

MARCH 12, 2015



FACULTY/STAFF SPOTLIGHT: DR. RUTH LOWERY



Dr. Ruth McKoy Lowery is professor of children's literature and literacy, and program coordinator of the Department of Teaching and Learning at The Ohio State University at Mansfield. Dr. Lowery received her PhD from Pennsylvania State University and her MEd and B.A. in English from Florida Atlantic University. Her research incorporates studies of students' responses to literature, the incorporation of multicultural literature for children and adolescents in schools' curricula, West Indian immigrant populations and their adjustment in American, Canadian and British schools, and preparing pre-service teachers to teach diverse student populations.

Dr. Lowery is responsible for overseeing licensure and non-licensure programs. She sees her role as highlighting the work of faculty, staff and students, and working to expand the MEd program, with the goal of providing diverse learning experiences that will ultimately prepare preservice and in-service teachers to meet the needs of all students they teach.

Based on students' performance in their writing courses and input from faculty, Mansfield's Department of T&L is providing opportunities to strengthen student writing in many of their courses well before students are enrolled in the licensure program. Early in the program, for example, students write reflectively about their field work in area classrooms. Later in their methods courses, when the reflective writing assignments require clear articulation of why and how their choice of a particular practice connects to a specific theory, they are concise with their evidence and clear in their thinking.

Dr. Lowery may be reached at lowery.163@osu.edu

COUNTDOWN TO NCATE LEGACY VISIT

Are you prepared for the April 26 - 28, 2015 NCATE visit? While we are waiting for the final agenda from the BOE team chair, please try to keep April 26 and 27 available for possible interviews. Initial possible interviews and meetings include: visit to Weinland Park/Schoenbaum, UTEC, candidates, field supervisors, alumni, P-12 personnel, regional campuses via electronic means, and advanced programs. Stay tuned for further details.

Here is a tip to get you thinking about how your department can prepare for the visit:

Tip #4: Standard 6: Unit governance and resources

Are you aware of the Conceptual Framework? How do the Conceptual Framework goals fit with your program? (<http://ehe.osu.edu/educator-preparation/conceptual-framework/>)

TK20 PLATFORM OFFLINE MARCH 14

The Tk20 platform will be **offline on Saturday March 14**, for maintenance and minor upgrades. The anticipated downtime will last from 12:01 a.m. until noon. After the upgrade is complete, there will be improvements in the stability and performance of the TK20 platform.

Additional details and documentation will be provided after the upgrade is complete. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your patience.

TK20 NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP

Please let your students know there is a scholarship application available for those who may be having difficulty purchasing the required Tk20 program. The link to the Tk20 scholarship application is: https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_cuwDwpXd4FeehOl

This information is also located on the Educator Preparation website at <http://ehe.osu.edu/educator-preparation/tk20/>

OAE COMPETENCY RESULTS AVAILABLE IN APRIL 2015

Pearson is releasing competency level results for our programs and for candidates that do not pass the Ohio Assessments for Educators (OAE) tests beginning in May 2015. These results will enable programs to examine content competencies and evaluate strengths and weaknesses in the preparation of candidates. Additionally, for those candidates that do not pass the OAE, detailed analysis will be available for use by programs. The "look" of test results in Buckeye Box will be slightly different than it is now, to accommodate the new data.

OFFICE OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION OPEN FORUM

An open forum for Educator Preparation programs will discuss preparations for the upcoming NCATE Legacy visit, P-12 placement updates, Unit-wide data, and edTPA. Please send at least one representative from each program. Graduate students are also welcome to attend.

- Wednesday, March 25th from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. in PAES 145
- Friday, March 27th from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. via Carmen Connect.

Carmen Connect meeting link: <http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/edtpaforum/>. Help for Carmen Connect is: <http://resourcecenter.odee.osu.edu/carmenconnect/>. Note- you may need to manually type the Carmen Connect link into your browser.

UPDATE ON UTEC AD HOC FEES SUBCOMMITTEE

The UTEC Ad Hoc Fees Subcommittee thanks everyone who assisted in the preparation of the proposal for the initial Educator Preparation Voucher Program, which allows students to include the costs in the university tuition and fee structure and be eligible for financial aid. A package proposal that included the four colleges and five campuses was submitted. A special thank you to the members of the committee: Suzi Ballinger, Eric Bode, Erica Brownstein, Karen Carroll, Caroline Clark, Colette Dollarhide, Betsy Lindsey, John Nisbet, Greg Rose, Brian Shaw, and Gary Straquadine. We also thank those who helped survey students and everyone else that assisted in this very quick turn around. It was truly a joint effort.

UTEC UPDATE

UTEC discussed trends pertaining to undergraduate students entering college with college credit. There has been a significant increase in the last few years, as more students look for ways to lessen college expenses. As the Ohio College Credit Plus program is implemented, these numbers are expected to increase with an expectation of college completion in three years. Effective long-range academic planning and careful consultation with academic advisors are essential for these students.

KEY ASSESSMENTS REMINDER

Were there key assessments in your courses this term? Please be sure your students have uploaded and you have evaluated the work.

MILITARY VETS OR SPOUSES ELIGIBLE FOR APPLICATION FEE WAIVERS

Military vets or spouses that apply for a teaching license will have licensure application fees waived by the State of Ohio. If one is taking the Ohio Assessments for Educators, the fee may either be waived or reimbursed if the vet is eligible for the GI bill.

edTPA UPDATES

Important Upload Update

Do not upload blank files. If candidates do not have an additional piece of evidence to attach for Task 3 Part B, please make sure they do not upload a blank file as a place holder. A safeguard has been put into place to protect students from accidentally uploading an empty file and their edTPA portfolio cannot be uploaded.

“Tools for the Process: Helping Candidates Help Themselves”

Below is an edTPA tip for candidates from Nancy Cunniff Casey, St. Bonaventure University. Nancy sends weekly support messages to her teacher candidates. Feel free to share with your students!

Tip #4: General Tips & Getting Started

Decide on a backup plan. Computer crash? All files lost. It's happened and you don't want it to happen to you. So decide on a backup plan and use it. Get a flashdrive and use it for NOTHING else. Save backup copies on more than one computer. Email files to yourself. Create a cloud account. Follow your backup plan often!

CONTACT US

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More information is available on our website at <http://go.osu.edu/edPrep> on topics such as assessments, background checks, edTPA, field placement, licensure and Tk20. The e-newsletters are archived there as well.