CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the 18 TCIP students who began teaching and being observed this fall:

Darryl Billemayer, Laura Carragher, Anna D’Alessio-Capuccio, J. Thomas Dermody, Marlene Guidos, Jamie Guthier, Josh Hanlon, Mark Hostutler, Kirsten Jones, Sandra Malikowski, Randy Ryan, Thomas Shuster, Lynthia Scott, Michele Vadelund, and Tim Vogel

Also, congratulations are in order to our new Fall 2008 TCIP cohort students at the South Philadelphia, Northeast Philadelphia, and Doylestown sites.

Finally, congratulations to former TCIP student Barbara Hagerty who has been promoted to the Director of Technology position in the Penn Delco School District.

FROM THE DESK OF HOWARD CHUD

A few months ago, a letter was mailed from the Education Department at Delaware Valley College to every superintendent, assistant superintendent, and human resources director in school district in Berks, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware, and Bucks County. The purpose was to once again explain the PA Intern Certification Program, and specifically the program at Delaware Valley College. Hopefully, any confusion about what it is our teachers have to offer and what certification they hold will be cleared up. Some districts continue to confuse the state intern certificate with someone wishing to do a stand-alone internship (often student teaching).

If you should run into a situation where you believe this confusion still exists, please call me (Howard Chud) at 215-489-4124 and give me the name of the person you spoke to or interviewed you. In many cases, first interviews are with the building principal or department chair who may not be aware and/or understand what an intern certificate means.

TCIP STUDENTS CELEBRATE THE COMPLETION OF COURSEWORK

Our most recent TCIP Doylestown cohorts celebrate their success.

In what has become a tradition following the completion of TCIP coursework, students celebrate their success at a local restaurant.
A Sign For A Change

When I entered Ursinus as a freshman, my career priorities revolved around money. Initially, I was a Mathematics and Computer Science double major, and then finally I switched to Economics and Business Administration. Although I had thought about teaching while I was in high school, the career lacked the money and lifestyle that I thought I wanted to live. Well, seven years after I graduated from Ursinus College, I found myself reevaluating my goals and priorities. Although I did have a high-paying job, the hours were brutal and did not allow me much time with my family. After I had my first child, I realized that money buys you a great deal, but it cannot buy you time.

A former client of mine mentioned the Delaware Valley College Program to me during an appointment. He had a very similar background and explained that he too was willing to trade money for time and fulfillment. After I met with him, I could not get the idea of going back to school to be a teacher out of my mind.

The program was great because it allowed me to continue working while taking the classes. The biggest advantage of the program, however, was the instructors themselves. Each teacher brought with them a wealth of experience and knowledge. They all contributed a great deal of practical knowledge that I use every day. When I was in my interview with Dieruff High School, the department chairperson said that I sounded like a teacher with 10 years of experience and I was offered the job on the spot. Although getting an interview was a challenge, once I sat in front of those administrators the knowledge and experience of my instructors shined through me and landed me the job.

I completed the program in June of 2007 and am now working as a contracted Business Education teacher for the Allentown School District. I will admit that some days I feel like I am way in over my head, but a simple expression of interest or understanding from my students keeps me motivated and enthusiastic. I do not have a single regret.

– Anna D’Alessio-Capuccio, June 2007

“A” Perfect Solution

When I started college twenty years ago I started as an Education major. I had an instructor for my intro class who told us he doesn’t give many ‘A’s but there are some cases where he would promise a student an A if they promise never to step into a classroom. When I received an ‘A’ I thought the instructor was trying to tell me something. The next semester I took some journalism classes and that was the new path of my life. I graduated and became an Assignment Editor for WPVI. I loved my job and was happy with the decisions I’d made. I also got to teach religion on the weekends so I felt I had the best of both worlds. A few years later I ran into that instructor on the baseball field where our sons were both playing. He asked what school I was teaching at and I was surprised he remembered me. Of course I remembered the man that thought I was unfit to teach. I told him I went into journalism and his response almost knocked me over. He said it was a shame because I was one of his best students ever.

After several years later there were some major changes in my personal life and working overnight to prepare the morning show was taking its toll. I left news and found myself jobless. A friend that owned an auto repair shop and tire center let me work for him as his wholesale tire manager and tire delivery person. I was struggling and did not know what to do.

I started classes in September and finished in June, just like my own children. During the time I was in evening classes I was a substitute teacher at a local school district so that as we talked about different situations in schools I knew exactly what they were describing. We had excellent instructors with varied backgrounds and the curriculum was inspiring. The course work was relevant and the teachers were flexible. They understood that we were all working professionals and that many of us had children of our own. We were treated like adults instead of like 18 year old students. Most of the students in my cohort were coming from other professions altogether and were not ready to leave their jobs while in school. I was fortunate to be subbing during that time but there were only three of our 14 that were able to sub. I took the Praxis II exams in both English and Communications so now I can teach television production and none of my education was wasted. I will always be grateful to DelVal for such a rewarding and focused program. The program changed my life.

– Jessica Fritz, June 2007
**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**DEADLINES**

The deadline for Spring 2008 observation is **February 15, 2008**

**Praxis, Certifications, Internship Alert**

You can take as many Praxis exams as you like, but you should only apply for your intern certification in the subject Delaware Valley College accepted you with into the program. If you apply for more than one intern certificate, you will need to do more than one internship. This is something you do not want to do. Instead, do an internship in your certified area and gain your Level I in that area. Once this has been accomplished you need only apply for other certifications in the areas for which you have passed those Praxis exams.

*If you have any questions, call before you do anything.*

**BOOKSTORE**

The bookstore will mail your books to your home if you cannot get there during regular hours. Check with the bookstore prior to going and buying your books.

- Phone: 215-489-2259 or 215-489-2279
- Fax: 215-230-2961

**NORMAL HOURS OF OPERATION**

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

I will continue to send any jobs that come my way, but be sure to sign up for [www.PAReap.net](http://www.PAReap.net) for the latest information about openings from school districts who use this service. Be advised that not all school districts take advantage of PA Reap.

**JOB APPROVAL FORM**

In order to be sure that the job you are applying for will meet the criteria for observation, you need to complete the TCIP Job Approval Form and send/fax it to Dr. Chud prior to accepting a position. This will eliminate a lot of the types of problems we have encountered in the past such as incorrect certification, mileage to the school, number of classes per day, etc.

**As always...**

The staff and faculty at Delaware Valley College is your greatest resource. If you have any questions about the program, your coursework, or PDE requirements, just call:

- Missy Chubb: 215-489-2960 – Continuing Education
- Howard Chud: 215-489-4124 – TCIP Coordinator