

# College of Education | Achievements and Highlights

Prepared for  
President Kirk Schulz and Provost April Mason

Dean Mercer taped a new intro and close on the college's philanthropy video. It was posted on the college Facebook page and Website <http://coe.ksu.edu/philanthropy/index.htm>

The first of three professional development sessions for the faculty iPad initiative is complete.

Linda Thurston was promoted to associate dean of research and external funding.

David Griffin was promoted to assistant dean - director of the Center for Student and Professional Services.

Dr. David Thompson

- Served as Chair of the Search Committee for the Associate Dean for Research and External Funding.
- Worked with two graduate students to prepare them to serve as his proxy to the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED) in Fresno, Calif.
- Finalized and launched the Southwest Kansas Doctoral Cohort, a partnership between KSU and the Garden City Public Schools and nearby SW Kansas school districts.

Mary Devin was presented with the Grace Unrau Volunteer Award by the State Commissioner of the Kansas Babe Ruth Leagues (youth baseball) for meritorious contributions to the Kansas Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken program. The presentation was made July 13 at the opening ceremony of the Babe Ruth 18 and Under Boys State Baseball Tournament in Junction City.

Jackie Spears completed the evaluation reports for GROW and EXCITE, two STEM outreach programs that serve STEM researchers on campus. A total of 50 girls attended GROW, a three-day workshop held on campus for 6th and 7th grade girls. A total of 33 girls attended EXCITE, a three-day workshop held on campus for 9th and 10th grade girls.

K-State-Olathe CEO Dan Richardson appointed Royce Ann Collins as the campus's representative to the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

The Segal Foundation, a family foundation dedicated to causes in Sub-Saharan Africa, notified Marilyn Kaff that it would donate \$10,000 toward her work with autistic children in Tanzania after a representative from their organization watched her YouTube video "Humanity Looks Good on Everyone." The video is a moving account in which she and her students discuss their experiences/work with these amazing children.

Ecuador update: Closing Ceremony for the first group of 87 teachers. The passing of a bouquet of sunflowers went to a participant of the fall group who has already arrived on campus.

## **Presentations:**

Jackie Spears presented a paper entitled "High School Physics in the United States" as part of a plenary symposium at the World Conference in Physics Education held July 1-6 in Istanbul, Turkey.

Marilyn Kaff presented a paper at the DISES (Division of International Special Education and Services) International Round Table July 8 - 13 in Sligo, Ireland. Her topic was on the collaboration between Kansas State Special Education Service Teams and Teachers at Sebastian Kolowa University College to improve the quality of special education services in rural Tanzania.

Several members from the Midwest Equity Assistance Center including Director Charles Rankin attended the “Best Practices Summit” in Omaha, Neb., on July 23. Presentations were made by:

- Katherine Sprott, “A Framework for the Olweus Bullying Program”;
- Tonnie Martinez, “Surviving and Thriving - Teach EL Students in the Transition to Common Core Standards”;
- Jessie Myles, “Cultural Competency and Religion Diversity.”

**Publications:**

Kim, J.H. (2012). Teacher action research as Bildung: An application of Gadamer’s philosophical hermeneutics to teacher professional development. *Journal of Curriculum Studies*. pp. 1-15. The “Journal of Curriculum Studies” has an 8% acceptance rate.

Holmes, S. & Carroll, D. (2012). Social Capital in HBCUs: Implications for Graduate Students in the 21st Century. In R. T. Palmer, A.A. Hilton, & P.T. Fontaine (Eds.). *Inside the Experiences of Black Graduate Education in HBCUs*. New York/London: Information Age Press.