Be Well and Spring Forward

Important Message from the Directors

The effects and realities of the devastating impact of COVID-19 have left us navigating unchartered waters. With the college’s announcement on March 11 that classes were moving online; the doctoral faculty immediately met to strategize what this meant for how we teach, advise, and support students’ research. We strengthened our knowledge and skills in using Blackboard Collaborate and other technologies, and almost seamlessly moved a ‘bricks and mortar’ program online. We will be teaching fully online through the beginning of summer term. Additionally, we have fully implemented virtual advising, information sessions, and even dissertation defenses. A core value of the Manhattanville Doctoral Program is personalization. During these difficult times, we are committed to provide equivalent support and responsiveness. Through these efforts, we hope to facilitate connections while we practice social distancing and deal with the effects of isolation. Through it all, we remain in awe of the deep commitment that everyone has to students, to education, and to the profession. Our doctoral students and grads have demonstrated strong leadership in their regions and respective institutions.
We are working from home, along with partners, parents, siblings; young children who suddenly need ‘homeschooling’ and adult children who are back from college. We are logging on to new technologies with bandwidth being tapped to the max; dogs are running around; an occasional cat wanders across the Zoom screen; a child enters the BlackBoard classroom for a goodnight kiss. We are inspired by everyone’s courage, strength, humor, and caring for each other. Most importantly, we hope that you are also extending patience, gratitude, love, and care for yourself.

We are proud to share our spring newsletter with you. While its virtual creation has presented a few challenges, it provides us with the opportunity to celebrate our amazing Manhattanville community. We hope you enjoy reading about the many accomplishments of our students and faculty, along with new developments and upcoming events. Please feel free to reach out to us directly with any questions or concerns. We look forward to “seeing” you both virtually and in-person very soon.

Until then stay healthy!

Susan Iverson- Director of the Manhattanville Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership Susan.Iverson@mville.edu @susaniverson1
Renée Gargano - Assistant Director of the Manhattanville Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership Renee.Gargano@mville.edu @reneegargano

#MvilleLeads #TakeitUpaDegree #CELGrowsLeaders #WorthTheDrive
Learn Today, Inspire Tomorrow!
Please join the School of Education on April 30th at 7:00 pm for a virtual info session to learn about the several programs we offer in Educational Leadership. We find ourselves in an unprecedented time that calls for education leaders with the skills to engage in the complex task of leading 21st century schools. Manhattanville College will develop your intellectual, ethical, and social skills at the highest level to significantly advance your professional career. With over 130 outstanding doctoral students currently enrolled and over 90 graduates, the Manhattanville School of Education and Putnam | Northern Westchester BOCES welcome you to learn more about our doctoral opportunities in Educational Leadership. RSVP TODAY
Congratulations

January 2020 Graduates

The Manhattanville Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership is proud to recognize our recent graduates including Natalie Aleman, Martin Cox, Joan O’Keefe-Foley, Ivy Tilson Rentz, and Adam VanDerStuyf.

There's still time to enroll in the Manhattanville College Higher Education Leadership pathway. Classes start September 1!

- Supportive Learning Environment
- Cohort of Learners
- Contextualized Learning
- Scholar-Practitioner oriented

Why wait? Just think, a year from now you'll be one-third through this 3-year program!

Begin your application today!
For additional information visit https://mville.digication.com/edd-higher-education-leadership/welcome
or contact: School of Education Graduate Admissions Office edschool@mville.edu
Three Higher Education doctoral students were inducted into Kappa Delta Pi in December 2019 based on their academic achievements within the doctoral program.

**Stephanie Rein** (Higher Ed Cohort 2)

**Minuse Thelusma** (Higher Ed Cohort 3)

**Shana Eutsay** (Higher Ed Cohort 2)

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**Higher Ed Leadership**

**Max Torres** (Higher Ed Cohort 3) was recognized as “faculty of the year” at the College of Westchester and was presented with the award by President, Mary Beth Del Balzo. He will also be honored at the Males of Color Empowerment & Retention Conference in October 2020 for providing outstanding leadership within higher education.

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**LatinX Leadership**

**Dr. Kennybel Peña** (ABD Cohort 4 EdD ’19) was the recipient of the 2020 Mena/Valdez Award from the NASPA Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community. She has also been selected through a competitive process to participate in the 2020 Alice Manicur Symposium, a professional development experience for talented and inspiring women.

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**Women in Leadership**

**Linda Rivera Bradt** (Signature Cohort O/U 1) was the recipient of the 2020 Dr. Mary Barter Scholarship for Women and Minorities. As Justice Sonia Sotomayor once said, “Until we get equality in education, we won’t have an equal society.”

[Read Linda’s acceptance speech.](#)

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**Academic Achievement**

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Manhattanville School of Education wins 2020 Best Practice Award

Congratulations to the School of Education (SoE) on receiving the 2020 Best Practice Award in Support of Multicultural Education and Diversity! This award from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) recognizes SoE’s exemplary Changing Suburbs Institute ® (CSI) program, which has prepared teacher candidates to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse student population since 2005. Dean Shelley B. Wepner accepted the award on behalf of the school on February 28 at the Marriott Marquis Atlanta Hotel in a ceremony at AACTE’s Annual Meeting in Atlanta. Heidi Sakanaka, Assistant Dean - Community Outreach attended with her. Read the full story
In the News

Doctoral faculty member, Dr. Robert Monson, and doctoral program alumnus, Dr. Ray Sanchez weighed in on the debate among educators about the possibility of new high school graduation requirements. They were quoted in the article, "Will educators be heard as Regents consider new HS graduation requirements?" - Rockland/Westchester Journal News in January 2020.

Recent Editorial

Dr. Kenneth Mitchell wrote an editorial titled "Equity-focused Leadership: From Acknowledgment to Self-awareness" for the AASA Journal of Scholarship and Practice.

New Publications

Dean Shelley B. Wepner and SOE faculty Member Dr. Diane Gómez Co-authored Entreprenueiral Leadership: Strategies for Creating and Sustaining Partnerships for K-12 Schools.

In the News

Faculty
New Appointments

Dr. Natalie Aleman
(Higher Ed Cohort 1)
was appointed
Associate Director of
Academic Services at
NYU

Jerrod Blair
(Signature Cohort 8)
was appointed
Supervisor of STEM,
K-12 for the
Eastchester Union
Free School District

Dr. Paul Fanuele
(Signature Cohort 1)
was appointed
Superintendent of
The Spackenkill Union Free
School District

Sally Cavada
(Signature Cohort 11)
was appointed
a Professional Development School
Liaison of Manhattanville Changing
Suburbs Institute ®

Dr. Toni Ann Carey
(Signature Cohort 4)
was appointed
Assistant Director of
Special Education
in the
Bedford Central
School District

Ryan Fisk
(Signature Cohort 7)
was appointed Program Specialist at Nassau BOCES
Model Schools
New Appointments

Dr. Kevin Roberts
(Signature Cohort 3)
was appointed Associate Dean of Accreditation and Technology of Manhattanville's School of Education

Maria Moreno
(Higher Ed Cohort 3)
joined Manhattanville as Assistant Director of Student Leadership, and presented a session titled "Strategies for Recruiting, Welcoming, Retaining, and GRADUATING Latinx Students" at the 2020 NODA Region IX Conference

Gregory Fredricks
(Signature Cohort 11)
was appointed Regional Coordinator for Social Studies and Blended Learning at PNW-BOCES

Dr. Peter Troiano
was appointed as an Associate Professor for Manhattanville’s new online Dissertation Completion Pathway in the Department of Educational Leadership.

Send us your news. We want to celebrate you!
EdD in the Community

Orange Ulster BOCES Cohort 1 Engages in Community Outreach

The inaugural Orange Ulster BOCES Signature Cohort 1 has decided to do a small community service project each semester. Left to right, in back row: Jim Higgins, Deb Heppes, Alicia Gannello, Melissa Pittman, Kerri Stroka, Heather Hendershot, Sagrario Rudecindo-O’Neill; left to right in Front row: Stephanie Powell, Gwendolyn Roraback, Sybil Jeffs, Linda Bradt. When Dr. Yiping Wan, professor of educational leadership, pointed out that most students in his class identified “Servant Leadership” as part of their own leadership philosophy, the cohort decided to put their leadership philosophy into action. For the fall semester, they purchased grocery store gift cards to feed a family for the holidays.

Dr. Monson (third from left) conducted research on the Board of Regents’ “Diploma Project” with Signature Cohort 10 students: Jackie Green, Nick Giarrusso, Nicole Mangiere, Rachel DePaul, and Dr. Paul Fanuele (Signature Cohort 1 alumnus), and John Clark (Signature Cohort 8).

The Board of Regents were as impressed with our educators and program as we are with their preparedness and professionalism.
Spotlight on Dedication

Legendary champion for education, Regent Judith Johnson, passed away on October 22, 2019.

The Manhattanville College Community mourned the loss of our doctoral student, Judith Johnson. A true educator in every sense of the word, during her early career Judith served as a teacher, guidance counselor, school administrator, assistant superintendent. She was later appointed as New York Board of Regents District 9 Representative, Deputy Assistant Secretary, and Acting Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education under the Clinton Administration during her remarkable career. Her tenacity to fight for the improvement of education for all students will be greatly missed. Plans are underway to honor her legacy at the 10th Anniversary Gala on December 5, 2020.

Laura Mitchell (Signature Cohort 9) was honored by The Garrison School for her tremendous leadership as their superintendent. “This is not ‘goodbye’, but rather, a ‘see you later’ as she will always be a welcome & treasured part of our Garrison family.” - Putnam County Reporter December 30, 2019. Laura Mitchell is now Interim Superintendent for Millbrook Public Schools.

"For Renee Gargano, who helped create a doctoral program in educational leadership at Manhattanville College in 2010, things are looking up."

Assistant Director of Manhattanville’s Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, Renee Gargano, shared insights in an article in USA Today and The Journal News on the increasing number of women who are seeking top spots in leadership roles in the field of education.
Great Presentations

Dr. Andrew Ecker (Signature Cohort 4), Coordinator of the Guidance & Child Study Center, presented at a PNW-BOCES event, “Mental Health for All”. He discussed a tiered system of supports to promote student mental health at the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health Fall Forum.

Dr. Raymond Gonzalez (Signature Cohort 8) was featured on WFUV News as a result of his unique approach to teaching aeronautics and flight to his CSTEP students at Fordham Prep in the Bronx. Watch the feature

Samantha Ross (Higher Ed Cohort 2) presented on Community Activation to Reduce Sexual Violence at West Point at the Association of American Colleges and Universities Annual meeting.

Dr. Susan Iverson (EdD Program Director) presented at the CSPA-NYS mid-level managers pre-conference; pictured here with co-panelists Harold Fields & Brian Haggerty.

Sybil Jeffs (Signature OU 1) presented at the Yale 2020 RULER Implementation Conference. She and her Suffern colleagues have done outstanding work in their schools, an exemplar for the region!

Be a part of Manhattanville’s legacy. Support doctoral student travel to present research by contributing to the Love Behind Leadership fund today.
Great Events

Full House - What Keeps a College President Up at Night

The Manhattanville Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership held its 3rd Annual Legal Issues Symposium on February 21. The event drew participants from across the tristate area to Manhattanville’s campus to learn about current legal issues in higher education from both a presidential panel and legal panel of experts. Read the full article.

Annual Doctoral Retreat – Unite, Strive and Survive!

At our Annual Doctoral Retreat on December 11, Manhattanville College students, alumni, faculty and staff came together at Reid Castle to enjoy a night of networking and celebrating the hard work of doctoral students past and present. Attendees learned about faculty research interests during a panel discussion, preceded by networking over refreshments.

Doctoral Retreat keynote speaker, Dr. Toby Tetenbaum from Fordham University, challenged attendees to think critically about the way in which we educate the current generations of students. Read her presentation on Pressures and Fears of Gen Zs.
Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendars

• April 30: Doctoral Program Information Session- Virtual Online
• June 29: Signature Pathway New Student Orientation 2-4 pm
• July 9: Launch of Dissertation Completion Pathway online
• August 24: Library Orientation for new doctoral students with Lynda Hanley
• October 15: New Doctoral Student Welcome Reception

The May 2020 Manhattanville Commencement: In an abundance of caution over concerns related to the COVID-19 virus, the Manhattanville College Commencement and Doctoral Graduation Reception have been postponed. Dates to be announced.

In the meantime,

Meet our 2020 grads and see how we celebrate them!