On February 15, the two Doylestown campus Multicultural Education and Diversity in the Classroom classes combined for a Diversity Fair. One goal of the Multicultural Education and Diversity in the Classroom course is to identify and dialogue about the many types of differences that could be present when teachers begin working with students. The TCIP Diversity Fair enabled the classes to hear about and see a diverse number of those differences. Pedagogically, the assignment allowed for diverse creativity in preparing the visual and oral presentations. Topics included ADHD, language differences, gifted education, hearing problems, speech and language impairments, Asperger’s syndrome, Tourette’s syndrome, special education, religion in public schools, inclusion, vision impairment, oppositional defiant disorder, race, autism, I.D.E.A., and obsessive compulsive disorder.

You can view a slideshow of the fair by going to the Secondary Education link on the DelVal Website, www.delval.edu/education, and clicking on the link shown in the left column (View Slide Show from the TCIP Diversity Fair).

Clockwise from top: Brian Brady, Maureen Kantner, Lara Magge.
More pictures on backpage.

Congratulations are in order for Emily Cohen, TCIP Spring/2005, who has been nominated as Teacher of the Year in Philadelphia.
The Value of Substitute Teaching

I thought substitute teaching was a great learning experience for me because I didn’t have any classroom experience going into it. You get a sense of the teacher you are subbing for as well as how prepared their class is. I also found being in the different departments gives you insight into how each department runs. Being a substitute teacher can let you tweak your classroom management styles because you can try different strategies each time you are in a new classroom. It made me a more balanced and well rounded teacher. It is flexible and it ultimately led me to a long term sub position because I got a call Friday afternoon and I had to start the following Monday.

- John Cantwell – Fall 2005

TCIP Reflections

A twenty year career in clinical lab science reinforced my college baccalaureate degree in which I learned about the anatomy and physiology, therapeutic interventions, and potential of the physical human condition. But 28 years of marriage and raising six children molded me into the person I now am. This was my background when I entered the TCIP at Delaware Valley College in February, 2004.

During the last six years of my health care career, I seriously considered teaching as a new career path. As I started my search for certification programs, a chance mailing from Delaware Valley College was delivered to my home. I recognized the TCIP as a good possibility immediately; the schedule and class time was especially appealing to me. I wasted no time and completed the application process.

The cohort of students was extremely friendly and supportive and our camaraderie grew as the time progressed. We began to use each other as resources about Praxis, school districts and PDE. We celebrated the successful completion of each course, Praxis test and new job as we made our way to this new career together.

I have been teaching biology at a Bucks County public school (Pennsbury SD) since February, 2005. I have attained the Level I certification and am working toward the Level II certification. Some days, I can’t believe that I get paid for doing my job; it can be that much fun. I work with excellent teachers who collaborate with me and mentor me as I fine-tune the art of teaching.

My six children prepared me for the teenage students and I feel completely at ease in the classroom. My own reward was when one of my students who struggles in school, told me that I was the reason that he was still in school. He was considering dropping out, but because he passed my course, he decided to stay. My feet never hit the floor that day; I was so elated.

- Margie Crooks – Spring 2005