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During the school year, Millicent Brady teaches Algebra, Geometry, and Pre-Calculus at Greene Central High School in Snow Hill, N.C. This summer, Brady headed to Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla. to do something a little different: she taught academically gifted fifth and sixth graders nuances of finance and the global economy for the Duke University Talent Identification Program.

Duke TIP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving academically gifted youth. Founded in 1981, TIP works with students, parents, and educators to identify, recognize, challenge, and help gifted students reach their highest potential. TIP sponsors a wide range of academic enrichment activities to supplement traditional classroom instruction, including talent searches, on-campus educational experiences at Duke and other U.S. colleges, and independent and distance learning opportunities.

The heart of Duke TIP's nationally-renowned academic programs is the superior quality of its instructional staff, all of whom are experts in their respective academic disciplines. Many K-12 teachers recharge by serving as TIP summer instructors, some of them even turning down offers for prestigious and lucrative summer teaching and research opportunities from major colleges and universities. They choose TIP because they value the extraordinary satisfaction of
teaching gifted students and the opportunity to interact with other TIP faculty. TIP stipends are an additional bonus.

Brady is one of hundreds of North Carolina K-12 educators who have served over the years with TIP. She jumped at the opportunity to influence some of America’s brightest young minds.

“I’m thrilled to be working with such a talented group of young people who are already on a path to being better synthesizing thinkers as well as collaborative team members,” said Brady. “Since these students are at a crossroads in their lives as pupils as well as future citizens of the world, I am excited to be part of a positive, motivating staff influencing them.”

Tracy Zornow (this month’s featured educator) has taught at TIP’s Summer Studies Program at Davidson College for 11 consecutive years. This summer, Zornow taught Biological and Chemical Sciences for TIP, a slight shift from her “normal” mix of courses at Charlotte’s Myers Park High School, where she teaches IB Environmental Systems, AP Environmental Science, Biology, Astronomy, and Marine Sciences.

“For me, TIP embodies what is best and most exciting about education. It is an environment where innovation is not frowned upon but encouraged. At TIP I find myself trying out ideas that I would not have a chance to in the typical school setting,” explains Zornow. “I also find the collaborative nature of being an instructor at TIP very encouraging and inspiring. I get the chance to bounce ideas off of people working in all different fields who offer up great suggestions for creating exciting learning environments, both in the classroom and outside of it.”

Dr. David Frauenfelder, chair of the Department of Classical Languages at St. David’s School in Raleigh, works with TIP in other ways. A language expert, Dr. Frauenfelder was chosen to author a Duke TIP Independent Learning course, Growing Up Heroic: Adventures in Greek Mythology, for students in grades five through seven. Despite the demands of teaching, maintaining his mythology-themed blog, www.breakfastwithpandora.com, and completing a third novel, Frauenfelder continues to make time to contribute to Duke TIP, writing pieces for TIP’s more than 400,000 current talent search participants.
For more information on teaching opportunities with Duke TIP, please visit www.tip.duke.edu. To join TIP's job notification list, contact TIP's Assistant Director for Academic Affairs, Sally Starrfield, at starrfield@tip.duke.edu.

Kendall Hageman
Education Policy Manager
kendall_hageman@ncsu.edu
Twitter Handle: @Education_IEI

Do you know a teacher who is working hard to help students succeed? Let us know, and s/he could be featured in the next education issue!