Pictured) and Wayne W. Wilkinson, Ph.D. who are faculty in the Department of Psychology and Counseling recently presented their peer-reviewed research entitled "Field Supervisor Ratings: Establishing Content Validity for a School Psychology Measure" at the Mid-South Educational Research Association 2021 Annual Meeting in November in New Orleans, LA.

This poster presentation focused on the process of establishing content validity of a rating scale (i.e., a performance assessment) completed by school psychology supervisors to rate graduate level school psychology practicum students and interns each semester on the knowledge and skills across 10 domains as required by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). NASP approves and accredits school psychology graduate program in the U.S. including our program of study here at ASTATE.

An adequate level of school psychology knowledge and skills are necessary for the competent practice of school psychology. Additionally, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) which accredits Colleges of Education across the U.S. is now requiring programs to provide evidence of content validity with their performance assessments. There are few if any in our field that to date have established validity.

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John D. Hall, Ph.D.



Meagan B. Medley, Ph.D.



Wayne W. Wilkinson, Ph.D.

Miss Arkansas State University



Riley Roberts, Elementary Education major of Jonesboro receives the crown as the 47th recipient of the Miss Arkansas State University title.

The sophomore elementary education major from local Valley View High School captured the title with her dance talent and social impact statement of “Possibility with Disability.” Assessed at an early age with dyslexia, Roberts wrote that for her, working in the education field to assist those with the learning challenge “is not only my platform, it is my career choice.”

Also a member of the Red Wolves Dance team that last year finished top five in the nation, Roberts performed a jazz dance routine entitled “Feeling Good” for her talent. Among her prizes, Roberts received a \$5,000 scholarship from Arkansas State University.

The first runner-up was Riley Strube, a first-year student majoring in psychology at A-State from Cabot, Ark. Strube’s platform issue was “The Mental Health War,” and her talent was a jazz tap dance routine entitled “Dr. Jazz.” She won the individual competitions for both talent and on-stage interview.

The other finalists included Erica Parker of Jonesboro as second runner-up, while Erin Davis of Bono was third runner-up and Maria Cissell of Fenton, Mo., was fourth.

A product of Jonesboro High School, Parker is a freshman majoring in strategic communication. Davis is also a freshman who is majoring in elementary education and a graduate of local Westside High School. Cissell is a pre-professional and criminal justice major at A-State and a member of the Red Wolves Dance Team.

Sophomore Olivia Daniels of Kennett, Mo., won two individual awards, the Social Media Award as well as People’s Choice. Senior Emma Allen of Helena, Ark., received the Congeniality Award.

The contest is an official Miss America Preliminary, so Roberts will now begin preparations immediately to compete in the 2022 Miss Arkansas competition. She received the Miss A-State crown from the previous recipient, Apple Dennie.

The Pi Kappa Alpha chapter at A-State began sponsoring the Miss Arkansas State University Competition in 1975.



Educational Leadership and Behavioral Sciences surprised Dr. Julie Milligan with a show of support in her battle against Breast Cancer. She has completed her treatment with an amazing attitude. So Proud of You Dr. Milligan!



**Arkansas State University
College of Education and
Behavioral Science**

