



SEHS Bulletin - May 13, 2017

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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

School of Education and Human Services



ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



2017 Pawley Lean Institute Scholarships Awarded

This year's \$1,250 undergraduate scholarship has been awarded to Erika Palaian (Industrial and Systems Engineering/SECS) and Sarah Dyson (Human Resources Development/SEHS).

The \$3,000 graduate scholarship has been awarded to Andrew Kwietniewski (MBA/SBA) and Taylor Van Dyke (MBA/SBA).

For additional coverage, view the [full article](#).

Congratulations to all recipients!

OUCARES Recieves Award From NACo

OUCARES was recently recognized by the National Association of Counties (NACo) for the ASD training it offers to Oakland County Parks' staff. Stephanie Laubach helped to develop this practical training last year and they are offering it again in June to the parks' staff.

This OUCARES training was chosen by NACo to receive the honor of the best program in parks and recreation in the country for 2017. They will be receiving the award in July.

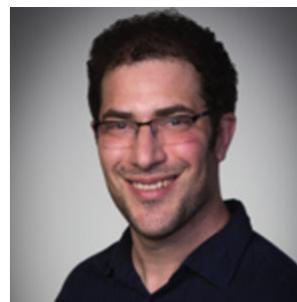


Congratulations to OUCARES!

IN THE NEWS

Paul Weinberg Presents at the American Education Research Conference

Paul Weinberg recently returned from the American Education Research Conference in San Antonio, TX, where he presented his research in two poster sessions. His work, *Assessing Mechanistic Reasoning in K-12 STEM Education*, supports mechanistic reasoning in K-12 education.



Much of the existing work on mechanistic reasoning in the research literature and standards documents currently targets domain-general characterizations of mechanistic reasoning. Dr. Weinberg's research provides domain-specific illustrations of mechanistic reasoning from the Assessing Mechanistic Reasoning Project (AMRP) (Weinberg, 2012), designed using IRT modeling to diagnose individuals' mechanistic reasoning about specific systems (levers). This research also focuses on how mechanistic reasoning is constituted through mathematical description.

In addition, Dr. Weinberg and Ms. Erika Sorensen (Auburn Elementary) also presented research that supports the Oakland University-Avondale School District Partnership. Their research, *Characterizing Epistemic Practices and Crosscutting Concepts in Mathematics Teacher Education Programs*, focuses on inquiry in mathematics teacher education. Their work addresses productively engaging college undergraduates and master's students, within mathematics teacher education programs, in mathematical proving.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

You wouldn't know it from the frost I scraped off my windshield on Tuesday, but summer is almost in full swing. There are many things happening and I thought I'd take a moment to keep you posted on some of them.

First, we've wrapped up another successful semester. Commencement went very well and we had the second iteration of post-commencement receptions. The receptions are a fair amount of work to put on, but they are a great opportunity to celebrate our students' success with them. We'll continue to put those on and to look for ways to be as inclusive as we can of faculty, staff, students, families, and community.



Our Constitution update is on hold for the moment. Our opening assembly in fall is probably not the best place to take up that work again, but we'll address it at the second fall assembly. The Executive Committee will also revisit that work at our summer retreat. If you have input regarding the Constitution, please talk with your Executive Committee representative.

There are exciting changes coming at the department chair level, pending board approval. In TDES, the department has nominated and voted in Cindy Carver to be the new chair, effective August 15. I and all of us thank Ji-Eun Lee for her service as TDES chair; she has worked hard and helped the department tremendously. In Counseling, Todd Liebert will start a three year term, also August 15. I'm sure that Todd will continue and build on the great work that Lisa Hawley has done as the long-standing chair of Counseling. Lisa was our longest-serving chair and her tenure is a testament to the trust that the Counseling department has in her leadership.

On Saturday, I had the pleasure of attending the graduate research symposium. Now in its fourteenth year, the symposium is a highlight for students. Eileen Johnson, who already has so many responsibilities as chair of Department of Organizational Leadership, did a great job coordinating the symposium. The keynote speaker, Alycia Meriweather, is currently serving as Interim Superintendent of the Detroit Public School Community District. She is a powerful speaker and a tireless advocate for Detroit. One marker of a great keynote is the line of people who want to talk with her afterward; at the symposium, she was gracious enough to spend half an hour after her keynote talking with individuals. Our graduate students' presentations were fantastic. They are doing excellent work, expertly mentored by our faculty. If you haven't attended this event, put it on your calendar for next year.

At the recent Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Oakland University was very well represented. There were sixteen research presentations by faculty, on topics ranging from Kindergarten entry to life as an assistant professor. We also had leadership roles at AERA, with faculty members serving as session chairs and discussants. This year, commencement and AERA happened simultaneously, so we weren't able to put on a dinner or reception as we have in years past. Next year. :)

A major focus in the next year will be moving forward with updates to the elementary teacher preparation program. The elementary working group and its committees have been working on this for some time and will continue to do so. Changes in state licensure and the nationwide P-12 landscape necessitate a thoughtful, well-reasoned, comprehensive approach. Over the summer, a small group of faculty will be examining other successful models and putting together a recommendation for a prototype new program. I'm looking forward to seeing the fruits of their efforts.

There is also a considerable amount to be done around continuous improvement and accreditation. The accreditation and continuous improvement committee met this week to talk about a new committee structure to be implemented in fall. Catherine Wigent will be facilitating getting that set up and put in place.

Also in the accreditation neighborhood, the Counseling department is getting ready for a visit by CACREP, their accrediting body. Over the summer, Lisa Hawley will be undertaking a big chunk of the tasks to be accomplished.

In an effort that encompasses both continuous improvement and development, we'll be sending out pairs of our current students to interview alumni about their experiences at OU. We hope to reach out to graduates and connect them with our programs, as well as to get their perspectives on their experiences while they were here. We should have data to present at the first fall assembly; stay tuned.

Bottom line? Summer is a great opportunity to breathe a little easier. I'm hoping to get out on the motorcycle more and to spend time with my wife and daughter. I hope that you are able to do the things that bring you joy as well. It's also a great time to address large scale, long term projects that can be hard to get to during the hurly burly of the academic year. I hope you're also able to do some of that.

CELEBRATIONS



ABOUT THE SEHS BULLETIN

The SEHS Bulletin is a place 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: jmsilves@oakland.edu.

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

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