



January 22, 2016

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FROM THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

From Student Worker Lindsey Platz:

The School of Education and Human Services is full of different perspectives. The many things we do are seen in several different lights - that of a faculty member, an office CT, a staff member, an administrative member, a student, but also that of a student worker. In my time working for the School, I have had the pleasure of not only working closely with my own professors, but those of other departments, along with the Dean's Office staff. Having this opportunity is a constant reminder of why I am going into teaching.



I chose to be a teacher because I want to make a difference in students' lives. I recognize how important elementary school is in the development of children as it provides a foundation from which they can grow. Growing up, I had amazing elementary teachers, which ultimately led me to choose Elementary Education. They were my role models and I continue to strive to be like them. They taught me to have confidence and believe in myself. I learned that with a little motivation, I could do anything I wanted, including becoming a teacher. I hope one day to have that same effect on my students.

ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

James Hansen has Book Published

James Hansen from the department of Counseling has recently published a book titled, *Meaning Systems and Mental Health Culture: Critical Perspectives on Counseling and Psychotherapy*. In the book, he examines the intersection of meaning systems, mental health culture, and counseling and psychotherapy. Hansen argues that a defining element of mental health culture, throughout various eras, is the relative value placed on the meanings that people endorse and create. Contemporary mental health care, with its idealization of symptom-based diagnostics, biological reductionism, and the medical model, severely devalues meaning systems.



Meaning Systems and Mental Health Culture weaves together empirical, historical, cultural, and philosophical perspectives to raise awareness of the need for counseling and psychotherapy to revalue meaning systems, even while operating within a culture that disregards them.

For additional information, view the [book website](#).

IN THE NEWS

Dance and Choir Students put on Public Performances

Dance and choir students from the Michigan School for the Arts, located in Pontiac, kicked off the holiday season with a few local public performances, including Ask Dr. Nandi Charities' 3rd Annual Coat Drive and Auction, held at The Hard Rock Café in Downtown Detroit. Decked in festive attire and their acclaimed singing and dancing talents, the students spread their holiday cheer, helping to collect coats for COTS, The Mariners Inn, and Matrix Human Services.



A few weeks later, the students performed at the City of Pontiac's Tree Lighting and Community Caroling Program, dazzling the audience with an upbeat, choreographed dance to *Uptown Funk*, followed by a choral performance of *All I Want for Christmas and This Christmas*.

"The kids worked really, really hard, and I am so very proud of their accomplishments thus far!" exclaimed their teacher, Amyre Smith.

Watch for more performances from this talented group of students throughout the year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEHS Healthy Living Network Lunch Meeting - February 2, 2016

SEHS is pleased to sponsor the fourth Faculty and Staff Healthy Living Network Lunch Meeting. The purpose of the meetings is to promote healthy living, eating and exercise tips within the SEHS community.

The next meeting has been rescheduled and will now take place on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 from 11:30am - 12:30pm in 480K Pawley Hall. The guest speaker will be Dr. Jennifer Wenson from the department of Organizational Leadership.

For additional information, contact **Dr. Chaunda L. Scott**.



Black and African American Centered Research Symposium - February 3, 2016

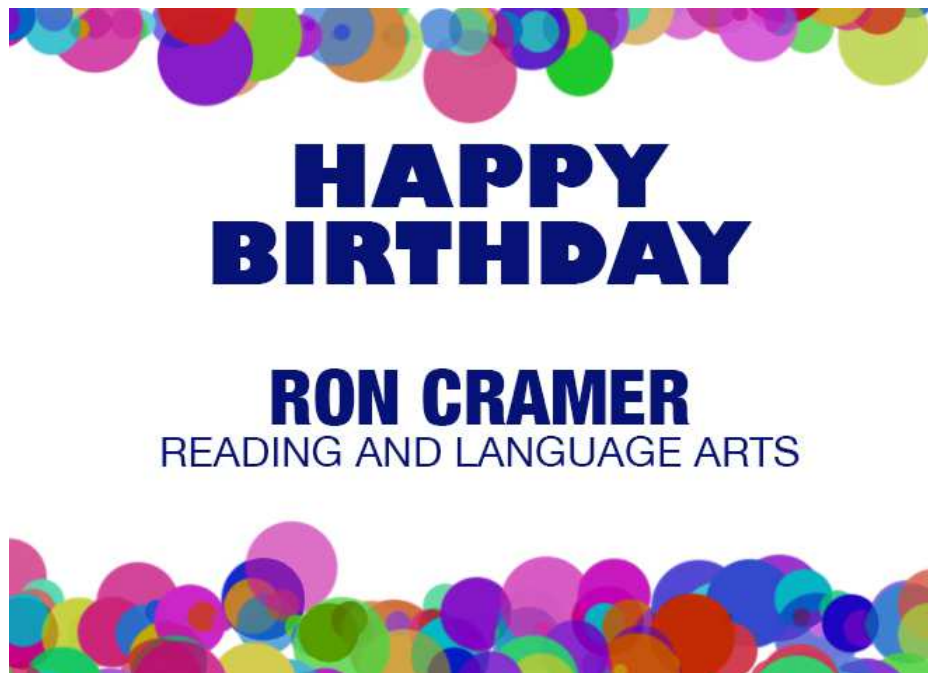
In celebration of Black History Month 2016, the SEHS Black Faculty Network and the ERL will sponsor its second Black and African American centered Research Symposium on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, from 4-6:30pm in the ERL.

All SEHS faculty and students are invited to share their completed or in progress Black and African American research at this symposium. SEHS faculty, staff, students, the OU community and the public are invited to attend this event.

For additional information, contact **Dr. Chaunda L. Scott**.



CELEBRATIONS



If you do not wish to have your birthday announced, please contact James Silvestri at jmsilves@oakland.edu.

ABOUT THE SEHS BULLETIN

Welcome to the SEHS Bulletin, where faculty and staff can share news and celebrate the wonderful things happening in SEHS. The bulletin is the perfect place to share information about your publications and awards, special projects and committee news, as well as announce events.

All are welcome to send items for inclusion. If you choose to do so, please ensure that your items are print ready, that you include all related links, and that you have permission to publish any photos being submitted.

Please put "SEHS Bulletin" in the subject line and email your information to: sehs@oakland.edu.

If you have questions about the bulletin, feel free to email James Silvestri at jmsilves@oakland.edu.



School of Education and Human Services

415 Pawley Hall
2200 N. Squirrel Road
Rochester, MI 48309-4401
sehs@oakland.edu | 248.370.3050