

EDUCATION MATTERS

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Kappa Delta Pi Education Honor Chapter Formed

On Saturday, April 16, 2011, Shorter University became the latest higher education institution to form an honor society for education students. The initiation and installation service was held in Brooks' Chapel with many parents and friends in the audience. Kappa Delta Pi is an educational society which organized in 1911 for the recognition of outstanding students planning to become teachers.

The mission of KDP is to sustain an honored community of diverse educators by promoting excellence and advancing scholarship, leadership, and service. There are chapters all across the world today and famous people like Albert Einstein and Margaret Mead were former members of the society.

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Common Core State Standards

Georgia is one of 41 states to adopt the common core state standards. The initiative is a state-led effort that was coordinated by the National Governors Association and the Chief State School Officers (state superintendents of education). The standards were developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and consultants with the purpose to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare students for college and the workforce.

These standards define the knowledge and skills that students should have within their K-12 education experiences so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in "entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs". The standards:

- Are aligned with college and work expectations
- Are clear, understandable and consistent
- Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards
- Are informed by other top performing countries for the global society
- Are evidence based.

The big questions remain ---- how will these affect teaching and learning in local schools and what kind of national assessments will be developed?

by Dr. Jane Cobia, Chair, Department of Education

IMPORTANT EDUCATION DATES

Thursday, April 21
SPAGE/SGAE Meeting
Speaker: Debbie Downer

Friday, April 22
Holiday - Good Friday

Monday, April 25
Certification information for CTP students

Tuesday, April 26 to Friday, May 6
Final Examinations

Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7
Commencement Ceremonies

Wednesday, May 11 to Wednesday, June 1
Mayterm

Monday, June 6 to Friday, July 1
June Term

Wednesday, July 6 to Tuesday, August 2
July Term

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The ceremony was conducted by President-elect of KDP Dr. Mary Clement, Professor of Education at Berry College with assistance from Dr. Mary Outlaw of Berry College and the Berry College KDP Chapter president. Students with GPA of 3.5 and Department of Education faculty were inducted into The Alpha Zeta Theta chapter of KDP International honor society.

Charter Members - Faculty

Shorter faculty charter members include Dr. Sandra Leslie, Mrs. Lynda Chisholm, Dr. Jane Cobia, Dr. Barbara Cothran, Dr. Susan Earwood, Dr. Dixon McLeod, Dr. Gary Ross, and Dr. Wayne Sanders.

Charter Members - Students

Mathematics

*Johnson, Brandon
Robison, Sam
Townsend, Cody

History

*Bitner, Ashley

Science

Banks, Laura

Music

Cross, Chelsea
Diesch, Mary Louise
Freeman, Hannah
*Miller, Erica
Mauldin, Kelsey

Middle Grades

Blackwell, Allison
Daniel, Kevin
Dorminy, Josh
McFay, Tonya
Peace, Jordan
Whigham, Amanda

Early Childhood

Boaz, Heather
Bradley, Anna
Bray, Zachary
Cooper, Jessica
Crapse, Sarah
Evans, Amber
*Gentry, Ashlee
Hall, David
Hicks, Adrian
*Jarrell, Kristy
McDonald, Breanna
*Shaw, Kaitlin
Snow, Megan
Tow, Jocelyn
Vines, Jason
Wilson, Paige

*graduating students



Shorter University and Floyd County Schools receive grant from Georgia Department of Education

Shorter University and Floyd County Schools have received a grant from the Georgia Department of Education that will fund professional development training for teachers of mathematics (grades 3-12) and science (grades 6-12). The \$598,810 Math/Science Partnership Grant is the largest awarded by the Georgia Department of Education this year.

Through this partnership, Shorter and Floyd County Schools will provide three weeks of workshops during the summer that will focus on improving math and science instruction. Math and science faculty members at Shorter University will provide the in-depth, hands-on training at the university's state-of-the-art School of Nursing. The partnership will continue throughout the school year through online collaboration and Professional Learning Communities.

"Shorter and Floyd County have worked together for two years to provide this type of training for math educators thanks to a previous grant from the Department of Education," said Dr. Sandra Leslie, dean of Shorter University's School of Education. "When it came time to apply for an extension, we decided to include science as well because math and science are both areas of great need within our state."

Dr. Leslie will be the higher education coordinator for the program, and Dr. April Childers of Floyd County Schools will serve as the grant director. The grant was co-authored by Stephanie Graves, director of foundation relations at Shorter University, and Dr. Childers.