



# THE CENTER

## for Quality Teaching and Learning

C O L U M B U S S T A T E U N I V E R S I T Y

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Dr. Spencer Kagan, Author and Cooperative Learning Expert, to visit CSU
- Centers Join the College of Education
- Harris County Faculty Earns Reading Endorsement – Student Achievement Soars
- Dr. Larry Moore Named ETC Director
- Local Teachers pilot GS.org Professional Development Project

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UNIVERSITY

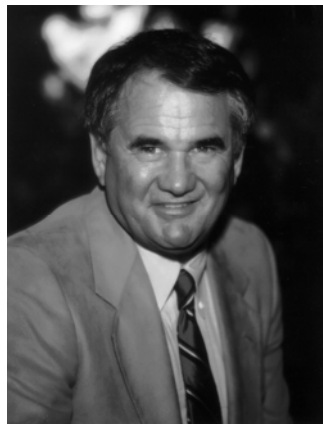
## DR. SPENCER KAGAN

### TO LEAD WORKSHOP FOR EDUCATORS

JANUARY 15, 2008

The Center for Quality Teaching and Learning invites educators to kick-off 2008 by joining internationally acclaimed author and professional learning specialist, Dr. Spencer Kagan, for an action-packed workshop designed to help teachers create learning environments that engage all students in mastery of the Georgia Performance Standards.

Dr. Kagan, an innovator, pioneer and expert in the application of cooperative learning structures for improving student learning, will present a five-hour, participatory workshop on January 15, 2008 at the Cunningham Conference Center. This new, customized training session, entitled *Cooperative Structures for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning*, will focus on strategies to engage students in mastery of the core subjects by organizing learning environments for communication, collaboration, creative thinking and problem-



solving. In contrast to educational innovations that attempt to “change what is learned by changing what is taught,” the Kagan structures transform student learning by changing how teachers teach. Kagan’s philosophical belief that “a curriculum is embedded in instruction,” translates to practices that empower teachers of all grade levels and academic

disciplines.

Dr. Kagan’s popular cooperative learning and multiple intelligence structures are used in classrooms world-wide. He is the principal author of the single most comprehensive book for educators in each of four fields: cooperative learning, multiple intelligence, classroom discipline, and classroom energizers. Drawing from his research-based findings in each of these areas, Dr. Kagan will guide workshop participants in a series of teaching exercises to build teachers’ competencies in using powerful and proven instructional designs.

Seats are limited. Schools or school systems are encouraged to form 3-5 member redelivery teams who may share high-lights from the workshop experience with colleagues.

To register now, link to:  
<http://cctl.colstate.edu>

## CENTERS JOIN THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dean David Rock adds new responsibilities in his second year of leadership to CSU’s College of Education (COE). In a move to strengthen ties between the CSU’s P-12 outreach centers and the academic colleges, the Center for Quality Teaching and Learning (CQTL) and the Coca Cola Space Science Center (CCSSC) will affili-

ate with the COE in fall of 2008. Beth Holmes, Director of the CQTL, refers to the alignment as a “natural partnership.” Citing opportunities for rich P-20 collaboration to improve the preparation of teacher candidates and strengthen professional learning for in-service practitioners,

Holmes views the move as “an ideal structure for delivering high-quality, life-long learning experiences for educators.”

The CQTL and the CCSSC join the Columbus Regional Math Collaborative and the Child Care Resource and Referral Center as COE outreach units.

## “ THINKING AHEAD ”

by Beth Holmes, Director, CQTL

The National Center on Education and the Economy released a timely “stocking stuffer” for educators just days before Christmas in 2006. Whether the message seemed “naughty” or “nice,” the December publication, *Tough Choices or Tough Times*, was received passively by the education community. Some considered it an appropriate message—an ideal gift for change agents. Others identified it as punitive—“switches under the Christmas tree” for public school servants. Like it or not, *Tough Choices* boldly asserts that the current education

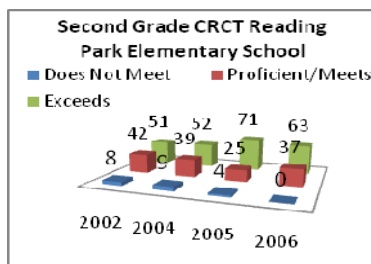
system “isn’t up to the job” of preparing students for life and work in a competitive, global society. It contends that the current system has “tried and repeatedly failed—demanding more money, more programs and more initiatives...” all resulting in “mediocre” student performance on international measures.

Without apology, *Tough Choices* proposes a “new and transformed system for 21<sup>st</sup> Century education.” The authors, all prominent members of the New

Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, recommend an overhaul—proposing 10 concrete steps for “doing the job right.”

I wonder if educators are reading *Tough Choices*? Have teachers done *their* homework by staying informed? As the 2007 holidays approach, we’d benefit from “making lists and checking them twice.” If education is the problem, let educators become a part of the solution.  
<http://skillscommission.org/executive>

### HARRIS COUNTY FACULTY EARNS READING ENDORSEMENT: STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT SOARS



Student performance on the Georgia Criterion Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) over a four-year period reveals a major success story at Park Elementary School in the Harris County School System, says Reading Instructor, Tricia Cooling. In 2005, Park’s K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade faculty and school adminis-

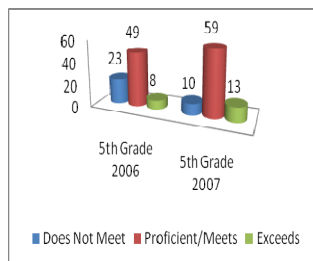
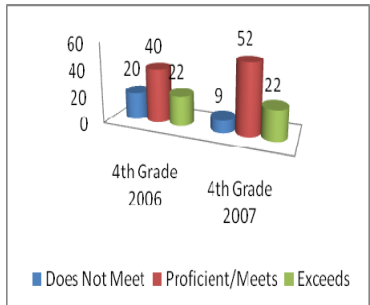
trators committed to improve student reading attainment by ensuring that educators became “highly qualified” teachers of reading. The faculty enrolled as a cohort in the E-Prep Program (Educator Preparation for Achievement in Reading), the College of Education’s non-traditional, undergraduate Reading Endorsement Program which awards nine semester hours of academic credit through the CQTL.

inspired instructional lessons in all reading classes. Student performance immediately reflected the effectiveness of the new strategies. After two years of instruction by “highly qualified” reading teachers, 100% of Park’s second grade students achieved Meets/Proficient or Exceeds Proficient status on the Georgia CRCT.

The E-Prep Program’s performance-based course requirements served as an immediate catalyst for infusion of research-based, data-

In 2006, Park Elementary implemented the E-Prep Program with 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers whose 4<sup>th</sup> grade students traditionally peaked at 66% of students performing at proficient levels. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders topped out at 57% proficiency. As teachers participated in the Reading Endorsement Program, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade student performance rose to 74% and 72% respectively. Dr. Dan Lomax, Assistant Principal and E-Prep Coordinator in the school, identifies the data trends as an implied relationship between teacher efficacy and student performance. “The E-Prep Program is so *much* more than a professional development program,” says Lomax. “It has improved our total school by creating a data-driven, literate community.”

For information on how elementary schools can participate in the E-Prep Program, principals may contact the Center for Quality Teaching and Learning.



### EDUCATORS PILOT GDOE INITIATIVE

As Lynda Byrne, Instructional Technology Specialist (ITS) for the Georgia Department of Education (GDOE) traveled throughout Georgia to provide training on the state’s burgeoning Georgia Standards.Org (GSO) initiative, she identified a common concern of teachers. Georgia educators, like all modern citizens, are experiencing “information overload.” Many teachers are overwhelmed by “so many resources...so many new technologies to master...

and not enough time!” says Byrne. Given responsibility for monitoring the quality of lesson plans published via GSO, Byrne was both pleased and alarmed by data that noted 74,800 visitors to the GSO portal in July 2007. “It is becoming apparent that teachers are looking to GSO for resources—but are they able to navigate the resources efficiently?” Understanding that educators are “hungry for opportunities to learn how to use GSO resources and mod-

ern tools,” Byrne and ITS colleague, Carl Dekker, developed and piloted a teacher-friendly summer workshop, “*Making the Most of GSO!*” This two-day pilot drew regional participants who assisted in refining the course for presentation and distribution to the ITS staff of the state’s ETTC network in August 2007.

To register now for “*Making the Most of GSO,*” at CSU, link to <http://cqtl.colstate.edu>.

## Dr. Larry Moore Named Director of the Educational Technology Training Center



The Center for Quality Teaching and Learning is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Larry Moore as Director of the Educational Technology Training Center (ETTC). As Director, Dr. Moore assumes responsibility for coordination of the

Georgia Department of Education's (GDOE's) Office of Instructional Technology initiatives in 17 regional school systems.

Dr. Moore comes to CSU with 25 years of experience directing the Biomedical Communications Center in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Auburn University. While at Auburn, he was successful in acquiring external

funding for innovative uses of technologies for teaching and learning. His interest in effective applications of technology in education led Dr. Moore to pursue an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instructional Technology, a degree awarded by Auburn in 2001. Since that time, Dr. Moore has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in instructional technology for Troy State University and the University of Alabama.

Before his service to Auburn, Dr. Moore was a secondary teacher in Birmingham, Alabama, and a television producer and director in Montgomery and at the University of Georgia. His skills and interests in media production will become a primary focus for his work at CSU.

Dr. Moore, who joined the CQTL on Au-

gust 1, says, "I am very excited about the opportunity to direct the ETTC at CSU. I am impressed with the CQTL and the College of Education. The dedicated professionals whom I have met at CSU have created a wonderful environment for me to enter. I am impressed with the Cunningham Center and its outreach to the community, a truly outstanding and valuable resource for the University and region. I am eager to begin my duties with the ETTC and look forward to working with the educators in our service region."

Dr. Moore will begin work with P-12 educators as he assumes responsibility for ITEE grants and organization of the Georgia Movie Academy 2008.

## SCHOOL SYSTEMS WIN TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

Five schools in the CSU service region and their ETTC partners were awarded professional development and equipment grants funded under Title II-D of the No Child Left Behind Act (2001). The 1997-1999 Instructional Technology Enhanced Environment (ITEE) grants are sponsored by the Office of Instructional Technology, Georgia Department of Education.

The goal of the ITEE grant is to improve student achievement through effective use of technol-

ogy in academic disciplines. These grants, totaling \$481,250 to West Central Georgia schools, were awarded to Long Cane Middle School in Troup County (Mathematics); Greenville High School in Meriwether County (Mathematics); Randolph-Clay High School in Randolph County (Science); Kendrick High School in Muscogee County (Language Arts and Social Studies); and Macon County Middle School in Macon County (Mathematics).

The CSU ETTC will sponsor 100 hours of professional development over two years to prepare teams of five teachers from each school to establish 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environments. Classrooms will be equipped with resources such as laptops, interactive whiteboards, LCD projectors, and personal response systems. Follow these grants—and other regional projects—on the CQTL website at <http://cqtl.colstate.edu/projects>.

*"Tough Choices or Tough Times provides a bold and specific road map for transforming all levels of education —to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing global economy."*

—Mike Kirst, Professor Emeritus, Stanford University

## GEORGIA MOVIE ACADEMY PLANNED FOR '08

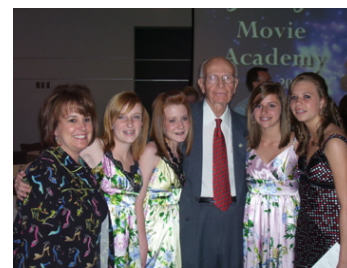
Movie-making students and their teachers will reach beyond the walls of classrooms and past city limits to meet 21st Century academic and technology standards by *Connecting to a Global Community*. The 2008 theme for the Georgia Movie Academy (GMA) was selected to promote student achievement in the core subjects while encouraging experiential learning, creativity and innovation, and uses of modern

information and communication technologies, while developing life and career skills.

Teachers can learn to coach GMA teams by enrolling in the CQTL/ETTC October Coaches' Clinic. This preparation for leading student teams in movie-making projects is designed to bring novice videographers to coaching competence. GMA Coaches who want

further support can customize "GMA Team Training" sessions.

The 2008 "Oscar Night," an invitation only gala celebration for GMA Teams and their parents, will be held on April 25, 2008. This prestigious event is for GMA competition finalist and award winners. For further information, GMA policies, forms, and registration information, link to <http://cqtl.colstate.edu>.



**Best Picture Award 2007**—Taylor County Middle School; Coach: Stacey Jarrell; Team Members: Maddy, Keeli, Sarah, and Brooke; Hero: Dequindre McGlaun.

HTTP://  
CQTL.COLSTATE.EDU/



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**"Minding Change—for Good!"**

### CQTL Mission

The mission of the Center for Quality Teaching and Learning is to improve the quality of P-20 student learning and performance by providing high-quality consulting and professional learning services that prepare educators to demonstrate 21st Century teaching excellence within modern, learner-centered environments.

Founded in 2004 to serve pre-kindergarten—post-secondary educators in the CSU service area, the Center promotes and facilitates regional initiatives to advance the study and practice of quality teaching and learning. The Center is host to a regional community concerned with the learning of educators (professional development and research) and students (teaching) and the ways in which the learning of one directly benefits the other.

## C Q T L C A L E N D A R O F F A L L E V E N T S U P C O M I N G W O R K S H O P S A N D C O U R S E S 2 0 0 7

FALL 2007			
07/30 & 31/07	Data Collection Workshop	10/29-30/07	High Tech Performance Tasks for Middle School Science Classes
8/20/07 Start-12/10/07 End	InTech 5 Day Course	10/30 Start-11/7/07 End	Wireless Network Security (4 days)
9/11, 24/07	Georgia Online Assessment System (OAS)	10/30/07	Building Instruction with ACTIV Products
9/5-6/07	Going Open Source with Linux Operating System	11/1/07	Building Instruction with SMART Products
9/18/07 Start-10/3/07 End	Wireless Network Administration (4 days)	11/28/07	21st Century Tools—Blogging and Podcasting
9/15/07 Start-10/23/07 End	Advanced Linux Workshop (3 days)	12/4/07	Unlock Learning with Georgia Public Broadcasting
10/16,18/07	Georgia Movie Academy Coaches' Clinic	12/05/07	Digital Microscopes and Student Engagement
10/24/07	Integrating Linux in the Novell Environment		

For further information and course registration, link to: <http://cqtl.colstate.edu/>

### GaETC REMINDER

The Georgia Educational Technology Conference (GaETC) celebrates 20 years of service to Georgia educators at GaETC 2007 to be held at the Georgia International Convention Center in Atlanta, GA on November 14-16, 2007. GaETC is sponsored by the Georgia Educational Technology Consortium, Inc., with the cooperation of the Georgia Department of Education. For further information, link to the GaETC website at: <http://www.gaetc.org/>

