Reaching New Heights

Undergraduate Clinically Rich Teacher Preparation Program

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Program Overview/Goals

**Pilot for alternative teacher preparation:**

- Focus on science and math
- Blend theory with extensive clinical experience
- Increase the role of school partners in teacher preparation
- Better prepare candidates for the demands of the teaching profession
Partner

- Binghamton High School
- Serves grades 9-12
- ~1600 students
- Classified as high-need and a School in Need of Improvement (SINI)
Major Components

1. **Residency**: Cohort-based, academic year long internship using a co-teaching model and mentored by partner school & university faculty

2. **Courses** in urban education and pedagogy that were integrated with the clinical experience as well as shared PD opportunities.

3. **Candidate assessment system** based on partner school’s APPR, NYS Teacher Education Standards, and the edTPA

4. **Post-graduation mentoring** to support candidates as they transition to their first years of teaching in high-need settings
Challenges

• Recruitment
  • Mentor teachers & APPR
• Scheduling
  • Intern workload
• Expectations of teacher candidates as “interns”
• Sustainability

“I want to teach in the roughest, toughest school I can find. This is giving me the practical tools I need.”

-Robin Tobin, Adolescence Education Mathematics
“Hey Dr. Pagano! So I had my first observation last week and had my post observation conference today and I scored a 46/50 and got the compliment, “you are not a first year teacher.” I thought you would enjoy that!”

-Zack Graczyk, Adolescence Education Earth Science

“I think it has really given me the experience to go in to a job interview, to go into a job and just be comfortable with myself. It’s as if I have a full year experience now.”

-Brady Talbot, Adolescence Education Mathematics

"I think it was, by far, the best experience because I strongly believe it all centers around the student and the relationships that you can make with them.”

- Kevin Pendergast, Mentor Teacher, Mathematics

“If you ever do this again, sign me up. I like to be able to stretch myself and this stretch me in a way that I had never been stretched before. I think my kids loved it.”

-Susan Mayer, Mentor Teacher, Earth Science