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Master of Education Newsletter

Spring 2017 VOL 6 NO 2



Faculty of Education

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Spring has finally hit the East Coast and it is wonderful to see! We had a very successful spring convocation with 42 Master of Education students completing their program. Many MEd students and their families were able to attend the ceremony on campus. It's always a pleasure to see our students return to campus! A special shout out to the Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus in Nursing and Health Education cohort students who completed their program!

This will be my last MEd newsletter as I am completing my 6-year term as Chair of the Program on June 30th. Dr. David Young is the new MEd Chair and I know the program will thrive under

David's capable leadership. Jennifer Farrell will continue to provide fabulous administrative support for the program.

As I leave this role I would like to recap two key learnings. The first is how providing the time and space for deep professional learning for adult learners who bring lots of prior knowledge and experience creates/enhances the critical consciousness that changes teaching and leadership practices for educators, in whatever context they find themselves. The most visible changes I see in MEd students at the end of their degree is the confidence, agency and hopefulness they have in themselves as professional educators. They hold themselves differently. Their voices are stronger. They speak from their personal and professional experience. They are more confident knowing that what they have 'seen to be true' is validated by the research, literature and professional learning conversations they have had over the 2-3 years in the program. Their leadership skills, in whatever context they find themselves, are sharpened. I believe they have been affirmed and transformed by the deep learning that can occur in a graduate program. The many hours of class time, combined with individual reading, discussion and reflection on practice allow them to see their own 'brilliance' as educators. This heartens me greatly.

A second learning I take away from this role is humility and gratitude. As Chair I have been witness to the countless ways that MEd students navigate their lives. On an almost weekly basis I talk to a graduate student whose life has suddenly been uprooted. The horse (in our cart and horse metaphor) has come to a complete stop. Sometimes it is for a happy reason; a baby is born or a new job opportunity. More often, it is challenging and difficult news they face. A child becomes sick, an aging parent becomes ill, a student is faced with a sudden illness, a family unit changes, working conditions place increased demands on teachers who have inadequate resources, economic challenges, and job loss just to name a few. In these moments, I am humbled by the life circumstances presented to educators who already have their plates full of responsibilities in the service of others. In all cases, there is amazing resiliency that keeps people getting back up on their feet! Because of my time working alongside MEd students in these past few years, and knowing about the many challenges that face them, I do try to remind myself to quiet my frivolous complaints and have greater empathy for my peers and students.

I want to also thank the wonderful colleagues who have supported the MEd program. Jennifer Farrell, Shafik, Janice, Jeff, Cheryl, Bernadette, Jennifer Connors, my fellow chairs in the Faculty of Education Andrew, Lisa, Dan, Leona, Maureen and all the colleagues in Xavier Hall and the many part-time board based instructors that I have had the pleasure to work with. It has really been my pleasure to have been able to serve in this role. Best to all... Joanne

Important Information

- **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS** for Master of Education students has been added to the Continuing & Distance Education website.

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

- [What is the refund policy?](#)
- [How do I register for a course?](#)
- [How do I request a transcript?](#)
- [How do I request an official receipt for tuition?](#)
- [How do I apply to graduate?](#)

And many more...



- **X-RING ELIGIBILITY:** <https://www.stfx.ca/alumni/everything-x-ring/x-ring-information> For more information, please contact Mary Jessie MacLellan at mjmaclel@stfx.ca.
- **DROPPING A COURSE** 2 weeks prior to the start date will result in an automatic charge of \$100.00. Please see the refund policy under Frequently Asked Questions: <http://sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/FAQ>
- **EDUC 569 SELECTED TOPICS:** Students may register for as many 569s as their elective requirements allow, provided the course title for each is different.
- **STUDENT STATUS:** If your student status changes for any reason, please notify the program office at med@stfx.ca
- **ASYNCHRONOUS:** We have developed several asynchronous courses. Asynchronous e-learning is an interactive, student-centered approach to learning that is not bounded by geography or time.
- **CORE COURSES:** Non-Cohort students are encouraged to take core courses first. Please visit the FAQ's for a list.

Seats are still available in the following summer courses:

[For full descriptions click here](#)

EDUC 508.66 – Critical Research Literacy (CRN 20124)

EDUC 569.67 – Selected Topics in Education: Enhancing School Climate and Culture (CRN 20128)

EDUC 509.66 – Trauma Informed Practices (CRN 20126)

For instructions on how to register for a course, please visit our Frequently Asked Questions Page:

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

Frustrated when courses are cancelled? Register early to avoid possible cancellation of courses!



Congratulations to our Spring 2017 Graduates!

NON - COHORT

Nadia Maria Berardelli
Christopher John Bigelow
Stephanie Rachel Burke
Sophie Chantal Call
Donald Nathaniel Cormier
Melanie Elizabeth Dawe
Darcy Marie Kimmitt
Derrick Michael Noel Laychuk
Melissa Wrene Leder
Mark Weaver MacPhee
Matthew Minh-Triet Ngo
Elsa Pinkohs
Trevor Alexander Reddick
Marsha Ann Marie Sabattis
Jason Arthur Teale
Hugh Francis Wood

NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCE COHORT

Sandra Lee Beumer
Deborah Lynn Burris
Treena Lynn Campbell
Mary Petrine Churchill
Elizabeth Marie Farrell
Laura Maria Gillan
Joyce Kathleen Grandy
Donna Susan Gunn
Joanne Elizabeth Hughes
Catherine Michelle Huntington
Kara Leigh Jamieson
Karen Lynn Marie Kenny
Marianne Henrietta Langille
Joyce Wambui Mbugua
Shelley Marie Orr
Wendy Maria Panagopoulos

Members of the Nursing & Health Sciences Cohort celebrating after Spring Convocation



New Starting Summer 2017:

- Master of Education in Administration & Leadership: Outdoor Education Cohort 1
- Master of Education in Administration & Leadership: Mental Health Cohort 5
- Master of Education in Administration & Leadership: Indigenous Education
- Master of Education in Administration & Leadership: Non-Cohort
- Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction: Secondary Science Education Cohort 1
- Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction: Early Elementary Pedagogy Cohort 4
- Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction: Non-Cohort

Information can be found here: http://www.sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/MEd_Cohorts

In the News

- Second Annual Celebration of StFX Authors fetes faculty authors
(<https://www.stfx.ca/about/news/celebration-authors>)

Technology Tips & Tricks

Have you ever wondered how to make your link clickable when you post it on Moodle?

- If you are posting a link to a document, video, or other type of file on a discussion forum or elsewhere on Moodle, it is a good idea to make the link clickable. That way, others can easily access your file, and they will be more likely to view it and comment on it. To learn how to make your link clickable, watch this video: <https://youtu.be/3h4x3GjDOX8>

The Fall / Winter / Spring 2017-2018 Calendar will be available in late July. You will receive an e-mail notifying you when the calendar has been posted and when registration will open.