



act!
ALTERNATIVE CAREERS
IN TEACHING

*What do you know?; Not much you?
2015 Midwest Regional Robert Noyce
Connections Conference
Omaha, NE. October 30, 2015*



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act! Program Background

- ✧ Alternative teacher preparation program
- ✧ Approved by the Wisconsin DPI in 2006
- ✧ Students meet statutory requirements for licensure – not degree requirements of any institutional partner
- ✧ Initial licensure in Mathematics and/or Broadfield Science (grades 5-12)
- ✧ 5 institution partnership, 2 years in development

Program Requirements

- ✧ 4-year degree required (minimum)
- ✧ Math or Science related majors or equivalent
- ✧ 5 years of work experience required
- ✧ Complete 5 phases of the act! program
- ✧ Overall GPA >2.00

Overview: Program Phases

1. Admission – initial inquiry, interview, transcript review
2. Content and education coursework
3. CORE and PRAXIS II tests
4. Student Teaching – 18 weeks
5. edTPA portfolio

Phase I

Admission and Interview

- ✧ Assessment of transcripts
- ✧ Evaluation of resume and application statement
- ✧ Interview with Director of act!
- ✧ Criminal Background Check
- ✧ Letter of acceptance customized to the applicant

Phase II

Content and Education coursework

- ✧ Orientation course within first year
- ✧ CORE – reading, math and writing
- ✧ Praxis II – math or science content knowledge
- ✧ Content equivalent of Math or Broadfield Science majors
- ✧ Education course requirements

Phase III

Required tests

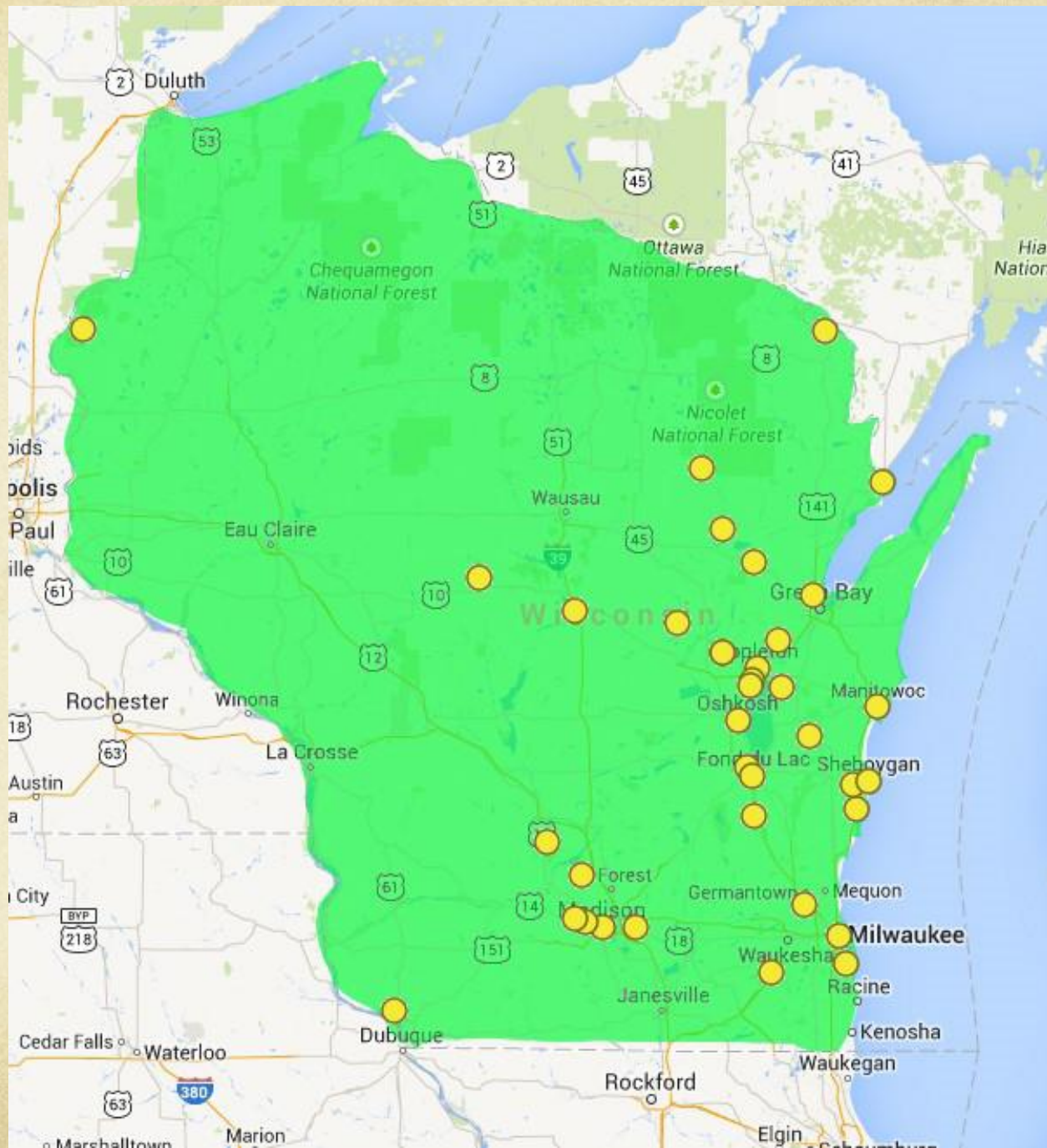
- ✧ CORE – basic skills in reading, math and writing
- ✧ PRAXIS II – subject matter knowledge of math or science

Phase IV

Student Teaching

- ✧ Fulltime for 18 weeks
 - ✧ 9 weeks in Middle School and 9 weeks in High School if possible
 - ✧ edTPA and final portfolio

Locations
for 67
act!
program
completers



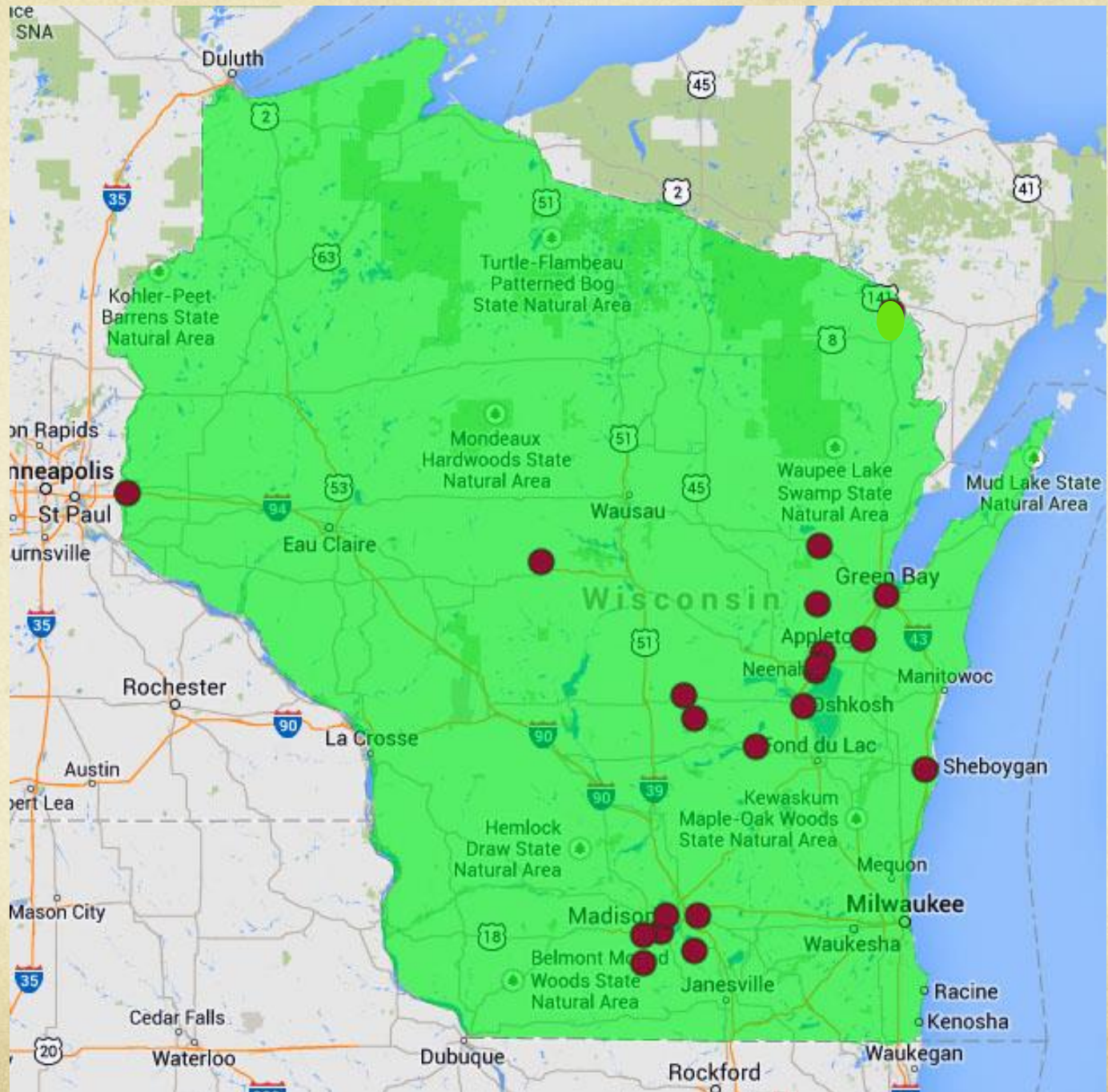
Completers teaching in:

Appleton, Bonduel, De Pere, Freedom, Grantsburg/iForward (on-line), Hortonville (3), Kewaskum, Kimberly, Lodi, Lomira, Madison Metropolitan, Madison Edgewood, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marshfield, Menasha, Milwaukee Public (2), Milwaukee-Destiny High School, Monona Grove, Mukwonago, Neenah, North Fond du Lac, Oostberg, Oshkosh, Potosi, Rosendale-Brandon, Saint Croix Central (Hammond), Sheboygan Falls (2), Sherwood, Stevens Point, Weston, and White Lake.

Completers living in:

Appleton, Baraboo, Fond du Lac, Green Bay, Hartford, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee (MI), Neenah, North Fond du Lac, Pine River, and Wausau

Locations
for
28 students
active in the
act!
program



Financial Assistance

National Science Foundation

- ✧ 2 NSF/Noyce awards (2008 and 2009; \$1.5 million total)
 - ✧ \$13K stipend, \$7K for professional development during induction
 - ✧ 54 Noyce stipends awarded to *act!* students
 - ✧ \$676,000 in stipends + \$142,674 in pd = \$818,674 (\$431,326 remaining)
 - ✧ Award final stipends November 1, 2014 and April 1, 2015
- ✧ HACH Chemical Company
- ✧ Armed Forces Foundation

On-going...

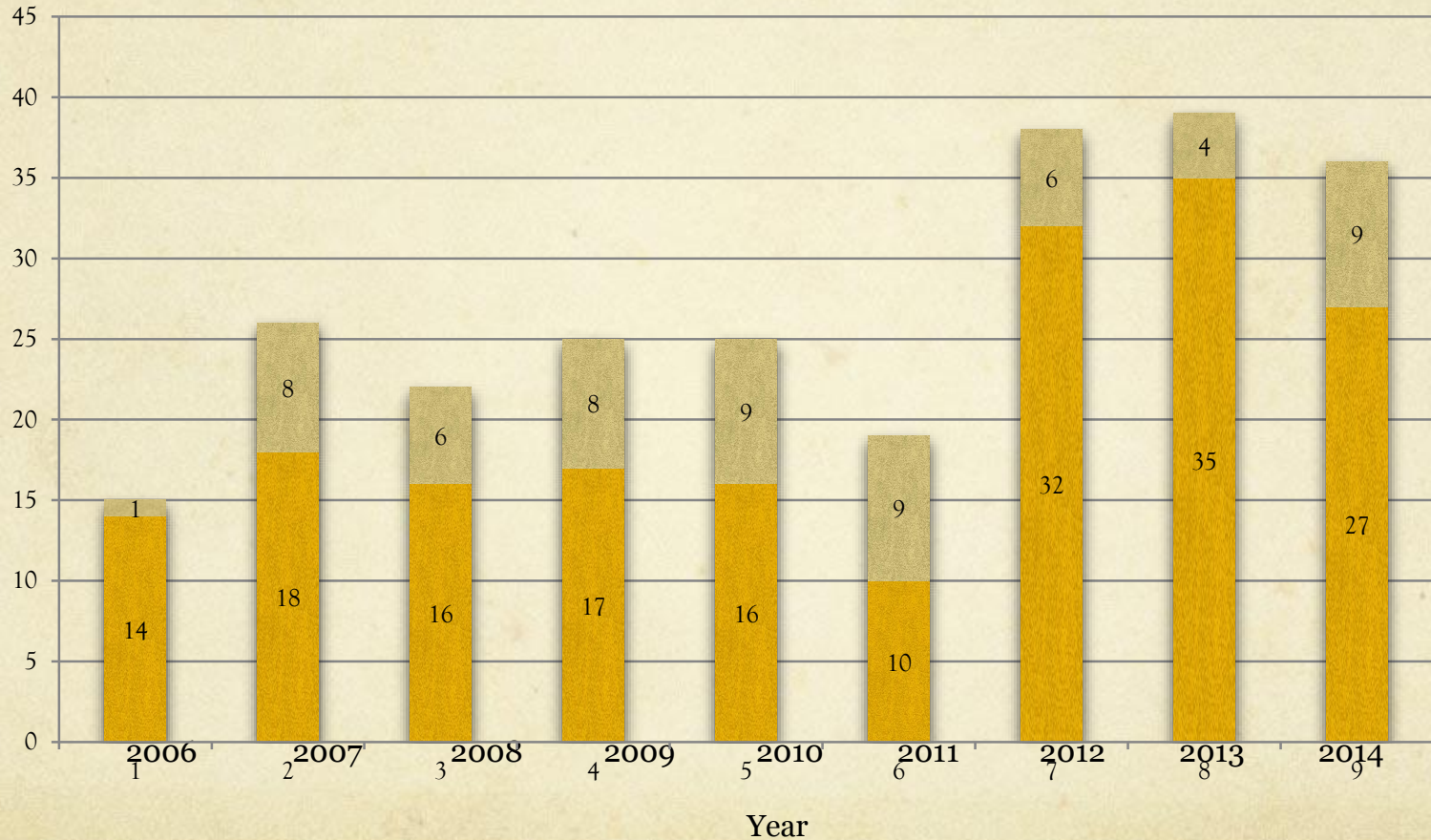
- Marketing/Recruitment – to 6 Veteran’s Organizations, Teaching Today WI, 4 Athletic Conferences Principal’s meetings, Newsletters – two/year, Facebook
- Engage completers/students in program activities – as Cooperating Teachers, in early field placements, presenters at National and Regional Noyce Conferences, Guest Speakers in Methods Classes, pd activities funded by Noyce (i.e., networking), Meemic Foundation grant, Technology Workshop at Sheboygan Falls High School (June 2015)
- Better Completer Survey – aligned to InTASC Standards

Program Changes

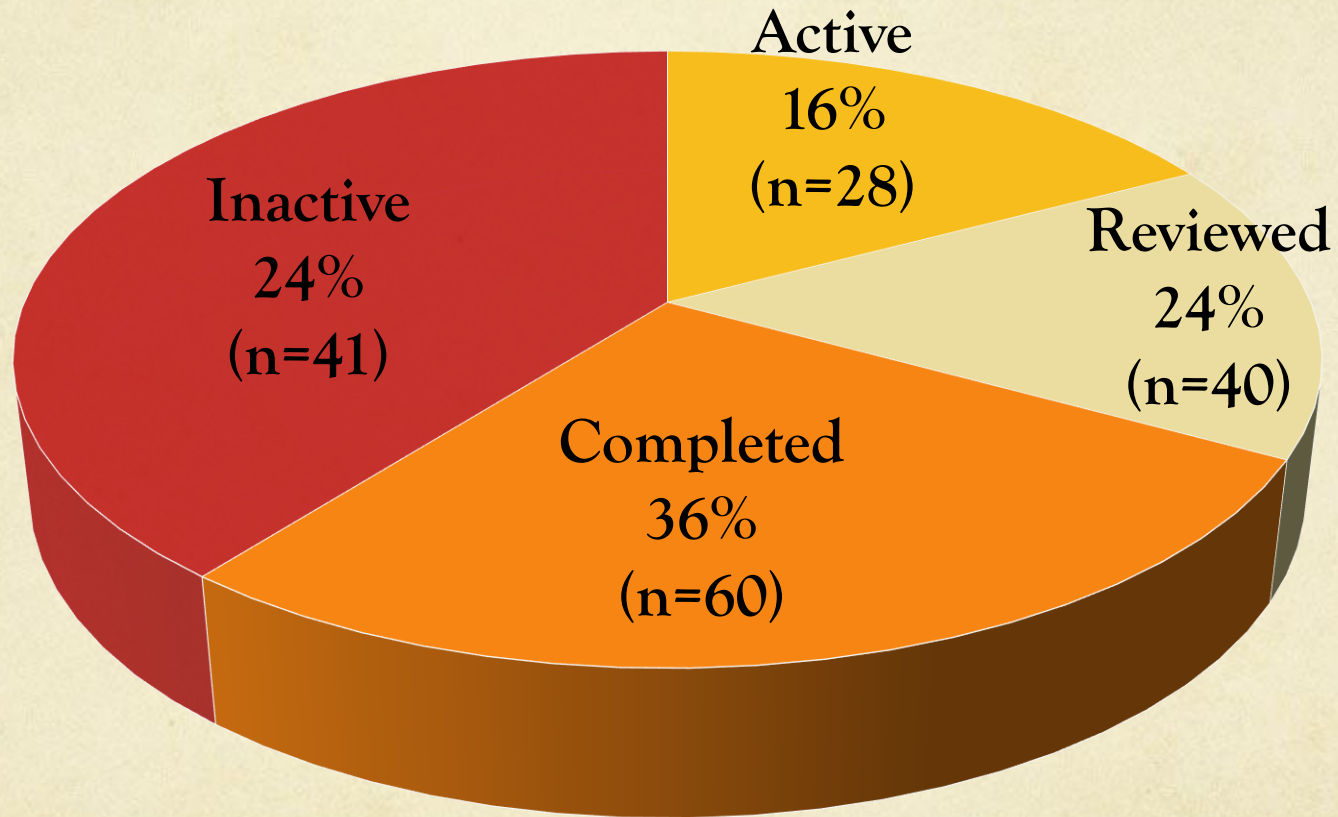
- Hired students at UW Oshkosh to assist with Administrative tasks - STEP Student and Student Worker
- Revise admission policy to include new communication skills option
- Hired Jean Bobber to be located at and work with UW Fox Valley Staff in Admissions (Jane Garrow), Marketing (Meagan Hardwick), and Technology (Evelyn Li)
- Updated act! Handbook – general updates plus: added information on CORE Test requirement, revised exceptions policy to include CORE test, added information on the edTPA
- Offered act! Orientation class under a UW Oshkosh course number (SRVC CRS 421), changed student teaching course number to SEC ED 400 and made the credits variable, changed course number for science methods course to SEC ED 333, added “equivalency” before majors
- Announced option to earn both math and science licenses

Active and Completed Students 2006-2014

28-Currently Active, 60-Completed since 2006

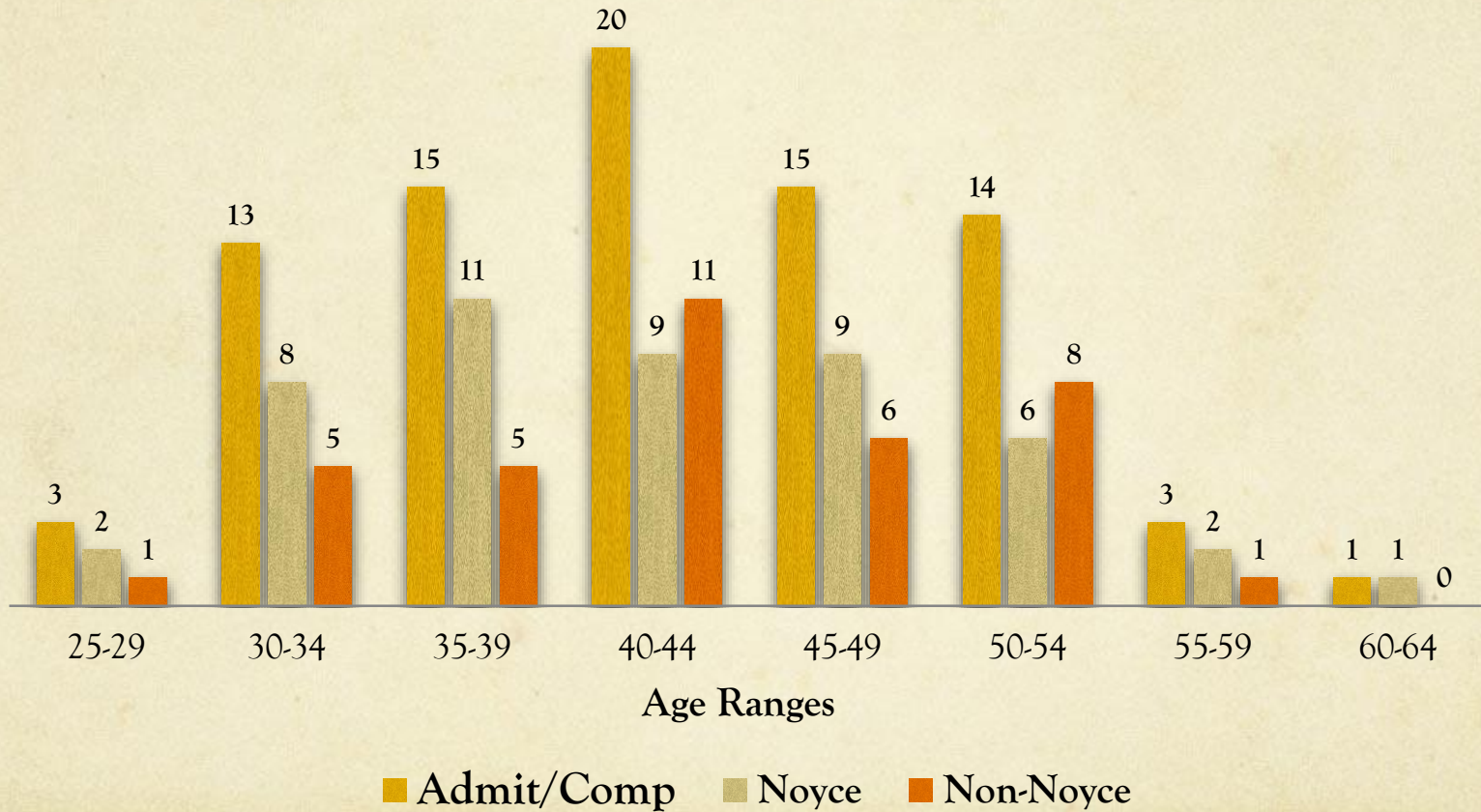


Enrollments by group (Total = 168)



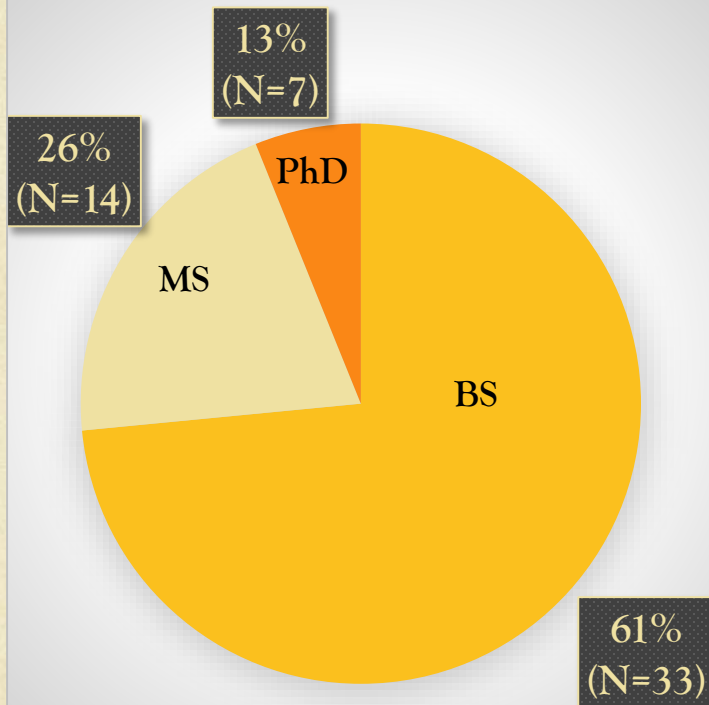
Age Distribution

Avg. = 41 years old

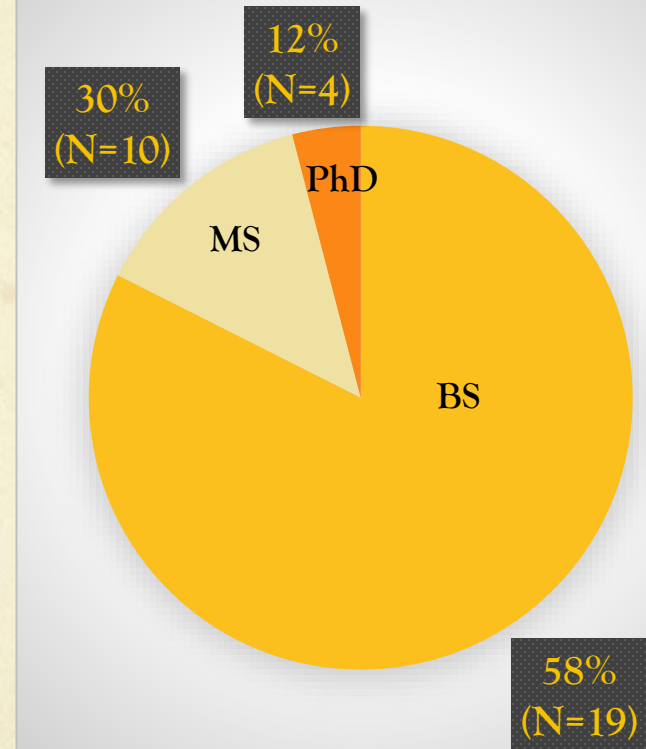


Entering Degrees

Noyce Students

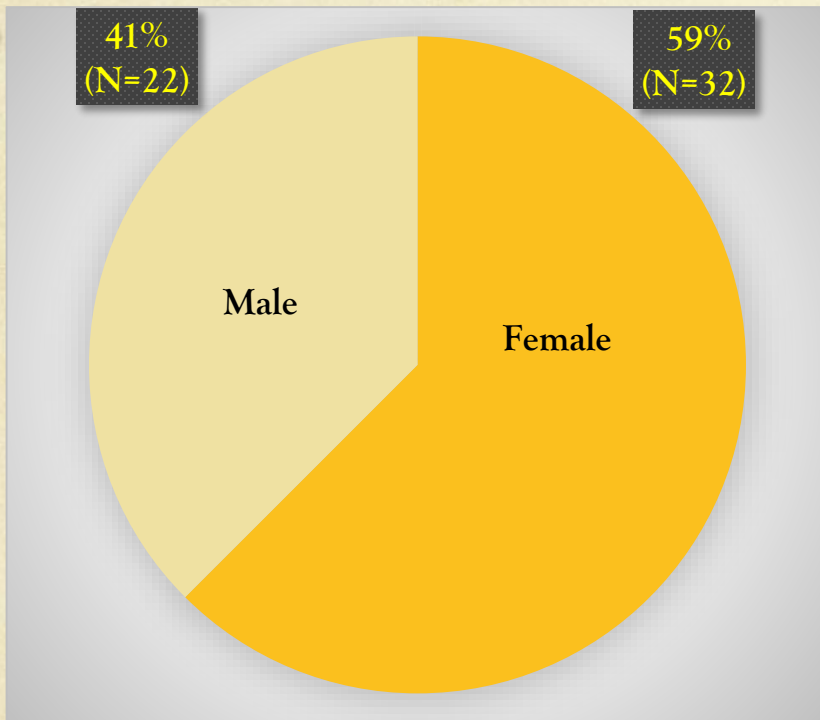


All Students

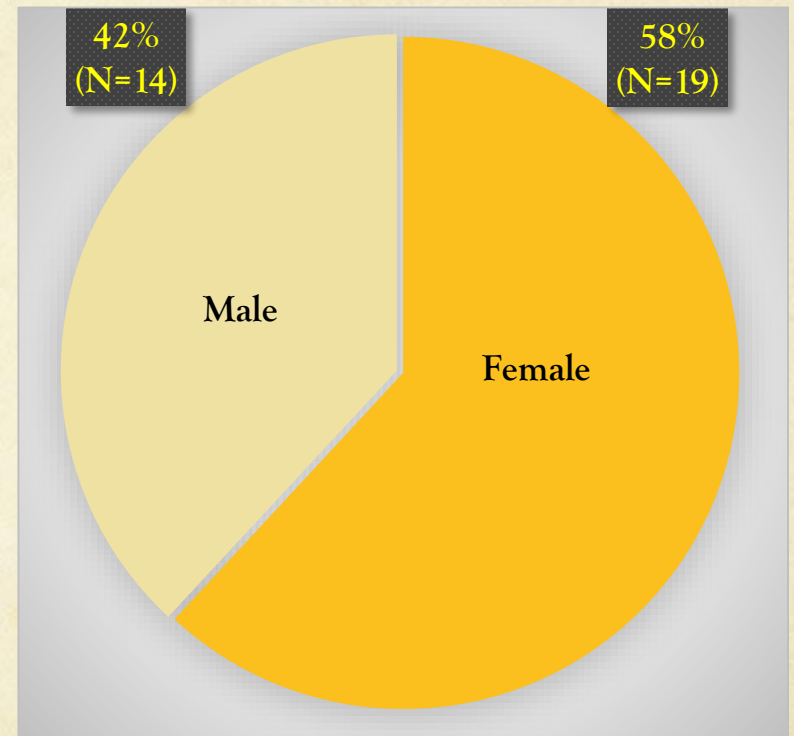


Gender

Noyce recipients



All act! students



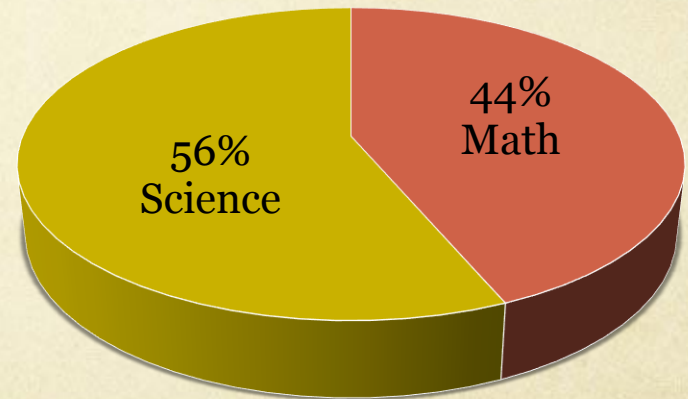
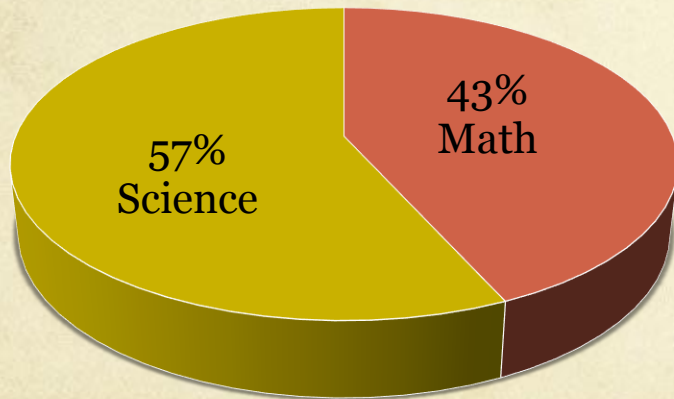
License Areas

*License Area - All applicants
(where data is available)*

*License Area - Noyce
recipients*

■ Math (n=45) ■ Science (n=59)

■ Math (n=18) ■ Science (n=22)

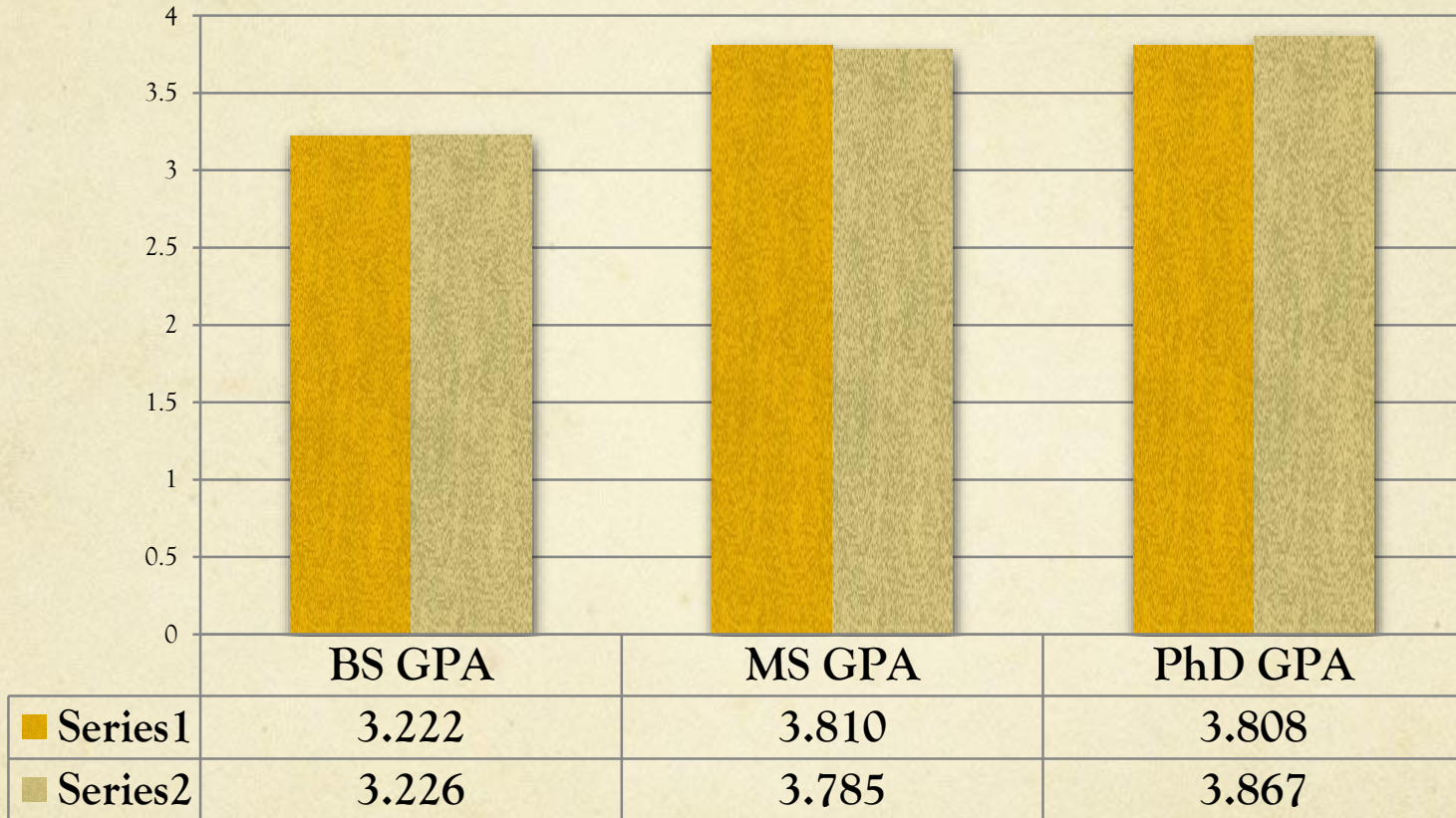


New admits

(11 in review*)

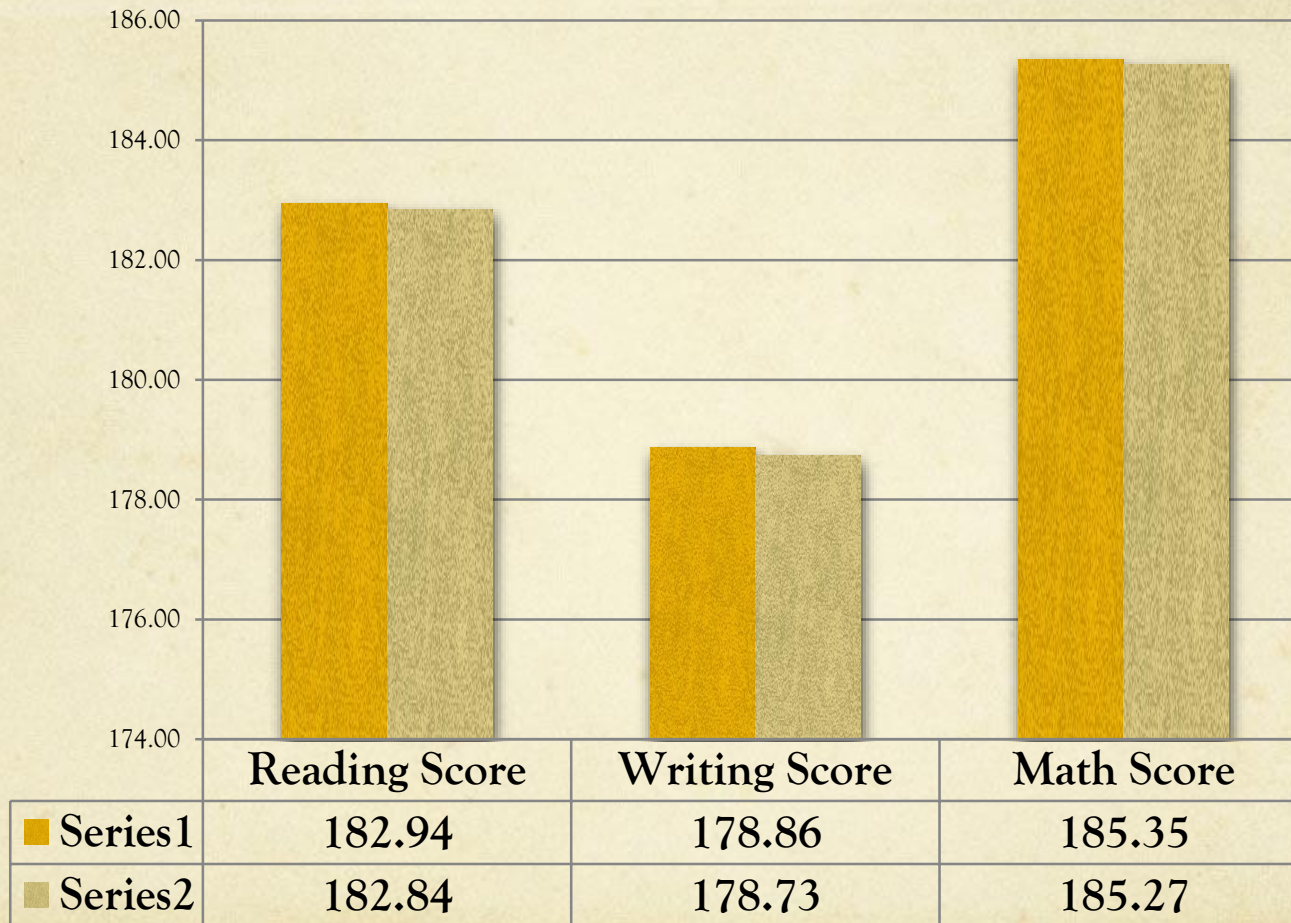
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15*
January (0)							
February (1)			1				
March (3)		2	1				
April (2)				1		1	
May (2)	1				1		
June (5)	1		1	1	1	1	
July (3)			1				2
August (4)		2			1		1
September (3)				1	1		1
October (3)			1		1	1	
November (4)		2				2	
December (0)							
Total	2	6	5	3	5	5	4*

GPA's by Degree



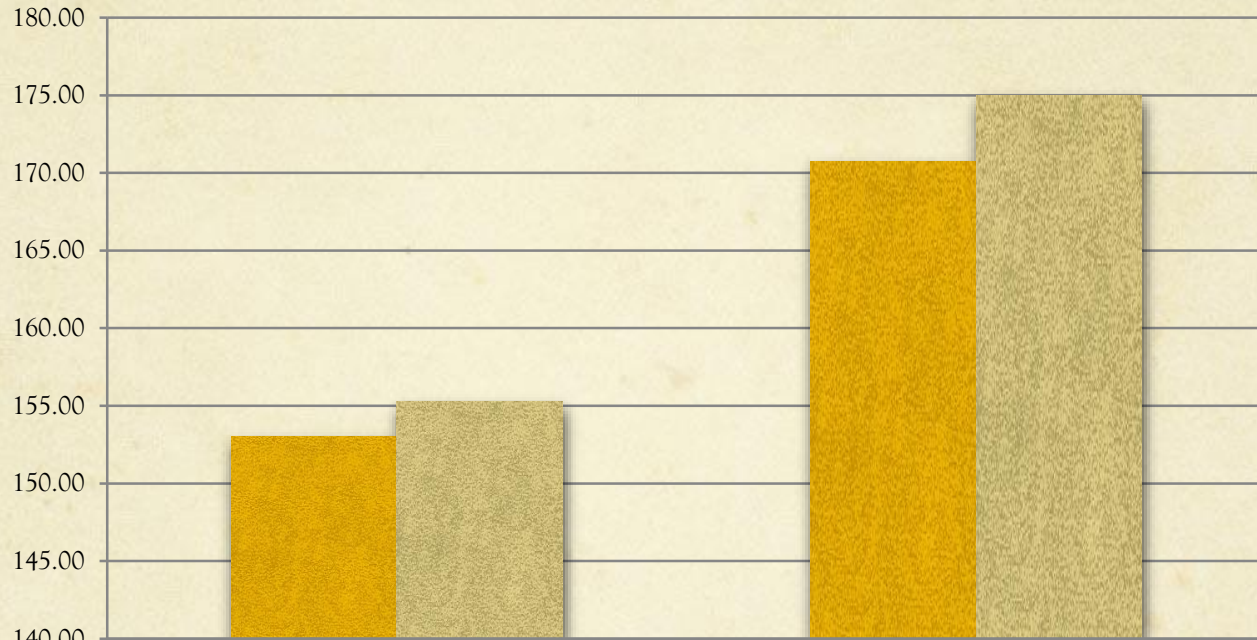
PRAXIS I Scores

Passing scores: Reading 175; Writing 174, Math 173



PRAXIS II Scores

Passing scores: Math 135; Science 154



	PRAXIS 2 Math	PRAXIS 2 Science
Series1	153.00	170.70
Series2	155.25	175.00

Responses to Completer Survey Data

- Increased attention to technology and ELL instruction in math and science methods courses
- Invited former act! students to share their experience with new students at the act! Orientation (Curtis, Graves, Kresl, Kume-Robertson, Mullally, Niederehe)
- Invited former act! students to address math and science methods classes on the use of technology in their classrooms (Hoffman, Johnson, Podlasek, Poli)
- Invited Marisol Evans, Green Bay Area School District, to address math and science methods classes on teaching ELL students
- Received a grant from the MEMIC Foundation – to fund video recording of act! program completers using technology in the their classrooms, videos will be incorporated into math and science methods courses

Preparing for edTPA

- Faculty participated in local edTPA Trainings (Sept, 20, 27, Oct. 11, 2013; April 28-29, 2014) – Beeth, Alderton, Tyunaitis
- Participated in DPI edTPA Implementation Conference (Oct. 3-4, 2013) – Beeth
- Participated in DPI Summer Academy (August 15, 2013) – Beeth
- Identified signature assessments across education courses – Alderton, Beeth, Tyunaitis
- Will be piloting the edTPA with 1 student teacher fall semester 2014 (Math)
- Included information on edTPA in act! Orientation class
- Added a section on edTPA in act! Handbook
- Established and populated a D2L site with edTPA information for students, Cooperating Teachers and Administrators

Enhancing abilities to teach

- Obtain additional teaching licenses (i.e., an individual licensed in Math but seeking licensure in Physics, a licensed Biology teacher seeking an Environmental Science license, adding a Spanish license so you can teach in a second language, adding a Special Ed license, etc.).
- Participation in science, math and other teacher workshops such as Whiteboard Training, RTI Workshops, new Math or Science standards trainings, summer or academic year professional workshops
- Assistance with the preparation and approval of the Professional Development Plan
- Link a recipient with Math and Science content expertise at one of the 5 IHE partner institutions in act! for individualized assistance

Improving Student Learning

- Support for the purchase and use of instructional materials related to a specific need such as math manipulatives, unique instructional materials for science, simulation software, clickers, etc.
- Support to bring content experts in math or science to classrooms as guest speakers

PD options chosen

- New computer – 31
- Networking with colleagues – Technology Workshop
- Professional memberships –
- Professional meetings –
- Presentation at professional meeting –
- Instructional materials –

Networking with colleagues

- Support to interact with newly admitted act! students about your teaching of Math or Science during the act! Orientation, Education, Math or Science Methods courses
- Develop field placement sites at your schools for students in the act! program to observe and assist in instruction during their initial fieldwork
- Network with former colleagues or at former professional meetings about the decision to become a teacher of math or science
- Support to attend annual meetings of the Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers, the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of Mathematics or similar national meetings of professional Math or Science teachers
- Support for recipients to prepare proposals that disseminate instructional activities or other professional information at the annual meetings of the Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers, the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of Mathematics or similar meetings of professional Math or Science teachers
- Support for recipients to attend existing teacher sharing networks in Physics and Chemistry in the Fox Valley or similar teacher sharing groups elsewhere in Wisconsin