



JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

OCTOBER, 2009

VIDEOCONFERENCING CONNECTING POINT

In July, room 108 Ramona Wood Hall became a classroom that supports live videoconferencing. The Tandberg video conferencing system installed by Digital Connections Incorporated, had been idle for a year at an off campus site. Mr. Mark Camp had heard of Dr. Hammett's request to have a site at Ramona Wood Hall and felt moving the equipment back to campus was an easy sell for Dr. Franklin King, Associate Vice President of Distance Education. While the equipment is not new, it has only a few hours on it and is fully compatible with videoconferencing equipment world wide.

"This site can connect to any video conference system that uses International Videoconferencing standards," said Mr. Camp. "JSU has a professor using this system to conduct a course in New Zealand. Interestingly, his greatest challenge has been dealing with a near 20 hour time differential."

Here in Alabama, every high school in the state and some elementary schools have equipment that is compatible. Courses could be offered to teachers after school, classrooms



IN HALLOWEEN DRESS, MS. LORI REED AND DR. LARRY BEARD DISCOVER THE VIDEO CONFERENCING EQUIPMENT IN 108 RAMONA WOOD HALL

can be observed, and student teachers could be evaluated using this system and the system in place at the student teachers' schools.

All faculty will need to do is to set up an agreement with the school, have Mr. Camp contact the school's videoconferencing technician, and the equipment will be on at the time agreed on.

Mr. Camp stated, "The equipment has advanced over the years. We no longer use dedicated T-1 telephone lines, we use IP addresses. Where I once had to train people for an hour, I now spend about fifteen minutes. I usually show up to support a "new to

videoconferencing" instructor a few times, but after two or three sessions the instructor not only can handle the hardware, I notice that the equipment fades into the background as the content takes center stage."



DR. NINA KING AT THE VIDEOCONFERENCING TOUCHSCREEN CONTROL BOARD.





CEPS AND DISTANCE EDUCATION



The College of Education and Professional Studies has been involved with distance education at Jacksonville State University from its first implementation. While Dr. Franklin L. King served the college as a department head, he developed what is now the Office of Distance Education. Dr. King now serves the University as the associate vice president of Distance Education. With his help, videoconferencing equipment has found a new purpose in Ramona Wood Hall by linking room 108 to virtually any school in the state with the same equipment. The hardware enables an entire education class to observe, interact, and discuss classroom activities.

The **Department of Curriculum and Instruction** is carefully considering the role of distance education in advancing the quality of their three programs: Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, and Special Education. Many of the graduate courses are being offered as hybrid classes, a combination of the traditional lecture and discussion delivery coupled with online delivery of some class meetings. This delivery method seems to be popular with both the students and faculty. Currently, Curriculum and Instruction is offering two graduate courses totally online while the number of hybrid courses is increasing each semester.

Undergraduate courses offered online are growing at a somewhat more cautious pace. Over the last year one section of SPE 300 was offered totally online each semester and in response to student requests, additional sections are being offered in the Spring semester. The undergraduate methods courses coupled with on-site practica are more hands-on, demonstration-oriented classes that seem better suited to face-to-face delivery. However, the lecture



and discussion-oriented courses are looking toward online delivery as a viable option.

In looking to the future, Curriculum and Instruction anticipates the use of the equipment in room 108 will enable not only videoconferencing with the public schools that will enhance our classroom instruction, but the ability to utilize distance learning for professional development workshops for teachers. Professional development workshops showcasing online best practices and new technology continue to nudge the faculty toward incorporating more online experiences. As faculty and students experience success with online learning, it is expected that the number of hybrid classes will increase and classes offered totally online will become more available.

The **Department of Communication** is setting goals of establishing a distance education program in communication and working towards creation of a graduate program. The department is responding to the national trend in journalism and mass communication education that not only uses distance education, but prepares students to work in all forms of “new” media. Of the 112 programs accredited by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in the nation, less than ten have a Distance Education program, but that trend is poised for a

change, according to the executive director of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. The Department of Communication will be working toward that goal as well.

The **Department of Educational Resources** delivers most classes as hybrid or online

using either BlackBoard or LiveText. Several assessments of students were conducted, polling students about their preferences in course delivery. The overwhelming response from students was their preference toward hybrid course delivery.

The department of Educational Resources’ plan for distance education in the next five years is to continually provide quality courses. This means that faculty training will be further developed and emphasized in professional development workshops as well as technology updates in departmental meetings.

The department purchased *Elluminate* last year to augment the delivery of online courses with synchronous meetings. This system encompasses web conferencing, teleconferencing, videoconferencing, and social networking products and services and greatly adds to instruction online. *Elluminate* is used to provide both face to face meetings and an area for small group meetings in an online environment. The instructors in Educational Resources are excited about the potential of online delivery with all these resources.

Educational Resources is in the process of planning activity and learning modules that could be used in all programs in the department. These modules will be developed to be used online as synchronous or asynchronous in delivery. The

modules then could be placed in various courses or workshops in the department.

Over the next five years, the **Department of Secondary Education** plans to consistently pursue opportunities to infuse online components into its programs of study. Presently, two core master's level courses are offered completely online, and the remaining courses have a hybrid component. The Secondary Education faculty understand that the needs of students and the changing trends for certification will likely result in further development of online and/or hybrid course environments. A primary focus for the department of Secondary Education is to model best practices for students; instructors are attempting to identify methods of modeling via online courses. It is likely that instructors will continue

foundation courses to be offered online; however, it is much too early in the process to do anything more than speculate.

The department of Secondary Education will continue to consider first what is best for the students as they navigate Secondary Education programs. Faculty realize that the field of education, like other aspects of society, is ever changing. Ultimately, though, the faculty believe their responsibility is protecting the integrity of education programs in order to produce the most qualified candidates, and all decisions made concerning course offerings and modes of delivery will be based upon this premise

The Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation has been a leader on the JSU campus in terms of Distance Education.

traditional 'face to face' methods," said Dr. Jeff Chandler.

The department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation has several goals in the area of distance learning for the future:

- To insure that the department is using "best practices" and using technology that will improve the student's experiences in online classes.
- To evaluate the courses offered online and hybrid and make sure the goals and objectives of the class can be met.
- To use the hybrid format in classes as appropriate.
- To add to existing online programs, for example, a minor in Sport Management .
- To develop a new online Master's Degree in Exercise Science that is a non-certified

"Education has witnessed an exponential surge in technology. The future benefits of technology as an educational tool is almost inconceivable given this rapid progression. Yet, realizing the enormity of the future of technology in education, the College of Education and Professional Studies will strive to prepare students for an innovative 21st century." said Dr. John B. Hammett, Dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies

to develop hybrid offerings to require time on campus for modeling and continue the practice of allowing research, reading, and even some instances of discussion to take place elsewhere.

Secondary Education undergraduate programs currently possess one common online course, EIM 300, and the English language arts program also offers ESE 430, *School Publications and Productions*, online. Instructors have added a hybrid component to many undergraduate courses in Secondary Education to provide flexibility for students. But, at this time, Secondary Education faculty do not anticipate transforming any of the undergraduate methods courses into online courses. The department is in the process of potentially redesigning undergraduate and fifth year alternative programs, and this may allow for some

The Master's Degree in Physical Education was the first completely online program to be offered at the university by CEPS. The department offers a Minor in Community Health that can be obtained online. The new Master's Degree in Sport Management is also a 100% online program offered by the department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

All programs offer specific classes online. The faculty added a number of hybrid courses to the curriculum recently. These courses provide a great deal of flexibility for the students, and many times allow the student time to go out into the field to observe and gain real world experiences. "In the department, instructors are continually evaluating courses and the course objectives to determine the most effective way to teach a particular class including online, hybrid, or

track of the Master's of Science in Education.

The Educational Specialist program with a concentration in Physical Education is essentially an online program; although, these students do currently come on campus to plan their "problems" paper, and their final presentation is on campus. All of the courses are offered online.

The Department of Technology and Engineering offers a Master of Science in Manufacturing Systems Technology as a complete online degree. The department also has undergraduate courses that are periodically offered online.

The department of Technology and Engineering is developing an online undergraduate program in Industrial Leadership. This program will undergo approval and is anticipated to be implemented starting the fall semester of 2010.

FACULTY PROFILE: DR. NINA KING

Dr. Nina M. King is an associate professor of Early Childhood in the department of Curriculum and Instruction. Her enthusiasm and willingness to adapt to changing technology has served JSU well the past fourteen years.

Dr. King is in her second year of leadership as president of Phi Delta Kappa Chapter #0211. As president she and the membership committee, Dr. Gena Riley and Dr. Roland Thornburg, brought international recognition for the chapter by having the second greatest number of new members. Dr. King also worked with Ms. Tery Medina, Southeast Equity Center's Associate Director, to offer diversity workshops for student teachers, JSU faculty, staff, and students and the community surrounding Jacksonville. In her first term two scholarships were named.

The *Dr. Dennis Zuelke Scholarship* for the service of secondary students to their community, and the *Thornburg Award*, named in honor of Drs. Roland and Charlotte Thornberg, given to the outstanding cooperating teacher.

"Dr. King has a genuinely kind, sweet spirit that undergirds all that she does and that quality makes working with her a delight. She demonstrates a passion for both teaching and students that sets her apart from others," said Dr. Slenda Haynes, Department Head Curriculum and Instruction.

Dr. King did her B.S. and M.S. work at JSU and received her Ph.D. at UAB. Dr. King taught elementary school for twelve and a half years in Gadsden, Alabama. Her research interests include English as a Second Language. She says that when elementary teachers are taught effective strategies



DR. NINA M. KING, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

to reach ESL students in the primary grades successes can be dramatic. Dr. King also researches teaching writing in primary school. Here her interest is mainly how to teach writing and to motivate children to communicate with the written word. "I enjoy using many forms of technology in my teaching to show our students how they can use it in their future classrooms," said Dr. King.

JSU CAMPUS WELLNESS CENTER

The JSU Campus Wellness Center has been very busy this month. Two heart healthy events occurred in October. The ninth annual Gamecock Gallop 5K was held on October 24 at Pete Mathews Coliseum. With increased marketing, the race director, Ms. Gina Mabrey, set another participation record for the 2009 Gamecock Gallop. The Wellness Center also supported the American Heart Association's Heart Walk on JSU's campus. This fund-raising was held October 31, 2009.

The Campus Wellness Center has a new GE Lunar DXA {dual energy X-ray absorptiometer} to measure bone mineral density {BMD}. The Lunar DXA's findings may be used by the participant as a means of identifying osteoporosis. The Wellness Center began taking appointments for BMD



testing on October 1.

The Wellness Center also offers Polar Tri-Fit Body Age tests. These fitness tests evaluate a variety of physical components including cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, flexibility and body composition. Health risk appraisals are also a part of the exam to evaluate risk of cancer, heart disease, diabetes, stress levels and other chronic or metabolic diseases. Once the exam is completed, the participant will be given a "physiological age" based on

the results of the tests. It is a useful motivator for participants who discover their chronological age is less than their "body age." Please contact Ms. Gina Mabrey at 782-5114 for more details for an appointment.

The **Wellness Wednesday** lunch presentations, a collaboration between Exercise Science & Wellness and Family & Consumer Sciences, started September 23. The next scheduled **Wellness Wednesday** is November 18 in Room 118 East Mason Hall from 12-1:00 p.m. Wellness Wednesday provides an opportunity to purchase a nutritional lunch {the costs are \$7 faculty & staff; \$5 students} and listen to a short presentation on a wellness topic. To reserve a seat, call Lynn Steward at 256-782-5054.

DEPARTMENT PROFILE: TEACHER SERVICE CENTER

The Teacher Service Center (TSC) is a service unit in the College of Education and Professional Studies. It is located in room 207 Ramona Wood Hall. The main purposes of the center are: providing program advisement for students, informing instructors and departments of Alabama State Department of Education requirements, and recommending CEPS students for certification. The Teacher Service Center also is charged with monitoring a student's progress into the teacher education program and out to a recommendation for certification. Dr. Kelly Ryan is the Director of the Teacher Service Center. Ms. Tori Gaddy and Ms. Vicki Trammell are the Certification Advisors and Dr. Gena Riley is the Coordinator of Clinical Experiences.

The Teacher Service Center certification advisors use the Curriculum Advisement and Program Planning (CAPP) software in Banner to monitor and check a student's progress. Finally, the TSC advisors check-out each student to determine a student's eligibility for graduation and certification. Students look to the advisors as an official source of information. The advisors are constantly kept updated by the Alabama State Department of Education. They also attend workshops in Montgomery for further in-depth training. The TSC advisors use myJSU, e-mails, and group meetings to share certification changes with both students and faculty. The certification advisors are also looked at as problem solvers. In cases of deficiencies or transferability of coursework the TSC is charged with interpreting the standards of the CEPS and the state. Sometimes the certification advisors find themselves counseling students about the reality of a situation and the options available to them.

The Teacher Service Center also houses the Office of Clinical Experiences program of the College

of Education and Professional Studies. The Coordinator of Clinical Experiences monitors all five levels of the clinical experience program placement of students to ensure each student has a variety and a diversity of placements.



DR. KELLY RYAN, DIRECTOR OF THE TEACHER SERVICE CENTER AND ASSISTANT PROFESSOR EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Dr. Kelly Ryan serves the CEPS as the Director of the Teacher Service Center. For the CEPS he is the Certification Officer who recommends students to the Alabama State Department of Education for certification. Dr. Ryan has a close relationship with the Alabama State Department of Education and serves on committees concerning technology and certification. Dr. Ryan also serves as an assistant professor in the Department of Educational Resources. Dr. Ryan began his career at JSU as a member of the Division of Student Affairs, where he served as a counselor and conducted testing for university students. Dr. Ryan still conducts tests on campus for ETS and ACT. Dr. Ryan is a licensed personal counselor in Alabama. He also serves as a reserve deputy for the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department. Dr. Ryan has recently completed his sixth review of a college of education as an NCATE examiner. He will now serve on the

Board of Examiners for NCATE and Chair a visiting team. Dr. Ryan is an advisor for Omicron Delta Kappa an honor society at JSU.

Mrs. Tori Gaddy is a Certification Advisor in the Teacher Service Center. She evaluates students entering into the alternative fifth year program and confirms the eligibility of those students for internship. Mrs. Gaddy also reviews and submits certification applications for those who complete education programs at all levels. "Certification is a detailed process," she says, "I am constantly reviewing students with the help of the Banner system. I work closely with our specialist at the Alabama State Department of Education." Mrs. Gaddy is a member of the Banner Student Functional Team and assisted in the initial build of the Banner Student System for Jacksonville State University. Banner is a rule based administrative software application, purchased from SunGard Higher Education. Banner at JSU has four main integrated systems: Finance, Student, Financial Aid, and Human Resources and many third party solutions that have been integrated into the Banner System. Rules have been developed by the Functional and Technical Teams of JSU to meet



MS. TORI GADDY, CERTIFICATION ADVISOR TEACHER SERVICE CENTER

the needs of the university. Mrs. Gaddy's focus in the JSU Banner's rule development is on student records including registration, degree audit, and admission into the undergraduate and alternative fifth year teacher education programs. She also assists in coding rules for CAPP (Curriculum, Advising and Program Planning) component of the Banner System. The Banner System is constantly being revised and upgraded, and Mrs. Gaddy assists in the testing of these revisions using a test system.

Ms. Vicki Trammell serves as a Certification Advisor in the Teacher Service Center. She verifies that students have met all the requirements for graduation and certification at the undergraduate level. Frequently, Ms. Trammell is involved in the determination of a transfer course's value towards graduation. Ms. Trammell has a close working relationship with her contact at the Alabama State Department of Education, resolving certification issues. Most frequently she is asked by students to explain the nine steps in the teacher education program admission process and also evaluates students applying to the alternative fifth year program.

Ms. Trammell has an undergraduate degree in communication and received her Master's at JSU in Student Personal Counseling. While she was working on her internship at JSU, she began her career at JSU. In 2005, Ms. Trammell was employee of the month at JSU and was recognized as a personable, hard worker. Ms. Trammell serves as a graduate advisor for Alpha Kappa Alpha a service sorority at JSU.



Ms. VICKI TRAMMELL, CERTIFICATION ADVISOR
TEACHER SERVICE CENTER

Dr. Gena Riley is the Coordinator of Clinical Experiences for the CEPS. She came to this administrative role from the Department of Curriculum and Instruction where she also serves as an Associate Professor of Elementary Education. As Clinical Experiences Coordinator, Dr. Riley places students in internships in the departments of Curriculum and Instruction, Secondary Education, Family and Consumer Sciences,



DR. GENA RILEY, COORDINATOR OF CLINICAL
EXPERIENCES AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

and Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Dr. Riley monitors placements in other levels of clinical experience to provide students opportunities to experience teaching in a variety of settings. Dr. Riley works closely with cooperating teachers and university supervisors to provide the best service for CEPS students. Her goal is that the intern, the cooperating teacher, and the university supervisor become a team so information can be shared in a positive manner and lead to positive outcomes for the CEPS student. Dr. Riley also assisted in the development of a new seminar course designed to provide students in the internship with relevant topics such as: classroom management, ethical, legal and moral classroom issues, employment, Livetext and other issues tailored to a student's specialized area of teaching.

Dr. Riley is finding that as NCATE promotes the CEPS's partnership with local schools, she has taken on the role of CEPS Director of Professional Development Schools. "I look towards the time that internship is a year-long apprenticeship. We are meeting with local school systems as we begin to develop partnerships that will benefit JSU students and the students of area schools."

Dr. Riley enjoys teaching undergraduate and graduate courses. She serves on the Governing Board of the Jacksonville State University In-service Center and is the Secretary for the Alabama Field Directors Forum. She served on the Alabama Course of Study Committee for Mathematics Education and recently on the Educate ALABAMA Task Force. She is the Vice-President of Membership for the JSU chapter of Phi Delta Kappa and serves as one of the advisors for the JSU chapter of Kappa Delta Epsilon.

DID YOU KNOW...

According to *Prevention* magazine, it takes more than an apple a day to keep the doctor away! To keep your immune system on guard, fill your plate with plenty of colorful fruits and veggies. You also need to drink eight to ten glasses of water a day. *Prevention* reports that the following nine foods boost immunity: yogurt, oats & barley, garlic, fish, chicken soup, tea, beef, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms. To test your health knowledge in other areas try the website. <http://www.prevention.com>.

HISPANIC AMERICAN WELLNESS FAIR

The Calhoun County Hispanic American Association (CCHAA) hosted its annual Health Education & Wellness Fair at the Jacksonville First United Methodist Church on October 10, 2009. This event was held along with a celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15th to Oct. 15th and acknowledges the historical independence of many Latin American countries. Dr. Jeffrey Hedrick of the JSU Communication department helped coordinate the festivities, which included several booths manned by local health representatives, along with free legal and medical advice, as well as several



DR. JEFFREY HEDRICK, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION, GINA MABREY, COORDINATOR OF JSU CAMPUS WELLNESS, AND MR. FRED SMITH, DIRECTOR OF JSU-ANNISTON WELLNESS CENTER

testing stations for visitors.

The event ran from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., beginning with the recital of various traditional anthems including the “Star Spangled Banner” and “America the Beautiful.” As CCHAA President Gladys Denizard emphasized, “it is important for everyone to learn these traditional songs” as part of their embracing of American traditions, regardless of their ethnicity. The opening ceremony ended with a parade of flags carried by attendees representing the diversity of the various countries in Calhoun



County. Student nurses from the JSU School of Nursing provided free health screenings, including blood pressure and diabetes testing, while local doctors offered free dental and exams. Ms. Gina Mabrey, director of the JSU Wellness Center, brought three groups of students to give presentations, while

also providing bone density scanning to attendees. Attendees were invited to partake of refreshments provided, including an outdoor barbecue of hamburger and hotdogs, along with a variety of beverages and snacks, all provided at no cost to attendees. Translation services, along with a variety of free literature and complimentary items, such as free toothbrushes, toothpaste, and alarm systems, were available from organizations such as the American Red Cross, the Sarrell Dental Center, the Alabama Department of Health in Calhoun County, the Regional Medical Center, and the Calhoun Emergency Management Agency.

WINNERS

What a night!! The dancing was superb and the event was a resounding success! says the Anniston Morning Rotary’s website. In the juried portion of the Dancing with Our Stars, First Place: Dr. John Hammett and Ms. Ginger Marsh.

Ms. Ginger Marsh is married to State Senator Del Marsh. She worked as an educator in the Oxford City School system for 15 years. Currently, she is a board member of The Anniston Museum of Natural History, a Knox Concert Series volunteer, and a member of the Alabama State Legislative Wives Club.

Dr. Hammett, Dean of the College of Educational and Professional Studies said, “we practiced and prepared to win this contest—our work paid off.”

The Anniston Morning Rotary will post the videos for first place juried and Audience Choice in on the webpage shortly. The site will also have DVD’s available for \$20.00. Please visit <http://www.annistonmorningrotary.org/DANCINGWITHSTARS/index.cfm> for more information.



DR. JOHN B. HAMMETT, II, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES AND MS. GINGER MARSH

ON THE FUTURE OF JOURNALISM

BY CHRIS WADDLE

Folks ask my response to “The Reconstruction of American Journalism.” That’s a blue-ribbon report from Columbia University, one of my alma maters. Since it’s a compass reference to what we do and could do in our JSU Communication Department, here’s my reply.

Big Journalism is in Big Trouble. This is metro journalism’s Dark Age. So huge media companies expect reprieve from a dramatic, pre-modern *deus ex machina*. That was the device for relieving the seemingly insoluble problems of characters in a play. The cast produced a god on stage to rescue the troubled protagonist.

Columbia’s godlike report says extraordinary times require extraordinary measures. It would draft government and philanthropy to aid the news business. That’s dark fantasy, however – beyond the reach of public support and good journalism.

First Amendment Freedom of Expression truly is cornerstone to our Way of Life. But the First also recognizes a human truism. People are going to express themselves regardless. We will have news even without the news business of the big media companies. Tongues will rattle. Fingers will clack along keyboards. Society will keep inventing new ways to communicate, as current social media prove.

The *business* model for selling information is what languishes.

Yet we create many different *news* models.

To repeat: Media management is in deep doo-doo. Journalism thrives.

The *deus ex machina* ignores what actually works pretty darn well in the life of the Republic.

Quarterly ad bucks in small newspapers are down less than half that of the Big Guys. Community Journalism makes money by marketing toward the target audience:

- America publishes 8,000 newspapers of 15k or less circulation.
- Eighty-six million Americans read those papers every week.
- Sixty percent say their paper is the main source of local information.
- They spend 40 minutes with their paper, keep it a week and share it with 2.36 additional readers.

My source for this data is the admittedly self-serving National Newspaper Association. NNA gets watched too closely to be putting a thumb on the scale.

Community Journalism represents our market at Jacksonville State, even if we’re delighted to see an alumnus or alumna break into metro media.

The best idea in “The Reconstruction of American Journalism” proposes for universities

to become news producers wherever professional sources of local news dwindle, as they have in our immediate neighborhood. Our student media can realize that ideal while enhancing our classroom journalism, if we re-imagine our campus resources for Community Journalism.

Service to the public completes the ancient university creed of scholarship and teaching. We can devise both traditional and contemporary means to advance all three traditional roles of a university through the communication arts.

So, no. I’m neither impressed with the limited vision of the new industry report nor embarrassed for the future of journalism at JSU or anywhere.



MR. CHRIS WADDLE, AYERS CHAIR OF COMMUNICATION

Make your next step count ...



Please visit
<http://ceps.jsu.edu>.
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