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Educational Leadership Newsletter December 2015

Educational Leadership Department, University of Southern Maine

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December, 2015



From the Chair

As 2015 comes to a close the states received a gift from the federal government in the form of new legislation, the Every Student Succeeds Act. The headlines say that power is now shifted to the states, with a reduction in the footprint of standardized testing. Instead of the federal government setting goals based on intricate formulas of test results, the power is now shifted to our hands. A major implication for the states and for all of us will be the need for high quality classroom assessment and school district assessment systems to provide evidence of student growth.

This is a time for renewed emphasis on the power of students, teachers, and school leaders. Students need to be continually reflecting on who they are as learners, to self-assess and self-regulate, and students must feel that they have positive, productive connections with teachers and adults in their community. Teachers need to seek out and relentlessly apply high-impact formative assessment strategies to accelerate the growth of students; strategies like clear learning targets, emphasis on student work, descriptive feedback, goal setting in order to create an environment that facilitates students' growth. School leaders need to adopt high-impact strategies to bring out the best in teachers, students and parents – the development and support of high quality teachers and rich, engaging curriculum.

Along with my colleagues, Anita and Jody, and the Educational Leadership Advisory Committee we have developed relevant graduate programs and strong community partnerships, and set our own goals to develop teacher and school district leaders. Now, more than ever, we need to reach out to collaborate with you to solve difficult problems, to improve our communities and, most of all, to support student growth.

There are two areas of emphasis that have consumed our energy, the doctoral program in public policy and education, and the Southern Maine Partnership. At this point we are proud to announce the completion of over 75% of the doctoral students, with two more doctoral dissertations in the past month:

Grace Valenzuela Academic Achievement of First, Second, and 1.5 Generation Students of Refugee Backgrounds

Amy Johnson Preparing for Changes in Teacher Preparation Program Accountability: Evaluating the Use of Job Placement Rates as a Measure of Program Quality

We have the support to continue the Doctoral Program and will have a second informational session in January (more information inside this newsletter).



Educational Leadership Newsletter

The Southern Maine Partnership continues to grow and diversify its offerings. Of special note is the teacher leadership sessions planned for Spring, 2016. From February – April we have scheduled teacher leader sessions to collaborate with Jan Chappuis, author of *The Seven Strategies of Assessment for Learning*. This is an opportunity to work on high-impact strategies and assessment literacy, as teachers, as district leaders, and most of all, as collaborating partners.

Thank you for your support in 2015, a turnaround year for us at USM, and I look forward to the coming year 2016, a year of deeper professional learning and partnership.

Jeff Beaudry (jeff.beaudry@maine.edu)

Southern Maine Partnership Update

Our December Teacher/Instructional Leader GIFTS session was a great hit! GIFTS stands for Great Ideas for Teaching Students or Staff. Participant leaders shared their innovative ideas (gifts) in 10 minute round table sessions; participants could choose which ‘gift’ they chose to receive for each of 3 rounds. The GIFTS protocol is always a highly engaging and productive protocol. I encourage you to borrow it for an upcoming faculty meeting or in-service workshop.

In addition to our regularly scheduled monthly leader meetings and Dine and Discuss Events, we are looking forward to a 3-part Assessment Literacy Series with assessment guru Jan Chappuis during the Spring semester! These are sessions you will not want to miss! Mark your calendars for the following dates/times:

- Monday, February 1st from 4:00 -5:30 p.m.;
- Monday, March 7th from 4:00-5:30 p.m.; and
- Monday, April 4th from 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Alumni News

Congratulations to:

Marty Bouchard, Principal of Houlton Middle/High School is President of the Maine Principals Association for the 2016-17 year.

Theresa (Tree) Curran was recently appointed Principal of Pond Cove Elementary School, Cape Elizabeth.

Two Cohort Programs to begin Fall 2016

The Educational Leadership Program is pleased to announce that it will be offering two cohort based programs beginning in fall 2016. The Leaders for Tomorrow's Schools cohort will be starting its ninth cohort while the Teacher Leadership Cohort (originally scheduled to begin spring 2016) will begin its first cohort.

The new **USM Teacher Leadership Cohort** is a master of science in education degree. This 33-credit hour program is designed for educators in a variety of settings who want to increase their knowledge, deepen their practice, and develop leadership in curriculum, instruction and assessment through disciplined graduate study.

The Teacher Leadership Cohort is designed for teams of teachers from school systems who want to integrate their graduate study with important work in their school systems. A unique feature of the program is that students will take all their courses together. Embedded in all courses will be assignments relevant to the work of their schools.

Students will be expected to complete a 6-credit hour capstone experience as part of their graduate study. The capstone will focus on an educational issue of importance to the school/district and students will be expected to assume a leadership role in addressing that issue.

The **Leaders for Tomorrow's Schools (LTS) cohort** will be beginning its ninth cohort. The Master of Science degree in education in educational leadership focuses on the preparation of collaborative change agents for educational settings that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students. The program of study is designed to develop general leadership perspectives and specific technical skills for people assuming roles as teacher leaders, principals, special education directors, curriculum coordinators, or superintendents.

The educational leadership program is divided into three areas of study: administration for certification as school principal, curriculum director, or director of special education.

Students in this cohort take 24 hours of classes together and then decide which administrative certification to pursue.

To be considered for either cohort students must be recommended by their school administrators. Educators with interest in either option should discuss their interest with their administrator.

Applications will be accepted during the spring 2016 semester. Individuals with questions should contact Dr. Jody Capelluti, Professor of Educational Leadership at: joseph.capelluti@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 joseph.capelluti@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.

Summer dates for the 2016-2017 EDL Internship are:

April 25 (4 PM) – Internship Orientation, 301 Bailey Hall, USM-Gorham

The following summer classes will be held at King Middle School, Portland:

May 18-4 pm

June 8-4 pm

June 29-8 am

July 20-8 am

August 10-8 am

Wanted: Alumni News

We would like to feature what our alumni are doing in our newsletters. If you have assumed a leadership role, presented at a conference, published an article, or received an award, please send that information to me at joseph.capelluti@maine.edu.

PhD in Public Policy with a Concentration in Educational Leadership and Policy

New Cohort Starting Fall 2016

We are pleased to announce that we will be admitting a new cohort for the PhD in Public Policy with a concentration in educational leadership and policy for fall 2016. We are offering the following information session on the U.S.M. Portland Campus in Wishcamper Center.

Information Sessions:

Saturday, January 9 at 10:00am.
102 Wishcamper, USM Portland
(snow date, January 16 at 10:00am)

This cohort's focus integrates courses in public policy, educational policy and leadership, research methodology and dissertation research. It is a 45-credit program designed for experienced educational leaders who are working professionals. It is not an online program. Those interested in applying to the Ph.D. will need the following minimum requirements:

1. A master's degree in public policy, education or a related field with a minimum GPA of 3.25.
2. Submission of official GRE scores. Official scores are available for five years from date of testing.

The application cycle will begin December 15, 2015. The admission deadline will be April 1. We have updated our website with this information as well as additional and detailed admission requirements.

<https://usm.maine.edu/phd-public-policy>

To RSVP to an information session use the link below to complete the Google form.

<http://goo.gl/forms/5YhkP9EMft>

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Don't risk being closed out of a class or having a class canceled due to low enrollment, register now!

Educational Leadership Program - Spring 2016

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

Location	COURSE	TITLE/ INSTRUCTOR	Days	Times	Instructor
Online	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques			Beaudry
Portland	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques	Th	4:10-6:40P	Beaudry
Gorham	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques	W	4:10-6:40P	Mills
Portland	EDU 603	Analysis of Teaching & Assessment	W	4:10-6:40P	Stewart McCafferty
Portland	EDU 659	Special Ed Law for School Leaders	T	4:10-6:40P	TBD
Portland	EDU 604	Curriculum Development	T	4:10-6:40P	Culbertson
Portland	EDU 667	Professional Ed Capstone(with EDU 699) **			Beaudry
Gorham	EDU 670	Introduction to Educational Leadership	M	4:10-6:40P	O'Connor
Portland	EDU 671	Organizational Behavior	M	4:10-6:40P	Sizemore
P-Other	EDU 677	Seminar in School Management **	W	4:00-6:30P	Capelluti
Portland	EDU 678	School Law	Th	4:10-6:40P	Forster
Portland	EDU 679	Eval & Supervision of School Personnel	Th	4:10-6:40P	Stewart McCafferty
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Stewart McCafferty
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Edwards
P-Other	EDU 686	Internship in Special Educ Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 687	Internship in Superintendency **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 688	Internship in Curriculum Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
Portland	EDU 699	Independent Study (with EDU 667)**			Beaudry

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

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



Educational Leadership Newsletter

Dates to Remember

January 5, 2016: Billing due date for spring '16 classes

January 19, 2016: Spring '16 Semester begins

February 1, 2016: Last day to drop for 100% refund (classes 12 weeks or more)

February 15-19, 2016: Winter Break

March 1, 2016: Summer registration begins for matriculated students

March 28-April 1, 2016: Spring Break

March 28, 2016: Last day for a grade of "W" (classes 12 weeks or more)

May 7-13, 2016: Final Exam Week

May 14, 2016: Commencement

School of Education and Human Development
8 Bailey Hall
207-780-5316
usmsehd@maine.edu
<http://www.usm.maine.edu/sehd>



Advising Questions? Educational Leadership Faculty:

Jeffrey Beaudry	207-780-5493	jeffrey.beaudry@maine.edu
Joseph (Jody) Capelluti	207-780-5077	joseph.capelluti@maine.edu
Thomas Edwards, Adjunct	207-780-5090	thomas.k.edwards@maine.edu
Anita Stewart McCafferty	207-780-5479	anita.stewart@maine.edu
EDL Program Office	207-780-5316	bertalan@maine.edu