Faculty Annual Report
2008-2009

Date: June 1, 2009
To: Ed Yeterian, Dean of Faculty
From: Mark B. Tappan, Professor of Education
Re: Annual Report

1. TEACHING AND ADVISING

I taught six courses this year, representing the current configuration of my portion of the position I share with Lyn Mikel Brown, plus an overload.

Fall semester:

1) ED 215: Children and Adolescents in Schools and Society (27 students). The civic engagement component of this course entailed students working approximately two hours/week at the After School Program at the Alfond Youth Center, at the South End Teen Center, or as a mentor in the Colby Cares About Kids program.
2) ED 231: Teaching for Social Justice (21 students). The civic engagement component of this course entailed students working approximately five hours/week as assistant teachers in local classrooms.

In addition, I supervised one Honors project (Pam Colon).

Jan Plan:

1) ED 355: Social Justice Practicum (4 students). Continuing a tradition began in January 2006, four students enrolled in ED 355 spent the entire month working at the Gaston College Preparatory Academy in Gaston, NC, a KIPP school directed by Caleb Dolan (Colby ’96).
2) ED 437: Student Teaching Practicum (9 students). I supervised our Senior Student Teachers during Jan Plan, covering for Karen Kusiak during her sabbatical. Each student spent the entire month teaching full time in a local high school, middle school, or elementary school. I met with the group each week and observed each student twice during the semester.

In addition, I sponsored one Internship project, and four Independent Study projects.

Spring semester:

1) WG/ED 217: Boys to Men (22 students). The civic engagement component of this course entailed students leading boys discussion groups at six elementary and middle schools.
2) ED 231: Teaching for Social Justice (22 students). The civic engagement component of this course entailed students working approximately five hours/week as assistant teachers in local classrooms.

In addition, I sponsored one Independent Study projects and one Honors project (Pam Colon).
Finally, I continued to serve as one of the primary advisors for our Education and Human Development minors and Independent Majors in Human Development. I also advised four first-year students.

2. COMMITTEES

I served on the following standing committees this year:

- Civic Engagement Coordinating Committee
- Colby Cares About Kids Steering Committee
- Committee on Race and Racism (chair)
- Goldfarb Center Faculty Advisory Board
- Institutional Review Board
- Interdisciplinary Studies Council

I served on the following ad-hoc committees this year:

- Education Program Faculty Fellow Search Committee (chair)
- Multicultural Literacy Working Group
- NECASL Project Committee (member and interviewer)
- Wabanaki-Bates-Bowdoin-Colby Early Education Sub-Committee

3. OTHER COLLEGE SERVICE

- Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies Division
- Chair, Education Program
- Supervisor, America Reads/America Counts Program

4. DIVERSITY-RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Member and Chair, Committee on Race and Racism
- Member, Multicultural Literacy Working Group

5. RESEARCH

My research program has become increasingly concentrated on one central issue in recent years: developing a critical/cultural perspective on boys’ development and boys education, with a particular focus on the role that the media plays in reinforcing and reproducing conventional hegemonic masculinity. As part of this project, Lyn Brown, Sharon Lamb, and I completed the manuscript for our book, Packaging Boyhood: Saving our sons from superheroes, slackers, and other media stereotypes, which will be published by St. Martin’s Press in the Fall of 2009.

PUBLICATIONS: BOOK CHAPTERS

PUBLICATIONS: RESEARCH REPORTS


6. CONFERENCE PAPERS


7. WORKSHOPS

Packaging Boyhood: Masculinity, media, and the “boy crisis”

- Presented at Mountain Valley High School, Rumford, ME, March 2009.

8. STUDENT PAPERS/PROJECTS

Colon, Pamela (’09). “It’s not all they are:” The lives of teenage girls in the South End (presented at the Colby Undergraduate Research Symposium).

9. OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS


Co-Chair, Greater Waterville Area Communities for Children and Youth Executive Council (elected January 2004).

Community Advisor, Civil Rights Team, Waterville Junior High

Founding Member, Maine Boys Network

Member, Board of Directors, Kennebec Montessori School, Fairfield ME (elected September 2005).