Dear readers:

I am very excited to present you with our first department newsletter! This student-run newsletter is intended to showcase and highlight some of the outstanding teaching, research, and service that the Department of Curriculum and Teaching at Montclair State University is doing at the local, national and even international level. It is an honor to be the chairperson of an engaged and cutting edge faculty: Thank you for the opportunity!

I promise to have one newsletter ready each semester to continue to spread the outstanding work that our department does on a regular basis.

I would like to extend a heartfelt “Thank You” to all the faculty of Curriculum and Teaching for their collaboration with the graduate assistants and for helping to put this newsletter together. Moreover, I would like to extend a special thanks to all the graduate assistants for their superb work on this first edition of the newsletter. Also I would like to take this opportunity to thank our GA’s that are going into student teaching this coming semester: Shari Fidelman, Eric Fingerman, Adam Gerckens and Kathleen Hummel. Bon Voyage as you start your teaching journey - we’ll miss you!

Please continue to support this effort as on ongoing representation of our rich and diverse community. It serves as an example -- to the members of our community and (more important) to future members -- of the work we have accomplished and hope to achieve.

Keep up the good work!

David Schwarzer, Chairperson of Curriculum and Teaching.
**Professor Features**

Dr. Jennifer Goeke was appointed the Graduate Program Coordinator of our Special Education programs this past September. She is currently working on a number of publications, including writing a textbook with Kristen Ritchey from the University of Delaware on inclusive methods. Dr. Goeke is also putting together two articles: one on teacher leadership and a literature review on word identification. Additionally, in October, a chapter co-authored by Kristen Ritchey titled, "Siblings with Disabilities" was published in the book *Sibling Development: Implications for Mental Health Practitioners*. In the field, Dr. Goeke has been working in Bloomfield High School with co-teaching teams on their professional development.

Dr. David Schwarzer has recently completed work on a book, *Research Informing Practice - Practice Informing Research: Innovative Teaching Methodologies for World Language Teachers*, which is set to be published in Spring 2011. Dr. Schwarzer was the first editor on this volume, which includes eight other authors from around the world sharing their experiences as researchers and practitioners, as well as the importance of using each to inform the other. Dr. Schwarzer also presented at two conferences, one right here at MSU as well as the NNER conference in Illinois. Both presentations featured a multiliteracy dig of communities local to Montclair State. Currently, Dr. Schwarzer is working on a new book which is innovative not only in content, but form as well: the volume will feature researchers and practitioners at all levels of education engaging in dialogue regarding practice, research, and implementing new activities in the classroom. He is very excited about the new book and about the upcoming semester!

Dr. Vanessa Domine and Julianne Bello, now vice-principal of Dover Middle School, co-authored an article about their field-based course (CURR 210), which appeared in the 2010 issue of *Education and Democracy: A Journal of the NNER*. Dr. Domine has recently been invited to serve on the Board and Staff of the International Family Film Festival, based in Hollywood, which helps to implement media literacy projects for children and their families. She is excited and honored to be on the same committee as Wonder Woman, actor Lynda Carter.

Dr. Domine is also currently the Conference Program Chair for the *National Association for Media Literacy Education Conference*, which will be held in Philadelphia next July. The theme is "Global Visions/Local Connections: Voices in Media Literacy Education." Anyone interested in submitting a proposal or participating, may contact Dr. Domine.
Dr. Mayida Zaal is in her second year in the Curriculum and Teaching Department. Her research and writing have centered around two topics: youth participatory action research in the classroom and the experiences of immigrant youth in the context of Islamaphobia.

Dr. Zaal’s project on youth participatory action research (YPAR) in the classroom began with the design of a YPAR social studies curriculum last Spring. Social studies teachers, graduate students, and scholars in the field of youth activism and research convened at MSU to discuss design principles for the curriculum and then designed a YPAR curriculum that several teachers are implementing this year. Dr. Zaal will be collaborating with researchers at Rutgers and Saint Peter’s College on a study of this curriculum in practice. She is hopeful that the process of youth participatory action research, in which students will investigate and act on social problems in their communities, will ultimately improve social studies education.

Dr. Zaal has been teaching Principles of Curriculum Development, Assessment for Authentic Learning, and Teaching for Learning (TFL). Students in her assessment course have visited Urban Academy in Manhattan, a school that is part of the New York Performance Standards Consortium, to witness a performance-assessment system firsthand. Finally, Dr. Zaal is thrilled that many of her TFL students who graduated in May 2010 have found teaching positions. She is planning a reunion for her TFL alumni in January of 2011.

Dr. Cindy Onore published an article in the Summer 2010 issue of the Teacher Education Quarterly with Dr. Bonny Gilden, Vice President of the Newark All Stars Project, called "Preparing urban teachers as public professionals through a university-community partnership.” The two have been collaborating on developing fieldwork opportunities for preservice urban teachers in the All Stars, a community-based youth development organization. One outcome of their partnership can be found in the new Newark Montclair Urban Teacher Residency Program, where residents intern in the All Stars during the summer, then enter a year-long residency at East Side High School. Drs. Onore and Gilden have also presented their work at AERA and the Great Teachers for Our City Schools Annual Summit.

Last July, Dr. Nancy Tumposky taught for two weeks at Karl Franzens University in Graz, through the MSU Global Education Center's "Teaching in English" program. Her colleagues were Dr. Greg Waters, head of the MSU honors program, and Dr. Jim Nash, recently retired Chair of the MSU English Department. The program was a faculty seminar intended to help participants improve their spoken and academic English. Her course focused on teaching at the University level.

If you would like your good news featured here, please write to us at candtnewsletter@gmail.com
Professor Features

Dr. Tanya Moorehead recently completed her doctorate in Exceptional Education at the University of Central Florida. Her dissertation, entitled "The Roles and Interactions of Secondary Co-teaching Teams," reflects her research interests in teacher collaboration and co-teaching in secondary settings. She is also interested in the academic achievement of students with mild to moderate disabilities in inclusive settings. She has presented papers at numerous professional conferences and has a manuscript under review by Current Issues in Education. As a Toni Jennings Exceptional Education Institute Scholar and a Lockheed Martin Corporation Intern, she was featured in an MSNBC TeachMe Lab video on classroom management. She also completed an internship with Dr. Bonnie Jones at the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs in 2009.

Dr. Douglas Larkin recently completed his doctorate in Teacher Education at UW-Madison, and was a recipient of the Tashia Morgridge Fellowship for 2009-2010. His dissertation, entitled "Learning the Pedagogical Implications of Student Diversity: The Lived Experiences of Preservice Teaching Learning to Teach Secondary Science in Diverse Classrooms," examined the process of individual conceptual change among six student teachers in four different teacher education programs as they moved from their coursework into their fieldwork. Recent articles have been published in the Journal of Research in Science Teaching and Beyond Pedagogies of Exclusion: Transnational Conversation. He has taught high school physics and other science subjects in Hamilton Township and Trenton, NJ, as well as in Kenya and Papua New Guinea with the U.S. Peace Corps. He was named the Trenton (NJ) Educator of the Year in 2005.

Dr. Emily Klein has been working closely with Monica Taylor, Cindy Onore, and Jennifer Goeke on teacher leadership. Their article “Changing leadership: Teachers lead the way for schools that learn” is currently under review in Teaching and Teacher Education. Dr. Klein has another article under review for the American Educational Research Journal: “Scaling up professional development: A cross comparative study of the Internationals schools, the Big Picture schools, and Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound schools.” Her piece “Environmental Education in Action: How Expeditionary Learning Schools support teachers in tackling issues of sustainability in classroom practice” was published in Teacher Education Quarterly and four more of her papers were accepted for the American Educational Research Association annual meeting this spring.
Professor Features

Dr. Rebecca Goldstein recently presented a paper with two of her doctoral students, Nataly Chesky and Alexandra Perry, at the AESA conference this fall. The paper was titled, "The Obama Education Marketplace: Media Representations of School Reform Equality and Social Justice." She is looking forward to presenting two papers on education and the media at the AERA conference this spring.

For Prospective Students

Upcoming interview dates for the MAT/Post BA and SPED programs:

- February 16
- March 9
- March 23
- April 6
- April 20
- May 11
- May 25
- June 8
- June 22

Congratulations to Dr. Elaine Fine who has been awarded Emeritus status! Dr. Fine served the University for 29 years, working as the Graduate Program Coordinator for Special Education programs and Coordinator of the Assessment Center. She also led the redesign of general and special education teacher programs through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Education. Thank you, Dr. Fine, for all of your hard work and continued service!!!

Editors: Kevin Christman, Shari Fidelman, Eric Fingerman, Mary Fuchs, Adam Gerckens, Kathleen Hummel, Kristin LeBeau