Educational Leadership Newsletter January 2014

Educational Leadership Department, University of Southern Maine
Happy 2014! The Educational Leadership program is entering a new era with new faculty members Anita Stewart McCafferty and Glenn Cummings. Making a quick transition from her leadership in middle school to USM, Anita will become the co-editor of the Educational Leadership newsletter and is bringing her experience as a principal to the professional development activities of the Southern Maine Partnership. Glenn is involved in teaching courses and mentoring students in the PhD Program and is head of the Southern Maine Partnership.

Jody Capelluti and myself are taking turns at the keyboards with new publications. Jody has just completed the manuscript for his book, and I am co-authoring a textbook with Lynne Miller, *Research Literacy: Meaning into Method*, for the research methods course. Jody’s book is due out in early 2014, and my textbook will be later in the year.

While David Silvernail is primarily with CEPARE, he is always seeking ways to connect policy and decision making with the Educational Leadership program. Recently, he brought an authentic problem to the cohort of students in the PhD program, focusing on the development of a statewide survey on three issues, the impact of rural schools, parental involvement and engagement, and the conditions of 21st century skills in K-12 schools. The target samples will be superintendents and principals, so be ready to respond when this electronic survey arrives on your email later this month.

The big work challenge this year is accreditation, as we strive to maintain the high standards of teaching, service and scholarship for the educational leadership community. We will be working with our Educational Leadership Advisory Council and doing some surveys of our own over the next few months. We will be seeking your feedback and participation in the program review.

Meanwhile, our core mission of teaching courses and enrolling students is going well. We had a good boost in the Fall 2013 enrollments from the Gray-New Gloucester cohort and are hearing from other school districts like MSAD 57 and Sanford for more tailored programs. A new Leadership for Tomorrow’s Schools cohort should be launched in Spring 2014. We are eager to meet these new opportunities.

The emphasis is on progress; the means to get there is collaboration. Thank you - all the best and have a great new beginning of 2014!

Jeff Beaudry

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**Graduate Program in Educational Leadership**

**Application Deadline**

Fall admission is May 01, 2014

Submit an online graduate admission application

https://www.applyweb.com/apply/usmaine/
The Southern Maine Partnership is off to a terrific start this year. The three fall “Dine and Discuss” sessions were well attended and well received. Please make sure to join us for our next Dine and Discuss on Teacher and Administrator Evaluation. We are pleased to have UMO researcher on teacher evaluation Brian Doore join us as our keynote speaker. Several school districts from across the state have agreed to share their work with us as well! The meal is free (and delicious) and the learning is excellent.

SMP Dine and Discuss:
Wednesday, January 15, 2014 4:00-6:30 PM
Glickman Library, USM Portland Campus

“Sharing our Teacher and Administrator Supervision and Evaluation Strategies”

Few issues merit more importance than how our organizations hold ourselves and others accountable for student success. Increasingly complex and sometimes contentious, our evaluation processes can drain resources and ignite frustration. Nevertheless numerous districts from the Southern Maine area have found effective accountability systems. Please join us for an in-depth sharing of some of our colleagues success and challenges with evaluation and supervision.

The SMP has re-emerged on several fronts this year. Below are some of the programs and forums now developing for local educators. Please contact GCummings@usm.maine.edu to join us in these forums.

- SMP Dine and Discuss - The reemergence of the traditional SMP Dine and Discuss in which local superintendents and their leadership teams convene monthly for dinner and discussion of pertinent issues. To date, the Dine and Discuss has held four highly successful dinners with all but one exceeding anticipated participation.
- Principals Collaborative Group - The monthly convening of area principals, primarily during the school day, with the purpose of sharing challenges and solutions at the building level.
- Superintendents Collaborative Breakfast group - Recent discussions with superintendents indicate an interest in a regular forum during the workday. This forum will likely include shared readings and informal discussion.

After numerous school leaders across the region have called for a re-igniting of the SMP, we are very pleased with the strong response and interest. Look forward to seeing everyone on January 15th.

Upcoming SMP Dine and Discuss Dates

Wednesday, January 15, 2014 4:00 - 6:30 PM
University Events Room/ Glickman Library

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 4:00 - 6:30 PM
University Events Room/ Glickman Library

Monday, April 7, 2014 4:00 - 6:30 PM
University Events Room/ Glickman Library

SMP Principals’ meetings

Tuesdays
1:00 - 2:30 PM
423-424 Glickman Library, USM Portland Campus

January 14, 2014
February 11, 2014
March 11, 2014
April 8, 2014
May 13, 2014
We are in the process of developing a very exciting 3-part professional development series for teacher leaders, focusing on a collaborative model of sharing some of the best teaching and assessment practices and strategies in Southern Maine! Please expect to hear more about this opportunity in the near future.

Each session will feature a room set up with a dozen or more round tables with one GIFTS presenter per table. Session participants will be able to choose from a variety of 10 minute presentations. The moderator will indicate when it is time to move to the next session at the end of the allotted time slot. Each table will have a set number of chairs available for any given 10-minute slot and participants will have the opportunity to attend 7-9 GIFTS presentations. Participants will be invited to depart with copies of GIFTS they did not have the opportunity to attend but in which they are interested. GIFTS sessions provide leadership opportunities for our instructional leaders to present their ideas to a larger audience.

Electronic copies of handouts will be posted on our website and include an update in the monthly newsletter with the link. We will create a collaborative product with participants and share that resource with the greater Southern Maine community of learners. With each GIFTS session, our collaborative product will grow.

Benefits to Presenters:
• Leadership opportunity
• Resume builder
• Feedback about improvements and adaptations to their GIFTS
• Networking opportunity

We will provide presenters with a letter acknowledging that they have been chosen to present their GIFTS at a session. We will also send an invitation to attend the GIFTS session to their building and/or district administration. Upon conclusion of the session, we will provide them with a certificate or acknowledgment of their contribution.

Benefits to Participants:
• Access to a dozen+ new ideas for improving teaching and learning vetted by trusted colleagues
• Networking opportunity

For more information on GIFTS, please contact Anita Stewart McCafferty at anita.stewart@maine.edu
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.

Advising Questions? Educational Leadership Faculty:

Jeffrey Beadury 207-780-5493 jbeaudry@usm.maine.edu
Joseph Capelluti 207-780-5077 jodyc@usm.maine.edu
Glen Cummings 207-780-5144 gcummings@usm.maine.edu
James Curry 207-780-5402 jcurry@usm.maine.edu
Thomas Edwards 207-780-5090 tedwards@usm.maine.edu
David Silvernail 207-780-5297 davids@usm.maine.edu
Anita Stewart McCafferty 207-780-5479 anita.stewart@maine.edu
SEHD Student Affairs 207-780-5300 sehd@usm.maine.edu

Almost Ready to Graduate?

Log into MaineStreet
Choose: Student Self Service, then Student Center, other academic, apply for graduation, and follow the prompts.
<table>
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<th>Course</th>
<th>Days</th>
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<td>EDU 600 Research Methods &amp; Techniques</td>
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<td>Jeff Beaudry</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDU 600 Research Methods &amp; Techniques</td>
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<td>EDU 604 Curriculum Development</td>
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<td>EDU 677 Seminar in School Management</td>
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<td>EDU 679 Evaluation &amp; Supervision of Teaching</td>
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<td>Jody Capelluti</td>
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**Academic Calendar for Spring 2014**

- Classes begin: Monday, January 13
- Martin Luther King (no classes): Monday, January 20
- Winter Vacation begins: Monday, February 17
- Classes resume: Monday, February 24
- Spring Vacation begins: Monday, March 31
- Classes resume: Monday, April 7
- Last day of classes: Friday, May 2
- Final Exams: Monday, May 3 - Friday, May 9
- Commencement: Saturday, May 10

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