Welcome to our 1st Newsletter! On behalf of the GSC Executive Board, I want to say "You got this!" Fall semester is a busy time for all of us, whether you’re in the first year or the last. Our goal is to provide our members with the support they need to make every year in the USF College of Education a successful year. One way we will support you is through keeping you informed! Each month our team will be collecting valuable information to help you make the most of your graduate experience. We also invite you to contribute and send us news & happenings in your program.

Stay tuned for:
Networking Opportunities | Student Publications | Upcoming Conferences | Monthly Announcements (Monday Matters, Thursday Technology Tips, and Policy Pointers) | Actions Needed/GSC Support Needed | Happenings On-campus

The House Budget Committee has reported out its version of the Budget Resolution for FY 2018 and it will likely be voted on by the full House next week. It is anticipated that it will pass with most, if not all, Democrats opposing it. The resolution from the committee calls for billions of dollars in cuts in non-defense discretionary spending (the pot which includes education) and a particular directive to the House Education and the Workforce Committee to cut $5 billion, which education advocates believe may be targeted toward cutting student financial aid. The Senate Budget committee released their blueprint today and will likely vote on it next week. It does not include a directive to the Senate HELP Committee to cut funding, a relief to education advocates. Also missing from both proposals is any provision which would promote vouchers or otherwise drive public education dollars to private schools. Republican leaders are working hard to shift the focus of work to tax reform and hope to deliver some sort of victory before the end of the year.

For more info on the proposed budget, use the following links:
https://budget.house.gov/budgets/fy18/
https://www.budget.senate.gov/taxreform
August 2017 New Graduate Student Orientation

In this section of our newsletter we will highlight research recently presented or published by students in the College of Education. Please contact the GSC Social Media team to share your publications or upcoming presentations. This month we feature research from GSC members who shared their work as part of the new graduate student orientation.

Babak Khoshnevisan
Doctoral Student
Technology in Education & Second Language Acquisition

Babak is an international student from Iran currently in his third year. “Journeys to and from Asia: An Evocative Duoethnography” was presented at the Interdisciplinary Symposium on Qualitative Methodologies with his coauthor, Patrick Mannion. Below is their description of this study:

In our duoethnography, we presented an overview of our cultural, educational, and social backgrounds to familiarize the readers with the authors. We then shed light on our journeys to and from Asia because they served as turning points in our lives and our families’ lives. These journeys served to frame and form our educational and vocational histories. Our intention in conducting this duoethnography was to explore both the past and our ongoing identity journeys from our present perspectives, which are informed by theories such as Post Structuralism.

Have research to share? Sign up here-->
https://orgsync.com/154512/forms/270407

Orhan Simsek
Post-doctoral Research Fellow
David C. Anchin Center

Orhan recently attained his doctoral degree in the Special Education Program. He now works in the David C. Anchin Center developing grants and designing research to address the needs of students with math-related disabilities.

At the 2016 Florida Statewide Graduate Research Symposium, his poster was awarded 2nd place. “Use of a Game-Based App as a Learning Tool for Students with Mathematics Learning Disabilities to Increase Fraction Knowledge/Skill” investigated the effectiveness of a game-based app (Motion Math: Fraction) to help students with Mathematics Learning Disabilities (MLD) to gain fraction skills.

To that end, we challenged each other’s perceptions, beliefs, and cultural frameworks to deconstruct and dismantle our previous frameworks.

We engaged in this in order to fashion a framework with which we can perform our identities in a third space (Kramsch, 2006; Bhabha, 2004). We collected data from face-to-face dialogues, frequent emails, and co-created a photo collage. Above all, we attempted to make our conversations transparent in order that both the authors and readers could ‘witness the transformative process that is central to the method’ (Breault, 2016).

We hope this encourages readers to uncover their own journeys and to unfold their untold stories. Our findings centered on our multiple identities and wondering how our journeys will continue to bewilder us in the years to come.
THINKING AHEAD
BY YÄEL-ALEX MONEREAU - YMONEREAU@MAIL.USF.EDU

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

Graduate Student Research Gallery

THIS MONTH'S FOCUS IS ON:
ELEMENTARY ED / EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP & POLICY STUDIES
THURSDAY, OCT. 19TH
3:00-5:30PM
IN EDU 408A

Writing Workshop II
Collaborative Writing: What You Need to Know to Avoid an Epic Fail
Collaborative writing, whether in the form of a group-based class assignment or coauthored publication, is essential to scholarly success in most academic disciplines.

Date: Thursday, October 19, 2017
Location: CWY 109 – ROTC Building
Time: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Disaster Relief Efforts
The past several weeks we have seen the devastating effects of many natural disasters. As a USF Community, the Center for Leadership & Civic Engagement hopes that you will think about how you can create positive change after these disasters.

For ways to help contact Deborah Grana at dgrana@usf.edu.

RECAPPING THE PREVIOUS MONTH
BY SASHA M KEIGHOBADEI - SKEIGHOBA@MAIL.USF.EDU

SOQM Call for Proposals on Qualitative Research -
The Student Organization for Qualitative Methodology (SOQM) is issuing a call for proposals for the second annual Interdisciplinary Symposium on Qualitative Methodologies at the University of South Florida (USF). This event, to be held on March 3, 2018, seeks to provide a space for collaboration amongst students, faculty, emerging scholars, and researchers to engage in scholarly conversations about diverse qualitative methodologies.

Writing Workshops -
The Graduate & Professional Student Council (GPSC) and the Office of Graduate Studies along with Dr. Vernetta K. Williams host Fall workshop series:
• Write Right: Understanding Faculty Expectations for Research Based Writing Facilitated
• Collaborative Writing: What You Need to Know to Avoid an Epic Fail
• Connect the Dots Academically: An Overview of Coherence Devices

I AM NOT A WRITER...
I AM JUST IN GRADUATE SCHOOL: AND

FOR MORE UPDATES, CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE @USFCOECSG