Sabbatical Report

1. Name, Rank, Department/School/Unit, College/Unit.

   Jan Ray, Professor of Education
   School of Education, Social Sciences Division, College of Arts and Sciences

2. Date range of your sabbatical leave.

   January 1, 2017 to June 1, 2017

3. What were your sabbatical objectives and planned activities?

   This is what was in my request objectives and planned activities:

   **Research Area: Educational Blogs**

   a. I have data collected for an entire study related to *preservice teachers’ attitudes toward and skills in using educational blogs for science instruction*. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal or conference proceeding.

   b. I have data collected for an entire study related to *inservice teachers’ attitudes toward and skills in using educational blogs for communicating with parents*. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal or conference proceeding.

   **Research Area: Teaching Effectiveness**

   c. I have data collected for an entire study related to *preservice teachers’ attitudes toward and ability to measure their own teaching effectiveness*. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal.

   **Research Area: Social Media**

   d. I have longitudinal data collected for *inservice teachers’ use of social media*. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal.

   **Research Area: School Learning Gardens**

   e. I have data collected for an entire study related to *school learning garden teachers’ ability to align student learning activities in the garden with standards-based classroom instruction in science, mathematics, language arts, and social studies*. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal.

   **Research Area: Current Issues in Education**

   f. I recently wrote an article related to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in children, focusing upon what elementary teachers should know. I would like to research this area more deeply, focusing on just children of military personnel who are diagnosed with PTSD to examine the incidence and characteristics of secondary PTSD in their children and how it can be
identified/addressed/managed by both families and teachers.

g. I am in the process of researching the best ways for classroom teachers to address social acceptance of young children with gender dysphoria. If I do not have an article submitted by the time I am on sabbatical leave, I will complete it then.

4. To what degree did you meet each of your sabbatical objectives and complete each of your sabbatical planned activities? Please explain.

   **Research Area: Educational Blogs**

   1. I have data collected for an entire study related to **preservice teachers’ attitudes toward and skills in using educational blogs for science instruction**. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal or conference proceeding.
      a. Prior to sabbatical, only the data was collected. This study is now ready for a conference presentation. I have not decided what conference yet. Then I plan to turn it into a journal article.

   2. I have data collected for an entire study related to **inservice teachers’ attitudes toward and skills in using educational blogs for communicating with parents**. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal or conference proceeding.
      a. Prior to sabbatical, only the data was collected. This study is now ready for a conference presentation. I have not decided what conference yet. Then I plan to turn it into a journal article.

   **Research Area: Teaching Effectiveness**

   3. I have data collected for an entire study related to **preservice teachers’ attitudes toward and ability to measure their own teaching effectiveness**. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal.
      a. Prior to sabbatical, only the data was collected. All of the data is ready for presentation in a journal article. The subsequent journal article is over 30 percent written.

   **Research Area: Social Media**

   4. I have longitudinal data collected for **inservice teachers’ use of social media**. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal.
      a. After compiling the data, I realized that the findings were outdated due to the changes in social media use. There are several more social media outlets available now than at the inception of the study. Not including the newer social media outlets date the data. This study was abandoned.

   **Research Area: School Learning Gardens**

   5. I have data collected for an entire study related to **school learning garden teachers’ ability to align student learning activities in the garden with standards-based classroom instruction in science, mathematics, language arts, and social studies**. I would like to compile, analyze, and report/present the findings of this study in a journal.
Prior to sabbatical, only the data was collected. My co-author for this study has been working in the Marshall Islands for the duration of my sabbatical, so this was put on hold.

**Research Area: Current Issues in Education**

6. I recently wrote an article related to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in children, focusing upon what elementary teachers should know. I would like to research this area more deeply, focusing on just children of military personnel who are diagnosed with PTSD to examine the incidence and characteristics of secondary PTSD in their children and how it can be identified/addressed/managed by both families and teachers.
   a. Prior to sabbatical, the research for this area of study was 0 percent complete. The research for this area of study is now approximately 50 percent complete.

7. I am in the process of researching the best ways for classroom teachers to address social acceptance of young children with gender dysphoria.
   a. Prior to sabbatical, the research for this area of study was 0 percent complete. The research for this area of study is now approximately 30 percent complete.

**Other Results**

1. When on sabbatical, I wrote an **evaluation report for a grant**. (The evaluation was conducted earlier. I just did the write-up.)
2. When on sabbatical, I worked on another research project (not listed above) related to **STEM Professional Development for Inservice Teachers**. This project was completed. The data was compiled and analyzed. A conference paper/presentation was created. A conference presentation proposal was submitted. The conference paper/presentation was accepted. The conference was held during the Fall term. Done!
3. When on sabbatical, I continued to serve as the **Chair of the Faculty Development Committee** (a newly-formed standing committee of Faculty Congress), holding monthly meetings and creating a process for helping faculty secure professional development funds.
4. When on sabbatical, I continued to serve as a **CAS representative to the Faculty Congress**, attending both monthly **Faculty Congress Executive Committee** meetings and monthly **Faculty Congress** meetings.
5. When on sabbatical, I continued to work with my three assigned graduate students who were conducting and writing up their **research for the Master of Education** degree program. I met with each of the three students at least once per week over the course of the entire spring semester through the first summer term.
6. When on sabbatical, I continued to serve as a Faculty Congress representative on the **Chancellor's Professional Development Committee**. Meetings were held monthly. In addition, RFPs for professional development funds were announced and all applications were evaluated for funding.

**Other Considerations**

1. When on sabbatical, my doctor thought I had uterine cancer. Fortunately, after surgery, it was found that the cyst and polyps removed were not cancerous.
2. When on sabbatical, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I underwent surgery to have the cancer removed.

5. Summarize the contributions you believe the sabbatical leave has provided for your own professional development, as well as perceived benefits for your department, school, college, university, and/or profession.

I believe that the sabbatical time provided me with the focus-time necessary for moving my research projects along. It was really an amazing feeling, being able to do that. I have been in higher education for over 20 years. This was my first sabbatical. It was very much appreciated!

6. Optional: What was your greatest accomplishment and what was your greatest challenge during your sabbatical leave? Please explain.

7. Optional: For other colleagues who are considering applying for sabbatical, what two or three pieces of advice would you like to provide for them?

8. Optional: Please feel free to provide any other information that you would like to share about your sabbatical leave.