



Preparing Excellent Teachers for All Language Learners

IN THIS ISSUE

Insights from PETALLs Colleagues:

- Interview with Wetherbee School Principal, Colleen Lennon
- Interview with PETALLs Practicum Supervisor, Jane Beane

PETALLs Conference October 7, 2015

Contacts:

Michaela Colombo
PETALLs Director
University of Massachusetts Lowell
978.934.4610
Michaela_Colombo@uml.edu

Kinnon Foley
ELL Director
Lawrence Public Schools
978.975.5905 x 25608
Kinnon.Foley@Lawrence.k12.ma.us

Cynthia Bent
PETALLs Program Manager
Newsletter Coordinator
Cynthia_Bent@uml.edu

PETALLs Website
<http://www.uml.edu/petalls>

PETALLs WEEBLY
<http://petalls.weebly.com>



This newsletter features PETALLs colleagues and highlights the ways they work to improve instruction for ELs. The back page of the newsletter provides information and details about the PETALLs Conference, which will take place on October 7. Registration is limited, so take time to register today!

Ms. Colleen Lennon, Principal Wetherbee School *Inclusive Planning to Meet the Needs of All Students*

Colleen Lennon is an innovative leader who is dedicated to the educational success of all students. She has been with the Lawrence Public Schools for nearly 30 years. Colleen has led her faculty in collaborative planning efforts that capitalize on her faculty and staff's expertise. For example, faculty collaborate on vertical planning, the alignment of content, and differentiation of instruction based on standards and the strengths and needs of students. During a weekly three hour block when Wetherbee students are engaged in enrichment, Colleen brings all faculty together for team planning.

Until this year Wetherbee paraprofessionals supervised students during this enrichment block. According to Colleen, when paraprofessionals were not actively involved in planning they were sometimes unaware of school and district initiatives. Now, under the leadership of Superintendent Jeff Riley, Lawrence paraprofessionals are members of school leadership teams. This year paraprofessionals at the Wetherbee are also active participants in the three hour weekly planning sessions. They now have a better understanding of WIDA and ACCESS. They collaborate with teachers in the planning of differentiated instruction across content areas and English proficiency levels. Being included at ground level in school initiatives has prepared paraprofessionals to support the instruction of Wetherbee teachers!

Through the PETALLs grant this fall the Wetherbee School will host ParaTELL 3.0, a 15-hour professional development (PD) program for pairs of teachers and paraprofessionals. The PD goal is to support the school's collaborative planning efforts. Jodie George and Nicole Kelly will facilitate this PD. More information will be available soon!

Jane E. Beane PETALLs ESL Certificate Practicum Supervisor:

Supervising the UMass ESL Practicum

Jane Beane is an adjunct faculty member at UMass Lowell where she supervises the ESL practicum for teachers in the PETALLs project. Jane has vast teaching and teacher preparation experience. She was an elementary classroom teacher in the Lawrence Public Schools for over 30 years and then facilitated mentoring and initial licensure programs for middle and high school teachers in the Lawrence Public Schools.

Jane is dedicated to improving educational opportunities for English learners by mentoring and supporting future ESL teachers. According to Jane, the PETALLs ESL certificate coursework prepares teachers with a solid foundation for teaching ELs, and she sees evidence of ESL theory and pedagogy during her classroom observations.

Jane considers the practicum a critical experience for promoting reflective practice and helping teachers analyze practice based on their students' needs. While supervising the practicum, Jane takes many notes and often takes photos. She uses these data as evidence that teachers are meeting the ESL standards set by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and to support teachers in improving their practice.

Jane provided four important requirements for teachers of ELLs.

1. Gain the linguistic knowledge necessary to understand issues in language diversity and literacy development in ELs.
2. Set clear and purposeful content and language objectives and link them to all parts of the class. Students will be more successful when they know what they are doing.
3. Set and convey high expectations for all students.
4. Provide students with scaffolding to help them meet these expectations.



Preparing Excellent Teachers for All Language Learners

PETALLS CONFERENCE

“Practices That Improve the Education of English Learners”

Wednesday October 7, 2015

4:30 - 7:30 PM

5:30 - 6:30 Keynote (Dr. Susan O’Hara)

4:30 - 5:15 & 6:45 - 7:30 Poster Session

University Crossing , Room 260

University of Massachusetts Lowell

Register Online

<http://www.uml.edu/Education/PETALLs/Conference-2015/Conference-Registration.aspx>

REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- ◆ Parking: Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell; 300 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lowell, MA
A shuttle is available to University Crossing.
- ◆ Keynote Speaker (Dr. Susan O’Hara) and Poster Sessions
- ◆ Copy of *Common Core Standards in Diverse Classrooms: Essential Practices for Developing Academic Language and Disciplinary Literacy***
- ◆ Conference Program, Name Badge and Conference Materials
- ◆ Refreshments

*A book cannot be guaranteed if registrations are received after September 16.

PAYMENT:

- ◆ Conference Cost: \$30 *
- ◆ Credit and Debit Cards Accepted
- ◆ No cost for participants who are presenting posters.

* Scholarships are available. For information about scholarships, please contact your project coordinator: (UMass Lowell / PETALLs, Salem State / SAEL, Fitchburg State/TESEL, and Framingham State / MASSexcELL)

Registration is limited.. Please register today—no on-site registration and no registration after 10/2/2015.

QUESTIONS?

Contact petalls_conference@uml.edu .

PETALLS
Conference 2015
Registration Now Open

INFORMATION

For newsletter input contact:
Laurie Hartwick, ELL Facilitator
Lawrence Public Schools
Laurie.Hartwick@lawrence.k12.ma.us
Or
Cynthia Bent, PETALLs Project Manager
Cynthia_Bent@uml.edu

PETALLS WEEBLY

Resource Site

<http://petalls.weebly.com>

PETALLS Website

<http://www.uml.edu/petalls>

