



Learning Laboratory Ground Breaking

On August 27, GRCC held the formal ground breaking for the new Preschool Laboratory.

This is a \$7.3 million project that will provide a modern space to serve more children and families in our community. This is a dream that many have held on to for the past 40 years.

The preschool building will be named after Phyllis Fratzke, a GRCC alumna. In 1972, Phyllis began the GRCC Child Development Program. This new space is incredibly exciting news for everyone associated with the Education Department at GRCC. The new building will be located on Lyon Street behind the music building. Students, faculty, administrators, community leaders, and especially families will all be looking forward to the new building, which is expected to open during the 2016-17 academic year.



Student Perspective – Emily Winters

When I started here at GRCC I had no idea what I was doing. I scheduled gen. ed. classes and hoped whatever I was doing was right. Halfway through my first semester I got a job offer at a Preschool/Daycare center, but in order to work there I had to be getting a degree in Early Childhood or Education. I was so excited but I had no idea what to do about changing my degree. I spent hours on my laptop trying to figure out how to switch my degree and figure out what classes I needed for Early Childhood.

After looking and trying to figure it all out I thought I would just get my CDA because it didn't require many classes. I enrolled in CD 118 and CD 215 along with two other gen. eds. that semester and hoped I was on the right track. Boy am I glad I picked those CD classes to start with. Deb and Tricia helped me so much. I told them how I had such a hard time figuring it out and what I was planning on doing. Tricia was able to explain to me what the differences between the CDA and the associates was which in turn led me towards getting

my two-year degree instead. I went to the academic advising that semester and with the help of Deb, Tricia and Staci, I got on the right track towards my degree.

I then hammered out 11 credits over the summer (summer classes are totally worth it! Trust me) so that I could finish my degree faster. I am now on track to finish summer 2016 and I couldn't be more excited! I went from crying over what to do and being completely stressed out to seeing a light at the end of the tunnel and sprinting towards it! I can honestly say that I would not be where I am without the ladies here and I am so thankful for them. I would encourage anyone who needs help to go to any of these wonderful ladies because they are amazing! You can do this! I am and so can you!



Welcome!

The Education Newsletter will be published each semester. This is a newsletter designed to keep current Early Childhood, Paraprofessional, CDA and Education students informed about what is going on in the department as well as what is going on in the college. If you have any suggestions for items you would like to be included, please feel free to email me your ideas!

Sincerely,
Tricia Siegel, Associate Professor,
Education Department
tsiegel@grcc.edu



Winter 2015 TOT recipients.

Teachers of Tomorrow Scholarships

Each January, students have an opportunity to apply for a Teachers of Tomorrow Scholarship. This is money that is awarded to you that does NOT need to be repaid! The intent of these scholarships is to provide students with financial help so that they can focus on their education more and possibly work much less. Each year the TOTS committee awards thousands of dollars to students who meet the criteria and are chosen for the awards. Stop by the Education Department office in January if you are interested in applying for a scholarship. More information can be found on the Education Department webpage, grcc.edu/educationscholarship.

Spotlight on Faculty – Keri Davis



Keri Davis is in her third year of teaching for the Education Department at GRCC. She teaches CD 116 Relationships and Human Sexuality; CD 210 Infant/Toddler Development; CD 230 Young Children with Special Needs; and CD 280/285 Co-operative Education in Child Development.

Keri Previously taught as an adjunct professor for a community college in North Carolina for over 10 years. She also served as an Inclusion Specialist, Curriculum Specialist,

and Director of the county's NC PreK program within a local non-profit agency in North Carolina.

Keri has a special interest in children with special needs and/or challenging behaviors and has conducted several trainings for local educators on the subject through the Kent Intermediate School District.

In her free time, Keri likes spending time with her daughter, Presley. They enjoy being outside downhill skiing, wake surfing, enjoying the lakes and beaches of both North Carolina and Michigan, and riding their horses.

Ways to De-stress

Fall semester is quickly coming to a close. This is typically quite a stressful time for college students. Here are some hints to help you keep your stress level down during the next few weeks.

- Find ways to laugh and enjoy other people's company
- Keep yourself hydrated.
- Plan a study schedule
- Eat as healthy as possible. Remember to include fresh fruit and vegetables
- Get some fresh air each day. Get outside if at all possible
- Sleep seven to eight hours a night
- Do something nice for someone else.
- Be kind to yourself and remember to breathe.

Old Program Codes Have Changed

Please check with Staci Dever in the Education Department office (266F Main) to make sure you have the correct program code. This is crucial for advising and for you to enroll in certain classes that are reserved for Education Students only (such as BI 101 E (General Biology for Educators) or receive important information from the Education Department.

Spring and Summer Classes

It seems like summer is the "perfect time" to relax and forget about school. In reality, taking spring and/or summer classes is often a great idea. Most classes run seven (7) weeks and so you still have plenty of time to enjoy the beautiful weather. It might also free up some time for you during the fall semester so that you do not have to take such a heavy load. Also, you could complete your goal sooner than you had planned in some cases. Just food for thought that it might be the "perfect time" to enroll in a class or two.

Future Seminar Dates:

Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2016; 2-3:30 p.m.

Topic TBD

120 Wisnor-Bottrall Applied
Technology Center

Tuesday, March 29, 2016; 2-3:30 p.m.

Topic TBD

120 Wisnor-Bottrall Applied
Technology Center

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