

# Teaching as an intellectual pursuit: Pre-service teacher research on individual differences in the classroom

Dr. Corinne Haigh

The School of Education, Bishop's University



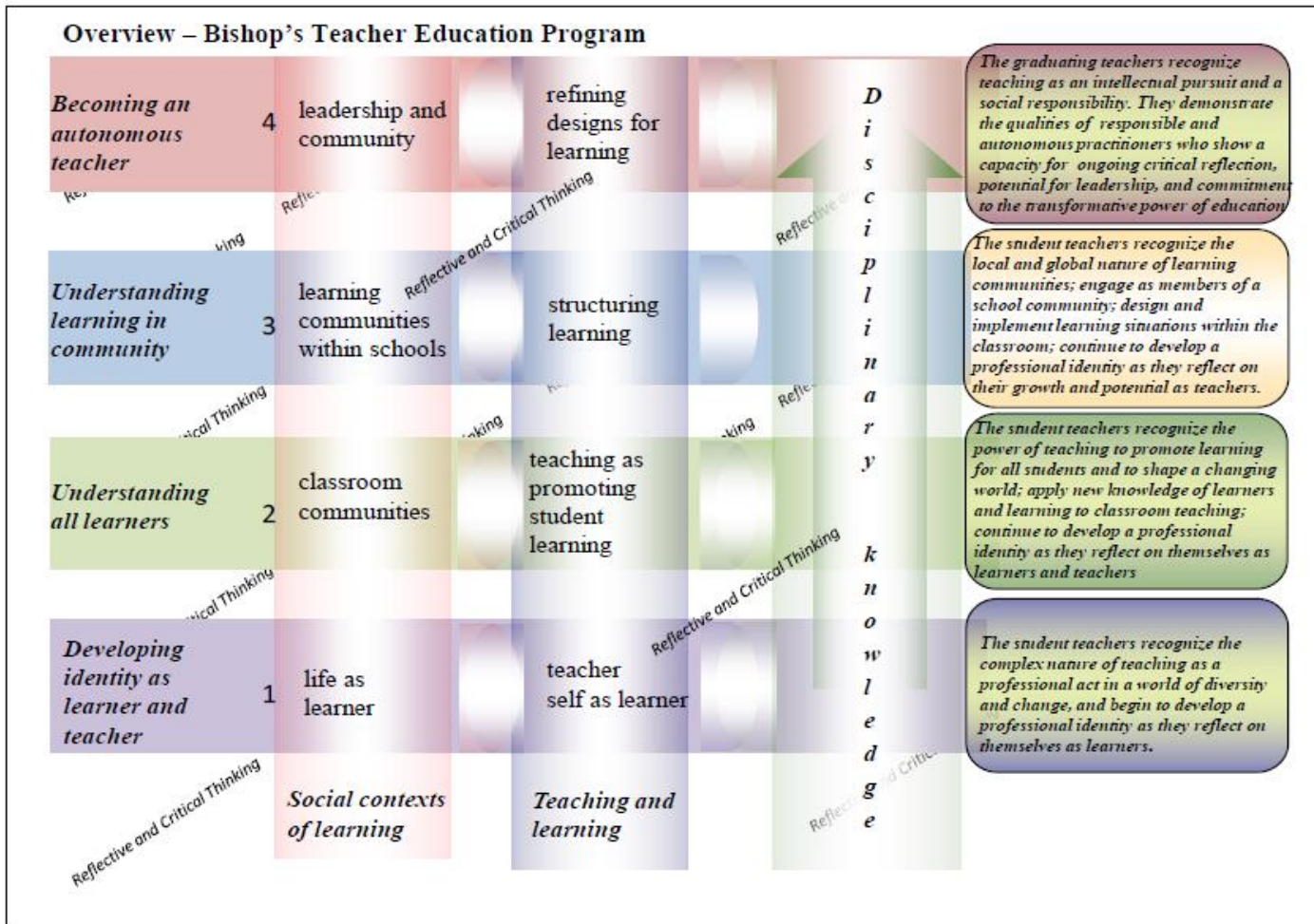
# Our program in a nutshell...

- 4 or 5 year, two-step program
  - 3 years to complete a B.A. or B.Sc. in their discipline, with some courses in Education as well (4 years for out of province students)
  - 1 year to complete a B.Ed., with courses exclusively in the School of Education
  - Practicum/experiential learning opportunities in all 4 years of the program

# Competency 7

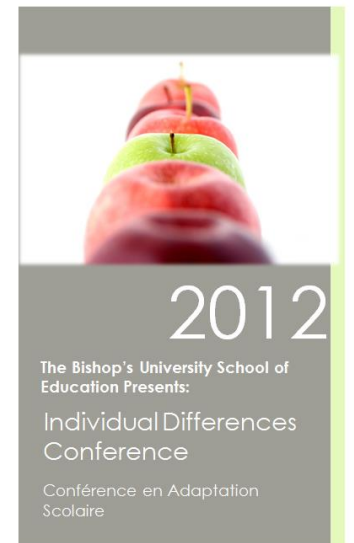
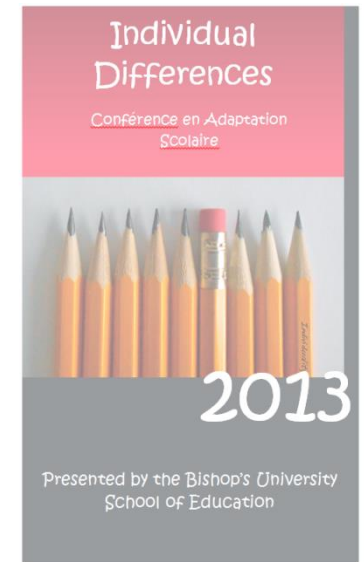
- To adapt his or her teaching to the needs and characteristics of students with learning disabilities, social maladjustments or handicaps (MELS, 2001)

# “The graduating teachers recognize teaching as an intellectual pursuit and a social responsibility.”

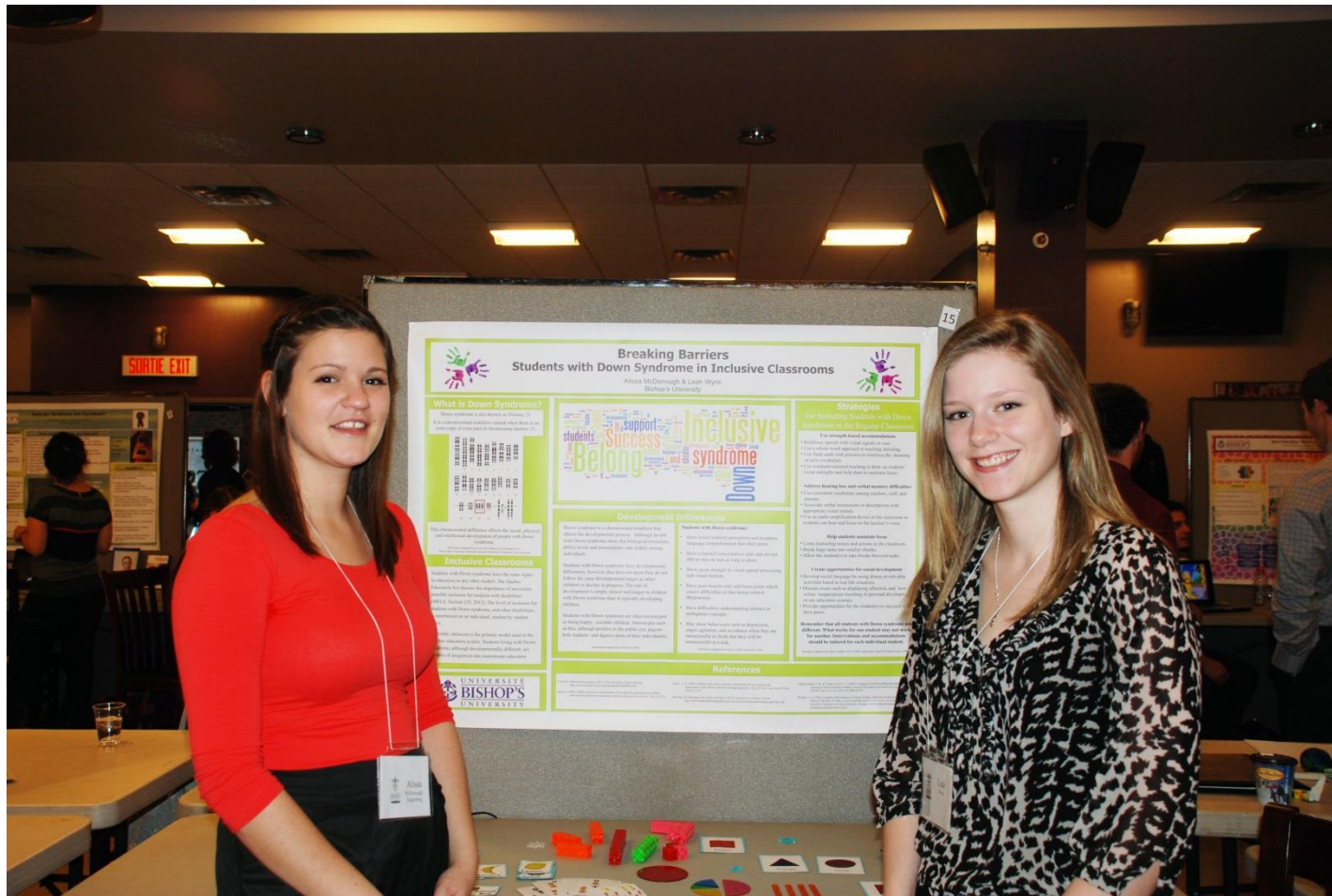


# Individual Differences project overview:

- Project proposal
- Brochure
- Poster and Cracker barrel presentation
- Special Topic report
- On-campus conference
- Presentation at QPAT



# Academic literacy: Participating in academic communities of practice (Sengupta, 2005)





Knowledge about individual differences can be developed collaboratively (Jordan, 2007)



# Next steps: Collect outcome measures

- Knowledge related to competency 7
  - Facilitates the emotional and social integration of students with exceptionalities
  - Consults resource people and parents to obtain relevant information
  - Proposes learning tasks, challenges, and roles within the class that help students to progress
  - Participates in developing and implementing IEPs
- Academic literacy
  - Participation in a chosen community of practice
  - Progression from tasks of “knowledge telling” to more complex tasks of “knowledge transforming” (Tardy, 2005)
- Launching students as teacher-researchers
  - Will pre-service teachers adopt the stance of researchers in their own classrooms?