THE POWER OF YET

In education, we ring in the new year every September (rather than in January). The Manhattanville Doctoral Program rang in this new year welcoming nearly 40 new doctoral students in 4 cohorts across our 3 degree pathways. With these new students we now have 136 active doctoral students and more than 125 alumni!

We know from our interactions that the pursuit of a doctoral degree comes alongside professional and personal demands (and joys). Yet, it is an investment in and commitment to oneself; even as one wonders about the road taken, we’re reminded by peers, colleagues, and loved ones of the importance of this pursuit. Yet, we hear applicants wonder if they’re ready and continuing students reflect on the demands and how they’ll finish. Each doesn’t give up on the dream, knowing they’ve simply YET to finish it. This is the Power of Yet. Maybe you’ve heard of this power, which has been buzzing on the internet from business arenas (e.g., Forbes’) to Sesame Street! Many attribute the notion of YET to Carol Dweck’s work on mindset, noting that YET signals a growth mindset; you’re holding open space for what’s to come and what will be.

As Janelle Monae\(^2\) sings in the catchy Sesame Street song, the word YET converts a stopping point into a plan of action. With this mindset, you’re strategically using the word “yet” to encourage continual learning and development. You won’t have it all figured out right away or on the first try. In the words of Brene Brown, “There is no innovation and creativity without failure.” When you get frustrated, you just haven’t figured it out YET. Remember you were admitted to the doctoral program because of the capabilities you possess. And you will have days when you might not be sure how to apply your full potential – YET. We’re excited to see what’s yet to unfold for each of you! In this newsletter, you’ll see the celebrations and recognition of all that you’ve accomplished thus far.

Dr. Susan V. Iverson – Professor, Director, and Chair of the Manhattanville Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership Susan.Iverson@mville.edu @susaniverson1

Mary Fox - Assistant Director of the Manhattanville Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership Mary.Fox-Alter@mville.edu @Mary_FoxAlter
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Welcome

The 2022-2023 academic year was kicked off with a reception on September 12 welcoming new students to the Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership

Signature Pathway PNW Cohort XIV
Signature Pathway O-U Cohort II
Dissertation Completion Online Cohort III
Dissertation Completion Individualized Plan
Higher Education Cohort VII

Watch the Video

Speakers

Ms. Mary Fox-Alter
Assistant Director
Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership

Dr. Louise Feroe
Acting President
Manhattanville College

Christine Dehne
Provost
Manhattanville College

Dr. Shelley B. Wepner
Dean of School of Education
Manhattanville College

Dr. Susan V. Iverson
Professor, Director, Chair
Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership
Signature Pathway PNW Cohort 14


Signature Pathway O-U Cohort 2

(L to R) Amy Peluso Prasky, Melanie Lofaro, Meghan McGourty, Tiffany Fielding-Clarke, Sara Puccio, Tamika Matheson, Keith Sullivan
2022 New Doctoral Cohorts

Watch the Welcome Video

Dissertation Completion Pathway Cohort III

Dr. Ken Mitchell, Dr. Susan Iverson, Eudes Budhai,
Dr. Robert Feirsen, Valarie Williams, Jared High, Shenean Lindsay
Dr. Martin Fitzgerald, Deelip Mhaske, Catherine Addor, Deborah Fox
Yvette Rivera, Aaron Hanlin, Dr. Peter Troiano, Sharon Spencer
Colleen Fratinardo (not pictured)

Higher Education Leadership Pathway Cohort VII

Taneisha Clarke  Iris Cortes  Kelly Kent
The third cohort of doctoral students in the online Dissertation Completion Pathway began their coursework following a virtual 3-day residency on July 7-9. The Residency theme, Re/Claiming Your Scholar Identity, included a session with Dr. Natalie Aleman (EdD 2020), who shared her findings from her doctoral research on developing scholar identity. Students also worked with Manhattanville College librarian Paula Moskowitz and attended a workshop on Writing with Power led by Dr. Sara Henry, founder/director of Heartful Editor. After completing a literature review course during the summer session, DCP Cohort 3 students are now enrolled in a research methods refresher course.

On October 21-22, 2022, these students will participate in a virtual fall residency which will include an opportunity to meet and talk about their research topics with potential committee members. These ABD students will also hear from a distinguished panel of faculty about possibilities in research, and from a panel of alumni, among other presentations and break-out sessions.
Finishing Strong
August 2022 Final Defenses

Watch the August Graduate Video

It is with great pride and deep admiration that we present the Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership August 2022 Graduates

Dr. Tameka Jackson
Dissertation Completion Pathway, Online Cohort 1

A NARRATIVE INQUIRY STUDY ABOUT THE PERCEIVED SOCIAL SUPPORTS OF URBAN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATORS’ PERCEPTIONS OF HOW ONLINE LEARNING AFFECTED THE COGNITIVE, EMOTIONAL, AND BEHAVIORAL ENGAGEMENT OF YOUNG ADOLESCENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A QUANTITATIVE STUDY

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPALS’ PERCEPTIONS OF STRESS AND RESILIENCE DURING COVID-19
Dr. Sagrario Rudecindo-O’Neill, Signature Pathway O/U Cohort 1

A CRITICAL QUALITATIVE STUDY OF WHITE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS’ PERCEPTION OF RACE AND LEADERSHIP IN AN ERA OF CRT BACKLASH

Dr. Kristen Marie Sautner, Signature Pathway Cohort 11

AT-RISK: STUDENT STRESS AND WELLNESS AT A HIGH-ACHIEVING HIGH SCHOOL DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
August 2022 Final Defenses

Dr. Robyn Andrea Schlesinger, Higher Education Pathway Cohort 1

ETHICS IN THE CURRICULUM OF A LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE: A MIXED METHODS CASE STUDY

Dr. Robert Stephen Schliessman, Signature Pathway Cohort 11

A PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH STUDY EXAMINING THE ROLE OF THE FIFTH GRADE TEACHER IN ADVISORY PROGRAMS AND THE PERCEIVED IMPACT ON TEACHER AND STUDENT AGENCY AND CAPABILITY
Commencement Week May 2022

A Celebration of Scholarship, Perseverance, and Empowerment

Doctoral Pre-Graduation Reception
May 10, 2022

&

Commencement Exercises
May 12, 2022

With great energy and enthusiasm, the Manhattanville College Doctoral Program celebrated and congratulated our graduates at the May 10 Reid Castle Pre-Graduation Reception and at the May 12 Commencement Ceremony on the College Quad. Our Doc Stars had much to celebrate as they journeyed from Castles to Tassels, toasted special honorees, and laughed with family and friends.
At the May 10 Pre-Graduation Reception, we embraced the opportunity to individually recognize each graduate and to recognize five special award recipients for academic accomplishment and achievement. Enjoy learning more about these remarkable scholars and educators.
Presentation of the 2022 Doctoral Program Awards

Dr. Julia Drake, Signature Pathway 10

Winner of the 2022 Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, Distinguished Dissertation Research Award

Dissertation Title: 
FEMALE SUPERINTENDENTS’ PERCEPTIONS OF UNCONSCIOUS GENDER BIAS IN THE SUPERINTENDENCY: AN EXPLORATORY QUANTITATIVE STUDY

James Higgins, Signature Pathway O/U Cohort 1

Winner of the 2022 Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, Mary K. Humphreys Scholarship in Special Education Doctoral Dissertation Award

Julie Kotler-Snider, Dissertation Completion Pathway Individualized Plan

Winner of the 2022 Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, Ethel Kennedy Award for Human Rights Leadership

Lisa Roloson, Signature Pathway Cohort 11

Winner of the 2022 Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, Outstanding Service to the Doctoral Program Award

Julianne Ross-Kleinmann, Dissertation Completion Pathway Online Cohort 1

Winner of the 2022 Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, Judith Johnson Memorial Award
The May 2022 graduation was especially memorable, as we were able to celebrate the August 2021-May 2022 doctoral graduates in-person at Manhattanville College. Congressman Jamaal Bowman, EdD Signature Cohort 4, was the Commencement speaker for the Graduate and Doctoral Ceremony held on May 12, 2022.

Congratulations to our EdD Graduates!

Learn about their important work in our Commencement 2022 Magazine
Graduates (back left to right) Dr. Joi Sampson, Dr. Jamal Doggett, Dr. Katie Kelley, Dr. Ian Wolf, Dr. Ryan Fisk, Dr. Ron Clamser, Dr. Michael Thomas Kealy, Dr. Alex Levine, Dr. Donna M. Rogalski. (front left to right) Dr. Jennifer L. Wesolowski, Dr. Michelle Rios-Burke, Dr. Matthew Baumoe, Dr. Stacy Fertile, Dr. Breana Bayraktar, Dr. Kyle Grogan, Dr. Heather C. Hendershot, Dr. Jessica Maricevic, Dr. Tony Jennings (not pictured). Congratulations!

May 2022 Graduates joined by Commencement Speaker Dr. Jamaal Bowman and Doctoral Program administration, faculty, and staff.
Ask Us!

Words of Wisdom for our Doctoral Students, from our Faculty, and College Leadership

The faculty and staff of the Doctoral Program celebrate and congratulate those individuals who have decided to “Take It Up a Degree” and pursue a Doctoral degree at Manhattanville College – our Doc Stars! This unparalleled, unrivaled, and deeply personal journey will lead our students to becoming recognized researchers, more profound thinkers, and published authors. The journey in pursuit of a Doctoral degree can be personally and professionally rewarding. However, it can also be challenging.

Q: We are often asked what are the key tips, strategies or words of advice that can help students successfully manage those challenges? We asked our exceptional Doc Star faculty and College leadership team to share one piece of advice they would give to Doctoral students to help them be successful. Here is what they shared! Enjoy.
Dr. Shelley Wepner, Dean of the School of Education

If you have PEP (Perseverance, Endurance, and Persistence) and steer yourself steadily and purposefully even when you encounter rocky roads and steep hills that seem impossible to traverse, you will reach your destination with the title of Dr. before your name!

Dr. Susan V. Iverson, Professor, Director of the Doctoral Program, and Chair of the Educational Leadership Department

Park your work on the downhill! It’s a way of avoiding obstacles or getting stuck and making it as easy as possible to get back on the workflow road.

Dr. Nora Broege, Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership

You have often heard it said that the best dissertation is a done dissertation. This quote is simply a way to remind doctoral students of the importance of the process to completion. Do not overthink it; stay focused on the process, not perfection.

Dr. Joanne Marien, Clinical Faculty, Educational Leadership

The doctoral program has been meticulously designed to maximize your success in reaching the finish, yet your specific pathway to completion will be yours and yours alone. Keep your eye on the endpoint, though be sure not to overlook the value of the journey to the finish. Be deliberate with every step, learning the lessons of each challenge and opportunity along the way. Collectively, they will change you: not only as a scholar and practitioner, but in relation to yourself and others. Think not just of graduation, but of your journey as the destination. Enjoy the ride!

Dr. Nicole Joseph, Adjunct Faculty, Educational Leadership

“Don’t wait until you’ve reached your goal to be proud of yourself. Be proud of every step you take towards that goal!” (anonymous author)
Dr. Robert Feirsen, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership; & Coordinator of the EdLead Program

Here’s a thought that I learned from my mentor and the chair of my committee, the late Tom Mulkeen.

Find a topic about which you are passionate and intrigued because there is a lot of grunt work connected with conducting research and writing a dissertation. During those stretches when you feel like you are getting bogged down and staring up from a very deep well (much like the way baseball players feel during the dog days of August), it helps to take a deep breath, remember why you feel your subject is important, and recognize that finishing the work will enable you to leverage the deep knowledge you are gaining to have an impact on students, families, and the larger community. Without that deep interest in the topic, it’s drudgery; with it, it’s the means to an important, greater end.

Dr. Martin Fitzgerald, Clinical Faculty, Educational Leadership

New York Tourist: “Excuse me sir, but how do I get to Carnegie Hall?”
Local: "Practice, practice, practice."

My advice - If wringing hands in the face of a daunting challenge some advice I received, and passing along is, “Commit to start and chip away.” The polymath Noam Chomsky famously reminds, “It happens as a result of hard work by dedicated people who are willing to look at problems honestly, to look at them without illusions, and to go to work chipping away at them, with no guarantee of success — in fact, with a need for a rather high tolerance for failure along the way, and plenty of disappointments.”

Dr. Sara Henry, Heartful Editor

I think the most important advice I can offer is to focus on progress over perfection—there is no such thing as a perfect dissertation, and perfection is not an attainable goal. Be open and receptive to any and all feedback and integrate into your writing the nuggets of wisdom you feel will help you to move closer to the finish line. You’ve got this, and I know you’ll finish strong by taking each step one at a time!
Think like a sculptor. You start with a block of marble and a chisel. Just chip away! Chip a little bit every day or every few days! Before you know it, you have a masterpiece!

Dr. Kenneth Mitchell, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership

Do you ever have that feeling that there is just SO much work to be done? The page is blank, the text you are reading goes on for days. In the spirit of Ann Lamot’s *Bird by Bird*, I find the best way to manage the intricacies of work associated with doctoral coursework and the dissertation process is to break the work into manageable chunks and work one step at a time. To operationalize this process, I apply the Pomodoro Technique! 25 minutes of work followed by a 5-minute break ensure that I keep moving forward every day.

Dr. Nicole Mangiere Nover, Adjunct Professor, Educational Leadership

Be sure you have made a thoughtful and informed decision about when you should enter a doctoral program and how you will make it a part of your daily life. At the start of each semester or year, reassess your commitment to your studies and the strategies you are using to find balance in your day-to-day routine.

Dr. Peter Troiano, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership, Coordinator of Dissertation Completion, and Higher Education Pathways

It takes persistence and determination to complete the doctoral program. Here are 2 common sense points.

1. Pay close attention to your time management. Try not to put off doing something that should have been done. Adhere to your weekly working schedules as closely as possible. If you missed something during weekdays, try to make it up over the weekend. Putting your papers or capstone projects on your back burner will not work!

2. Take notes. This habit can be exemplified by my mentor, Dr. Betty Siegel, the longest serving female president in one public university in the USA. She used to go to a Waffle House at 5:30 AM every morning for breakfast, that was her best moment of thinking and reflection, as very few customers would go there that early. She would write down her thoughts and ideas on Waffle House napkin paper! You don’t have to learn from Betty and use napkin paper, you can use your cell phone. Either write down or record on your cell phone! Keep working hard and smart, you will see the end of tunnel, which may not necessarily be New Jersey! Best of luck to you all!
The Love Behind Leadership fund utilizes all donations to provide direct support to current doctoral students and alumni.

Every donation creates an enduring tribute to a person in whose honor or memory the donation is made. This meaningful tribute is further recognized by a letter of notification to the individual(s) or family member(s). Honoree tributes are displayed on the doctoral program Love Behind Leadership ‘Gallery of Honor’ and at special events. Visit www.mville.edu/love-edd to learn how you can support professional learning opportunities for our doctoral students and alumni.

Each enduring tribute enables the Love Behind Leadership legacy to continue and assists with the following:

• Dissertation Research, Publishing, and Writing Support
• Doctoral Awards
• Doctoral Conferences: Travel to Present
• Doctoral Special Events and Celebrations

The upcoming program is made possible by your contributions to the Love Behind Leadership Fund. Thank you!

Save the Date
Doctoral Retreat
Monday, December 12, 2022

NO GIFT IS TOO SMALL – CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY
Find Your Pathway to the EdD

Manhattanville College
Doctoral Program in
Educational Leadership

Higher Education Leadership Pathway

Request a personal info session or meet us at Open House

Manhattanville College
Doctoral Program in
Educational Leadership

Three Pathways to the EdD

Fall Virtual Open House Thurs, Nov 10, 2022 at 6 PM
Find Your Pathway to the EdD

**Signature Pathway**

Virtual Info Session Weds, Jan 18, 2023 at 6 PM

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**Dissertation Completion Pathway**

Dissertation Completion Virtual Info Session Tues, Dec 6, 2022 at 6 PM

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**Signature Pathway**

Signature Pathway Virtual Info Session Weds, Jan 18, 2023 at 6 PM
From Castles to Tassels

My have we grown! Manhattanville Doc Stars are impacting the region and far beyond!

Manhattanville EdD Program in Educational Leadership

Click the image to view where our 300 doctoral students and alumni are now.
Hope Weinberg, Signature Pathway Cohort 12, led a collegial circle at Putnam Northern Westchester’s Regional Leadership Institute on July 11.

Dr. Tameka Jackson, Dissertation Completion Pathway Online Cohort 1, was the recipient of the award for outstanding internship experience in Educational Leadership!

Iris Cortes, Higher Ed Pathway Cohort 7, had an article published in Radiologic Technology Journal: Effective Alumni Outreach Using Social Media.

Student News

Denise Dawkins (left), Higher Education Pathway Cohort 5, co-presented with Melissa Solis (below), Higher Education Pathway Cohort 5, at the Manhattanville College Graduate Educational Research Symposium in April of 2022.

Dawkins also presented at the LICSPA Symposium “COVID pandemic changed the vision and operations of many professions and institutions” in April 2022.

Jessica Maracallo, Higher Education Pathway Cohort 5, was appointed Assistant Principal of Highlands Middle School in the White Plains Public School District, White Plains, NY.

Maria Moreno, Higher Education Online Pathway Cohort 3, has been invited by the College Student Personnel Association of New York State to conduct a session on burnout in student affairs.
JESSE LUBINSKY
IS STILL ON FIRE
Higher Education Pathway Cohort 6

• Spoke at Metaverse Summit USA 2022 on September 28-29
• Named by Engati to their list of the 40 Top Edtech Leaders Transforming Education and their list of the Top Influencers for 2022
• Presented a keynote at the Lafayette Regional eLearning Conference in Lafayette, IN
• Was honored to be included on this list of eLearning Trailblazers.
• Got a shout out from Forbes on his new book “Reality Bytes” by Christine Lion-Bailey, Jesse Lubinsky, and Micah Shippee, PhD. READ IT
Linda Palumbo, Signature Pathway Cohort 14, was appointed as the new Director of Humanities at the Denzel Washington School of the Arts in the Mount Vernon City School District, Mount Vernon, NY.

Michael Pizzingrillo, Dissertation Completion Pathway Individualized Plan, was appointed Assistant Principal at PS 316: Elijah Stroud Elementary School.

Zoraima Rosario-Rolon, Higher Education Pathway Cohort 6, was a panelist on the Latinx campus experience at Manhattanville College.

Picture yourself here.
We want to hear from you, students and alumni! Bookmark this link to submit your news for spring 2023.
Student News

Anibal Soler Jr., Dissertation Completion Pathway Online Cohort 2, and Schenectady City School District superintendent announced a plan to open several community schools in the fall.

Anibal will also be one of the distinguished participants at My Brother’s Keeper Symposium.

Julianne B. Ross-Kleinmann, Dissertation Completion Pathway Online Cohort 1, Instructional Data Analysis & Technology Specialist at ULSTER BOCES was chosen to present at 2022 REIMAGINE Learning Forward Annual Conference. Juli is presenting "Using the TPACK Framework to T.E.A.C.H. based on her dissertation. Participants will learn how to help students become technologically fluent through Misha & Koehler’s (2006) TPACK framework and her T.E.A.C.H (trust, equity, advocacy, collaboration, humility & humor) coaching process. The conference will take place in Nashville, Tennessee, December 4-7.
Cheers to our School of Education Research Committee: Courtney Kelly (Chair), Barbara Allen-Lyall, Vance Austin, Nora Broege, Mary Coakley-Fields, Victoria Fantozzi, Susan Iverson, Micheline Malow, and Ken Mitchell!

Bravo to our doctoral and graduate students for sharing their important research focused on Pre-K-12 students, teachers, and administrators, and having the generosity and courage to present their research at the Manhattanville College Graduate Educational Research Forum!

Their research topics focused on different content areas, instructional methods and frameworks, organizational structures, types of students, types of teachers and leaders, and teacher-student relationships.

Twelve roundtable sessions and 8 multimedia presentations, delivered virtually, showcased the high quality of work of our students and reflected outstanding faculty mentoring. As the School of Education Research Committee reflected, these student presenters--teachers and leaders—are having an important impact in their schools and communities. Outstanding!
Dr. Brenda L. Knight (left), Registrar at Florida SouthWestern State College, and Danielle E. Chandonnet (right), both of Dissertation Completion Pathway online cohort 1, co-presented at the 13th Annual Florida Higher Education Summit.

Knight’s and Chandonnet’s session, “Leading At All Levels,” demonstrated that each college or university employee, whether in a staff, mid-level management, or administrative role, functions as a leader or has the potential to perform as a leader.

“We all lead, whether by leading a project, other staff members, or by managing budgets or time…all of us lead - intentionally or otherwise.” Knight said.

Our session highlighted how we all, managers or not, can make the most of our innate leadership abilities. “Also, our session touched on the types of power and how various personalities are more or less likely to adapt to leadership roles,” Chandonnet added. “We work in such a niche field, and it’s important to share strategies for leading and inspiring our teams.”
Dr. Garfield Charles, Signature Pathway Cohort 9, was appointed interim program administrator for the Windrose Program at Greenwich High School, Greenwich Public Schools, Greenwich, CT.

Dr. Jamal Doggett, Signature Pathway Cohort 10, was appointed Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction for Mount Vernon City School District, Mount Vernon, NY.

Dr. Julia Drake, Signature Pathway Cohort 10, Presented Female Superintendents’ Perceptions of Unconscious Gender Bias in the Superintendency at the Supporting Women in Educational Leadership Summit on May 26, 2022.

Dr. Gail Duffy, Signature Pathway Cohort 5, became a yoga and SEL facilitator through Breathe for Change. She also kicked off the New York State Association for Women in Administration’s spring event, Lift as We Climb with a mindfulness opener.

Dr. James Filippelli, Signature Pathway Cohort 1, was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor of Fine and Performing Arts at Dominican College, Orangeburg, NY.


Dr. Alexandra Greenberg, Signature Pathway Cohort 1, was appointed Principal of George W. Hewlett High School, Hewlett-Woodmere School District, Woodmere, NY.
Dr. Julia Drake, Signature Pathway Cohort 10, was invited to be one of six representatives from New York State to join the Advanced Education Policy Leadership Program (AEPLP) through Columbia University’s Teachers College. AEPLP is a consortium of six state Education Policy Fellowship Programs: Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania & New York. The purpose of the consortium is to engage state Educational Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP) alumni (of which Dr. Drake is one) in collaborating with peers across state lines to further enhance the knowledge and skills that support the development, promotion, adoption, and implementation of public policies to improve educational opportunity for all. In September 2022, Dr. Drake traveled to Washington DC for a two-day symposium titled, “Finding Common Ground in Our Education Policy”. She worked with other fellows and spoke with various professionals in the field including some at the United States Department of Education. Dr. Drake’s goal is to help elevate the voices of those most closely engaged in the work (e.g., the school-level) in the education policy arena; an arena which she believes is so often dominated/driven by people very distant from the actual practice of teaching/learning. The AEPLP will meet throughout the school year; by the conclusion fellows will complete a written policy analysis designed to propose actionable recommendations that advance policy development, adoption and implementation at the local, state or national level. More to come from this scholar-practitioner!
Dr. Andrew J. Ecker, Signature Pathway 4, Coordinator of the Guidance and Child Study Center at Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES, Yorktown Heights, NY

Presenter, NYSCOSS & Leaf Winter Institute, Leveraging Regional Collaboration to Advance Education Excellence with Equity (with Dr. Ray Sanchez and other, see attached)

Presenter, National Center for School Mental Health’s Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health, Creating a Tipping Point for Comprehensive School Mental Health Systems

Contributor, National Center for School Mental Health, Hostig Dialogue on Comprehensive Systems of School Mental Health

Panelist & Presenter, Mental Health Association of New York State’s Mental Health Matters Legislative Summit, From Classroom to Community: Creating and Sustaining Partnerships to Support and Positively Impact Student Mental Health
Dr. Samantha Ross, Signature Pathway Cohort 2, Independent Consultant at Healthy Relationships and Communities Consulting, LLC, was selected to present an educational session entitled: “Examining Bystander Intervention Decision-Making in Potential Sexual Assault Situations” at the 2022 CSPA-NYS Annual Conference in Binghamton, New York.

Dr. Shannon O’Grady, Signature Pathway Cohort 8, was appointed Principal at the Van Cortlandville Elementary School, Lakeland Central School District, Shrub Oak, NY.

Dr. Drew Patrick, Signature Pathway Cohort 5, was named Interim Superintendent of Scarsdale Public Schools, Scarsdale, NY.

Dr. Gwendolyn Roraback, Signature Pathway Orange-Ulster BOCES Cohort 1, was appointed Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Saugerties Central School District, Saugerties, NY.

Dr. Sagrario Rudecindo-O’Neill, Signature Pathway O-U Cohort 1, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Support at the Beacon City School District, has been selected to serve on the Graduation Measures Blue Ribbon Commission for NYSED. This commission will be reexamining graduation requirements for NYS students. She will also be delivering a tabletop seminar at the SAANYS State conference in October on the topic of Response to Intervention.
Dr. Joi Sampson, Higher Education Online Pathway 1, was appointed as Director of Academic Engagement, Equity, and Inclusion at Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY. Dr. Sampson was also a panelist at the Women’s Empowerment Conference at Mercy College on March 18, 2022.

Dr. Ray Sanchez, Dissertation Completion Pathway Cohort 2, presented at Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES’ SCDN Teachers Leaders Effectiveness Annual Conference, sharing his district’s focus on equity. Dr. Sanchez also presented a keynote for the Arizona State School Administrators Association: Finding Joy through Equity.

Dr. Sandra Sepe, Signature Pathway Cohort 6, was appointed Principal of Horace Greeley High School, Chappaqua Central School District, Chappaqua, NY.

Dr. Adam Schoenbart, Signature Pathway Cohort 7, was appointed Associate Director of Technology and Communication at Chappaqua Central School District, Chappaqua, NY.

Dr. Patrick Sullivan, Signature Pathway Cohort 6, was featured on an episode of Dr. Brandon Beck’s, Signature Pathway Cohort 5, podcast Unlocking Unlimited Potential Stories “Maintaining the Momentum”.

Dr. Alexandra Pfleging, Signature Pathway Cohort 10, was featured on an episode of Dr. Brandon Beck’s, Signature Pathway Cohort 5, podcast Unlocking Unlimited Potential Stories “Crisis Efficacy”

Dr. Jennifer Wilson, Signature Pathway Cohort 8, was featured on an episode of Learning Can’t Wait Podcast “Ahead of the Curve: New Technology in a Growing Community”
Dr. Ian Wolf, Higher Education Pathway Cohort 3, Director of Student Conduct and Compliance at Brookdale Community College, was awarded the 2020-2022 Justice Curtis Shake Province Archon Award during Sigma Pi Fraternity's national convention in San Antonio, Texas. Ian has served as the Greater New Jersey Province Archon since 2014. A Province Archon is a lead regional volunteer for Sigma Pi Fraternity. Ian supports 15 Sigma Pi groups throughout New York City, New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania, and Delaware. This is the second time that Ian has won this award, also being awarded for 2018-2020. Ian continues to pay it forward by helping to mentor collegiate men at local colleges and universities.
Dr. Ken Mitchell
Associate Professor of Educational Leadership

Recent Articles:


Ken Mitchell, Kevin McLeod, a current doctoral student, and Cheryl Champ, an alumna of the doctoral program, were quoted in the Journal News in “Superintendent Shuffle: Why Turnover of Hudson Valley School Chiefs is Soaring,” August 31st.


Dr. Shelley B. Wepner
Dean of School of Education

Dean Shelley B. Wepner Published Article

What Might We Learn From 25 Years of Research on Education Deans?


This article provides a retrospective account of 25 years of qualitative and quantitative inquiry into the psychological characteristics, leadership strategies, and attributes that education deans bring to their positions and the contextual factors that contribute to their staying power… READ THE FULL ARTICLE
Dr. Joanne Marien

Dr. Joanne Marien has taught in Manhattanville’s doctoral program since its inception in 2010, following her retirement as Superintendent of the Somers School District. Renee Gargano (former assistant director of the doctoral program) recruited Joanne, and reflecting on her 3 decades-long professional relationship with Joanne, shared that she “knew immediately that this was a school leader, scholar, and practitioner who would add in-depth knowledge and experience to the doctoral program.” Ken Mitchell, who teaches the first-year doctoral coursework with Joanne, also noted that “As a long-time superintendent and educational leader in the region, Joanne brought a background that has seen it all and that helps her to guide students in their own leadership work.”

In addition to being a strong leader and mentor, Dr. Marien is also incredibly astute in curriculum and instruction. Dr. Mitchell reflected that “Joanne is the penultimate teaching colleague. She communicates, shares, and accommodates. She combines a scholarly approach via her extraordinary intellect and depth of knowledge with a compassion for the students. She gains their trust and uses that to provide unfiltered guidance to make them better thinkers, scholars, and leaders.” Joanne also excelled during COVID in pivoting to online instruction in ways that maintained synchronous learning for cohort-based students, coupled with expanded access for advisees through virtual office hours.

Joanne is further known for her leadership of groundbreaking educational initiatives that center around human rights and civic engagement. Renee noted that “We were fortunate to attract such a well-respected powerhouse who has consistently demonstrated how courageous leadership can be transformative.” I have observed how this is reflected in her teaching of leadership which pushes students to think about their role as change-agents committed to educational equity. Joanne also provided seed funds for the development of the Ethel Kennedy Award for Human Rights Leadership, and through her relationship with RFK Human Rights, she facilitated a connection with Kerry Kennedy who represented Ethel during the doctoral awards ceremony in 2021.

Manhattanville is fortunate to have Joanne Marien as a member of its faculty. She is not only a highly respected teacher of leaders and scholars, but also a sought-after dissertation chair. She currently serves on 14 committees; and for our graduates, she has served as a member of 17 dissertation committees and chaired 11 dissertations. A recent graduate, for whom Joanne was the chair, was the recipient of the 2022 Outstanding Research Award. This dedicated and influential member of the college, school of education, and doctoral program faculty is a worthy recipient of recognition for her “Outstanding Service to the College and the School of Education by Adjunct Faculty.”

- Dean Shelley B. Wepner
Dr. Susan V. Iverson
Professor, Director, and Chair of the
Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership


Mary Fox-Alter
Assistant Director, Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership

Mary Fox-Alter was appointed by State Education Commissioner Betty A. Rosa to serve as the State Academic Monitor for the East Ramapo Central School District, beginning April 7, 2022. NYSED issued a press release April 5, 2022 about Mary’s many qualifications as a collaborative leader for the position. [READ THE PRESS RELEASE](#)
Farewell

Pat Gannon
Administrative Assistant for Doctoral and Education Programs

Pat Gannon retired from her position as Administrative Assistant on May 27, 2022. Pat has been an administrative assistant in School of Education (SoE) for 12 years, devoting half of her time to the doctoral program and half of her time to SoE event coordination and budget oversight.

Doctoral students sing Pat’s praises because of her kindness and helpfulness. She provides them with information and answers and ensures that they have what they need to continue through their program. Pat does so much of the paperwork for the doctoral program, from monitoring faculty loads and course releases to tracking faculty and dissertation committee member compensation for dissertation supervision.

Her oversight of the budget has had exquisite attention to detail, as she juggled expense requisitions, purchase orders, and invoices for all of our internal and external work. Every day, Pat ensured that we are doing what we need to do to function operationally.

Pat’s incredibly lovely ways with our students, our stakeholders, and us will most certainly be missed. She has added a special spark that will be lost when she departs.

- Dean Shelley B. Wepner
Welcome
Serafina Martorano
Administrative Assistant for the Doctoral Program

Serafina Martorano has assumed the role as Administrative Assistant for Doctoral Program, following Pat Gannon’s departure. She has worked in the School of Education for more than 4 years. She works closely with the doctoral faculty, staff, and students on a daily basis in the areas of registration, student accounts, and preparation for dissertation defenses. She is the main liaison to other college departments on behalf of the doctoral program. In addition to the doctoral program, Serafina has supported the JumpStart education program, undergraduate education advising, coordinated the DASA Workshops run by the College, and is the School of Education website content manager. She brings a smile and "can do" attitude to her work and is deeply committed to supporting students!
Jessica Tully has joined Jennifer Iervolino in Admissions as Director of Graduate Programs for School of Education and the Doctoral and Graduate Programs in Educational Leadership. Jessica is originally from Albany, New York and graduated from SUNY Plattsburgh with a B.A. in Public Relations/Advertising in 2011. During her senior year, she acquired an internship in the undergraduate admissions office which fueled her passion to work in higher education. After graduating, Jessica moved to the New York City area and spent some time working with non-profit organizations at a small event planning firm in Manhattan before joining the admissions team at Manhattanville College. When not on campus, Jessica enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, running and being outdoors. She is an asset to the School of Education!
Dr. Joseph "Joe" Phillips accepted a position as Research Analyst at Westchester Community College and adjourned his role as core doctoral faculty on May 31. Dr. Phillips, who is a graduate of the Manhattanville doctoral program, started teaching in the program in 2014 and became part-time clinical core faculty in 2015. He’s taught many courses and held many roles since, serving this past year as signature pathway coordinator. Alongside Bob Monson, he was core faculty in the Executive EdD (the precursor to the Dissertation Completion Pathway. He served as interim coordinator of the Executive EdD during a time of ambiguity when that pathway was securing approval to be online, supporting students who were without cohorts and needed extra mentoring and guidance. Joe was a leader in the development of online courses in the doctoral program. He developed a one-credit pro-seminar on APA & dissertation formatting, taught online during winter term at a time when we weren’t teaching online or during winter term! He then immersed himself in skill development for online course dev through workshops offered by Bancha Srikacha & CTLS to develop the 'shells' for the online DCP courses. Self-identifying as a first-generation learner, he’s provided inspiration and calm coaching to doctoral students needing extra support. As an instructor and advisor, students could always count on him to provide inspiration and calm coaching. He is missed!
Dr. Martin Fitzgerald, a graduate of the doctoral program, is a seasoned and experienced school administrator, with 35 years in education. Most recently he served as Principal of the Robert E. Bell Middle School in Chappaqua, New York for 17 years, and as Assistant Principal of the same school for the five years prior. He retired from his position in 2020, and has since held interim administrative posts and been working as an adjunct in the Doctoral Program. We welcomed him as part-time core faculty in July, and he’s now teaching the O/U cohort 2 signature classes.
Dr. Nicole Mangiere Nover is currently the Principal of Roosevelt School in the Ossining Union Free School District. Nicole was previously Assistant Principal at Seven Bridges Middle School in Chappaqua, NY. She began her career as a 2008 Teach for America Corps Member at PS 110X The Theodore Schoenfeld School. After teaching 3rd and 4th grade, Nicole transitioned to middle school and held a variety of teaching positions over seven years at KIPP Academy, a public charter school in the Bronx. Nicole began her administrative career at Putnam Valley Middle School in Putnam Valley, NY.

A 2021 graduate of the Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, dissertation research was A POLICY DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF TIME: THE DISCURSIVE CONSTRUCTION OF TEACHERS AS MANAGED MANAGERS. Currently teaching the Fieldwork course, she guides students in the development and piloting of research methods.
Upcoming Events

Missed the Higher Education Pathway Information Session on Wed. October 26, 2022 at 6 PM?
REQUEST A PERSONAL INFO SESSION HERE

Graduate Fall Virtual Open House
November 10, 2022 at 6 PM
Learn about all three pathways to the doctoral degree in educational leadership!

Dissertation Completion Pathway Info Session
Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 6 PM

Signature Pathway Info Session
Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 6 PM

REGISTER FOR AN EVENT HERE

Many thanks to all who contributed to this volume and to the students and educators who inspire us.

Dr. Susan Iverson, Editor and Writer
Mary Fox-Alter, Editor and Writer
Dominique Mason, Coordinator, Graphic Design and Production
Melissa Iamonico, Copy Editor

Manhattanville College Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership