2010 Brock Laureate, Geoffrey Canada, educator, author and public advocate, has worked to help urban children escape violence and poverty through the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ), a non-profit community-based organization he founded and has served as President and CEO for nearly 20 years. The Harlem Children's Zone website is available at: www.hcz.org

Quotable Canada for discussion in light of our practices and processes:

“If you work with other people’s children for money, you should have the same expectations for all of them” (explaining his point that all kids should be prepared for college)

“Where there is not an option for failure, the adults have to work hard.”

“The people are terrified that there is a solution.”

“If this isn’t turned around in five years, I’ll fire myself! (But I’m going to be the last one to go!)”

“If you really want to change the lives of inner-city kids, change everything—their schools, their families, their neighborhood—all at once.”

“My success was less a testament to my brilliance than a tribute to the hard work of professors and students who believed in me, challenged me, molded me, and finally sent me out into the world to do what I had to do.”

“In communities where children are failing . . you have to go in and change the way teaching and learning happen inside these buildings. And teachers have to be in those buildings for more hours and more days if these kids are ever going to catch up.”

“College-ready equals work-ready”

“The Three R's are relevance, rigor, and relationship.”

“We are building the science of education in classrooms every day.”
The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) recently released the first official public draft of the K-12 standards as part of the Common Core State Standards Initiative, a process being led by governors and state school superintendents in 48 states, 2 territories, and the District of Columbia. These draft standards, developed together with teachers, school administrators, curriculum content experts and others, seek to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce.

English language arts and mathematics standards can be accessed through the Oklahoma State Department of Education Web site, or at www.corestandards.org.

Governor Brad Henry and State Superintendent Sandy Garrett were among the first to sign on to the state-led initiative, and educators across the state are looking forward to the opportunities that having common standards in English language arts and mathematics could provide to Oklahoma. If you have any questions about this initiative or how to share your feedback, please email the Oklahoma Common Core Standards Team at CommonCoreStandards@de.state.ok.us.

The public draft of the

Common Core Standards for OK

20th Annual Celebration of Teaching April 23rd

The College of Education is hosting the 20th annual Celebration of Teaching on April 23. This year’s speakers include Anthony Mullen, National Teacher of the Year from Greenwich, Conn., and Brian M. Grimm, Oklahoma Teacher of the Year from Tulsa, Okla.

Celebration of Teaching features National and Oklahoma teachers of the year, this event is attended by more than 300 educators annually. The Celebration of Teaching aims to recognize the teaching profession and bring educators together to share ideas.
Professional Education Unit
Staff Updates

Admissions (Kathy Boyer)
Resident teacher surveys have been distributed electronically this year directly to the first year teacher instead of through the higher education representative, and we are already starting to see a good return. We finish this year having served 266 residency committees, of which 218 were OSU graduates. Additionally, we served 7 out-of-state teachers, 6 recommended by other Oklahoma Universities, and 35 alternatively certified teachers.

OSU was a site for field testing of four Oklahoma Subject Area Tests on 4/6/10. Areas tested were elementary education, early childhood education, middle level science, and counseling. Approximately 35 students participated in the field test with some doing multiple tests.

The State Title II report has been completed for 08-09, however, we now have an additional Title II report that will be submitted electronically to the U.S. Department of Education each year. We are in the process of preparing the first of these reports and will submit it in April, 2010.

307 students have become fully admitted into professional education this academic year.

To date we have processed 302 state name-based background checks this academic year. With CIED 2450 introductory meetings coming up later this month, the number will probably go up by about another 100 students.

Field Experience & Clinical Practice (Price Brown)
We have completed ten meetings on both the Stillwater and Tulsa campuses to inform our students of what they should expect during the next few semesters. We have 86 students scheduled to begin their internships in the fall. We have also completed interviews with each of the prospective interns. We continue to get a great deal of walk-in traffic, especially from arts and sciences students interested in enrolling in CIED 3712.

Certification (Nancy Recker)
Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 we had 435 students placed in Observations and 376 Student Teaching. In FY 2008-2009 356 students were certified.

Portfolios (Jon Thomas)
The last two weeks of April will be busy with portfolio readings. Over 189 secondary and elementary portfolios will be evaluated off campus.

Livetext has made changes so results can be imported directly into FileMaker. This has not been possible prior to this month.

In May the calendar will be developed for the next school year. Any input is welcome.

Assessment (Brent Hill)
The OSU PEU database is undergoing a complete re-design and all existing data will be migrated soon, resulting in a more efficient tool.
Scholarship by Professional Education Faculty


Christenson, R. (2009). Should students be granted a waiver from physical education if they are involved in other activities? Strategies: A Journal for Physical and Sport Educators, 22, 4-7.


Christenson, R., & Barney, D. (2009). How do you use NASPE’s teacher toolbox to enhance professional activities with students, sport or physical education lessons, faculty wellness classes or community programs? Strategies: A Journal for Physical and Sport Educators, 23(2), 6-10.


Oklahoma State Student Media Festival to be Held on Campus Wednesday, May 12, 2010

This annual event sponsored by our college, the Educational Technology program and the Oklahoma Technology Association. The 2010 festival will be held Wednesday, May 12, on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Students and teachers will have the opportunity to celebrate winning entries, participate in workshops, and enjoy campus. Students in grades K-12 enter the following categories: Live Action Video, Animation, Slideshow, and Digital Photography in their age divisions (K-4, 5-8, and 9-12).
Social Networking in Teacher Education

During our last Professional Education Council meeting, we discussed today’s Digital Age Learners and how our programs are working with students needing 21st Century Skills. Below are some links to resources that may be helpful to you in meeting students where they are and guiding them to the technological, pedagogical, and content knowledge and skills needed to be outstanding educators!

Try out some tremendous tech tools with social networking elements:
http://simplycurious.net/techttools

Resources to help teach pre-service teachers technology ethics concepts:
Cyber Tree House http://www.cybertreehouse.com/
CyberSMART Curriculum http://www.cybersmartcurriculum.org/
iSAFE http://www.isafe.org/
How to Protect Kids Online http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/tech/tec10.shtm
Play it Cyber Safe http://www.playitcybersafe.com/
Cyber Sense and Nonsense: The Second Adventure of the Three Cyber Pigs http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/games/cybersense_nonsense/

Coordinator Position Opening

The OSU College of Education’s Professional Education Unit (PEU) is accepting applications for the Coordinator of Field Experiences and Clinical Practice. The successful applicant will work with OSU faculty, staff, and P-12 school district personnel to ensure candidates receive quality diverse experiences appropriate to their program and act as a liaison with school personnel to resolve any issues that may arise and ensure that applicant/candidate participation in the schools in which they are placed is beneficial to both parties. Duties will also include coordination of placements and supervision for candidates in all PEU programs; coordination and presentation of professional development for candidates, candidate supervisors, and cooperating teachers in schools; coordination of all assessment and record keeping related to the office of field experiences and clinical practice; preparation of materials, contracts, agreements and forms for candidates, schools and cooperating teachers; and oversight of international placements.

Minimum qualifications are a Master’s degree in Education or a related field with three to four years’ experience in an educational setting. Must have knowledge of the role and processes of field experiences and clinical practice in teacher preparation programs, have excellent written and oral communication skills, have ability to work with databases and online assessment information (particularly Filemaker Pro), have excellent organizational skills, exhibit excellent judgment, work successfully in an academic community, and have the ability to work as part of a team. Travel to schools for meetings and work outside 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. is required on occasion. The position will begin June 1, 2010, or as soon as possible following acceptance. For full consideration, applicants must submit a letter of application, resume, and names of three references with contact information no later than April 23, 2010, online at: http://jobs.okstate.edu