

# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

## *The Newsletter of the Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership*

November 2010

### Director's Message:

What an exciting year this has been--our first ever graduates from the independently offered doctoral program in educational leadership and the official formation of our alumni club (Connect the Docs). The completion rate for the first cohort was outstanding--19 out of 22 graduated, with another two on their way to completion! The joint doctoral program also graduated nine students from various cohorts. Congratulations graduates! A big congratulations to the faculty as well, who worked non-stop (at least it seemed that way) to get these graduates through their final defense.



Fresno State Hooding Ceremony, Friday, May 21, 2010. Included in this picture is California State University Chancellor Charles Reed. For more pictures please visit our web site (<http://www.csufresno.edu/dpelfs/>) and click on *Spotlight*.

Our alumni club designed and marched with our Centennial Float during this year's homecoming parade. While we didn't win a prize (who were those judges anyway?), I have heard that we were indeed impressive. For those of you who were not able to attend, the float was a tribute to the hooding ceremony, and our own Provost, Dr. William Covino, rode the float performing "the hooding" as the parade progressed through the campus. In addition, 12 dedicated (and tired and hot) doctoral grads from both the JDPEL and DPFLS marched behind the float in full regalia--impressive, inspiring and awesome! (See Terri Pieretti's article in this newsletter.) Thank you to all of you who worked on the float and came out to be in the parade--I couldn't have been more proud!

**Fall 2011 Application Deadline: March 4, 2011**  
**Graduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium: May, 2011**

We are planning the first-ever “Top Doc” dinner and wine tasting event to be held on February 17, 2010. The planning committee has begun to work on the details of the event, so be sure to put a hold on your calendar for that evening. The funds raised will be for scholarships for future doctoral students.

This newsletter highlights some of the accomplishments of our graduates (and current students). If you have some updates about your whereabouts and accomplishments you would like your colleagues to know about, please contact us so we can include your information in the next newsletter. Look forward to seeing you on February 17 at the Top Doc dinner – until then, be true to your educational values and continue to make a difference wherever you stand!

*Sharon Brown-Welty*

## **Introducing Cohort 4 of the Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership at Fresno State (DPELFS)**

**(Admitted Fall 2010)**

**Jaime Arvizu**, Assistant Director, California State University, Fresno, Technology Center for Science and Education

**Marc Barrie**, Lecturer, California State University, Fresno

**Megan Bennett**, Reading Intervention Coach, Central Unified School District, Teague Elementary

**Eileen Boland**, Instructor-English/Language Arts, Fresno Unified School District, Roosevelt High School

**Paden Burgess**, Adjunct Professor, Business Administration, Bakersfield College

**Sherie Burgess**, Associate Professor, Porterville College, Mathematics Department

**Deanna Cardoza**, Resource Specialist, Woodlake Union Elementary School District, Castle Rock Elementary

**Laura Gonzalez**, ESL/H.S Diploma Instructor, Caruthers Adult School and Adjunct Faculty, Reedley College



Three Years!

**Marcelline Guthrie**, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Kings Canyon Unified School District  
**Daniel Gutierrez**, Teacher, Clovis Unified School District, Clovis High School  
**Michelle Kerr**, Teacher – Resource Specialist, Tulare County Office of Education, Special Service Division  
**Kimberli Law**, Adjunct Faculty, California State University, Counseling and Psychology  
**Cynthia Matson**, Vice President, California State University, Fresno, Administration and Financial Operations  
**Stephen Morris**, Principal, Firebaugh Las Deltas Unified School District, Firebaugh Middle School  
**Darlene Murray**, Social Worker, Fresno County Department of Social Services  
**Janine Nkosi**, Instructor, Fresno City College, Tutorial Services  
**Jesus Rodriguez**, Director/Coordinator, California State University, Fresno, TARGET Program  
**Cruz Sanchez**, Counselor, Lemoore Union High School District  
**Christopher Vieira**, GED Teacher, Fresno Unified School District, Fresno Adult School  
**Michael White**, Vice President, Reedley College, Student Services

## DOCTORAL GRADUATES

### California State University, Fresno/University of California Joint Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership

The following doctoral students received their doctorate in education from the Joint Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership.

#### Fall 2010

**Phil Black**, (Cohort 11). *One district's implementation of lesson study: Many goals, many challenges.* Sandra Murphy (Chair), James Marshall, John McNeil, Rebecca Ambrose

#### Spring 2010

**Gerald Bodily**, (Cohort 15). *Framing a program designed to train new chemistry/physics teachers for California outlying regions.* Susan Tracz (Chair), Sharon Brown-Welty, James Marshall, John McNeil

**Lisa Houston**, (Cohort 15). *Resilience among at-risk children of poverty: Recommendations from educators who were raised in poverty.* Susan Tracz (Chair), Sharon Brown-Welty, James Catterall

**Mary Husain**, (Cohort 15). *Academic Freedom: Costs, Consequences, and Resistance*. Karen Watson-Gegeo (Chair), Karen Carey, Peter McLaren, Vida Samiian, Douglas Fraleigh

**Brad Millar**, (Cohort 15). *Community college students' perceptions of academic readiness*. David Tanner (Chair), Karen Carey, John McNeil



**Michelle Pengilly**, (Cohort 14). *An Examination of Principal Job Satisfaction*. Ronald Unruh (Chair), James Marshall, John McNeil

**Terri Pieretti**, (Cohort 7). *The examination of key factors that influence parental choice of schools within the public sector: Are there differences among choosers, non-requestors and denied choosers*. Susan Tracz (Chair), Sharon Brown-Welty, James Catterall

**Laura Tanner-McBrien**, (Cohort 14). *How does school mobility impact indicators of academic achievement for highly mobile students*. Karen Watson-Gegeo (Chair), Susan Tracz, Ronald Unruh

**William Woolley**, (Cohort 15). *Bullying in the twenty-first century: From schoolyard to cyberspace*. Susan Tracz (Chair), Ronald Unruh, John McNeil

## Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership at Fresno State (DPELFS)

The following doctoral students received their doctorate in education from the Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership at Fresno State.

### Spring 2010

**Idia Abode**, (Cohort 1). *The impact of student response system on third graders' learning, motivation, and engagement.* Susan Tracz (Chair), Donald Wise, Linda Hauser

**Johnny Alvarado**, (Cohort 1). *Encouraging pre-adolescent emotional intelligence through leadership activity.* Pamela Lane-Garon (Chair), Elaine Garan, Susan Tracz

**Jothany Blackwood**, (Cohort 1). *The influence of mentoring on female administrators in California community colleges.* Sharon Brown-Welty (Chair), Kenneth Magdaleno, Donald Wise



**Devin Blizzard**, (Cohort 1). *Whose accountability is it? Conceptual metaphor and educational leaders' affinity for learning outcomes based accountability: Comparisons between California PreK-12 and higher educators.* Sharon Brown-Welty (Chair), James Mullooly, Jason Immekus

**Kimberley Boyer**, (Cohort 1). *Investigating differences among Asian American youth participating and not participating in grant funded high school after-school programs.* Susan Tracz (Chair), Linda Hauser, Pamela Lane-Garon

**Teneecia Brannon**, (Cohort 1). *The effects of classroom management beliefs/ideologies on student academic achievement.* Sharon Brown-Welty (Chair), Susan Tracz, James Marshall

**Rob Darrow**, (Cohort 1). *Are at-risk students more successful in online charter high schools in California?* Kenneth Magdaleno (Chair), David Tanner, Virginia Boris, Brent Auernheimer

**Ben Drati**, (Cohort 1). *Relationship between race identity attitudes, emotional intelligence, and academic achievement with African American adolescents*. Kenneth Magdaleno (Chair), David Tanner, James Marshall

**Marc Hammack**, (Cohort 1). *The effects of leadership coaching among California's elementary school principals*. Donald Wise (Chair), Ronald Unruh, Julie Olson-Buchanan

**Melissa Ireland**, (Cohort 1). *An exploration of the relationship between student achievement and teacher perception of professional learning community attributes*. Susan Tracz (Chair), Sharon Brown-Welty, Virginia Boris

**Shannon Lawrence**, (Cohort 1). *Closing the achievement gap: Factors that promote academic resilience in high school foster youth*. Kenneth Magdaleno (Chair), Susan Tracz, James Mullooly

**Gary Lowe**, (Cohort 1). *A study examining correlations between California high school API scores and college attendance rates*. David Tanner (Chair), Ronald Unruh, Donald Wise

**Eimear O'Farrell**, (Cohort 1). *The effects of participation of school children as mediators in contrast to non-mediators in a mentored mediation program as related to academic achievement, developmental disposition, and conflict orientation*. Elaine Garan (Chair), Pamela Lane-Garon, Susan Tracz

**Ron Oxford**, (Cohort 1). *Library 2.0 usage in support of information competency instruction for distance educational programs in the California community college system*. Ronald Unruh (Chair), James Marshall, Sharon Brown-Welty

**Tangee Pinheiro**, (Cohort 1). *Outcomes of a summer institute for teachers of students with autism and emotional disturbance*. James Marshall (Chair), Paul Beare, Colleen Torgerson, Jason Immekus

**Adrian Ramirez**, (Cohort 1). *The impact of the College Assistance Migrant Program on migrant student academic achievement in the California State University system*. Ronald Unruh (Chair), Susan Tracz, Jeffrey Cummins

**Mark Sanchez**, (Cohort 1). *Effectiveness of student support services programs at California community colleges*. Ronald Unruh (Chair), Susan Tracz, Barbara Hioco

**Tracy Smith**, (Cohort 1). *Literacy beliefs of second grade teachers: Linking legislation to practice*. Elaine Garan (Chair), Judith Neal, Susan Tracz

**Klaus Tenbergen**, (Cohort 1). *How do course articulation agreements facilitate the transfer and completion of a bachelor degree of students from a two-year college who transfer into a four-year university?* Sharon Brown-Welty (Chair), Susan Tracz, James Marshall

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### California State University, Fresno/University of California, Davis Joint Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership (JDPEL)

**Cricket (Mary) Barakzai**, Ed.D. (Cohort 10) was inducted into the Nursing Hall of Fame in 2010.

**Theodore Creighton**, Ed.D. (Cohort 4) a professor at Virginia Tech, has been appointed Publications Director by the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA) Executive Board. NCPEA Publications is at: <http://www.ncpeapublications.org>.

**Xavier De La Torre**, Ed.D. (Cohort 10) is currently Superintendent of Schools, Socorro Independent School District in El Paso, Texas. The Socorro ISD is the only major school district in the county to earn a 2009 & 2010 Texas Education Agency (TEA) Recognized rating, with 11 exemplary and 21 Recognized campuses. The SISD was also selected as one of only five districts nationwide for the 2009 Broad Prize for Urban Education.

**Norma Delgado**, Ed.D. (Cohort 9) was selected as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Dos Palos/Oro Loma Joint Unified School District effective July 1, 2010.

**David East**, Ed.D. (Cohort 7) is now Superintendent of Reef-Sunset Unified School District in Kings County.

**John Forbes**, Ed.D. (Cohort 13) was nominated and chosen for the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development's Class of 2010 Emerging Leader Program. <http://www.ascd.org/programs/Emerging-Leaders.aspx>.

**Michael Giovannetti**, Ed.D. (Cohort 8) is teaching in the Department of Education Research and Administration at Fresno State and is also the Executive Director of The Renaissance Group.

**Sonya Hildreth**, Ed.D. (Cohort 5) is the Director of Learning Assessment, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Humboldt State University.

**Erica Johnson**, Ed.D. (Cohort 9) is the Division Representative (Department Chair) for Social Science and Counseling for State Center Community College District, Willow International Center.

**Rebecca Malmo**, Ed.D. (Cohort 11) is the Curriculum Coordinator for PASS/Cyber High, Fresno County Office of Education.

**Ann Martin**, Ed.D. (Cohort 8) recently judged the 2010 Exemplary Online Instruction award candidates for California State University, Chico. She became a Spatial Technology and Remote Sensing (STARS) Certified Geospatial Technician.

**Scott R. Sailor**, Ed.D. ATC (Cohort 9) along with serving as the Director of the Bachelor of Science Program in Athletic Training has been selected to serve California State University, Fresno in the role of Fellow for TILT (Technological Innovations for Learning and Teaching).

**Isolina Sands**, Ed.D. (Cohort 7) presented a workshop to teachers at the Centro Fortaleza, a detention center for adolescents, in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, on June 22, 2010. The workshop was on educational planning to address the needs of this unique population.

### **Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership at Fresno State (DPELFS)**

**Idia Abode**, Ed.D. (Cohort 1) has been assigned to the office of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment for the Fresno Unified School District.

**Jothany Blackwood**, Ed.D. (Cohort 1) published an article titled “Coaching Educational Leadership” in *Academic Leadership, The Online Journal*, Volume 7 – Issue 4, December 7, 2009. Dr. Blackwood was also recently selected by State Center Community College Chancellor Debra Blue to lead District-wide Strategic and Integrated Planning for the district. These additional duties have been assigned to Jothany’s current position of Dean of Instruction with an opportunity to provide leadership at the district level.

**Devin Blizzard**, Ed.D. (Cohort 1) was appointed as Chief Executive Officer at the Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART).

**Carol Curtis** (Cohort 2) was appointed as a panel member of the Subject Matter Preparation Programs Advisory Board for the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

**Christine Marie Montanez**, (Cohort 2) is currently the Vice Principal and Music Program Director of Big Picture Middle/High School in Fresno. In addition, Christine serves as a clarinet instructor for the Music Department at Fresno State.

**Tangee Pinheiro**, Ed.D. (Cohort 1) is the Program Manager, Special Education, Fresno County Office of Education. She is also a part-time lecturer for the Department of Counseling, Special Education and Rehabilitation at Fresno State.

**Marla E Prochnow**, (Cohort 2) is a full time instructor of anthropology at College of the Sequoias in Visalia.

**Mark Sanchez**, Ed.D. (Cohort 1) was appointed Dean of Student Services, Counseling at Fresno City College on [August 2](#), 2010.



**Susana Ramirez** (Cohort 1) is the Director of State and Federal Compliance for the Oakland Unified School District.

**Klaus Tenbergen**, Ed.D. (Cohort 1) was awarded the Outstanding Advisor Award for demonstrating outstanding qualities associated with academic advising of students. He received \$1,000 in professional development funding. He was also selected for the 2010 Leadership Fresno Class 27 and was a National Finalist for the "Faces of Diversity Award" National Restaurant Association and PepsiCo Foodservice.

**Sandie (Rosmary) Woods** (Cohort 3) was appointed Director of Liberal Studies at Fresno Pacific University. She will be advising incoming Liberal Studies undergraduate students and teaching Children's and Adolescent Literature.

**Jessica Yergat**, (Cohort 2) is the District Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Administrator/Coordinator for Central Unified School District.

## Alumni Note(s)

An article by Terri Pieretti, Ed.D. (JDPEL Cohort 7)  
*The Fresno Bee*, October 30, 2010

It was a sunny day with just a few wispy clouds in the air. There was a slight breeze, perfect weather for a parade. But this was not just any parade. This parade celebrated Fresno State's Centennial Homecoming, an event that won't be celebrated for another hundred years. The emails leading up to the parade reinforced for the participants that we were going to be part of something special, something that would not happen for a 100 years. Indeed, it was something special.

The parade floats gathered at the Save Mart Center. While there were plenty of students representing the university, there were also students from local schools to share in the history- making event. There were horses and baton twirlers, adults dressed in goofy costumes dancing and marching to music that even made the spectators snap their fingers. Fresno State faculty, former students and dignitaries also gathered in anticipation that the float they were part of might be selected as the "best float". It was evident that the floats themselves had generated much spirit and excitement, after all this was the parade of the century. Spectators were stretched out on blankets, enjoying the moment with family and friends, feeling care free, a feeling that only a parade can bring.

Fresno State's "Top Dogs" had their own float and what fun it is to think that only at Fresno State is a "top dog" not a canine. Rather, "Top Dogs" are community members who care about the future of the university and have invested time and resources in it. "Top Dogs" have a right to be proud because as graduates they have benefitted first hand from Fresno

State's academic program. They have had a hand in making the world a better place as a result of their education.

I had planned to be “behind the scenes” in this parade. But then there is Dr. Sharon Brown-Welty who can persuade anybody to do anything if it benefits Fresno State. It was brought to my attention that Coach sandals aren't exactly marching shoes and jeans were definitely not the right attire under the heavy graduation robe that I so treasure. But after all, I have not marched in a parade since high school, as a McLane Letter Girl, so what did I know! But as soon as the truck engine that motored our float through the beautiful Fresno State grounds went into first gear, I completely forgot about the heat and my sore feet. I got caught up in the excitement that only a parade can generate.



We executed our routine as Dr. Brown-Welty blew her whistle. I was still a little taken back that she was right there with us, pushing us as she has always done in the classroom. Only this was a parade and there she was taking pride in the fact that Fresno State had indeed reached a level of academic excellence that our community can truly celebrate. The families, children, community members and of course the students decked out in their very “cool” shirts. Yes, the Assistant Athletic Director Paul Ludwig did use the word “cool” when he referred to the creative tee shirts that are constructed with not much more than a pair of scissors.

In the end, I think the adults had the most fun. Let's face it, we don't always have as much fun as we should. Our very own Provost rode the float representing Fresno State's Doctoral program and while I think he might have had reservations at first, it was he who chanted “let's do it again”. He was referring to our routine that our fearless leader, Dr. Sharon Brown Welty, had inspired us to do as a tribute to the hooding ceremony that bestows the honor of “Doctor” to students who complete a rigorous program through the School of Education.

The parade was truly a sight to behold. The crowds were gathered throughout the parade route including children with smiles that beamed ear to ear. As they stood there with their families it was a poignant reminder that the parade was not just a celebration of the past it was a celebration of the future. As an educator, I soaked up every bit of this and had no idea that at the end of this day, I would be so taken with a parade.

Did I mention what a thrill it was to gaze at the buildings that laced the parade route through Fresno State? The buildings are timeless in every sense of the word and I had forgotten how beautiful the grounds are. Some would say that the



architecture should be more uniform. The buildings are eclectic in style but they are beautiful and they represent a journey through time. Architecture changes and so must we. The buildings will be here for another hundred years and that is something to celebrate.

On Sunday morning it was time to take the float apart. I mean really...the university president and his wife taking the float apart, holding the garbage bag alongside the rest of us as we filled them with the remains of our once beautiful creation. Dr. Welty and Dr. Brown-Welty had a separate bag to keep all the float "stuff" that could be reused. While they didn't say so, I think they were thinking that maybe a parade should happen again before another hundred years. After all, Fresno has much to celebrate every year...California State University, Fresno. If so, I'm there.

If you would like to submit information or an article for this newsletter, please email to Diane at [dianer@csufresno.edu](mailto:dianer@csufresno.edu).

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