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MENU



February 6, 2015

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FROM THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

From Associate Professor and Director of the Lowry Center Julie Ricks-Doneen:

I can't remember at exactly which SEHS assembly Interim Dean Maxfield described the work of SEHS as "real programs, serving real people, in real schools, organizations and communities." I have thought about that phrase frequently over the past year, since I never feel more in touch with "real" than when I am wearing my hat as the Faculty Director of Lowry, a setting where my research, teaching and service intersect almost daily!

At our most recent SEHS Assembly, we were challenged to try to articulate how our work in various programs reflects our mission and goals. It was so energizing to hear examples of the authentic and multi-faceted work of our SEHS faculty and students. Two upcoming family events at Lowry, as well as other family activities at the center, helped me to reflect further about this. In February and March, undergraduate students in the *Language Arts, Literacy and Creative Arts* course and students in the *Science and Math: Curriculum and Assessment* course will be developing and providing interactive stations for families to explore. This innovative and collaborative approach between the Lowry Center and the EC academic program reflects the SEHS goals:



Fostering student success through a robust teaching and learning environment with comprehensive student services.

By providing students with opportunities to interact with families in an exemplary early childhood setting, we are directly linking their course experiences with the MDE standards as well as providing an authentic and nurturing environment in which to practice their skills.

Be recognized as a strong research and scholarly environment, focused on creative endeavors and the discovery, dissemination and utilization of knowledge.

During their coursework, students are introduced to evidence-based best practice, which they begin to make sense of and in turn articulate and share with wider audiences, such as our Lowry families and colleagues. Additionally, Lowry's strong history of family involvement provides a natural setting for research about and with families, for both faculty and graduate students.

Become a leader in serving the needs and aspirations of our communities and region through expanded community relationships, institutional reputations and visibility, and engagement.

By providing content-focused activities, as well as innovative formats, our family and community events and projects provide a great deal of visibility for the Lowry Center, SEHS, and the entire University. Each year, we are pleasantly surprised by the number of people attending our events. Our collaboration with Oakland Schools and Great Start Collaborative also supports county-wide data collection of developmental screening data and family forums such as our Parent Café's, being held for the third year in a row and facilitated by Lowry teacher leaders.

IN THE NEWS

Call for Presenters for New Faculty Research Forum

Soundings is a new monthly faculty research forum, in which faculty from across Oakland University come together to share and discuss current and proposed research. The forum will take place monthly (or semi-monthly, if there is enough interest among faculty) on the third Thursday of the month, from noon - 1pm in 208 Oak View Hall.

For additional information, view the **complete flier** (<https://www.oakland.edu/upload/docs/SEHS/Newsletters/Call%20for%20Presenters.pdf>) or contact Eileen Johnson (<mailto:johnso10@oakland.edu?subject=Soundings%20Inquiry>).



New SEHS Research Statement

The Research and Support Committee (RSC) is in the process of creating a new SEHS research statement. Located below is the draft they have created. Thoughts and ideas on the statement will be welcomed at the next SEHS School Assembly.

Research is a vital part of the mission of the School of Education and Human Resources. We believe that research is an essential part of providing first class undergraduate and graduate education. Research not only informs our program offerings but also the pedagogical approaches of our highly regarded faculty. Our innovative researchers explore the most critical issues in education and human resources working closely with practitioners to facilitate effective and inclusive school and work environments. Essentially, our researchers promote evidenced-based policy and practices that enhance faculty scholarship and student preparation for leadership.



DSM-V Debate

On January 30, a debate over the usefulness of the DSM-V, a mental health diagnostic manual, was sponsored by Chi Sigma Iota, the counseling student honor society.

James Hansen, a professor in the department of Counseling and Phil O'Dwyer, an adjunct professor in the department, were the participants in the debate. The event was well attended and will be posted on youtube in the near future.



Lowry Hosts Kindergarten Readiness Workshop

The Lowry Center for Early Childhood Education hosted a Kindergarten Readiness Workshop for Parents on Thursday, February 5, 2015.

Nearly 40 parents attended the session, presented by Rochester teachers Cheryl Becker and Barb Wilkins (former Lowry teachers). Parents were able to learn about preparation for and expectations during kindergarten.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar Featuring Caryn Wells - February 12, 2015

Caryn Wells, professor in the department of Organizational Leadership, is nationally recognized as a leading scholar on the topic of "Mindfulness for Educational Leaders." She will be featured in a free webinar on February 12th, from 11-11:50.

The Webinar will be broadcast via GoToMeeting, with roughly 20 available seats. If you are interested, RSVP to tcreigh@vt.edu (and copy bbizzell@radford.edu). An email will be sent to you with a link to the Webinar on the day it is being held.

Brief description of Dr. Wells' presentation:

Stress and Educational Leaders

Leaders operate in organizations that present challenges and opportunities, with problems that are complex and without easy answers. The challenges for leaders are considerable with stress being a common denominator. Despite the challenges caused by the stress of leading, leaders can successfully respond, suggesting that a crisis can be an opportunity for learning and growth. Knowing how to respond to a crisis is a skill that can be cultivated. It is possible to develop emotional intelligence, restore relationships and be effective as a leader after difficult challenges or threats have emerged.

**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?subject=SEHS%20Bulletin).

If you have questions about the bulletin, feel free to email James Silvestri at jmsilves@oakland.edu (mailto:jmsilves@oakland.edu?subject=SEHS%20Bulletin).



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