The Urban Institute for Teacher Education: Our Mission

The Urban Institute for Teacher Education in the College of Education houses the early childhood, elementary, and secondary teacher education licensure programs at the University of Utah. The Institute reflects the natural next step from the development of our common education core and prepares future teachers through an interdisciplinary and collaborative focus within the College of Education, across the University of Utah, and in partnership with schools and communities.

Through a college-wide core curriculum, future teachers acquire the knowledge and skills in areas that include: school-family partnerships, multicultural education, educational law, assessment, special education, classroom management, and educational research. Classroom and community experiences through practica and service learning focus on issues of equity, access, and social justice for contemporary students, teachers, and families.

In addition to pre-service teacher preparation, professional development for practicing teachers will begin summer 2010 with workshops in math and science, urban education, and the arts. Updates will be provided during the coming academic year.

Urban Art for the Urban Institute

Mestizo Institute of Culture and Art (MICA) is a non-profit arts and cultural institution. Together with the Mestizo Coffee House, MICA invests in community and youth to provide mentorship arts and research programs for youth living on the west side of Salt Lake City. MICA offers traveling art exhibitions, muralist apprenticeships, and free Spanish language classes.

A mural commissioned through MICA will hang as part of the Urban Institute of Education’s commitment to the art work of youth.

For more information about MICA and the Mestizo Coffee House, please visit their website at www.mestizocoffeehouse.com.
**Teaching Internships**

Fall 2009 was the start of a new and exciting opportunity in the Urban Institute for Teacher Education. In conjunction with the Granite School District, 14 teachers were chosen through an application and interview process. Internships allow students in the elementary and secondary licensure programs the opportunity to teach full time during an academic year.

Each intern is assigned to a classroom of their own and assumes full teacher responsibilities and as employees in the Granite School District. Interns receive half an annual salary and full medical, dental and life insurance benefits.

As partners in teacher preparation, a full-time Granit mentor is housed within individual schools to provide interns continuous support and guidance, problem solving, and assessment of their progress. In addition, students receive consistent university supervision and support.

To be eligible for an interning position, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Acceptance into the elementary or secondary education program;
2. A minimum 3.2 cumulative GPA (rounded to tenths);
3. Completion of all pre-admission courses (secondary) or general education courses and all professional education core courses (elementary) prior to the internship year; and
4. Passing of the Praxis II for your content area. (More information about the Praxis II test can be found at www.ets.org.)

If you would like to know more about this program, information and application materials are listed on the UI TE website at www.ed.utah.edu/UI TE/index.html.

Please return completed applications to the UI TE Main Office, Milton Bennion Hall #142, by **February 19, 2010**.

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**The Adventures of Newton and U Story by Matt George, Pictures by Mike Bohman**

Maggie Edminster, a U of U sophomore, will visit 1-3 grade classrooms in Granite and Salt Lake School Districts. Maggie will provide information about the University of Utah’s Teacher Education programs and share with students *The Adventures of Newton and U*, story by Matt George and pictures by Mike Bohman. Newton’s story illustrates one child’s plans for college. In addition to discussing pathways to college, each child will receive a copy of *The Adventures of Newton*. This is a great opportunity to invite potential students to the University of Utah and College of Education.

**Image found at www.mikebohman.com**

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**Art Integration in the Urban Institute**

The Urban Institute’s Elementary and Early childhood licensure programs are in the midst of their second year of actively integrating the arts into the four-year teacher licensure programs. Starting at freshman year and continuing through senior year, prospective teachers complete at least one course per year specifically focused on the integration of arts.

This year, a number of senior year method courses include an arts integration theme. In Advanced Reading Methods, taught by Dr. Emily Swan from the Department of Educational Psychology, teacher candidates learn to incorporate social studies, art, and science curriculum into effective reading pedagogy.

An integrated art and social studies course, taught by Peggy McCandless, allows for thematic integration between Dr. Swan’s class using reading strategies in concert with a hands-on example of “taxation without representation”. The cross curricular integration was furthered when Ms. McCandless made social studies come alive through lessons on the American Civil War, via dance, poetry, and visual arts. Additional components of the social studies methods course will include connections with the Utah Museum of Fine Arts through and examination of the Art in a Box Program.

A number of schools throughout the state are supported through the Art Works for Kids and/or Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Programs. Within these sites a certified art teacher works with all children across grade levels to integrate the arts into the core curriculum. The incorporations of arts education has been noted as significant for improved student learning.

To get more information about the impact of arts integration, please visit: [http://www.artworksforkids.org/get-inspired/statistics](http://www.artworksforkids.org/get-inspired/statistics).

During the coming year, an Arts Education Committee will explore the design and implementation of a Masters Degree in Arts Education through the Department of Education, Culture, and Society and through the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy. We are encouraged by the number of practicing teachers who have expressed interest in the possibility for a graduate degree that focuses on the integrations of the arts.

If you have any questions regarding the arts integration approach at either the licensure or graduate level, please contact Peggy McCandless, Co-Coordinator for Art Integrations, at peggy.mccandless@utah.edu.
The Urban Institute for Teacher Education welcomes Andrea Garavito, community educator and doctoral student in the Department of Education, Culture, and Society. As a graduate assistant for the College of Education, Andrea will work in collaboration with UITE advisors to assist in recruiting and retaining prospective teacher education students. Her work focuses on developing outreach and retention efforts and materials for traditionally underrepresented students.

Recruitment and Retention Efforts

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Peer Advocates for Teaching Program

In coordination with the Urban Institute for Teacher Education’s commitment to building a diversified teaching community, a Peer Advocacy Program is beginning this fall. The Peer Advocacy program is designed to provide incoming first-year and transfer pre-education undergraduate students with peer mentors who will work in collaboration with the academic advisors. The peer mentor coordinator will encourage incoming students to apply for one of three teaching license programs, as well as offer continuing support. Peer advocates will assist the advising staff during advisement, registration, and orientation; advise and assist students with general admission requirements, course selection and registration; provide students with academic and other support services information; create an awareness to university and departmental policies; and connect and engage students with academic departments.

Peer Advocates will attend a series of 3–4 training sessions to learn about the teaching licensure programs and the resources available at the University of Utah (e.g. financial aid and scholarships, writing center, Center for Ethnic Student Affairs, tutoring services, etc.).

CSME AND UITE RECEIVE NSF GRANT

Project SMART, a collaborative program of the Center for Science and Math Education (CSME) and the Urban Institute for Teacher Education (UITE) at the University of Utah, in partnership with Utah State University and the Park City Mathematics Institute has been awarded $799,400 in funding from the NSF Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program. The NSF funding will be supplemented by an additional $250,000 in seed funding from Math for America, a non-profit organization based in New York. Under the direction of Hugo Rossi (CSME Director) and Mary Burbank (UITE Director), Project SMART will meet the needs of school districts throughout Utah to increase the number and quality of new math teachers.

SMART (Support and Mentoring in an Alternative Route to Teaching) will provide funding for two cohorts of ten Teaching Fellows equivalent to that of a University graduate assistant for one year, while these students take the basic courses necessary for licensure and spend time in the classroom as a student teacher under the supervision of a mentor. SMART Teaching Fellows then enter the teaching profession, having contracted to remain in the schools for an additional four years. During those four years mentoring and oversight continues, and participants follow a program of study leading to a Master’s degree. By bringing content-knowledgeable professionals into classrooms, developing strong mentoring relationships with experienced teachers, and offering professional development workshops, Project SMART will create strong professional learning communities in Utah schools.

A Major Success at the Major Expo

We would like to thank advisors Becky Owen and Bobbi Davis and graduate assistant Andrea Garavito for their work and effort in making this year’s Major Exploration a success. Their theme, ‘Education: Opening Doors to a World of Possibilities’ was a hit! Over 70 students stopped to inquire about the Urban Institute for Teacher Education and our teacher licensure programs. In addition to an eye-catching display, a drawing was available for students to enter to win an iTunes gift card. We are excited for the new school year and hope to welcome many new students into the world of teacher education!
Dates to Remember

November 1, 2009
- Deadline for applying for Spring Graduation (for undergraduates)

February 1, 2010
- Scholarship applications due
- Applications due for the Secondary Master’s program

February 19, 2010
- Internship applications due

March 1, 2010
- Applications due for elementary undergraduate licensure program for Fall 2010-Spring 2011

March 15, 2010
- Applications due for secondary undergraduate licensure program for Fall 2010-Spring 2011

UITE Scholarships

Congratulations to our 25 scholarship recipients for the 2009-2010 school year! We wish them a successful year as they continue their teacher education studies at the University of Utah.

The Urban Institute for Teacher Education awards up to $58,000 in scholarships each year. Scholarships are available to both undergraduate and graduate students and are available in all areas of the teacher licensure programs.

Information about specific scholarships in available, including requirements and application procedures, can be found on our website at www.ed.utah.edu/UITE.

Scholarship application packets must include the following:
1. Teacher education scholarship application;
2. Scholarship checklist;
3. Official University of Utah transcript (entering freshmen will submit high school transcript);
4. Official summary of transfer credit (if applicable);
5. Personal statement;
6. Three letters of recommendation; and
7. Additional supporting documentation as the specific scholarship requires.

Once your application packet is complete, return or mail it to the UITE main office:

Scholarship Committee
Urban Institute for Teacher Education
1705 Campus Center Drive
Milton Bennion Hall, #142
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

All application packets must be received by 5:00 PM on February 1, 2010. We hope to have many scholarship recipients in the coming year!

Need to take the Praxis II?

The next test dates are:

- **November 14, 2009** (must register by 10/15/09)
- **January 9, 2010** (must register by 12/10/09)

Register at www.ets.org.

If you have questions, ask your education advisor.

Alumni Voices

What College of Education Alumni have to say about the University of Utah

“The Master’s of Education program at the U best prepared me as a teacher by providing me with practical experience in a diverse, urban school district...I am really grateful to the program for introducing me to the joys of urban education.”

—Brian Birchler, Highland High School, Mathematics

“The University of Utah had high expectations of me. I received a great cohort leader who pushed me to do things higher and greater. The University of Utah developed me into the teacher I am today.”

—Amanda Mantas, Escalante Elementary, 6th Grade

“My training at the University of Utah has helped me by keeping me aware of the diverse challenges that my students face.”

—Jen Shake, Murray High School, Biology

“I feel extremely indebted to the University of Utah and its faculty for providing me with the best education possible. It is because of them that I feel able and confident in my own abilities to make a difference in my students’ lives, just as they have in mine.”

—Jennifer Jensen, Highland Park Elementary, 5th Grade