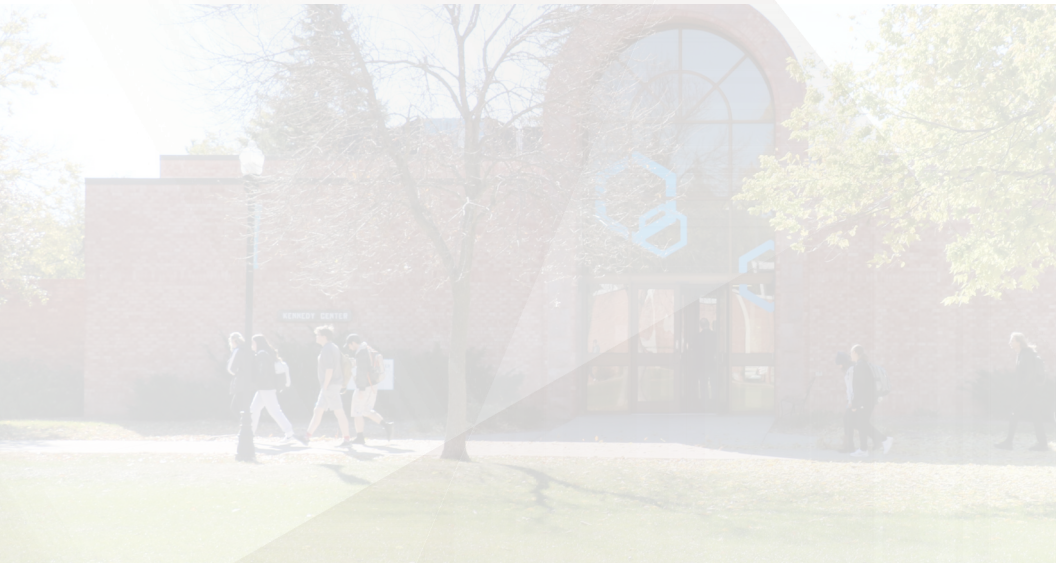


COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

As Dean of the College of Education, I am delighted to share our wonderful news from the past calendar year. We've experienced tremendous growth in both our online and face-to-face programs. Our online enrollment is up over 36%, in large part thanks to the recent launch of the South Dakota Teacher Apprenticeship program. Through this program, para-educators across the state are able to earn their teaching certificates while remaining in the classroom and working. We are thrilled to be a part of this initiative and are dedicated to fostering a dynamic learning environment for all DSU students. This includes our face-to-face enrollment, which also grew by over 3%.

As we continue to rise, I am deeply grateful for the distinctive efforts of our faculty, staff, and students. I look forward to sharing more exciting developments from the College of Education throughout 2024.

*Thank you for your support.
Go Trojans!*



DR. DAVID DE JONG

SD TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAY PROGRAM



the Regional Educational Library, Gov. Kristi Noem, Dakota State University, and Northern University.

Those paraprofessionals seeking degrees in elementary and/or special education are completing their coursework through DSU. Participants earning degrees in secondary education are completing coursework through Northern State University.

Many of the courses are available in accelerated eight-week formats, allowing for flexible scheduling options and faster completion of the degree. The Education and Labor departments are covering the majority of the cost for program participants. Each year, participants will be responsible for up to \$1,000 in expenses for books, state assessments, and tuition.

Over 90 paraprofessionals from 50 school districts in South Dakota have been accepted and are in the process of earning their teaching degrees.

This year the South Dakota Department of Education launched the Teacher Apprenticeship Pathway program, which allows paraprofessionals (teacher's aides) to take classes to complete their teaching degrees while remaining in the classroom.

The statewide initiative is a collaboration between the South Dakota Department of Labor & Regulation, the South Dakota Department of Education, the South Dakota Board of Regents,





DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

The Kennedy Center, home to the College of Education, has seen some changes and updates over the past year. In keeping with the technology-infused focus of Dakota State, we've added new screens to the building, allowing us to share news, the staff and faculty directory, and footage of the College of Education's work in and out of the classroom.

There are a variety of new wall wraps, from inspirational phrases to hexagons and wayfinders, that brighten up the hallways. Some of the phrases visitors of the Kennedy Center see include: Your only limit is you, You are not a true success unless you're helping others be successful, Think Big, The expert in anything was once a beginner, and education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

Spring cleaning helped transform the VALE room, our Virtual Avatar Learning Experience, where students get the opportunity to teach avatar students in a safe, virtual learning environment. The VALE room previously housed a large collection of books, which have been removed to open up the space in the room. The VALE is just one of the many technology-based experiences that helps all education students earn a K-12 technology endorsement.

Faculty and staff have had an abundance of positive feedback from alumni, visitors, and students about the new look inside the Kennedy Center.



NEW HIRES

The College of Education has added two new hires, Megan Janke and Sheila Mulder.

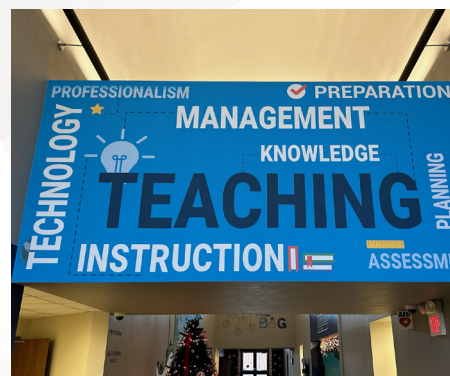
Megan Janke joined DSU as Clinical Supervisor of Pre-Service Teachers. Her primary role is to travel to schools to visit DSU student teachers and help them improve throughout their process.

Sheila Mulder also recently joined Dakota State. She started teaching courses in language arts and literacy this month.



SD DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

"On behalf of the College of Education, I want to thank the South Dakota Department of Labor for being the first partner in pioneering the South Dakota Teacher Apprenticeship Pathway with DSU," said Dean David De Jong. "This pivotal partnership kick started our mission to assist paraprofessionals in earning teaching degrees. We're deeply grateful for their vision and commitment, paving the way for more teachers in our great state of South Dakota."



EDUCATORS RISING LEARNING EXPO

DSU hosted an Educators Rising Learning Expo on Wednesday, Oct. 11. The event brought over 120 high school students from all over eastern South Dakota who are interested in teaching to DSU to learn what it means to be an educator.

Educators Rising is a national organization dedicated to “cultivating a new generation of highly skilled educators by guiding young people on a path from high school through college and into their teaching careers,” according to its website. This autumn, the program reached about 550 high school students from about 30 high schools in South Dakota.

The event kicked off with a welcome from Dean David De Jong and a teacher talk from DSU alumna Mallory Cruse. This was followed by hands-on activities in breakout sessions focused on topics such as special education, teacher simulations, working collaboratively, hands-on with early reading skills, kinesthetic and action-based learning, and working with English Language Learners.

“We work with this group to give students the opportunity to come to our campus and learn about what it means to be a teacher at Dakota State,” said Dr. Jennifer Nash, Associate Professor in the College of Education.

The South Dakota Educators Rising chapter coordinator is Travis Lape, Innovative Program Director in the Harrisburg School District. “The Educators Rising Learning Expos play a pivotal role in shaping the future of education,” he said.

Throughout the day’s activities, DSU promoted the overarching message of the importance of building relationships.

“We really believe as faculty in the College of Education that relationships with learners, other teachers, and professionals are important,” Nash said.

Another exciting highlight for the high school attendees is DSU’s technology-focused programming. Nash shared that faculty use technology to help students learn material, develop critical thinking skills, and assist with self-expression.

The College of Education faculty were thrilled to show high school students what their future in DSU’s education program can look like. The event wrapped up with a panel of DSU education students offering insight into the program experience and answering attendees’ questions. “Our DSU students did a great job serving as ambassadors for the university,” Nash said.

DSU FIRST & ONLY SPONSORING SITE OF TEACHER APPRENTICES IN SD

Dakota State University is the first and only sponsoring site of teacher apprenticeships in South Dakota.

“It is quite a process and honor to be recognized as the first sponsoring site of teacher apprentices by the United States Department of Labor and Regulations,” said Dean David De Jong.

As the sponsoring site, DSU assumes full responsibility for the administration and operation of the teacher apprenticeship program. As the sponsor, DSU designs and executes the apprenticeship programs, oversees training development, and provides hands-on learning and technical instruction for apprentices.

“DSU is thrilled to help develop the next generation of teachers in South Dakota,” De Jong said.



BY THE NUMBERS

423
TOTAL ENROLLMENT

100%
UNDERGRAD PLACEMENT

19.9
AVERAGE ACT SCORE

119
STUDENT ATHLETES IN 13 SPORTS

100%
GRADUATE PLACEMENT

13/7
FACULTY/ADJUNCTS

2
GRAD ASSISTANTS STUDENT EMPLOYEES

16.9%
OF STUDENTS FROM THIS COLLEGE MAKE UP THE WHOLE UNIVERSITY

\$184K
IN FY22 FOR RESEARCH EXPENSES FROM SPONSORED GRANTS/CONTRACTS

WHERE OUR STUDENTS ARE COMING FROM

52 SD COUNTIES

4 COUNTRIES

20 STATES





STUDENT NEWS

MIXED-REALITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

In November, 8 DSU students taught in the Virtual Avatar Learning Experience (VALE).

The VALE uses TLE TeachLivE, a mixed-reality teaching experience created at the University of Central Florida. Students stand in front of a television screen teaching five avatars, or computer-generated students. This gives students the opportunity to teach the curriculum, while also practicing classroom management. Each student led a 6-7 minute activity with the avatar students.

“We worked on classroom management skills and leading productive discussions in the math class,” said Associate Professor Kevin Smith. “The activity we did is called ‘Which One Doesn’t Belong,’ which involves showing the students a picture with four items.

We want students to identify which one doesn’t belong and provide justification.”

“For example, a student might say ‘I think A doesn’t belong because it has two groups of blocks or I think B, because it has the fewest number of blocks,’” Smith said. “My students listened and asked them to explain or agree/disagree with classmates.”

The avatar students act similarly to what a teacher might encounter in a live classroom, showcasing behavior like being distracted by their phones, complaining they are bored, and expressing confusion about the material.

In addition to teaching these sometimes unpredictable avatar students, the DSU students also had an audience with classmates and admissions and marketing staff observing with Smith.



BELIZE TRIP SPRING 2023

During the spring semester of DSU education students’ student teaching experience, they have the opportunity to participate in the Belize Service Learning Experience. Eight students traveled to the Central American country of Belize in March of 2023.

“The students are paired up with a Belizean teacher and classroom at the Victorious Nazarene School in San Ignacio for a two-week experience,” explained Instructor Jennifer Munger, and trip organizer.

“While working in the classroom our DSU students have been able to prepare and teach lessons to the whole class and work with individual students or small groups of students to provide intervention,” Munger said.

This annual international service-learning trip provides a variety of experiences that will help inform DSU students future work in classrooms. “The overall experience provides a real look at classrooms with students who have low socioeconomic status, are English language learners, and special needs students who do not have access to needed services, accommodations, and modifications,” Munger said.

Participants worked with students in Pre-K through eighth grade.

“An additional benefit is exposure to a different culture and the opportunity for students to develop empathy for what it means to represent a minority,” Munger added.

TECHNOLOGY VITAL TO THE CLASSROOM

Sylvia Johnson is a third-grade teacher at Madison Elementary School and is currently enrolled in the MSET program. A student teacher during the COVID-19 pandemic in the spring of 2020, this highlighted the value of technology in education. That experience, and an interest in learning skills that could help grow her career, inspired Johnson to earn her master's degree.

Johnson acknowledged that technology often has a bad reputation, but when used in purposeful and meaningful ways, its impact can be significant.

"Technology is the accelerator to learning," she said. "If you're not using technology in your classroom, you're missing out on growth potential with your students."

While some express concerns about technology eliminating the need for educators,

Johnson feels it is an asset that enhances her knowledge and skills.

"Technology does not replace a teacher, and it never will," she said. "A good teacher looks at the content, applies the pedagogical practices to that content, and layers technology to drive that to the next level."

Johnson will graduate from the MSET program in December of 2024.



MATH INSTRUCTION RESEARCH

Alison Logue, a mathematics education major from Wakonda, S.D. completed a research project for the 2022-23 school year about differentiated instruction in the math classroom.

Differentiated instruction allows teachers to address unique learning styles and ways for students to attack the same state math standards, Logue explained.

To gather data, Logue used her time student teaching, to have different instruction styles and having students take pre- and post-tests to review the outcomes of differentiated instruction. The instruction styles she used included using technology like online math programs available to help meet students' needs.

"Classrooms are more diverse than ever before in terms of ability levels, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity,

etc.," said Dr. Kevin Smith, Associate Professor, and Logue's mentor on the project. "Teachers need to figure out ways to reach all students. Technology can help with this."

Logue appreciated being able to work with Smith on the project. "He connected a lot of the dots between my education-based classes and my math-based classes," she said.

Smith also enjoyed the research work. "Alison had the vision to think about ways to leverage technology to meet the needs of all students," he said. "I think her research will help inform her teaching practice."

Logue used the research as part of her undergraduate honors thesis.



MYSTERY CLASSROOM

Dr. Megan Schuh's class participated in a mystery classroom video activity this fall. DSU students had to guess what state a second-grade classroom was in, and the second graders got to guess what state the DSU students were in by asking each other location identifying questions. Some of the questions asked by both classrooms were about geographical landmarks, bodies of water, and time zones. Both classrooms were filled with excitement, laughter, and smiles as participants went about guessing each other's mystery locations.

"One of the most impactful ways to help our students grow as future educators is to get them involved in real elementary classrooms with real elementary students," Schuh said. "This authentic experience gives us a basis in class for discussion on topics such as classroom management, instructional practices, forming relationships, you name it. Also, the K-8 learners' excitement is contagious for the college students."

FACULTY UPDATES

KEVIN SMITH PUBLISHES "YUCKY"

The phrase "I'm terrible at math!" inspired Dr. Kevin Smith's first children's book, "Yucky!" He hopes to spark a positive outlook on math and inspire conversations in students. The book follows Lilly, a student struggling with math until the right teacher comes along and shows her that math can be fun. Smith brought his two passions of math and art together in Lilly. She loves art and learns that many of the skills she uses in her art, like pattern recognition, can help her in math.

The book has two messages: what is math and that one's attitude about math matters. Research has shown that when parents share their math anxiety with children, it can impact

their children's performance in the subject negatively.

Smith stresses the importance of providing a safe and supportive environment when teaching math. As a professor at DSU he teaches math education courses to future teachers and emphasizes key concepts such as fostering positive attitudes, creating a fun learning environment, and addressing students' unease with the subject.

"Math anxiety is real," he said. "We need to recognize this and do things to alleviate that anxiety."

Since releasing the book, Smith has read "Yucky!" to elementary students throughout the region, even teaching drawing lessons for the impossible triangle. He's also shared the book and information with fellow educators through events like DSU's Teach Camp. He

provides resources like Mathigon, a free website with games, activities, and lessons in math, and Math for Love, which features free lessons, award-winning games, and math art shows.

The book is appropriate for ages 3-12, however, Smith believes the message will resonate with all ages. The book is available for purchase on Smith's website, Kevinandkaia.com, through Amazon and Barnes & Noble, and several local bookstores.

He hopes teachers, parents, and grandparents will share and read it to their young ones, so they might be inspired to look at math differently. For more math resources visit kevindsmith.org/yucky.html.





SECONDARY MENTORS FOR SDTAP

Dakota State has five faculty serving as secondary mentors of teacher apprentices as part of the new SD Teacher Apprenticeship Pathway (SDTAP) program. These secondary mentors are Jodi Hadley, Pam Bonar, Vicki Sterling, Melinda Sterling, and Crystal Pauli.

Participants of the SDTAP program will have two mentors, a primary mentor in their school, and a secondary mentor who provides outside support.

The secondary mentors serve as a valuable resource by providing guidance and support to the teacher apprentices while they balance the responsibilities of continuing their work as a paraprofessional, while completing their coursework for their teaching degree. These mentors initiate contact with their teacher apprentices each week, maintaining regular communication, providing advice, encouragement, and resources. These interactions will occur through Zoom, phone calls, emails, text messages, letters, and more.

Secondary mentors are expected to focus on initiating contact and listening and encouraging their teacher apprentices. The teacher apprentices are expected to be responsive to communication from their secondary mentor, remain open and honest in conversations about what is and isn't going well in the program, and be proactive about seeking assistance when in need.

Their role is to help ensure the apprentices receive the necessary assistance to thrive academically and professionally.



SCOTT KLUNGSETH NAMED UNDERGRADUATE COORDINATOR FOR EXERCISE SCIENCE

Dr. Scott Klungseth has been named the Undergraduate Coordinator for Exercise Science.

Klungseth will take on a variety of roles in the newly developed position. He is currently serving as chair of the exercise science faculty search committee, faculty mentor for new faculty in the exercise science department, and leads all exercise science and physical education faculty meetings. He also works with faculty to coordinate which classes exercise science and physical education faculty are teaching each semester. Additionally, this role has Klungseth completing an annual health check of the exercise science major, reviewing and updating the exercise science major, reviewing and updating the physical education major, and lead the exploration of potential new program majors or minors.



KATIE ANDERSON

Dr. Katie Anderson has taken on a new leadership role as the Undergraduate Coordinator for Teacher Education.

In this role Anderson provides support for adjunct professors, new hires, and program leadership. She does this by providing support and resources for adjunct professors to strengthen connections within the college each semester, while also providing critical department, school, and university information through sharing results of data analysis and opportunity for program feedback.

Anderson works with faculty to establish program goals and develop assessment plans and rubrics to evaluate those goals. She also ensures each course has an assigned professor, determine schedules for new faculty, reviews faculty workloads, and helps develop course rotation for courses in respective programs.



LITERACY FRAMEWORK FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Dr. Katie Anderson worked with a group of six other educators, Dr. Sally Crowser, Dr. Kim Buechler, Amber Muller, Elizabeth Parce, Deb Zebill, and Jennifer Newcomb, and the South Dakota Department of Education to help create a literacy framework, or literacy plan for the state of South Dakota.

Together they created the framework and implementation guides for districts and families to support them.

“The South Dakota Literacy Framework provides a clear vision and comprehensive guide for educators to implement effective, evidence-based literacy instruction aligned to the Science of Reading throughout the state,” the document reads.

This will help improve reading programs in school districts and help students become proficient readers.

Anderson has received positive feedback and excitement from school districts about the new framework. The development of the framework also led to some additional funds for the Department of Education that allows for more training in pathways to proficient reading, writing, and literacy leadership.

“Essentially the framework is driving professional development in the state centered around reading,” Anderson said.



ALUMNI & PHILANTHROPY

DAY OF SERVICE

The College of Education faculty, staff, and students held a basic needs and hygiene drive for DSU's annual Day of Service.

They worked with Madison Public Schools and the Domestic Violence Shelter to determine the needs of the community. They worked together to raise money, purchase the requested items, and deliver them to be distributed.

These efforts led to a record-breaking number of volunteers, 934, for Day of Service 2023, for a total of 2,451.5 volunteer hours.

Day of Service is DSU's annual effort to give back and serve the local Madison community together. We invite all of our alumni and supporters to join us in participating in next year's Day of Service.



TEACHER OF THE YEAR

DSU alumna Sheila Peterson has been named North Dakota's 2024 Teacher of the Year. Peterson (B.S. '00) is a physical education teacher, athletics coach, and reading strategies educator at Wachter Middle School in Bismarck. She coaches basketball, volleyball, and track.

Peterson is revered by fellow educators and former students alike. In a press release of the award announcement, a former student of Peterson's, Logan Schaubert, considers Peterson the most impactful educator he has known, stating Peterson "is what teaching is all about."

"She puts the kids first, leaving positive and life-changing messages whenever you speak with her," Schaubert said.

AI TRAININGS

Dean David De Jong and Interim Dean Mark Spanier of the College of Arts & Sciences, led four artificial intelligence trainings with educators across the state. Over 400 principals, superintendents, and school board members attended the trainings, with most of them never having used artificial intelligence in the classroom.

"Our goal was to introduce AI, get them using it, have them discuss the ethics of it, and equip them to teach others at their school about AI," said De Jong. "Many DSU alumni were at these events and appreciated how DSU was helping to organize and lead them."

BECKY FJERSTAD



Throughout her career in education, Becky Fjerstad (B.S. '95) has served in various positions, such as paraprofessional, middle school teacher, and elementary teacher. She is now in her second year as an administrator for the elementary school of her hometown of Wessington Springs.

Fjerstad, a transfer student, was encouraged by the support she received from DSU's president during her time on campus, Dr. Jerald Tunheim, who expressed his belief in her and her future as an educator.

"I feel grateful for DSU and getting the opportunity to get my degree there," she said.

Her education and experiences have taught her that building relationships are the foundation of education.

"I think one of the most important parts of education, whether at the university or elementary level, is building relationships with people," she said.

Throughout her first year as administrator, Fjerstad focused on showing her appreciation to the staff and acknowledging how important their jobs are not just to the students in the classroom, but the world - noting that to develop doctors, programmers, engineers, and more, everyone needs teachers.



DSU ALUMNA NAMED BROOKINGS SUPERINTENDENT

DSU alumna Summer Schultz (B.S. '98, M.S. '03) was hired as the Brookings School District Superintendent in 2023.

Schultz was inspired to become an educator by many individuals, but most notably her father, who was high school principal and athletic director at Colman-Egan. She got to see him at work daily and remembers he always said, "A day at school is better than anyone else's day at work," she shared. "The number of graduates who share stories of his ability to provide support and grace while holding students accountable is immeasurable."

While attending DSU as an undergraduate to earn her Elementary Education and Special

Education degrees, Schultz also participated in activities, playing basketball, running track, and even joining the cross-country team in her final fall at DSU.

She appreciated the exceptional coaches and professors who uniquely impacted her development.

"The engaging coursework I encountered, even at the undergraduate level, fueled my passion for education," Schultz said. "Notably, technology was gaining prominence in K-12 schools during that period, and in many places, it was relatively rare at higher levels. Being a DSU graduate provided a distinct advantage when applying for a position because educational technology was

embedded into all education programs.

A few years after completing her undergraduate degree, Schultz was inspired to earn her Master's in Educational Technology to advance her career and improve her technological skills.

"Technology impacts many aspects of my career and has initiated changes in both the role of the superintendent and the teaching profession," she said. "Although there are too many benefits to list, technology can offer increased efficiency, improved learning experiences, and unlimited opportunities for collaboration and communication."

As a school administrator, she must protect technology infrastructures, student privacy, and academic integrity. "My technology degree has proved to be an essential component to the overall understanding I have within my school districts," Schultz said.

She went on to earn a master's in administration and later her doctorate on her path to educational leadership.

"I felt moved to work in an environment that allowed me to impact school systems on a higher level," she said. "School districts are often the heart of communities, and when we get it right, communities are stronger because of the relationship and shared responsibility taken to educate our children."

Though she's only a few months into her new role as superintendent, she's seen this in Brookings. "I am impressed by the community's commitment to the school district and the opportunities to work together for the betterment of our students."

Schultz's son, Brayden Pankonen, is a freshman at DSU playing on the men's basketball team.



VIANA MOTE

A love of teaching and technology led Viana Mote to Dakota State. Now an alumna (B.S. '20, M.S. '22), she shares that passion with her students at James Clemens High School, where she earned the Chiquita Marbury Technology Innovation Award after her first year of teaching there.

The award is sponsored by the Alabama Department of Education and Educational

Technology section and is meant to recognize educators who are leaders in the use of technology. It was created to honor Chiquita Marbury's impact as a technology innovator in Alabama.

"I felt honored and thrilled to be recognized for something so meaningful," she said. "I love exploring new technology tools and apps with my students."

Mote sees innovation as a means of improving upon something, describing it as a continuous process that requires creativity, passion, and

commitment. Technology is often at the forefront of innovation.

Quoting education teacher and blogger Matt Miller, Mote said, "I want my students and myself to put on 'tomorrow glasses' and prepare for a technological world that isn't even here yet." So, she has her students engage in the use of technology to create and imagine possible future applications.

"Technology is such a big part of our world and the world our children will inherit," she said. "I feel that we are doing learners a disservice if we don't equip them with technology literacy skills."

In her classroom, Mote incorporates technology into lessons on essential English skills. Students learn the basics, like writing letters and effectively speaking in speeches, but they can utilize digital formats like emails, podcasts, and explainer videos.

"I try to show my students that the skills they've been building throughout their educational careers have a place and a purpose in our technology-rich environment, and I hope that they see that they will be able to adapt these essential skills no matter what technology looks like in the years to come," Mote said.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION



VICKI STERLING ACADEMIC HALL OF FAME

Dr. Vicki Sterling was named to the Dakota State University Hall of Fame in the spring of 2023 for her innovation, research, and creativity in teaching literacy at DSU.

“Dr. Sterling has truly impacted the future by touching thousands of lives due to the ripple effect education has,” said Kindra Schneider, a former student of Sterling’s and current instructor in the College of Education. She called Sterling a “phenomenal professor.”

Jennifer Nash, Associate Professor in the College of Education, said Sterling “Transformed DSU’s Education programs.” For example, she was instrumental in pursuing and solidifying partnerships with K-12 schools. “Although we take these existing partnerships for granted, this collaborative work was groundbreaking at the time,” Nash explained.

Sterling researched the impact of technology on student writing and provided training to integrate technology into literacy learning. She also founded the first South Dakota Literacy Day.

Sterling shared her passion and expertise at state conferences, presenting on the topics of reading, language arts, social studies, and computer software. She also took her knowledge around the globe through her membership in the International Reading Association (IRA). She traveled to Shanghai, China, in 2007 to teach reading and language arts methods to approximately 200 teachers. She accompanied students on spring break trips to volunteer and teach at a school in Belize; in 2016, the group donated 1,100 pounds of books to the school.

On campus, Sterling was well respected by her students. “She truly cared about preparing her students to be successful teachers” and “painted a picture of what professionalism looked like,” Schneider said. Sterling gained her peers’ respect, earning multiple awards during her career.



STUDENT HONORS

Multiple DSU College of Education students received student honors awards for the 2022-23 school year.

Breanna Byer was named the College of Education’s Lowry Scholar. This award is based on the student’s scholarly involvement and leadership in their program of study. It’s named for V.A. Lowry, President of DSU from 1933 to 1962.

Grace Schlechter and Tyler Tappe were named College of Education College Student Leaders. This award is bestowed upon students in good academic standing who demonstrate outstanding leadership in their academic colleges.

FACULTY GRANT

Associate Professor in the College of Education, Dr. Scott Klungseth, received a Faculty Research Initiative (FRI) grant for the 2023-24 school year.

Klungseth’s project is titled “Student Perceptions of Flexible Seating in a College Classroom.” As part of the FRI grant program, Klungseth will share his results at the annual research symposium in March and submit a final report.

SD DEPT. OF LABOR GRANT

Dakota State University’s College of Education has been awarded \$45,500 in grants from the South Dakota Department of Labor.

The grants will help fund and support the online teacher apprenticeship program for high school students. A pilot version of the program is expected to launch this spring.

“Our team truly believes that there is no better place to recruit future teachers than our current classrooms in South Dakota,” Dean De Jong said.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

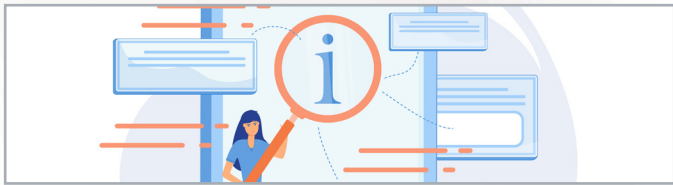
2023 Staff Outstanding Contributor
Addie Borah

Professional Academic Advisor Addie Borah was nominated by students and won the 2023 Staff Outstanding Contributor.

“Addie sets an extremely high standard for what an advisor should be,” said one nominator.

Others referenced her caring attitude and how she encourages and strengthens students by demonstrating a great work ethic. “Without Addie, I do not know where I would be at this school,” wrote another student.

This award recognizes staff members who contribute in significant ways to the quality of life for DSU students.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MULDER STARTS

January 2, 2024



You very likely will be reading this after the fact, but we're just that excited! The College of Education welcomes Sheila Mulder as an Assistant Professor of Education. Sheila brings extensive expertise in instructional design and literacy, with a strong background in instructional coaching, professional learning communities, standard-based grading, and the Science of Reading. Her commitment to innovative pedagogy promises to enrich the College of Education and inspire future teachers. Sheila is on pace to complete her doctorate degree during the Spring 2024 semester. Please welcome Sheila Mulder to the team!

ACADEMY EVENT

January 23-25



We are excited to host the Dakota Dreams Teacher Leadership Academy, a dynamic event spanning January 23 to 25. Gathering 30 dedicated teacher leaders from across the state, this academy is a collaborative initiative facilitated by the South Dakota Board of Regents. Throughout the intensive program, participants engage in robust professional development sessions, fostering innovation and expertise in educational leadership. The event showcases DSU's commitment to advancing teaching excellence and empowering educators to spearhead positive change within their educational communities. During this event, we will invite all 90 participants to enroll in Dakota State University's MSET (Master of Science in Educational Technology) program.

RECRUITMENT FAIR

February 13



Join us at the DSU 2024 Spring Teacher & Student Teacher Recruitment Fair on February 13 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Dakota Prairie Playhouse. This event is an exceptional opportunity for aspiring teachers and student teachers to connect with a diverse range of educational institutions and explore career prospects. Principals, superintendents, and human resource specialists from schools and districts throughout the region will be present to discuss employment opportunities, network, and conduct on-site interviews. Whether you're seeking teaching positions or looking to start your student teaching journey, this fair provides a platform to engage, learn, and kickstart your career in education. Don't miss this chance to connect schools with future student teachers and current student teachers!

SEND US AN UPDATE

College of Education alumni and supporters we want to hear from you! Personal or professional, we love to hear how you are doing and what is going on in your life. Please visit Trojansunite.org and use the contact us form. While you're at the site, don't forget to stay up-to-date on all the latest DSU Foundation & Alumni news.





SUPPORT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Empower the future of education! Your support shapes the next generation of educators, fostering innovation and excellence in teaching at DSU's College of Education. Join us in building a foundation for knowledge and making a lasting impact. Give today to fuel the potential of the College of Education at DSU. Together, let's create a legacy of transformative education. Donate now by scanning the QR Code.



MAJORS & PROGRAMS

UNDERGRADUATE

Bachelor

- Biology: Biology Education (BS)
- Business Education (BSE)
- Computer Education (BSE)
- Elementary Education (BSE)
- Elementary Education/Special Education (BSE)
- English Education (BSE)
- Exercise Science (BS)
- Mathematics Intermediate Education (BS)
- Mathematics Secondary Education (BS)
- Physical Education (BSE)
- Special Education (BSE)
- Certificates
- Online Secondary Education Certificate
- Paraprofessional Certificate
- Online Teaching and Learning Certificate

GRADUATE

Master

- Master of Science in Educational Technology (MSET)
- Certificates
- Esports Coaching Certificate
- Minors & Endorsements
- Adapted Physical Education Endorsement K-12
- Art Minor/K-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Biology Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Business Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Chemistry Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Computer Education Minor
- Educational Technology Endorsement Prog. (K-12)
- Educational Technology Minor (K-12)
- English as a New Language Minor

- English Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog. in Literature and Composition/Grammar
- Health Minor/K-12 Endorsement Prog.
- History Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Kindergarten Endorsement Prog.
- Marketing Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Mathematics (K-8) Minor
- Mathematics Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Physical Education Minor/K-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Physics Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog.
- Reading (PK-12) Minor
- Sociology Minor/5-12 Endorsement Prog.

ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

DSU's eight teacher education programs are accredited by the South Dakota Department of Education. This assures quality with educator preparation. Any institution seeking to recommend candidates for certification must have its programs approved by the State Board of Education. The South Dakota Department of Education reviews the courses and experiences an institution requires candidates to complete and recommends approval to the state board on a seven-year cycle. In addition, the institutions must also be accredited by a regional accrediting agency; DSU is accredited through The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).