

# School of Education Newsletter

## Inside this issue:

Dean's Corner Fall 2010 Graduates	1
Rec. Reading Focus on Excellence Document Cameras	2-3
Job Opportunities SOEAC Luncheon	5-8
Kinesiology Corner	8-9
Education Corner	10-11
Certification Corner	11-12
News from SOE & GAPS Admissions Corner	12-13

**"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave or forsake you."**

**-Deuteronomy 31:6**

**Editor: Dr. Vicki Sheaffer**

**Student assistant: Emily Johnson**

## Dean's Corner by Dr. Wayne Jacobs

### Finish Strong!

We are closing in on the end of the fall 2010 semester and I am convinced that God wants us to give Him our best efforts in all we do. Every test or trial that comes your way should be seen with the attitude of joy. The letter of James reminds us to "...count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." (James 1:2-4) Only you have the power to

choose how to respond to the challenges (tests, projects, work issues, roommate "drama", etc.) before you. How will you choose to respond? Will you lie down or will you choose to honor God? The choice is yours and I challenge you to always choose to finish strong so that God may be honored with your effort. The philosopher Epictetus said, "It's not what happens to you, it's how you react that matters". May your reactions be what marks you as you finish this semester.



## Congratulations to our SOE Fall 2010 Graduates!

### Interdisciplinary Studies, B.A.

Kaitlin de Graffenried  
Kilgore, TX

### Child Development, B.S.

Christina Dulweber  
Longview, TX  
Chelsea Hollon  
Longview, TX

### Interdisciplinary Studies, B.S.

Alicia Blackburn  
Folsom, PA  
Jamie Jones  
Hewitt, TX  
Caleb Engelke  
Longview, TX

### Kinesiology - Exercise Science Concentration, B.S.

Eric Williams  
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

### Life Sciences Education, B.S.

Amanda VanDoren  
Waxhaw, NC

## Recommended Reading from the Desk of the Dean

### Three Simple Keys to Effective Classroom Management

By Monique Perry in *Effective Classroom Management*

Fall semester is well underway at my institution. Prior to classes starting I had the opportunity to have lunch with a couple of fellow faculty members. During our lunch, we discussed many topics related to the upcoming term, but [classroom management](#) emerged as a common point of contention.

This surprised me. Although I'm still fairly new to higher education, after spending more than 10 years in corporate communications management in the private sector, my colleagues are very seasoned educators. I didn't expect they would have issues with students disrupting the [learning environment](#) by using mobile devices, coming late to class, and the like.

As I listened to the conversation, I reflected on my personal experiences. Even though we taught some of the same students, I didn't encounter the same classroom management issues that my counterparts did. I wondered why this was the case, and realized that I followed three critical steps that help me preserve the optimal learning environment for my students' success.

**Set the Tone from Day One.** Be proactive, not reactive. It's important that you set and communicate your classroom guidelines from the [first day of class](#) – no matter what the instructional environment. Don't wait until an incident occurs (i.e. a student's phone ringing aloud in class or a student being disrespectful in an online discussion board) to put a guideline in place. Document and publish your guidelines within your [syllabus](#) or create an addendum document to accompany your course outline.

**Model the Way.** As educators, our students look to us as role models, whether we embrace it or not. It's imperative that we 'walk the talk' when it comes to our classroom guidelines. If you have banned food and drink from your classroom, then you can't eat your lunch while your class is taking an exam because you have a committee meeting at noon that day.

**Be Consistent.** Consistently enforcing your classroom guidelines is critical to preserving the classroom environment for learning. In politics, you often hear legislators proclaim, "What's the purpose of a law, if no one enforces it?" The same applies for your classroom guidelines. If you don't enforce your own guidelines, then no one will follow them.

At the end of the day, as educators, we want to focus on learning and promoting our students' success. Even though we may not encounter the volume of behavioral issues that our secondary school educators do; it's our duty to ensure that the classroom environment is optimal for learning. Following these tips will hopefully help you do that — our success and our students' success depends on it.



**“Consistently enforcing your classroom guidelines is critical to preserving the classroom environment for learning.”**

## Focus on Excellence Reception



Psychology (Dr. Melanie Roudkovski, Lauren Touchberry, Emily Johnson, Dr. Vicki Sheaffer)

On November 4, 2010, the Board of Trustees was invited to attend the Pursuit of Excellence Reception in the lobby of the Belcher Chapel and Performing Arts Center. The reception showed off LeTourneau students and faculty in the various academic disciplines on campus. The Department of Kinesiology displayed a table of posters that explained, to the public from a financial perspective, the current trend of obesity spreading across America with the rise of Type II Diabetes and its health consequences. BMI and body fat analysis for those who requested was also available. The Department of Psychology highlighted student and faculty scholarship and the international "Australian Adventure" sponsored by the Department of Psychology and the School of Education. The Department of Teacher Education featured students explaining the education applications being used on the new iPads shared children's books they

have authored that have been bound, discussed books and materials they use in off-campus tutorials at area schools, shared state-adopted textbooks provided to our school by the state of Texas (at no cost to us), and explained the middle school thematic units they have designed. All three School of Education departments had fun interacting with the members of the Board and their spouses and were proud to demonstrate all that happens in our school.



Teacher Education (Matthew Bradley, Justin Easton, Hannah Gambrel, Rebekah Bergren, Dr. Stephens, Devin Borsellino, Elaine Solano, and Kayla Fuller)

## Document Cameras by Mark McElroy

The School of Education just completed a review of various makes and models of document cameras in order to purchase new units for all four second-floor classrooms. Document cameras commonly called "Elmos" after the most well know brand made popular in schools across the country, have become a standard, frequently used educational technology tool in K-12 and in higher education classrooms. Facilitating this trend has been the introduction of more cost effective and full-featured models available in the sub-one thousand dollar range.

What makes a document camera so great? Well, a document camera is like a video camera, overhead transparency machine, opaque projector, and slide projector all in one. Instructors can project papers, newspapers, magazine articles, photos, transparencies, and any three-dimensional object that can be laid underneath the document camera. These images can be enlarged greatly and then projected easily with the ceiling-mounted data projector installed in each of these rooms on the large screen to the entire class.

Even small type, photos and minute details in three-dimensional objects that are normally difficult for an entire class to view can be viewed on the large screen by all students via the document cameras' video camera. The result is a device that can help save time and make classroom instruction much more effective and spontaneous due to the flexibility in design.

Since nearly all the public and private schools in the US are using these audiovisual tools, it is even more important that LETU education majors learn how to use this type of device before entering the classroom teaching environment. The Lumens model DC265 "Ladybug" model was chosen due to the high number of features, excellent flexibility and a cost less than \$700 each. The four units purchased will be housed in the Education Center classrooms.

## School of Education News—Job Opportunities

1. *Ms. Laura Lea Blanks*, Director of Crisman School, has a request for our education students who are interested in working with special needs students. She would like LeTourneau University students who would be available to substitute teach (8AM-3PM). If interested in sub jobs contact: Ms. Laura Lea Blanks at 903.758.9741 or [lblanksc@crismanschool.org](mailto:lblanksc@crismanschool.org). She also welcomes our students who might be interested in student teaching at her school. If interested in a placement in special education for part of the student teaching experience please contact: Dr. Julie Teel ([julieteel@letu.edu](mailto:julieteel@letu.edu)).

2. *Elite Academic Solutions* is in need of 4 math and science tutors for middle school students.

LeTourneau University students must have a minimum of 60 college hour credits to apply.

The tutoring takes place at local Longview students' homes after school and on Saturdays at the Longview Public Library. The pay is \$15.00 per hour. If interested contact: Mr. Joshua T. Scott at 832.623.6254 or [jscott@eliteacademics.org](mailto:jscott@eliteacademics.org).

3. *First Presbyterian (Longview)* is in need of workers at their early childhood school. First Presbyterian Church-located in downtown Longview has a wonderful early childhood school. Here is what is needed each month. School is always out on holidays and the schedule is planned for a month in advance.

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month – 9:15 – 11:15am – for 1 child

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month 12 – 2 pm – for 2 children

Every Wednesday 9 -11 am – 5 children

Every Thursday 9 – 11 am- 5-6 children

Pay is: \$20 for 2 hours and \$8.50 per hour after that if a meeting goes long. The employee is paid for 2 hours regardless if anyone shows up for the nursery. The employee can leave after 30 minutes if no one arrives.

The room is equipped with toys, bathroom, kitchenette outside with a microwave and fridge. Pagers for mothers and a phone are also outside the door of the nursery.

Church will perform background check on applicants. If any of the students are interested, please contact Mrs. Tammy Moyes at 903-757-2525 or [tmoyes@fpclongview.org](mailto:tmoyes@fpclongview.org)

## SOEAC Luncheon by Dr. Julie Teel and Dr. Vicki Sheaffer



The School of Education Advisory Council met October 5, 2010. After a catered Italian lunch buffet, breakout sessions were held. At the Teacher Education/Kinesiology session, a power point created by the Texas Education Agency's Division of Education Standards provided a training opportunity for the Teacher Education and Kinesiology members of the advisory council. The content included the roles and responsibilities of the advisory council as well as the new accountability system put in place with Senate Bill 174 and

Texas Administrative Code 229. At the Psychology breakout session, a discussion about the newly approved master's degree program was held and feedback was solicited from council members on the curriculum and design of the program. Thank you to all of the members of the Advisory Council for your service and attendance. Our academic programs benefit greatly from your hard work.



## Psychology Corner

### CASA Banquet by Dr. Melanie Roudkovski



On September 27, 2010, East Texas Child Advocates, Inc. (ETCA) held their first Annual Event in the history of the organization. The event was held in the Belcher Center Grand Lobby on the LeTourneau campus. Though the event was not a LeTourneau sponsored event, the space was made available to ETCA due to a new partnership between the agency and the School of Education; specifically, the Department of Psychology. Dr. Melanie Roudkovski serves on the ETCA Board of Trustees and, as Practicum Coordinator for the Department of Psychology, regularly places LETU students at the agency for volunteer work. Thus, a partnership exists now for ETCA to use LETU space for events at no cost. The Annual Event was deemed a success with 60+ individuals in attendance. The event will be an annual Board-sponsored event designed to recognize volunteers and staff for their work with children and

families in East Texas. This event certainly was timed well—a fantastic opportunity to introduce the newly appointed Executive Director (and LeTourneau alum!), Deena Shelton. (Picture left to right: Deena Shelton, Dr. Sheaffer, Dr. Roudkovski, Marolen Mullinax, President, Board of Directors.)

### AAMFT Conference Presentation by Dr. Melanie Roudkovski

Dr. Melanie Roudkovski attended the annual conference for the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapists (AAMFT) on September 23-25, 2010. Dr. Roudkovski had submitted a proposal for presentation with two colleagues, Drs. Philip Coyle and Cara Cochran, both of Richmond Graduate University. The group presented on the topic: What Healthy Families Can Teach Family Therapists. The seminar was well-attended with over 100 participants. The presentation was an extension of the on-going research by Drs. Roudkovski and Coyle on the topic of healthy family functioning.

### Psychology Club Seminar by Candyce Braker

Adam and Ashley McMahan have impacted my life in the short time I have known them so I felt honored that they were willing to share a glimpse of their lives with the psychology department. Both Adam and Ashley have undergraduate psychology degrees and are graduates of Dallas Theological Seminary. Adam is the young adult's pastor at Fellowship Bible Church here in Longview and Ashley is just starting her own practice after having worked at Heartlight as a counselor.

It was great to get different perspectives about the field; Adam had some really great things to say about how he found a way of using his psychology background to level with people and connect to them as a pastor. Ashley talked about balancing and how important it is to make connections with people that have walked the same path before you, no matter what field you may be going into. They were really encouraging and I think every student walked away a little more confident in their choice to study psychology and relaxed about letting God build the steps of their future.



## Psychology Club: Heartlight Trip by Elise Lanning

The rustling and bustling of teenagers breached the thick, brick walls, and my heart jumped with a nervous excitement. Right outside the door were different colors, shapes, and sizes of shoes that were abandoned by their teenage owners. While removing my navy blue converse, I couldn't help but wonder how representative these shoes were of their owners. There were flimsy flip-flops, checkered vans, shiny Nike's, and highlighter-bright tennis shoes. Just as I was ready to join the loud voices emerging from the wooden door, Tony mentioned something I was not expecting. He warned to keep our cell phones away from the teenagers. If they asked to use it, we must refuse them. This was my first glimpse at what I was to hear from everyone I talked to that night, perceived enslavement.

My first direct encounter was on my way to dinner line-up. A boy probably around the age of 13 approached me with a bright smile and gave his name. Before I could reply with my name, he blurted, "I'm here because I got angry and shot a guy." He then walked away with a self-satisfied grin. While I was in line another boy walked up to Lauren, who was behind me, and asked, "Do you have keys? I like shiny things." When I sat at a table of two girls and two boys ranging in age from 15 to 18, they went around the table saying what they had done wrong to end up at Heartlight. My heart was broken because they had bought into the idea that they are defined by what they have done. More importantly, that all I cared to hear were their mess-ups. What if when we first introduced ourselves we might mention name, age, siblings, and our shameful sins?

I asked the two girls at the table what they wanted to be when they grew up. The first immediately responded with, "Stripper!" The second mentioned that she wanted to go to college and become a counselor, but if that did not work then, "Stripper." My heart continued to break. Who told these girls that stripper was the best they could do?

One of the last girls I talked to was name Megan. She was a young lady from Michigan who had only been at Heartlight for two weeks. She was the only teenager there who was not putting up a mask, which is quite ironic since that is what the talk was about that night. She explained that she had authority issues and her mother warned her to either straighten up or be sent away. She said now she wishes she had straightened up. Small freedoms were now deemed special privileges. Treated once more like a child until responsibility was earned. Megan verbalized what they were all thinking, "I'm trapped."

To some extent, they were "trapped" by the boundaries of Heartlight, but the true prison guard was themselves. Somewhere along the way they bought into the fact that they were trouble or someone to "deal with." They were not their names or their dreams - but their problems. They were not worth the aspirations beyond stripper. They were not worth someone random college students coming to hang out for fun.

The truth I hope they someday receive either by my lips or someone else God sends is that yes, they are broken, but not past redemption. They are worth someone's time and love. They are not a task but a pleasure to be around. They are the King's sons and daughters. They are worthy of aspirations that are seemingly out of reach because the God of the universe is cheering for them. "If God is for me, who can be against me."



Back row: Tony Michael, Christine Bedford, Ricky Farris, Tyrell Braker

Front row: Tommy Chambers, Dr. Sheaffer, Lauren Touchberry, Elise Lanning, Candyce Braker

## Psychology Course Focus—Healthy Psychology by Dr. Vicki Sheaffer

In our course focus spotlight this semester, we take a look at PSYC 3513 Health Psychology. Health Psychology examines the contributions of the discipline of psychology to the promotion and maintenance of health, the prevention and treatment of illness, the identification of etiologic and diagnostic correlates of health, illness, and related dysfunction, and to the analysis and improvement of the health care system and health policy formation. The class has covered topics ranging from stress to wellness behavior, nutrition, substance abuse, heart disease, cancer, HIV/AIDS, and alternative medicine. The class has had a number of guest speakers this semester from the Good Shepherd's Speakers Bureau and Special Health Resources. Sara Pierle, RD, spoke to the class about nutrition; Gina Terry, RN, spoke to the class about heart disease and stroke; Kristy Robinson, RN, spoke to the class about cancer; and Tiffany Mack and Kim Williams spoke to the class about HIV/AIDS. Many members of the class also participated in the 2010 Tommy Miller Run for the Prize, a 5k run/walk held Saturday, October 23 in Hallsville, TX. After the race, the members of the class that attended went back to Dr. Sheaffer's house and had breakfast. The class project is a Family Health History Profile, in which each student investigates the mental and physical health histories of ten family members. Each student identifies health trends and then develops an action plan to maximize their own health.



Left: Class with Gina Terry (far right)



Tommy Miller Run for the Prize participants (Dano Fowler, Alicia Blackburn, Amanda Gosselin, Lauren Touchberry, Gabrielle Johnson, Dr. Sheaffer, Hannah Butler)



Right: Class with Kristy Robinson (far right)

## Psychology: Title III Grant Presentation by Melanie Roudkovski



On October 27, 2010, Dr. Melanie Roudkovski presented to the LeTourneau community the results of a Title III project entitled *LeTourneau Down Under: An Australian Adventure*. Dr. Roudkovski was awarded a Title III grant in 2009 in the amount of \$1000 for her project that involved leading LeTourneau University faculty and students to Redcliffe, Queensland, for missions and ministry as well as academic credit for a few of the students. The trip resulted in a strong relationship between LeTourneau University and Mueller Community Church and its various ministries. The experience also helped emphasize the importance of the LeTourneau vision: *Every Workplace Every Nation*. Dr. Roudkovski hopes to present at the Teaching of Psychology conference in spring 2011 re-

garding the significance of global experiences in undergraduate curriculum.

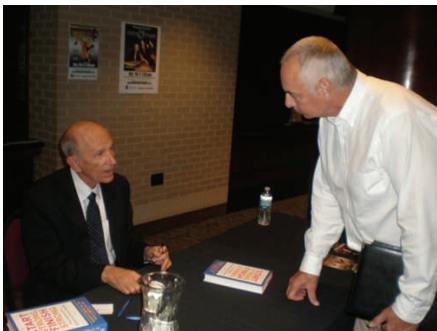
## Kinesiology Corner

### Health Fair by Dr. Duane Trogdon

On October 7, 2010, LeTourneau University conducted its annual Health Fair for the community. Nearly 1000 people took advantage of the various agencies and businesses that provided health screening and information for the community. The students of KINE 4603 Measurement & Evaluation utilized their skills in fitness screening to provide participants with various areas of information about their level of fitness. Craig Allen and Crystal Krause conducted a computerized battery that evaluated the person's VO<sub>2</sub> max, which is a measure of their cardiovascular capabilities. Corbin Skinner and Cory Husk provided a station where people could have their body fat and BMI evaluated with suggestions for the results. Nicole Tammelin and Juliana Tuel provided height and weight measures for participants and used the results to help determine the BMI evaluations that were provided. Dano Fowler and Eric Williams used a standardized measure for flexibility that provided a standard score for each person to evaluate their flexibility in various joints of the body. Keasa Johnson (pictured) and Rachael Follingstad created posters to explain the various activities and the President's Council on Physical



### Dr. Kenneth Cooper Presentation by Dr. Duane Trogdon



The Belcher Chapel and Performing Arts Center was the site for Dr. Kenneth Cooper the evening of October 7, 2010. Dr. Cooper is a world renowned medical doctor and author of *Aerobics*. His lecture concerned the physical fitness levels of Americans and the current weight control and obesity problem in America. Sponsored by Wells Fargo of Longview, it was an opportunity for the Kinesiology students to hear from the man who gave the definition to the word *aerobics* and hear the advances that the Cooper Aerobics Institute of Dallas was making in its efforts to change behaviors in America, particularly with diet and exercise. Dr. Cooper's research was highlighted with points of interest that show the spread of obesity across America and how to curb its spread. His lecture also included the effort his Institute did with the fast food companies, par-

ticularly Pepsico, in eliminating trans fats in their products. His words were very encouraging about the benefit of being active and eating healthy foods. Kinesiology majors were given opportunities for submission of a written report from the lecture to be used in several of their classes.

## Jack Medina Presentation by Dr. Duane Trogdon

LeTourneau University students were again treated to a lecture by another nationally recognized fitness expert, Mr. Jack Medina. Mr. Medina has been noted for his training of Olympic athlete, Cathy Rigby, and many other All-American gymnasts. He has also been a trainer for the Los Angeles Rams, Dallas Cowboys, and the Oakland Raiders. In addition, he has authored four books on how to train athletes, especially elite athletes. Kinesiology major Corbin Skinner was one of the students that helped to sponsor the evening, where com-



## Academic Chapel by Dr. Duane Trogdon



Students in the School of Education experienced a special treat in November's Academic Chapel. The Kinesiology Department hosted speaker Hank Hough, creator of Kingdom Dog. Hank has been involved with sharing the ministry of Christ through his Labrador retrievers for the last three years and has performed on the 700 Club, at the Crystal Cathedral in California, and in numerous other venues. His largest crowd was approximately 1,000,000 people who saw his televised performance. His message is clear and straight forward as he uses his national champion dogs to show how God through Christ has brought us to a point of obedience and salvation. You may see some of his presentations on YouTube and his website, KingdomDog.com.

## Foundations of Kinesiology by Dr. Duane Trogdon

Students in KINE 1602 Foundations of Kinesiology received their pedometers this month to monitor the number of steps taken each day. Walk 10,000 is a method where walking at least 10,000 steps per day will create a healthy lifestyle, promote weight loss, and increase energy levels. The pedometers are clipped to a belt or item of clothing so that each step is counted and accumulated throughout the day. The goal is 10,000 steps or more. The average American takes approximately 5,000 steps each day, and this is a way to encourage activity that is natural and easy to accomplish. Like Dr. Ken Cooper states, "It is better to be fat and ACTIVE, than to be thin and INACTIVE."



Department of Kinesiology (Dr. Duane Trogdon, Cory Husk) at the Focus on excellence Reception.

## Education Corner

### Longview Partners in Prevention Red Ribbon Essay Contest and Awards Luncheon

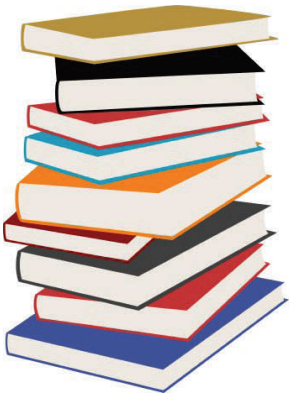
Students in Dr. Kathy Stephens' Reading courses served as judges for the annual fourth grade essay contest, "Why I am Drug Free!" These senior-level Teacher Education majors selected one student essay winner from each area elementary school to be invited to the November Awards Luncheon. The essay contest winners, their teachers, and family members were then hosted by LeTourneau University and Dr. Stephens' students along with Partners in Prevention members for a celebratory luncheon. Essay winners read their essays and received medals. This annual event is sponsored by LeTourneau University Teacher Education Department.



### Teacher Education Academic Chapel

A new tradition was started this year for the fall Academic chapel sponsored the Teacher Education Department. Senior-level students volunteered to lead small groups as they shared an experience in their spiritual growth. Students participating in this chapel reported that they found it to be enjoyable and refreshing.

### A BIG Thank You!



Dr. Stephens would like to thank everyone involved in moving the mountain of reading and literature textbooks from the Atrium area into storage. This was an overwhelming task and many of you stepped up and worked long hours to help us organize and move the textbooks into storage. The state of Texas provides the LeTourneau Teacher Education Department with free samples of state-adopted textbooks. This year we received a huge surplus! We will continue to shift books around in our storage areas to make room for these additional books and will need more students to complete the process.

## DETEACH by Sarah Anderson



On October 1<sup>st</sup>, twenty-four of our Teacher Education students attended a presentation on a program called DETEACH (**D**esign, **T**echnology, and **E**ngineering for **A**ll **C**hildren). Our guest presenters, Austin and Kim Talley, have extensive experience with the DETEACH program at UT Austin. DETEACH strives to: empower educators, engage the engineering community, and inspire learning. This program includes a "5 Step Process": (1) hands on tech exploration, (2) interactive discussions, (3) exploratory labs, (4) open ended design problems, and (5) project reporting.

The focus of the presentation was to learn ideas for innovation in teaching math and science for elementary level children. The students used Legos to expand their knowledge and vocabulary in regards to "gears". They used the Legos to build gears and learn about ratios of how fast (or slow) the gears turned in comparison with others. It was quite interesting, and fun! Thank you to the Engineering Department for sharing their guests with us. You can find out more at <http://web.engr.utexas.edu/dteach/aboutus/>.

## PLT Workshop by Sarah Anderson

On a **very cold** Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, twenty-three of our Teacher Education students attended the Project Learning Tree (PLT) environmental education workshop through a partnership with Eastman and Texas Forest Services professionals. The workshop was held at the Eastman Chemical Company, Nature & Wildlife Habitat Center. This was a unique, first-time opportunity for our students to receive excellent training and hands-on experience that will enhance their abilities as an educator. Our students walked away with increased knowledge, experience, and practical applications that they can use. For example, six hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit from the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) was earned; PLT materials are correlated to the National Science and Social Studies Standards, and the Math, Science, Social Studies, and Language Arts TEKS. ([www.plttexas.org/html/curriculum.htm](http://www.plttexas.org/html/curriculum.htm)); and participants received the pK-8 guide filled with 96 activities and posters

Discover Project Learning Tree (PTL) is an award winning environmental education curriculum for educators of student's pK-8. PLT's mission is to teach students "how to think" not "what to think" about the environment. PLT helps develop student skills in creative problem solving, critical thinking, evaluation and research. The experience combined learning and professional development with forestry professionals who provided content rich information on natural resources.

## Certification Corner by Becky Birdsong

The office of Educator Certification has been contacting all students that have been working towards an EC-4<sup>th</sup> grade Generalist certification to remind them one last time regarding the deadlines for completion. The EC-4<sup>th</sup> grade exams are all gone now, so if you have not completed your exams, you will automatically be rolled over to EC-6<sup>th</sup> grade Generalist certification. If you have not completed your student teaching requirement, it must be completed during the spring, 2011 semester. Contact [VickieFontaine@letu.edu](mailto:VickieFontaine@letu.edu) if you are interested in completing this final part of your certification. The deadline for everything being completed is August 31, 2011. If you do not have everything completed by then, you will automatically be rolled over to EC-6<sup>th</sup> grade Generalist as well. If you end up being rolled over, contact [BeckyBirdsong@letu.edu](mailto:BeckyBirdsong@letu.edu) for explanations on completing your EC-6<sup>th</sup> grade exams. (*cont. on next page*)

## Certification Corner *(continued)*

Another bit of news is that all Education students will soon be moving to take the EC-12 PPR exams instead of their grade level PPR. The Texas Education Agency has made the decision to do away with all of the different grade level PPR exams as of Fall, 2011. Their thought is that it makes more sense for all teachers to have a better understanding of all grade levels and how students develop and grow. LeTourneau will be implementing a timeline as to when this change will take place.

## News from SOE and GAPS by Vicki Fontaine, Coordinator of Educational Field Experiences

*The following story comes from Michelle Stroman, fall 2010 Student Teacher at Pine Tree Primary School.*

As a student teacher at Pine Tree Primary, I would like to think my positive interaction with the children creates a relationship, one of trust, guidance, and encouragement. Amanda Kraus, my mentor teacher, has been a great example to me and to her students of what a teacher should be. My actions and words are instrumental in providing these children with the tools and resources to build a strong foundation for future learning. My involvement with all the children reinforces their learning not just at school, but also when they go home. It is amazing to see the things that they learn and then go home and tell their parents or brothers and sisters. In our classroom we sing, chant, and use movement to keep our students engaged. It gives them a fun and creative way to learn skills and concepts we teach. Our classroom is very hands-on and uses a variety of teaching styles to reach all types of learners. We use guided discussions in our classroom to help create openness for children to come up with their own ideas. This helps when we teach modified modeling for correct procedures. We act out the incorrect way first. For example, "I begin to teach this procedure by jumping up and down, waving my hands and yelling, 'I am finished,' over and over. Then ask our children if they can think of another way for the procedure. Teaching students these procedures set boundaries and creates structure, which carries over into their home life. Teaching fills us with so many life lessons. Our class is not just about us teaching the children, but also about what we as teachers learn from our children. These life lessons help us to become better teachers for our children. Furthermore, it helps us to understand their needs, weakness, and strengths. My visions, goals, and beliefs are a strong principle in my teaching. My education at LeTourneau University is a large part of my success as a student teacher. The University has prepared me by setting high expectations, accepting nothing less than integrity, accountability, compassion, flexibility, and understanding. My education here has taught me that teaching is all about the children. It has prepared me as a well-trained teacher who truly cares about the success of my children and has instilled a wiliness to do whatever it takes.

## Admissions Corner

### Update from the Admissions Office! By Meridith Foley, SOE Admissions Counselor

Greetings from LETU Admissions! Life around here has been SUPER busy this fall, as all of our Admissions Counselors have been traveling the US, recruiting stellar LETU prospects. Most of my recruiting time was spent in Southern California and Dallas, and while meeting new students and families was very energizing, I am happy to back at "home base" in Longview. *(cont. on next page)*



We've all heard the old saying, "Home is where the heart is." Well, for my husband and me, home is really where the Lord directs us, and He has recently directed to make a change. The Lord has asked us to move back to our "old home," actually, in Oregon. We will be headed out of Texas and back to Oregon in mid-December, carrying great memories of LETU with us along the way. Job (pronounced "Jub") Louimeus, the latest, greatest addition to the Admissions team, will be transitioning into my place over the next month. I am very excited for LETU applicants to be blessed by working with this fine LETU graduate! Below is a brief bio that Job has put together for you. I encourage you to get to know him... you will not regret it! Thanks for allowing me to work with you all over the past year!

Blessings, Meridith Foley



### Job Louimeus

"My name is Job Louimeus and I am originally from Miami Beach, FL. I am a recent graduate of LeTourneau University! I graduated from the School of Education with a degree in Kinesiology (Exercise Science). While at LeTourneau, I played basketball under Coach Bob Davis, who led me to the Lord. Many people ask me, "How did you end up in boring old Longview?" It surprises me, too, that I am here in Longview. My only answer to that question is "The Good Lord." I believe it was in His plan to have me attend a school that was centered around Him, so that I too could be saved and also become an advocate for Him!"



**School Of Education**  
**"Shaping a Destiny**  
**for His Service."**