

Program Directors:

Dr. Andrea Spencer

Dr. Rima Shore

Advisory Board:

Ms. Maria Velez-Clark

Dr. Marvin Cohen

Dr. Peter Flom

Dr. Carol Franks
Randall

Dr. Peter McFarlane

Dr. Gil Schmerler

Dr. Kenneth Shore



Bank Street's National Fellows with NYC Schools Chancellor Joel Klein

Bank Street Special Ed Leadership Program Welcomes First Group of National Fellows

"All children benefit when schools are led by educators who deeply understand the needs of diverse learners," says Gil Schmerler, director of Bank Street's Leadership for Educational Change program.

That conviction led Bank Street College of Education to apply in 2006 for federal funds to support principal preparation for highly qualified and committed special educators.

Federal Funding

The US Department of Education funded the project, and in 2007, Bank Street admitted the first cohort of ten National Fellows. The Fellows entered Bank Street's Leadership for Educational Change program, leading to an Advanced Master's Degree in educational leadership and certification as a School Building Leader. The grant pays for 90% of the Fellows' tuition.

An eleventh Special Education Fellow is supported by the College's Adelaide Weismann Center for Innovative Leadership in Education.

A 36-Credit Program

Fellows take 36 credits of coursework at Bank Street, including a six-credit sequence in Special Education Leadership. Dr. Marcia Singer, who taught the first Special Education Leadership course, included a number of field trips designed to offer

ANNOUNCING:

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING & DINNER WITH FELLOWS

NOV, 7, 2007, 5:30-8:00 PM BANK STREET CHILDREN'S DINING ROOM, LOWER LEVEL

Bank Street College of Education

610 West 112th Street New York, NY 10025

212-875-4478





Fellows a first-hand view of how special education services are organized and provided in a large urban school system.

According to Dr. Dinger, the Fellows “represent many facets of educational thought and experience through the activities they have had in the field prior to joining this program.” As they meet policymakers in the field, “the discussion and examination of issues raised give the future leaders new perspectives.”

Beginning Internships

The Fellows began their initial coursework last January, and in September began their leadership internships (supervised fieldwork in Bank Street’s lingo). Fellows join with other aspiring principals in the Leadership for Educational Change program in small conference groups. These groups meet weekly with an experienced Bank Street advisor to discuss the challenges of leadership. They work on “case studies” drawn from the actual experiences of participants.

Bank Street advisors also visit Fellows at their school sites to observe and discuss the leadership roles they are taking on.

Broadening Perspectives

Fellows are broadening the outlook of their Bank Street colleagues, infusing more conversation about special education policies, strategies, and commitments into courses and conference groups.

Fellows are broadening the outlook of their Bank Street colleagues...



Fellows meet with leaders of District 75, the unit within the NYC Department of Education responsible for self-contained special education sites.

Launching this program has also inspired faculty members from different departments to meet at the intersection of leadership and special education. Beginning last spring, cross-departmental lunchtime symposia addressed such topics as *Differentiated Instruction –How do we know it when we see it? What are the implications for instructional leadership?*

Selecting a Second Cohort

This fall, Bank Street will recruit a second cohort of National Fellows who will begin their studies in September 2008.

Applicants should contact the Office of Graduate Admissions at 212-875-4404 or gradcourses@bankstreet.edu.

2007-09 National Special Education Fellows

Melodie Beattie
Josphine Caproni
Claudette Christie
Courtney Dowd
Maureen Greco-Blois
Miesia Harris
Nicole Jernee
Greer Phillips
Barbara Roman
Charlene Sinckler

2007-09 Weismann Fellow

Beverly Skeete
