



# INTC ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT<sup>1</sup>

February 2010

Each year, the Illinois New Teacher Collaborative (INTC) staff members compile a report summarizing the work of INTC. We invite you to read through the summary and think about which activities are of interest to you. Then, on the sign-up sheet that is in the conference booklet, please let us know if you would like to join the INTC Partnership Board to become actively involved in INTC projects.

## Major Tasks

1. Continuing to expand the Illinois New Teacher Collaborative (INTC) to ensure that supporting new teachers becomes a statewide commitment and develops into a statewide infrastructure
2. Planning for the annual February statewide teacher induction and mentoring conference, regional professional development, and networking workshops throughout Illinois; a new national conference focusing on using electronic communication to support beginning teachers; and a new summer conference for Illinois teachers just finishing their first year of teaching
3. Serving as the administrative home for the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Beginning Teacher Induction and Mentoring Funded Programs
4. Continuing to improve the website, to add induction and mentoring program information, and to expand the online resources database
5. Spreading the word of INTC via presentations, print and electronic media, web presence, and personal contact

## Progress on Major Tasks

### 1-Expansion of the Collaborative

- Participated in the reconstitution of the Illinois Induction Policy Team into a smaller change-focused group (ISBE Induction Policy Advisory Team) that will advise ISBE on policy matters
- Provided quarterly reports of progress to State Farm Companies Foundation and Education Leadership
- Continued to partner with the Illinois Education Research Council (IERC) and SRI International in research on induction and mentoring in Illinois
- Added members to the Partnership Board (PB), including first-time representation for the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB)
- Continued to implement the INTC Strategic Plan by developing Action Steps around three topics (comprehensive technology plan, revised statewide conference, calendar of regional meetings and topics) at combined Executive Board/Partnership Board meetings. Subcommittees formed around these three topics continue to be active.
- Organized and conducted the May 2009 Executive Board/Partnership Board meeting
- Worked with Dr. Chris Roegge to facilitate his transition as INTC Director and to ensure continuation of the mission of INTC

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<sup>1</sup> INTC has three major sources of support, the College of Education, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, State Farm Companies Foundation, and ISBE. Many INTC work components funded by one source go hand in hand with those supported principally by other sources. One example is that INTC, which resides in the College of Education, is the administrative agent for the ISBE funded programs, which play a large role in planning, facilitating and attending (the latter on ISBE money) the statewide conference, whose major sponsor is State Farm.

- Partnered with Illinois State University, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, and Eastern Illinois University on an application for a federal Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) grant with the revised re-submission process underway
- Collaborated in developing a continuum of induction and mentoring program development based on the Illinois Standards of Quality and Effectiveness for Beginning Teacher Induction Programs. The draft was presented to ISBE staff for comment. The continuum document, debuted at this conference, is the primary resource for program self-assessment and development during team work sessions.

## **2-Statewide, Regional and National Meetings Supporting Induction and Mentoring**

### **Fourth Annual Statewide Conference February 24 & 25, 2009, Hilton Springfield**

- Increased attendance to 375 participants
- Attended by 59 school and district teams from all parts of Illinois with representation from:
  - 91.5% of Title I districts
  - 64.4% of Illinois House Districts
  - 78% of Illinois Senate Districts
  - 94.7% of Congressional Districts
- Achieved a high degree of satisfaction with the conference as reported in the annual evaluation by Dr. Laura Barwegen, Wheaton College. Commendations: time to network and work with those from other districts; new information about successful induction and mentoring programs; time to develop, assess, and/or enhance district plan
- Archived conference information which is available at INTC website:  
<http://intc.education.illinois.edu/resources/rod/term/388>

### **Fifth Annual Statewide Conference, February 23-24, 2010, Hilton Springfield**

- Planned this conference with abundant support from those Partnership Board members who volunteered to join the Conference Planning Workgroup
- Organized the February 22, 2010, pre-conference session for 67 ISBE funded programs aligned with the conference goals
- Increased leadership roles of ISBE funded programs in conference and pre-conference planning
- Established conference focus of using the induction and mentoring standards continuum as a tool for program design and development and title/theme of *Digging Deeper: Using the Induction and Mentoring Continuum for Program Advancement*

### **Regional Professional Development and Networking Workshops**

- Held well-attended Fall 2009 workshops on the topic of *Strategies for New Teachers in Working with Administrators and Parents* (a topic identified as an area of need by the Illinois Statewide Teacher Graduate Assessment)
- Conducted the workshops at:
  - National-Louis University/Lisle on September 29
  - Two Rivers Professional Development Center/Edwards (near Peoria) on October 6
  - Kaskaskia College/Centralia on October 8
- Planned the workshops primarily for beginning teachers, but free and open to all Illinois new teachers and those who support them
- Determined that workshops will resume in Fall 2010

### **Online Supports for Beginning Teachers**

- Cancelled a working conference scheduled for October 2009 due to low registration. INTC staff continues to explore avenues for organizing a similar activity if INTC capacity is sufficient to support it. Follow-up discussions regarding next steps were initiated.

## **Beginning Teacher Conference**

- Established a planning task force comprised of members external to INTC and INTC staff to design agenda/topics
- Scheduled the conference for June 29, 2010, I Hotel and Conference Center, Champaign, IL
- Designed the conference with speaker/s, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities
- Projected maximum attendance of 100 beginning teachers
- Funded by State Farm Companies Foundation with no cost to participants other than transportation
- Planned to maximize beginning teacher involvement at the conference to:
  - Reflect on and share their past year's teaching experience
  - Evaluate teacher education and recommend ways to improve it
  - Network with beginning teachers from around the state

## **3-Illinois State Board of Education Funded Beginning Teacher Induction and Mentoring Programs\***

- Organized, in cooperation with ISBE, the third round of RFPs for funded programs, Spring 2009
- Supported 39 funded programs through site visits, weekly updates, emails, online discussions, small group networking sessions, and phone calls. As of May, 2009, the total number of funded programs increased to 67. Examples of specific support activities are:
  - An orientation session for 28 newly funded programs, June 2009
  - Budgetary advice during the FY09 no-cost grant extension process in Summer 2009 and during the FY10 continuation proposal process in Fall 2009
  - Six Professional Learning Network meetings focused on building professional learning communities amongst induction leaders for the 39 continuing programs in Spring 2009 with Spring 2010 meetings scheduled
  - Professional Learning and Networking (PLaN) meetings incorporating continuing and new programs and focused on technology tools and resources available to induction program leaders in Fall 2009. Additional round of PLaN meetings scheduled for Spring 2010.
  - Facilitation of the sharing of resources, strategies, and tools through the "Funded Programs Collaborative Corner" portion of the INTC website
  - Examination of webinar opportunities for discussing specific topics of need and interest as requested by program leadership; (eg. assessing program impact on student learning, induction in secondary schools, and induction in rural districts)
  - Assistance with development of an online recordkeeping/data collection tool for induction and mentoring programs (<http://www.timsweb.org/timsweb/>)
- Subcontracted with the IERC to conduct external evaluations of the ISBE funded programs
- Continued to administer the Common Data Elements (CDE) survey
  - Administered the CDE in summer 2009; reported to ISBE November 2009 (<http://intc.education.illinois.edu/resource/rod/state-funded-induction-and-mentoring-programs-illinois-report-november-2009>)
  - Additional round of data collection during Fall 2009
  - Prepared and sent the first of five planned data briefs to ISBE

## **4-Website and Online Resources**

- Continued a partnership with Mind University's Living Library project by collaboratively planning a portion of an online graduate course focused on technology as a professional learning and collaboration tool
- Continued a partnership with Apple, Inc.; an Apple representative presented at 2009 conference technology room sessions and will do the same in 2010
- Continued to plan, with the Technology Committee, website revisions and methods for promoting INTC Online usage
- Collaborated with Northern Illinois University graduate students to pilot the new web site, launch discussion forums, and provide feedback
- Launched the redesigned website to better integrate website content, resources, and discussions of practice,

June 20, 2009. The new site can be found at <http://intc.education.illinois.edu/>

- Pursued process of integrating ISBE funded programs data within the Illinois Induction and Mentoring Programs Database that provides increased searching and reporting capabilities
- Revised the “Funded Programs Collaborative Corner” portion of INTC’s website for increased collaboration and sharing among program leaders
- Began a search process for a full time web/database developer position

## 5-Spreading the Word of INTC

- **Presentations/meetings/publications**

- Presented at:
  - ROE #40 Legislative Forum on Education, April 2009
  - Illinois Education Research Council Symposium, June 2009
  - State Superintendents Conference, October 2009
  - Triple I conference, November 2009
  - National Staff Development Council Conference, December 2009
  - New Teacher Center Symposium, February, 2010
  - Association of Teacher Educators, February 2010
- Submitted a proposal for
  - American Educational Research Association conference (accepted), April 2010
- Organized public comment supporting continuation of induction and mentoring funding, June 2009 and October 2009. Comments were for ISBE Finance and Audit Committee.
- Completed book chapter reviewing literature of internet-based supports for beginning teachers Clift, R. T., Hebert, L., Cheng, Y., Moore, J. & Clouse, N. (in publication). “Exploring the potential of internet based technology for mentoring and induction programs.” In J. Wang, S. J. Odell, & R. T. Clift (Eds.), *Past, present, and future research on teacher induction: An anthology for researchers, policy makers, and practitioners*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Education.

- **INTC State Farm Supported Marketing Plan Competition for High School Students:  
(A new area of State Farm Companies Foundation support)**

- Began recruitment of Marketing Task Force members at Executive Board/Partnership Board meeting, May 2009
- Conducted numerous internal discussions on how to align the service learning goals of this initiative with the mission, priorities and audiences of INTC
- Reached out to youth development expertise from University of Illinois Extension for advice on planning and conducting service learning activities with youth audiences