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# MASS COALITION COURIER

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*'Working Together to Produce Quality Teachers for Our Urban Schools'*

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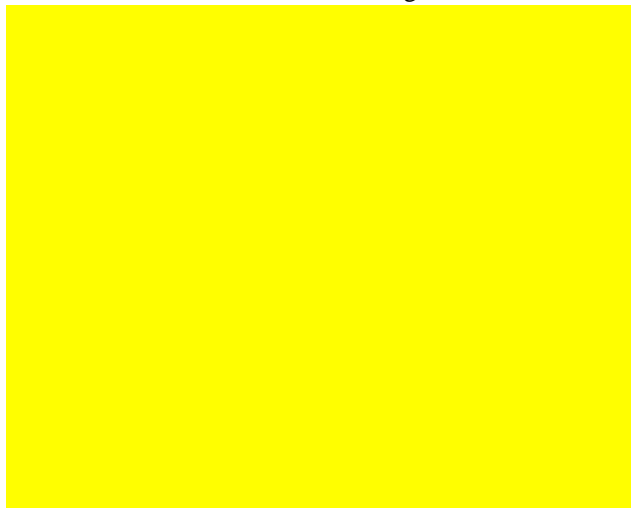
## WELCOME from the *Editor*

I am pleased to present the *Mass Coalition Courier*. Each month the Coalition staff will bring you news from around the Coalition. In keeping with our motto, "Working Together to Produce Quality Teachers for Urban Schools", we hope the newsletter will give each Coalition member an opportunity to know more intimately the work of others who share their interests in producing quality teachers.

In this issue, we introduce you to our regular features: *Coalition Connections* highlights news of a higher education-school activity; *Our Work* features notes of the daily work of the Coalition. In this issue we report on the progress stewardship groups have made over the summer months. *Voices of the Coalition* provides monthly feedback from our participants. This month we tell you what participants had to say about the October conference, *Educating Community Teachers*. In future months we'll bring you interviews from different stakeholders on how participation in the Coalition impacts their work. *Spotlight* brings news on salient issues and potential resources, and our back page is reserved for announcements. See it this month for a website update and important dates to mark on your calendar.

I appreciate your feedback about other news that you could use, and invite your ideas and suggestions. On behalf of the Coalition staff, I wish you a great month!

Darlene Martin  
Coalition Regional Coordinator



## Coalition Connections

UMass Boston and the James F. Condon Elementary School have collaborated for several years to support pre-service education. The Title II grant provides opportunities for teachers to integrate knowledge and skills from their English/language arts and mathematics programs with inquiry science while involving UMass Boston scientists, community members and pre-service teachers in planning, professional development, and classroom activities.

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## A Word From the Coalition Director

Welcome to the first edition of the Coalition Courier! We hope that you will find this monthly newsletter to be a helpful source of information about the Massachusetts Coalition for Teacher Quality and Student Achievement. In these pages you will find stories about innovative collaboration between schools and universities, community-based initiatives which place student teachers in neighborhood settings, and exciting strategies improving literacy instruction. We encourage you to share aspects of your work which you find nourishing and want to communicate with others who are engaged in the critical work of improving our urban schools and communities. This is *your* Courier; let's make it work for you.

Dennis Shirley is the Associate Dean of Education at the Lynch School of Education, Boston College