

Spring 2011 Academic Calendar

Classes Begin
Tuesday, Jan 11

Martin Luther King
Holiday
Monday, Jan 17

Last Day to Add
Wednesday, Jan 19

Last Day to Drop
Friday, Jan 21

President's Day Holiday
Monday, Feb 21

Spring Vacation
Monday, Mar 7 –
Friday, March 11

Last Day to Withdraw
Friday, Mar 25

Academic Honors
Convocation
Tuesday, Apr 19

Good Friday Holiday
Friday, Apr 22

Easter Holiday
Monday, Apr 25

COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE LOCATED ON PAGE 2

The goal of this newsletter is to connect with our students, our schools, and our alums 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.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Volume 5, Issue 1



SPRING 2011

Making a Difference at Sunnyside High School

The Gonzaga University School of Education is again reaching out to help high school students in Washington state. Last year, the SOE led a research team in investigating evidence-based strategies to reduce Spokane's high school drop-out rate through a grant funded by Priority Spokane via the Inland Northwest Community Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

This year, Dr. Chuck Salina, Assistant Professor in Leadership and Administration is serving as Sunnyside High School's "turn-a-round principal" through a partnership with Gonzaga University and the Sunnyside School District. The School District received a three-year, \$6 million federal school improvement grant designed to improve its poor graduation rate. Dr. Salina has implemented many changes to ensure the success of the students and to meet the goals of the District to dramatically increase graduation rates. These changes are benefiting students, faculty, and administrators as they meet the challenges of improved grades, attendance, mentoring relationships, and making a long term commitment to the success of their high school.



Chuck Salina with students from Sunnyside High School

In the fall semester, twenty students from Sunnyside High School spent a day on the GU campus interacting with teacher candidates and attending classes taught by education faculty, Dr. Jonas Cox and Dr. John Traynor. The students broke out into small groups and shared stories of academic success, a common-ground topic all students welcomed. Our GU teacher candidates were very enthusiastic about this interaction and many plan to form mentoring relationships with these high school students and hope to be placed at Sunnyside for their student teaching.

Informal conversations with Sunnyside students confirmed that major changes took place in the fall semester. At first these changes were met with resistance, but very quickly students began to realize the benefits. Dr. Salina is very visible in the high school, interacting with them daily and not just about academics and rules, but taking the time to get to know them as individuals. Students are being rewarded with privileges to go off-campus for lunch if their grades are C+ or better and they are on track to graduate, and if the school is continuing to show an increase in the daily attendance rate. Sunnyside teachers also talked about the improved communication they have with students. They see grades improving and students are looking towards new opportunities for their futures.

"Socially responsible professionals who serve with care, competence, and commitment"

Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Students support Gonzaga Special Needs Hockey Program!



Pictured Dr. Mark Derby with coaches and players in the

In Spring 2008, a chapter of the United States Disability Hockey Association was initiated in Spokane with a generous donation by Debbie McQuilkin, a Gonzaga University alumna who has been an active promoter of disability hockey in the Washington D.C. area. Using the donation as a catalyst, Dr. Mark Derby, Professor in the Department of Special Education, and Shane Hatcher in University Relations at Gonzaga have continued to seek funding with donations and a grant by USA Hockey to keep a team going for two years.

Approximately 13 skaters have participated in the program. The skaters' disabilities range from children with Aspergers Syndrome to mild Developmental Disabilities. On ice sup-

port for the skaters has been provided by members of the Gonzaga University Club Hockey Team. Utilizing the GU players as mentors, the ice time has slowly taken the shape of a hockey practice, with players learning skating, stick handling, and shooting skills. The scrimmages are becoming more organized and the players are having a great time. In the future, plans are to solicit an invitation to local Bantam coaches to nominate players from their teams to serve as peer mentors to the players.

Parents Ellen and Mark Sanchez enthusiastically praise the program. "This has enabled David to participate in a sport he would have never been able to do. The stuff that makes me most happy is the fact that it gives children like my son a chance to play hockey instead of being on the sidelines watching others play." Linda Donelly, parent of Jack stated, "The Gonzaga special needs hockey program has been a wonderful addition to my son's life. Because he is autistic there are few group sports in which he is able to participate. As a result, he gets very little exercise and no "team" experience. The opportunities for special needs children are limited in Spokane, so the Gonzaga program provides a valuable service by reaching out to those individuals as well as their parents. I know the memories created from this experience will stay with him forever."

Welcome New Staff

Karde'e Wilkinson,
Secretary, Dean's Office

Sue Butterfield,
Secretary
Sport & Physical Education

Commencement Schedule

Saturday, May 7, 2011

Baccalaureate Mass
Graduate School
Commencement

Sunday, May 8, 2011

Undergraduate
Commencement

Congratulations!

The Student Teacher dinner was held December 6, 2010 to recognize those students who had completed their student teaching in Fall 2010. At the dinner, 11 students from Special Education, and 17 students from Teacher Education were honored for completing their student teaching. The keynote speaker was Brent Perdue, Director of Evaluation and Certified Staff Support for Spokane Public Schools.

Fall 2010 Student Teachers

Special Education: Leah Brushwein, Danette Darrow, Emily Ehlers, Elizabeth Fitting. Kerry Hillier, Chelsae Komar, Zenetta Mann, Janie Rasmussen, Adam Skarr, Joanne Walker, and Margaret Yost

Teacher Education: Amanda Bruckbauer, Linda Cavanaugh-Walsh, Robin Cumming, Adam Gregory, Amber Grisley, Megan Higgins, Julianne Joyce, Cara Langsfeld, Hannah Meucci, Kathryn Murray, Brittany Poff, Amanda Ruen, Talia Spini, Courtney Tenyson, Jennifer Thompson, Angie Wang, and Brittany Weeks.



Pictured are Fall 2010 Student Teachers

Washington Counseling Association Conference

The Washington Counseling Association (WCA), under the direction of Karyn Holt and Dr. Mark Young, the current presidents, held their annual conference in the fall on the Gonzaga campus. This year's conference theme was "Cultivating Excellence in Counseling."

The keynote speaker, Dr. Kent Hoffman, is a GU adjunct professor in Psychology, and founder of Circle of Security, an early intervention program for parents and students. His presentation, entitled "Tales from the Sacred: How Psychology Opens Us to Our Deepest Priorities," was based on attachment theory. The emphasis was on building a holding environment for our children and teaching them how to handle their emotions.

Presenters at the poster sessions had a positive experience and were able to show their ideas or report results for research, while professionals from the community were able to reconnect with the research that is being done in multiple areas in the field of psychology. Titles of the

presentations ranged from "Promises and Perils of Internet Counseling" to "Neuro for Smarties" to "Using Art Therapy with Children and Adolescents." Matters of ethics, multiculturalism, and professional development were all addressed.

The conference was a great opportunity for the students in Washington state, and especially in the Spokane area to begin a pattern of community involvement and to become connected with the local community of professional counselors. The conference received excellent feedback and was a great success.



Poster Presentation Session at WCA Conference

Outstanding in her Field!



4th Grade Students
From Lidgerwood Elementary

Gale Snyder, Secretary in the Department of Teacher Education, is hard to locate in her off-hours. You'll likely find her in a field or greenhouse south of her barn in north Spokane. Gale has turned her green thumb and passion for gardening into a one-woman mission to both feed the homeless and educate at-risk elementary students on health, sustainability and independence.

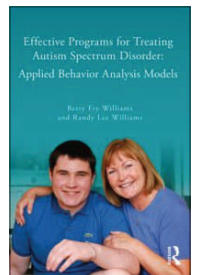
Thirty 4th grade students from Lidgerwood Elementary School, participating in Reach for the Future, whose primary mission is to motivate and empower children from low income neighborhoods, have been visiting Gale's urban

farm with program coordinator, Lauren Umbdenstock. They have been learning about healthy foods, where they come from, and how they mature through the farm to table cycle. These students, who otherwise might not know where their food comes from, get a chance to plant and harvest over several field trips to Gale's farm. This year they planted and harvested shelling beans and pumpkins.

Between her cellar and pantry, Gale puts up more food than would ever be required of her own household. Year round, Gale has been supplying the Union Gospel Mission and the Hillyard Pantry with numerous varieties of heirloom potatoes, carrots, onions, tomatoes and beans. Inspired by the 2nd Harvest challenge to "Plant an Extra Row for the Hungry" movement, she has increased tilth and yield to donate hundreds of pounds of food to those suffering the fallout of the Great Recession. Gale is a wonderful example of how members of the Gonzaga Community strive to live the mission on and off-campus.

Faculty in the News

Congratulations to Dr. Randy Williams, Professor in Special Education on the recent publication of his book. *Effective Programs for Treating Autism Spectrum Disorder* is written for teachers, parents, and the many service providers who work with individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).



Dr. Roger Park, Assistant Professor in Sports & Physical Education was one of four international scholars selected to present at the Gangwon International Leisure Sport Tourism Forum (GISPOF). The forum was established in 2005 to develop a mutually beneficial relationship between government officers in sport and tourism departments, and academicians engaged in the business of sport tourism in Gangwon Province in Korea.

Gonzaga University School of Education

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SOE Christmas Social



Santa with children of SOE faculty and staff

The School of Education hosted an annual Christmas Social for faculty, staff and their families. The SOE supports charities throughout the year, but always select 2-3 organizations for the Christmas season. This year, faculty and staff donated children's warm clothing, socks, toiletries, and children's toys for Trinity Catholic School, Union Gospel Mission, and Toys for Tots.

Professional Certification

The Professional Certification program is grounded in the unique identity of the mission of both the University and the SOE and built on the values at the heart of those missions: Care, Competence, Commitment, and Social Responsibility. Upon this foundation, the program is designed to serve teachers by equipping them to meet the Professional Teaching Standards in the areas of effective practice, professional development and professional contributions. The Professional Certification program is configured to connect with and support the professional responsibilities of educators while inquiring into the nature of those responsibilities. The program uses a cohort structure for improved personal contact and increased professional relationships.

Candidates may be recommended for certification by Gonzaga's Professional Certification program until August 31, 2011, (candidates must take all seven credits for Gonzaga to recommend them unless they are transferring credits from another program). Starting in September 2011, candidates must submit their Professional Certification work through the online ProTeach portfolio process developed by ETS. Gonzaga will continue to offer a 7 credit support program for this new process. The Pro-Cert program offers a reduced tuition rate of \$175.00 per credit and students will pay per course on the first night of each workshop series.

For further information, contact Sharon Straub at (509) 313-3662 or straub@gonzaga.edu.

Principal and Administrator Certification

The SOE Principal and Administrator Certification Program is a 10-23 credit program, depending on your master's level coursework within the last 5 years. If you would like additional information on this program, please contact Dr. Cynthia Johnson, johnsonc2@gonzaga.edu.

ZAMBIA Summer 2011

Gonzaga University's School of Education is offering a summer session in partnership with Charles Lwanga College in Monze, Zambia in mid-May to mid-June. Contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Deborah Booth, Teacher Education at boothd@gonzaga.edu