



JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

VOLUME 2

SPRING 2019

## Welcome from the Dean

It is a privilege to reach out to so many of you via this newsletter! As you will see as you read further, the School of Education is genuinely and persistently in pursuit of a "World Class Standard!" The site visit for our next national accreditation review with the Council for Accreditation of Educational Programs (CAEP) will occur in Nov. 2020. Under the leadership of Associate Dean Janet Bavonese, we are geared up to meet the rigorous CAEP accreditation standards. Our self-study report will be submitted early next year. I am looking forward to the renewed relationship with the Board of Advocates. This group of professionals, alumni, and supporters met March 1 in a

delightful dinner meeting. Active responses to this meeting have begun, and we are grateful! This group, along with others who have indicated their interest, will next meet at noon on Oct. 26, then enjoy a Gamecock football game. We are extremely pleased with our first Study Abroad opportunity coming this summer! Students and faculty will benefit greatly from the cross-cultural exposure to successful educational enterprises in Europe. They will bring ideas for improvement back to us; they will gain confirmation that we are doing many things well already! Again....reaching toward a world class standard! Finally, it is with sincere appreciation that we recognize the retirement of Provost Rebecca Turner (as of June 1). She has been a strong



Dr. Tommy Turner

supporter of the School of Education. Her high professional standards, her wise and experienced guidance, and her constant reminder to keep students first, will continue to echo in Ramona Wood Hall. Congratulations, Provost Turner, and best wishes!

## SoE and Houston Cole Host School Library Leadership Summit

By Wendy Stephens

Thanks to the Alabama School Library Association (ASLA), our state's American Association of School Librarians (AASL) affiliate, and the Leadership Development Grant sponsored by the AASL and ABC-CLIO, 24 school librarians were able to meet on Jan. 18 for professional growth at the *No Other Option Leadership Summit*.

The librarians spent the day at Houston Cole, focusing on growing leadership skills and networking.

Fifteen participants were selected based on leadership potential. Nine board members, including ASLA Past President and JSU School Library Media Chair Dr. **Wendy Stephens**, who wrote the grant application, facilitated. The association called for librarians from all regions of the state to apply to attend the summit, and invited educators included three current Library Media EdS students. By expressly calling for a pool of applicants from across the state, the

association hopes to encourage emerging leaders and determine whether investing in this sort of support increases long-term participation. A \$75 stipend was provided to assist with mileage, a substitute, or meals. The event took its name from a book of the same title written by retired school librarian Hilda Weisburg, a former keynote speaker at the ASLA state conference. Weisburg Skyped in to talk with the attendees about her own

leadership journey. Also, Drs. **Christi Trucks** from Curriculum and Instruction and **Butch Young** from Counseling and Instructional Support presented talks about their own professional development and motivated the librarians to keep pushing the envelope in promoting their work. Without the dedicated funding, ASLA hopes to re-frame the event as an invitation leadership development breakfast at the annual summer conference.



*Above:* Author Hilda Weisburg Skypes in to speak to attendees about leadership.  
*Left:* Dr. Butch Young speaks to the school librarians.  
*Below:* Invitees and Board Members enjoy the view from the Houston Cole library on the tour provided by librarian Kim Westbrooks.



## SoE Recruitment Committee to Visit Local Schools

*By Tim Whittemore*

Members of the School of Education’s Recruitment Committee are making plans to begin visiting local schools to promote graduate-level enrollment among K-12 teachers. The Committee has worked closely with the Office of Graduate Studies and the Graduate Admissions Office

to create an organization-wide recruitment plan. Members have been trained on how to submit a graduate studies application. These school visits will begin later this term.

For more information about the Committee’s efforts, please contact Dr. **Russell Hammack** (rhammack@jsu.edu).



# CAEP Accreditation Process Underway in the SoE

By Janet Bavonese

The JSU School of Education is actively working toward accreditation by the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). This prestigious accreditation status is earned by providing evidence of quality assurance through an external peer review. CAEP accreditation is earned for the entire unit and includes examination of the programs and procedures of initial and advanced certification levels. The CAEP Committee meets monthly and includes faculty and staff from program areas and support units. There are five CAEP standards for which the School of Education must produce data and artifacts to substantiate the level of excellence in educator preparation at JSU:

*Standard 1: Content and Pedagogical Knowledge.* JSU SoE must ensure that candidates develop a deep understanding of the critical concepts and principles of their discipline, and by completion, are able to use discipline-specific practices flexibly to advance the learning of all students toward attainment of college- and career-ready standards.

*Standard 2: Clinical Partnerships and Practice.* JSU SoE must ensure that effective partnerships and high-quality clinical practice are central to preparation so that candidates develop the knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions necessary to demonstrate positive impact on all P-12

students' learning and development.

*Standard 3: Candidate Quality, Recruitment, and Selectivity.* JSU SoE must demonstrate that the quality of candidates is a continuing and purposeful part of its responsibility from recruitment, at admission, through the progression of courses and clinical experiences, and to decisions that completers are prepared to teach effectively and are recommended for certification. The provider demonstrates that development of candidate quality is the goal of educator preparation in all phases of the program.

*Standard 4: Program Impact.* JSU SoE must demonstrate the impact of its completers on P-12 student learning and development, classroom instruction, and schools, and the satisfaction of its completers with the relevance and effectiveness of their preparation.

*Standard 5: Provider Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement.* JSU SoE must maintain a quality assurance system comprised of valid data from multiple measures, including evidence of candidates' and completers' positive impact on P-12 learning and development. JSU SoE supports continuous improvement that is sustained and evidence-based, and that evaluates the effectiveness of its completers. JSU SoE uses the results of inquiry and data collection to establish priorities, enhance

program elements and capacity, and test innovations to improve completers' impact on P-12 student learning and development.

In December 2018, JSU SoE held a school-wide data meeting to share the Fall 2018 semester data collection with faculty and staff. The meeting was held in Houston Cole Library and featured an overview of the five CAEP standards, data sets from multiple measures, and collaborative conversations among faculty and staff.

Among the data shared was the results of JSU SoE interns' submissions of edTPA, a performance-based teaching portfolio that is nationally scored. edTPA is now required for initial certification in Alabama. Overall, the SoE posted excellent edTPA results with a 96% first-attempt pass rate in Fall 2018.

Another data set that was shared was the results of supervision surveys for cooperating teachers and university supervisors working with teacher candidates in field experiences. Those results illustrated that the majority of cooperating teachers and university supervisors worked closely together, felt comfortable in their role, and supported JSU and the teaching profession overall. The next JSU SoE school-wide data meeting will be on April 29, 2019 in order to examine Spring 2019 semester data.





Top left: Data meeting booklet Fall 2018; Top right: Drs. Wendy Stephens, Jimmy Barnes, Kelly Paynter, Janet Bavonese; Bottom left: Drs. Kim Warfield, Ahmad Alhamourri, Russell Hammack, Stacey Gill; Bottom right: Tammy Owens, Kathy O'Dell, Leann Barker, Cindy Pair.



## SoE Re-establishes Board of Advocates

By Kelly Paynter & Martha Dingler

Dean **Tommy Turner** is pleased to announce the re-formation of the SoE Board of Advocates. This group, comprised of supporters and community leaders, will help to advise the SoE, support it in various ways, and serve as proud ambassadors. The board kicked off its inaugural meeting with a dinner and meeting in the Houston Cole Library on March 1. The SoE faculty appreciate the board members' service!



Board of Advocates members, L-R: James Vasquez, Dr. DeeDee Jones, Mamta Jha Mishra, Dr. Jane Cobia, Bobby Burns, Margaret Livingston, Marie Manning, Francis Moon, Tull Wigley, Ralph Burke, and Dr. Michael Barber.



# FCS Merchandising Student Selected for Bridal Design Internship

By Robbie Boggs

**Evelyn Fuller**, FCS Merchandising Senior, was selected to intern with bridal designer Heidi Elnora of Birmingham. During the past few weeks, she has been exposed to new aspects of the fashion industry—like how to sew on lace appliques by hand and prepare for photo shoots and runway shows. She has also learned what to do when brides change their minds about their wedding gown designs! Evelyn participated in a

Heidi Elnora bridal fashion show held in Cullman in early March and learned many of the “ins and outs” of the industry through this experience.

Upon graduation, Evelyn is planning to attend graduate school at Savannah School of Arts and Design in Atlanta where she will study fashion design. She hopes to open her own bridal salon in the future.



Heidi Elnora and intern Evelyn Fuller.

# New Playground Equipment for Cynthia Harper Daycare Center

By Robbie Boggs

Last year’s March tornado destroyed the fence and ruined most of the playground equipment of the preschoolers of the Cynthia Harper Child Center in East Mason Hall. Thanks to the School of Education and funding from Dr. **Tommy Turner** for tornado recovery, money was designated for the purchase of new playground equipment for these preschoolers.

According to **Jill Marsh** (childcare center director) and **Brenda Cline** (teacher), the updates could not have been made without these donations. Thanks Dean Turner! The daycare center children and staff are very appreciative of the new options, and the children obviously LOVE the new playground!



## LRC Celebrates Black History and Women's History Months

By Tim Whittemore

The student workers in the Learning Resource Center (LRC) designed chalkboard art to celebrate Black History Month in February and Women's History Month in March. They also chose

books to display representing those themes including works by Maya Angelou, Zora Neale Hurston, Veronica Roth, Lucy Maud Montgomery, and many others.

The Learning Resource Center

decorates monthly to showcase different works of literature to encourage readers of all age levels. The Learning Resource Center is open to the public from 8:00 AM-4:30 PM Monday-Friday. For more information, please contact [twhittemore@jsu.edu](mailto:twhittemore@jsu.edu).



Left: Student workers Keisha McCombs, Samantha Flagg, and Micah Thompson; Right: Women's History Month display

## SoE Instructors Pilot Use of New Learning Management System

By Kelly Paynter

JSU has long used Blackboard as its online learning management system to deliver online courses. Over the past two years, however, administration, along with technology operations staff, have determined that Instructure Canvas is a better fit for the university for cost savings and from a superior technology standpoint. As a cloud-based system that does not require a local server, Canvas promises to have less downtime and system maintenance than Blackboard. Hard at work on the conversion from Blackboard to Canvas include the folks at Online@JSU,

**Kevin Mobbs**, **Chris Inman**, **Hungwei Tseng**, and **Meredith Parker**, who are helping to train faculty during the transition, and faculty who have volunteered to teach the first "pilot" courses in Spring 2019. These professors include **Kim Warfield** (IL 576), **Teresa Gardner** (SPE 500), and **Kelly Paynter** (EIM 504). Dr. Warfield is also serving as a "Canvas Coach," and she has received additional training in order to help faculty make the transition; Drs. Gardner and Paynter have received Early Adopter training and look forward to sharing their experiences with teaching in the

new system with their colleagues. A second round of pilot testing will occur during the Summer 2019 session, with a full rollout of Canvas campus-wide scheduled for Fall 2019. For more information on the Canvas transition, visit [www.jsu.edu/online/canvasup/](http://www.jsu.edu/online/canvasup/).





# Online@JSU Collaborates with FCS Merchandising Class

By Robbie Boggs

Visual Merchandising students collaborated with Ms. **Meredith Parker**, instructional designer for Online@JSU, and competed in a trade show table design challenge. The goal of the competition was to showcase each student's creative abilities in a table design that was functional, organized, accessible but secure, and designed so items could not be taken easily. The table had to provide various viewpoints of the pre-specified merchandise while looking professional with fine attention to detail and execution. The table or booth that won the competition would be duplicated at Preview Day on March 9.

The four groups named their own teams and dressed the part for the filming of this project. Teams included: a) Tie-Dyes: **Bre Heard** and **Sydney Sanders**; b) Stripes: **Ashlyn Giles** and **Sharonda Bandy**; c) Animals (Cheetahs): **Madison Burell** and **Maddie Cryar**; and d) Florals: **Tori Johnson** and **Sara Connell**. Each

team was given an opportunity to practice and students were allowed to use varied elevations and platforms or mannequins to enhance their design. An appointment was made with TV Services to video the execution of each team's table. Each taping was then edited to a brief clip, and each team's design was posted on the Facebook page of Online@JSU for faculty and students to vote on the winning table design. In the final tabulation, Ms. Parker reported there were 449 total votes submitted from JSU faculty and students, with 69% of the vote going to the Animal Team. One online comment stated that the Animal Team went the "extra mile" in creativity and execution. Prizes were offered to the winning team members.

Madison Burell, merchandising concentration major and a member of the winning design team, volunteered to bring the supplies that were used in the original display and help Online@JSU in setting up the

Preview Day event. All merchandise items were loaded on a digital spinning wheel on an iPad. The application kept track of the number of people who stopped by the online "booth" to spin the wheel. The aim was to be able to see the products on the table but devised to prevent items being freely taken. Participants got to spin the wheel, a designated prize appeared randomly so the spin was fair to all participants, and the student interacted with a representative from Online@JSU.

Many of the merchandising students may be showing products at trade shows or at regional market centers during their careers. The same skills can be applied to other fields as well. This project required the application of the principles and elements of design...color, line, texture, variety, balance, unity, proportion and scale, and emphasis. All these factors are crucial to successful visual merchandising. Thanks to Online@JSU for this opportunity!



Left: Madison Burell & Maddie Cryar, the winning "Cheetahs" booth; Above: The Stripes, Sharonda Bandy & Ashlyn Giles.

# SoE Joins Honors Program Offerings for Undergraduates

By Wendy Stephens

This fall, Dr. **Wendy Stephens**, the Library Media Program Chair in the School of Education, taught “An Exploration of Contemporary Picture Books” as a section of Undergraduate Honors 202. The UH courses allow freshman and sophomore students the opportunity for small-group interactions around a variety of interdisciplinary topics in a one-hour seminar. In addition to an overview of the history and present incarnations of picture book art, the class was structured to provide students with exposure to library and research skills and required them to present an annotated bibliography describing a series of books of a particular theme or medium, based on their own areas of interest.

The Honors Program at JSU began ten years ago under the leadership of Dr. **Earl Wade**, former Dean of the School of Arts & Humanities. Dr. **Steve Whitton**, Professor of English, was named the first director and served for five years, and Dr. **Lori Owens** became the second director of

the Honors Program in 2014 and currently serves in that position. The program has grown to over 400 students in the past decade. Currently, there are 37 Honors Program members majoring in Education, reports **Amy Tomlinson**, Program Secretary. Several of these students worked with instructors to develop an “honors by contract” element for their education courses, including ED 299 Teaching Diverse Populations, EED 310 Foundations of Effective Teaching, and ESE 440 Diversity/Multicultural Education. **Anna**

**Traylor**, Honors Program member and a senior in the Early Childhood Education Program, was nominated to present at the annual Southern Regional Honors Council Conference in Memphis, TN, held March 21-23, 2019.

Incoming students with strong writing abilities and records of community involvement should investigate the Honors Program, which provides special advisement and career planning opportunities as it works to create an interdisciplinary and interdependent community of scholars.



*Honors program students prepare to teleconference with Susan Kusel, chair of the Sydney Taylor Book Award and former Caldecott Medal juror, in the Children's Corner at HCL.*

## Are you connected with the SoE on social media?

By Kelly Paynter

In addition to using social media for personal and entertainment purposes, you can also use it to keep up with the SoE! The SoE has launched several media pages that contain purposeful postings of events, activities, and accolades. You might be surprised at what your alma mater is doing, so please like us!

Sites include the following.

### Facebook

- Main SoE page - [@JSUSoE](#)
- Secondary Education - [@JSUSecondaryEd](#)
- Curriculum & Instruction - [@JSU-Curriculum-and-Instruction-486896484738503/](#)

- Teaching/Learning Center - [@jsututoring](#)
- Family and Consumer Sciences - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1664350007184300/>

Twitter: [@JSU SoE](#)

Instagram: [@jsusoe](#)



## FCS Hires New Assistant Professor

By Robbie Boggs

Dr. **Diane Best** began as Assistant Professor in the FCS department in January 2019. She is the chair of the Hospitality and Culinary Management concentration and serves as a faculty advisor for that program.

Chef Best has worked in numerous careers within the hospitality industry, as executive chef, owner of a catering company, and a food and

beverage director for a large hotel chain. She has worked for the National Restaurant Association. She taught online courses in Hotel and Restaurant Management at Central Arizona College before coming to JSU. She loves shoes and rocking some “killer” heels in the halls of East Mason! She enjoys raising her 3-year old grandson and has an amazing attitude; students rave about lab days with her! Welcome to JSU, Dr. Best!



Dr. Diane Best

## FCS Instructor Shares Canning Tips

By Robbie Boggs

**Ruth Sarro** is a Registered Dietician who graduated from The University of Montevallo. She retired as an extension agent from the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and is now an adjunct instructor who teaches nutrition and childhood development courses in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. She also serves as an advisor for the Child Development concentration.

She grew up on a dairy farm in south Alabama with her family, which included 7 children; all were all expected to work and contribute as it was hard to get by on a farmer's earnings. She learned to harvest, freeze, can, and preserve fruits and vegetables. Her 4-H projects in middle and high school usually concerned the topics of food preservation and food safety.

In retirement, she has stayed busy in community activities like participating in Master Gardener and 4-H events and she still

enjoys her gardening during the warmer months. There is just something about the fresh taste of fruit even in the dead of winter, the confidence of knowing it was grown with no preservatives, or the self-satisfaction of seeing things grow from seed into plants because of the personal efforts made!

She has harvested peppers (some rather HOT!), cucumbers, tomatoes, corn, squash, and eggplant and has shared freely with her coworkers in the summer months. What she doesn't grow herself, she purchases fresh from local farmers' markets. The shelves of her workshop at home are lined with jars containing the fruits of her efforts.

In the article *Canning 101* that was published in the July/August 2018 issue of *Southern Kitchens*, food editor Anne Braly of Chattanooga interviewed Ms. Sarro and asked her for tips on canning and preserving vegetables and fruits. To

summarize the article, one can get started by collecting the basic equipment that is required for home preservation. This includes a wide-mouthed funnel, tongs, a ladle or dipper, a jar lifter, and a water bath canner with a rack inside. The quality of the food items should be inspected prior to use because that will determine the quality of the final product. Glass jars and rings can be used again if clean and sterilized, but flat lids must be purchased new each time and should not be reused.

For further questions, contact Ruth at [rsarro@jsu.edu](mailto:rsarro@jsu.edu) or see "[USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning](#)" from the website of the National Center for Home Food Preservation.



Some of Ms. Sarro's canned goods.

# JSU Transition University Receives Regional and State Awards

By Cynthia Connor

JSU's Transition University (TU) began as a collaborative venture between Special Education in the JSU SoE Department of Curriculum and Instruction and two local high school special education teachers. TU provides high school students with significant intellectual disabilities who are 18-21 (age of typical college student) the opportunity to interact with same-age peers in a campus community setting and to learn transition skills from JSU special education teacher candidates. In seven years, the program has grown from the initial semester when three teacher candidates instructed eight high school students with disabilities from two schools to the current academic year when over 20 special education teacher candidates provide instruction to around 100 high school students with significant disabilities who

represent over 20 different schools and 18 school districts. There are three to four TU sessions per semester. In addition to the classes that are held at Ramona Wood, there is always a field trip on campus, and when possible, lunch at the Jack Hopper Dining facility. Over the past few years, new developments have included the provision of professional development for the high school teachers who accompany their students to JSU, and as an outgrowth of TU, the establishment of OnToJSU, a Federal grant-funded college experience program for students with intellectual disabilities. Transition University has always benefited from the support of JSU's administrators in the School of Education and, of course, the administrators of the local schools who provide

transportation for the students and teachers and arrange, if necessary, to cover classes. However, this year TU was honored at three very special events. In October TU received the Collaboration Award from the Talladega Area Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities for its work with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind and the Talladega School System. At the Statewide awards ceremony in December, Alabama Governor Kay Ivey presented JSU Transition University and the above Talladega schools with the 2018 State Collaboration Award. With the New Year came another honor. The Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama awarded a \$500 grant to Transition University at the Altrusa Club on Anniston Luncheon.



Left: Karen Carr, TU Administrator; Dr. Cynthia Connor & Dr. Shana Smith, TU Co-Directors; JSU Special Education Teacher Candidates. Right: Dr. Connor and representatives from Talladega Schools and AIDB accept State Collaboration Award.



# FCS Students Attend Annual ALAFCS Conference in Montgomery

By Robbie Boggs

The annual conference of the Alabama Association of Family and Consumer Sciences was held at the Embassy Suites in Montgomery on February 27-March 1, 2019. The theme of the conference was "Cultivating Social and Emotional Competence for Healthy Relationships." There were 3 FCS students who attended from JSU: **Bre Heard, Kaycee Tyson-Goetz,** and **Brandon Sims**. Bre has served as state student unit president for 2018-2019 and is also serving this year as president of the student unit in the FCS department.

Each year, ALAFCS sponsors the

Silent Auction baskets that are raffled during the first day of the conference to raise funds for the \$1,000 undergraduate scholarship given each year to a deserving student. Applicants included FCS students from across the state of Alabama who are enrolled in any of the concentrations. A rubric was used to grade each applicant, with extra points being earned for national AAFCS membership. From the six applicants for the award, Bre Heard received the highest score and was selected as the winner of the 2019 scholarship. It was announced during the Awards Ceremony on

Thursday afternoon. Students were involved with the FCS Showcase Hall Mixer on Thursday afternoon. Kaycee Tyson-Goetz presented information on FCCLA Star Events to the teachers and students who attended the conference. Brandon Sims helped with the Dine-In Day exhibit.

Bre Heard shared information on community service projects that have been done by the FCS Association at JSU, including bracelets for the Ronald McDonald House, Lock Your Meds, the Yellow Dot initiative, Second Chance, and the Food Pantry on campus.



*Left:* Bre Heard, Brandon Sims, Kaycee Tyson-Goetz, and faculty advisor Robbie Boggs. *Right:* Bre and Brandon work the Dine-In Day exhibit.

# FCS Faculty, Students Host Luncheon for Retiring JSU Provost

By Robbie Boggs

A recent JSU newswire announced the retirement of Dr. **Rebecca Turner**, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. The Family and Consumer Sciences faculty wanted to acknowledge her continued support of the department and decided to arrange a farewell luncheon in her honor. Except....it had to be kept a secret!

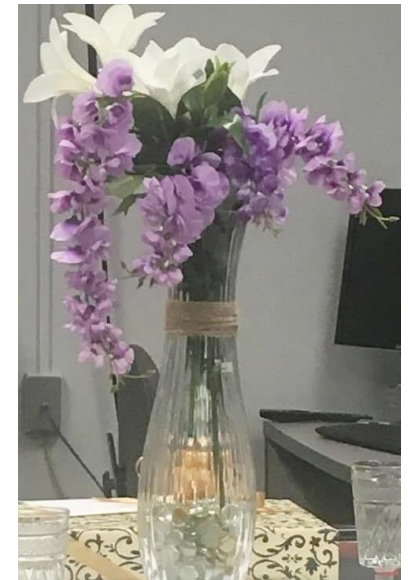
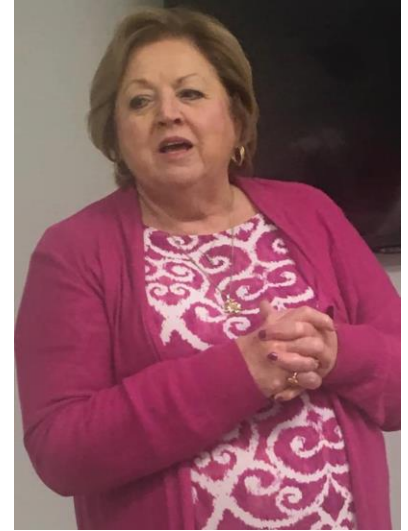
The date was set for noon on March 13 in East Mason Hall. Ms. **Becca Turner**, Dr. Turner's daughter, was consulted about her mother's favorite foods. Chef **Diane Best** got busy with her Hospitality and Culinary students and planned the menu. The appetizer was crab beignets with sauce. An option on the RSVP invitation allowed a choice between salmon and prime rib for the main entrée. Bread pudding with a scoop of vanilla ice cream provided a delicious finale.

A "taste day" or trial run was set for the week before to practice and time the preparation and cooking of the food. The menu

was evaluated based on these findings and adjustments were made. On the event day, Dr. Best and her students opened the quantity kitchen before 7:30 a.m. Others arrived shortly thereafter to start preparations and decorate the room. At noon, Dr. Turner walked into the room dumbfounded and was obviously very surprised. "You can't trust anyone, can you?" was her teasing response.

President **John** and Dr. **Pamela Beehler** were honored guests and were seated at the head table. As the department head of FCS, Dr. **Debra Goodwin** welcomed everyone and spoke of Dr. Turner's commitment to the FCS department and gratitude for her support. The FCS faculty presented her with an Arthur Court magnolia serving platter as a keepsake. Before guests departed, they were invited to drop a note of gratitude or best wishes in a compliment box.

Happy retirement, Dr. Turner and we hope you enjoy some restful moments ahead!



*Top:* Dr. Rebecca Turner at the luncheon. *Center:* A table decoration. *Bottom:* FCS students and Dr. Diane Best, who cooked and planned the retirement luncheon.





# SoE Professor Receives Study Abroad Training in Barcelona

By Gena Thornburg

Dr. **Gena Thornburg**, Professor in the SoE, is taking 10 students on a [Study Abroad opportunity in Scotland and London](#) during June 2019 with EF College Study Tours. Just before the final registration deadline, Dr. Thornburg was in Barcelona, Spain, attending an orientation and development seminar with a group of university faculty from across the United States. During the three-day training, Dr. Thornburg and the other faculty attended seminars addressing student recruitment, program sustainability, as well as the ability to connect with other

thought leaders who are creating a more globalized campus environment. While there she explored Barcelona alongside an expert local guide, visiting La Sagrada Familia, Park Guell, the Picasso Museo Malaga, Camp Nou Stadium (site of the 1992 Olympics), Las Ramblas, and more.

Dr. Thornburg admits that leading a study abroad effort is a big endeavor but with each of the team members rowing in the same direction she can make it happen! Her team consists of Drs. **Tommy Turner and Kelly Paynter, Jason Mallet, Chandni Khadka**, and EF Tours.

While preparing to lead students to the United Kingdom next year, which will be the first-ever study abroad trip for the SoE, Dr. Thornburg and her team have learned a great deal about the process.

Another study abroad opportunity for students in the School of Education has been proposed for 2020; this trip will take students to the land of *la dolce vita*, Italy. The tour will be coordinated by Drs. **Cynthia Connor** and **Barbie Norvell**. It is the hope of faculty members in the SoE that this is only the beginning of many more travel opportunities for SoE students.



*Left:* Faculty leaders in the EF Tours cohort enjoy their time at the Gaudi-designed Park Guell.  
*Below:* Hitting the beach and checking out the Mediterranean!

