

New Faculty & Staff Welcome:

Dr. Stoetzel joins the FSU team from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she earned her PhD in Curriculum and Instruction. A former ELA teacher, Dr. Stoetzel teaches literacy education courses that span the K-12 spectrum. Most recently, she worked as a Literacy Curriculum Specialist for the Office of Education Outreach and Partnerships at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and brings expertise in online teaching, digital literacies, and instructional coaching. Dr. Stoetzel's research focuses on preservice and in-service educator learning, as she is passionate about growing teacher capacity through transforming opportunities for teacher learning.



Dr. Stoetzel

Michelle Rogers joined the School of Education as the Department Secretary late Summer 2019. Michelle started working at Ferris part-time in Dining Services in 2014 and then held full-time positions within Dining Services and the Physical Plant before joining the School of Education. Michelle is a Muskegon, MI native, but has lived in Big Rapids since 2000. Michelle is married to Dale Rogers, a teacher at Morley Stanwood High School and has 3 children, two of which will be attending FSU this Fall. Her eldest, will be pursuing a degree in Elementary Education. Her middle child, Carter who holds a full-time position in Dining Services at Ferris is in the Michigan Army National Guard and is getting ready to be deployed. Michelle earned her B.S. degree in Integrative Studies and a Human Resource Certificate from Ferris State University in 2018. She is currently working on her MBA Certificate in Design and Innovation Management through Kendall College of Art and Design.



Michelle Rogers

Faculty & Staff Activity:

- Dr. David Alban represented the department at the fall CAEP Conference in Washington DC. He coordinates the accreditation of the MS in Educational Leadership.
- Dr. David Alban and Dr. Andrea Kitomary Co-presented at the Great Lakes Regional Student Success Conference in Novi, MI on A Seamless Retention Effort Along the Pathway to College Completion, in February 2020.
- Dr. Nicole Erickson graduated in August 2020 from CMU with an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership. The title of her dissertation is: The Culture of Early Childhood Teacher Education: Exploring Stakeholder Perceptions of Undergraduate Student Field Experiences within a University Lab School
- Dr. Nicole Erickson will present at The Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children's annual conference on March 26, 2019. The title of the presentation is Culture Counts—How the Vision, Mission, and Values of an Organization Shape the Foundation for a Quality Early Childhood Program.
- Dr. Vanessa Wyss trained with the NSTA in Salt Lake City, UT in October to incorporate 3D science techniques in the classroom.
- Lucinda Garnsey, MA, NCC, BCC, LSC presented Child Guidance and Discipline at the Michigan Association of the Education of Young Children Conference in Grand Rapids April 2019.
- Lucinda Garnsey, MA, NCC, BCC, LSC will also present at the YMCA annual conference for educators held February 2020. The topic is Child Guidance: Building Relationships.
- Dr. Liza Ing attended the V International Education Conference in Kazan Russia in May 2019. She presented on Early Childhood Special Education in the US. While in Russia she visited several elementary and secondary schools as well as two teacher preparation programs.
- Dr. Andrea Kitomary Co-presented at the MI-ACPA Conference in Kalamazoo, MI on A Cross-Divisional Impact on Retention: At-Promised Students at a PWI, October 2019.
- Dr. Andrea Kitomary Co-presented at HatchEd Conference sponsored by Ferris State University on How does Intervention Programming Affect Retention, September 2019 as well as a Poster presentation on Retention Strategies and Outcomes for the LEAD by Design Program.
- Dr. Vanessa Wyss traveled to Wisconsin last year where she attended a workshop that prepared her to be a Population Education Trainer. She now integrates lessons on Population and the environment in her classes to prepare pre-service teachers to incorporate these ideas in their own classes.
- Dr. Lindsay Stoetzel was invited to speak at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's inaugural Instructional Coaching Symposium in November. Additionally, she presented on Coaching for Equity within the Literacy Classroom at the Conference on English Leadership in Baltimore, MD and at the Wisconsin State Reading Association Annual Meeting in Milwaukee, WI.
- Dr. Lindsay Stoetzel has two upcoming publications featuring her research in the field of instructional coaching: Coaching our coaches: How online learning can address the gap in preparing K-12 instructional coaches (in the journal Teaching and Teacher Education) and Keeping it Collaborative: Differentiating Coaching Practices for Beginning Teachers (in the journal Kappa Delta Pi Record).

Registered Student Organizations:

Our Child Life RSO is beginning to grow, and we are so excited. We just filled a new E-board panel and are looking forward to growing as professionals together. This semester we are planning out a lots of different ways to get involved. We will be doing weekly meetings, monthly visits to Helen Devos for project night light, and attending upcoming Child Life conferences. Our mission is to succeed together by gaining knowledge and providing support as professionals.



We will be meeting weekly on Thursday at 6:00, right on campus at the FLITE library!

Association of Future Educators is a group of Ferris education students who support each other and reach out to the community in a variety of ways. Our Executive board consists of President—Olivia Pahl, VP—Sheryl Karrip, Secretary—Collin Templeman, Treasurer—Deanna Landis, Community Service Chair—Gabrielle Dobroczynski, and Public Relations Chair—Hannah Bednaryczk. We frequently attend Family Nights at Morley Stanwood Elementary, where we participate in fun activities with students and their families. We also do many different community service projects such as the United Way food drive and working with Love Your Melon. This past semester, we worked with NEMCSA to give books to elementary students. We have upcoming professional developments on topics like classroom management and dealing with trauma and grief in a school setting. We'll also be participating in the Big Event this spring! Keep an eye out for us at RSO fairs and at tabling events in the University Center.

Elementary Education Certification Banding

This year has been one of many changes. We are currently in the process of redesigning our Elementary Education curriculum to meet the new standards established by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). Currently, elementary education program certifies a teacher for grades K-6 (self-contained) and 7-8 in a specific subject area. The new program is divided into two bands- Pk-3 and 3-6. This change means that students will either have to choose one band or complete both bands to be able to be qualified to teach Pk-6. The Pk-3 band has a focus on literacy and numeracy where the 3-6 band has an equal focus on all subjects. This new process has moved away from declared minors for certification. One goal is to significantly reduce the number of credits to graduation, bringing the number closer to the 120 credits required for a bachelor's degree.

At the same time the MDE has increased the number of required hours in clinical experiences in the Pk-12 grades. The new requirement is 600 hours including student teaching. As we design the new program, the expanded field experiences, core teaching practices and social emotional learning competencies will be integrated into the curriculum. We are anticipating the introduction of new standards for Middle School (grades 5-9) and Secondary (grades 7-12) and a new certification for Birth to Kindergarten. With these changes coming, the School of Education will be very busy working on curriculum.

CAEP Accreditation

After several years of preparation including data collection, analysis, design of rubrics, and much writing the School of Education has received full accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation. School of Education (SOE) had to demonstrate their program's specific efforts to achieve excellence in five categories:

- Content and Pedagogical Knowledge
- Clinical Partnerships and Practice
- Program Impact
- Candidate Quality, Recruitment and Selectivity
- Provider Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement

There was also a two and-a-half day site visit conducted in 2019 to assure that Ferris' SOE was qualified for this designation from the sole nationally recognized accrediting body for educator preparation. Full accreditation means the undergraduate programs in the SOE have been approved for seven years. During this time, we will be addressing areas identified as needing improvement. Faculty and staff will continue to collect data and make program decisions based on the data analysis. Ferris State University's School of Education is among 59 providers across the United States, who have certified accreditation in recognition of their rigorous standards for preparing teachers. The School of Education at Ferris State University is one of 17 in the state of Michigan who have completed the process and gained accreditation so far. We would like to thank our students, alumni, University Supervisors, and P-12 partners for their support and assistance in helping us to meet this challenge.

LEAD by Design Program:

LEAD by Design Program Partnering with the Community to Engage Community Youth. The 2019-2020 academic school year is full of opportunities for School of Education students to engage with community youth, ages Pre-K through 7th grades, in the greater surrounding Big Rapids area. SOEs LEAD by Design Program is hosting along with the FSUs Parents with Children Program and partnering with the MeCeola Children's Council to provide field experiences for preservice teachers to serve youth.

Last spring, SOEs LEAD by Design began an effort to serve children of parents and faculty/staff of the university through promoting literacy. Children ages Pre-K through middle school were invited with their families to take part in literacy games, story reading, and selecting a book to take home. This year LEAD along with the Students with Children Program is expanding our literacy efforts to include the community outside the university. The academic focus of most of the programming will consist of literacy, mathematics, the arts, and science. The MeCeola Children's Council is providing grant funding to support the programming open to all surrounding Big Rapids area youth.

Small groups of 8-10 School of Education students will be mentored by SOE faculty to develop lessons and review implementation strategies that are age appropriate. Each month is centered on a nationally recognized day, which will become theme of the month. Each small group of preservice education students will meet a minimum of two times with a faculty member to ensure the integrity and success of the programming.

The first program featured Groundhog's Day and the activities were developed by Dr. Kavanaugh's Emergent Literacy course students. These Early Childhood and Elementary Education Majors are learning to teach literacy to preschool aged children. This successful event was held at the Big Rapids Community Library and served pre-school through second graders.

Additionally, Artworks business in downtown Big Rapids will partner with Ferris SOE and Students with Children Programs, and MeCeola Children's Council to provide literacy and arts-based programming during the month of March for Dr. Seuss's birthday celebration. Children ages kindergarten through 5th grades are invited with an adult to enjoy the literacy exhibits on display, literacy activities, mathematics, and arts and crafts that celebrate the legacy of Dr. Seuss.

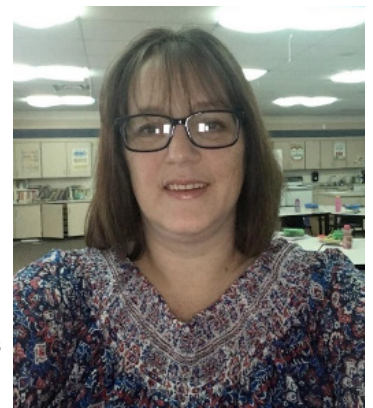
Also, during the month of March, the original program idea from 2019-2020, Reading and a Book Give-Away, will be repeated for families. LEAD by Design students will hold a Baking for Books Program to raise funds to buy books for area youth in addition to the funds being provided by the MeCeola Children's Council. We plan to have books for children Pre-K through middle school that families can take home and read. On-site story reading will also be available as well as literacy games. This is a great time for kids to enjoy reading and listening with other kids.

Featured Alumni:

M.Ed. Curriculum & Instruction: Special Education Stasi Merritt

Mackinaw Trail Middle School
Cadillac Public Schools

I was hired in to a special education position with Cadillac Schools at the middle school in January 2017. I began my work with Ferris to obtain special education certification to fulfill the requirements of emergency certification. Three months later I met Zack Griffin (featured below). He was hired in as the new sixth grade science teacher, right across the hall from me. We added fellow Ferris students to new teaching status to form a camaraderie. Now I have finished my program with Ferris and have added an excellent "special" education to my undergraduate degree. Oh, and Zack and I have no problem asking for stuff out of each other's classrooms, should we forget an experiment ingredient. Zack has also enriched my students' science education through a lesson on turkeys and by sharing his tail feathers and claws taken from a turkey Zack harvested.



B.S. Elementary Education: Zack Griffin

Mackinaw Trail Middle School
Cadillac Public Schools

Having strong relationships with your students is critical to success, but I have also found out the importance of having good relationships with colleagues. Stasi and I have been able to collaborate on many different aspects in the teaching profession and I have also found a partner I can vent to when times get tough!

Featured Alumni Continued:

Early Childhood & Elementary Education: Amanda Thomas

I am currently the Pre-K/GSRP teacher at the Early Learning Center at Ferris State University (FSU). I live outside of Big Rapids with my husband and two daughters. I consider myself a lifelong learner because I enjoy setting goals, reaching them, and making new ones. I completed my bachelor's degree at FSU in the Elementary Education program with an endorsement in Early Childhood Education. Choosing to get a graduate degree has always been a goal for me. I knew I wanted to do something that could benefit myself, my family, and the children I encounter in the classroom. I always strive to be the best teacher I can be. I decided to start taking classes in Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Leadership, and Special Education with hopes that Ferris will soon offer a master's degree in Early Childhood. As I progress through my graduate classes, I find myself thinking differently about certain situations, applying strategies that my professors have taught me and researching new ways to educate young children.



Secondary Education: Molly Simons

I graduated in December of 2016 from FSU's School of Education. I had an amazing experience working with the professors and mentor educators through the program. Around the time of my graduation, there were multiple jobs available throughout Michigan. After some careful consideration, I decided to accept a job with Morley Stanwood Community Schools. I discovered my passion for this district after completing my student teaching with the excellent mentor teachers arranged by FSU.



Since graduation, I have been teaching 10th and 12th grade English at Morley Stanwood High School. In this school community, I have the opportunity to work closely alongside caring educators, student council advisors and members, English department members, and the sophomore class, as their advisor. My district takes an active approach to promote student centered education and relationship building for academic, social, and emotional success. I have attended multiple workshops with district leaders, including the National Association of Student Activity Advisors, formerly the National Association of Workshop Directors (NAWD), and I am attending California Association of Directors of Activities (CADA) this spring to further develop as a leader for MSHS.

After my experience in my undergraduate program at FSU, I enrolled as a graduate student in the Summer of 2018. This May, I will be completing my degree in Educational Leadership. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to continue my education with the university that helped mold me into the educator I am today. I highly recommend FSU to all students interested in the field of education.

MSCTE-Dr. Shelli Ann Garland, a 2016 graduate of Ferris State University in MSCTE

She has recently completed her PhD in Education within the Culture and Academic Values in Education (CAVE) department, School of Education @ Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. Her thesis entitled Finding Volunesia: An exploration of how volunteer identity, and volunteer learning through the life course, transforms participants and develops enduring leaders examined life course influences on volunteer identity and learning through volunteering toward a contribution to adult and lifelong learning. Her research investigated the learning experiences of Active Volunteers in Ireland within the context of wider society and changing social structures. It closely examined the concept of identity and learning throughout the life course, and why it is considered an issue of critical importance in the context of community engagement, volunteer leadership, and longevity.



Dr. Garland is currently working in Ireland as a lecturer of Sociology of Education on the Professional Master's in Education program at Trinity College Dublin. She also teaches Research Theories, Practice and Application to students with intellectual disabilities in the Trinity Center for People with Intellectual Disabilities, a department of the Trinity School of Education. Her Research Interests include European Cultural Identity, Volunteer Identity, Informal Learning, and Leadership, Learning through the Life Course, Lifelong Learning, Sociology of Education, Adult and Higher Education, Community-Based Learning, and Creative Methodologies for Social Science Research.

When she is not teaching or working on projects connected to education within the community, Shelli enjoys searching for seashells with her English bulldog, Mugzy, on the beach near her home in Malahide. If you are interested in finding out more about Dr. Garland's research or her experiences as a non-traditional PhD student living and studying in Ireland, please send an email: garlands@tcd.ie

Featured Alumni Continued:



ProMoTED- Technical Education: Michael Kiekoover

Michael Kiekoover is a student in the ProMoTED program within the School of Education at Ferris State University. He grew up in Nigeria and eventually established an automotive repair shop and training center within the country. For 16 years, he was responsible for the repair of vehicles, generators, water pumping stations, security, and training of staff.

More recently, he has been serving as a consultant and trainer for an automotive repair facility in Makurdi, Nigeria. The facility is very large with training classrooms and repair facilities. He strongly believes in the value of hands-on experiences as he mixes it with the overall training seminars.

The students he has in classes vary widely; from students in local technical schools to instructors at the university level. In Nigeria, he is struck by the level of student interest in learning more about cars and how they function. The students are eager to learn and apply newfound knowledge to their specific situations. Comparing students from the United States and Nigeria is difficult because the students that he teaches today in Escanaba, Michigan are juniors and seniors in high school while those in his seminars in Nigeria tend to be professionals with more experience and on-the-job training

M.S. Educational Leadership-Brent Nummerdor

Machining Engineering Instructor Muskegon Area Career Tech Center

I earned my BS degree in Career Tech Education (CTE) with a Machine Technology minor through the Pro-Mo-Ted program in December 2010. I quickly decided to further my education with a MS degree in CTE and Secondary Administration through the FSU Educational Leadership program in August 2017.

I have been in education for 27 years in a variety of capacities ranging from teacher's assistant to Dean of Students with many moments to cherish throughout those years. The most remarkable and life changing experience was in my 2018-2019 school year. As the Machining/Engineering Instructor, I collaborated with our Health Occupations Instructor, Ms. Kathy Vantil, on a project for a second-grade student with Arthrogryposis and severe visual impairments. We chose seven high school from Muskegon County to interview our client Payton Hunter. The students collaborated to redesign and create a document camera, an iPad stand and desk to accommodate her needs and desire to become more independent. After four months of work, the students presented Payton with her new desk, camera and iPad stand and she was ecstatic with the outcome. Throughout this project, I would tell my students, "You might think you are changing her life, but in reality, she is changing yours just as much as you are hers."

A community member nominated the group for the Grand Valley State University (GVSU) Innovator of the Year Award. The students hard work and dedication earned them a top five placement. The competition for the award included established and reputable inventors.

This project prompted us to create a class that we have named Bio-Tech Engineering. There are several clients looking to our students to help them to become more independent. In our first year, we have already generated enough interest from students and community to expand from a half day to full day program.

As an educator, you hope to leave the educational world in a better place than when you entered, and I feel that we have done that through this program. Thanks in part to my co-teacher Ms. Kathy Vantil and the education I received from past and present professors in the College of Education Pro-Mo-Ted and Educational Leadership programs at FSU.



If you are a graduate of the School of Education and have good news about your professional work to share, please contact Dr. Amy Kavanaugh at amykavanaugh@ferris.edu. We look forward to hearing from you.