By Barbara Ridener, Ph.D.
Welcome to the 2011-2012 Academic School Year. The Department of Teaching and Learning Faculty is busy preparing to make changes in programs to meet the State of Florida’s recently revised Florida Educator Accomplished Practices (FEAP). The Faculty as a whole is looking at coursework to see how to address new requirements.

In addition to assessing students across the breadth of FEAPs, the Faculty will use part of FEAPs to measure teacher effectiveness. This will help students prepare for their careers as educators, since these same practices will be used to evaluate teachers once in the field.

Notably, this is the first time grades K-12 align with higher education. That is, the teacher preparation program at the university lines up with the effective instructional practices that form the basis of the core teacher appraisal system.

The FEAPs presently consists of six accomplished practices. The first four address the quality of instruction and the latter two attend to continuous improvement, responsibility and ethics. The Department of Teaching and Learning is making every effort to meet those needs.

 Faculty and students returned to the Boca Raton campus this Fall to find the Education building spruced up. Freshly painted halls, and new flooring in the lobby provide a professional, clean look. New tables and chairs in the 3rd floor classrooms display an inviting learning environment.
Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming Dates for DTL Departmental Meetings for The Fall 2011 & Spring 2012 Semesters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>August 17, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>September 21, 2011</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>October 26, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>November 30, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>January 25, 2012</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>February 22, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 21, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>April 18, 2012</td>
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All meetings will begin at 1:00 PM in Room 313 (ED 47—Boca).

Meet the Staff

Need information? Need assistance? Contact the Department of Teaching & Learning staff.

Ready to serve you at the Boca Raton campus are: Program Assistant Sharon Beyer at 561-297-6588 or at sbeyer2@fau.edu; Senior Secretary Catherine Politi, who can be reached at 561-297-3621 or at cpoliti@fau.edu., or Secretary Josephine Elliott at 561-297-3791 or jelliott@fau.edu.

For assistance at the Davie campus, check with Senior Secretary Erica Parks at 954-236-1025 or at eparks@fau.edu, or Office Assistant Jamie Winkleblech at 954-236-1029 or email her at jwinkleblech@fau.edu.

At the Jupiter campus, contact Office Supervisor Aniela Aponte at 561-799-8638 or at aaponte@fau.edu, or Program Assistant Donna Lauzon at 561-799-8135 or at dlauzon@fau.edu.

Call Office Supervisor Ibis Villasuso for help at the Port Saint Lucie Campus at 772-873-3370 or email her at ivillasu@fau.edu.

Contribute Stories, Ideas

The Department of Teaching and Learning would like to share your stories, successes, events, and ideas. If you would like to contribute, please submit your request to deptteachlearn@fau.edu. Be sure to include your name, contact information and suggestions.

In subsequent issues, we would like to feature articles on faculty, staff at each campus, student achievements, alumni advice and experience in the workplace, in addition to news and events. We will introduce you to our graduate assistants and offer tips from our faculty and alumni that you can use in the classroom. In short, our desire is to provide you with a forum to exchange ideas, as well as keep you informed and updated.

Please be sure we have your current email address so that you can continue to receive our newsletter and stay connected with the Department of Teaching and Learning.

We are proud of what our students, faculty and alumni have accomplished. Be sure to check out our recent graduates on pages 4, and faculty on pages 6 and 7. We wish you all continued success in your studies and careers.
Commitment to excellence, in teaching, research and service reaps prestigious awards for five faculty members of the Department of Teaching & Learning in 2011.

Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year. She was selected for an Award for Excellence and Innovation in Undergraduate Teaching in 2011 in recognition of her outstanding performance. Her bright, warm and bubbly personality can be witnessed at the Davie campus where she primarily teaches.

Another faculty member from the Davie campus, Dr. Angela Rhone, also received high honors when she became the recipient of the 2011 Faculty Member of the Year Award. This award is an FAU Broward Achievement Award.

The Northern Campuses also bestowed Achievement Awards. Dr. Joseph Furner for the MacArthur Campus and Dr. Leslie Calhoun for the Treasure Coast Campus received the Exceptional Faculty Awards from the College of Education.

Professor Linda Hinkle of the Treasure Coast Campus was named Outstanding Adjunct Faculty. All of these professors are faculty members of the Department of Teaching and Learning.

**Outstanding DTL Faculty Receive Awards**

On Wednesday, August 17th, 2011 the College of Education (COE) held its Welcome Back Reception at the A.D. Henderson University School. Dr. Valerie J. Bristor, Dean, greeted faculty and introduced her staff, new faculty at the university schools, as well as the chairs of each of the COE departments. She then gave the closing remarks.

The College of Education has seven departments. They are Communication Sciences and Disorders; Counselor Education; Curriculum, Culture, and Educational Inquiry; Exceptional Student Education; Exercise Science and Health Promotion, and Teaching and Learning.

Department of Teaching & Learning faculty from the Boca, Davie, MacArthur and Treasure Coast campuses also attended the event. It was preceded by a departmental meeting held by the Department of Teaching and Learning.

**College of Education Welcomes Faculty**

Did you know that you can designate the Department of Teaching & Learning (DTL) as the recipient of your gift to Florida Atlantic University? Alumni, friends, faculty and staff who make their gift by check can note DTL’s account number: EDU080, in the memo line. Please make your check payable to FAU Foundation, Inc., ADM 295, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431. Make sure your name, address and phone number are on the check.

You may also make a contribution by calling 561-297-2891 or by going online to fauf.fau.edu and click on “Give Today.” You may choose “Other” in the designation field and enter “Department of Teaching & Learning” or simply “EDU080.” Your gift to FAU is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Consult with your tax advisor for deductibility of your charitable gift.

College of Education Faculty gears up for the 2011-2012 Academic School Year.
12 DTL Students Earn Master’s Degrees

On Tuesday, August 9th, the Department of Teaching & Learning (DTL) graduate students donned their caps and gowns to receive their diplomas during the commencement ceremony in the Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium on the Boca Raton campus. A total of 12 graduates earned Master’s in Education degrees in the following majors:

**M. Ed. Elementary Education**
- Sherri A. Chaiken
- Ana W. Garriga
- Holli J. Horton
- Lauren L. Thoms

**M. Ed. Social Foundations: Educational Psychology**
- Angela M. Mill
- Jessica L. Myers

**M. Ed. Social Foundations: Instructional Technology**
- Steven M. Boyd
- Robert Rindner
- Mary P. Smith

**M. Ed. Reading Education**
- Mattie E. Allen
- Lauren J. Amiel
- Tonya Lynch

*Photography by Sharon Beyer*
Kudos to Eight DTL Students Hired as AIT Teachers

by Josephine Elliott

Eight students in the Department of Teaching & Learning (DTL) are teaching this fall as Accelerated Induction into Teaching (AIT) teachers. Seven have been hired by the St. Lucie County School District and one by the School District of Palm Beach County.

“There were limited opportunities available the past two years due to the economy and other factors,” said Director Jan Andrew of Florida Institute for the Advancement of Teaching (FIAT). “But now we are seeing increased activity.”

This year’s AIT teachers are all DTL education majors in the College of Education. They have landed a variety of positions at different grade levels. Shannon Hert is teaching fourth grade at Palm Pointe RS @ Tradition; Raynell Mowitt, kindergarten at Palm Pointe RS @ Tradition; Jackie Spircoff, second grade at Windmill Point Elementary; Heather Concepcion, first grade at Village Green Elementary; Bethanie Gallagher, first grade at St. Lucie West K-8; Alexi Zastenik, fifth grade at Village Green Elementary, and Nicole Wise, second grade at Oak Hammock K-8 in St. Lucie County. In addition, Valmorria Smith is teaching secondary English at Atlantic High School in Palm Beach County.

AIT is FIAT’s capstone program, a specialized form of student teaching done in the last semester of students’ undergraduate degree. Students who apply and are approved by the Department have the opportunity to interview for open positions in partnering school districts. Each candidate must meet strict criteria, including grade point average and recommendations.

Interested students can apply to this unique program during their student teaching semester. For more information about AIT visit the FIAT website at http://www.coe.fau.edu/CentersAndPrograms/fiat/ait.aspx.

FIAT also runs two other programs: First Introduction to Teaching (Good FIT) and Substituting with Mentors and Realistic Teaching (SMaRT). For an application and more information about these programs, as well as AIT, visit www.coe.fau.edu/fiat.

FIAT Celebrates Success

The Florida Institute for the Advancement of Teaching (FIAT) held its Annual Celebration of Success in Spring 2011. Two faculty members of the Department of Teaching & Learning, Dr. Andrew Brewer of the Northern Campuses and Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel of the Davie Campus, trained students at Palm Beach State College—Belle Glade in researched-based reading and motivational strategies. The training was part of a grant funded by the Florida Department of Education Mentoring and Student Assistance Initiative.

Photography by Teresa Crane

Dr. Andrew Brewer shakes hands with a student during the Spring 2011 FIAT Annual Celebration of Success.

It could lead to a teaching position as it did for Cassie Mass Migliore (pictured above) who now teaches first grade at St. Lucie West K-8 in St. Lucie County.

Cassie Mass Migliore (right), Spring 2011 AIT and FAU graduate with her mentor, Joyce Beck.

Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel (pink suit) poses with GoodFIT participants.
# Department of Teaching & Learning Faculty

## DTL Faculty Listing by Subject Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Language Arts</th>
<th>Social Science</th>
<th>Secondary Education</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educational Psychology</td>
<td>Dr. Marta Cruz</td>
<td>Prof. Emily Borell</td>
<td>Dr. Andrew Brewer</td>
<td>Prof. Lorraine Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Dr. Alyssa Gonzalez-DeHass</td>
<td>Dr. Janet Towell</td>
<td>Dr. Ellen Heckler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary Education</td>
<td>Dr. Deborah Carlstrom</td>
<td>Dr. Jennifer Bird</td>
<td>Dr. Eileen Ariza</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>Dr. Carol Meltzer</td>
<td>Dr. Leslie Calhoun</td>
<td>Dr. Felicia Romeo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructional Technology</td>
<td>Dr. Ray Amirault</td>
<td>Dr. Sharon Crawley</td>
<td>Dr. Steven Voss</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr. Loria Dassa</td>
<td>Dr. Deborah Harris</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr. Penelope Fritzer</td>
<td>Dr. Susanne Lapp</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr. Rebecca Harlin</td>
<td>Dr. Joan Lindgren</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prof. Jodi Leit</td>
<td>Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Dr. Joseph Furner</td>
<td>Dr. Patty Heydet-Kirsch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Dr. Don Ploger</td>
<td>Dr. David Kumar</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Julie Lambert</td>
<td>Dr. Nancy Romance</td>
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## Campus Key:

- **Boca**
- **Davie**
- **Pine Jog**
- **Northern**

Dr. Deborah Harris of the Northern Campuses

Dr. Andrew Brewer makes a point to Dr. Joan Lindgren of the Northern Campuses.

Dr. Janet Towell of the Boca Raton Campus
DTL Faculty Gears Up for Fall 2011 Semester

Professors Lorraine Cross and Jodi Leit of the Boca Raton Campus enjoy the festivities welcoming faculty back to school.

Dr. Barbara R. Ridener, Chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning greets Dr. Yusra Visser, Instructor of Instructional Technology.

Dr. Rebecca Harlin and Dr. Victoria Brown of the Davie Campus chat during the reception for faculty hosted by the College of Education.

Dr. Andrew Brewer of the Northern Campuses and Dr. Susannah Brown of the Boca Raton Campus attended the College of Education’s Welcome Back Reception on Tuesday, August 17th at the A.D. Henderson University School.

Photography by Sharon Beyer
Department of Teaching and Learning

Mission Statement

The Department of Teaching and Learning provides quality programs for prospective and practicing educators, curriculum coordinators, post-secondary educators, and other educational professionals. As part of the College of Education, the Department of Teaching and Learning has identified three academic components in the preparation of its educators: foundational requirements, professional content knowledge requirements, and experiential learning (knowledge, skills, and dispositions).

The broad range of graduate and undergraduate professional programs in the areas of elementary, secondary, reading, and educational psychology offered by the Department of Teaching and Learning promotes collaboration among faculty, students, and educational professionals. Faculty in the Department of Teaching and Learning value excellence and are committed to teaching, research, and service.

Preparing informed, capable, and ethical practitioners who are reflective decision-makers.

Questions & Answers: Pursuing M.Ed. Degree

By Josephine Elliott

Thinking about pursuing a master’s degree in Education after earning your Bachelor’s degree? Here are some answers to frequently asked questions by prospective students:

**What M.Ed. degrees are offered by the Department of Teaching and Learning?**


**Do I have to take the GRE Exam?**

Yes, you do. The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score must be submitted along with your online application and official transcripts. Please be aware that the test has changed as of August 1st and that exams taken between August 1st and September 30th will not have scores sent to colleges until November 15th, missing the November 1st deadline for Spring 2012.

So, if you are planning on beginning your master’s degree program in the Spring and have not already taken the GRE exam, you can apply as a non-degree seeking student and take up to 1/3 of the program credits before being officially admitted in Summer or Fall 2012. You will need to formally apply for the Summer or Fall 2012 by completing the online application for a degree seeking program.

**Are courses offered online? Can they all be taken at a particular campus?**

Check the course schedule by clicking on the link: http://www.fau.edu/registrar/schedule/crsschdl.php. Then select the term (Fall 2011), campus (all, distance learning, Boca, Davie, Jupiter, Port Saint Lucie), college (College of Education), department (Teaching & Learning), and level (undergraduate, graduate). Then you can see for yourself where the courses are being offered.

**If I graduated from Florida Atlantic University, do I still have to send an official transcript?**

Yes, you do. Send it the Graduate College, SU 80, Room 101, 777 Glades Rd., Boca Raton, FL 33431.

**Do I need to be an Education major in order to apply for an M.Ed. degree?**

No. Anyone with a Bachelor’s degree in any major may apply.