

February 8, 2010

Dear Sarasota-Manatee OSU Alumni Club,

It has been awhile since I have given you an update on my educational situation. I am happy to announce that I will be completing my candidacy exams over the Spring Quarter and beginning my dissertation during the Summer Quarter. This adventure has been challenging and at times overwhelming, but I have made it successfully to this milestone with a 3.94 grade point average, and more importantly, my sanity still intact!

I also have more great news! As you may be aware of, the American Educational Research Association is one of the more prestigious organizations in my field of educational administration, policy, and research. Each year they host the David L. Clark Graduate Student Research Seminar. The David L. Clark National Graduate Student Research Seminar brings together top ranked emerging educational leadership and policy scholars with noted researchers for two days of presentations, generative discussion, and professional growth.

This is an invitation-only seminar where colleges and universities around the world nominate a doctoral student for participation in the seminar. Students then submit their dissertation proposals (void of any name or university association) and the David L. Clark selection committee selects the 40 top dissertations. I am pleased to announce that I was selected as one of those 40 to receive top honors, and will be attending the seminar in late April in Denver, Colorado.

I am very fortunate to be given this opportunity, but know that without your continued support over the last couple of years, I would have not been able to put the focus and effort into my studies to be able to receive such an honor. Please accept my sincerest appreciation, as I can only reach for the stars because you all are holding me up to my potential, never letting me waiver or fall! I know that I am blessed to have you all in my cheering section sending me thoughts, prayers, and support as I try to make you proud. Thank you for everything that you do, and know that your kindness does not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Take care!

David M. Fultz