Greetings Everyone:

This will be the final newsletter issue for the academic year. The newsletter will start again in September. I hope that all of you have a productive summer and enjoy some relaxation.

This year-end issue will be a bit different than the rest: first, I include an announcement and description of a new COE center as part 4 of my focus on centers. Second, I wanted to close out the year with more than the normal amount of announcements heralding the accomplishments of our staff, faculty and students. Thus, there are several pages devoted to these matters and I have not included the standard Research Highlight or Data Tidbit sections. Note: some awards were already highlighted in prior issues and this newsletter will focus on college-level graduate student, discovery and faculty-related announcements.

I hope that all of you will share in my enthusiasm and sincere “congratulations” to these individuals.

Best,

[Signature]

DEAN’S INTRODUCTION

Volume 1, Issue 8
April-May, 2007

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PRF FACULTY GRANT REVIEWERS

I wanted to thank those that helped and served on the COE PRF review committee. Their input and insightful comments were appreciated:

- Lynn Bryan
- Nadine Dolby
- Brian French
- Jim Greenan
- Kevin Kelly
- Anne Knupfer
- Jim Lehman
- Youli Mantzicopoulos
- Jill May
- Helen Patrick
- Anatoli Rapoport
- Ala Samarapungavan
- Carrie Wachter

 Archived newsletters are available here. And you can submit comments or info you may want to see in this Newsletter at: this site.
For information about faculty and student support or initiatives, please contact Beth Helton, see archived newsletters, or see my webpage under Faculty Support Initiatives.

Announcements and Reminders

—Statistical/Methodological Consulting Services through PUPIL. See: http://pupil.education.purdue.edu/Consulting.htm

Events & Activities

—An fMRI research group is being formed. If you have interest in using functional MRI as a part of your research, or simply want to learn more about opportunities, please contact Tom Talavage in MSEE: tmt@purdue.edu.

**Special thanks to Youli Mantzicopoulos who serves as the URT Program Coordinator for the COE**

**COLLEGE LEVEL AWARDS & HONORS**

Outstanding Teacher Award
Brian French

Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award
Brian Belland

Outstanding Dissertation Award
Oliver Wendt

Dean’s Award for Outstanding Scholarship
Peggy Ertmer

Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship
Omari Dyson

Dean’s Doctoral Scholarship
HeeJung Kim

Service Awards
Lauren Franks
Beth Helton

Distinguished Professorship
Maribeth Schmitt, Jean Adamson Stanley Faculty Chair
UNIVERSITY AWARDS & HONORS

Charles B. Murphy Undergraduate Teaching Award Winner – University
Tim Newby

College of Education Diversity Fellows
Lecretia Buckley
Erik Malewski
B. Allen Talbert

Office of Engagement Community of Service Learning Faculty Fellow
Scott Schaffer

Study in a Second Discipline
Lynn Bryan

Study Abroad and International Learning Grant Program
Melanie Shoffner

Purdue Teaching Academy Inductee
Mary Nakhleh

Special Points of Interest:

Brain French (EDST) was selected to attend an IES Training Institute on Cluster Randomized Trials. He will give a presentation on this subject some time in the Fall.

Heather Servaty-Seib was sworn in as 1st VP of the Association of Death Education and Counseling (ADEC). She will assume the Presidency next year. See http://www.adec.org/

External Funding Opportunities

Below are some selected support opportunities. Some are unique. Please pass these on to potentially interested colleagues or students

- Institute of Education Sciences; Notice Inviting Applications for Grants To Support Education and Special Education Research and Research Training for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008. URL: http://fr.cos.com/cgi-bin/getRec?id=20070406a105
- See the Holmes Scholars Program for students of color that might be interested in educational opportunities and leadership training: http://www.holmes-scholars.org/
GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS
AWARDED 2007-2008

Frank B. DeBruicker – Educational Technology
Brian Belland
Dazhi Yang

Mike Keedy – Mathematics and Education
Erin Moss
William Walker III

General Wei-Chin & Madame Phoebe Lee – Social Studies Education
Oliver Beatty

Lloyd Alexander – Literacy and Language
Joy Dangora

Mast/Fenner Give a Child a Dream – Award in School Counseling
Cassandra Neff

Jane and Michael Wilson – Science Education
Loran Carleton
Lauren Schellenberger

Frederick N. Andrews Fellowship
Jillian Gates, EDST (2006-2007)
Yuxiang Wang, EDCI (2006-2007)

Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship
Jodie Edwards, EDST (2006-2007)

Ross Fellowship
Asta Balkute, EDCI (2006-2007)
Matthew Primeau, EDST (2006-2007)
Nathan Miles, EDST (2006-2007)
Larissa Olesova, EDCI (2006-2007)

Bilsland Strategic Initiatives Fellowship
Melissa Dyehouse, EDST (2007-2008)
Leon Walls, EDCI (2007-2008)
Centers of the COE Part 4: Highlighted Center

The newest addition to the COE Centers is the Center for Literacy Education And Research (CLEAR) and it is housed in the C&I Department. Below are some highlights of the plans for this center. A website and additional information is forthcoming. Dr. Maribeth Schmitt will direct the center. CLEAR will evolve from what was the Purdue Literacy Network (see: http://www.edci.purdue.edu/plnp/). See more information on CLEAR on the last page of this issue.

THE VISION
CLEAR will provide the requisite leadership and foundational knowledge to be the premier resource for literacy professional development and scholarly inquiry in Indiana and beyond its borders. This includes all contexts where literacy achievement is an important goal. CLEAR will build capacity in schools for improved teacher performance and greater student outcomes as well as for strong instructional leaders.

THE MISSION
CLEAR’s fundamental mission is to provide high quality professional development for teachers and administrators that will ultimately ensure all P-12 students are able to read and write independently, providing them with a strong foundation for academic preparation and lifelong learning. The professional development will be based on sound research and will foster further investigations. The center staff and affiliated associate faculty will accomplish this mission by:

⇒ Assuring teachers are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to address the unique needs of low-achieving literacy learners.
⇒ Assisting schools in comprehensive reform efforts that result in improved teacher performance and higher student outcomes.
⇒ Creating high quality professional development to respond to classroom teachers’ efforts to meet the diverse needs of all children.

The tenets of the mission must be based on highly regarded research of literacy learning theory and practice and the scholarly inquiry must be ongoing to explore options for best practice over time, a critical initiative of the center. The original Purdue Literacy Network Project focused on professional development, while the new center intends to develop a research agenda and to invite collaborators who are interested in scholarly pursuits such as evaluating methods, documenting effectiveness, and exploring the processes involved in literacy learning, development, and instruction. The comprehensive nature of the center, which involves so many learning contexts, participants, and topics, will afford opportunities for a wide variety of scholarly pursuits into topics likely not available in a narrowly focused institute. These include: learning difficulties and strengths, cognitive, metacognitive, psychological, and psycholinguistic aspects of literacy learning, as well as teaching models that foster various types of learning and in different content areas.

Contact Maribeth Schmitt, Director, for more information; mschmitt@purdue.edu

DEAN’S RESEARCH MENTORING FELLOWSHIPS

This was the inaugural year for a competitive program of summer support for graduate students conducting research under the direct mentorship of a faculty member. This program will be offered next year as well (see Beth Helton). This year’s awardees were:

- Eloisa Rodriguez (JoAnn Phillion, Mentor, C&I)
- Jillian Gates (Marcia Gentry, Mentor, EDST)
- Karleah Harris (Ala Samarapungavan, Mentor, EDST)