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Foreword

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FOREWORD BY MICHAEL D. SHONROCK, PHD,

LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY SYSTEM PRESIDENT

The theme of this special edition of *Education Leadership in Action* is “lifelong learning.” In pondering that and how to construct a forward for this publication, I’ve been thinking about the three legs of academics: teaching, research, and service.

A stool cannot stand without any one of the three legs, and the same is true in academia. This journal is all about the balance of those things, which is the goal of lifelong learning. We concern ourselves with where we obtain knowledge (research), how to apply knowledge (teaching), and we consider all three legs of the stool during the process of serving our students.

It is hard to think of a field in which those three legs and the concept of lifelong learning are more intrinsically connected than in teacher education. We obtain knowledge through study and research, and we pass it on in the classroom, where our students are going through this process for themselves. The cycle goes on and on.

That cycle is especially profound in the teaching of current and future teachers. At Lindenwood University, we understand and take very seriously that awesome responsibility. Lifelong learning is, on an individual basis, very much in keeping with our culture of continuous improvement and the philosophy of adaptive leadership, which is understanding the current status of something as well as the desired status. In between the two is the gap, and that is where you devote resources. That is where learning comes in.

Early in life, we learn to read. After that, we read to learn, and that continues as a part of lifelong learning. So, my colleagues, ‘read’ the journal!

Best wishes,
Michael D. Shonrock, Ph.D.
Lindenwood University System President