MSU’s College of Education Earns National Rankings

MSU Among 42 Teacher Preparation Programs Recognized for National Excellence in Educator Preparation

The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) recently announced that Morehead State is one of 42 providers from 23 states and the District of Columbia to receive accreditation for educator preparation programs.

The spring 2019 review by the CAEP Accreditation Council resulted in 42 newly-accredited EPPs, bringing the total to 238 providers approved under the CAEP Teacher Preparation Standards – rigorous, nationally recognized standards that were developed to ensure excellence in educator preparation programs.

“Accreditation is important because it helps the University to meet or exceed the established quality standards for teacher preparation ensuring the best possible preparation for those entering the teaching field. It also helps the institution to be on an equal setting addressing quality standards with other institutions in the state,” said Dr. Christopher Miller, dean of the College of Education.

“The accreditation process pushes the educator preparation programs beyond what we might already be doing to focus on new ways of enhancing our programs as well as expanding our partnerships with school districts. The changes that are made based on the accreditation process benefit the students because of the enhancements continually made to the programs to address today’s education needs.”

“These institutions meet high standards so that their students receive an education that prepares them to succeed in a diverse range of classrooms after they graduate,” said CAEP President Dr. Christopher A. Koch. “Seeking CAEP Accreditation is a significant commitment on the part of an educator preparation provider.”

CAEP is the sole nationally recognized accrediting body for educator preparation. It was created by the consolidation of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC). It is a unified accreditation system intent on raising the performance of all institutions focused on educator preparation.

Approximately, 800 educator preparation providers participate in the CAEP Accreditation system, including some previously accredited through former standards.

Accreditation lasts seven years and MSU’s next site visit will be in 2025. MSU was previously accredited through National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) an accreditation it maintained for more than 20 years.

For more information on CAEP, visit www.caepnet.org.

To learn more about programs in MSU’s College of Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/education, email Dr. Christopher Miller at c.miller@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2162.

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Dean’s Corner

Dr. Christopher Miller

This past year has been an exciting time at MSU and within the College of Education. I have previously described that the COE productivity and innovation in previous letters and I believe it again is reflected in the work of our many individuals and as a whole. We received the final accreditation review the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and are now accredited with no areas for improvement. This success is not due to the work of any individual but rather the hard work of many people across the MSU campus that support teacher preparation.

Over this year MSU’s COE has been the recipient of multiple rankings that include the Top 30 Online Doctoral Programs in Curriculum and Instruction (#19), Best Degree ... Continued on page 3
Justice Named to State Tech Standards Committee

Dr. Jeannie Justice, assistant professor of education in MSU’s Department of Foundational and Graduate Studies in Education, has been named to the Kentucky K-12 Technology Standards Development Team. She will serve on the committee until June 2020.

Justice applied for the committee after learning about it from a former student who works for the Kentucky Department of Education.

“She thought I would make a great addition to committee given her experience as a student in my educational technology courses,” Justice said. “I am thrilled to be chosen for such an important committee.”

Justice said her primary goal as a member of the committee is to bring the state up to the standards of the International Society for Technology in Education. She said the state is lagging when it comes to technology in education.

“We are behind, but this may be due to geography more than anything else. It is difficult to establish an internet connection for all students due to hills and remote locations,” she said. “This causes a ‘digital divide’ between students who have access and those who do not. If students do not have access, they cannot learn to effectively operate technology. This may be detrimental in the future as our society turns to technology as a gateway for many social requirements. We have to get rid of the ‘digital divide’ to ensure all students are able to successfully function in our society when they are adults.”

For information about programs in MSU’s College of Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/education, email COE Dean Dr. Chris Miller at c.miller@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2162.

MSU Student Teaching in Korea

Erica Ball, a senior majoring in P-5 Elementary Education here at Morehead State University, has been teaching in South Korea through the TaLK (Teach and Learn in Korea) Program. She is living in Jeonju, South Korea which is the main city in the Jeollabuk-do province. However, Erica is teaching at a very small rural school called Sanoee Elementary School in a town of the same name, which is about 30 minutes from Jeonju by bus. She is teacher to approximately 35 students out of the total school population of 50 students.

Erica teaches 3rd-6th grade for 15 hours/week. These are split between curriculum classes and after school classes. They practice co-teaching for the curriculum classes, but Erica teaches solo for the after-school ones.

Erica has only been teaching a few weeks, but has already grown so attached to the staff and the students her school. This program is such a good way to be immersed in Korean culture and to also teach elementary children who don’t always have to chance to learn English. Erica has met so many wonderful people from so many different places. She has made friends of a lifetime, and can’t even imagine what it will be like to be without them when she returns to Kentucky. Erica has made so many memories already with her students, and although she’s excited to return and tell her experience, Erica is not sure she’s ready to leave her students in January. She kept telling herself she wouldn’t feel this way because it’s harder to connect with people there due to the language barrier, but she was wrong.

These are the emotions that every TaLK Scholar feels. It’s so bittersweet because in these moments, Erica is the happiest she’s ever been but when looking ahead, she knows she is going to be heartbroken. And although she’ll be heartbroken, Erica knows it will be okay because she feels this was the best decision she ever made. So, if you’re wanting to travel, teach, learn about other cultures, meet wonderful people, and make amazing memories that will last a lifetime; Erica’s advice is to do yourself a favor and apply for the TaLK program.

College of Education Professor, Dr. Mee Shon, created a course for students interested in applying for the scholarship. Students in the course learn both survival language skills and cultural norms. The scholarship program is open to anyone who has completed 60 credit hours. For more information on the TaLK Scholarship program, please contact Dr. Mee Shon @783-2856 or m.shon@moreheadstate.edu.
Dr. Daryl R. Privott Receives the 2019 Distinguished Faculty Service Award

Dr. Daryl R. Privott was named the 2019 Distinguished Faculty Service Award winner. Daryl was nominated by Dr. Lola Aagaard a fellow faculty member in the Foundational & Graduate Studies in Education (FGSE) department. Daryl has been at MSU since 2011 and served as the Program Director of the Kentucky College & Career Readiness Initiative before beginning his faculty position in 2013. In addition to his faculty position in the Adult & Higher Education program, Daryl is also the current Director, Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning (FCTL).

During his time at MSU, Daryl has been an active member of the community by serving on 12 University Committees, that included Faculty Senate Governance and Evaluation committees, the strategic planning committee and the SACS Fifth year reaffirmation committee. In addition to his university service, Dr. Privott has served on four college committees and five departmental committees. Dr. Privott has been a representative of the university at more than 20 events and has staffed over 20 university workshops and conferences including National History Day and the Celebration of Student Scholarship. Dr. Privott has presented over 20 conference presentations at the state, regional, national and international levels. His research has been published in Dialogues in Social Justice, Journal of Student Affairs, and the Journal of Adult Education. His most recent publication is the chapter Getting Outside of My “Six Blocks” with Bloom in Leaps of Faith: Stories from Working-Class Scholars-Information Age Publishing.

Dr. Privott is a first-generation college graduate and holds a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership with an emphasis in Higher Education Administration from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas (UNLV), an M.P.A. in Public Administration from UNLV, and a B.S.P in Industrial Technology from East Carolina University.

Dean’s Corner Continued from Page 1

Programs in Adult Education (21st out of 26), Most Affordable Master’s in Counseling Online Programs (11th out of 25), Best online Master’s in Adult Education Programs (#19), and Best Online Master’s in Educational Technology (9th out of 50). I truly believe these rankings reflect the hard work of our faculty and staff that support these programs.

While the COE has seen several achievements our faculty and students have also seen great achievements. Dr. Daryl Privott recently received the MSU Distinguished Faculty Service Award. Dr. Privott is a strong supporter of strong teaching and learning, which is reflected in his most recent work as the Director of the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning. Additionally, Dr. Jeannie Justice has been named to the Kentucky K-12 Technology Standards Development Team, which is helping to craft the technology standards that will be used in schools throughout the Commonwealth. Another faculty recognition that has recently occurred was for Dr. Christopher Beckham, who was the recipient of the SGA Student Choice Faculty of the Year award. Dr. Beckham is very deserving of this recognition, which recognized the dedication and hard work that he puts towards helping to prepare the many teachers going into the field from MSU. Most recently Dr. April Miller, Chair of the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Special Education was the keynote speaker at the September 16th School Readiness Summit in Morehead.

Finally, you will learn in this newsletter about the recent experiences of MSU’s education students and programs like Erica Ball and the MSUTeach program. Erica Ball. Erica is a senior P-5 Elementary Education major and is currently participating in the TaLK (Teach and Learn in Korea) program.

This is an amazing experience for Erica, but also a great opportunity for her to represent the strong preparation that MSU students receive in teacher education. MSUTeach has continued to grow and provide amazing learning experiences for its students. Whether it is through the MSUTeach Explore Club or the Noyce Scholars program that has provided field experiences in New York the MSUTeach program maintains a strong focus on enhancing the educator preparation of future science and math teachers.

As always there are amazing things happening at MSU in the College of Education and we are proud of all of the achievements of our family of faculty, staff, and students. I hope you will take a few minutes to read about these achievements and if you bump into any of these individuals ask them a little bit about their experiences.
Miller Served as Keynote Speaker at School Readiness Summit

Dr. April Miller, professor of education and chair of the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education and the Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education, served as the keynote speaker for the School Readiness Summit in Morehead on Sept. 16. The event gathered districts and the area’s early childhood providers to work together on collaborative grants. The summit was offered by the Kentucky Governor’s Office of Early Childhood, which is dedicated to collaborating with professionals, families and communities to provide the highest quality early childhood care and education.

“The purpose of Kentucky’s mid-year School Readiness Summit is to help school districts, early learning providers and community organizations throughout the Commonwealth make vital connections and collaborations necessary for school readiness,” Miller said.

Miller earned a Bachelor of Science in Special Education, a Master of Arts in Special Education Administration and a Ph.D. in Applied Behavioral Analysis – Special Education from Ohio State University in Columbus. She has been at MSU for the past 16 years serving as a professor of education since 2003 and began serving as department chair for the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education and the Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education in 2016. Her research interests are effective instruction and single-subject research designs.

Miller can be reached at ad.miller@moreheadstate.edu or 606-783-2857.

For more information on MSU’s Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/ecese, email ecese@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2598.

To learn more about MSU’s Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/mgse, email mgse@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2079.

FGSE Faculty Member Dr. Chris Beckham Awarded SGA Student Choice Faculty of the Year Award

The Student Government Association’s (SGA) Student Choice Awards was held Wednesday, April 24, at 6 p.m. in the Adron Doran University Center Ballroom. This annual award banquet honors the work of the faculty, staff and students at Morehead State University.

SGA President, Brandon Bryer said, “The Student Choice Awards has one main purpose and that is to recognize the amazing dedication, hard work and accomplishments of MSU students and MSU organizations. Morehead State is nothing without our students and SGA hosts the Student Choice Awards each year to showcase some of MSU’s best and brightest.”

Five awards— Faculty of the Year, Female Athlete of the Year, Male Athlete of the Year, Staff of the Year and Student of the Year—were all chosen through a ballot process as voted on by the student body. Voting was open to the student body from Monday, April 22 through Tuesday, April 23. The two awards, Resident Advisor of the Year and Student Director of the Year, were voted on by the campus Resident Advisors.

The faculty of the year award was presented to Dr. Christopher Beckham, Assistant Professor of Education. Beckham teaches courses in Educational Foundations at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

For the full story on the SGA Spring Awards, please visit https://www.moreheadstate.edu/News/2019/April/Student-Choice-Awards-highlight-excellency-among-f
MSUTeach is growing. We broadened our recruiting efforts resulting in a four-fold enrollment increase in UTCH 100 Step 1. Fall 2019 UTCH 100 enrollment is close to 35, up from an average of eight students. This semester puts us on track to reach our full enrollment goals. The goal of MSUTeach is to graduate strong content-prepared secondary mathematics and science teachers while providing students with multiple career pathways within a single four-year bachelor’s degree.

The MSU Noyce Scholars program is also growing. All MSUTeach students are eligible for this scholarship. We currently have ten Noyce Scholars in two cohorts. Each Scholar is awarded up to $10000 scholarships per year for up to two years of college in their junior and senior year. The National Science Foundation project, Preparing Secondary Teachers of Mathematics and Science in Rural Districts also provides opportunities for the Scholars to learn more deeply about the challenges to rural education and to compare and contrast those with the challenges of urban education, especially education of English Language Learners. For more information about the MSU Noyce Scholarship, please contact e.schack@moreheadstate.edu.

In May 2019, the junior cohort of Noyce Scholars, Megan Pauley, Maddie Morgan, Caleb Robinson, Hannah Brewer, Cole Schaeffer, and Charli McClay, visited the New World High School in Bronx, NY to participate in this cross-cultural experience. The school welcomed us and engaged the Scholars in the classrooms, in discussions with students, faculty, and administrators, as well as in faculty professional learning communities. The second cohort is planning their trip for May 2020.

The Scholars also participate in a seminar, focused on literature challenges to rural education, each semester. Another seminar activity places the Scholars in a leadership position, coordinating and implementing a STEM Speaker each semester. The most recent STEM speaker event took place on September 23rd. Peter Arvanities, Rockland Community College instructor spoke to a group of students at the New World High School and was live streamed to Rowan County High School students. Peter discussed the causes of math anxiety and strategies to decrease and potentially, eliminate anxiety.

In spring 2019, MSUTeach graduated three students, Maggie Quisenberry, John Haddix, and Stephen Burke for a total of five MSUTeach graduates. Ms. Quisenberry is a biology teacher at Flemingsburg High School. Mr. Burke extended his 8-12 teaching certificate with 5-9 certification and is teaching in Montgomery County Schools. Mr. Haddix is pursuing his interests in an area related to his content. In 2019-2020 MSUTeach will graduate an additional six students.

The MSUTeach Explore Club is active, participating in club activities on and off campus. Thank you to Breezy Epperson, President, Ms. Angela Rowe, club mentor, and to all the club members. MSUExplore is open to MSU students who are interested in participating in various activities, including social events such as game nights and camping, service activities such as Arts & Eats and GEMS, and opportunities to explore career options.

MSUTeach is seeking internship opportunities for MSUTeach students in industry, education, community activities, non-profits, and other venues. Such opportunities complement our students’ curricula, giving them the chance to apply the content knowledge and essential 21st century skills they are developing through their content programs and MSUTeach track.

We appreciate the contributions of committed faculty, staff, students, administrators, and alumni in terms of time, expertise, and funding.

For information about MSUTeach, visit https://www.moreheadstate.edu/College-of-Education/MSUTeach, or contact Dr. Edna O. Schack, professor of education, at e.schack@moreheadstate.edu, or Dr. J. Michael Dobranski, associate professor of mathematics, at m.dobranski@moreheadstate.edu.
Paise receives KMEA Teacher of the Year Award

Dr. Michele Paynter Paise, visiting assistant professor of music at Morehead State University, was selected to receive the 2019-20 Kentucky Music Educators Association’s (KMEA) District 8 College/University Teacher of the Year Award.

The KMEA is an organization consisting of more than 2,000 professional music educators at all levels from kindergarten to the university level dedicated to the cause of music education in Kentucky. Associated with the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), it serves as a voice for Kentucky’s music educators.

Paise is in her 27th year of teaching music and her third year at Morehead State. Before coming to MSU, she taught at Cumberland University, the University of Idaho and public school music programs in Maryland, Tennessee and Arizona. Paise is a specialist in the Kodály approach to music education and regularly presents choral and elementary workshops across the United States.

At MSU, she teaches undergraduate courses in elementary music methods courses and foundations of music education, graduate courses in music education and oversees student-teachers. She also serves as the music program coordinator in MSU’s Department of Music, Theatre and Dance.

“It is a wonderful feeling to be nominated by my peers in music education,” Paise said. “I absolutely love the profession I’ve chosen, and it is a tremendous honor to be awarded for something that gives me so much joy.”

For more information on MSU’s Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/mtd, email mtd@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2473.

MSU faculty writes grant to fund Little Free Library at Summit Elementary

Thanks in part to Dr. Sherry Stultz, professor of education at Morehead State University, students at Summit Elementary School in Ashland were greeted by more than enthusiastic teachers on the first day of classes. They were also treated to the Little Free Library, a nonprofit organization founded to inspire a love of reading, build community and spark creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world.

Stultz wrote a grant to Walmart to fund the project and the award was provided by Walmart Supercenter Store #2638 in Ashland. The $1,000 grant was used to fund the purchase of the library and more than $400 worth of children’s books, many of which were Caldecott or Newbery Medal winners.

The library was presented to Sean Stewart, principal of Summit Elementary School (SES). It is located to the left of the main entrance of the school next to the reflection bench build in honor of the late former SES student Kylie Stevens. The library is positioned to allow students, parents and members of the community to access the books at any time.

Stultz plans to create a class project for her MSU students to help keep the library stocked with books and hopefully expand this concept to neighboring schools.

“Growing up in this area, I understand that not all children are fortunate enough to have quality children’s books available at home. Many schools have libraries, and classroom teachers will try to provide books as much as possible. However, limited budgets often constrain what can be provided by the schools and teachers,” she said. “Having books accessible in an open format like you see at the Little Free Library can benefit the children at the school, as well as others in the community. I hope to be able to provide more libraries to other area schools in the future.”

For more information on MSU’s College of Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/education, email c.miller@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2162.

Above: Dr. Sherry Stultz, professor of education at Morehead State University, standing next the new Little Free Library located at Summit Elementary School in Ashland, Kentucky. Stultz wrote the grant that funded the project.
Fall 2019 Commencement Schedule

Friday, Dec. 13, 2019, 2:30 p.m.
Academic-Athletic Center
111 Playforth Place, Morehead, KY

Saturday, December 14, 2019, 10:30 a.m.
Academic-Athletic Center
111 Playforth Place, Morehead, KY