The Piedmont Area Reading Council (PARC) will bring nationally recognized teacher and author Stacey Bess to Lynchburg on Sept. 24 for its conference, “Planet Literacy: Beyond Reading.” Bess, the subject of the April 2011 Hallmark Hall of Fame movie Beyond the Blackboard, wrote Nobody Don’t Love Nobody based on her experiences working with homeless children in Salt Lake City. For her work, Bess won the prestigious National Jefferson Award for Greatest Public Service by Someone 35 Years or Younger, among numerous other honors.

Along with Bess’ keynote address, the conference features 15 workshops on education, literacy, and writing.

“We invite all teachers, administrators, parents and anyone who cares about children and education to attend,” said PARC Co-President Annyce Maddox. “Stacey Bess’ amazing story encourages us all to make a difference.” The PARC annual conference, which costs $50, includes a year’s membership. A discounted rate is available for students, retired individuals, and para-professionals. The 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. event will be held at Liberty University’s DeMoss Hall.

Preregistration is required, with registration forms available at

http://readinginthepark.webs.com

Other opportunities include an exclusive lunch with Stacey Bess, which will include a copy of her book, for an additional $50. Liberty University is also offering teachers the opportunity to earn recertification points for an additional $25. (continued on page 4)
Message from the Dean

Liberty University is celebrating 40 years (1971-2011) with the theme “a new era.”

We are grateful for the vision of our founder, Dr. Jerry Falwell, Sr. and for God’s continued blessings on a young institution under a new era of leadership, with emphasis on academic excellence and financial prosperity.

The School of Education celebrated last spring the achievement of 8000 students enrolled. Our most recent enrollment report was 8987, so we expect to pass 9000 before the fall semester ends.

As we reflect on past blessings and victories, we must challenge our hearts to continue our mission to prepare competent professionals for school and sport settings.

“Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead” Philippians 3:13

Dr. Karen Parker
Dean
School of Education

Shared Vision

I just returned from three weeks of traveling through 8 states doing inservices for approximately 50 Christian schools on the east coast. Speaking to these schools was so incredibly rewarding. I offered techniques for students with learning and behavioral challenges and differences. But most of all, I could share the message that God laid on my heart about "the least of these" in our schools.

I was so encouraged by the response of these schools. A few teachers and a principal at different locations let me know that it changed their attitude about teaching. My favorite was watching one school join hands in a circle after a session and praying that God will bless their upcoming year with a heart for the challenging student. It really doesn't get much better than that. It's such a blessing to be used by God!

(adapted for length)

Follow Dr. Beth Ackerman on her blog: http://www.luonline.com/index.cfm?PID=20067.

Dr. Beth Ackerman
Associate Dean
LUO Graduate School

The Compass
Volume 4, Issue 5, Fall 2011, Page 2
Hi Everyone!

Welcome to the Fall 2011 semester at LU! I’d like to share two things with you!

1. Changes in Gate 2 Requirements – Gate 2 for both graduate and undergraduates will now require passing confirmation of the LU School of Education Background Check. Please see http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=23226 for more information! Also – for Elementary and Secondary MAT students only -- there are newly revised Content Competency forms that you will need to use for your Gate 2 application. Please consult the Advising Guide at www.liberty.edu/advisingguide to access these revised forms. Questions about competencies may be sent to gradtransfer@liberty.edu

2. New Undergraduate Technology Class Coming! –We plan to offer a new education technology class in Spring 2012. The class will focus toward “hands on” use of current technologies available to assist and enhance instruction. More information will be announced later in the semester!

New Early Childhood Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Science Degrees

The new Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood (non-licensure) degree is now available. It is essential for early childhood programs to hire teachers who are specially prepared to work with young children. Our new program focuses on preparing teachers to meet the specific needs of young children in the early childhood setting. Our professional responsibility and spiritual mandate is to minister to the needs of young children at their developmental level. Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven” (Luke 18:16). We are excited about the opportunity of preparing teachers for the early childhood setting.

Counseling Program

Liberty’s School Counseling Program is growing in exciting ways! Check out the 2011-2012 Degree Completion Plan and Course Sequencing Guide on the Registrar’s web pages. Additional courses have been added to the curriculum specific to the specialty of professional school counseling. Existing school counseling specialty courses have also been redesigned to include videos, interviews, and PointeCasts. Please review the new school counseling program handbook located on the online advising guide. This handbook provides students with program, licensure, and internship information. (continued on page 8)
About Stacey Bess
Stacey Bess began her teaching career at The School With No Name located inside the Salt Lake City shelter where she taught math, reading and self-worth to homeless and transient children. She chronicled the children’s heart-wrenching stories in a memoir that became the basis for the Hallmark Hall of Fame movie Beyond the Blackboard.

A dynamic speaker, Stacey Bess engages groups large and small, sharing the lessons she learned that changed her life as she taught hundreds of homeless children. “Don’t be afraid to step outside your comfort zone. Don’t be afraid to offer help to someone you don’t know, or don’t know well. Even the smallest gesture can make the biggest difference in another person’s life,” she said in a March 2011 Hallmark news release.

About PARC
PARC serves the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell, Nelson, Pittsylvania, and Lynchburg City. Its mission is to promote literacy throughout the community, region, state, nation, and the world by sponsoring literacy projects that support the goals of the Virginia State Reading Association (VSRA) and the International Reading Association (IRA).

“Our conference is another way we are spreading the knowledge of reading and literacy,” said Co-President Joyce Spencer.

A Legacy of Literacy
Conference attendees are encouraged to bring new and used children’s books for donation to A Legacy of Literacy. Friends, family and colleagues of Dr. Jill Jones, former Liberty University professor, created Legacy of Literacy in her memory to pass on her passion for teaching others about the written and spoken word. A Legacy of Literacy’s leadership hopes to continue to expand the ongoing book drive to provide books for children around the globe.

For more information contact:
• Annyce Maddox, amaddox@liberty.edu
• Joyce Spencer, joyce.spencer@pcs.k12.va.us
To honor the memory of Dr. Jill Jones, more than 4,200 new and used books have been donated to children’s organizations in just the first year after the founding of A Legacy of Literacy. A Legacy of Literacy, which began in August 2010, has brought together friends, family and community members to honor Dr. Jones, who passionately promoted reading and education.

“The vision for this project began with a young mom who was inspired by Jill in the Mom to Mom ministry where she served as a Mentor Mom. Jill was loved and admired by family, friends, students and colleagues all across the country and we are thrilled to see the response of the community to this project. She greatly impacted the next generation during her life and it is heartwarming to know that we can help continue her legacy by the simple act of donating books to children in need” notes Brenda Brown, Mom to Mom Coordinato

A Legacy of Literacy recipients

Through ongoing donations, books have been given to organizations serving children in the Lynchburg area, but have also traveled as far as a school in the Philippines. Recipients include:

Amherst County, Campbell County and Lynchburg City public libraries (631)

Backpack for Kids’ Sake of Central Virginia at Brookneal Elementary, Pineview Elementary, Altavista, and Bass Elementary schools (915)

Youth Programs, including Boys & Girls Club of Lynchburg, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Virginia, Amherst County Head Start, Bedford County Head Start, and Big Island Angel Tree (416)

Outreach and youth programs, including Presbyterian Home, Daily Bread and the Domestic Violence Prevention Center, homeless shelter in AL, NV, OH, and TN (241)

Lynchburg and Amherst County Social Services (1,069)

Children’s Miracle Network-Virginia Baptist Pediatrics (185)

Local schools, including Rivermont School, New London Academy, Liberty Christian Academy, Bass Elementary School, and Liberty University (464)

International schools in the Philippines, Guatemala, Uganda, Russia and Argentina (189)

Churches (200)  (continued on page 6)
About A Legacy of Literacy

Friends, family, and colleagues of Dr. Jill Jones created A Legacy of Literacy to carry on her passion for teaching others about the written and spoken word. A Legacy of Literacy’s leadership hopes to continue to expand the ongoing book drive to provide books for children around the globe.

Book donation locations in Lynchburg include:
- Liberty University School of Education, Room 102
- Sweet Peas Children’s Consignment Boutique, Tradewynd Drive, Wyndhurst
- Once Upon A Child Consignment in the Graves Mill Shopping Center, on 221
- Givens Books-Little Dickens on Lakeside Drive

Upcoming VA-CEC Conference

The VA-Council for Exceptional Children (VA-CEC) conference to be held at Liberty University this fall. The date to mark is Friday, November 18, 2011. All of the information, including proposal submission, can be found on the website at http://www.virginiacec.org/VACEC_2011_conference/virginia_cec_conference2011.htm.

We encourage breakout proposals, poster presentation proposals, and exhibitor displays.

This conference is open to teachers, administrators, parents, and students who have a passion for the field of Special Education.

Bring a friend!
Fall 2011 Events

Chapter Meetings
September Chapter Meeting: Sept. 29, 2011
Guest Speaker: Dr. Karen Parker, Dean of the School of Education
DeMoss Hall 1090, 6:30 p.m.

October Chapter Meeting: Oct. 27, 2011
Guest Speaker: Dina Linkenhoker - Bedford County Public Schools Teacher of the Year
DeMoss Hall 1090, 6:30 pm

November Chapter Meeting: Nov. 17, 2011
Senior Teacher Candidate Panel
DeMoss Hall 1090, 6:30 pm

Service Projects and Activities
Backpacks for Kids - There are so many children in the Lynchburg area who do not have any food to eat on the weekends. Through this ministry, backpacks are filled with food and delivered to Bass Elementary School and distributed to the children in need. Volunteers are needed to assist with this ministry. Members of the Pi Sigma Chapter and other LU students will go to Fairview United Methodist Church each Thursday, at 5:00 pm, in October and November and assist with this ministry.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing Campaign (Kick off Day) - November 11, 2011
Walmart on Wards Road- 9:00 am - 7:00

Operation Christmas Child Boxes: Due Nov. 15th

Curriculum Library at Liberty University

For more information contact the Counselor of the Pi Sigma Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, Dr. Shante' M. Austin, at somoore@liberty.edu.
Program Specialist

The new advanced licensure program specialist handbook for math and reading specialists is now available on the Graduate Advising Guide. New degree completion plans are also available for the program specialist add-on endorsement in early childhood and gifted education. Math and reading specialists who are planning to complete the 16 week internship during the Spring 2012 semester should submit the Gate 3 application by September 15th.

Background Check Requirements

Over the summer, the SOE launched its new background check program. All SOE candidates are now required to complete the Background Check and FBI Fingerprinting, found at edbackground@liberty.edu, when they make application to Gate 2. Most school systems, local and external, require a criminal background search; in response to that, we are joining the ranks of other colleges and universities by requiring our students to be cleared prior to entering a host school.

Our program is comprehensive in order to meet the standards of the many different school systems with whom we interact. Our SOE Criminal Background Check includes:

- County/State Criminal Record Search
- SSN Trace
- National Criminal Database Search
- Child Protective Services Search
- Nationwide Sex Offender Registry Search
- Residency Trace

Candidates also have their fingerprints run through the FBI, and a drug screen is available for students to order should a school system require it.

We are very excited to have this program! The service is being supported by American DataBank, which is a full-service, background screening company. They monitor the status of all the students and provide us with individual reports.

Background Check for Fall 2011 Student Teachers & Spring 2012 Student Teacher Applicants

Please read the following information regarding background check requirements that will be effective for this upcoming school year (2011-2012).

We are introducing a new background check system that will be required of all student teachers. An informational meeting and demonstration was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2011 that provided instructions on how to begin and complete the required background check. The fingerprinting aspect of the background check can take up to 12 weeks, so this will need to be started in a timely manner.

ATTENTION Spring 2012 student teacher applicants:
You must provide proof of background check submission BEFORE applying to Gate 3 (September 15, 2011).
The School of Education desires to prepare each student for the realities of the twenty first century classroom. Alumni Brian Keesee shares his experience during the first two weeks of school:

“First, this is a tough job. When you all echoed that sentiment, you were not kidding! With that being said, this has been two of the best weeks of my life. God led me here, and with the help of such a caring staff at LU I am now fulfilling my dream of teaching through Christ. I feel so blessed to impact these students and look forward to what the next day brings. Please pass this message to any student at LU who may be struggling. There is a means to an end and with faith and an understanding of what teaching REALLY means, there are few careers that offer the unsurpassed self gratification and joy that lies within. Thank you all for preparing me to get here!”

(adapted for length)

The Department of Sport Management at Liberty began classes in the spring of 1989 and is a division of the School of Education. The Department of Sport Management was one of the first undergraduate programs to be approved through NASSM/NASPE in 1996.

Liberty’s Bachelor of Science in Sport Management is now accredited through COSMA (Commission on Sport Management Accreditation). An M.S. in Sport Management was developed and received SACS approval in December 2009, and is in the initial stages of the COSMA accreditation process. The undergraduate program is a residential program; the graduate program will be a blended (residential and online) program.

The Department of Sports Management continues to innovate and expand. Dr. Kevin Heisey joined the faculty. Dr. Clark Zealand is now the Director of Sport Management Graduate Program.

The mission of the Department of Sport Management is to expose students to a Christian worldview pertaining to the concepts and principles of sport management, while preparing them to organize, administer, and facilitate sport programs at the corporate, agency, professional, and amateur levels. Real world opportunities are provided within a theoretical framework to develop knowledge and skills relevant to the performance of these functions.

Sport Management Update

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Faculty Presentations

Dr. Andrea Beam submitted *Collaboration: Successful strategies for working together as co-educators* and *Designing a school-based business/work experience program for students with disabilities* for the 3rd Paris International Conference On Education, Economy & Society July 2011.

Dr. Nancy DeJarnette presented *Assimilating theory into practice: Helping preservice teachers develop a learning community during clinical practice* at the Association of Teacher Educators Summer Conference in Philadelphia August 2011.

Dr. Karen Parker and Dr. Leonard Parker presented *Differentiation in the instruction of reading for diverse learners* at the International Reading Association 17th European Conference on Reading in Mons, Belgium July/August 2011.

Dr. Constance L. Pearson and Dr. Michael Patrick will present at the One Voice International Conference and Forum in Atlanta, GA, on Saturday, December 3, 2011. The related manuscript has been accepted to be published in the One Voice International Collection of Scholarly Works.

Dr. Shelley Stewart with Tina Hohlfeld, Beth Jordan, Oma Singh and Cameron Spears presented *Proposed redesign of an integrating technology course for preservice teachers* at the International Society for Technology in Education Conference in Philadelphia June 2011.

The ABCs at Liberty

Heather Jamaica Conner is publishing a children’s book through Liberty University Press called *Sparky’s ABCs Adventure*. Sparky, Liberty University’s beloved eagle mascot, tours Liberty’s campus and introduces children of all ages to the different iconic images, places, and ideals that make Liberty “the world’s most exciting university.” During Sparky’s tour, he uses the letters of the alphabet and playful rhymes to take his reader on this entertaining and informative journey.

Readers will fall in love with Sparky as his personality shines through his dialogue and the colorful illustrations. Alumni and current students will enjoy sharing Sparky’s story with the young people in their lives, yielding a new generation of Flames’ fans.

Conner hopes to have publication completed in time for Homecoming weekend (October 15th) with a book signing.
The School of Education welcomes new faculty member Dr. Swezey and Dr. Yokum.

After completing a doctorate in educational leadership at George Fox University, Dr. James Swezey taught at George Fox University and then Regent University where he conducted qualitative research into the effectiveness of Christian school programs. After four years of teaching at Regent, he joins the faculty at Liberty University where he teaches foundations and educational leadership courses at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels.

Dr. Russell Yocum completed his Ed.D. (Curriculum and Instruction, Diversity Studies) from the University of West Florida (2010) and served as a Teacher on Special Assignment for the University of West Florida. In this capacity, Dr. Yocum worked with 2nd career graduate level students who were returning to school to earn teaching certifications, as well as with masters, specialist, and doctoral students. Dr. Yocum has experience teaching a variety of educational foundations, research methodology, and educational diversity courses.

The School of Education welcomes:

SOE Student Workers-
  Sebastian Contreras, Julie Eckels, David Eifert, Brittany Foose, Lilian Gonzalez, Rueben Gonzalez, Alyssa Hale, Elizabeth Hawksford, Tracey Jones, Sean Maguire, Jesse Pausch, Sakinah Salley, and Sonu Sitoula

SMGT Student Workers-
  Rebekah Jarman and Jordan Copeland

SOE Graduate Student Assistants-
  Joy Brookes, Julianne Gaillard, Deb Gonzalez, Emily Hancock, Erica Heinrich, Rachel McCormick, and Lauren Montgomery

SMGT Graduate Student Assistants-
  Keely McMillon, Amanda Medlin, and Leanne Niemi

SOE Teaching Assistants-
  Rebecca Lunde, Elyse Pinkie, and James Wicks

SOE Teaching Fellows-
  Ashley Haygood and Carolyn Wicks
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FIRST SEMESTER

August 22, Monday  
Classes begin, 7:40 a.m.

August 26, Friday  
Last day to register at 4:00 p.m.

October 6 - 7, Thursday – Friday  
Fall Break

November 18, Friday  
Thanksgiving Vacation begins after last class

November 21 - 25, Monday - Friday  
Thanksgiving vacation

December 7, Wednesday  
Last day of classes

December 8, Thursday  
Reading Day

December 9-16, Friday - Friday  
Final Examinations

December 16, Friday  
Final Exam Make-up Day  
First semester ends

SOE Winter Intensives  
December 26-December 30  
January 2-January 6

SECOND SEMESTER

January 16, Monday  
Classes begin, 7:40 a.m.

January 20, Friday  
Last day to register at 4:00 p.m.

March 9, Friday  
Spring Vacation begins after last class

March 12-16, Monday - Friday  
Spring Break, Spring Intensives

April 9, Monday  
Easter Holiday, no classes

April 11, Wednesday  
Annual Assessment Day

May 1, Tuesday  
Last day of classes

May 2, Wednesday  
Reading Day

May 3 - May 8, Thursday-Tuesday  
Final Examinations

May 11, Friday  
Baccalaureate Service; second semester ends

May 12, Saturday  
Commencement

SUMMER SESSION  
May 14 - August 17

40 Years of Training Champions for Christ