

Division
of
Education

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“Proud Together”

Photographer Annmeil

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEAN

The following is an excerpt from Dean Gochnauer’s presentation to the NCATE team: “ I would like to highlight just a very few items that I think will help you to understand Wilmington College’s impact on the K-12 school and the face of education in our region: 1. Last year’s National Teacher of the Year, Ms. Kimberly Oliver, received her preparation as a teacher from Wilmington College. 2. This year’s State of Delaware, Superintendent of the year, Tony Marchio, and this year’s State of Delaware Principal of the year, Bruce Curry, are both graduates of Wilmington College’s doctoral program. In addition, Elvina Knight, this year’s assistant principle of the year is also a graduate of one of our masters programs. 3. Fifty-six percent of all of the private, parochial and public school principals and assistant principals in the state of Delaware have either completed their degree or administrative training at Wilmington College and were awarded Superior or Commendable ratings in 2006. Eighty one percent of the schools led by Wilmington College prepared administrators met or exceeded 2006 annual yearly progress targets. 4. Wilmington College was cited in U.S News and World Reports as one of America’s best graduate schools in education for the last four years. 5. Most of Wilmington College graduates remain in Delaware (continued on page 4)

Master of Arts in Secondary Teaching.....off and running.....

Congratulations are in order to the nine teacher candidates who recently completed the Master Of Arts in Teaching program at Wilmington College this past January. The MAT degree is designed for individuals with bachelors and/or masters degrees in content as taught in the middle and high schools of the region. The program provides individuals with the professional education preparation necessary for licensure and certification as high quality teachers in the content areas of their previous degrees. The Master of Arts in Teaching Degree requires the completion of thirty-six semester hours of coursework, practicum, and internship/student teaching experience requiring 60 days of clinical experience working with a Clinical Supervisor and Cooperating teacher in a middle or high school setting. Nine additional teacher candidates will be completing their requirements this spring in the areas of Business, Chemistry, English, Marketing, Mathematics, General Science, and Social Science.



JEST FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!

March 24th is our next Faculty Development Day in the auditorium at the New Castle site.

Put on your jeans, sweatshirt and sneakers and come prepared to experience something quite different from past Faculty Development Days. The Focus this spring is “**Stress Less Teaching**” with an emphasis on enjoying fun and humor in the workplace as well as in the classroom.

Workshop topics focus on fitness strategies that include nutritious eating plans and workouts that will leave us calm, energized and centered. Also, strategies to alleviate stressful situations such as preventing plagiarism and much, much more will be among the workshop selections.

“How much fun are you in the classroom? How would you like to sit in your class for five hours?”

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELORS WEEK

The Delaware School Counseling Association, DSCA, and Wilmington College celebrated National School Counselor Week, February 5-9. The New Castle County and Kent and Sussex County DSCA chapters hosted dinners sponsored by Wilmington College Admissions. Wilmington College supports school counselor efforts to not only provide guidance and counseling, but to stimulate growth in areas of academics, personal/social and career development..

The focus of the dinner events was “**School Counselors: Helping Students Reach New Heights**”. Unique contributions of the professional school counselors in Delaware’s educational system were highlighted. Counselors and school administrators were honored for their excellence in creating exemplary programs and implementing successful counselor interventions. These outstanding professionals provide inspiration to all counselors as they demonstrate passion and commitment needed to serve students and to create an exceptional teaching and learning environment. Cheryl Carey, DSCA President, shared the purpose of the organization, “DSCA is a professional organization that advocates for the needs and interest of our students and for our counselors.”. Wilmington College looks forward to continue to support DSCA and to providing programs and opportunities for school counselors that promote professional growth leading to best practices of school guidance and counseling in the state of Delaware.



“What I have learned is that we are planting seeds, seeds that will help these students to grow and achieve great things someday.”

Danielle Ragazzo—Counseling Intern

Throughout my years of education studying counseling, somewhere I heard the phrase “ a counselor’s work is never done”. I am not sure where I heard this quote, but I have realized how loudly it rings true. In reality, with students, schedules, testing and numerous attempts to please as many people as possible, when is there enough time to do anything else? I am not a counselor yet; I am a graduate student at Wilmington College completing a Master’s Degree in Education with a concentration in Elementary and Secondary School Counseling. As a requirement of the MEC program, students must complete two semesters of supervised internships totally 1,000 hours. My first internship was at Highlands Elementary. Currently I am at Al Middle School. I am knowledgeable, yes, but I have had so many different

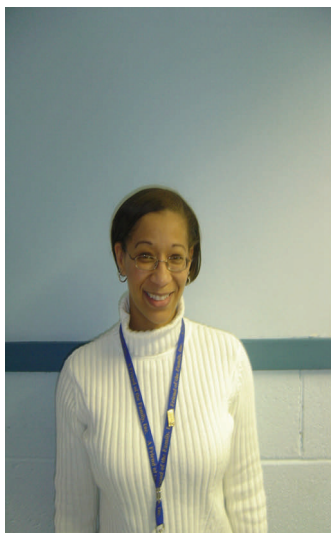
experiences that I feel there is so much more to discover. Students today go through unimaginable obstacles and counselors are people to support them and help them to keep going. What I have learned is that we are planting seeds, seeds that will help these students to grow and achieve great things someday. I would like to thank the students, staff and most of all, the counselors at all of my internships who have accepted me into their schools and centers and allowed me to learn and observe their daily lives.

We Are So Proud Of You!

Wilmington College education graduates have done it again! They just keep winning awards for outstanding service over and over! Tony Marchio has won the Delaware Superintendent of the Year (EDD). Bruce Curry has won the Delaware Secondary Principal of the Year (EDD). And Elvin Knight has won the Delaware Assistant Principal of the Year (MEC) Congratulations to all of you.

Wilmington College Graduate Receives Award

WDEL honored 10 African Americans for their contributions to their communities to celebrate Black History month. Saundra Jenkins, a Wilmington College graduate with a master’s degree in school counseling was one of the individuals who received this award! Saundra is an outstanding woman who gives back to her community daily by working with troubled students. Dr. Tracey Pritchard, Wilmington College Assistant Professor and Internship Supervisor, who has had the opportunity to witness Saundra’s exceptional counseling abilities and her incredible love and devotion to students in crises nominated her for this award. Ms. Jenkins is a truly dedicated individual who is not only a passionate contributor to her community, but embodies community service in its purest form. Congratulations, Saundra.



Notice To All Readers



The Division of Education of Wilmington College is always looking for highly qualified individuals who might like to teach as adjunct faculty members or serve as clinical supervisors for us. If you are interested in becoming a member of our team contact the program coordinator of your teaching specialty or call The Division of Education at the following number: (302) 356-6795.

The Erin Gruwell Education Project

Many members of the Division of Education had the opportunity to hear Erin Gruwell speak at the 59th AACTE Annual Convention in New York City. Nothing could have prepared Erin Gruwell for her first day of teaching at Wilson High School in Long Beach, California. A recent college graduate, Gruwell landed her first job in Room 203, only to discover that many of her students had been written off by the education system and deemed “unteachable.” As teenagers living in a racially divided urban community, these youths were already hardened by firsthand exposure to gang violence, drugs, and the juvenile justice system. Enter Erin Gruwell. By fostering an educational philosophy that valued and promoted diversity, she transformed her students’ lives for the better. She encouraged them to rethink deprecating beliefs about themselves and others, to reconsider daily decisions, and to rechart their futures. With Gruwell’s steadfast support, her students shattered stereotypes to become critical thinkers, aspiring college students, and citizens for change. They even dubbed themselves the “Freedom Writers” in homage to the civil rights activists (Freedom Riders) of the 1950s. Inspired by the writing of World War II diarist Anne Frank and Sarajevo war survivor Zlata Filipovic, Gruwell and her students captured their collective journey in *The Freedom Writers Diary: How a Teacher and 150 Teens Used Writing To Change Themselves and the World Around Them*. Through poignant student entries and Gruwell’s narrative text, the book chronicles their “eye-opening, spirit-raising odyssey against intolerance and misunderstanding.” A movie based on Gruwell’s experience, *Freedom Writers*, starring Oscar-winning actress Hilary Swant as Gruwell, was released in January 2007 from Paramount Pictures.

(Gochnauer’s Presentation continued)

thus making us the largest producer of teachers for the State of Delaware. 6. The 24 full time faculty members that make up the Divisions of Education and Doctoral Studies have a total of 513 years of experience as teachers, principals, central office administrators and Department of Education employees. 7. During the 2006 fall semester alone, we placed about 900 candidates in clinical situations throughout the state of Delaware, as well as some in neighboring states of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

We are confident that you will each discover many more points of interest and accomplishment as you continue to study our exhibits and meet the students, faculty, and staff that make Wilmington College what it is today.

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