



Warf-Pickel Hall, Photo by Whitney Schmidt

Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, East Tennessee State University

ELPA CONNECTS

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Dr. Renner with the elearning and mlearning task force at Kisii University, Kisii, Kenya. Photo courtesy of Dr. Renner

Renner Reflects on Fulbright Experiences Abroad

"The process, program and Fulbright specialist award was a totally transformative experience for me, especially as it relates to professional development and the implementation and adoption of a university-wide elearning and mlearning program."

Dr. Renner was recently awarded a Fulbright Specialist Scholar award by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Fulbright Specialist Scholar program is the United States government's premier flagship international faculty exchange program.

Candidates are reviewed by peers in the same discipline and by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship board in Washington DC. The grant award is administered by the Institute of International Education and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars. The Fulbright Specialist award is for a
(continued on page 3)

From the Chair: Dr. Pamela Scott

Change is the only constant in life. We've heard this said quite often and in our work in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis we focus on the importance of predicting, preparing for, and influencing change. The ability to adapt to changes is important for any leader. Personally, I like change. It provides the opportunity for new experiences and individual and professional growth. As such, I am looking forward to stepping aside from chair of the department and look forward to the changes that will occur. I have found the work as chair interesting, challenging, and rewarding. It has been a pleasure to work in this capacity for the last four years. My original intent was a two-year term as chair. It extended to an additional two years. Many changes have occurred during my four years as chair. We've added two new tenure track faculty members, two internship supervisors, and welcomed a new faculty member back to the department. Moreover, we have transitioned to a cohort model of online program delivery. We've had the privilege of working with outstanding future leaders and are enriched by doing so. I am looking forward to the continued success of the department as changes continue to impact our work. Best wishes to your success as a leader and one who influences change.

Faculty Publications and Presentations

Click, I.A., Blackwelder, R., & Good, D.W. (2014, May). Practice predictors of graduates of a college of medicine with a rural primary care mission. Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Finck, L., Glascock, C., & Flora, B.H., (May 2014). Workplace Bullying: Cultures, Roles, and Lived Experiences. 10th International Congress on Qualitative Inquiry. Urbana-Champaign, IL.

Flora, B.H. (January 2014). Technology Applications for Educational Leaders: Trends and Practices. Invited Lecture, East Tennessee State University TIRSA State Conference. Johnson City, TN. Participants in my workshop received CEU credit.

Flora, B.H., (May 2014). Teaching Qualitative Research Methods in an Online Doctoral Program: Advancing Online Pedagogical Methods that Embrace Reflexivity and Practice. 10th International Congress on Qualitative Inquiry. Urbana-Champaign, IL.

Good, D. (2014, February). Finding spiritual roots in college. Faculty Commons, Johnson City, TN.

Greene, A.E., Dotterweich, A., Palmero, M. & Good, D. (2014). A survey of social media: Perceived effectiveness in marketing among individual NASCAR Tracks. International Journal of Motorsport Management, 2(2).

Howard, J., & Flora, B. H. (May 2014). A Comparison of Student Retention and First Year Programs Among Liberal Arts Colleges in the Mountain South. International Conference on Learning and Administration in Higher Education. Nashville, TN

Oh, S., Good, D., & Clements, A. (2013, October). What I don't say in the classroom. Seminar sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ, Johnson City, TN.

Phillips, M.S., Scott, P.H., & Good, D.W. (2014, May). Instructor and student perceptions of online courses: Implications of positioning theory. Intellectbase International Consortium Academic Conference, Nashville, TN.

Spicer-Sutton, J., Lampley, J., & Good, D.W. (pending). Self-assessment and student improvement in an introductory computer course at the community college level, Journal of Learning in Higher Education.

Yowell, D.L., & Good, D.W. (pending). Support for higher education: Perceptions of selected university administrators and legislators in Tennessee. Academic Administration in Higher Education.

Zhang, D., Lampley, J.H., & Good, D.W. (2014, May). Shared governance: A comparison of perceptions and implementation between American and Chinese higher education institutions. International Conference on Learning and Administration in Higher Education, Nashville, TN.

May 2014 Graduates

Sneha Abraham

Amanda Carr

Eileen Cress

Caroline Davis

Deborah Hayes

Amy Keesler

Tracy Marston

Early Perkins

Cherith Dugger-Roberts

Jennifer Simerly

Emogene South

Travis Sutton

Ed.D. Student Brandon Williams to be Published, Fall 2014



Photo courtesy of Brandon Williams

We can look for Williams's article on formative and summative aspects of the TEAM model in the fall edition of *Tennessee Educational Leadership*.

Ed.D. Student Whitney Schmidt to Lead PD at TCTE

Whitney Schmidt has been selected to present sessions on "Author's Craft: Study & Practice (with use of



Photo courtesy of Whitney Schmidt

Web-based Technology Tools)" at the 2014 TN Council of Teachers of English Professional Development Institute on "Bridging Reading and Writing" in Memphis, TN.

(continued from page 1)

term of five years with selected candidates performing academic, research and practitioner activities in selected universities abroad.



Dr. Renner with the library staff members of elearning and mlearning task force at Kisii University, Kisii, Kenya. Photo courtesy of Dr. Renner

During the first phase of her Fulbright assignment and deployment in 2013, Dr. Renner engaged in extensive and numerous research and scholarly initiatives, including her work with the elearning and mlearning task force at Kisii University in Kisii, Kenya.

Renner Receives Faculty Research Award

The Faculty Research Award is given to a faculty member who has contributed exemplary scholarship, advancing the state of knowledge in a given field of study. Dr. Renner, the award recipient this

year, has engaged in extensive research and scholarly initiatives in Kenya since 2013. She has published 5 books on Leadership and Character Building, audio and paperback versions. Dr. Renner is currently working on a second textbook on the topics of Social Media and Law and has engaged in a venture to develop a mobile app to accompany her endeavors related to social media and law.

Apple Receives Alumni Hall of Fame Award

Dr. Mary Lou Apple currently serves as the President of Motlow State Community College in Tullahoma, TN, a position she has held since July, 2006. During the last eight years that Dr. Apple has led Motlow State, the institution has been recognized as one of the fastest growing in Tennessee. Community College Week recently named Motlow as one of the top 50 community colleges in the nation. Within the Board of Regents system and in the

communities in which she has worked, Dr. Apple is noted as an educator who strives to support and ensure student success. She has been dedicated to improving academic support services for students, many of which are first generation college attendees, while developing more rigorous programs that closely reflect the needs of employers in the communities that are served.

Dr. Apple has had a long relationship with ETSU, having served as an Assistant Professor in Nursing in the early 1980s before returning to Walters State Community College in 1983. She served as dean of health programs and director of nursing beginning in 1997. In 2002, she completed her Ed.D. from ELPA and was appointed Vice President for Academic Affairs at Walters State shortly thereafter. Dr. Apple has long been a strong supporter of ETSU and ELPA. As one of her first faculty development initiatives at WSCC, Dr. Apple advocated for Walters State faculty to come to ETSU to work on their doctorates. She was instrumental in providing support for two doctoral cohorts to be taught at the WSCC campus.



Warf-Pickel Hall, Photo by Whitney Schmidt

ELPA Fellows Collaborate with Multicultural Center Planning Team

ELPA fellows Sneha Abraham, Lisa Rolle-Evans, Megan Owens, Whitney Schmidt, and Priti Sharma were recently commended by Angela Claxton-Freeman, Interim Director of the ETSU Multicultural Center and current ELPA Doctoral Candidate, for their support in moderating focus groups in collaboration with the Multicultural Center Planning Team to elicit feedback from campus constituents to aid in the data collection phase in preparation for the development of the ETSU Multicultural Center. *(continued on page 4)*

Faculty News:

Dr. Don Good has accepted the role of ELPA Department Chair.

Dr. Virginia Foley has been elected to serve as 2014-2015 President of ETSU Faculty Senate.

Dr. Virginia Foley will chair an Academic Program Review Committee for ETSU, and Drs. Bethany Flora and Hal Knight will serve as members of the Academic Program Review Committee.

Dr. Hal Knight has been recognized by the State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE) in February 2014 for his 4 years of service on the Steering Committee as a founding member.

Dr. Hal Knight has also been recognized by Dr. Noland for his service to ETSU as the Dean of the Clemmer College of Education at the ETSU Spring Fling.

Faculty Bookshelf: Latest Reads

Dr. Bethany Flora: *Stitches* by Anne Lamott

Dr. Foley: *The Mismeasure of Education* by Jim Horn and Denise Wilburn; *Reign of Error* by Diane Ravitch

Dr. Glover: *The Rational Animal: How Evolution Made Us Smarter than We Think* by Douglas T. Kenrick and Vladas Griskevicius

Dr. Good: *Guests on Earth: A Novel* by Lee Smith

Dr. Knight: *Practical Classics: 50 Reasons to Reread 50 Books You Haven't Touched Since High School*

by Kevin Smokler; *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green

Paper Towns by John Green; *An Abundance of Katherines* by John Green; *Looking for Alaska* by John Green; *Sycamore Row* by John Grisham

Dr. Lampley: *The Signal and the Noise: Why So Many Predictions Fail – But Some Don't* by Nate Silver

Dr. Renner: *The New Landscape of Mobile Learning: Redesigning Education in an App-Based World* edited by Charles Miller and Aaron Doering

2014 Tennessee Board of Regents Maxine Smith Fellows Award Recipients: Davis, Smithers, and Williams

Former ELPA graduate and Jackson State Community College faculty member Patrick Davis and current Ed.D. students Dayna Smithers and Patrick Williams were nominated and selected to receive this award, and the Fellowship period is from February to September 2014. The Maxine Smith Fellows program provides a means to increase the diversity of ideas, thoughts and experiences that ultimately enhance the educational environment at TBR institutions.

(continued from page 3)

Claxton-Freeman recognized that “the involvement of each of the fellows [in the focus group processes] significantly contributed to the data collection phase” of planning for the center and that “by nature of the ethnic diversity of the fellows it became possible to provide leadership to the focus groups that reflected the diversity among the constituent groups which were targeted,” which “contributed to the depth of feedback” received. In reflecting on her experiences as facilitator and co-facilitator of select focus groups, doctoral fellow Megan Owens emphasized the “importance of making [all stakeholders] feel that they are part of the process and that all opinions are valued.” Owens said, “Those are elements I will certainly incorporate into my own leadership style.”

ELPA Alumnus Named Director of Johnson County Schools

Dr. Michelle Simcox, ELPA graduate, will transition from Director of K-12 Curriculum and Instruction to Director of Schools for Johnson County Schools.

ELPA Ed.D. Student Jill Winiger Selected as Summer Fellow

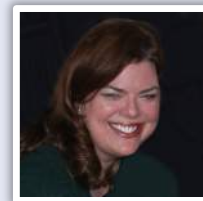


Photo courtesy of Jill Winiger

Jill Winiger has been selected to be a Summer Fellow of Vanderbilt University's Peabody

College to participate in the Peabody Professional Institute (PPI) for the Achievement Gap Institute. PPIs provide short-term, intensive educational experiences for professional educators and administrators during the summer and serve to provide fellows with a “set of tools to enhance the effectiveness of [their] home institution[s]” and “propel” them in their careers. PPIs “rest on the philosophy that good practice is best derived from, and informed by, a strong theoretical base.”

ELPA Alumni in Transition: Couch Accepts Presidency; Proffitt Retires



The post of Presidency at Virginia Highlands Community College is changing hands from retiring President, Dr. Ron Proffitt (right), to Dr. Gene Couch, Jr. (left).
Photos courtesy of Public Relations, Marketing, and Alumni Department, Virginia Highlands Community College

Dr. Gene Couch, Jr. has accepted the presidency of Virginia Highlands Community College, and Dr. Ron Proffitt is retiring after having held the post since 2010. According to a VHCC press release, Dr. Couch is thrilled to take on this post as he feels at home in the community college arena and is literally at home because he is from Abingdon and grew up in Castlewood. Dr. Couch said, "This clearly is the perfect job for me. And when I say that I mean it." In regard to his experience at the community college level, he explained, "The community college holds a unique place in the college system. It's something I've always felt comfortable with and being a part of."

In 2013, After announcing his plans for retirement, Dr. Ron

Proffitt said, "Serving as President of Virginia Highlands Community College has been a perfect capstone to my career in Higher Education. It has been my privilege to serve the college and the community I have called home for almost 40 years. I have enjoyed a working career of 51 years that includes almost 39 years with Virginia's Community Colleges. It just seems time for me to step aside."

All stakeholder groups in the VHCC presidency interview process pointed to Dr. Couch in the final decision making round. Congratulations to Dr. Couch as you take on your new role as VHCC President and many thanks for your service to higher education, Dr. Proffitt!

ETSU CCOE ELPA



**Thank you,
Dr. Pamela Scott for
your service to ELPA
during your tenure as
Department Chair!**



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Dr. Jasmine Renner
Dr. Pamela Scott
Dr. Cindy Smith

Doctoral Fellows

Lisa Rolle Evans
Megan Owens
Whitney Schmidt
Priti Sharma

Staff

Betty Ann Proffitt
Joanna Wicker