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EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES & PRACTICE

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College
of
Education
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

PROJECT SOAR: Center for the Study of Higher Education's Service-Learning Experience Receives Gen-Ed Approval

Project SOAR is an undergraduate service-learning experience that places approximately 100 UA students each semester in seven underserved, public middle schools in the Tucson area, where they serve as mentors and tutors, while taking a course on issues of college access in the Higher Education department. Over the past four years approximately 17,000 mentoring hours have been logged by SOAR students, and a total of 1,760 middle

school students have benefited from a SOAR mentor. This program was developed and directed by Jenny Lee, Associate Professor and Director of the Center for the Study of Higher Education. In January 2010, Project SOAR's 3-unit course HED 350: Student Outreach, Access & Resiliency in Education, was approved as part of the General Education curriculum and is now a recognized Tier II INDV course. The College of Science has recently partnered

with Project SOAR to create a section within the service-learning class for science mentoring.

Research stemming from Project SOAR was presented at both the Association for the Study of Higher Education (Nov. '09) and American Educational Research Association ('10) annual meetings this academic year, and publications stemming from these research efforts, co-authored by Jenny Lee, Higher Ed. alumnae Michelle Espino and

Stephanie Levitt, and postdoctoral research associate Lydia Bell, have been either accepted for publication or are under review in various education journals. Associate Professor Regina Deil-Amen served as director during the 2009-10 academic year, and Lydia Bell is currently serving as Interim Director of Project SOAR through May 2011.

For more information please visit the SOAR website at <http://soar.web.arizona.edu/>

New EDL Initiative to ExCEL

The Educational Leadership Program has entered into a collaborative project with the Southern Arizona Leadership Council to develop a Masters degree in Educational Leadership that will feature both a practical, research-based educational perspective and a strong business orientation. The Excellence through Collaboration for Educational Leadership (ExCEL) program will be an innovative partnership between the University of Arizona and local CEOs, focused on the development of school leaders who not only understand the essential leadership theories and behaviors that inform the work of a school leader but also gain from the perspectives of business leaders who will contribute insights and expertise from their organizational perspectives. Program principles include:

- The opportunity to unpack and reconstruct "the way we do things" in the current program.
- Take advantage of the relationship with the business community to develop a preparation system that includes best practices inside and outside of the educational environment.

This program is expected to be launched in the Fall of 2011. More information will be available after the program design team has completed its work.

For additional information, contact Dr. John Pedicone at jpedicone@comcast.net

Online Hybrid Programs EXPAND

The High Tech, High Connect hybrid online program, designed to meet the needs of those students who currently have a Master's degree and are seeking principal or superintendent certification, is going strong. The first two students to complete the entire hybrid online program passed the AEPA with flying colors, and are currently seeking administrative positions. The program continues to grow; enrollments have more than doubled during the first year. For further information, contact Dr. Lynnette Brunderman at lbrunder@email.arizona.edu.

The Department of Educational Policy Studies and Practice is proud to unveil its first **Charter Leadership Academy** to be launched this fall, 2010. Charter school administrators, both current and prospective, are being offered the opportunity to expand their training in the areas of charter school law, finance, and human resource management. For more information, contact Dr. Lynnette Brunderman at

lbrunder@email.arizona.edu.

Principal Certification Program Receives Continuation Approval

The principal certification program in Educational Leadership has received continuing approval from the Arizona Department of Education. According to Patty Hardy at ADE, the

recommendation was submitted to the Arizona State Board of Education for two year approval. The effective date of the approval is June 28, 2010. This means that we are able to pro-

vide institutional recommendation for principal certification to those students who complete our program.

Superintendent certification is currently under review.

EDL Launches NORTHWEST II Master's Cohort

The Educational Leadership Program in the College of Education at the University of Arizona is offering an off-campus Northwest II Master's Program beginning in the Fall 2010 semester. This cohort-based, 36-unit Master of Education degree program leads to principal certification in the State of Arizona and can be completed within two years. The cohort concept has been used successfully by

the University of Arizona Educational Leadership Program for several years. The first Masters Degree Cohort, which served as the model for this concept, was a partnership between Marana Unified School District and a Native American Program. This initial effort was followed by cohorts in Sunnyside and Sahuarita School Districts and, most recently, in Tucson Unified School District.

While most of the students in these cohorts are selected from within the partner districts, other students outside of those districts are also enrolled to encourage diverse viewpoints. One of the unique features of the program is the partnership between EDL faculty and the Amphitheater and Flowing Wells Unified School District personnel to

design a curriculum which customizes content to ensure greater relevancy to the practices and policies in those partner districts. Also, leaders from the partner districts will provide in-class presentations and teach at least one course in the program. For additional information, contact Dr. John Pedicone at jpedicone@comcast.net

Castellon Awarded "Excellence in Educational Leadership" Tribute



Marianne Castellon, who serves as director of educational services in the

Marana Unified School District, was selected for The Excellence in Educational Leadership Award given to practicing administrators who have made significant contri-

butions to the improvement of administrator preparation. This award is presented by the University Council for Educational Administration. Dr. Castellon earned

her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership, a masters in Special Education, as well as a BA from the University of Arizona.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Rose Ylimaki

Dr. Rose Ylimaki is an Associate Professor in the department. Her research centers on curriculum leadership in the wake of recent U.S. testing mandates and school reforms, all of which



seem to support a particular set of conservative ideologies. Based upon this research, Ylimaki presented papers at the University Council of Educational Administration (UCEA) conference, the American Educational Research Association (AERA) conference, published an article in the *International Journal of Leadership in Education*, and finished a book manuscript entitled *Critical Curriculum Leadership: A Framework for Progressive Education* (Routledge, in press, TBA). She also extended her international study

of principals with an article published in the *Journal of Educational Administration*, a chapter in a comparative education series, and presented in at the National College in Nottingham, England. She taught courses in Educational Leadership Theory, Curriculum Leadership, School Culture, and Academic Writing. Dr. Ylimaki's helped her current and former doctoral students develop papers for UCEA and AERA. She served on the College Personnel Committee and the University Graduate Council.

Dr. Kris Bosworth Teams Up with NIH for Two K-12 Grants

In partnership with the Amphitheater and Vail schools districts, Dr. Kris Bosworth, Dr. Sheri Bauman and Maryanne Judkins (Cohort 12) have written a NIH grant to train teams of high school science teacher and counselors to implement classroom instruction and school wide drug prevention activities based on recent findings in neuroscience.



In the final year of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant with the Vail school district, Dr. Bosworth organized a Vail Leadership Cadre charged with overseeing the prevention programs and activities initiated in the grant. In the 2009-2010 academic year, the membership in the cadre doubled and the met monthly. School climate scores for all the Vail schools increased in 9 of the 10 schools. The average increase was 4% with a range of 70% to 90%.

Dr. Jeffrey Bennett

Dr. Jeffrey Bennett's recent study of collaboration between a local chamber of commerce and a medium-sized metropolitan area school district in the U.S. Southwest to develop school-business partnerships was published in a book chapter edited by Wayne K. Hoy and Michael DiPaola this past spring. Dr. Bennett's chapter also



features his partnership development model that depicts key essential processes for sustainability. He and his doctoral student, Hugh Thompson, co-authored a paper for presentation at UCEA (now under review at an educational leadership journal) analyzing these data using a neo-institutional theory and determined the influential role of the superintendent but limited institutionalization and sustainability due to missing key developmental processes that failed to ensure widespread commitment. This work also informed a related paper presented at AERA (also submitted to a journal), his current analysis of the develop-

ment of a local K-12 education and business collaborative organization, and his upcoming study on regional school and business collaboration of quality teacher retention.

Jeff was also included as an author of a book chapter with Dr. Rose Ylimaki and colleagues in their analysis of principals and notions of successful leadership in the U.S. and Australia. He also participated with EDL faculty in one case study, which he also co-presented with Dr. Ylimaki at AERA. He For more information, contact Dr. Bennett at jben-nett@email.arizona.edu.

EDL Adjuncts

Adjuncts play a critical role in all aspects of the Educational Leadership Program. They exemplify the EDL scholar-practitioner role and share their expertise with curriculum and program development, supervision, finance, law, and more with aspiring leaders.

We thank these adjuncts for their service: Dr. Lynnette Brunderman, Nancy Meech, Stuart Meinke, Dr. Maria Menconi, Dr. Chris Johnson, Dr. Donna Lewis, Dr. Scott Mundell, Dr. Roseanne Neal and Wayne Yehling.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT Cont.

Dr. Jeffrey Milem

Dr. Jeffrey F. Milem has focused his research in two areas: experience of undergraduates at the University of Arizona and the efforts of medical schools to create and sustain student diversity. Dr. Milem is currently working on a mixed



methods study with Center for the Study of Higher Education colleagues to assess the impact of the New Start program designed to help incoming freshmen successfully transition from high school to college. He continues his work on the Arizona Assurance program aimed at improving scholarly success with financial support and a range of academic and personal development resources for students from low-income families. His co-authored book, *Model Practices for Achieving Diversity*, is in press as well as a book chapter on campus climate and diversity.

Dr. Milem is currently examining, as part of his work on the Holistic Review project, linkages between the medical school application and admissions process and medical school mission and goals. Dr. Milem is interested in the role of outreach, recruitment, financial aid, and retention in influencing medical student diversity. He is also involved in a longitudinal study of the experiences and outcomes of medical education in the medical school at the U of A. He has co-authored three papers with colleagues Dr. Cantwell and Dr. Cabrera, based on this research, which are now under review at *Academic Medicine* and *Medical Education*.

Additionally, Dr. Milem has two grant funded projects related to medical education: a study of Gold Humanism Honor Society members at three medical schools designed to honor individuals who elevate the values of humanism and professionalism within the field of medicine; and (2) a study of medical school climate at two U.S. medical schools that is being funded by the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC). Dr. Milem also serves as a member of the AAMC national committee.

Dr. Milem is currently examining, as part of his work on the Holistic

Dr. J. Robert Hendricks Named Department Head of EPSP

J. Robert Hendricks assumed the department head position this past year after having served in the Office of the Dean since 1999. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, he teaches Personnel Administration in the MED cohort program and provides support for the Capstone Research requirement. Hendricks recently returned to Nanjing Normal University in China where he served as an advisor to MED students completing their degrees this spring. He is completing a text- *Human Resources Management- A Case Approach* and has completed editing a text on *Organizational Management*.



Dr. Keith Humphrey

Dr. Keith Humphrey continues his primary assignment as Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs at the UA, leading many key retention initiatives including the New Start Summer Bridge Program, Arizona Assurance, the Transfer Center, Career Services and a pilot project that will send early alert warnings to students when they are not performing well in a course. Keith finished a three year term on the Governing Board of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) in March and has been co-Chairing a subcommittee of the ACPA - NASSPA Consolidation Steering Team that is studying the prospects of consolidating the two largest student affairs professional associations into one association.



Dr. John Pedicone

Dr. John Pedicone received the *Arizona Distinguished Administrator of the Higher Education Division* (2009-2010) award. In addition, Dr. Pedicone is currently developing the ExCEL Program and establishing the Northwest II Master's Cohort.



Dr. Jenny Lee on Sabbatical



Dr. Jenny Lee will be taking a sabbatical in the Higher Education Policy Research Institute at Korea during Fall 2010. Lee will be furthering her research on international student/scholar mobility, access to higher education, and globalization's impact on the westernization of Asian universities. Dr. Lee was recently appointed as a Dean's Honorary Fellow at City University in London, England. This past school year she was presented the prestigious Outstanding Faculty Award by the Asian American Faculty, Staff and Alumni Association (AAFSa).

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Dr. Nolan Cabrera

During the past year, **Dr. Nolan L. Cabrera** joined EPSP as a postdoctoral scholar. He has spent the bulk of his time working with professors in the Center for the Study of Higher Education as well as Student Affairs coordinating efforts meant to assess the impact of New Start Summer Program participation on entering students. In addition, he co-authored an article forthcoming in the "Journal of Higher Education" evaluating the impact of Proposition 209 (eliminating affirmative action) on underrepresented minority student access to the University of California system. Moving into the second year of his postdoc, Dr. Cabrera is going to continue his work with New Start, and expand it to understand the impact of New Start participation in conjunction with other programs (e.g., Arizona Assurance). He also continues to explore whiteness formation within institutions of higher education.

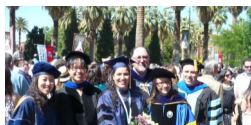
Some Exciting Notes from the Center for the Study of Higher Education

- Regina Deil-Amen will serve as the Interim Director during the Fall semester, while Dr. Jenny Lee is on sabbatical.
- Regina Deil-Amen was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor.
- Cecilia Rios-Aguilar served as an instructor on *Social Network Theory & Higher Education Research* for the ASHE Institutes on Equity and Critical Policy Analysis in July 2010.
- Regina Deil-Amen and Jenny Lee (co-authored with Brendan Cantwell) presented their research at the CHER Conference at Oslo, Norway in June 2010.
- Jeff Milem completed his presidency term as ASHE President.

Peter Likins Inclusive Excellence Award Given to Center

The Center for the Study of Higher Education has received the Peter Likins Inclusive Excellence Award established to recognize individuals or groups who, through their leadership, enhance the UA's academic distinction through creating a diverse and inclusive community. Congratulations to the Center for the Study of Higher Education on this outstanding achievement!

Student Milestones



Graduates

Doctor of Education Educational Leadership

Anthony N. Skevakis
Mary B. Nebe
Kevin M. Stoltzfus
Roseanne M. Lopez
Carolyn M. Dumler

Doctor of Philosophy

Center for the Study of Higher Education

Arezu K. Corella
Diana K. Leonard

Mary A. Irwin
Sandra G. Luca
Amy L. Verst
Yan Xie
Christopher A. Ousley
Master of Education
Educational Leadership

Andrea S. Divijak
Audrey S. Reid
Brian G. Scott
Jeanine D. Sparks
Andrew P. Townsend
Gerardo U. Lopez
Stacy Tollefson

Master of Arts

Center for the Study of Higher Education

Richard B. Baker
Danielle M. Barker

Stefanie L. Basij
Carly N. Brandenburg
Amanda Brobbel
Kevin J. Cleary
La Monica Everett-Haynes
Stefanie A. Goldman
Christine A. Nelson
Lindsey Reuter
Derek P. Shank
Camtu L. Tran
Alyssa Y. Paynter
Katie N. Underwood
Mary E. Venezia



Scholarship Recipients

Jill Beckwith
Jaime Carbajal
Kendra Corey
Thad Dugan
La Monica Everett-Haynes
Mandy Garcia
Stephanie Gerber
Manuel Gonzalez Canche
Alexis Kammerman
Aurelia Kollasch
Heather Haeger
Guadalupe Martinez
Clyne Namuo
Celia O'Brien
Russell Potter
Justin Strohmer
Hugh Thompson
Staci Zuniga

EDL Alumni and Student News and Honors

Tsuru Bailey-Jones received the 2009-10 Erasmus Circle Scholarship, welcomed a new son in February 2010, and has been named principal at the Carrillo K-5 Magnet School, TUSD.

Jill Burchell, Jenny Lee, and Sara Olson's article, "Student affairs staff and their spiritual discussions with students" was accepted for publication by Religion and Education and will also appear as a book chapter in Parallel Universities: Sacred and Secular Tensions in Higher Education.

Thea Canizo is the Educational Director at the Planetary Science Institute.

Brendan Cantwell will serve as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Georgia's Institute of Higher Education starting Fall 2010.

Nic Clement was selected as Arizona Superintendent of the Year by Arizona School Administrators Association.

Tom Collins, a member of the Literacy Volunteers of Tucson, was elected chairperson for the North Pima Regional Council of First Things First.

Rose Cota was named the Restorative Practice Advocate at Tully Elementary. She presented on effective research based strategies for ELLs as well as Student Engagement strategies. She authored an article in the Daily Star, entitled "I Love My Job". Other presentations included Data Talk to the School Council, as well as Title I PTO presentations. Rose was awarded the Ora Bretrall Scholarship.

Eric Deschamps received a NAFSA Regional Highlight Award for his presentation in November 2009 entitled "Medical? Criminal? Critical?: The 20 Questions of Managing International Student

Crises." He was later asked to present at the national NAFSA conference on June 3rd, 2010

Andrea Divijak has been named Associate Principal at Marana Middle School.

Kevin Dougherty presented with Dr. John Taylor at the 2010 Annual AERA Conference a paper entitled "Analysis of Successful Black Male College Students' Perceptions of their Educational Environments and Educational Leaders."

Alex Durán will be heading up services to school districts and charters to assist with providing program evaluation and assessment thru the Office of the Pima County School Superintendent.

La Monica Everett-Haynes, presented her paper, "Converging Realities and Identities: A Case Study of African American and Latino(a) Students Negotiating Self-actualized Duality" at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. The meeting was held in August 2009. In addition to her studies, Everett-Haynes serves as a University News Manager at the University of Arizona.

Aurelia Kollasch and Blanca Torres-Olave participated in the European Science Foundation training and networking events in ESF Kassel, Germany and Twente, Netherlands during June 2010.

Cindy Lewis was appointed Principal at Rattlesnake Ridge Elementary in Marana.

David Mandel has been named Assistant Principal at Tucson High School. He co-presented at the 2010 Annual AERA Conference a paper entitled, "A Discourse Analysis for School Improvement: Leadership Challenges and Possibilities" with **Tiffany McKee**.

Tamara McAllister was appointed Interim Principal at Walter Douglas Elementary.

Nathan McCann was recognized as the National Assistant Principal of the Year. He also was named Superintendent of the Alter Valley District, after serving as an Assistant Principal in the Flowing Wells District.

Tiffany McKee was named Assistant Principal at Old Vail Middle School. She co-presented at the 2010 Annual AERA Conference a paper entitled, "A Discourse Analysis for School Improvement: Leadership Challenges and Possibilities" with **David Mandel**.

Wade McLean is a candidate for the AZ House of Representatives from District 26.

Monika Monteil Turner is the new principal at Estes Elementary in Marana.

Charles Petranik received Montana State University's Residence Life Lifetime Achievement Award, was honored with Montana State University's Residence Life Advisor of the Year award, was a Montana State University NRHH Bronze Award Recipient and was nominated for AIMHO's Undergraduate Student of the Year.

Heather Pletnick welcomed a new baby boy in August 2009.

Jack Pierce is a 6th grade Science teacher and MESA Advisor at Amphitheater Middle School. Their team represented Arizona at the MESA National Engineering Design Competition in Denver on June 24th-28th, 2010.

Stephen Poling (right) was named Superintendent of Palominas School District. He was also honored with the distinction of Arizona Schools Administrators Outstanding Doctoral Student. He will present his

dissertation "Superintendents' Leadership Behaviors for DIBELS Implementation: A Comparative Case Study of Principals' and Superintendents' Perceptions" at their summer conference.

Gregory Redhouse presented "The Disappearing Navajo Man in Higher Education" at the American Indian Graduate; Language Reading and Culture Colloquy on February 25, 2010 at the UofA.

Dr. Albert Siqueiros is the Superintendent of Indian Oasis-Baboquivari School District in Sells, AZ.

Gerald Szymanski presented "Integrating Behavioral Health & Making Access Work in the Real World" at the National Indian Health Summit in July 2009.

Jeanine Sparks is the new Reading Specialist at Sahuarita Intermediate School.

Hugh Thompson co-presented "Leadership for School District and Business Partnerships: A "New" Institutional Analysis" with Dr. Bennett at the fall 2009 UCEA conference.

Stacy Tollefson received a USDA National Needs Fellowship to pursue her PhD in Agriculture and Biosystems Engineering at UA.

Blanca Torres-Olave's article, "There Is a World Out There: Spatial Imagination, Agency and Academic Culture in a Mexican University Program" was accepted for publication in Comparative Education Review.

Andy Townsend received the 2010 Rodel Exemplary Teacher Award.

Manny Valenzuela has been named the Superintendent of the Sahuarita School District.

