

THE BAYH EDUCATOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BAYH COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



WELCOME

Welcome to the Bayh College of Education newsletter! The goal of this newsletter is to foster a sense of community between faculty, staff, students, alumni, and our community. This newsletter is for you, so we want it to be relevant and interesting. We welcome and encourage any feedback and suggestions for the next edition.

HOW TO REACH US

Please feel free to email us at malea.crosby@indstate.edu or gsteffy@sycamores.indstate.edu

Dear Students, Staff, Faculty, Emeriti, Donors, and Alums,

I do hope all is going well as we quickly wrap up the end of the fall semester! It has been a busy semester with many new initiatives under way. Notably, the opening and naming of the new Jan McCarthy Early Childhood Education Center this fall was very exciting. And to complement our early childhood efforts, a proposal for a new baccalaureate in early childhood education is awaiting approval with the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. Once approved, graduates of this program are eligible for PK-3 licensure and will have other credentialing options as well.

Last week we enjoyed our Third Teacher Appreciation event at the Hulman Center when the men's basketball team hosted Louisiana Tech, winning 60-51. Several educators and their families joined us at the Hulman Center. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the profession of education and thank our educators.

Just before Thanksgiving we had the privilege of hosting two important fall semester milestones – the annual Power of Reading and Power of Math Summits on November 24th and 25th. A special thanks to the excellent work of Assistant Dean, Malea Crosby, and the hard-working staff in Education Student Services (ESS). This year's summits were distance delivered to hundreds, and we are also grateful for the assistance of the Office of Information Technology (OIT) with programming delivered nationwide. As always, this would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors, Duke Energy and CenterPoint Energy!

Twice each year, I look forward to our graduate hooding and commencement in the morning, and undergraduate commencement in the afternoon of December 13th. It remains a favorite event of mine and a constant reminder of the power of an education. One of Eleanor Roosevelt's quotes takes on great meaning during graduation: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams!"

As I tender this final newsletter message, I recognize that this chapter of my professional life as a dean draws to a close; however, the memories, friendships, and moments of growth will stay with me always. I am proud of what we've accomplished together and hopeful for what lies ahead. I'll soon transition to the role of Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs through June 30, 2026. I'm so excited that Carrie Ball will be serving as Interim Dean for 18 months, beginning January 2026. She will do an amazing job, no doubt. I wish you the very best for the remainder of 2025. You can always find more information about the BCOE at <https://www.indstate.edu/education/>.
GO SYCAMORES!

Fondly,
Brad Balch, Dean





Dr. Carrie Ball Named Interim Dean of the Bayh College of Education

Indiana State University is pleased to announce that Dr. Carrie Ball has been appointed Interim Dean of the Bayh College of Education, effective January 1st.

"I am humbled and honored to serve the college in a new capacity. I look forward to advancing the excellent work we have begun under Dean Balch's leadership," says Ball of the appointment.

Dr. Ball brings a wealth of experience in academic leadership, research, and student engagement at the undergraduate and graduate levels. She has served as chairperson for the Department of Teaching and Learning since 2022, acting chairperson for the Department of Applied Clinical and Educational Sciences in 2022, and is a long-time program coordinator for the specialist and doctoral school psychology programs and director of the Porter School Psychology Center.

Dr. Ball also served as the Indiana State University faculty ombudsperson from 2019-2022 and has been active in college and university-level faculty governance throughout her career. Professionally, Dr. Ball has served on the leadership boards for both state- and national-level professional organizations and on the editorial boards for several respected school psychology journals. She is actively involved in accreditation organizations as a reviewer and site visitor for the National Association of School Psychologists and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.

Brad Balch, Dean of the Bayh College of Education noted that "Dr. Ball's cumulative experiences position her well to seamlessly transition into the role. She'll do an excellent job!"

Provost Chris Olsen added that "Dr. Ball is an outstanding choice, particularly given her broad experience with students across the educational spectrum from Freshman year to doctoral programs. She has been deeply engaged on campus at Indiana State for many years and enjoys familiarity and respect among her colleagues."

Congratulations to Dr. Bogard on receiving a Thank a Prof acknowledgment from one of your students! It is always reassuring to hear an unsolicited comment of appreciation from our students. You certainly have impacted your students. Your student went out of their way to send this communication! It is well deserved!



Dr. Lynn Scott will present at the 2025 Teacher Education Division (TED) Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. The conference brings together educators and researchers committed to improving teacher preparation and outcomes for students with disabilities.

Presentations include:

Erased: Tracking the Rapid Disappearance of Disability from Education Discourse and Public Policy

SSEPC Symposium: Harnessing Artificial Intelligence to Transform Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

United in Strength Through Story and Strategy: Using Instructional Avatars to Prepare Preservice Teachers for Licensure Success

Dr. Scott's work represents ongoing efforts to enhance inclusive practices and evidence-based preparation for future educators.



Early Childhood Education Major Approved!

Exciting news for the Bayh College of Education — our Early Childhood Education major was officially approved by the ISU Board of Trustees at their October 10 meeting!

This new program strengthens our commitment to preparing future educators to support young learners in their earliest years of development and learning. Stay tuned for more updates as the program launches!



HINES MEMORIAL MEDAL WINNER

Congratulations to Taylor Hamilton for receiving the 2025 Hines Memorial Medal.

We are so proud of you!

Read her statement below:

"The years I spent at ISU gave me an opportunity to connect with professors and fellow students that all had a significant impact on my life. I pushed myself to do my hardest each day in the classroom through learning about my future career as well as outside the classroom by building connections and shaping myself into the person I am today. The effort I put in day after day allowed me to accomplish my goals. Not only did I push myself, but I received so much support from the people I met, professors and classmates, and I am extremely grateful for each and every one of them! Go Sycamores!"





In a unique program at ISU, the Seniors in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Program (CSD) are paired in the fall semester to assist with one of the second year Speech Language Pathology Masters student's clients. The undergrads are in the room with the client and grad and learn about concepts such as writing a case history, developing behavior objectives, writing SOAP notes, taking data, and managing behavior. The grad students learn about supervision and how to provide instruction and feedback to an assistant. We have created a mutually beneficial system for both groups of students. At the beginning of the semester a meet and greet was held with games, and prizes. The students are pictured with their prizes which can be used in the clinic.

On October 10, 2025, the Department of Teaching and Learning hosted a professional learning session titled Bridging Speech and Literacy: The SLP's Role in the Science of Reading. Approximately fifty individuals were in attendance; made up of students and faculty from the Communication Disorders program. The event was facilitated by Morgan Mason, Professional Learning Specialist with Keep Indiana Learning. The engaging session examined how speech-language pathologists can integrate Science of Reading principles to enhance language development, literacy, and student outcomes. Participants received hands-on collaborative strategies and resource materials to support implementation in both clinical and classroom settings. The event was made possible through the generous support of the Lilly Endowment's Advancing the Science of Reading in Indiana grant initiative.



Communication Disorders

- The MS–SLP Program received the full 8 years of re-accreditation following a successful application and site visit process. The program is accredited through 2033

Counseling

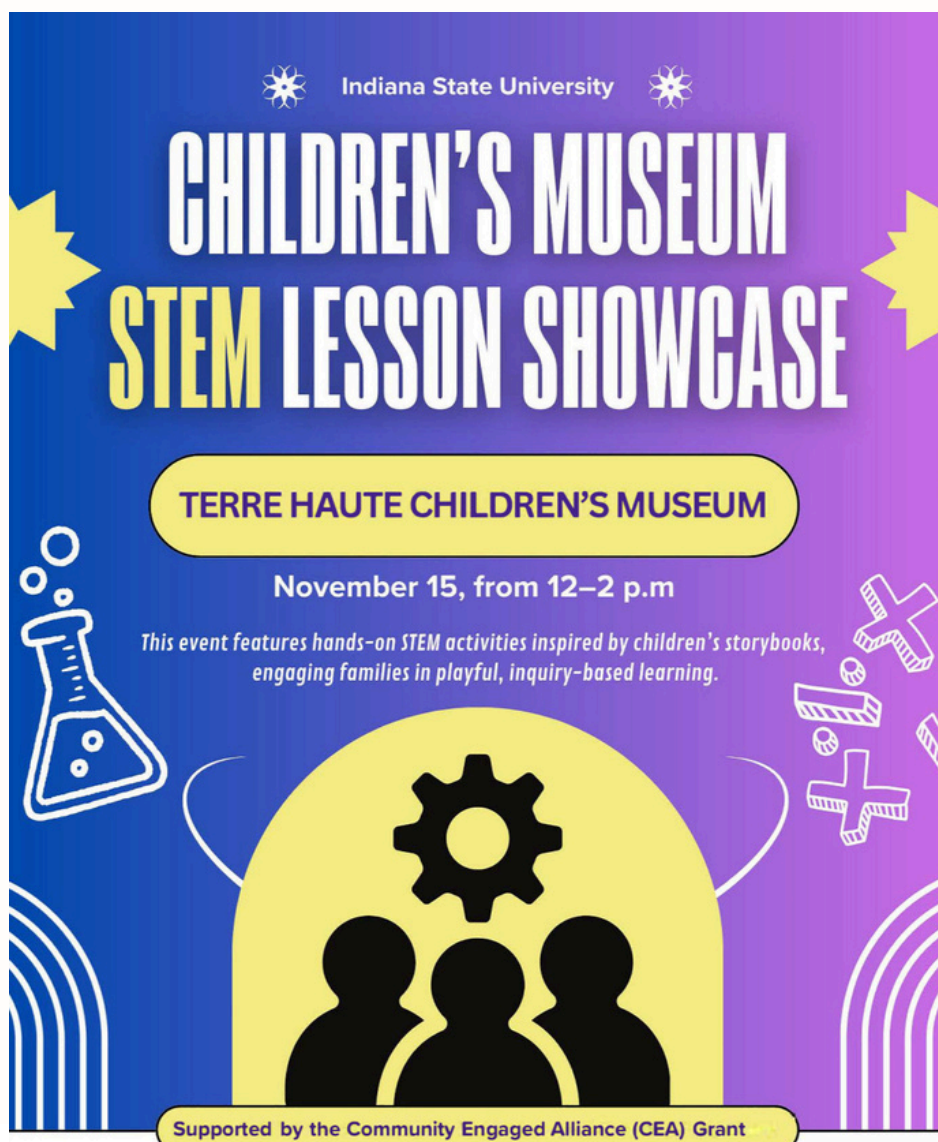
- Breanna Smith from the CMHC program is serving as the graduate student representative to the Indiana Counseling Association

Educational Psychology Area

- Whitney Nesser, faculty in the Gerontology certificate program was selected as the Coffman Distinguished Professor for 2025–2028.
- Annie, Christy Coleman–Brown, JaDora Sailes presented scholarship work at conferences this fall

Children's Museum STEM Lesson Showcase

Graduate students from the Department of Teaching and Learning presented at the STEM Lesson Showcase at the Terre Haute Children's Museum on November 15, from 12–2 p.m. Supported by the Community Engagement Alliance (CEA) Grant, this event features hands-on STEM activities inspired by children's storybooks. The showcase allows graduate students to share creative, literacy-integrated STEM lessons while engaging local children and families in playful, inquiry-based learning.



Spooky Fun at the Rowe Center!

NSSLHA hosted its annual Halloween Event in the Rowe Center for Communicative Disorders on October 22–23, welcoming children and families from the community and our on-campus clinic. Over two nights, more than 45 kids joined in the fun—enjoying festive games like spider races and candy corn bowling, plus creative crafts like banner decorating and skeleton hands. Graduate students volunteered their time to make the event a success, engaging with children of all ages and abilities while spreading Halloween cheer throughout the BCOE's garden level!





Board of Directors for C.H.I.L.L. (Colleagues Helping Implement Lifelong Learning) Student-led Organization Officers for the 2025–2026 School Year.

Besides being actively engaged in our college campus and public school community, several of them also serve on key committees in the College of Education including TEC (Teacher Education Committee) – Damian Delgado, Dean’s Council – Chloe Rayhel, Leilah Bell, Damian Delgado, BCOE Congress – Abby Davidson and Haley Lorey. Thank you for your great leadership!



C.H.I.L.L. hosted its first monthly meeting in September, focusing on the importance of student engagement in the classroom. Members were given valuable resources and tips for classroom engagement. Nearly 40 students attended and discussed relating content, maintaining professionalism, and using media during lessons. We had a great time getting to know one another and working on several community service projects.

In September we supported a local high school that reached out to us in need. C.H.I.L.L. put together over 300 hygiene items with positive notes on each one.

We also assembled appreciate gifts for our local high school and middle school athletic directors. Their work for students does not go unrecognized!

Members discussed the C.H.I.L.L. Keep Our Campus Clean initiative which will be held next week.

Keep our Campus Clean event was held on September 25 and provided a way for future educators to keep campus clean, one piece of trash at a time!





Terre Haute North Vigo High School reached out to us because their hygiene closet was bare. Students are in need of these items and our C.H.I.L.L. members provided hygiene kits and positive, uplifting notes in each one. Hygiene Kits were delivered to Terre Haute North Vigo High School on September 30.

Athletic Director Recognition at area Vigo County Schools – 10 Athletic Directors in the area were honored with notebooks and positive notes.



When Damian Delgado presented Athletic Director Kris Painter with her appreciation gift, he also delivered tennis gear to TH North's girl's tennis team provided by a C.H.I.L.L. partner. Another delivery was made to the TH North HS Clothes Closet with clothes provided by many donations from C.H.I.L.L. members.



C.H.I.L.L. October Monthly Meeting – Goal Setting for Student Teaching and Future Teaching

C.H.I.L.L. has had a successful fall semester. We began our October monthly meeting by inviting members to enjoy snacks before participating in a “Getting to Know You” Activity, which was a fall-themed “Would You Rather” game. Members were to move around the room depending on the choice they made for each question. They had the opportunity to talk to another person they were not familiar with to get to know other members. Then, we moved on to our professional development topic for the month: how to set goals for student teaching and future teaching. We discussed how to set short-term and long-term goals, and how to utilize feedback to set goals. Examples and practical ways to apply goals were shared as well. We ended the meeting by sharing the results of a community service initiative we did last semester, where we collaborated with Timmy Global Health to create school supply kits for children in Ecuador. We then discussed the needs of the schools in our local community and how members could help contribute to filling those needs. Lastly, we put together hygiene kits and notes for an elementary school in Indianapolis where a former C.H.I.L.L. alumni teaches. Members were also invited to create encouraging notes for candy buckets that were delivered to cafeteria workers at the local elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools. C.H.I.L.L. had another successful monthly meeting!



Haley Lorey speaking on her trip to Ecuador and how our school supplies were well received by the school and students.



October we honored the Cafeteria Workers at Devaney, Otter Creek Middle School, and Terre Haute North Vigo High School.



Hygiene Kits were delivered to the Gold Academy at MSD of Decatur Township. The teacher sent this picture with a message that said, "We seriously appreciate it so much! Let your students know how happy my kiddos were too. They were all so excited and lot of them kept the notes and put it in their name tag holder. The bag décor and notes were so sweet. My students need all the love they can get. Thank you!"



C.H.I.L.L. members participated in the Scholarship Donor and Recipient Luncheon on October 29. Members met with donors to talk about programs, involvement, and the new and exciting things happening within the College of Education.

The TOTAL students attended an on campus professional development day on October 15th.

Guest speakers presented on the following topics:

- How to read and understand an IEP for general education teachers
- Bullying: How to define it, recognize it, and prevent it
- Blind and low vision accommodations and strategies
- Low Tech for Universal Design for Learning

There was 100% attendance and students were very engaged in the sessions.

Students wanted to add a little bit of fun and requested a pajama day, with several students planning coordinated pajamas. It was a successful and fun day of learning!



SCEC Hosts October Meeting Celebrating Down Syndrome Awareness

On October 29, members of ISU's Student Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC) gathered to recognize Down Syndrome Awareness Month. The meeting included a presentation on GiGi's Playhouse, a national network of Down Syndrome Achievement Centers offering free educational, therapeutic, and career development programs.

After the presentation, attendees enjoyed pumpkin decorating, snacks, and door prizes from Matthews Hands Down Pottery, creating a fun and engaging sense of community.

Students interested in upcoming SCEC events or getting involved can contact Co-Presidents Joy Brooks or Lillie Oliver for more information.



Sycamores Making a Difference

On Saturday, November 15, members of the Student Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC) spent the day learning and serving in the community. Students attended the Down Syndrome Indiana Parent and Student Learning Event, gaining insight from families and advocates, and later visited Gigi's Playhouse to observe their strengths-based programming for individuals with Down syndrome.

These hands-on experiences strengthen our future educators' understanding of empathy, advocacy, and inclusive support. We're proud of our SCEC students for representing ISU with heart.



December 13, 2025: Fall Undergraduate and Graduate Commencement

December 15, 2025: Support Staff Winter Retreat – half day

December 24, 2025– Jan 1, 2026: Winter Recess – University Offices Closed

January 2, 2026: University Offices Open

January 8, 2026: BCOE Faculty/Staff Spring Kick-off (9:00–10:30am) UH 110G

February 18, 2026: Hot Chocolate Social (10am–12pm) BCOE Atrium – Upper Floor