

UWM/MPS Internship Program

**A university/school district
partnership to recruit, prepare and
support special education teacher in
Milwaukee Public Schools**



What do UWM/MPS interns do?

- **Work as fully paid special education teachers in MPS while earning certification through UWM**
- **Join a UWM cohort of post-baccalaureate students in the *Early Childhood, Middle Childhood/Early Adolescence, or Early Adolescence/Adolescence* programs**
- **Receive support of MPS mentors working full time for the internship program**
- **Commit to MPS for the internship and for three years following the internship**

What do mentors do?

- **Work with five first year interns and provide monthly follow-up to five second year interns**
- **Demonstrate teach**
- **Co-teach**
- **Help develop Individual Education Plans for students (IEP's)**
- **Help find materials and identify methods**
- **Help interns work with family members and other staff members**

What do mentors do? (continued)

- Provide professional and emotional support
- Work with UWM supervisors and faculty to ensure consistency



What is the UWM program like?



- **Cohort model**
- **Faculty teams**
- **Includes interns and non-interns**
- **Focuses on**
 - **Urban teaching**
 - **Advocacy for students with disabilities**
 - **Developing skills in state-of-the-art instruction**
 - **Collaboration**
- **Standards-based**
- **Two-years for those without education background; one year for those with education background**

Can interns earn Masters degrees?

- **30 credit Masters Degree**
 - **18-21 credits during the second year of the certification program**
- **Research sequencing following certification**
- **Individual work with faculty members**



When does the program begin?

- **Summer previous to internship for those without Regular Education certification**
- **Can take courses prior Fall semester**

In what areas do the UWM faculty have expertise?

- **Literacy and learning disabilities**
- **Behavioral supports**
- **Autism**
- **Students with significant disabilities**
- **Multicultural special education**
- **Culturally responsive practices**
- **Transition**
- **Assistive technology**
- **Experience teaching students with disabilities**



How long has the Internship Program been in existence?

- **Piloted in 1997-98**
- **Full implementation since 1998-99**
- **111 Internship participants have completed the program and earned WI special education certification as of Summer 2005.**



Who is accepted into the Internship Program?

- **Must be accepted into UWM's certification program?**
We look for those people who...
 - **Show passion for and commitment to making a difference for students with disabilities in MPS**
 - **Demonstrate strong academic potential**
 - **Are collaborative**
 - **Want to work hard and learn a lot about teaching**
 - **Have an undergraduate degree, a 2.5 GPA, and passing PPST scores**
- **Must meet MPS requirements for hiring**

What kind of financial aid is available?

- **UWM scholarships**
- **UW System Minority Forgivable Loan**
- **Student loans – some forgivable**
- **Forgivable Loans for New Special Educators**
<http://www.ed.gov/policy/highered/guid/secletter/060301a.html>
- **MPS Transition to Teaching grant**
- **MPS tuition reimbursement**

Who have our interns been ?

- **Range of experiences**
 - **Education**
 - **Non-education (social work, art, business, criminal justice)**
- **Range of ages and backgrounds**
- **Supportive of each other**
- **Hard working**
- **Committed to providing great education to students with disabilities**



How do I apply to UWM?

- **Applications accepted throughout the year**
- **Interview dates- next one for applications received by April 1st**
- **Need**
 - **Application form**
 - **Transcripts**
 - **Letters or recommendation forms**
 - **PPST scores**
 - **Resume and personal statement**

Who do I contact for more information?

- **Dr. Mary McLean**, Early Childhood
414-229-2213 or mmclean@uwm.edu
- **Dr. Judith Winn**, Middle Childhood/Early Adolescence
414-229-4109 or jwinn@uwm.edu
- **Dr. Laura Owens**, Early Adolescence/Adolescence
414-229-2869 or lowens@uwm.edu