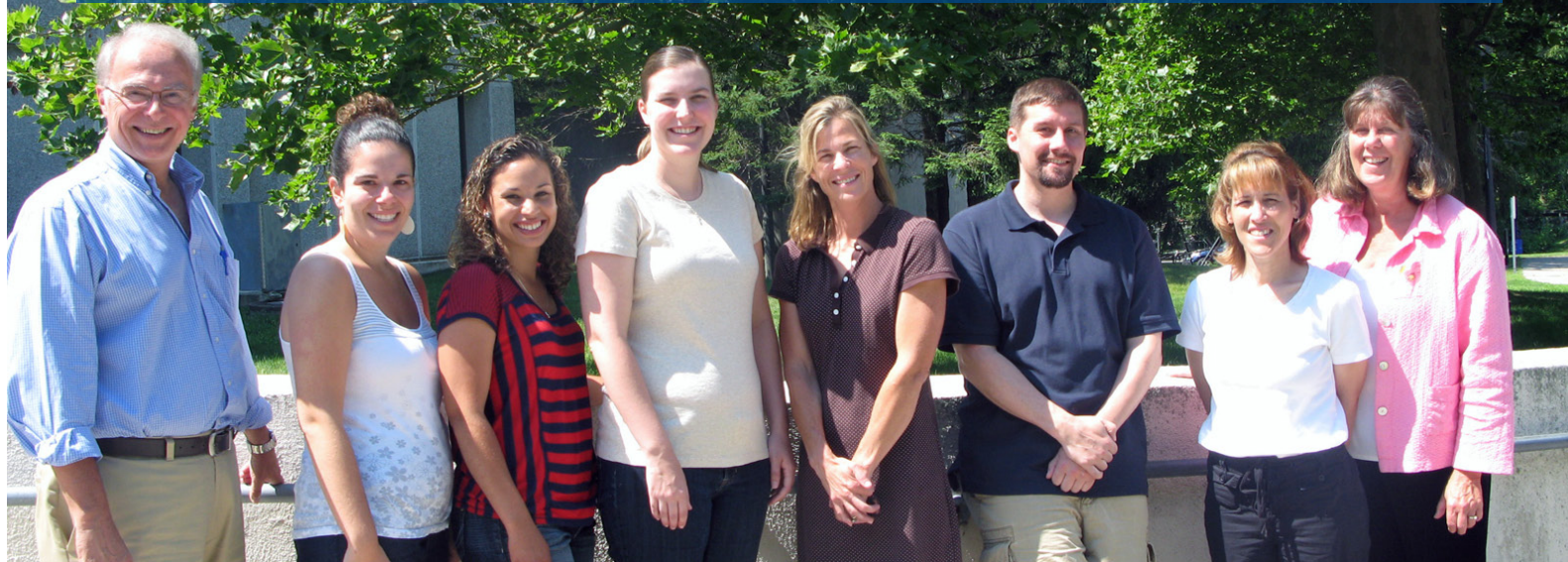


On the CUSP

News and Updates from the Center for University, School and Community Partnerships



Summer 2011

Volume 3, Issue 3

On July 5, 2011 the Leading for Learning Program kicked off its weeklong seminar, Administrative Policies and Procedures. 2010-11 Cohort members and staff pause for a photo: Dr. Stephen Furtado, instructor; Julie Amaral, New Bedford Public Schools; Justine Medina, New Bedford Public Schools; Audra Thomas, Dartmouth Public Schools; Sarah Decas, Dartmouth Public Schools; Nate Everett, New Bedford Public Schools; Donna Guay, New Bedford Public Schools; and Sharon Hartley, Program Coordinator.

JET Students Graduate

An accelerated bachelor's degree and teacher preparation program for Paraprofessionals who want to become teachers in the high need elementary schools of Fall River and New Bedford

Two *JET* students walked in UMass Dartmouth's undergraduate graduation ceremony in May. Christine Rodriques (photo below left, wearing cum laude hood) and Karen Mello will receive their bachelor's degrees in Liberal Arts by December. Congratulations!

Five *JET* paraprofessionals also received their Associate's degree in Elementary Education from Bristol Community College on June 4, 2011. These graduates make up Cohort 4 and have already transferred to UMass Dartmouth. They are currently taking courses this summer and fall towards their bachelor's degrees.



JET Cohorts 1 and 2 recently completed EDU 548: Classroom Management for Mildly and Moderately Disabled Students in Inclusive Settings taught by Dr. Cynthia Kruger over two weekends in June at CUSP in Fairhaven.

Thirty-six paraprofessionals in four cohorts at UMass Dartmouth are now in the process of earning their bachelor's degree and teacher licensure in Elementary Education and moderate disabilities. *JET*'s first practicum participant will be working in the New Bedford schools in the fall of 2011.

A new *JET* procedural handbook is now available, both electronically and in hard copy. This handbook helps participants navigate program logistics, financial aid requirements, and University academic policies.

TEACH! SouthCoast concludes

Both Teach! preparation programs supported teacher candidates as they achieved an initial license. These federally funded post-baccalaureate programs integrated teaching practice and coursework in a year-long model that supported candidates in a cohort that will continue through the beginning years of teaching.

On June 16, 2011 a particularly special Teach! SouthCoast celebration took place. Aside from acknowledging the hard work and dedication of Cohort 4, cohort members also accepted their certificates as the last cohort to graduate from a program that has helped 72 educators in Fall River and New Bedford receive their initial license to teach.

The theme of this year's Teach! SouthCoast celebration was "Together We Can." Many of the speakers and presentations emphasized that the great success of the Teach! program and of each individual candidate was not due to a single person alone. Throughout the evening one message was clear; we did this together.

The evening began with opening comments from program director Dr. Carol Pelletier Radford who recognized that five years of Teach! SouthCoast were coming to an end with the graduation of Cohort 4. Dr. Radford noted the many accomplishments of the program in achieving the goals set out by the Transition to Teaching (TTT) grant that has funded Teach! SouthCoast for the past five years. The goal was that 80 math and science teachers would graduate into the two urban districts. The grand total for the program for the five years (four cohorts) is 72. Reaching this goal of 72 math and science teachers is a major accomplishment given the challenges in both urban districts related to meeting the state teacher effectiveness requirements.

In addition to the many graduates of Teach! SouthCoast who have started careers as urban educators in math and science, Teach! has also prepared program participants to complete master's degrees at UMass Dartmouth. According to Dr. Radford, 63 of the graduated cohort members intend to complete their master's degree in teaching, and 17 have already received said degree.



Dr. Carol Radford and Cohort 4 participants at "Together We Can" end-of-program celebration

TEACH! UrbanSouth news and updates

On June 16, Teach! UrbanSouth Program Director Tyra Lopes Mendes welcomed more than 100 attendees to Cohort 3's final exhibition and celebration at the Shaw's Center in Brockton. Family and friends, school district personnel from **Brockton, Plymouth, Taunton and Wareham**, and UMass Dartmouth staff participated in the program entitled "Dialogue, Dinner and Celebration." Twenty-one educators were awarded their certificate of completion towards initial licensure. To date, sixty participants have completed this federally funded program and now hold initial teaching licenses. Thirteen program completers from Cohorts 1 and 2 have earned their Masters of Arts in Teaching degree and another 23 are enrolled as of summer 2011.

Another highlight of Teach! UrbanSouth Cohort 3 is their participation in the national pilot program designed by researchers from Stanford University called the Teacher Performance Assessment Consortium (TPAC). Along with the other three UMass Schools of Education (Amherst, Boston and Lowell) and Boston College, Teach! UrbanSouth completed the TPAC pilot on an accelerated timetable, because it is believed that the TPAC assessment tool may be adopted on a statewide level as early as 2012. Other states participating in this pilot program were Minnesota, Ohio, Tennessee and Washington.

TEACH! UrbanSouth is funded by a Teacher Quality Enhancement Recruitment (TQE-R) grant from the United States Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education.



Teach! UrbanSouth Program Director Tyra Lopes Mendes



Jordan Valois, Taunton;
Elizabeth Mollo Christensen and
Salvatore Sciascia, Plymouth



Cooperating Teacher Maura
Goodhall; Hilary Filkins, Brockton;
and Eleanor Mackinder, University
Supervisor



Jonathan Towle, Cooperating
Teacher Terry Finnegan, and
Tracy Young, Brockton

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News Bits

Connecting Oceans Academy

An initiative of the Education through Cultural and Historical Organizations (ECHO) Project.

Jack Crowley and David Welty of the Connecting Oceans Academy (COA) presented at the National Marine Education Association's annual conference, "Cape to Cape: In the Hub of Marine Education," June 27-July 3 at Northeastern University in Boston.

The COA also taught two courses for teachers this summer: Using Marine Life Sciences to Integrate a Curriculum, and Art & Science Through Nature Journaling.



JET Professor Jen Riley accoladed again

On May 24, UMass Dartmouth Chancellor Jean MacCormack wrote, "it gives me great pleasure to announce that Dr. Jen Riley has been awarded the University of Massachusetts Roy J. Zuckerberg Endowed Leadership Chair for 2011 through 2012. This award recognizes leaders of courage, conviction, and selflessness who have devoted their time and talent to helping the University accomplish its goals."



The Noyce Scholarship Program

Noyce Scholars are high-achieving undergraduate students majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields who receive substantial scholarships as they become middle and high school teachers in high-need SouthCoast schools.

Two Noyce Scholars, Justin Mare and Matt Huberman, received their bachelor's degrees in Mathematics in May and are now enrolled in the Master of Arts in Teaching – Initial Program at UMass Dartmouth.

Noyce Sponsors Summer Interns

The Kaput Center for Research and Innovation in STEM Education, Sea Lab Marine Science Education Center and the Ocean Explorium are hosting four Noyce summer interns. The internships are part of the Noyce Scholarship program, and are available to STEM undergraduates at UMass Dartmouth.

Incoming seniors Carlos Fernandes (Mathematics) and Joao Pires (Civil Engineering), and incoming Junior Jorge Fernandes (Mathematics) are participating in research on methods of math teaching at the Kaput Center. Brian Kirby, incoming Junior (Biology), is teaching science at the Sea Lab and working with the staff at the Ocean Explorium in New Bedford. Kirby interned at Sea Lab last summer.

Noyce Scholars Complete Teach! UrbanSouth

On June 16, Emily Alves and Jordan Valois (right) completed their coursework for Teach! UrbanSouth, the accelerated post-baccalaureate teacher licensure program (see page 2), and are now ready to be endorsed for their initial teaching license. Since September 2010, Alves and Valois served as apprentice biology teachers at **Wareham High School and Taunton High School**. Both matriculated into SEPPCE's Master of Arts in Teaching program and will continue their coursework.



Noyce Scholars at NSF Summer Conference in Washington, D.C.

Three UMass Dartmouth Noyce scholars were invited to present at the National Science Foundation Robert Noyce Teaching Scholarship Program Conference in July in Washington, DC. High School Math teacher Jimmy Knuutilla and Middle School Math teacher Michelle Pound served on a panel made up of former Noyce scholars from urban and rural schools across the country. The panel, entitled "Voices from the Field" asked the panelists to discuss what inspired them to become teachers, reflect upon their current teaching experience and the impact the Noyce program has had on them.

Knuutilla and Pound also presented at a workshop with fellow UMass Dartmouth Noyce Scholar Kate McDermott entitled, "Survival Guide for the First Year Teacher." This past year, Knuutilla and McDermott taught math at **Durfee High School in Fall River** and Pound taught math at **Roosevelt Middle School in New Bedford**. Recent Teach! UrbanSouth program completers Emily Alves and Jordan Valois joined Program Director Kym Welty as attendees at this conference.

The Noyce Scholarship Program is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

On the CUSP



News and Updates from the Center for University, School and Community Partnerships

Local Teachers Participate in NEH Summer Program

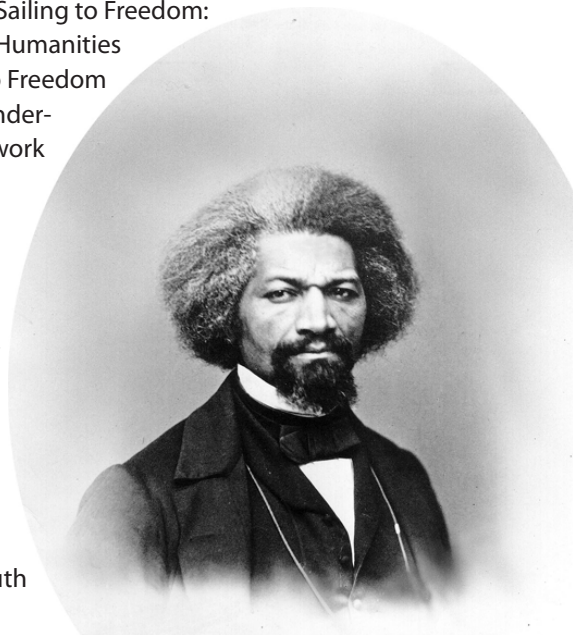
Ten teachers from South Coast middle and high schools were selected to attend "Sailing to Freedom: New Bedford and the Underground Railroad." These National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Scholars were chosen from a national pool of applicants. In the Sailing to Freedom workshop series, nationally-recognized experts cover New Bedford's role in the Underground Railroad at important historical sites throughout the region. Participants work to create innovative lesson plans for their students next year.

Nicole Britton (**Roosevelt Middle School**), Tasha Fonseca (**New Bedford High School**), Kathryn Berry-Poulin (**Freetown-Lakeville**), Christine Rhodes (**Fairhaven High School**), Araceliz Rodriguez (**Normandin Middle School**), Paula Jardin (**Fairhaven High School**), Joseph Silva (**Keith Middle School**), and Patricia Avelar (**Acushnet Public Schools**), Robert Powers (**Apponequet Regional High School**), and Susan Plaud (**Acushnet Public Schools**) participated in Sailing to Freedom along with 70 other teachers from across the nation, including Alaska and California. Two hundred and twenty teachers had applied.

Project Director Dr. Timothy Walker, Associate Professor of History at UMass Dartmouth along with Project Administrator Lee Blake, director of the UMass Dartmouth Campus Compact and President of the New Bedford Historical Society, brought together scholars of the Underground Railroad, antebellum Abolition Movement and African Americans in the maritime trades.

The Sailing to Freedom series of workshops was offered twice this summer, July 17 – 22 and July 24 – 29, 2011. Sailing to Freedom is one of twenty summer study opportunities supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency that each summer supports Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops so that teachers can study with experts in humanities disciplines.

For more information about this workshop see the article that ran in the *Standard-Times*: <http://tinyurl.com/3e4tzlk>



Frederick Douglass

Buzzards Bay Writing Project News and Updates

Provides opportunities for teachers in southeastern Massachusetts to explore their classroom practice in the teaching of writing, issues of literacy and their own personal writing.

The 2011 Invitational Summer Institute (ISI) and the Advanced Institute pinpointed the importance of promoting and supporting teacher knowledge, expertise, and leadership. Over a four week period, teachers in the ISI worked on professional writing, action research, and demonstration lessons and also extended their personal writing, classroom expertise in literacy, and capacity as teacher leaders.

The Advanced Institute focused on the concept of Text Immersion in writing instruction.

This summer, the Buzzards Bay Writing Project also sponsored Summer Camps for Young Writers in Swansea. Students from grades 4 through 10 spent one, two, or three weeks writing and sharing their work, participating in field trips and writing marathons, and reading before an audience.

The Center for University, School and Community Partnerships (CUSP)

The mission of the Center for University, School and Community Partnerships (CUSP) is to improve student learning in the SouthCoast region by providing high quality inter-district professional development opportunities to K-12 educators that strengthen their content knowledge, curricula, instruction and leadership skills. We also provide alternative licensure programs to those who want to become teachers.

Contact us at:

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Look for future On the CUSPs in December, May and August

