

Spring 2009

## Summer 2009 Edition

Liberty University

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### Recommended Citation

Liberty University, "Summer 2009 Edition" (2009). *School of Education Newsletter*. Paper 1.  
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# The Compass

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Volume 1, Issue 2

Summer 2009

## Message from the Dean



Dr. Karen L. Parker, Dean of the School of Education

### *Under Construction*

If you have walked through the School of Education in the past few weeks, you are aware of our facilities upgrade project, that was completed prior to the summer intensives. You will see newly painted hallways and classrooms, bulletin boards and white boards, additional restroom facilities, classroom furniture with electrical access for laptop computers and update class

room technology. Observing the progress in our building reminds me that our lives are also *under construction*. "He who **began a good work** in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:6). Just as our School of Education building is improved in appearance and function, so may our hearts be fit to serve Him wherever He leads our steps.

## Faculty Profile > Dr. Deanna Keith

Deanna Keith earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Special Education and Masters of Education in Special Education from Lynchburg College. She then continued her education at the University of Virginia where she earned her Education Specialist and Education Doctorate in Administra-

tion and Supervision. She teaches courses in special education and school leadership. She enjoys serving as the Coordinator for Special Education and as Faculty Advisor for Liberty University's Council for Exceptional Children. Before coming to Liberty University, she spent ten years in the public school

system as a special education teacher and administrator in the elementary, middle, high, and alternative school settings. Most recently she served as Director for Preschool and Kindergarten in a private school setting.



## Support for Disabilities

Office for Student Disability Academic Support

Below are a few links of information you may find helpful. The first is our LUO ODAS (Office of Disability Academic Support) homepage. This covers some basic information on the legal requirements for disability support, and an overview of our process (from the student's perspective) for LUO students. The second site is a very helpful overview of how disability support in a college environment should work.

LUO ODAS

<https://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=15659>

Applying basic ADA principles

<http://www.loyola.edu/campuslife/healthservices/disabilitysupportservices/legal2.html>

# The Compass

## KDP Chapter Celebrates Silver Anniversary



On April 23, 2009, Pi Sigma Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi celebrated 25 years on Liberty University's campus. Dr. Lila Bruckner, first KDP counselor, Ms. Barbara Sherman, Dr. Michelle Goodwin, Dr. Karen Parker, all former counselors, with Chancellor Jerry Falwell, and Mrs. Becki Falwell attended the special celebration. One hundred and fifty attendees joined the event in celebrating the Liberty KDP chapter's great accomplishments over the past two decades. These include winning the coveted ACE (Achieving Chapter Excellence) Award that was established in 1995 to honor chapters that exemplify the mission and ideals of Kappa Delta Pi.

(Left) Chancellor Falwell poses with the KDP Pi Sigma Chapter Officers.

## KDP Professional Chapter Formation Announcement

### **Who Can Join A Professional Chapter?**

KDP believes in recognizing and supporting teacher excellence and achievement at all stages of a teaching career life cycle. To this end, members of a professional chapter may originate from various places.

#### *Graduating KDP Members*

Once members graduate, they can transfer their affiliation from their Institution Chapter to the Professional Chapter.

In order to apply for membership, they must do one of the following:

- show completion of 15 credit hours toward a Master's Degree and a 3.5 GPA
- show evidence of work toward or completion of a Doctorate Degree.

#### *Practicing Professionals/In-Service Teachers*

Practicing professionals who are not members may be initiated into a Professional Chapter. In order to apply for membership, they must do one of the following:

- show evidence of completion of a bachelor degree in education or a certificate of education and a transcript showing a 3.0 GPA
- show completion of 15 credit hours toward a Master's Degree and a transcript showing a 3.5 GPA
- show evidence of work toward or completion of a Doctorate Degree.
- show completion of a bachelor degree and submit a letter of recommendation from their administrator or supervisor in lieu of a transcript.
- show evidence of receipt of national recognition (State Teacher of the Year, Golden Apple, Milkin Foundation) or National Board Certification.

#### *School Administrators – Principals, Superintendents*

School administrators who are not members may be initiated into a Professional Chapter. In order to apply for membership, they must only complete the Membership Application form.

#### *Retired Teachers or Administrators*

Retired teachers/administrators who were initiated members may renew at a discounted rate and transfer their affiliation from their Institution Chapter to the Professional Chapter. Retired teachers/administrators who are not members may be initiated into a Professional Chapter. In order to apply for membership, they must only complete the Membership Application form.

#### *KDP Members who are Inactive*

Though initiated members are KDP members for life, maintaining an active members means staying current on yearly dues. Members who have not paid their dues may renew their membership by completing a renewal form online or in print and paying the current year's national membership dues. Renewing members can transfer their affiliation from their Institution Chapter to the Professional Chapter.

#### **Membership Dues**

The membership dues to join the professional chapter are as follows: \$38.00 National Dues and \$10.00 Local Chapter dues. The total cost of membership is \$48.00.

**Contact Dr. Shante' Austin at [somoore@liberty.edu](mailto:somoore@liberty.edu) for more information.**

### Reciprocity with Georgia and Texas

As with all of Liberty's licensure programs, the school administration program is both nationally accredited by NCATE and state-approved by Virginia. Because of this, candidates from other states may receive a license from their own state upon completion of LU's school administration program. If a state requires an exam other than the SLLA, normally the candidate needs only to take that state's specific licensure exam

upon completion of LU's program in order to qualify for that state's license. LU's School of Education is learning, however, that some states—such as Georgia and Texas—are considering legislation that could limit this reciprocity only to out of state universities that are approved by Georgia and Texas. Please be assured that LU is monitoring these developments and will take every measure to ensure that Liberty candidates con-

tinue to have their license in school administration reciprocated with all states. Presently, this reciprocity issue seems to relate only to school administration licensure and not other licensure areas. Candidates in Georgia and Texas are recommended to confirm with their state departments of education to ensure that their LU program will indeed be reciprocated upon completion.



Dr. Samuel J. Smith,  
Associate Professor,  
Program Coordinator  
for School Administration

### Program Specialist Update

Liberty offers licensure as a program specialist. The program offers licensure as a reading, math, gifted, OR early childhood specialist. Coursework for the program is offered in multiple delivery formats with both on campus and off campus options. Program completion requires a minimum of 9 hours in the residential formats.

**Program Specialist:** to prepare educators to support early childhood, gifted, math or reading abilities and use diagnostic data to tailor instruction to individual needs; Develop the knowledge, skills, and processes necessary for teaching oral and written language communication; and Promote the integration of literature based instruction in all content areas.

### Elementary Education Update

Please continue to check the main sites at [www.liberty.edu/uguide](http://www.liberty.edu/uguide) and [www.liberty.edu/advisingguide](http://www.liberty.edu/advisingguide) for updates. Recent changes for ISEE candidates include additional requirements for student teaching in external placements. The newest change in the MAT program includes the opportunity to submit the Gate 2 application to Livetext. Happy Summer everyone!



### Dodgeball Tournament

The Liberty Seminary has invited the School of Education in a Dodgeball Tournament, in the Shilling Center, at some time in the Spring 2010 semester. This is in support of the Liberty Godparent Home. The KDP and CEC, among other student groups are planning on participating. More information to come.

#### **Program Specialist Requirements:**

- A state teaching license is required in elementary, secondary, or special education
  - Early childhood must have elementary teaching license
  - Math specialist must have math teaching license
- Teaching experience
  - 3 years required for Math and Reading Specialist
- Intensives: EDUC 645, 622, and 641
- Field experience and internship EDUC 699
- Licensure test by Gate 4 (end of internship)
  - Math Specialist: Praxis II Middle School Math=163
    - Or Math: Content Knowledge =147
  - Reading Specialist: Praxis II Reading Specialist (VRA 002 required for Virginia)
    - No test requirement for Early Childhood or Gifted

Contact Dr. Connie McDonald for more information ([cmcdonald2@liberty.edu](mailto:cmcdonald2@liberty.edu)) or visit <http://www.liberty.edu/academics/education/graduate/index.cfm?PID=14633> for more information.

# The Compass

## CEC and KDP Walk for Access

The Council for Exceptional Children, Liberty University Chapter, is continuing their work to raise money to install a wheel chair lift in the LaHaye pool on Liberty University's campus.

A wheelchair lift will provide access to the pool to not only disabled students of Liberty, but also local community members. A wheelchair lift will allow people with such disabilities to enjoy recreational activities as the swimming pool. Last year CEC began fundraising through the help of many private donors and participation from school members in a Chick-fil-A fundraiser. To continue this goal, the council decided to team up with Liberty's Kappa Delta Pi in planning a walk-a-thon that took place Spring 2009.

The walk-a-thon was held on April 16th at Liberty University's indoor track. All participants raised support until the time when they attended the walk-a-thon. The total monies raised exceeded the \$4,000 goal.

Participants included KDP members, Liberty University students and teachers, local community members as well as Liberty Christian Academy students.

Also walking in this very rewarding event. Jonathan Falwell, Thomas Road's pastor, opened the event in prayer and participated in the first lap. There was also a DJ from Liberty's Spirit FM. This was a great opportunity to provide for the betterment of many disabled members of Liberty University as well as our community.



(Above) Rev. Jonathan Falwell opens the Walk-A-Thon; (Below) Walkers circle the track.



*Dr. Eric Cohu, Professor in the Sport Management department.*

## The Israel Football League > Dr. Eric Cohu

Dr. Eric Cohu, a professor in the sport management department has had the privilege of working with the new Israel Football League.

Dr. Cohu recently took a trip to Israel last July to oversee and run football camps for the new league. The camps were designed to provide regionalized training for the new IFL

players. The IFL is a new league designed to be the first fully equipped, full contact American Football league in the history of the State of Israel according to Eric Amkraut, the commissioner of the new league.

The IFL is a prime example of the power of sports to cut across all social, economic,

religious, and cultural boundaries. According to Cohu, he became captivated with the work of the IFL and along with 6 other coaches from America committed to helping the league gain the training they would need to become a successful league.

## The School of Education Presents Virtually

Dr. Randall Dunn, Dr. David Holder, and Ms. Deb Hodgson (a graduate student in Liberty's Ed.D program) were provided an excellent opportunity on presenting "Virtual Worlds and Student Teaching Communities: Envisioning Learning Communities in Virtual Environments for Distributed Student Teaching" at the Virtual Worlds Best Practices in Education (VW-BPE) 2009, that actually was held in the virtual world, Second Life.

Attendees to the session "came from" as far away as Spain and Australia. The conference focused on actual best practices in this emerging technology. The presentation itself focused on an on-going research project being conducted with distributed undergraduate student teachers who have opted to student teach externally (or in other states).



Above is a snapshot of a meeting of student teachers and the School of Education faculty and researchers in a Second Life-based virtual student teaching discussion.

## Faculty Updates

The following are events and activities for LU SOE faculty:

### Dr. Beth Ackerman

- DC, Greensboro and Birmingham ACSI
- FACCs in Orlando

### Dr. Beth Ackerman, Dr. Leonard Parker and Dr. Karen Parker

- Researching mentoring and evaluation of on-line faculty.

### Ms. Esther Alcindor, Dr. Shante Austin, Dr. Randall Dunn, Dr. Michelle Goodwin, Dr. David Holder, Dr. Jill Jones, Dr. Deanna Keith, Ms. Annycce Maddox, Dr. Connie McDonald, Dr. Kathie Morgan

- Field Experience Evaluation research

### Dr. Randall Dunn

- Chapter coming out in *Educational Social Software for Context-Aware Learning: Collaborative Methods and Human Interaction*, Spring 2010
- Attended Virginia Teachers of Promise

### Dr. Randall Dunn and Dr. David Holder

- The Virtual Worlds Best Practices in Education (VW-BPE) 2009
- Continuing research on virtual worlds in education (with grad student, Deb Hodgson )
- VSTE in Norfolk—Web 2.0 and Privacy

### Dr. Randall Dunn, Dr. David Holder, Dr. Connie McDonald, Dr. Scott Watson

- Virginia/ NCATE Partnership Standards Alignment—May 2009

### Dr. Vicky Martin

- Working on COSMA accreditation
- Sport Management of Australia and New Zealand Conference (SMAANZ) in December 2008.

### Dr. Kathie Morgan

- Georgia Public School Board Members Beliefs Concerning the Inclusion of Creationism in the Science Curriculum (ICC Conference in Pittsburgh, PA) with **Dr. John Pantana**

- The Gifted Student (Seminar-Institute Series) at Washington DC ACSI Educator Convention in November, 2008
- Learning from the Gifted Handicapped Child, The Virginia Home Educator
- Monograph on Diversity (Institute for the Development of Gifted Education)

### Dr. Leonard Parker and Dr. Karen Parker

- Southeast Regional IRA Conference in Nashville, TN.
- Virginia State Reading Association Conference, Arlington, VA, March 20, 2009, Comprehension With Character: Lessons from Newbery Books

### Dr. Connie McDonald

- Comprehension Text Strategies, Virginia State Reading Association Conference, March 21, 2009

### Dr. Jill Jones

- Classroom Libraries That Work, Virginia State Reading Association Conference, March 20, 2009,
- Recently appointed the president-elect of Virginia College Reading Educators.



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LIBERTY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

## Need Some Program Advising?

### Graduate/LUO Education Academic Advisors

There are professional academic advisors who assist our education students with course registration as well as overall student support. There may be times in which you will need to contact an advisor about a program question. You can email an advisor by using the [educ@liberty.edu](mailto:educ@liberty.edu) email address.

Advisors for **residential programs** can be contacted through CASAS at <https://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=1588>.

“Excellence is the result of caring more than others think is wise; risking more than others think is safe. Dreaming more than others think is practical and expecting more than others think is possible.”

## Welcome to Our New Faculty

Welcome to the new Liberty’s School of Education faculty Dr. Andrea Beam, Cindi Spaulding, Kristina Dewitt, and Amanda Rockinson-Szapkiw. We are very excited about their future inclusion in our mission and efforts.

## University Calendar 2009-2010

Please note: the calendar **was last updated June 3, 2009**. Dates have changed from the previously-published version.

### FALL 2009

August 10, Monday - Faculty Return

August 12-18, W-F; M-T - Faculty Orientation

August 18, Tuesday - Early Residence Hall check-in begins at 6 p.m. for new students who have completed financial check-in

August 19, Wednesday - Residence Halls open;

Dining hall opens for lunch for new students; Financial check-in and orientation for new, transfer and former undergraduate students (Required)

August 19-22, Wednesday-Saturday - Orientation and Freshman Seminar, registration (Required for all new, transfer and former UG students)

August 20, Thursday -Graduate Orientation (Required for all new, transfer and former graduate students)

August 21, Friday - Residence Halls open for returning students at 1 p.m.; Meal Plans begin at lunch for returning students; Registration for returning and former students

August 24, Monday - Classes begin, 7:40 a.m.

August 28, Friday - Last day to register by 4 p.m.; Last day to add or drop a class with no grade; Last day to adjust tuition

October 8-11, Thursday-Sunday - Fall Break

November 9, Monday - Last day to withdraw from a class with a "W"

November 20, Friday - Thanksgiving Vacation begins after last class; Dining Hall closes after dinner

November 23-27, Monday-Friday - Thanksgiving vacation

December 9, Wednesday - Last day of classes

December 10, Thursday - Reading Day

December 11-18, Friday-Friday - Final Examinations

December 18, Friday - Final Exam Make-up day; First semester ends; Residence Halls close at 12 p.m.; Dining Hall closes after dinner

December 23, Wednesday - Final grades due, 4 p.m.

### INTERSESSION

December 28-January 15 - Spring semester

### SPRING 2010

January 11, Monday - Faculty Return

January 13, Wednesday - Residence Halls open; Dining Hall opens for lunch for new students; Financial check-in and orientation for new, transfer, and former undergraduate students (Required)

January 13-16, Wednesday-Saturday - Orientation and Freshman Seminar, registration (Required for all new, transfer and former UG students)

January 14, Thursday - Graduate Orientation (Required for all new, transfer and former graduate students)

January 15, Friday - Residence Halls open for returning students at 1 p.m.; Meal Plans begin at lunch for returning students; Registration for returning and former students

January 18, Monday - Classes begin, 7:40 a.m.

January 22, Friday - Last day to register by 4 p.m.; Last day to add or drop a class with no grade; Last day to adjust tuition

March 12, Friday - Spring Vacation begins after last class; Dining hall closes after dinner

March 15-19, Monday-Friday -Spring Break; Spring Intensives

April 5, Monday -Easter Holiday, no classes

April 12, Monday -Last day to withdraw from a class with a "W"

April 14, Wednesday -Annual Assessment Day

May 5, Wednesday - Last day of classes

May 6, Thursday -Reading Day

May 7-14, Friday-Friday -Final Examinations

May 14, Friday - Baccalaureate Service; Residence Halls close at noon; Second semester ends

May 15, Saturday - Commencement; Dining Hall closes after breakfast

May 21, Friday - Final grades due, 4:00 p.m.

May 19-21, Wednesday-Friday - Faculty workdays