

Fastfacts



College of Education

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Excellence through Quality • Outreach with Partnerships • Innovation for Impact

Excellence through Quality

◆ **MSU-Henderson regional campus 2+2 elementary program receives Distinguished Alumni award**

The Henderson Community College presented the Distinguished Alumni Award to the Murray State University college of education 2+2 elementary program. The program gives students the opportunity to achieve a bachelor degree in elementary education at Henderson Community College by taking classes through the Murray State Henderson Regional Campus.

◆ **Enhancing college and career readiness**

The college of education was awarded a grant from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education to identify, develop, and to share best practices designed to increase the educational and career attainment of students in the region. The Center for College and Career Readiness was established to organize the work of a broad set of grant partners to attain a number of grant goals.

◆ **College of Education awarded \$25,000 grant so at-risk high school seniors can "Connect to College"**

The college of education received a \$25,000 grant from the Council on Postsecondary Education to partner with Mayfield High School to develop a "Connect to College" program. This program will target the at risk population of the senior class. University faculty and staff will provide a series of pre-college orientation sessions focused on preparing students for the freshman year of college. Students will also be able to attend sessions on career planning and career awareness conducted by Murray State's Career Services Center as well as meetings designed to provide information, support, and services to students' families in order to reduce barriers to higher education.

◆ **COE graduates making a difference in public schools**

The Kentucky P-20 Data Collaborative conducted an in-depth study of school districts that employ a large number of teachers with degrees from regional teacher training institutions. The Collaborative found nine regions in Kentucky where the concentration of teachers in the school district exceeded 50%. This saturation allowed the Collaborative to tie student ACT results to the preparing institutions. According to data from the study, seventy percent of the teachers in the Murray State service region are graduates of the College of Education. The study found that 36% of high school students in the Murray State University region were classified as college ready, compared to rates of 30%, 24% or 21% for students in other regions. Students prepared by Murray State University teachers on average exceeded statewide averages in English, reading, and mathematics on the ACT.

◆ **COE selected as a site for the EPSB co-teaching "Train the Trainer" workshop for supervisors of student teachers**

The college of education was selected to host a co-teaching "train the trainer" workshop sponsored by the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) with educators from fourteen teacher preparation institutions and ten school districts attending. Co-teaching is a new method that promises to provide a comprehensive and rigorous experience for student teachers by allowing the supervising teacher to remain actively involved in the classroom and thereby improve the quality of instruction for PK-12 students. Outreach with Partnerships

◆ **MSU College of Education partners with NASA Aerospace Education Services**

Murray State University's college of education has established a partnership with NASA's Aerospace Education Services Project (AESP) to provide professional development for pre-service and in-service teachers in the west Kentucky region. An AESP Educational Specialist will provide educational resources to science methods students and National Science Teacher Association (NSTA) student chapter members. Area teachers will be allowed to check out space materials, use online materials, classroom activities and NASA lesson plans that are aligned with the Common Core Standards.

◆ **Grant received to expand COE summer robotics camp**

The MSU Regional Stewardship Advisory Council awarded a \$20,000 grant to the College of Education to conduct week-long summer robotics camps promoting STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) concepts at west Kentucky school districts. The STEM concepts will improve students' knowledge in the areas of math and science using LEGO® Robotics educational kits.

◆ **Effective Classroom Management workshop provided to Belize school administrators, principals, and faculty**

Faculty member, Pam Matlock, conducted a two-day workshop for faculty and administrators in Corozal, Belize schools on Effective Classroom Management. The workshop demonstrated how to be proactive and set expectations in their classrooms. Matlock also taught strategies on how to create classrooms with a positive learning environment. According to the Assistant Local Director of the Corozal school system, faculty and administrators immediately began to implement the strategies they learned. The workshop served as a motivator for the faculty while providing positive ways to view teaching.

◆ **College of Education hosts the Kentucky Reading Project**

The college of education is the host to a two-week summer institute of the Kentucky Reading Project (KRP). The project is a professional development initiative for Kentucky public school elementary teachers designed to improve student achievement and emphasize family involvement in literacy. KRP is a year-long, graduate level reading course consisting of a two-week summer institute, four follow-up sessions during the year, and at least one coaching visit to each teacher.

◆ **COE college and career readiness grant funds used to sponsor the "Tracking Next Generation Learners" workshop for area guidance counselors**

In response to school districts' need to meet the Kentucky Unbridled Learning College and Career Readiness benchmarks, the Murray State University Center for College and Career Readiness sponsored a Tracking Next Generation Learners professional development workshop. The workshop, a collaborative effort between Murray State University, West Kentucky Special Educational Cooperative, and Calloway County School District and funded by the Council for Postsecondary Education (CPE) college and career readiness grant, provided participants resources to track student success in meeting college and career readiness benchmarks.

Innovation for Impact

◆ **College of Education secures \$90,000 grant funds to provide professional development for math teachers**

The college of education, in collaboration with Madisonville Community College, was awarded \$90,000 in grant funds from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education for The Improving Educator Quality state grant program. The program will provide professional development to mathematics teachers to aid them in meeting the requirements of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards. COE faculty member, Dr. Yuejin Xu, serves as principal investigator.

◆ **COE Human Development and Leadership Program hosts 1st Annual Leadership in Action**

During the event, HDL students had an opportunity to network with accomplished leaders in the fields of business/industry, healthcare, non-profit, public administration and higher education. Distinguished panelists included MSU President Dr. Randy Dunn and Provost Dr. Bonnie Higginson. The HDL students gained valuable insight into various leadership perspectives and experiences through a panel discussion and breakout sessions.

◆ **College of Education sponsors College and Career Readiness Summit**

Through grant funds provided by the CPE, the COE developed a College and Career Readiness Summit. The day-long conference featured 67 professional development sessions for 254 teachers and administrators. School administrators, community leaders, chambers of commerce, and economic development representatives participated in a specific college and career readiness track that highlighted school and community partnerships and preparing students for college and career. Dr. Charis McGaughy of the Educational Policy Improvement Center and Kentucky's First Lady Jane Beshear were keynote speakers.

◆ **Improving literacy and writing through a summer camp**

The college of education offers a summer reading/writing literacy program for students in grades primary - 12th grade. The program is designed to provide students with positive reading experiences as well as students who have difficulty in learning to read, need assistance in developing reading comprehension, vocabulary, oral reading, study skills, or students wishing to enhance existing reading skills.

FACULTY/STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Presentations

- ◆ Chhanda Islam (2012, April). *Literacy Coaches: A focus on a graduate reading methods course*. Roundtable at the Annual Meeting of Teacher Educators: San Antonio, TX.
- ◆ Lee Kem (2012). Keynote speaker for the Kentucky Association of Developmental Education.
- ◆ Meagan Musselman, Ginny Richerson, and Marty Jacobs (2012, February). *Action research for elementary, middle, and secondary graduates - teacher leader program*. Roundtable at the Annual Meeting of Teacher Educators: San Antonio, TX.
- ◆ Joe DeBella (November 2011). *Circuit Training Model for Pre-Activity Skills*. Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education Recreation and Dance (KAHPERD) Annual Convention.
- ◆ Alan Bakes (October 2011). *Helpful strategies for teaching effective confrontation skills*. Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference: Nashville, TN.
- ◆ Meg Crittenden and Robert Lyons (2012). *An investigation of problems of practice for district-level administrators in rural settings*. NCPEA Conference: Kansas City, MO.
- ◆ Samir Patel and Susana Bloomdahl. *Student leadership in a residential college: From dysfunction to effective collaboration*. American Counseling Association conference: San Francisco, CA.
- ◆ Jennifer Wyatt (December 2011). *The most valuable gifts to give yourself: Self-care for advancement professionals*. Kentucky Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) conference: Lexington, KY.

Publications

- ◆ Marty Jacobs, Lynn Patterson, and Jacqueline Hansen (2012, Spring). Curriculum studies that foster teacher leadership. *Journal for the Liberal Arts and Sciences*, 16 (2), (pp. 5-13).
- ◆ Chhanda Islam (2012, Spring). Using Literacy Blogs: A Community of Learners Reflecting on Their Learning. *Journal for the Liberal Arts and Sciences* and Yuejin Xu and George Patmor (2012). Fostering leadership skills in pre-service teachers. *International Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education*.
- ◆ Lynn Patterson and Susana Bloomdahl (2011). The Need for a Grief Plan Awareness and Staff Trainings in School. *PDK members.org* online publication.
- ◆ Marty Dunham, Robert Lyons, and COE student T. Phelps (2010). Military deployment and elementary student achievement. *Educational Research Quarterly*, 33(4), (pp.37-52), peer-reviewed.
- ◆ Marty Dunham and COE student A. Washington (2011). Attachment parenting: Early parenting practices and outcomes for adolescents. *Educational Research Quarterly*, 35(2), (pp. 43-75) peer-reviewed.

Projects/Partnerships/Awards/Successes

- ◆ Tressa Ross coordinated the Connect to College grant with Mayfield High School as well as served as a committee member on the College and Career Readiness Summit and Tracking Next Generation Learners guidance counselor workshop. She also surveyed 452 graduates from Fall 2010, Spring 2011, and Fall 2011 semesters to determine if they received employment.
- ◆ Chhanda Islam received the 2012 International Reading Association's Award of Excellence.
- ◆ Pat Seiber partnered with Dr. Ronda Dunn in the District 180 initiative to provide support for school improvement in regional middle schools and hosted 3 New Teacher Institutes, held in the 2010 and 2011 summers. Serves as the college representative on the Kentucky Unbridled Learning English/Language Arts Network.
- ◆ Joe DeBella received the 2011 Fabulous Faculty Award from Murray State University Student Support Services.
- ◆ Mardis Dunham received the 2011 Dr. Charles and Marlene Johnson Outstanding Education Faculty Award and the 2012 Calloway County Adult Education Volunteer of the Year.
- ◆ Mi-Hwa Park received the 2012 COE Outstanding Faculty Creative Activity Award.
- ◆ Yuejin Xu received the 2012 COE Award for Outstanding Faculty Research
- ◆ Pam Matlock received the 2012 Dr. Charles and Marlene Johnson Outstanding Education Faculty Award.
- ◆ Lee Kem serves as the Human Development and Leadership program. She has increased the number of students to 140 in a two year period. She coordinated a new program video with student clips and conducts a program orientation.
- ◆ Yuejin Xu received a \$90,000 grant from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education for the project *Developing Standards-Based Digital Content for Next Generation Learners* (January 2012 - June 2013), and received a \$92,775 grant from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education for the project *Empowering Teachers to Develop Digital Content* (July 2011 - June 2012).
- ◆ Katherine Farmer and Lee Kim received a \$3,739 grant from Murray State University through Kentucky Unbridled Learning funds to support the project: *Development of PRAXIS: Principles of Learning and Teaching Online Workshop for College of Education Students*.
- ◆ Robert Lyons is the University representative on Kentucky's principal redesign task force (2011 - present), serves as co-chair of the Commonwealth Collaborative for School Leadership Preparation (2012 - present), and facilitated initial Center for College and Career Readiness meetings that led to the development of a website and the College and Career Readiness Summit initiatives.
- ◆ Trish Lofton served on the Center for College and Career Readiness committee, developed and currently maintains the Center's website and served on the Tracking Next Generation Learners guidance counselor workshop.
- ◆ Samir Patel serves as Chair for the College of Education Diversity Committee (August 2011 - present) and a member of the College of Education Grievance Committee (August 2010 - present).
- ◆ Jack Rose serves as a Faculty Regent on the University Board of Regents (September 2010 - present), Faculty Senate Executive Committee Ex-Officio Member (September 2010 - present), University President's Faculty Staff Council Committee Member (September 2010 - present), serves as principal investigator for the Model School Special Education Alternative Grant - \$140,00 (2001-present), and secured a \$131,330 grant that funds the Kentucky Center for School Safety while serving as the principal investigator.