The Ed Spread Revisited

After a long, leisurely summer, relaxing in the sun, Ed has decided he needs a facelift (too many sunspots and wrinkles!). We are shifting our focus to highlighting our programs and our students. We will feature department news and want to showcase all the wonderful things everyone is doing - in the classroom and out!

A department newsletter can be a great resource for sharing ideas, discussing issues and organizing events. However, to work out as such, it requires you to be involved. We want you to keep us updated and informed, and to contribute pictures and articles. Remember the Ed Spread is not just about you, it should be by you as well! Submit your articles and pictures to emccorma@fit.edu, and I’ll make sure to get them in. If you have news and other tidbits you’d like to share, but don’t have time to write out an article, I’m sure Mrs. Blenis will pass on the scoop and you can always stop me and pass on the information. We’ll write it for you! Thanks, and I’m really looking forward to a great year.

Elisabeth McCormack, FEA and Ed Spread Champion

Building Bridges (Literally!)

Ed’s not the only one getting a facelift this summer! Anyone who has been on campus this summer may have run into some obstacles getting to the office (besides the siren call of the beach!). Early in the summer, security finally put their foot down (quite literally), and said that the wooden bridge leading into the Shephard Building was in desperate need of repair. So finally, those creaky boards and decaying supports have been replaced with brand new lumber. And while those of us working on campus this summer have had to do some maneuvering to get around, work on the foot bridge is now complete. They are still working on the rails and the boardwalk around the building.

More great news, the classrooms in the Shephard Building are also being upgraded with new carpet, furniture and white boards. I’m sure everyone who has had class in those rooms will appreciate the improvements.

FTCE Update:

The next FTCE date is: October 13
Register by 08/24
Late Reg. by 9/13

You can now register online at http://www.flnesinc.com

Passing scores on the General Knowledge test are required before registration of the Junior Sequence of Education Courses (EDS 3033, 4051 & 3095), and seniors must pass the FTCE Professional Education and Subject Area Test before graduation.

Walk to class with the newfound confidence you won’t end up swimming in the swamp!

The Shephard Building Bridge under construction.

Part of the Ed Spread’s new look is a monthly photo contest. Send in your favorite photos — people shots, nature picture, whatever you think is worth sharing, and the best photos will be featured in this header box.

Email submissions to emccorma@fit.edu, please include a brief caption.

Submit your articles and pictures to emccorma@fit.edu, and I’ll make sure to get them in. If you have news and other tidbits you’d like to share, but don’t have time to write out an article, I’m sure Mrs. Blenis will pass on the scoop and you can always stop me and pass on the information. We’ll write it for you! Thanks, and I’m really looking forward to a great year.

Elisabeth McCormack, FEA and Ed Spread Champion
Introducing the newest addition to the Science/Math Education Department’s family: Ms. Christie Gates! When you get the chance, stop by and welcome her to our team.

New Face in the Department Office

As many of you know, Dee Beckham retired at the end of last semester. Hopefully you all got a chance to wish her well and thank her for her hard work. We sent her off with a hopping retirement party, which everyone enjoyed.

We are very pleased to welcome Christie Gates to the department. Christie started on the 31st of May and has been learning the ropes all summer. She applied for the job after seeing it in the Sunday paper, and, so far, “really loves” the job, saying that the “people, culture, and atmosphere” she’s found working on a college campus are really great, and somewhat of a change from corporate America.

Christie worked many years for Polaroid Corporation in Cambridge, Massachusetts before moving down to the Melbourne area. She has lived all over the States, including California, Texas, Washington, Virginia, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and now Florida.

She wants to welcome back all the students, and says that even though she still feels new and is working through that honeymoon period one has with any new job, she is looking forward to meeting everyone and will be happy to help in any way she can.

Everyone should stop in and say hi; she’s really nice and we are very lucky to have her!

Introducing Mr. and Mrs. . . .

Our warmest congratulations go out to two of our newly married students, Carolyn Salois and Cassie Moll. July 7, 2007 was a busy day. They were among the many couples that either thought getting married on 07-07-07 would be lucky or that it would be an easy anniversary date to remember.

Cassie Moll and Tim Gonyer exchanged vows in North Palm Beach, Florida.

Carolyn Salois and Josh Horst were married in Palm Bay, Florida.

We hope you had a fantastic honeymoon and are settling into wedded bliss and domestic happiness. We wish you all the luck and happiness in the world.

Just Married

Tim & Cassie Gonyer

Josh & Carolyn Horst
Faculty Update. . . .
We have two new faculty joining us this year: Mrs. Lisa Gray and Mrs. Kristina Ollis. They will be team-teaching EDS 4051, Methods and Management of Middle and High School Teaching. Their résumés are almost identical: they received their BS and MS degrees from Florida Tech’s education department, they are currently teaching at Florida Air Academy, and they were even born on the same day one year apart. Mrs. Gray’s certifications are Chemistry and Middle School Science. Mrs. Ollis’ certification is Mathematics. They both started teaching at FAA in 1999, so many of you most likely have observed them teach and know what effective teachers they are. But that goes without saying ... after all, they did graduate from Florida Tech!

Welcome Mrs. Ollis and Mrs. Gray. We look forward to meeting you at the Picnic!

Welcome New Students
We are really excited to welcome our incoming students for the new school year. We have a good sized group this term and are looking forward to getting to know you all.

We have Sarah Bates, Makeda-Ione Brome, Regina Fluellen, Erin Binder, and Beau Bailey transferring in to FIT. I’m sure that Florida Tech will be a great fit, and a fantastic place to continue your college experience.

We’d also like to welcome our incoming freshmen, Carolyn Kerstetter, Christine Wrolson, Morgan Davis, Michael Green and Yannic Lops. I’m sure you are all excited about starting your college careers and I’d like to assure you that you made a great choice to major in education at Florida Tech.

The EdSpread is pleased to welcome you all to the Science/Math Ed family. I invite all of our returning students to extend a warm welcome to our new students, and help them get acclimatized to FIT.

FCTE News . . . .
As I’m sure you all know, the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) are a graduation requirement. The FTCE General Knowledge exam must be taken and passed before registering for the Junior Sequence of Education Courses (EDS 3033, 4051 & 3095). This year’s Registration Bulletin is available in the Department Office, and lists dates, fees and test sites. Two additional test dates have been added this year, and you can now register online at http://www.fl.nesinc.com. Please make sure that you don’t let the deadlines slip by, as it may cause major headaches and additional money down the road. The EdSpread always lists the upcoming test date and relevant deadline, so keep an eye on them. The next test is scheduled for October 13, and you must register by August 24 to avoid a $30 late fee. Mrs. Blenis has study guides in her office for the different exams (please return them if you have them out and don’t need them anymore.) Good Luck!
Annual Department Picnic

This year’s annual picnic is going to be a blast, and everyone will want to make sure they mark their calendars and save the date.

We have tons of fun activities planned, great food, and of course, it is the perfect way to reconnect with friends and get to know new faces in the department. I’m sure there are some great stories about exciting summers to share. Anyway, can there be a better way to kick off the school year than with a good, old-fashioned picnic?

Everyone is welcome, so bring along friends and family. Just make sure to RSVP to Christie in the department office (cgates@fit.edu, 321-674-8126), and let her know what kind of tube steak you will be enjoying! (For those who have never heard of tube steak, myself included, it refers to the family of sausage food products). Your choices are Brautwurst, Hotdogs, and Poutrydogs. Bring along a veggie, fruit, chips, or a dessert to share. Along with the tube steaks, drinks are provided.

Annual Department Picnic

Saturday, August 25, 2007
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
PAL Pavillion
Palm Bay Regional Park
1951 Malabar Road NW
Palm Bay, FL (6.7 miles west of Babcock)

DEPARTMENT CALENDAR

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The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.
- Herbert Spencer (1820-1903)

The Ed Spread - 2007-2008