The hot days of summer refreshed you, the cool days of fall revived you, and the cold days of winter will encourage you to think about the coming days of spring. As we look to this New Year and all it brings, I wish you good health and professional prosperity.

During the past year the OPDE saw a significant drop in enrollment and the number of teachers served. There are many reasons for these changes but we want you to know that our commitment to assisting you with your professional development needs has not wavered.

As you will see in this Newsletter we have continued to expand our EDPD course offering, increased facilitation of Catalog courses (classes leading to completion of a course of study at the Masters level) with several local school districts, and seek your opinion on the possibility of a name change for our office.

The Office of Professional Development in Education (OPDE) continues to be very excited about helping Staff Development Directors meet the challenging goals of various personnel during these distressing financial times. We understand that budgets will continue to be under significant pressure, and many difficult decisions must be made. We also know that our schools and the education of its students remains a high priority and the best hope for the future is a positive way to change many of the uncomfortable choices that will need to be made in the coming year.

We continue to facilitate a variety of course offerings and encourage you to visit our website, give us a call, or send an email to see how we can help you reach the goals of your program.

Enjoy life, have a great year, and remember the Office of Professional Development in Education at the College of Charleston when you think Staff Development.

The National Staff Development Council has changed its name to Learning Forward. All state affiliates have also made changes to reflect the name change. An example of this is our South Carolina affiliate is now Learning Forward South Carolina.

The College of Charleston’s Office of Professional Development in Education would like your opinion on an idea we are exploring about changing our name to the Office of Learning Forward – College of Charleston.

Please provide us your thoughts on the proposed name change and any concerns you may have about the proposed name change. All suggestions and comments should be e-mailed to OPDE@cofc.edu.
When each day is the same as the next, it’s because people fail to recognize the good things that happen in their lives every day that the sun rises.

~The Alchemist, By: Paulo Coelho

Gifted and Talented Partnership with CCSD

The Office of Professional Development in Education has been working with Dr. Lisa Herring, Associate Superintendent, and other administrative personnel from CCSD. Dr. Julie Swanson, from the College of Charleston, will be in charge of course curriculum for this project. The group is working to develop a set of courses that will be taken by CCSD teachers in preparation to become Gifted and Talented certified. At this time we are working to develop a plan that will lead to recruitment of teachers wishing to seek the G & T certification. Current plans call for the project to begin during the summer of 2012.

American History Grant with Berkeley and Charleston County School Districts

This professional study will offer teachers an opportunity to move from theory to practice in their classrooms. The ultimate goal is to make social studies instruction come alive in ways that makes sense to the learner.

Professional Development Tip

Begin with a generalization or enduring statement such as, “All cultures have celebrations.”

Level 1: Write a “why” or “how” question about the level 1 statement.
Level 2: Write a “why” or “so what” question about the level 2 answer/statement.
Level 3: Write an answer to the level 2 question.

Reference: School Improvement Network 32 West Center Street Midvale, Utah 84047 877-778-9352

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Why is it important for instructors to check and verify their class roles?

Answer: Verification of class roles helps to eliminate and address student enrollment issues at the beginning of the term. It also allows for verification and correctness of the registration process.

Question: How do I find out about PD offerings in my school district?

Answer: Teachers should check with the Director of Staff Development and/or persons in charge of professional development offerings for their district.

Question: Why am I being asked to mail verification documents?

Answer: Because many of the documents received in the past by fax or scanned e-mail have been very difficult to read and/or is illegible.

Other options are to visit the District ERO site or to contact our office.
Professional Learning: Common Core Standards

Professional Learning
As South Carolina has adopted Learning Forward and their common core standards we also see a change in our standards for professional learning. A paradigm shift occurred when the name Professional Development was changed to Professional Learning, demonstrating the need for higher emphasis on continuous learning by all educators.

The focus of professional learning is to enhance educator practice and student results. The new standards provide educators the information needed to increase their effectiveness and student learning. Learning Forward has created seven main standards; 1) Learning Communities 2) Leadership 3) Resources 4) Data 5) Learning Designs 6) Implementation and 7) Outcomes. Within each main standard core elements are included to better assist educators in the continuous cycle of improvement.

How it affects OPDE
Our office is dedicated in providing quality opportunities for educators throughout the state to engage in Professional Development. With the addition of Learning Forward’s Professional Learning Standards we have also decided to include these within our own course offerings. All syllabuses must directly align with these new standards. We want to ensure that the course offerings we provide are continuously meeting the high expectations and standards of Learning Forward.

For More Information
- Go online to http://www.learningforward.org/
- Visit South Carolina’s Learning Forward site at http://www.sclearningforward.org

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”
-William Butler Yeats

“The test of a good teacher is not how many questions he can ask his pupils that they will readily answer, but how many questions he inspires them to ask him whom he finds it hard to answer”
-Alice Wellington Rollins
The 2012 College of Charleston Institute are mixed professional development sessions designed for teachers who are teaching an Advanced Placement course for the first time and for those desiring refresher training. Topics to be covered include subject matter content, College Board policies and procedures, and preparation and grading of AP tests. Subjects available are: English Literature & Composition.

Course Description:

This course is designed using the most recent curriculum requirements published in the AP English Course Description. This course relates to the College of Charleston conceptual framework and theme of making the teaching and learning connection. Participants are encouraged to develop and expand their knowledge of teaching language and literature with a special emphasis on analytical reading and writing. Class readings will include selections from The Bedford Introduction to Literature. The course will also familiarize participants with the AP English exam format, past AP essay prompts, and released multiple choice items. Participants will discuss and score AP sample prompts, and apply past rubrics to student papers. Students in the course will identify key concepts, skills, and terms to be taught in their own classes, and they will generate their own AP syllabi frameworks. Members of the class will participate in model lessons and present their own inquiry-based lessons. Class activities will include a variety of reading and writing experiences, discussions of released AP materials, formal and informal writing assignments, pair/share activities, small group discussions, and model lesson preparation, presentation, and participation.

Course Objectives:

1. Discuss the format of the AP lit exam
2. Review released multiple choice examples
3. Review essays from 2008-2010 AP Literature exams
4. Discuss the scoring of AP exams
5. Generate terms and skills needed to be successful on the exam
6. Define and discuss close reading
7. Apply close reading techniques from the College Board Vertical Teams Guide
8. Read multiple, varied texts closely and participate in inquiry-based discussions
9. Review past AP essay rubrics
10. Score sample papers using rubrics
11. Generate a “generic” AP style rubric
12. Discuss the role of creative writing in AP Literature exam
13. Generate lists of texts that have worked well in previous classes
14. Review approved AP syllabi
15. Discuss the role of summer and parallel reading assignments

Instructors:

Professor: Dr. Marguerite Scott – College of Charleston
scottmm@cofc.edu

Master Teacher: Ms. Mary Catherine – Lankford Academic Magnet High School
mary_lankford@charleston.k12.sc.us

“Literacy is not a luxury; it is a right and a responsibility. If our world is to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century we must harness the energy and creativity of all our citizens.”

~ President Clinton on International Literacy Day, September 8th 1994
Using the New Management System (Banner)

The College of Charleston has replaced its old SIS system with a new management system entitled: Banner. Banner is an administrative software application developed specifically for higher education institutions. MyCharleston is your secure gateway to Banner. Only students, faculty, staff, and alumni can access and manage academic and administrative information via MyCharleston. Some of the services provided are below:

- Faculty: view class rolls, assign final grades, obtain official forms for grade changes, additions, and deletions of students from a class roll.

Current Students and Alumni: unofficial academic transcript review, official transcript requests, view status of transcript requests, login or register for the alumni community.

Faculty and students may contact Earline “Kandy” White at white@cofc.edu regarding access to MyCharleston.

Abbreviated Course Directory – Spring 2012

Course EDPD 815-F

“Bullying in Schools”

This online course, instructed by Terry Culbertson, will help enable participants with the knowledge and resources to develop a successful approach to bullying. Participants will review research, laws, policies and strategies to better understand the problem of bullying and appropriate steps to handle it. By the end of this course, participants will have created a presentation to share with their colleagues.

In this course, participants will use the discussion board to make and defend their opinions about the various readings. As the participants evaluate the strategies and laws associated with bullying they will gain a stronger sense of what is needed in their own classroom and school system to make necessary improvements. Participants will leave prepared to share their ideas, resources, and strategies across their school.

Initiator Highlight: Mary Gaskins

In her new role as Professional Learning Facilitator in Lexington County School District One in Lexington, SC, Mary Gaskins’ vision for supporting learning by the students and teachers in her district centers around three main goals.

First, she works to create coherence among the district priorities by developing and monitoring a comprehensive professional development plan that ensures that professional learning opportunities focus on the priorities outlined in the district’s strategic direction. Calling on her experience as a former literacy coach, she coaches school and district administrators as they plan for and implement professional learning opportunities. This coaching centers on the newly revised Standards for Professional Learning published by Learning Forward. Finally, she infuses her love for teaching and learning into every professional learning opportunity, incorporating reading and writing strategies that have application in every content area.

Mary earned her bachelor’s degree from Columbia College and began her career as a special education teacher. She expanded her credentials by earning a master’s degree in divergent learning from Columbia College. Mary completed the requirements to become a South Carolina Reading Initiative Middle Grades Literacy Coach in 2007 and went on to earn an educational specialist degree in teaching in 2008.

Outside of work, Mary enjoys spending time with her husband and two young boys. She and her family actively serve their community through their church.

“Every single one of us can do things that no one else can do - can love things that no one else can love. We are like violins. We can be used for doorstops, or we can make music. You know what to do.”

~Barbara Sher
Professional Development Partnerships

Professional Development Partnerships

Anderson County School District Two
Aiken County School District
Ashley Hall School
Bamberg County School District
Beaufort County School District
Berkeley County School District
Blessed Sacrament Catholic School
Calhoun County School District
Charleston County School District
Chester County School District
Chesterfield County School District
Christ Our King-Stella Maris
Clarendon County Schools District Three
Colleton County School District
Darlington County School District
Dillon County School District One and Three
Dorchester School District Two
Edgefield County School District
Florence County School District One
First Baptist Church School
Georgetown County School District
Greenville County School District
Horry County School District
Jasper County School District
Lee County School District
Lexington County School District One, Two, and Three
Marion County School District
Marlboro County School District
Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC)
School District of Newberry County
Orangeburg County Consolidated School District Three and Four

Pickens County School District
Porter Gaud School
Richland County School District Two
Sumter County School District Two
Sumter County School District Seventeen
York County School District Two and Four
Williamsburg County School District
SITEM Centers South Carolina
Time To Teach
South Carolina Department of Education
_Office of Adult and Community Education & the Office of e-Learning"
South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice
South Carolina Department of Special Needs—Autism Division
South Carolina ETV
SC Forestry Commission
Sumter Soil and Water Commission

Contact Information

General information and questions on Professional Development in Education
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Web page: http://www.cofc.edu/~pdie

Course initiation, development, and approval
Dr. Andrew H. Lewis, Director
Phone: 843-953-8250 or 843-953-0784
Fax: 843-953-4819
e-mail: lewsa@cofc.edu

Elizabeth R. Grantham, Assistant for Administration and Public Relations
Phone: 843-953-6385
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e-mail: granthame@cofc.edu

Registration, class rolls, grades, payroll, and evaluation
Earline (Kandy) White, Associate Director for Records and Budget
Phone: 843-953-8049
Fax: 843-953-4819
e-mail: whitee@cofc.edu

Visit OPDE online at: http://cofc.edu/~pdie

“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.”
~William James
Happy New Years!
~ From the OPDE Staff

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Program Director

Elizabeth Grantham
Asst. for Administration and PR

Earline “Kandy” Lincoln White
Assoc. Director for Records and Budget

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Mahogany Collins
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