HAPPENINGS

Horizons at Warner, the six-week summer enrichment program on River Campus, concluded this month with remarkable performances from our talented students. Participants captivated their audience with a flash mob, comedy, circus, band, choir, Latin dance, slam poetry, magic, puppetry, and step dance performances. View more photos here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meliora Weekend 2016 Is Just Around the Corner
There is still time to register for Meliora Weekend, October 6 – 9. Enjoy annual traditions like Miller’s Court, along with new experiences at the Campaign Celebration BBQ with live music by Provost Rob Clark’s band You Don’t Know Jack and the Meliora Village. Check out the full event schedule to plan for your weekend before online registration closes Friday, September 30 at noon EDT. Don’t forget to show your Meliora spirit by using #URMM16 on social media. Learn more.

Warner Welcomes Several New Faculty and Staff

- Emily Ahlheim – assistant director of admissions
- Valerie Marsh – visiting assistant professor and assistant director of the Center for Urban Education Success
- Samantha Daley – assistant professor, teaching and curriculum
- Tricia Shalka – assistant professor, educational leadership

Joining the Center for Professional Development & Education Reform are:

- Melissa Staloff – co-director of mathematics education outreach
- Jennifer Kruger – co-director of mathematics education outreach
- Michael Daley – visiting associate professor
- Nahoko Kawakyu O’Connor – visiting instructor
Save the Date: PISA: How the Programme for International Student Assessment Transforms Global Education Governance by Changing How We Think about and Measure Education
Presented by Bob Lingard, professorial research fellow in the School of Education at The University of Queensland, Australia
September 12, 2016 at 7 p.m.
Genrich-Rusling Room, LeChase Hall
University of Rochester's River Campus

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) began in 1961 with a focus on promoting global economic markets. OECD’s Directorate for Education began in 1991 and beginning in 2000 used PISA to expand further in education, assuming the role of diagnostician, evaluator, and advisor to the world’s education systems. In doing so they changed the nature of educational governance by broadening the scope of PISA (what is measured), its increasing scale (the extent of coverage), and efforts to enhance its explanatory power (to inform policy makers of what works). Lingard will present data collected through more than 50 interviews with policy actors located at the OECD and within national education systems (Australia and England), as well as OECD documents. Overall, OECD, through PISA, Lingard argues, is transforming how we think about and evaluate education.

University of Rochester Night at the Rochester Rhinos
The Rochester Rhinos are inviting all University of Rochester students, faculty, staff, and families out to the Rhinos game on Saturday, September 10. There are special prices for tickets: $15.00 for Midfield Seats (reg. $24.00) or $10.00 for Premium Seats (reg. $22.00).
Saturday, September 10 at 5:05 p.m.
Rhinors vs NY Red Bulls II
Rochester Rhinos Stadium

AlertUR Test Set for September 8
The fall semester test of AlertUR will occur on Thursday, Sept. 8 at 6 p.m. AlertUR is the emergency notification system for the University, including the Medical Center. In the event of an emergency, alerts are sent by voice, text, or email. The purpose of the twice-a-year test is to activate the AlertUR system and check that you can be reached immediately. Before the test, students and employees should review their contact information at www.rochester.edu/alertur; sign in with your NetID and password to verify the fastest method for reaching you. Employees with a NetID who do not have a University email address may enter a personal email or phone number to receive emergency alerts. The Sept. 8 test will not disrupt scheduled activities.

UR Presents Online Learning Symposium
Every fall, the University of Rochester hosts a series of open forums to provide insight and promote dialogue about Online Learning with the community.

- Thursday October 13 - What Does the Research Tell Us about Online Learning – and How Can It Inform Our Practice? – Dr. Peter Shea, editor of the Online Learning Journal and associate provost for online learning & associate professor, educational theory and practice & informatics - University at Albany
- Thursday November 10 - Online Learning Initiatives at Vanderbilt University – Dr. John Sloop, associate provost for digital learning & professor of communication studies
- Thursday December 8 - First-Hand Experiences with Online Learning at the University of Rochester – UR Faculty and Students

Read more

Future Faculty Program Workshops Offered
Designed collaboratively by faculty from each of the University's schools, the workshops aim to prepare the next generation of faculty, and to give our graduates a competitive edge in the academic marketplace. They offer information and hands-on experience with aspects of faculty life not traditionally part of graduate curriculums, including innovative teaching, assessing learning, mentoring, working amid diversity, employing technology in teaching. Invitations to participate are extended to doctoral students and post-docs by the graduate deans; registration and program logistics are handled by the Provost’s Office.

- Understanding The Faculty Role
  October 6, 2016, 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Learner-Centered Teaching: Innovative Approaches that Engage Learners
  October 26, 2016, 11:30 a.m.–1:50 p.m.
- Teaching Fundamentals: Tools to Demystify Course Planning and Assessment
  November 16, 2016,11:30 a.m.–2 p.m.

Read more

NEWS

Teaching Garden at East Aims to Produce More than Just Produce
American Heart Association, Dixon Schwabl and East Upper & Lower Schools have joined forces to build East’s first Teaching Garden. Leaders of each organization, East students and members of the Greater Rochester community gathered in July to plant vegetables, fruits and flowers in the garden, which was built entirely by volunteers. Read more.

FACULTY/STUDENT NOTES
Textor, Gatto and Lammers Present at Gaming Conference; Lammers Publishes Article

Lynn Gatto, assistant professor and executive director of Horizons at Warner, and doctoral student Kristana Textor (both pictured above) presented "MasterSwords: Competition, Collaboration, and Community in a Multi-modal Battle of Words" at the Games Learning + Society Conference (GLS) in Madison, Wis. in August. The poster explored how one group of urban elementary school students engage with a video game designed to foster literacy. Particular attention was paid to the socially situated interactions surrounding the game’s competitive battle mode. Through their case study they hope to better understand how a fighting game mechanic that uses words and spelling might cultivate collaboration, community, and new media literacy among youth.

Jayne Lammers, assistant professor, co-presented the workshop "Designing for DIY: Talking through Tensions, Lessons, and Questions to Guide Innovative Learning Environments," in which highlights from her "Fanfiction Goes to School" study were combined with findings from the other researchers' projects. The group engaged participants in thinking about how lessons learned from this collection of studies might inform everyone's work to design innovative learning environments. Lammers also served as a discussant for the "Game Narratives" panel at the conference.

Additionally, Lammers published the article "Examining the Pedagogic Discourse of an Online Fan Space: A Focus on Flexible Roles" in The Mid-Atlantic Education Review, volume 4, issue 2. The purpose of the article is to examine the pedagogy at work within an online community, The Sims Writers' Hangout, to inform classroom-based writing instruction. Using Bernstein’s (1990; 2000; 2004) pedagogic discourse theory as a lens, interview and artifactual data collected during a two-year affinity space ethnography were analyzed to make visible how, unlike in many formal educational sites, The Sims Writers' Hangout allowed for flexibility in terms of who could be a transmitter of knowledge in this online community. Implications for English classrooms are shared. Read the Article.

Curry, Swanson to Serve on Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Curry Speaks at Dartmouth

Associate Professors Mary Jane Curry and Dena Swanson will serve on the University-wide Faculty Senate executive committee this academic year, Curry as co-chair of the Senate and Swanson as an executive committee member. They will help guide the business of the faculty and act as conduits between faculty members and the senior administration of the University.

Additionally, Curry was an invited speaker at the 50th Annual Dartmouth Writing Seminar, where she gave a talk on research methodology in August. The title of her talk was "Contextualizing the Practices of Writing for Publication: Exploring the ‘Text-Ethnographic’ Research Method."

Choppin Awarded Two Grants

Jeff Choppin, associate professor and chair of teaching and curriculum, is launching the ERGO database, which will be funded by a supplemental $86,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The database, comprised of nearly 1,000 artifacts generated from the NSF-funded project "Developing Principles for Mathematics Curriculum Design and Use in the Common Core Era" [ERGO], will be made publicly available to researchers interested in how teachers perceive and use curriculum materials in mathematics classrooms. As ERGO principal investigator, Choppin directed the database project, with assistance from Demeke Yeneayhu '15W (PhD) and Dave Garcia, database and information technology director.

Choppin also received a $50,000 CPM Educational Program Research Grant for Mathematics Education to support a one-year project titled "How Teachers Recognize and Respond to Messages and Structures in Curriculum Materials." The study looks at how teachers recognize and respond to the messages and structure in curriculum materials, and how these relate to how teachers design instruction. The project will explore how the messages and structures in the College Preparatory Mathematics (CPM) curriculum are perceived as being different with respect to conventional and NSF-funded curriculum, and how any differences translate to how teachers design instruction. Yeneayhu will serve as the co-principal investigator on the grant.
Lynch Hosts Professor, Publishes Article

In August, distinguished psychologist Dmitry Leontiev (left) met with Martin Lynch, associate professor, and human development doctoral students Myunghee Lee and Kenneth Leow to discuss current and future research collaborations. Leontiev is the director of the International Laboratory of Positive Psychology of Personality and Motivation at the Higher School of Economics, in Moscow, Russia.

Additionally, Lynch co-published the article “Teachers’ Conceptions About the Child’s Developmental Needs: A Structural Analysis” in Mathematics Education, volume 11, issue 5. The aim of the present study was to investigate what teachers think about the needs of students. In this initial report of research on teachers’ beliefs, 247 practicing teachers from the Republic of Tatarstan, recruited from continuing education/recertification classes conducted in Kazan, Russia, responded to a list of 26 statements drawn from Self-Determination Theory (SDT), Maslow’s hierarchical theory of needs, and several other sources, rank-ordering them in terms of their importance for the child’s healthy psychological development. The article presents the rank-ordering of teachers’ beliefs about student needs as well as the factor structure of those needs. Two needs from SDT (relatedness, competence) ranked more highly than Maslow’s needs, but, unexpectedly, teachers ranked the need for meaning most highly. Results indicated that autonomy was valued less than most other candidate needs, and, additionally, an unexpected factor structure emerged. The paper, which suggests caution when testing and utilizing existing constructs in new cultural contexts, will be of interest to researchers and educators alike as they work to strengthen the link between student needs and educational practice. Read the article.

Kirschenbaum Publishes in China, Give Keynote Presentation

The book The Life and Work of Carl Rogers (American Counseling Association, 2008), written by Howie Kirschenbaum, emeritus professor, was translated and recently published in China by the Central Compilation and Translation Press, a major Chinese publisher. His books have been previously translated and published in French, Spanish, German, Japanese and several other languages.

Additionally, Kirschenbaum gave a keynote presentation and a featured presentation at the bi-annual conference of the World Association of Person-Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling, in New York City in July. For his keynote presentation, he was introduced by Warner alumnus Mike Tursi ’16W (PhD).
Brockenbrough Presents at AIDS Institute; Joins GLSEN Committee

Ed Brockenbrough, associate professor, was invited by the New York State Department of Health’s AIDS Institute to deliver a presentation titled “A Deeper Love: Developing More Nuanced Understandings of Young Black MSM’s Sexual Engagements of Networked Technologies.” The presentation was part of a two-day professional development workshop for community-based organizations that focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and services for young Black men who have sex with men (MSM). Brockenbrough shared emerging findings from The SENT Study: Sexual Engagements with Networked Technologies, a research project conducted with Dr. Mitchell Wharton from the University of Rochester’s School of Nursing that examines how young Black MSM use smart phone apps and other technologies to learn about sex and HIV.

Additionally, Brockenbrough attended the inaugural meeting of the Research Advisory Committee for the Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network, known as GLSEN, in July in Baltimore, MD. As a newly-appointed committee member, Brockenbrough will help to shape future research initiatives by GLSEN, a non-profit organization that combats homophobia and transphobia in schools. GLSEN’s research efforts include its biennial national school climate survey which describes the schooling experiences of LGBTQ middle and high school students from across the county.

Linnenberg Presents at Cooperstown, Featured in Watertown Daily Times

Dan Linnenberg, assistant professor, and Virginia Skinner-Linnenberg, professor of English at Nazareth College, presented at the 28th Annual Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture in June at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. Their paper was titled “The Varieties of Religious Experience: A Study of Baseball Players’ Religious Nature.” Scholars from across the United States and Canada presented on a wide variety of topics concerning education, psychology, religious studies, history, music theory, architecture, legal studies and human development and its relationship to baseball and culture. In addition, Linnenberg and Skinner-Linnenberg also moderated sessions for the symposium. The Cooperstown Symposium is widely regarded as the preeminent academic baseball conference.

Additionally, the pair were featured in the Watertown Daily Times about their baseball travels. Read the article.

Sörensen Gives Invited Talk

Silvia Sörensen, associate professor, gave the invited talk “Interventions To Enhance Planning For Late Life” at the Ageing as Future Conference in Nuremberg, Germany in July. In her talk, Sörensen discussed the barriers to future planning that older adults encounter, and provided an overview of past and existing programs to encourage planning for late life. She also presented the results of a randomized trial of an intervention to enhance future planning among people with vision loss. Learn more.

EVENTS

9/7/2016
Wednesday Lunch Hour - Back to School: Warner Updates and Introductions

9/12/2016
Lecture: Bob Lingard on International Student Assessment

9/16/2016
Writing Workshop - Critical Reading of Academic Texts

9/21/2016
Wednesday Lunch Talk - Update on East

9/24/2016
Writing Workshop - Incorporating Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism
9/28/2016
Wednesday Lunch Talk - Before the Death Penalty: The Integration of Academics, Athletics and Fundraising at SMU

9/30/2016
Writing Workshop - Citations, Referencing, and APA Style

10/1/2016
Writing Workshop - Genres of Academic Writing

10/14/2016
Writing Workshop - Critiques, Reflective Writing, and Summarizing

10/21/2016
Child Abuse Prevention Certification Workshop

10/28/2016
Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Training

10/29/2016
Writing Workshop - Constructing an Argument in Academic Writing

IN THE NEWS

8/29/2016
David Hursh Talks Independent Schools on WXXI

8/17/2016
New Equity Alliance Blog Post Co-Authored by Kara Finnigan

8/16/2016
Counseling Today Q&A Features Alumna Amy Rosechandler’s ’09 (MS) Journey as a Counselor

8/15/2016
Rubenstein, Donnelly on Dealing with Back-to-School Stress in Community Health Magazine

8/15/2016
Simon Business School Student Volunteer Project at East Featured on WROC-TV

8/10/2016
Kara Finnigan on Leadership Churn in the Democrat & Chronicle

8/8/2016
Coverage of East’s New Teaching Garden

7/26/2016
Alumnus Brian Weller ’12W (EdD) Named as New Brockport Principal

7/26/2016
Alumna Mary Ellen Burris ’68W (EdM) Featured in the Chronicle of Higher Education

7/18/2016
A Year in Review for East in the Democrat & Chronicle

7/13/2016
Alumnus Costas Solomou ’07W (MS), ’13W (EdD) Named Dean of Admissions at George Washington University