WELCOME FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CHAIR

As chair of the Department of Education at East Central University, I am delighted to share information about our outstanding students, faculty, and programs via our new departmental newsletter, Education Matters. Our students are prepared to serve as professional educators through a combination of college classroom experiences provided by excellent university faculty and practical field experiences in the public schools working with master teachers. At East Central, our students have an opportunity to learn and to grow in a supportive and rigorous environment which includes a dedicated faculty and staff, well-equipped classrooms, and a very low student-teacher ratio. The quality of our faculty and program combined with an outstanding student experience contribute to make East Central University a great choice for pursuing your degree. — Jack Green

STUDENT TEACHERS PREPARE FOR THE CLASSROOM

During the 2013 spring semester more than 50 ECU students entered local elementary, junior high and high schools to complete their Education certification through student teaching. Student teaching prepares these students for their future roles as educators—we wish them the best of luck in their futures!

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Members of ECU’s College of Education and Psychology Advisory Council met during the fall 2012 semester to review data and discuss recent department successes and future plans for growth.

MARVIN STOKES LECTURE

During the 2012 fall semester, Oklahoma State Teacher of the Year, Ms. Elaine Hutchison, spoke at the Annual Marvin Stokes Endowed Lecture in the Oklahoma Regents Room on the campus of ECU. Hutchison is a math teacher at Fairview High School, Chamberlain Middle School, and the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Regional Center in Fairview. She is also the assistant girls high school basketball coach at Fairview. She has 19 years of experience and has National Board Certification. Eleven local and area Teachers of the Year were also honored at a reception.
East Central University's mission is to foster a learning environment in which students, faculty, staff, and community interact to educate students for life in a rapidly changing and culturally diverse society. Within its service area, East Central University provides leadership for economic development and cultural enhancement.

Dr. Brenda Walling, Dean, College of Education & Psychology

Dr. Jack Green, Chair, Department of Education

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Department of Education
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ECU EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Department of Education scholarship committee awarded 23 awards totaling over $20,000 during the 2012-13 academic year thanks to the generous number of benefactors donating to the program and through the guidance of the ECU Foundation. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Dr. Jack Green, Education Chair, at 580-559-5240 or via email at jgreen@ecok.edu.

NEW FACULTY JOIN THE ECU EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

In August 2012 the Education Department welcomed Dr. Shelli Sharber as Library Science Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor. Additionally, Dr. Nanette Schmitt (Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology), Dr. Mark Jones (Assistant Professor of Educational Technology and Program Coordinator), and Mr. David Smith (Instructor) joined the Education Department in August 2013.

BILLIE FATHREE FLOYD ELEMENTARY PHYSICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

During the 2012 fall semester, friends and family members packed the Sterling L. Williams Foundation & Alumni Center to attend a reception honoring Billie Jean Floyd. They celebrated the announcement of the $3,000 Billie Floyd Elementary Physical Education Scholarship which was established in her honor.

ECU EDUCATION GRADUATE STUDENT SHINES

During her time as an ECU Education major, Tatiana Booth, now an ECU graduate student, has made an impact as a student teacher and coach in the nearby Byng School District. Booth excelled as a student teacher in Lynne White’s eighth grade history class and as an assistant coach for Byng High School Basketball Team. Booth had such a bond with the team that she volunteered her time after her student teaching duties were completed to help the team go on to qualify for the state basketball tournament—something BHS will never forget.

PASSING THE TORCH—YEAR OF RETIREMENTS

The 2012-2013 academic year brought with it the retirement of longtime Education Department faculty. We are very thankful to each of the following faculty for a career dedicated to teaching their students and serving the profession.

Dr. John Bedford, Professor
Ms. Yvonne Bedford, Instructor
Dr. Ralph Sharp, Associate Professor
Ms. Staci Vollmer, Instructor
Dr. Ben Harper, Professor
Dr. Carolyn Thomas, Professor
Dr. Richard Putnam, Associate Professor

Phone: 580-559-5348  Website: www.ecok.edu/education
GENE AND EVELYN KEEFER EDUCATOR'S HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

The 2012-13 academic year provided many opportunities for the College of Education and Psychology. In the fall of 2013 we inducted three new members into the ECU Educators Hall of Fame. Dr. Pam Deering, a 1973 graduate of ECU, is currently the superintendent for Midwest City-Dei City Schools after serving as deputy superintendent of fiscal services and human resources there from 2011-12 and assistant superintendent of fiscal services and executive director of fiscal services from 1995-2011. The late Dr. Tim Green, a 25 year veteran professor of ECU taught undergraduate and graduate courses in reading methods while serving as director of athletics for 25 years until his retirement in 2006. He also served on numerous committees at ECU and was ultimately inducted into the ECU Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009. Jackie ‘Tex’ Rollins earned both his bachelors and masters degrees at ECU as well as being a member of the Tiger football team. Upon returning from a tour of duty in Vietnam he began working on a degree in administration at Central State University (now the University of Central Oklahoma), he was offered a teaching and coaching position at Carl Albert High School in Midwest City. He continues to teach there and serves as head track coach and as an assistant football coach for the Titans.

ECU GRAD INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL TEACHERS HALL OF FAME

Byng teacher and ECU graduate Deborah Cornelison – along with four educators whose experience combined with hers to total 116 years– were inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in June in Emporia, Kansas. Cornelison has taught ninth-grade physical science at Byng Junior High School for most of her 28-year career. She earned a master’s of education in secondary education and bachelor’s in biology and chemistry from ECU. She was an adjunct instructor of general biology and general physical science before taking the job at Byng.

EDUCATION MAJOR MAKES PRESENTATION AT THE OACTE CONFERENCE

Quinton Blevins ECU education major, conducted a poster presentation of the Grammar Video Preparation as a part of Dr. Pennington’s Methods of Elementary Language Arts course during the Fall semester of 2012. The presentation was held at the 2012 OACTE Conference in Broken Arrow.
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Dr. Christine Pappas, Dr. Laura Bixler, Mrs. Jillian McCarty, Mrs. Staci Vollmer, and Mrs. Yvonne Bedford.

ECU EDUCATION MAJORS PARTICIPATE IN SPECIAL OLYMPICS TOURNAMENTS

Forty ECU education majors and minors participated in the Fun Country Special Olympics Bowling tournament during the 2012 fall semester at Lazer Zone in Ada. These students assisted over 120 children and youth and almost 140 adults with their bowling games. Over 135 service learning hours were given by ECU students for learning, fellowship, and fun. Students were from the classes of the following university faculty members: Dr. Christine Pappas, Dr. Laura Bixler, Mrs. Jillian McCarty, Mrs. Staci Vollmer, and Mrs. Yvonne Bedford.

ECU PRODUCING EFFECTIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

One-hundred percent of East Central University’s elementary education students earned passing grades on the Oklahoma General Education Test and Oklahoma Reading Test, according to the Commission on Teacher Preparation’s 2011-12 Annual Report.

In fact, ECU Elementary Education is above average in several categories in teaching effectiveness in the state. Results on the Elementary Education Subject Area Test, ECU students’ pass rates were 69.6 percent, well above the average for state institutions of similar size on subtest one (reading and language arts), and 92.9 percent on subtest 2 (social studies, mathematics, science, health/fitness and the arts), which was right at the state average. “When it comes to effectiveness of the program, we are at the top of the list with a 100 percent average for the general education and reading tests. It’s obvious this makes ECU’s teaching program second to none,” said ECU President John R. Hargrave. “What we have enjoyed here at ECU is the stability of our faculty and their willingness to go the extra mile for our aspiring teachers. The proof of our teacher preparation is evidenced in the state teacher certification test results. We’ve seen numerous students go through our education department who are excelling and have excelled in elementary schools throughout the state and region.”

NEW MATH SPECIALIST DEGREE OFFERED BY ECU EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

With changing curriculum, standards and objectives, it is essential that education majors stay abreast of current curriculum opportunities. ECU department of Education feels that it is our responsibility to make events and opportunities available to aid Education students in this area. Therefore, a new course load has been developed beginning in the summer of 2013 to offer the curriculum towards certification category of Elementary Mathematics Specialist. If you are interested in pursuing this degree contact Ms. Debbie Claxon for advisement: 580-559-5309 or via email at dclaxton@ecok.edu.

2013 SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR CHARACTER EDUCATION

Two ECU students, Ms. Krysten Isenhower and Ms. Amenah Pena were nominated by ECU Education faculty to attend the all-expense paid conference in Oklahoma City, hosted by The Oklahoma State Regents of Higher Education, that was designed to introduce character education into the classrooms of Oklahoma. By attending, these students become certified Character educators. Character Education fosters and fortifies core values that successfully achieve the following objectives:

- To promote academic achievement and leadership governed by integrity.
- To cultivate a safe school climate and an inclusive culture.
- To drive ethical, responsible priorities and behaviors.
- To nurture a lifelong, committed citizenry for community service and outreach.

Character Education is not a curriculum. It is a transformed mindset, a continuous refreshing and renewing of the mind that channels dispositions and behaviors that edify.
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OUR CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK—THE P.R.I.M.E. MODEL

The East Central University Department of Education P.R.I.M.E. Model - A Prescriptive, Reflective, Integrative, Model for Educators

The Educator: A prescriptive, reflective and integrative practitioner

To be effective in the classroom, teachers require a repertoire of proven skills.

By combining established research based teaching principles of instruction along with instructional flexibility, East Central is meeting the challenge of preparing well qualified teachers.

The PRIME MODEL signifies an approach that is prescriptive with regard as to what should be taught, reflective regarding what has been taught, and integrates the curriculum.

A Prescriptive, Reflective, Integrative Model for Educators
~ The P R I M E Model ~

NATIONALLY ACCREDITED BY:
COUNCIL FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION (CAEP)
(FORMERLY NCATE)

STATE ACCREDITATION BY
THE OKLAHOMA COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION (OCTP)
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**Grants Funded:**

- Dr. Regina Smith—Finalized professional development with an area public school via the external funding of $32,203 earned through the 2011 Improving Teacher Quality Grant.
- Dr. Jack Green—External funding of the 21st Century Instructional Leadership Grant from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education $50,650-year 1 (2012-13) and $50,650-year 2 (2013-14) —$101,300 total. Funds utilized to engage school leaders in our service area by providing resources to support instructional leadership, transition to Common Core Mathematics, transition to Common Core English/Language Arts, and to support more effective integration of technology in the classroom.
- Ms. Debbie Claxton—External funding from the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation (OCTP) was obtained via the Transforming Educator Preparation Grants in the amount of $10,000. The funds were used to support development of a web-based training module for clinical evaluation of student teachers and to support the edTPA implementation for student teachers.

**Faculty Publications:**


**Technology Enhancement to Support Data-Driven Decisions and Program Improvement:**

- The Department of Education implemented Chalk and Wire during the academic year 2012-13 in order to support our ongoing continuous program improvement process and the enhancement of the departmental longitudinal data system to support improved data driven decisions.

**Dates to Remember:**

- Cooperating Teacher Forum—September 2013
- October 2013—ECU Department of Education Professional Development Day
- Homecoming Week 2013—September 30—October 5
- Stokes Lecture—November 2013
- NCATE Visit—November 24-26, 2013
- Education Symposium—February 2014

**Do you have something positive to share with your colleagues or your students?**

Forward your submissions to Ms. Freda Low, Assistant to the Department Chair:

- Phone: 580-559-5348 or via email: freslow@ecok.edu

**Donations to the Department of Education**

- If you would like to make a donation, please contact Dr. Jack Green, Education Chair at 580-559-5240 or via email at jgreen@ecok.edu.