Notes from the Dean...

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

There is so much to be proud about in this special issue of the Educator. Several reports document the involvement of our students in various national activities. Our students, with guidance from our professors, are winning national championships, like the prestigious NASCAR award that went to our Sport Administration students. Congratulations to them on this terrific achievement.

Several of our faculty members have been recognized nationally for their contributions with fellowships and various honors. Read more about your colleagues inside.

The semester ended with festive occasions marked by graduation and our own award ceremony. It was just wonderful to read about the many accomplishments of our students. But it was not all fun at the end of the semester; we also worked to the very last minute as a group. We held a very successful retreat with faculty, students, and staff, to discuss our next strategic plan. We spent four dynamic hours talking to each other about our future priorities for the school. During the summer Marilyn Neff and I will summarize the main themes that emerged from the retreat and recommend next steps.

I guess that for those of you who were not at the retreat, and missed the announcement, I’m pleased to report that the Provost and President have asked me to stay as Dean for a second term. I appreciate the vote of confidence of faculty and administration at the University. I have enjoyed working with you and for you the last five years. I look forward to a productive second term as your Dean.

While you contend with me, there is a person that you will miss. Okhee Lee, our great friend and colleague, is transitioning to New York University, to continue her stellar career there. Okhee spent the last 22 years at the University of Miami, and we are all immensely thankful to her for her distinguished service in the School of Education. She is an exemplary colleague and we wish her all the best in her new academic home. The good part of this transition is that Okhee will come back periodically for the next two years to work on her grants. We wish her all the best, and I wish you all a restful and reinvigorating summer.

Isaac

Upcoming Events

6/12/11 - Upward Bound summer program begins
6/13-18/11 - Holocaust Institute
6/20-7/1/11 - Zelda Glazer & Eveleen Lorton Writing Institute
7/20/11 - Upward Bound Awards banquet
8/8-19/11 - Teach for America
The student Exercise Physiology Organization, EPO, had another successful year with the club's newly elected student president Laura Quiorla. The club is committed to promoting guidance on physical activity and nutrition to foster physical well-being in communities, while rewarding club members with resume-building experiences that will enhance their future. EPO’s premed students were able to scrub-in and observe open heart surgeries at Jackson Memorial Hospital thanks to a collaboration with the Department of Anesthesiology and the kindness of Dr. Ernesto Pretto, Chief of the Division of Solid Organ Transport. Once again, EPO held several successful Health Fairs this year, including two on campus, one for the attendees at the Global Business Forum, and a third annual health fair at LaGorce Country Club in Miami Beach. These events provided guests with noninvasive and time-efficient measurements of their cardiovascular fitness, body composition, and posture with accompanying dietary and physical activity recommendations. Since obesity and metabolic health is more important now than ever, clients were provided detailed EPO reports that emphasized strategies to recognize and combat cardio-metabolic disease symptoms. Finally, as a way to celebrate health, fitness, and general well-being with the University of Miami Community, EPO held the Second Annual Health Week on the Coral Gables Campus during the week of February 28th to March 4th. Health Week consisted of activities and student-taught lectures on various exercise physiology and nutrition topics, including: how to create effective weight loss programs, choosing optimum nutrition for health, building muscle mass and strength, and a lecture entitled "Exercise, Our Dreaded Second Job." Each lecture was held in large classrooms with stadium seating, were very well attended, and a great success. The School of Education's Exercise Physiology Program has been growing tremendously over the last few years, and this student organization, with its many opportunities for students, has played a large role in generating enthusiasm among students on campus about this program and field of study.

Project SOLVE IT!

Dr. Marjorie Montague, a professor in the School of Education, was awarded a three-year $1.6 million research grant titled, Solve It! - Grades 5-6: Improving Math Problem Solving for Students with Learning Disabilities. The research is funded by the Institute of Education Science, U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of the project is to modify an existing intervention that was validated in previous research by Dr. Montague with middle school students with learning disabilities in inclusive math classrooms in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

The National Assessment of Educational Performance in 2007 indicated that 40% of participating grade 4 students with disabilities scored below the basic level compared to 15% of grade 4 students without disabilities. The gap widened in grade 8 and again in grade 12 with 83% of students with disabilities scoring below the basic level compared to 36% of their nondisabled peers.

To meet the national and state standards in mathematics, students with disabilities in urban schools, who vary considerably in ability, achievement, and motivation, must develop the necessary problem-solving skills needed not only to perform well on mathematics assessments, but also to apply these skills successfully in real world settings.

A new book written as part of a recent doctoral seminar on Content Analysis conducted by Professor Eugene F. Provenzo, Jr. has been published. Titled The Textbook as Discourse: Sociocultural Dimensions of American Schoolbooks (New York: Routledge, 2011), the book was co-authored with Annis Shaver (Cedarville University) and Manuel Bello (Miami Dade Community College). The book combines both original articles and selected works from the field, and looks at the social, political and cultural content of elementary and secondary textbooks in American education. Its theoretical framework is drawn from the work of the French social theorist Michel Foucault and argues that textbooks are critical vehicles for cultural transfer and are part of a society’s larger social/political discourse.
More than 70 University of Miami faculty, staff, and students served as judges at the Miami-Dade Science and Engineering Expo last month at the Miami Dade College North Campus Science Complex. During the Expo, elementary, middle, and high school students competed in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through the South Florida Regional Science and Engineering Fair, the Elementary Science Fair, and the Science, Engineering, Communication, Mathematics Enhancement (SECME) Olympiad and Festival.

The chief of police (far left) and Miami-Dade County Public Schools superintendent (fourth from right) stand with faculty, staff, and doctoral students from the Promoting Science among English Language Learners (P-SELL) research project of the School of Education. From left to right are Charles Hurley, chief of police for Miami-Dade County Public Schools; Okhee Lee, professor of teaching and learning at UM’s School of Education and principal investigator of P-SELL; Jaime Maerten-Rivera; Kimberly Lanier; Resma Kittrell; Georgina Lindskoog; Rose Rohrer; Miami-Dade Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho; Brandon Diamond; Ryan Pontier; and Anne Corrine Huggins.

The students in the Athletic Training Education Program (ATEP) attended the 26th Annual SEATA Athletic Training Student Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia on February 3-5, 2011. This educational meeting was a great opportunity for the Athletic Training majors to network and interact with other athletic training students from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. During the educational session, students engaged in laboratories that included topics such as spine boarding, casting, bracing, and orthotic making. In addition, the senior ATs attended seminars that reviewed important competencies to prepare them for the Board of Certification exam.

In addition, we are extremely proud of the University of Miami’s Quiz Bowl team which finished in 2nd place, competing to represent District IX at the National Quiz Bowl at the National Athletic Trainers Association conference in New Orleans. The Quiz Bowl had over 20 athletic training education programs contending and we came in a strong second place. The team consisted of seniors Nancy Melnyk, Jeff Cournoyer, Karl Rennalls, and junior Julia Rapicavoli. Congrats to the team and everyone that supported them.

It was a fantastic meeting and a great time was had by all.
Lauren’s Long Walk for a Cause

On April 26th, Lauren Book climbed the steps of the historic capitol in Tallahassee, Florida, to tell anyone who would listen “that it’s okay to talk about the topic” of sexual abuse, because it could help save a child from suffering the same fate she endured as a young girl. Her “Rally in Tally,” as she calls it, brought an end to a 39-day, 1,000-mile walk across Florida to raise awareness about the issue.

On Thursday, March 24th, she made a stop on the University of Miami’s Coral Gables campus, speaking to students at a rally at the Hecht-Stanford labyrinth and later at the UM Bookstore, where she signed copies of her new book *It’s OK to Tell: A Story of Hope and Recovery*.

Her message was the same as it has been at all of her stops.

“Sexual predators thrive in darkness,” she said. “We need to protect children by shining a light into the dark. We have to be the voice for those who don’t have voices. There was no one there to speak for me, so I want to speak for others.”

Founder of Lauren’s Kids, an initiative that helps educate adults and children about sexual abuse, Book suffered years of sexual abuse by her live-in nanny. After years of therapy, she became an outspoken proponent for tougher sex-offender laws and continues to be a crusader on the issue.

She is lobbying for the passage of a bill that would provide financial assistance for survivors of sexual violence; raise fines for sex offenders, with the money going into a fund to help survivors; and make Internet safety tutoring mandatory for school-age children.

No Zebras, a UM student organization dedicated to promoting awareness about sexual assault, partnered with Book on her UM stop, helping to organize the rally, book signing, and a walk around the Coral Gables campus.

“I have friends who are survivors of sexual abuse. This is my way of giving them a voice, my way of saying I’m speaking up for you,” said Taeketra Haynes, president of No Zebras. The organization is so named because it urges people to take action when they witness situations of sexual aggression instead of adopting the bystander mentality often exhibited by zebras when a member of their herd is attacked.

Book, who earned a bachelor’s degree from UM three years ago and is now a master’s degree candidate in the School of Education’s Community and Social Change Program, said it is important for initiatives like No Zebras to get involved because they can help college students, who are often at a higher risk for being victims of sexual assault, become aware of resources.

“It’s important that they know there are places they can go to get help,” she said.

Israel Teaching Fellows

100 outstanding North American college graduates will be selected to close the achievement gap in Israel’s education system through volunteering as English teachers’ aides in schools throughout Israel.

About the Program
- 10 Month Program (August-June) for college graduates between the ages of 21-30.
- Participants will receive intensive training and will be placed in schools as English Teachers’ aides.
- Program includes local support staff, optional host families, and ongoing teacher training.

Apply today at [www.israelteachingfellows.org](http://www.israelteachingfellows.org)
A University of Miami team of five students from our SOE Sport Administration program, led by Justin Leiser, won the national NASCAR Kinetics: Marketing in Motion contest. The team, in addition to Leiser, included Alex Bryant, Ethan Alpern, Lucas Schutt, and Matt Small. Placing ahead of eleven other universities, including Oklahoma State University, they had to complete case studies and projects that were based on actual business challenges encountered by NASCAR and its related industry partners and affiliates.

Part of the team’s success can be traced to the internship experiences the students had with Homestead-Miami Speedway and at the NASCAR Championship Weekend there. These internships are representative of the Sport Administration program’s emphasis on combining intriguing real world experiences with rigorous classroom learning. The team had the opportunity to put ideas into action and to provide NASCAR with some creative marketing ideas. The students also became involved with official NASCAR partners M&M, Coca-Cola, Nationwide Insurance, and Growth Energy to further their promotional efforts.

Leiser said the team members were fairly optimistic about their chances of success, but realized that the competition was still going to be very close. Bryant credited the promotional guidance and support of the Homestead-Miami Speedway as a major factor in helping the team win.

As a result of their victory, the team got the opportunity to fly to Charlotte, North Carolina in May as the guests of NASCAR for SPRINT All-Star Week. Joining them were their SOE faculty advisors Dr. Windy Dees and Dr. Warren Whisenant. While there, the students got a chance to meet with NASCAR affiliates, sponsors, and officials. Who knows? Maybe they even got some new ideas on how to win again next year!

**Bon Voyage...**

Dr. Okhee Lee will be leaving us after 22 years to continue her career at NYU.

Robin Shane will be retiring after 9 years at the University.

Dr. Loretta Corces will be retiring after the Spring 2011 semester. After 24 years with the University of Miami and 10 years as director of the Support Network, she will be dearly missed. Many of the Support Network mentors will be moving on to Project Include.
In the News...

**Professor Arlene Clachar** presented, "The Relationship between English-Lexified Creoles and the Acquisition of Lexico-Grammatical Register Features of Academic Discourse in the Digital Age" at the annual conference of the American Association of Applied Linguistics in Chicago yesterday. Contact her at aclachar@miami.edu for more information on her paper and research.

**Dr. Arlette Perry** is pleased to announce that the new Nutrition track in the Exercise Physiology Major entitled "Nutrition for Health and Human Performance" has been approved by our Kinesiology and Sport Sciences Department. "We are very excited about the opportunity to further integrate the fields of Exercise Physiology and Nutrition for our graduate students," said Perry.

In recognition of their research contributions, **Dr. Randy Penfield and Dr. Walter Secada** were recently named fellows of the American Educational Research Association. The purpose of the AERA Fellows Program is to honor education researchers with substantial research accomplishments, and convey the association's commitment to excellence in research. AERA Fellows are known internationally for their outstanding contributions to education research. Fellows are nominated by their peers, selected and recommended by the Fellows Committee, and approved by the AERA Council, the Association's elected governing group. Penfield and Secada were inducted as fellows on April 9 during AERA's 92nd Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

**Dr. Etiony Aldarondo** recently received the 2011 Social Justice Award given by the Society of Counseling Psychology (Division 17) of the American Psychological Association.

**Dr. Robert McMahon** was honored with the Elder Recognition Award for distinguished contributions to Counseling Psychology by the American Psychological Association.

Condolences...

It is with great sadness that we write to inform you of the untimely passing of SOE doctoral student, **Erika Rolle**. Many of you will remember her as she finished her course work just a couple of years ago and was working on her dissertation proposal. Erika was also teaching at Ponce de Leon Middle School.

**Dr. Anita's Meinbach's** mother passed away this spring.

**Yvette Carpintero’s** mother and **Mary Carpintero’s** grandmother passed away this spring.
International Scholars Explore Human Flourishing  
by Dr. Blaine Fowers

An international, interdisciplinary conference on human flourishing was organized by faculty members Blaine Fowers (EPS Department) and Brad Cokelet (Philosophy Department) in February, 2011, admirably assisted by Counseling Psychology doctoral student Laura Cohen. The Eudaimonia (flourishing) and Virtue Conference was convened in response to a tremendous blossoming of scholarly and popular interest in the good life. It was the first of its kind in bringing together social scientists and philosophers to consider how ancient wisdom can help to enrich contemporary life. The Conference was generously supported by the University of Miami Ethics Programs and the Adrienne Arsht Ethics Initiatives http://www.miami.edu/index.php/ethics.

The conference featured 31 prominent scholars who discussed a variety of topics related to flourishing as a human being, including courage, wisdom, social connection, and purpose. A complete list of speakers, topics, and abstracts is available at http://education.miami.edu/Eudaimonia. The presentations were very well attended and accompanied by lively conversation, both during the post-presentation discussions and during refreshment breaks. The participants in the conference were so enthusiastic about the conference that they unanimously urged a continuing series of conferences on human flourishing in Miami, so watch for future meetings!

Faculty Spotlight...

The Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade is a spectacular show that airs each year on NBC on Thanksgiving morning. Over the past twelve years, Professor Karen Lew had the opportunity to serve as an Athletic Trainer for the Cheerleaders and Dancers that participate in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. Aside from Santa Claus and the Radio City Rockettes, the Cheerleaders and Dancers, has been the longest running group of performers in the parade.

As the athletic trainer for the performers, she typically arrives in New York City the Friday before Thanksgiving to prepare the performances that include over 1000 participants. Three days of practices are held prior to performing in front of the cameras on Monday evening in front of Macy’s located on 34th Street in New York City. Professor Lew’s primary responsibility is to oversee the healthcare of all of the dancers and cheerleaders. During any given practice, she may be observed stretching the dancers, taping ankles, or icing old injuries. Anything that falls within the purview of athletic medicine is handled by the First Aid Staff which she has served as the head of for the past 5 years. The First Aid Staff consists of Athletic Trainers, Nurses, EMTs, and athletic training students who are an integral part of the event.

Being a part of the Macy’s parade is very special. She has had the opportunity to work with 1000s of performers but to also meet and work with celebrities. Some of the people she has met and interacted with over the past twelve years include Regis and Kelly, Joe Torre and the Yankees, Lin Manuel Miranda, Gavin DeGraw, Bindi Erwin, Matt Lauer, Al Roker, Meredith Viera, and this year Jimmy Fallon, pictured above with Lew.

In 2006, she was awarded the Rollie Award for over six years of dedicated service to the parade and Macy’s. The Rollie award is named after Roland Macy and is Macy’s version of an Oscar. In 2010, she was given the M award. The Tiffany’s crystal M award is given to those that go above and beyond in making the performances and the parade a success. Professor Lew hopes to continue her involvement with the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day long into the future and have the opportunity to include students and staff that are a part of the University of Miami Athletic Training Program.
Conversations about Speed Interviewing by Laura Valdes, FEA Honors Society President

The University of Miami’s chapter of the Future Educators Association Honor Society hosted a special event, “Conversations about Speed Interviewing.” This important “conversation,” held on November 4, 2010, provided a glimpse into the interviewing process and gave students in the School of Education, Department of Teaching and Learning, insight into the interviewing process and provided opportunities for professional development.

Our guest “interviewers” who volunteered to share their time and talents with us were the “Who’s Who” of Miami-Dade Schools. Guests included Ms. Beulah Richards, a retired Principal; Ms. Chang from Miami Edison Senior High, Dean of Academic Affairs; Mr. Ruben Valencia from Gulliver, Director of Studies; Dr. Ruth Ceglia, also a retired principal and a UM graduate, Dr. Maria Saunders from Bridgepoint Academy, Principal; and Dr. Cristina Cruz-Ortiz from Sommerset Academy in Homestead, Principal.

Based on the popular “Speed Dating,” the first part of the event involved the interviewers, sitting with 3-4 students each for five minutes, asking specific questions that would help determine whether or not the student would be a good addition to their school. The interviewers emphasized factors that are important during an interview such as body language, eye contact, resume formatting, etc. Some interviewers asked questions that encouraged us to reflect on all we have learned in our Teaching and Learning classes. Questions included, “If I walk into your classroom, what will I see? What do you think about technology? What discipline system will you implement in your classroom?”

Once each group of students had a turn with all the interviewers, our guests shared their insights with the entire group. They shared their personal experiences of interviews they have conducted and together discussed “what works,” and “what doesn’t.” They also provided us with information and techniques to use before an interview. For example, it is important that one research the school’s philosophy before attending the interview to become familiarized with the school’s beliefs. One principal even suggested the importance of reading educational articles and relating it to an experience and knowing the “buzz words” such as “Differentiated Instruction” and “Classroom Management.” All students who attended the event had the opportunity to provide the interviewer with their resumes. This helped students with the format of an appropriate resume and gave them the chance to review with the interviewer what he/she may be looking for in a professional resume. For example, the size of the font should remain small and the resume should be kept to about one page. The administrators shared the importance of students writing their employee number and any prior experience they have had in a Miami-Dade County Public School. This makes the hiring process a lot easier for the administrator.

Towards the end of the night, a wealth of information was presented by our guest interviewers based on their experiences as administrators. Everyone felt a little more confident as to what a teacher might encounter during an interview and their application process. Hopefully, more events such as this one will take place to help prepare our future generation of teachers.

The University of Miami’s Global Academy
The Premier Online High School

http://umga.miami.edu/theglobalu_mailer.html
Pending Grants...

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Graduate Spotlight...

Kamela Patton (PhD. ’03), a 24 year veteran of Miami Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS), has become the new Superintendent of Collier County Public Schools. Dr. Patton was the Region II Director of Curriculum for MDCPS as well as a former teacher of the Year at Frank C. Martin Elementary in Kendall.
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PRESENTATIONS...


Owenz, M. B. & Fowers, B. J. (September, 2010). A developmental perspective on shared goals in young adulthood. Poster presented at the American Association for Marital and Family Therapists, Atlanta, GA.


PUBLICATIONS continued...


