Educational Leadership Newsletter November 2015

Educational Leadership Department, University of Southern Maine

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The gales of November have yet to blow through southern Maine but the seasons are a’ changing. The Educational Leadership program is going through a shift as well. In the past five years we have concentrated on developing school building leaders. With the graduation of students in May, 2016 we will mark the conclusion of the 9th cohort of the Leadership for Tomorrow’s Schools. In October, 2015 we shifted our focus to a version of this program for teacher leaders. We are asking school superintendents to nominate teams of teachers for a Teacher Leaders for Tomorrow’s Schools program. There are openings remaining, please contact us. New graduate courses will be offered that focus on student growth, high impact formative assessment strategies, proficiency-based education, and data literacy. See the next page for more information.

As of November 1, 2015 sixteen of twenty-one students have completed their dissertations in the USM’s doctoral program in Public Policy. Topics for recent graduates include:

- Committed Elementary STEM Teachers by Julianne Oppermann
- Breaking Barriers to Achieve the Superintendency by Becky Foley
- Investigating the Influence of Professional Development on Teacher Perceptions of Engineering Self-Efficacy by Stephen Marquis
- Traditional College Student Success in Fully-Online Undergraduate Programs by Paul Dexter
- Uncovering the Characteristics of Elementary-aged Student Engagement
  Mark Schrader

Jeff Beaudry @BeaudryJeff #SMPmechat
jeffrey.beaudry@maine.edu
USM Teacher Leadership Cohort

The 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.

Students must be recommended by their school administrators to be considered for inclusion in the cohort. Applications received prior to November 30, 2015 will receive priority consideration.

Tentative course schedule:

Spring 2016-EDU 671 (Organizational Behavior)
Summer 2016-EDU 603 (Analysis of Teaching and Assessment) Blended format
Fall 2016-EDU679 (Evaluation and Supervision of Personnel)
Spring 2017-EDU 604 (Curriculum Development)
Summer 2017-EDU 695 (Topics in Professional Education)
Fall 2017-EDU 605 (Teaching, Learning and Assessment) Blended format
Spring 2018-EDU 600 (Research Methods and Techniques) Blended format
Summer 2018-EDU 699 (Teacher Leadership)
Summer 2018-EDU 699 (Mentoring and Coaching)
Fall 2018/Spring 2019- EDU 667 (Professional Educator Capstone)

Please contact Dr. Jody Capelluti at joseph.capelluti@maine.edu for more information and/or to nominate a teacher. There are openings remaining.
Balancing Home and Work

A huge problem almost every new administrator confronts is figuring out how much time they need to spend to be successful at work. Most feel they have to work longer days than anyone in the building to let others know that they are committed to the job. They want to project the attitude that they will do whatever it takes to get things done. That may include getting to work before everyone else and being the last one to leave.

Adding to this dilemma is the fact that there are usually expectations from the superintendent, school committee, staff, students and parents, that you need to “work until the job is done” but rarely is “until the job is done” defined.

When is the job done? The real answer is never but new administrators do not know that yet. The one constant is that all the constituencies listed above want them to be there for them when they need them.

Given unrealistic time demands, perceived and actual, what is a principal to do? Here are three suggestions on how to balance your work hours with family and outside life

1. **Before you take the job ask the superintendent what they do for fun outside of school.** If they say nothing, or that the job is my life, don’t work there. If they say that it is an expectation held by parents to see you at every event, don’t work there. Do not accept a position that will not work for you. If they mention they have a variety of interests they pursue on weekends and vacations this sounds promising. If they a life outside of school they will probably not begrudge you for having one either.

2. **Never learn the security code of the building.** Every district has one person who has the responsibility to oversee the buildings and associated problems. Usually they are given a truck to ride around in and deliver materials. Most of the time they are locals living in town. If you learn the code some will expect you to go to the school every time an alarm goes off. You probably aren’t going to be the first one in the building anyway. The police and fire department personnel will be there. They are getting paid to work weekends, you aren’t. Let them do their jobs protecting the safety of individuals and property. This is another strong reason for living out of town.

3. **At the onset establish that weekends are for your family.** Tell people what you will be doing. On Mondays, talk about what you did. If someone questions your whereabouts you can say- “with this job I don’t get to see my kids, wife or parents, etc. as often as I would like. I did not want to miss another game, family party, etc. It is hard to explain to them why I can watch other kids all the time but have no time to spend with them”. One principal I know sends his staff every Sunday, via email, a review of what happened at school the previous week and information key events that will take place in the upcoming week. He starts each review by talking about what he has done with his wife and daughters, be it a trip to the mall, a softball game or family time. He always mentions how important that time is to him and hopes that they have done the same with their friends and family members.

SOUTHERN MAINE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Thanks to the support of several school district partners, SMP has been able to continue with its ambitious program. Thank you to each of the districts that have already partnered with us by completing the SMP partner application and sending in your $500 partnership fee. So far this 2015-16 year, we have participants from over 40 districts, so we urge all area districts to join us as partners in our endeavors to connect scholarship, research, policy, and practice.

Recent SMP events included:

- Principals/Building Leaders convened a morning meeting in which Dr. Capelluti and Dr. Anita Stewart McCafferty presented their research on the use of Technology/Social Media by Maine Principals. In the near future, they will share formal results of their research with the larger community. Participants shared ideas with one another of strategies for work-life balance.
- 40 Teacher/Instructional Leaders joined together to learn more deeply about Productive Discourse/Talk Science from UMaine RiSE Center facilitators, Erika Allison and Beth ByersSmall, in addition to 6 incredible teacher leaders from southern Maine.
- In a combined district and building leader meeting in early November, Dr. Anita Stewart McCafferty presented her Recommendations on Best Practices in Assessing Student Growth and Proficiency (e.g., student growth measures, SLOs) to a group of nearly 50 district and building leaders, as well as univeristy, DOE, and MPA educators/leaders. Look for an emphasis in the Spring SMP program on increasing assessment literacy skills for teachers and leaders. We are busy preparing for a 2-day conference with national speakers (including Jan Chappuis) in early May.
- Dr. Jeff Beaudry took the lead in putting together an amazing STEAMSS Dine and Discuss this past week with an opening address by Senator Angus King and presentations by the Falmouth Energy Teams; Gus Goodwin from King Middle School wind expeditionary project; Beth Lambert from the DOE on the Arts; and Dr. Raphael DiLuzio, founder of USM maker space Creative Intelligence and Collaborative Inquiry. Additionally, a distinguished panel of STEAMSS educators shared their insights after dinner.

Upcoming SMP events include:

- A Superintendent/District Leader morning meeting on Thursday, December 3rd from 8:00-9:30 a.m. in Rm. 423-24 Glickman Library
- A GIFTS (Great Ideas for Teaching Students/Staff) Session on Monday, December 7th from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in Rm. 423-24 Glickman Library
- A Principal/Building Leader morning meeting on Thursday, December 10th from 8:00-9:30 a.m. in Rm. 423.24 Glickman Library
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 sessions on the U.S.M. Portland Campus in Wishcamper Center.

Information Sessions:
Tuesday, December 15 at 5:30pm
102 Wishcamper, USM Portland
(snow date Wednesday, December 16 at 6:00pm)

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

The December 15 information session will be followed by a social hour with the recent PhD cohort graduates.

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. We will continue to add information as it becomes available.

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
## Educational Leadership Program - Spring 2016

(The schedule below is subject to change; be sure to check MaineStreet after October 30.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TITLE/INSTRUCTOR</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>EDU 600</td>
<td>Research Methods &amp; Techniques</td>
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<td>Independent Study (with EDU 667)**</td>
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**Instructor permission required; program staff will register students & confirm via email.
If you have questions, contact Kerry Bertalan at 780-5316
Dates to Remember

**November 23 (8 AM):** Open registration for all students begin. **If you are a matriculated graduate student and have not registered for spring ’16 classes, we highly recommend you register before open registration! Don’t risk being closed out of a class, register early. No payment is required at the time of registration.**

**November 25-29:** Thanksgiving Recess

**December 1:** EDL Advising Night (2:30-4:00)  
Watch for an e-mail announcement.

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

**January 19, 2016:** Spring ’16 Semester begins

Advising Questions? Educational Leadership Faculty:

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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  usmsehd@maine.edu