A Message From the Director    Andrew Lewis, PhD

New Year resolutions, a fresh start, a new beginning, and hoping for better things to come is our desire for each of our partners as we travel this road to education growth. REMEMBER: We are here to support and help you and your teachers make a difference in the lives of South Carolina students. As we look forward we hope this year will be an improvement over the past, and filled with the ZEAL to positively improve the lives of others.

The Office of Professional Development in Education (OPDE) is very excited about helping Staff Development Directors meet the needs of various personnel during these continued troubling financial times. We understand that budgets will be under significant stress, 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 integration of Common Core standards appears to be a light in the distance that will bring about changes, some good and some not so good.

OPDE has the energy to work with all groups to help them develop and implement focused professional development activities and catalog courses that assist teachers with best practices in the classroom today and beyond. As many of you know, we have made several changes (Re-designed website, Online evaluation system, Online addition to class rolls, Expanded our catalog course offerings, Expanded our cohort offerings, etc.) during the past year. Most of these changes have results in improved office operations and more efficient services delivery to you our partners. As we change and grow adjustments must be made. Therefore, we thank you for your patience and hope these changes will enhance communication, grading, and timely processing of information.
Staff Development Leads to Higher Test Scores

Back in the August Learning Forwards newsletter Professional Learning News highlighted a story out of Ohio stating Washington County schools had received level 5 scores in “literacy and numeracy, which is the highest possible score”. The county is attributing these great scores to a “higher level” and “more intense” staff development.

News from OPDE:

◊ If you have wondered what some of our classes are really like you may now go to our website to check out syllabi from actual classes we offer. Check back often, as these syllabi will change to feature different courses! http://ehhp.cofc.edu/centers/opde/courses/syllabi.php

◊ The College is implementing some new approval methods for their courses. We will need your help to get this process moving quicker, and we will need information from you earlier in the process. Please check out the website for more information on these changes. Please if you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact us.

◊ In an effort to “go green” the college has started going paperless. One of the ways this affects you is regarding transcripts. To request transcripts you must now do it online or in person. Please visit the website for the Registrars Office (registrar.cofc.edu/transcripts/) for more information

◊ **Update on Change of Grade:** After a student’s grade has been submitted online, in order to change a grade (i.e. an incomplete), the instructor must complete a Change of Grade form online. The form is located in the MyCharleston Faculty Tab.

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2014 Early Childhood Summit

**Common Core + More!**

**Featured Speakers:**
- Dr. Jean Feldman
- Dr. Nancy McGinley
- Vanessa Levin
- Dr. Fran Welch
- Sam Williams

**Presentations On:**
- Classroom Management
- Growth + Development
- Literacy
- Math
- Policy & Advocacy
- + MUCH MORE

**June 19th + 20th**

**Charleston, SC**

ecssummit.cofc.edu
Poverty, project living, welfare, single parent, no father in the home: These are all words and phrases to describe Dr. Kenneth Wilson’s upbringing.

Success is often achieved when the person is able to go further than most people, presented with the same situation, breaking limitations imposed by their own economic, physical and cultural boundaries. Dr. Kenneth Wilson is a classic example of success, as he overcame poverty among other devastating blows to become one of the most influential people in the field of education.

A characteristic that has set Dr. Wilson apart is his strong will to achieve. Believing that education was his only outlet to creating a successful life, instead of moaning, complaining, and focusing on his then current situation he took that energy and put it towards focusing on his education. Education, as he believes, is what will take a person to the next level.

Education took him from the projects of Lake City, South Carolina to Charleston Southern University where he earned a Bachelors of Science in Mathematics and Secondary Education. Still desiring to do more he went on to complete a Masters of Education and an Education Specialist Degree from The Citadel Military College, also located in Charleston. With much determination, prayer and support from his family he completed the Educational Doctorial Program at the University of South Carolina Columbia.

Working with youths of all socio economic status his experiences includes mathematics teacher, director of a preschool, assistant head master, assistant principal, principal, coordinator of school placement, district testing coordinator, director of high schools and career technology and currently the Director of Staff Development and Teacher Evaluation for Dorchester School District Two.

Dr. Wilson does realize that his education alone did not make him the person he is today. Having all of the knowledge in the world would only be sounding brass or tinkling cymbals (noise). He has placed Christ at the helm of his life. He works diligently as an Administrative Elder of not only his local ministry, but as the National Executive Administrator of Life Center Fellowship, Inc.

Dr. Wilson has reached the ranks of society and defied the odds to be where he is today. He is a loving husband to his wife of 21 years Carol Wilson, and a very loving and supporting father to his 7 year old son Kenly.

If you have a dream, you can’t wait for people to call you – You have to make it happen. Education and most importantly a close walk with Christ is the key to making it happen (Knowledge and Power) is the motto Dr. Wilson lives by.

A true American success story, Dr. Kenneth Wilson aims – and reaches – the stars through the virtues of hard work, imagination and perseverance.
Berkeley County Masters of Teaching, Learning, and Advocacy Cohort

Thursday, August 8, 2013 was a very exciting day in Berkeley County, South Carolina as a group of 18 teachers presented their capstone project findings to an audience of school district administrators, school board members, College of Charleston faculty, friends, and relatives. This cohort of students completed a two-year course of study and became eligible for M.Ed. degrees in Teaching, Learning and Advocacy that was conferred at the December 2013 graduation ceremony.

Berkeley County School District is growing rapidly and its administration and teachers are interested in developing teacher leaders with the skills and knowledge needed to advocate for schools, students, the teaching profession, and their community. They turned to the College of Charleston for help in providing a high quality program for teachers aspiring to improve their skills and become leaders.

A partnership was formed, and the program was provided to a cohort of teachers. By participating together over the course of two years, the cohort members developed strong and lasting relationships with each other and with College of Charleston faculty. They gained the knowledge and developed the skills to become leaders in their schools and to take on new positions within the district.

For their capstone projects, four teams of teachers worked together to help the district research and address issues of concern to the district, examining topics such as the advantages of homogeneous & heterogeneous grouping on identified gifted students and the obstacles faced by alternatively certified teachers in Berkeley County School District. When asked to reflect on the program, one student said that they were grateful to have “gained a new perspective […] to think about policy […] to help advocate and take responsibility for my career and students.” For more information on the Masters of Teaching, Learning and Advocacy Program contact Dr. Christine Finnan at finnanc@cofc.edu or 843-953-4826

Listed below are the titles of the awesome capstone projects completed by the Berkeley County MTLA Cohort:

- Sorting it Out: Homogeneously & Heterogeneously Grouping Gifted Students
- The Role of Response to Intervention in Supporting Children's Learning
- Alternative Certification: Obstacles Faced by Alternative-ly Certified Teachers in BCSD
- National Board Certified Teachers
Ms. Earline “Kandy” Lincoln White is a long term professional employee of the College of Charleston where she serves as the Associate Director for Records and Budget in the Office of Professional Development in Education (OPDE). Kandy is one to lead by example in the office and her community. She is an exceptional employee that fully understands the purpose and all facets of her position. Kandy’s position demands that she work with many campus offices and individuals external of the college from all over the state of South Carolina. If asked to describe five characteristics of Kandy’s work ethic they would be that she displays: Initiative, Leadership, Dependability, Punctuality, and Commitment. Kandy’s quality of work is always exceptional and she requests nothing less from the staff members that work under her supervision while at the same time making sure they have the appropriate training and resources to do their jobs well. She is an advocate for the College of Charleston, School of Education, Health and Human Performance and our Office of Professional Development in Education. Ms. White works continuously to make sure the College of Charleston is viewed in a positive light by expressing to others in our local and state community that we offer exceptional education opportunities that can be experienced by all.

A Sample of Courses Currently Offered:

- Digital Media for Active Learning
- Managing the Classroom for Student Achievement
- Foundations of School Law
- Teaching Instructional Strategies Using Technology
- Technology Driven Classrooms: Engaging the iGeneration
- Strategies for Working with At-Risk Boys/Males
- Cognitive Coaching Foundation Seminar
- SMART Board Basics: Using Notebook 11 to Enhance Learning
- Beginning Integrating Technology into Teaching with Common Core Literacy Standards
- Emergent Literacy
- Math and Science Partnership Grant: STEMulating

A Sample of Courses Currently Offered Online:

- Effective Online Course Management
- Teaching in Today’s Digital Classroom
- Web 2.0 Tools in the Classroom
- INTEL Elements– Project Based Approaches
- Differentiating Instruction to Accommodate Learning Styles
- Bullying in Schools
Contact Information

General Information and Questions
Website: http://ohhp.cofc.edu/centers/opde/index.php

Fax: 843-953-4819

Tia Brown, Administrative Assistant
Phone: 843-953-4819  Email: browntr@cofc.edu

Course Initiation, Development, and Approval
Dr. Andrew Lewis, Director
Phone: 843-953 8250  Email: lewisa@cofc.edu

Elizabeth R. Grantham, Assistant for Administration and Public Relations
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Registration, Grades, Payroll, Evaluation
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