

FACES IN EDUCATION

FACULTY PROFILE

Name: Julie Chlebo, Ph.D.

Age: 33

Position: Assistant Professor, Early Childhood Education

Reason(s) You Got Into Education: I had incredible,

loving early childhood teachers in first grade. I knew then that I wanted to be just like them

Favorite Saying: "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" — St. Paul

Favorite Public Figure: Eleanor Roosevelt

Hobbies or Interests: Scottish history and traveling to Scotland each year



Julie Chlebo



Charles Moore

ALUMNUS PROFILE

Name: Charles Moore

Age: 51

Degrees from GVSU: Elementary/Secondary Administrative Certification 1995

Current Position: Hillcrest Elementary School Principal, Grand Rapids Public Schools

Best Lesson I've Ever Learned: Be careful what you say to students because they are very impressionable. What we say to them and how we say it often last a lifetime

STUDENT PROFILE

Name: Larry Thayer

Age: 51

Program: Special Education.

Special Interests: Demonstrating and teaching early American trade skills like blacksmithing, rope making, milling

Favorite Saying: "Don't wish your life away"

Most Admired Public Figure: It was unfortunate that Princess Diana had to pass on at the same time as Mother Theresa. Mother Theresa should have gotten a little more of our hearts.



Larry Thayer

STAFF PROFILE

Name: Joy Harrison

Age: 32

Position: Admissions and Placement Coordinator
Research or Special Interests: Developing a student services center for education students

Favorite Saying: "You have only failed if you have failed to try"



Joy Harrison

Favorite Book and Movie: "To Kill A Mockingbird"

Hobbies or Interests: Anything related to music and theatre and cooking for the joy of cooking.

PDS Partnership Reaching The Heights

When it comes to classroom performance, Muskegon Heights is on the rise. A commitment as a Professional Development School (PDS) and partnership with Grand Valley State University has the West Michigan school district meeting and exceeding objectives for academic performance.

An alliance of Michigan colleges and universities was formed in 1992 in an effort to expand the scope of Professional Development Schools in Michigan. Participating universities formed partnerships with K-12 school districts in an attempt to foster more efficient learning communities. State funding for the program was discontinued in 1994, but several partnerships — including the one between GVSU and Muskegon Heights — remained intact.

Focus for the PDS program is based on the principles of reaching out to all children regardless of race or gender, learning for higher understanding, establishing learning communities, fostering continuous education, long-term thoughtful inquiry into facilitating leadership and teaching methods, and redesigning how education is organized and delivered.

The partnership develops teachers, administrators and prospective teachers, and benefits young students' learning and self esteem. Learning for understanding techniques have been well received by students, and writing has improved across the curriculum.

"Significant results have been achieved," said Loretta Konecki, Ph.D., School of Education professor and coordinator of the partnership. "Over time, an effort which is long-term is the result of lots of other efforts."



Loretta Konecki



Students at Muskegon Heights get hands-on experience in science.

Children who have been tested toward the lowest levels of Michigan tests such as MEAP have moved more toward the middle percentages."

The partnership has been bolstered through funding provided by a Goals 2000 grant from the state of Michigan that has been renewed for the 1998-99 school year.

For its part, GVSU is actively involved in school improvement and curriculum development by providing study groups to enhance the backgrounds of Muskegon Heights teachers in language arts, science, social studies and reading. GVSU also has arranged cultural enrichment field trips, books and reading materials for students.

"By using these principles, we have carried out a wide variety of activities over a period of time," Konecki said. "Without these particular programs, we wouldn't have university and school people working together to expand the programs that help children learn effectively."

"The needs for the future are educators who can deal with diverse student populations."

What They're Saying About CSAL ...

The College Student Affairs Leadership Master of Education (M.Ed.) Program was established in the Fall of 1995 to further prepare students for professional positions at institutions of higher education in a variety of areas, including admissions, student orientation, housing, student life, academic advising, financial aid, career services, international affairs and judicial affairs.

Following are comments from several members of CSAL's initial cohort:

* "It prepared me well and allowed me to become a generalist, not a specialist in one area. One of the things I liked about it best was being able to know and network with so many professionals at Grand Valley."

—Tricia Schuitema, Career Services, Hope College

* "My experiences at Grand Valley did a great job preparing me for my current position. My practicum experience with the Career Guidance and Counseling Center was extremely valuable."

—Michael Messner, Residence Life Coordinator, Kansas State University

* "The strongest benefit was my experience in many areas. This type of generalist approach made me very marketable for a job as well as preparing me for my current position."

Chad Garland, Residence Hall Director, Central Michigan University

* "The program exposed me to a number of writing opportunities — a necessity in our field."

—Barry Olson, Residence Hall Director, Grand Valley State University

* "The program was wonderful. I was finishing my bachelor's degree and ready to go home (to Japan) when I decided to apply. It has prepared me very well."

—Satoshi Kido, Associate Program Director, Recreational Sports, University of Minnesota

* "The graduate internship in Residence Life offered a great deal of experience that has helped me in my current position."

—Leslie Barber, Western Michigan University Office of Residence Life Director

The CSAL program admits about 25 students per year, with the next class beginning Fall Semester 1998.