

College of Education | Achievements and Highlights

Prepared for
President Kirk Schulz and Provost April Mason

National awards

The College of Education was presented with a LTG (Ret) H.G. “Pete” Taylor Partnership of Excellence Award™ for higher education by the Military Child Education Coalition, or MCEC, at its 16th National Training Seminar in Washington, D.C., on July 30. Only three universities were recognized.

Royce Ann Collins, associate professor of educational leadership, received the inaugural Council for Accelerated Programs in Higher Education’s lifetime award. The award is given to a person who has exemplified the mission and vision of the Council of Accelerated Programs, which includes being an advocate for adult learners in higher education and instrumental in consulting and educating professionals and institutions about quality accelerated programs.

Highlights

NACADA activities:

- Charlie Nutt, NACADA executive director, and Socorro Herrera, Center for Intercultural and Multilingual Advocacy director, met with education officials in Arequipa, Peru, July 16-24. They presented workshops and shared expertise regarding the importance of academic advising in transforming the quality of higher education;
- “NACADA Journal” was mailed on July 7 to the association’s 11,000 members;
- The organization hosted a summer institute in St. Petersburg, Florida;
- NCAA/NACADA completed an eight-week online course for academic advisors who work with student athletes.

Marilyn Kaff, associate professor of special education, counseling and student affairs, or SECSA, conducted a two-day advanced workshop on learning disabilities at Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University in Lushoto, Tanzania, July 21-22. Her team also conducted a three-day training session for teachers and volunteers who work with families with children with special needs in villages in the Tange region. In addition, Kaff delivered 900 books-in-a-bag.

Karrie Swan, assistant professor of SECSA, attended the American Mental Health Counseling Association Leadership meeting in Seattle, Wash., July 10-13. Swan is the president of the Kansas Mental Health Counseling Association.

Mary Devin, executive director of the Kansas Educational Leadership Institute, or KELI, reported 16 of the state’s 23 newest superintendents, and 16 of the state’s 60 newest principals have been registered in KELI mentorship programs.

The college produced a special edition of the “Kansas Journal of Reading” devoted to the common core standards. Lotta Larson, associate professor, and Debbie Mercer, dean, serve as co-editors.

Marty Kramer, the college’s director of development, reported donations totaled \$2.3 million, marking the first year in the college’s 49-year history that gifts exceeded \$2 million.

Publications

Curtis, L. J., & Risberg, S. L. (2014, July). Teachers care about military-connected students. *On the Move*, 8(2), 18-20.

Powers, K. L., Carlstrom, A. H., & Hughey, K. F. (2014). Academic advising assessment practices: Results of a national study. *NACADA Journal*, 34(1), 64-77.

Swan, K., & Ray, D. (2014). Effects of child-centered play therapy on irritability and hyperactivity behaviors of children with intellectual disabilities. *Journal of Humanistic Counseling*, 53(2), 120-133.

Zacharakis, J., Tolar, M., & Collins, R. A. (2014). The political economy of growing of growing a rural university in the USA using online education: An examination of incentives for educational imperialism and academic capitalism. *International Journal of Lifelong Education*, 33(4). 440-454.

Presentations

Yelich Biniecki, S., & Conceição, S. (2014, June). *Engaging learners in critical analysis through concept maps: From theory to practice*. Paper presented and published in conference proceedings at the Adult Education Research Conference, The Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg, PA.

Collins, R. A., Ellis, P. & Mireles, T. (2014, July). *Best practices in teaching accelerated courses*. Paper presented at the 13th national conference for Accelerated Programs in Higher Education, Denver, CO.

Collins, R. A. (2014, July). *Publishing your best practices and research*. Paper presented at the 13th national conference for Accelerated Programs in Higher Education, Denver, CO.

Collins, R. A. (2014, July). *Council for accelerated programs world café*. Paper presented at the 13th national conference for Accelerated Programs in Higher Education, Denver, CO.

Collins, R. A., Ellis, P., & Martin, J. (2014, July). *State authorization/accreditation and federal regulations*. Paper presented at the 13th national conference for Accelerated Programs in Higher Education, Denver, CO.

Martinez, T. (2014, June). *Strategies for meeting the needs of diverse learners and their families in small and rural schools*. Paper presented at the National Association of State Boards of Education Small and Rural Schools Study Group, Washington, D.C.

Martinez, T., & Martinez, D.C. (2014). *Vocabulary strategies for English learners in the common core*. Session presented at the meeting of The Education Alliance at Brown University, at University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME.

Martinez, T., & Larson, L. (2014). *Lost in translation: Determining effective strategies that support English language learners*. Workshop for the University of Kansas School of Education Summer Conference, Lawrence, KS.

Martinez, T., & Rankin, C. (2014). *Our past is present: How the lived stories of our African-American elders can impact students of today*. Conference workshop presented at Omaha Public Schools Best Practices Summit, Omaha, NE.