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Spring 2009

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
Graduate School of Education and Psychology

INSPIRATION
for change

Educational Leadership Quarterly News Update

A summary of newsmakers, alumni advancements, events, and the latest developments at GSEP.

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Making Waves »

Phi Delta Kappa Honors Emeritus Professor of Education with Emeriti Membership Status



Dr. Diana Hiatt-Michael, emeritus professor of Education, was honored with emeriti membership status by the board of Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) in Bloomington, Indiana. PDK is a dedicated advocate for public schools and strives to prepare the next generation of educators. Through a wide range of initiatives based on visionary leadership, relevant research, and dedicated service, PDK serves practicing teachers, administrators, college educators, and those concerned about public education. [more>>](#)

ELAP Alumna Unites Compton Area School and Community



Alumna of the Educational Leadership Administration and Policy (ELAP) doctoral program and Lincoln-Drew Elementary School principal Kanika White is effectively unifying the community within the Compton Unified School District. Concerned that African-American students' grades were not improving in the areas of language arts and math, White was determined to make a change by encouraging the combined efforts of teachers, parents, and the extended neighborhood. [more>>](#)

Adjunct Faculty Member Gives National Presentation on Dropout Prevention

California's "Options for Youth" charter schools are changing the way at-risk youth receive an education. Instead of a "one size fits all" approach to high school, the schools tailor the curriculum to each student. Options for Youth's deputy superintendent and GSEP adjunct faculty member Jennifer Kliever presented on dropout prevention at the National Youth At-Risk Conference in Savannah, Georgia from March 1 to 4, and at the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference in Orlando, Florida from March 13 to 16. [more>>](#)

ELAP Alumnus Appointed Principal of Oakland Aviation High School

Dr. James Sulton; a graduate of the Educational Leadership, Administration, and Policy doctoral program (ELAP); was recently appointed Principal at Oakland Aviation High School (OAHS). OAHS is a third-year charter school that uses aviation as a hook to teach science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) courses as well as college level business and aviation courses; and to inspire youth to pursue careers in aviation and business. [more>>](#)

In The News »



- **Del Mar Times, February 19:** Adjunct faculty member in the Education division Dr. Sharon McClain, superintendent of Del Mar Union High School District, was highlighted for her receipt of the 2009 Pepperdine University Superintendent of the Year Award.
- **EdCal, January 26:** Dr. Sharon McClain was also featured in the Association of California School Administrators weekly newspaper for her receipt of the 2009 Pepperdine University Superintendent of the Year Award

Alumni Updates »

Emilio Pack, ELAP '08, is a trainer for new Alliance Charter School Principals and assistant director of the School Administration Program at Loyola Marymount University. Concurrently, Pack runs the Charter Leadership Academy for students seeking an Administrative Credential with a specialization in charter schools.

Roberto Estrada, ELA '03, is principal of Lennox Middle School in Lennox, California. Estrada began his professional life in 1992 as a teacher's assistant in the Lennox School District, and previously attended schools in the district as a student.

Resources »

NEW ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP – APPLY NOW



GSEP is excited to announce a new scholarship program to support Pepperdine alumni during the current economic downturn. The Waves Education Development Growth and Excellence (EDGE) program is open to all Pepperdine alumni interested in pursuing one of the six master's or five doctoral degrees offered at GSEP starting in summer or fall 2009. Waves EDGE was created to demonstrate GSEP's concern for our valued Pepperdine alumni, and reach out to them in a meaningful way during these difficult economic times.

Recipients will be awarded \$5,000 toward a master's degree, and \$10,000 toward a doctoral degree, to be disbursed over the first 3 terms of their program. To qualify, applicants must meet the admissions requirements and be accepted to their program of choice, complete a 2009-2010 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, and submit the three question scholarship application. Awards will be based on financial need, clarity of career goals, and alumni affinity for the university's mission.

Call Financial Aid at **310-568-5775**, e-mail gsepfaid@pepperdine.edu or visit the [web site](#).

WRITING SUPPORT

The Writing Support Center (WLA Graduate Campus, Room 522) offers guidance on the dissertation process, comprehensive reviews of papers and dissertations, advice on APA formatting, and workshops on writing mechanics. Make an appointment to talk in-



person, over the phone, or via SKYPE, or visit the center during walk-in hours (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

Call Gina Meister at **310-258-2815**, e-mail regina.meister@pepperdine.edu or visit the [web site](#).

CAREER SERVICES



Advance your career by utilizing the specialized support and resources provided by GSEP Career Services. Assistance includes career counseling, cover letter and resume review, job search guidance, and interview preparation. Career Services also hosts PepPro, an easy-to-use database listing open positions, networking events, and other tools.

To set-up your PepPro username and password:

1. Visit <https://gsep-pepperdine-csm.symplicity.com/students/>
2. Click on the "Register" tab

Call Career Services at **310-568-5666**, e-mail gsep.careerservices@pepperdine.edu or visit the [web site](#).

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT



Are you interested in enhancing your professional profile? Explore new learning opportunities at a GSEP information session. GSEP offers six master's and five doctoral programs across its five graduate campus locations throughout Southern California and online. Programs are fully accredited by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, or the American Psychological Association. Visit the [web site](#).

COUNSELING CLINICS



Counseling is one way to enhance your coping skills. GSEP manages three counseling clinics at which members of the Pepperdine community can receive low fee services. The clinics are open to the public, and provide affordable, high quality, individualized therapy in a supportive and accepting environment.

Call the clinics toll-free at **866-396-8970**, or visit the [web site](#).

Upcoming Events »

- **14th Annual Los Angeles Times Festival of Books**
April 25, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
April 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
UCLA Campus

Please stop by the Pepperdine University booth to see titles from faculty and alumni, including *From Crime to Crime* by GSEP alumnus Dennis Palumbo.

- **Phi Delta Kappa Chalk Walk**
May 3, 8:30 a.m.
Exposition Park, Los Angeles

Chalk Walk is a fundraiser to support teachers locally and nationally by improving

the status of the educational profession and creating community solidarity. Chalk Walk is sponsored by Phi Delta Kappa (PDK), the premier professional association for educators. PDK serves practicing teachers, administrators, college educators, and those concerned about public education.

Call April Uhlig at **310-568-5770**, e-mail pdk@pepperdine.edu.

Visit the Chalk Walk [web site](#).

Visit the PDK [web site](#).

- **Lessons from Successful Charter Schools**

May 9, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (check-in begins at 8:30 a.m.)

West Los Angeles Graduate Campus

Are you interested in or currently working at a California charter school? Attend this upcoming seminar, hosted by the GSEP Superintendent Advisory Council, to increase your skills and network with charter school leaders. Discussion topics will include using accountability measures and data to improve student achievement, parent engagement and outreach, creating a college-bound culture, and utilizing community partnerships to support student achievement. Presenters will include experts and peers from the Alliance for College-Ready Public Schools, Global Education Academy (K-5), Camino Nuevo Charter School (K-8), Oakland Aviation High School, and Gertz-Ressler High School. In addition, principals from local charter schools will be present and recruiting teachers for open positions. The \$10 cost includes the seminar, breakfast, and lunch.

Call **310-568-5622** or [RSVP](#) online.

- **Commencement**

June 20, 10:30 a.m.

Malibu Campus, Alumni Park

Sharon Draper, a New York Times best-selling author and five-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Literary Award, will give the commencement speech, and alumna (2004) Jennifer Trubenbach, executive director of Operation of Hope, an organization that performs free facial reconstructive surgeries on children in need, will receive the 2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Call Vanessa Jahn at **310-568-2344** or e-mail vanessa.jahn@pepperdine.edu

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