

UNH Department of Education

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Alumni News

Robin Ellwood Wins Presidential Award for Excellence

Robin Ellwood '85 '93G '13G wins the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The Presidential Awards are the highest recognition that K-12 mathematics and science teachers may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. Awardees receive a certificate signed by the President, a trip to Washington D.C., and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation.

"The recipients of this award are integral to ensuring our students are equipped with critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are vital to our nation's success," President Obama said in a press release. "As the United States continues to lead the way in the innovation that is shaping our future, these excellent teachers are preparing students from all corners of the country with the science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills that help keep us on the cutting-edge."

Students in Ellwood's classes engage in discussion, hands-on manipulation of materials, transference of classroom skills to field-based investigations, and work with community members and experts to delve into local, regional and global issues. Her students have built an underwater, remotely operated vehicle that was successfully deployed in Antarctica, and they are currently installing a remotely operated surveillance camera to study biological, physical and environmental dynamics within a secluded wetland ecosystem. She has received numerous grants, totaling in excess of \$45,000, to support innovative projects and opportunities for students. Even while on expedition to the Antarctic, she was able to teach, keeping in touch with students back home via the Internet as they followed her daily journal entries. Ellwood strives to inspire student learning through inquiry and project-based opportunities that promote authentic application of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) concepts.

"I am honored and humbled to receive this award and cherish the support from students, colleagues, administrators, community members and family that have made my efforts possible," said Ellwood. Dr. Ellwood, who has a B.A. in zoology, an M.Ed. in secondary education and a Ph.D. in education from UNH, has been teaching science at Rye Junior High School for 24 years.



Upcoming Events

May 19

Education Graduation Celebration

May 20

UNH Graduation

August 2

NH Educators Summit in
Conjunction with NH Department
of Education

Graduation Celebration!

Our annual graduation celebration is Friday, May 19th from 5:00pm-6:30pm in Lundholm Field House. If you have not yet done so, RSVP at <http://bit.do/UNHedu>

Faculty Research

Dr. Hadley Solomon and her research team will be presenting three papers from two studies at the upcoming American Education Research Association conference (AERA) in San Antonio, TX in April¹. The findings from these studies contribute to our understanding of motivation and emotion in achievement settings and the specific differences in these for male and female students in math. Additionally, the team will be presenting two papers at the upcoming European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction conference (EARLI) in Tampere, Finland in August². The team is preparing to collect a second wave of data from teachers in New England this semester after a very successful Wave I collection last fall (N=450). These data will help us understand more about the motivational and emotional processes that contribute to teacher burnout and perceptions of wellness, and how these develop over time. Drs. Solomon and Graham have submitted an NSF grant (currently under review) to help support this work, and future study proposals are being written for the National Science Foundation, the McDonnell Foundation, the CoRE Initiative, and the Research Council of Norway.

Dr. Solomon will be traveling to Washington D.C. in May to serve as an expert panelist at an AERA research conference entitled “*Use of innovative technology to build engaging motivational interventions for diverse learners.*” The purpose of the invitation-only conference is to bring together experts across four domains (motivation, technology, adolescent development and diversity, and school leaders) to address the challenge to create more effective technology-based motivational interventions that are relevant to diverse student groups. This group of experts will use the three-day conference to develop a competitive grant proposal to develop a fundable intervention product.

The research team will continue to analyze and collect data on teacher burnout, motivation, and emotion throughout the summer. If you are interested in learning more about this work or how you can be involved, please contact Dr. Hadley Solomon at hadley.solomon@unh.edu. We are always happy to welcome talented, eager new scholars!



Announcements & Congratulations

Several Education faculty and doctoral students will attend the *American Educational Research Association Conference* in San Antonio, TX to present research papers and chair symposia.

Doctoral students **Justin Benna** and **Carla Evans** were selected as **Clark Scholars** for the 37th Annual David L. Clark National Graduate Student Research Seminar in Educational Administration and Policy.

2017 Dissertation Year Fellowship Awards – **Carla Evans** and **Erika Baril**; **Beth Fornauf**, Summer Teaching Assistantship

Mary Schuh, Research Associate Professor of Education, has been awarded a **Kennedy Public Policy Fellowship for 2017-18**. This is a one year intensive immersion experience in Washington DC, funded by the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation.

¹ Student co-authors: Shaleen Cassily, Te-Hsin Chang, Mary Dindorf, Joy Erickson, Carla Evans, Beth Fornauf, Minori Haga Stefan. Faculty co-author: Suzanne Graham.

² Student co-authors: Te-Hsin Chang, Joy Erickson, Carla Evans, Beth Fornauf, Myles Lynch, Vasiliki Partinoudi, Minori Haga Stefan. Faculty co-author: Suzanne Graham.



Outreach & Engagement

Community engagement is central to our mission. The Education Department has collaborative relationships with multiple schools and community agencies. In 2015-16, **738 education students** engaged in meaningful learning in **60 schools and programs** in **30 communities** in the greater seacoast area to provide **108,072 hours of community outreach!**

Retirement Celebrations:

Dr. Bruce Mallory

Thursday, May 10th. 4:00-6:00pm.
Lexie's Durham.

Tim Churchard

Monday, May 8th. 3:30-5:00pm.
Morrill Hall, Room 2.

Outreach and Community Engagement – Shay Cassilly, Director of Field Experiences

From undergraduates' initial forays into public school classrooms in Exploring Teaching (EDUC 500) to the culminating internship experience for graduate students (EDUC 900), this office is the place to go to find practicum sites. As a result, more than 200 students pass through our office each school year.

This requires collaboration and coordination with our partnership schools. For initial field experience, a dedicated team places students in local elementary and secondary schools for 60 observation hours in a semester. Students are currently placed with teachers from Little Harbour and New Franklin Schools in Portsmouth, Exeter High School, Newmarket Junior/Senior High School, Marshwood and Noble High Schools in Maine, Oyster River Middle and High Schools in Durham, and Dover Middle School, providing students a range of experiences. For many Education 500 students, this is the first opportunity that they have had to work with teachers and students in a public education setting. We are very thankful for the dedicated faculty at these schools willing to work with our students.

The internship year is a fulltime teaching experience from the end of August till the end of April. Student interns begin the placement process a year before their intended internship. Currently 75 prospective interns are conducting multiple visits to local elementary and secondary schools as they secure their internship site for next fall.

To streamline this process, we have created a School-University Collaborative (SUC) at both the elementary and secondary levels. Interested seacoast schools undergo a review and selection process to become a partnership school. Selected schools commit to providing a robust internship experience through a partnership with the Field Experience Office for a 4-year term. The secondary SUC is entering year 1 of a new 4-yr term, while the elementary SUC is undergoing a review for the next 4-year cycle, with 12 elementary schools vying for acceptance. The SUC meets twice yearly to agree upon common intern expectations across sites and collaborate to provide support services for teachers at partnership schools.

The Office of Field Experiences is committed to providing internship placements and support services for all teacher preparation programs through strong community partnerships.

Educator Certification

The Office of Certification and Accreditation at UNH provides support to students and alumni as you seek educator certification within and outside the state of New Hampshire. Although most graduates (75% as indicated in the 2016 graduate survey) seek positions in NH, many embark on careers in states near and far. Wherever you decide to teach, we wish you the best and hope you will stay in touch!



New Hampshire Certification

The New Hampshire State Department of Education (NHDOE) is responsible for the certification of all educators in NH. UNH works with the NHDOE by providing recommendations for students completing a four-year or five-year educator preparation program. Recommendations for licensure are provided upon graduation when students have completed all coursework and internship requirements. Prior to graduation, students should:

- Review their academic record and confirm all program and degree requirements are met
- Complete all state required testing (i.e. Praxis, Foundations of Reading, etc.)
- Create a user-account with the NHDOE at <http://www.education.nh.gov/certification/>

After graduation, students apply for certification online through Alternative I (completion of an educator preparation program) with the NHDOE and pay the \$130 application fee. Once the application fee is received and all testing requirements are met, the NHDOE will issue the certification through the US Mail within 10-14 business days.

Out-of-State Certification

Students seeking licensure out of state should contact the Department of Education in the state as soon as possible to determine the specific certification requirements. The UNH certification office can assist students in completing verification of out-of-state educator preparation program forms and navigating out-of-state testing requirements. Official transcripts are often requested when seeking certification out of state. Requests for official transcripts should be made to the UNH registrar's office <http://www.unh.edu/registrar/grades-transcripts/transcript.html>

Reciprocity

New Hampshire participates in the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) agreement which helps facilitate the movement of educators among states who have signed the agreement. The agreement makes it possible for an educator who completes an approved program in one state to earn a certificate in another state without having to complete another educator preparation program. Most states do require candidates for certification complete specific testing requirements. For instance, Massachusetts participates in the NASDTEC agreement and requires all educators pass appropriate Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL) exams to receive certification. States can decide what particular types of educator certificates (teachers, administrators, specialists, etc.) are covered under the agreement. As mentioned above, please contact the State Department of Education in the state you are interested in to obtain information about the NASDTEC agreement.

A Career for a Lifetime

UNH Educator Preparation Program graduates are leaders in their communities, committed to improving the quality of education for all students. Data from the 2016 graduate survey show 85% of survey responders currently teaching plan on teaching in the next 10 years! We want to be a part of your professional career. Please contact Liz Arcieri at elizabeth.arcieri@unh.edu with your email to ensure you receive future Certification and Accreditation news.