

the window

Student Affairs Graduate Association Newsletter

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there is a chill in the air

The leaves are turning and the weather is cooling. Another fall semester nears the middle months!

I am excited to announce that progress is being made on the Constitution Review and plans are underway for a great trip to Washburn University.

I encourage everyone to stay involved with their professional organizations and attend conferences. These interactions will give you many opportunities to network as well as learn more

about our chosen profession.

There are many opportunities to attend great speaking presentations right here at K-State. Don't forget to check the Lecture Series calendars regularly.

Don't forget to take the opportunity to meet your peers, colleagues and classmates outside of the classroom and work. Go for coffee (or hot chocolate), grab a bite to eat, or catch a movie. I believe that in order to be even better in our professional

lives, we must have personal connections.

I hope that everyone's semester continues to go well.

Enjoy the falling leaves and the shorter days!!

~~Loni Jensen

events and activities

Provost Lecture Series - October 23 - 11:00-12:30 - Fiedler Auditorium – *The Evolving Internet* – Dr. Vinton G. Cerf, Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist for Google

October 22-28 – K-State Homecoming Week

Lou Douglas Lecture Series - October 24 – 7:00pm – Forum Hall, Union - *Author of Tuned Out: Why Americans Under 40 Tune Out the News* – David T.Z. Midich

Lou Douglas Lecture Series – November 9 – 7pm – Union Main Ballroom – *Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director, Equal Exchange* – Rink Dickinson

adviser? advisor? what is the deal with advisers?

Welcome to grad school. You've submitted all your forms, taken your standardized tests, received your acceptance letter, and been assigned an adviser. Adviser? Did you say Adviser? Who is that? What do they do? How do they benefit me? How did this person get assigned to me?

To answer these questions and more, I went straight to the source, Stephen Benton, Ph.D., Department Chair for Counseling and Educational Psychology.

According to Dr. Benton, students are given the opportunity to request an adviser when they apply for admission into the program. However, more than 90% of the applicants do not submit a specific request. When no adviser is requested, Dr. Benton assigns the student to a faculty member based on the student's interests and the current number of students an adviser has already. At K-State, we are fortunate to have a number of engaged and concerned advisers. However, in addition to advising, they are also extremely committed to teaching, research and service to the university and community. Full-time faculty members have heavy advising loads, some as many as 30 to 35 students. So if you are looking to change advisers or just trying to get an appointment with yours try to avoid the last minute email or phone call. Your results will always be better.

Although most students keep their original adviser, it is not mandatory. Students may have

various reasons for changing advisers. For example, students may find in the course of taking classes that they share more similar research interests with another faculty member. If this happens, it is natural that the student may want to change advisers because it is likely the student may be working closely with that professor anyway. A change in emphasis is also a typical reason. Advisers are often assigned because of their expertise in a specific area, i.e. athletics, advising, or administration. It is logical for a student changing emphasis to also change advisers. Another infrequent reason is personality differences. Occasionally, just like other people, a student and adviser may not click.

If you find yourself in any of these situations, Dr. Benton suggests that you first talk to the faculty member you are wanting to have as your new adviser. Check to see if he or she has time to advise you. Talk to the faculty member about your plans to make sure she or he feels you would be a good fit. Once you have confirmation that a new adviser is willing and able to accept you, then speak to your current adviser about the change. The purpose of this order is not to go behind your current adviser's back, but to make sure you don't find yourself without an Adviser.

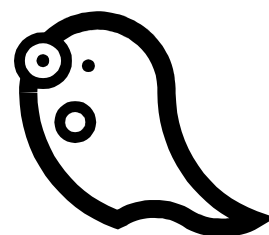
Now that you have the adviser you want, what do you? Talk to the Adviser! Dr. Benton recommends that master's students should meet with their adviser at least once a semester and doctoral students more frequently. Regardless of your emphasis, your adviser has insight and wisdom that will help you navigate through the maze of higher education and into a job. But remember, it is up to you to take the initiative to give your

adviser the opportunity to get to know you. The more Advisers are aware of your skills and interests, the better their advice.

Advisers can help you determine which professional organizations you might wish to join, which conferences you should attend, which journals would be interested in your research, and when a graduate assistant or graduate teaching position is opening up. They also have insight on additional certifications or recognitions you can receive just by fulfilling your degree requirements, or by taking only one or two more classes. For example, just by talking with Dr. Benton, I learned that even though I am in the administration track, I am very close to meeting the requirements for the graduate certificate in academic advising. By taking two more classes I could pick up the certificate as well as my master's degree. That would be one more credential behind my name.

So pick up that phone or login to your email and schedule an appointment with your adviser today. Make it your goal to learn something new from him or her, and allow your Adviser to learn something new about you.

~Diane Hinrichs



faculty profile • dr. steve benton

Dr. Steve Benton

received bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, completing his Ph.D. in 1983. With five years of teaching experience at the secondary and postsecondary levels, he became assistant professor of educational psychology at Kansas State University (KSU) in the fall of 1983. He was promoted to associate professor at KSU in 1988 and to full professor in 1994. From 1988 to 1990, he served as Chair of the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology.

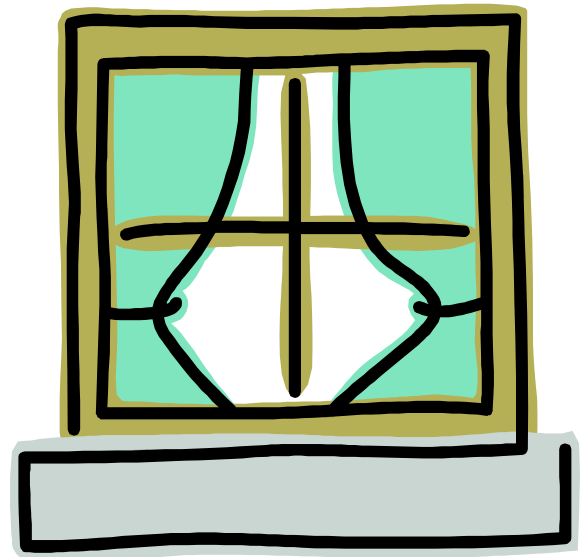
He is currently serving another term as Chair since 2000. Benton, who has served as major professor to 12 doctoral students, is the former Editor (1991 to 2000) of *Educational Psychology Review*, a journal that publishes comprehensive review articles.

He has written over 120 professional papers, journal articles, book chapters, and test reviews, and has published in the leading journals in the field, including *Journal of*

Educational Psychology, Contemporary Educational Psychology, Educational Psychology Review, Journal of Educational Measurement, Journal of Studies on Alcohol, Psychology: Research and Practice, and Journal of College Student Development.

Steve, along with his wife, Sherry, is second author on an upcoming book, titled "College Student Mental Health: Effective Services and Strategies Across Campus," published by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. The recipient of over \$500,000 in federal and state grants, his research interests include the cognitive processes involved in writing and academic studying, the roles of knowledge and interest in writing processes, and college-student drinking.

He is an active member in the American Educational Research Association, the Division on Educational Psychology of the American Psychological Association, and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. He is the recipient of the Award of Excellence from



the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Alumni Association (1997), was recognized as one of 90 Notable Graduates at the 90th Anniversary Celebration of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Teachers College (1998); and was given the Excellence in Graduate Faculty Teaching Award, from College of Education, spring 1998.

Since 1979, Steve has been married to his wife Sherry, who is Associate Professor and Assistant Director at K-State Counseling Services. They are the proud parents of a son and daughter who are both college graduates.

graduation plans?

There are exams to be taken, papers to write and forms to fill out, but graduation is quickly approaching.

Congratulations fellow classmates who will be graduating in December, you have worked hard for this event!!

There are still many things that you must do before graduation. I have outlined the required steps below, however, please keep in mind that individual programs of study and circumstances may require you to fill out additional information. Please check with the Graduate School on an individual basis to make sure that you have all of the required steps!

~Completed Approval to Schedule Final Examination forms due to Graduate School - November 1

~Order Graduation Regalia from Union Bookstore for Commencement Ceremony - November 1

~Online form of Registration to Participate in Commencement - e-mailed to you upon receipt of Approval to Schedule Exam

~Online Diploma Information form to be completed - November 15

~Make sure that you have paid all balances to the University - prior to Commencement Ceremony

~Commencement Ceremony - December 8

~Order final transcripts to be held pending degree - before December 15 - if you do not order prior to December 15 you will be charged a copying fee

For additional information please visit the Graduate School's website as well as talk with your advisor.

~Loni M.M. Jensen



supporting 21st century college students

On September 11 and 12 Housing and Dining Services sponsored a professional development workshop for student affairs administrators on our campus. These workshops included presentations from Dr. Craig Ullom and Dr. Mary-Beth Cooper. A number of offices on campus were notified of the events and all were encouraged to attend the programs given by these distinguished professionals in our field.

Dr. Ullom is the Associate Vice President for Campus Life at the University of Central Florida. He has presented at numerous regional and national conferences and is a member of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Knowledge Community on Parent and Family Relations. Dr. Ullom is the Director of the NASPA Promising Practices for Partnering with Parents Project and serves as an

Associate Graduate Faculty member in the College of Education at UCF.

Dr. Cooper is the Vice President of Student Affairs at the Rochester Institute of Technology. She is a Distinguished Lecturer for the College of Business at RIT and is an Adjunct Faculty Member at the University of Rochester. Dr. Cooper was a keynote speaker for the 2005 Association of College and University Housing Officers International conference and in June of 2005, Dr. Cooper was named by the *Rochester Business Journal* as one of the twenty most influential women in Rochester.

Both professionals provided a wealth of knowledge that was well received by our campus. Dr. Ullom spoke on Monday September 11th on developing partnerships with parents. He focused on how to better connect with parents as team member. Dr. Ullom emphasized the importance of connecting with parents in order to help them to feel at ease about their student's transition to college. Dr. Cooper spoke on Tuesday

September 12 on the social implications of technology on our college campuses. Dr. Cooper emphasized that we need to be sensitive to how we promote technology as it is a good thing, but can be treacherous to our student's development and the sense of community they feel on campus.

Dr. Ullom and Dr. Cooper were impressed by our campus, students, and staff at K-State. Both emphasized the positive feelings they felt coming from our campus. The professional development sessions presented by both speakers was worthwhile and impactful. If you were unable to attend you missed a valuable opportunity for professional development.

If you are interested in receiving resources from Dr. Ullom or Dr. Coopers presentations feel free to contact Linda Harvey at lharvey@ksu.edu.

~Linda Harvey

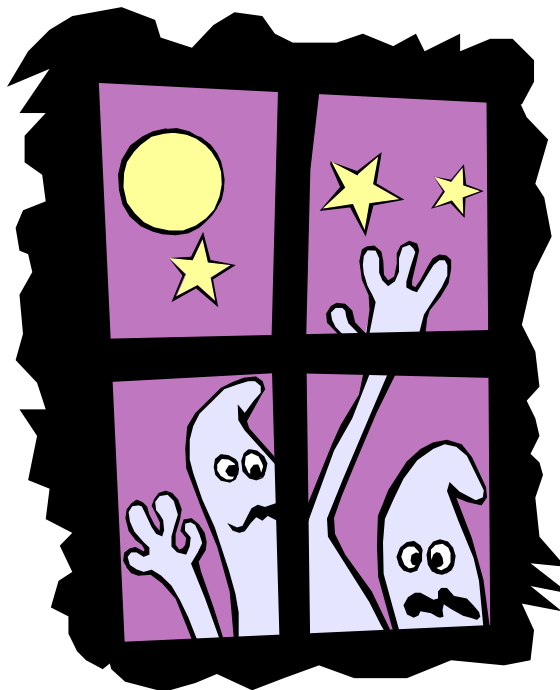


saga

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.k-state.edu/saga



saga meeting schedule

November 13 - noon
TBA
January 29 - noon
TBA
February 19 - noon
TBA
March 12 - noon
TBA
April 16 - noon
TBA

comps study dates

October 25 - 4:40-6pm -
BH 368

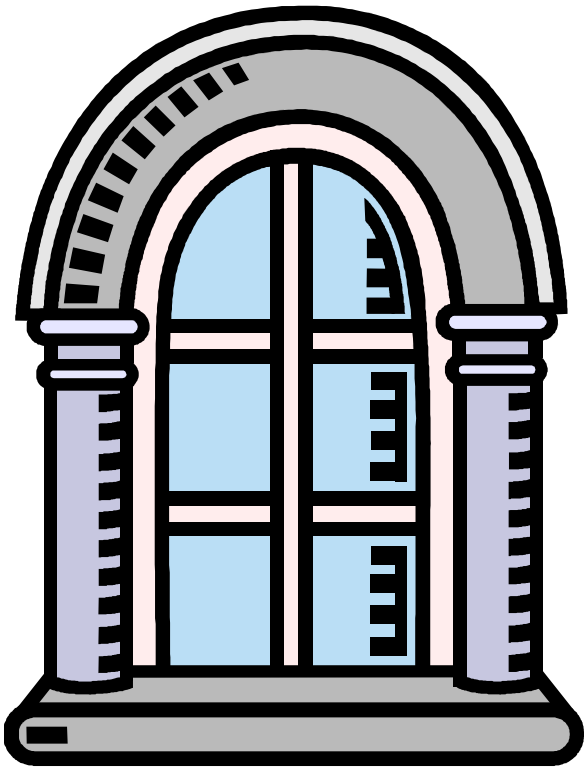
November 3 - 11-12:30 -
BH 368

November 8 - 4:30-6pm -
BH 368

the window future issue deadlines

November Issue -
November 13 by 5pm

December Issue -
December 11 by 5pm



website information

Important Dates

Professional Development

Conferences

Resources

Department Information

Professional Associations

Graduate School Information

important dates

October 24 - Constitution Review Committee Meeting - 11:30am - BH 339
 October 25 - EDTR Forum - 4:00pm - Little Theatre
 November 1- Approval to Schedule Final Exam due to Graduate School
 November 1 - Order Graduation Regalia for Commencement Ceremony in Union Bookstore
 November 4 – K-State Family Day
 November 6 - Graduate Student Council Meeting - noon
 November 10 - Thesis & Dissertation Support Group Meeting - 12:00-2:30 - BH 341D
 November 13 - SAGA Meeting - noon - TBA
 November 14 - Diploma information - online form for graduation due
 November 18 - Fall Comprehensive Exams - 9:00am - BH 3rd Floor
 December 8 - Fall Commencement Ceremony
 December 14 - order final transcripts before December 15 for fall graduates