

### Director's Note: International Partnerships and Teacher Effectiveness

For more than 40 years the College of Education has partnered with schools and universities around the world to prepare candidates to teach in a globally minded fashion. We believe teachers who spend time abroad develop a better understanding of international relationships and cultural diversities which we view as a critical component of effective teaching. The overseas experience prepares them to assume leadership roles in 21st century schools in what clearly is an interconnected world.

Recently, the College expanded these partnership efforts by establishing exchange programs that enable our candidates to trade places with those from other countries and by providing professional learning opportunities for internationally based educators through participation in UK programs. This issue of *Field Notes* highlights the benefits of the international partnerships we have forged. As you peruse the newsletter, I think you will see why we place such high value on them.

Haleigh LeCompte leads the way by describing her life-changing experience student teaching in South Africa, one that led her to join the Peace Corps. Haleigh's reflections include a photo essay depicting aspects of her experience learning to teach outside the United States. Following that, UK faculty members Ellie Holliday and Lee Ann Jung discuss a popular initiative they have launched, designed to strengthen the expertise of international educators, as part of the newly created Office of International School Partnerships (ISP).

I hope you enjoy taking this virtual journey to our international sites. These samples represent merely a few of the collaborative efforts we have underway to build expertise and connect the world through teaching. We will keep you informed of changes as we continue to grow in this direction, and we welcome your ideas to strengthen efforts along the way.

-SB

### Wonderfully Lost

*By Haleigh LeCompte  
Oakhill School  
Knysna, South Africa*

I left the States running, searching desperately for the type of change and self-clarification that only comes as a result of being completely and utterly thrown out of the nest. I wasn't scared, or even overly excited; I was numb, running head-down, full force into something big--something new.

Crossing through security, I transcended into a state of limbo: unable to return to my family (who still stood on the other side, hopeful that I would change my mind), yet still 48 hours and four plane rides away from this "new life" I so highly anticipated. For the first time, I felt alone, isolated on the other side, trapped inside a "movie moment," unsure of my role in the movement around me.

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***Haleigh LeCompte waves goodbye as she heads off to South Africa for her student teaching semester. Look inside for more about her overseas experience!***





## Collaborative Connection: Sharing Ideas

One way to sustain the collaborative connection between university and school-based partners is to share ideas about teaching and learning. In your experience, what works and doesn't work to promote quality teaching and foster student learning? What changes have you made; what challenges have you experienced that colleagues might find interesting or helpful?

Please send thoughts, suggestions, or concerns to [mrhrab0@uky.edu](mailto:mrhrab0@uky.edu). We welcome your contributions!

## Cooperating and Resource Teacher Tuition Waiver Program

Senate Bill 77 stipulates that state universities will provide a tuition waiver for up to 6 credits to a cooperating teacher who supervises a student teacher for a full semester. Teachers supervising for only 8 weeks will be eligible for 3 credits. Resource teachers can also receive a tuition waiver for up to 6 credits for each KTIP intern supervision they complete.

### To qualify you must:

- use your credits within one calendar year of completing the assignment,
- gain admission to the university and be a student in good standing,
- complete the tuition waiver form *before* you enroll each semester, AND
- submit the waiver form to the Associate Dean's office prior to the first day of classes for each semester of enrollment.

Visit <http://education.uky.edu/ADeanRI/students/sb77-tuition-waiver> for information and an application. If you have questions, please contact:

### Michelle Traynor

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## Upcoming Events

<b>January 5</b>	University-Based Supervisors' meeting 1:00 p.m. in 122 TEB
<b>January 6</b>	Student Teacher Orientation meetings Taylor Ed. Auditorium
<b>January 7</b>	First day of student teaching*
<b>January 19</b>	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (holiday)
<b>February 20</b>	Last day to apply for a May 2015 graduate degree (online in MyUK)
<b>February 28</b>	Last day to apply for an August 2015 undergraduate degree (online in MyUK)
<b>March 9</b>	Dual placement students begin 2nd half placements*
<b>March 25 3:30pm - 6:00pm</b>	<b>KY Teachers Network Career Fair hosted at EKU</b>
<b>March 30-April 3</b>	P-12 Spring Break (in most districts)
<b>May 8</b>	End of Spring 2015 semester
<b>June 20</b>	Last day to apply for an August 2015 graduate degree (online in MyUK)

*\*For most programs. Check with program coordinator for your specific start date.*

## College of Education Faculty Provide Professional Learning Opportunities for International Educators

By Ellie Holliday and Lee Ann Jung  
COE Office of International School Partnerships



As educators in the United States, we may not realize our counterparts in other countries, who may have fewer resources or less experience, often struggle to develop professionally, earn higher degrees, and stay up to date with recommended practices.

“Two participants in the program described a little girl in their school who is experiencing selective mutism. This child is unable to speak at school, but does at home. Not understanding the psychological nature of selective mutism, many of her teachers have been lowering her grades because of lack of participation. The school administration wants to exit her from the school next year unless she begins to talk. As a result of the program, the two participants will be supporting the student in new ways and advocating for her to continue to be served by the school. This is just one of many stories we heard that week. I can’t wait to see the ways this program changes the way people think about students with disabilities as people first, who deserve the same human rights as all students.”

This past summer, the Office of International School Partnerships (ISP) was created within the College of Education to connect international schools that have identified needs for professional learning with expertise in the College. The ISP mission is to build strategic partnerships between the College, international schools, and professional learning organizations worldwide, leading to mutually-beneficial experiences for all.

ISP is now working to develop a partnership with NESAC (Near East South Asia Council for Overseas Schools) to identify areas where UK College of Education faculty can meet some of their identified areas for growth by working together to provide professional learning experiences, online coursework, and degree programs for teachers. ISP also hopes to supplement the international opportunities currently available to domestic UK students by identifying potential placements for clinical experience abroad with our partners.

Starting in the fall semester of this year, 46 international educators from the Latin American region signed on to be a part of the first ISP cohort studying inclusive education. The program is being offered through a partnership with the Tri-Association, the premier education professional learning association in that region. Participants are funded by the Tri-Association and the U.S. Department of State. Dr. Lee Ann Jung organized group discussions online for several weeks before meeting face-to-face at the Tri-Association educators’ conference in early October. There, she saw real examples of why educators from this region see such a need to learn more about how to include children with disabilities in the classroom. She was encouraged to find immediate outcomes of this program in the lives of children with disabilities.

You can find more information about the Office of International School Partnerships by visiting [seeblue.com/isp](http://seeblue.com/isp). To discuss the activities of the office, contact Lee Ann Jung, Director of ISP: [ljung@uky.edu](mailto:ljung@uky.edu). If you are interested in finding out more about education abroad opportunities for education majors, contact Assistant Director Ellie Holliday: [eholliday@uky.edu](mailto:eholliday@uky.edu).

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### Please Note: Office Name Change

We have changed our office name from Field Experiences and School Collaboration (OFE) to Clinical Practices and School Partnerships (OCP) as a way to punctuate the point that clinical practices serve as the linchpin of our teacher education program. Be assured that our program remains field based, clinically focused, and globally-minded as we help our partners around the world *See Blue*.

### Award-Winning Staff: Julie Cleary

We proudly announce that Julie Cleary, Academic Administrative Coordinator for the Office of Clinical Practices and School Partnerships (OCP), recently received the College of Education’s Outstanding Staff Award. We are delighted that she received this well-deserved recognition and grateful for her continuous contributions to our partnership initiatives. Kudos and hooray!



# Photos from the Field



1.



2.



3.