



# Ed Studies News

Teacher Scholars for Social Justice



## Back to the Books!

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It must be fall. Leaves are tinged with the slightest bit of fall colors, and the lazy days of summer have given way to the hectic pace of a new semester. We hope your year is off to a smooth start and that you're finding your classes interesting and challenging. One of the many things we love about liberal arts colleges like IWU is the opportunity to explore subjects we might not have otherwise explored; to tease out common threads from a range of diverse content areas. We hope your fall courses give you the opportunity to explore and connect across many topics and subjects. Happy learning!

In case you haven't had a chance to stop by the Ed Studies department yet, we thought we would introduce you to a few new faces. Please drop by and say hello to . . .

- ⇒ Maddie Cahill: Returning Student Worker
- ⇒ Grace Hanzelin: Student Worker (since May)
- ⇒ Ruth Tadesse: Student Worker
- ⇒ Dr. Colleen Herald: Assistant Director, Teacher Licensure and Assessment
- ⇒ Christine Horner: Office Coordinator
- ⇒ Maggie Evans: Visiting Assistant Professor (see below)

### ✓ **Your Student Education Association (SEA) Officers**

- ✓ **President: Troy Huber**
- ✓ **Vice President: Elaine Coppe**
- ✓ **Secretary: Meg Stanley**
- ✓ **Treasurer: Elena Duve**
- ✓ **Service/Social Chair: Sydney Seeman**
- ✓ **Contact Troy Huber (thuber@iwu.edu) to join today!**

### **State Farm Hall: Be Green**

Many Ed Studies courses are held in SFH001, our education lab. Feel free to help yourself to some tea or hot cocoa, but please use (and then wash) a glass mug rather than a paper cup. Thanks!



## Meet Professor Evans!

Have you had the pleasure of meeting our newest faculty member, Dr. Maggie Evans? If not, here's your chance to learn a little more about her!

Prior to teaching at IWU, Professor Evans worked with a research team at the University of Illinois where, according to Professor Evans, "we studied the ways in which teachers interpret and make decisions from students' performance data." Professor Evans went on to say, "Currently, I am writing a paper that documents the ways in which elementary school teachers attribute students' performance data." Fascinating and relevant research for sure!

When asked about her biggest surprise in coming to IWU, she said, "I am pleasantly surprised at the beauty of this campus. From the classrooms to the quad, this campus is pristine. I am also impressed with the ways in which the IWU community recycles, conserves, and overall makes a conscious effort to be environmentally friendly. Finally, although not a surprise, the student body here is awesome. My students bring diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and personalities to the classroom." Indeed!

Professor Evans teaches EDU 255 and 257, so those courses keep her pretty busy. But she also makes time for life outside of IWU. According to Professor Evans, "I wish I could tell students that I live an action-packed life outside of school and that my hobbies include sewing my own clothes and making sculptures out of butter. Yet, that is not my life! My life outside of school is busy, lovely, and simple. I mainly spend time with my 18-month old daughter, who is *objectively* the best baby in the world, and with my husband, Noah. I also spend a lot of time with my two nephews." Now that you know a little more about Professor Evans, please stop by and introduce yourself and welcome her to the IWU Ed Studies family!

### Breaking News:

The APT Test is no longer required for licensure in Illinois (but the edTPA is).

Need a place to study or hang out? Check out the Ed Studies Commons area (between the two halls in CLA, 3rd floor). It's your space!

Helpful Hint: Bookmark the Ed Studies website for lots of information and updates:

<https://www.iwu.edu/edstudies/>

## Guess Who?



Let's see how well you know your Ed Studies faculty and staff by playing Guess Who? We'll give you a few hints, and if you can guess whom we're describing, you could win a **\$5.00 gift card to Dunkin' Donuts!** Yum! Enter by filling out a ballot in the Ed Studies Commons Area the next time you're in CLA! Good luck:

Here are the hints: This person:

- Has three children;
- Lives in a small town;
- Enjoys reading and doing yoga;
- Loves to garden and has eight gardens that he or she tends.

***Drawing on Friday, October 2. Enter now!!!***

EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WE CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD. NELSON MANDELA

## Student Teachers: On the Move

The 2015 Student Teachers are incredibly busy this semester learning the ropes of teaching in all corners of Central Illinois and from every grade, 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>. Not only are they ready to jump into teaching, but they are also open to a wide range of learning opportunities and to seeing how the concepts they've learned about in their courses play out in the classroom. Said Miranda Wilson (Bilingual 1<sup>st</sup> Grade), "I appreciate the diversity within my classroom. All my students have their own life experiences and bring unique perspectives to class." Alex Burnside (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) echoed that notion saying, "I appreciate the diversity of my students' experiences, as well as the support I'm receiving from veteran teachers." Certainly, the student teachers have found some great mentors and role models in their schools. According to Devon Busbia (2<sup>nd</sup> grade), "Everyone is so nice and helpful. My cooperating teacher is always willing to help and be flexible," a sentiment shared by Angela Herrmann (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) who added, "My

cooperating teacher is great. She gives me opportunities to try new things in the classroom. I've been surprised by how natural it feels to be in the classroom helping students learn." Our student teachers are off to a great start! While we miss seeing them on campus during the day, we are so proud of them! Go, IWU!



*Exhausted but energized, the 2015 Student Teachers enjoy a delicious meal following their first seminar class.*