



April 2022

NCE eNews

Dear National College of Education community,

Welcome to the 2022 spring term! Below, you can find recent accomplishments from members of our NLU National College of Education community, publications and presentations that showcase faculty scholarship and thought leadership, and student and alumni successes.

I'd like to take this time to address how the National College of Education is approaching the teacher shortages at this juncture in Illinois as well as across the country. According to IARSS's 2020 Illinois Educator Shortage Report, 77% of surveyed superintendents noted a problem with teacher shortages. This is an issue we do not take lightly.

At NCE, faculty and staff work tirelessly to foster student success and demonstrate their value as educators, a key component of maintaining teachers in the field. We are committed to doing just that in several ways: our fully online and hybrid course models give students options that suit their schedule; NLU maintains affordable tuition costs and offers scholarship opportunities to offset the costs of pursuing and advancing student education; NLU has created support services including greater access to mental health resources and LITS Helpdesk tech support; our faculty remain attentive to students' individual needs while crafting equitable curricula and producing scholarship.

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, we demonstrated adaptability and developed and launched courses to help teachers with remote teaching in pedagogical terms and helping teachers understand how to differentiate students learning in this environment. However, we were no strangers to this kind of work, as technology has always been in the forefront of our programs. For example, prior to the pandemic, we created a Google-certified educator no-credit course that hundreds of students have taken and passed the Level 1 Google Educator exam. All of this is our effort to make students feel ready for their careers.

In a recent *Daily Herald* article on the teacher shortage, NLU was mentioned as part of the educator pipeline, citing how NLU students pursuing a master's degree in education may complete an internship or residency in select Cook County districts.

In the early childhood education sector in particular, Illinois has a call for over 2,000 preschool and kindergarten teachers annually, a need that is expected to grow in the years to come, according to Illinois Career Information System. In response to such reports and our partners feedback, NCE is proud to now offer four pathways for individuals wanting to teach early learners. In addition to NCE's two-year M.A.T. early childhood (ECE) traditional, one-year intensive residency, and two-year alternative licensure [tracks](#), in Spring 2022 NCE will launch an accelerated one-year teacher preparation program specifically for current early childhood educators who want to earn their Illinois teaching license. This opportunity is meant to specifically support those educators working in community-based organizations or independent school settings who want to continue their professional development and success as educators in and beyond the classroom. Additionally, we are working towards recruiting diverse educators, particularly for our various residency programs.

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We're also developing partnerships with districts, Regional Offices of Education, and other educational agencies to help meet some of our state's most pressing needs for teachers and leaders. We're excited to be offering our teacher preparation, endorsement, and leadership programs statewide. You can read more about some of these partnerships below.

I'm honored to be part of a team and community that aims for excellence in education and works towards addressing the teacher shortage. As always, if you have suggestions or questions for us, please email me and let us know if we can help you or a colleague on your educational journey. You may also view our NCE Resource Guide, a comprehensive overview of the college and its offerings. Take a look [here](#).

Best wishes for the spring term,

Robert D. Muller, Ed.D.

Dean, National College of Education

WHAT'S NEW

New Accelerated Licensure Track for Early Childhood Educators

The new accelerated licensure track for early childhood educators is a one-year teacher preparation program specifically for current early childhood educators who want to earn their Illinois teaching license. This opportunity is meant to specifically support those educators working in community-based organizations or independent school settings who want to continue their professional development and success as educators in and beyond the classroom. To read more, click [here](#).

Expanding our Partnerships and Programs

NCE continues to work with schools and districts on teacher residency programs, subsequent endorsements, and leadership programming.

Augmenting our principal and superintendent preparation programs, the new **Strategic Educational Leadership Program** provides advanced degrees (M.Ed., Ed.S., and Ed.D.) in educational leadership for leaders in educational institutions (PK-12 settings) and other organizations with education-related missions, including teaching-and-learning, training, curriculum-and-instructional design, and other education-related functions.

As for partnerships, in Spring 2021, NCE launched two new platforms: GoReact (to view and give feedback on recordings of our candidates' teaching) as well as Sonia (to manage all aspects of a field experience for our students, faculty, mentors, and supervisors). We piloted these with multiple programs across the college. To support this lift, we are excited to welcome **Shanna Castillo** to our team. She is the Technology Integration Specialist at the River Forest School District and is Google Educator and Apple Trainer certified. If you send or receive an email from ofesupport@nl.edu, it will likely be Shanna who responds.

ISBE Funding Available for Educator Professional Development

The Illinois State Board of Education recently made funds available to districts for ELS/Bilingual endorsements to strengthen the bilingual teacher pipeline. Additionally, the Illinois Principal Association (IPA) is now offering both the Teacher Evaluator Academy and the Principal Evaluator

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In Case You Missed It

- NCE published a [booklet](#) about the Patricia-Cassin Graft Scholarship featuring five recipients and their careers in high-needs schools.
- Read about CLAVE: A Year in Review [here](#).
- View the NCE Impact Report [here](#).
- Read about the professional development workshop about creating psychologically safe schools [here](#).

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

NCE faculty and alumni continue to serve as thought leaders through their service to the field, publications, and presentations.

Publications:

Bilge Cerezci, assistant professor, co-authored "[Within and Beyond Breakout Rooms: Preparing Teacher Candidates to be Social Justice Advocates During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)" in *Dialogues in Social Justice: An Adult Education Journal*.

Gloria McDaniel-Hall, assistant professor, published the autobiographical children's book [Gloria Finds Her Voice](#), a story about a young African American girl who initially struggled in school because of racism during the Civil Rights Movement in Galveston, Texas. McDaniel-Hall has also hosted interactive, virtual readings.

Presentations:

Kristin Lems, professor, with alum and Chicago Public School (CPS) teacher, Elizabeth Morales, presented "Planning and Delivering Lessons to Address the Climate Emergency" at the 18th Annual Cambodia Conference for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Jeffrey Winter, professor, presented "Supporting Teacher Well-Being and Antifragility: Perspectives from Early Career Educators" at the 2022 Association of Teacher Educators Annual

Meeting, based on a paper he wrote with **Efrat Efron**, professor emerita, and **Sherri Bressman**, professor and Director of Teacher Preparation.

Angela Elkordy, assistant professor and **Ayn Keneman**, professor, presented at the Learning & the Brain Conference: The Science of Teaching. Their presentation "Design Ed: Connecting Learning Sciences Research to Practice," focused on research that supports teaching as a design science using the Learns, Instruction, Digital Technologies, and the Environment framework. Angela also presented, "Thinking by Design: Framing Thought with Cognitive Tools and Strategies," which explored design thinking to create frameworks for learning using visual representations, cognitive tools, and thinking protocols.

Pamela Radford, assistant professor, serves on the Planning Committee for the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Innovations Conference, a conference "For Doers, By Doers" on the Multi-Tiered System of Supports. There were over 550 participants from 26 states. Pamela also co-presented two breakout sessions: "Paving the Way for Successful MTSS Implementation" and "Special Education Eligibility: MTSS Doesn't Stop...The Outcome is Always the Plan."

Donna Wakefield, associate professor presented two sessions at IDEAcon 2022, hosted by Illinois Digital Educators Alliance:

- "Interactive Learning with Choice Boards"
- "Google Tools for Differentiation"

Angela Elkordy, assistant professor, presented twice at the same conference:

- "Planning for Success: A Systems Approach to Technology Planning"
- "Scaffolding Deep Thought: Thinking, the Brain and Digital Learners"

Several faculty presented at the Multilingual & Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Conference:

- "Leveraging Visually Inclusive Primary Sources (VIPS) to Empower Multilinguals in STEM" **Xiaoning Chen**, assistant professor, **Xue Han**, associate professor, **Eun K Ko**, associate professor, and **Vishodana Thamotharan**, assistant professor and Director of STEM Initiatives
- "Building Relationships with Multilingual Learners in Online/Blended Settings" **Kristin Lems**, professor

Renee Gugel, assistant professor and **Geri Chesner**, associate professor, were the keynote speakers at the 5th Annual Illinois Teacher Leadership Summit

Kristin Lems, professor, presented "Our Experience Creating and Revising Assessments for ELL Equity" at the Illinois Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages - Bilingual Education (TESOL/BE) Annual Convention with a group of teachers and principal from Big Hollow Elementary, all NCE students.

Xiuwen Wu, associate professor, presented "An Explorative Study on the Implementation of Go Game in Third-Grade Classrooms" at the 2022 National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Research Conference.

Thousands of literacy advocates, educators, and researchers gathered for the 53rd Annual Conference of the Illinois Reading Council (IRC). NCE presentations included:

- "5 Things Language Arts Teachers Need to Know about Linguistics" **Kristin Lems**, professor
- "2020 Vision: Selecting and Using P-8 Culturally Relevant Texts in a Digital World" **Dora Guzman**, Adjunct Faculty and **Ruth Quiroa**, associate professor
- "Empowering Readers through Structure Sorts: Integrated Strategies to Comprehend Expository Texts" **Mary Hoch**, associate professor

- "Literacy, Equity, and Anti-Racism: Aligning Your Literacy Instruction with the CRTL Standards" **Sophie Degener**, associate professor and **Tina Curry**, adjunct faculty
- "Bibliotherapy: Promoting Comprehension in Students with Anxiety and Trauma History" **Carol Hanzlik-Chasnoff**, '00 M.A.T. ELE and '08 CAS Reading

CELEBRATIONS

Awards, honors, and career promotions NCE students, alumni, and faculty receive

Alumni **Rebecca Perry**, 14 M.E.d. Curriculum & Instruction, and **Kelli Houghton**, '05 M.Ed. Curriculum & Instruction, are 2022 Golden Apple Award recipients.

Jared Smith, '06 M.Ed. Educational Leadership, is the new [Waterloo CSD Superintendent](#).

Misty Richmond, '15 M.Ed. Specialized Endorsement, a middle school science teacher at James Ward Elementary School, was featured on the podcast [Teachers in America](#).

Ericka Garza, '17 M.Ed. Educational Leadership, was selected as the new [Meadowbrook principal](#) following the District 28 Board of Education's approval.

Marilyn Rhames, '04 M.A.T. Elementary Education, has been selected for a [Pahara Institute Fellowship](#) at the University of Arkansas.

Michael Kudia, '26 Ed.S. School Psychology, and **Yessica Puga**, '25 Ed.S. School Psychology, were nominated for the Illinois School Psychologists Association's Dr. Dave Prasse ISPA Student Leadership Award.

Current student **Kevin Li**, '22 Ed.D. in Higher Education, and **Jacqueline Lynch**, '21 Ed.S. Higher Education Leadership, published the article "Use of mobile-enabled technology to promote essential skill development as co-curricular activity for adult learners" in the *Coalition on Adult Basic Education Journal*.

Erin Sharkey, '20 Special Education Endorsement, was selected as a scholar for Cohort 2 of the National Center for Leadership in Intensive Intervention (NCLii.)

Ryan Carrizales, '12 M.A.T. Elementary Education, was recognized in [The Daily Herald](#) about his community-based classroom teaching techniques.

Havee Makedon, '24 ESL endorsement, won a \$500 scholarship from [Illinois TESOL-BE](#).

Marcus Belin, '20, Ed.D. in Educational Leadership, was recently awarded the 2021 National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) Digital Principal of the Year and was named to the Class of 2021 Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) International Emerging Leaders. He was also one of the keynote speakers at the Multilingual & ESSA Conference.

Barbara Georges, '20 Ed.D. in Educational Leadership, is the new principal of Glenbrook South High School D225.

NCE IN THE NEWS

NCE programs and community members featured in media outlets

Robert Muller, NCE Dean, was recently featured in segments on [WMAQ-TV](#) (Chicago) NBC 5 News commenting on the teacher shortage in Illinois.

A film by **Vito Dipinto**, associate professor, has been accepted to the first International Film Festival of the National Science Teaching Association (NSTA) to be held at NSTA's National Conference on Science Education in Houston, TX. This [video](#) is retrospective of Vito's teaching and his students' learning when he was the Science Teacher at what was then the lab school, Baker Demonstration School, for NCE.

Carlos M. Azcoitia, professor emeritus, was featured in an interview with Univision Chicago regarding CPS recruitment of parents for Local School Councils. The councils are responsible for the approval of the improvement plan, the budget, and the selection and evaluation of the director.

WELCOME NEW FACULTY MEMBERS AND STAFF



NCE is pleased to welcome **Laura Beaupre** as **Manager, Field Experience**. For the past two years, Laura enjoyed her role as an Outreach & Enrollment Specialist for NLU's Undergraduate College. Before joining NLU, Laura had several years' experience in teaching and administration at the PreK-8th grade levels. In addition, Laura has worked in higher education for Northwestern University, in the area of gifted education and at McHenry County Community College, in the area of College and Career Readiness. She looks forward to continuing to strengthen partnerships and to successfully align NLU student teachers with partnering with districts and cooperating teachers. Laura graduated from Augustana College with a B.A. in Elementary Education and a minor in Science.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND WEBINARS

Supporting the Job Search: Conversation with Education Leaders

April 20, 2022

4:30 pm to 5:45 pm

The National College of Education invites M.A.T. student teachers to hear firsthand from Chicagoland school and district leaders their tips and best practices for new graduates looking to be hired. Topics to include: application process, interviewing, marketability, and new teacher success.

Guest Speakers include: Kim Andes, Human Resources Director at North Chicago D187, Anna Hoyou, Principal at Huntley SD 158 (Grades 3-5), Paula Moan, Principal at Huntley SD 158 (K-Grade 2), Rudy Orozco, Human Resources at Perspectives Charter School, Kristy Seifert, Assistant Superintendent at River Trails SD 26

Moderated By NCE Faculty: Sandra Gonzalez-Adamski, Elementary Education Cynthia Hopp, Elementary Education

Register [here](#).

Become a Teacher

Thursday, April 21, 2022

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm CST

Do you have a desire to be a teacher, but don't know where to start? Start with attending our Become a Teacher event! Whether you're a first-time freshman, transfer student, or have a bachelor's and want to advance your degree, we can help you successfully pursue your path in

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Degrees offered:

BA Infant Toddler Studies • BA Early Childhood Education • BA Elementary Education • BA Applied Educational Studies • MAT Early Childhood Education • MAT Elementary Education • MAT Middle Grades Education • MAT Secondary Education • MAT Special Education

Register [here](#).

McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership: Leadership Connections™ National Conference

April 27-29, 2022

The McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership empowers educators to promote excellence in early childhood education. Join the McCormick Center at their annual Leadership Connections™. The conference allows you to attend workshop sessions relevant to your complex role, network with professionals who relate to your trials and triumphs and be inspired by influential specialists in our field.

To register, click [here](#).

Rainbow Color Value System Teacher Workshop