



April 22, 2016

**ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS | IN THE NEWS  
CELEBRATIONS | ABOUT THE SEHS BULLETIN**

### **FROM THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES**

*From Reading and Language Arts Professor and Chair John McEneaney:*

The Department of Reading and Language Arts is very pleased to announce that Gwendolyn Thompson McMillon, associate professor of literacy in the department of Reading and Language Arts, has been promoted to full professor by the Oakland University Board of Trustees.



Dr. McMillon began her career at Oakland University in 2001. Her research examines the literacy experiences of African American students at school and in out-of-school learning environments. Her work focuses on ways to improve teaching and learning, increase successful border crossing between environments, and improve home-school-community connections. She is currently project director for *Raising a Standard of Excellence in Our Community Summer Program* (a 3-year, church-community center collaboration in Saginaw), and is working with the public libraries of Saginaw on the "1000 books before Kindergarten" early childhood initiative.

Dr. McMillon serves as the faculty advisor for the newly chartered Oakland University chapter of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education, and has played a significant role in revising the SEHS Personnel Review Statement as a member of the Committee on Appointment and Promotion. Dr. McMillon was also recently re-appointed treasurer of the Literacy Research Association, where she also serves on the Research Committee and the Conference Planning Committee. She is a member of Saginaw Public Schools Foundation Board, editorial review board for several journals, and serves in many church-related leadership capacities, recently receiving the 2016 "Faithful Steward" award from the Wolverine State Baptist Convention Women's Auxiliary for her advocacy for women and children.

We are very proud of Dr. McMillon's many accomplishments and are grateful for her willingness to step up in her new leadership role as a full professor in the School of Education and Human Services.



### **ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Sherri Oden and Ledong Li Receive Excellence in Mentoring Award**

Dr. Sherri Oden and Dr. Ledong Li have been selected as recipients of the 2016 SEHS Excellence in Mentoring Faculty Award. They will receive \$500 to support their professional development activities.

**Congratulations to both Sherri and Ledong!**



## IN THE NEWS

### SEHS Represented at Autism Gala

Several SEHS faculty, staff, and administrators attended the 5th annual Michigan Shines for Autism Gala, presented by DTE Energy Foundation on April 16, 2016. Guests of honor and speakers included Lieutenant Governor, Brian Calley; Randy Lewis; Dave Meador; Colleen Allen; and Dr. Bair and Nick Bair. The Autism Alliance of Michigan (AAOM) works very hard to improve the quality of life for individuals with autism through education, comprehensive services, community awareness, inclusion efforts, and coordinated advocacy.



### Updates from the Lowry Center

The Reading Wall of Fame at the Lowry Center filled up quickly this year. Nearly 125 readers visited the classrooms during March is Reading Month. Readers included Lowry family members and the SEHS/OU community. Thank you to all who participated!



On Wednesday, April 6, Lowry students and their families engaged in hands-on activities related to children's literature at Family Literature Night. This event was hosted by Oakland University students taking *EC 322: Language Arts, Literacy and Creative Arts*, guided by Julie Burns-Ross. The evening was funded by the Jerry and Annette Johns Books for Kids Fund. A wonderful night was had by everyone!



Lowry teachers, Jennifer Harp and Margaret Mudge attended the MiAEYC Early Childhood Conference in Grand Rapids on March 31 and April 1. Margaret presented on the topic, *Utilizing the Project Approach in the Preschool/Pre-K Classroom* on Thursday and Friday.



#### **Cindy Carver Named to AACTE Clinical Practice Commission**

Cynthia Carver was recently named to the AACTE Clinical Practice Commission. The charge of the commission is to identify a set of criteria that define clinical practice, lifting up exemplary models in the field and ultimately publishing a set of recommendations for teacher preparation programs nationwide.

Roderick Lucero, Commission Chair and AACTE Vice President of Membership, invited Carver's participation after learning more about the role of clinical practice in the Avondale/OU Partnership.



#### **Grad Path Lean Workout Team Recognized by Oakland University**

An internal team within Oakland University has been recognized for its work on the Grad Path Lean Workout. The Grad Path Team streamlined the process for transfer students and to assist students in graduating in a timely manner. The team was recognized by the OU Team Award Program Committee for showcasing how Oakland University can both strengthen and improve its effectiveness in meeting the needs of students.

Members of the team included:

- Mark Doman, School of Education and Human Services
- Dennis Wade, Pawley Lean Institute
- Tricia Westergaard, Office of the Registrar
- Paul Battle, Office of the Registrar
- Ellen Keaton, Office of the Registrar
- Josh Stotts, Office of the Registrar
- Chris Earl, Office of the Registrar
- Anne Hitt, College of Arts and Sciences
- Shannon Esselink, Arts and Sciences Advising
- Carmen Etienne, School of Engineering and Computer Science
- Brad Carson, OU student, alumnus, and Office of the Registrar
- Jillian Borders, OU student, alumna
- Susan Awbrey, Provost Office
- Steve Shablin, Registrar

The team will be invited to a luncheon hosted by President George Hynd and be recognized at the Board of Trustees Formal Session on June 6, 2016.

#### **CELEBRATIONS**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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SHARON HILLER  
SCHOOL AND FIELD SERVICES

JIM HANSEN  
COUNSELING

MARGARET MUDGE  
LOWRY

*If you do not wish to have your birthday announced, please contact James Silvestri at [jmsilves@oakland.edu](mailto: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](mailto:sehs@oakland.edu).

*If you have questions about the bulletin, feel free to email James Silvestri at [jmsilves@oakland.edu](mailto:jmsilves@oakland.edu).*



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