

College of Education | Achievements and Highlights

Prepared for
President Kirk Schulz and Provost April Mason

Dean Debbie Mercer traveled to Washington, D.C., to share strengths of the COE with elected officials.

Dean Mercer and Dennis Devenney, Catalyst director, visited a school in Abilene and observed how the iPad has been integrated into the classroom.

David Thompson, professor and chair of educational leadership, was inducted into and signed the inaugural Charter of the Kansas State University Academy of Fellows.

The Chet Peters Lecture Series celebrated its 30th anniversary this April with keynote speaker Kristen Renn, professor of higher, adult & lifelong education at Michigan State University.

Eighteen faculty and graduate students joined Dean Mercer at the annual American Educational Research Association's annual conference April 27 - May 1 in San Francisco. Those who presented were:

Bimper, A.Y., Jr. (2013, April). *Exposing the Intercollegiate Athletic Minstrel Show: Exploring the Development of Division I-FBS Black Student Athletes*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Francisco, CA.

Craft, C. M. (2013, April). *Christianity and academic motherhood: In pursuit of personal wellness*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Francisco, CA.

Morales, A.R., Shroyer, M.G. (2013, April). *Utilizing funds of knowledge: Latina, ELL preservice teachers for racial uplift*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Francisco, CA.

Grotewiel, M., Murdock, T., Barber, C., Bajaj, A., **Spears, J.**, Mueller, C., & Krycak, R. (2013). *High school math achievement: Does it mediate racial differences in community college remedial math placement and success?* Paper presented at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, April 27-May 1, San Francisco, CA.

Judd, A., Murdock, T., Barber, C., **Spears, J.**, & Grotewiel, M. (2013). *Early identification of students at risk for community college development math placement*. Paper presented at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, April 27-May 1, San Francisco, CA.

Kim, J.H., Martinie, S.L., Abernathy, D.W., (2013). *Better to be a pessimist: A narrative inquiry into math teachers' experience of the transition to the common core*. Paper presented at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, April 27-May 1, San Francisco, CA.

Martinie, S.L., (2013). *Decimal fractions: An important point*. Paper presented at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, April 27-May 1, San Francisco, CA.

Rankin, C. I. (2013, April). *Strategic means for developing meaningful university-public school partnerships*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Francisco, CA.

Zacharakis, J. T., (2013, May). *Using high-quality data sets to better understand adult literacy student pathways to postsecondary education*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Francisco, CA.

The Office of Educational Innovation and Evaluation, or OEIE, and the National Academic Advising Association,

or NACADA, participated in the Foundation Center open house April 3, showcasing the organizations to nearly 100 visitors to the building.

Marilyn Kaff was selected to be a Fulbright senior specialist, which makes her eligible to participate in short-term international experiences such as her work in Tanzania.

Mary Devin, associate professor of educational leadership, led three Kansas Educational Leadership Institute, or KELI, activities.

- She worked with Building Leadership Mentoring/Induction Task Force to reach consensus on menu options for providing KELI services to school district leaders beginning with the 2013-14 school year.
- She hosted a one-day leadership seminar on new Kansas State Department of Education, or KSDE, processes for accreditation and performance evaluation in Pre K-12 schools. The session was held on the K-State Olathe campus, with 105 educators from across the state attending.
- She facilitated a meeting of the KELI Steering Committee. Attendees included representatives from KSDE, KSSA, USA, and KSU.

Charlie Nutt, NACADA director, noted three activities.

- At NACADA's midyear Board of Directors meeting April 19-21 in Salt Lake City, the Board updated the association's vision, mission statement, and strategic goals to guide NACADA's growth and to support the College of Education in its achievement of 2025 objectives.
- NACADA's international conference ("Enhancing Student Success: A Global Perspective, June 5-7 in Maastricht, Netherlands) has drawn more than 200 registrants, with 88 proposals submitted from 17 countries.
- Marsha Miller, NACADA assistant director of resources and services, attended the April CAS Board of Directors meeting in Washington, D.C.

Grants

Chepina Rumsey, assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, is the PI on a recently awarded \$450,000 grant from the Kansas Department of Education. Co-PIs are Jon Brown, **David Allen**, **Sherri Martinie** and Andy Bennett. The proposal for the Mathematics and Science Partnerships Program is titled "*MILeS Project: Improving Mathematics Instruction through Lesson Study.*"

Kimberly Staples, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, received a \$260,000 grant from the Kansas Board of Regents for her proposal titled, *Advancing 6-12 Science Achievement: SHIFTS in Next Generation Science Teacher Professional Development.*

Presentations

Curtis, L., & Settgast, C. (2013). *Encouraging global citizenship: Literacy learning for life.* Annual Conference of the International Reading Association (IRA). San Antonio, TX, April 21, 2013.

Curtis, L., Lohfink, G., & Hohl, E. (2013). *Traditions: An interdisciplinary unit in support of the Common Core Standards* (Invited Presentation). Annual Conference of the International Reading Association (IRA). San Antonio, TX, April 20, 2013.

Neilsen, M., Bean, N., & Spears J. (2013). *Infusing cyber-physical systems into a standards-based K-12 curriculum.* Paper presented at the First Workshop on Cyber-Physical Systems Education (CPS-Ed 2013). April 8, 2013, Philadelphia, PA.

Rumsey, C. (2013, April). *Using Argumentation to Enhance Elementary Students Understanding of Mathematics*. Annual Meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in Denver, CO.

Staples, K. A., (2013). *Increasing Science Achievement in an Urban School District Through Science Teacher Collaborations with Paraprofessionals*. Research paper presented at the National Association of Research in Science Teaching (NARST), Rio Grande, Puerto Rico.

Swan, K. (2013, April). *Effectiveness of play therapy on problem behaviors of children with intellectual disabilities: A single subject design*. Presented at the annual Texas Association for Play Therapy Conference, Austin, TX.

Hwu, A. & Talab, R. (2013). *Assessing faculty concerns in adopting online teaching: lessons learned at the University of Alaska Fairbanks*. Paper presented at the Sixth Annual International Symposium; Emerging Technologies for Online Learning, Las Vegas, NV.

Teagarden, J.M., & Kaff, M. (2013, April). *The Janus oral history project: Reflections on the Past, Present, & Future of the Field*. Council of Exceptional Students, San Antonio, TX.

Publications

Gothberg, J., Applegate, B., Reeves, P., Kohler, P., **Thurston, L.**, & Peterson, L. (2013). Is the medium really the message? A comparison of face-to-face, telephone and internet focus group venues. *Journal of Ethnographic & Qualitative Research*, 7, 108-127.

Graduate Student Accomplishments

Chris Feit, a doctoral student in SECSA under Doris Carroll, was selected as a fellow for the 2013 National Data Institute on the datasets of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and National Science Foundation (NSF); July 14-20, 2013.

Ophelia Blackwell, doctoral student of Judy Hughey, was selected for the National Board of Certified Counselors, or NBCC, Foundation Minority Fellowship Program Award (up to \$20,000.)

Betty Makani, doctoral student of Rosemary Talab, organized a highly successful event in Silicon Valley, "Social Innovation Leadership Forum: Innovating for the Common Good" held on April 5. More than 120 nonprofit, corporate, community, education, entrepreneur and student leaders explored innovative approaches to address some of society's most pressing social challenges. The forum was sponsored by the San Jose State University Global Leadership Advancement Center.

Lenora Davis, graduate student of Rosemary Talab, developed the Website, <http://akteachers.com>, for the Alaska Teachers Network to help address the state's teacher shortage. She also developed a mobile app for the network, which is for sale on iTunes:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/alaska-teachers-network-app/id616596763?ls=1&mt=8>

Undergraduate Student Accomplishments

K-State's chapter of Pi Omega Pi, the national business teacher honor society, placed second out of 21 chapters at its combined convention with the National Business Education Association, NBEA, held April 16-20 in Atlanta, Ga.

The Kansas National Education Association – student program chapter was presented with three awards at the Spring Representative Assembly held April 6th at Pittsburg State University: Outstanding Chapter Website; Outstanding Chapter Newsletter; and Chapter Excellence Award.

Macario Benavides, world language preservice teacher, was required to complete a community connections project as part of Leah McKeeman's class. An idea asking for student volunteers as pen pals grew into a two-day project connecting 29 Ecuadorian teachers with students at Rock Creek High School. His international outreach was so successful the Office of International Programs assisted with transportation and logistics. The teachers toured the high school and spent 45 minutes in the Spanish II class where they heard students present in Spanish about themselves and their families. The exercise ended in hugs and handshakes. Rock Creek High School Principal Eric Koppes was excited about the program and hopes to engage his school in more international outreach opportunities with the College of Education.