This month’s Featured Educator exemplifies the learner role. As a team leader who supervises student teachers, La Vonne Brown seeks to develop and improve the skills that produce the best learning outcomes.

For the past 10 years, Brown has worked at UNCG as an adjunct lecturer in the Department of Teacher Education and Higher Education working with elementary education majors. In addition to leading a seminar on teaching methods at the university, she serves as the team leader for pre-service teachers.

Beginning their junior year, teams of pre-service teachers take methods coursework together and work in local schools for two years under the supervisor of a team leader.

As a team leader, Brown is responsible for providing on-site teacher education to her Dynamic Social Studies Team spread across three area elementary schools: Morehead, Irving Park, and Sternberger.

Prior to working for UNCG, Brown was a classroom teacher for 30 years in the Guilford County School System.

She has taken her experience and now uses it help education majors develop the skills needed to be successful educators, preparing them to work with students in high need schools and with diverse populations.

“One of my goals is to model for my students the practices of the Responsive Classroom Model, which promotes building a learning community that is filled with engagement, eagerness to learn and caring relationships,” Brown shared.

In addition to helping pre-service educators, she also works to establish a much-needed continuum of support and professional development for the mentor teachers working in her assigned schools. She works to improve their feedback and leadership skills.

Brown’s commitment to the varying levels of the teaching workforce provides all students a community where they feel safe, valued and eager to learn.