

## Ruebel Becomes New Associate Dean



Dr. Kim Ruebel is associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Education and Allied Professions at Western Carolina

University. She is a former associate professor, associate chair, and middle level program director at the University of Texas at Arlington. Kim has taught elementary and middle school in both Texas and Indiana. Dr. Ruebel's research interests center around middle level education, teacher education, and the induction and retention of teachers. Kim's husband, Jay, is a clinical psychologist with Jackson Psychological Services. They have two children, Gracie and Norah.



## Dale Carpenter Named Interim Dean

Dr. Dale Carpenter began as interim dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions on July 1, 2012. Dale came to Western in 1979 as an assistant professor of Special Education and was associate dean in the College from 1998-2008. Dale's recent work has included teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in special education, particularly in assessment. He has been involved with program evaluation through university and college-wide committees as well as working with the NC Department of Public Instruction and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. "I've been in love with Western Carolina University for 32 years and it is in this beautiful place that I have had the good fortune of living and working with wonderful colleagues. It has been a gratifying and joyful experience to see our students go on to accomplish important things consistent with our mission of helping people in schools and other settings. When the opportunity arose for me to serve the College and University in this new role, I was thrilled and humbled at the same time. This is giving back. There are great things to come!"

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Silver Medalist .....	2
Break by the Lake Conference .....	3
Children's Book.....	3
Living/Learning Communities .....	4
New Faculty .....	5
Jamaican Students .....	6
New Tech for Teaching/Learning .....	7



## Graduate Student Mitchell Wins Olympic Silver Medal on Broken Leg

Midway through his opening leg for Team USA in the 4x400-meter relay semifinal, WCU graduate student Manteo Mitchell felt something snap. That feeling was his fibula breaking – a very rare but obviously serious injury that can happen during sprinting events. What happened next was a testament to his faith and perseverance.

“I knew if I finished strong we could still get it (the baton) around,” he said after the race. “I saw Josh Mance motioning for me to hand it off to him, which lifted me. I didn’t want to let those three guys down, or the team down, so I just ran on it,” said Mitchell, a native of Shelby, N.C.

Mitchell’s herculean effort was enough to help the USA relay team win the semifinal and qualify easily for the finals. The finals would prove not to be so easy. In addition to Mitchell, the team would have to do without two other injured team members: LaShawn Merritt (the 2008 400m Olympic Champion) and Jeremy Wariner (the 2004 400m Olympic Champion).

The talented relay team from the Bahamas took advantage and edged out the worn-out U.S. team to win gold. When is an Olympic silver medal a disappointment? When you are a member of the U.S. men’s 4x400m team. U.S. men had won gold in the 4x400m event in every Olympics since 1976, not counting the boycotted games of 1980.

“I asked him if he was disappointed with silver and he gave me a resounding YES,” said Dr. Justin Menickelli, an associate professor in Health and Physical Education. Menickelli often calls Mitchell “the velvet hammer” because of his soft-spoken determination. “There were probably thirty guys who ran 46 seconds in college, but Manteo stuck to his training and never gave up on his dreams,” said Menickelli. Indeed, the 32-time All Southern Conference selection and 2012 IAAF World Indoor Champion did not rest on his laurels.

Currently, Manteo Mitchell is finishing his M.A.Ed. in Physical Education and recovering from his injury. His steadfast determination leaves little doubt that we will see him in Rio de Janeiro in 2016.

## SYMPOSIUM HOSTS 133 BEGINNING TEACHERS

The annual Beginning Teacher Induction Symposium was held at WCU on July 30-31 with the theme of “Preparing Innovative and Effective Teachers for Student Success.” This conference brings beginning teachers across the western region of North Carolina to sessions that will assist them with their first year of teaching and provides opportunities for networking. This year WCU hosted 133 beginning teachers (the largest enrollment in past three years) from 10 Western North Carolina school systems.

**DR. DAVID MCCORD**, alumnus, professor, and head of the Department of Psychology, has been named one of



five members of the University of Minnesota Press Test Division Advisory Board. The Board reviews all publications produced by the Test Division and sets priorities for its operations.

## STL WELCOMES INTERIM DEPARTMENT HEAD DAN GRUBE

Dr. Dan Grube, after serving as associate dean for 3½ years, took over as interim



director of the School of Teaching and Learning (STL). Dan is an associate professor in the Health and Physical Education program and is beginning his 14th year at WCU.

## Annual 'Break by the Lake' Conference held September 28

The Counseling program held the annual "Break by the Lake" Conference for Student Services Personnel at Lake Logan Episcopal Center on Friday, September 28. In its fifteenth year, the conference provides regional school personnel such as counselors, nurses, social workers, resource officers, psychologists, administrators, and teachers as well as community mental health partners a full day to learn and collaborate with one another on services provided to youth and their families. The conference planning committee consists of school and agency personnel from eight different Western North Carolina (WNC) school districts who contribute their expertise and cooperation in selecting inspiring and informative presenters based on feedback from the previous year's attendees.

This year's keynote presenter was Billy Jonas, who believes "Music in the classroom can be used to creatively teach, set the tone, inspire and manage the classroom." Breakout sessions included *Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) for EVERYONE*, *Adolescent Self-Harm*, *Teaching with Puppets*, *Supporting*

"Music in the classroom can be used to creatively teach, set the tone, inspire and manage the classroom."

– BILLY JONAS

*Homeless Students*, and a *Mentor/Mentee Program*. Presenters were from schools and agencies in WNC and showcased best practices for work with youth in our region.

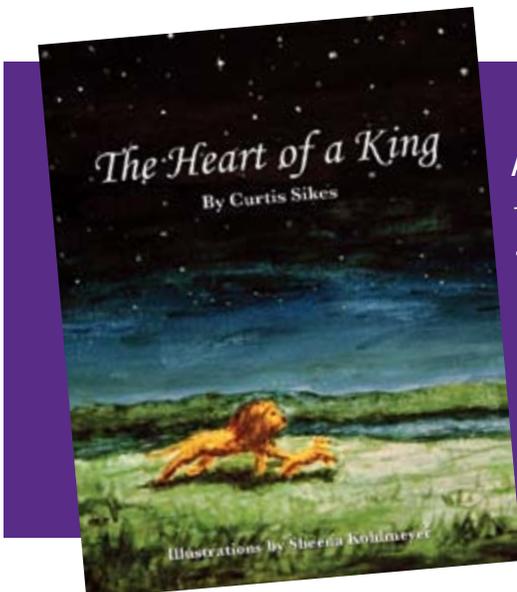
"Break by the Lake" is sponsored by the Western Carolina University Counseling Programs and has created the Mary Deck "Break by the Lake" Scholarship that is awarded annually to a student in

the counseling program who has shown remarkable service to our communities. At this year's fall conference, more than 125 people were in attendance.

For more information about the conference, go to our webpage at [breakbythelake.wcu.edu](http://breakbythelake.wcu.edu) or email conference chair Dr. Phyllis Robertson at [probertson@wcu.edu](mailto:probertson@wcu.edu).

## ALUMNI PUBLISH CHILDREN'S BOOK

Two WCU alumni recently collaborated to publish a children's book, *The Heart of a King*. Curtis Sikes authored the work and Sheena Kohlmeyer illustrated. Both are currently teachers at Swain County Middle School in Bryson City, N.C. Sikes obtained his teaching license through the NC TEACH program at WCU and is a graduate of the Professional Writing program. Kohlmeyer obtained her B.S.Ed. in Art Education from WCU. Sikes says he dedicated the book to a former teacher that encouraged him in creative thinking and writing. For more information, see the book's website: [www.theheartofaking.com](http://www.theheartofaking.com)



# Living/Learning Communities Aim to Retain Education Major

In 2009, the College of Education and Allied Professions created the Teacher Recruitment, Advising, and Career Support (TRACS) concept. The purpose of the TRACS concept is to develop a college-wide system of support by centralizing the functions related to recruitment, advising, preparation, induction, and professional development creating a seamless continuum for the ongoing development of professional educators. The vision is clear: relationships built during the recruitment process will grow and mature during pre-service preparation and continue to flourish through new teacher induction and the professional development of career educators.

The CEAP Academic Advising office, an integral component of TRACS, opened in spring 2010. Two professional advisors were hired and charged with designing a relationship-based model of academic advising in support of the educational success of students seeking initial licensure. As a professional education program, many teacher education students do not begin taking courses in their major until the second semester of their sophomore

year. Hence, TRACS serves as a vehicle to engage students with CEAP during their first year. It is through relationships, intentional contacts, and collaboration with departments that students will be retained - instead of losing them to other majors or other universities because they don't feel "plugged in" to teacher education for the first year and a half at WCU.

A demonstrated need for an additional First Year Seminar emerged during orientation of summer 2010. As a result, another section of EDCI 190: Teachers, Schools and Society was offered spring semester 2011, taught by a TRACS advisor. It was during that semester that the discussion began in earnest regarding the possibility of creating a Living/Learning Community (LLC) for first-year education majors. Drawing from the successes of the Teaching Fellows Program and other WCU LLCs, the new education LLC was designed to provide a holistic learning

opportunity by combining classroom learning (a First Year Seminar), a co-curricular opportunity (WHEEL TEACH student organization), and a residential learning community (in collaboration with Residential Life). The WHEEL TEACH LLC model was then presented to CEAP departments, CEAP Leadership Council, the First Year Experience office, residential living, and the TRACS advisory council.

As an unexpected outcome, Wheel Teach is providing a research opportunity for Dr. Carrie Rogers (Assistant Professor, SoTL), who is currently working on a project to determine if membership in the Wheel Teach LLC makes a difference in commitment and orientation to the teaching profession.



# New Faculty Members, Interim Leaders Highlight Changes to the College

**Leadership** – Two veteran CEAP faculty members assumed new leadership positions July 1. **Dr. Dale Carpenter**, professor of Special Education, became the interim dean and **Dr. Dan Grube**, associate professor of

Physical Education and Health, was named interim director of the School of Teaching and Learning. Newcomers **Dr. Kim Ruebel**, associate professor of Middle Grades, began as associate dean for academic

affairs joining WCU from the University of Texas at Arlington, and **Mary Beth Decatur** joined the College as director of the Office of Field Experiences, coming from the University of North Carolina-Asheville.

**FACULTY AND STAFF – CEAP WAS FORTUNATE THIS YEAR TO HAVE OUTSTANDING NEW FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS JOIN THE COLLEGE.**

## DEAN'S OFFICE



**Lydia Cook**  
*student services specialist*



**Cass Morgan**  
*assistant professor in Parks and Recreation Management*



**Loredana Apavaloaie**  
*assistant professor in Birth-Kindergarten*



**Melodie Frick**  
*assistant professor in Counseling*



**Paula Carnes-Ashe**  
*administrative support associate*



**David Scales**  
*visiting assistant professor*

## HUMAN SERVICES

## PSYCHOLOGY

## SCHOOL OF TEACHING & LEARNING

## TEACHER RECRUITMENT, ADVISING AND CAREER SUPPORT



**Aubrey Ray**  
*visiting instructor for Health*



**David Troy**  
*instructor for Health and Physical Education*



**Holly Pinter**  
*visiting assistant professor in Elementary and Middle Grades Education*



**Lynn Knight**  
*visiting assistant professor in Special Education*



**Sarah Reams**  
*instructor / lead university supervisor*



**Belinda Petricek**  
*academic advisor*

## CONTACT OUR ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

### HUMAN SERVICES

91 Killian Building Lane  
Killian, Room 208  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
828.227.7310

### SCHOOL OF TEACHING & LEARNING

1 University Drive  
Reid Gym, Room 100  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
828.227.7108

### PSYCHOLOGY

91 Killian Building Lane  
Killian, Room 302B  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
828.227.7361



The College of Education and Allied Professions welcomed 80+ students in our Jamaica programs to campus from July 3 to August 4. The students in Special Education and Early Childhood, in addition to their coursework, attended *Unto These Hills* in Cherokee, the Bele Chere festival in Asheville, and a Chancellor's Dinner.

### DR. MARIE-LINE GERMAIN,

a Human Services faculty member in the Human Resource master's program received one of 16 university fellowships from across the United States to attend the Japan Studies Institute held at San Diego State University in June. The two-



week program was designed to promote goodwill and an understanding of how leaders in Japan work to promote future growth while honoring traditional cultural foundations.

### FORMER COUNSELING STUDENT ASSISTS PROFESSOR IN EDITING BOOK

Russ Curtis and Eric Christian's (M.A.Ed., '99) edited book, *Integrated Care: Applying Theory to Practice* and accompanying instructional DVD, *Integrated Care in Action*, were published in March 2012 by Routledge. *Integrated Care in Action* was also picked up by Alexander Street Press and is due to be released in late September. Research about the efficacy of conducting a depression protocol with primary care patients was conducted at the Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) family medical practice, with assistance from Jennifer Hardin (M.S., '11) a WCU counseling intern at the time, and will be highlighted in Curtis and Christian's presentation, "Internship in Integrated Health Care facilities: Opportunities and Challenges," at the March 2013 American Counseling Association's annual conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. In July, Curtis and Christian were interviewed about *Integrated Care* for the American Counseling Association's Podcast Series: *Hot Topics* (not to be confused with HotPockets, which are delicious).



## 21st Century Technology Offers Teaching/Learning Opportunities

The College of Education and Allied Professions continues to invest in the technology necessary to support our students and faculty in 21st century learning. Over the summer, two rooms in the Killian Building have had a significant makeover. The Taft B. Botner Conference Room in Killian 102 is now a premier instructional space on our campus. New furniture, including tables and chairs on casters, allows for flexibility in the room setup and for larger class sizes. In addition, an all-digital audio/video upgrade allows speakers to project images on five projectors around the room. The room also features four Smart interactive whiteboards, allowing students to work in collaborative groups in class. Events and classes have nearly filled up the schedule for this room in the fall semester.

Killian 105 is now the Killian Student Commons. It features carrels with iMac computers, lockers for commuter students,

movable tables and chairs for group meetings, seats with power outlets for laptop users, and a presentation practice area that also incorporates a Smart interactive whiteboard. Students are already making use of this space to work, relax, or have group meetings between classes.



Another technology change in Killian and Reid is the installation of digital signage. These monitors were also installed over the summer and serve to inform students and faculty of announcements, deadlines, and events in the college. We can also showcase the activities of our students and faculty to recruit current and potential students into our programs. The signs are also connected to the campus emergency notification system and can be used to alert people in the building to any incidents on campus.

This semester students in HEAL 111 and 123 are using the college's new cart of 30 iPads to submit their fitness assessment data. HEAL students take fitness assessments to measure the change in their fitness over the course of the semester. Debby Singleton, faculty member in the School of Teaching and Learning, collects this data for research on the effects of the health courses on student wellness.



### SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Dr. Valerie Mazzotti has two new publications in special education journals. The first publication has been accepted to the *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions*. The paper presents results of her dissertation study, which focused on teaching students at-risk for emotional disturbance to set goals, make a plan to reach those goals, and monitor progress towards their goals. The second publication has been accepted to *Intervention in School and Clinic*. The paper titled, "Navigating the Evidence-Based Practice Maze: Resources for Teachers of Secondary Students with Disabilities," attempts to bridge the research-to-practice gap by providing secondary special education teachers with tools and resources to effectively implement secondary transition evidence-based practices with students with disabilities.

Dale Carpenter, interim dean, (right) and David Claxton, professor of health and physical education, lending a hand to incoming freshmen.



## CEAP News

CONTACT US:  
91 Killian Building Lane  
Cullowhee, NC 28723  
828.227.7311



Like us on Facebook  
[facebook.com/WCUCEAP](https://facebook.com/WCUCEAP)

WCU is a University of North Carolina campus and an Equal Opportunity Institution. This public document was created for electronic distribution by the Office of Creative Services | October 2012 | 12-725