



JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF

# EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MAY-JUNE, 2010

## New CEPS Administrators Named



Dr. Gena Riley, department head of Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Gena Riley is the new Department Head for Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education and Professional Studies. C&I's undergraduate programs include Early Childhood, Elementary Education, and Collaborative Teacher. C&I's Master's programs include Early Childhood, Early Childhood Special Education, Elementary Education, Reading Specialist, and Collaborative Teacher. C&I's Educational Specialist programs are Early Childhood, Elementary Education, and Collaborative Teacher. She assumed the position June 1. Dr. Riley served as the Coordinator of Clinical Experiences. In the Department of Curriculum and Instruction she is a faculty member with the rank of Associate Professor.

Dr. Riley 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. She serves 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.

Dr. Riley is a native of Rainbow City, Alabama. She attended Auburn University where she completed her undergraduate degree in Elementary Education. She then attended The University of Alabama where she completed both her master's and doctorate degree in Elementary Education.



Dr. Tommy Turner, department head of Educational Resources

Dr. Tommy E. Turner is the new department head of the Department of Educational Resources. EDRS' graduate programs are Master's in Instructional Leadership, Library Media, Community Counseling, and School Counseling. EDRS also offers Educational Specialist programs in Community Counseling, School Counseling, and Instructional Leadership.

Dr. Turner has served in the Counselor Education program since the summer of 2003. Most recently, he has been the Chair of the Community Agency Counseling Program. He is currently involved with the Alabama Counseling Association, serving on the Executive Council as Chair of the Professional Standards Committee.

Dr. Turner is a native of Pisgah in Jackson County, Alabama. He attended North Florida Junior College on a basketball scholarship, then completed his undergraduate degree at Samford University in Birmingham with double major in Mathematics and religion. Subsequently, he completed master's degrees at Samford (M.A., 1984, Religion and Philosophy) and New Orleans Theological Seminary (M.Div., 1988). He earned the Ph.D. degree from the University of Alabama, with a major in Educational Psychology and minors in Community Counseling and Statistics.

Dr. Turner and his wife, Linda, live in Boaz. He is a member of the Executive Council for the Alabama Counseling Association.

## KSES and JSU Teacher Collaboration



In a new venture into teacher preparation, JSU moved a Ramona Wood Hall classroom into Ms. Brigett Vernon's classroom at Kitty Stone Elementary School (KSES). The move, however, was not physical, but through video conferencing. Cameras are set up in both classrooms; and depending on the intent of the lesson, JSU elementary education candidates can simply view what is going on in the KSES classroom, or they can interact with those elementary students.

"This is collaboration in its truest form—Ms. Vernon's students respond positively to 'visiting' the college classroom using the video conferencing equipment and seeing exciting experiments that the JSU students learn. The JSU students learn by observing Ms. Vernon's teaching and watching best practices in action," said Ms. Phyllis Taylor, an instructor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

JSU students in Ms. Taylor's May Science Methods class and Kitty Stone Elementary Students in Ms. Vernon's second grade class interfaced by using the CEPS videoconferencing equipment and by the JSU students visiting KSES and demonstrating science investigations.

"Ms. Vernon and I do quite a bit of collaborating with science. In fact, she teaches in the JSU Gadsden Campus Math/Science block for JSU's Department Of Curriculum

and Instruction as an adjunct."

"I feel that the best use of the video conferencing equipment is for my methods students to see a real teacher in action doing the things that I teach and model for them in class. Ms. Vernon and I decided that in May term we would collaborate three times. Two times we connected using video conferencing and the third time the JSU students traveled to KSES."

"One week, my class 'peeped' in on her class right after two of her baby chicks had hatched. During the video conference JSU students and the KSES students had a lengthy



conversation about observations the KSES students had made. The KSES students introduced the chicks and they shared their knowledge concerning chicken eggs and hatching. The second video conference allowed both of our classes to participate in three WOW science investigations on the properties of water. The JSU students met these KSES students face to



face at "Dirt Day." The JSU students demonstrated seven Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI) activities to Ms. Vernon's class and another second grade class as the KSES students rotated through each activity station," said Ms. Taylor.

"My students have expressed so much enthusiasm and excitement over interacting with 'real college students' in a 'real college classroom.' Many of my students have never been on a college campus before and this is a unique opportunity to see the similarities to the learning environment here at KSES."

Through this collaboration students have been able to share ideas, strategies, and learning experiences via video teleconferencing. Each group benefited as the KSES students gained exposure to the latest technologies and teaching strategies. The JSU students gain insight unlike any other – by witnessing an application of teaching strategies in an authentic setting.

"My students ask almost daily, 'When can we learn with the big kids again?' It has been exciting, rewarding, and beneficial for both students and teachers! I see the future in this kind of collaboration. It has such great potential," said Ms. Vernon



# JSU Wellness-Anniston Single Mom Seminar Program in Partnership with Regional Medical Center Offers First Scholarship



From the Left: Mr. David McCormack, CEO of Anniston Regional Hospital, Ms. Shakirra Law and daughter, recipient of the Single Mom Scholarship, Mr. Fred Smith, director of JSU Wellness Anniston, Dr. William A. Meehan, president of Jacksonville State University, Dr. Rebecca O. Turner, vice president for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. William Carr, dean, College of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education, and Dr. John Hammett, II, dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies

The Single Mom Seminar program is now a part of the JSU Wellness-Anniston Social, Emotional, Wellness program (S.E.W). The goal of the Single Mom Seminars is to address some of the unique challenges faced by single moms throughout Anniston and Calhoun County. The program provides education, support, encouragement, recognition and empowerment to the single moms in the community.

The Single Mom Scholarship was established to assist single moms who have completed high school or obtained a G.E.D. and are interested in improving their quality of life through education. At a recent seminar, single moms listed continuing education, career development and employment among their top ten needs.

"When the quality of life of a single mom is improved it also has the potential to benefit her children, her household and the community at large," said Fred Smith director of JSU Wellness-Anniston.

JSU Wellness-Anniston would like

to thank Mr. David McCormack, CEO of Regional Medical Center and his entire organization and staff for the sponsorship of the first Single Mom Scholarship award.

The first scholarship recipient is Ms. Shakirra Law of Anniston. Ms. Law is a graduate of Anniston High School and is the mother of two.

Ms. Law stated, "This scholarship will benefit me and my children and will help us in reaching the goals of our family."

Ms. Law will be enrolled in the Pharmacy Technician Certification Program. This program will prepare her to enter the pharmacy field and to take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board's PTCB exam.

If you, your organization or company would like to sponsor a single mom or contribute to the scholarship of a single mom please contact JSU Wellness-Anniston at 241-3399 or make checks payable to:

Jacksonville State University  
Single Mom Scholarship  
Attention: Foundation

700 Pelham Road North  
Jacksonville, AL 36265

Your sponsorship of this scholarship program will not only benefit single moms but will assist in improving the quality of life of those we serve, one family at a time.



Ms. Shakirra Law and daughter, recipient of the Single Mom Scholarship and Mr. David McCormack, CEO of Anniston Regional Hospital

## 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Teacher Hall of Fame



Ms. Mary White of Randolph Park Elementary School in the Anniston City School System



Ms. Anita Isreal of Simmons Middle School in the Hoover City School System



Ms. Amber Bonds of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa County

The forty-second Annual Jacksonville State University Teacher Hall of Fame banquet was held on May 21, 2010 to honor the fifteen nominees and three inductees for the Jacksonville State University Teacher Hall of Fame.

The Jacksonville State University Teacher Hall of Fame was founded in 1969 by then university president, Dr. Houston Cole. Dr. Cole created this award to honor teachers, who not only teach, but also exemplify the profession. Jacksonville State University and Dr. William A.

Meehan, the current president, are proud to carry on this legacy.

This year the selection committee members were two former Teacher Hall of Fame inductees: Mr. Jeff Denny (2007-2008 and Dilhani Uswatte (2008-2009); Mr. Lamar Sims, vice president of Cheaha Bank, Jacksonville, Alabama; Dr. Jeff Goodwin, Superintendent of Oxford City Schools in Oxford Alabama; and Dr. Gena Riley, Associate Professor of Education, Jacksonville State University. Dr. Kelly Ryan, director of the Teacher Service Center chaired

the selection committee.

In the Elementary Division, Ms. Mary White of Randolph Park Elementary School in the Anniston City School System was inducted. In the Middle School Division, Ms. Anita Isreal of Simmons Middle School in the Hoover City School System was inducted. In the Secondary Division, Ms. Amber Bonds of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa County was inducted. Each of the inductees will be honored by having their names inscribed on a plaque located in Houston Cole Library.



## Dr. John Hammett Elected by Peers

The Alabama Association of Colleges for Teacher Education has chosen Dr. John B. Hammett, II, dean of The College of Education and Professional Studies as President Elect.

The ALACTE is composed of deans from all colleges and universities in Alabama that prepares teachers/educators.

As President-Elect, Dr. Hammett is responsible for the agenda for the three annual two day meetings the association holds in Montgomery, Alabama. Next year, Dr. Hammett will serve as the ALACTE President.

## Mr. Fred Smith Graduates Leadership Calhoun County 2010

On May 25, 2010, the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce graduated the Leadership Calhoun County class of 2010. Dr. Alicia Simmons, director of Institutional Research and Assessment and Mr. Fred Smith, director of Wellness-Anniston represented JSU.

Leadership Calhoun County is a leadership program with an experiential educational paradigm. Leadership Calhoun County is designed to prepare and build leadership resources within Calhoun County. Each class is comprised of leaders and emerging leaders, who are nominated by their employer. The class participates in activities and learns about Calhoun County through experiences in Calhoun County.



Mr. Fred Smith, director of JSU Anniston-Wellness and Mr. Rodney Owens, divisional vice chair of education for the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce

The program lasted eight months. Ms. Simmons and Mr. Smith joined with thirty other people. Together these leaders participated in a variety of team building exercises. During

the program, the class visited a variety of industries, including economic development, defense and security, K-12 education, higher education, law and justice, community service, and quality of life centers all located in the county.

Upon the completion of the program, the class voted and selected Mr. Fred Smith to fill one of the two Board of Directors seats starting in June.

“This experience has been both educational and fun. I would like to thank Dr. Meehan and Dr. John Hammett, II for the opportunity to participate in the program. I am also indebted to the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce and my colleagues in the 2010 class for an exciting year,” said Mr. Fred Smith.

## CEPS Students Offered over \$840,000.00 in Scholarships

Next school year over \$894,000 in scholarship funds are available to JSU students in the CEPS.

The majority of the scholarships offered were based on academic scores of incoming Jacksonville State University freshman and transfer students who declared a program in the CEPS for their major. These scholarships totaled over \$800,000.

Another \$94,559 in scholarships was offered to music education students and students recommended through the CEPS Scholarship Oversight Committee.

Each academic department in the college has a representative on CEPS Scholarship Oversight Committee, who puts forth the department's selection.

The departments chose deserving students among applications entered on the JSU Scholarship web page. The departments' choices were brought to the CEPS Scholarship Oversight Committee by their representative.

This is the second year for the Scholarship Oversight Committee. The committee members are Dr. Bill Kiser of the Department of Educational Resources, Dr. Melinda Bolgar of the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, Dr. Melinda Staubs of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Virginia Cole of the Department of Secondary Education, Mr. Chris Waddle of the Department of Communications, Ms. Paula Napoli of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, Ms. Teje Suit of the Department of Technology and Engineering, and Mr. Mike Zenanko of the Instructional Services Unit, Chair. The goals of the committee include providing departments with the names of qualified students who applied for CEPS scholarships, working with the departments to select appropriate scholarship recipients, monitoring the scholarship recipients progress and their

continuing to meet the scholarship requirements, and meeting with scholarship recipients.

The committee benefits from the work of Mr. Martin Weldon, the JSU Scholarship Coordinator, which results in spreadsheets of information concerning scholarships and their funding, and scholarship applicants. CEPS students benefit from Mr. Weldon's work as well. This year Mr. Weldon was able to find scholarship monies for ninety-six percent of the students recommended through the Scholarship Oversight Committee.

Graduate and undergraduate students in the CEPS are encouraged to look at the scholarships offered at Jacksonville State University and to apply for scholarships for which they qualify. The application period opens October 1 and closes March 1 each year. Please visit <http://www.jsu.edu/finaid/scholarships> for more information.

# National Science Foundation Awards JSU a Grant for a Critical Infrastructure Security Project

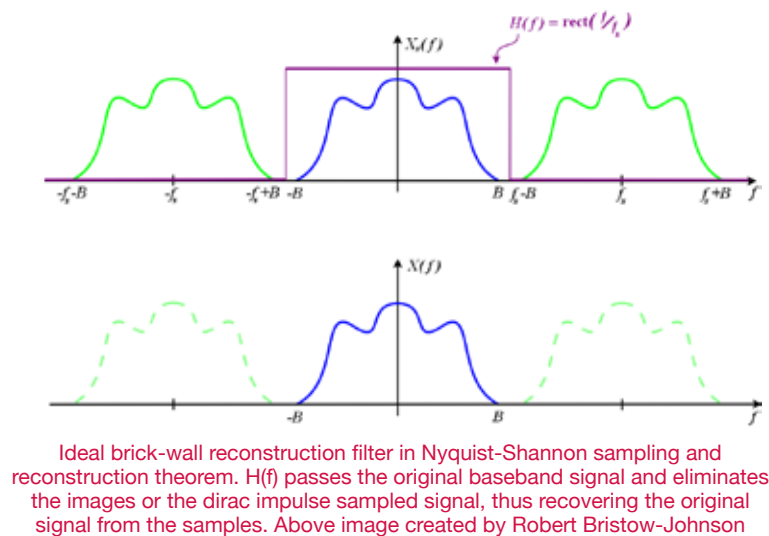
The National Science Foundation awarded Jacksonville State University a grant of \$415,600 to support the Critical Infrastructure Security and Assessment Laboratory (CISAL) project. Dr. Guillermo Francia III, as the principal investigator, directs CISAL with Dr. Aaron Garrett, Dr. Ming Yang, Dr. Nouredine Beckhouche, and Mr. Terry Marbut as co-principal investigators.

Funding commences on May 1, 2010 and expires on April 30, 2013. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 funded the award. Principally, CISAL investigates vulnerabilities of critical infrastructure systems, penetration tests of such systems, and remediation measures to protect critical systems.

"A strong need for research activities on critical infrastructure protection motivated the establishment of a research facility



Mr. Terry Marbut, department head, the Department of Technology and Engineering



at Jacksonville State University (JSU) whose primary purpose is to investigate, develop, implement, and assess security technologies for critical infrastructure protection. This cross-disciplinary project undertaken by the Mathematical, Computer and Information Sciences (MCIS) and the Engineering and Technology departments represents a novel approach of establishing a cybersecurity-focused research laboratory facility that emulates multiple configurations of real industrial control systems.

The project builds upon the existing Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) knowledge base in the areas of network security, risk assessment, security compliance, industrial controls, and digital forensic analysis to enhance existing and develop new security technologies in an area of national need. The lessons learned and the experiences gained in designing and utilizing the facility will provide a blueprint for the design of similar facilities in medium to large sized institutions of higher education. A key component of this project is the collaborative effort that will take place between JSU, area community colleges, and industrial partners in maximizing the

utilization of the proposed research facility through active collaborations."

"The creation of new and the adoption of existing STEM knowledge nuggets, including the creative research techniques in security, networks, and industrial controls, will provide exemplary materials to institutions with diverse demographics. JSU, having been recently designated by the National

Security Agency (NSA) as a National Center of

Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education, is in a unique position of being able to contribute to broadening the participation of the underrepresented groups through the diversity of its student population. In addition, this project will target smaller institutions of learning, including institutions that traditionally serve underrepresented groups, as future collaborators."

The collaboration between JSU, area community colleges and industrial partners can serve as a model for future collaborations between institutions of higher learning and the industrial sector.

The results of this research and project evaluation will be disseminated using a dedicated web server. It is thought that the reach of this project can extend beyond STEM disciplines, the project will also provide orientation workshops to faculty members of other disciplines to stimulate a cross-pollination of research methods and ideas that will impact information security."

From <http://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward.do?AwardNumber=0959687>

## Brenda Cline is JSU's Employee of the Month for May

Ms. Brenda Cline is JSU's Employee of the Month for May, 2010. Ms. Cline works as Teacher's Aide in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. She came to JSU in August, 2001. All nine years have been spent in the FCS department working at the Child Study Center with the preschool program.

Ms. Cline graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a BS in elementary education and a concentration in early childhood education.

She is married to Dr. George Cline, a professor in the Biology Department. They have two children, Katie and Eric. Katie, will be a freshman at JHS this fall and marches in the high school band. Eric, will be in 7<sup>th</sup> grade this fall.

Ms. Cline volunteers throughout the community. She is active in both the Kitty Stone Elementary School and Jacksonville High School PTOs, JHS Band Boosters, and the Jacksonville Public Library summer reading program.

The Clines attend Jacksonville First United Methodist Church where Ms. Cline serves on the Children's Council.

Dr. Debra Goodwin, head of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences said, "Mrs. Cline is truly an asset to the Harper Child Study Center. She embraces the center's philosophy of learning through play and consequently the children love her. As an employee, Mrs. Cline is extremely dependable and her work ethic is incomparable."



Ms. Brenda Cline, teacher's aid in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

## Lindsey Watts Completes Online Teaching Certification Through the Foodservice Educators Learning Community



Ms. Lindsey Watts, instructor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Ms. Lindsey Watts, an instructor in Family and Consumer Sciences, recently completed a twelve week teaching certification course offered by Foodservice Educators Learning Community (FELC).

She is the first graduate of the twelve week online course. This course was offered by FELC and is endorsed by the American Culinary Federation. The FELC teaching certification has eight modules that cover topics ranging from the lecture method to ethical teaching practices.

Ms. Watts is a former guidance counselor. She holds a master's degree in hotel and restaurant management from Auburn University. At JSU Ms. Watts serves as hospitality and culinary instructor. She is working toward an Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Alabama.

Ms. Watts was named a 2009 Person of Progress by the *Opelika-Auburn News*, and is a writer and blogger for *Lee Magazine*. She serves on the board of directors for the Alabama Scenic River Trail

Ms. Watts served as the Director of Education for the International Safe Travels Foundation. In her association with that organization she completed research that measured the travel safety awareness of study abroad students across several countries. She has a business, The Educated Explorer, that provides information for groups about laws and customs to enhance their travel abroad.

Ms. Watts is also an editorial travel writer. She is an editorial travel writer for *Travel Host* in Chicago. She has traveled to more than fifteen countries

# In Praise of Students

By Chris Waddle

They stroll into our lives on sandal and sneaker feet. Then they march out in cap-and-gown splendor. What happens in between is nothing short of amazing. I give the bulk of credit to the students of Jacksonville State University. The men and women of JSU come special delivery to us.

I've taught journalism in Florida, Bulgaria and far-off Tuscaloosa. My own campus days count Harvard, Columbia and Birmingham-Southern College as academic homes.

As journalist-in-residence here and now, I observe the hill country around Jacksonville holds a grittier, more determined, challenge-overcoming body of students than any of those places.

I'm thinking of the young mother — too young by far to meet such responsibility but who does. She balances single-parent childcare, a waitressing job, a life on campus and all the assignments I and three other instructors throw at her.

There's the football player who turns down a tutor to coach him through a class tougher for him than the gridiron. He'd rather make it on his own if he can — and does.

Home life and work life displace a grandmother who comes back to campus to get a degree, the lack of which costs her the job income she needs for the family who depends on her.

The cute couple from Oneonta, the future politician from Jefferson

County, the personable guy from Rome, Ga. All pass through the eye of my memory.

The bright, the curious, the willing-to-learn outnumber the balky ones.

And when the light goes on inside a student of any ability, there's a payoff rarely achieved in other walks of my life.

I hear about all their blown tires, dripping oil pans, smoky exhaust pipes, steamy radiators and fender-benders on the flotilla of cars, trucks and strange vehicles that sail onto campus from distances that rob our commuters of the most precious possession of youth — time.

They disembark to confront parking rules, parking problems, parking tickets and long walks or long waits for mini-buses that may deliver them to nervous, clock-watching professors on time. Or not.

The worries of textbook costs, tuition deadlines and fear of an extra term to take the elusive must-have course for graduation hover like acrid air pollution. I see those concerns choke some students to the point of crying. Yet they choke back their tears and go on.

The students make all the sacrifices. And make the most of them.

All those bright and eager faces look up at me from all the obstacles they overcome to arrive at my classroom. I give them all I know

so the benefits of my career in mass communication become theirs.

I sit in Paul Snow Stadium and watch the Southerners drummer who wrote a smart assignment. My wife and I sit in The Caf every Wednesday and watch the social ferment. I watch the stream of student announcers bringing life to WLJS-92J or the flow of a young news staff enthusing over potential improvements to the *Chanticleer*.

We watch. They do.

But our worlds entwine — like the time a student brought Cocky to pay me a surprise visit. Or the daily encounters with the needful yet mostly hopeful who give me hope.

News business colleagues often ask me how I like the transition to teaching after forty-five years producing journalism. The lesser issues of academic life — necessary drudgery of administering higher education anywhere — flee before me.

And my answer never varies: The students make it all worthwhile.



MR. CHRIS WADDLE, AYERS CHAIR OF COMMUNICATION  
AND COCKY THE JSU ATHLETIC MASCOT



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