

# The MONDAY REPORT

#630

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## NOTES FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

I am astonished at the shrinking size of the world in which we live. Yesterday I sat at my computer and ordered some common software necessary for faculty doing qualitative research. The process was straightforward. The materials are due to arrive within a week. Only after I'd completed the order did I realize the software will be coming direct from the company--in Australia.

The previous day I'd met with a Indian teacher educator from the University of Delhi. We talked about changing paradigms, the politics of education, and the ease with which blame for societies' ills is placed on schools. In some ways our worlds are different, but it was fascinating to see how many dilemmas we shared, half a world apart.

Today a headline story in *Education Week* talks about a physics lesson at the Al-Khansa'a Comprehensive Secondary School for Girls in Jerash, Jordan. The teacher divided her class of 11th graders into small groups to learn about the properties of concave and convex lenses. Students headed to the school's concrete schoolyard to experiment with how lenses capture sun rays, to the school's computer lab for Internet research, and to a classroom for experiments with candlelight and lenses. It could have been a model lesson for any of our science methods classes. Directly under that article was a second one in which the cultural divide between our countries was more evident—about the difficulties encouraging Jordanian women to graduate when many are forbidden to use their education after

marriage.

As I contemplate the yin and yang of my week's observations, I was struck by the importance of our attending, as a College, to the university direction on global education. Because our professions are so regulated at the state level, it is easy to think that we need not look much beyond the borders of Michigan for the content we teach. But the issues of teaching, learning, culture, and the individual interactions of teacher and student are played out in myriad ways across the globe. We can learn from so many of them, if we can find time to look.

*The world is round and the place which may seem like the end may also be only the beginning.--Ivy Baker Priest*

*It's a small world, but I wouldn't want to paint it.--Steven Wright*

## ARC TEACHER OF THE YEAR

EMU alum **Pam Morgan** was named Teacher of the Year by The Arc of Northwest Wayne County. The Arc is an advocacy organization that works to support the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.

The Arc's executive director, Christine Lerchen said of Morgan, "Pam is always looking for the benefit of the student and doesn't back down." Morgan herself is quoted in the *Detroit News* as saying, "I always tell my students not to use the word 'can't.' Education is a journey you have to take and keep revisiting. It's amazing . . .to see the light go on." Morgan teaches first grade at Bird Elementary in Plymouth.

## FULBRIGHT AWARDS FOR EDUCATORS

Next year Joe Bishop will have the opportunity to travel to Bosnia as a result of a Fulbright exchange.

College professors are not the only ones eligible for Fulbright awards. Sponsored by the United States Department of State, the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program arranges classroom teacher exchanges to over thirty countries. Most, but not all, exchanges occur for an academic year.

In addition to the teacher exchanges, there are administrative exchange opportunities. Oman, Jordan, and Uruguay currently offer opportunities to host incoming administrators during site visits to the United States. Germany offers a two-week special program for U.S. principals to study school systems there for several weeks.

*The application deadline is October 15, 2005 for the 2006-2007 program year. For more information and/or an application see: [www.fulbrightexchanges.org](http://www.fulbrightexchanges.org) or call (800)726-0479.*

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

College of Education alum, and Olympic track star **Hayes Jones** was featured in a recent *Oakland Press* article about a reunion of the 1955 Pontiac High School track team. Hayes was particularly looking forward to spending time with the team's former coach, Wally Schloerke, who at 79 lives in Ames, Iowa. Last year, Jones and former teammates Perry Williams and Charles Spann - still good friends - drove more than 600 miles to Ames just to share an evening with Schloerke. Schloerke retired as a college professor from Iowa State University.

## FACULTY/STAFF NOTES

**Lori Parks** article "Summertime and Our Children Still Learn", was published in the *Bridges For Kids* digest, May, 2005. The electronic link to the publication is [www.bridges4kids.org/ld/articles/Parks5-05.htm](http://www.bridges4kids.org/ld/articles/Parks5-05.htm)

**John Palladino** recently co-authored "Giving Voice To A Familiar Face: Administrators And Teachers Describe Their Collaborative Involvement In Special Education Planning" in D. C. Thompson & F. E. Crampton (Eds.), *The Changing Face(S) Of Educational Leadership: UCEA At The Crossroads*. It is available at: <http://coe.ksu.edu/ucea/04ucea07.pdf>

**Sue Grossman** was interviewed for the "Q&A"

feature in of the *Ann Arbor News*. The topic of the interview was summer activities that support student learning.

## IN MEMORIAM

Former Teacher Education faculty member **Bob Blume** died May 31, 2005. His obituary listed him as a "noted author, educator, academic, and activist," and stated that he'll be most remembered for his "passion for peace, justice, and racial unity, and compassion for his fellow human beings." In his retirement, Blume launched a series of community dialogues aimed at improving racial understanding in two Florida counties. His complete obituary can be found at:

<http://www.legacy.com/Link.asp?Id=LS14186132X>

According to the *Ann Arbor News*, **Joan Elizabeth Hall** died recently. According to the *News*, she had a masters from EMU and worked for 19 years in the adult education program in Ypsilanti..

Also according to the *Ann Abor News*, **Agnes Sullivan**, age 94, died recently in Vermont. According to the obituary, "she received her undergraduate and master's in education degrees from the Michigan Normal School (Eastern Michigan University). Agnes taught for many years starting in the one-room country schoolhouses in Webster Township. . . .She later moved to Detroit where she taught at the Leland and Oakman Schools for Crippled Children for 10 years." Sullivan ended her career as a special education teacher at Dexter High School.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The College of Education Fall Conference for the 2005-2006 academic year will be held Tuesday, September 6 8:30-1:00 in the Porter Building. Classes begin Wednesday September 7.

## OPPORTUNITIES

International Cultural Competency Conference, November 7-10, 2005, San Diego, CA. Proposals are due August 30, 2005. See [http://www.ccitw.org/Call\\_For\\_Presentations.htm](http://www.ccitw.org/Call_For_Presentations.htm) for details.