

October

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School of Education Newsletter

Dean's Corner—Dr. Wayne Jacobs

Welcome

It is such a pleasure to see so many new smiling faces in the School of Education this year. For those of you who have returned this year, thanks for making our new students feel so welcome! We are looking forward to a great year. You may have heard that LeTourneau University has a record enrollment in our traditional program on the Longview campus. We are excited how our school adds to the diversity on the main campus. As a whole the university shows a 72%/28% male to female ratio, but our school is just the opposite. Thirty percent of the School of Education is composed of men while 70% of our students are females. We are proud of our distinctiveness and contributions to the campus and are thankful for all of our students, not only in our School, but in the whole LeTourneau University family.

ALASKA ADVENTURE

The state motto of Alaska is "North to the Future". Let me encourage you to think about the future, specifically

the summer of 2009. The School of Education will be leading some very special students to experience the culture, the beauty and the uniqueness of Alaska between May 4th and May 11th (tentative dates). If you are interested in this, please contact Dr. Jacobs. You may choose to take a course as part of your experience, but you do not have to go for the academic credit – it is just a bonus! So, be like the state flower of Alaska, the Forget-me-not and don't forget about asking about this great opportunity! Be in prayer and start your own fundraising to be ready when God calls!

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Ever wanted to make a difference here on campus? Do you like having fun and making sure others do too? Do you have the desire to work with other members of the School of Education family to plan activities we all can enjoy? Then you may want to be a part of the Academic council. The Council is a student body made up of representatives from Psychology, Kinesiology and Teacher Education. The

students in the Council help to prepare activities that promote fellowship and fun for the whole School of Education. We have two major events each year as well as participate in other events as decided by the Council. If you are interested, please email Dr. Jacobs for an application.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

It is what makes our Heavenly Father smile. It lifts our souls and brings us together as a body of Christ. When we meet together in chapel, are you focused on the Creator of all things, or on your plans for that day, your next meal, or who is sitting next to you? I love the intimate times we have in Academic Chapel and appreciate our praise team so much for bringing us nearer to the throne of God's grace. I encourage you to see that time as special. I also want to encourage you to join in and lift your voices as a fragrant offering to our Lord. Some of you are uniquely gifted in the area of worship. Would you consider joining our praise team and sharing God's gifts with the rest of us?

Congratulations—LETU Volleyball Knocks Off Jarvis Christian

The Yellow Jacket Volleyball Team came out strong as they took down the Bulldogs of Jarvis Christian in three straight sets (25-9, 25-19, 25-12). With the win the Yellow Jackets improve to 3-3 on the season. LETU was paced by a season high 31 assists by senior setter Abigail Hews (ISE1). Leading the attack for the Jackets for the sixth consecutive match was junior Magen Douglas (KINE) with 13 kills. Sophomore Ashley White (KINE) led the team with 10 digs.

Kinesiology Corner

The Kinesiology Department has made some significant curriculum changes to all their degree plans starting this fall. All concentrations will see more flexibility in the Kinesiology courses in the curriculum and all internships will be reduced from six hours to three. Exercise Science will add three courses in Biology – Clinical Issues, Clinical Observations and Medical Terminology. All three courses are needed for those going in to graduate allied health programs and will support the professional preparation for our students. These changes will not affect the total number of hours in the Exercise Science concentration. All-level Kinesiology students will see a reduction in total hours in Kinesiology and a new course – Methods of Coaching. Sports Management and Sport Ministry majors will also see course options, but the number of hours required will be the same. These changes will bring greater flexibility to our students and help support each of the concentrations. Students in Kinesiology who would like more information about these changes should see their advisor.

“All concentrations will see more flexibility in the Kinesiology courses in the curriculum and all internships will be reduced from six hours to three.”

Research opportunities in Kinesiology

Dr. Jacobs is working with the Windridge Therapeutic Equestrian Center on a research project relating to hippotherapy (horse therapy) and cerebral palsy. He is working with a physical therapist, massage therapist and several horse trainers to see if the methodology in hippotherapy can significantly improve motor function in those with disabilities. Dr. Jacobs is also working with the City of Longview in their efforts to be recognized as a “Fit City” for 2008. This involves activities and planning events related to improving fitness for our city. If you are interested in these projects, contact Dr. Jacobs for more information.

Welcome David Plunk!

Kinesiology is proud to welcome David Plunk to our Kinesiology family. Coach Plunk is our new women’s soccer coach and an instructor in Kinesiology. He is teaching the Sport Ministry Leadership course and a Foundations of Kinesiology course this fall and will be the “point” person for our Sport Ministry

majors. Coach Plunk brings extensive experience and a love for teaching to our school. Please welcome him and his family to our community!



Athletics Corner



The athletic department of LeTourneau went through a 2 day seminar, August 1-2, 2008 with nationally known speaker Wes Neal on the techniques of coaching like Christ. The seminar focused on the application of how to be more like Christ as a player and coach while practicing and competing. His Total Release concepts are being implemented by the athletic department and how to use athletics as a vehicle to witness for Christ.

Ed Prep and Certification Corner

We will soon have two new practice exams for our students to help them pass their state exams....Business and EC-12 PE.

I (Becky Birdsong) am new to the Certification department. I started with LU as PACT Coordinator, then Director of Ed Prep initiatives, now Certifica-

tion. It is very helpful understanding all parts of the EPP in helping students complete their certification process. Brenda Pete is still working hard with our students helping with Probationary Certificates and other areas in the certification office as well. She is a joy and a blessing to be around.

We are working towards getting the approvals from TEA for new programs that are being written.

A proposal to redesign the TEACH program is moving through the final stages of approval. More information on this will be forthcoming after the approval. Exciting times are just ahead.

Walk for PKD

Saturday,
September
20, 2008

Registration
begins at
8:00; Walk
begins at 9:00

Prizes for
teams, food,
face painting,
and more!

Education Corner

Need to do something important on a Saturday morning? Want to get a little exercise while supporting a great cause? Please come and help us with.....

Walk for PKD

Saturday, September 20, 2008

Registration begins at 8:00; Walk begins at 9:00

Prizes for teams, food, face painting and more!

Form a student or faculty team and join us for a short walk around the flagpole—bell tower route. For more information, contact Kathy Stephens at 903-233-3878 or kathystephens@letu.edu.

Did you know that Polycystic Kidney Disease is one of the most common life-threatening genetic diseases? For more information about PKD, go to www.pkd.org.

Creativity can begin with a simple walk. On September 11, Mrs. Shari Mills' Creative Expressions Education Class took a field trip to "The Depot" Historical Museum. We began our tour in the Historical section of the museum, exploring artifacts from the beginnings of the Texas frontier. Butter churns, hip baths, and lye soap were just a few of the items we studied, discussing the hardships of the past (especially as women thinking of the women and teachers of the past).

In the "Classroom" portion of the museum, we immediately became children again, exploring every aspect of the classroom and the activities offered. The Prop Boxes became our own personal treasure boxes. "Concept Boxes contain collections of pictures, games, films, tapes, models, artifacts, machines, toys, and books. The contents of each box is related to one subject or concept. As children explore the contents of the boxes they listen, look, touch, take apart, put together, solve problems, and thus organize their knowledge. Concept boxes truly encourage children to learn by *doing*."

I could not describe Prop Boxes any better. Prop boxes encourage children to explore the world around them in a creative and engaging way. I would encourage all Education students to explore the possibilities of Prop Boxes, even Secondary Students. You would be surprised how much your students can learn from a child's prospective. (Misti R. Scaggs EC-4)



Psychology Corner—Kappa Psi Delta (The Psychology Club)

Name:

CPO:

The purpose of Kappa Psi Delta (Psychology Club) is to give Le-Tourneau students with an interest in psychology an avenue through which to further their spiritual, academic, and social life. This is accomplished by: (1) holding regular meetings so that members can meet and get to know other students with similar interests by being made aware of new advances in the field of psychology, (2) by involvement in community service, and (3) by socializing and fellowshiping together. The officers for 2008-2009 are Stephanie O'Malia (President), James Christophersen (Vice-President), Kim Price (Public Relations), Allison Dulweber (Secretary/Treasurer), and Tiffany Ross (Senate Relations). If you are interested in joining the psychology club, please contact one of the officers or the faculty sponsor, Dr. Sheafer. A schedule of upcoming events will be released soon!

Alumni Corner—Courtney Rogers (PSCD—S2008)

In May I graduated and left for home, Southern California. I fully intended on teaching swimming for the summer while looking for a job for the next year. When home I started into the routine of "adult" life. I started teaching swimming, saving money, paying off debt, and enjoying time with my family. After I was settled at home, I started looking into securing a job for the next year. Every time I have gotten a job I was prodded by God, I knew that He had been with me and provided each job I had had. This time as I searched I knew something was different, I was not at peace.

After graduating from LU I knew God had something specific for me, I could feel it, I was not at peace..... but I had NO idea what it was. I prayed, and waited, I talked to God about what I wanted to do and what MY plans were.... very typical of a college graduate..... I told God what I wanted and had started applying for jobs that would fit the criteria. Peace did not come though.

My frustration with the job hunt, discontent with where I was going, and inner-struggle with finding peace finally came to a head one night. " God, I don't know what you want me to do, I have been following all the logical steps that I thought a responsible person should... you know.... get a job and put my degree to use.... but this isn't working. I know you are calling me..... but to WHAT? God, as I'm searching for what you would have me do..... I do not see it....I give this up to You, do with me as you will....." The NEXT afternoon I received my answer.

God has sent me to Bogota, Colombia as a missionary to a school. I am teaching Kindergarten at El Camino Academy. They are accredited through ACSI, and through the Colombian government (<http://www.eca.edu.co/about.htm>). I have already learned so much about teaching, God, myself, and Colombia and it has been a very short time. ECA is a small Christian bilingual school. They are one of the best schools in all of Bogota and are in the top percentage of schools in the country. God has blessed this school tremendously and you can see His hand working everyday here. ECA was started by missionaries for their children, and it has now grown and reaches students who are not just MKs, but native Christian Colombians and some embassy employer's children as well.

I love LU and all that have worked there and influenced my life. I cannot express my gratitude enough. I will always look upon my years at LU as crucial and life-altering. I have gleaned much from the education/psychology/and Bible courses. They have helped spur on my passion for learning, God, and His plan. Please pray for us at ECA