The Office of Professional Development in Education wishes to extend a Happy New Year to all. We have grown while evaluating the services provided, and hope that if you have concerns you will share them and help us to be more efficient in our work. I would like to encourage Staff Development Directors to speak with Principals and others in your school system about offering professional development course work that may currently be offered without credit. Once again, we continue to facilitate a variety of Catalog (classes leading to a Masters’ degree) courses and encourage you to give us a call, or send an email to see how we can help you reach and accomplish the goals of your program. One of the goals in our strategic plan is to “Develop a list of Instructors in various locations around the state that can serve as Adjunct Faculty to teach Catalog and PD courses”. We enlist your help with identifying individuals that would meet the criteria to serve as CofC adjuncts.

As the economy improves, we are positioned to help school districts meet the needs of their personnel and would like to have you visit our website at: http://ehhp.cofc.edu/centers/opde/ to review some of the courses we are offering and others that have been proposed.

The OPDE looks with great anticipation to the coming year and our continued working relationships with both old and new partners. Each term we challenge ourselves to extend the reach of this office by facilitating more school districts and agencies with their PD offerings.

Make 2013 the “Year of Education” and do everything you can to show Learners we care!

Have a great year, and think of CofC when you think Staff Development.

Boeing “STEM” Grant

Boeing has provided a grant in the amount of $750,000 over a three year period to South Carolina’s Coalition for Mathematics and Science at Clemson University to begin their new research program. Inquiring Minds: Reading to Learn and Innovate in Mathematics and Science will test the effectiveness of specific literacy strategies in mathematics and science classrooms to increase student achievement.

The program has accepted ten middle schools to participate in the study. Two local schools, College Park Middle (Berkeley County) and St. George Middle (Dorchester Four), have been accepted.

The research will address 3 main questions:
1. What effect does professional development focused on disciplinary literacy strategies have on the instructional practices of middle grades mathematics and science teachers?
2. To what extent does the application of disciplinary literacy strategies in mathematics and science classrooms improve student achievement in literacy?
3. To what extent does the application of disciplinary literacy strategies in mathematics and science classrooms improve student achievement in these content areas?

For more information visit: http://www.s2temsc.org/research_projects
"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 Charleston County School District. 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.

Middle Grades

Our office has become aware of the growing need for middle level teacher certification. If you have an interest in setting up the set of courses necessary for certification please contact Dr. Andrew Lewis at the Office of Professional Development in Education. Our office would be happy to work with you to facilitate the needs you may have.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Why it is 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. Other options are to visit the District ERO site or to contact our office.

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.
Professional Learning: Common Core Update

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 Learning. 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.

Update:
The second report by Center for Education Policy was released earlier this year. In summary, the report found that states view the Common Core State Standards as more rigorous than their previous standards, according to our survey, and are making progress in transitioning to the new standards. But states face challenges in fully implementing the standards, particularly in finding adequate funding. The majority of the CCSS-adopting states in our survey do not expect to fully implement the new standards until school year 2014-15 or later. Nine states are projecting full implementation of the standards by 2013-14; 16 states in 2014-15; and one by 2015-16.

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

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“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
IN this course classroom teachers will be provided a solid foundation in literacy education using the knowledge based established by the South Carolina Department of Education. Through this course teachers will learn to become reflective practitioners. Teachers will be expected to design and implement appropriate instructional materials and plans while also being “teacher researchers” by gathering data and reflecting on student learning and instructional practices.

This course is the next ‘step’ after teachers successfully complete "The Smart Way to Integrate Technology". The purpose of this course is to take prior SmartBoard knowledge and use it as the building block to enhance the delivery of daily interactive instruction. Teachers will be learning how to use Interactive Whiteboards to their fullest potential. This course will help teachers effectively teach using their SMARTboard and implement best practices to integrate technology into the curriculum.

This course is designed to assist social studies teachers in grades 6-12 to better understand their roll in the implementation of the ELA common core standards. Participants will be required to present ideas and resources as they explore ways to incorporate the key features of the Common Core in their respective classrooms. Teachers will see how they can use these standards to improve student literacy while engaging students in a more in depth understanding of history.

Teachers will attend a one-day seminar to start the course, and will follow up through required online activities. This course will focus on creating an environment in which learning occurs for all students. Teachers will cover topics ranging from research on classroom management, to teachers strategies, and practical management techniques. By completion of this course teachers will be expected to create a classroom management plan for their individual setting, and develop a lesson plan for how to teach a particular procedure.
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.

Professional Development Tip

“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

The four elements are:
1. Theory
2. Demonstration
3. Practice
4. Coaching

The first three of these elements build the knowledge base and foundational skills. This fourth element of coaching is what increases the implementation factor of PD.

Combining these four elements together creates a professional development design that provides teachers with tools that facilitate significant student growth. It should be assumed that the cycle of professional development is continuous and to ensure quality professional development these four elements should be taken into consideration.

Initiator Highlight: Bradley Mitchell

Bradley Mitchell graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education English/Communications. He also has a Masters in Educational Technology from Lesley University. Bradley recently was named as the Director for the Office of eLearning with the SC Department of Education. The Office of eLearning is instrumental in providing online opportunities for students and teachers across the state of South Carolina. Bradley has worked closely with most school districts across the state of South Carolina with the implementation of the South Carolina Virtual School Program. Additionally, he has worked with educators across South Carolina to assist teachers in renewing their teaching certificates by taking online courses through eLearningSC PD. Bradley has been instrumental with eLearningSC PD to assist educators statewide in renewing their South Carolina teaching certificates by taking online courses.

eLearningSC PD offers many online opportunities for teachers to renew their teaching certificates by taking courses online from the comfort of their own home. In just a couple short years, eLearningSC PD has grown in the number of participants and has assisted thousands of teachers renew their teaching certificates each year. Traditionally, the program sees a 93% or higher success rate each semester, even though many of the participants in the courses are taking courses online for the first time.
Professional Development Partnerships

Anderson County School District Two
Aiken County School District
Ashley Hall School
Bamberg County School District
Beaufort County School District
Berkley 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
S'TEM 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
Tia Brown, Administrative Assistant
Phone: 843-953-7651
Fax: 843-953-4819
e-mail: brownt@cofc.edu
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: lewisa@cofc.edu

Elizabeth R. Grantham, Assistant for Administration and Public Relations
Phone: 843-953-6385
Fax: 843-953-4819
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
Welcome to the New Year
– From the OPDC STAFF

Dr. Andrew Lewis
Program Director

Elizabeth Grantham
Asst. for Administration and PR

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

Tia Brown
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Mahogany Collins
Graduate Assistant

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Graduate Assistant