



FIELD notes

A Semi-Annual Publication of the Lynch School Practicum Experiences and Teacher Induction Office
Volume III • Issue I • Fall 2009

AT YOUR SERVICE

Director: Fran Loftus

A former urban teacher, native New Yorker, and faithful Yankee fan, Fran is certification officer and liaison to the Massachusetts Department of Education for licensure regulations. She develops school partnerships, field curriculum, and advisement for full practica students, and professional development for clinical faculty supervisors. A member of the Ford Research Team, Fran works with faculty on projects related to teaching for social justice and improving teacher education and induction.

Assistant Director: Melita Malley

Melita, a native of the Boston area and Maine aficionado, directs the pre-practicum placement of approximately 500 students per year and the hiring and professional development of approximately 28 graduate assistants who supervise these students. She monitors the preparation, distribution, and redemption of tuition vouchers for full practicum cooperating teachers and oversees parking permits for campus residents in practica. Melita is a former teacher and assistant principal.

Practicum Specialist and Office Manager: Melissa Egiros

Melissa oversees daily operations of the office and supervises support staff. She is pursuing a master's in elementary education. She and her husband Nick are expecting their first baby in December.

Placement Coordinators: Mike DiLuzio and Parker Fernandez

Mike and Parker manage data entry, generate placement reports and analyses, and communicate with partnership schools and the BC community.

Mike earned a bachelor's in secondary education and history in 2009 and is presently completing a master's in curriculum and instruction as part of the fifth-year program.

Parker completed a bachelor's in education with a major in integrated mathematics at Ohio University. He is currently working on a master's in curriculum and instruction, with a concentration in mathematics.

Graduate Assistant Coordinator for International Practica: Jamie Richardson

A former international pre-prac student herself, Jamie places pre-prac students in schools abroad and maintains communication with them and their supervisors throughout the experience. She is a fifth-year master's student with a bachelor's in elementary education and human development.

Graduate Assistant for Special Projects: Merritt Lee

Merritt assists with clinical faculty meetings and office events. She is a fifth-year master's student pursuing a degree in curriculum and instruction. She earned her bachelor's in secondary education and history.

At right, pictured left to right: Parker Fernandez, Jamie Richardson, Fran Loftus, Melissa Egiros, Melita Malley, Merritt Lee, and Mike DiLuzio



FALL 2009 EVENTS

Thursdays, 2-4 p.m.

The Career Center offers weekly Drop-In Question Hours in Campion 106. Visit www.bc.edu/careers to view a complete list of resources, events, and workshops.

October 6

SIT: MA Department of Social Services
Campion 139, 6 p.m.

September 21, October 14 and 29, 3:30 p.m.

November 11, Noon

Jump Start
Campion 139

October 19-23

Full Practicum Placement Week for Spring '10

October 22

SIT: Lynch School Symposium
Murray Room, Yawkey Center, 4:30 p.m.

November 12

SIT: GLSEN
Campion 139, 6 p.m.

December 15

Community of Learners
Heights Room, Corcoran Commons, 3:30 p.m.

December 17

Endorsement Meetings (Grad and Undergrad)
Heights Room, Corcoran Commons, 4 p.m.

HELPFUL LINKS

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
www.doe.mass.edu

Massachusetts Licensure
www.doe.mass.edu/educators/e_license.html

Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure
www.mtel.nesinc.com and
www.doe.mass.edu/mtel



BOSTON COLLEGE
Lynch School of Education

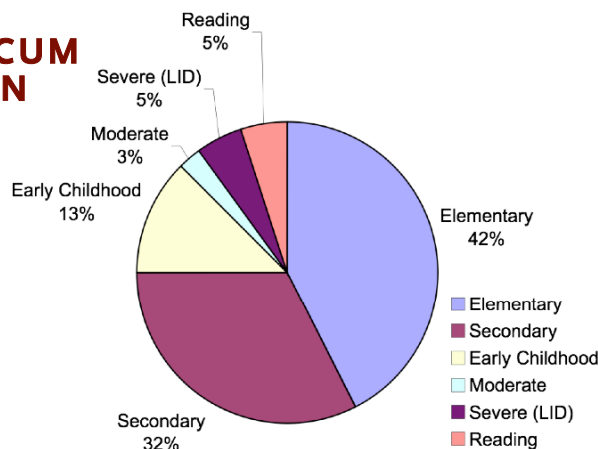
Campion Hall 103

Tel: 617-552-4206

Email: prac@bc.edu

www.bc.edu/lsoe/academics/practicum.html

FALL 2009 FULL PRACTICUM DISTRIBUTION



GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

On behalf of all the folks in the Office of Practicum Experiences and Teacher Induction, I extend a warm welcome back to students, faculty, and partnership school colleagues as we prepare caring and competent teachers.

This semester, the Lynch School will participate in the state and national accreditation process with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council. We are pleased that the PPA-PLUS, the Boston College-enhanced version of the state-mandated Pre-Service Performance Assessment, is a significant evidence source of student teachers' professional growth and development. It was created by members of the TNE Evidence Team led by Sarah Enterline, Director of Accreditation and Assessment, in collaboration with clinical faculty.



Commensurate with the focus on evidence-based assessment, this fall all pre-practicum students will use the Pre-Practicum PPA-PLUS, known as the 3PA. This instrument was designed by several graduate assistant supervisors, including Emilie Mitescu, doctoral candidate in ERME, and Margo Stetson, M.Ed. in educational administration, under the leadership of Melita Malley, assistant director of Practicum. Melita is confident that "the 3PA will provide pre-practicum students with a strong foundation for the PPA-PLUS during the full-time student teaching experience at the end of their programs."

Finally, we are working with Amy Ryan, associate director of mentoring and induction, and Nicole Gobbo, communications specialist, to redesign the practicum website to serve as a better resource for all of us.

May your semester be filled with new knowledge, challenges, and joy.

CLINICAL CLOSE-UPS

Jack Cox became a teacher to pass on his passion for history, particularly American history. He has been a teacher for 30 years, and currently teaches at Waltham High School in his hometown. He teaches American history to juniors and the history of Waltham to seniors, coaches basketball, and serves as faculty advisor to the National Honor Society. He is also a student, working towards his Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction at the Lynch School.



As a clinical supervisor, Jack makes sure student teachers know about available resources and that they have necessary content knowledge and an understanding of effective high school teaching strategies. Advising student teachers, he says, "Be passionate about what you teach. Show your students that you consider your subject to be more important than any other. If you approach every class with enthusiasm and a positive attitude, your students will respond favorably."

Mary Whalen Spadazzi has been a clinical supervisor for the Lynch School for the past eight and a half years. She is a Lynch School alumna, having earned an M.Ed. in elementary education and a C.A.E.S. in administration and supervision. Prior to her role as clinical supervisor, Mary was a teacher, reading specialist, and program coordinator in Boston Public Schools for 36 years. She has also worked in a Head Start program, in a Ford Foundation-funded program for students at risk of dropping out of high school, and as a consultant to textbook publishing companies.



Mary retired in 2001 to share her expertise and passion for teaching with urban teachers in training. To student teachers, she says "You must ignite and maintain the three C's of the teaching profession—Courage, Compassion, and Commitment. Your students deserve teachers who daily demonstrate their passion to teach."

COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS

More than 200 guests, including student teachers, cooperating teachers from partnership schools, and clinical faculty supervisors gathered in May to honor the spring 2009 full practicum student teachers' achievements.

Special guest and keynote speaker, Joanne Russell announced her retirement and inspired the audience with a retrospective of her 40+ years as a teacher and administrator in the Boston Public Schools. Dr. Russell has been a special friend to Boston College through the years, most recently in her role as principal of the Jackson Mann School in Allston where she welcomed and hired numerous BC students.

The legacy of the BC-Jackson Mann partnership will continue to flourish under the leadership of newly appointed principal Andrew Tuite, who recently welcomed the latest group of pre-practicum and full practicum students.



At right, pictured left to right: Melita Malley, Joanne Russell, Mary Spadazzi, and Fran Loftus

Thinking of studying abroad? Where in the world will your pre-practicum be? Drop by Campion 103 and chat with Jamie Richardson, Graduate Assistant Coordinator for International Practica, or email her at richarjw@bc.edu.