

"No man stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child." ~Lincoln



Message from Dr. Tammy Pawloski, COE Director

Our third year at the Center of Excellence has been one of growth and change. More teachers from an expanding number of COE Partner Districts have been involved in activities than ever before. The Center has begun to receive requests from across the country for resources that are being developed locally by you, the teachers, who have demonstrated effectiveness in working with children of poverty. Your promising practices and stories of success are an inspiration to others. Thank you for sharing them with us through the various projects offered through the COE. Capitalizing on existing local capacity is the foundation of this project!

As the 2006-2007 academic year comes to a close, we hope you will take advantage of the professional development opportunities being offered this summer to COE Partner District teachers, administrators, and FMU education students. The one-day training sessions in the **Revised Bloom's Taxonomy** will again be presented. Please make your reservations today since these sessions filled up quickly last summer. Also note the August **Science Curriculum Unit Dissemination Project**. If you teach science standards, plan to attend this session where you'll have the opportunity to speak with teachers that have developed starter science units. You will receive copies of these units and we invite you to join in the field testing phase in the coming academic year.

2007-2008 promises to be an exciting year full of new COE activities. A **state level association** is being developed for educators and teacher candidates committed to improving the quality of education for children of poverty. The focus will be on improving the dialog between academics and practitioners. The COE technology-based **Resource Center** which includes print materials, videotapes and DVD's, is being expanded and is available for teachers and teacher candidates to check out. Visit the COE website, www.fmucenterofexcellence.org, for an extended list of resources.

Thank you for your continued support of the Center of Excellence!



REGISTER NOW!

Revised Bloom's Taxonomy Training

The **Revised Bloom's Taxonomy (RBT)**, a multi-tiered model for classifying thinking according to six cognitive levels, has been used in South Carolina since 2000 to guide state standards writing teams. The taxonomy provides the common language and organization used for interpreting the standards for instruction, classroom assessment, and state assessment, including PACT.

Workshop 1: June 5 & 12 1-5pm PDEC

Introduction to the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy (RBT)

These one-day workshops provide an introduction to the **RBT** and an overview of how it has been used to guide the development of state standards. Teachers and administrators will learn how to use the **RBT** to align classroom instruction and assessment with content standards and objectives.

Workshop 2: June 7 & 14 9-4pm PDEC

Aligning Classroom Assessments to Standards Using the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy (RBT)

Participants in these one-day workshops will use the **RBT** to analyze their classroom instruction and assessments. Participants should have attended Workshop 1 or have a working knowledge of the **RBT**. This is a hands-on workshop intended for teacher/administrator school teams, although individuals are welcome. Registrants are asked to bring a summative classroom assessment for analysis.

Free to Partner Districts. Seating is limited!
Call 669-3391, ext. 28 or email coe@fmarion.edu for reservations by May 18th

TENTATIVE CALENDAR – SPRING/SUMMER 2007

May 2007

29	Math Units– Final Wrap-up Meeting	9:00 –12:00	PDEC
29	Science Units– Final Wrap-up Meeting	1:00 – 4:00	PDEC

June 2007

5	Revised Bloom's Taxonomy Workshop 1	1:00 – 5:00	PDEC
7	Revised Bloom's Taxonomy Workshop 1	9:00 – 4:00	PDEC
12	Revised Bloom's Taxonomy Workshop 2	1:00 – 5:00	PDEC
13	NNPS Celebration	1:00 – 3:30	PDEC
14	Revised Bloom's Taxonomy Workshop 2	9:00 – 4:00	PDEC
15	Clinical Faculty Breakfast	8:30 –10:00	PDEC
27	Administrators Awards Breakfast	8:30 –10:00	ERVIN

July 2007

August 2007

23	Science Unit Dissemination Training	12:00 – 5:00	PDEC
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Coming Soon . . .

Professional Development Opportunities 2007-2008

- State Level Professional Association
- Fall/ Spring Saturday Workshop Series
- Summer Institute
- Online Journal
- Annual Series of Position Papers
- Essay Contest
- Classroom Mini-Grants
- Best Practices Day Tours
- Train -the -Trainer Sessions
- Expanded Resource Center
- Curriculum Development Project-Science

Check the COE website for detailed information www.fmucenterofexcellence.org




Look Who's Talking about the Center of Excellence!


"The FMU Center of Excellence is doing an outstanding job in preparing teachers to work with children of poverty. Without question, this center has become the premier resource in South Carolina for helping teachers learn how to provide high-quality education for all children of poverty. It's a perfect example of how the FMU School of Education's outstanding faculty is making a difference for the citizens of our state."

 **Dr. Fred Carter**
President, Francis Marion University


"I am pleased that the focus is on training teachers to be able to work more effectively in teaching children of poverty. This is an issue that is too great for a local school district to address alone. I am pleased with the partnership CSD2 has with the Center of Excellence at FMU."

John Tindal 
Superintendent, Clarendon Two School District

"COE National Network of Partnership Schools provides the framework and guidance to develop a comprehensive parent and community involvement program that ultimately results in positively affecting student achievement."

 **Jerri Cross**
National Network of Partnership Schools, Darlington School District


"I had the opportunity to collaborate with representatives of surrounding school districts to learn how to provide a high-quality education for all children of poverty. I believe the Center of Excellence is doing a wonderful job of improving the quality of undergraduate teacher preparation, graduate teacher preparation, and the professional development of all teachers."

Ashley S. Bowen 
Clinical Faculty Member, Dillon Two School District


"Learning about the unique needs of children of poverty and the [Revised] Bloom's Taxonomy has helped me understand why certain concepts are so difficult for some children to grasp and why I should present information in a variety of ways so I can reach my students. This has been one of the most enlightening experiences of my career and paralleled the National Board process."

 **Mary Frances McMillan**
Math Curriculum Development Project, Marion Two School District


"My participation with The Center of Excellence has given me the inspiration to implement strategies in the classroom that help to motivate and engage children of poverty. . . . I feel that I am ready to start making a difference in the lives of our future."

Chasity Brown 
Student, Francis Marion University


"Being a Clinical Faculty member . . . has afforded me numerous opportunities to become involved with educators across my district and the Pee Dee region of South Carolina. The COE provides many avenues for educators to follow in order to improve instruction and meet the needs of all students and especially children of poverty."

 **Shay Thames**
Clinical Faculty Member, Florence One School District


"I think that by participating in this project, I have realized anew the importance of seeing these middle schoolers as children who still need guidance and of establishing closer relationships with them. . . . Anyone who has an opportunity to participate in any class, conference, project etc. with Dr. Anderson SHOULD! He is so knowledgeable and 'lays it on the line'- I love that!!"

Anita Moore 
Action Research Participant, Florence One School District

"The action research project . . . has helped me work with my students more effectively by guiding me to examine my responses to inappropriate student behaviors and to try new approaches to dealing with those behaviors."

 **Constance Hill**
Action Research Participant, Clarendon One School District

"The Reading Rockets website given by the COE was an excellent resource for me to stay current with literacy information without becoming overwhelmed with the amount of electronic newsletters, websites, etc. online."

Dr. Sharon Moore Askins 
Faculty, School of Education, Francis Marion University

"We have an opportunity to make a difference in the educational future of our children in the Pee Dee. The Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty is providing that opportunity."

 **Dr. Ron Faulkenberry**
Dean, School of Education, Francis Marion University

