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Educational Leadership Newsletter March 2015

Educational Leadership Department, University of Southern Maine

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March 2015

*From the Chair*

Metropolitan University

It is about this time in the school year that we need something to help get us thinking about something other than the snow depth and the heating bills. At USM we are ending an era of unprecedented reorganization and retrenchment, and we are doing so with a renewed commitment to community engagement and high quality, responsive academic programs. We are renewing our identity as a “metropolitan” university, and realigning with a national organization of universities with similar interests. We are working with visiting scholars like Dr. Barbara Holland, a faculty member from Portland State University (the other Portland), who recently visited USM. She emphasized the need to deepen our community connections, for undergraduate and graduate student experiences in courses and internships, as well as service learning, scholarship and funded research. Sound familiar? It should! This is the brand of faculty and student involvement and community engagement that we have practiced for the past thirty years. What we need to do now is bring this type of identity to USM.

You will be hearing more about this in the next few months from the new President, someone who can help us build our campus identity as community partners once again, responsive, scholarly, service-oriented, and engaged.

New Department– Familiar Programs

As educational leaders we understand a few core propositions, one of them is the most gratifying and baffling at the same time – change is constant. And so, the School of Education and Human Development recently re-organized into two departments:

1. Department of Adult and Higher Education, Counseling, and Educational Leadership.
Chair: Jeff Beaudry
2. Department of Teaching and Learning which contains a) Abilities and Disabilities, b) Literacy, Language and Culture, c) School Psychology, and d) Teacher Education. Chair: Bob Kuech

The heart of our work in the Educational Leadership program remains the same, and this new structure allows us to balance more inter-disciplinary dialogue with more efficiency. So far, these changes have provided us with opportunity to build understanding and collaboration, and have made us aware of what “lean” leadership feels like.

Jeff Beaudry
Department Chair

Pilots belong on TV and in labs, not at schools

Never say you are going to pilot a program. Pilots are a bad idea. It sounds like experimentation- that you have no idea what you are doing. It implies that you are the first principal in your community, first in the state, first in the country, first in the world for that matter, to be doing this work. Therefore, it is of such magnitude and high risk that you must pilot it, like you did with your dissertation research or a chemist does in the lab with a group of cancer patients and subsequent control group, when introducing a new cancer drug.

Unless you are undertaking an initiative no other educator in the world has ever tried don't use the word pilot. Most Americans may also confuse pilots with TV series and as we all know most TV pilots go nowhere. Why would you ever try something that was not grounded in previous work and had some basis for you beginning the work that you are proposing?

How do you go about doing this? First of all and most critical, the work that you are about to undertake must be important to the students and school. It has to be identified as an issue that needs time and attention to be addressed. In most cases it would be a new initiative with several possible options for action. You cannot begin unless you have some data to suggest it is an area that needs immediate attention.

For example, if 60% of all freshmen flunk one or more classes during their first semester of high school it would seem to be an area to be addressed. This is clearly not what you would like but it may not matter if they all go on to graduate. It can be dismissed by staff as just an unintended and natural consequence of making the adjustment to the rigors of high school.

If this is the case you are stuck with the "it is not a good thing but not serious enough in the long run to convince us to do something different attitude" that challenges most principals face from staff when proposing a change in the way school is constructed and conducted.

But if you can couple that data with other data that shows that of the 60% who fail one or more classes the first semester of their freshman year, 30% of those fail to graduate within four years than you may be on to something. It is not you who are proposing a change in practice for whatever reason but rather you have some verifiable information to suggest there may be a serious issue that needs addressing.

What is important is that you don't own the issue. You are not doing this because it is an area you want to address. It is not your issue or an agenda you are trying to promote. It is school issue that everyone owns. You want to remove your identification as far as you can from the why issue. The why should not be you. The why has nothing to do with you. The why has to do with a student need, not your need.

This is a critical piece in having an initiative succeed. It cannot be about the leader or the initiative will usually fail and the leader will become a short tremors. You are not the reason for change; the issue is the reason for the change. That has to be perfectly clear and understood by all at the onset and throughout the process. It is the most critical piece of learning in this entire chapter. If you stopped reading this chapter here you would be half way to being a successful "change agent".

Excerpt from The Savvy Principal- What Streetwise Principals Know written by Jody Capelluti (Rowman and Littlefield, 2014)

Thinking About Internship?

I think I am ready for the Ed. Leadership Internship. What do I need to do?

The Internship and EDU 677: Seminar in School Management, should be the last set of courses you need to take before graduating from the Educational Leadership Master's. The Internship can also be taken to fulfill the capstone requirement in our post-master's (CAS) in Educational Leadership program.

Please notify Jody Capelluti at jodyc@usm.maine.edu as soon as possible if you believe you are ready to start the Internship with the next group, which begins at the end of April. Faculty will review your transcripts and contact you to inform you of your eligibility.

When does the Internship and EDU 677 Seminar in School Management take place?

EDU 685: Principals, EDU 686: Special Ed. Director, and EDU 688: Curriculum Coordinator Internships are nine graduate credits in total (three credits a semester) that span three consecutive semesters (summer, fall, and spring, respectively). The course meets once every two or three weeks for the whole year. During the summer, the meetings take place during the day, and during the fall and spring, the meetings occur from 7-9:30 PM. Individual meetings with you, your mentor, and your instructor are scheduled three times a year.



IMPORTANT DATES:

March 30: New Student Advising Night, 3:30-5:00 PM (see below)

March 30-April 5: Spring Break – no classes

Monday, April 13: Fall 2015 registration begins at 6:00 AM for matriculated graduate students.

EDL New Student Advising Night

When: Monday, March 30th from 3:30-5:00 PM

Where: Bailey Hall Room 218

Who should attend? On March 30 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM, faculty will be available to meet with all students who:

- 1) Have been recently admitted but have not met with an advisor.
- 2) CAS students who do not have an approved plan
- 3) Any student who wishes to meet with their advisor for course planning and selection

Please contact Kerry Bertalan - Bertalan@usm.maine.edu or 207-780-5316 - to schedule a time to meet with your advisor.

Wanted- Educational Leaders Interested in Becoming School Superintendents in Maine

Public school Superintendents are the leaders of school systems. The work portfolio of America's superintendents is increasingly diverse, encompassing not only student achievement, but the diversification of student and staff populations, the explosion of technology, expanded expectations at the federal and state levels, from the school board and the community, and the globalization of society. Using data compiled by the Maine School Management Association (MSMA), there are currently 128 individual superintendents in Maine. Because some serve more than one school district of that number 94 are full time and 34 are part time. Over the past five years the average number of superintendent vacancies in the state was 18 per year, and the average number of applicants was seven.

Add to that the fact often times a position is filled by an existing superintendent thus starting the cascade effect of additional openings and you will see the reason for concern. We need to attract more highly qualified educational leaders to become superintendents for Maine's public schools. To meet this critical need the Maine School Management Association is partnering with the Educational Leadership Program at the University of Southern Maine. The purpose of this collaboration is first and foremost to increase the availability of qualified educational leaders certified as Maine superintendents through an innovative and intensive program.

To meet this goal, a cohort (maximum 20 students) will be selected to participate in a two year (30 credit hour) program designed to provide initial certification and mentoring support while allowing students to obtain their CAS. Students will receive a full year of intense preparation for certification and a second year of support.

Classes will be offered on weekends and in short, intensive summer classes through a combination of face to face and blended offerings. Student and instructor geographic locations will be a factor in determining onsite classes. The program is expected to begin in the summer 2015.

A unique aspect of the program is the professional support that will be provided by MSMA and the development of a sustainable state-wide network of colleagues. Candidates for the program must be recommended by, and have the support of, a practicing school superintendent in Maine.

For more information contact:

Connie Brown/Bob Hasson/Elaine Tomaszewski
Maine School Management Association
49Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330
207-622-3473 (Phone)

or

Jody Capelluti, Professor
Educational Leadership
jodyc@usm.maine.edu

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Southern Maine Partnership Update

Southern Maine Partnership continues to engage regional leaders, educators, policy makers, and USM faculty in dialogue and professional development around current pressing issues from the field, including teacher evaluation, proficiency-based diplomas, assessment literacy, and student engagement.

This January we began a new Teacher Leadership Working Group/PLC focused around improving assessment literacy skills. As a framework we have been using Chappuis' three questions and seven strategies model: Where Am I Going? Where Am I Now? How Do I Close the Gap? Our next Teachers Leadership meeting on Monday, March 23rd from 4:00-5:30 in room 423-24 in Glickman Library on the USM Portland campus will focus on rubrics and student work. Come join our work session!

Our upcoming Dine and Discuss event on Wednesday, March 25th from 4:00-6:30 in the 7th floor events room of the Glickman Library on the USM Portland campus, will focus on student engagement strategies, including service learning,

Our next Superintendents and Central Office breakfast series focused on leading in a time of increased accountability will take place on Thursday, March 26th from 8:00-9:30 in room 423-24 in Glickman Library on the USM Portland campus.

Beginning in February, we have combined our Principals'/Building Level Leader meetings with the MPA regional meetings. Our next combined meeting will be on Thursday, May 16th from 4:30-6:30 at Run of the Mill Restaurant in Saco. Hope to see you there!

Advising Questions? Educational Leadership Faculty:

Jeffrey Beaudry	207-780-5493	jbeaudry@usm.maine.edu
Joseph (Jody) Capelluti	207-780-5077	jodyc@usm.maine.edu
James Curry	207-780-5402	jcurry@usm.maine.edu
Thomas Edwards, Adjunct	207-780-5090	tedwards@usm.maine.edu
Anita Stewart McCafferty	207-780-5479	anita.stewart@maine.edu
SEHD Student Affairs Office	207-780-5316	sehd@usm.maine.edu

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USM Educational Leadership Newsletter

Educational Leadership Program - Fall 2015

(The schedule below is subject to change; be sure to check MaineStreet.)

Location	COURSE	TITLE	Days	Times	Instructor
Portland	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques	Tu	4:10-6:40P	Beaudry
Blended	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques On-campus dates are 9/3; 9/17; 10/8,29; 11/5,19 & 12/3	Th	4:10-6:40P	Beaudry
Portland	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques	Th	4:10-6:40P	Stump
Online	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques			Fallona
Portland	EDU 603	Analysis of Teaching	W	4:10-6:40P	Stewart-McCafferty
P-Other	EDU 659	Special Ed Law for School Leaders	Th	4:10-6:40P	TBD
Portland	EDU 667	Professional Ed Capstone			Beaudry
Portland	EDU 670	Introduction to Educational Leadership	M	4:10-6:40P	TBD
Portland	EDU 671	Organizational Behavior	Tu	4:10-6:40P	TBD
P-Other	EDU 677	Seminar in School Management **	W	4:00-6:30P	Capelluti
Portland	EDU 678	School Law	W	4:10-6:40P	Forster
Gorham	EDU 679	Eval & Supervision of School Personnel	Th	4:10-6:40P	Stewart-McCafferty
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin ** Mandatory orientation to be held Monday, April 27, 4:00-6:30P	W	7:00-9:30P	Stewart-McCafferty
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin ** Mandatory orientation to be held Monday, April 27, 4:00-6:30P	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin ** Mandatory orientation to be held Monday, April 27, 4:00-6:30P	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin ** Mandatory orientation to be held Monday, April 27, 4:00-6:30P	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 686	Internship in School Admin ** Mandatory orientation to be held Monday, April 27, 4:00-6:30P	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 687	Internship in Superintendency ** Mandatory orientation to be held Monday, April 27, 4:00-6:30P	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 688	Internship in Curriculum Admin ** Mandatory orientation to be held Monday, April 27, 4:00-6:30P	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
Portland	EDU 699	Independent Study (combined with EDU 667)			Beaudry

**Instructor permission required; the program will register students & confirm via email.

If you have questions, contact Kerry Bertalan at 780-5316

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Educational Leadership Program – Summer 2015

(The schedule below is subject to change; be sure to check MaineStreet.)

Location	Course	Title	Days	Times	Instructor	Dates
Portland	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques This course meets 4:00-6:30 PM Mon 5/11, Wed 5/13; Mon 5/18, Wed 5/20; Wed 5/27; Mon 6/1, Wed 6/3; Mon 6/8, Wed 6/10; and 8:30-11:30 AM on Tues 6/23 & Wed 6/24	MW	4:00-6:30 PM	Beaudry, J.	5/12-6/24
			TW	8:30-11:30 AM		
Portland	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques This course meets 7:00-9:30 PM Mon 5/11, Wed 5/13; Mon 5/18, Wed 5/20; Wed 5/27; Mon 6/1, Wed 6/3; Mon 6/8, Wed 6/10; and 1:00-4:30 on Tues 6/23 & Wed 6/24	MW	7:00-9:30 PM	Beaudry, J.	5/12-6/24
			TW	1:00-4:30PM		
Portland	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques This course meets 4:00-6:30 PM Mon 5/11, Wed 5/13; Mon 5/18, Wed 5/20; Wed 5/27; Mon 6/1, Wed 6/3; Mon 6/8, Wed 6/10; and 8:30-11:30 AM on Tues 6/23 & Wed 6/24	MW	4:00-6:30 PM	Stewart McCafferty, A.	5/12-6/24
			TW	8:30-11:30 AM		
Portland	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques This course meets 7:00-9:30 PM Mon 5/11, Wed 5/13; Mon 5/18, Wed 5/20; Wed 5/27; Mon 6/1, Wed 6/3; Mon 6/8, Wed 6/10; and 1:00-4:30 on Tues 6/23 & Wed 6/24	MW	7:00-9:30 PM	Stewart McCafferty, A.	5/12-6/24
			TW	1:00-4:30PM		
Online	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques – SECTION FULL			Cohen, L.	6/29-8/14
Online	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques – SECTION FULL			Brown, R.	5/11-6/24
Gorham	EDU 605	Teaching, Learning and Assessment	MTWRF	8:30-4:00 PM	Beaudry, J.	7/13-7/17
Portland	EDU 615	Middle Level Curriculum Organization	MTWRF	8:00-3:00 PM	Stewart McCafferty, A.	7/6-7/10
Gorham	EDU 659	Special Ed Law for School Leaders	MW	8:00-10:30 AM	Sherburne, F.	7/1-8/12
USM- Other	EDU 667	Professional Educator Capstone			Beaudry, J.	6/29-7/24
USM- Other	EDU 678	School Law – This course is offered at Drummond- Woodsum, Marginal Way, Portland.	W	3:30-8:00 PM	Miller, E.	5/13-6/24
USM- Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	4:00-6:30 PM	Capelluti, J.	5/13-8/12
USM- Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	4:00-6:30 PM	Stewart McCafferty, A.	5/13-8/12
USM- Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	4:00-6:30 PM	Stewart McCafferty, A.	5/13-8/12
USM- Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	4:00-6:30 PM	TBA	5/13-8/12
USM- Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	4:00-6:30 PM	TBA	5/13-8/12
USM- Other	EDU 686	Internship in Special Ed Admin **	W	4:00-6:30 PM	Capelluti, J.	5/13-8/12
USM- Other	EDU 687	Internship in Superintendentcy **	W	4:00-6:30 PM	Capelluti, J.	5/13-8/12
USM- Other	EDU 688	Internship in Curriculum Admin **	W	4:00-6:30 PM	Capelluti, J.	5/13-8/12
Portland	EDU 699	Independent Study			Beaudry, J.	5/11-8/14

**Instructor permission required; the program will register students & confirm via email. If you have questions, please contact Kerry Bertalan at 780-5316 or bertalan@usm.maine.edu.