WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome Jennifer R. Ottley, who earned her Ph.D. from Florida State University in special education with an emphasis in early childhood education & early intervention and a certificate in program evaluation.

Research/Scholarship

Grants
Dr. Ottley submitted a proposal for a New Revenue Distribution Program (RDP) grant being offered by the Patton College of Education to support the development of the online Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs Endorsement program.

Drs. Landmark and Gut submitted a proposal for an RDP grant to support the development of the Transition to Work Endorsement program.

Drs. Landmark and Gut collaborated with colleagues from the Center for Innovation Research in Schools (CIRS) faculty and staff to submit an Innovations grant proposal for Ohio University.

Dr. Ottley submitted a grant to the Organization for Autism Research to provide training and coaching to families and early childhood educators. If awarded, this grant will help enhance the communication and social-emotional development of one- and two-year-olds with or at risk for Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Publications


Leadership/Service
Dr. Sparks, holding a multicultural position on the Board of Council for Exceptional Children, participated in two meetings of Board of Directors this summer.

Dr. Landmark and Ms. Stephens participated in Southeast Ohio Disability Consortium meetings to plan for a fall transition conference this summer. Dr. Landmark was also appointed to the Ohio Deans Compact on Exceptional Children.

Teaching/Advising
Dr. Oswald developed a devoted section of EDPL 3600 113 Special Education Senior Clinical Field Seminar this summer. This course is designed to prepare pre-service teachers for the implementation of the edTPA during their Professional Internship. A new feature of this course is on-line instruction, which provides candidates with a platform to reflect on teaching and learning in K-12 classrooms.
Advising
Dr. Landmark is mentoring one freshman Ohio First Scholar (first generation college student).

Program Development
Our special education program recruited and admitted 10 master’s candidates to the Masters in Special Education cohort which began this fall at Ohio University-Southern campus.

Our faculty also welcomed 5 new master’s candidates to the Masters in Special Education program in Athens.

Our faculty welcomed and held an advising session for 28 freshmen special education majors at the Patton College of Education Freshman Convocation in August.

We are developing two new online programs at the graduate level: Transition-to-Work and Pre-K Special Needs. The new Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs endorsement allows early childhood educators and intervention specialists to add to their current teacher licensure to make them fully certified to work with children three to five years with special needs. The Transition-to-Work endorsement allows teachers to work as transition specialists. Both graduate-level endorsements will be offered online. Be on the lookout for more information about this program in the late spring and summer of 2016.

Outreach
Under Dr. Landmark’s leadership, Ms. Perianne Bates, Ms. Bridget Stephens and Dr. Gut participated in a “Partners in Transition” grant project advisory board meeting.

A Co-Professional Development School (PDS) teaching partnership was piloted at Trimble Elementary and Middle schools. Faculty involved in the Co-PDS are Dr. Pamela Beam, Faculty Advisor, Ms. Perianne Bates, Adaptations Course Instructor, Dr. Karen Oswald, Special Education Clinical Educator, and Mr. Roger Nott, principal.

Currently, a Middle Childhood Education Partnership exists in the elementary and middle school of this district. Innovative planning expedited collaboration between special and general education teacher candidates. Instruction took place in one general education fourth grade math class as well the special education resource room. This pilot will help us better define and plan for future partnerships between general and special education.

Ms. Bridget Stephens assisted the staff of Jackson County Board of Developmental Disabilities to implement structured teaching into their school, and taught the staff about theme-based planning with the extended standards. The goal of this program is to provide the learners served by Jackson Co. Bd. of DD with a rigorous curriculum based on the New Learning Standards, and to ensure high quality instruction that leads to progress in (or toward) mastery of the general education and/or extended standards set forth by the state of Ohio.

Professional Development
Dr. Gut participated in a webinar entitled, “What Every Educator Needs to Know About Coming Changes to Special Education Policy” offered by the Council for Exceptional Children.

Dr. Sparks completed training to become a site visitor for the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). This training consisted of 7 webinars on the CAEP standards and procedures, a 3-day face-to-face training in Louisville, KY, and evaluation of written products by CAEP staff.

Dr. Landmark attended the Summer Institute for Diversity Education (SIDE).

We welcome your input. For the next issue, we would like to hear from you. When you email us, please briefly describe your activities based on who, what, when, where, why and how. We appreciate you - Ohio Proud and Patton Proud!

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