



Illinois New Teacher Collaborative July 2010 Newsletter

Message from the Director

Changes are in the wind at INTC. After serving as Assistant Director since our inception, Nancy Johnson has decided to retire from the University of Illinois at the end of July. In addition to being the driving force behind this newsletter, Nancy has been instrumental in preparing the Annual Induction and Mentoring Conference and Regional Professional Development Workshops. She also oversaw the details of human subjects research compliance and regular progress reporting to ISBE and State Farm.

Nancy will be sorely missed. We wish her the best knowing that she will definitely not be idle in her retirement. In fact, we hope that Nancy will return on a part-time basis in the fall to do her usual fantastic job of coordinating preparation for the Annual Conference.

INTC also welcomes Mike Painter to our staff. Mike was hired in May as a Visiting Web/Database Developer. He is working with the INTC Central team to enhance the design, data presentation capacity, and utility of our web site.

INTC is looking forward to the new opportunities these changes may bring.

Y2: Moving Beyond Survival

Nearly eighty new teachers attended the Y2 Beginning Teacher Conference at the I Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign on June 29th. The conference offered new teachers time to reflect on and share the past year's teaching experience and network with beginning teachers from around the state. Champaign media covered the event. Their story can be accessed at: http://illinoishomepage.net/fulltext?nxd_id=157895&watch=1

ISBE Funded Programs

Professional Learning and Networking (PLaN) meetings were held in the spring for all funded programs at six locations throughout the state. The meetings focused on data collection and analysis for program evaluation and planning for continuous improvement. The funded programs shared data, tools, and resources to assist one another with assessment, evaluation, and program development.

INTC has increased opportunities for networking and collaboration across distances by:

- Hosting two webinar sessions with guest presenters

- "Induction in Secondary Settings" by Belleville Township High School and Naperville School District
- "Induction in Rural Schools" with Beth Wilkins from Northern Illinois University
- Electronic conferencing to share ideas about fiscal planning in light of local, state, and federal budget challenges and to discuss the new ISBE administrative rules for Beginning Teacher Induction grants

INTC Data Briefs

Survey data from the funded programs are used to write five annual Data Briefs based around the nine Induction and Mentoring Standards describing program activities, challenges, and successes. The first three Data Briefs are now available on the INTC website. Go to <http://intc.education.illinois.edu/resources/rod> and click the "Illinois Induction Research".

Recent findings include:

- Prior to receiving ISBE funding, 31% of district-based programs—and 52% of consortium-based programs—did not exist
- ISBE funding allowed programs to add or improve a wide range of elements. More than 75% of reporting programs were able to:
 - Offer more mentor trainings and professional development
 - Improve new teacher trainings
 - Make the program more structured and clarify expectations

Executive Board and Partnership Board Meeting

The INTC Executive Board and Partnership Board met May 26 in Champaign. INTC staff provided updates regarding critical INTC work areas and met with board members to move forward in planning:

- Winter 2011 conference. The conference evaluation report is available at: <http://intc.education.illinois.edu/resource/rod/2010-intc-conference-report>
- Y2 Beginning Teacher Conference
- Professional development
- Technical assistance
- Service learning project
- Technology
- Connecting higher education to INTC initiatives
- Induction and Mentoring Research

2011 INTC Annual Induction and Mentoring Conference

“Continuing the Continuum” (proposed title)

The new *Illinois Induction Program Continuum*, unveiled at the 2010 INTC Annual Induction and Mentoring Conference, will be once again the focus of the 2011 conference. The conference will take place on March 1-2, 2011, at the Hilton Springfield. There will also be a pre-conference (for ISBE funded programs only) on Monday, February 28.

As in past years, the conference will stress networking and program development. Conference organizers would like to increase attendance by administrators, especially building principals, and by new teachers.

Professional Development Workshops

INTC is planning professional development workshops for 2010-2011 for all Illinois new teachers and those who work with them. Topics of interest will come from suggestions of participants in the Y2 Conference.

Illinois Induction Program Continuum

Funded programs are using the *Continuum* document for program assessment and improvement. An Administrators Academy regarding use of the *Continuum* has been approved by the state and can be scheduled through Regional Offices of Education. Workshops on *Continuum* use are also available for funded programs. Workshop dates are August 13 in Westmont or August 18 in Bloomington. Registration is available at: <http://intc.education.illinois.edu/page/continuous-program-improvement>. For more information on these workshops, contact Mary Elin Barnish at mbarnish@illinois.edu.