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## The Lead - Newsletter



**Lindenwood University**  
**School of Education**

LINDENWOOD  
UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

## Featured Stories

### Thank You Educators and School of Education Alum!

The School of Education at Lindenwood University would like to thank all educators! We know that you are doing amazing things even with having your entire plans for the year change. Please know we are so proud of you and are here for you!



## **William Johnson Awarded Lindenwood - Belleville Education Student of the Year Award!**

Congratulations to William Johnson on being the 2020 Lindenwood University-Belleville recipient of the Education Student of the Year Award!

This award is based on academic performance in the classroom as well as service to the community and university. It is one of the highest honors the Division of Education and Counseling grants, and represents a significant achievement.

Please join us in congratulating William!



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## **Dr. Nancy Schneider Awarded Status of Professor Emeritus**

It is with great pleasure and admiration that we announce that Dr. Nancy Schneider has been awarded the status of **Professor Emeritus** effective August, 2020. This honor is not common and is only granted to those individuals whose tenure at Lindenwood is distinguished through years of exceptional teaching, service, and scholarship. Nancy has made a remarkable contribution to the School of Education. Her new Emeritus status is so very well deserved.

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Please join us in congratulating Dr. Schneider.



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**Drs. Robyne Elder and Tammy Moore Awarded with Assessment Champion Awards.**

The Assessment Champion Award recognizes significant contributions to assessment, planning, and continuous improvement at Lindenwood University.

Congratulations to Drs. Elder and Moore for your dedication the University and the School of Education.

Dr. Elder



Dr. Moore



## Counseling, Social Work, and Behavior Analysis

**Behavioral Analysis Student's Research Presented at Leadership Conference**

A special congratulations to Ms. Jaime Viviano! Jaime's research - completed during her supervised experience coursework in the behavior analysis program - was presented at the Behavior Analysis Leadership Conference on April 23.

Ms. Viviano and her instructor, Dr. Pavone, have worked together over the past year to complete two case studies that were conducted with large case management organizations in the local area. These studies were presented as part of a panel presentation titled, "Using Functional Analysis to Increase Participation in Meetings."

Jaime's work received positive feedback from many of the most talented organizational behavior experts in the behavior analysis field!



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### **Exciting News: Changes in Counseling, Psychological Examiner, and BCBA Programs!**

Even as we continue to grapple with a most unique and unexpected set of circumstances, please permit us to share a few exciting and very recent developments in our Department of Counseling, Social Work, and Behavioral Analysis.

First, we would like to share that even as Dr. Holly Karraker will remain at the helm of the renowned School Psychological Examiner certificate program, she will also be entering the Special Education program. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Karraker on her expanded role with Lindenwood University!

Next, Dr. Maggie Pavone will be joined by a very promising new BCBA faculty member, Dr. Guy Bruce. Dr. Bruce will be instrumental in the development of a new online presence for the BCBA program.

And, our esteemed Social Work colleagues are continuing their Council for Social Work Education (CSWE) reaffirmation. Best wishes to Drs. Carla Mueller, Debra Johnson, and Denise

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King, and a big congratulations to Dr. King for being re-elected as a School of Education Faculty Council representative. Many thanks for all your service.

Additionally, we are thrilled to announce the hiring of a new faculty member in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC; formerly Professional Counseling), Agata Freedle. As this outstanding academician joins our faculty, she brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise including a focus in trauma management and recovery. Her contributions will also be essential as the program continues to advance toward our goal of CACREP accreditation, perhaps as early as 2022.

As some might be aware, Dr. Michael Rankins will conclude six years of service as Assistant Dean in August, 2020. Our esteemed colleague, Dr. Sarah Patterson-Mills, has been selected as our new Assistant Dean. As an expert in both School Counseling and Professional Counseling - holding certification and licensure in both areas - she brings to her new role a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Related to Dr. Patterson-Mills promotion and Agata Freedle joining us in CMHC, Dr. Lisa Brougham will be shifting her focus in August from the CMHC side to School Counseling as well as the CACREP accreditation project. Dr. Brougham worked for 12 years as a high school counselor in St. Louis Public Schools. We look forward to all the new possibilities with all these changes within our department.

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### **Todd Link Named the Belleville Professional Counseling Student of the Year!**

Todd Link has been selected as the Professional Counseling Student of the Year. Todd was initially scheduled to graduate this May. His graduation is going to be delayed because he is a first responder during the COVID-19 pandemic. Todd is the Chief of Police in Glen Carbon, IL. Following are Todd's words:

"First, I decided to pursue my Professional Counseling graduate degree because I needed it in my own life. I experienced some trauma and grief I did not know how to handle, and this degree program helped me better understand myself and manage my life. Second, I decided to pursue my Professional Counseling degree to prepare me for a career after my retirement from law enforcement. In this graduate program, I found instruction that challenged me personally and prepared me to help others. This led me to my final reason for pursuing a degree in Profession Counseling. Every day in America, an average of 22 military veterans commit suicide. Currently, more police officers die by suicide each year than lose their lives in the line of duty. Firefighters and paramedics die by suicide in similar tragic numbers. I hope I can use my Professional Counseling degree to help a wide range of clients, but I especially would like to help veterans and first responders recover from trauma and grief to find wellness and resiliency in their lives."

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## Rise Up: The Remote School Counseling Connection

Counselors rely on physical presence to relate and fully understand human interaction, emotions and understanding. School Counselors, who work to support all students in the k-12 setting through academic, social emotional, and post-secondary planning are mental health experts in those settings. Without the face-to-face interaction, our current school counseling students, have risen to the occasion. Many have worked hand in hand with their site supervisors to prevent student service disruptions as they transitioned their services from face to face to a remote. This is a small collection of how they are navigating these new platforms to guide seniors who are feeling lost in their planning processes, cheerleading the middle school students who feel lost without a classroom, and listening to their elementary students who are struggling with attention, emotional, and other dysregulations going on in their lives.

- *"We had just begun one-on-one meetings with Juniors and their parents when the pandemic started. These meetings are about what to expect, and preparing for Senior year. The students were sent an electronic survey of their interests, strengths/weaknesses, and colleges of interest in February, in order to give the counseling staff information to write letters of recommendation to accompany applications. Topics covered in the meetings were transcript audits; schedule requests for next year meet all the requirements for graduation, standardized tests, college choice, possible majors, scholarships, timelines and much more. Some parents are working from home, so we are able to get more participation than originally anticipated which is great! One Junior wants to graduate in December, so I have the responsibility of following up and making sure everything is in order for that. I have also been given the task of reaching out to Sophomore athletes to discuss NCAA eligibility and how it works in regards to academics and standardized tests. The Zoom platform has been very valuable. I have connected some high school students with college students for informal Q & A about their major and college." — Cherae Bullard*
  - *I am currently working with students in a google classroom alongside my site supervisor. Each day we post an activity and or check in that students can comment on and interact with one another. These activities could be a video of a fish tank while practicing mindfulness, or a grounding strategy to cope with new emotions that come with this time of change. If students have questions, they can email or simply comment on the page and either myself or my site*
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*supervisor address the students concerns. We are currently waiting on responses from students if they would like to start individual "check ins" via zoom. This will allow us to continue where we left off with students and further develop our relationships." — Nickie Basler*

We humbly thank our k-12 sites and site supervisors who have helped model the flexibility, poise, and responsiveness as professional stewards of our counseling profession. We are proud of our students for stepping up and taking on the challenge without hesitation.

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## **Behavior Analysis Cohort Presents Thesis Proposals**

The 2019 behavior analysis cohort presented their thesis proposals on April 29, and have been resilient to the transition to online interactions. Each student presented a wonderful idea about how they can change the world using the science of human behavior. They have worked so hard and we are so excited to see what they will do for our community in the near future!



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## **An Update from the Board-Certified Behavioral Analysis (BCBA) Program**

A special congratulations to Ms. Jaime Viviano! Jaime's research — completed during her supervised experience coursework in the behavior analysis program — was presented at the Behavior Analysis Leadership Conference on April 28. Ms. Viviano and her instructor, Dr. Pavone, have worked together over the past year to complete two case studies that were conducted with large case management organizations in the local area. These studies were presented as part of a panel presentation titled, "Using Functional Analysis to Increase Participation in Meetings." Jaime's work received positive feedback from many of the most talented organizational behavior experts in the behavior analysis field! Way to represent the LU BCBA program, and Viviano! We look forward to seeing your success after graduation as well!

Thank you to all of our current students and alumni of the behavior analysis program. Many students and graduates are continuing to provide essential services to children and adults in Missouri and Illinois. Despite needing to transition quickly to telehealth and the challenges of

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procuring appropriate personal protective equipment to continue serving families in their homes, these amazing individuals are out there in our communities using their skills to help keep people safe and healthy. We are so, so proud of the courage, dedication, and talent that our behavior analysts and registered behavior technicians have provided in the midst of such challenging times.

These workers exemplify what it means to be #LionsUnited and to be true servant leaders. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for those that you serve BCBA Lions!

## Curriculum and Instruction

### Update on Certification Testing Centers Amid COVID-19

Some Pearson Professional Centers are becoming available for testing in the United States. Candidates can schedule their exams for appointments starting May 1, and beyond, if conditions allow.

Due to the varying availability of test centers, you should search for local test center availability before scheduling your exam. Find your [exam program on the test-taker homepage](#), then log in to your account to search for a test center that's open near you.

Pearson will continue to deliver exams to any independent third-party test centers (PVTC and PVTC Selects) who still have the ability to operate within the United States. Due to the unpredictability of test center availability at this time, we encourage you to confirm your appointment with the scheduled test center in advance.

## Educational Leadership

### Dr. Steffes Earns Certificate for Culturally Responsive Assessment

Congratulations to Dr. Bob Steffes!

Dr. Steffes has earned Lindenwood's Certificate for Culturally Responsive Assessment. This Certificate required a significant commitment. Dr. Steffes did a great job reflecting on the workshop concepts and applying them to his own practice.

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Lindenwood will honor Bob at the 3rd Annual Assessment and Planning Summit.



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**Dr. Tanya Deering, Ed.D. Graduate, Named New Principal in the Fort Zumwalt School District**

Dr. Tanya Deering, a recent Lindenwood University Ed.D. graduate, received a promotion to Principal of the Mike Clemens Center in the Fort Zumwalt School District, for the 2020-2021 school year. Dr. Deering is excited to begin her new position. We wish her all the best!

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## Ed.D. Doctoral Students and Graduates Named to Leadership Roles in the Springfield Public School District

A graphic titled "SPS names new leaders for 2020-2021". It features three portraits: Adam Bax (top left), Carol Furman (bottom left), and Julie Voyles (top right). The text lists their names and roles: Adam Bax - Principal, Wilder Elementary; Carol Furman - Principal, Disney Elementary; Julie Voyles - Assoc. Director of Early Childhood Special Education. At the bottom, it says "LEARN MORE AT SPS.ORG" with a speech bubble icon containing the SPS logo.

**SPS names  
new leaders for  
2020-2021**

*Adam Bax - Principal, Wilder Elementary  
Carol Furman - Principal, Disney Elementary  
Julie Voyles - Assoc. Director of Early Childhood Special Education*

**LEARN MORE AT SPS.ORG**

Adam Bax, Lindenwood University doctoral student, has been named the next principal of Wilder Elementary in Springfield Public Schools. Mr. Bax is the current principal of Robinson Intermediate School in the Aurora R-8 School District, where he has served for seven years.

Prior experience includes two years as an assistant principal at Jeffries Elementary (SPS) and service as a third and fifth grade teacher for SPS in the International Baccalaureate program. Adam completed his undergraduate work at Missouri State University, graduate studies in

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educational leadership at Missouri State University, and is currently completing his doctorate at Lindenwood University.

"It is a great privilege and honor to return to SPS to serve the Wilder community. Education is my passion and students are my purpose," said Adam Bax. "I look forward to supporting each student, staff and family for continued success. I am proud to be a Wilder Wildcat!"

"Principals are vitally important to learning, working to provide leadership for our schools and our community," said J Anderson, executive director of elementary education. "Both of these leaders have demonstrated their expertise and enthusiasm. With the selection of Adam and Carol to lead the Disney and Wilder learning communities, we are confident of continued excellence."

A new leader has also been named for the SPS early childhood special education program.

Julie Voyles, Lindenwood University doctoral student, will serve as the district's next associate director of early childhood special education. Ms. Voyles is the current special education process coordinator and autism consultant for SPS, serving in that role for 10 years.

Prior experience includes eight years as a special education teacher at Delaware Elementary (SPS). Julie completed her undergraduate work in special education at Missouri State University, graduate work at William Woods University, an applied behavior analysis graduate certificate from Florida Institute of Technology, and is currently completing her doctorate at Lindenwood University.

"I am honored to join the early childhood special education team as associate director," said Julie Voyles. "I am looking forward to serving our students, teachers, and community to support the learning of our children in Springfield."

"Julie has been a long-time member of the SPS special education team and we look forward to the vision she will bring to her new leadership role," said Brady Quirk, director of special services for SPS. "Her expertise as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) will be especially valuable to our district."

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## SPS names Principal of Virtual Learning

*Dr. Brady Quirk to support full-time virtual students within SPS, while overseeing virtual instruction across the state, effective July 1.*

LEARN MORE AT [SPS.ORG](https://www.sps.org)



Dr. Brady Quirk, Ed.D. graduate from Lindenwood University, was named Principal of Virtual Learning, effective July 1. In this new role, Brady will be responsible for supporting full-time virtual students within SPS, while also overseeing virtual instruction across the state.

"With the exponential growth of Launch throughout Missouri, I am thrilled to join such an innovative team that is working hard to meet the needs of online learners across the state," said Dr. Brady Quirk.

Dr. Quirk has been with SPS for 15 years, first serving as a building administrator at Carver Middle School and Springfield Options Site, and later as an assistant director of special services, coordinator of professional development, and director of organizational development. Since 2017, Brady has served as director of special services. He completed his undergraduate studies in curriculum and instruction from the University of Missouri, graduate work in educational administration from Missouri State University, a specialist degree in educational and counseling psychology from the University of Missouri, and a doctorate in educational leadership from Lindenwood University.

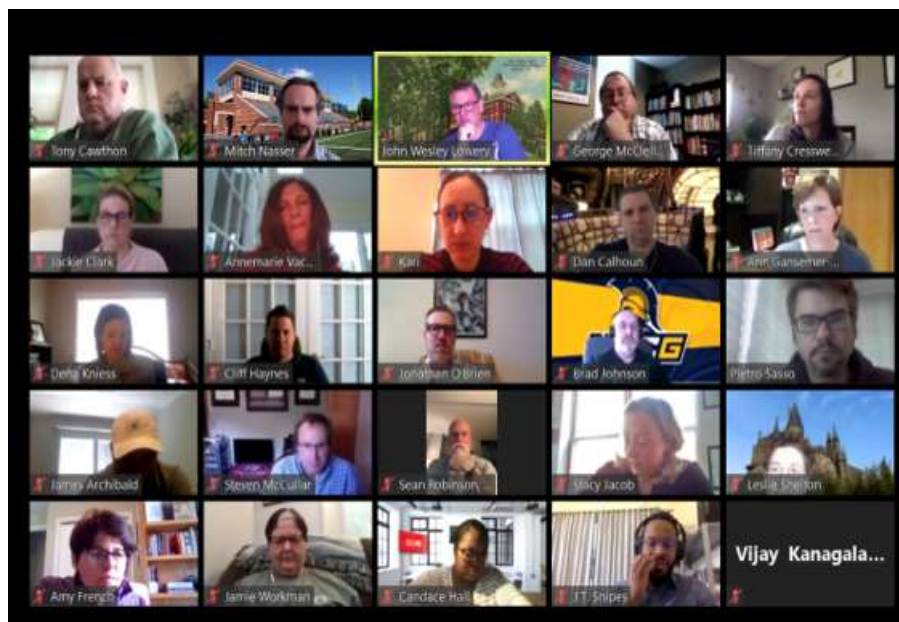
"Dr. Quirk's rich experiences serving both the students and teachers of SPS make him an ideal leader for this new position," said Dr. Nichole Lemmon, director of digital learning for SPS. "In this new role, Dr. Quirk will continue the high levels of support Launch provides the students of SPS and the state of Missouri, as well as our full-time and adjunct faculty."

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### **Dr. Mitch Nasser Gains Insights During Virtual Higher Education Meeting**

Dr. Mitch Nasser attended a virtual meeting with Higher Education Faculty across the country. They discussed practicums and internships in the time of COVID, the best ways to support doctoral students, and some experts shared opinions on how current closures/online offerings will impact colleges and universities. Dr. Nasser said it was very insightful, and we thank him for his attendance and look forward to learning from his experience!

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*School of Education*  
**ECONOMIC EDUCATION CENTER**  
AT LINDENWOOD

**Tawni Ferrarini Presents Webinar with Worldwide Research**

On Thursday, April 23, Tawni Ferrarini, director of the Economic Education Center, presented a professional development webinar for educators called **Personal Finance 104: Credit and Loans**. More than 500 educators from around the world registered to participate in the webinar. In this personal finance webinar, teachers learned about the six core principles of economics and how to apply them to making choices related to credit and loan options – and linking those choices to different levels of financial comfort and security. The webinar focused on concepts such as credit, interest, and saving. More webinars are in the works. The webinar was part of an ongoing [series](#) of professional development webinars sponsored by the Council for Economic Education.



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### **Common Sense Economics for Legislators Goes Online**

Dr. Tawni Ferrarini, director of the Economic Education Center, and Dr. Howard Wall, director of the Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise, presented a webinar for elected officials on Wednesday, April 15. The webinar focused on the post-COVID-19 economy. The webinar was the first of a new virtual series that will be part of the ongoing Common Sense Economics for Legislators program, a nonpartisan educational program designed to help legislators better understand economic issues related to public policy and better engage voters about economics.

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## Op-Eds Offer Advice to Public During Crisis

As part of the Economic Education Center's efforts to respond to the crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic, Dr. Tawni Ferrarini, director of the Economic Education Center, and Dr. Grant Black, associate director of the Economic Education Center, published two op-ed articles in April. The articles ran in multiple newspapers across Missouri, reaching thousands of readers. Ferrarini's article, **"Preparing for Financial Dips,"** and Black's article, **"No Time Like the Present to Become a Family with Economic Common Sense,"** offer practical advice to help people lean on sound reasoning to help them navigate through any circumstance. The articles highlight useful principles and strategies that help people develop behaviors that can improve their well-being now and in the future. Look for more op-eds coming soon.

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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](mailto:schoolofeducation@lindenwood.edu).

Please feel free to share far and wide with anyone you believe would enjoy this news source about the School of Education.

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