

Letter from the Dean

Greetings,

Wow! What a semester. We hope you and your families are in good health. During the past semester, Tennessee State University has experienced a tornado and COVID-19 pandemic. The university is empty, and so are the hallways in the College of Education. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the world to rethink the word 'normal.' The COVID-19 pandemic has shaken us all. All operations in the College of Education have been affected. The College of Education has been discussing ways to navigate this pandemic within the context of maximizing access, quality, and accountability. We want to make sure



Jerri Haynes, Ed.D., Dean

that we have strategically met the needs of all our stakeholders while maintaining the integrity and quality of the College of Education and the university programs.

Nonetheless, our students, faculty, staff, and administrators have adjusted to working from a distance. We have had to rethink traditional teaching and transition to non-traditional teaching and what it looks like from a distance. The College of Education continues to move forward in uncharted territory together, focusing on working collaboratively to provide knowledge, skills, and inspiration that resonate through our students, faculty, staff, administrators, and partners to make a positive impact in education. In this newsletter, you will read about all the exciting, innovative, and motivating teaching, research, and service that the faculty and students have achieved in the College of Education during the spring semester.

We continue to make inroads in the education and psychology departments, which have accomplished and contributed to our success in the College of Education. We have taken an aggressive and intentional stand to meet the needs of our partnering school districts, counseling centers, organizations, and facilities. Our faculty have completed online training and course development to teach online. Our programs have moved to on-campus, online, and/or hybrid methods of delivery. We have developed partnerships with the Tennessee Department of Education and Workforce Development, which have contributed significantly to our increase in student enrollment. We have launched the Grow-Your-Own initiative focusing on emergency hires, paraprofessionals, and long-term substitutes; and proposed the Black male initiative to provide access and opportunities for teacher licensure. We have secured funding to remodel the curriculum lab to be inclusive of all departments in the College of Education. The curriculum lab has been renamed to the Global Student Support Services Lab (GSSSL), which offers academic support, career planning, and student engagement activities focusing on student retention. Currently, the GSSSL staff work collaboratively with the Office of Admission with the "Eye of the Tiger-Hear My Roar Campaign" as a new recruitment effort.

Faculty continue to work diligently to create new degree and certificate options to increase professional development opportunities and pathways to teaching and psychology. The College of Education will begin an aggressive strategic plan to address our future with a team representing all departments and units, together with external stakeholders. Collectively, the team will work on re-envisioning and re-defining our college and remain in alignment with the university's strategic plan. *We aspire to be recognized globally for excellence in preparing competent, caring, innovative, and culturally responsive professionals.* I am invigorated by our achievements and look forward to all the new ones we will accomplish together in the upcoming year. Remember this too shall pass! Have a wonderful summer.

Office of Assessment and Accreditation (OAA)



Trinetia Respress, Ed.D.,
Assistant Dean

I hope everyone has had a great semester and you are looking forward to your summer break. The Office of Assessment and Accreditation has been very busy during the Spring Semester. Below you will find highlights of Spring 2020 assessment activities.

College of Education New Assessment Website

The COE Office of Assessment has developed a new Assessment and Accreditation website. The website contains information on committees, COE Conceptual Underpinning, COE Quality Assurance System, Accreditation Standards, Program Review, Assessments, Assessment Resources, CAEP Annual Reports, and Accreditation Affiliations. Please visit <http://www.tnstate.edu/edu-assessment/> to explore the site.

Please note the **Assessment Resources** page provides accreditation resources for CAEP and SACS. The page will provide you with the Assessment Develop Process, Content Validity Protocol, and SACS Annual Planning and Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes templates.

Advanced Program Accreditation Preparation

The Advanced Programs Committee has met several times this semester. The committee is currently preparing for its upcoming CAEP Advanced Program Interim Review. The self-study is due January 2, 2021. Each program is currently aligning their curriculums with the six indicators of CAEP Standard A.1. – Content and Pedagogical Knowledge. For more information, please contact Dr. Robert Bryant, Committee Chair.

CAEP Annual Report

The CAEP Annual Report was submitted on April 30, 2020. You may find information on the 8 Impact and Outcome Measures on our website. Please visit http://www.tnstate.edu/edu-assessment/CAEP_AnnualReports.aspx for more information.

EPP/Program Created Assessments Training

The College of Education conducted training on EPP/Program Created Assessments on April 27, 2020. The training was conducted by Drs. Trinetia Respress and Owen Johnson. Highlights of the training included the Assessment Development Process, Content Validity Protocol, and the six-step protocol for establishing content validity. If you were unable to participate in this training, additional training will be offered during the Fall 2020 semester.

SACS COC Annual Assessment Plans

Faculty in the College of Education have been working hard to demonstrate the assessment cycle of setting program outcomes, curriculum mapping, developing and implementing assessment methods, establishing criteria for success and performance target, reviewing assessment data, creating an action plan, and demonstrating evidence of improvement “closing the loop”. Here is an example of “closing the loop” as you complete your annual assessment plans.

Faculty in the Instructional Leadership program analyzed comprehensive examination data and noticed a weakness in the critical thinking skills of some of their students. They are now emphasizing specific scenarios/cases that require students to display entry-level critical thinking skills in these areas.

Please be reminded of the timeline below for SACS COC Annual Assessment Reports. Please utilize the provided checklist and rubric to evaluate your assessment plans.

- Review by Department Chairs-May 8th - May 11th · Review by Interim Assistant Dean-May 12th - May 18th
- Review by Associate Dean-May 19th - May 22nd · Review by Dean-May 25th -29th

Educational Leadership cont'd

Educational Leadership



"Although, working from home has created some new challenges for all of us, I have to thank God for keeping faculty safe during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Further, with the help of Ed. Leadership faculty, Dean Haynes, and the Graduate School, we were able to admit and enroll over 100 Aspiring Assistant Principal Project (AAPP) candidates.

Kirmanj Gundi, Ed.D, Chair

We are excited to create this new opportunity for Aspiring Assistant Principals. We will continue to work towards increasing our student enrollment in the Department of Educational Leadership.

Tennessee STEM Research Conference

Two doctoral students, Ms. Sosiak Makonnen and Mr. Napoleon Harris, mentored by Drs. Trinetia Respress and Owen Johnson, presented at the Tennessee STEM Research Conference at Tennessee Technological University.

Both students are from the Department of Education Leadership. The conference presentation was titled: **Inspiring, Engaging, and Educating Underrepresented Children to Pursue STEM Postsec-**



Psychology



Kiesa Kelly, Ph.D. Chair

In response to COVID-19, the Psychology Department made a transition to teach fully online in the middle of the Spring 2020 semester; online teaching is continuing through Summer 2020, as well. Faculty are using an electronic scheduling system, called Calendly.com, to allow students to schedule Zoom meetings, for advising, career planning, tutoring, and other office hour issues. We also hope to launch a fully Online Bachelor's of Science in Psychology, beginning Fall 2020.

Three of our MS Psychology students were admitted into PhD programs this year:

1. **Jasmine Jester** (for her BS and MS from our Department) - accepted into the University of Kentucky's Counseling Psychology PhD Program where she will be continuing research on the Black community and furthering her interests in social activism.
2. **Gabe Lockett** has been accepted into the PhD program in Counseling Psychology at the University of Florida.
3. **Kernisha Chaney** has been accepted into TSU's PhD Program in Counseling Psychology



BS in Psychology Major, Daisha Oruru has been selected to be one of the *University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center's Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow*. Daisha was also selected to be a participant in *University of California at Davis, Neuroscience Initiative To Enhance Diversity*. She is an **aspiring neuroscientist and a mentee of Dr. Lisa de la Mothe**.

Our **MS Psychology, Counseling Psychology program** successfully completed its **TBR Academic Audit on April 9**.

Online BS in Psychology Program. The program will follow a cohort model, and we aim to admit our first group of students next year.

Psychology cont'd

Spring 2020 Psi Chi Induction

On Wednesday, February 19 at 4 pm, 19 undergraduate and graduate students as well as their families and friends joined faculty of the Psychology Department and Dr. Jeri Haynes, Dean of the College of Education, in Clay Hall for the 2020 Spring Induction of Psi Chi. This is an outstanding achievement, as Psi Chi is the International Honor Society in Psychology, and it recognizes students in the field of psychology for their outstanding academic achievements. Induction into this prestigious organization provides lifelong membership with academic, networking, and research opportunities. Psi Chi faculty sponsors Dr. Mary Shelton and Dr. Lisa de la Mothe welcomed students into the organization through the ceremony and presented all in attendance with induction certificates. Undergraduate and graduate students in psychology who are interested in Psi Chi and have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA in all classes and also--specifically--in Psychology classes should be on the lookout for announcements in August about fall 2020 Psi Chi Induction.

Congratulations to our Spring 2020 Psi Chi Inductees:

Mackenzie Beckha
Jessica Dotta
Tara Meeks
Brandi Patterson
Tristen Stokes

Christian Bond
Ana Gragg
Jessica Mosher-Regan
Keianna Patton
Henry Thomas

Jala Brazil
Khadijah Griffis
Hawa Omar Haji
Chyna Richards
Autumn VanHorn

Janelle Dotson
Zoi Lancaster
Priya Patel
Elizabeth Shelby



Teaching and Learning



Clara Young, Ed.D. Chair

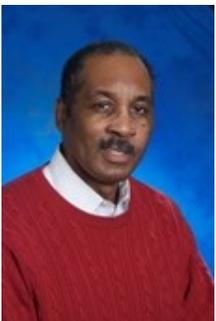
The Department of Teaching and Learning has been diligently addressing the challenges posed by COVID-19. In addition to moving classes online due to the pandemic, we have been interviewing candidates for three positions. Those activities connected the department several times on Zoom. I imagine some faculty are glad that the semester is over and can take some time away from Zoom. I am proud of faculty who diligently made the change to online even if it was a challenge.

This swift change, to me, is an indication that the department can eventually have, at least our graduate courses and programs online in the near future. The remaining of the semester encountered challenges; however, we persevered. I am looking forward to the Summer Semester and the progression.

The Department of Teaching and Learning is planning a "Launch Party" on Zoom for Freshmen who have been admitted Fall Semester 2020 and have declared Elementary Education or Early Childhood as a major. The date and time of the party will be announced later. I am looking forward to the event! I believe it is a way to be inviting and encouraging to students who will be attending TSU and want to become a teacher. This will also be a way to connect them to the major and the department.

Dr. Clara Young, Chairperson

My Zoom Teaching Experiences During the 2020 Pandemic with 64 Undergraduates by Graham P. Matthews, Ph. D., Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education



You first should know that I am from the last generation of Americans that learned how to read before I learned how to watch TV. Therefore, it has taken me longer to master today's technology than some of my younger colleagues, but using Zoom to teach was easy to learn, and I have enjoyed using it in several innovative ways with my students.

My Expressive Arts for Young Children was a class with 34 students where students design, implement, and participate in various creative arts projects such as painting, clay modeling, folk singing, creative writing, making puppets, and family storytelling. Before face-to-face classroom teaching ended, the students had made puppets and put on a puppet show. However, we still had many projects still to complete.

The first Zoom project that I asked students to complete was to write a future letter to their prospective spouse and children 26 years from today, which would be in the year 2046. They were to write

Teaching and Learning cont'd

about the abrupt interruption of the spring 2020 semester and how it changed them, and describe the events taking place in their hometown, in their families, in their neighborhoods, in our nation, and the impact of the events around the world due to the Covid-19 pandemic. They read the letters in class and each letter was both emotional and distressing. I asked the students to keep their letters as a future historical document.

The next project we did was the family storytelling project. The students were to ask their grandparents to re-tell a funny story about their grandchild that happened when each was a young child. They were to invite their grandparents to join our class via telephone, or in some cases where the grandparents lived with the students, they were to invite them to the camera. This was the most exciting aspect of using Zoom this semester. One grandmother said to me, "*Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think that I would be in a college classroom.*" She then told the story about an incident that happened when her grandson was seven years old that still makes her laugh.

The last project that we did was an Earth Day poster, which each student was to show to me on Zoom. I reminded the students that I was a 24-year-old Student Teacher in 1970 during the first Earth Day protest rally in Detroit, which was 50 years ago.

My other class was Preschool and Kindergarten Methods and Materials with 30 students. Using the success that I had with grandparents telling humorous family stories to the class on Zoom, I decided to have the students ask their parents who were at home that day to join the Zoom class.

The parents were to tell the class what they did at home to prepare their child for Preschool and Kindergarten. The mothers who were at home joined the Zoom class and told the class how they had taught their child the alphabet, how to count from one to ten, the colors and the various shapes.

Only through the unexpected use of Zoom, could I have had my students' parents and grandparents to be able to have taken part in an undergraduate class at Tennessee State University in 2020.

Teacher Education and Student Services

The Tennessee Department of Education Is Making Allowances for Shortened Clinical Practice and Inability to Submit Required Tests

**** [COVID-19 Impact on Educator Licensure and Preparation Updated: April 21, 2020](#)****

The Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) has issued guidelines to assist Educator Preparation Providers in addressing the impact of COVID-19 on program preparation. To summarize, candidates whose clinical practice was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic will still be eligible for recommendation for licensure. Additionally, candidates unable to complete required tests (Praxis and/or edTPA) because of the COVID-19 pandemic, may be granted a one-year Provisional Practitioner's License to allow time for candidates to pass the required tests. Please click on the TDOE link ([COVID-19 Impact on Educator Licensure and Preparation](#)) for a complete review of the guidelines regarding clinical practice, testing, and licensure.

edTPA Updates and Guidance

SCALE and Pearson have released a number of updates to the [edTPA.com](#) website, including the following guidance pages and documents:

[edTPA 2019-20 Submission and Score Reporting Schedule](#) - Includes two additional submission and reporting dates.

[Subject-Specific Considerations for Completing edTPA in a Virtual Learning Environment](#) - Provides subject-specific considerations for candidates with approved alternate arrangements in virtual learning environments.

edTPA Registrations Extended to Candidates - Teacher candidates have 18 months to prepare and submit a finalized portfolio from the date of edTPA registration, for both initial submissions and retakes. To provide additional support to teacher candidates impacted by COVID-19, on April 6, 2020 all registrations were extended to expire on December 5, 2021. The extension was applied to all open registrations (e.g., initial submissions and retakes) without the need for candidates to contact Pearson.

TN Teacher Jobs Connection

https://stateoftennessee.formstack.com/forms/tn_teacher_jobs_connection

All students deserve to learn from an excellent teacher, but high-quality applicants may not be aware of all openings available to them in Tennessee. With over 1,200 teaching vacancies across the state of Tennessee, and a pandemic that has limited traditional recruiting methods, the department launched this new initiative to support districts in finding and hiring great teachers.

The **TN Teacher Jobs Connection** will serve as a central location for interested applicants to connect with teaching opportunities in the state's 147 districts.

Any educator, across the country, interested in teaching in Tennessee or looking for a new teaching role in the state is welcome to submit their information to the department through this form. **By participating, all individuals agree to have their information shared widely, as the department will provide your information to all 147 school districts.**

Who should participate?

TN Teacher Jobs Connection is open to educators who are both currently licensed to teach in Tennessee, as well as recent graduates, or out-of-state job seekers who are not yet licensed. Teachers who are not yet licensed are included because we understand they may be in process of getting their license and/or a district could potentially hire them on a permit.

More information on acquiring a Tennessee teaching license can be found [here](#).

Teacher Education and Student Services

Teacher Preparation Program/ Year –Long Residency

There is great excitement regarding the graduating seniors in the Class of 2020 as they complete the Teacher Preparation Program (Year-Long Residency) and prepared to begin their professional career. The student teachers have faced various challenges: Praxis II, edTPA (Teacher Performance Assessment), co-planning lessons, presenting lessons to diverse populations, creating a productive learning environment, and without warning, student teaching came to a screeching halt.

COVID-19 hit and the question was how do we finish the teacher preparation program for the benefit of the students while following state guidelines? The Office of Teacher Education & Student Services designed two virtual alternative assignments and once again, the class of 2020 met this challenge with great tenacity, and completed both tasks. During this time of virtual and remote connections, we thank Master Clinicians and University Supervisors for their perseverance in mentoring and guiding the student teachers throughout their year-long residency.

We salute you, Class of 2020, and we wish you much success in the days ahead!

As we look toward to the 2020 Fall Semester, the Office of Teacher Education and Student Services (TESS) has already begun its preparation for the coming school year. The Master Clinicians conducted admission interviews for students seeking admission to the TSU Teacher Education Program via phone conferences. School administrators and designated Human Resource representatives have received placement requests for those students who will begin Residency-I of their year-long residency.

Summer Application for Teacher Education Program

Deadline June 30, 2020

Please visit www.tnstate.edu/teachered for applications;

Undergraduate Admission Graduate Admission

Undergraduate Intent to Enter into Residency I

Student Teaching (Graduate Only in Fall Semester)

Linda Fair, Field Placement and Clinical Experience Coordinator

Black History Month

The College of Education Celebrates Black History Month

This February, the College of Education celebrated Black History Month with a panel discussion honoring the legacy of those who came before us to chart the path for equal rights for African Americans. The panel featured **Mr. Rip Patton, a Freedom Rider, and Mrs. Barbara Curry Murrell, a TSU “griot.”**

Mr. Patton recounted his threatening experiences as he participated in the bus rides for freedom across the South. He eloquently articulated the significance of the Movement and the need for young people to continue the unfinished work of the pioneers who preceded them.

Mrs. Murrell reported on the history of TSU during the Civil Rights Era, and the impact TSU made on the community in the fight to bring about change.

The panelists presented to a packed room of TSU students, who appeared receptive and eager to carry on the mantle for equality and justice. Indeed, one student asked, “Mr. Patton, what can I do today to make a difference?” To which Mr. Patton replied, “Become involved.”





Think, Work, Serve

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Special Announcement

COVID19 University Information

Coronavirus Information

- Student Information, Academic Instruction, Operations Status, Research Guidance, Technical Help, Policies, FAQs, Prevention Tips, CDC FAQs, TN Dept of Health, Metro Health Dept, COVID-19

Tennessee State University is continuing to monitor the coronavirus (COVID-19) and is committed to using all resources to keep students, parents, faculty, staff and alumni abreast of the latest information regarding academic delivery, campus operations and the disease.

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD VISIT THE STUDENT INFORMATION SECTION FOR GUIDANCE ON AVAILABLE TUTORING, IT HELP AND OTHER STUDENT SERVICES.



This newsletter is published by the College of Education at Tennessee State University. Website: www.tnstate.edu/coe

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