

# BYU School Leadership Newsletter

September 2012

Vol. 1 Iss. 3

## Spotlights

### New Faculty Spotlight: Mike Pratt

After serving as president of the Russia Vladivostok mission, Michael Pratt returned to the States in July and is now the newest member of the EdLF Faculty. Mike began his teaching career as a third grade teacher in Jordan School District. After three years, he moved to Alpine School District where he was an elementary teacher for five more years, a principal for 22 years, and an elementary school supervisor for five years. Mike said he is overjoyed to teach at the McKay School and share his experience and expertise with his students. Mike will be primarily teaching graduate courses in the School Leadership and EdD programs. He will also be serving on the School Leadership Committee. Mike enjoys art, music and literature. He played the trombone in high school and sang in the Mormon Tabernacle choir for six years.



### Intern Spotlight: Summer Lovin'



**Many of the students in the Executive School Leadership (ExSL) Track of the School Leadership program are doing their internships this summer. A few students shared their thoughts with us about their experiences and the benefits of the flexible ExSL Track.**

*"I chose to work in the summer to not have so much of a stress during the school year because I coach golf in the fall and spring. I didn't want to worry about internship hours, and this internship worked well with my schedule."*

*-Brett Miller, Landmark High School*

*"You can only do 100 hours at your home school, so that means you have to leave work to get them done. The district lets us use our personal days, but we only get five per year, so we have limited access. Summer is the time, now that I am not working, for me to really dedicate to getting a good chunk of my hours done."*

*-Cheryl Neagle, Lehi High School*

*"The kids all seem to really want to be here, and they care about their grades. I really like to see them take the initiative. Also, for ExSL students, doing a summer internship means that you don't have to take off work, write sub plans or worry about what is going on back at your home school while you are away. You can wholeheartedly focus on the school where you are and just be there. I recommend it highly!"* -Lori Bellitti, Mountain View High School

## Announcements

Do you know anyone who is thinking of getting a **Master's degree** that would qualify them for an **administrative license**?

Tell them about our upcoming information meetings!

**Sept. 13th 5:00 p.m.**

Nebo District Office  
Board Room  
350 South Main Spanish Fork, Utah

**Sept. 20th 5:00 p.m.**

Alpine District Annex  
PDC Bldg. Room 210  
575 North 100 East American Fork, Utah

**Sept. 27th 5:00 p.m.**

Granite District Office  
Room D106  
2500 South State St. SLC, Utah

**Oct. 17th 4:30 p.m.**

Jordan District Auxiliary Bldg.  
7905 S. Redwood Road West Jordan, Utah

### School Leadership Program Application Deadlines

**LPP Track:** December 1, 2012

**ExSL Track:** February 12, 2013

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LPP STUDENTS WHO GRADUATED IN AUGUST!!!

Mandy Braby, Christine Christensen,  
Amanda Cottle, Brittany Gilson,  
Ronna Horrman, Rhet Rowley, Ilene Strong,  
Alan Tischner, Blaine Wright



DAVID O. MCKAY  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

# BYU School Leadership Newsletter

September 2012

Vol. 1 Iss. 3

## Alumni Spotlight: Rebecca Smith



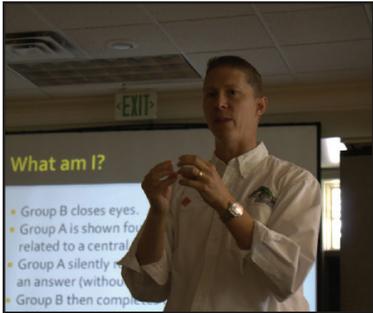
Rebecca Smith, a graduate of the School Leadership program, recently received an administrative appointment to be the Gifted and Talented Consultant for Jordan School District. Rebecca has been interested in gifted and talented education since she first heard of it during her undergraduate studies at Weber State University. Rebecca worked as a classroom teacher for nine years, as a district mentor specialist for four years, and as a Title 1 literacy specialist for three years. In her new capacity, Rebecca is excited to further the progress of gifted and talented students in her district. "There is a definite need

for gifted and talented education," she said. "I'm grateful for this chance to further the cause of education for all students and help create opportunities for gifted kids to reach their full potential."

Rebecca is originally from Kearns, Utah. Being a lifelong learner, she loves to experience new places and new things. She loves reading, the arts, science, and Disneyland.

## "bUild": Becoming United in Leader Development

*New internship project introduced at annual mentor/intern training*



In July, mentor principals and students from the School Leadership program gathered together at the Homestead Resort in Midway, Utah for the annual mentor training conference.

The training's theme, "bUild: Becoming United in Leader Development," emphasized to each attendee that *U* play a specific role in building excellent educational leaders. The theme also encapsulates a key purpose of the School

Leadership program: to prepare effective school leaders through unified collaboration between individuals within the university and public schools.

Attendees heard presentations from mentor principals and School Leadership faculty about the five mentor standards and the new internship leadership project (ILP).

The ILP is effective with the 2012 cohorts. Instead of working from a mere project checklist, the new internship requires students to work with their mentor principals to develop a relevant school improvement project that they will implement in the schools. This structure provides a greater reflective learning opportunity for the student and a more meaningful, practical internship.

## The Next Step:

The following students from the School Leadership program are now continuing their education in the Education Doctorate program:

- Tyler Howe (2012 cohort)
- Patrick Flannigan (2012 cohort)
- Shane Farnsworth (2011 cohort)
- Brenda Burr (2011 cohort)
- Sam Jarman (2012 cohort)

Interested in applying for the EdD program? The Summer 2013 deadline is March 1, 2013. For more information visit <http://education.byu.edu/edlf/programs/edd.html>.

## New Placements

- Dianne Phillips, Principal, Oakwood Elementary, Granite School District

## Thoughts from the training:

*"It's a great renewal for those who have had interns before and a reminder to say what things we may need to improve on in the future."*

*-Sara Matis, Mentor Principal, Westside Elementary*

*"It gave me a big picture about what the internship should be and what my goals should be."*

*-Becky Witt, Intern, ExSL Track 2012*

Email feedback and contributions for the newsletter to [mckayprteam@byu.edu](mailto:mckayprteam@byu.edu)



DAVID O. MCKAY  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION