FALL 2017 RECAP

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GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL

GSC NEWSLETTER

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RECAP OF CAMPUS EVENTS & INFO
BY SASHA M KEIGHOBADI - SKEIGHOB@MAIL.USF.EDU

There are always events happening on campus, make sure you follow our Bullsync and Facebook pages to stay up to date. Here are some of this past month’s highlights:

*Search for the College of Education Dean | Candidate #1 Dr. Robert Knoeppel & Candidate #2 Dr. T. Chris Riley-Tillman
*Travel Funds Doctoral Student Communication | https://orgsync.com/154512/news_posts/246604

POLICY POINTERS
BY ASHLEY LYNN WHITE - ALWHITE6@MAIL.USF.EDU

Hot Policy Topic

Check out the link to find out what YOU can do to ensure that graduate students are not burdened with extra debt through proposed GOP tax bill!

A brief excerpt from the USF Graduate Assistants United recent blog post:

In case you missed it, the House has proposed to tax tuition waivers and remissions for GAs to pay for tax cuts. The New York Times, Washington Post, and other news outlets have covered this topic. Luckily, graduate students have protested nationwide and are fighting back. It seems to be working. House Republicans are starting to back down.

But this isn’t the time to sit back and relax. House Representative Kathy Castor (FL 14th district, which includes USF) will be on the House Conference to discuss the tax legislation. She has strong connections to USF, and she loves hearing from USF students. She’s already made a public statement opposing the legislation, including the impacts on higher ed and college students, so she is aware of these issues. Read more...
District 58 Special Election

On December 19th, District 58 will be holding a special election to fill the seat vacated by Representative Dan Raulerson. The College of Education’s Graduate Student Council reached out to current candidates regarding their position on the state of Hillsborough County education. Bryan Zemina, Libertarian candidate, provided a picture for how he plans to contribute to the county’s educational advancement as well as the enhancement of Florida’s overall educational infrastructure.

White: Mr. Zemina, what is your take on what is going on right now within the School District of Hillsborough County?

Zemina: Well I have to tell you first of all that, in my opinion, teachers and education are of primary importance. The education that students receive sets them up for life and teachers are so important because they are responsible for ensuring the best education for our children. Teachers are worth so much more than what they are paid. I am appalled and saddened that teachers in our county will not be receiving their due raises this year. I think that if a teacher has signed a new pay scale contract expecting to receive a raise after a set amount of years and, then, meets the requirements to receive that raise, they should get it. Other counties are facing budgetary issues but are managing to keep monetary promises made to their teachers.

Question: As you stated, not providing teachers their due raises is a huge issue for Hillsborough County. With that said, are there other issues that concern you and what would you do to remediate them?

Zemina: Standardized testing is another huge problem in my opinion. Each child is so different and so how can one test determine a child’s ability and success? I get that standardized testing might have a place, but there has got to be a way to measure student success that accounts for the differences of children. Teachers also need to be provided the space and leeway to teach in a way that gets their students where they need to be academically. I think teachers are often trapped by guidelines that prevent the kind of teaching that might enable student progress. As far as solutions are concerned, I don’t have them all but I do know that teachers need to play a larger role in solving some of these issues. There should be a state committee comprised of experienced, diverse, and knowledgeable teachers. I am an engineer and I don’t know what teachers know so I would welcome their input to ensure that appropriate decisions are being made for all students. Funding. As a representative, I would push for more funding through changes in the state budget.

Question: How would you make that happen?

Zemina: Well, let me be honest I am not going to be able to affect the kind of change I think is necessary without longevity. This is a special election. Committees are chosen and positions are filled but I can use the power of my vote. Upon re-election, I would immediately push for a position on the budget committee. Doing so would allow me to have much more of a chance to funnel more monies toward educational priorities for the state and the county as well.

Question: I appreciate your honesty Mr. Zemina. Last question, how do you see matters of special education fitting into your agenda?

Zemina: Exceptional students deserve the same type of rigorous and equitable educational experiences as any student. I think many of the issues discussed affect this population of students, sometimes more than others. An increase in funding and a strategic management of funds would increase staff and other resources for these students. Likewise, a reconsideration of the way standardized tests are used would also affect how we determine the proficiency of exceptional students.

For more information on Mr. Zemina, his agenda, and plans as a District 58 Representative, please visit: https://bryanzemina.com/
In an effort to encourage collaboration, celebrate research efforts, and enrich the experience of graduate students in the College of Education (COE) the COE Graduate Student Council recently held a monthly Research Gallery event featuring the wonderful work in the Technology in Education and Second Language Acquisition (TESLA) program. Led by Dr. John L. Lontas, Associate Professor of ESOL and in the style of Pecha Kucha, students were timed as they presented hot topics across the TESLA program. The presentations were followed by a Q & A session with other attendees and faculty members.

Are you interested in organizing an upcoming open house showcasing your featured program(s) from the COE on the third Thursday of the month? Please contact Vice President, Nicholas Catania, at ncatania@mail.usf.edu for details. This is a great opportunity to give a preview of your research prior to upcoming conferences, refine your research agenda, and learn about other research being conducted in the college.

Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Research Gallery showcased:

Get Out: Uplifting Dialogue on the Possibilities for Anti-Racist Leadership
Ericka Roland

Reimagining School Leadership and Student Voice: A Sociocultural Perspectives Model for Science Curriculum and Pedagogy
Tara Nkrumah

Educator Personal and Professional Beliefs about Gender and Sexual Orientation
Sonja Roberts and Dia Davis

Elementary Education Research Gallery presented:

Taking a Critical Look at Ourselves: Uncovering Practices, Structures, and Policies that Minoritize Teacher Candidates
Dr. Jenn Jacobs & Dr. Randi Latzke

Game-Based Technology: Engagement in the Elementary Science Classroom
Raven S. Robinson

Our TESLA Research Gallery highlighted:

Whose English is it Anyway? A Question Worth Exploring, Right?
Jessica Krentzman, Rasha Alghamdi, and Inanc Karagoz

Second and Multilingual Language Socialization for Cultural Understanding
Sandra Lewinski, Rosa Anna Lara, and Siying Li

Contrastive Rhetoric: Challenges and Implications
Sahar Alyahya, Amal Barzanji, and Basma Moreb

Teaching Figurative Language Using Authentic Materials
Eric Lau and Adel Alalfi

The TESOL Encyclopedia of English Language Teaching: The Story Behind the Story
John L. Lontas
**Message From GSC President**
As graduate students, we often find we must put our nose to the grind and focus on the challenging, endless list of tasks we each face. As a result, we may find it difficult to follow what is going on around us. The USF College of Education has undergone many changes in the past decade including faculty turnover, programs re-envisioned, departmental restructuring, and now, the search for a new dean. When the burden of our coursework and goal to graduate are our primary concerns, these events may seem far removed. In fact, they directly impact the graduate school experience. A dean sets the climate in the college. It is a dean’s role to encourage collaboration, secure funding, support research and teaching, and guide the development of degrees and programs.

Presently, the search committee has identified three dean candidates. Chris Riley-Tillman and Robert C. Knoeppel visited USF in December. The third candidate’s name and visit will be announced soon. For more information all faculty and graduate students are invited to the Search Committee Meeting on Tuesday, December 19, 9:00-10:00am in the David Anchin Center Conference room. Faculty and students are invited to provide feedback to the search committee on each candidate. Please take time to review each candidate’s curricula vita and cover letter. The following is a brief bio and summary of their visit to USF.

Dr. Robert C. Knoeppel (M.Ed. ’92 Couns Ed, Ph.D. ’01 Admin & Supv) is a professor and chairman of the leadership, counselor education, and human and organizational development department in Clemson University’s Eugene T. Moore School of Education. In 2014, he received the National Education Finance Conference Distinguished Research and Practice Fellow Award. The award is given to 10 individuals who have gained national visibility by their exemplary research and practice in the field of public education finance.

His interest in finance stems from an undergraduate degree in finance and economics, which led to a short stint on Wall Street. He was quickly disillusioned and left to pursue a Master's in Counseling Education. As a high school counselor and swim coach, Dr. Knoeppel found “relationships matter”. This continued to hold true in his journey into higher education. In describing his vision for the college, he expressed practices, funding, and metrics as a three-domain venn diagram. Metrics must “recognize contributions across the college”. Differentiated funding must be used to “equally value” contributions. Meanwhile, both funding and metrics should support social justice practices.

Please take a moment to review Dr. Knoeppel’s curricula vita and cover letter, then submit your ratings of this candidate at www.research.net/r/USFCOE1

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Dr. Chris Riley-Tillman is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Educational School and Counseling Psychology at the University of Missouri. He is a recognized authority in evidence-based practice in schools and the application of experimental design and analysis in applied educational settings. In addition, he is the Acting Editor of the Practical Interventions in Schools book series for Guilford Press. Finally, he is a Fellow of Division 16 of the American Psychological Association and a member of the Society for the Study of School Psychology.

Dr. Riley-Tillman visited USF College of Education December 4th and 5th. In the presentation to faculty and staff, he shared his leadership style, vision for the future of colleges of education, and interests in coming to the USF. He described his leadership style through sharing a personal story about teaching his first course as a graduate teaching assistant. As we all have learned, teaching a large class of 90 undergraduate students is harder than it looks. Through reflecting on his experience he began to understand teaching as a bridge of the “technical” and the “romantic”.

Please be sure to review Dr. Riley-Tillman’s curricula vita and cover letter, then submit your ratings of this candidate at www.research.net/r/USFCOE2
THINKING ABOUT GRAD SCHOOL

BY YAËL ALEX MONEREAU - YMONEREAU@MAIL.USF.EDU & SASHA M KEIGHOBADI - SKEIGHOB@MAIL.USF.EDU

Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Research
The Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Research (Qual R) is approved and accepting applications for Spring 2018! For information and application instructions click here. Contact Dr. Jennifer Wolgemuth, jrwolgemuth@usf.edu if you have questions.

Getting Ready for the Holidays
Thinking of Spending Time with Family and Friends?
Take the next few days to connect with your professors and classmates to make sure you are on-track to wrap up a strong semester. If you are teaching this semester, offer this same opportunity to your students and mentors.

Campus is closed - Dec. 25 – Jan. 1 for the Holidays

Share with us your accomplishments, events and weekly tidbits!
Do you have any recent accolades that you would like to share to be featured in our newsletter and/or website? Are you or have you already defended your dissertation proposal or dissertation itself? What about information for Monday Matters, or Thursday Tips, or Policy Pointers? Please fill out this form to let us know so you can be featured!

https://orgsync.com/154512/forms/284456

MONTHLY RESEARCH GALLERY
Monthly Research Gallery
Exchange Research with Your Colleagues! All Faculty & Advanced Graduate Students are invited to display a poster or paper presented at a conference in the past year.

Sign Up for our Monthly Research Galleries here-->

https://orgsync.com/154512/forms/270407

CALL FOR PROPOSALS (CFP)

BY JENNIFER R. WOLGEMUTH, PH.D. - JRWOLGEMUTH@USF.EDU

Calling ALL Researchers!!!

This is a friendly reminder that the Student Organization for Qualitative Methodologies is organizing a symposium in Spring (March 3rd, 2018) focused on interdisciplinary qualitative research. They invite all types of qualitative research proposals. Their emphasis for this year is critical social justice-oriented qualitative scholarship, and they especially encourage proposals that focus on issues of race, gender, sexuality, class, dis/ability, language, etc. Proposals (250 words) are due by December 15, 2017.

More info can be found at http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/isqm_2018/

Please feel free to forward to other faculty and students you think might be interested. This is a great opportunity to present your in progress and completed qualitative work in a supportive and fun atmosphere!
**January**

- 1 FAFSA Priority Application Deadline
- 11-13 The Qualitative Report Conference, Nova Southeastern University Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- 13, 20, 27 Saturday Writing Groups in GSC Lounge
- 16 - Third Thursday Research Gallery Featuring Exceptional Student Edu Program
- 19 - Application Deadline for Spring Doctoral Qualifying Examination

**February**

- 7-10 Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Tampa Convention Center
- 22-23 International Globalization, Diversity, and Education Conference at Northern Quest Resort in Spokane, WA

**March**

- 3 Interdisciplinary Symposium on Qualitative Methodologies (proposals due Dec. 15)
- 10-13 American Council on Education Conference in Washington D.C.

**April**

- 13-17 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting (stay tuned for opportunity to participate in a GSC Travel Grant)

**May**

- 4 Application Deadline for Summer Doctoral Qualifying Examination

**SPRING TEACHING ASSISTANTS (TA) EVENTS**

BY SASHA M KEIGHOBADI - SKEIGHOB@MAIL.USF.EDU

- The Academy of Teaching and Learning Excellence is here to help with Preparing for College Teaching. From 1/8/18 to 3/26/18, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in BSN 1101. You must register through OASIS under IDS 5922 CRN: 21516. More information can be found at [http://www.usf.edu/ate/events/pct-course.aspx](http://www.usf.edu/ate/events/pct-course.aspx)

- Academy for Teaching and Learning Excellence (ATLE) will host the training session for all new Teaching Assistants for Spring 2018 to be held on Friday January 5, from 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. You must register for the TA Training course, IDS 5921 CRN 21514, through OASIS.

- 2018 Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Teaching Assistant applications are due by 5pm on Friday, February 23, 2018. More information: [http://www.usf.edu/ate/faculty/ta-award.aspx](http://www.usf.edu/ate/faculty/ta-award.aspx)