

ME-PD Newsletter

UW-L
ME-PD PROGRAM

ME-PD
PROGRAM

Learning Community Program Vision
(What do we hope to become): A leader in educational transformation.

SPRING 2008

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2008

(608) 785-8142

WWW.UWLAX.EDU/MEPD

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Spring Greetings, ME-PD LC Students and Facilitators!



Dr. Rhonda M. Rabbitt, Ed.D
Interim Director, ME-PD

I commend each of you for your courage to take on new beginnings. As stated by Maya Angelou, "Courage may be the most important of all virtues, because without it one cannot practice any other virtue with consistency."

Congratulations to the following MEPD students exhibiting extra courage:

Amy Stoeckley from Onalaska IV LC, a grant recipient for her "Exciting journey wearing many hats!"

Two elementary teachers, **Maggi Fenske** and **Amanda Kirkham**, from Portage LC for their Peace Walk" initiative involving the whole school and community. **Promoting Peace and Unity: Priceless.**

Courageously onward,
Rhonda M. Rabbitt



Another MEPD office update and personal recognition:

Many of you know **Barbara Martin-Stanley** from the ME-PD office. In September, Barbara started working in the Admissions Department at UW-La Crosse.

Recently, Barbara was acknowledged at the chancellor's address as the recipient of the 2008 UW-System award for "Outstanding Woman of Color in Education." Congratulations, Barbara!

ME-PD Office Staff & Schedules

Margie Hylkema

Assistant to the ME-PD
Director

8:00-4:30 Monday—Friday

Margie works directly with the ME-PD Learning Community director regarding any academic LC issues.

Susan Larkin

Continuing Education and
Extension

8:00-4:30 Monday-Friday

Susan works directly with prospective and current students on registration issues.

Karen Hansen

Continuing Education and
Extension

7:45-4:30 Monday-Friday

Karen works to order and coordinate all of the books, videos media and office supplies that are needed and used by all of the facilitators for the Learning Communities.

Enrollment & Grads

As we begin the Spring 2008 semester, there are 545 active Learning Community students in 19 communities. We welcome students in the following communities, as they begin their ME-PD journeys this semester:

- Watertown
- Oregon
- Fox Point
- Appleton

The following communities graduated December, 2007:

- DeForest
- Elkhorn
- Greendale
- Greenfield
- Lodi
- Whitehall

Congratulations Grads!

Two **summer online courses** may be of particular interest to ME-PD students and facilitators:

- Special Topics Seminar in Education: Cultural Diversity Communication Training (3 grad cr). Please visit this link **<http://www.uwlax.edu/conted/pdf/access2008.pdf>**
- Special Topics: Exploring Alternative Education (3 grad cr). Instructor: **Dr. Rabbitt**, ME-PD Interim Director. Register on TALON.

Chancellor Gow

Recently Chancellor Gow was elected President of the National Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences and is a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Popular Music and Society.

He has authored a number of publications on popular music and news media, and he is a blues singer and avid guitarist.

The new chancellor also is a vegan and runner.

Word has it that our Chancellor will be performing at the Cellar in March !

LC Sites Marketed for Fall 2008

Each semester, six sites are identified to be marketed for new communities in the following semester.

For Fall, 2008, communities will be marketed in the Madison area, the Milwaukee area, the La Crosse, and possibly in

the southern part of the state. Although exact sites have not yet been announced, they will be announced on the website soon. Keep watching for enrollment information and exact site locations for Fall, 2008! The following dates will be helpful in thinking

ahead for both students and facilitators of new communities:

<i>Site Enrollment Determination</i>	June 20
<i>Final Registration Deadline</i>	July 11
<i>Fall 2008 Learning Communities Begin</i>	Aug 16 & 17

Welcome, New Facilitators!

John Weiland and **Shelly Shirrel** will be facilitating the Watertown Learning Community.

Billie Finco and **Janel Anderson** will be facilitating the Appleton Learning Community.

Ginger Kranz and **Curt Rees** will be facilitating the Oregon Learning Community.

Susie Hughes and **Leigh Ann Scheuerell** will be facilitating the Fox Point Learning Community.





Congratulations, Chandra!

Many of you have had the pleasure of dealing with Chandra Hawkins in the Graduate Research Office as a part of the IRB submission process. Chandra has recently taken on new responsibilities with grants in the Graduate Research Office.

Her new contact information is: (608)785-8007

Changes in the Graduate Research Office

Welcome, Mike Kennedy!

At some time in the life of a learning community, we all require the assistance of the office of graduate research! For several years, we have depended on Chandra Hawkins to keep us informed on all of the up-to-the-minute changes in the IRB process. Well, Chandra has taken on new responsibilities in the Graduate Research Office (see left), and we now welcome Mike Kennedy as her replacement. Mike has already met with the leadership team and is eager to help in any way that he can!

His contact information is:

(608) 785-8124

kennedy.mic2@uwlax.edu

April 11 and 12, 2008

Widening the Circle

Teacher Education Symposium:

Helping teachers to teach about Wisconsin Native American and Hmong history, culture, cultural relevancy and critical pedagogy, authentic materials, and infuse curriculum.

University Wisconsin -
La Crosse
UW-L School of
Education

Keynote speakers include:

Bill Bigelow

Editor of Rethinking Schools

Patty Loew

Noted scholar and author of *Wisconsin Indians*

For more information:

Visit our website

www.uwlax.edu/native

2008 November Conference Prospective

We are beginning to plan for the next November Conference, which will be held at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse during the weekend of November 8-9, 2008.

The feedback has indicated that both facilitators and students enjoy the opportunity to be on campus for this event, and we are looking for ways to bring the best possible speakers to our LC organization.

If you have experienced an outstanding speaker who you feel speaks to the LC mission and would meet the needs of facilitators, students, and the university community at large, please contact the MEPD office.

Mission (Why do we exist):

The Learning Community program empowers educators to transform their professional and personal lives as they become agents of change and improve PK-16 student learning.



**UW-L
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Once again, UW-La Crosse has been recognized nationally for “top-flight academics and affordable costs.”

Kiplinger’s Personal Finance February 2008 issue gave the university the honor by naming it to its “best value” list among the nation’s public colleges.

The only other Wisconsin schools to make the 2008 Kiplinger’s Top 100 are UW-Madison, which ranks No. 19 for instate students, and UW-Eau Claire, which is No. 64. Complete rankings are available at kiplinger.com.

Learning is not attained by chance.

It must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence

~Abigail Adams



Important Dates

Graduate Student Research, Service, and Educational Leadership Grants

due on **Friday, February 15**. For more information, see <http://www.uwlax.edu/graduate/grantinfo.htm>

Graduate Research Fair:

March 7th, 2008 at UW-L

IRB Deadlines:

Protocol Submission Deadlines:

April 1 (Approximate Turnaround Date: May 16)

April 15 (Approximate Turnaround Date: May 30)

See: http://www.uwlax.edu/graduate/LC_IRBdeadlines.htm

Graduation:

Saturday, May 17 @ UW-L

Exact times for the ceremonies will be announced later in the semester.

Facilitator Information Sessions:

February 3, 2008	1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Holiday Inn West	Madison, WI
February 10, 2008	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Fritsche Middle School	Milwaukee, WI
February 13, 2008	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Room 230 Morris Hall	La Crosse, WI
February 23, 2008	2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	Appleton High School North	Appleton, WI