From the Chair...

Dear students, friends and colleagues, thank you for the many ways that you contribute to our Department of Education at the Mount! I am proud to boast working with the best education faculty of any liberal arts university, a faculty whose stellar teaching and scholarship are becoming legendary. For a small department, we deliver dynamic and state of the art formation for future teachers. This very short newsletter is to keep you abreast of departmental activities. Unfortunately, only a fraction of achievements can be recorded here. We look forward to news from you for future newsletters. Thank you for being part of our community of educators!

Caroline Eick, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Chair
Department of Education
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Professor

Stay Connected...

Get a head start on the job search. Explore careers of SEHS alumni by joining our LinkedIn group!
ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON LECTURE

The fourth lecture of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton lecture series was held September 24 in Knott Auditorium. The guest lecturer was Mark Pacione, whose presentation was entitled: "Catholic Education in the Twenty-First Century: Challenges and Strategies." Mr. Pacione, Associate Director of the Office of Research and Planning for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, delivered an engaging lecture. To read a transcript of his presentation, contact Professor Monahan, Director of the Center for Catholic School Excellence (Monahan@msmary.edu).

ALL MEANS ALL

Dr. Brown-Hobbs, principal investigator of the "All Means All" grant awarded by the State Department of Education for the development of instructional strategies in mathematics that promote mathematical understanding and achievement of elementary students with special needs, along with her steering committee (Dr. Angela Mucci, Dr. Melanie Butler, Dr. Barbara Marinak, Dr. Laura Frazier, Nelson Palmer, Eric Rhodes, and Lea Woolsey), produced a model that captures how effective teachers promote mathematical understanding. This model will be featured on the Maryland State Department website.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS - E.J. SMITH

(Photo of E.J. Smith and her students in Saudi Arabia courtesy E.J. Smith)

Excerpt from Interview of alumna E.J. Smith
By Graduate Student Genevieve Williams

Tell us a little about what you're doing now.
For the past two years I have been working at an International School in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The first year I taught Kindergarten to many non-English students using a Cambridge curriculum. Then my second year I took over the special education section of the school and had a classroom of students with severe to moderate needs. This current school year I have returned back into an inclusive classroom still teaching Kindergarten as well as heading the English Department for the Elementary School.

How do you think your Mount Education has served you in your current position?
The Mount taught me to be a critical thinker and to go out into the world and change education. As educators we can make an impact on the future. We can instill ideas and make students think on their own and create their own solutions. We no longer live in an age of memorizing facts from a book- we are active participants- teachers mentoring students to make changes in the world they want to see.
Is there anything you would like to say to the students here at the Mount?
Do not be afraid to go out and chase your dream. Yes it is scary and you probably will have days you want to go to easier times but when you look back on what you have accomplished you will realize it was all worth it. Take what you learn from the Mount and implement it the world. Share your stories and experiences in life and become positive role models- you are the voice to all the little ones who truly do look up to you!

FACULTY AND STUDENTS ATTEND AESA CONFERENCE

Senior Nicolasa Chavez attended, with Dr. Eick, the American Educational Studies Association conference held in Baltimore in early November. She was one of only a handful of undergraduates who accompanied their professors. Most students attending were doctoral students. During the conference, Nicolasa had the unique opportunity to attend "South Korea and Educational Challenges". In this small session she was invited to participate in a discussion about the harmful effects of sexual harassment that women face in South Korean schools as presented by a doctoral student. The doctoral student emphasized that teachers have the duty to prevent sexual harassment. This proved an invaluable experience in scholarship for Nicolasa whose honors project is "Teachers' Perceptions of Bullying." Sexual harassment is a type of bullying, and continuously people are harassed physically and emotionally across the world. It is important for teachers to be aware and respond against any type of abuse.

CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHOR VISITS THE MOUNT

Tami Lewis Brown, a children's author, visited campus on September 19, 2013. She spoke on "Passion from the Page: Igniting Enthusiasm with Books." Tami shared her writing journey for her books Soar, Elinor! and Map of Me. She challenged the audience of university students and area educators to delve into books, as they spark the imagination and enhance learning. The evening lecture ended with a book signing.
FREDERICK MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS VISIT THE MOUNT
On October 15 and 17, approximately 150 eighth graders from Crestwood Middle School visited campus as a part of the Mount Teacher Academy. Through Academy funding students were provided transportation to campus for instructive sessions on what it is like to attend college. The visits were made possible through generous donations of time made by university professors, numerous departments (education, admissions, athletics, recreation services, student life, dining services), student clubs (education, educators for justice society, Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society, environmental science), and Mount students. The goal of the visits was to provide 8th graders with a vision of college and what it is like and to encourage good decision-making in high school. Academic, student life, and recreational sessions were provided, as was as session on the solar array.

MOUNT EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RECEIVES GRANT
In July 2012, the Education Department was awarded a grant from the Maryland State Department of Education entitled, Secondary Special Education Certification for STEM Content Area Teachers. In collaboration with Frederick County Public School secondary teachers and administrators, a sequence of coursework in special education was developed for secondary content area teachers. This coursework sequence is designed to develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to meet the academic and behavioral needs of all students, but in particular those who are identified and receiving special education services within secondary settings.
FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
The Education Department faculty have written, published, and facilitated the following academic accomplishments:

Publications

Dr. Stacey Brown-Hobbs

Dr. Laura Frazier

Dr. Barbara Marinak


Dr. Barbara Martin Palmer
Presentations

Dr. Caroline Eick

Eick, C. "Education in Cameroon"-invited presentation for panel on Education in Africa sponsored by the Pan Africa Student Organization. Mount St. Mary's University (2013).

Dr. Stacey Brown-Hobbs

Dr. Barbara Marinak

Dr. Angela Mucci