



Winter 2011

Watson School of Education

First Years of Teaching Newsletter

BT Professional Development Day A Great Success!



On November 30, 2010, thirty-six beginning teachers gathered at the Watson School of Education to take part in the first of three Beginning Teacher Professional Development Days sponsored by the First Years of Teaching Support Program. Overall, the day was a great success!

Breakout sessions were presented by New Hanover County Mentor and Trainer Leslie Pridgen, Ed Lab Director Brian Brinkley, Watson Technology Liaison Salena Rabidoux and faculty member Dr. Denise Ousley-Exum. Topics included classroom man-

agement, Web 2.0 tools, authentic assessment and theory to practice. A special keynote titled "Leadership for the Innovation Age" was presented by Dr. John Fischetti.

82% of the beginning teachers who attended the November 30th BT Day evaluated the support sessions as either Very Good or Excellent! Teachers "truly enjoyed the dialogue and conversation about the teaching profession" and felt that they "learned valuable information in each session that [they could] implement."

The next BT Profes-

sional Development Days are scheduled for February 17 and May 10, 2011. The days will feature concurrent sessions presented by this year's Promise of Leadership Award Winners. The POL Award recognizes beginning teachers in their 2nd or 3rd year of teaching who show leadership and innovation in the classroom. Topics will include interdisciplinary strategies, reading comprehension, writing across the curriculum, 21st century skills, special needs strategies, and many more! BTs can still register for these upcoming sessions! Go to: <http://www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1/>

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Have you registered to be a part of the First Years of Teaching Support Program? Check us out on the web:

www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1



Dr. Denise Ousley-Exum discussing authentic assessment strategies.



UNCW First Years of Teaching Support Program
Check us out on Facebook!

Web 2.0 Tools You Can Use!

English/Language Arts [Myths and Legends](http://myths.e2bn.org/index.php)

(<http://myths.e2bn.org/index.php>) is a site hosted by E2Bn. It allows students the chance to create their own myths and legends as well as provides teachers with an array of general resources, templates and other guides for studying this genre of literature.

Science

[Field Trip Earth](http://www.fieldtripearth.org/index.xml) (<http://www.fieldtripearth.org/index.xml>) is a project of the North Carolina Zoological Society. It serves as a global resource for students and educators highlighting several con-

servation projects, such as the plight of Atlantic sea turtles and Midwest Falcons. The site contains educator resources, full length articles, discussion boards, and much more!

History/Social Studies

[Our Courts: 21st Century Civics](http://www.icivics.org/about/) (<http://www.icivics.org/about/> redirect) is a web-based education project that has interactive games for students, such as "Do I have a Right?" The site also contains teacher's guides and brief lesson plans to reinforce objectives.

Math

[The National Library of](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/toxtown)

[Virtual Manipulatives](http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/vlibrary.html)

(<http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/vlibrary.html>) sponsored by Utah State University is an interactive site that provides resources for students and teachers Pre-K to 12th grade!

Art

The [This is Sand](http://thisissand.com/) (<http://thisissand.com/>) website is an interactive tool that allows your students to create virtual sand sculptures! There is a rainbow of colors to choose from and students can submit their pictures to the gallery or capture a screen shot of their finished

product!

Health and Nutrition

[Tox Town](http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov/index.php) (<http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov/index.php>) is an interactive website that allows students to explore cities, towns, farms and ports and learn about the toxins and health risks in certain environments. The site also contains teacher resources, interactive activities and a list of careers in the areas of environmental health, chemistry and toxicology.

Register for the FYTSP and access the Online Forum for more Web 2.0 tools!

2,277 Teachers Achieve National Boards in 2010

On December 15, 2010, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards announced the 2010 class of National Board Certified Teachers. NC maintains the highest number of National Board Certified Teachers in the country, gaining 2,277

in 2010. NB Certification is a rigorous 10-part performance assessment that includes video portfolios, analysis of classroom practice and evaluation of content knowledge. While the certification is for veteran teachers who have at least

three years of experience, there is a *Take One!* option for educators at all levels. *Take One!* is professional development organized around the National Board's professional teaching standards and core propositions. Teachers prepare and

submit one pre-selected portfolio entry from their certification area. The entry is scored and a teacher can later transfer the score if he/she decides to pursue National Board Certification. For more information, go to http://nbpts.org/products_and_services/take_one1

Considering a Graduate Program?

The Watson School of Education offers a Master's Degree (M.Ed.) in Elementary Education, Curriculum/Instruction Supervision, Language and Literacy Education, Middle Grades Education, Secondary Education, and Special Education. The programs in these areas address the need for conceptual and procedural foundations for decision-

making and for specific alternatives within the student's area of professional practice. The M.Ed. programs address the North Carolina Masters/Advanced Competencies requirements. Designed for individuals who have "A" level teaching licenses. Watson also offers a Master of Science degree

(M.S.) in Instructional Technology. The program focuses upon the application of research and best practices in instructional technology. The courses provide a balance of product development and utilization of technology with theoretical basis for design, development, implementation, and evaluation of educational

and training programs. The program is designed for individuals seeking advanced technology training. To obtain further information about any of our graduate programs, including the doctoral program in Educational Leadership and Administration, visit: http://www.uncw.edu/ed/degree_grad.html