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Dear Amy ,

Welcome to our new School of Education newsletter filled with information about our programs, key issues, upcoming events, and a medley of commentaries, profiles and updates.

This newsletter cannot, of course, capture all of the changes, programs and energy happening in the School of Education at Merrimack College - - but we can try. So, in the age of immediate Facebook profiles (and, yes, you can [friend us](#)), we hope you'll take a moment to browse through this newsletter and see what makes the School of Education a wonderful place to study, to teach, and to make a difference. Join us!

Dan W. Butin, Ph.D.  
Dean, School of Education

## *Think Tanks*

*Ready, Set, Go!*

Registration for the third cohort of Leadership Think Tanks is underway. Think Tanks are learning communities committed to exploring best practices and key issues in the field.

Sessions for 2011-2012 include:

- \* Assistant Principals & House Deans
- \* Guidance Directors
- \* Elementary Principals

[Click here](#) for more information and [register](#) soon, as there are limited spots.

"Rarely are we afforded the opportunity to sit and have professional discussions about school counseling to the depth and degree we are through the *Think Tanks*. The enrichment and collegiality I have experienced has been overwhelming."

*Bill Hughen, Guidance Director, Alvirne High School, Hudson, NH*



## *In the News*

· Merrimack's School of Education received a College Access Grant through the Department of Higher Education's Northeast Regional College Access Project. This will help to fund our new Center for Youth and Families which will provide direct service enrichment and support for local K-12 students as well as informational training and advocacy consultation for parents/caregivers.

· Through the NRRC's (Northeast Regional Readiness Center) efforts, the School of Education received a continuation grant to support an Early Childhood Professional Development initiative, which will help to provide courses to support early childhood educators pursuing their bachelor's or master's degree. Dr. Butin is on the board of the NRCC. [-More-](#)

· Merrimack Alumna and Beverly Public Schools Superintendent Marie Galinski, Ed.D. '70 was spotlighted in the summer 2011 Merrimack College alumni magazine. Dr. Galinski and the Beverly Public School system serve as mentors for some of our Education Fellows. *"It's not okay just to know your content anymore. It's about how you interact with the student and the content."* Galinski - [More-](#)

## *Program Highlights*

### **Undergraduate**

The undergraduate education department has grown substantially to include new licensure programs (including Early Childhood Education and Physics) and two new interdisciplinary majors: [Human Development](#) and STEM Education. The Human Development major provides students with a solid foundation for students interested in graduate programs and/or future careers in education, human services and social sciences. This major is ideal for those students interested in becoming early childhood or elementary education teachers. Likewise, STEM in education is becoming increasingly important and a key issue for K-12.

### **Graduate**

Educators now have a new way to advance their careers. The new [CAGS \(Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies\)](#) in Teacher Leadership is an innovative partnership between Merrimack College and MGH Institute of Health Professions towards a CAGS and license as a Reading Specialist.

Two new graduate programs, recently been launched by Merrimack's School of Education, offer students expanded career options in education. The [M.Ed. in Higher Education](#) prepares students to be educational and administrative leaders and professionals in postsecondary institutions. The [M.Ed. in Community Engagement](#) prepares students to make a difference in their local and global communities in nonprofits, schools, and community agencies.

### **MTEL Workshops**

The School of Education at Merrimack College now offers MTEL workshops for both Merrimack and non-Merrimack students. Please refer to our [MTEL webpage](#) to register and to view the schedule of workshops offered this fall.

## *New Faces and Changes*

### **Our programs are growing, and so are we!**

- **Dr. Theresa Kirk**, chair of the graduate programs, has recently been named assistant dean for Graduate Education.
- **Dr. Audrey Falk** is a new assistant professor and director of the Community Engagement program. Most recently, Dr. Falk was an assistant professor in the Department of Family Studies and Community Development at Towson University.
- **Dr. Susan Marine** is a new assistant professor and director of the Higher Education program. Most recently, Dr. Marine was the assistant dean of Harvard College for Student Life and the founding director of the Harvard College Women's Center.
- **Dr. Terry Robertson** is a new visiting assistant professor in the graduate programs with an extensive background in reading and special education.
- **Dr. Daniel Shoreman** is director of licensure in the graduate programs and oversees MTEL preparation. Dr. Shoreman has been an elementary school principal for over 30 years in the Wakefield Public Schools, where he has garnered numerous awards and honors.



Theresa Kirk, Ed.D.



Audrey Falk, Ed.D.



Susan Marine, Ph.D.

Terry Robertson,  
Ed.D.Daniel Shoreman,  
Ed.D.

## *New Fellowship Cohorts in the Community*

Fifty-two new graduate fellows were accepted into the School of Education's three fellowship programs - the highly successful Education Fellowship and two new fellowship cohorts launched this year. Students receive a full-tuition fellowship after being admitted through a highly competitive admissions process. While working in local schools, nonprofits, and communities agencies across the Merrimack Valley and the greater Boston area, fellows complete their 36-credit master's degree.

### **\* Education Fellows**

32 Education Fellows are serving in PreK-12 classrooms for the 2011-2012 academic year in school districts across the region, including Andover, Bedford, Central Catholic High School, Cheverus (Malden), Haverhill, Lowell Catholic High School, Lynnfield, North Andover and Wilmington.

### **\* Higher Education Fellows**

14 Higher Education Fellows are conducting year-long clinical residencies at Northern Essex Community College, Merrimack College, Massachusetts Campus Compact, and Little Sprouts.

### **\* Community Engagement Fellows**

6 Community Engagement Fellows are conducting year-long clinical residencies at Habitat for Humanity, Lowell Community Teamwork, Merrimack College, and Greater Lawrence Community Action Council.

Applications for next year's Fellowship programs will begin to be accepted in January 2012.

**Thank you for reading!  
Look for our next issue later this fall.**

### **IF YOU . . .**

- would like to provide feedback or share content for future issues, please write to [schoolofeducation@merrimack.edu](mailto:schoolofeducation@merrimack.edu)
- would like more information on our programs, please log onto [merrimack.edu/schoolofeducation](http://merrimack.edu/schoolofeducation)



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