Dominican’s Ukiah Center Welcomes New Teacher Candidates

Ukiah, CA

August, 2011

In early August, Dominican University’s Ukiah Center welcomed its new teacher candidates. Over 200 new teacher candidates are poised to enter the teaching profession as Kindergarten through 12th grade and special education teachers.

This year, new teacher candidates enrolled in three programs. Some, like Ukiah resident Donne Ingalls, are preparing to teach in elementary schools. Others, such as Paul Holt who lives in Lake County, are getting ready to teach in middle- or high schools. Education specialists, such as Marilyn Starwalker (Sonoma County), are learning to teach students with special needs, across all grade levels and subject areas.

The Ukiah Center partners with schools in Lake, Mendocino, and Sonoma counties to ensure that their new teacher candidates have an opportunity to observe master teachers. Dominican’s teacher candidates were in schools on the first day of school to learn how to prepare classrooms for the new school year, and begin to teach new students.

Intern teachers in the Dominican, Ukiah Center programs have already secured teaching positions in local schools and will continue their own educations at the same time they are teaching. Carli Orsi, for example, will be an intern teacher at Pomolita Middle School, teaching English Language Arts classes.

Teachers who already have Dominican teaching credentials are returning to the Ukiah Center this fall to earn their master’s degrees in education. Those teachers will be taking courses and learning to conduct research in their own classrooms, and will complete a master’s thesis to earn their degrees.

The Ukiah Center, which was established in 1984 to meet the needs of working adults, offers classes in Ukiah in the late afternoon, in the evening, and on Saturdays. The Ukiah Center’s programs provide highly qualified instructors, a meaningful, practical, and relevant curriculum, and a range of outstanding local resources. The Ukiah Center is located at 2240 Old River Road. For more information, please call 463-4800, or email ukiah@dominican.edu