



## 2016 Annual Conference a Huge Success

On January 27–28, 2017, educators from around the state gathered at Saint Leo University in St. Leo, Florida. The theme this year was *Teach with Purpose...Practice with Passion*. The presentations included a multitude of diverse topics from local, state, and national prominent figures that prompted great discussions and collaboration among the attendees.



### Our Mission

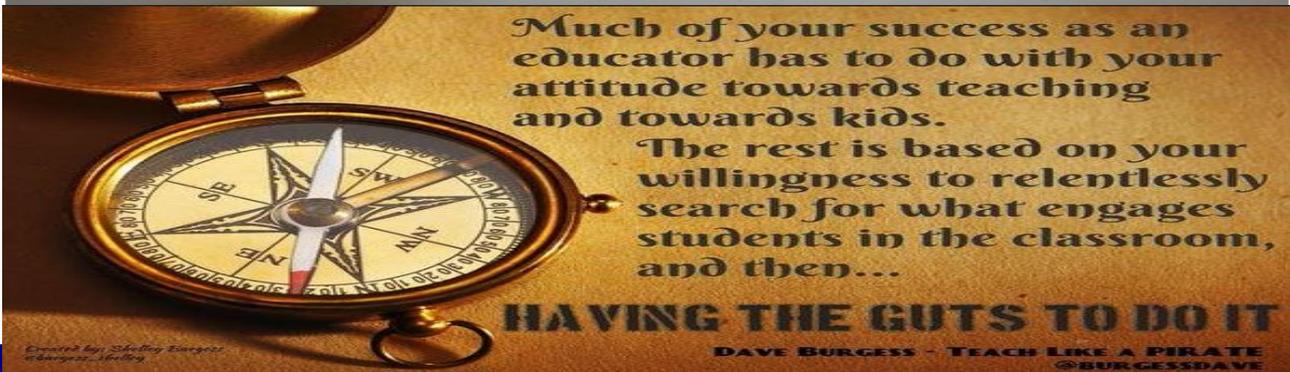
The mission of the Florida Association of Teacher Educators is to improve the effectiveness of teacher education through leadership in the development of quality programs to prepare teachers, by analyzing issues and practices relating to professional development, and by providing opportunities for personal and professional growth of Association members.



The session opened on Friday at 5:00 PM as the attendees received a warm welcome by Dr. William J. Lennox Jr., President of Saint Leo University. His opening remarks embraced the importance of our professional organization and the present state and future evolution of the educational system.



The opening Keynote Speaker this year was Dave Burgess, whose energy and enthusiasm had the audience rolling in the aisles and savoring each and every word. He traveled all the way from California to show us how to *Teach Like a PIRATE*. Combining magic and humor, he taught us how to increase student engagement, design creative lessons, and offer life-changing experiences for the students that will have them running TO your classroom. Dave has published numerous books OR check him out on You Tube to see what he's all about.



Created by Shelley Berger  
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DAVE BURGESS - TEACH LIKE A PIRATE  
@BURGESSDAVE



Each year the number of Florida Educators attending our professional conference continues to grow. We had close to 200 participants attend this year with more than 50 different presentations to choose from. Presenters are always welcome – why not share your expertise with our group next year.





On Saturday morning a large group gathered for the Preservice & Inservice Teacher Workshop. This hands-on workshop actively engaged the participants while they created 3-D interactive graphic organizers (Foldables) and Visual Kinesthetic Vocabulary (VKV) manipulatives. If you missed this great presentation you can visit the website at [Dinah.com](http://Dinah.com) to get some great ideas to use in your classroom.





## Awards Luncheon

The food was plentiful and delicious, the conversation lively, the special presentation inspiring, and lots of raffle prizes and awards were given out.



FATE President Valerie Wright introduced Dr. Jeff Borden, whose presentation *Creating a Culture of Learning Innovation* focused on educational contexts that affect retention, content delivery, instruction, and assessment. Did you know that you're probably not tying your shoelaces correctly? Jeff was entertaining and amusing while also showing research results that focused on how to get our students to learn AND retain information.



Dr. Susan Kinsella, Dean, School of Education & Social Services at Saint Leo University graciously welcomed the group at the beginning of the Awards Luncheon.





Two students were honored for their entries into the Student Showcase. Kelly Dean from Saint Leo University (*The Writing Process*) and Leah Hollingsworth from Florida State University (*Third Grader Conceptual Understanding of Multiplication*) were presented with a monetary award for their academic achievement.



Four educators were awarded the Fanchon F. Funk Scholars Award. Congratulations to Heather Hammerling (USF), Shannon Martinson (Saint Leo), Jessica Orey (UF), and Marissa Savastano (Saint Leo).



Dr. Harold William "Bill" Heller was awarded the Mary L. Collins Excellence in Teacher Education" Award. For more than 50 years he has been an advocate for teachers, students with disabilities, and their families.



## Message from the President

Hello!

The past six months have been a very challenging and busy time for FATE! First, with the cancelled fall conference due to Hurricane Matthew, to the successful re-scheduled conference on January 27-28, 2017 at Saint Leo University. Thankfully we were able to keep our guest speakers and the majority of our scheduled presenters. Thank you to all of you for your patience—it was greatly appreciated!

Immediately following our rescheduled conference, FATE officers headed to Orlando for the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) conference. Being the host state, it was our job to welcome ATE attendees to the wonderful state of Florida. FATE had a strong presence throughout the conference as a sponsor for the Clinical Fellows Symposium and a well-attended “FATE Mixer” at the Loft Bar.

I look forward to seeing many of you again at our next conference at Palm Beach State College in Boca Raton. Please visit our website regularly as we will be posting a call for proposals very soon!

Sincerely,

Valerie Wright, Ph.D. —FATE President



Past President Dr. Crystal Timmons & President Dr. Valerie Wright discuss conference activities.

**Mark Your Calendars!!**

**Please join us for the Annual FATE Conference**

**October 13 & 14, 2017**

**Palm Beach State College, Boca Raton, Florida**