Ed.D. STUDY TRIPS

In July, CUI’s Doctoral candidates embarked on two unique educational trips. First-year students who trekked to Washington D.C. with Dr. Stephanie Hartzell, came away with a positive and up-lifting experience, which promoted relationship building and a more comprehensive understanding of how legislators and PACs in Washington D.C. influence the national education agenda. Along with visiting a number of significant historical sites, students also had face-to-face meetings with Congressional aides, key decision-makers, and stakeholders.

Second-year students spent 14 days in China visiting four different major urban centers, allowing them to learn in greater depth about Chinese culture, customs and mores; thereby, assisting all participants to challenge and change preconceived notions, assumptions, stereotypes, prejudices, and previous biases they may have held about China/Hong Kong. All left understanding there are seamless threads of commonality amongst all cultures, religions and life experiences. People might view their experiences with a different lens; however, in the end, life’s challenges are universal and with greater communication solutions can be found. The biggest take away is the strong interest in Hong Kong and Shanghai to consider starting Ed.D. cohorts in the next 12 months.

SOE RESOURCES

Concordia and the SOE have numerous resources available to assist students and adjuncts alike. Services available include:

- **Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT)** - A virtual and physical resource aimed at facilitating the creation and support of diverse learner-centered teaching environments.
- **Online Writing Center (OWL)** - Provides students in the Adult, Graduate, and Online Learning Programs assistance in developing their potential as writers. A consultant reads individual papers and makes concrete suggestions about how to improve the work.
- **Library** - Open 6 days a week - closed Saturdays - Provides access to resources and services necessary for intellectual pursuits.
- **Grammarly** - An outside service, Grammarly develops essential writing skills by helping students revise their papers and providing automated instructional feedback.
- **Disability and Learning Resource Center (DLRC)** - DLRC’s mission is to advance inclusion, diversity, equity, and access by addressing barriers in the learning, working, social, and physical environments for all students, staff, and faculty.

SOE TRANSITIONS

In fluid organizations, which continue to grow and transition, there are often changes in personnel. Over the summer, four valued staff members left the MAED program. Ruth Wong-Lu, Department Assistant, left to work at Cal State Fullerton in the HR Department - 45 minutes closer to her home. Katherine Topor, a valued student advisor, resigned to take a position as a 5th grade teacher in Orange. JoAnne Huston, former Administrative Assistant, is now Coordinator of Faculty Contracts in the Provost. David Burgdorf, ‘the Godfather’ of the LA Region MAED program retired after eight years of dedicated service to the university. Under Burgdorf’s tutelage the program grew from four cohorts to the over 40 today.

New faces joining the faculty and staff are Kathy Mueller who is assuming the position of Administrative Assistant. Kathy comes to us from Voyagers Bible Church and YoungLife. Debra Fregin, is the new Departmental Assistant. Aaron Lucas is the SOE’s IT support staff member. Aaron, a CUI graduate and recently married, is a much-needed addition to support the digital and technology-based growth the SOE is experiencing. Due to increased growth in the Bay Area, Ashlie Andrew has been hired as the Regional Operations Coordinator for the Bay Area. Lori Doyle will assist the MAED online hybrid model as well as open recruiting possibilities in the Phoenix area. Dr. Belinda Karge, who was a Professor Emeritus at Cal State Fullerton, is strengthening the Ed.D. program focusing on instructional research based strategies and working with dissertation students. Dr. Karge has authored numerous books and research articles, presented at conferences, has written many grants, and provides professional development to overseas educators.

WHOO (We Honor Our Own) RECOGNITION

A valuable lesson learned last May was that spring is not the optimum time of the year to recognize graduates’ promotions as most do not happen until late spring or over the summer. Therefore, WHOO recognition will now occur in December.

To assist the SOE in acknowledging all students who have earned deserving recognition, anyone, be it an adjunct, the student being honored, a cohort colleague, etc. should notify Debbie Fregin, Departmental Assistant, at debbie.fregin@cu.edu. We are proud of you and want to recognize your successes!

2015-2016 SYMPOSIA

The three annual Symposia (Saturdays - Oct. 24, Feb. 6, 2016, and May 21, 2016) are an ideal opportunity to gain greater professional insight into topical issues facing administrators.

For the October Symposium, the speaker will be Jesse Payne who is a brain specialist. Michelle Duda whose expertise is in Behavioral Intervention and the RTI process is slated for February. To date May’s speaker has not been confirmed.

OPENING OF SCHOOL VIDEOS

All educators have favorite opening activities to kick off the school year. If you want to add to your collection, a couple of motivating YouTube sites, which are universal enough to share with staff, students and parents, engaging enough to give viewers a pause to reflect, and ponder whom they might encourage are...

- The Push - Even Eagles Need a Push
- Animal School