## Department of Education

NEWSLETTER VOL 1. SPRING 2012

# \$20,000 Grant from the Sociological Initiatives Foundation to Research Literacy Practices Among Refugee Families

unita Singh, Ph.D., Frank M. Ridzi, Ph.D., and Monica R. Sylvia, Ph.D., co-authors and principal investigators on the project titled "Is Literacy a Gift That You Can Send to Refugees in the Mail?" are members of the Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County's Measurement Action team.

This project, funded by the Sociological Initiatives Foundation, builds upon their previous two studies. The first study examined the effectiveness of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Program (IL) in Syracuse's North Side and documented positive gains with greater exposure to the program, i.e., increases in reported rates of reading to one's child, while the second ethnographic study centered on pilot bilingual story-reading programs organized by the Coalition, some specifically for refugee

families; this study also examined their literacy practices. Results of this study indicated that parent involvement in the story reading programs included regular participation at the site and modeling of learned literacy behaviors with their children at home with IL books.

Current funding for this project will enable the researchers to identify ways in which the Coalition can develop effective programs that could help refugee families and those whose native language is not English. Further, this project has enabled instructors in the education department to engage students in Early Childhood Curriculum in a service-learning project for which the class will create bilingual books as additional resources for these family literacy programs.



Monica Silvia, Sunita Singh and Frank Ridzi join the "Cat in the Hat" from SU Literacy Corps, Amanda Rockwell, on Read Across America Day 2012 at the White Branch Library. Photo Credit: Ali A. Rehman

# LE MOYNE

Spirit. Inquiry. Leadership. *Jesuit.* 

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Thank you to **Jody Schappert** (left) and **Pat Devlin** (right) for their presentation on literacy strategies for pre-kindergarten to Le Moyne students. Jody and Pat are instructional coaches for early childhood in Syracuse City School District's Early Intervention, Universal Prekindergarten and Early Childhood Program.



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# Scholar-Athlete Recognition Breakfast Honors 11 Students in the Teacher Education Program

he Scholar-Athlete Recognition Breakfast honors the academic achievements of sophomore, junior, senior and graduate-level student-athletes who have a current cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or greater. This year 54 student-athletes achieved this distinction. Sharing in the honor are the members of the faculty and academic administrators whom these student-athletes have identified as playing a significant role in their academic success. A special thanks goes to Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Linda LeMura, Ph.D., for her support of this event.

The following are scholar-athletes are in the teacher education program:

Rebecca Black	English	Women's Tennis
Megan Collins	Mathematics	Women's Lacrosse
Kathleen Conese	Psychology	Women's Lacrosse
Jennifer Fabian	Psychology/Education	Women's Lacrosse/Soccer
Sarah Harrison	Psychology	Softball
Erin Hudson	Psychology	Women's Cross Country
Victoria Lee	Psychology	Women's Basketball
Catherine Plukas	Psychology/Education	Volleyball
Lauren Pospiech	Mathematics	Women's Soccer
Alexandra Scorzelli	Sociology	Women's Swimming
Barbara Shea	Psychology/Education	Softball



Marc Cizenski '09, a seventhand eighth-grade U.S. history teacher at the Onondaga Cortland Madison Board of Cooperative Educational Services Training Center was named Mission U.S. National Educator of the Year by THIRTEEN/WNET New York Public Media. He was recognized for using an innovative multimedia resource in his classroom.

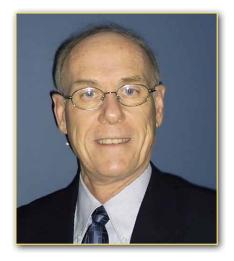
### **Educational Leadership Update**

- by William Silky, Ed.D.

he Educational Leadership (EDL) Program is embarking on a number of new initiatives to better meet the needs of individuals and school districts in upstate New York. Working with Central New York school district technology directors Jeff Craig from the Onondaga Cortland Madison Board of Cooperative Educational Services and Rick Pollard from the Central New York Regional Information Center (RIC), the education department is planning a two-day conference for area principals and EDL students which will be held next summer due to the many educational changes teachers are currently addressing. This future conference will feature special topic sessions, keynote speakers and panel

discussions geared toward helping principals lead technology integration in their schools. The Le Moyne EDL program is proud to be a co-sponsor of an event that offers a wonderful opportunity for our students.

A second exciting initiative brings the Le Moyne EDL program to the North Syracuse Central School District. A "Grow Your Own" leadership initiative is in the planning stages to help better prepare district teacher leaders and to enhance the leadership of current assistant principals and principals. This new venture will provide North Syracuse teachers and administrators with the opportunity to earn Le Moyne graduate credit for their



involvement. The first cycle of this program will get off and running this fall.

Le Moyne is proud to be an innovator in leadership development and in stimulating creative solutions to improve the pre-kindergarten through twelfth-grade education.

#### A Note from the Chair

s I now pass my one-year mark as a member of the education department at
Le Moyne, it becomes more and more apparent to me that the initiatives within the department reflect an ongoing commitment to OneLeMoyne and the mission of service to the field. Examples include the following:

In response to a need expressed by graduate students for greater diver- sity in our course delivery options, we have launched the first of four courses in our new advanced specialization in higher education leadership program. The course, which is taught by Roger Heimstra. Ph.D., using synchronous technology, enables students to attend the class either face-to-face, online or both. This allows students the opportunity to engage in rich classroom experiences and dialogue in real time. The support provided by Sean Black and Mark Ramsden from Information Technology for this initiative has been essential for the success of this class.

To help meet the need for generalist special education teachers in • grades seven through twelve, the New York State Education Department has issued a new certification area. If individuals have initial dual childhood and special education certification, they can take two courses that have been revised for this special purpose and be eligible for this new certification. Annemarie Trait and Linda Cerio have worked with Cathy Leogrande, Ph.D., and Cindy Choi, Ph.D., to provide these two required courses now online to facilitate eligibility for this new certification. The courses, Curriculum Adaptations for Students with Disabilities and Issues in Adolescent Education, will be offered this summer.

Mark Schappert and members of the career services staff have worked closely with us for the recent Teacher Recruitment Day to assist Le Moyne students in obtaining information and securing interviews for future teaching positions. A total of 60 Le Moyne students participated in this recruitment day and engaged in over 250 initial interviews with school districts from the area

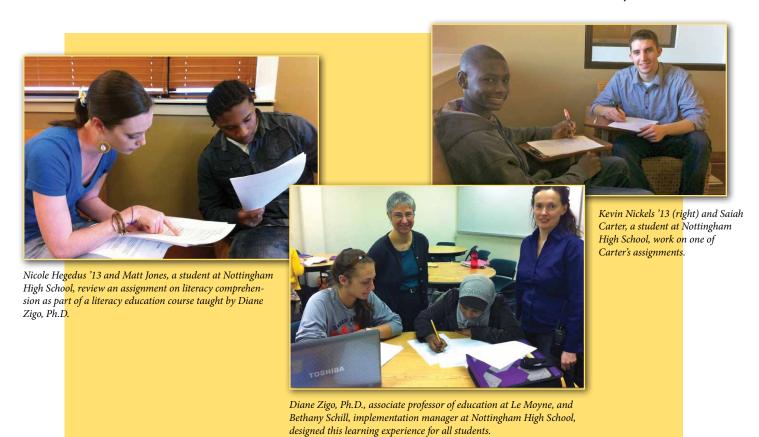
and across the nation. Le Moyne's reputation for preparing excellent future teachers remains very strong and is the reason we are approached by districts for candidate recommendations.

Our Advisory Board continues to help us meet the needs of current and former graduates in the field. With many changes occurring within the New York State Education Department and nationally, it is very helpful to have these committed educators share their insights and suggestions with us. We would like to include additional teacher members to this Advisory Board. If you are interested in participating, please be in touch.

This is a challenging but exciting time to be in education. We are grateful for the many individuals here at Le Moyne and in the field who are partnering with us to make the experiences we provide for our students rich in content and skills. Thank you for all of your support.

Sincerely,

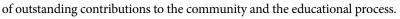
Suzanne Gilmour, Ph.D.



### Awards and Honors

# Adjunct Faculty Member Named State Elementary School Principal of the Year

ony Cardamone, principal of Elden Elementary School, has been selected as the 2012 New York State Elementary School Principal of the Year by the School Administrators Association of New York State. The award is given annually to a principal who sets the pace, character and quality of education for the children in the school, has made a commitment to parents and community members, and has shown evidence

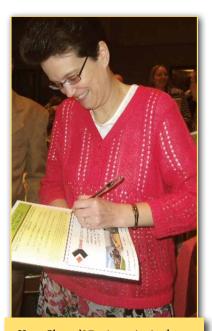


Cardamone has served in the Baldwinsville Central School District as Elden Elementary School's principal for seven years. Prior to that, he taught kindergarten, second grade and reading in the district for 11 years. He is currently an adjunct in Le Moyne College's graduate education literacy program.



#### **Department Chair Honored**

The New York State Association for Women in Administration (NYSAWA) presented a Special Recognition Award to Suzanne Gilmour, Ph.D., chair of the education department, for her many years of leadership and service to the organization, and for her support of NYSAWA's mission to promote gender-balanced leadership and advance equity and diversity in schools.



Kara Shore '97, vice principal at Delaware Academy, was presented with the Syracuse City School District 2012 Educator of the Year Award. The Syracuse City School District Foundation selected her for this in honor in recognition of her outstanding leadership, commitment to educational excellence, and exemplary support of students.



# Reflections of a Future Teacher

- by Caroline Tuck '12

n May, I earned a bachelor's degree in English with a concentration in child-hood and special education. Like all college seniors this year, I was busy preparing to enter the workforce. Jobs as an elementary teacher in Central New York are limited, but I am eager to get into the classroom so I have expanded my search to include Maryland. Leaving the region would be difficult, but it would give me the opportunity to experience somewhere new.

My Le Moyne professors, and individuals in the education department and the Office of Career Services, have provided me with the tools necessary for a successful application and interview process. A number of the out-of-state recruiters made positive comments about my level of preparedness for our interviews. As a result, I was fortunate to receive multiple job offers and I am now waiting for each school's listing of specific positions that are open, so that I can decide where to start my teaching career.

This summer, I plan to take the courses necessary to receive additional certifications in both early childhood education: birthtwo and students with disabilities generalist: grades 7 to 12 to make myself more marketable as positions become available in the future. I also intend to pursue my master's degree in childhood literacy.

My advice to those who are preparing to student teach in the fall, and who are completing practicum observations, is to utilize the tools your professors and host teachers provide to you. Always act in a professional manner and set goals for yourself. Don't be afraid to ask questions and remember: Collaboration is key. Most importantly, enjoy the time you have working with the students who come into your life.

### Spring 2012 Cooperating Teachers and Leaders

Thank you for supporting our future teachers and administrators.

Kelleen Abt – Lincoln Middle School
Naomi Ali – Nottingham High School
Marie Bamberger – Oneida High School
Joseph Barnello – Solvay High School
Cynthia Beaty – Liverpool Middle School
K.C. Bechard – J.C. Birdlebough High School
Gina Bedard – Liverpool High School Annex
Nicole Bibbens – Baker High School
Troy Bilodeau – McGraw Junior-Senior High
School

Dan Bondren – Jordan Elbridge High School Karen Breen – Oswego Middle School Christopher Brown – Pine Grove Middle School

Jodi Bufis – Chittenango High School Cathy Bunce – Huntington School

Karen Campbell – H.W. Smith Elementary School

Mary Ann Carroll – Fabius-Pompey MS High School

Jeff Chaloux – Syracuse Academy of Sciences Luanne Christensen – Liverpool High School Brian Christopher – Liverpool Middle School Frank Colabufo – West Genesee High School Heather Conklin – E.J. Dillon Middle School Beth Connelly – Pine Grove Middle School Sue Connelly – Cortland Junior-Senior High School

Karen Curry – Otto Shortell Middle School David Dampf – Otto Shortell Middle School Mike DeBlois – Eagle Hill Middle School Melanie Deemer – West Genesee High School Katherine DeForge – Marcellus High School Kathy DeParde – East Syracuse-Minoa Cenral High School

Shirelle Dowdell – Henninger High School Donald Dwyer – Syracuse Academy of Sciences

Kristen Enright – Pine Grove Middle School Jennifer Epolito – J.C. Birdlebough High School

Larissa Farlin – Chestnut Hill Middle School Anthony Fichera – Chestnut Hill Middle School

Vincent Foriero – Baker High School Cheryl Fox – Solvay Middle School Dave Gerrish – Tully Junior-Senior High School

Joe Gibbons – Pine Grove Middle School Wendy Grabowski – North Syracuse Junior High School

Dale Greabell – P.V. Moore High School Jeffrey Hammon – Fayetteville-Manlius High School Beverly Hansen – Fayetteville-Manlius High School

Sandra Harmon – P.V. Moore High School Paul Harney – Cazenovia Junior-Senior High School

Tim Harrison – P.V. Moore High School Janice Hazard-Miller – Durgee Junior High School

Kristen Hill – North Syracuse Junior High School

Melanie Hoover – Onondaga Junior-Senior High School

Karel James - Baker High School

Steven James – Onondaga Junior-Senior High School

Heather Juston – Solvay High School Laurie Kasdorf – Chittenango High School Kathleen Klier – Solvay Middle School Kathleen Kolb – Pine Grove Middle School Jennifer Krol – Wellwood Middle School Melanie Kroll – East Syracuse-Minoa High

Mary Alice Kulba – Cicero-North Syracuse High School

Sarah Lamanna – J.C. Birdlebough High School

Patricia Lane – Cortland Junior-Senior High School

Gina LaPlant – Solvay Middle School John LaRosa – Syracuse Academy of Sciences Lisa Law – Pine Grove Middle School John Lerner – Baker High School Mary Ann Lisi – Solvay High School Shawn Lynch – Vernon Verona Sherrill Middle School

Michelle MacDuffie – East Syracuse-Minoa High School

Colleen Mahoney – Driver Middle School Rory Malone – Oswego Middle School Susan Marshall – West Genesee Middle

Sean Martin – Nottingham High School Alison McNeer – Cazenovia Junior-Senior High School

Rosh Mishra – Oswego High School Mrs. Moshier – Canastota Junior-Senior High School

Andrea Moore – West Genesee High School Kathy Morse – Baker High School

Vanessa Mullane – East Syracuse-Minoa High School

Kimberly Myka – Chittenango High School Andrea O'Brien – Chestnut Hill Middle School Phil Ottaviano – Otto Shortell Middle School Kristine Paul – Durgee Junior High School Peter Pecora – Solvay High School Bell Petrie – Central Square Middle School Nick Petrone – Cicero-North Syracuse High School

Renae Piano – Soule Road Middle School Karen Pickard – Ray Middle School Kristen Powers – Solvay Middle School Susan Reeve – Bishop Grimes Junior-Senior High School

Ken Regner – Vernon Verona Sherrill High School

Kathleen Rein – Driver Middle School Sara Reitz – Pine Grove Middle School Ryan Root – Gillette Road Middle School Kelly Ruiu – Whitesboro High School Tanner Russell – East Syracuse-Minoa High School

Julie Russo – Baker High School
Barbara Salvagni – Liverpool Middle School
Kathryn Scanlon – Cazenovia Middle School
Richelle Schettine – Marcellus High School
Jean Schoff – Pine Grove Middle School
Matthew Shene – Oneida High School
Lisa Sorrendino – Frazer School
Christopher Staub – Pine Grove Middle
School

Kate Steiger – Nottingham High School Martie Talley – P.V. Moore High School Norine Thibault – Jordan Elbridge High School

Amy Toonley – Cortland Junior-Senior High School

Mark Trabucco – P.V. Moore High School Elizabeth Unislawski – Nottingham High School

Jill Valente – East Syracuse-Minoa High School

Sue Verbeck – Pine Grove Middle School Christine Wenk – North Syracuse Junior High School

Tracy Willey – Westhill High School Dan Young – Baker High School Lisa Zamperetti – Otto Shortell Middle School

Eric Ziegler - Baker High School



### Important Dates

May **29** 

Summer Session I and III classes begin

June 12

Fall Registration Begins for Non-Matriculated Students

July 2

Summer Session I Classes End

July 7

Summer Session II Classes Begin

Aug.

Summer Session II and III Classes End

Aug.

Fall Classes Begin

27

Registration for MayMester and Summer Session classes is open and will remain open until the first day of classes.

