MEET THE 2010-2011 TEACHER FELLOWS

Twenty-seven (27) beginning teachers are participating in the 2010-2011 Teacher Fellows program. During their first year, these novice teachers will serve as the teacher-of-record in an elementary classroom while also earning a master’s degree in education from Texas State.

Five area school districts (Comal ISD, Hays CISD, Lake Travis ISD, Leander ISD and Round Rock ISD) participate in the TxState Teacher Fellows program. The 10-11 Teacher Fellows and their respective districts are as follows: **Comal ISD**: Rachel Bam, Kay Lee Gibbs, Hanna Watson; **Hays CISD**: Julia Armstrong, Katie Eubanks, Jennifer LaTouf, Candace Roberson, Amiee Ricketson, Monica Tenbrook; **Lake Travis ISD**: Lynsey Jones, Kerri Newton, Alexandra Reiter; **Leander ISD**: Kayla Boaz, Rachel Edson, Aarica Fitch, Melanie Hafner, Rachael Hoefer, Jessica Strauss; **Round Rock ISD**: Jessica Andrew, Vanessa Duarte, Cynthia Griggs, Molly Hansen, Laura Hanson, Stephanie Hauck, Julianne Matuschak, Amber Valesquez, Taylor Wentz.

The current Exchange Teachers are Mary Graham, Comal ISD; Kelli Mogonye and Amber Reue, Hays CISD; Esther Peckover, Lake Travis ISD; Patti Moore and Michele Breeden, Leander ISD; and Marisa Garcia, Heidi Herold, and Kate Mamot, Round Rock ISD. Dr. Barbara Davis and Mrs. Laura Duhon are the program co-directors and university faculty. Mrs. Terri Key assists with Exchange Teacher and Saturday Seminars and program research. During the summer sessions, Dr. Kathy Fite teaches program courses and Mr. Jesse Villaolobos, San Marcos CISD teacher, assists with technology.

TEACHER FELLOW GRADUATING CLASS OF 2009-2010

On August 13, 2010, the 09-10 Teacher Fellows successfully completed the 15-month program and received their Masters in Education. Twenty-four beginning teachers participated in the program during the 2009-2010 academic year. The 09-10 Teacher Fellows and their respective districts were as follows: **Comal ISD**: Jessica Baker, Kristina Grant, Rachel Hughes; **Hays CISD**: Jenna Cline Sheets, Andrea Meyer, Lauren Dunham, Katie Bradford, Alyssa Roetheli, Sarah Woelfel; **Lake Travis ISD**: Lyndsey Hines, Stacy Parker Ford, Ashton Peters; **Leander ISD**: Victoria Arévalo, Bethany Everette, Rebecca Hart, Kristina Milledge, Stephanie Roquemore, Jessica Wright; **Round Rock ISD**: Marissa Barrios, Ariel Chapa, Erin Carroll, April Eyre Peterson, Kelly Harper, Shannon Quandt.

The 09-10 Exchange Teachers included: Mary Graham, Comal ISD; Amber Reue and Terri Key, Hays CISD; Esther Peckover, Lake Travis ISD; Michele Breeden and Patti Moore, Leander ISD; Marisa Garcia and Beth Wilhelmi, Round Rock ISD.
Stacey Magnesio Receives ‘Teacher of the Year’ Award

Stacey Magnesio (07-08 Teacher Fellow) was recognized as Kyle Elementary’s (KES) Teacher of the Year in Hays CISD for the 2008-2009 school year. At the time of the award, Stacey had been with the district for four years. Currently, Stacey is starting her fifth year teaching fourth grade at Kyle Elementary.

Stacey has shown her continuous dedication to KES by being involved in after-school programs such as ACT-club, Student Council, as well as being a POWER mentor. Stacey has presented at the Texas State Reading Association Conference in Austin, the Association of Teacher Educator’s conference in Dallas, and the 2010 ASCD Conference in San Antonio. She has also presented workshops on how to create and manage literacy centers to the Teacher Fellows for the past two years.

Nancy Bustamante Named ‘Bilingual Teacher of Year’

Nancy Bustamante (05-06 Teacher Fellow) of Carmichael Elementary was named Aldine ISD’s Bilingual Teacher of the Year.

The award was announced on April 16, 2010 at the ninth annual SHABE (Suburban Houston Association for Bilingual Education) banquet. Ms. Bustamante received an award and a basket full of goodies including a $50 gift certificate to the Lakeshore store for her outstanding service to Bilingual students. Bustamante was selected from Aldine’s campus winners, by the Bilingual/ESL teacher of the year committee.

Kate Mamot Named ‘Teacher of Year’ at Caldwell Heights Elementary

Kate Mamot (06-07 Teacher Fellow) was named the 2010 Teacher of the Year at Caldwell Heights Elementary (CHE) in Round Rock ISD. Kate has taught third and fourth grades at CHE for the past four years. She has served as a team leader, vertical team facilitator and mentor to beginning teachers.

Kate has presented at campus and district workshops and recently presented at the 13th Annual TxState Central Texas Writing Project Conference. Currently, Kate serves as the Teacher Fellow Exchange Teacher for the Brushy Creek Elementary cohort in RRISD.
Kagan Cooperative Learning Inspires Former Teacher Fellow/Exchange Teacher

After attending numerous Kagan Cooperative Learning trainings, Laura Duhon’s (94-95 Teacher Fellow) dream of encouraging and supporting what cooperative learning truly is has come true. Last year she accepted the position of part-time Kagan National Trainer. Dr. Jackie Minor, Kagan’s Director of School Improvement Programs, invited Laura to join the team as a national trainer after viewing her video application. In addition to co-directing the Teacher Fellows program and teaching courses at TxState, Laura travels throughout the United States training and coaching teachers (K-12) on how to use Kagan cooperative learning structures in their classrooms.

Having implemented Kagan cooperative learning structures for several years in her university courses, Laura has seen the impact they have made on her teaching and her students as well. She states, “It is such an honor to share a strategy I am so passionate about, and something that has been so valuable to my teaching as well as to my students’ learning.”

Barbara Davis Selected 2010 Alumni Association Teaching Award of Honor Recipient

Barbara Davis was selected by the Alumni Association Board of Directors for the 2010 Teaching Award of Honor. Dr. Davis was presented this award at the August 24, 2010 faculty and staff convocation by President Denise M. Trauth and Association Board Member Donna Hill.

Teacher Fellows To Host Kagan USA Tour in San Marcos
Jan. 11-12, 2011

The Kagan USA Tour is a unique learning opportunity. Learn the best from the best when you register for one of Kagan’s USA tour workshops! Workshops for Kagan’s USA Tour are presented by Certified Kagan Trainers.

To register for the workshops “Structures for Cooperative Learning” and “Accelerating Achievement” go to the following link: www.kaganonline.com/workshops/usa_tour/
ALUMNI PROFESSIONAL NEWS

Mark Lopez (02-03) is the Science Coordinator at Luna Middle School in Northside ISD in San Antonio.

Stacey Magnesio’s (07-08) action research article titled “A Novice Teacher Fosters Social Competence with Cooperative Learning” was published in Childhood Education (Summer, 2010).

Kate Mamot (06-07) is an Exchange Teacher at Brushy Creek Elementary in Round Rock ISD.

Karen Miller-Kopp (97-98) is working on her doctorate in School Improvement at Texas State.

Ernesto Munoz (02-03) is the Assistant Principal at Widen Elementary School in Austin ISD.

Tracie (Myers) Montanio (04-05) is an Instructional Coach at Giddens Elementary in Leander ISD.

Dana (Dannhaus) Nathanson (98-99) is an Elementary Math Curriculum Specialist at Leander ISD.

Katie Peterson (05-06), a doctoral student at UT-Austin, recently published “E-Pal Correspondents Meet in Cyberspace: Preservice Teachers Learn From and About Writers” in English in Texas (Spring/Summer, 2010).

Rebecca Stout’s (07-08) action research article titled “Putting Literacy Centers to Work: A Novice Teacher Utilizes Literacy Centers to Improve Reading Instruction” was published in the June, 2009 issue of Networks: An Online Journal for Teacher Research.

Ashley Swindle (95-96) is the Campus Data & Assessment Coordinator at Rutledge Elementary in Leander ISD.

Karen Zuniga (02-03) is an Instructional Strategist at Fuentes Elementary in Hays CISD.

Teacher Service Record
Contact Dr. Barbara Davis at bd@txstate.edu or 512.245.8196 if you need an official service record to document your first year of teaching. Service Records may be required when you change districts. In addition, the Teacher Retirement System requires a Service Record if you plan to purchase this year for retirement.

When contacting Dr. Davis be sure to include the following:
(a) the year you participated in the program;
(b) your full name during Fellows program;
(c) the district, campus, and county in which you taught during Fellows program; and
(d) your current mailing address

Special Thanks to the Newsletter Editors:
Blair Little (08-09) & Katie Bradford (09-10)