



JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

VOLUME 3

FALL 2019

Welcome from the Dean

Greetings! This academic year began with a flurry of activity and has not slowed at all! Our joint commitment to "Reach A World Class Standard" is producing good outcomes. Our pre-service teachers graduating in December passed the national edTPA assessment of teaching at a 95% rate! This is outstanding and approaches 20% higher than the national first-time pass rates! Our new teachers are in demand! Recruiters from Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, Mississippi, and even New Mexico converge on our JSU campus each spring to seek to hire JSU teachers! We believe we produce the best first-day-ready teachers to be found anywhere, and the hiring evidence supports that conclusion.

Enrollment in our graduate programs at the masters and educational specialist levels continues to increase. Enrollment increases of 5-10% per year over the past several years places even more highly-trained teachers and administrators in our schools to assist and support our students. Their improved learning and confidence, as well as increased income, serve to retain good teachers in the field. This may be the best way to combat the nation-wide teacher shortage!

Our hospitality, nutrition, dietetics, fashion, and other programs in the department of Family and Consumer Science (FCS) continue to be very popular majors and offer terrific employment opportunities for graduates. On that note, we say goodbye and a hearty



Dr. Tommy Turner

"Congratulations" to our colleague Dr. Debra Goodwin, Department Head for FCS, as she retires on December 31. Her outstanding professionalism, leadership, and commitment to her profession will leave a positive and lasting mark upon all of us, and she will be missed.

Center for Autism Studies Hosts Events

By Valerie Wheat

The JSU Center for Autism Studies (CAS) hosted 2 major events in 2019. The 6th Annual JSU CAS Autism Conference was held on July 25th at Grace Church in Anniston. Participants included local educators, social workers, therapists, and parents of persons with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The presenters covered topics including mindblindness in autism and behavioral strategies for working with persons with autism, including mindfulness

activities to help with self-regulation. A JSU SoE alumna, Mrs. **Janet Kuchinski**, who is a parent of a child with ASD as well as a special education teacher at Oxford City Schools, shared about alexithymia and other markers for autism. The keynote speaker was Mr. **Michael Goodroe**, a young man on the autism spectrum. Mr. Goodroe was a participant in a CAS panel of young persons with autism in the past and has gone on to write a book: [What Autism Gave](#)

[Me](#). Michael is now an inspirational speaker and shares his story at conferences across the country. He provided autographed copies of his book to all participants.

The second event was the recent Parent Night on Nov. 12th at Houston Cole Library on the JSU campus. This event provided training for parents on understanding an Individualized Education Program that was facilitated by JSU SoE alumna,

Mrs. **Amber Hammonds**, who is currently serving in the role as special education teacher at Oxford City Schools. The event also provided behavioral strategies and mindfulness activities for helping with self-regulation and anxiety for parents working with their child with ASD. The keynote speaker

was Mr. **Steven Waters**. Mr. Waters is the parent of **Michael Waters**, who has been our keynote speaker in the past. Michael is a young adult on the autism spectrum who has had great success as an adult. Michael graduated from JSU with an undergraduate degree in General

Studies in 2015. Michael is a gifted musician and was the director for a food distribution ministry for many years that he created titled, *Reaching Out International*, that fed more than 300 people per month for many years.



L to R, clockwise: Michael Goodroe; CAS conference attendees; Amber Hammonds; parent workshop participants



FCS Child Development Graduates Begin Next Steps

By Robbie Boggs

Donald Smith (*right*), FCS Child Development Graduate from Summer 2019, acquired his first job as a lead teacher in an Alabama Office of School Readiness (OSR) First Class Pre-K classroom at Nocalula Academy in Gadsden. His supervisors have already bragged at how well he is doing in this position.

Brooke Frix (*below right*), a 2018 graduate in FCS Child Development, recently returned home from a Child Life Practicum experience in Cape Town, South Africa (*pictured*). During this incredible experience Brooke got to rotate among three hospitals and sharpen her skills in the Child Life area while under the tutelage of two different supervisors. Brooke is the first FCS graduate to pursue the Child Life Specialist Certification (CCLS). Her next and final step will be applying for an internship as she works toward her professional goal of becoming a CCLS.

Mary Bullock, a 2019 Child Development graduate, is now serving as the assistant director at the preschool at 12th Street Baptist Church in Rainbow City. Completing her degree enabled Mary to get an almost immediate promotion.

Catherine Brown (Catie) is a 2019 Child Development graduate. She is employed as an early childhood teacher at Marshall Child Development Center on Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville. Catie's professional goals include writing curriculum for parenting classes and to eventually become a parent educator.



Collaboration Provides Learning Experiences for Teacher Candidates

By Cynthia Connor

Although the importance of collaboration and co-teaching has been instructed, modeled, and practiced for years in the JSU School of Education, there is now a new opportunities for JSU Teacher Candidates from two different Schools and Departments (JSU School of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, and JSU School of Health Professions and Wellness, Department of Kinesiology) to collaborate together in order to provide a unique learning experience for high school students with intellectual, physical, and other more significant disabilities.

Transition University (TU), the JSU on-campus community learning experience for high school students ages 18-21 who have autism, intellectual, and physical disabilities, provides around 80-100 high school students from 24 different schools a chance to interact with same-age peers in the college community while receiving co-taught transition lessons instructed by JSU Special Education Teacher Candidates. The high school teachers, who must accompany their students to JSU, are provided Professional Development Activities while their students are receiving instruction.

This year the TU program has added an additional feature. JSU Physical Education Teacher Candidates taking the Adaptive PE class as part of their program are now also collaborating with the Special Education Teacher Candidates in order to plan and co-teach recreational activities for these high school students. As with any program, the success of

the TU experience depends on careful planning. Therefore, two weeks prior to TU, the Teacher Candidates meet together for a special TU Planning Day. The Special Education Teacher Candidates collaborate together to plan their individual classrooms' co-taught transition lessons. Later in the day, the PE Teacher Candidates join in on the planning session. Each TU involves a different group of PE Teacher Candidates, some of whom have never worked with students with significant disabilities; therefore the Special Education Teacher Candidates, who participate in TU for three semesters, share their plans for lessons and provide valuable information about the variety of learning, physical, and emotional needs of the high school students who will attend TU.

All of the teacher candidates have learned the value of flexibility and having a "plan B" to fall back on. While the first TU took place on one of the warmest days in September, the second TU

occurred during one of the heaviest rains of the year. Classroom sessions were affected by some schools arriving late, and the recreation activities went from the JSU quad, which was easy for all students to access, to inside the gym the day of the rain. This caused the need for buses to transport students from Ramona Wood to Stephenson and to unload in the downpour at two different locations in order to accommodate those students in wheelchairs. However, in the classrooms, on the quad, or in the gym, once the high school students were in place, the TU lessons and activities were successfully implemented. Both groups of Teacher Candidates feel that not only did the high school students benefit, but that the experience was of great value to both Teacher Education Programs. There is one more TU session remaining this semester and it has already been suggested that this successful collaboration between programs continue next semester and possibly become a permanent fixture of both programs.



Some of the TU Teacher Candidate Participants

FCS Association Participates in Community Projects and Events

By Robbie Boggs

The FCS Association, student unit chapter of American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS), invited Ms. **Raisha Morrell** of Second Chance (Anniston) to speak at their November meeting. She informed members of the signs of domestic violence and abuse and explained the services that Second Chance provides for its clients. Students painted messages on purple rocks to place throughout the community to bring more awareness. Ms. Morrell was also a guest speaker in Dr. **Jeannie Frazier's** Family Life Education class. Dr. Frazier serves on the Executive Board of Second Chance.

The FCS group also conducted a "Pennies War" between the seven FCS concentrations, with proceeds being donated to Second Chance. Pennies and dollars counted as a PLUS, but silver change coins counted against the concentrations (a deficit). It was a fun event in the FCS department and definitely a WIN for the cause! Approximately \$75 was collected from all seven concentrations.

In December, the FCS Association will be gift wrapping at Quintard Mall in Oxford to benefit Second Chance and bring more awareness in the community.

Another initiative that the students have been involved is *Coups for Troops*. Collected food and product coupons are being sent overseas to help military families since coupons are not available in the countries in which they have been deployed.



Above: Raisha Morrell; Below: FCS students paint kindness rocks.



It was STEAMing Up at JSU This Summer: Math Summer Camp

By Ahmad Alhammouri

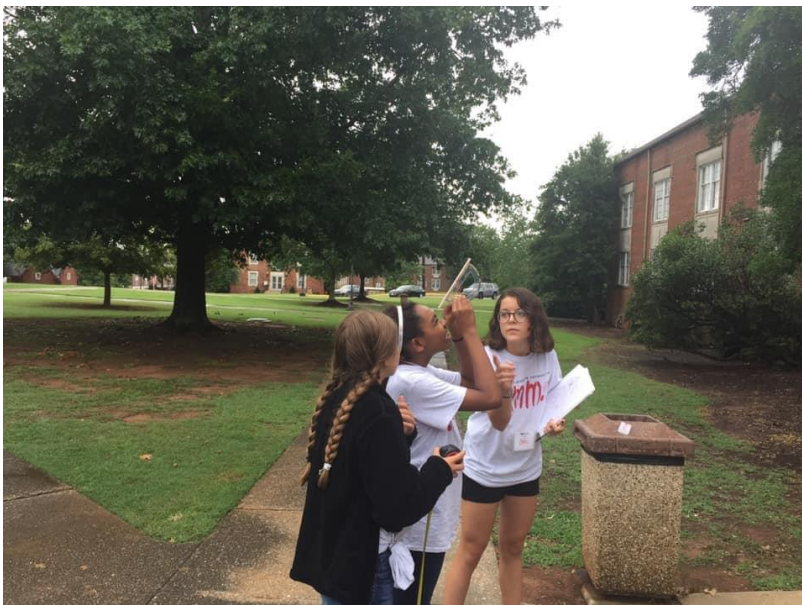
In July 2019, the Secondary Education Department at JSU offered a one-week long summer camp called Understanding Mathematics Matters (Umm...) for rising 7th and 8th grade students. In addition, pre-service teachers of mathematics were invited to provide them with an informal practicum experience. The Umm... camp was fully funded and supported by the School of Education at JSU. The main goal of

the camp was to enhance the participants' motivation toward school, college, and real-world mathematics. The campers experienced real-world problems that were written in the form of "here is a situation, think about it" (Henry Pollak). To engage the campers effectively, JSU was loaned technological tools by Texas Instruments. These tools included TI-nspire CX CAX calculators, a navigator system, and TI-Innovator Rovers. The summer camp was well-received by the participants.

For example, one participant mentioned: "I have more a lot fun here and I understand it [mathematics] a lot better here... I like do it [mathematics] in my way." Another participant mentioned: "I like how there is not a specific answer that you are looking for; you are trying to find out what we have in our head to see if we can relate to show everybody else." The JSU SoE aims to offer the Umm... camp for the upcoming years and continue to support the local community.



The Umm... Campers engaging in real-world and open-ended scenarios, including coding, led by Dr. Ahmad Alhammouri.



SoE Faculty and Alumni Publish Books

By Wendy Stephens and Robbie Boggs

JSU School of Education alumna and librarian **Kristie Noojin-Barnett** can now add her own work to the shelves at Oxford Middle School, where she is the school librarian.

Her debut, *As I Walk Through Life with A Stain on My Shirt and My Shoe Untied: Life Laughs, Confessions of a Nerdy Clutz*, was released in October. Her slice-of-life, deadpan observational humor covers everything from bed-and-breakfasts to house plants to cats, with special attention to households of boy children.

Noojin-Barnett grew up reading Erma Bombeck and is a big fan of more recent humor like Laurie Notaro. She said she has been teasing her mother for 20 years that certain episodes like an

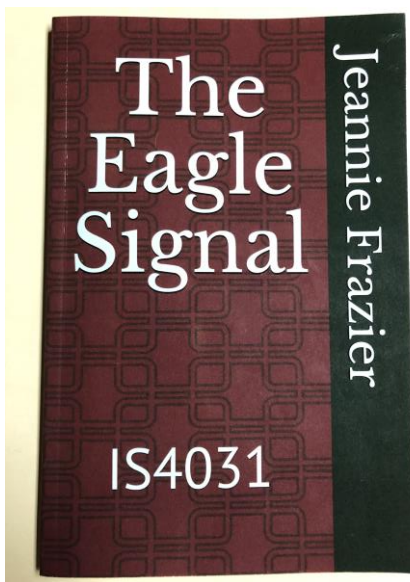
inadvertent stroller swap at Disney World would "make it into the book," and now it has.

The book is [available through Amazon](#) as a paperback for \$11.00, or as an ebook (\$3.99 or free to those with Kindle Unlimited). For a preview of Noojin-Barnett's writing, check out her column, "[Tales of the Tech Kind](#)," published by the well-regarded Erma Bombeck Writer's Workshop at the University of Dayton, which also appears as Chapter 14 in the book. She also blogs at [Bookish Nomad](#).

Dr. **Jeannie Frazier**, assistant professor and faculty advisor for the Human Sciences concentration in FCS, has written a Christian fiction book, [The Eagle Signal](#). Dedicating the book to her late parents, the book is loosely based on her father's (Robert C. Frazier)

mysterious death in 1962 during the height of the space race. Jeannie has always had questions about his death and this book was written as a tribute to him and to provide closure and peace to her. It is also a tribute to her favorite Bible verse, Isaiah 40:31 ("But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not grow weary and they shall walk and not faint"), hence the subtitle of *IS4031*. Watch for a sequel to follow!

Ms. **Jada Murray**, faculty advisor for the FCS Dietetics concentration, has recently written a clinical nutrition supplemental book for higher level health care professionals. The book is being used by dietetics and nursing students who are enrolled in Introductory Nutrition, FCS 215.



Left: Kristie Noojin-Barnett; Center: Dr. Jeannie Frazier's book; Right: Jada Murray holding her book

On to JSU Transition University News

By Janet Bavonese

On to JSU is the federally-funded transition program for students with intellectual disabilities. This unique program is entering its fifth and final year of the federal Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID) grant. The program serves college age students with intellectual disabilities who would not otherwise qualify to attend JSU. With the assistance of JSU student peer mentors, the *On to JSU* students audit 100-200 level courses in their area of interest. The program currently has five students living on campus and enrolled in a combination of courses that suit their particular needs. *On to JSU* has been very successful, and the first cohort graduated in Spring 2019. The five students wore special regalia and

celebrated their accomplishments. This group excelled in all aspects of the two-year transition college program. One of the goals of *On to JSU* is to equip students with job skills from their job experiences in the program. All Cohort 1 graduates are employed or seeking additional training in other higher education opportunities. Each received the official *On to JSU* Certificate.

In October 2019, *On to JSU* welcomed a new Program Coordinator, **Susan Lindblom**. Susan joined the team following the departure of **Karen Carr**, who became the new White Plains Middle School Assistant Principal. Susan comes to *On to JSU* with many years of experience working with college students. Susan's background is in human growth and development, giving her

unique perspectives into understanding the needs of the current *On to JSU* cohort. Susan has swiftly bonded with the *On to JSU* students and the current group of peer mentors.

A new innovation for the 2019-2020 school year is the addition of two peer mentor positions to teach specialized transition courses for the *On to JSU* students. These two instructor peer mentors are chosen from the current Special Education Collaborative teacher candidates in their senior year. These specialized peer mentors collaborate with Mrs. Lindblom, Dr. **Cynthia Connor** and Dr. **Shana Smith** to deliver transition-based learning segments. Learning segments may include skills such as applying for a job, workplace etiquette, and managing money.



Left: *On to JSU* Cohort 1 graduates; Right: *On to JSU* students and their peer mentors received on-field recognition at a JSU home football game in October.

Hospitality and Culinary Students Host Lunch; Land Internships

By Robbie Boggs

Hospitality and Culinary Management students held a culinary event on October 2 and provided lunch for the Admissions Office personnel and FCS instructors and staff under the leadership and guidance of Chef Dr. **Diane Best**. Part of the requirements of the class are to plan the event and then cook the food and serve it to the guests. Students are also responsible for table decorations and kitchen cleanup. More than a dozen personnel attended from the Admissions Office.

Dr. Best has planned an introductory course in Event Planning (FCS 201) and will be launching it in Spring 2020 semester as a blended class. The class is scheduled for Tuesdays

from 8:45-10:45 and will meet downstairs in East Mason Hall. It is her plan to offer future courses in Event Planning, with the hopes of eventually offering Event Planning as a minor. The class does not have any prerequisites and would be a good elective for those in merchandising and marketing as well.

Harley Robertson, an FCS Culinary/Hospitality major, has been selected to be a part of the Walt Disney World Spring College Program. This is a paid internship in Orlando, Florida. There are several thousand students who apply annually for this competitive program; only a select few students are chosen. It is a five-month program (with the opportunity to extend the internship) in which students are housed in apartment complexes, all

within walking distance to the Disney parks. Interns are involved in classes as well as performing various duties on the Disney property. Disney has been known to permanently hire some interns, as they are intentional about hiring from “within their ranks.”

As a note, Merchandising graduates, **Katie Luberda (White)** and **Allyson Spaulding**, have interned with Disney in past years. Katie was hired full-time after her internship and is still working at Disney Springs.

Harley will start on January 13 and will finish on May 28. She will be working in the food service arena of Disney, which will complement her culinary and hospitality studies here at JSU. She plans to complete her last two JSU classes online as she prepares for spring graduation.



Left: Admissions staff enjoy lunch prepared by FCS students; Right: Disney intern Harley Robertson

SoE Hires New Faculty, Staff

By Kelly Paynter

Dr. **Rasheda Bell** has been hired as an Assistant Professor of Instructional Leadership in the Counseling and Instructional Support department. When asked about her educational philosophy, Dr. Bell responded as follows.

“As an educator, I have gained a wealth of experiences that have helped to shape my educational philosophy and drive my decision-making. It is my belief that education is an asset that provides access to opportunities for success. I further contend that every student can learn and should be given every opportunity to succeed.

While serving as an Instructional Leader and Administrator, I focused on determining the various learning styles of my students and delivering differentiated instruction to meet their needs with emphasis on improving literacy and fluency. I am very familiar with the newest classroom technologies and proficient in implementing technology into classroom instruction. I have fostered an increase in student academic success, helped to refine teaching and instruction, implemented alternative teaching strategies and produced self-confident, respectful and caring students. My greatest achievement as an administrator was being part of a team, who faced great educational challenges. Though faced with this daunting task, our school made a thirty-point growth, moving them from an ‘at risk of failing’ to a ‘successful’ status in one academic year!

I have facilitated various professional workshops and seminars, implemented continuous teambuilding strategies and increased student capacity through collaborative techniques that have consistently proven to be successful. I continue to promote effective learning environments for future leaders and teaching candidates who are poised to improve a globally diverse society. I take great pride in being able to increase student morale, facilitate much needed content growth and supporting fellow educators through instructional modeling.

I believe in school partnerships that build relationships between communities and educators. I realize that it is crucial for all stakeholders to play an active role in our children’s educational process.

I continue to motivate, encourage and empower students and teachers to reach their fullest potential. My philosophy of education is built on leadership

with a deliberate vision. Education is my passion! It is my goal to create ‘teachable moments’ for all students and educators I encounter.”

Also in the department of Counseling and Instructional support, new secretary **Lori Reynolds** has been hired. Lori is originally from upstate New York and has lived for short periods of time in both Atlanta and Miami. Growing up she spent many summers traveling from New York to Alabama to spend time on her grandparents’ farm. Eventually she permanently migrated to Alabama and has called it home for the last 20 plus years. Prior to working at JSU, Lori has worked in the areas of Chemical Demilitarization and Public Health.

Lori is a die hard foodie and says that she will try any food at least once! When she is not working Lori enjoys reading, particularly the crime/detective genre and watching action movies with her husband.



Dr. Rasheda Bell



Lori Reynolds

Kimberly Mitchell is the Career Technical Education Specialist and Program Chair in the Family and Consumer Sciences Department. She advises students in Family and Consumer Sciences Education and Business Marketing Education.

Ms. Mitchell is from Munford, Alabama. She taught Family and Consumer Sciences on the secondary level for 22 years while teaching adjunct courses for JSU through the years as well. Ms. Mitchell earned a B.S. in Education from Jacksonville State University and a master's degree from the University of Alabama. She is a current Doctoral student at the University of West Alabama, focusing on Rural Education.

Ms. Mitchell gives back to her chosen profession by being active in her community and professional organizations. She is the past president of the Alabama Association for Career Technical Education (ALACTE) and currently serves as the association's Vice President of Governmental Affairs and Public Policy Chair. She is a former ACTE National Leadership Fellow (2016). Ms. Mitchell also currently serves on the Association

for Career Technical Education (ACTE) Family and Consumer Sciences Division National Policy Committee as well as several committees at the association's regional level. Ms. Mitchell is also a member of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences as well other professional organizations. Ms. Mitchell is extremely excited to be back home at JSU and is looking forward to working with future educators in Career Technical Education.

Maria Hayes joined the Office of Clinical Experiences in July of 2019 and is excited to not only be a part of the School of Education but the JSU community as a whole. She lives in Southside with her son. She is originally from Birmingham but lived in Tuscaloosa for almost 20 years after graduating from the University of Alabama, where she once worked in the Office of Clinical Experiences. She is a member of Church of the Highlands, Gadsden Campus and recently graduated from Highlands College. In her free time, she likes to create t-shirts and other fun crafts.



Above: Kim Mitchell;
Below: Maria Hayes



Teacher PREP Pathway

By Janet Bavonese

JSU School of Education (SoE) partnered with Southern Union State Community College (SUSCC) to create the Teacher PREP Pathway (Professional Readiness in Education Program). Teacher PREP allows Southern Union students to seamlessly matriculate from two-year to four-year teacher education programs. Teacher PREP Pathway is JSU's first concurrent

enrollment pathway, allowing students to concurrently enroll at both institutions for one semester as an induction into the teacher education program. The concurrent enrollment maximizes students' efforts to earn an education degree. The pathway was co-constructed by teams from both institutions, including the representatives from JSU and SUSCC. The academic teams from

the SoE and SUSCC worked over multiple planning sessions to design a matriculation pathway for transferring students. The JSU Enrollment Management team then collaborated with the corresponding team members at SUSCC to design the concurrent enrollment portion of the pathway. SUSCC students are co-advised in another unique aspect of the PREP Pathway, the JSU and SUSCC advisors partnering to support

pathway candidates. One goal of the SoE for the Teacher PREP Pathway is to recruit and retain SUSCC students early on by establishing relationships through co-advisement and completion of ED 302 Introductory Foundations of Education. The articulation

agreement was signed by both institutions in Summer 2019 with a Fall 2019 implementation. The first Teacher PREP Pathway candidates will be concurrently enrolled in ED 302 for Spring 2020. The pathway is designed specifically for Early Childhood/Elementary and Special

Education Collaborative candidates. Future plans include extending the pathway to other teaching fields, partnering for campus visits at JSU, and recruiting PREP candidates at the high school level. See the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more information.

JSU Collaborates with Troy in Co-Teaching Partnership

By Janet Bavonese

Over the summer, professors from the School of Education's Curriculum and Instruction department traveled to Troy University to provide professional develop to faculty in the Co-Teaching Initiative. Drs. **Christie Calhoun, Cynthia Connor, Barbie Norvell, and Christi Trucks** conducted a 2-day collaborative session with several Troy University School of Education faculty from their multiple campuses. The first day consisted of a review of each

of the Co-Teaching strategies, examples of each strategy, and how JSU has implemented Co-Teaching in our teacher preparation. The second day, JSU faculty worked with Troy faculty to establish a timeline for implementation of Co-Teaching into Troy's teacher preparation program.

Representatives from the two teams of faculty joined together once again in late October to present a panel discussion at the

National Co-Teaching Conference in Minnesota. The panel discussion provided opportunity for JSU and Troy Universities to establish a name and a presence across the nation by sharing about the collaborative efforts and implementation of Co-Teaching in their respective programs. Professional relationships were built, and plans have been made to continue the collaboration to strengthen Co-Teaching in both teacher preparation programs in the future.



Curriculum and Instruction faculty participate in a co-teaching roundtable at Troy University.

Leading the Way with LETRS

By Janet Bavonese & Leann Barker

The School of Education is excited to announce it is leading the way in the preparation of teachers to meet the demands of the Alabama Literacy Act. The SoE is taking measures to ensure that teacher candidates in early childhood, elementary, and special education graduate with a foundation of learning in the science of reading. The implementation of Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) is in full swing at the SoE! LETRS is an in depth study that addresses the structures of English language, the cognitive processes of learning to read, and the teaching practices proven to be most effective in preventing and remediating reading difficulties, including dyslexia. It is our consensus that one of the quickest

ways to impact the reading level of K-3 students is to empower our pre-service teachers, who will, beginning next year, graduate and be in the field with the requisite science of reading training. Currently, there are twelve faculty members from Curriculum and Instruction, including the SoE Associate Dean, immersed in the LETRS training. There is ongoing strategic planning to fully embed this program of study in all reading methods courses for early childhood, elementary, and special education candidates. Six of the twelve faculty are already certified LETRS trainers for Units 1-4 and were in the first group of facilitators certified in Alabama. This core group is now completing Units 5-8 training followed by facilitator certification in summer 2020. The second group of six

faculty will complete Units 1-4 during this school year and attend the next cohort of facilitator training. Implementation began in reading methods courses during fall 2019 and will continue to unfold in the subsequent courses during 2020. The LETRS curricula is intense and challenging, which necessitated strategic placement of the entire LETRS program across the reading courses and into several other courses that align with content (foundations of early childhood, language arts, 21st Century learning, special education methods). By incorporating the LETRS program of study into the curriculum, the SoE is preparing teacher candidates with the background, depth of knowledge, and tools to teach language and literacy skills to every student.



JSU SoE had the most participation by university faculty in the first cohort of Alabama LETRS Facilitators: Dr. Janet L. Bavonese, Dr. Christie Calhoun, Dr. Christi Trucks, Dr. Barbie Norvell, Mrs. Leann Barker, and Mrs. Kathy Allen.



LETRS workshop participants



JSU Child Care Center Students Go Trick-or-Treating

By Robbie Boggs

Despite rain and stormy weather, pre-school children in the Cynthia Harper Child Care Center were not disappointed with their collection of candy and treats on Halloween morning. Officers from the campus police department visited the children prior to their embarkment of tours in Ramona Wood and Bibb Graves Halls. The office of Interim JSU President, Dr. **Don Killingsworth**, and the Admissions Office, were popular stopping points. In addition to collecting totes full of candy, child development student helpers brought back two wagons full of treasures. Candy donations were made to the food pantry here on campus, and children took home bags of sweets.



Mount Vernon Mills Brings Textbook to Life for Textiles Students

By Robbie Boggs

A group of nearly two dozen textiles students from JSU and the University of Montevallo visited Mount Vernon Mills (MVM) in Trion, GA to tour their denim and finishing plants. MVM is the largest denim manufacturing facility in the world and is a fully integrated denim mill, transforming cotton fibers into denim fabrics. The students were accompanied by instructors **Robbie Boggs** (JSU) and Dr. Donna Bell (Montevallo). While it is difficult to describe the processes of weaving, dyeing, finishing, and printing in the classroom with complete understanding of such concepts, MVM brings the textbook to life and validates what is taught during the fall semester.





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TEACHER PREP AT JSU!

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(Use code *TEACHERPREP* for a waived application fee)
- ▶ **Benefits of Teacher Prep**
 - Easily transfer to top-ranked teacher education program
 - Successful program completion leads to eligibility for AL teacher certification
 - Program focus on 21st century teaching and learning
 - Co-advisement by Southern Union and JSU Faculty!
- ▶ **Scholarships**
 - Presidential Transfer Scholarship | 2019–2020
 - Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship | 2019–2020
 - 2020-2021 Scholarships announced August 2019!

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of transfer students are on scholarship



100+
clubs and
organizations

19
greek
organizations



98%

pass rate on edTPA

QUESTIONS?

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