

CSUTeach

Quarterly

Issue 3: Winter 2011

A novel pathway to a noble profession

Mentor Teacher, Jennifer Sindyla's 4th grade class and CSUTeach Step 1 Students



CSUTeach STEP 1 Students teach a lesson during their field experience at Michael White Elementary.

"Experience is the best teacher ... you learn by the experiences you have. You learn to problem solve as problems arise. You learn by making mistakes and fixing them for the next time around."

~ Ms. Jennifer Sindyla



Safety first! A Michael White student participates in a CSUTeach student's science lesson.

The faces of CSU Teach



Dr. Joanne Goodell
Mathematics Education
j.goodell@csuohio.edu



Dr. Debbie Jackson
Science Education
d.jackson1@csuohio.edu



Dr. Robert Ferguson
Science Education
r.l.ferguson1@csuohio.edu



Mr. Rick Walton
Master Teacher
r.a.walton51@csuohio.edu



Ms. Renee Overton
Assistant/Coordinator
m.r.overton@csuohio.edu

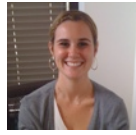
Graduate Assistants



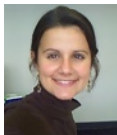
Camilla
Welsch



April
Costello



Amanda
Hutchinson



Heather
El-Khoury



Scholarship News



There will be Choose Ohio First Scholarships available for Summer 2011! Renew your existing COF scholarship or apply for summer today.

Eligible to apply:

- current math/science teachers
- MUST students
- Middle school pre-service teachers
- graduating highschool seniors
- current CSU math or science students majors

Part of the scholarship's requirements include participating in 10 hours of tutoring for the semester.

For details visit: <http://www.csuohio.edu/cehs/departments/te/msg/teach/teach.html> or <http://www.csuohio.edu/cehs/departments/te/msg/ohiofirst/index.html>

Letter from the Director:

February 2011

Dear CSU Teach Students & Faculty,

The new semester has started well! The program's Step 1, Step 2 and EUT 305 students attended the "Mentor Teacher & Student Orientation Lunch" on January 29th and had the opportunity to meet their mentors as well as other students enrolled in CSU Teach.

Currently, 74 students are taking part in their field experiences this semester, observing and planning their own lessons with the guidance of their mentor teachers. For future field experiences, students will need to check on CSU's Office of Field Services website at www.csuohio.edu/cehs/fieldservices/ to fill out an application.

Students in the CSU Teach courses including: EUT 201, 215/217, 305, 315/317, and EST 499 will need to go online to complete this application process. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Be sure to stay informed on all of the Scholarship and Internship opportunities available for this coming year, such as the Choose Ohio First summer scholarships and the Noyce Fall 2011 Scholarships. More info can be found at www.csuohio.edu/cehs/departments/te/msg/teach/teach.html or visit Julka Hall's 3rd floor near the east end of the building to pick up an application.

Have a great Spring semester and good luck to all the students in the field!

Sincerely,

Dr. Joanne Goodell

CSU Teach

CSU Teach Spotlight

Step 1 Mentor Teacher: *Jennifer Sindyla*

Teaching experience: *15 years*

School: *Michael R. White Elementary*

What are your thoughts on CSU Teach and the Step 1 students?

I think the CSU Teach program is a good program to introduce students to the "real world" of teaching. I felt the students participating in the program got a good first impression of what it was like to be in the classroom.

How many students do you mentor? What subjects and grades?

I mentored 6 students. They worked in a fourth grade classroom. Four of the students were math and two were science.

What has been the most rewarding part of the mentoring experience?

I've enjoyed sharing my experience, both good and bad, as a teacher ... Getting new ideas from the CSU students, [and] working together as a team to develop future teachers/student mentors.

What has been the most difficult?

Scheduling...many things have happened last minute around the school/district within the past 15 weeks. We have had to work around those surprises and reschedule observations and lessons. CSU faculty and students were very accommodating and flexible.

Why do you think so many children are intimidated or turned off from math/science?

Lack of experience in those subject areas ... So much of the teaching has been focused on reading and test preparation that other subject areas have gotten the short end of the stick.

What's the most difficult part about teaching?
The best part about teaching?

Most difficult: the lack of home support and the lack of respect for education in general. It is very difficult to work with some students and families that just don't care!

Best part: Seeing the student faces light up when they "get it" and knowing you are making a difference

What's the hardest part of teaching students how to teach?

It is impossible to provide the "How to" for every situation a teacher will encounter in their own classroom one day. Experience is the best teacher and you learn by the experiences you have. You learn to problem solve as problems arise. You learn by making mistakes and fixing them for the next time around.

The hardest part about teaching students to teach is that you can not "create" these experiences. You have to make the most out of what you get and sometimes what you get might be a new situation for you as the mentor.

What is one piece of wisdom you'd give to college students that you wished someone had given you?

You don't have to know everything. Know how to find the information you need. Be willing and eager to learn what you don't know or have not experienced.

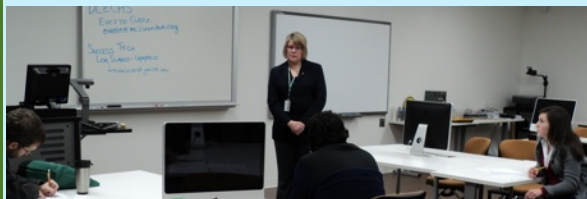


The STEP | pre-service teachers and Ms. Sindyla's students.



Fall 2011:
 Noyce awards five juniors **\$20,000 scholarships** (\$5,000 each semester for four semesters) each year (until the 2013-2014 academic year), to participate in the CSUteach program.

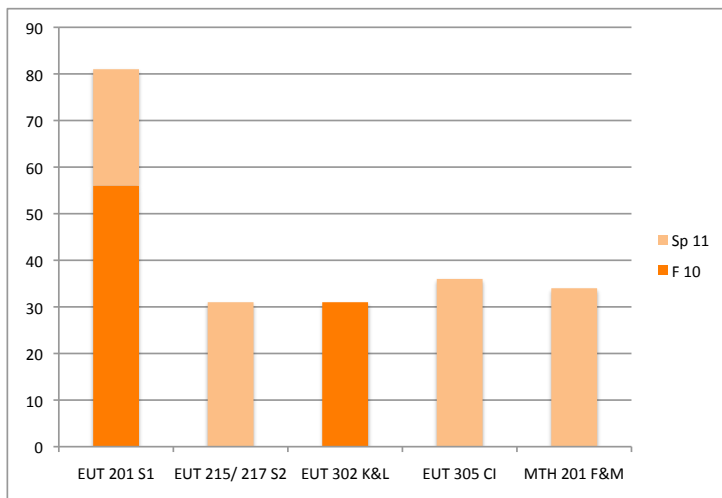
***Noyce.** The best STEM teacher preparation program in the country.*



The Choose Ohio First (COF) Orientation for tutors took place Monday, February 6th in Julka Hall. Dr. Joanne Goodell discussed some important details regarding the experiences of the scholarship recipients and

answered any questions they had. As a recipient of the COF scholarship, students agree to tutor for 10 hours during the semester, allowing them to flex their teaching skills while giving back to students who need extra academic support.

Fall 2010-Spring 2011 Enrollment:



WeTeach president, Shannon Phillips and several group members display their CSUteach decorated tree at the Cleveland Metroparks.



UTeach Members Visit CSU

Members of the UTeach Institute located in Austin, Texas, visited Cleveland State University in November to follow up on our progress in duplicating this successful program geared towards increasing the number of qualified Math and Science Teachers in the country.

Elle Shelley, Mary Walker and Pamela Romero sat with our CSUteach team, led by Dr. Joanne Goodell, to learn more about our experience and to guide us with their expertise.

During their visit they toured our new facilities housed within Julka Hall, observed several CSUteach classes, conducted several interviews, and attended student focus groups to gauge our growth.

The visiting UTeach members took the opportunity to report on our successes and present proposals on how to better tailor the CSUteach program to our urban reality.

The visiting UTeach members left with the promise of returning in April to continue the collaborative efforts towards increasing the quantity and quality of Mathematics and Science teachers in the region.

WeTeach@CSU recent activities...



Christmas Tree Decorating Contest

The officers of CSU's student association, WeTeach braved the cold weather and decorated a Christmas tree for the Metroparks annual tree decorating contest. Rules were that the tree have the group's logo, the Metroparks Logo and that it not contain anything electric. The trees were on display at the Chalet Tobogganing area at the Metroparks where people could vote up until December 20th. The CSUteach tree placed 3rd! Following the contest all of the trees were donated to local Rest Homes. As WeTeach@CSU President, Shannon said he planned on making it a tradition.

Next WeTeach Meeting:

- The last Tuesday of each month in Julka Hall 338, at Noon; email Shannon Phillips at sphillips36_2@hotmail.com for more information.

A Closer Look: CSU Teach Faculty Bio's ...

Name: Dr. Debbie Jackson

CSU email:

d.jackson1@csuohio.edu

Website: http://academic.csuohio.edu/jackson_d/

Office: JH 349



Dr. Jackson taught high school chemistry, physics, and physical science before coming to CSU in 2004. She has taught courses in science teacher education, diversity, and earth and space science, and supervises student teachers and practicum students. She is Associate Director for Education and Training for the University Transportation Center. Her interests include investigating her own teaching, teacher learning and professional development, and integration of engineering concepts in K-12 classrooms. She is Co-Principle Investigator for the Noyce and DOE grants for CSU Teach.

Name: Dr. Miron Kaufman

CSU email:

m.kaufman@csuohio.edu

Website: <http://www.csuohio.edu/sciences/dept/physics/physicsweb/Bios/miron.html>

Office: SI 116



Dr. Kaufman earned his BA and MS in Physics from Tel Aviv University in Israel, and his PhD in Physics from Carnegie Mellon. He has been Chair of the Department of Physics at CSU since 2000. In collaboration with the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, he developed a professional MS program in medical physics. Under his leadership, the Physics programs at CSU have been nationally recognized. He has done extensive research in statistical physics. He has updated the Physics curriculum to meet contemporary needs, and has presented his new Environmental Physics course at a past Global Warming International Conference. Dr. Kaufman is active in programs promoting physics education and is Co-Director of CSU Teach.

Name: Dr. Joanne Goodell

CSU email:

J.Goodell@csuohio.edu

Office: JH 346



Dr. Goodell taught high-school mathematics for 13 years in Australia, and was department chair for five years. She previously taught at Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, and was Research Director for Ohio's Statewide Systemic Initiative Discovery at Miami University in 1999. She currently teaches mathematics methods and practicum courses at CSU. Her research interests focus on equity, reform, and professional development issues in the teaching and learning of mathematics in high schools and universities. Her current grants include the D-STEM Choose Ohio First Scholarship Program, the Noyce Scholarship Program through the National Science Foundation, and the Teacher Quality Partnership program through the National Mathematics and Science Initiative. She is Co-Director of CSU Teach.

Name: Dr. Rob Ferguson

CSU email:

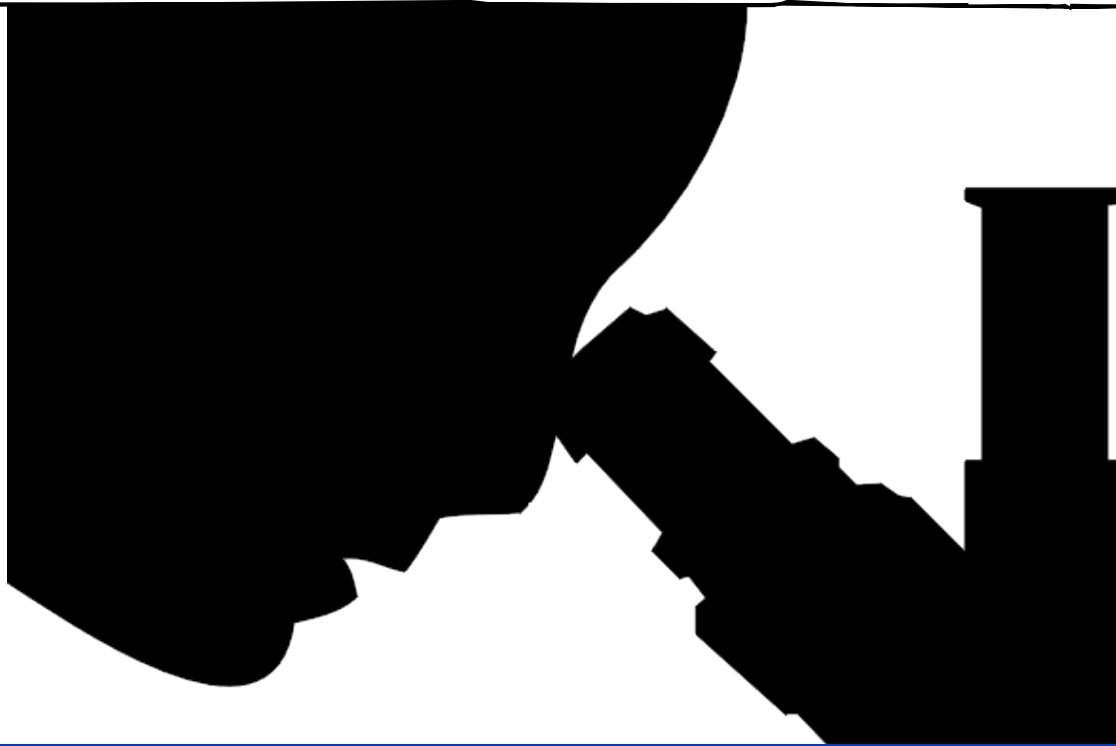
r.l.ferguson1@csuohio.edu

Website: http://academic.csuohio.edu/ferguson_r

Office: JH 347



Dr. Ferguson received his BA in Biological Sciences and teacher licensure in Life Science and Chemistry from San Jose State University. He taught high school science for seven years, then completed his doctorate in Chemical Education at Purdue University, where his thesis focused on organic synthesis, and his dissertation described how chemistry majors understand organic reaction mechanisms. He currently teaches elementary and secondary science methods courses at CSU, and directs the CHAMPS (Careers in Health And Medical ProfessionS) program. He is an active committee member, developer, and CSU Teach instructor.



Cleveland State University

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Thank you ...

To President Berkman and the continued support from the CSUTeach Steering Committee:

David Anderson
David Ball
Cliff Bennett
Bette Bonder
Jeff Dean
Stephen Duffy
Petru Fodor
John Holcomb
Miron Kaufman
Antoinette Marquard
Carol Phillips-Bey
Roland Pourdavood
Sonya Pryor-Jones
Nigamanth Sridhar
Patrick Wachira
Brian Yusko
Jane Zaharias
Ueli Zurcher

To the CSUTeach Cleveland Area Partner Schools:

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Artemus Ward
Benjamin Franklin
Buckeye Woodland
Carl Shuler
Carylwood
Case
Clara Westropp
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Mary M. Bethune
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