

School of Education



Bakersfield SOE student Tiffany Venter with her class

The School of Education Dr. Gary Railsback, School Dean

The SOE as a unit continues to evaluate itself from both the inside and the outside. The major evaluations from the inside are the 360 degree evaluations that are conducted using Survey Monkey on our Dean, Associate Deans, and program directors. These 360s obtain information from all directions – students, staff and faculty, so that we can be efficient in our work and improve in areas where needed. From the outside, we are accredited by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC). This state agency has recently revised their accreditation system so that it has three components during a seven year cycle. Every two years we complete a Biennial Report that includes a minimum of four student learning outcomes assessment data for each of our thirteen credential programs. SOE faculty analyze this data for their programs and determine how it can help us improve our programs, then the entire report is submitted to CTC for staff review. We received positive responses from the staff review of the Biennial report in 2009 and are preparing for our second Biennial Report due August 2011.

The second component of CTC accreditation is titled Program Assessment. This component requires faculty to respond to each of the CTC Program standards for the credential they supervise, demonstrating how we meet the program standards. The documents are sent to Sacramento where they are “peer-reviewed” by colleagues at other institutions. We submitted the original drafts in December 2009 and all of our credential programs have met the criteria of “preliminarily aligned” except two that are still being reviewed. The term “preliminarily aligned” is used until the site visit team confirms what has been submitted on paper actually happens.

The third component of the CTC accreditation is a site visit. We were just informed that our next site visit is February 5 – 8, 2012. The SOE has also applied for NCATE accreditation and the two agencies will come to campus at the same time to meet our students, faculty and staff to determine if we meet stringent national and state standards. The SOE is hosting a “mock visit” or dress rehearsal on May 11-12, 2011, to help us prepare for the actual visit next year.

The documents that have been submitted for this current cycle of accreditation are available for viewing on our TaskStream website -
<http://www.taskstream.com/ts/railsback/CTCProgramAssessment.html>

At the beginning of the 2011-12 academic year the SOE was reorganized around the concept of having one program director for each credential program that would provide administrative support across all of our centers. Prior to this change we had one program coordinator at each regional center without one person being in charge. Though change is always difficult, this change has helped us to focus on program alignment and fidelity and helped us to reduce the number of administrative units given for program coordination and to have our full-time faculty be available for teaching more courses.

Arcadia Regional Center
Dr. Doretha O’Quinn, SOE Associate Dean
End of Year Highlights 2010-2011

The Arcadia Regional Center has experienced the most severe enrollment drop due to teacher layoffs in the Los Angeles Unified School District and other suburban districts due to the financial crisis, enrollment declines and school closures. Superintendent and personnel directors continue to tell us to keep preparing high quality teachers due to the predicted upcoming teacher retirements. To adjust our staffing levels to this enrollment decrease Arcadia has made the following adjustments.

Personnel Transitions:

Arcadia Regional Center began the year with several staff and faculty transitions to adjust staffing levels to the current enrollment. The consolidation of the Graduate Student Financial

Services (SFS) Department resulted in the loss of the two SFS Counselors (Lisa Curtis, Wilma Anders). Two SOE staff members (Dee Ann Tate, Penny Tucker) were laid off due to budget reductions. There was one full-time faculty member resignation from Jessica Miller, Single Subject Coordinator that took a position as a charter school principal.

New Hires:

- Dr. Robert Farrar joined the Arcadia Regional Center as a part-time faculty member (Single Subject Admission Chair/ Advisor) to replace Jessica Miller.
- Penny Tucker rejoined the School of Education in February 2011 to serve as the TaskStream Coordinator and her office located at the Arcadia Regional Center while serving all centers.
- Rev. Julie Best joined the Graduate Chaplaincy team to serve the Arcadia students, staff and faculty.
- Wanda Calhoun, a PPS/School Counseling student was hired as a student worker to assist with clerical support in the Arcadia Office.

Faculty/Staff Training and Development:

- The Arcadia Regional Center Staff and Faculty join our colleagues at each center to prepare ourselves for our NCATE, IDEA Reporting, and other School of Education Program reports.
- Two full-time faculty (Laura Amstead, Doretha O'Quinn) and one staff member (Lavonue Scannell) became trained or Certified in the operating of the new technology program through focused training and demonstration with Kathy Walsh and Teri Linman
- Laura Amstead attended the CTC accreditation training for becoming a certified Institutional Reviewer for California Teacher Education programs.
- Two four hour (Fall and Spring) Adjunct Faculty workshops were held involving NCATE preparation, SOE administrative processes and evaluation.

Collaborative Partnerships:

- Pastor Jerry Ferguson, Dist Supt and Board Member provided devotional presentation for our adjunct faculty meeting and our Nazarene Church partner
- ARC students, faculty and staff have adopted the Rosebud Charter Academy (in lieu of hosting fall conference) which involved volunteer service hours, tutoring, donating supplies assisting in areas of facility maintenance and other service work requested or needed.
- The facility serves as a host to multiple organizations such as Private School Deans Meeting, Professional Development meetings for: Monrovia Unified School District, Arcadia Unified School District, El Monte Unified School District, California Connections Academy, Bethany Christian School coordinated by our staff.
- Students, Faculty and staff partnered with Nicole Johnson, PAZ-NAZ, Athletic Program for Special Needs Students\
- A Bi-annual cooperating teacher reception was held to acknowledge the supervisors of our Clinical Practice students – Marge Morwood, Coordinator
- A Bi-annual Advisory Council meeting of approximately 25 partners was held to collaborate with educational focus areas needs and training, Laura Amstead, Coordinator

Faculty /Staff/Student Highlights/Recognition/Workshops:

- Brent Forsee – Adjunct Faculty – received Doctorate in Education from USC
- Arpine Ovsepian – Adjunct Faculty – Honored by NBA Clipper Organization at Teacher of the Year
- Dr. Doretha O’Quinn – 2011- Outstanding Black Educator of the Year, National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa
- Beth Chamberlain – Los Angeles County Board of Education - Outstanding Community Collaborator for Pupil Personal Services and School Counseling
- Robert Morwood –State of California Department of Consumer Affairs Board of Behavior Sciences, “Subject Matter Expert for the Licensed Education Psychologist” Written Examination Passing Score Workshop

Several Workshops were held by Arcadia Faculty:

Woodcrest Nazarene – Urban Education- Doretha O’Quinn/Trinika Barnett (student)- (joined by Jerry Childs, Daphne Jones for recruitment)
Bethany Christian School – Teacher Strategies – Laura Amstead
Bethany Christian School and Wilmington Christian School – Brain Development – Jerry Childs
Multiple District Partnership with BTSA Programs Representatives – Laura Amstead, Jerry Childs, Beth Chamberlain, Marge and Robert Morwood

Outreach Highlights:

- A new cohort began in Downey Unified School District for the Multiple and Single Subject Clear Credential Program through Outreach efforts
- Multiple partnerships in South Bay began through Outreach with Public, Private (Christian and Catholic) and Charter Schools

Bakersfield Regional Center
Dr. Jill Hamilton-Bunch, SOE Associate Dean
End of Year Highlights 2010-2011

To Teach—Equip

New Faculty and Staff: This year we welcomed Monique DeLeon to our staff as administrative assistant.

New Program: We have added the Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) master's degree and credential to the programs offered in Bakersfield. We are excited about this new program.

Tulare County IMPACT Partnership: For several years the Bakersfield Regional Center has participated in a partnership with the Tulare County Office of Education's IMPACT program. The IMPACT program delivers instruction approved through the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing to aspiring special education teachers. In partnership with IMPACT, Point Loma offers the new degree of Master of Arts in Special Education that was just approved by WASC in September, 2010. We continue to offer this master's and are excited to welcome a new cohort of students in summer 2011.

Remodel and Building Improvements: In Fall 2010, we began a construction project to modernize and revitalize our classrooms and offices. All offices and classrooms will now be located on the third floor while in the past some of the staff offices were on the first floor and everything else was on the third floor. Many improvements, such as additional conference space, an updated student lounge, as well as additional technology are in the process of being provided.

To Shape—Transform

Participation in the Learning to Teach Continuum: We continue to participate in alliances with our local BTSA and IHE communities. We attend monthly meetings to coordinate services to ensure that our teachers have a seamless transition into the classroom as they begin their teaching lives. These articulation opportunities also allow us to work closely with local school districts to impact the instruction that is taking place in classrooms. We also continue to partner with the KCSOS Intern Teacher Program Consortium and have built a reputation for providing districts with well-prepared interns and consistent new-teacher support. While some area universities only require interns to satisfy the minimum 120 pre-service hours, Point Loma interns meet the "enhanced" standards of the KCSOS Consortium – meaning they have more than 60 hours of training in Teaching Language Learners and are thus better equipped to serve a diverse student population. This distinctive has been invaluable in promoting positive relationships with our fellow educational stakeholders.

To Send—Empower

Faculty Involvement in the Local Educational Community: Faculty continues to be involved in the local educational community in support and research capacities. Involvement includes the following districts: Panama Buena Vista, Kern County Superintendent of Schools, Greenfield Union, Kern High School, Taft City Schools, Edison School District, Fairfax School District, Lamont School District, Elk Hills School District, Vineland School District and Bakersfield City School District. These efforts serve to empower both the in-service teachers serving these districts as well provide support for the Point Loma candidates who now serve in these districts.

Inland Empire Regional Center
Dr. Gary McGuire, SOE Associate Dean
Program Highlights for 2010-2011

To Teach

Our Programs: Even in the face of the continuing budget crisis in public education, the Inland Empire Regional Center has led the way in taking an innovative look at how the School of Education partners with local school districts to provide our quality programs in a manner that is accessible and attractive to potential candidates. Chief among these efforts are:

- An ongoing partnership with Corona-Norco Unified School District to provide the Added Authorization in Special Education/Autism Spectrum Disorder program
- The development of a PSCE version of the Autism program
- Implementation of new partnerships with Lake Elsinore and Rialto Unified School Districts to provide the Autism program
- Partnering with Beyond Technology Education to provide graduate credit to private school teachers across the state of California for educational technology courses
- The completion of two sections of our CSET Mathematics Preparation PSCE courses

Our Prospects for the Future: The partnerships and visibility we have enjoyed due to both our past relationships with districts and our expanding relationships and role as a provider of high quality educational leadership and special education programs in the Inland Empire set the foundation for continued success of our programs.

To Shape

Participation in Local BTSA Programs: The Inland Empire Regional Center continues to maintain partnership agreements with over twenty local school districts. In addition, the Center continues its partnership with the Riverside County Office of Education which serves one of the largest bases of beginning teachers in the state which authorized PLNU as a provider of higher education support for beginning teacher training. The Inland Empire Associate Dean also served on the Steering Committees of three local district BTSA programs. We look forward to continuing to serve as an Institution of Higher Education partner with our local new teacher programs and to being a resource to support the programs and the new teachers they serve.

Statewide Recognition of the Professional Clear Administrative Services Credential Program: The PLNU School of Education Professional Clear Administrative Services Credential program is one of only three programs in the state which provide induction coaching for new administrators. All of the university coaches have been trained and certified as leadership coaches through the Association for California School Administrators (ACSA) and New Teacher Center coaching network. Because of our continuing involvement in this network, the School of Education has received statewide visibility as a key player in administrator preparation and support both from ACSA and CTC.

To Send

Faculty Accomplishments: During the 2010-2011 academic year the following Inland Empire Regional Center Faculty were honored with promotions/awards:

Dr. Craig Bartholio: Successfully defended his dissertation at USC
Gary McGuire: Served on the CTC Board of Institutional Reviewers for several University Accreditation Program Assessments

IE Graduate Promotions and Awards: During the 2010-11 academic year the following Inland Empire graduates were honored with promotions/awards:

Laurie Warner: Promoted to Assistant Principal at Anna Borba Fundamental School in the Chino Valley Unified School District

Even in the face of the continuing funding crisis in education, Inland Empire special education candidates and graduates have either obtained teaching positions or maintained their positions as a result of the quality and reputation of the education and training they received at PLNU. As our adjunct faculty and our graduate populations continue to grow, we look forward to seeing more and more of our PLNU family serve as leaders in their schools, districts, and communities and thus expand the work as well as carry out the mission of PLNU beyond our walls and into the lives of countless numbers of K-12 students and their families throughout the Inland Empire and beyond.

Mission Valley Regional Center
Dr. Conni Campbell, SOE Associate Dean
Program Highlights for 2010-2011

To Teach, To Shape, To Send

Our Programs: Even in the face of the continuing budget crisis in public education, the Mission Valley Regional Center is committed to working with current candidates and with local school districts to provide our quality programs in a manner that supports best teaching practices for our K-12 students. Chief among these efforts are:

- We provide a series of “Super Saturday” workshops, free to our private and public school district partners, on effective teaching strategies for all students, including those with special needs. Our own candidates participate side by side with veteran teachers in these workshops and grow from their experience and knowledge.
- Our faculty provide on-site workshops to teachers in partner schools specific to their needs
- We have hired several new adjunct faculty this year who are experts in their field and on the cutting edge of instruction, technology and learning theory.

- Many of our own full-time and adjunct faculty have completed the video conference training series to deliver pedagogically appropriate instruction by way of video conference to our candidates who are at a distance
- The orientation session and support materials for the Teaching Performance Assessment is completely on-line this year so that candidates at every regional center have consistent instruction and instant access to materials, instructional videos and quick tips for successful submission.
- Our community service effort this year is at Point Loma High School, where faculty and teacher education candidates are teaching an Advisory period for low achieving seniors to meet their graduation requirements.

Our Goals for the coming year:

- To grow our **visibility** as an avenue to obtain the Clear credential as Induction programs in the school districts diminish. This is a viable market we would like to grow.
- To improve **outreach efforts** with local school districts to support teacher practice with special needs students by offering our supplemental authorizations in Traumatic Brain Injury, Autism and Other Health Impaired.
- To include **parents of special needs students** in our Super Saturday workshops
- To make more visible our **Alumni Association**, EDUCAP, to revive alumni support and involvement in our School of Education.