The goal of this newsletter is to connect with our students, our schools, and our alumni to provide you information on new programs, campus collaborations, and school partnerships.

We welcome news of interest from alumni, students, and our community partners. Please send your submissions to soenews@gonzaga.edu.

To request additional copies or receive electronically, please visit www.gonzaga.edu/soe/signup.

MIT Program in the News

When it’s time to realize their dream of becoming a teacher; to be a part of the learning and growth of K-12 students, prospective students are choosing Gonzaga’s Master of Initial Teaching Program. In the last four years, the program has seen a 54% increase in enrollment. Austin Lanier, a 2011 graduate, shared, “The Gonzaga faculty and staff does an outstanding job at providing a strong sense of community and support for their students. Overall, I always felt a sense of security knowing that faculty and staff were there to help me succeed, not just there to wait for me to fail.” The success of the program is attributed to many factors. Our MIT program, which is nationally recognized for excellence, combines state certification with a Master’s degree. In 2009, Gonzaga was awarded an exemplary grade for the redesign of the program by the Washington Professional Educators Standards Board (PESB). The Teacher Education faculty is highly experienced in their field, embracing the candidates into a community of professionals dedicated to producing the highest quality teachers. Our graduating teacher candidates are highly sought after, with 80% of 2010’s graduates employed in teaching-related positions.

Candidates have the option of choosing a one or two-year program based on their needs. The cohort model provides a challenging and supportive learning environment where candidates participate in a learning community with others who share a passion and commitment to teaching. The program is designed to have Field Experiences aligned and integrated into all of the coursework where candidates are supervised and evaluated by School of Education mentoring professionals.

Building community begins with a full day orientation at the end of June. This year, 37 new candidates were welcomed to the GU community. This orientation introduces the candidates to the Jesuit history, the University Mission, the SOE Conceptual Framework, and provides teacher candidates, faculty, mentoring professionals, and alumni opportunities to have open discussions about the profession and the program. The new cohort includes a wide spectrum of diversity, from recently graduated to 55 years young, 11 Gonzaga alumni, an Air Force retiree, an Army reservist, a Jesuit brother, a single mother of 10 children, and a candidate who is expecting her first child in August. For more information, call 509-313-3514 or email Program Director Dr. John Traynor (traynor@gonzaga.edu).

The annual Welcome Back BBQ will be hosted by the SOE Student Advisory Board (SAB) on Wednesday, September 14th, at 5:00 p.m. outside the south entrance to the Rosauer Center. All undergraduate and graduate students in education and certification programs are invited to attend. Sign-up sheets will be posted throughout campus and in the education building, or email: wilkinsonk@gonzaga.edu.

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SOE Welcomes...

Anny Fritzen Case, joins the Department of Teacher Education as a new tenure track faculty member. She received her B.A. and M.A. degrees from Brigham Young University, and her Ph.D. from Michigan State University. Prior to her doctoral studies she was an English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) teacher in private and public schools in Utah. As a high school teacher, she was involved in school-wide efforts to improve the educational opportunities for immigrant students. She has taught English to children in Russia, to international students at Brigham Young University, and to refugees in Lansing, Michigan. Anny enjoys traveling, cooking, music, writing, and considers herself an amateur techie. Anny and her new husband recently relocated to Spokane.

Kathleen (Kathy) Nitta has been hired as a Lecturer for the Department of Teacher Education. She received her B.A. in Biology and her M.A. in Educational Administration from Gonzaga University in 1984 and 2002 respectively. She holds a WA State teaching certificate with endorsements in Biology, Chemistry, General Sciences, Mathematics, and a WA State Administrator Certificate. She taught for 14 years at the middle/elementary level, and for 12 years at Gonzaga Preparatory High School. Her passion is teaching and looks forward to sharing the art and science of teaching with future educators. Kathy is a mother of two college age children, is interested in cooking, and enjoys trying new recipes on her husband and friends.

Elaine Wood will begin teaching as a Lecturer in the Department of Leadership & Administration. With undergraduate degrees in Biology and Education, she taught high school math, science, and English in China while pursuing a Master’s degree in Intercultural Studies and Teaching English as a Second Language with Wheaton College. She is finishing a doctorate in Educational Psychology from Washington State University. Recently, she worked as a Science Assessment Specialist for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), overseeing the development of state science assessments in grades 5, 8, and high school. Elaine moved back to Spokane recently and was married in July.

Ramona Griffin (Mona) will join the Department of Counselor Education as a Lecturer this fall. She graduated from GU in 1975 with a BA in English and History, and completed her MA in Counseling Psychology with ESA certification in 1975. She received her principal’s certification from Gonzaga, her superintendent's certification from Washington State University (WSU), and was awarded her doctorate in Educational Leadership from WSU in 2009. Mona worked as a counselor for 23 years in the Spokane (SPSD) and Mead School Districts, as a central office administrator for 8 years at SPSD, and most recently as the coordinator of a drop-out prevention program. Mona has two daughters, Megan and Erin. She loves to read, walk her dog, travel, and spend time with friends.

Congratulations!
Chuck Salina
Promotion to Associate Professor
Jeanne Foster Wardian
Leadership Award
Dr. Janet Brougher, faculty
Allison Sather, staff

By the numbers...
Faculty & Staff serve and volunteer with over 175 different organizations, either through GU, SOE, community, state, or nationally.

Faculty News:
Dr. Suzann Girtz, Assistant Professor, Teacher Education, was selected by the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development as an ASCD Emerging Leader. She will participate in a two year program that recognizes and prepares young, promising educators to influence education programs, policy, and practice on both the local and national levels. Emerging Leaders have generally been in the profession between 5 and 15 years, have a marked interest in making a positive contribution to education policy and practice, and have invested in professional growth opportunities aimed at improving student outcomes.

Dr. Mark Young, Assistant Professor & Director of the Marriage and Family Counseling (MFC) Program, was selected as the Washington Association of Marriage and Family Therapists Educator of the Year. A recent graduate of Dr. Young’s MFC Program wrote that her success has been made possible by his excellent preparation and diligent effort, and the quality of her education rests solidly in the foundation provided by the professors.

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2011 Jeanne Foster Wardian Leadership Awards

On April 20, 2011, this year’s Jean Foster Wardian Student Leadership recipients were honored. The award is presented to an undergraduate and graduate student selected from each of our departments. This is a very special event for the SOE, as faculty, staff, students, and family gather to hear about the remarkable achievements and contributions these students have given to their programs and fellow students. These recipients demonstrate evidence of excellent scholastic achievements, disciplinary competence, commitment to education through service, and integrity of character. Pictured are: BACK ROW — Teri Schmehl, Counselor Education; Adam Oakley, Teacher Education; Jennifer Zaike, Counselor Education; Dr. Al Fein, receiving the award for Terry Pascal Wilson (awarded posthumously), Leadership and Administration program—British Columbia, Canada; Tamara McClung-Huser, Leadership and Administration program—Alberta, Canada. FRONT ROW — Adam Skarr, Special Education; Kevin Pierce, Special Education; Steffany Galbraith, Sport & Physical Education; and Laura Housinger, Sport & Physical Education.

Congratulations to our Spring 2011 Student Teachers

A celebratory dinner was held in May to recognize those candidates who completed their student teaching in the spring. Congratulations to:


2011 Graduates — Master of Anesthesiology

The graduation banquet for Sacred Heart Medical Center/Gonzaga University Master of Anesthesiology Education (MAE) program’s seven graduates was held May 6 at SHMC.

The graduates are Clare Amato, Teresa Daly, Michael Geary, Julie Lanet, David Pratt, Kristine Punohu, and Robyn Seaburg. Sacred Heart has been educating nurse anesthetists since the early 1900’s, became accredited in the 1930’s, and was the first entry into practice Master’s program for nurse anesthetists in the nation in 1977, when the partnership with Gonzaga University was formed. The MAE Program is housed in the School of Education at Gonzaga and has a long history of excellence in clinical and leadership education.

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**ProTeach Collaboration**

Gonzaga University and Whitworth University are collaborating to serve teachers by encouraging and equipping them to successfully complete the Professional Teacher Certificate requirements. Using a cohort model, teachers will meet to build professional relationships with other teachers who are working to achieve these same goals. Candidates will become familiar with the state requirements for the ProTeach Portfolio, create viable and meaningful Professional Growth Plans, explore the nature of reflective practice, and convene professional Growth Teams to support their professional development. For more information or to register contact: Sharon Straub, Director of Professional Development Programs, 509.313.3662 or straub@gonzaga.edu.

**A Year of Success at Sunnyside H.S.**

The unique and successful partnership forged by the Sunnyside School District and Gonzaga University was a main topic of discussion during a spring meeting between the District’s Board of Directors, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Randy Dorn, and Gonzaga’s Dr. Jon Sunderland, Dean of the School of Education. Dr. Chuck Salina, an Associate Professor at Gonzaga, who served as the principal of Sunnyside High School to develop and implement a system of sustained improvement, and MERIT Director Eric Syl-ling spoke about the many successes they have had this year. The SHS 2011 class had 327 graduates, and the overall percentage of students passing all of their classes rose from 56% in 2009-2010 to 76%. Average daily attendance was over 94%, and overall suspension dropped dramatically. Randy Dorn commended the Sunnyside School District and Gonzaga University for developing this partnership with the focus of increasing student achievement.

**National Board Certification**

Gonzaga University is offering a cohort model support program, facilitated by National Board certified teachers, for teachers interested in pursuing National Board Certification. National Board Certification is a rigorous, year-long professional experience that is designed to recognize accomplished teachers. Teachers who have participated in National Board Certification have overwhelmingly stated that it is the most powerful professional development experience of their careers. For more information or to register, contact: Sharon Straub, Director of Professional Development Programs, at 509.313.3662 or straub@gonzaga.edu.

**Teacher Performance Assessment**

Gonzaga University is part of the TPA pilot efforts in Washington State to meet a mandated implementation of a new teacher performance assessment for pre-service teachers to improve student outcomes. During the spring semester, the Department of Teacher Education conducted workshops to support our MIT candidates in their work towards successful completion of the pilot-version of the TPA.

SOE hosted a TPA conference in May to present the new requirements, followed by a scorer-training session. The conference was facilitated by Joan Lesh and Cathy Taylor of the University of Washington, and attended by Gonzaga University and Whitworth University faculty. GU faculty went on to score our candidates' TPAs, with the entire Teacher Education faculty and self-selected field supervisors as evaluators. In the future, all TPA evaluation will be done by an external vendor. GU will continue to participate in the pilot for Fall 2011, and then move into field-testing with the rest of the state in Spring 2012, at which time all programs will be expected to participate.

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