Greetings!

While we are in the middle of budget cuts at the university and in fact throughout the system, there are also many positive things to discuss. First, as you will note below, there are three wonderful new professionals who joined our School of Education family. Each of them will bring their content expertise and enthusiasm for education to the classroom. Second, we are on track to offer the new MC-EA grade 1-8 major (replacing the old 10-14 major) with 4 new minors attached and a revised birth to 11 major starting fall 2016. We will of course, have our current students complete their original program plan if they wish, or we will help with the transition to the new ones. Third, we will have a new licensable special education minor offered fall 2016. It is an exciting time to be in education with lots of positive new changes.

New Faculty

Erin Edgington joined UW-Platteville’s School of Education in fall 2014 as a STEM coordinator and then this fall, she was hired as an assistant professor. She holds a Bachelor of Science in education from Illinois State University in Normal, Ill.; a Master of Science in education from UW-Platteville; and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in mathematics education from UW-Milwaukee. Prior to working at UW-Platteville, Edgington taught for 15 years in the Dodgeville School District in Dodgeville, Wis., teaching in elementary, middle and high school settings. During her last three years in the Dodgeville School District, she worked in district-wide positions, first as a K-12 Response to Intervention coordinator and the final two years as a district math coach. At UW-Platteville, Erin wants students to make meaningful connections from their coursework – both general studies and major courses – to their future profession and understanding of the world. She currently teaches Pre-K Methods and Human Growth and Development.

Jen Collins never really planned on being a teacher. She graduated with a degree in Russian language from the University of Iowa and wanted to do translation work for the government. After the birth of her daughter, Maddie, Jen pursued a Masters in Teaching and fell in love with teaching. She taught public school for about 10 years in both Denver, CO and in Charlotte, NC, then pursued her Doctorate in Urban Education from the University of North Carolina Charlotte. Wanting to share that passion for equalizing the academic field with pre-service teachers, she transitioned to a position in the School of Education at Queens University of Charlotte where she taught for the last five years. She is finishing a MEd in Teaching English as Second Language and looks forward to sharing her knowledge of diverse learners with her students. Jen is thrilled to be back in the Midwest and to be working with the energetic faculty, staff, and students of the School of Education! She currently teaches Oral Lang. & Emergent Literacy, and Reading Literature I.

Having the dream of designing English and Chinese language learning materials with the aid of emerging technologies, Szu-Yueh Justine Chien decided to pursue her master’s degree in educational communications and technology at UW-Madison in 2007. During those two years, Justine became more interested in knowing how to create meaningful learning by assisting people to design various artifacts with technology tools so she pursued her advanced studies in the Learning, Design, and Technology doctoral program at the University of Georgia. Justine developed her research interests in understanding how people use emerging technologies to create various products as multimodal representation of their dynamic identities. Justine believes that everyone is crafting various identities in the life-long learning journey. Justine is excited to work with current and future educators in SoE at UW-Platteville with the goal of helping the next generation develop skills and competence they need in this interconnected world. She currently teaches Senior Seminar, Integrated Methods: Language Arts & Social Studies and Measurements for Counselors and Educators.
Interested in a study abroad experience?
Travel to the United Kingdom for “A Tale of Four Cities”, May 15-29, 2016
This is a two week experience that takes place in Grantham, England. It will explore the impact immigration has had on the school systems in four cities. This is open to any major. Apply by February 15, 2016
For more information, contact Jennifer Collins (collinsjen@uwplatt.edu) or Lindsay Hollingsworth (hollingswoli@uwplatt.edu)