

# Message from the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

We are making progress in all searches. It has been exciting to meet the incredible talent coming to our campus. I encourage you to attend the presentations so you can make your voice heard about the new hires.

As most of you know, the website for the International Conference on Urban Education (ICUE) is now live. I hope many of you will plan to use your travel funds to attend, and even present, at the conference. There will be important speakers and much time for developing partnerships. Check out the <u>website</u> and consider joining us in November in beautiful Montego Bay.

Associate professors are invited to lunch for conversation with me on **Friday February 21**<sup>st</sup>. This is the same day as the naming of the atrium in honor of **Dean Mary Lynne Calhoun**. I hope you will honor her with your presence.

And now, for the news:

Congratulations to **Dr. Drew Polly** on being chosen by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to be a **NC Ready for Success Alignment Fellow**.

Kudos to doctoral student **Marcia Watson** (Belk Graduate Assistant, **Urban Education Collaborative**) for completion of "The National Status of Alternative Education Report" for the Collaborative. Details on this report can be found at:

 $\underline{http://the collaborative.uncc.edu/research-clearing house/ {\tt 2014-national-status-alternative-education-report}$ 

**The Urban Education Collaborative** has also received its second contract to facilitate the *Race Matters for Juvenile Justice Initiative* in Mecklenburg County. More details to come.

# **Upcoming Events:**



# Spring 2014 **K-12 Initiatives**



#### **National History Day**



A competition that allows students from grades 6-12 to broadcast their knowledge of historic, cultural, and social experiences of the past. Students are inspired through competitions and they use projects as a platform of learning.

When? February 21, 2014

For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Jennifer Townsend at jatownse@uncc.edu or at 704.687.8998

Register at: http://education.uncc.edu/oeo/nhd

To receive a FREE "Get Started" National History Day please email us with your mailing address!

http://education.uncc.edu/oeo (704) 687-8998 ed.outreach@uncc.edu

#### Julia Robinson Mathematics and Computing Festival

The Julia Robinson Mathematics and Computing Festival was founded in spring 2007 to encourage middle school girls to investigate diverse areas of mathematics they would not ordinarily encounter in the classroom. Mathematicians ranging from college undergraduates to first-rate professionals host tables devoted to different activities; students work on the activities with each other and with the activity leader. Students spend perhaps 30 minutes on each of 6 activities that they choose from the several dozen available. Pre-Registration is \$5; on-site registration is \$20.



#### When? March 29, 2014

For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Jennifer 'ownsend at jatownse@uncc.edu or at 704.687.8998

Register at: http://education.uncc.edu/oeo/jrmf



### **New Publications**

Mraz, M., Vintinner, J. P., & Vacca, J. L. (2014). Professional development, S. B. Wepner, D. S. Strickland, & D. J. Quatroche (Eds.). The administration and supervision of reading programs, 5th ed. (pp. 124-134). New York, NY: Teachers College Press.

Polly, D. Neale, H. & Pugalee, D. K. How does ongoing task-focused mathematics professional development influence elementary school teachers' knowledge, beliefs, and enacted pedagogies. Early Childhood Education Journal, 42(1), 1-10.



Perspectives Highlighting COED's International Activities & Programs \*\*\*\*\*

# **Australian Exchange Group Visits COED**

This month, UNC Charlotte and the College of Education are honored to host a small delegation of teacher candidates Australia. As part of a non-stop agenda organized by the English Language Training Institute; Intercultural Outreach Programs, students are partaking in a wide variety of activities including a welcome session with our Dean, local school visits, a teacher-candidate panel on clinical field work and the Office of Field Experiences, and a myriad of lectures with COED faculty.

Additionally, they were able to participate in an in-depth dialogue with Dr. Joan Lachance regarding English learners and UNC Charlotte's TESL program. This symposium included overall features of the local demography as well as current K-12 program structure, state and national curricula, and UNC Charlotte's teacher preparation. Likewise, the Australian teacher candidates also joined a class meeting with the TESL Authentic Assessment course to explore a comparative analysis between our College and teacher-preparation programs regard to English learners and assessment processes. The outcomes were interactive and relevant for our teacher candidates and the visiting peers as they understood how many similarities we share with the need for critical pedagogy with our culturally and linguistically diverse students in classroom. Ultimately, a wonderful exchange was shared by all!

Shared by **Dr. Joan Lachance** 

The mission of the College of Education at UNC Charlotte is to prepare highly effective and ethical professionals who have a positive impact on children, youth, families, community, and schools and who are successful in urban and other diverse settings. This mission is accomplished through teaching, research, and community engagement that lead to improved practice and by working in partnership with schools, communities, and university colleagues.