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Master of Education
Newsletter

Fall 2012
Volume 1, Number 4

Faculty of Education
St. Francis Xavier University

Welcome to Fall 2012!

Contact:
(902) 867-3906
Toll Free: 877-867-3906
Email: med@stfx.ca

Have you applied for
Fall 2012

Convocation?

Fall Convocation:



Convocation Ceremony
December 8th

Have you registered
for Winter Session?

Winter / Spring Calendar:

<http://sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/sites/sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/files/CalendarFW12-13.pdf>

Winter / Spring
Registration remains
opened to all eligible MEd
students.



Frustrated when
courses are cancelled;
register early as possible
to avoid course
cancellation.

After a busy July and quiet August Xavier Hall has come back to life in September. We welcome Kathleen Lingley, Wendy Mackie, Kevin OKeefe, Marjorie Bursey, Carrie Duggan, Judy Connors, Darlene Chisholm MacDonald, Teresa MacDonald and Danielle Wilkin who are studying full-time in our Masters program. Several of these educators are co-teaching Bachelor of Education courses alongside full-time faculty in Xavier Hall. This unique learning experience allows graduate students to get a feel for teacher education, bring their wonderful practical, professional knowledge and skills into the pre-service education courses and creates exciting teaching teams!

We continue to offer courses each term via the multi-modal approach which allows residential graduate students to experience a course in a face to face environment while other graduate students come in the course via Collaborate. StFX has moved to the use of MOODLE as a platform for on-line learning and faculty and students are both transitioning to this new system (which is not unlike Blackboard but does have some unique features). Reminder: if you are having issues related to either Collaborate or Moodle please contact cdesupport@stfx.ca.

Please sign up for winter and spring courses now. We want to keep our course offerings diverse and we need your support **in enrolling early**.



StFX Email Accounts:

Frustrated because your StFX email account has expired? TSG has addressed this problem by allowing students to have 'Self-serve Password Manager' which means you can control the activation of your email account. Please follow the guidelines in the tutorial provided on the following link: [Guides & Tutorials](#). With the webFX Self-serve Password Manager, you can activate your webFX account, reset your webFX password, update your webFX challenge questions, or unlock your webFX account.

Important Information:

- All students intending to graduate must apply to do so. The application to graduate is located in your personalized mesAMIS account. Please note that a student cannot be considered a candidate for graduation unless an application has been submitted.
- Please note: Students enrolled in fall term courses are not eligible for Fall Convocation.
- Registration for winter and spring remains opened to all eligible students. If you have not done so we ask that you register as soon as possible. Course offerings are contingent on enrollment numbers and courses may be cancelled (including core courses) if there is insufficient enrollment. Following is the link to our course offerings:
<http://sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/sites/sites.stfx.ca.continuingeducation/files/CalendarFW12-13.pdf>
- Students are able to register for as many EDUC 569s (Selected Topics) as their elective requirements allow provided the course title of each is different.
- X-ring eligibility for our Program requires a total of 36 credits earned, in progress or a combination of both. X-ring is a Student Union initiative. Please contact the Student Union office directly regarding your eligibility at 902.867.2495.
- Need assistance selecting your courses? Please contact the program office for assistance at med@stfx.ca or 1.877.867.3906.

Summer School 2012



Teresa MacDonald and Travis Martin (left) and Amy Gallant and Cynthia Hellesoe (right) exchange ideas about educational research in 505.

July saw a busy and diverse summer school program! Approximately 100 graduate students came to Xavier Hall to complete courses. Graduate students new to the program successfully juggled issues of commuting to Antigonish, arranging childcare, entertaining visiting family 'from away', managing a myriad of family responsibilities all while studying! Although it is challenging for some graduate students to come onto campus for face-to-face courses in July, by the end of summer classes most students agreed on the power of the learning community that is created in the face-to-face environment. There was wonderful geographic diversity in the program with students coming to StFX from almost every province and territory in Canada and others coming from other countries, making for rich learning conversations. The beautiful summer weather in Antigonish enhanced the learning environment. Students continuing in the program came on-campus to take courses in qualitative research methods, research literacy, using social media in the classroom,

building positive relationships in classrooms using Tribes, and understanding and addressing mental health issues in schools. Graduate students in the French resource cohort, the Tri-country Leadership, Physical Education and Literacy cohorts were participating in courses on-site in Halifax and Yarmouth. Other non-cohort students came in to courses offered fully on-line. All of this speaks to the wonderful professionals in our Masters program who are committed to lifelong learning!



Tara Fanning and Tommy Samson engage in conversation about building safe learning communities using Tribes @ in the EDUC 529 course.

Congratulations to Lori Richard who recently completed a thesis and Rob Nelson who completed a project!

Lori Richard (July 2012). **Differentiation of Mathematics: A Reform Approach**. Supervisor: Dr. Lisa Lunney Borden

Rob Nelson (September 2012). **Supporting Teachers in Making Changes to their Pedagogies**. Supervisor: Dr. Daniel Robinson

Theses and projects are available through the Angus L. Macdonald Library in hard copy form only.

To Watch For:

One of the recommendations from the Inter-University Forum on Teacher Education held in Truro in June 2012 was that research done in Masters of Education programs in the province be made more accessible and available to educators, school boards and other researchers. At StFX we will be working to make this happen over the next few months as a way of putting a stronger spot light on the tremendous research that is going on in our graduate program!

Final thoughts on the role of teacher expectations on student learning...

I do not become who *I think* I am.
I do not become who *you think* I am.
I become who *I think you think* I am.
(Karen Hudson, EDUC 534, Summer 2012)

Non Credit Course - Writing Essentials for Academic Purposes (Online)

Offered by StFX Continuing & Distance Education in collaboration with the StFX Writing Centre

Writing is essential for all students in higher education. Academic writing is a process. This non-credit writing for Academic purposes course provides students with a framework and techniques for effective and powerful writing. From understanding your task, to the necessary research, and to the planning and writing of the various drafts, participants will gain a better understanding of the writing process.

Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 pm AST

October 9 to November 13, 2012 (6 sessions)

***Collaborate* online classroom - Information for set up and all course materials will be provided**

Instructor: C. tenBrinke

Cost: \$132.25 (includes HST) payable on or before October 5, 2012

For more information contact:

StFX Continuing & Distance Education

(902) 867-3319 or 1-877-867-5561

Email: cmaceach@stfx.ca

<http://sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/>

Registration is limited: Application deadline: October 3, 2012