

Graduate Education Newsletter

Volume 14, Issue 1

FALL 2007

- **Register for the Spring 2008 semester online at www.smcvt.edu/graduate**
- **Fall 2008/ Spring 2009 Student Teaching Meeting on January 30, 3:30-4:45.**
- **Summer school registration begins February 4, for matriculated students and March 3, for non-matriculated students. The schedule will be posted online no later than February 4.**

Dr. John J. (Jack) Neuhauser Inaugurated as 16th President of Saint Michael's College

Saint Michael's College embraced its 16th president, Jack Neuhauser, with formal ceremony and warm sociability during his Inauguration and related festivities the weekend of Sept. 29-30, 2007.

Three former presidents of Saint Michael's were on hand for the ceremony and dinner. Other dignitaries included Vermont's U.S. Senators Patrick Leahy '61 and Bernard Sanders, Congressman Peter Welch, Governor James Douglas, Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Moses Anderson, S.S.E., Boston College Chancellor Rev. J. Donald Monan and University of Vermont President Daniel Fogel.

During his address Neuhauser honored the legacy of Saint Michael's College, and made clear that his foremost goal will be to spread the name of the institution.

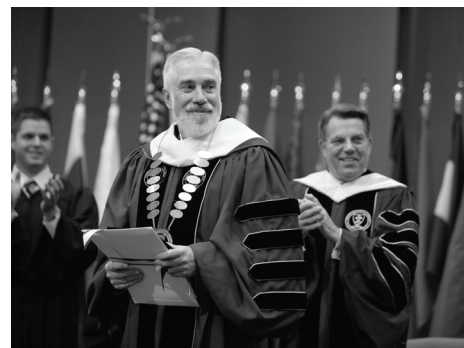


Photo by Daria Bishop

President Neuhauser receives applause after being presented with the symbols of office.

For all a complete recap of the presidential inauguration, visit www.smcvt.edu/inauguration

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Alumna Named Teacher of the Year

By Anne Judson

Congratulations to Diane Bahrenburg who was selected as Vermont's 2007 Teacher of the Year. Diane received her master's from Saint Michael's College in Spring 2001 and teaches English at Colchester High School, where she has worked since 1979. Diane is as loved as a high school teacher as she was as a graduate student. A high school student praised her, saying "She doesn't yell at you if you don't get your homework done in time. Instead, she tries to determine why the homework isn't finished, and helps guide students toward completing the task."

Advisor Change

If you are currently enrolled in the Graduate Education Program with a focus on Middle or Secondary, and did not receive your letter in the mail about an advisor change, please note your new advisor is Claudine Prairie Bedell. Dr. Bedell can be contacted at:

**cbedell@smcvt.edu
802.654.2741**

Saint Michael's College Receives \$900,000 Education Grant

By Buff Lindau

In Vermont and around the country, more and more classroom teachers will be called upon to teach in schools with large immigrant populations. "We are trying to prepare our students who graduate with teaching credentials to be equipped to deal with this kind of classroom," said Dr. Susan Jenkins, associate professor and chair of applied linguistics at Saint Michael's College.

To this end, Saint Michael's is devising an innovative education curriculum. Professor Jenkins is project director of Project CREATE (Curriculum Reform for the Education of All Teachers of ELLs). She received notice that Project CREATE would receive a \$900,000 grant, \$180,000 for each of five years, from the U.S. Department of Education No Child Left Behind Act, specifically the English Language Acquisition: National Professional Development Program.

Working jointly with Saint Michael's programs in English as a Second Language and in the [Education Department], Professor Jenkins and her co-principal investigators, Dr. Elizabeth O'Dowd of the ESL program and Dr. James Nagle of the education department, will devise and implement a program to [teach] all Saint Michael's education students seeking state licensure.

"Our goal is that every teacher who graduates with a degree from Saint Michael's College goes out fully equipped to teach language learners in their content classroom," Professor Jenkins said. This will require expanding and revising the Saint Michael's education curriculum to meet an expanding need to reach students who are not yet fluent in English.

A Warm Welcome

Karen Abbott
Administrative Assistant



Karen Abbott has been hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the graduate education department. She began work on October, 1 and has already proven to be an invaluable member of the Graduate Education team. Our congratulations and thanks go out to Karen as well as the search committee.

Student Spotlight

By Becky Wigglesworth

NAME: Irie Price
CONCENTRATION: Curriculum
LICENSURE AREA:
Language Arts/English

When did you know you wanted to be a teacher?

I was teaching an English class for adult immigrants back in Durham, N.C. One night before class a student said to me, "Irie es una buena maestro" which translates to "Irie is a good teacher." I thought, "I'm a teacher? And a good one?" It took me a few months but I finally responded to that call.

Why did you choose Saint Michael's College?

Before applying, I took a couple classes to get a feel for the program; I was—and continue to be—impressed by the program's philosophy, professors, and students.

What other jobs have you held?

I have been a waitress, an Ameri-Corps member/ ESOL teacher, and an administrative assistant. Now I enjoy spending my time with my 7-month-old daughter and taking classes at Saint Michael's.

What do you hope a former student will say to you 10 years from now?

"Hello Ms. Price! Let me tell you about this book I am reading."

Describe a favorite moment with a young person.

I don't have one in particular—in general my favorite moments are when young people tell me about something they enjoy—a book, an activity, a topic. It can feel vulnerable to tell someone your likes and dislikes, so I feel honored when a young person does open up.

The New and Improved Teaching Gardens of Saint Michael's College

The Teaching Gardens of Saint Michael's College are a collection of three gardens: an arboretum, a children's literature garden named Books in Bloom, and The Native Plants of Vermont Garden. These gardens were created through collaborative work between the undergraduate education and biology departments over the past three years and involved several classes.

The goals of the Teaching Gardens are as follows: to create a destination for students and the larger community to learn about plants and their role in children's literature, and our environment; to create a physical space for service and collaborative learning; and to help foster a campus wide culture of learning by providing an educational space that is aesthetically pleasing, inviting, and accessible.

Within the Teaching Gardens, the Native Plants of Vermont Garden contains plants and stones that are indigenous or naturalized to New England. This garden was designed specifically to encourage campus-wide awareness of our native flora. Age-appropriate teaching materials centered around native plants and their conservation were created through a collaboration between undergraduate education and biology majors.

Further in the Teaching Gardens, the Books in Bloom garden features flowers that play an integral role in children's books.

The garden is based on student research in children's literature in collaboration with undergraduate students in the biology department. Students in the graduate education program create field trips, lab work, and literacy projects that are implemented within local schools and other groups from the community.

This fall the Books in Bloom and The Native Plants of Vermont Teaching Gardens were greatly expanded. Already, elementary students have been coming onto campus to visit the gardens on educational field trips.

Learn more about the Teaching Gardens by visiting <http://academics.smcvt.edu/arboretum/home.htm>.



Professor Valerie Bang-Jensen works in the Teaching Gardens with a student.

New Summer Courses!

Each summer we put on our practical hats and schedule some "old favorite" courses that are required for some licensure programs or continue to be of relevance for educators. We also strive to envision what is relevant based on your recommendations and our research to enrich your practice and challenge you to learn anew. Below are some of the new courses being taught this summer. Stay tuned to our spring newsletter for other summer offerings. (We are so thankful for a devoted and experienced adjunct faculty!!)

GED 673: Special Topics in Art Education: Color Theory and Application for Educators (3cr.)

Instructor: Amy Danielson

In this course educators will look closely at the different properties, attributes, harmonies and schemes of color theory.

GED 508: Autism Spectrum Disorders: Interventions to Support School Success (3cr.)

Instructors: Molly Bumpas, JoAnne Godek, Meg McGee, and Patricia Messerie

This course includes an overview of treat-

ment philosophies and interventions, including practical application of intervention, supports and Strategies.

GED 612: Math and Diversity (3cr.)

Instructors: Tim Whiteford, Rita MacDonald, and T. J. Jemison

This course will explore theories, ideas and practices for teaching math to students with diverse characteristics (students with special needs, students with math disabilities, students in poverty, and ESL students who speak other languages) at the PK-8 levels.

Classroom Activity

4 Corners Review

Clear all four corners of the classroom and based on a reading assignment or for a chapter test, ask questions and give multiple choice answers. Send students to choose corners based on their ideas of the answer. Then have students discuss the correct answer and explain why it is the correct one in detail.



Graduate Programs in Education
One Winooski Park, Box 281
Colchester, Vermont 05439

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Congratulations Newly Hired GED Students!

BLYTHE BASKETTE
Special Educator, Georgia Elementary

COURTNEY BOUTIN
Fourth Grade, Bellows Free Academy

CARA CABLER
Middle School Language Arts,
Hunt Middle School

BETH DAMON
Grade 6-8 Art, Barre City Elementary and
Middle School

ALYSA DECKER
Special Educator,
Mount Abraham Union High School

ERIC DECKER
Special Educator,
Mount Abraham Union High School

SINYOUNG RA EVANS
Japanese, South Burlington High School

DAWN GRUSS
Coordinator of Support Services,
Chittenden Central Supervisory Union

DAVID JENSEN
Eighth Grade Math and Science,
Camel's Hump Middle School

KATE MURPHY
Art, Colchester High School

SARAH MURRAY
Educational Services, GE Healthcare

CONOR O'LOUGHLIN
Long-term Chemistry Substitute
Colchester High School

AMY O'SHEA
ESL, Flynn School & Smith School

DAVID POWELL
Fourth Grade, Mater Christi

TIM SCOTT
Special Educator, Milton Middle School

CHRISTINE SEDDON
Special Educator,
Camel's Hump Middle School

ANDREA TODD
Special Educator, Peoples Academy

MIRANDA VOEGELI
Earth & Physical Science, Essex High School

MARY ELLEN WESSELS
Cooperating "Lead" Teacher of the 4-year-old
classroom, Rivier College's lab school

*Not listed? Please e-mail Eric Howard at
ehoward@smcvt.edu*