Dean’s Welcome

An open letter to the graduates of the School of Education, Possibilities. Imagining the possibilities. What does this idea mean this spring as you graduate into your chosen profession? For this first issue of the Spotlight on Education, I thought it would be fun to explore some of the meanings that come to mind in the context of the world of the helping professions.

One of the core ideas undergirding all the programs in the LIU, Brooklyn School of Education is that of human possibility. This large value comes to the fore in at least two interrelated ways. First, the people we are educated to serve whether as a counselor, teacher, principal, or school psychologist embody possibility. One of the main purposes of the work you all will do is help children and adults uncover and develop their interests and capacities. The most satisfying part of your working lives will be helping and watching human possibilities become visible and blossom.

Second, the work you are prepared to do should allow the continued growth of your own potential. As you work with children and adults and see their possibilities come forward, your own will unfold in a wonderful reciprocal relationship. As you share your knowledge and skills, it is possible that deeper understandings will come to you. As you confront the differences that are bound to arise when working with other people, it is possible that you will deepen your commitment to difference and the new possibilities it opens up. As you learn to empathize with your most difficult student or client, it is possible that that person will come to see you for who you are.

Imagining possibilities comes to mean in part, I think, the work of enacting the large values that have shaped your education and will hopefully come to shape your life commitments. We in the School of Education wish you all the best as you embark on the exciting life of a professional dedicated to possibility.

Best wishes,

Cecelia Traugh
Dean
**Gurprit Bains**, associate professor, was invited to serve on the National Screening Committee of the Fulbright US Student Program in Houston, Texas, in December, 2010.

**Evelyn Castro**, director of the Regional Brooklyn/Queens Bilingual Technical Assistance Center, received the Zeke Clements award on Oct. 22, 2010. Zeke Clements was a principal, mathematician and community activist who started city-wide after school programs.

**Marita Downes’** poem, FIRST KISS, was included in *downtown brooklyn*, issue number nineteen 2010, the literary magazine of the Brooklyn campus English department.

On October 20, 2010, as part of the School of Education’s School Talks series, **Michelle Fine** delivered an address entitled *Tracking Lost Bodies: From Framing Dropouts To School Closings – A Biography Of Structural Racism & Resistance In New York City Schools.*


**Dr. Ginsberg**, along with LIU colleagues across the institution, presented *Crossing Organizational Boundaries: A Project Model for Blended Program Development* at the 7th annual Sloan Consortium Blended Learning Conference and Workshop in Oak Brook, IL in April, 2010. In March, 2011, **Dr. Ginsberg** presented again with her LIU colleagues on a one-year update on this initiative at the 8th annual Sloan Consortium Blended Learning Conference and Workshop in Oak Brook Hills, IL.

On March 23, 2011, **James Henderson**, author of *Reflective Teaching, Curriculum Wisdom* (with **Kathleen Kesson**), and *Transformative Curriculum Leadership*, joined School of Education faculty for a presentation and discussion about the graduate program in teacher leadership that he created at Kent State University. The program, endorsed by the state of Ohio, leads to that state’s newly created Teacher Leader Endorsement. **Lester Young**, LIU Adjunct Faculty in Leadership and New York State Regent, contributed information about NYS initiatives to watch for in teacher leadership.

**Kathleen Kesson**, professor and TAL department chair, published a book chapter (with James Henderson) entitled *Reconceptualizing professional development for curriculum leadership: Inspired by John Dewey and informed by Alain Badiou* in the book *Thinking education through Alain Badiou*, by Kent den Heyer. The chapter was previously published in 2010 in volume 42, issue 2 of the journal *Educational Philosophy and Theory*.

**Dr. Kesson** also published a chapter of her memoir-in-progress entitled *Tarantulas in the freezer (and other ethical dilemmas)* in the November 2010 (volume 26, issue 3) issue of the journal *the Trumpeter* (Journal of Ecosophy).

**Dr. Kesson’s** chapter *Listening to the Past, Engaging the Present, Imagining the Future: Deleuze, Dewey, Jung, and the Tarot Speak to C&P’s First Decade* was recently published in the 2009 Conference Proceedings of the 10th Annual Curriculum and Pedagogy Conference.

**Dr. Kesson** participated in a panel entitled *Unschooling, Then and Now: The Revolution Goes Online* at the recent annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, in New Orleans (April 8-12).

**Dr. Kesson’s** essay, *Knowledge reconceived: The quest for wisdom in an age of crisis and opportunity*, appeared in the Spring, 2010 edition of the journal *All About Mentoring*.

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“The whole purpose of education is to turn windows into mirrors”.

*Sydney J. Harris*
Andrew Livanis, associate professor and HDL Department Chair, co-edited *Universal Screening Beyond Academic Performance, Part 1*, a special series of the journal *Assessment for Effective Intervention*. Dr. Livanis co-authored the introduction to the special series as well as two articles in the issue, *Constructing a Roadmap for Future Universal Screening Research Beyond Academics* and *The Treatment Validity of Autism Screening Instruments*.


Dr. Livanis also presented *Working with the School Psychology Research Collaboration Conference: Making the most out of your research interests* at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists in San Francisco, CA, on February 24, 2011.

Christy Mulligan, assistant professor, presented a mini-skills workshop entitled *Selective Mutism: Subtypes, Characteristics and Treatment* on February 22, 2011 at the National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention in San Francisco, CA.

Michael Pregot, assistant professor, presented *The Use of the BETAC Program in NYC as a Resource to Prevent Urban Student Drop-Outs from the ELL Population* at the 22nd Annual National Drop-Out Conference in Myrtle Beach South Carolina on February 22, 2011.

Dr. Pregot presented *Using an Action Research Project to Improve Early Childhood Education Outcomes* at the annual meeting of the New York State Association for the Education of Young Children in Rye, NY, on April 28, 2011.


Cecelia Traugh, dean, wrote an article entitled *Taking a Democratic Stance Toward Knowledge*, which appeared in the journal *Teacher Education and Practice*, Fall 2009, Vol 22, No. 4.

Dean Traugh and Jessica Trubek, director of field experiences and school relations, presented *Getting Inside Outcomes of a Teacher Education Program* as part of a roundtable session on program assessment at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in New Orleans, LA, on April 7-9, 2011.

Wendi Williams, assistant professor, participated in a symposium entitled *Psychological Practice Guidelines and Diverse Groups of Women and Girls* at the 118th Annual Convention for the American Psychological Association in San Diego, CA in August, 2010.

The School of Education hosted a visiting scholar this spring, Maria Luísa Frazão Rodrigues Branco from Portugal. Dr. Branco is a tenured Assistant Professor at University of Beira Interior on the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences, head of the Department of Psychology and Education there, and is an External Expert for General Education Inspection with the Portuguese Ministry of Education. Her research interest is the present situation and trends of the Progressive Education Movement in the USA.

The fourth annual meeting of the *Urban Teacher Education Consortium* was hosted by the School of Education, LIU Brooklyn from March 16 through 18. This Consortium focuses on issues important to the education of teachers for urban schools and includes representatives from universities and colleges across the country—Oakland, CA; Chicago; Boston; Philadelphia; New York City. This year the focus was on the program at LIU. The dean and faculty presented a Descriptive Review of an issue important to our teacher education program; we visited schools in Brooklyn and discussed the role of partnerships between universities and schools; and concluded with a discussion of what we in teacher education really know about educating teachers for the most difficult school settings.

Congratulations to School of Education faculty members, Andrew Livanis and Ellen Short on being awarded promotion to associate professor and tenure.
Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Nancy Lemberger

Nancy Lemberger has spent the spring semester of her sabbatical year in Bogotá, Colombia. She has been assisting undergraduate English Education students and faculty implement a national requirement that all students achieve English proficiency by 2014. Nancy has been helping undergraduates write reports in English on the students they have worked with as pre-service teachers. Nancy has also observed English as a Foreign Language (EFL) teachers in schools, often under the difficult conditions of 30-40 students per class. She writes that the teachers, who are also working on their own fluency, only have two 45-minute periods a week to teach English. Nancy has come to view this a difficult yet admirable challenge. Nancy has also been presenting on integrating technology in instruction, action research, and cross-culture awareness in language teaching. She has described her stay as a great immersion experience that is helping her maintain her own bilingualism.

Check out Nancy’s blog: http://nlemberg.tumblr.com/. And congratulations to Nancy on receiving the 2010-2011 Newton Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Alumni Spotlight: Elizabeth Hampton

Elizabeth Hampton graduated from Long Island University as part of the NYC Teaching Fellows Program, Cohort 16. Currently Elizabeth works at WATCH High School in Brooklyn, where she is providing leadership in developing service learning projects. While at WATCH, Elizabeth created a music program with grants from DonorsChoose and the assistance of Little Kids Rock. This year she started a fitness program for female students. In October of 2010, she began writing a blog for the Huffington Post on issues pertaining to education and policy, published biweekly. Check out her blogs at:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/elizabeth-hampton

In addition to teaching, writing, and returning to LIU to share her work with new students, Elizabeth coaches for Girls on the Run International, a girls’ empowerment program, and plays fiddle in an old time string band.
Student Spotlight:
New SOE Student Organizations

Student Affiliates of School Psychology (SASP): The Student Affiliates of School Psychology (SASP) was organized by School Psychology graduate students to provide a forum for open discussion among students and to cultivate relationships with peers and future colleagues. A meeting among different student cohorts was the impetus for the group as students realized that there was much to discuss and learn from each other. One of the most important goals of SASP is to represent students' beliefs and support their desire to pursue particular areas in the field of School Psychology. As SASP continues to develop and expand, its goal is for everyone in the program, past and present, to become involved. For additional information, contact Student Representative, Shannon Beltz (shannon.beltz@gmail.com) or Alumni Representative, Daniella Florin (daniellaflorin@yahoo.com).

CLUB AEIOU: The purpose of the Amazing Educators Influence Our Urban Communities Club (AEIOU) is to spearhead activities that positively benefit the enhancement and improvement of our urban schools and communities. The club will also motivate our young urban scholars to choose Education as a field of study at LIU. This will be accomplished by introducing them to this discipline through workshops, seminars, guest speakers and other events. For additional information, contact Club co-founders, Dominique Burgess and Quintasia Welch (Dominique.Burgess@my.LIU.edu / Quintasia.Welch@my.LIU.edu).

Staff Spotlight:
Spring 2011 Personnel Changes

Raven Maldonado, HDL Advisor
Shinelle Romeo-Walcott, Office Manager
Marizaldy Mercedes, SOE Certification Officer
Kathleen Prince, HDL Secretary
In the coming months...

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- **6/8**—Last day to apply for September degree
- **6/16**—School Psychology New Student Orientation
- **6/21**—New York Teaching Fellows Cohort 21 arrives
- **6/27**—Last day of Summer I classes

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- **7/4**—No classes
- **7/5**—Summer II weekday classes begin
- **7/5**—New Graduate Student Orientation
- **7/6**—Late registration ends

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- **8/15**—Last Summer II weekday class
- **9/1**—New Graduate Student Orientation

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**Congratulations May 2011 Graduates!**

**Bachelor of Arts:**
**Adolescence Urban Education**
Jaroslaw Maliniak
Felicia M. Reynolds*

**Bachelor of Science:**
**Childhood Urban Education**
Ricardo R. Acosta
Marie Locklear

**Bachelor of Science:**
**Physical Education**
Victor Manuel Fortuna
Daniel Simon Iglesias
Gerard Tingos

**Advanced Certificate:**
**Bilingual Education**
Patricia Holguin

**Advanced Certificate:**
**Alcohol Counseling**
Roxanne Juliet Beaton

**Master of Science:**
**Childhood/Early Childhood Urban Education**
Simone Alleyne
Maureen A. Antoine-Hicks
Vanessa V. Hall
Allison Brooke Murphy

**Advanced Certificate:**
**Educational Leadership**
Demetria E. Farrow-Fray
Joy Gregg*
Arabelle Lacroix
Janelle Lorde*
Georgette Anne Malcolm*
Terry-Ann Samuel
Mitchell Julynne Sarrazin

**Master of Science:**
**Teaching Literacy**
Jabari Kitwana Edwards
Wadiyah I. Knott-Vines

**Master of Science:**
**TESOL**
Youdelka Jean
Marie Yamilee Lamour
Suny Sehgal

**Master of Science:**
**Early Childhood Urban Education**
Allison Murphy
Judy Quijada

* Academic Excellence Award Recipient
~ September graduates will be listed in our Fall newsletter ~
Congratulations May 2011 Graduates!

**Master of Science: Childhood Urban Education**
- Glendaliz Bautista
- Jonathan Flateau
- Vanessa Hall

**Master of Science: Adolescence Urban Education**
- Traci Collier
- Adam B. Hofstetter
- Alison Colvin Polizzi

**Master of Science: Teaching Urban Adolescents with Disabilities**
- Norma Lorian Anderson
- Laura Nicole DePalo
- Brian James Frye
- Theresa Rose Trombetti
- Cindy L. West
- Lillian Kaner Yamamoto

**Master of Science: Teaching Urban Children with Disabilities**
- Monique Linda Britto
- Martine Hostin
- John Arthur McLaughlin
- Kinda Camille McMillan
- Amy K. Souffrant

**Master of Science: Mental Health Counseling**
- Sandra G. Lewis
- Nicole Pollak
- Alisha Renae Prince
- VonGretchen Elizabeth Prince
- Deirdre Ann Smith
- Kim Louise Ventura
- Euriklida Zugu

**Master of Science: School Psychology**
- Karla Eliane Brun
- Alexandra Buznik
- Paolo Firenze
- Daniella Florin*
- Leslie M. Francis
- Paramjit Kumari
- Shannon Lavin
- Mitchyne Lazarre
- Kimberly Lopez
- Peter Michael Mancuso
- Lourdes Martinez
- Suzette Morali
- Navila Riaz
- Shari Sandia Richardson
- Nur Serpin
- Enid Elizabeth Wright

**Master of Science: Bilingual School Psychology**
- Yomari Encarnacion
- Diana C. Navia
- Giselle D. Newhall
- Nikita Mana Roman
- Sylvia T. Vaca

**Master of Science: School Counseling**
- Sharon M. Brett-Smith
- Tanya M. Howell
- Erida Jenny Hoxha
- Elizabeth Ann Huber
- Lisa Gillian Jacob-Kenfack
- Julia Lucchese
- Christina Maiocco
- Lauren Maragliano
- Sara E. Monestime
- Melissa Ann Pellegrino
- Berdetta V. Plaxico
- William Douglas Price
- Doris Latisha Saulters
- Lindsay Schmitz
- Danielle Leigh Serber
- Carolyn Sylvester
- Mark H. Teitelbaum
- LaToya Sade Thomas
- Patricia Thomas
- Marsha Ita Toussaint
- Umika Michelle Woods

**Master of Science: Bilingual School Counseling**
- Germania M. Arias
- Edilia Batista
- Juan Carlos Castro
- Merantie Dieujuste
- Natalia Yvette Gomez
- Janderic Argelia Gutierrez
- Eliana Loor
- Enly Paulino
- Denise Ortiz-Wasilewski*
- Qiana Maria Spellman*
- Deanna Torres*
- Thabaly Theresa Villavicencio *

* Academic Excellence Award Recipient
~ September graduates will be listed in our Fall newsletter ~
General education teachers, special education teachers, para-professionals, principals, school counselors, school psychologists—it takes a variety of dedicated education professionals to sustain an effective school. When everyone in a school knows and cares about each other, where there is a shared sense of mission, and where people communicate in healthy ways, you often find a well-functioning school. When all these folks are bunkered in their own domains, interactions can be “fraught” with suspicion, hostility, and resistance, and we all know what kind of school results from that!

The School of Education is a microcosm of the schools you work in, or hope to work in. Like you, we sometimes get so caught up in our own areas that we forget we are part of a much larger system dedicated to preparing education professionals to create positive learning environments for young people. Like you and your colleagues, we speak different “languages” and have found that it takes practice to learn to communicate across the differences that divide us on the surface. Under the leadership of Dean Traugh, we have created spaces where we work at this in deliberative and structured ways. For example, recently in our monthly “Inquiry” session (yes, we practice what we preach!), Professor Wendi Williams in Counseling shared with all of us the work she does with her students to develop “multicultural competence.” The conversations that ensued were enormously helpful in thinking through our “Pluralism” claims, and how we might more effectively educate our students to address issues of diversity in urban schools.

This year, the Leadership program, now in HDL, will formally join our TAL department, and we shall become TLL—Teaching, Learning, and Leadership. We look forward to more collaborations, more practice speaking each other’s “languages,” and more opportunities to learn from our “productive differences” as we work together to prepare people for the challenging work they must do to create healthy and effective urban schools.

Kathleen Kesson
Chair, Department of Teaching and Learning