

Update

December 2003

INTERNATIONAL *News*

Special education for all Egyptian teachers

by Harry Dangel and David Houchins,
Department of Educational Psychology & Special Education

In case you do not recognize it, the book on the right is one that has been used by hundreds of Georgia State University (GSU) students preparing to be teachers. It is *Special Education for All Teachers, 2nd edition* edited by Dean Ron Colarusso and Colleen O'Rourke (EPSE). But a closer look reveals that it is not the same book at all, but an Arabic translation of the textbook.



Although Arabic is the native language of more than 186 million people, this translated book is the first full textbook in special education to be published in Arabic. The translation was arranged by the Binational Fulbright Commission in Egypt, a unit of the U.S. State Department, as part of a partnership with GSU to develop special education teacher education

programs throughout the Egyptian national universities.

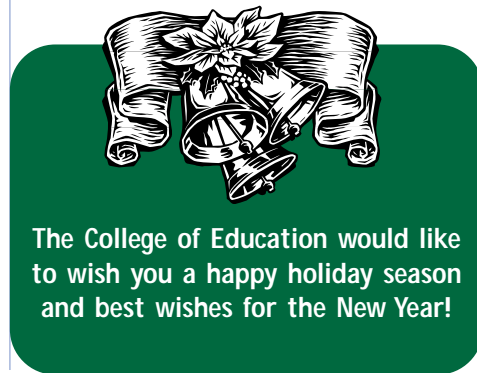
In October of 2003, Harry Dangel and David Houchins spent two weeks in Egypt working with national leaders in teacher education. While there, the GSU professors worked with faculty members from the 14 national Egyptian universities. A national conference was held on how to incorporate the translated textbook into teacher education programs. In addition to the conference, both Dangel and Houchins worked with national education leaders on establishing a university special education program that will prepare future teachers of students with disabilities.

The ultimate purpose of the project is to provide teachers and other professionals with the knowledge needed to meet the needs of students with disabilities. The picture above is just one of the many Egyptian classes for students with and without disabilities that will be impacted by the partnership



between the two countries. With the assistance of the Binational Fulbright Commission and several private donors, the textbook will be distributed throughout Egypt and other Arabic countries in the Middle East. Plans are being made to translate additional special education textbooks and curricula into Arabic.

During the Spring 2003 semester, Egyptian faculty members from Suez Canal University and Assiut University will visit Georgia. These faculty members will have an opportunity to meet with GSU special education professors and visit local schools. Subsequently, GSU will return to Egypt to assist in developing teacher development programs.



The College of Education would like to wish you a happy holiday season and best wishes for the New Year!

Exchange student shares experience at Georgia State

Annica Svensson of Sweden wanted to visit America since high school. So, once she began attending Malmö University School of Teacher Education, she decided to participate in her school's international exchange program. Hundreds of participants applied for a limited number of openings. "It was very competitive," says Annica. "It took over a year to get accepted."

Annica gathered most of her information about Georgia State's College of Education from the Internet and decided this was definitely her first choice. However, when she was finally accepted in an exchange program, she was originally assigned to Indiana University of Pennsylvania. So, Annica switched assignments with another student to attend Georgia State.

Annica comes from a family of teachers but says this was not the reason she wanted to teach. "I love kids and I just love teaching," she says. She is in her third year of school and when she graduates, plans to teach fourth and fifth grades.

During her stay, Annica had the opportunity to visit some of Atlanta's main attractions, including the World of Coke, Stone Mountain Park, CNN Center and a host of sporting events. She even traveled to New York during the Thanksgiving holidays. She had the opportunity to live in the Georgia State Village and notes that her roommates were great.

When asked what the most difficult experience was during her stay in America, her response was the same as most American college students—choosing courses to take for the semester. Her most rewarding experiences—meeting new people and making friends. "Plus," says Annica, "my classes have been good." She also notes that she experienced no difficulties



Annica Svensson

with the exchange program during her stay. She says the faculty and staff were very helpful and courteous.

Annica will return to Sweden at the end of the semester but plans to study abroad again, as soon as she can. "It was so exciting to be in another country," she says. "It was definitely worth it."

Crossing Paths, Crossing Cultures photo competition on display in COE

On Nov. 17, Georgia State held its fourth annual Crossing Paths, Crossing Cultures student photo competition. The students who participated in the competition include international students studying at Georgia State and current Georgia State students who have completed a study abroad.

The photographs that were taken in the competition will be displayed throughout the Georgia State campus within the coming month.

The COE is currently housing the photo display. Please stop by the COE lobby to enjoy the photos. The display will remain the COE through the middle of January.

EDUCATION

Update

Editor Angela Turk
Design Cindy Allen, Prime Design

Education Update is a monthly feature published by the COE Dean's Office. For publication in the next issue, please submit your news items to Angela Turk at aturk@gsu.edu.

ECE faculty and students attend international technology conference

On October 27-31, Lynne Jordan and five ECE students—Kallie Barksdale, Cheryl Garrison, Alicia Hudgins, Stephanie Otten, and Deanna Sluk—attended the Intensive Program at Hanzehogeschool at the College of Education in The Netherlands.

The topic of the conference was “Good Childhood and ICT (Information Communication Technology).” Representatives from

seven European countries and the U.S. were in attendance. Georgia State was the only U.S. teacher education program represented this year. Workshops were conducted on using multimedia with young learners ages four through eight as well as field trips to schools in Groningen to observe programs using multimedia such as scanners, digital cameras, video cameras, Internet resources, educational software and television.

Additionally, representatives from the eight countries in attendance had the opportunity to share ideas as well.

“The best part of the experience was not actually the technology conference and workshops, it was the contact with teacher-education candidates from seven countries and the opportunities to discuss trends and issues in early childhood education from differing perspectives,” says Jordan.

MSIT co-sponsors 32nd annual Georgia State University Model United Nations

More than 250 students from 13 metro Atlanta high schools gathered at the GSU Student Center for the 32nd annual Georgia State University Model United Nations. The event was sponsored by the World Affairs Council, a chartered university student group, and the College of Education’s Middle-Secondary Education and Instructional Technology Department. Georgia State students in the World Affairs Council organized the conference and served as moderators for the event. The Model included simulations of the United Nation’s General Assembly, the Security Council, and five of the six standing committees in the General Assembly. The seven separate simulations ran concurrently over the two days and included between 30 and 60 students per simulation. School delegations represented 35 different countries with

each national delegation sending at least one representative for each of the seven simulations. Georgia State students served as chairs of the individual committees and assemblies. The student group was lead by Justina Emmanuel who served as the Secretary General for the General Assembly and coordinated the event. John K. Lee, social studies assistant professor in the MSIT Department, is the faculty advisor for the World Affairs Council and assisted in coordinating the event. “ This event provides students with authentic and meaningful opportunities to engage in current international problems,” says Lee. High school participants were recognized for their contributions during the event in an awards ceremony conducted at the conclusion of the Model.

FACULTY & STAFF *Accolades*

Julie Dangel (ECE) and **Edi Guyton** (DO) received the Georgia Educational Research Association award for Distinguished Paper in November. Their paper is entitled "Structures of community and democratic practices in graduate teacher education, teacher change, and linkages facilitating change."

Andrew Doyle (KH) appeared on CNN Live Saturday in August. He was interviewed about children and overloaded school backpacks, and how they can contribute to fatigue, poor posture and injury.

Dana Edwards and **Fran Mullis** (CPS) presented "Creating a sense of belonging to build safe schools" at the Georgia School Counselors Association Annual Conference in Atlanta, Ga.

Edwards and Mullis also had an article, "Classroom meetings: Encouraging a climate of cooperation," published in *Professional School Counseling*.

Dana Fox (MSIT), **Philo Hutcheson** (EPS), Mary Hocks, and Marti Singer conducted a graduate student

survival brown bag workshop, "Thesis Writing 101," for the Georgia State University Minority Graduate Student Alliance on Sept. 10, 2003.

Asa Hilliard (EPS) testified in November before the Texas House of Representatives House Select Committee on Public School Finance. He was commended by the chair of the committee for his work in the area of education as well as sharing his insights and expertise.

Ewa McGrail (MSIT) presented the paper "It's a double edged sword this technology business: High school English teachers' perspectives on a School-Wide Laptop Technology Initiative" at the regional meeting of the Georgia Educational Research Association Conference in Savannah, Ga.

Additionally, Ewa McGrail's paper "Teachers, technology, and change: Literacy teachers' perspectives" has been accepted for publication in *The Journal of Technology and Teacher Education*.

Walt Thompson (KH) was quoted in the Dec. 2 MSNBC article on hi-tech fitness devices, entitled "Fitness gadgets that get results."

JoAnna White and **Kay Draper** (CPS) recently published the following book chapter: "Kinder training: A school counselor and teacher consultation model integrating Filial Therapy and Adlerian Theory" in *Casebook of Filial Therapy*.

Several COE faculty members presented at the Educating All of One Nation Conference, held Oct. 23-25 at the Hilton Atlanta. The presentation was a pre-conference workshop entitled "Institutionalizing the Connections between K-12 and Higher Education." Those presenting were: **Gwen Benson** (DO), **Susan McClendon** (CUEE), **Suzanne Anastasi** (ECE), **Miles Irving** (EPSE), **Peggy Shippen** (EPSE), **Patsy Terry** (ECE), **Christine Thomas** (MSIT) and **Gwen Williams** (CUEE).

TASP to hold annual conference at Georgia State

The Association for the Study of Play (TASP) will hold this year's annual conference at Georgia State, Feb. 18-21, 2004. The theme of this year's conference is "Diverse Perspectives on Play."

TASP is a multidisciplinary organization whose purpose is to promote the study of play, to support and cooperate with other organizations having similar purposes, and to organize meetings and publications that facilitate the sharing and dissemination of information related to the study of play. TASP's

broad focus includes many disciplines and scholarly interests, including animal behavior, anthropology, the arts and humanities, biology, communication, cultural studies, education, folklore, and many more.

The conference meetings will be held at Georgia State's Student Center. The opening reception and registration will be held at AmeriSuites Downtown (330 Peachtree St. NE). For more information on the conference as well as proposals, contact Olga Jarrett, (404) 651-4509.

Mushett and Johnson attend General Assembly of the International Paralympic Committee

Carol Mushett and Ben Johnson (KH) attended the General Assembly of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) last month in Turin, Italy, site of the 2006 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. The IPC General Assembly was attended by 92 member nations and international disability sport federations.

Mushett received reports from the Olympic and Paralympic Organizing Committees from Athens 2004, Turin 2006, Beijing 2008 and Vancouver 2010. As a result of the motion by the United States, the General Assembly officially endorsed the United

Nations World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons and affirmed its commitment to equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities into the promotion of human rights worldwide.

Johnson also attended the meeting to meet with representatives from the African Academy of Disability Sport as well as follow up on the Department of State grant.

Both Mushett and Johnson had the opportunity to meet with representatives from Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Turkey to plan the next Department of State funded workshops in the respective countries during 2004.

They also had very promising discussions regarding research and educational initiatives in human rights, recreation and sport sciences for persons with disabilities in Tanzania, South Africa, Qatar, Iran, Malaysia and Egypt.

Mushett, as the technical officer of the International Paralympic Committee, is the highest ranking woman and American in the world in disability sport. She is serving her second four-year term as technical officer. In addition, Mushett serves as the chairman of the IPC Sports Council, the oversight/decision making group for all paralympic sports worldwide.

Librarylink

by Rachel Sindelar

Library to Offer a New Reserves System

The University Library announces ERes, a new reserves system to be launched Spring semester. ERes will provide students with a single point of access to all digital and physical reserve materials, featuring course pages to help students find reserve material more easily and quickly than in the past. ERes will go live in Spring 2004 and DocuWeb will slowly be phased out.

Digitized course material will be available round-the-clock online and can be viewed simultaneously by an unlimited number of students. ERes will also work with WebCT, providing the option to link course pages to reserve records.

Listings for physical copies of reserve material will include call number and availability information. Physical copies of reserves will remain at the reserve desk on the second floor of Library South.

More information about ERes and an online reserve request form for instructors can be found at www.library.gsu.edu/reserves/.

Library North Enhancements Improve Access for Computer Users

A new wireless network area and more electrical outlets recently were added to Library North. The new wireless area is located near the second-floor group study rooms; approximately 40 outlets were added to the perimeter walls of floors 3–5. The improvements are part of an ongoing effort to provide the best possible access to information and technology and were funded by revenue from the Student Technology Fee.

Other wireless network areas include Library North 1, the bridges linking libraries North and South on floors 3–5, the Media Center on Library South 2, and the University Plaza. More information about wireless networking is online at <http://wireless.gsu.edu>.

Mark Your Calendar

JANUARY

January 13 • 4pm-6pm
Room 496 COE

Student Georgia Association of Educators Meeting

January 22 • noon-4pm

Instructional Technology Center, Room 252

Principals' Center Tool Box Series:

The Classroom Walk-Through: The Principals' Role in Assessing Teaching and Learning

Discount to GSU faculty, staff, and students; for more information, visit www.principalscenter.org.

January 24 • 9:30am-11:30am

Instructional Technology Center • Room 252

Principals' Center Expanding Leadership Skills:
Palm Pilot: Basics and Administrative Tools

January 29 • 8am-3pm

Holiday Inn Select Atlanta Capitol

450 Capitol Avenue • Atlanta, GA 30312

Principals' Center Expert Leader Series:

The Achievement Gap: Strategies for School Leaders to Ensure the Success of All Students

Presented by Rosita Marciano, former teacher and director of Training for Reform Implementation in Chicago. Discount to GSU faculty, staff, and students; for more information, visit www.principalscenter.org.

FEBRUARY

February 5 • 11:30am-3:30pm

Principals' Center Best Practices Series:

The Latino Community: Buford City Schools' Respond to Student Learning

Visit a Buford City School that is implementing programming targeted to its growing Latino population. Discount to GSU faculty, staff, and students; for more information, visit www.principalscenter.org.

February 12 • noon-4pm

GSU Alpharetta Center

Principals' Center—Tool Box Series:

Creating a Leadership Voice: How to Take Control of Your School's Story

Learn how to effectively share with the public a more complete picture of your expectations for student performance. Discount to GSU faculty, staff, and students; for more information, visit www.principalscenter.org.

February 14 • 9:30am-11:30am

College of Education • Room 496

Expanding Leadership Skills: Personal Leadership Series Book Discussions:

Dialogue on Leadership and Successful Organization

The book that will be discussed is *Good to Great: Why some Companies Make the Leap ... and Others Don't*, by Jim Collins.

February 18-21

Georgia State University/AmeriSuites Downtown

The 2004 Association for the Study of Play (TASP) Conference

For more information, contact Olga Jarrett, (404) 651-4509

IN MEMORIAM

Cherwanda Williams, a graduate student in CPS, passed away Dec. 7, 2003. Cherwanda was completing her specialist degree in school counseling. The college would like to express their deepest sympathies to Cherwanda's family, colleagues, and friends.

Congratulations

Deborah Shapiro (KH) celebrated the birth of her son, Daniel, on Dec. 3. Daniel arrived weighing 5 pounds, 7 ounces. Congratulations Dr. Shapiro!