

**APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
REICH COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP  
ANNUAL REPORT  
MAY 2009**

**I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- \*\*Graduated 7 doctoral students, August 08-May 09.*
- \*\*Started new on-campus cohort (#16) with 11 students, July 08.*
- \*\*Recruited and accepted new on-campus cohort 17 (n=12) to start July 09.*
- \*\*Recruited and accepted a new Hickory cohort (2) (n=14) to start August 09.*
- \*\*Accepted the Program's first Fulbright doctoral scholar as a member of cohort 17.*
- \*\*Had in excess of 75 applications for both cohort groups.*
- \*\*Conducted extensive work on articulation of coursework between the three Ed.S degree programs and the Ed.D involving faculty members from all programs.*
- \*\*Launched a major review of doctoral program curriculum.*
- \*\*Created an active data base of RCOE faculty (n=55) research interests, and faculty interested in doctoral committee service.*
- \*\*Created a new emphasis on focused creation of doctoral student research agendas, with a seamless flow from coursework to qualifying examination to dissertation prospectus, to dissertation.*
- \*\*Created a new emphasis on working with first year doctoral students on expected elements in a dissertation (especially in the third part of the Professional Seminar course).*
- \*\*Created an active data base of leadership research issues and ideas from solicitations to area community college presidents, school superintendents, program alumni/ae, and RCOE faculty/staff.*
- \*\*Established and hosted fall 08 and spring 09 doctoral symposia - featuring scholarly presentations and discussions centered on program students' works.*

*\*\*Created mechanisms for inter-cohort communication and collaboration by establishing support groups of 3 between Hickory and on-campus cohort members based on common academic experiences and interests.*

*\*\*Students in advanced leadership courses in Hickory and Cohort 15 combined to present their work on leadership/policy issues as the program for the Spring Symposium held in Hickory. Eight excellent presentations were warmly received by the 50-60 member audience of students, faculty, and alumni/ae.*

*\*\*Created a mechanism to identify and present the first Alice P. Naylor Outstanding Dissertation Award to Angie Wright ('08) as part of the Spring Symposium.*

*\*\*The Program Policy Committee, with a dozen faculty and a student member, met monthly during the academic year with >90% attendance and very active participation.*

*\*\*Doctoral Research Assistantships were provided to all departments in the college, and the office of International Education.*

*\*\*The work of doctoral student & research assistant Lori Mason resulted in a major grant from the U.S. State Department for curriculum and program development with the Ministry of Higher Education in Kurdistan. Two faculty members from Kurdish universities spent 10 weeks at ASU in spring 09; the Kurdish Minister of Higher Education visited the ASU campus, and two RCOE faculty members made several curriculum presentations on a visit to Kurdistan.*

*\*\*The Program hosted a general meeting of the Advisory Board at the fall symposium, and the Program Director met individually with each member throughout the year.*

*\*\*The Program Director made presentations about the program to:*

*Each RCOE Department*

*Each Department Chair*

*Dean's Advancement Board*

*Numbers of faculty and administrators outside the RCOE*

*Many classes with prospective students*

*Over five hundred individual meetings with prospective & current students*

## **II. MAJOR PROBLEMS**

*\*\* Administrative Support. The program continues to be hindered by having just 1/3 of an administrative position. As a consequence much of the Director's time is necessarily focused on administrative and office management issues, and is not the most effective use of that time.*

*\*\*Designation of additional faculty as "doctoral faculty", and specific benefits for dissertation committee service (not just chairs) will greatly enhance productivity of the program.*

## **III. PERSONNEL**

*\*\*Vachel Miller joined the LES faculty in August 2008 as Assistant Professor. He is designated as Doctoral Faculty and has one course release for service as Hickory Doctoral Coordinator.*

*\*\*Susan Musilli joined the program in the Administrative Support position (.33 time) in January 2009, replacing Lynn Compagnone. Susan had served with the LRE Department for several years.*

## **IV. OTHER COMMENTS**

### **Unit Mission Statement**

*The mission of the Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership is to promote the learning and enlightenment of students and prepare graduates for leadership roles in public schools and community colleges. The collaborative efforts of a scholarly community of practice support candidates in their personal transformation and in identifying and addressing critical educational issues. We encourage candidates to apply theory to practice in conducting research, constructing knowledge, and in improving educational systems.*

*Characteristics of the program include:*

- \*\*orientation and mentoring for entering students*
- \*\*a seminar format of instruction*
- \*\*courses scheduled for the convenience of students*
- \*\*involvement of faculty from across campus and in the field*
- \*\*individual choice of electives*
- \*\*advice and counsel as students advance through the program*
- \*\*an internship with mentoring leaders in the field*
- \*\*a website with program information*
- \*\*annual appointments of eight doctoral research assistants*

## **V. STAFF & EPA NONFACULTY ACTIVITY**

*\*\*Susan Musilli was recognized in April 09 in Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities.*

*\*\*Susan was selected for the 2009 Plemmons Leadership Medallion for Distinguished University Service.*

*\*\*Susan was presented with the ASU Staff Award in Fall 2008.*

## **VI. FACULTY ACTIVITY**

*\*\*Reports on the activity of doctoral faculty members, Kelly Clark/Keefe, Vachel Miller, and George Olson, are available through the LES Department Report.*

*\*\*Jim Killacky served on the Graduate Faculty Council and as an active member of its Academic Sub-Committee. He had the following publications*

Killacky, J. & Rhoe-Collins, K. (2008). Guest Editors. Community and technical colleges in Louisiana and Mississippi post hurricane Katrina. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 32, 3

Killacky, J. & Rhoe-Collins, J. (2008). Guest editors' introduction to the special issue: Hurricane Katrina's impacts on community and technical colleges in Louisiana and Mississippi. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 32, 3. 163- 166.

Garbee, D.D. & Killacky, J. (2008). Factors influencing intent to stay in academia for nursing faculty in the southern United States of America. *International Journal of Nursing Education Scholarship*, 5, 1, 1-15

Hall, R. & Killacky, J. (2008). Correctional education from the perspective of the prisoner student. *Journal of Correctional Education*, 59, 4, 301-320. December