LHMA mini-conference

The Laurel Highlands Mathematics Alliance (LHMA) held its 4th Annual Mini-Conference for Mathematics Educators on the Pitt-Johnstown campus on Saturday, March 19, 2015. Approximately 75 mathematics teachers and pre-service teachers participated. The following UPJ Education students attended: Kristin Baker, Kayla DeCrisco, Tiffany Johns, Jonathan Nguyen, Jakeb Rising, and Kaitlyn Stiffler. Several of these students assisted as Student Hosts. Education students from St. Francis University and Indiana University of PA also attended, along with mathematics teachers from 22 different local schools.

The day consisted of selection of a morning workshop geared towards the teaching and learning of mathematics at the early child, middle, high school level, or special education. Pitt-Johnstown’s special ed professors Drs. Bethany McConnell and Liz Harkins presented a session. There was a brunch and business meeting, followed by a feature speaker, Dr. Melissa Boston from Duquesne University, who spoke on Effective Mathematics Teaching Practices.

Some comments from those Education students who attended include:

“I enjoyed the LHMA mini-conference. It was a great experience. I’m glad I came.”
“The workshop on the flipped classroom approach was excellent. Very useful information.”
“I thought the workshop on population education was worthwhile.”
“I felt part of the teaching profession being at the conference and got to interact with the teacher that I am currently observing.”

Dr. Nina Girard, Associate Professor of Mathematics Education and Past President of LHMA, helped to coordinate the event. LHMA is an affiliate group of the PA and National Councils of Teachers of Mathematics and serves Cambria, Blair, Bedford, Somerset, Fulton, and Huntingdon counties.

**IMPORTANT BASIC SKILLS UPDATE!**

(PAPA/CORE/SAT/ACT)

Please visit the UPJ website below for updated information on the Basic Skills Policy. Effective March 2016, candidates may combine individual tests from different vendors to meet the basic skills requirement. The policy is retroactive for all open applications.


Upper Level Field Practicum 2
Students, with
Dr. Jacqueline Myers
Annual Education Division’s Student Teacher Showcase

The Education Division Alumni Group (EDAG) of the University of Pittsburgh – Johnstown, will be holding the Annual Student Teacher Showcase on **Wednesday, April 13, 2016** in 138 Blackington Hall on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh – Johnstown. Pre-service teachers will present themselves and showcase their professional dossiers. Participants will have the opportunity to dialogue with pre-service teachers about their dossiers and professional aspirations. This is a final opportunity for pre-service teachers to gain valuable insight from other professional educators and supporters before entering the job market.

The Epilepsy Foundation Western/Central Pennsylvania sponsors a camp each summer called Camp Frog. It is a nationally-recognized program that places extra supportive and medical services into an existing YMCA summer camp program, thus allowing children with a primary diagnosis of epilepsy/seizure disorder to enjoy summer camp just like their peers. Along with finding campers, we are looking for counselors who are interested in working with special needs children from the ages of 8 to 17. Our camp provides a plethora of opportunities for college students to gain more experience working with children and teens. I would greatly appreciate if you would share this information with your students through classes, bulletin boards, and online listings.

Camp Frog will be held from June 19-25, 2016 at Camp Conrad Weiser in Wernersville, PA (near Reading) and July 10-16, 2016 at Camp Fitch in North Springfield, PA (near Erie). We are looking for counselors to work at either or both locations. Counselors will assist Camp Frog campers with daily activities and provide additional safety, behavioral, and emotional support throughout the entire week of camp. The counselors will also receive a training session on seizure recognition and first aid and an honorarium for all of their hard work.

For more information: [http://www.efwp.org/programs/ProgramsCampFrog.xml](http://www.efwp.org/programs/ProgramsCampFrog.xml)