

**Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study Laboratory School
Connections**

The 2013-2014 Year in Review

July 2013

September 2013

Awards:

- The president of the University, Dr. David Naylor, confers awards on noted volunteers at the university each year. This year, our nominee was selected: Dr. Ariella Damelin is honored in recognition of her volunteer contributions to the Lab School. She served on the executive of the Parents' Association for 6 years, including two as its President. In addition, she was a founding member of the Dean's Advisory Board for the Lab school, representing Alumni parents, a position she has held for 5 years. She has remained a friend of the school in many supportive ways.

Artist in Residence:

- Thanks to the generous support of the Patrick Harvie Arts Committee Fund, well-known Canadian storyteller and author, Dan Yashinsky begins his time as our artist in residence. Dan, who has performed at festivals throughout the world, works with each classroom, sharing his love of stories and encouraging children to tell their own stories. He also provides Professional Development workshops for our staff.

Conferences:

- Anne Marie Lopez, Day Care Supervisor, attends the Building Indigenous Early Learning Competencies Conference at the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto. Participants learn the importance of understanding resiliency, cultural competency, and Aboriginal outcomes and indicators and why they matter when working with Aboriginal families and children.

Dissemination:

- Andrea Cousineau and Nikki Fletcher begin their yearlong work at the Fraser Mustard Early Learning Academy, offering professional development support to teachers at the new full-day all kindergarten school in the Toronto District School Board. The school of 650+ kindergarten students is using the Jackman ICS resource "Natural Curiosity" as a pillar of the school's philosophy. Fraser Mustard Academy will be a model school for other TDSB kindergarten classes. Similar professional development support is offered to Lynwood Heights Public School, TDSB and to teachers from Waterloo Region District School Board.

Outreach:

- Each year, Jackman

to Grade 3 educators in the areas of Mathematics and Environmental Inquiry in three schools that serve four First Nations communities in the Rainy River District School Board: Seine River First Nation, Nigigoonsimicaning First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, and Couchiching First Nation. The research examines how young children learn Mathematics and how teachers can strengthen their students' Mathematical understanding.

Supporting Pre-service Teacher Training:

- 1st Year OISE MA students observe in the Lab School classroom during “observation week”.
- 1st Year Child Study and Education Program: Norah L’Esperance and Justine Grosman teach a workshop on the learning environment; Ben Peebles teaches workshop on classroom management.
- 2nd year OI

- Playful Mathematics in the Early Years by Julie Comay and Carol Stephenson
- The Exploration of Inquiry-based Practices by Richard Messina
- Environmental Inquiry by Andrea Cousineau
- Exploring Issues of Social Justice by Bev Caswell
- Ben Peebles, Zoe Donoahue and Richard Messina present at follow-up Leading Student Achievement Regional Sessions and Web Conferences. Their “Knowledge Building” insights are shared with teams of administrators, teachers, superintendents, and consultants from: Toronto Public District School Board, Toronto Catholic DSB, Lakehead DSB, Ottawa-Carleton DSB, Algoma DSB, Huron-Superior DSB, Near North DSB, Renfrew County DSB, Dufferin-Peel DSB, Nipissing-Parry DSB, Kenora Catholic DSB, Thunder Bay CDSB, Algonquin and Lakeshore CDSB, Northwest CDSB, Lakehead CDSB, Simcoe Muskoka Catholic DSB, Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB, Limestone DSB, and Hastings & Prince Edward DSB.
- Richard Messina speaks about “Jackman ICS Teaching Practices” to visiting educators and policy makers from Denmark at the Ontario Principals Council.

Outreach:

- Steering Committee Members (4 students) of the Jackman ICS Social Justice Club and chair Alex Morley are invited and attend the UNICEF Experience. More than 200 guests experienced firsthand the life-changing work of UNICEF in countries around the world and tried out some of the daily work of UNICEF through hands-on interactive displays including vaccinating a child against polio and testing for malnutrition.
- Many Jackman ICS classes organize creative fundraising initiatives (selling bracelets, hot chocolate and popcorn, collecting pennies) to help the Philippines.

Professional Development:

- Amanda Humphreys, Alex Morley, Justine Grosman, Elizabeth Morley, Jackman ICS professors Jan Pelletier and Carl Corter, and Jackman ICS Director Joan Peskin attend the Psychology Foundation’s “Breakfast of Champions” held at the Toronto Board of Trade. The keynote speaker is Dr. Mark Fenske, neuroscientist and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Guelph whose research combines neuroimaging techniques with studies of human behaviour to examine factors that are critical for healthy cognitive and emotional functioning.
- As a follow-up to Fort Frances, Ontario visit by Elizabeth Morley Cor (y) 5 (C) -31.7893 376.6 5 (C) e (25.4

seeking dialogue. This research is relevant both to teaching in these two core areas of elementary school curricula and to developing communication and collaborative skills transferable beyond these school subjects.

Supporting Pre-service Teacher Training:

- Richard Messina gives “Knowledge Building” presentation to pre-service teachers at the University of Edinburgh via Skype.

Visitors:

- 6 Early Years Consultants from York Region District School Board, visit organized by Mara Di Lena, Student Achievement Officer for the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat (Barrie Region), Ministry of Education.
- Principal and 5 Early Years Teachers from All Saints Catholic School, Toronto Catholic District School Board
- Michelle Poirier-Parry, Student Achievement Officer for the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat (3 Eastern French Boards), Ministry of Education and teacher from Ecole elementaire publique Francojeunesse, Ottawa, Ont.
- 5 Primary/Junior Special Assignment Teachers (Mississauga East) from Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board
- Principal and 3 teachers from St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School, Brampton (DPCDSB)
- Charlene Cavanagh, Coordinator of Elementary Programs, Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board and 2 Literacy Resource Teachers

December 2013

Dissemination:

- Richard Messina and Zoe Donoahue provide an overview of “Knowledge Building” from

- children's literacy by providing books and reading support to children in lower income families all around Toronto.
- The Social Justice Club organizes a Food Drive for the food bank at Walmer Road Baptist Church, responding to the urgent call for support from Food Banks across our city.

Visitors:

- 3 educators from Lyn Public School, Brockville, Ont. Upper Canada District School Board
- 4 Special Assignment Teachers from Brampton North East, Dufferin Peel Catholic DSB
- Camilla Martin, Student Achievement Officer, Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat (Barrie Region) Ministry of Education brings a team of educators and superintendents from Simcoe County District School Board.
- Mara Di Lena, Student Achievement Officer, Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, Ministry of Education brings a team educators from Bluewater District School Board.
- 20 pedagogical consultants and coordinators from the Centre Franco-Ontarien de Resources Pedagogiques, Ottawa tour the school and learn about how Jackman ICS teaches 21st Century skills.
- Toronto District School Board teacher from Wellesworth Junior School
- Maxine Hight, Student Achievement Officer, Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, Ministry

February 2014

Dissemination:

- Jackman ICS partnered with Education Quality and Accountability Office and Ministry of Education/Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat/Leading Student Achievement:
 - Richard Messina along with Zoe Donoahue and Ben Peebles (and Jackman ICS students) presents on Knowledge Building at the Ontario Ministry of Education – Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat “all staff” meeting.
- TDSB, TCDSB, and HWDSB gathered at Don Bosco CSS to meet with staff from Jackman ICS, OISE, and the Ministry of Education

April 2014

Jackman ICS in the News:

- A full-day kindergarten research headed by Jan Pelletier is featured on Globe and Mail:
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/parenting/full-day-kindergarten-looking-beyond-the->

- Justine Grosman completes Mathematics Part 1 Additional Qualification course.
- Christel Durand attends “What is Mind and Mental Health” at the International Neurobiology with Dr. Dan Siegel from UCLA.

Visitors:

- Visiting scholar, Yuki Ishioka, Kobe Shinwa Women’s University in Japan. Dr. Ishioka, one of the lead professors of Early Childhood Education will conduct research and observations in the Senior Kindergarten classroom.
- Visitors from New Zealand including the Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Auckland
- Educators from many school boards including: District School Board of Niagara

Professional Development:

- Teachers attend a talk by Dr. Jo Boaler; Stanford University entitled *Beautiful Math: How Successful School Approaches Change Students' Lives* at OISE.
- Julie Comay attends Jean Piaget Society Conference.
- Robin Shaw completes a course on mindfulness in teaching, "Classroom Heartbeat", with Bee Birch.
- Norah L'Esperance is invited to attend Fraser Mustard School's Lesson. The presented lesson focuses on using narratives in math, specifically, geometric transformations.

Research:

- Robertson Program and M4YC Teams conduct post-testing at experimental and control sites in Rainy River District School Board: the Lab School teachers return to intervention classrooms.

Visitors:

- Education Programs staff from Toronto Zoo
- Conseil scolaire catholique du Nouvel-Ontario
- Educators from Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, Rainy River District School Board, and Winnipeg School Division
- Educators from Singapore National Institute of Education's Leadership in Education Programme
- Dean's Drop-In hosted by OISE Dean Julia O'Sullivan: OISE faculty and staff visit and tour the Lab School.

June 2014

