Welcome to The School of Education
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The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

Achievements and Accolades

Kudos to Dr. Deb Figart for having her article “Institutionalist Policies for Financial Inclusion” accepted for publication in the December issue of the Journal of Economic Issues.

Students chose our very own Dr. Darrell Cleveland as a faculty member of the year. Congratulations also go to Dr. Amy Ackerman for being selected as a Peer Evaluation of Teaching participant in this summer’s institute.

In addition, kudos go out to Dr. Joe Marchetti for his being named to the NASPA (Student Affairs Personnel) Faculty Advisory Board.

Warm wishes for much continued success also go out to Dr. Jeremy Ervin, who has been selected to serve as Dean of Education at Cedarville College starting in Fall 2013.

To our Alternate Route candidate, Mariam Hussein, we also send our collective congratulations for having landed the job at Mullica Township Middle School.

Teacher Quality: Stockton’s Commitment and the US News Ahead

As you may have read in your education news sources, the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) has announced that US News & World Reports will publish its review of the nation’s education schools on 6/18. Please join me in informing your students, colleagues and friends about who NCTQ is, what their work entails, and what they have requested of Stockton.

The School of Education at Stockton is proud to hold both, regional accreditation from the Middle States Commission and national accreditation from TEAC. We believe strongly in evidence-based standards for excellence, and we publicly report our student outcomes data in an annual Title II report, in addition to reporting similar quality indicators to AACTE, to TEAC and to Middle States. We were proud to receive a 100% clean audit report of successful teacher preparation outcomes, recommended for unconditional re-accreditation through 2020.

However, NCTQ has not incorporated these quality measures into its requests for information. Rather, like hundreds of other Education Schools nationwide, Stockton has received and responded to several Open Public Records requests for syllabi. From these requests we can only expect that the NCTQ review will be based on input, rather than outcomes data.

Funded primarily by the privately held Gates and Broad Foundations, NCTQ describes itself as “a non-profit, nonpartisan research and policy group committed to restructuring the teaching profession, led by our vision that every child deserves effective teachers.” Diane Ravitch served on the board that founded NCTQ (blog entry) and discloses that NCTQ is the parent organization for the American (not to be confused with the National) Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence, where teachers can earn certification, completely online, in ten states for $1,995 (ABCTE.org).

In contrast, funded by Congress, the US Department of Education recognizes two national accrediting agencies for assuring quality in teacher education programs: NCATE and TEAC. Both organizations have undergone the federal recognition process, including open public comment and review by the Council of Higher Education Accreditation. However, NCTQ has not undergone similar public scrutiny and holds no formal authority for assuring quality in education programs beyond its own statements, reports and private grant funds.

As such, NCTQ has self-published several previous reports on its web site, following its own set of standards, completely independent of federally recognized standards. One recent NCTQ report gave the state of New Jersey a D+ for failure to make progress on 36 policy goals that NCTQ has also self-defined, absent any grounded research for the goals, such as “the state does not offer a license with minimal requirements that would allow content experts to teach part time.” The self-published NCTQ reports are available at www.nctq.org.

Thank you, as always, for your commitment to high-quality teacher education. When you receive notification that the survey has been released, please share what you know about Stockton, about quality assurance and about NCTQ with your friends and colleagues.
New Jersey Department of Education: Shifting Gears Workshop June 6

As part of its ongoing efforts to assist principals, curriculum supervisors and teachers with implementing the Common Core Curriculum, the New Jersey Department of Education is offering a “Shifting Gears” workshop at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey on June 6.

Designed to spotlight the Common Core, this workshop will begin with a half-day presentation by NJ DOE Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Tracey Severns, in the Event Room of our Campus Center. The workshop will be videotaped and made available for later viewing by the NJ DOE.

In the afternoon, additional staff members from the NJ DOE will be presenting breakout sessions by subject area.

The Elementary (Math and ELA combined) and the two focused breakout sessions on Math and ELA individually will also be videotaped for later viewing. The workshop is filled with 500 registrants.

Very limited spaces may still be available for volunteers who would like to assist with registration and directing guests around the Stockton campus for the workshop; contact soe@stockton.edu if you would like to participate.

DOE will also be hosting two Student Growth Objectives training sessions at Stockton on June 19. Register here.

Mark Your Calendars

5/29 Anti-Bullying Conference
6/5 Teacher Recognition Event
6/6 NJDOE Shifting Gears
6/15 Legacy Bike Ride
6/17 Summer C&D Begin
6/21-7/2 Freshman Orientation
7/1 Summer H Term Begins
7/8-12 Transfer Orientation
7/17 Summer E Term Begins
7/24 NJEA TechCon
Learn strategies for using iPads in the classroom, SMARTBoards, GoogleDocs for educators, and more!
8/8 PadCamp Galloway MS
Attend a free “unconference” on tablets and other mobile devices in K-12 education with Dr. Douglas Harvey.
8/22/13 TeachMeetNJ is a free “unconference” for K-12 educators sharing technology in education.

Want to learn more about what an “unconference” might be?

Listen to Kyle Calderwood’s TeacherCast talk.

Spotlight on The Bridge from the New Jersey Department of Education

In the May issue of The Bridge, there are dozens of resources, news items and helpful Q&A sections designed just for New Jersey educators.

Of particular note for all teachers and professional development specialists is the new Student Growth Objectives Guidebook, available for free download (with an appendix of fillable forms) from the Achieve NJ web site.

Most useful to technology specialists and administrators preparing for PARCC assessment is the quick “Rule of Thumb” guidance list for devices, with links to the most recent planning guide from PARCC.

And finally, the excellent introduction to text-dependent questions in the Common Core with a link to the free resources that the folks at AchieveTheCore have been assembling will be valuable to our candidates, to teachers, to supervisors and to principals.

“The years teach much which the days will never know.”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson
Were you a Cooperating Teacher who hosted an observation/practicum or student teacher this past year? If so, please join us for a special reception to thank you:

Wed June 5 at 4:00pm in the Campus Center

To rsvp, email soe@stockton.edu

FREE from the Library of Congress to quench your thirst for Gatsby materials: Teaching the 20s.

People continues to accept nominations for their 2013 Teacher of the Year through June 7 for six prizes of $5,000 each. More.

Resources & Opportunities for Current Students and Recent Alumni

Ed.Gov wants to be sure all students and recent grads are fully informed about student loans. Visit the blog to learn five things you can do and what’s next for the class of 2013.

First Lady Michelle Obama gave a rousing commencement address to the graduates of Bowie State University. If you missed it on cbsnews, view the archive when you can.

Have you signed up for the free Share My Lesson website yet? Created by teachers, for teachers in collaboration between the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and the American Federation of Teachers, the resources grow every day.

How does the “flipped” classroom work? EdWeek has been publishing a series of articles that spotlight this high-tech, high-touch combination of best practices. The latest in this series focuses on a middle school science teacher, whose work with Google tools and devices has “flipped” his own role in the classroom, too.

Resources & Opportunities for Teachers, Supervisors and Faculty

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Have you joined project RESPECT yet? Visit the web site for more information and to sign up for the newsletter.

The National Center for Innovation in Career and Technical Innovation has launched a new CTE site filled with resources.
Our School of Education prepares new K-12 teachers for TEAC-accredited initial certification. We emphasize more and better field experiences than most other pre-service programs in New Jersey.

We also offer three graduate programs: for master teachers, for instructional technologists and for aspiring educational leaders. Many of our courses lead to additional state certifications and endorsements, and all can be customized to meet your needs, both at our Stockton locations in Galloway, Atlantic City, Hammonton, Manahawkin or Woodbine, as well as anywhere within your school district. Special group and on-site tuition pricing plans are available as well.

Our Southern Regional Institute & Educational Technology Training Center (SRI & ETTC) offers professional development aimed at increasing student achievement. Our Centers for Community Schools and Financial Literacy fulfill our commitment to excellence in student and community engagement.

From the Dean’s Desk

Dear Friends of our School,
At a recent meeting with a TEAC national accreditation panel, we learned that both, our TEDU undergraduate and our MAED graduate programs will be recommended for unconditional (no weaknesses, no stipulations) accreditation through 2020. The final step in the process will happen on June 24, when the panel makes its recommendation to the TEAC Board.

As you know, TEAC accreditation ensures that our programs are meeting our claims: to prepare competent, qualified, caring educators in our pre-service and graduate programs. The State of New Jersey requires professional accreditation of all programs leading to licensure.

Once again, we thank our alumni, students, faculty, staff, partners and the TEAC audit team for participating in this important quality assurance process.

We are proud of your achievements, often reported in this newsletter. Last year’s New Jersey State Teacher of the Year, Jeanne DelColle, and this year’s Atlantic County Teacher of the Year, Theresa Dougherty, are both graduates of our programs.

We are proud of our partnerships with so many of our districts, not only as recipients of our practica and student teachers, but also as senders of candidates to our masters degree programs and as members of our SRI & ETTC consortium.

As we all prepare to read the upcoming US News ranking of Teacher Preparation Programs, we thank you in advance for your ongoing support of our School.

As always, please email keenanc@stockton.edu any time.

Sincerely,
Dr. “ClauDean” Keenan