A Message From the Director

Archie Franchini

The singer/songwriter Taylor Swift once said, "This is a new year. A new beginning. And things will change." That certainty describes the first half of 2018 for the Office of Professional Development in Education (OPDE).

As was reported in our last newsletter, the previous director of OPDE, Dr. Andrew Lewis, retired in December and I became the new director in January. Dr. Lewis spent several years leading OPDE and during his tenure the department provided high quality professional development to countless educators across the state of SC. Through his leadership and guidance the department expanded its course offerings and increased enrollment numbers significantly. Hats off to Dr. Lewis and we wish him the best in his well earned retirement.

In April, our long time Administrative Specialist, Tia Brown, accepted a new job at Clayton State University located in Morrow, GA. Tia had been with OPDE for 14 years and did an outstanding job. Tia completed her MBA last fall and while we will miss her, we are proud of her and the new opportunity that opened up for her after completing her advanced degree.

We are proud to welcome Rachel Bruce, a 2018 CofC graduate, to OPDE as the new Administrative Specialist. Rachel is a native of Darlington, SC and graduated with a degree in Exercise Science. Most recently Rachel worked in the Office of Education, Health and Human Performance, so she brings with her experience that is very much related to the work we do in OPDE.

Our graduate assistants, Shelby Elliott and Amanda Voges have also moved on. Shelby graduated in May with a Masters in Accounting. She and her fiancé, Nick Major, will be getting married July 6th in Charleston and we wish them the very best as they start a new life together. Amanda will graduate in December with a Masters in Environmental Studies. We wish both of these young ladies tremendous success in their future careers. They have been a great addition to the OPDE and will be missed.

Have a wonderful summer and as Dr. Lewis always said, "when you think of Staff Development think CofC."

We invite you to visit the OPDE web site
On February 16, 2018 Dr. Christine Finnan, Paul Irwin and Archie Franchini attended Berkeley County School District's Teacher Conference to share information about graduate education programs and OPDE offerings.

Are you interested in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)?

Do you want to enhance your ability to work with students and colleagues whose first language is not English? CofC announces the launch of the M.Ed. program in ESOL that is completely online! This program is tailored to working professionals, including current teachers, ESOL Certificate holders, those interested in non-traditional ESOL settings, and those looking for career flexibility and international opportunities. Financial aid is available!

CofC ESOL Certificate holders and current continuing education cohort students are especially encouraged to apply. Please contact the program director for information about how to carry forward previously earned credit toward this master degree program.

Visit our website: http://lcwa.cofc.edu/grad-progs/master-of-education-languages-esol-online-program/index.php
Email: rodriguezsabaters@cofc.edu

We look forward to hearing from you!
What is Read to Succeed? Read to Succeed (Act 284) is a recently implemented piece of legislature by the Office of School Transformation within the South Carolina government. This law affects every educator and student in the state, as it aims to prepare all students to graduate from high school with the reading and writing skills necessary for a successful college career. Lawmakers hope to redefine literacy education in South Carolina through this bill. It sets specific guidelines that all state certified teachers must follow in the classroom which should aid in the monitoring of student progress. What does this mean for educators? Professional Development courses will be at the heart of ensuring the success of this legislature. Our office is already working on providing teachers with courses tailored to meet the requirements set forth by this bill, all at a fair and reasonable price. Feel free to contact our office at any time if you have questions regarding Read to Succeed or any of the future courses pertaining to it that we may offer. Below is a helpful chart that demonstrates why our office offers the most affordable and accessible option for taking this course. The next few pages provide information on courses currently being offered by the College of Charleston.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offered Online</th>
<th>Under $500 per course</th>
<th>Approved by R2S office</th>
<th>Middle &amp; Secondary classes</th>
<th>3 hours of graduate credit</th>
<th>Offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OPDE Read-to-Succeed course offerings</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tbody>
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| OPDE Read-to-Succeed course offerings | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
The Office of Professional Development offers professional development (EDPD) courses and facilitates Department of Teacher Education (TEDU) catalog courses (leading to the completion of an advanced degree) that have met all College of Charleston requirements by the Commission on Higher Education.

The cost difference between these two types of courses is significant. A 3-credit-hour graduate-level PD course is $150. A 3-credit-hour catalog course is $1,650. Therefore, vouchers are not allowed as tuition payment for PD courses, which have already been discounted substantially.

Click [here](#) for step-by-step instructions on how to order a transcript from the College of Charleston.

Fall 2018 Read to Succeed online courses offering through OPDE:

EDPD 820 P: Content Area Reading and Writing for Middle and High Secondary Teachers

- [Flier](#)
- [Application](#)

EDPD 821 T: Foundations in Reading

- [Flier](#)
- [Application](#)

EDPD 823 J: Assessments in Reading

- [Flier](#)
- [Application](#)
General Contact Information

Website:
http://ehhp.cofc.edu/centers/opde/index.php
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