March 2011 INTC Newsletter

INTC Annual Induction and Mentoring Conference

"Continuing the Continuum" March 1-2, 2011, Hilton Springfield Conference attendance at the 6th Annual INTC Induction and Mentoring Conference was over 200 in spite of widespread budget constraints. Anecdotal comments point to another successful conference. Formal evaluation results are forthcoming. The conference archive containing audio files of the keynote speakers, various session handouts and PowerPoint files, and discussion forums for continuing the conversations is now available at http://intc.education.illinois.edu/page/intc-2011-conference-archive. Many thanks to all who contributed resources, time, talent, and energy!



2011 INTC Beginning Teacher Conference "Y2: Moving Beyond Survival"

Planning for the 2nd Annual Beginning Teacher Conference has begun. Now is the time for first year teachers to save this date on their calendars. "Y2: Moving Beyond Survival" will take place on June 28th, 2011. Watch for registration information to be released in April or May.

INTC Online Updates

INTC has created a calendar of events with links to more information. It is available at http://intc.education.illinois.edu/page/intc-calendar.

INTC provides regular opportunities to network with induction and mentoring program leaders around various topics related to induction through the use of GoToMeeting. These sessions are listed on INTC's calendar of events. Space is limited, so be sure to register using the link available within the calendar entry.

Many resources, tools, and strategies created and used by Illinois induction program leaders have been shared for public use at http://intc.education.illinois.edu/resources/rod/term/394.

Provide us with feedback as we continue to assess how we can improve the INTC website. Please go to http://intc.education.illinois.edu/page/online-feedback to complete a brief survey about how you currently use the INTC website and how you would like to see it improved.

Service Learning for New Teachers

Jay Mann, Service Learning Taskforce member, presented "The Realities of Service-learning: From Concepts to Contexts" at the Annual INTC Induction and Mentoring Conference.

The Service Learning Project is moving forward with plans to offer professional learning workshops this spring and a "boot camp" this summer. Breakout sessions focusing on service learning will be offered at the INTC Beginning Teacher Conference. If you would like to become involved in the planning of these events, contact Hilarie Welsh (welsh2@illinois.edu).

ISBE Funded Programs

The annual INTC Pre-Conference was held for ISBE grant-funded programs on February 28, 2011, in Springfield. Mentors, program coordinators, and administrators participated in an evening session that

focused on mentor effectiveness and development. A number of tools related to mentor development and effectiveness have been shared by the program leaders through the INTC website at http://intc.education.illinois.edu/resources/rod.

Professional Learning and Networking (PLaN) meetings will be held statewide in April and May for the funded program leaders. The spring data collection including surveys for all participating beginning teachers and mentors will also occur in April.

INTC Research Highlights

A survey of ISBE-funded induction programs across Illinois found that participation in an induction program in 2009-10 increased the number of teachers who chose to stay in their district and decreased the number of teachers who were asked to leave for poor performance.

Compared with two years ago, first-year teachers are more likely to be older: In 2008-09, 84% of new teachers were in their early 20s; in 2010-11, only 56% are. Also, the current academic year saw an increase in the percentage of first-year teachers who are teaching Special Education and English as a Second Language and a decrease in the percentage of elementary classroom teachers.

Read the full FY11 Data Brief #1 on the INTC website at http://intc.education.illinois.edu/resource/rod/intc-data-brief-1-february-2011.