

Happenings In Education

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

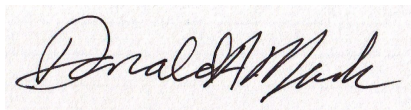
WELCOME, to the 2013-14 academic year with the Department of Education at Messiah College.

We are excited to begin another term with you, and we are thrilled at the addition of two new faculty members, Dr. Carol Buckley and Dr. Dwayne Wright (see page 9). Dr. Buckley serves as the instructor for the courses Math: Climate, Curriculum, and Instruction I & II as well as Principles and Structures of Mathematics. Dr. Wright teaches Instructional Design and Educational Psychology. If you get a chance, stop in and visit them in their offices on the fourth floor of Boyer.

While the summer months sped quickly by, with many adventures (my wife and I took a cruise on the Mediterranean), I am pleased to be back with my colleagues and students. I trust all of you have settled in and are excited to be back with your colleagues and friends.

Things are going well at Downey, as the students and teachers are working hard to become effective leaders. Classroom management seems to be the big issue there (as it is everywhere) and the teachers are open to new practices and ideas. It is important to remember that classroom management is more than a system. It takes trust between teachers and students to create a productive learning environment.

Let's continue to work together toward a successful semester.



Department of Education, Chair



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CINEMATIC BOOK TRAILERS: WHY? HOW? WOW!

The Keystone State Reading Association (KSRA), an affiliate of the International Reading Association (IRA), is a state-wide organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It is comprised of individuals who are engaged in reading instruction, literacy development, and the encouragement of lifelong reading habits.

KSRA's mission is to promote literacy, provide instructional leadership, support professional development, and advocate literacy issues. Each fall, KSRA convenes an annual conference. This year, two Messiah College education majors were the only undergraduates to present at the conference.

Danielle Morabito, a senior with dual certification, and Emily Deines, a junior pursuing dual certification, joined me in presenting research on book trailers



Danielle Morabito and Emily Deines, representing Messiah as the only undergraduate presenters at the KRSA

ers to an enthusiastic audience of teachers at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, Pennsylvania.

Book trailers, like their movie cousins, are brief cinematic pieces that entice audiences. For some time, book publishers, authors, and illustrators have created book trailers as promotional tools.

Building on this concept, educators (Agosto, 2012; Dopke-Wilson, 2009; Kajder, 2008; Woods & Beach, 2009) began using book trailers as a mediated instructional strategy for re-

luctant or struggling readers. We found book trailers provide a pragmatic and stimulating space for engaging readers of all ages and abilities because they combine literacy practices (i.e., previewing/providing schema/setting purpose) and technological expertise (i.e., embedding images, sounds), in a social interactive venue.

In our presentation, we shared several trailers created in Children's Literature classes, provided research support for book trailers, and introduced the pragmatics and copyright information for the production of book trailers. Using iPads from a Messiah College grant, we led our participants through the steps of making a book trailer. Popcorn and a red carpet added to the ambience!

Emily and Danielle plan to continue their research on book trailers with a group of fourth graders in the spring!

-Anita N. Voelker, Ph.D.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS JAN DORMER?



For most people, traveling the world is just a far off idea, but for Professor Jan Dormer, globe trotting has become a reality, at least for this academic year.

Jan began her excursions abroad on September 5, 2013, and she will not complete her adventure until June 9, 2014. Within a time frame of merely nine months, Jan will step foot in five continents where she will share her love and passion for Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). She will be promoting TESOL through presentations at various teaching confer-

ences, such as the International Christian Educator Conference (ICEC) in November in Bogota, Colombia, and the ICEC in April at Sun-Tue, Nairobi, Kenya.

Two of Jan's trips will include some of our Messiah students, who will be embarking on once-in-a-lifetime adventures. In January, Jan is leading a cross cultural trip to Indonesia with 15 students for EDUC 308. Here they will be able to practice firsthand how to instruct speakers of other languages while also spreading the gospel to people of other religions. Indonesia is also very special to Jan

because she spent three years teaching in a Muslim elementary school on the island of Java. In May, Jan will lead an Agape Mission Trip for English and Sports Evangelism, that will include Messiah students, to Londrina, Parana, Brazil.

Throughout the coming months Jan will also be making appearances in Banff, Alberta; Budapest, Hungary; Kandern, Germany; Chiang Mai, Thailand; and a few cities throughout the United States. Dr. Jan Dormer has truly embraced God's calling in her life to go out into the world and share her heart for TESOL.

JAN'S TRAVELS 2013-2014

- September 5-6; Rockville, Virginia
- October 3-5; Banff, Alberta
- November 26– December 1; Bogota, Colombia
- January 6-27; Indonesia
- February 24– March 3; Budapest, Hungary
- March 4-6; Kandern, Germany
- March 14-24; Chiang Mai, Thailand
- April 12-17; Sun-Tue; Nairobi, Kenya
- May 24– June 9; Parana, Brazil

MESSIAH COLLEGE EDUCATION STUDENTS SERVE MEADOWS OF DAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Following a school fire in 2011, students in the Messiah College Education Association (MCEA) held a book drive to help supplement the loss, while other Messiah students served through an Agape Fall Service Trip to set up their temporary school library. This year, the principal of Meadows of Dan Elementary School invited Messiah students to come again, this time to help with math manipulatives and preparations for their move to the newly constructed school building.

Again, MCEA took the lead and created math manipulatives for students in grades preschool through seventh. During two “Mathapalooza” events, involving approximately 80 volunteers, students strung

beads for counting cords, assembled interactive protractors, cut fraction length models, and so much more. Conversations changed during the course of those events from students exclaiming about how much fun children will have using the materials to comments that grasp how devastating it would be to

lose all of your teacher-made materials in a school fire. At the close of the “Mathapalooza” events, students then wrapped the supplies for each grade level so teachers could have Christmas surprises in October.

A group of nine Messiah College

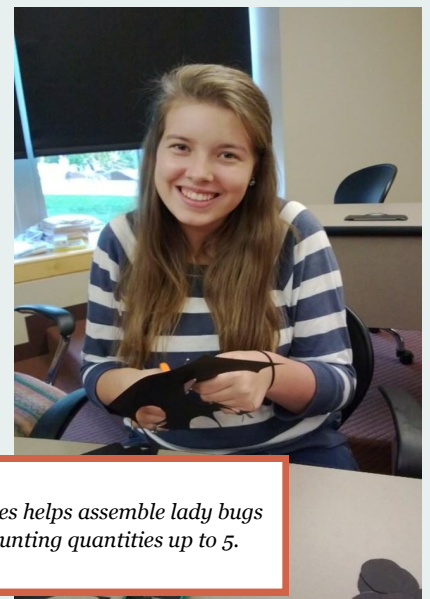
students accompanied me during this Fall Break to the Meadows of Dan community for a service mission trip. Tasks included boxing up half of the library books for the move to the new building, distributing math manipulatives to each class and visiting with children, and taking inventory and organizing storage trailers, so boxes of donated supplies and textbooks are ready for distribution to the appropriate grades.



All the service trip students pose with Principal, Jeannie King, just before distributing Christmas in October gifts of math manipulatives to each of the classrooms.



During Mathapalooza, Meggan Arnold and Matthew Unger learn to construct interactive protractors made following the design created by Victoria Hepp using straws and pipe cleaners.



Erin Estes helps assemble lady bugs for counting quantities up to 5.

The students on the service trip enjoyed various aspects of the rural culture while there, including learning about yarn making and spinning, visiting a corn maze, visiting in a mountain-side cabin and attending Sunday School and church with the host church, Meadows of Dan Baptist Church.

On Thursday night we had made arrangements to visit the home of Sammy Shelor, who has been named International Banjo Player of the Year multiple times. We drove the long 15-passenger van way out in the country and down a

skinny country lane, took 20 minutes avoiding rocks and trees to turn it around, only to learn he had forgotten that we were coming, wasn't there, and also hadn't told his wife about our visit. (Oops!) He did come later and gave the group a private concert of two songs.

Highlights of the service trip were certainly the reactions of the teachers and children to their Christmas surprises. When one teacher opened her gift of manipulatives, she went into the corner and cried, sharing that she lost all of her classroom supplies in the fire, years of teacher-made materials lost in just one night. She shared that in her current stage of life, she just doesn't have the time to make replacements for all of the materials she had lost. When one teacher opened her package, she exclaimed with each manipulatives kit she pulled out. At one point the children squealed in excitement, "Fractions!" (That teacher did laugh at that reaction.) Children seemed delighted to engage with the various learning materials and to interact with their college visitors. Five fifth graders declared plans to one day attend Messiah College.

While service projects like this are designed to benefit



Messiah College students serving on this fall 2013 trip were: Meggan Arnold (Spanish and Education major), Kaitlyn Neumann (History major), Rachel Peterson (Dual in Pre-K and Special Education), Jill Troutman (Business major), Kia Hitt (Chinese Business major), Megan Dubbs (Family and Consumer Science major), Carly Day (Dual major in Pre-K through 4 and Special Education), Mariah Kendrick (Dual major Pre-K -4 and Special Education), and Kaelyn Beaudette (Nursing major).

communities, invariably those who go to serve feel the privilege more. We were so blessed by the love in that community. Through two different service trips to one rural school, a strong bond of love has been built between the community of Messiah College and the community of Meadows of Dan, Virginia.

-Melinda Burchard, Ph.D.



Rachel Peterson teaches one boy how to construct and deconstruct numbers using place value manipulatives.

MESSIAH COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The mission statement of the Messiah College department of education is to develop exemplary educators who apply their knowledge, skills, Christian faith, and ethical principles to decision making, reflective thinking, and problem solving in diverse learning environments.

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STUDENT TEACHING ABROAD: A NEW EXPERIENCE

We are very excited to announce that for the first time Messiah College is offering our senior education majors a chance to do their student teaching internationally. In the spring of 2014 Messiah will send six seniors

across the globe to experience half of their professional semester in another country.

Find out why some of our seniors chose to do their student teaching abroad and what they are hoping to gain from this experience.

JORDYN SCHEIB

Jordyn Scheib is a middle level education major with concentrations in English and science. She will be teaching at the Crossroads Christian Academy (CCA) in Panama this spring. In May of 2012 Jordyn had the chance to travel to Panama on a sport ministry mission trip through AROMA. On this trip a day was spent at CCA and Jordyn had the chance to talk with students about her experiences going to a Christian college in the United States. In that moment she “had the undeniable feeling that I was being called there.” This calling was later confirmed when Jordyn found out that CCA was on the list of schools participating in Messiah’s first student teaching abroad opportunity.

Jordyn is “hoping to gain a deeper appreciation for people of other cultures and backgrounds.” She is also excited for a chance to improve her Spanish and experience how a private Christian school differs from her upbringing in public school. Above all, Jordyn is “hoping to gain a better understanding of God’s call” for her life. Jordyn is very excited that she will be staying with the same family that hosted her team on her previous mission trip. Even though Jordyn sees this is as a great opportunity to take her independence to “an entirely new level” and “lean on God even more,” she is also nervous about being away for six weeks, especially right before graduation.



BRYNITA LACEY



Brynita Lacey is an Early Childhood Education major and she will be doing her student teaching in Bogota, Colombia. Brynita is excited to student teach internationally, because she realizes that it is a unique experience and that this opportunity may never come again. She is hoping to incorporate what she learns from a typical Colombian classroom into her own classroom some day. It will be a way to add a different twist to her teaching style when she comes back to the States. Brynita realizes that learning different teaching methods will benefit her future students for years to come. This will be her first time traveling to another country by herself so she is a little concerned about getting to her destination. Brynita is looking most forward to meeting her students and experiencing a typical day in the schools of Bogota, Colombia.

Brynita realizes that learning different teaching methods will benefit her future students for years to come. This will be her first time traveling to another country by herself so she is a little concerned about getting to her destination. Brynita is looking most forward to meeting her students and experiencing a typical day in the schools of Bogota, Colombia.

ELIZABETH BERGER

Elizabeth Berger is a senior education major with dual certification in PreK-4 and Special Education (N-8) with a minor in TESOL and ESL certification (PreK-12). She will be traveling to Escazú, Costa Rica, to student each at the Country Day School. Elizabeth is looking forward to teaching abroad because it will help broaden her perspectives on education. She hopes that “observing another culture and new teaching techniques first hand will help to create a thoughtful educational philosophy and develop an extensive list of best practices” to use in her future classroom. This will also be an opportunity for her to utilize Spanish language in a practical context. Though Elizabeth is very excited to teach abroad, her main worry is that she will be far from the support of family and friends.



“Teachers open our eyes to the world. They give us curiosity and confidence. They connect us to our past and future. They are the guardians of our social heritage.”
- Jonathan Sacks

DANI PIANUCCI

Dani Pianucci is a senior education major with dual certification in PreK-4 and Special Education (N-8) and will be teaching at the International School of Ouagadougou (ISO) in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Dani first travelled to Ouagadougou with the Collaboratry during J-term of her sophomore year. During this trip she was able to visit the ISO and other local schools around Burkina Faso that according to Dani, “confirmed my desire to teach in an international school after I graduate.”

This experience is allowing her to see what it is like to live and work in a culture that is so different from the United States. Dani is hoping that this semester will give her a better sense of what it means to teach internationally, as well as “how to reach students from a variety of cultural and linguistic backgrounds.”

While the chance to travel back to Burkina is very exciting to Dani, she is also a little nervous about traveling by herself and using French to communicate. All in all Dani is most excited about getting a chance to develop relationships with her students by “learning their stories and backgrounds, and helping them learn and grow.”



We wish our students well and God speed.

In Other News...

Fall Forum

On Tuesday, October 1, 2013, Dr. Jennifer Fisler delivered a Fall Forum presentation entitled, "Assessing Diversity in Christian Higher Education: Crowdsourcing a Research Project."

Dr. Fisler is beginning a collaborative research project examining the definitions, motivations, and outcomes related to diversity on four faith-based college campuses within the United States. This project includes an exploration of diversity issues and the connection between research and assessment.

Rather than presenting a finished project and its findings, Dr. Fisler presented a work in its infancy and invited the audience to contribute their ideas to advance the project. In this way, the research forum gave audience members the opportunity to be active participants in the formulation of a research question and methods to study diversity-related understandings and outcomes within Christian higher education contexts.

The Annual TEP Boyer Scholarship Awards Presentation and Reception was held on September 19, 2013.

The well-attended event welcomed parents, faculty, and college dignitaries as the following scholarships were awarded:

Boyer Award.....Danielle Pianucci

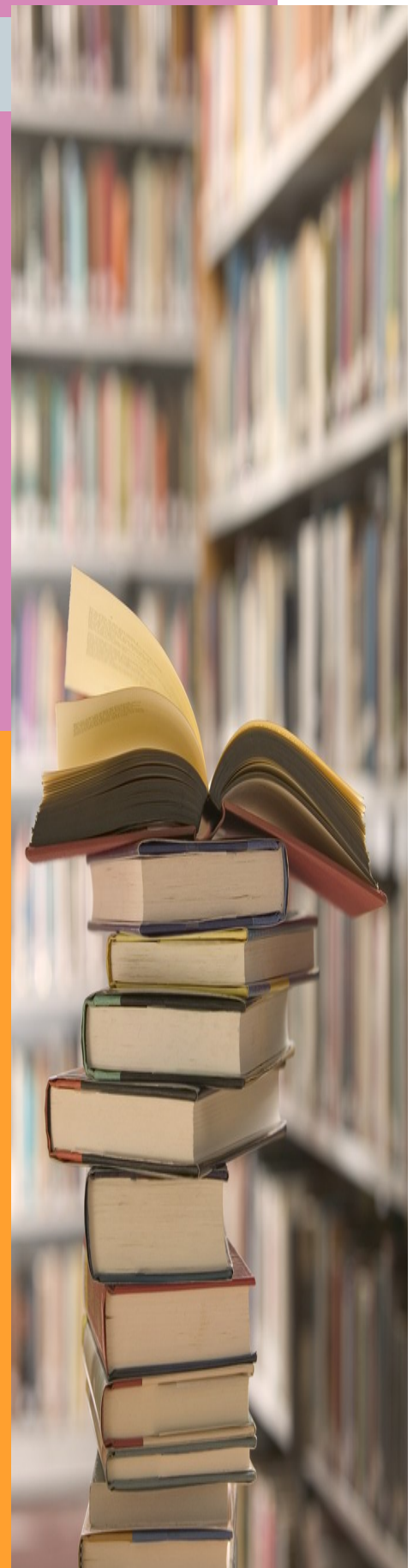
Bigham Award.....Domenic Andolina

Stoudnour Award.....Jordyn Scheib

Johnson Award.....Laura Parks and

Joshua Lambert

Congratulations to our students on a job well-done.



NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

We are happy to welcome two new professors to the Department of Education this year: Dr. Carol Buckley and Dr. Dwayne Wright. We recently sat down with both of them for an informal chat.

Introducing Dr. Carol Buckley

ED: What classes do you teach?

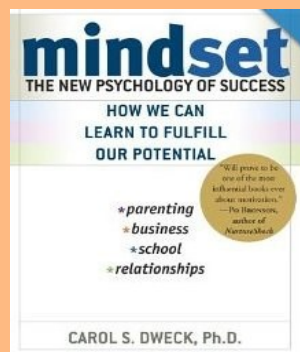
CB: I teach Math: Climate, Curriculum, and Instruction I & II as well as Principles and Structures of Mathematics.

ED: What is your degree in?

CB: I have my Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and my M.Ed. In Curriculum and Instruction

ED: Who has been the greatest influence on your life and why?

CB: My mom! She has taught me to see my many blessings and to be grateful for them. She has shown me the value of family and friends, and the importance of taking care of people. She has put her faith in God, and serves Him every day. Mom has always believed in me, and encouraged me to always put my best foot forward. She has led a



simple life, yet recognizes the beauty of the world around her.

ED: What is your favorite time of day? And why?

CB: The early morning hours have always been my favorite time of day. I love to wake early and watch the sun come up, presenting us with another gift from God. In the morning before the rest of the world wakes up, and before we allow ourselves to be overwhelmed with the tasks for the day, it brings me pleasure to listen to the birds sing or the leaves rustle and just enjoy the simple pleasures that get lost in the rest of the day.

ED: What book is on your night stand?

CB: *Mindset* by Carol Dweck

ED: Where is the greatest distance that you have traveled?

CB: Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France

ED: What is the last movie that you saw at the theater?

CB: I saw *Yogi Bear* with my sister.

ED: Plain or peanut M&M?

CB: Yes~

Introducing Dr. Dwayne Wright

ED: What classes do you teach?

DW: I teach Instructional Design and Educational Psychology

ED: What is your degree in?

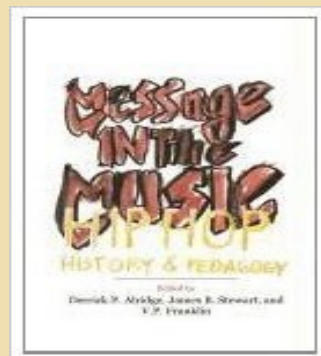
DW: I have my BS in Secondary Mathematics; M.Ed. In Curriculum and Instruction; and my Ph.D. in Foundations of Education/History of Education.

ED: Who has been the greatest influence in your life and why?

DW: My parents because they were my first teachers.

ED: What is your favorite meal? And why?

DW: Red-Red was often prepared during my travels while in Ghana.



Editor's note: Red-Red is a traditional Ghanaian recipe for a classic stew of black-eyed peas in palm oil, onions, and tomato sauce, flavored with chilies. The dish may have been named Red-Red for the combination of red palm oil and red pepper. The stew is usually served with fried plantains. Look here for the [recipe](#) for Red-Red.

ED: What book is on your nightstand?

DW: *Message in the Music: Hip Hop, History, and Pedagogy*

ED: Where is the greatest distance that you have travelled?

DW: Ghana

ED: When you are alone in the car, what music do you listen to?

DW: Pandora– John Coltrane Station

Thank you both, for sharing a bit of yourselves with us.