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**Center for Teaching and Learning**  
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**for Academic Year 2013-2014 (AY2013)**

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**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

- ◆ The CTL's Professional Development (PD) program is the primary vehicle for connecting MDECOE faculty and their expertise with teachers and administrators throughout our southern California service area.
- ◆ Consultants delivering PD and mentoring sessions are predominantly MDECOE faculty members (17 out of 20), thus increasing MDECOE's and CSUN's reputation with local schools and districts.
- ◆ Schools partner with the CTL for a 3-year term that includes ongoing PD and mentoring/coaching to help ensure that the PD sessions are tailored to each school's needs.
- ◆ The following nine schools were CTL Partner Contract Schools for AY2013
  - Cardenas Elementary School
  - Hubbard Elementary School
  - Langdon Avenue Elementary School
  - Milken Community High School
  - Our Community School
  - Pacoima Charter School
  - Plummer Street Elementary School
  - Vaughn Next Century Learning Center
  - Westmark School
  
- ◆ CTL's partner schools and speakers bureau schools represent the diversity of schools in our service area of southern California, including Los Angeles Unified School District public schools, non-public schools, charter schools, and private schools.
- ◆ In 2013, the CTL expanded its PD program to include a Speakers Bureau program, which allows schools to benefit from CTL's PD programs without entering into a contract and becoming a partner school. This has been an attractive option for schools who are unable to make a 3-year financial commitment or who have short-term PD needs. It is flexible enough to meet large but short-term PD needs (e.g., San Pedro High School which contracted 16 full days of PD along with follow-up coaching) or more focused needs only requiring one half-day of PD. In addition, schools that do have contracts with CTL have made use of the Speakers Bureau to add additional PD and/or mentoring sessions to their ongoing contract.
- ◆ The following ten schools utilized CTL's Speakers Bureau in AY2013
  - Bell High School
  - LAUSD's Educational Service Center-North (including all ESCN principals)
  - Magnolia Science Academy (4 of 8 campuses)
  - Nobel Charter Middle School
  - North Valley Family YMCA
  - Pacoima Charter School
  - Pacoima Middle School
  - San Pedro High School
  - Taft High School
  - Vista Charter Middle School

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- ◆ To support our consultants, the CTL held a Spring 2014 Professional Development and Research Workshop at which we reviewed protocols and procedures and discussed PD developments. At this meeting, we also introduced several new consultants to the program.

**EDUCATION ON THE EDGE SPEAKER SERIES**

- ◆ The CTL hosted the Education on the Edge speaker series, supported by Provost Hellenbrand. The series was begun to host nationally-recognized scholars to speak to the CSUN and local community on topics on the cutting-edge of education. The goal of the speaker series is to educate the community, while providing a forum for discussion and analysis of current educational issues.
- ◆ The CTL hosted Diane Ravitch speaking on “The Reign of Error” on October 2, 2013. This presentation was “sold-out” with over seven hundred attendees from MDECOE, CSUN, and the local community.
- ◆ The CTL hosted Lou Cozolino speaking on “Social Neuroscience and Education” on May 8, 2014. Over two hundred CSUN and community members attended this presentation.
- ◆ Note: Linda Darling-Hammond was scheduled to deliver a presentation titled, “California on the Edge” on February 26, 2014, but cancelled due to health. Over five hundred attendees were signed up to attend, and we are planning to reschedule her presentation for the upcoming academic year.
- ◆ At the end of the academic year, we renewed funding to continue the Education on the Edge speaker series for AY2014.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

- ◆ The CTL hosted a film screening of “The Butterfly Circus,” followed by a panel discussion with the lead actor, Nick Vujicic, and the writers/producers/directors, Rebekah and Joshua Weigel. There were over a hundred attendees and the CTL partnered with the Student Chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children from MDECOE to publicize the event.
- ◆ The CTL co-sponsored “The Power of Mindsets: Nurturing Motivation and Resilience in Youth,” featuring Dr. Robert Brooks. The presentation was held at Summit View in Valley Glen and was sponsored by ETTA and co-sponsored by the CTL, CSUN, and OHEL.
- ◆ The CTL co-sponsored “Seeking an Authentic Voice: The Role of Parents and Communities in School Change in Los Angeles.” The forum was held on campus and was sponsored by CSUN Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership and Los Angeles Education Partnership, and was co-sponsored by MDECOE, the CTL, the Oviatt Library, and the Civil Discourse and Social Change Initiative.

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**RESEARCH**

- ◆ The CTL has begun planning a research study with Santa Barbara Unified School District and Los Angeles Unified School District schools on co-teaching to study student outcomes. Title: *The Impact of Fidelity to Co-Teaching on Student Academic and Behavioral Outcomes*.
- ◆ The CTL held several research design meetings with partners from the following R1 schools: University of Virginia, SUNY, University of San Francisco, Texas Tech, New Mexico State University, Coastal College of Georgia, and University of Central Florida.

**GRANTS AND PROJECTS**

- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski is the Director of the Linked Learning Sub-Award, administered through California State University-Long Beach, to deliver PD to 60 teachers, counselors, and administrators on linked learning. The sub-award totals \$50,000 over two years. This sub-award is creating partnerships between CSUN, CSULB, and the other CSU schools that are partnering with CSULB. To help build these partnerships, the CTL sent representatives to Linked Learning conferences in Sacramento (February 2014) and Long Beach (April 2014). The sub-award funding will also support two Ed.D. students from MDECOE with \$5,000 each to conduct research projects relating to linked learning.
- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski is Co-Principal Investigator for the CSUN portion of the California Careers Partnership Trust grant, partnering MDECOE's CTL with the College of Engineering and Computer Science and the College of Arts, Media, and Communication. Through this grant, the CTL will be working with 60 teachers, counselors, and administrators from the Partnership Trust's partner schools at Glendale Unified School District and Burbank Unified School District.

**WHAT REALLY WORKS IN EDUCATION BOOK SERIES**

- ◆ The CTL has begun working on a book series targeted towards teachers and based off of the idea of practical "teachers toolkits" introduced at the What Really Works in Education conference hosted by the CTL in March 2013.
- ◆ The book series is edited by the CTL, Dr. Wendy Murawski, and Dr. Kathy James. Two volumes (What Really Works in Elementary Education and What Really Works in Secondary Education) have entered into contract negotiations with Corwin Press.
- ◆ Contributing authors have been invited to write chapters for the volumes, with high representation from CSUN, giving national visibility to MDECOE expertise.
- ◆ Chapter authors include 14 faculty members from MDECOE (with 9 faculty members writing chapters for both volumes)
- ◆ Invited authors also come from a diverse group of colleges and universities (Brigham Young University, California State University-Channel Islands, College of Coastal Georgia, Daemen College, Radford University, Texas A&M University, University of Central Florida, University of Northern Colorado, and University of South Carolina), as well as diverse school districts and

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schools (Baltimore County Public Schools [MD], Buffalo Public Schools [NY], Burbank Unified School District [CA], CHIME Institute [CA], Los Angeles Unified School District [CA], and Seaford School District [DE]). Included in our authors are the Nebraska Teacher of the Year and the 2012 National Teacher of the Year.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski wrote letters of support for: Dr. Ivan Cheng's i3 grant application, to partner with University of San Francisco on Project REAP (Research, Evidence-based, Application, Pedagogy), CSUN's secondary education department for co-teaching (donating co-teaching PD), and Dr. Tamarah Ashton's LAUSD partnership grant application. She also wrote a testimonial for the book *Beyond Core Expectations: A Schoolwide Framework for Serving the Not-So-Common Learner* by Maria G. Dove, Andrea Honigsfeld, and Audrey Cohan
- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski represented CTL and MDECOE as the President of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children.
- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski represented the CTL and MDECOE at keynote presentations nationally at the Inclusion Works Conference in Dallas [TX], the AEI Conference in Waco [TX], the CREATE Summer Institute in Cleveland State University [OH], the SSTR5 Collaborative Learning Summit in Akron [OH], the VCASE and ESC1 Conference in South Padre Island [TX], and at Towson University [MD]
- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski represented the CTL and MDECOE at conference presentations for the Council for Exceptional Children National Conference in Philadelphia [PA], the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children in Fort Lauderdale [FL], and the New York City Charter School Conference in New York [NY].
- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski represented the CTL and MDECOE nationally through presentations, training, professional development, and webinars for the following: Baltimore County Schools [MD], the Office of the Superintendent of Special Education in Washington DC, Higley Unified School District in Gilbert [AZ], Jefferson County teachers in Fayetteville [WV], Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow administrators and teachers [OH], Franklin Lakes School District [NJ], Harlem Village Academies [NY], Santa Barbara Unified School District [CA], and extensive presentations throughout southern California.
- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski represented the CTL through several publications on co-teaching including a book chapter co-authored with another MDECOE faculty member, Dr. Vanessa Goodwin, and a book co-authored with a colleague from the University of Central Florida.
- ◆ Dr. Wendy Murawski also wrote several contributions to MDECOE's *InnovatED Journal*.

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**CTL STAFF TRANSITION**

- ◆ The CTL underwent a large-scale transition in its staff over AY2013.
  - The CTL's coordinator, who had been with the CTL since its creation in 2002, Marcia Rea, retired, and Rick Goldman, the CTL's Director, left the CTL.
  - Dr. Wendy Murawski, who was formerly CTL Eisner Endowed Chair and a fellow of the CTL since its inception, became Executive Director and Eisner Endowed Chair.
  - Dr. Kathy James was hired in January 2014 as the CTL's new Center Administrative Analyst. She came to the CTL after working as a grant coordinator in special education at the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.
  - The CTL hired three new student assistants: Samantha Garley, Timothy Nang, and Ashot Nikoyan. They represent different majors [Deaf Studies, Humanities, and Psychology], ethnicities [Puerto Rican, Cambodian, and Armenian], and languages [American Sign Language, Khmer, and Armenian], and they assist the CTL in communicating and responding to student needs.
- ◆ AY2014 will be the first full academic year following the change in CTL leadership and staff.