



University of
Tennessee

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2010

HELLO...

Dennis J. Ciancio, Ph.D., joins the department from the Children's Learning Institute, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. After working with Head Start for a short period, Dr. Ciancio completed his doctorate at the University of Notre Dame in Developmental Psychology in 2003. He specializes in intervention evaluation, early literacy development, and children's cognitive and socio-emotional development. As faculty at the Children's Learning Institute, he was awarded a grant from the Institute for Educational Sciences to develop a vocabulary intervention for kindergarten and first grade students at-risk for academic failures. Additionally, he is a co-author on the TPRI Early Reading Assessment, a classroom-based reading assessment and intervention for students in early primary grades. Dr. Ciancio has published in child development and educational journals. A father of three active children, he spends his free-time coaching, cheering, teaching, car-pooling, and bragging.



Dr. Dennis J. Ciancio

Lisa Rimmell holds a BA in Sign Language Interpreting from Maryville College and an MS in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Tennessee. She joins the department as a Clinical Instructor in Rehabilitation Counseling. Mrs. Rimmell is a nationally certified sign language interpreter who interprets in community and postsecondary educational settings in the Knoxville area. She formerly served as the Director of Community Services and Outreach at the Knoxville Center for the Deaf and as a staff interpreter with the Office of Disability Services at the University of Tennessee. In her new position she will be coordinating the Deafness Focus portion of the Rehabilitation Counseling program. She will also be teaching various classes in the Rehabilitation Counseling program, Counseling 480, and supervising students during practicum and internship.



Lisa Rimmell

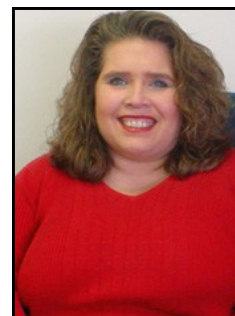


Bonnie Bull

Bonnie Bull has been in the administrative field for 13 years and joins the department as support staff for the three masters programs in Mental Health, Rehabilitation, and School Counseling. This year she plans to obtain her CPS certification and begin working on a bachelors degree. She grew up in Titusville, Florida and has lived in the Knoxville area for 20 years with her husband, Alan. Oil painting is her biggest hobby and she is a member of the Tennessee Artist Association. She usually has paintings hanging in various shows and galleries around Knoxville.

AND GOODBYE...

EPC would like to thank **Julie Harden** for her hard-work and dedication during her 10 years in EPC. Julie joined our department in 2001 and worked with students and faculty throughout the department. In addition to her responsibilities with the three graduate counseling programs, she processed all EPC admissions application. Thank you, Julie! We wish you all the best!



Julie Harden

DR. TRENA PAULUS ASSUMES COORDINATOR POSITION FOR MASTER'S IN INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Associate professor Dr. Trena Paulus is the IT Program Coordinator as of fall 2010. Her responsibilities include chairing the committee for the faculty search and coordinating curricular revisions. Building a sense of community among students, alumni, faculty and the greater university and East Tennessee community is one of her goals. Recent IT faculty and student research and achievements follow:

- In May 2010, the first cohort of ten distance education students in the WebIT M.S. program graduated.
- During the Summer term, Dr. Jason Caudill, IT graduate and instructor, was named a QUEST Scholar of the Week by the UT Office of Research.
- Doctoral candidate C. Michael Sturgeon recently presented his paper, "Using Mobile Technology in the Classroom," at the Educational Scientific Conference in Poltava, Ukraine. A second presentation, "Faculty Perceptions of the Factors Enabling and Facilitating their Integration of Instructional Technology in Teaching," will be at the Association for Educational Communications and Technology Conference in October.
- Master's student Betsy DeGeorge's book chapter, "Organizational E-Portfolios," was published in April in *The E-Portfolio Paradigm: Informing, Educating, Assessing, and Managing with E-Portfolios*, edited by N. Buzzetto-More.
- Dr. Jason Caudill will be presenting a paper at the 2010 Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education E-Learn Conference, "Lifetime learning, e-learning and their influence on modern firms' competitive environment."
- Students in Dr. Miriam Larsen's instructional design course sequence have partnered with Tennessee Valley Authority in evaluating and re-designing one of their popular leadership courses for TVA employees. Meanwhile, faculty and students are actively researching the WebIT program, presenting their findings at this year's Association for Educational Communications and Technology Conference in October. Dr. Michael L. Waugh and doctoral student Matthew S. DeMaria (co-authored with Douglas A. Trovinger) will present their paper, "Implementing an Online MS degree program in Instructional Technology: Promises and Pitfalls."



Dr. Trena Paulus,
Associate Professor and IT
Program Coordinator

EPC OFFERS NEW DOCTORAL CONCENTRATION: LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS AND EDUCATIONAL STUDIES (LEEDS)

EPC now offers a doctoral concentration in [Learning Environments and Educational Studies \(LEEDS\)](#) in the Ph.D Education Major. Specializations in Human Learning and Development, Cultural Studies, and Instructional Technology are three specializations within the concentration.

The LEEDS doctoral concentration explicitly links the fields of cultural studies, human learning and development from an applied educational psychology perspective, and instructional technology to prepare graduates to work in high level professional careers in a wide range of settings such as higher education, K-12 education, community-based agencies and community-based participatory research, research institutions and other applied educational, social and political settings.

The mission of this concentration is to ground students in theoretical, philosophical and research foundations of human learning and development, cultural and social contexts of educational environments (both formal and informal), the design process of technology-supported learning environments, and skills for inquiring into and critiquing these environments.

This year LEEDS welcomes 10 new doctoral students. LEEDS faculty are Dr. Kathy Greenberg (Coordinator), Dr. Barb Thayer-Bacon, Dr. Michael Waugh, Dr. Jay Pfaffman, Dr. Trena Paulus, and Dr. Allison Anders. For more information, visit the [LEEDS website](#).



LEEDS faculty and students gather for Fall 2010 Orientation.

EPC FACULTY & STUDENTS WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY & THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Gift to UT Supports the Work of Dr. Bob Kronick in Knox County Schools

A recent gift to the University of Tennessee will support the work of Dr. Bob Kronick in Knox County Schools. The gift from Radio Systems President and CEO Randy Boyd will provide fund to develop a model for a full-scale, full-service school at Pond Gap Elementary. [Read the full Knoxville News Sentinel article.](#) Mark Benson has been hired as the coordinator of the Pond Gap project. He has a masters in Counseling and 12 years of experience.



Photo: Saul Young, Knoxville News Sentinel

Debra Lee Travels to China

Debra Lee, a PhD candidate in the Department of Educational Psychology & Counseling, was invited by the U.S. Department of State, Office of English Language Programs, to present legal English workshops, including technology for language learning, for students and faculty at Beijing Normal University (BNU), Zhuhai in April 2010. In addition to working with law and language faculty at BNU, Zhuhai, Debra conducted workshops at GETCH (a language training facility for disabled adults in Guangzhou, China) on the rule of law and technology in language training, a materials development workshop for university language faculty based in Guangzhou, and a legal writing workshop for legal translators/law students in Guangzhou law firms and universities.



Debra Lee and her students in Beijing, Zhuhai

In mid-May, Debra traveled to Albania at the request of the Albanian English Language Teacher's Association to present on technology and language learning at their semi-annual conference. After the conference, she remained in Tirana for three days to conduct workshops for University of Tirana faculty and Master's students.

Grief Outreach Initiative Welcomes Dr. Ken Doka

Dean Bob Rider, originator of the [Grief Outreach Initiative](#), welcomed over 100 students, clergy, social workers, counselors, volunteers, and others who attended a one day workshop on "Children, Adolescents, Grief, and Trauma" in September at the UT Visitors Center. Dr. Ken Doka, well-known consultant, author, and professor, reviewed how concepts of death change throughout the life cycle and explored the ways children and adolescents experience loss. In addition to the UT Grief Outreach Initiative, other sponsors included Bereavement Services of East Tennessee, Berry Funeral Home, Chi Sigma Iota Honor Society, Mane Support, Mental Health Association of East Tennessee, and the Wellness Community.



Dean Rider with Dr. Ken Doka

NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR LITERACY STUDIES

Beth Bingman Retires

Beth Bingman has been with the Center for Literacy Studies almost as long as the Center has been in existence. She began 21 years ago when the Center was only months old. For many years she served as an Associate Director coordinating the National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy work of Connecting Practice, Policy and Research, developing research and training resources for Equipped for the Future, and serving as principal investigator of a four year NSF grant entitled Teachers Investigating Adult Numeracy.

She has published and presented at state and national conferences on professional development assessment and accountability in adult literacy education, and women's learning in Appalachian community organizations. She holds a Ph. D. with a concentration in adult education from the University of Tennessee. Before coming to the Center for Literacy Studies, Bingman worked as a county coordinator for a literacy program in Virginia. Beth will be sorely missed not only at the Center but also within the University; however, her commute from her home in Virginia to the campus will be something she will not mind leaving behind.

Teachers Investigating Adult Numeracy

The Center for Literacy Studies under the guidance of the principal investigator, Dr. Beth Bingman, has just completed a 4 year National Science Foundation grant of \$1,058,992. TIAN: Teachers Investigating Adult Numeracy developed and field-tested a professional development model for adult education mathematics teachers. The project included embedded research on factors affecting teachers' learning and change regarding mathematics instruction.

Evaluation was provided by the Institute for Assessment and Evaluation here on campus and concluded that the project was well designed, well managed, and well implemented. IAE noted that TIAN was a project capable of becoming a foundation for restructuring professional development for mathematics teachers, adult education teachers, and teachers in other fields, as well. CLS staff involved in the project in addition to Beth include Aaron Kohring, Olga Ebert, Peggy McGuire and Donna Curry.



EPC FACULTY & STUDENTS INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(* indicates an EPC student)

Oxford, England (March 2010)

Barbara Thayer Bacon. Educational implications for democracies-always-in-the-making. Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain.

Singapore (March 2010)

John Peters and M. Moi* and J. Taylor*. Reflections on three types of teaching and learning in a model-based, blended online course. International Conference on Information Communications Technology (ICT) in Teaching and Learning, SIM University.

Maui, Hawaii (June 2010)

Tricia McClam and Deirdre Anderson-White*. Examining the At Risk First-Year Student in the 21st Century, 23rd International Conference on the First-Year Experience.

Alberta, Canada (June 2010)

Amelia Davis*. Youths transitioning as new adult learners. 10th Annual Thinking Qualitatively Workshop Conference, The International Institute for Qualitative Methodology, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

Dublin, Ireland (June 2010)

John Peters and P. Long*. Re-positioning students and professors as co-constructors of knowledge. European College Teaching and Learning Conference.

Bogota, Colombia (July 2010)

Barbara Thayer Bacon. Learning to Trust Our Students. International Network of Philosophers of Bi-Education Annual Conference.

Riga, Latvia (July 2010)

Bob Williams and Steve McCallum. Second-language Learning, Attitudes, Anxiety, and Attributions for Students with Giftedness and Learning Disabilities International Council for Exceptional Children.

Riga, Latvia (July 2010)

Steve McCallum and Michael Hopkins*. Development and Implementation of an Innovative, Efficient Math Probe for Response to Intervention (RTI), International Council for Exceptional Children.

Cambridge, United Kingdom (August 2010)

John Peters. Facilitating collaborative learning for community development and land stewardship. International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, Cambridge University.



Amelia Davis,



Dr. Bob Williams



Dr. Steve McCallum

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