

# The DeTail

Volume 1, Issue 2

Spring 2012

## Special points of interest:

- Student Teaching application deadline for fall 2012 is Jan. 31, 2012.
- Deadline to file for graduation in spring 2012 is Feb. 3, 2012 for both undergraduate and graduate degree seeking students.
- Graduate applications for summer 2012 are due by April 1, 2012.

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## Letter from the Chair

By Barbara Ridener, Ph.D.

The Department of Teaching and Learning (DTL) is actively engaged in a number of grants. In fact, we were just awarded two Florida Teacher Quality Grants in partnership with Palm Beach county schools.

These grants will focus on preparing teachers for the next generation Sunshine State Standards in geometry and U.S. history.

In addition, DTL faculty members presently are involved in the following grant programs:

- Julie Lambert, Associate Professor, is the principal investigator (PI) for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

climate and science literacy grant, concentrating on curriculum, and co-PI for the California State University Channel Islands NASA grant, focusing on professional development;

- Nancy Romance, Professor, is the PI for the United States Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences (IES) grant, centering on vocabulary acquisition.

We are very excited about all of these opportunities to affect change in a number of disciplines

in the field of education. We continue to look at other grant opportunities that appear every day.



**Barbara Ridener, Ph.D., Chair  
Department of Teaching & Learning**

## Publisher, COE Host Authors' Tea



Dr. Katherine Powell, Dr. Janet Towell, and Dr. Susannah Brown (pictured from left to right) teamed up for a book signing, luncheon, and tea with the authors.

All three are faculty members of the Department of Teaching and Learning. The event celebrated the signing of their new Literacy text. It was held on Nov. 29, 2011 on the Boca Raton campus and hosted by Cengage/Wadsworth Education and the College of Education (COE).

## Updated DTL Adjunct Handbook Posted

The Adjunct Handbook for the Department of Teaching and Learning (DTL) has been updated. For the latest information on some important processes such as inputting grades and scheduling training in LiveText and Blackboard, visit the following link: <http://www.coe.fau.edu/academicdepartments/tl/documents/NewAdjunctHandbook.pdf>.

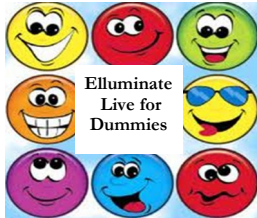
Be sure to check out the sections on the "Culture of Electronic Assessment," "Adjunct Timeline" and "Adjunct Requirements." In addition, a sample syllabus and sample curriculum vitae (cv) are included for reference.

Adjunct faculty members are required to submit their syllabus electronically, as well as their resume/cv, and official transcript to DTL prior to the start of the semester.

LiveText training must also be completed during the first two weeks of each semester.

The department's handbook is an additional guide to the College of Education's Adjunct Faculty Handbook, which can be accessed at <http://www.coe.fau.edu/e-forms/Adjuncthand.pdf>. Contact Senior Secretary Catherine Politi at [cpoliti@fau.edu](mailto:cpoliti@fau.edu) or at 561-297-3621 with questions or for assistance.

## DTL Associate Professor Participates in Technology Showcase



Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel, Associate Professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, shows how to create an Elluminate Live session to her colleagues during one of nine sessions held on Oct. 1, 2011 at the Marleen and Harold Forkas Alumni Center.

The session was part of the Third Annual Teaching with Technology Showcase sponsored by Florida Atlantic University's Center for eLearning, Center for Teaching and Learning, and Information Resource Management (IRM).

Among the features Dr. Marinaccio-Eckel demonstrated were how students can talk and send video, and how instructors can make comments in a chat box while students present, upload PowerPoint presentations and create break out sessions so students can collaborate. The



Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel demonstrates the many capabilities of Elluminate Live (now known as Blackboard Collaborate).

whiteboard can be used for demonstration or guided practice. Also, instructors can ask polling questions to keep students on task or can track changes on students' papers.

IRM offers training to interested faculty members at <https://swise.fau.edu/training>. For support visit <http://support.blackboardcollaborate.com>.

Kappa Delta Pi's  
Rho Omega Chapter  
is the College of  
Education's honor  
society for  
undergraduates  
with a GPA of 3.0 or  
better and graduate  
students with a 3.5  
GPA or better.

## Brewer, Brown Hold Initiation for Kappa Delta Pi

Kappa Delta Pi (KDP) inducted 82 students into the College of Education's honor society during a ceremony held on the Boca Raton Campus on Friday, Nov. 14, 2011. The majority of those students are pursuing undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the Department of Teaching and Learning (DTL).

DTL's Dr. Susannah Brown, Associate Professor (pictured right, left), and Dr. An-

drew Brewer, Assistant Professor (right), are faculty members who oversee the activities of Kappa Delta Pi's Rho Omega Chapter, serving as co-counselors. Connie Williams (center) is a junior in the Department of Curriculum, Culture and Educational Inquiry's Bachelor of

Early Childhood Education (BECE) program.

KDP is the international honor society in education.



Elementary education majors (from left) Ched-line Alincy



and Jeanette Telusma serve as vice president and treasurer, respectively for KDP Rho Omega Chapter.

## KDP Donates Books, Supplies



Jeanette Telusma, elementary education undergraduate student and member of Kappa Delta Pi (KDP), reads a book to students at Deerfield Park Elementary School in Deerfield Beach, Florida on Friday, Nov. 18, 2011. The international honor society's Rho Omega Chapter donated library books and school supplies.



**The DeTail**  
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*The DeTail* is published three times a year by the Department of Teaching and Learning.

Story ideas may be submitted to [deptteachlearn@fau.edu](mailto:deptteachlearn@fau.edu). Include your name and contact information.

## FAU BPCC Bestows Faculty of Distinction Award to Dr. Marinaccio-Eckel

Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Broward President's Community Council (BPCC) presented its Faculty of Distinction Award to three recipients. One of them was an Associate Professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel.

The award recognizes outstanding Broward FAU faculty and highlights their contributions to the community-at-large through academic research, teaching and service.

Dr. Marinaccio-Eckel, who teaches reading courses, received the award at BPCC's Fall 2011 luncheon meeting on Oct. 7, 2011, at FAU's Fort Lauderdale campus.

"The biggest benefit," said Dr. Marinaccio-Eckel about being honored with this award, "was in educating the general public...of...the many contributions that FAU makes to the community."

President Mary Jane Saunders and fellow members of the BPCC participated in the event.

The FAU BPCC is an organization consisting of business and community leaders who serve as ambassadors for the University in the community. Part of its mission is to promote knowledge and awareness of FAU's Broward campuses.



Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel

## Dr. Furner Attains State Mathematics Award

Dr. Joseph Furner, Associate Professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, earned the Florida Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (FAMTE) 2011 Mathematics Teacher Educator of the Year Award for the State of Florida.

The FAMTE presented a plaque to Dr. Furner for this achievement on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011 during the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics (FCTM) convention held in Jacksonville, FL.

According to the FAMTE, it is "a professional organization, greatly dedicated to the improvement of mathematics teacher education in Florida."

In line with this objective, the award acknowledges Dr. Furner's dedication to the education of pre-service teachers, as well as his distinguished contributions to the professional development of K-12 mathematics teachers.



The Department of Teaching and Learning's distinguished faculty and adjunct faculty continue to earn accolades for excellence in their field of expertise.

## Dr. Crane Earns State Award as Elementary Educator

Dr. Nicole Crane, Adjunct Instructor for ARE 4313 at the Jupiter Campus, has been chosen as the Florida Art Education Association (FAEA)'s Elementary Art Educator of the Year 2011. She earned the award for her teaching skills at Elbridge Gale Elementary School in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC).

"We all know how much Nicole's passion, dedication, and hard work makes a difference in the world of

art education!" stated Karen Nobel, who is likewise an Adjunct Instructor for the Department of Teaching and Learning at the Jupiter Campus. "This award is long overdue!"

Dr. Crane has been teaching art to kindergarten through fifth-graders at the school since she earned her Ph.D. from Florida State University in 2006. She says, "Being an art teacher is an amazing opportunity to unlock the creativity of young individuals."

The award recognition ceremony took place in November at the FAEA's 2011 Annual Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida. This is the fourth year in a row that the SDPBC has won the Elementary Division Award, noted Nobel, the Arts Integration Specialist, K-12 Arts Education for the SDPBC and master's degree alumna of Florida Atlantic University.



Dr. Nicole Crane



## DTL Faculty Member Advocates Mentor Texts, Anchor Charts



DTL student looks through books selected by Assistant University Librarian Deborah Fink of the Treasure Coast Campus.

Leslie Calhoun, Core Teaching Instructor for the Department of Teaching and Learning (DTL) reading courses on the Treasure Coast Campus, led two seminars for seven Accelerated Induction into Teaching (AIT) teachers on Sept. 22 and Oct. 13, and for 26 DTL student teachers in Okeechobee, Indian River, Martin and St. Lucie counties on Nov. 3 and 7 at the Treasure Coast Campus.

The first seminar focused on using mentor texts for modeling different types of writing. The second seminar demonstrated using anchor charts to enable students to function independently in a writer's workshop.

Calhoun explained that mentor texts can be used to help students from

kindergarten through college level to learn to write. For example, to teach how to write a persuasive letter, Calhoun expounded, "find children's literature that uses persuasive structure and talk about its persuasive properties." The text is then used as a guideline from which to write, she noted.

On the other hand, anchor charts "work across the curriculum: science, history, math, etc.," Calhoun said. "The teacher and students together create the chart. It must be student driven...based on their oral language. Reading ability is assisted because they wrote the chart."

The purpose of the chart is to remind the students to use the strategies instead of asking the teacher what to do, Calhoun clarified.

Calhoun said she issued a challenge at the first seminar "to do an activity with mentor text." According to Calhoun, the students reported at the second seminar that they applied it in the classroom and liked it.

Initiated by Director Jan Andrew of Florida Institute for the Advancement of Teaching (FIAT), who oversees the AIT program, the seminars, according to Calhoun, provided "additional professional development which hopefully they can apply into the classrooms they are teaching in right now."

Other DTL faculty members such as Dr. Andrew Brewer, Assistant Professor, and Lorraine Cross, Instructor, led additional seminars on mentor and motivational strategies, and classroom management, respectively, for the AIT teachers.

Fun turns to learning for first- and second-graders at S.D. Spady Elementary in Delray Beach, Florida—a Montessori magnet school—as they dress up as prominent people from history.

## DTL Student Teacher Assists in Historical Holiday

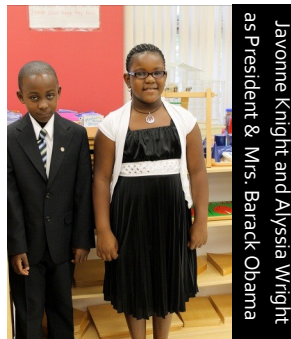
As part of her student teaching this fall, Melissa Antonelli assisted her clinical educator, Mrs. VanVliet, with preparing their combined first- and second-grade class for S.D. Spady Elementary School's



Nico Herbert as George Washington

annual Historical Holiday.

The class presented their research findings on the life, events and accomplishments of their historical figures from



Javonne Knight and Alyssia Wright as President & Mrs. Barack Obama

"different jobs, backgrounds and different times" on Friday, Oct. 28, 2011, according to Antonelli, who is a graduate student in the Department of Teaching and Learning's

M.Ed. in Elementary Education with ESOL plus Certification.

Before the event, students read books, composed the speech and rehearsed, explained Antonelli. After each speech, she noted, they asked their classmates, parents, grandparents, and siblings in attendance, "Who am I?"

The event ended with refreshments and photographs that were added to the students' portfolios, she said.

## DTL Graduate Student Selected for FAU's Owl Parliament



Meghan Formel

Meghan Formel, a graduate student who finished the M.Ed. Elementary Education with ESOL plus Certification in December 2011, has been selected to become a member of Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s Parliament of OWLs honorary leadership society.

During the induction ceremony held on Nov. 3, 2011, she received a gold feather pin. It represents the feather of the burrowing owl, the FAU mascot.

According to Formel, the OWL Parliament recognizes alumni that had leadership roles as students and continue to act as leaders as alumni.

A member of Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society for education, Formel served as secretary for the 2010-2011 academic year. Formel said she worked hard getting new members. "I set up a blog, Web site, Google calendar to make [communication] more accessible for our members," she explained.

She also said she received the 2010-2011 Outstanding Graduate Student of the Year, Teaching and Learning award in spring 2011.

Formel worked on the NaNoWriMo writing project during National Novel Writing Month with third- and fourth-graders at the IB bilingual school, Ada Merritt K-8 Center in Miami-Dade county, where she did her student teaching during fall 2011.

OWL stands for Older, Wiser Leader.

# Student Teachers Attend Orientation Day in Davie, Jupiter

How should I dress? What if my clinical educator is not supportive? How should I prepare lessons? What happens if I land a job before completing student teaching? When should I seek help from an administrator?

These are among the questions 244 student teachers garnered the answers to during the Spring 2012 Student Teaching Orientations, organized by Director of Clinical Experiences Traci Catto for the Office for Academic and Student Services (OASS).

The full day event took place Dec. 12, 2011 on the Davie Campus for 107 Florida Atlantic University students who are being placed as interns in Broward and Dade county schools. One hundred thirty-seven student teachers from Palm Beach, Okeechobee, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties attended the event on Dec. 13, 2011 at the Jupiter Campus.

"The purpose of the orientation is to prepare for their student teaching experience by participating in sessions that focus on expectations and requirements," Catto explained.

## Clear Expectations

Catto welcomed the students and discussed student teaching expectations, including professionalism and ethics. Then, student teachers rotated among three concurrent sessions. Catto and Effective Teaching

Practices Coordinator Lorraine Cross presented at both campuses. Catto covered "Student Teaching Requirements." For example, student teachers cannot be absent or late more than three times, noted Catto.

Cross addressed "Exceeding Expectations on Observed Lessons." This included a review of the Common Core State Standards and an introduction to the new Florida Educator Accomplished Practices.

Dr. Lori Dassa, Teaching and Learning Core Teaching Instructor, expounded on "Authentic Assessment" at the Jupiter Campus, while Steve Appelbaum and Luz Candelario, who are both Clinical Experiences Coordinators, illustrated "A Day in the Life of a Student Teacher" at the Davie Campus.

## University Supervisors

Presently, the Department of Teaching and Learning has 43 university supervisors. Eighteen attended the orientation at the Davie Campus; 25, on the Jupiter Campus. The role of the university supervisor is to oversee the student teachers and provide feedback and guidance. Each brings a wealth of experience as educators, Catto affirmed.

While the students were at lunch, Catto updated the university supervisors. Afterwards, the student interns reported directly to the University Supervisor Meeting. This provided an opportunity for student

teachers to meet their university supervisors. During the meeting, housekeeping issues, LiveText compliance, student samples, the new "Professional Development Plans" form, and communication procedures were clarified. According to Catto, it is important for student interns to regularly update their portfolios on LiveText.

## Clinical Educators

Each student intern was assigned a clinical educator, who is the actual teacher of the classroom. It is under the observation of the clinical educator that student interns teach in a real world classroom in a public school.

Student teachers are professionally evaluated by the university supervisor, clinical educator, and administrators of the school.

"We are very lucky to have partnerships with our districts," Catto said. "Without them our programs would not be possible."



The Spring 2012 Student Teaching Orientations prepare student teachers for the biggest job of their lives. For the next 16 weeks, they need to know how to dress, act and present themselves.



# Supervisors Play Critical Role in Assessing Student Teachers

University supervisors for the Department of Teaching and Learning play a critical role in the student teaching experience. They are charged with overseeing assigned student interns. They conduct four professional observations and meet with the student interns several times throughout the student teaching semester.

It is the university supervisor in conjunction with the clinical educator that give the mid-term and final evaluations. "They are the College's ears and eyes," said Traci Catto, director of clinical experiences for the Office for Academic and Student Services (OASS).

For the spring 2012 semester, there are a total of 45 university supervisors:

## Davie Campus

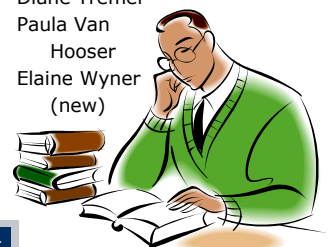
Monica Andrews  
Susannah Brown  
Lorraine Cross  
Barbara Egues  
Patsy Fox  
Beverly Glazer  
Warren Gassman  
Robert Latcham  
Ronald Loupus  
Dianna Martin  
Chris Pariso  
Sherry Rolle  
Tracy Rubens  
Joyce Rubin

Marcia Truitt  
Mark Truitt  
Nancy Welday  
Laura Youngwerth

## Jupiter Campus

Jane Acres (new)  
Elizabeth Arnold  
Eleanor Baldwin  
Robert Bennette  
Jane Berman  
Pamela Cornett  
Elizabeth Decker  
Phyllis Flaks  
Beverly Glazer  
Janet Good  
Eleni Grothe  
Wanda Hagan

Loneita Kirsch (new)  
Diana Miller  
Sean Murray  
Bert Nussbaum  
Kyle Prescott  
Barbara Pressman  
Babs Reeder  
Mark Regan  
Marcia Seamans  
Marian Sotsky  
Diane Tremmer  
Paula Van  
Hooser  
Elaine Wyner  
(new)



# Meet DTL's Graduate Assistants

Graduate Assistants (GA) assist the Department of Teaching and Learning in a variety of ways. They answer the phone, type correspondence, pick up and deliver the mail, make photocopies, and perform general office work. A favorite assignment, according to Mindi Brown, Kevin Leichtman and Danielle Rappaport, is working with professors on projects.

"Becoming a GA is a great opportunity to get to know the professors better," declared Rappaport. "It's exciting when a professor finds

my work useful," added Leichtman.

Brown, who double majored in political science and psychology, earned her bachelor's from Penn State. A native Floridian, she is now pursuing a M.S. in Speech Pathology from Florida Atlantic University (FAU).

Leichtman, who hails from Ohio, earned his B.A. in English with a creative writing emphasis from Wright State University. His

goal is to become a high school English teacher once he completes the M.Ed. Curriculum & Instruction plus Certification: English at FAU.

Rappaport earned her B.S. in Journalism with emphasis on photography and a minor in dance from the University of Florida. A former photojournalist, Rappaport has decided to change her career and is now pursuing a M.Ed. Elementary Education with ESOL plus Certification at FAU. She also plans to take courses to add Reading Endorsement to her certification.

Brown noted, "We all work well together."

DTL faculty members who desire to schedule projects for a GA may contact Secretary Josephine Elliott at [jelliott@fau.edu](mailto:jelliott@fau.edu) or 561-297-3791.



Graduate Assistants (from left) Kevin Leichtman, Mindi Brown, Danielle Rappaport

## TA Touts Science Teaching Methods

"It is an honor to be able to help prepare pre-service teachers to inspire their students to love science."

"There are so many interesting ways to teach science concepts," stated Anne Henderson, who serves as a teaching assistant (TA) for the Department of Teaching and Learning.

As a TA for two Principles and Methods K-9: School Science courses on the Boca Campus, Henderson draws from her years of experience teaching middle school science to fourth-through eighth-graders, as well as serving as the science resource teacher for Kindergarten through third-graders at St. Joseph's Episcopal School.

"Students came to me to do hands on labs," said Henderson, who also taught algebra and pre-algebra to

middle school students.

Prior to teaching, Henderson was an energy conservation consultant for Florida Power & Light (FPL). "I helped businesses cut down on their energy use," she said.

Henderson holds a B.S. in Engineering from the University of Tennessee and plans to graduate in May 2012 from Florida Atlantic University with a M.Ed. in environmental education.

Last summer, Henderson did a directed independent study on climate change education for high school and college students. According to Henderson, she helped develop modules to educate students as part of a climate change grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) under the direction of Dr. Julie Lambert, who now oversees Henderson's TA work.

Henderson noted, it's "great working with Dr. Lambert because she is so knowledgeable in her field and so passionate on her subject."

"A directed independent study is a great way to further research skills," declared Henderson.

The most interesting class she is taking is the Sustainability Leadership Class, Henderson remarked. "It involves looking at a product or

process in a whole different way to where it has the least amount of impact on the environment, but also incorporates economic and social aspects."

"What I like best about the [M.Ed. Environmental Education] program is that it has the potential to have a tremendous amount of impact," she continued. "There are so many avenues this degree can take you according to your interest and career aspirations. You can teach it, work for an environmental center, a government agency or city planning department."

In spring 2012, Dr. Lambert will work with Henderson to incorporate the international virtual science fair mentoring project with her science methods students. "The middle school students are from over 60 countries and it gives the methods students a chance to practice mentoring science research skills within our classes," noted Dr. Lambert.



Teaching Assistant Anne Henderson

## How to Apply for an Assistantship

Graduate students pursuing master's degrees with the Department of Teaching and Learning may attach a resume to a letter of interest and email it to Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chair, DTL at [bridener@fau.edu](mailto:bridener@fau.edu).



# SITAs Reach Out to International Students



**Seminar for International Teaching Assistants**  
**Krista Gentry (center, standing) and Abrar Almoosa (seated, right) attend the Third Annual Teaching with Technology Showcase in October 2011 with international graduate students (from left) Nader Moshiri Sedeh, Oscar Figuorola Salas, and Mohammed Sedegh (standing). Dr. Philomena Marinaccio-Eckel (standing, left) gave a mini-demonstration during one of nine sessions.**

Teaching Assistants Krista Gentry and Abrar Almoosa help prepare international graduate students to teach undergraduate students at Florida Atlantic University (FAU).

"We show them how to improve their teaching skills and overcome their cultural differences," explained Almoosa. This goal is achieved via the Seminar for International Teaching Assistants (SITA) program funded by the Graduate College.

Depending on their Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores and other requirements, international graduate students who present and meet the committee's requirements receive a certificate of proficiency.

Others need to attend a week-long seminar. If their presentations are satisfactory, then they too receive a certificate. If not, they must attend

eight additional classes on Saturdays and pass the panel review.

Both Gentry and Almoosa are responsible for assisting in developing and teaching these seminars under the direction of Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning. In addition, they prepare materials and provide resources for the subjects covered in these seminars.

Saturday seminars cover topics such as communication skills, pronunciation and intonation, navigating the classroom, culture, professional development, content specific instruction, as well as presentation and feedback practice.

Gentry and Almoosa are in the process of organizing events for Spring 2012 in order to provide international teaching assistants with support in their teaching endeavors.

Born and raised in Kuwait where she taught elementary school for eight years, Almoosa moved to the United States with her husband and three children. She has a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida, and is now pursuing the M.Ed. Social Foundations: Instructional Technology at FAU.

A native Floridian, Gentry earned a M.Ed. in Educational Psychology at FAU. She is pursuing a M.A. in psychology with a focus on studying language development. Last spring she was a teaching assistant for an Applied Learning Theory course and previously served as a graduate assistant on the Davie Campus.

During the fall 2011 semester, 22 international graduate students enrolled in the SITA program.



To learn more about SITA, visit <http://www.fau.edu/graduate/applyonline/international/sita.php>.

## RA Gathers Statistics for Dr. Heydet-Kirsch, Dr. Amirault

A graduate student in the M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction plus Certification: Social Science program since January 2011, Gregor Yates now serves as a research assistant (RA) in the Department of Teaching and Learning.

Under the direction of Dr. Patricia Heydet-Kirsch, Yates gathers statistics for state mandated surveys. Yates also seeks out statistical and historical data for Dr. Ray Amirault, who is presently writing two articles on instructional technology.

Previously a teaching assistant for Florida International University in Miami, Florida, where he earned his M.A. in History, Yates holds a B.A. degree in Spanish from Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, and a second bachelor's degree in history from Florida Atlantic University (FAU).

Yates did his master's thesis on the commonwealth status of Puerto Rico. His concentration was in Latin America and U.S. intervention.

"Part of the fun of history is doing research," said Yates. His advice for future RAs, "Do a lot of reading, research. Learn how to use the library. Learn to use online library resources." Still, he cautions, "Find information that can be confirmed."

Having lived in 10 different states growing up, he likes the opportunity to speak Spanish in south Florida and prefers the diversity at FAU.



**Research Assistant  
 Gregor Yates**



# DTL Awards 242 Bachelor's, 27 Master's Degrees



Rebecca Bernstein earns a B.A. Elementary Education

Florida Atlantic University (FAU) conferred 242 bachelor's degrees to undergraduate students in the College of Education (COE)'s Department of Teaching and Learning (DTL), and 27 master's degrees in education to DTL graduate students.

A total of 218 bachelor's degrees were awarded in Elementary Education; seven in English Education; one in Math Education; one in Music Education, three in Biology Education, and 12 in Social Science education in December 2011.

The following DTL graduate students earned M.Ed. degrees in fall 2011:

**M.Ed. Curriculum & Instruction plus Certification: English**  
Kristina Franco

**M. Ed. Elementary Education**  
Melissa Antonelli

Kathryn Columbus  
Yufeng Conn  
Heather DiGangi  
Meghan Formel  
Samantha Hinderes  
Robyn Kelly  
Matthew Kirk  
Nicole Lechter  
Victoria Urrutia

**M. Ed. Environmental Education**  
Shannon Colletta

**M.Ed. Social Foundations: Educational Psychology**  
Jeffrey Rothstein  
Timothy Sternberg



From left: Daniela Del Toro, Brittany Mascara, Maribel Gonzalez, Linda Martinez, and Karen Paizante obtain bachelor's degrees in Elementary Education.

**M.Ed. Social Foundations: Instructional Technology**

Andrea Kamay  
Matthew Munro  
Angelen-Crystab Santos  
Danielle Silvis

**M.Ed. Reading Education**

Camiella Campbell  
Anna Casassa  
Lauren Catalano  
Ashley Clinton  
Jessica Ferreira  
Karen Major  
Renae Odom  
Jessica Partouche  
Meagan Rigney

The College of Education Fall 2011 Commencement Ceremony took place on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. on the Boca Raton campus.



Brian Bianco and Shelby Roker are all smiles before receiving a B.A.E. and a B.A., respectively, in Social Science Education.



Approximately 67 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degrees in Elementary Education and 151 Bachelor of Arts in Education (BAE) degrees in Elementary Education were awarded in fall 2011, including to the five undergraduate students pictured at right.



From left: Jessica Grecco, Katherine Hughes, Dawn Denton, Lois Jenison, Sarah Harmes, and Dr. Jennifer Bird.



# Spotlight on Alumni of M.Ed. Instructional Technology

*Did you know that the Master's Degree (M.Ed.) in Social Foundations: Instructional Technology can not only empower in-service teachers to integrate technology in the classroom but also help them transfer their teaching skills to the corporate world?*

*In fact, approximately 25% of students in this program are coming from the corporate world, according to Dr. Victoria Brown, one of the Instructional Technology team faculty members in the Department of Teaching and Learning. For example, corporate trainers can apply the instructional technologies learned in the program. Graduates can display their electronic portfolios on LinkedIn, a professional networking Web site, to connect with the corporate sphere, she further noted.*

*As for teachers, faculty members model how to apply instructional learning theory supported with technology, to promote high quality instruction maximizing learning outcomes in both K-12 and post secondary classrooms.*

*So consider Florida Atlantic University. "We're the only public university to offer an instructional technology program in south Florida," she revealed.*

## Jurczak Transitions to the Corporate Sector

As an Elementary teacher for five years, Kimberly Jurczak saw how much students were engaged in learning when she used the Promethean interactive whiteboard and computers in the classroom.

"Technology came easy to me and I enjoyed helping other teachers at the school," stated Jurczak, who earned the M.Ed. Social Foundations: Instructional Technology in August 2009.

Although she didn't see herself

heading in a corporate direction when she began her degree program, Jurczak took the opportunity when it presented itself. "The Educational Consultant who provided support for the Promethean Board at our school helped us plan for professional development," said Jurczak. "After about eighteen months, her position became available and I made the transition."

Jurczak now works with the company's sales and services teams to sell, coordinate and deliver professional instruction for K-12 technology. She explained, "We show teachers how the products work and how to integrate them in the instructional setting."

"Before I entered the program, I used technology for technology's sake," noted Jurczak. "Now I know how to align technology with instructional strategies."

"If you have a love for teaching and learning, there are many opportunities to utilize an instructional technology degree," Jurczak entreated. "It can definitely open opportunities."

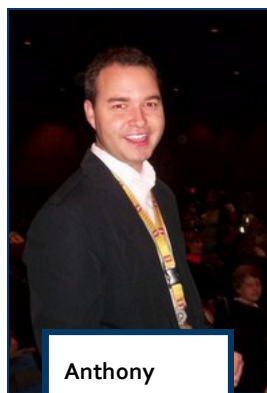


Director of Instructional Technology  
Professional Development Kimberly  
Jurczak of United Data Technologies



The M.Ed. Social  
Foundations:  
Instructional  
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## Panella Integrates Technology within Classroom



Anthony  
Panella

Anthony Panella, who earned his master's degree in December 2010, learned about the M.Ed. in Social Foundations: Instructional Technology from a

colleague. "She was telling me all the things she was learning," said Panella.

A major advantage to taking the program while a teacher, Panella remarked, was being able to implement

the examples and instructional strategies right away as he learned them.

"Florida Atlantic University gave me the exposure to different types of ideas and possibilities I can use in the classroom," expounded Panella, who has been teaching for seven years.

Now a fifth-grade teacher at Calvary Christian Academy in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Panella uses an ad-free, school-wide online tool called EDMOTO to blog; upload assignments, and post videos, questions and surveys.

The six fifth-grade teachers plan the fifth-grade blog together for different subjects. They post links, schedules, and information about events. Blog posts are not only a method of communicating with parents, but also a tool for students, Panella explained.

Links to learning games that help with

spelling and vocabulary definitions, for example, as well as QR codes that can be scanned with a smart phone are just some of the free websites to which students can be directed.

Since there are not many curriculums that are digital or iPad ready, noted Panella, he uses other tools in addition to paper and pencil workbooks such as projectors to display PowerPoint presentations.

To address this issue, Panella joined a group of 12 K-12 teachers at his school to create a video proposal showing administrators the need for using iPad technology in the classroom and how they will implement it. Each of them took an iPad home over the summer and downloaded apps to see how they could be used in the classroom.

"We want to use technology and infuse it in everything we do," he said. One example is creating digital postcards in geography.

Students look forward to going to the computer lab, doing something on their own and letting their personalities come out, Panella said.

His master's in Instructional Technology provided Panella with the foundation to "monitor new technologies emerging for education," he stated. "Technology changes every day."

## Florida Atlantic University

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## Questions & Answers: M.Ed. Plan of Study/Graduation

*Congratulations. You've been accepted into a master's degree pro-*

*gram in the Department of Teaching and Learning. Now what?*

**When do I meet with my advisor?** Once you receive your acceptance letter, make an appointment with your advisor. Be sure to register for at least one course in the semester you are admitted.

**When do I file a Plan of Study?** You are required to file your plan of study before completing half of your coursework for your master's degree program with the Office for Academic and Student Affairs (OASS). You will need to type the courses you've taken or plan to take in chronological order along with the semester and year on Form 6. College forms can be found at <http://www.fau.edu/graduate/currentstudents/graduateforms/index.php>. Then meet with your advisor. You and your advisor will sign it and submit it to the Depart-

ment Chair for signature.

#### How do I file for Graduation?

For information on graduation deadlines, procedures and the link to the application for degree, visit [http://www.fau.edu/graduate/currentstudents/graduation\\_deadlines.php](http://www.fau.edu/graduate/currentstudents/graduation_deadlines.php). Students should submit their Application for Degree directly to OASS in the College of Education. Offices are located on the Boca, Davie, MacArthur, and Treasure Coast campuses.

**How do I send my Reading Endorsement exam scores to Florida Atlantic University?** Your passing scores on the Reading section of the Florida Teacher Certification Exam (FTCE) should be sent to OASS before graduation. There is a code you can enter to have scores sent to Florida Atlantic University, but this system does not provide scores to OASS. Therefore, you will

need to fax, email or hand deliver your scores to OASS in ED-47 on the second floor. The fax number is 561-297-**2991**. The email address is [dprescot@fau.edu](mailto:dprescot@fau.edu).

**I started my master's degree then stopped taking courses for more than two semesters in a row. What do I need to do to resume my master's degree program?** You simply need to reapply. FAU will have your transcripts and GRE scores on file if it has been less than 10 years. If the GRE scores are more than five years old, you will need to file a petition to waive a university regulation. Form 10 can be found at <http://www.fau.edu/graduate/currentstudents/graduateforms/index.php>. Courses that are more than 10 years old at the time of graduation may need to be retaken. You may file a petition, Form 10. However, approval is rare except for statistics.

*For information about DTL programs contact:*

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*undergraduate*

561-297-3570

*graduate*

561-297-3791

#### **Davie**

954-236-1028

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