



Women's Giving Circle

Women Impacting Education

The School of Education would like to thank each of the women who were able to attend our summer 2014 Women's Giving Circle Luncheon. We hope that you enjoyed hearing from our guest speakers about the incredible research taking place at UWM and the tangible impact it is having on the field of education, made possible with the help of your donations. For those who were unable to attend the event, we're so sorry you missed it! Here is a recap of what your grants are helping to make possible:

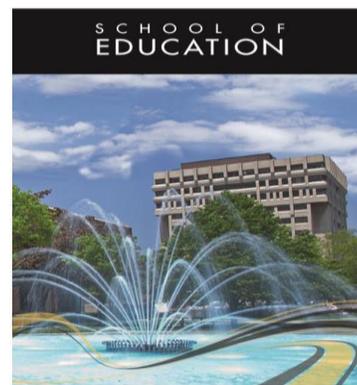
Dr. Elizabeth Drame, Associate Professor in the Department of Exceptional Education, has focused on facilitating cultural sensitivity and competence in students enrolled in the Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) certificate program. The program was designed to address the knowledge disparity regarding autism among families, service providers and educators in diverse, urban communities, as well as increase community awareness of the early warning signs of ASD. Progress of the program to date includes:

- ❖ The ASD graduate certificate was launched in 2013, and to date, 35 students have completed the certificate and 51 are actively enrolled, representing a wide variety of disciplines.
- ❖ In Spring 2014, students enrolled in the Methods of ASD course delivered a presentation to high school students at Morse Marshall about careers in ASD.
- ❖ In Summer 2014, the Foundations of ASD course incorporated a service learning component that allowed students to gain firsthand knowledge at diverse Milwaukee sites (WI Facets, Easter Seals, Milwaukee Center for Independence (MCFI), to name a few).
- ❖ In June, 2014, the Urban Autism Summit was held in order to identify future actions for addressing disparities in diagnosis of ASD, access to intervention, inclusive education, and post-secondary resources in urban communities.

Angel Hessel, edTPA Coordinator in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction, spoke to us about the Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA), a student-centered assessment that measures the teacher across three tracks. It is designed to be educative and predictive of effective teaching and student learning and seeks to answer one simple question: is this teacher candidate ready to teach? Progress in 2013-2014 includes:

- ❖ Expansion of the pilot to more students and programs through developed workshop training sessions and modules.
- ❖ Continued professional development for faculty through advanced scoring training.
- ❖ Hardware support: flash drives to improve the usage of hardware purchased through the last Women's Giving Circle grant.

Summer 2014



**2014-2015
Calendar**

August 2014: Faculty will be invited to submit proposals to the WGC.

November 20th: WGC proposal review and selection lunch.

Spring 2015: The WGC will gather again to learn how their gifts are impacting education.



WGC members mingle with SOE faculty at summer luncheon.

Dr. Craig Berg, Professor of Education in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction, gave us a fascinating demonstration of the TeachLive program and how we use it to prepare teachers. TeachLive is an interactive computer- and human-facilitated simulation of a classroom with five avatars who behave as typical middle or high school students. The goal is to help potential teachers learn how to improve their skills, and to better prepare them to teach real students in a real classroom.

- ❖ TeachLive provides a realistic looking classroom and five virtual students who can act out and challenge the teacher's authority in a variety of ways. This allows students to develop proactive and reactive classroom management skills, a crucial aspect of teachers' success.
- ❖ In UWM's TeachLive lab, aspiring teachers are videotaped as they present their lessons. Professor Berg then goes over the videotape with the students and offers feedback. Students can then go back in and work on different lessons, or re-do and improve their teaching, practicing until they learn the skills they need.



A simulated classroom experience for teachers to hone their skills.

About the WGC

The Women's Giving Circle of UWM's School of Education was founded in the Fall of 2006, seeking to bring together women alumni and former and current teachers of all ages who pool their gifts for greater impact and keep themselves current about education through their promotion of the School and its educational research.

Chair, Barbara J. Michaels '56, '60.

Barbara J. Daley, PhD, Interim Dean, School of Education.



Dr. Berg works with an aspiring teacher.

Again, thank you for being such an invaluable part of our success. Your support is vital to sustaining our school as a premier research center and leader in education.

For further information, please contact Carol Wacker at 414-229-3080, or via email at wackerc@uwm.edu.

If you would like to make a gift, please visit www.uwm.edu/soe. Under the "About" section you will see our Giving page. There you can find additional information about the WGC, as well as a pledge form. You can also visit the University website, https://www4.uwm.edu/give_to_uwm.