Nicks/Paxton Distinguished Lecture

Disne Rehm, nationally recognized radio host, was the featured speaker at the 2013 Nicks/Paxton Distinguished Lecture Series on March 21, in the D.P. Culp Center. Rehm engaged the audience with stories from her 30 year career as a talk show host. She described growing up in an Arabic home in America and her journey toward an award-winning career. Her Oval Office interview with President Bill Clinton in 2000 provides her the distinction of being the first radio talk show host to conduct a live interview of a sitting U.S. president.

A reception and book signing followed the event.

Faculty Professional Development

The spring 2013 semester began with the ELPA faculty and staff participating in a two-day professional development designed to address priorities identified by faculty, staff, and students. The primary focus was on the use of technology to enhance course and program delivery. Anthony Keich from eLearning led a segment on best strategies in developing online courses. Dr. Bethany Flora presented strategies for delivering course content in an online format. Faculty also reviewed current departmental procedures as they pertain to the transition to online program and course delivery.
**New Master’s Degree in Teacher Leadership**

Area K-12 teachers have the opportunity to take part in a new master’s degree program in Teacher Leadership. Participants will learn communication and coaching skills necessary to support and lead change as they gain understanding of protocols for disciplined conversations about lesson design. Students in this program “will also learn how to evaluate their students' work for strengths and weaknesses,” according to Dr. Virginia Foley, program coordinator.

Foley plans for the first Teacher Leadership cohort to begin with the Summer 2013 semester, and applications are now being accepted. The 37 credit hour program will take place over six consecutive semesters. For additional information, contact Dr. Virginia Foley at foleyv@etsu.edu.

**ELPA plans new cohorts**

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<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Degree Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2013</td>
<td>M.Ed., Teacher Leadership</td>
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Early submission of applications is recommended due to limited available space.

**Glover Authors Book**

Dr. Eric Glover’s new book, *The Myth of Accountability: What don’t we Know?*, explores the limitations of contemporary education policies, explains why accountability is a necessary tool, and provides guidance for leadership in education. This is an excellent read for all leaders, teachers, parents, and citizens who are concerned about the future of education in America. Glover stresses the importance of nurturing relationships and explains the effects of building upon teachers' strengths and supporting their work. The book was published by Rowman & Littlefield Education in 2013 and is now available for purchase through bookstores, online, or directly from the publisher.

**In the News**

Mark Foster has been named principal of Sullivan Central. He completed his M.Ed. in Administrative Endorsement in December 2011.

Dr. Renner and Ivy Click (ELPA student) co-authored “Freedom of Expression, First Amendment and Social Media: New Faculty Rights Concerns in the United States,” published in the *Handbook of Research on Transnational Higher Education Management*.


Lamar Smith, Pamela Scott, & Don Good co-authored “Third and Fourth Grade TCAP Scores and the Universal Breakfast Program in Unicoi County, Tennessee,” published in the Spring 2013 issue of *Tennessee Educational Leadership*.


Dissertation Boot Camp

The Dissertation Boot Camp is multi-day event. Dr. Celia McIntosh, Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Dr. Marie Jones, Assistant Dean, Sherrod Library, and Dr. Virginia Foley, ELPA Faculty, are a few of the leaders who will be guiding students at this event.

Barbara J. Lowe, an ELPA student, attended the boot camp and highly recommends this event to any interested ELPA student. “Boot Camp was the jumpstart that I needed,” Lowe said, “It was one-stop shopping to have many of the major players all in one place.”

Students receive guidance designed to assist the writing process. Participants will have the benefit of feedback from an expert thesis/dissertation reader.

Students registered to attend are expected to attend all four sessions. For more information, go to http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/BootCamp.aspx

Online Learning Tools and Tips

By Dr. Bethany Flora

Students and faculty are pressed with time. Often, we are not using online tools simply because we do not have the time to attend training or a workshop on that tool. In addition to the lack of time to explore new tools, there is also no single-stop-shop online for exploring, comparing, and reviewing online learning tools. This new column in the ELPA newsletter will offer up three tips and tools each edition for readers to try out.

**ePortfolio**

Tired of three-ring binders of information that sit on the shelf collecting dust? Try creating an ePortfolio that you can share electronically with anyone! One of the best free ePortfolio sites available to students and faculty is google. With a gmail account, you can create an ePortfolio. A great tutorial on how to create a google ePortfolio can be found at: https://sites.google.com/site/eportfolio1941/creating-your-eportoflio

**Dropbox**

Are you needing to share documents or edit documents with someone else? Tired of sending them back and forth as attachments over email? Try Dropbox. Dropbox is a free online collaboration spot where people can share photos, documents, and other files and edit them "real-time". One of the best features of Dropbox is the ability to access your documents from anywhere, as long as you have internet access. No more carrying a jump drive to conferences! Check out Dropbox at: https://www.dropbox.com/

**Electronic Signatures**

Are you tired of signing forms? We are too! Take some time to explore this exciting free electronic signature tool in google called, Hello Sign: https://www.hellosign.com/gmai

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**Graduate Success**

The School of Graduate Studies provides support to ETSU graduate students with their Graduate Student Success Specialist. Beth Evelyn Barber is dedicated to assisting graduate students with their personal and academic goals. She is available to help resolve problems and obstacles that could become a disruption in a student’s personal and academic ambitions, and is a resource for campus and community services. Barber’s office is located in Burgin Dossett Hall (B12a), and graduate students are also encouraged to contact her by phone (423-439-7062) or email (gradsuccess@etsu.edu).

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**What Are Faculty Reading?**

Dr. Scott - “The Future: Six Drivers of Global Change” by Al Gore
Dr. Virginia Foley – “The Element” by Sir Ken Robinson
Dr. James Lampley – “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” by Rebecca Skloot
Dr. Hal Knight – “Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can’t Stop Talking” by Susan Cain
Dr. Eric Glover – “Ignorance: How It Drives Science” by Stuart Firestein
Dr. Don Good - “The Most They Ever Had” by Rick Bragg.
Dr. Catherine Glascock– “Research for Social Sciences and Education.” Sage Publications
**Renner: Fulbright Scholar**

Dr. Jasmine Renner received a Fulbright Specialist Scholar Award by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board in August 2012. The Fulbright Specialist Scholar program is the United States government's flagship international faculty exchange program.

In late July - early August, she will be embarking on her Fulbright placement. Dr. Renner will lead and take part in specialized academic programs, develop and assess online academic curricula and educational materials, present lectures, and conduct research on Cross-cultural Leadership and Change in Higher Education at the Hong Kong’s Institute of Education’s department of Educational Policy and Leadership as well as the Joseph Lau Charity Trust Asia-Pacific Centre for Leadership and Change. In 2015, Dr. Renner will conduct institutional research on social media, faculty, students and the law in higher education, present lectures at graduate and undergraduate levels and lead seminars and workshops in the Faculty of Education at the Universidade de São Paulo (University of São Paulo), in the Brazilian state of São Paulo.

**MSERA Conference**

The Mid-South Educational Research Association took place in November 2012 in Lexington, Kentucky. At the conference, researchers in education presented a wide variety of topics in relation to the latest trends and issues in education. Our ELPA faculty and students also were a part of this conference.

Dr. Pamela Scott’s presentation topic was: “The Transition from Traditional to Online Program Delivery in Leadership Development”.

Drs. Virginia Foley and Ginger Christian (ELPA alumna) presented: “Internship Experiences for Aspiring Principals: Student Perceptions and Effectiveness”.

Drs. James Lampley and Don Good’s research on: “Expectations and Experiences of Doctoral Students in an Online Ed.D. Program” was presented by ELPA students, Sneha Abraham and Priti Sharma.

**Educational Leadership Lighthouse Award**

Presented each month to an ELPA student, faculty, or staff member who exhibits leadership qualities.

Sneha Abraham presented the December 2012 award to Daniel Zhang, ELPA fellow.

Daniel Zhang presented the January 2013 award to Stephanie Tweed, ELPA fellow.

Stephanie Tweed presented the February 2013 award to Joanna Wicker, ELPA staff.

Joanna Wicker presented the March 2013 award to Dr. Catherine Glascock, ELPA faculty.

**Doctoral fellow, Stephanie Tweed, has successfully defended her dissertation and will graduate in May. Congratulations, Dr. Tweed!**