

School of Education Graduate Programs Newsletter

Summer 2011

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Dr. Beers Wins Teacher of the Year Award!

Scott Beers Ph.D., Associate Professor Curriculum and Instruction and Chair of M.Ed. in Literacy, teaches courses in the School of Education which include Literacy Assessments and Standards, The Psychology of Reading, Teaching Reading: Strategies of Instruction, and Interventions for Struggling Readers. Dr. Beers considers his teaching and scholarship to be forms of ministry and finds three pedagogical strategies outlined in Psalm 25:4-5 that powerfully combine the instructional approaches confirmed by educational research: 1) showing, 2) teaching, and 3) guiding. He says, "In SOE, our task is to prepare young adults to be teachers of high competence and character so that they will be effective servants and leaders in schools," and he believes strongly that by preparing students in this manner he is "serving the kingdom of God." In response to his Psychology of Teaching course one student wrote, "I liked how we had 'Blessings' time every Monday. How we had a chance to pray for anyone or share the blessings we had recently been given. I also really appreciated praying before exams." The committee members who reviewed his file stated, "Scott is a wonderful writer who listens deeply to his students...he experiments with a lot of teaching techniques and is highly rated by students."

SPU Graduate Appointed Principal of Mount Si High School

According to the SnoValley Star, John Belcher, current principal at Omak High School has been appointed as the next principal of Mount Si High School in the Snoqualmie Valley School District. John received his principal certification from Seattle Pacific University in 2004. Congratulations, John!

2011-2012 Comprehensive Exam Dates

Doctoral Comp Exams

June 24, July 15, August 12, September 23, October 13 (Thursday), November 18, December 16, January 20, February 17, March 16, April 13, May 18, June 22, July 13, August 10

Doctoral comp exams are held from 8:45am to 12:45pm in the Library Instructional Classroom on the first floor of the library. If you would like to take a comp exam on one of these scheduled dates, please contact Megan Hamshar at megeo@spu.edu or (206)281-2378.

School Counseling Comp Exams

December 6, March 6, June 12, August 7

School Counseling comp exams are held from 2pm to 4pm in the Library Instructional Classroom on the first floor of the library. If you would like to take a comp exam on one of these scheduled dates, please contact Megan Hamshar at megeo@spu.edu or (206)281-2378.

Literacy Course for Summer 2011

EDRD 6508 Vocabulary Development

Professor: William Nagy

Vocabulary has consistently been recognized as essential for academic success, and lack of adequate vocabulary knowledge has been identified as one of the most serious obstacles facing students at risk, especially English Language Learners. However, in many classrooms, vocabulary is neglected, or else taught by traditional methods that tend to be both boring and ineffective.

In this course we will explore articles and chapters from the growing literature on effective vocabulary instruction, with special attention to the needs of English Language Learners, examining vocabulary instruction from a variety of perspectives: How to teach words in a way that leads to ownership; how to select words for instruction, in light of the fact that only a small proportion of the words students need to learn can be taught thoroughly; how teaching individual words must be understood as only part of a comprehensive approach to promoting academic language development, and must be supported by, and integrated with, exposure to rich language, instruction in word learning strategies, and the development of knowledge, dispositions, and patterns of discourse that support word learning; and how to integrate vocabulary instruction with spelling and other aspects of the language arts curriculum.

New Master's Degree in Teaching Math and Science (MTMS)

The Master in Teaching Mathematics and Science (M.T.M.S.) degree is designed for candidates seeking to teach mathematics or one of the sciences at the middle, junior high, and senior high school levels. As part of the program, students complete requirements for a Washington Residency Teaching Certificate with an appropriate mathematics and/or science endorsement(s).

Although similar to other SPU teacher certification/master's degree programs (e.g. ARC, M.A.T.), the M.T.M.S. differs in that several of the courses are tailored specifically to teaching styles appropriate for math and science rather than a general curriculum applicable to any subject area endorsement.

Find out more about this program here:

<http://spu.edu/depts/soe/academics/graduate/mtms.asp>

Travel Opportunity to Russia

From September 4-10, 2011, Dr. Rick Eigenbrood and Dr. Arthur Ellis will be traveling to Moscow, Russia and then on to Sochi, Russia, to attend conferences on the theme of challenges in higher education. In Moscow they will meet with colleagues from the University of the Russian Academy of Education, and in the resort city of Sochi, located on the Black Sea, both professors will attend meetings of the Russian Academy on issues facing higher education around the world. Both SOE Faculty and Doctoral Students are invited to submit papers for the Sochi Conference. If you wish to learn more about this opportunity, please feel free to contact Dr. Arthur Ellis at aellis@spu.edu or (206)281-2362.

Autumn Courses for Doctoral Students

EDU 6085: Moral Issues in Education (on campus)

Dr. Bob Drovdahl

(a required Foundations course)

EDU 6120: American Education Past and Present (on campus and online)

Dr. Greg Fritzberg

(a required Foundations course)

EDU 7102: Curriculum Design
TBA Staff
(a required Foundations course)

EDU 7106: Trends&Research in Global Educ
Dr. Arthur Ellis
(a required Foundations course - see info regarding trip to Russia)

EDU 7115: Advances in Educatnl Psychology
Dr. Christopher Sink
(a required course for Ph.D. students)

EDU 7120: Educatnl Organizations&Systems
Dr. Bill Prenevost
(a required course for Ed.D. students)

EDU 7911: Review Research Methds & Stats
Dr. Andrew Lumpe
(a review course for preparing for comp exams)

EDU 7975: Intro to Doc Research Dsgn & Analysis
Dr. Christopher Sink
(a bridge course for new students who wish to gain some background in research before starting the statistics sequence in the winter)

Chi Sigma Iota Initiation

The Sigma Phi Upsilon chapter of Chi Sigma Iota initiated 34 members on May 21st, 2011. Congratulations to all the new members of Chi Sigma Iota! As we look to the future we look forward to upcoming events and the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. CSI would also like to congratulate the third year school counseling students on their accomplishments and wish you the best on your future endeavors. Congratulations Graduates!

Initiated Members

Third Year Counseling Students

Camila Altschul
Robyn Cronin
Shauna Jacobs
Charity Jeffery
William Kautz
Melissa Knudson
Lisa Lucas
Eliza Murphy

Second Year Counseling Students

Jacquiline Balatbat
Ashlee Davis
Joanna Dittmore
Jamie Eager
Kelly Blair
Rachel Gremillion

Lauren Henry
Maren Holzinger
Jennifer Matheny
Erin McCullough
Kaley Mitchell
Kristen Nolte
Leslie Rondeau
Rebekah Sieg

First Year Counseling Students

Lauren Burris
Whitney Forck
Patricia Kim
Robert Knaus
Andrew Ritsema
Leanne Rollet
Micaela Wegener

Alumni

Erica Barry
Brianna Cadwell
Annie Carmona
Katie Seaward
Emily Tuttle

Contact Information

Graduate Program Manager	Megan Hamshar	206-281-2378
Certification questions	Greg Gelderman	206-281-2376
MAT and ARC endorsement questions	Greg Gelderman	206-281-2376
Administrative Assistant	René Shafar	206-281-2219
Transfer Credits, course/schedule exceptions	Individual program chairs	
Registration issues	Stephanie Malin	206-281-2568