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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

REFLECTING BACK,
GROWING FORWARD

Our third annual newsletter marks a number of milestones for the CUE after four years of operation at Cleveland State University. Since opening in 2010, we have served faculty and partners in the P-20 urban education community in the preparation, submission, implementation, and evaluation of 23 external grants, as well as three internal grants, totaling to over \$10 million in awarded funding. After surpassing the \$10 million mark, the CUE is poised to build on the solid foundation it has achieved as it now begins to move into a new phase of expansion and community-based partnerships.

As I reported in the Fall 2013 newsletter, a search was undertaken over the past year for an Associate Director of the CUE who would also be appointed as a tenure-track faculty in the Department of Curriculum & Foundations, starting in Fall 2014. I am pleased to announce that the search successfully resulted in the appointment of Dr. Adam Voight to fulfill this important and timely role. Dr. Voight received his Ph.D. in

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Campus International School Update

A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In addition to the big transition, described in the director's message, from an International Baccalaureate Candidate School to an official International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, Campus International School (CIS) has undertaken many initiatives in partnership with CSU over the past year. One of the major physical and logistical changes is relocating grades 5 and 6 back to the school's original location (South Campus) at 3000 Euclid Ave. CIS is adding a new grade level every year, and with the addition of grade 6, it has outgrown the space available at the Cole Center (North Campus).

MOVIE MAGIC PROJECT

Designed as a way to motivate students to improve writing and communication skills, this innovative video project has introduced students to the methods of video pre-production, production, and post-production. In collaboration with CSU Professor-in-Residence, Dr. Ron Abate, grade 4 teachers Kate Grzelak and Jack Hawley have initiated the writing process (pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing) to students in grades 4 and 5 using the methods employed by video professionals, such as elevator pitches, scriptwriting, and storyboarding. To develop video production and post-production skills, Dennis DeCoulo, Professor and Media Specialist in the Center for Educational Technology, worked with Dr. Abate to teach students about shots, angles, sound, lighting and editing, culminating in student presentations at a public video festival. In this project, students are exposed to a variety of video genres such

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Community Research and Action at Vanderbilt University. Prior to joining CSU, he worked as a Research Associate at WestEd. Dr. Voight brings a wealth of experience and talent to this university and to the advancement of the mission of the CUE. He has already begun to make significant contributions through his position, including the creation of this newsletter.

In addition to these two milestones, another major achievement that I am most proud to announce is the recent accreditation this summer of Campus International School (CIS) as an “IB World School” from the International Baccalaureate (IB) Organization. With this accomplishment, Campus International now stands among 427 other IB World Schools offering the “Primary Years Programme” (PYP). PYP is the just the beginning. As CIS continues to add grade levels, plans are underway to initiate the authorization process for offering the “Middle Years Programme.” For the CSU News and Announcement posted, readers can visit: <http://www.csuohio.edu/news/campus-international-school-earns-international-baccalaureate-accreditation>.

At this time, the CUE is actively serving on 14 funded grants and contracts. Since the last newsletter, the CUE has been successful in securing additional grant funds from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Ohio Department of Education, and the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation. It also has several pending grants submitted to the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Spencer Foundation.

In this newsletter, readers will find information about CUE-sponsored activities at CIS and updates on new and ongoing CUE research and grants. I am pleased to report on the CUE’s most recent achievements as we enter our fifth year of operation. Also, please make a note that future installments of the CUE newsletter will be uploaded on our website at least once per semester, along with other features and announcements.

JUSTIN PERRY, Director of the Center for Urban Education, Cleveland State University

providing authentic writing experiences that promote teamwork, creativity, and critical thinking skills.

The CUE was pleased to support this project through the purchase of video equipment and portable hard drives. Dr. Perry was excited to sponsor the entire team of CSU faculty and CIS staff—including Abu Nasara, Director of the Center for Educational Technology at CSU and Julie Beers, principal at CIS—to present their work at the 2014 Ohio Educational Technology Conference held in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Ron Abate will continue this project into the 2014-15 school year.



Campus International School students practice using camcorders as part of the Movie Magic Night project

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOLS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Over the past year, the CUE was also pleased to sponsor three presentations by both CIS teachers and CSU faculty at the 2014 Professional Development Schools National conference in Las Vegas, NV. The CIS Liaison Faculty appointed for the 2013-14 year, Diane Corrigan, Director of the MUST Program and Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum & Foundations, played a significant role in working with staff at CIS and Dr. Abate to prepare and present at the conference. The presentations were based on previous social action research projects supported by a grant awarded to Dr. Mary Gove, Associate Professor in the Department of Teacher Education, from Martha Holden Jennings Foundation (see the “Center Research and Grants” section).

The three presentations were:

- *Building a PDS Art Education Culture Through Collaborative Art Projects* by Diane Corrigan and Denyse Lipka
- *Oral Reading Fluency and the Effects of Video Recording* by Mary Guardado, Karla Arens, and Diane Corrigan
- *Differentiation: A Model for Teaching and Questioning in a Blended Classroom* by Diane Corrigan, Dora Bechtel, and Lindsay Dottore

A description of each presentation can be found in the 2014 Conference Proceedings located at: http://www.ed.sc.edu/pds/past_proceedings.htm. This year, CUE staff and CSU faculty plan to collaborate with CIS teachers to develop these studies into manuscripts for submission to refereed scientific journals so that this innovative work can be shared with the broader educational research community.

IB PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This past year, the CUE supported several IB workshop trainings for CIS staff. First, CIS IB Coordinator, Grace Karas, attended a “Role of the Coordinator” workshop training in Seattle, WA. Second, approximately half of all CIS staff participated in IB workshops in Westlake, Ohio, provided by the Ohio Association of IB World Schools. Staff attended workshops according to their needs and interests, including workshops related to inquiry practices within the IB Primary Years Program (PYP), implementing the PYP in the classroom, and fitting IB to the new Common Core State Standards. Third, the CUE sponsored a workshop for CIS staff on the topic of the IB Middle Years Program (MYP), facilitated by Nate Maier, the IB MYP Coordinator in Bexley City School District.

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The mission of the Center for Urban Education is to promote academic success, wellness, and equity in P-20 urban education in Northeast Ohio and beyond

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITY



I am very excited to join the center this fall as associate director, and I look forward to helping to carry on the great work that is already happening as well as seeking opportunities to forge new relationships and initiatives. I have spent the past ten years working with schools, nonprofit organizations, and young people to do research and take action to improve the environments in which young people learn and grow. I am a community psychologist by training, and my field is concerned with building strong communities in an effort to improve people's well-being. I will be modeling that strategy as I get to know members of the CSU and local education and youth-serving community. Please say hello if you see me around campus or town!

ADAM VOIGHT, Associate Director of the Center for Urban Education, Cleveland State University



DR. PERRY'S TRIP TO CHINA WITH CIS STAFF

As part of a delegation of 16 members from colleges, universities, and K-12 schools in Northeast Ohio, Dr. Perry traveled with three CIS teachers (Jason Levy, Music Teacher; Heather Snyder, Kindergarten Teacher; and Janice Fields-Pohl, Music Teacher) to China for two weeks in June and July, 2014. The trip was sponsored by the Confucius Institute at CSU, the Office of Chinese Language Council International (the "Hanban"), and Beijing's Capital University of Economics and Business. Consistent with the mission of both the Confucius Institute and the teaching of Mandarin and cultivation of international-mindedness at CIS, the purpose of the trip was to build relationships between Chinese and American educational institutions, with the goals of increasing cross-cultural understanding and sharing educational expertise.

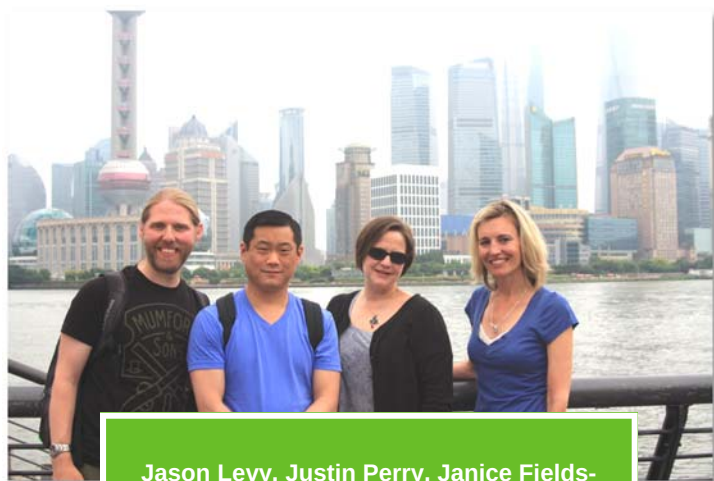


A primary school classroom visited by the delegation in Beijing



The delegation at Beijing Capital University of Economics and Business

The delegation visited over five schools and universities in Shanghai and Beijing, with an unanticipated visit to Suzhou. The delegation school visits, cultural excursions, sightseeing, and ongoing dialogue between the American and Chinese parties left a lasting impression that will be put to use in the local school districts of Cleveland.



Jason Levy, Justin Perry, Janice Fields-Pohl, and Heather Snyder in Shanghai

For more information about CIS, visit the school website at <http://www.csuohio.edu/campusinternational> and the CSU Tumblr feature on CIS at <http://clevelandstate.tumblr.com/post/100513345452/elementary-school-partnership-provides>.

Center Research and Grants

The CUE is collaborating on several new grant-funded projects that began in the past year and is continuing work on several existing projects focusing on the P-20 urban healthcare workforce pipeline. These are highlighted below. For more information about all of the CUE's active and completed grants, visit the CUE website.

ACTION RESEARCH AT CAMPUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Building on the success of a previous grant funded by Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, Dr. Mary Gove in collaboration with Drs. Kristine Still and Grace Huang, all in the Department of Teacher Education at CSU, were awarded a second grant of \$17,000 to continue a social action research program with staff at CIS. The goal of the project is to use a “teach-reflect-teach” process that incorporates research into the cycle of improving practice. CIS staff will work in teams, assisted by CSU faculty to conduct action research studies on problems of their choosing, write reports of their studies, and disseminate the results to the broader education community. As an example, one action research project currently being conducted by first grade teacher Pat Fairman and kindergarten teacher Deb Wightman aims to increase 1st grade reading levels by comparing the efficacy of using Kindle devices, that are dedicated eReaders, versus iPads and Galaxy tablets in the course of reading instruction. The CUE is supporting this project through the purchase of Kindles and Kindle cases. Dr. Perry and the CUE staff will serve as the evaluators for this project.

IMPROVING DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS IN CLEVELAND HEIGHTS-UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Funded by an Ohio Department of Education “Straight A Grant” awarded to John Carroll University and the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District in the amount of \$484,608, Dr. Perry and the CUE staff will serve as the evaluators for the *DigiLit* project that will be pilot tested in grades K-5 at the Gearity Professional Development School during the 2014-15 school year. This project will redefine the look and feel of the elementary school classroom as an innovative approach to engage students and significantly improve academic achievement and digital literacy skills. Specifically, it is designed to infuse digital tools and software in English Language Arts instruction, with the goal of accelerating literacy learning and increasing students' exposure to academic content vocabulary. Based on a content-rich curriculum, a digital learning environment, as well as library learning hubs and family engagement activities, *DigiLit* brings together a dynamic team of faculty from four universities working in partnership with the CH-UH school district: John Carroll University, Case Western Reserve University, University of Akron, and Cleveland State University. Dr. Kathleen Roskos, Professor of Education at John Carroll University, is the Principal Investigator.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

One of the CUE's graduate assistants, **Chelsea Beabout**, is a student in the Master of Urban Secondary Teaching (MUST) Program. She is fulfilling her student teaching requirement at the Cleveland School of Architecture and Design at John Hay in pursuit of licensure in Integrated Language Arts. Over the past year, Chelsea has assisted the CUE with the design and evaluation of the STEM youth academy (SAY – YES!), a project of Cuyahoga Community College funded by the National Science Foundation. Chelsea plans on teaching English in an urban high school after she graduates from the MUST program next year. She is passionate about teaching world literature, including genres such as fiction and memoir. In her spare time, Chelsea enjoys writing short stories, reading mystery novels, and playing soccer.

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SPONSORED EVENTS AND PROJECTS

On November 2, 2013, the Center co-sponsored a performance by Aaron Calafato at the CSU Studio Theater at the Middough with the Department of Theater and Dance, entitled, *For Profit: A Solo-Play About the 1 Trillion Dollar Student Debt Crisis & the Exploitation of the American College Student*. The play was free and open to the public, followed by a panel discussion.

In 2009, about 9% of all undergraduates attended for-profit universities, up from 2% in 2000. Revenues of for-profits have skyrocketed during the 2000s, taking in \$32 billion of federal aid in 2009-2010. The six-year graduation rate is 22%, with students at these institutions being 3 times more likely to default on federal loan debt. According to a 2012 report issued by the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee in the U.S. Senate, for-profit schools spent more in 2009 on advertising and recruitment than on actual instruction. For-profit universities are more likely to attract first-generation college students, minority students, and students over the age of 30.

Mr. Calafato's one-man performance has been critically acclaimed across the country. For more information, readers can visit his official website at: <http://www.aaroncalafato.com/>

is led by Dr. Robert Ferguson, Associate Professor in the Department of Teacher Education at CSU, with grant support from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation in the amount of \$28,000. The CUE collaborated with Dr. Ferguson and his research team to collect and analyze data from the summer institute and to write and submit a manuscript to a scientific journal that describes an impact evaluation of CHAMPS over the course of two years implementation. As part of a multipronged effort led by the CUE to enhance the impact of STEM+H pipeline programs across Northeast Ohio, plans are currently underway to strengthen coordination between CHAMPS and similar types of youth pipeline programs in the area, both at CSU and other institutions of higher education.

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► CENTER RESEARCH AND GRANTS
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THE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP FORUM

The CUE is serving as program evaluator for the Executive Leadership Forum, a collaborative project with Kent State University and funded by a Martha Holden Jennings Foundation grant in the amount of \$23,500. The goal of the project is to build a network of superintendents and senior educational leaders from urban, rural, and suburban school districts across the Northeast Ohio region. The project is co-Directed by Dr. Mark Freeman, Executive-in-Residence in the College of Education and Human Services at CSU, and Dr. Joffrey Jones, Assistant Professor in the School of Foundations, Leadership, and Administration at Kent State. The forum seeks to establish a learning community of peers who will be able to share their common challenges and generate ideas applicable to their leadership roles. To this end, the project's goals during the 2014-15 school year are to design the forum, recruit participants, and plan initial sessions. The CUE is working in conjunction with Dr. Deborah Morin of the Center for Educational Leadership at CSU, who will assist with communication and marketing of the forum.

CAREERS IN HEALTH AND MEDICAL PROFESSIONS

For a fourth consecutive year, Dr. Perry and the CUE staff will serve as the evaluator for the Careers in Health and Medical Professions (CHAMPS) initiative, which has been in operation at CSU as a university-based STEM+H healthcare pipeline program for high school youth from the Cleveland metropolitan area since 2009. The initiative



COMINGS AND GOINGS

The Center was fortunate to have Eric Wallace, a doctoral candidate in counseling psychology, as a graduate assistant at the CUE during the 2013-14 academic year. Over the past four years, he has also worked with Dr. Perry on many other projects and initiatives. The CUE would like to acknowledge his contributions this past year in assisting with the evaluation of institutes and programs offered by the Center for Educational Leadership at CSU, as well as a wide range of grant proposals, funded grants, and active research projects. While the CUE will miss his presence and can-do attitude, we are excited that he will be completing his pre-doctoral internship this year at OhioGuidestone serving children and families.

► CENTER RESEARCH AND GRANTS continued from page 6

URBAN UNIVERSITIES FOR HEALTH

The Urban Universities (UU) for HEALTH Learning Collaborative, funded by a National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) grant over a period of four years, consists of four other urban institutions in the country working in collaboration with the NEOMED-CSU Partnership for Enhancing Urban Health. After Phase 1 was successfully completed, the 2013-14 academic year ushered in Phase 2 of the project, focusing on the alignment of metrics to institutional healthcare workforce goals. The completion of this phase signifies another important step toward realizing the over-

arching mission of this initiative: to diversify a new healthcare workforce committed to practicing in underserved urban settings, with the ultimate goal of reducing health disparities. During Phase 2, the Learning Collaborative developed a metrics framework across three levels of impact: (a) students, (b) institutions, and (c) communities. With this new user-friendly tool, decision-makers at universities with similar health workforce initiatives will be able to use the framework to guide their strategies and evaluate their programs. As the Learning

Collaborative moves into Phase 3, the NEOMED-CSU partnership recently hosted the UU for HEALTH meeting on October 6th and 7th, convening team members from all five demonstration sites. The NEOMED-CSU leadership team highlighted pipeline programs and medical training programs, while providing a tour of Cleveland neighborhoods in which we aim to make a difference within our geographic scope of impact. Dr. Perry presented twice during the meeting, and was granted an award of \$8,000 to develop and validate a new pipeline program measure called *The Healthcare Occupations Knowledge Assessment*. For more information about the Learning Collaborative, readers can visit the website at: <http://urbanuniversitiesforhealth.org/our-work/learning-collaborative>

THE URBAN HEALTH FELLOWS PROGRAM

As part of the NEOMED-CSU Partnership for Enhancing Urban Health, the Urban Health Fellows Program is designed for freshman students at CSU interested in pursuing careers representing a wide range of the health professions, such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, and occupational therapy. The goals of this innovative baccalaureate pipeline program, which is being supported through a two-year grant (2013 to 2015) awarded by St. Luke's Foundation in the amount of \$385,362, are to assist students with their transition to university life and help them successfully enter a healthcare



professional program. To be eligible as a fellow, students must be first-generation, Pell-grant eligible, or have participated in a CSU, NEOMED, or CMSD pipeline program and graduated from a public or charter school in Cuyahoga County. Directed by Dr. Bette Bonder, who at the time of the award was the Special Assistant to Dean Meredith Bond, the Urban Health Fellows program provides students with academic support services and enrichment activities, including a special section of Freshman Orientation devoted to healthcare professions, peer mentoring, a summer camp, science tutoring, health professions workshops and seminars, and a NEOMED pipeline program called the Health Professions Affinity Community program (HPAC). Working with Dr. Erik Porfeli from NEOMED, Dr. Perry and the CUE staff are pleased to serve as the evaluators for this grant and to collaborate with the program coordinator, Kerri Caine. This new and exciting program at CSU is another example of how the NEOMED-CSU Partnership is making progress toward its overall mission of improving urban healthcare through healthcare workforce diversification initiatives.

BRIDGES TO SUCCESS IN THE SCIENCES

Continuing its strong partnership with Cuyahoga Community College, the CUE will serve as the external evaluator for the Bridges to Success in the Sciences Program, awarded by the NIH in the amount of \$1,053,560 to Geza Varhegyi, Lead Principal Investigator, at Cuyahoga Community College. The purpose of this program is to increase the number of underrepresented minority students who complete their science education at the community college level, and then transfer to and complete their degree at a four-year institution. With the goal of enrolling 15 students each academic year, the program will provide key academic and support services, including faculty mentoring, poster presentations, and seminars, meetings, and workshops. Students will gain valuable research experience through hands-on participation in research training courses and active research labs at the partner institutions of CSU and Case Western Reserve University.

SCHOOL CLIMATE TRANSFORMATION

As part of the broader White House initiative launched in the aftermath of the Sandy Hook school shootings to reduce gun violence, called “Now is the Time,” 71 school districts and 12 state education agencies were recently awarded five-year “School Climate Transformation Grants” through a competitive application process. Dr. Voight is assisting the Hemet Unified School District in California, one of the district awardees, in the evaluation of its School Climate Transformation Grant. The goal of the grant is to reduce school violence by proactively creating safe and supportive environments for students, staff, parents, and community members.

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