

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP & POLICIES
HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM



HIGHER EDUCATION

PH.D STUDENT-ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2010

*PhD Students & Alums in Higher Education Administration
Updates:*

Dr. Mary Grimes : South Carolina State University Greenville Center Director

Washington, D.C. (March 30, 2010)--Molly Corbett Broad, president of the American Council on Education (ACE), announced today that Dr. Mary L. Grimes, SC State University Greenville Center Director and USC alum has been named an ACE Fellow for academic year 2010-2011. In addition to her Director position, Dr. Grimes teaches in the Department of Educational Leadership, School of Graduate Studies. A native of Los Angeles, California, Dr. Grimes came to South Carolina 14 years ago to fulfill her dream of giving back to the Historically Black College through teaching and service. Her ACE Fellowship project will focus on creating and observing models for student transition between the community college and the four-year comprehensive college. Founded in 1918, ACE is the major coordinating body for all of the nation's higher education institutions, representing more than 1,600 college and university presidents, and more than 200 related associations, nationwide. It seeks to provide leadership and a unifying voice on key higher education issues and influence public policy through advocacy, research, and program initiatives.

“This is one of the most exciting things to happen for me in my career. I’m grateful for the support of the administration at SC State for the mentorship and encouragement to strengthen my skills as I progress toward a college presidency. I’m eager to represent the institution around the country, and excited about the future” says Grimes. Mary was a former graduate assistant in the EDLP department and earned her PhD from the University of South Carolina in 2003. Her former advisor, Dr. Chaddock, exclaimed...Way to go Mary! We look forward to following your future progress.

Dr. Rebecca Battle-Bryant: Dean of Career Training & Development, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

Recent graduate of the USC PhD program, Dr. Rebecca Battle-Bryant, was nominated for the Council for the Study of Community Colleges Dissertation of the Year Award. Her dissertation, “Come to the Table: Community Partnerships for Rural Economic Development” examined practices in both North Carolina and South Carolina. Congratulations Dr. Battle-Bryant!!!

Dr. Vivian Gallman-DeRienzo: Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Denmark Technical College

Dr. Gallman-DeRienzo, USC Higher Education PhD Alum, has been named a member of the Harvard University Institute for Educational Management (IEM) Class of 2010. This prestigious program will be held in July 2010. Vivian is very excited about the opportunity. Dr. Jim Hudgins, EDLP clinical instructor and former system president of the South Carolina Technical College System, also was afforded this opportunity early in his career. He noted, "It was one of the best experiences of my career!" Three cheers for Dr. Vivian Gallman-DeRienzo!!!

Dr. Stephanie Foote: Director of Academic Success Center and First-Year Experience, University of South Carolina, Aiken

Stephanie Foote, Ph.D., May 2009 graduate of the Higher Education Administration Ph.D. program published the article, "High Impact, High Engagement: Designing the First-Year Seminar Activities and Assignments to Promote Learning and Application in a recent E-Source, a publication through the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition.

Jeannie Weingarth: House Manager of the Koger Center for the Arts, University of South Carolina

Current PhD Student, Jeannie Weingarth, was recently awarded thrice over for her wonderful efforts with teaching excellence. First, Jeannie won the Carl H. Medlin, Jr. Scholarship, an award given to a graduate student who plans to teach and work in the field of adult and community education. Individuals are nominated through the faculty of EDLP to receive this honor. Secondly, Jeannie was named "Outstanding University 101 Teacher" in its inaugural year from USC's University 101 program. Lastly, Jeannie was selected to receive the "Freshman Advocate Award" for her work with the First-Year Seminar Programs. In addition, Jeannie received an Ellison Fellowship from the USC Institute for Southern Studies for dissertation research this summer. Congratulations to Jeannie for her outstanding work!!

Willette Burnham: Executive Director of Student Programs and Director of Student Diversity, Medical University of South Carolina

Current PhD student, Willette Burnham, was selected as the luncheon speaker at the University of South Carolina's seventh-annual Women's Leadership Institute on April 28, 2010. The theme of the conference is "Effective Leadership: Expanding Personal Competency." Topics will include financial literacy, conflict management, and legal issues facing women. Congratulations to Willette for this noteworthy honor!!

Dr. Jim Klauber: NEW AND DESERVED!!! President, Owensboro Community and Technical College

Dr. Jim Klauber has resigned from Piedmont Technical College to accept the presidency at Owensboro Community and Technical College in Owensboro, Kentucky. 2009 PhD graduate and current adjunct legal professor for the community college certificate program, Jim Klauber, submitted a proposal, "Contemporary Legal Issues in Higher Education" that was selected by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges for their December 2010 annual meeting. In his own words, "I am pretty pumped about that." We are too Jim!!

Dr. Kent Cabbage: Department Head, Biology Department, Aiken Technical College

Kent Cabbage, a recent PhD graduate, has been named a finalist for the Claude A. Eggertsen Dissertation Award from the History of Education Society. The prize is awarded to individuals whose dissertations focused on the histories of educational institutions. Kent's dissertation focused on the comparative study of America's Great Books colleges....Nice job Kent!!

Dr. Mary Ann Laney: (soon to be) Dean of Nursing, St. Johns River Community College

Mary Ann Laney, a fall 2010 PhD graduate, recently was promoted to Dean of Nursing at St. Johns River Community College in Florida. The institution is changing to a state college offering Bachelor of Science degrees in Nursing. Mary Ann will be instrumental in the design of these programs. Two major congrats are in order for Dr. Laney!

Dr. Andrew Christopherson: Assistant Director of Development, Emory University

Andrew, a Spring 2010 PhD graduate, recently was promoted to a new position as Assistant Director of Development at Emory University. Andrew previously worked at USC as the Director of Alumni Programs. Best of luck to Andrew in his professional pursuits!

Dr. Linda Howe: Associate Professor, Clemson University

Linda Howe, a 1997 PhD alum, recently completed her tenth year at Clemson University. She is an associate professor and holds the position of Freshman Academic Navigator in the School of Nursing. Congrats to Linda and her many professional accomplishments.

Dr. Sean McGreevey: Director of Residence Life, Young Harris College

Sean McGreevey recently left a position in housing at the University of South Carolina to take the position of Director of Residence Life at Young Harris College in North Georgia. Nice promotion Sean!

Dr. Sarah Keeling: Student Services Manager, School of Library & Information Science, USC

Sarah Keeling, SLIS Student Services Manager received the Dissertation of the Year Award from the Southern Association of College Student Affairs. Sarah's dissertation is entitled the *Influence of the CAS Standards on Practitioners and Programs*. Nice work Sarah!

Dr. James Gahagan: Assistant Vice Provost, Student Engagement, USC

Gahagan completed his PhD in 2009 and holds the position of Director for Student Engagement at USC. Gahagan will undoubtedly continue his administrative climb—Nice job Jimmy!

Dr. Forest Mahan: Vice President for Academic Affairs, Northeastern Technical College

Forest Mahan was recently promoted to VP for Academic Affairs at Northeastern Technical College. Prior to this position, Mahan spent almost 13 years at Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College. Forest also recently completed his dissertation entitled: *Cross Currents: The interaction of problems, policies, and politics in the evolution of federal legislation concerning higher education*. Congratulations to Forest!

Dr. Sri Sitharaman: Director of Institutional Research, Columbus State University

Sri was recently promoted to his new position at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia. One of Sitharaman's major projects will be developing a faculty salary equity model—a project similar to his dissertation work entitled, “Analysis of Faculty Salaries at Historically Black Colleges and Universities.”—Nice work Sri!

Dr. Danny Nicholson: Senior Vice President for External Relations, Glenville State College

Danny Nichols recently left his position at Coastal Carolina University to his new promotion at Glenville State College in West Virginia. Nichols continues to receive rave reviews about his dissertation, “Leading Where It Counts: An Investigation of the Leadership Styles and Behaviors That Define College and University Presidents as Successful Fund Raisers.” Congratulations on your promotion!!

Dr. John Michael Anton: Director of the Culinary Institute, University of Tennessee

Anton was recently honored by the Center for the Advancement of Food Service Education (CAFÉ) with a Leadership award for his work with students creating multicultural cookbooks. Anton is also the Co-Editor of the International Journal of Culinary Science and Technology. Congrats on these accomplishments!



Dr. Danny Morrison, President of the National Football League (NFL) Carolina Panthers

Danny Morrison recently moved to Charlotte, North Carolina to begin his new position as the President of the Carolina Panthers. Prior to this move, Morrison was the Director of Athletics at Texas Christian University. Morrison completed his PhD in 2000 from the USC Higher Ed program. Nice work Dr. Morrison!



Kent Cabbage with his wife Cynthia and daughter Lucy.



Stephanie Foote and her husband exploring the lovely Muir Woods on a recent trip to California, USA.

Focus on Mini-Writes:

Members of the Educational Leadership & Policies Department at University of South Carolina (although no exclusivity exists—outside members are also encouraged to attend!!) meet for one evening on a weekly basis throughout the academic year. During this time, participants engage in writing projects that are either individual or collaborative in nature. The mix of individuals encourages the free-flowing of thought as multiple perspectives emerge. New members assimilate quickly as the group norm of “power-writing” and individual accountability take hold. Check out the following quotes supporting the idea of Mini-Write:

“Mini-write serves as an important external motivation tool for both graduate students and new professionals. Similar to achieving a fitness goal, I feel that mini-write participants were my academic ‘work-out buddies.’ I got more work done because I had both internal and external encouragement.”

And furthermore:

“I would attend on some days that I felt were tiresome. Nonetheless, I knew in the back of my mind that no matter how hard I might try otherwise, I was going to successfully complete some portion of this dissertation. Sometimes just the visible recognition that others were there fighting through the process was comforting. Needless to say, I am very thankful that I heard about this group!”

Please consider becoming the next member to join Mini-Write! Look for additional information about dates/times for summer and fall 2010 through departmental emails. Also, feel free to check in with EDLP faculty members to find out for yourself.

FALL 2009, SPRING-SUMMER 2010 PhD GRADUATES:

***Congratulations to the following graduates.
Best of luck with your personal and professional pursuits!!***

Kent Cabbage	Fall 2009
Jim Klauber	Fall 2009
Mary Anne Laney	Fall 2009
Van Madray	Fall 2009
Andrew Christopherson	Spring 2010
Valarie Redman Mingo	Spring 2010
Amber Fallucca	Summer 2010
Hope Rivers	Summer 2010
Dottie Weigel	Summer 2010

