

ALBRIGHT COLLEGE AND 13TH AND UNION
PARTNERSHIP NEWSAlbright
COLLEGE

PARTNERSHIP EXPANDS

Thanks to the leadership of Andrea Chapdelaine, Ph.D., provost and vice president of academic affairs at Albright College, and Carlinda Purcell, Ed.D., superintendent of the Reading School District, the Partnership between Albright College and 13th and Union Elementary School has expanded significantly. Initially, the two schools forged a Professional Development School relationship in which Albright's education department placed teachers and student observers at Union. But a \$100,000 grant from the Wyomissing Foundation has enabled the

Partnership to expand to other departments at Albright. The funding supports programs developed between the two schools, as well as the coordinator's salary. Dorothea Miller was named coordinator in April 2013. She worked for the Reading School District from 1989 to 2011, serving as a classroom teacher, reading specialist and principal. Miller served as principal of 13th and Union from 2004 to 2011. Last year, she joined the Albright staff, supervised student teachers and taught a seminar course for elementary student teachers.

Faculty members from both schools have applied for funding for Partnership projects. Below is a description of the recently approved projects. Thanks to the Partnership and the generosity of the Wyomissing Foundation, many opportunities are available to faculty on both sides of 13th Street. The Partnership continues to look for opportunities to fund innovative ideas.

Both schools
benefitted from
the relationship

GREAT IDEAS!

Two faculty proposals were approved in September. The first, iPads for Kindergarteners, submitted by 13th and Union teacher Susan Shober, will help put iPads with educational applications into the hands of ESL kindergartners in an effort to increase reading and language skills. The second proposal, from Beth Krumholz, education curator at Albright, will bring 13th and Union students to the College to experience the greenhouse, meet an artist, plant and care for terrariums, and learn about plant life.

S.T.E.M. PARTNERSHIP

The Pennsylvania Multi-Region Mathematics/Science/STEM Partnership Project is a statewide initiative that brings together public school teachers, colleges and universities, and national science and technology centers to boost science, technology, engineering and math (S.T.E.M.)-related instruction in public school classrooms. Faculty from six Pennsylvania colleges and universities, including Albright, are instructing elementary and high school teachers in math and science content. Four Albright professors are involved: Brian Buerke, Ph.D., associate professor of physics; Christopher Catone, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics; Michele Cramer, chemistry instructor; and Shelley Kauffman, Ph.D., earth science and geology instructor. In an effort to keep up with current S.T.E.M. trends, Matthew Redcay, a fifth-grade teacher at 13th and Union, attended the training. His participation was made possible by funding from the Albright and 13th and Union Partnership. Redcay spent part of his summer at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland and a week at Immaculate College where he received instruction from the participating college faculty. Participants attend follow-up meetings for ongoing training. The goal of the project is to help educators feel more at ease when teaching science and math, to enhance the classroom experience, and to increase students' interest in this material and possibly careers in these fields.

READY, SET, READ

Ready, Set, Read is a United Way of Berks County initiative aimed at having Berks County third-graders reading on level by the end of third grade. In January 2013, Albright elementary majors began tutoring second-grade students at 13th and Union. The students loved the program, and in October, six of the original tutors returned to 13th and Union. All of the 13th and Union students still attending the

Last year... **elementary majors** began to tutor second grade students at 13TH and Union

elementary school returned for this after-school program. When possible, the tutors will be working with their former students – now third-graders – for a second semester. This fall, 11 new Albright tutors, from various majors, were added for second-grade students. The tutoring sessions follow a prescribed outline, which includes reading books and studying spelling and vocabulary words. The tutors also provide reports to the classroom teachers. Best wishes to our tutors!

ASPHALT FOREST PROJECT

The ASPHALT Forest Project will utilize forest and wetland areas of campus for an environmental center. Susan Seidenstricker, Ed.D., associate professor of education at Albright, along with fifth-grade teachers from 13th and Union, are collaborating on lessons that would allow the elementary and college students to utilize the environmental center for their studies. Eventually, the area may be opened to other city and county schools for field trips. On Oct. 26, Albright volunteers will clean the campus area, clipping branches and removing trash. As part of a different science department grant, students will also plant flowers and trees. This project will enhance a forgotten piece of campus and provide a taste of the outdoors for students on both sides of 13th Street. Thanks to all the volunteers and organizations involved in the project!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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