Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center, the Heart of Our MS Program

By Kathi Bartle Angus and Kath Glasswell

Question: What do you call 90 smiling 6-8 year olds, 20 elementary school teachers, 7 highly qualified, creative reading specialists, 2 outstanding professors, 4 enthusiastic principals and a school district with a commitment to excellence?

Answer: An awesome summer literacy camp that yields great results for all involved!

A wonderful example of the current impact of the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center is the Summer College for Kids (SC4K) project developed in partnership with the Orange Unified School District. The project was piloted last year by CSUF faculty Dr. Erica Bowers and Dr. Kath Glasswell, along with Sycamore Elementary School principal, Heather Bosworth (alumna 2009). Through Orange Unified School District’s support, the program expanded this year to include principals, teachers and students from Cambridge Elementary, Palmyra Elementary, Sycamore Elementary and West Orange Elementary schools.

The SC4K program was developed along the lines of a school-university partnership, and it represents a clever combination of research and practice. Through the program, university literacy researchers/teacher educators support teachers and schools in professional learning as they work on meeting the needs of diverse literacy learners. At the same time, the researchers gather ongoing data about what works for student literacy learning, and they reflect on how to better design professional development in ways that can help teachers become more expert at their daily practice.

The learning focus of the partnership is a two-week summer literacy camp (SC4K) attended by all participants, and it’s a lot of fun! In the course of those two weeks, student, teacher and researcher learning occur rapidly and leading to much conversation and collaboration for improvements in practice. This year, supporting teacher learning by acting as mentor teachers were outstanding program alumni, Judith Au (2016), Heather Brandon (2010), Joanne Chapman (2010), Yvette Ortiz Iacopetti (2010), Bobbie Price (2016), Jackie Romo (2014), and Tatianna Silva (2016).

Though the SC4K camp only lasts for two weeks, the professional learning and research program lasts a full academic year. Dr. Bowers and Dr. Glasswell began the project providing a series of in-depth professional development sessions for faculty this spring. Then in August, the two-week SC4K camp was held. Professional learning and reflection will continue throughout the year as Drs. Glasswell and Bowers return to the schools to offer follow-up learning opportunities for teachers and to talk with them about how they have used their summer learning to expand their practices for literacy teaching in the new school year.
Growth in student confidence and achievement is evident in assessment results in both years. In the pilot program (2015), students gained on average one-half year of growth in their reading abilities in two short, but intensive weeks. This year (2016), results are just as promising with many of the students making similar gains and several students showing growth of up to one year.

“This acceleration of student learning is evidence that the program has great potential for both student and teacher learning,” said Glasswell. Principal Bosworth agrees, “This partnership with CSUF professors and alumni allowed us to provide side-by-side support for our teachers. They were able to engage in reflective conversations about their practice and that has created a foundation for sustainable change.” She continued, “We are so delighted to see our teachers’ confidence grow as their toolbox of strategies expands their capacity to positively impact the growth of our students.”

Here at the Center, we anticipate that the SC4K project will continue into its third year in 2017. As Bowers said, “A focus for the College of Education and the Department of Literacy and Reading Education is to promote faculty engagement in the community. This partnership between the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center and OUSD has allowed faculty and alumni to collaborate with teachers out in schools to build capacity in teaching literacy and to increase student achievement. It also provided us with important opportunities for learning as reading researchers and teacher educators. This kind of involvement is a win-win. It improves practice of both faculty and classroom teachers, and it provides young readers with opportunities to excel.”

In addition to the outreach program, the Center continues its regular programs of intervention, assessment, and community service. This year, on campus, the Center provided services to dozens of struggling readers. With the support of alumni tutors, Suzanne Davidson, Bobbie Cline, and Heather Krstich, and with generous scholarship donations from alumni and the community, we were able to serve 25% more students. Alumni often have very fond memories of the time they spent working closely with students, faculty and colleagues in the center, and we continue to build those memories each semester. Parents are delighted when their children are ready to “graduate” from the Center, but often express how much they will miss the supportive environment provided for their family. “I can’t believe what a difference coming to the Reading Center has made for our daughter. Her confidence is much improved and she is ready for middle school!” commented Maria Sandoval.

Also, this year, many students from the Center waiting list were able to receive free assessment services from graduate students enrolled in the assessment class (READ 516). This program matches a graduate student with a primary student and an upper elementary/middle school student. Each student works with the graduate student for five weeks receiving a mix of assessment and targeted instruction to determine reading and literacy strengths and challenges.

In addition, the Center provides individualized assessment case reports and maintains a referral list of high quality tutors. Parents apply online to the Center for an assessment package and are matched with a Center clinician. The clinician administers a battery of assessments, providing an in-depth picture of the student’s literacy strengths and challenges. Then the parents receive a comprehensive report of results and suggestions for intervention. Alumni may remember preparing similar case studies while in the program. The CSUF Department Approved Tutor List is distributed on request. This list includes names of program graduates who are willing to provide “for hire” services. Each listing includes the graduate’s name, contact information, and specialty ages and areas. Please contact Associate Center Director, Kathi Bartle Angus, at kangus@fullerton.edu to be included on the list.

Finally, an important goal of the Center is to pursue a focused research agenda to advance the professional knowledge base related to reading and literacy difficulties and remedies. The work of Dr. Kath Glasswell and Dr. Erica Bowers through the center is furthering that goal and providing a model for other literacy projects. A project for Dr. Erica Bowers’ sabbatical this year will be to work on understanding the impact of these past two years of school district partnership on the learning of school leaders, teachers and students. Publications related to the Center include: a chapter by Erica Bowers, Kath Glasswell and other center directors across the country titled “Video for Teacher Reflection: Reading clinics in Action.” It will appear in the book Reflective Theories for Teacher Education to be published by Springer Singapore in spring 2017

For more information visit us on the web: http://ed.fullerton.edu/reading/community/hazel-miller-croy-reading-center/
In Memory of Dixie Shaw (1924 - 2016)

Dixie Shaw, longtime supporter of CSUF and the Department of Literacy and Reading Education has passed. She was 92. Dixie had a full career as an elementary school teacher in the Placentia-Yorba Linda School District. As one of the first graduates of the Reading Program, she collaborated with Pat Irot and Peggy Hammer to create REG as a networking and support organization for reading educators in Orange County. Her legacy in that regard continues as REG will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2017. In retirement Dixie touched the lives of many through her philanthropic activities at CSUF, with the Placentia Library, and with numerous arts organizations. In true Dixie fashion she requested no funeral or flowers, encouraging donations to the Placentia Library instead.


Congratulations Volunteer of the Year
Matt Harris

Reading Educators Guild (REG) Executive Board Member and Treasurer Matt Harris was named the 2016 REG Volunteer of the Year. Matt joined the REG board in 2010 and has since been actively involved with REG, first as Historian, then Second Vice President of Membership, and now as Treasurer. Matt is most deserving of this award for his continued dedication of significant time and energy to REG. As former REG Historian, Matt was responsible for documenting REG events and providing photos for publication in the REG Newsletter and Web Page, including the Annual Breakfast and department commencement reception. As the Second Vice President of Membership, he managed new and current registration of REG members, and delivered email announcements to keep the REG community connected to current REG events. As the current Treasurer of REG, Matt is the custodian of all funds of the organization. He collects and maintains an itemized account of all transactions, including receipts and expenditures for membership fees and event costs.

Outside of REG, Matt is a first grade teacher at Hoover Elementary School of Fine Arts for the Whittier City School District. In addition to his role as a classroom teacher, Matt is a Support Provider for BTSA to new teachers and a Technology Lead at the school site and district levels. He offers his time to work closely with teachers to explore issues of teaching and learning for understanding coupled with technology support and feedback. In May 2016, Matt was awarded the 2016 WHO Award (We Honor Ours) by the Whittier Elementary Teacher Association (WETA) for his invaluable contribution to the association as a member and Treasurer of the association.

REG is very grateful to Matt for his unwavering support with an ever-growing number of students and alumni each year. Congratulations, Matt for being named the 2016 REG Volunteer of the Year!

ALUMNI SHOWCASE

NEW TENURE TRACK APPOINTMENTS

Megan Campos (13) – Long Beach City College, Assistant Professor of Reading

Annette Lechter (06, MS and 14, EdD) - Cypress College, Assistant Professor of Language Arts, English/Reading

Melanie Levy (11) – Long Beach City College, Assistant Professor of Reading

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Jennifer Garrett Smalley (01) – Has completed year one as principal at San Juan Hills High School in Capistrano Unified School District.

NEW DEGREE AWARDS

Nikki Mazzo Bennet (09) - Congratulations to Nikki on receiving her Ph.D. from Chapman University. While a student in the MS Program she was mentored by JoAnne Greenbaum. Nikki’s dissertation title is “The Repatriation Experiences of American Third Culture Kids.”

Joanne Chapman (10) – Congratulations to Joanne on completion of a second master’s in English from Indiana University East. Her thesis title is “Best Practices for Integrated Reading and Writing” in developmental postsecondary education.
DEPARTMENT OF LITERACY AND READING EDUCATION

FACULTY FOOTNOTES

The 2015-2016 academic year was filled with outstanding teaching, service, and scholarship. Here are a few highlights.

Dr. Brad A. Biggs invited CSUF Literacy and Reading Education alumni and community college professors Valerie Hannah and Kimberly Mundala to present at the 2016 national conference of College Reading and Learning Association the results of their individual studies on learner engagement and social media in postsecondary literacy education courses. Dr. Biggs’ study is based on a year-long critical, cross-disciplinary study of the impact of social media on learning community and identity in MS literacy research course and in Dr. Devon Thacker Thomas’ sociology course. Dr. Biggs also collaborated with Dr. Bowers and Kathryn Bartle Angus, MS, to examine and publish on the design and candidate impact of partnerships for college literacy instructor education between the Department of Literacy and Reading Education and three local community colleges.

Dr. Erica Bowers was selected as one of 26 Emerging Leaders to participate in the American Association of State Colleges & Universities three-day seminar, in Washington, D.C. In addition, to the trip to Washington, Dr. Bowers will participate in a yearlong program on the Fullerton campus to further her leadership experience. After completing an exceptionally busy year with leadership responsibilities at the department, college, and university level, Dr. Bowers was also awarded a well-deserved sabbatical for the fall semester.

Dr. Kath Glasswell was awarded a CSUF faculty recognition award this year for her contributions to reading research. She continues to teach classes READ 585, READ 516, and READ 581 experimenting with new ways of providing real-time coaching in the clinical courses using Skype. This year also saw Dr. Glasswell continue her work in Australian schools and systems, supporting rural and remote education in the Northern Territory with professional learning for leaders and teachers. Considered an international expert in effective literacy instruction for diverse learners, she is contributing to the development of learning descriptors for the Australian curriculum. With colleagues in Australia and Singapore, she also secured a coveted Australian Research Council Discovery Project grant to promote better understanding of how teachers learn for teaching in disadvantaged schools. This year’s publications include the book Powerful Practices for Reading Improvement (ACER press), three book chapters, and three refereed journal articles.

Dr. Julian Jefferies was recognized as this year’s recipient for Outstanding Service-Learning Teaching. The Puerto Rico International Education (PRIED) Program is tied to Dr. Jefferies, READ 360 class, “Literacy Education for Social Change.” This summer Dr. Jefferies traveled with 15 students from Cal State Fullerton to work with five students from the University of Puerto Rico in Humacao, and faculty from both universities. This exemplary program provides for CSUF students to travel abroad, most for the first time. The students’ experiences in Puerto Rico are integrated into the READ 360 course and provide an incredibly robust learning opportunity for all involved.

Dr. Rosario Ordonez-Jasis continued her research on mapping language and literacy resources. This year she travelled to Ferguson, MO and collaborated with teachers and graduate students - involved in the Black Lives Matter movement - who applied the concepts related to mapping and critical inquiry to understanding the social and political contexts of their students’ lives. This summer Rosie taught READ 201a with thirty Abrego Future Scholars. In this “Smart Start” course she and her students studied disciplinary literacy and explored campus resources. Rosie is happy to serve as Acting Chair in the fall while Erica is on sabbatical.

Kathryn Bartle Angus, MS, along with partners in the College of Natural Science and Mathematics, wrote and shepherded through the university curriculum approval process a student success course, “Introduction to Learning and Thinking in Science and Math.” The course was piloted in the fall semester and student gains on measures of learning power were significant in almost every area. The course includes multiple High Impact Practices, including a problem-solving unit that requires students to solve an authentic problem on campus. Students will receive General Education credit for the class beginning this academic year.

JoAnne Greenbaum continues to coordinate and teach in the Postsecondary Reading and Learning (PRL) Certificate Program, now in its 11th year. Additional PRL faculty include Dr. JoAnn Carter-Wells, the creator of the program, Angela Henderson, MS and Gena Lovett, MS. The program consists of four graduate level courses and satisfies the California mandate under AB 1725 requiring certification in adult reading instruction for community college teachers of Reading. The program was established in response to the demand for trained reading professionals in postsecondary settings and provides students with research based, cutting-edge postsecondary reading and learning curriculum, as well as insights into adult learning theory. In addition, the totally online format of the program provides access to a national and international audience. This diverse population and its accompanying perspectives enhance the experience for all participants.
Congratulations
2016 Scholarship Recipients

Jean Carolyn Brenneman Scholarship awarded to Marina Grande
This scholarship was established and funded by David Reid and family and friends in honor of Jean Carolyn Brenneman in recognition of her passion to teach beginning readers. The scholarship is awarded to applicants who teach in the early grades, who are pursuing an early elementary education emphasis in the reading program, and who show academic and professional promise.

Lorenz and Ruth Graham Memorial Scholarship awarded to Tammy Dyer
This scholarship was established in memory of Lorenz and Ruth Graham by their daughter, Dr. Ruth Graham Siegrist, Associate Professor Emeritus, Reading Department, CSUF. Dr. Lorenz Graham’s award winning works helped lay the foundation for contemporary African American children’s literature.

Lewis and Deborah Hancock Scholarship in Reading Education awarded to Faith Grant
This scholarship was established to recognize and honor graduate students who are single parents with financial need who have demonstrated good to excellent academic performance and the potential for future leadership.

Dorothy C. Klausner Reading Educator Scholarship awarded to Gloria Ahn
This scholarship was established by Deborah Hancock and her family in honor of Dorothy C. Klausner to recognize and honor graduate students who have demonstrated outstanding academic performance.

Reading Educators Guild Scholarship awarded to Kelly Arbor, Aiza Cayanan, Juliana Walton, and Christopher Kernutt
This scholarship was established by the alumni of the Department of Reading to recognize and honor students for outstanding academic performance and potential for future leadership.

For more information on scholarships and grants offered by the College of Education, visit http://ed.fullerton.edu/reg/alumni-and-graduate-student-resources/.
Correction on May 2016 Newsletter: Dave Reid was inadvertently left off the list of donors to the Hancock Fund in our May 2016 newsletter. Dave has given very generously to the Hancock Fund to support multiple scholarships. We regret the error and very much appreciate his support.

A Heartfelt Thank You to REG
By Tina Lane

For the first time in ten years, our school has a reading intervention program for striving first and second grade readers! When scrounging through the old reading lab for guided reading books, I found that most titles no longer had six copies. Through the generosity of REG members, I was able to purchase three new guided reading kits to use with our second graders. In alignment with the Common Core State Standards, I chose three Scholastic News Non-fiction Readers: Sports Talk, Animals, and Biographies. Our second graders loved them, and chose to delve into the sports kit first. Each book in the set has a table of contents, a word hunt (photos illustrating content area vocabulary), “Find Out More” and “Meet the Author” sections, and an index. What is fun about using these kits, is that I can teach to the standards for informational text, in craft and structure, yet the students could each be reading a different title. The books are bigger than the “little books” of long ago, but less cumbersome than the reading anthology. I encourage other members to apply for the REG grant. It was easy!
Congratulations Reading Department Graduates

2015-2016 Graduating Class

Jamey Acosta**
Daisy Avila*
Nicole Cattani*
Hannah Cooper
Maria Cortes-De Gante
Betsy Fuller
Veronica Gallardo
Erin Grajeda
Raul Guereque
Michele Hardee
Geoffrey Henderson
Alexis Hillenbrand*
Camille Izvarin

Taryn Jones
Catherine Kelly
Christine Lee
Alicia Lloyd
Sarah Morgan
Rebecca Musalo
Aziza Pavageau
Victor Prado
Bobbie Price
Anna Pulskamp
Jessica Duchaine Ruiz*
Patricia Sandoval*
Maria Angela Santos

Ericka Schallmo*
Erin Schilling
Tatiana Silva*
Lauren Sittel*
Alicia Smith*
Elizabeth Stein
Karen Thatcher*
Nicole Tarver
Cynthia Valenzuela
Melody Vazquez*
Mika Yanai*

*Outstanding Graduate
** Edwin Carr Fellow

Outstanding graduates pictured (left to right) Melody Vasquez, Daisy Avila, Jessica Duchaine Ruiz, Tatiana Silva, and Patricia Sandoval. Not pictured: Karen Thatcher, Alicia Smith, Ericka Schallmo, Alexis Hillenbrand, Mika Yanai, Nicole Cattani, and Lauren Sittel. Also not pictured is Carr Fellow, Jamey Acosta.
Embark on a musical journey as you travel across America's soundscape. From big band and jazz, to country and gospel, to rock, funk, punk, pop and the blues, you'll see and hear it all performed live by students from the College of the Arts on our great America's Bandstand stage.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2016

Cal State Fullerton Intramural Field (north of Titan Gym)

For more information on tickets, directions and parking, please visit http://www.fullerton.edu/concert/
JOIN US
SATURDAY
OCT 15, 2016

Alta Vista Country Club
777 E. Alta Vista Street | Placentia | CA
8:45 am Check-in | 9:00 am Program
12:30 pm Authors Book Signing
$35 per person

Reading Educators Guild and Orange County Reading Association Present:
the Authors’ Brunch

Net proceeds from this event will fund scholarships to the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center at CSUF. The center serves K-12 students in the community who need support in literacy development. For reservations please fill out the form below by October 6th and mail to: Reading Educators Guild, CSUF PO Box 6868, Fullerton, CA 92834-6868. Questions – please contact Linda Vonder Wende at beasleyjj@aol.com

Meet these top-selling authors:

Jeff Hobbs – Jeff Hobbs is award-winning author of the provocative and true story, The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace: a brilliant young man who left Newark for the Ivy League, and The Tourists, a compelling tale of a diverse group of Yale grads 10 years later.

Gwendolyn Womack - Gwendolyn Womack received an MFA from CalArts in Directing for Theater and Film and was a semi-finalist in the Academy's Nicholl Fellowship. The Memory Painter is a taut thriller and a timeless love story, spanning six continents and 10,000 years of history.

Neal Griffin – A former Marine, Neal Griffin has been a police officer in California for more than 25 years. He is a Los Angeles Times Best-Selling author of crime thrillers, including Benefit of the Doubt and A Voice from the Field.

Rufi Thorpe- Rufi Thorpe received her MFA from the University of Virginia in 2009. Her first novel, The Girls from Corona Del Mar, was long-listed for the 2014 International Dylan Thomas Prize and the Flaherty-Dunnan First Novel Prize.

Name ______________________________________________
Email for confirmation of ticket purchase ______________________________________________
Number of tickets __________
Amount enclosed __________

Please make checks payable to Reading Educators Guild. If you are unable to attend, but would like to make a donation, please write donation on the “Number of tickets” line.
Follow the Department of Literacy and Reading Education & The Reading Educators Guild on…

Visit the REG website: http://ed.fullerton.edu/reg/

Has your contact information and address changed? Please take a moment to update your information, if necessary. Contact Carlen or visit the REG website.