I am pleased to send you our latest School of Education newsletter which features what we have been involved in since September. We launched our Superintendents’ Academy, a forum for professional development and dialogue regarding timely, relevant topics in the field of education. We are now in the planning process for our Principals’ Academy which will begin in September 2010.

We began our first Professional Development School at the Middle Road School in Hazlet. This exciting venture capitalizes on shared decision making and the collaboration of university faculty and school personnel to positively affect the learning of elementary and university students. Under the direction of Professor Brennan, our undergraduate students have also partnered with the Gregory School in Long Branch to increase the reading skills of the elementary students.

In this issue, we have featured two of our faculty members, Dr. Jason Barr and Professor Mary Brennan. We have information on our alumni and highlight two of them, Jill Takacs and Major Wendy Galloway.

Our NCATE Focus Visit took place in September. The Board of Examiners reviewed Standard Two. I am pleased to report that we have met the standard and are awaiting final notification regarding the status of full accreditation.

Our Night of Music, which was held in October, was well received by attendees who enjoyed getting together with faculty, administrators, former students, and community members. It was held at McCloone’s in Sea Bright. Finally, we have included information regarding our 2nd Annual Susan Young Scholarship Fund Gift Auction, Thinkfinity Day in the School of Education, and the annual Spring Symposium.

Lynn Romeo
Dean, School of Education

Our New Partnerships
Monmouth Regional High School District
Red Bank Regional High School District
Monmouth University School of Education has joined forces with Gregory Elementary School in Long Branch with the goal of increasing reading grade levels for fifth grade students. Approximately 20 Monmouth University Education students have been matched one-on-one with struggling readers for a fun morning of tutoring and fellowship. Dubbed “The Breakfast Club”, the partners meet every Tuesday morning and work together on various skills, including reading fluency, vocabulary, word decoding and writing skills.

Prior to the tutoring sessions, the MU students meet briefly in the morning with Program Directors Maureen Alexander from Gregory School and Mary Brennan from Monmouth University. Cutting edge reading and writing skills are shared with the tutors, along with materials they may need. While Gregory School students are enjoying the benefits of individualized tutoring, the Monmouth University students are gaining valuable teaching experience. It’s a win-win situation for all.

We hope to continue this successful program next semester!
Dr. Jason Barr

Dr. Barr is the Chair and a Developmental Psychologist in the Educational Leadership, School Counseling & Special Education Department. He teaches graduate courses and advises students in the M.S.Ed. School Counseling and Principal programs as well as undergraduate educational psychology courses. Dr. Barr’s research interests are in cognitive and moral development with a specific focus on the development of empathy, positive school relationships, school culture, and moral education. Recent publications include How adolescent empathy and pro-social behavior change in the context of school culture: A two-year longitudinal study published in Adolescence and The effects of contact with individuals with disabilities: Positive attitudes and majoring in education published in The Journal of Psychology: Interdisciplinary and Applied. Dr. Barr recently presented at Utrecht University in The Netherlands on Gender Differences in Empathy and Pro-social Behavior: The Influence of School Culture and will present this summer in Paris, France on The Effects of Age, Gender and Relationship on Attitudes Toward Individuals with Disabilities. Dr. Barr also serves as the MS.Ed. Graduate Program Director and the Provisional Teacher Training Program Director.

Professor Mary Brennan

Professor Brennan is a Specialist Professor in the Educational Leadership and Special Education Department at Monmouth University. Prior to coming to Monmouth University, Professor Brennan was a College Administrator for 18 years and an adjunct instructor in the special education field. Her fields of interest include assessment in special education and the development of co-teaching models. Professor Brennan recently presented at the International Association of Special Education in Alicante, Spain on the topic of co-teaching. She has also co-authored articles on this topic with her colleagues in the School of Education. Professor Brennan is the School of Education liaison to our partnership with the Long Branch Public Schools.
The Student Council for Exceptional Children has had a very productive year so far. We started out in September by volunteering at a walk for autism at the Jersey Shore. Eight volunteers came to help sign walkers in and tally up the donations. In October, seven volunteers participated in the annual Big Event; we made blankets for babies through Project Linus and helped serve in a soup kitchen. On October 30th eighteen volunteers travelled to a special education school called the Harbor School in Eatontown to put on a Halloween event for the students who were ages six to sixteen years old. We had four stations in rotation which included Halloween bingo, pass the monster, put the x on the treasure map, and making trick or treat bags. On November 4th twelve adults from the ARC of Monmouth came to our campus. Ten volunteers gave them a tour of Wilson Hall, the bookstore and the new MAC and we also got to eat lunch together in the dining hall and were able to meet President Gaffney during our tour. Looking towards the New Year we will be holding a fundraising bake sale, participating in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. event, hosting guest speakers, having a workshop about Epilepsy, and many more interesting events and activities. For more information you can contact us through our new email address scsec@monmouth.edu.

Monmouth University Holds 2009 Open House

Open house was held on Sunday, October 11th in Pollak. Hundreds of families attended the School of Education presentation which included a presentation on the school and our programs by Dean Romeo. Family members and prospective students posed questions to administrators and faculty. Handouts and other information were provided. Student members of Kappa Delta Pi and the Special Interest Group of the International Reading Association also answered questions and provided information regarding the associations.
**Majors Fair**

On October 7, 2009, the Center for Student Success sponsored the annual Majors Fair and Experiential Education Expo for freshman, undeclared sophomores and upperclassmen searching for experiential education opportunities. Congratulations to the School of Education for winning the Best Designed Academic Department Table with a prize of a $100 ARAMARK gift certificate! Special thanks to our Program Advisors, Carrie Digironimo, Janis Marcus and Jenifer Joyce for decorating the tables and to faculty and student volunteers for presenting information to interested students. The School of Education also sponsored a contest for a free Monmouth University sweatshirt to any student who stopped by. Congratulations to Kristina Marrone, freshman Education major! She is pictured with Carrie Digironimo, Program Advisor after receiving her prize.

Kristine also took advantage of Freshman Welcome Week during October 26-30th to pick up her free bag of Halloween candy, meet Dean Romeo (picture), ask questions regarding the program, pick up a FAQ sheet and enter to win a free Monmouth University T-shirt by guessing the number of candy corn in the jar. Congratulations to Dominique Gagliano for having the closest guess and Jillian Martinez who won the jar of candy corn! Both students were excited to receive their prizes!

**Alumni**

*Best of Luck to Our Alumni in Their New Positions*

- **Anthony Bilello** 7th Grade Math Teacher, Long Term Substitute; Sandburg Middle School, Old Bridge
- **Jamie Congilose** High School English Teacher; Manasquan High School
- **Alicia Driber** 4th Grade Teacher, Long Term Substitute; Nellie Bennett Elementary School, Point Pleasant
- **Julia Kolakowski** 1st Grade Teacher; Oak Tree Elementary School, Monroe Township
- **Samuel Lall** K-5 Technology Instructor; Catherine Doyle Elementary School, Wood-Ridge School District
- **Nicole Miani** 4th Grade Teacher, Maternity Leave Substitute; Wall Township
- **Patrick Pagan** 3rd Grade Special Education Teacher; Columbus Elementary School; Carteret School District
- **Krystal Strada** 5th Grade Teacher, Long Term Substitute; Ridgeway Elementary, Manchester School District
- **Ashley Wollesen** 10th Grade English Teacher; Manville High School
Alumnus Jill Takacs, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Testing

Since graduating in 2003 from Monmouth University, in the Educational Leadership Masters Program, Mrs. Takacs worked as a vice principal and principal of elementary schools in Monmouth and Ocean counties and is now serving as the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Testing for the Hazlet Township Public School District.

In this position, Mrs. Takacs oversees the coordination of curricular revisions and textbook selections. She is responsible for the development and management of the No Child Left Behind consolidated grant and coordinates the district’s State standardized testing administration. Additionally, Mrs. Takacs works with the district’s principals to define building objectives for each school year. She reviews all classroom observations and works closely with the district supervisors to oversee each curricular area.

Mrs. Takacs interviews with principals and supervisors for new staff positions and monitors personnel assignments. She develops a curriculum budget annually and directly organizes the district’s Professional Development Academy, which includes administrative, staff, and parent workshops and training sessions. She works with the building level principals on the placement of student teachers and junior field observers including many from Monmouth University. She has attended Monmouth University’s Spring Job Fair to recruit potential teachers.

Mrs. Takacs has presented at the University’s Literacy Symposiums for the past two years and is actively involved with the University’s School Partnership Advisory Committee and the Professional Development Schools Partnership between Hazlet Township Public Schools and Monmouth University. As a member of the partnership board, Mrs. Takacs has a strong knowledge base of current and proposed education programs and how the university faculty in concert with all constituents uses data analysis for program improvement.

Alumnus Receives Athena Award

Major Wendy Galloway received the Athena Award from the Greater Monmouth Chamber of Commerce on November 6th, 2009.

The Athena Award honors women for professional excellence, community service and for actively assisting women in their attainment of professional excellence and leadership skills.

Major Galloway earned a BS in Education and MS in administration from Monmouth University. She also served as an adjunct professor for the university. She was a teacher/specialist with the Neptune Township Schools before her service with the New Jersey State Police. Major Galloway is a graduate of the 99th State Police Class. She is the first woman to serve as State Police Spokesperson and the first African American woman to hold the rank of Major.

She is very active with many community service activities and organizations. She is a lifetime member of the Girl Scouts USA and serves on the Board of Directors for Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore. She serves as the Multicultural Markets Chairperson on the Board of Directors for the Central New Jersey Council of Boy Scouts of America. She is also an Advisory Board Member to the New York and New Jersey Asian American Law Enforcement Committee. Major Galloway is also a member of the Ocean County Human Relations Commission and an Executive Committee Member for the Trenton Branch of the NAACP.
More than 200 NJ teachers and Monmouth University School of Education students attended the Literacy Symposium on October 23, 2009. **Dr. Melanie Kuhn**, Boston University, presented the keynote address, “All Oral Reading is not Equal: Creating Effective Fluency Instruction.” Dr. Kuhn discussed various techniques, based on research, that have been demonstrated to improve reading fluency in the classroom.

Author and illustrator of history books for children, **Michael Dooling** was dressed in colonial clothing and shared his illustration techniques with the audience.

Participants gained insight and useful teaching techniques in the following workshops: using sign language in the primary classroom; defining the gifted reader; using classics, multicultural literature and adolescent literature in the high school classroom; improving reading skills in adolescent students; writing opinion of film and theater; creating stories; helping struggling readers; using “Words their Way” differentiated spelling program in the classroom; increasing comprehension using brain-based learning; using an integrated approach to vocabulary instruction; writing eco-literature; and understanding gifted and talented students.

Some of the comments written about the symposium:

“A great day of gaining new ideas and knowledge”

“Energizing, very specific strategies”

“What wasn’t wonderful: great facilities, outstanding presentations – wildly terrific!”
Evening of Music

The School of Education held its first Evening of Music event on Friday October 16, 2009. Those in attendance were treated to a cocktail hour, dinner, and danced to the music of the Tim McLoone Band. A good time was had by all who attended.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who generously supported this event through their donations and attendance to make the evening a success. Their generosity and support will enable us to enhance our technology and curriculum materials for the School of Education programs.

The School of Education would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our generous supporters in 2009

School of Education Founder's Society ($5,000 and above)
School of Education Benefactor’s Society ($2,500-4,999)
School of Education Diamond Member ($1,000-2,499)

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Monmouth University's School of Education presents
The 2nd Annual Dr. Susan Young Memorial Scholarship Gift Auction
"Literacy Around the World"
March 24th, 2010
McLoone's Pier House
1 Ocean Avenue Long Branch
6:00-10:00PM
$45.00 per person
Space is limited-First come, first served

The proceeds from the auction will benefit the Dr. Susan Young Memorial Scholarship Fund. This fund provides scholarships to Undergraduate Monmouth University Education Majors.

Join us for a casual evening of fun, enjoy a 4-course dinner menu with soft drinks, and the possibility of going home with a great prize!

Choice of Tilapia Francaise or Chicken Savoy
Dinner includes: Penne Vodka, Mixed Field Greens Salad, Rolls & Butter, Assorted Dessert Bars, Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks (Cash Bar Available)

Please fill out the reservation information on the enclosed form and return by March 10, 2010 in the self-addressed stamped envelope (c/o Patti DeAngelis)

If you have any questions, special dietary concerns or are unable to attend but would like to support the Dr Susan Young Memorial Scholarship Gift Auction please contact Patti DeAngelis, pdeangel@monmouth.edu or (732)571-7518

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
where leaders look forward™

Spread the word, with anyone else who might be interested in attending or supporting the Dr. Susan Young Memorial Scholarship
SPRING SYMPOSIUM
APRIL 23, 2010
Keynote: Dr. Stanley Pogrow, San Francisco State University

Who says we Can’t Teach Content Outrageously? Reforming Education By Tapping Into the Immense Imagination of Students and Teachers

Stanley Pogrow is a professor of Educational Leadership at San Francisco State University. He has a Ph.D. in Educational Administration from Stanford University. His specialty is advanced teaching techniques that produce higher levels of learning, particularly for children born into poverty.

Over the past 26 years Stanley has been one of the nation’s most successful reformers of education. He is best known for the Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS) project that improved the academic performance of Title I and LD students by thinking development. HOTS was adopted in over 2600 schools, including approximately 200 schools in New Jersey. He is also known for having debunked the research supposedly showing the Success for All Programs to be effective. Most recently he has developed a new design for high poverty elementary schools. His latest initiative is on using humor and drama to teach content “Outrageously”. Dr. Pogrow’s many articles have appeared in Educational Leadership, Phi Delta Kappan, New Jersey Journal of Supervision and Curriculum Development, and Educational Researcher. His most recent book, Teaching Content Outrageously: How to Captivate All Students and Accelerate Learning, was published last year by Jossey-Bass.

Guest Author: Lisa Mullarky

OCTOBER 22, 2010 Fall Literacy Symposium
Keynote: Dr. Maureen McLaughlin, Professor of Reading, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania

Dr. McLaughlin has authored many books on guided comprehension in the middle grades. Her latest book is Content Area Reading: Teaching and Learning in an Age of Multiple Literacies (with MyEducationLab) published by Allyn and Bacon.

Guest Author: Carmen Rubin

APRIL 15, 2011 Spring Symposium
Keynote: Lee Min Wah

For the past twenty years, StirFry Seminars has revolutionized the field of diversity through its internationally acclaimed films and seminars. Over 30 million viewers worldwide have seen The Color of Fear, as well as many of the other groundbreaking films produced and directed by Lee Mun Wah, StirFry’s founder, CEO and Master Trainer. In 1995 Oprah Winfrey produced a one-hour special on Lee Mun Wah’s life and the impact of The Color of Fear.

Guest Author: Dan Gutman

Check our website for further details
http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/schools/education/symposiums.asp

Superintendent’s Academy
Professional Development Sessions

UPCOMING SESSIONS
Session III-February 26, 2010
More Bang for Your Buck: Finances, Resources, and Facilities
Session IV-May 5, 2010
Top Faux Pas from Top Leaders: Media and Communication

Contact:
School of Education, Dean’s Office
(732) 571-7518
THINKFINITY DAY AT
MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY’S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Monday, March 8, 2010

THINKFINITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS
LANGUAGE ARTS AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Thinkfinity: Free Standards-based Resources for 21st Century Learners

Thinkfinity offers FREE educational resources that provide:

- On-line portal to over 55,000 free resources developed through research-based best practices in education
- Engaging, standards-based lessons on a variety of different topics
- Content specific to grade levels and learning styles
- New teaching strategies to use inside and outside the classroom
- Fascinating facts about everything from art to zoology
- Interactive games, tools, and activities that make learning fun
- Resources to strengthen problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking skills
- Homework help

Thinkfinity.org is the Verizon Foundation's online portal and professional development program. Thinkfinity's resources -- from lessons involving online research to those incorporating multimedia development -- reflect 21st century teaching and skills and are provided by an esteemed cadre of content area partners. Opportunities for teachers to engage their students in 21st century skills and themes, while they work through core content in science, mathematics and humanities, are abundant and easily located. During the March 8 Thinkfinity Day at Monmouth University language arts literacy and social studies will be our focus.

Content for Thinkfinity is provided through the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the International Reading Association, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the National Center for Family Literacy, the National Council on Economic Education, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Geographic Society, ProLiteracy Worldwide, the National Council of Teachers of English, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History.

Register Online http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/schools/education/thinkfinity/default.asp
You will automatically receive a confirmation that you have registered.

SPACES WILL BE LIMITED

For Further Information, Contact: Carol Salomon, 732-571-3596 csalomon@monmouth.edu
Details will be emailed prior to the workshop date.
ATTENTION: School of Education Alumni

We are reaching out to all the School of Education alumni in order to invite you to participate in advisory councils, social get-togethers, and to learn what's new in the School of Education. Please complete the following form and return it to:

Patti Deangelis, School of Education
Monmouth University
West Long Branch, NJ 07764

You can also email the information to pdeangel@monmouth.edu

This form is used to update contact information for the School of Education Monmouth University for the sole purpose of keeping you informed with newsletters and upcoming events pertaining to the School of Education. This information will not be sold or disclosed to any source outside of Monmouth University.

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Home Phone:_________________ Work Phone:_________________ Cell Phone:_______________

Email:___________________________________________________________________________________
(please add pdeangel@monmouth.edu to your address book)

Year (s) of Graduation:_______________  Degree/Program/Endorsements__________________________
(Undergraduate and/or Graduate)

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Grade/Current Position:___________________________________________________________________