

MAY 2008



College of Education

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

NEWS and NOTES

GRADUATION NOTES

May 17th, 2008
11:00 a.m.
Charles Koch Arena

Faculty:

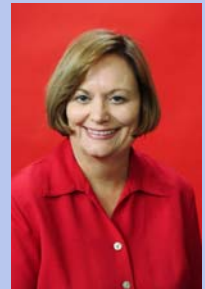
Enter on east side of Koch Arena, gather at 10:00 a.m. in the Media Room—lower level
Reserved parking in Lot 2—NE corner of Preferred Health Systems Multipurpose Gym (faculty & staff)

Volunteers:
Report to the Multipurpose Gym—main level at 9:45 a.m.
Enter through east entrance

Banner Bearers and Marshals:
Check in at 10:00 in the Champions Room

Message from the dean

The spring semester has flown and graduation is upon us. The College of Education's faculty and staff are genuinely proud of the accomplishments of this year's graduates. After four years (or sometimes more) of dedication, perseverance and hard work, our graduates are ready to enter a new stage of their lives and begin their careers. Whether their jobs are in health, sport or education, we know that they will have a commitment to the power of education to transform individual lives and change the world.



Dean Sharon Hartin Iorio

Dr. McDowell AKA Mrs. Kansas

Dr. Kim McDowell, assistant professor of language and literacy in the College of Education, was recently crowned Mrs. Kansas at a competition held at the Scottish Rite Temple in Wichita. As part of the Mrs. America pageant, the organization encourages dialogue regarding marriage, family issues and community involvement. As Mrs. Kansas, Dr.

McDowell will be promoting her platform of intervention services for at-risk youth. Dr. McDowell will represent Kansas in the Mrs. America competition to be held later this year.



Watch local listings for date and time.

The pageant will be nationally televised.

A Letter to the Dean

In the years that I have attended WSU I have had many Professors. One I want to acknowledge is Penny Longhofer. Penny has gone above and beyond to help me succeed. She was always there if I ever had a question or concern. I know how important it is to have an instructor that you can rely on and I always knew I could come to Penny. Although she is extremely busy, that never stopped her from lending a hand. I feel very strongly about this and thought you need to know.

- Kara Tiemeyer

Dr. Patterson Makes Top Ten List

Routledge, publisher of academic books and journals, announced its top ten full text article downloads at its annual meeting with the board of the American Educational Research Association this spring.

In the top ten most popular articles was one titled, "School leadership in context: Narratives of practice and possibility." It critiques the study of school leadership for its normative, singular, and evolutionary tendencies and suggests that different types of leaders were considered effective in different settings.

The article was co-authored by Dr. Jenny Gordon of Binghamton University in New York and our own Dr. Jean Patterson.



Graduation Day

Corbin Education Center will not be open, but graduates should be sure to show family and friends the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed signature building of the College of Education!

The esplanade at Corbin, with its pool and fountain, makes a great backdrop for graduation photos.

Alternative Licensure successes

We have had several of our first year alternative licensure students receive honors/recognition this year:

Frances Johannsen- (USD 259) Distinguished Secondary Education Teacher of the Year

Teresa Wiebe- (USD 259) Received Watkins Fellows Award

Donna O'Neill- (USD 411- Goessel HS) NSF grant and invitation to participate in teacher development this summer

Katie Antholz & Brynn Steele- (USD 259) presenting workshop at Summer Academy on model classrooms

Philip Sawatzky- (Diocese)- Teacher of the Year

Kyle Hall- (USD 259) – recognized for moving math scores at Horace Mann School's preliminary state assessments showed the math students improved by 3%, giving an 86%, which included the ESOL students.

I want to share inspiring news with you. Phil Sawatzky who is a teacher candidate in Spanish in the Transition to Teaching program at the College of Education received the Teacher of the Year award in his school (Kapaun)! As his peer consultant during this academic year 2007-2008, it has been a great pleasure for me to work with Phil, observe his teaching and discuss and share ideas for teaching and reaching foreign language learners.

As a foreign language educator, Phil creates a learner-centered environment in his classroom and meaningfully, enthusiastically and actively engages his students in creating with the target language and exploring the target culture by using and developing the students' multiple intelligences and talents. I have seen how much respect and appreciation his students have for Phil and his classroom instruction. What a dedicated, caring, reflective, talented, creative, and knowledgeable foreign language practitioner!

Congratulations to you, Phil! A well-deserved award!

- Dr. Marat Sanatulloev

College of Education PRAXIS pass rate is in highest rank

Good news for the college of education. Each year grads seeking to be licensed to teach in Kansas public schools must pass a nationally normed exam, PRAXIS. In 2006-07 a total of 122 WSU recent grads and other grads seeking additional licensure took the exam. The WSU total pass rate was 94% exceeding the statewide pass rate of 93%. While most do pass the exam, the WSU pass rate is in the first quartile or the highest rank of institutions statewide that prepare students for licensure.