

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



School of
EDUCATION

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY ANN ARBOR

Fall/Winter 2018

Blessings from the Dean



We are very excited to be off to a great start for this academic year. We are grateful to have a record number of freshmen declaring their interest in the School of Education (SOE). It is truly a blessing to have such enthusiasm for a most noble profession.

This year began with the Family Life students and Teacher Preparation students getting together for their annual opening event. For the first time, the two groups joined together rather than having separate events. Everyone had a great time at the “Welcome Back Barbeque and Bonfire” event. Everyone enjoyed the delicious meal, the fun and games, and ending the night under the stars with a bonfire and roasted marshmallows. It was great fun to sing campfire songs around the fire!

There are many positive things occurring in the SOE. We continue to maintain our improved rating with the Michigan Department of Education. Our students are having a most positive impact at their fieldwork, practicum, internship, and student teaching sites. Also, our placement rate is at the top as most of our students acquire jobs before they complete their student teaching. All of our seniors have teaching jobs by the time they graduate.

On a personal note, we are blessed to experience many wonderful life changes, such as new grandchildren and upcoming nuptials for members of our faculty and staff.

Please continue to keep our department in your prayers as we progress through this year. Blessings and best wishes!

Sandra J. Harris, Ed.D. – Campus Dean

S'More Students Welcomed to SOE!

The School of Education, for the second year in a row, welcomed a large incoming class. The “Welcome Back Barbeque and Bonfire” was attended by Family Life students and Teacher Preparation students, all within the School of Education.

This year's welcome back event featured games, s'mores, singing, and a bonfire. Welcome to campus, students!



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Pictured: School of Education students at the welcome back barbeque

Undergraduate Classroom and Student Spotlight



Pictured: Alex Elliot leads students in a devotional song



Celia Walkowicz is a Junior in the Family Life Program. She is pursuing a family life major with a minor in youth ministry.

What is your goal after you graduate? *My goal after I graduate is to be a called youth director at an LCMS church. My dream is to come alongside students and their families and to help them grow closer to one another, to their congregation, and to God.*

What is the 'why' behind what you do? *My parents were a huge part with my walk with God. I want that to be the same case for other families. I first came to Concordia when I was in 8th grade, and I fell in love with the campus and the people, and was praying about where I should go. God brought me to the Family Life Program, and I've felt him calling me to this ministry ever since.*

How has Concordia prepared you for work in congregational ministry?

Concordia has prepared me by helping me to grow in my knowledge of God and his word in Lutheran Theology. It's also prepared me by helping me to know how to interact with students and their families and how to communicate effectively with them.

What do you most like about CUAA? *The thing that I love most about CUAA is how unique everybody is in the body of Christ. While I'm here I get to meet and interact with so many people with different gifts, abilities, and passions. I get to learn from them and support them, and have them do the same for me.*

Integrated Faith and Learning

The School of Education integrates faith and learning in classroom activity.

Foundations of Education

Teacher Preparation students are required to take "Foundations of Education," a Teacher Preparation course which covers the fundamental components of becoming a teacher. School of Education professors incorporate lessons in which students can grow in their faith and develop strong leadership qualities. During the Foundations of Education class, students lead devotion in class each Thursday and can choose to do so in whatever way they feel most comfortable. Pictured above, students lead class in a circle prayer and worship song.

Intentional Leadership

The School of Education's mission statement includes goals of "inspiring Christian servant leaders." Students practice and live this through classroom lessons, hands-on Christian leadership, and habitudes. Habitudes are habits and attitudes of servant leaders that are tied to biblical principles. The School of Education is diligent in guiding our future teachers not only in wisdom but also in character.



Community

Other Notes

Scholarships

Learn how you can qualify for scholarship opportunities! Please visit www.cuaa.edu/uncommon-scholarships for more information.

Kevin Mowrer earns “Top Ten”

Students selected Kevin Mowrer, a Graduate Education Research Professor, as one of the “Top Ten” adjunct faculty from the 2017-2018 academic year, based on the student ratings of his courses for **“Overall Teaching Excellence”**. This is evidence that he is doing a wonderful job of challenging our students and effectively facilitating their learning as well as connecting Christian faith with course content.

New Partners

CUAA welcomes the following school districts to the PEP program since March. (cuaa.edu/PEP)

- Ann Arbor Public Schools
- Choice Schools
- Clawson Public Schools
- Coloma Community Schools
- Crestwood School District
- Lincoln Park Public Schools



School of Education Students at Dare To Be September 6

Students Attend “Dare To Be”

The School of Education provided complimentary tickets to students interested in attending the “Dare to Be” event in early September in Plymouth, Michigan. It was an opportunity for students to experience true Christian fellowship through a night of sculpted Christian worship, music, and two full Bible teaching sessions. Students were able to hear Natalie Grant sing and worship with thousands of other people. Praise God for this opportunity!



A participant raises her hand during Theresa Fry’s workshop on restorative practices.

SOE Hosts Teachers for Professional Development Workshops

The School of Education offers professional development for teachers.

Summer Institute Workshops for Teachers

This year’s Summer Institute Workshops for Teachers was a huge success. Over 100 people registered to attend the two-week event. School of Education staff welcomed teachers to campus for daily workshops taught by experts. Topics varied from special education law, group work strategies, reading and technology workshops, and more. New this year, were two popular feature series: Restorative Practices Series and Trauma Series. Restorative practices and trauma training is a valuable asset to any teacher. The two series were well attended and demand for training remains high. SOE will be offering another restorative series this November. See the-CALENDAR section on the back page for more details.

Calendar 2018-2019

Mon, October 22 - Graduate Start Date for Fall 3 Session

Prospective Graduate Education students can begin October 22. For more information, contact Julie.Edler@cuaa.edu

Thurs, October 25 - Advisory Committee Meeting

6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m., SOE Advisory Committee meeting. Location: North Bldg Library More info: Katie.Leguizamon@cuaa.edu



November 1—November 30 - Thankfulness Tree

Students, faculty, staff, and guests, please stop by the bulletin board outside the SOE Academic Office in Krieger Hall where you are invited to write a praise of thanksgiving on a leaf and add it to a Community Thankfulness Tree. In return, SOE would like to thank you for being part of our community with a small thank you token. "I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1

Thurs, November 8 - The Intentional Christian Teacher (SEEDS)

6:15 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Dr. James Pingel will be presenting. Location: Krieger Hall. More info: Kyle.Chuhran@cuaa.edu

Sat, November 10 and Sat, Nov 17 - Restorative Practices Series

Cost is \$325 and includes books and lunch. Time: 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. Participants must attend both days. Visit the [School of Education Professional Development page](#) for more information or visit www.cuaa.edu and click EVENTS at the top of the page.

Mon, January 2 - Graduate Start Date for Spring 1 Session

Prospective Graduate Education students can begin January 2. For more information, contact Julie.Edler@cuaa.edu

January 27 - February 2 National Lutheran Schools Week

This year's theme: *Real. Present. God. Psalm 46*

Wed, February 13 - Urban Education (SEEDS)

6:15 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Robert and Cris Green will be presenting. Location: Krieger Hall. More info: Kyle.Chuhran@cuaa.edu

Mon, February 25 - Graduate Start Date for Spring 2 Session

Prospective Graduate Education students can begin February 25. For more information, contact Julie.Edler@cuaa.edu

Thurs, February 28 - Advisory Committee Meeting

6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m., SOE Advisory Committee meeting. Location: TBD. More info: Katie.Leguizamon@cuaa.edu

Tues, March 26 - Tips for Successful Teaching (SEEDS)

6:15 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Beth Riske will be presenting. Location: Krieger Hall. More info: Kyle.Chuhran@cuaa.edu

Thurs, May 2 - Advisory Committee Meeting

6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m., SOE Advisory Committee meeting. Location: TBD. More info: Katie.Leguizamon@cuaa.edu

May 7-11 - State of Michigan Teacher Appreciation Week

Thank you, teachers!

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