

# College of Education



A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE  
*Nurturing a Legacy*

# news

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## It Takes a Village to Sustain Life

# Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Dr. Wangari Maathai Comes to Lehigh

The College of Education's faculty and students invite you to spend an evening with Dr. Wangari Maathai on February 1st, 2007 at 8 pm in Baker Hall in the Zoellner Arts Center on the campus of Lehigh University.

**TICKETS ON SALE DECEMBER 1, 2006. CALL ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER @ (610) 758-2787**

The College of Education  
Receives \$2.25  
Million for  
Center for Urban  
Leadership

The latest gift from Peter Bennett '63 is the largest ever received by the College of Education. As the president and CEO of Liberty Partners, a successful Manhattan-based investment company, Peter Bennett is an expert at identifying worthwhile investment opportunities.

That's why on October 13th, 2006 Bennett decided to make a substantial investment not only in his alma mater and in Lehigh's College of Education, but also in this nation's urban schools by donating \$2.25 million to endow a new Center for Urban Leadership as well as a new executive director for the center.



CENTER FOR  
**URBAN  
LEADERSHIP**

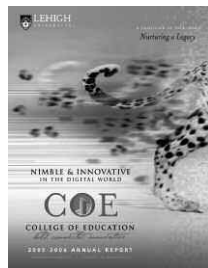
*Building Capacity for Sustainable Reform*

The center will create research studies and professional programs to educate the next generation of urban leaders. The center will help Lehigh develop effective educational leaders, who, in turn, will promote improvements in our cities nationwide.

**Please see our next newsletter which will highlight this exciting initiative.**

## Message FROM THE DEAN

We are once again looking forward to welcoming another distinguished speaker to the College of Education (COE) as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series: Leaders of Practice. Dr. Wangari Maathai, the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner, has spent her life leading a grassroots effort to empower those less fortunate out of poverty. She founded the Green Belt movement in Kenya in 1977, which has planted more than 10 million trees to prevent soil erosion and provide fires for cooking. The Green Belt program, which was carried out primarily by women in the villages of Kenya, was also paid employment and allowed the women to better take care of their children. I hope that you will spend the evening with this tremendously inspiring and wonderfully talented woman on Thursday February 1st, 2007. Please go online for tickets or stop at the Zoellner Box Office on or after December 1st, 2006. The lecture series has grown in demand and so we anticipate another sell out crowd in Zoellner for Dr. Wangari Maathai.



The College published its Annual Report for 2005-06 and can be viewed on the COE website at [www.lehigh.edu/collegeofeducation](http://www.lehigh.edu/collegeofeducation). The theme for this year was "Nimble & Innovative in the Digital World." When you review the stories in the report, I hope that you will determine that the COE faculty, staff and students are really engaged in exciting new bold projects that represent our ability to be responsive to the changing environment in education. In addition, this newsletter highlights our focus in enhancing our knowledge and commitment to multiculturalism and diversity; something that we began in 2003. Several COE faculty received awards and recognition from their national associations and I continue to appreciate the enormously talented faculty, students and staff in the college at Lehigh University.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family the happiest of holiday seasons and that the New Year brings much hope for peace and prosperity in the world.

Happy Holidays,

SALLY A. WHITE, Ph.D., DEAN AND PROFESSOR

## Prestigious American Psychological Association Division Award Presented to Dr. Edward S. Shapiro

Dr. Edward S. Shapiro, Professor of School Psychology and Director of the Center for Promoting Research to Practice won the 2006 American Psychological Association Division of School Psychology Senior Scientist Award. The award is presented to school psychologists who throughout their careers have demonstrated exceptional programs of scholarship that merit special recognition. This is not an award necessarily for the amount of writing done by a scholar, but rather for a sustained program of outstanding theoretical and research activity. Receiving this award is especially meaningful for Dr. Shapiro personally; as he also won the 1987 Lightner Witmer award which is an award given by the American Psychological Association Division of School Psychology to a young, promising scholar in the field. Winning these two top awards places him among an elite level of recognition of accomplishment that has impacted the field of school psychology. Likewise, it brings Lehigh and the School Psychology program at the College of Education a level of recognition that continues to place it at the very top of programs nationally. Sally A. White, Dean of the College of Education, says: "The colleagues and I could not be more thrilled for Ed as he has contributed so much to the field of school psychology and it is terrific to be acknowledged by your national organization with such a high honor."



SALLY A. WHITE, Ph.D.  
DEAN AND PROFESSOR

### CONTACT

E-mail your questions or comments  
to [tip205@lehigh.edu](mailto:tip205@lehigh.edu).



## “Building a Community Day” Tent Party a Growing Success!

Thanks to all those COE alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends for attending the annual “Building a Community Day” and making it yet another huge success. This year more than 250 people attended the tent party and joined in the festivities before the Lehigh-Harvard football game. COE guests of all ages enjoyed socializing with their professors, meeting new faculty in the college and catching up with former classmates. Mark your calendar for next year’s Tent Party on October 20th, 2007!



## COE Diversity Committee Leads Initiative to Bring Multiculturalism to the Forefront

In 2003 a COE Diversity Task Force was charged with reviewing and identifying the needs of the College with respect to diversity and multicultural perspectives. Once the recommendations were made by the task force, a standing committee was established and they have been working to add new activities for faculty, staff and students that will reaffirm the College’s commitment to providing an educational environment that examines multiculturalism and diversity in-depth. This includes oversight of the multicultural resource center, diversity speaker series, and other support to the COE faculty, students, and staff (e.g., curriculum).



On September 22, 2006, the College of Education welcomed Dr. Joseph White, Professor Emeritus of the University of California, Irvine. Renowned for his seminal work on Black Psychology, Dr. White has also been a powerful advocate for individuals pursuing an education in psychology and related fields, especially those individuals who may face hurdles specific to their race or ethnicity. Dr. White facilitated a discussion among faculty, staff, and students on the specific challenges that the College currently faces in promoting diversity and multiculturalism. Dr. Margaret Barber, Assistant Professor in the Educational Leadership program, who is the co-chair of the committee, along with Dr. George DuPaul, Professor in the School Psychology program, believes that Dr. White’s visit came at a crucial time in the history of the university and college. Barber stated that “Dr. White’s visit opened the door to communication. We will build on that and keep the momentum moving forward.”

The committee is in the process of creating a multicultural resource center. The center will have the resources to foster discussion and develop a culture among faculty, staff, and students that is supportive of and open to diverse perspectives and experiences. It will help strengthen the curriculum across the college’s six programs to better reflect issues of multiculturalism and diversity.

## Center Receives Two New Grants

The Center for Promoting Research to Practice has received two new grants through the efforts of COE faculty.

**DR. ASHA JITENDRA**, Professor in the Special Education program and Dr. Jon Star, Assistant Professor in the Department of Teacher Education at Michigan State University, were awarded a Mathematics and Science Research grant by the Institute for Education Sciences Research (IES), within the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of the three-year project entitled, *Enhancing the Mathematical Problem Solving Performance of Seventh Grade Students Using Schema-based Instruction*, is to determine what types of interventions work well with children to overcome problems in learning mathematics. The project is for three years and will be conducted in partnership with Shawnee Middle School in Easton Area School District.

The William Penn Foundation recently awarded the National Center for the Parent-Child Home Project, the School District of Philadelphia, and **DR. PATRICIA MANZ**, Assistant Professor in the COE School Psychology program funding to conduct a longitudinal, experimental evaluation of the Philadelphia Parent-Child Home Program (PCHP). This project will support an empirical investigation of home visitations. In particular, the project will examine the impact of Latino family-child interactions and dialogue on young children’s early language development, and construction of culturally and developmentally responsive measures of socioemotional development and family involvement for young children. Fully supported by the School District of Philadelphia, PCHP prepares and supports paraprofessionals from local communities to visit families of two and three year old children, and focus on strengthening family-child relationships while engaging children and parents in developmentally-appropriate learning activities. Although PCHP is a national program, the Philadelphia site is the largest single program situated in inner-city communities and serving Latino populations.

## Two Students Win AECT Internships

**TONYA AMANKWATIA** and **PATRICIA SLAGTER VAN TRYON**, students of the Teaching, Learning, and Technology program, each won internships for the 2006 Association for Education Communications and Technology (AECT) convention. They received complimentary registration, housing and a \$500 cash award. While attending the convention, they coordinated program activities, including a leadership development workshop, and attended exclusive seminars with leaders from the association and the field. Part of the internship also includes Tonya and Patricia serving on an AECT committee of their choice during the following year.



## IDEA 2004 Rules & Regulations: What's New and Different? Professor Presents via Audio and Web Conference

The Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) hosted an audio and two web conference presentations with Dr. Perry Zirkel in September. Dr. Perry A. Zirkel is a Professor in the Educational Leadership program, and was former dean of the College of Education. He is a prolific writer in the area of school law and is a frequent invited presenter across the country. The primary author of *Section 504, the ADA, and the Schools*, Perry is an active labor arbitrator and also serves on the special education hearing appeals panel for Pennsylvania.

As it pertains to the IDEA regulations, Dr. Zirkel provided an early analysis of the most significant revisions and their possible legal implications for local directors. The format consisted of a 60-minute audio-web presentation and 30 minutes of questions and answers from the audience. The web-based program (termed "webinar") for CASE went out to a total of 120 sites across the country and the audience included individuals representing school districts, state education departments, universities and law forums. For more information visit <http://www.casecec.org/>.

## COE Counseling Psychology Students Visit the United Nations

Twenty College of Education Counseling Psychology graduate students visited the United Nations in New York in March 2006 to underscore their program's emphasis on global social justice and diversity issues.

"Too often we focus on domestic culture in graduate training," says Counseling Psychology Assistant Professor Arpana Inman, PhD, who orchestrated the U.N. trip. "But with globalization, countries and cultures are increasingly interdependent, which is reflected in issues addressed at the United Nations."



Students met with Richard Alderslade, the senior external relations officer and acting deputy director of the World Health Organization Office to the United Nations, who talked about the history of mental health access and current trends in psychological health-care issues across cultures.

Anju Kaduvettor, a Lehigh fourth-year graduate student, whose research did not explore international issues prior to the trip, left the United Nations eager to learn more about mental health access in different countries. "When I left the United Nations, I knew I wanted to do some type of international research," she says. Now, she aims to expand her research focus to examine international mental health concerns.

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