

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

School of Education and Human Services



IN THE NEWS

Dani Resh Publishes First Book

Dani Resh, office assistant for the SEHS Advising Office, recently had her first book, *Compass to Vinland*, published by Warren Publishing. *Compass to Vinland* is a middle-grade fantasy and is the first in *The Magic Shoes Series*.

“My intention for this book, right from the beginning, was to connect with young readers, keep them reading and take them on a wild adventure,” Resh said. “Dealing with all the pressures of adolescence, I’ve found that there is nothing better than the comfort of a heartfelt story.”

Compass to Vinland is told through the eyes of Wren Larkin and his two unlikely friends, who discover three pairs of magic shoes. In a matter of days, Wren is immersed into a whole new reality that will take him on an incredible journey and reveal a lineage that might be better left secret.

For more information about the book, visit [Dani’s website](#) or pick up a copy through [Barnes & Noble](#) or [Amazon](#). It is also available to check out in the ERL.

Congratulations, Dani!



SEHS Alumna Receives Rising Star Award

Dr. Anita Hicks, who graduated from OU in 2019 as the first



student to earn an Ed.D. from SEHS, was recently recognized by the National Association of College Auxiliary Services (NACAS) with its Rising Star Award. Hicks, who currently serves as the assistant director of the Oakland Center, received the award for her work within auxiliary services and as a member of the NACAS Central Board of Directors. Hicks was also recognized in President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz's recent "Points of Pride" newsletter for her achievement.



Congratulations, Anita!

IN THE NEWS

Lowry Kids Count

On Monday, November 1, students from Dr. Dawn Woods' EED 3300 Mathematics 1 methods class visited the Lowry Center to work in small groups with children in the two preschool and two pre-kindergarten classrooms. The OU students brought collections of materials for the children to explore. With these materials, children practiced oral counting, explored counting strategies and grouped objects in strategic ways. The OU students also asked children to represent their thinking by drawing how they counted on paper.



"With just a little extra planning to follow protocols for COVID safety, it was great to start having OU students from other courses and programs back in the Lowry Center," said Dr. Julie Ricks-Doneen, associate professor for the Department of Human Development and Child Studies.



Jenny Harp, a Pre-K teacher, emailed Ricks-Doneen on the day of the small group activities:

"I just wanted to reach out and tell you that having Dawn Woods' math students this morning was very enjoyable. Our students seemed engaged with all the activities. The girls with my group were very good — calm, appropriate language, patient, talked with each child, problem-solved appropriately, the kids loved the manipulatives they were using, and [it was] just a pleasant teaching experience. They gave the children enough time to explore and finish their activity. I was impressed by the girls with my group. Glad we can have students back in our room."

After debriefing with her students, Dr. Woods shared that the experience really helped them to make connections between theory and practice. For example, student Emily Schwab said, "I learned that the counting trajectory isn't linear, and we must know our students as individuals in order to apply equitable and differential teaching practices."

Dr. Woods added that the experience helped show her students that math is "joyful and engaging."

"They are simply asked to count," student Cassidy Tisler said. "They are simply able to have fun with math and show what they know."



ERL Update: Campus Engagement

Greetings from the ERL! We all realize that interactions online are just not the same as in-person opportunities. We'd like to help counteract that "Zoom, thousand-yard stare" and encourage engagement. Please remind students that the ERL has plenty of space for them to meet, collaborate, socialize and study.



If you have an assignment that asks students to use ERL books or materials, they can easily plan to work here, and even sign out one of our quiet spaces as needed. You are welcome to book your class to meet in the ERL for a change of pace and venue as well. If you need Julie or Barb to present or offer guidance, we are here for you. Just let us know how we can best support you and your students!

All the best,

Alicia, Kristie, Julie and Barb

ABOUT THE SEHS NEWSLETTER

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 Newsletter" in the subject line and email your information to: ttyle@oakland.edu.

If you have questions about the bulletin, email Trevor Tyle at ttyle@oakland.edu.

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