A Message from Dean Stanley ...

On June 30th I will complete my term as Dean of Education at Monmouth University. At this point in my career, I have decided to leave the dean's office and assume a faculty position. I am looking forward to a return to teaching, working more directly with students, and research. Having served as dean at two other institutions before coming to Monmouth, I was delighted to experience the strong support of our Provost, President, and my fellow deans. I was also gratified to witness the improving quality of students deciding to work in education. The School has accomplished much in terms of program improvement, student services, and partnerships with local school districts. That two of our students, Oscar Diaz and Sara Van Ness received the 2008 New Jersey Distinguished Student Teacher Award is a wonderful event to experience before leaving. Everything I have been able to accomplish over the past five years has been the result of our incredibly talented and dedicated staff and highly effective faculty too numerous to mention here. I thank all of you for your support and help. A special thanks is due to Dr. Lynn Romeo, our Associate Dean. Her work with national accreditation, the Literacy Center, field experiences, student teaching, and K-12 school partnerships has been outstanding. As you no doubt know by now, Dr. Romeo has been hired to be the next Dean of Education. I can think of no one more deserving and wish her great success as our new dean.

Spring 2008 Symposium a Great Success

About 200 teachers from several districts throughout New Jersey as well as many of the student teachers from the School of Education, attended the Spring Symposium held on April 18, 2008. Dr. Richard Gargiulo, professor of Special Education at the University of Alabama at Birmingham gave an inspirational keynote speech that brought the audience to tears. One of the students who attended the conference made the following comment, “The speech captured my full attention and taught me how important a teacher’s role is.” Each child learns differently and at a different pace, and getting that point across to future educators will help each child effectively transition.”

Eireann Corrigan, author of several young adult fiction books, described how her high school class in Creative Writing helps her develop characters and the stories in her fiction. They even have a say in the naming of the book titles. Workshops in multicultural literacy, writing, alternative assessments, guided research, classroom inclusion strategies and autism were very well attended and gave teachers and teacher-candidates practical techniques that can be used in the classroom.

SAVE THE DATE: FALL SYMPOSIUM, OCTOBER 24, 2008
Monmouth University Students Selected for 2008 New Jersey Distinguished Student Teacher Awards

The New Jersey Distinguished Student Teacher Awards annually recognize the year's 15 top graduates of teacher preparation programs administered by New Jersey colleges and universities. Teacher preparation programs may send dossiers for three outstanding nominees each year. Monmouth University proudly announces that the State of New Jersey's Department of Education has determined that Sara Van Ness and Oscar Diaz have shown themselves to be exceptionally well prepared for entry into the teaching profession.

Sara Van Ness of Wall Township, New Jersey, graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2008 from Monmouth University with a Bachelor of Arts in English and Secondary Education. She has received numerous awards for her academic accomplishments during her tenure at Monmouth. She served as president for both Kappa Delta Pi and International Reading Association. Sara’s work history includes serving as a teaching assistant for Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth and tutoring in Monmouth’s Writing Center. She is also a nationally certified therapeutic riding instructor for students with disabilities. Sara did her student teaching in English at Ocean Township High School during the spring of 2008. Her Monmouth University Supervisor was Donna Mitchell and her Ocean Township Cooperating teacher was Joe Costa. Next year, Sara intends to pursue a Master of Arts in English at Monmouth University.

Oscar Diaz of Howell, New Jersey left his native country of Chile to come to the United States in search of opportunity. After struggling to make a living in America, he attended college to pursue a career in education. With sacrifice and dedication, he earned an associate’s degree from Brookdale Community College with a 4.0 GPA. Then, as a husband and father, he graduated Summa Cum Laude from Monmouth University and received a bachelor's degree in Foreign Language and Education. While completing his studies, Oscar Diaz contributed to various honor associations and clubs. He also worked in various communities and schools, gaining a broader perspective of children and the education system. His philosophy of education is based on the desire to help individuals become responsible citizens. Oscar did his student teaching in Spanish at Manalapan High School during the fall of 2007. His Monmouth University Supervisor was Mary Sorge and his Cooperating teacher was Dolores Nazar. Oscar Diaz is currently teaching Spanish in the Freehold Regional High School District and planning to attend graduate school.

On Monday May 19, the School of Education held a reception at McGill Commons for the 2 award winners, their families, friends and members of the University community. On behalf of the School of Education, Dean Stanley presented certificates and gifts that reflected the University’s enormous pride and congratulations to these two students.
THE NU TAU CHAPTER of KAPPA DELTA PHI CELEBRATES INDUCTEES
(The Outlook - April 23, 2008)

On Sunday, March 30, Kappa Delta Pi, the National Educational Honor Society of Monmouth University celebrated the accomplishments of 33 students by inducting them into the NU TAU Chapter. The Induction Ceremony was celebrated in the Pollak Auditorium with inductees and their families and guests enjoying pre-ceremony refreshments. The ceremonial procession was lead by the Executive Board members followed by the honored guests. At this 33rd Induction Ceremony students who had completed their volunteer hours and had a minimum GPA of 3.2 were inducted.

The ceremony was highlighted by the students of KDP choosing three educators and awarding each of them a plaque honoring their contributions to the field of education.

Dr. Romeo presented the first honoree, Dr. William Stanley, his award and thanked him for his many contributions, especially as Dean of the School of Education from 2003-2008. Professor Brennan introduced Mrs. Sharyn Benetsky, the honoree from the field of special education. Brandie Sica spoke of her daily support to the students of Monmouth University who have done their practicum and field work in Long Branch. Paul Flanagan, Past President of KDP, thanked the third honoree, Professor Spears, for her inspirational role in the classroom and as co-advisor of KDP. Each inductee was announced and received great applause from family and friends as they walked across the stage to receive their certificates and folders. The ceremony ended with the KDP inductees being led in the pledge by Sara and Monica in the recitation of the KDP pledge to the four ideals of Fidelity to Humanity, Science, Service, and Toil. This year’s inductees shared 331 hours as part of their service component. The ceremony was truly meaningful and left each person with a better awareness and understanding of how each day educators make a difference in a child’s life.

The Following Students joined the Society:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kristen Barna</th>
<th>Dale Greenspan</th>
<th>Jacqueline Mazza</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jenel Bramante</td>
<td>Michael Herbert</td>
<td>Nicole Miani</td>
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<td>Lauren Brownlee</td>
<td>Shannon Higgin</td>
<td>Carolyn Morris</td>
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<td>Amy Buchanan</td>
<td>Kelsey Higley</td>
<td>Marisa Mruz</td>
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<td>Stacey Cappuzzello</td>
<td>Erin Marie Humphries</td>
<td>Frank Pannullo</td>
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<td>Diane Caulfield</td>
<td>Jaclyn Jankowy</td>
<td>Selvija Radonicic</td>
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<td>Nicole Ciavattoni</td>
<td>Kathryn Kaminiski</td>
<td>Kristine Sawlsville</td>
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<td>Alexa Di Giorgio</td>
<td>Sharon Lasko</td>
<td>Maryelizabeth Sturchio</td>
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<td>Alicia Driber</td>
<td>Nicole Renzo Leonhardt</td>
<td>Anna Alexandra Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jill Epstein</td>
<td>Lisa Mac Donald</td>
<td>Katherine Elizabeth Vince</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erin Gallagher</td>
<td>Erin Marley</td>
<td>Joseph York</td>
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Honorees:
(L to R)
Prof. Jean Spears,
Dean Stanley, and
Sharyn Benetsky

Chi Sigma Iota Inducts New Members

On November 4, 2007, 88 new members were inducted into the Mu Upsilon Omega chapter of Chi Sigma Iota, (Counseling Honor Society). Richard Hazler, Penn State University, presented the keynote address followed by a reception for members, their families and friends.

The following School of Education M.S.Ed. Educational Counseling Students were inducted:

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<tr>
<th>Melissa Alwin</th>
<th>Nicole Demmert</th>
<th>Michele Palmese</th>
<th>Daniel Sullivan</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Aponte</td>
<td>Jennifer Jordan</td>
<td>Victoria Pirher</td>
<td>Diana Venus</td>
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<td>Joanne Brennan</td>
<td>Jill Maline</td>
<td>Jeanette Riggleman</td>
<td>Megan Villane</td>
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<td>Sandra Brown</td>
<td>Kaitlin Maragno</td>
<td>Evangelina Sarantinoudis</td>
<td>Christen Wegart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristen Corsale</td>
<td>Fawn Morris</td>
<td>Christine Scalera</td>
<td>Venessa Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Christensen</td>
<td>Nina Orza</td>
<td>Natalie Silvestro</td>
<td>Michele Taylor</td>
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CONGRATULATION TO SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STUDENTS

STUDENT AWARD DINNER APRIL 27, 2008

Congratulations to the following School of Education students who were awarded "Outstanding Student" Awards!

Curriculum and Instruction
B.A. Education: Sara Van Ness Nicole Catogge
M.A.T. Christine Facer Kacie DeFelice
M.Ed. Jennifer Stires
Endorsement Program Cynthia Dinardi

Educational Leadership and Special Education
B.A. Special Education: Matthew Krol Christine Roginski
B.A. in Technology and Special Education: Jenel Bramante
M.S. Ed. Principal: Mary Henderson Chantal Molino
M.S. Ed. Counseling Melissa Cairone Catherine Taintor
M.S. Ed. Reading: Lauren Goldberg Janet McCoid
M.S. Ed. Special Education: Jennifer Korodan

Monica Fodor presented her Senior Honors Thesis for the Foreign Language Studies Department on May 12, 2008. Several faculty members attended her research presentation, "The Value of Bilingualism Displayed through Two-Way Imersion." Her thesis presents the debate on "English-Only and Bilingual pedagogies for teaching English Language Learners (ELLs)."

Drs. Alison Maginn was her Chief Advisor and Dr. Mary Lee Bass was her Second Reader. A reception followed her presentation.

ELIZABETH DICKER RECEIVES CEC AWARD

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) awarded Elizabeth Dicker the Elizabeth Wetzel Scholarship. This award is in recognition for students who work in the field of special education in the area of physical and health disabilities. Elizabeth was awarded a $500 scholarship that she can use toward her tuition at Monmouth University.

As part of the process of applying for this scholarship, Elizabeth had to submit an essay explaining her professional philosophy and goals for teaching students with physical or health related disabilities.

As she said in her award winning essay, “I believe it takes many members of a community to bring out the best in a student. Teachers need to have open lines of communication with the family/guardians, with related service providers, and with other significant people involved in the student’s education. I believe in setting high expectations and fostering self advocacy and independence skills since students rise to the expectations you set for them. Taking into account the individual needs of each student, I will strive to design an educational program that is specifically geared towards the individual student’s goals to live, work, and recreate in the community. My goals for teaching students with physical and health needs include: having each student valued and accepted as a member of the community, promoting respect, ensuring that every student has an appropriate way to communicate their needs and feelings.”

As a music major with special education, Elizabeth hopes to work with students to help them learn the daily living skills that they need to develop independence and give them a sense of empowerment to advocate for themselves. The School of Education congratulates Elizabeth on this award and wishes her continued success in her pursuit of her degree and her goals.
IRA SHOWCASES URBAN INITIATIVES

Ms. Brandie Sica joined Dr. Lynn Romeo at the New Jersey Urban Coalition Committee meeting on Friday, May 9, 2008. Brandie showcased the urban initiatives provided by the student organization of the International Reading Association (IRA). Specifically, Brandie shared the ongoing partnership activities with the Red Bank Head Start Program.

IRA provides new bilingual books twice a semester for all 36 Head Start children. In addition, IRA provides volunteer support as a "Reading Buddy" at the Gregory School in Long Branch.

Brandie is graduating as an Elementary Special Educator in May 2008. She has been the Vice-President of IRA beginning in the Fall 2005. She has helped to plan many of the varied activities the membership has enjoyed such as the annual Martin Luther King Event, MU's Big Event, MU's Fall Open House, the Involvement Fair, and Dr. Seuss Day at the Gregory School.

Five Monmouth University IRA Council Executive Board Officers (Brandie Sica, Sara Van Ness, Kathryn McClain, Kate lyn Orr, Christin Grott) enjoyed a rich Professional Development day at New Jersey Reading Association’s (NJRA) Spring Event 2008. Registration was sponsored by the MU's IRA Council.

Career Day at Deal School

Sara Van Ness joined Dr. Mary Lee Bass at Deal School for "Career Day." Forty 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students visited the “Teaching as a Career” table. Each student received a Monmouth University folder, pencil and information about the School of Education Undergraduate programs.

Gregory School Celebrates ‘Read Across America’

(The LINK News March 20 thru March 26, 2008)

Each year elementary school students observe literacy with an annual Read Across America celebration. The goal of this national observance is for every child to be reading in the company of an adult on that day. This year, the students at Gregory School were provided with a special treat when several Monmouth University students arrived at school to read their favorite Dr. Seuss stories with the primary grade classes. Classroom doors were also decorated as book jackets from the Dr. Seuss stories that were read to the classes. This endeavor was coordinated by Cheryl Scuorzo at Gregory School, and Dr. Mary Lee Bass, a professor at Monmouth University and faculty advisor to the International Reading Association at Monmouth University. Monmouth University participants in this activity were Christina Daniels, Sarah Bauba, Devin Guthrie, Vanessa Paladino, Lisa McDonald and Monica Fodor.

Christina Daniels, a Monmouth University student, reads to Mrs. Laura Landon and Mrs. Deborah Sweet's kindergarten students as part of the Read Across America celebration.
The following students received recognition from ETS for their outstanding scores on the Praxis II tests taken in 2007-2008.

Tara Blanset, MAT Elementary
Jacqueline Donovan, BA Elementary
Sasha Goldfarb, BA Elementary
Ann Joyce, MAT Elementary
Kristen Magovern, MAT Math
Carol O’Hara, MAT Elementary
Damien Rafalowski, BA History/Secondary
Corrie Campbell, Mat Elementary
Lynda Fiorenza, MAT Elementary
Melissa Hindle, MAT Elementary
Kathryn Kaminski, BA Elementary
Katharine McDonough, BA Elementary
Lauren Pappa, MAT, Spanish, K-12
Shannon Schroeder, MAT Elementary

Fall 2008 Praxis Workshops

**Elementary (Test 10014) 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1 (9am - 12pm)**

**English (Test 10041) 9/27, 10/4, 10/11 (9am - 12pm)**

**Social Studies (Test 10081) 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, (11/1 9am - 12pm)**

**Spanish (Test 10191) 10/18, 10/25, 11/1 (9am - 12pm)**

For further information contact Carol Salomon: csalomon@monmouth.edu

School of Education student winner of 2008 Library Research Award

For the first time, in the Spring of 2008, the Monmouth University Library has selected two students, Allison Dooley and Elementary Education student Katelyn Orr, to receive Library Research Awards.

The program was created to recognize students who demonstrate extraordinary skill and creativity in using library and information resources to complete research papers. Both award winners made extensive use of library resources and collections, demonstrated the ability to select, evaluate and synthesize the information collected, and showed personal learning and development of research skills. Alison’s project, *Eunice Rivers: The Economic and Social Factors that Influenced her Involvement in the Tuskegee Syphilis Study* was prepared for a Senior Seminar class. Katelyn’s project titled *The Compromised Life of a Female Slave* was completed for her Civil War Literature class.

The $250 awards, sponsored by the Monmouth University Library Association, were presented at the April 27th Student Award Ceremony and were listed in the 2008 Commencement Program.

Congratulations!