Teach Next Year

Lisa M. Gonsalves

University of Massachusetts Boston, lisa.gonsalves@umb.edu

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On March 8, 2011, President Barack Obama recognized UMass Boston in a speech during his visit to TechBoston Academy in Boston’s Dorchester neighborhood. UMass Boston’s Teach Next Year program has prepared many of the teachers who have worked at the pilot school. “I wanted to come to TechBoston so that the rest of America can see how it’s done,” President Obama began his speech. “You guys are a model for what’s happening all across the country.”

**Teach Next Year**

A nationally acclaimed teacher residency program. TNY is an alternative, experiential urban school-based route to earning a master’s degree in education (M.Ed.) and Massachusetts initial teacher licensure through the UMass Boston in approximately 12 months. The program is designed to build on the interests and expertise of its students, faculty and the students in Boston Public Schools. Because it is an intensive site-based educational experience, it provides the support of professors, practitioners and colleagues while it supplies the challenge of study, practice and exploration.

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**Our Partnering Schools**

**Boston Public Schools**

is the largest school district in Massachusetts, which serve a culturally and racially diverse community, primarily of African American and Latino/Latina descent. Each school is engaged in several exciting school reform and improvement initiatives, featuring small learning environments and professional development school partnerships with the University of Massachusetts Boston.

**TechBoston Academy**

– a pilot school with 780 students in grades 6-12, offering a college preparatory curriculum with technology focus and interdisciplinary, project-based learning. Currently there are five TNY interns placed at TechBoston this year.

**Community Academy for Science and Health (CASH)**

– a small, college preparatory high school with a personalized learning environment focused on science and health. Currently, there are five TNY interns placed at CASH.

**East Boston High**

- the first BPS high school with extended time on learning in all subjects. Offers advanced placement and honors courses and electives in Academy of Management, Academy of Health and Human Services, Media, Visual Arts and ROTC. Currently, there are three TNY interns placed at East Boston.

**Dorchester Academy**

- a small school with a rigorous academic and college prep curriculum focused on business and entrepreneurship. Offers Advanced Placement and Honors courses. Currently, there are five TNY interns placed at Dorchester Academy.

**Excel High**

- a college preparatory school with a focus on technology. Winner of the 2007 EdVestors/Thomas W. Payzant School on the Move Prize as the most improved school in the district. Advanced Placement courses in each discipline, with additional honors and enrichment courses such as engineering, NFTE, law and order, and music. Currently, there are two TNY interns placed at Excel.

**Charlestown High**

– a college preparatory school for four-year colleges and universities, includes four small learning communities, each with a "sister" college. English Language learner program for Chinese students and Spanish speakers, MCAS and SAT preparation programs and Advanced Placement programs. Currently, there are one TNY intern placed at Charlestown.

**The Harbor (Middle) School**

– offers an extended school day, full inclusion model, AVID college prep program, small class size (average is 19 students), rigorous standards-based instruction, vibrant after-school programming and state of the art technology in every classroom. TNY interns Christian Scott and Michael Keough were recently nominated for Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award.

An internationally recognized award given by Best Buddies International to chapters. Best Buddies is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Currently, there are eight TNY interns placed at the Harbor.

**Roger Clap Innovation (K-8) School**

- very first innovation school in Boston Public Schools. Offers science, visual arts, foreign language and physical education. Focus on academic excellence for all students and strong emphasis on working with community partners.

**Eliot (K-8) School**

- received most improved MCAS scores in the district in 2009, enrichment (AVID Instruction) in English language arts and math for grades 4-8. This school is a member of the Boston Inclusive Schools Network.

**Lee Elementary (2-8) School**

- AVID program for grades 4-6 to encourage students to aim for college. Recipient of State of Massachusetts Commendation for academic achievement. Peer Buddies and other programs to promote inclusion of all students.

**Holmes Elementary School**

- AVID program for eligible students in grades 4-6. Holmes Elementary School is a model school that fully includes students with disabilities in all classes, small class size of 15-18 students, computers in every classroom, science lab and auditorium/gym. Strong music program, with band and chorus, and a great science lab and auditorium/gym.

**Randolph Public Schools**

district is located in Eastern Massachusetts. The district also serves a culturally and racially diverse community, primarily of African American, Haitian, and Vietnamese descent. The district serves approximately 3,000 students, 40% of whom speak English as a second language. Randolph has four Elementary schools, one Middle school and one High School. Currently, there are five TNY interns placed at schools in the district.

**Research Project 1**

**Development of a Rubric for Evaluating Science Teachers**

(Gonsalves & Sevian)

**The Findings**

1. Effective explanation of science is developed in layers
   - When an explainer is strong in only one type of knowledge (content or pedagogy), there is a clear transition in the person’s explanation
2. Only when both pedagogy and content are strong is a scientific explanation effective
   - Science explanations in this category exhibit development of powerful mental images, tactical use of media to support explanation, and scaffolded development of concepts
3. Presentation skills add an extra layer that can cause a good presentation to fail or a poor presentation to appear to succeed
4. Gestures sometimes reveal deep content understanding that the explainer is unable to articulate verbally

**Research Project 2**

**Navigating the socio-cultural web: Introducing a theoretical model for evaluating teaching residency & alternative certification programs (TRPs & ACPs)**

(Gonsalves and Kress)

**The Findings**

We proposed a three dimensional theoretical model that provides educators, policymakers, and researchers with a way of understanding and evaluating TRPs & ACPs within and between their macro-level socio-cultural contexts and their micro-level daily implementation.

**Community-Engaged Research**

**Partnering Schoolscontinued…**

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