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Educational Leadership Program Newsletter October 2010

Educational Leadership Program, University of Southern Maine

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Important Dates

- November 1, 2010: Spring 2011 course schedule released on MaineStreet
- November 8, 2010: Registration opens for matriculated degree students
- November 15, 2010: Registration opens for certificate students
- November 29, 2010: Registration opens for non-matriculated students

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UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Educational Leadership Program Newsletter

Volume 1/Issue 1

October 2010

Letter from the Program Coordinator



Tom Edwards,
Program Coordinator

Dear Students and Alumni,

Welcome to the Educational Leadership Newsletter! This is our effort to keep you in touch with the educational leadership program at USM and with your colleagues in the field.

We value you as a member of a distinguished tradition; educational leaders who have studied at USM! Remarkably, 75% of the schools in Southern Maine, and in Aroostook County (!), are led by one or more administrators who are USM graduates! What a powerful network and resource!

The promotional beat continues! The Maine Principals' Association reports that twenty-seven USM alumni have taken on new roles in leadership this year! They include Tom Ambrose, Matt Carlson, Ryan Caron, Rich Drummond, Ted Finn, Steve Fitzpatrick, Marc Gousse, Nancy Harriman, James Holland, Jeff Ireland, Lynn Izzi, Robert Kahler, Shawn Lambert, Andrea Lane, Mike Lane, Pat Leet, Mike

LeGage, Donna Lisnik, Jason Manjourides, Brian Mazjanis, Cindy Nilssen, April Noble, Drew Patin, Kate Race, Jeff Ramich, Mar-E Trebilcock and Tim Vacchiano. Congratulations!

Please let us know when you change responsibilities so that we may recognize you.

We want you to know that a top educational leadership priority this year is to reinstitute the Southern Maine Partnership so that alumni, and indeed all area educators, may benefit from convocations to examine the hard issues now confronting leaders in the field. Lynne Miller is leading this charge. We will keep you posted with invitations to participate.

Please email me or Joline Spence, joline.spence@maine.edu, questions, notes you might like to post to colleagues and news!

Have a great year! All best wishes,

Tom Edwards
tedwards@usm.maine.edu

Alumni Spotlight: Sue Palfrey



Sue Palfrey is currently working as a principal at Falmouth Middle School which currently houses grades 5-8 with just under 700 students. In addition to building leadership, Falmouth has a relatively small district

leadership team consisting of the superintendent, director of finance, three district teacher leaders, a special education director, four principals, and two assistant principals.

Sue explains the many opportunities as a principal working at Falmouth Middle School. First, the curriculum—working with district leaders and teachers to focus the work for content teams—such as developing universal writing and research rubrics, focusing on oral language assessment in world language, integrating math and science curriculum, looking at student work to inform instruction, and moving curriculum towards alignment with Common Core standards.

Second, instruction-dialogues with teachers on instructional best practices. Supporting Professional Learning Teams (district-wide effort). Frequently spending time in the classrooms to understand instruction and get to know the students.

Third, leading a middle school transition team as we move to being a grade 6 to 8 school starting in 2011. Three strands led by teacher leaders and our Assistant Principal, Rick Hogan:

- Strand 1-What will team configuration look like in September 2011 and beyond. How can our structure support Middle School best practices?

- Strand 2—Culture/Climate at Falmouth Middle School. How can Advisories support a positive Culture/Climate?
- Strand 3-Cohesive Grading and Reporting at FMS (Currently we have five different report cards!)

Lastly, the opportunity to work with outstanding staff and extremely supportive parents have been of great support to Sue.

Sue states that she looks at challenges as opportunities, but a few may include:

- Balancing student needs with available time and money
- Building a positive culture/climate that offsets pressures and negative factors that any community experiences

The knowledge and skills Sue gained from her graduate work in the Educational Leadership program have helped her in many ways. She refers back to the readings often and shares resources with her staff. Some of Sue's colleagues in the Educational Leadership program – particularly those from the Leadership for Tomorrow's schools cohorts –are the colleagues she seeks to share conundrums or ask for advice.

Sue's advice for current students:

- The administrator interviews and working with administrators and learning from their work were some of the best learning experiences.
- Practice putting yourself in other's shoes!

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"It has been rewarding to have worked with Sue for over a decade and to witness her devotion to helping teachers serve students with dedication, skill and wisdom." ~ Tom Edwards

*Sue graduated with a Certificate of Advanced Study in May 2010.*

# Program Updates

## Certificate Programs: Assistant Principal, Athletic Administration

*Assistant Principal:* We have begun a sequence of Assistant Principal courses at the Lewiston/Auburn campus that all of our students are welcome to register for. The tentative schedule is as follows: Fall 2010—EDU 670: Introduction to Administration, Spring 2011— EDU 671: Organizational Behavior, Summer 2011— EDU 678: School Law, and Fall 2011— EDU 679: Evaluation & Supervision of School Personnel.

*Athletic Administration:* See above listing for a new course sequence at Lewiston/Auburn campus. We are planning to offer EDU 690: Athletic Administration in the Spring 2011 semester, and EDU 691: Sports Law in the Summer 2011. We strongly encourage our students to enroll in these courses as soon as registration is available to try to avoid course cancellation due to low enrollment.

## Master's Programs: Administration, Professional Educator

*Administration:* If you believe that you are ready to start your year-long administration internship in principalship, curriculum coordination, or special education administration that begins this Summer 2011 semester, please contact Kat Schorr, Program Manager, at [kat@usm.maine.edu](mailto:kat@usm.maine.edu) by **December 1, 2010**, so we can add you to the list and check your eligibility.

*Special Education Administration:* The following special education courses are tentatively being offered in the Spring 2011 semester: SED 618: Prog. For Learners with Special Needs and SED 682: Special Education Law. SED 684: Administration in Special Education is tentatively scheduled for the Summer 2011 semester. See above for internship information.

*Professional Educator:* If you believe that you are ready to start your capstone project this Spring 2011 semester, please contact Kat Schorr, Program Manager, at [kat@usm.maine.edu](mailto:kat@usm.maine.edu) by **November 1, 2010**, so we can send you the proposal form.

## Post-master's (C.A.S.) Programs

We strongly suggest that all post-master's (CAS) students schedule a time to meet with their advisors this Fall 2010 semester to plan out their program of study.

*Capstone:* If you believe that you are ready to start your capstone project this Spring 2011 semester, please contact Kat Schorr, Program Manager, at [kat@usm.maine.edu](mailto:kat@usm.maine.edu) by **November 1, 2010**, so we can send you the proposal form.

*Internships:* If you want to take our year-long internship in principalship, curriculum coordination, special education administration, or superintendency that begins this Summer 2011 semester, please contact Kat Schorr, Program Manager, at [kat@usm.maine.edu](mailto:kat@usm.maine.edu) by **December 1, 2010**, so we can add you to the list and check your eligibility.

## Faculty Profile: Dr. Lynne Miller



Lynne Miller is a Professor of Educational Leadership and Director of the Southern Maine Partnership at the University of Southern Maine. Before joining the USM faculty in

1987, she served in a variety of public school teaching and administrative positions at the building and district levels. She was also involved in the Worcester Teacher Corps and in Boston de-segregation efforts.

As a scholar, she has written widely in the fields of professional learning and school reform. Her most recent books, written in collaboration with Ann Lieberman, are *Teachers Caught in the Action* (Teachers College Press, 2001), *Teacher Leadership* (Josey-Bass, 2004), and *Teachers in Community* (Teachers College Press, 2008). Her current research focuses on first generation college students and their readiness for higher education. She is under contract, along with Jeff Beaudry, to complete an educational research textbook aimed at graduate students in education.

## Tentative Spring 2011 Course Schedule

Here is a tentative listing of the courses we plan to offer in the Spring 2011 semester. We will have more details in next month's newsletter issue.

- EDU 600: Research Methods and Techniques—online
- EDU 604: Curriculum Development —in-person
- EDU 605: Teaching, Learning and Assessment —in-person
- EDU 667: Capstone in Professional Educator —blended
- EDU 670: Introduction to Administration—in-person
- EDU 671: Organizational Behavior—in-person
- EDU 677: Seminar in School Management —in-person
- EDU 678: School Law—in-person
- EDU 679: Evaluation and Supervision of School Personnel—in-person
- EDU 685, EDU 686, EDU 687, EDU 688: Internships—in-person
- EDU 690: Introduction to Athletic Administration—in-person

## Faculty & Staff Program Directory

| Faculty               | Phone             | Email                                                              |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jeffrey Beaudry.....  | 207-780-5493..... | <a href="mailto:jbeaudry@usm.maine.edu">jbeaudry@usm.maine.edu</a> |
| Joseph Capelluti..... | 207-780-5077..... | <a href="mailto:jodyc@usm.maine.edu">jodyc@usm.maine.edu</a>       |
| Thomas Edwards.....   | 207-780-5090..... | <a href="mailto:tedwards@usm.maine.edu">tedwards@usm.maine.edu</a> |
| Lee Goldsberry.....   | 207-780-5026..... | <a href="mailto:leegold@usm.maine.edu">leegold@usm.maine.edu</a>   |
| Lynne Miller.....     | 207-780-5479..... | <a href="mailto:lynnem@usm.maine.edu">lynnem@usm.maine.edu</a>     |
| David Silvernail..... | 207-780-5297..... | <a href="mailto:davids@usm.maine.edu">davids@usm.maine.edu</a>     |

### Staff

|                                        |                   |                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kat Schorr, Program Manager.....       | 207-780-5400..... | <a href="mailto:kat@usm.maine.edu">kat@usm.maine.edu</a>             |
| Joline Spence, Graduate Assistant..... |                   | <a href="mailto:joline.spence@maine.edu">joline.spence@maine.edu</a> |

## Notes of Interest

### '10-'11 Academic Calendar

#### Fall 2010 Semester\*

August 30—Fall semester classes begin

September 6—Labor Day, no classes

November 11—Veteran's Day, no classes

November 25—Thanksgiving, no classes

#### Spring 2011 Semester\*

January 18—Spring semester classes begin

February 20-28—Winter break, no classes

March 20-27—Spring break, no classes

\*Individual courses may decide to alter their vacation/holiday schedule, so be sure to refer to the course syllabus for your specific schedule.

### Commencement

USM's Commencement ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2011 at the Cumberland County Civic Center in Portland. We encourage all our degree students to participate! You deserve it! More information can be found on the Registrar's website in the Spring semester.

### Program Office Hours

The Professional Education Department is open Monday through Friday, 8:00-4:30pm. However, it is always best to call first and make an appointment with a faculty or staff member.

### Did you know....?

Did you know that you can attend many University of Southern Maine events for free or at a reduced price if you show your USM student ID card? Did you know you can get discounts at local restaurants, too? To get your student ID card, you must be enrolled in at least one course during the current semester. Contact Campus Card Services at 207-780-5600 for more information.

### Share Your Success!

Have you had a recent professional success that you would like to share with us? Have you accepted a new position at your school or district? Published an article or book? Presented at a conference? Please let us know so that we can celebrate your success in our newsletter! Contact Joline Spence at [joline.spence@maine.edu](mailto:joline.spence@maine.edu) with a description of your special news, and we'll feature it in next month's newsletter!

### Networking Corner

Are you looking for expertise or advice on a current project at your school/district? Send us a brief description and your contact information that you wish to share, and we'll include it in our next newsletter! Contact Joline Spence at [joline.spence@maine.edu](mailto:joline.spence@maine.edu)

### Meet Our Staff

Joline Spence,  
Newsletter Editor



I am a graduate assistant for the Educational Leadership Program, under the guidance of Jody Capelluti and Tom Edwards. This is my first semester in the M.S. Adult & Higher Education program. I have a bachelors in social and behavioral sciences with a minor in counseling. I am married with three adult children and a 14 year old who just started high school. My overall goal is to work in a university or college as an academic advisor, mentor, student services professional, or somewhere in higher education. My experience working as a peer-mentor, peer-advisor, and an internship at Central Maine Community College has given me an opportunity to work with other college students which is my passion.