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The Lead - Newsletter



Lindenwood University School of Education

LINDENWOOD
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

The School of Education Welcomes Students to Spring Semester

The School of Education Advising Center was in full swing with the beginning of the Spring 2020 semester. Students were happy to start classes and get some encouragement from the Advising, Recruitment and Certification Center (ARCC) team.



Ms. Robin Travis Wins the Q2 Award!

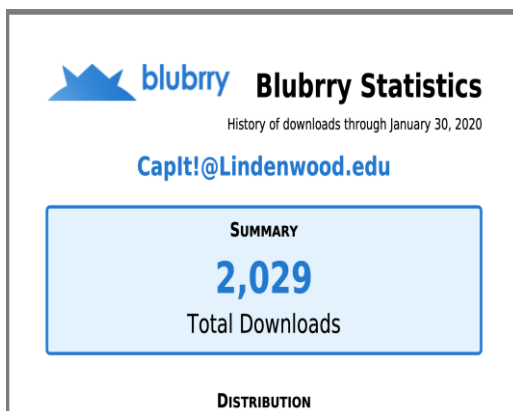
Our own Robin Travis was one of two university wide recipients of the Q2 award presented by President Porter at the President's Address on Monday, January 27. Robin works as a Candidate Status Coordinator and Advisor in the School of Education's Advising, Retention and Certification Center (ARCC). The School of Education is very fortunate to have Robin and the other members of the ARCC who all work so effectively to ensure our students are informed and encouraged. Congratulations Ms. Robin Travis

on this incredible honor!



School of Education Podcast Reaches Over 2,000 Downloads

Drs. Robyne Elder and Lynda Leavitt's podcast, [CapIt!](https://www.blubrry.com/caplt/) has reached over 2,000 downloads! Help us congratulate Drs. Elder and Leavitt for their hard work and big accomplishment!



Counseling, Social Work, and Behavior Analysis

Panel Discussion: What Neurotypicals Need to Know About Serving the Autism Spectrum Population

The Dissemination of Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group has kindly allowed Lindenwood students and faculty access to the recorded version of last Sunday's sold-out panel discussion: What Neurotypicals Need to Know About Serving the Autism Spectrum Population. Although it was focused on behavior analysts, teachers, and counselors, students may also benefit from hearing the panelists' views on what it is like to have Autism and how professionals might do a better job serving folks on the spectrum.

[Watch the panel session here!](#)

Educational Leadership

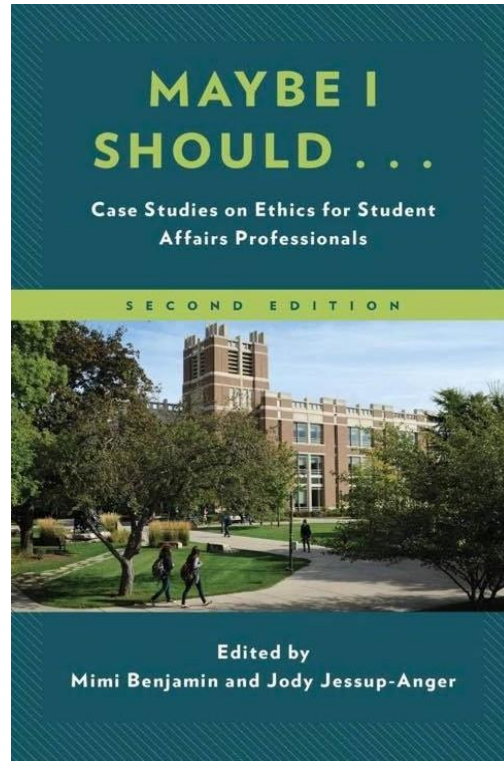
Doctoral Graduate Receives Art Educator of the Year Award

One of Lindenwood University's Ed.D. graduates, Shenicquel (Nikki) Spotts, received the Art Educator of the Year award when the Arts and Education Council presented its St. Louis Arts Awards. Dr. Spotts received her Ed.D. from Lindenwood in October of 2017. Her dissertation, "A Comparative Analysis of Missouri Elementary School Arts Curriculums," was guided by her dissertation chair, Dr. Rebecca Panagos, and committee members, Joseph Alsobrook and Sherrie Wisdom. Dr. Spotts is employed at the Shaw Visual & Performing Arts Elementary School. The honors ceremony was held on January 27, 2020 in St. Louis at the Chase Park Plaza Royal Sonesta Hotel. Congratulations Nikki!



Dr. Nasser Publishes Case Study with Student

Dr. Nasser, an Assistant Professor for Educational Leadership, recently published a case study for the book, *Maybe I should ... Case Studies on Ethics for Student Affairs Professionals* (2nd ed.), with Erin Morris (MAE-Higher Education 2018 and current Ed.D. student).



Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership Appointed Director of General Education Assessment

Dr. Robyne Elder, an Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership, has been appointed to a half-time role as director of general education assessment with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. In this role, Elder will work with colleagues across the institution to shape and implement the General Education Assessment Roadmap.

Elder is the editor of the *Journal of Educational Leadership in Action*. Previously she served as an adjunct professor and an APA editor at Lindenwood. She holds a BA in English from the University of Missouri-Columbia, an MA in teaching and an Ed.D. in instructional leadership, both from Lindenwood University. Elder was a high school English instructor for 13 years and an ELA department chair for five years. She has received the following awards during her teaching career: Teacher of the Year, Educator of the Year for the Fort Zumwalt School District, the Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award, and the Sue Spellman Award from Lindenwood.

Elder developed a passion for assessment during her work with Professional Learning Communities and benchmark assessments as a high school English teacher and department chair. During her higher education career, she has researched and published pieces on performance assessments for student teachers, potential doctoral students, and EdD candidates.

“I look forward to learning from my colleagues and working within communities of practice to continually improve general education assessment at Lindenwood,” says Elder.

Dr. Bethany Alden-Rivers, Associate Vice President for institutional effectiveness says, “Dr. Elder brings a rich and exciting background to this role. We look forward to her leadership, and we welcome her enthusiastic approach and innovative mindset.”

Elder enjoys watching and playing football, basketball, and baseball with her two boys and husband in Crestwood, Mo., as well as taking her dog Izzy for walks.



Dr. Nasser Receives Faculty Fellowship

Title: Take It Further

The focus of this fellowship is for faculty and staff to examine how their own identities may impact how they see and serve students at the university. Faculty and staff will reflect on the idea of the hidden curriculum (Killick, 2015) and how informal comments or actions can impact the student experience. The facilitator will use guided self-reflection as a method for creating action. Faculty and staff members will benefit from the program through self-examination and review of practices. Participants will improve a sense of self, which will improve motivation and drive action throughout the Lindenwood community. Participants will also review current practices and how adjustments may improve student experience and achievement. The university will benefit from more aware employees who are committed to improving all learning at Lindenwood.

Journal of Educational Leadership in Action Winter 2020 Issue

The winter 2020 issue of the [*Journal of Educational Leadership in Action \(ELA\)*](#) is now available. This issue of the journal highlights a variety of perspectives on leadership focusing on needs of middle leaders in Vietnam's international schools, special education teacher evaluations, emotional aspects of principals' work, phenomenological research to understand schools' cultural phenomena, gender representation of professional mathematics organizations, student achievement in low socioeconomic areas, fundraising in higher education, online versus traditional learning, and doctoral students' view of research. The editors of ELA welcome and value your readership and encourage you to [submit](#) for future publication(s).



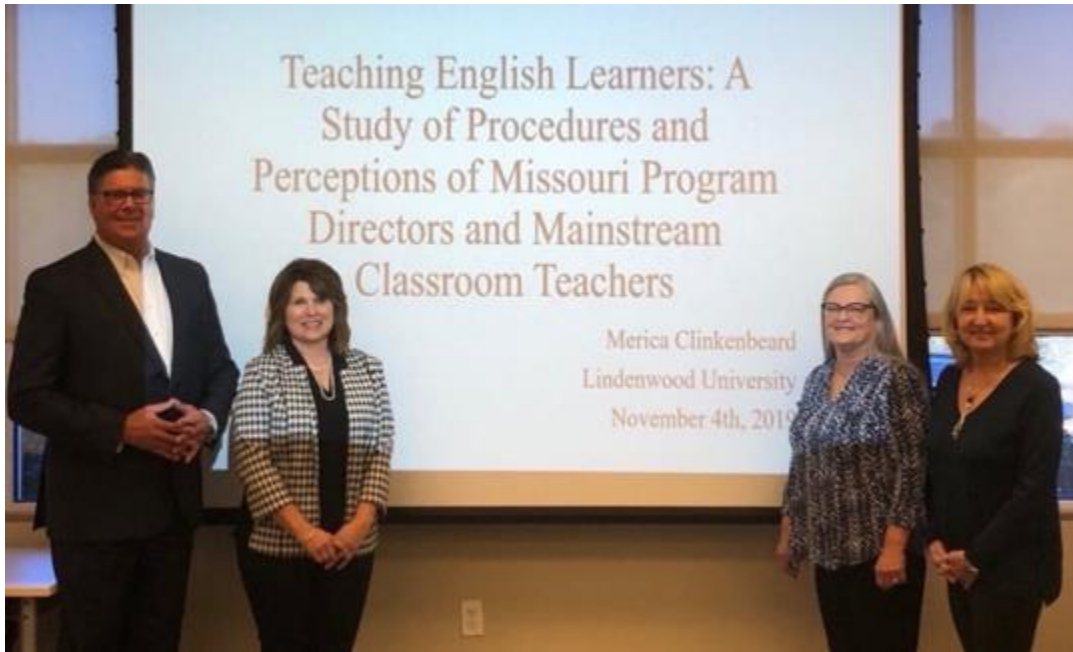
Praise for Drs. DeVore and Grover and Lindenwood University Faculty During Graduation Ceremony

During a recent survey of Higher Education graduates from the Lindenwood University School of Education, Greater Missouri Extended Sites one of the questions asked was: "How did we do overall?" Dr. Merica Clinkenbeard, a Migrant and English Language Learners (MELL) Instructional Specialist with Missouri State University, who graduated in December 2019, responded with the following:

Answering any questions or solving any problems that arose. At the end of the dissertation process, I was impressed with Dr. DeVore and Dr. Grover's ability to always have time for feedback and quick turnaround time. Also, when all of you clapped and cheered as we entered graduation made it ALL worth it. That was truly my favorite part and my best memory of that day!

Kudos to Dr. Sherry DeVore and to Dr. Kathy Grover, who have 12 and 8 years of dissertation guidance respectively, for their ongoing outstanding service to students. Earning one's doctorate is no small feat, but with great support from faculty who truly love doing what they do, students are earning degrees and respected positions within the education community.

Second, kudos to the entire faculty of Lindenwood University for the memories given to this graduate. Clapping and cheering the graduates in to march toward receiving their diploma may be as meaningful to them as it is to us.



Curriculum and Instruction

Emilie Johnson - State Reviewer for Missouri Schools of Character

In Schools of Character, adults embrace their critical position as role models. Teachers work together as professionals — along with parents and community members as partners — to positively shape the social, emotional, and character development of the young people entrusted to them each day. Students in these schools feel safe, respected, and connected to those around them, allowing them to thrive academically and socially and be motivated to give back to their communities.

As a State Reviewer for the Missouri State Schools of Character 2020, Dr. Emilie Johnson reviewed applications, survey data, stakeholder testimonials, and artifacts based on the 11 Principles of Character Education from [Character.org](https://www.character.org/). The evaluation process culminated in exciting and dynamic site visits which demonstrated best practices in character education, social emotional learning and safe and effective schools.

The journey to becoming a recognized School of Character is exhilarating, audacious, and meaningful for both students and staff involved. It's challenging, but the outcomes make it worth it!

Character.org has been certifying schools for 20+ years based on their implementation of The 11 Principles of Effective Character.



Student, Brittney Huck, Receives Nomination for the Richard S. and Nelle Dabney Award for the Missouri Council for Exceptional Children

The Pattonville School District's Early Childhood Center welcomes Lindenwood senior Brittney Huck to student teach for the Spring 2020 semester. She will be working with children who receive services for autism in an inclusive setting.

As president of the Lindenwood Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) chapter, she has successfully recruited new members, organized and led Homecoming events, Student Organization Day, New Students Day, campus Easter Egg event, and new recruiting events for CEC members on campus. Brittney is the first CEC president to collaborate across campus with other student organizations to combine resources for campus events and to create powerful displays for showcasing our chapter and CEC.

She freely shares her passion for teaching children with special needs, working with families and influences others to learn more about careers in special education. Brittney has completed practicum courses in special education, and had a psychology internship to learn more about teachers supporting occupational therapy in the classroom.

School of Education Hosts Triad Training

The Lindenwood School of Education Student Teaching Coordinators, Dr. Nancy Schneider and Dr. Amanda Aldridge, hosted the Triad Training for Spring of 2020 on Saturday January 4. This training is an orientation session for teacher candidates, the cooperating classroom teachers from local schools, and the Lindenwood faculty that supervise teacher candidates in the field. Sessions included information on roles and responsibilities, co-teaching strategies and calibration training for the Missouri Educator

Evaluation System tool, which is used to evaluate candidates during their student teaching experience.

Lindenwood alumna Sheridan Cay and Hope Dye, a teacher from the Fort Zumwalt School District, co-presented a session on candidate responsibilities and professional dispositions.

Teacher candidates from Lindenwood are required to complete a 16 week internship in a school district in order to earn certification in the state of Missouri.





Congratulations to the Fall 2019 Outstanding Cooperating Teachers!

We would like to thank all of our Cooperating Teachers for opening their classrooms to Lindenwood Teacher Candidates, for sharing their knowledge and expertise and for mentoring with enthusiasm. You have made a difference in the lives of our future educators!

A special congratulations to this semester's Outstanding Cooperating Teachers for their exceptional efforts:





School of Education
ECONOMIC EDUCATION CENTER
AT LINDENWOOD

Recent Events

Common Sense Economics for Legislators

On January 15, the Economic Education Center launched its Common Sense Economics for Legislators training for the 2020 Missouri legislative session. Almost 40 legislators and staff participated in the training at the Missouri State Capital to learn about and

discuss relevant economic issues. CSEL training sessions will take place each month during the legislative session. Each non-partisan, educational event will highlight how economics helps lawmakers understand different policy issues affecting local communities, the state, and the nation.

Fundamentals of Environmental Economics Workshop

On January 31, almost 20 local teachers and SOE students learned how to explore real-world environmental issues using economic analysis and how to integrate these ideas in the classroom. It was a great opportunity for in-service and pre-service teachers to enhance their career skills and make valuable connections with other educators. Participants experienced engaging interactive lectures, real-world case studies, and hands-on demonstrations of classroom activities. As a bonus, SOE students received a \$25 stipend for participating. The workshop featured Don Fell, Ph.D., from the Foundation for Teaching Economics.

Upcoming Events

Economics and Government Seminar

February 6-7

Approximately 200 high school students will explore ideas and principles that form the basis of good societies, including the intersections of economics, political science, and philosophy. In four sessions, students experience engaging lectures, experiments, and discussions meant to inspire and empower students. Topics include human knowledge and behavior, the role of rights, and differences in allocation systems across societies. The seminars will feature Antony Davies, PhD, from Duquesne University and Signe Thomas, PhD, from Florida State University. Students from Christian High School in O'Fallon, MO, will visit Lindenwood University for the program on February 6, while the center will bring the program to students at Timberland High School in Wentzville, MO, on February 7.

Election Economics MCSS Conference Session

Saturday, February 22, 11am-12pm

Grant Black, associate director of the Economic Education Center, will present Election Economics in a session at the 2020 conference of the Missouri Council for the Social Studies at the Missouri History Museum in St. Louis. The session will help teachers bring the excitement and issues of a major election year into the classroom and empower students to be good decision-makers. The session will highlight how to use current and historical issues related to elections to stimulate student learning – and will show how economics can explain voter behavior, election outcomes, and the effects of government policies. Participants will learn how to use economic reasoning to explore hot topics like free trade, immigration, minimum wages, taxes, and government spending. Teachers will also be introduced to a wide range of multimedia resources ready for use in the classroom.

Register for the conference at <https://www.mosocialstudies.com/conference>.

The Economics of Discrimination Webinar

Tuesday, February 25, 6pm-7pm

Tawni Ferrarini, director of the Economic Education Center, will lead a free webinar on The Economics of Discrimination. The webinar is part of a series of professional development webinars offered by the Council for Economic Education during Black History Month. The webinar will investigate the power of market forces and net reward associated with reduced discrimination and expanded diversification in the presence of increasingly sound institutions that consider race, gender, and other factors.

Register at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5595065431716512269>. Find information about other webinars at <https://www.councilforeconed.org/webinars-3/>.

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The Lead: Feedback Encouraged

We hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter! We appreciate any feedback or ideas that you could offer to us as you browse The Lead. If you would like to provide feedback, or a story you would like us to share, please email schoolofeducation@lindenwood.edu.

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