Here it is March. Hopefully we will be seeing a warm up soon. Spring (?) break is just a week away. At the midpoint of the semester, I’d like to refocus our school on our institutional priorities and the four themes (Civic Engagement, Learning in the Major, Transformational Learning and Critical Thinking) that President Paino reinforced in the all-university meeting on February 17, 2014. It’s time to ask ourselves as a school … how are we doing relative to these four themes? We’ve made some excellent headway on the critical thinking framework and I thank the departments for their explicit and intentional focus on critical thinking and the formulation and presentation of a plan to implement the critical thinking framework into the curriculum. In regard to “Learning in the Major”, the Chairs were introduced briefly to the plans for curricular mapping and how that exercise will be incorporated into the five year program review process. This will be a beneficial process for programs and an exercise that the Deans will be engaging in to “test-drive” the Curricular Mapping Tool that has been developed for this purpose. The School has funded several Vision Initiatives – two that focused on critical thinking and one that focused on transformative experiences through service learning. I also want to thank those of you who elected to participate in the reading and discussion of Bowen’s book, “Teaching Naked: How Moving Technology Out of Your College Classroom Will Improve Student Learning”. Our first discussion will be held on March 5 from 3:00-4:00. I anticipate that these discussions will lead us to reflect on how we can increase student engagement in the classroom and form school-wide initiatives that will help us develop and promote excellence in teaching on an on-going basis. I’m thankful and appreciative for all the good going on, but know there are ideas and initiatives that remain out there waiting to be implemented. Vision funds are still available for ideas, projects, initiatives that will lead our school and the University to excel in the four themes. Therefore, I am requesting that you put some thought to what your programs might do in the near future to increase our progress toward the four themes and am challenging you to submit your ideas for additional funding consideration. Surely we have a little steam left this semester??
University Conference

The University Conference, “Engaging and Transforming Students,” held February 27, included presentations by SHSE faculty and staff as follows: Ms. Alicia Wodika (HES) presented “Prioritizing Preparedness: Extreme Heat and Climate Change Preparation of Midwestern Health Departments;” Dr. Janice Clark (HES) was on a panel on capstone courses; Ms. Jana Arabas (HES) was on a panel on student-led learning, and Dr. Julie Lochbaum (ED) and Ms. Sheila Berkowitz (ED) presented a discussion of state imposed changes to teacher education programs.

Communication Disorders

Ms. Melissa Passe received her 8th award for Continuing Education from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

Ms. Melissa Passe began her two-year term as Chair of the National Council for Clinical Certification of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The council develops and implements all policy, procedures, and judicial matters pertaining to the professional entry level and specialty certification of speech-language pathologists and audiologists practicing in the United States. The Council met February 20-23, at the ASHA national offices, in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Julia Edgar attended a workshop, “Generating and Applying Evidence in the Clinical Management of Acquired Apraxia of Speech and Related Neurogenic Communication Disorders,” February 22, in St. Louis.

Dr. Paula Cochran held a CMDS Study Hall workshop entitled “How to Get the Most from Your Textbooks” on February 17. A follow-up CMDS Study Hall workshop entitled “Tips for Taking Tests” was held February 24. Remaining workshops in the series will be “Applying for Graduate School” on March 17 and an open house of the CMDS Assistive Technology and Early Literacy Labs on March 24. All events begin at 7:00 p.m., in HS 2203.

Education

Twenty-eight MAE students have applied for teaching internships during AY 14-15.

Dr. Wendy Miner presented “MAE Report” at the Faculty Forum, February 20. The presentation examined trends (e.g., technology, accountability, and economy) and reflections from 13 MAE graduates navigating through 10 years of educational practice.

Dr. Christopher Maglio was invited to present the program at the annual conference of the Central Missouri School Counselors Association. Following his presentation of “An Overview of the DSM-5 for Professional School Counselors,” Dr. Maglio conducted a workshop on accurately diagnosing mental health disorders in children and adolescents.

Dr. Peter Kelly, Ms. Beverly Peters, Dr. Lisa Goran, and the MAE-Special Education students attended the 2014 Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders, February 27 - March 1, in Kansas City. The conference is sponsored by universities, public schools, and state agencies from 19 states and provides a forum to examine many of the important issues facing teachers and parents of students with emotional/behavior and autism spectrum disorders. Truman MAE alumna, Ms. Cassie Hunt, was one of the presenters.

The MAE faculty will begin actively preparing for national Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) accreditation this semester. Dr. Rebecca Dierking, Dr. Wendy Miner, Dr. Laura Nickelson, Dr. Bev Perrachione, and Dr. Donna Rhinesmith serve on the Steering Committee and as chairs of one of the five CAEP standard committees. Many thanks to them for their commitment to the rigorous accreditation process.
The MAE will review its core curriculum focusing on how to prepare graduates to effectively teach students with diverse learning needs. Public schools are serving an increasingly diverse student population. Truman MAE graduates consistently report that this is one of the biggest challenges in their teaching practice. To address that, an analysis of related curriculum using a curriculum road mapping process will be conducted.

Internships teaching English as a foreign language in the Guangdong Province of China will be offered for either August through December, 2014 or February through May, 2015. There will be an informational meeting for the 12.0-semester-hour SA CHN 550(G) EFL Internship in China, March 4, at 7:00 p.m., in Baldwin Hall 244. For more information, contact Dr. Timothy Farley at tfarley@truman.edu.

The American Shakespeare Center (ASC) presented a performance of *Othello* on February 10 as part of the Lyceum series. Earlier that day, members of the ASC cast offered workshops, including one arranged by Dr. Rebecca Dierking and Dr. Barbara Price focused on using performance to teach and understand Shakespeare’s plays. Attended by a group of 36, including faculty members, area teachers, and students, this lively and interactive workshop engaged participants in a variety of activities that could easily be incorporated into classrooms. Current Secondary English MAE students participating in the workshop included: Alyssa Bollinger, Nicole Boyer, Mike Carlson, Haley Hunter, Angie Johnson, Audrey Lane, Christian Lowry, Claire Mahoney, Julie Perrey, Sara Redel, Amanda Robison, Kirsten Self, Kaylee VanWeelden, and Natalie Vonarx. Participating alumni included Elizabeth Anderson, Bob Becker, Matt Copeland, Diane McGinnis, and Kyle Sterup.
Health and Exercise Sciences

Nicole Panis (Health Science) and Emma Phelps (Exercise Science) spent nine days in Belize with Truman’s American Medical Student Association for an International Service Learning experience. While there, the students worked in a clinic pharmacy and assisted patients.

Nine Exercise Science undergraduates recent had their research studies accepted for presentation at the American College of Sports Medicine meeting to be held May 28 - 31, in Orlando, Florida.

Basic Life Support (BLS) courses, taught by Ms. Liz Jorn and Ms. Jana Arabas, will be held Sunday, March 30, from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.; Monday, April 7, from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m.; Monday, April 14, from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m., and Thursday, April 24, from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m. All classes will be held in the Health Sciences Building, room 1206 (CPR Lab). The courses are designed to help recognize and respond to life-threatening emergencies, provide CPR, use an AED, and relieve choking in a safe, timely, and effective manner. For more information and to register, go to http://institute.truman.edu/

Nursing

Nursing faculty and senior nursing students spent February 19, Missouri Nurses Association (MONA) Nurse Advocacy Day, in Jefferson City, where they learned about the political process that affects all nurses and nursing students, met with their representatives and senators, and toured the Capitol. The top 2014 legislative priorities discussed were licensure for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), the addition of scope of practice for APRNs, and the removal of barriers within collaborative practice arrangements (CPAs) to increase patient access to care provided by APRNs. The speakers urged nurses and nursing students to become proactive in protecting their patients and practice by educating their state and federal legislators. The day-long event was concluded with a speech by Governor Jay Nixon.

Calendar of Selected Upcoming Events

March 5, Wednesday – Teaching Naked Book Discussion, 3:00 p.m., VH 2351
March 6, Thursday – Undergraduate Council, 3:30 p.m., Alumni Room
March 10-14, Monday-Friday – Midterm Break
March 18, Tuesday - Teaching Naked Book Discussion, 10:30 a.m., VH 2351
March 19, Wednesday – Graduate Council, 3:40 p.m., BH 100
March 21, Friday – Celebration of Faculty Scholarship, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Towne Museum & Visitors Center
March 22, Saturday – March Showcase
March 22, Saturday - NEMO Alumni Chapter Reception, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
March 22, Saturday – Lyceum A Midsummer Night’s Dream by the Minnesota Ballet
March 25, Tuesday - Teaching Naked Book Discussion, 11:30 a.m., VH 2351
March 27, Thursday – Faculty Senate, 3:00 p.m.
April 1, Tuesday – SHSE Faculty/Student Mini Research Conference, 3:30 p.m., VH 1000
April 4, Friday – Children’s Literature Festival
April 4, Friday – Truman National Spirit Day
April 8, Tuesday – Leadership Recognition Program
April 10, Thursday – Undergraduate Council, 3:30 p.m., Alumni Room
April 12, Saturday – Board of Governors Meeting and Foundation Banquet
April 15, Tuesday – Truman Student Research Conference
April 16, Wednesday – Graduate Council, 3:40 p.m., BH 100
April 24, Thursday – Faculty Senate, 3:00 p.m.
April 25, Friday – Sixth Annual Language and Literature Conference with Dr. Susan L. Hall, presenting on Promoting Collaboration in the Assessment and Treatment of Literacy Related Problems in Children

May 1, Thursday - Undergraduate Council, 3:30 p.m., Alumni Room
May 8, Thursday – Faculty Senate, 3:30 p.m. (old); 5:00 p.m. (new)
May 10, Saturday – Spring Commencement

June 23-27 – Advanced Placement Institutes (Biology, French, Physics, Statistics, World History)
July 14-18 – Advanced Placement Institutes (Calculus, Chemistry, English, United States History)

For a complete list of events on campus check out the Master Calendar, available at calendar.truman.edu. Users can export Master Calendar events to Outlook calendars by clicking the word “export” at the bottom of the event description page.

For information about off-campus events, click on the Kirksville tab in TruView or the Kirksville Events tab located on the top of the Master Calendar. Additionally, links to calendars for the City of Kirksville, the Chamber of Commerce, the Kirksville Arts Association and the Physically Active Citizens of Kirksville (the PACK) can be found at kirksville.truman.edu/calendars.asp.