

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND COUNSELING FALL NEWSLETTER

News from Saint Martin's University



**WISHING YOU A
WONDERFUL HOLIDAY
SEASON!**

- From the CEC Faculty & Staff

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dr. Jeff Crane, Ph.D.
CEC Interim Dean



I would start by congratulating everyone for surviving one of the most difficult semesters in modern American history. One doesn't get to say that very often, but as a historian of modern America I feel qualified to name that reality. This semester has challenged us in so many unanticipated ways-the ongoing and worsening covid-19 pandemic; the corresponding disproportionate impact on women, BIPOC faculty, staff, and students, first responders, and teachers; the political turmoil of the presidential election; and ongoing economic concerns. Along the way we have all had to quickly pick up new educational and organization skills and adjust to the ever-shifting "new normal." This has been a challenging period and while we can perceive a steadily growing light at the end of the tunnel there is still a great deal of work to do.

I have enjoyed my first semester as Interim Dean of the College of Education and Counseling. The wonderful thing about this role is getting to meet and know new staff and faculty, enriching my experience at Saint Martin's while gaining a better understanding of the critical role played by the College of Education and Counseling in Saint Martin's and the wider community. The faculty, directors, and chairs have been extremely welcoming and supportive as I have learned my way. Moreover, the staff have been remarkable in taking on additional duties and maintaining a steady positive and professional attitude.

There is a great deal of good work underway in the College of Education and Counseling. We are currently reviewing curriculum, programs, and marketing to determine the best ways to serve our students, increase enrollments, and tell the story of the great work done in the college.

This is the inaugural issue of the College of Education and Counseling newsletter. We look forward to sharing more stories with you in the future. If you have items of interest, please let us know.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AWARDED \$20,000 "LEADING FOR EQUITY" GRANT

Two-year grant through Washington State's Professional Educator Standards Board

Saint Martin's Education Department was recently awarded a \$20,000, two-year "Leading for Equity" Grant by Washington State's Professional Educators Standards Board.

Leading for Equity will develop and provide Professional Development (PD) for SMU education field supervisors in partnership with school district leaders, Educational Service District, and Association of Washington School Principals. This PD will equip supervisors and leaders to identify culturally responsive instruction that advances or inhibits equity teaching practices. The scope includes training for supervisors and mentors working with interns in addressing oversight and execution of equity policies and instruction. It offers strategies to establish productive supervisory working relationships with staff, parents, and community members to utilize an equity lens in all areas. The result will be field supervisors and evaluators who have the tools that support their evaluation of interns in a holistic manner with an equity lens, considering the classroom, culture, and community.

The Leading for Equity Team includes two SMU program students representing the Teacher Preparation Program and the School Administration Program, along with representatives from the Olympia School District, North Thurston Public Schools, Tumwater School District, Association of Washington School Principals, Educational Service District 113, and Education Consultant Erin Jones. The team is led by Dr. Linda Maier, Education Department Chair, along with Dr. Theresa Hickey and Dr. Karen Rizzo as Education faculty team members.

Dr. Jeff Crane, Interim CEC Dean, stated:

"The College of Education and Counseling (CEC) continually strives to advance equity. We are connected and committed to the strengths and needs of our community partners and schools. This initiative will allow us to contribute to program development within our local area and across the state of Washington. Our goal is to further the knowledge and understanding that advancing equity is a top priority and is everyone's responsibility."

UPCOMING EVENTS



FALL 2020/WINTER 2021 SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM INFO SESSIONS

Wednesday, Jan. 27th
6:30 -7:30 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 10th
4:30 -5:30 pm

Wednesday, March 3rd
6:30-7:30 pm

Please address all
questions and
comments to our
editor, Carina Bissett at
cbissett@stmartin.edu



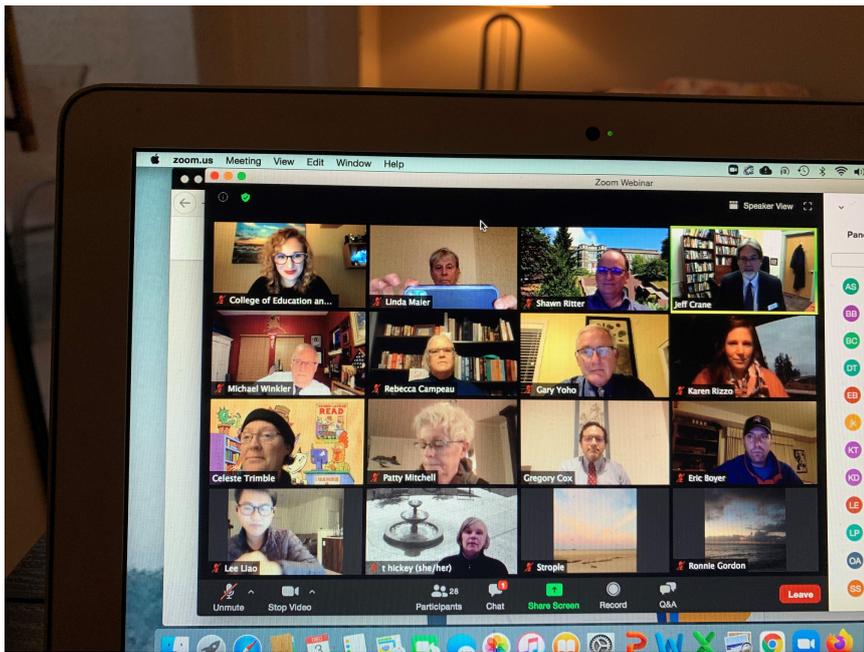
STAR PROGRAM UPDATES

FROM THE FIELD AND STAR DIRECTOR: DR. REBECCA CAMPEAU

I am pleased to announce that between fall of 2019 and spring of 2020 we have 32 students that received their certification from WA State. It was a delight to have the privilege of working with these students and we wish them well as they leave Saint Martin's to serve as educators in their communities.

This fall our student teachers were the first student teachers at Saint Martin's to complete their student teaching virtually and an edTPA in a virtual environment. Teaching virtually was a new world for even experienced teachers, and we want to send out a well-earned congratulations to them for blazing this trail for future student teachers. Also, congratulations to all those who passed the edTPA in a virtual setting!

I also want to give a HUGE THANKS to all our student teaching mentors and supervisors for hosting and working with our students this year in a virtual environment.



FALL 2020 STUDENT INTERN CELEBRATION

Every semester, the College of Education and Counseling hosts an event to celebrate the success and accomplishments of every student who completes their student teaching internship. Typically, we welcome the interns with food, music, guest speakers and a certification ceremony as an opportunity to invite parents, mentors, principals, and district representatives to celebrate our graduating students. This year we hosted our event virtually, and our faculty and staff gave their support via Zoom to our interns as they become the next generation of incredible educators. For fall 2020, CEC celebrated 9 graduating interns in total: 1 Special Education, 5 Elementary Education, and 3 Secondary Education teachers. Congratulations to our amazing students!

UPCOMING EVENTS



SPRING 2021 STUDENT TEACHING ORIENTATION

Orientation for student teachers, mentors, and supervisors!

January 14th, 2021
From 5:30 – 7:00 pm
via Zoom



We are asking you to spread the word about the programs available for individuals to earn their teaching certificate or MIT. Also, please consider being a mentor for our student teachers if you have more than three years teaching experience. We would love to have the opportunity to work with you again!

VIRTUAL MOCK INTERVIEWS



Our school administration interns participated in a mock interview exercise with our teacher interns all via Zoom. We started in the main session where our school administration interns shared their best advice for a successful job search. Next, they were divided into small groups of interviewing teams consisting of school administration interns and teacher interns. In their break out rooms, the school administration interns asked questions of the teacher interns and provided helpful feedback.

This exercise has proven to be extremely helpful for both sets of interns. For our teacher interns, the experience and the feedback help them feel more confident going into an interview. For our school administration interns, they appreciate the experience of interviewing potential teachers and providing helpful feedback.

**REGISTER FOR PRINCIPAL
AND PROGRAM CERTIFICATION
INFO SESSIONS!**

CONTACT DR. LINDA MAIER FOR MORE
INFORMATION AT LMAIER@STMARTIN.EDU

COMMENTS FROM TEACHER INTERNS

"Very helpful! Helped me feel more confident in the whole process!"

"Thank you for organizing this. It was informative and useful."

"The interview was an immense help; it allowed me to hear what my strengths were, and where to improve"

COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION INTERNS

"This was both a learning & teaching experience for me. This helped me as an interviewer solidify what I already know & build confidence for my future interviews."

"Very powerful experience."

"I love coming and talking with the interns! Good Luck to all of them!"



SUCCESSFUL SUMMER 2020 ACADEMY

Saint Martin's School Administration Program completed its Summer Academy in a virtual environment via ZOOM. The Summer Academy offered new principal interns the opportunity to enter into dialogue with multiple guest speakers, including Superintendent of Public Instruction, Chris Reykdal; and Independent Education and Systems Consultant, Erin Jones.

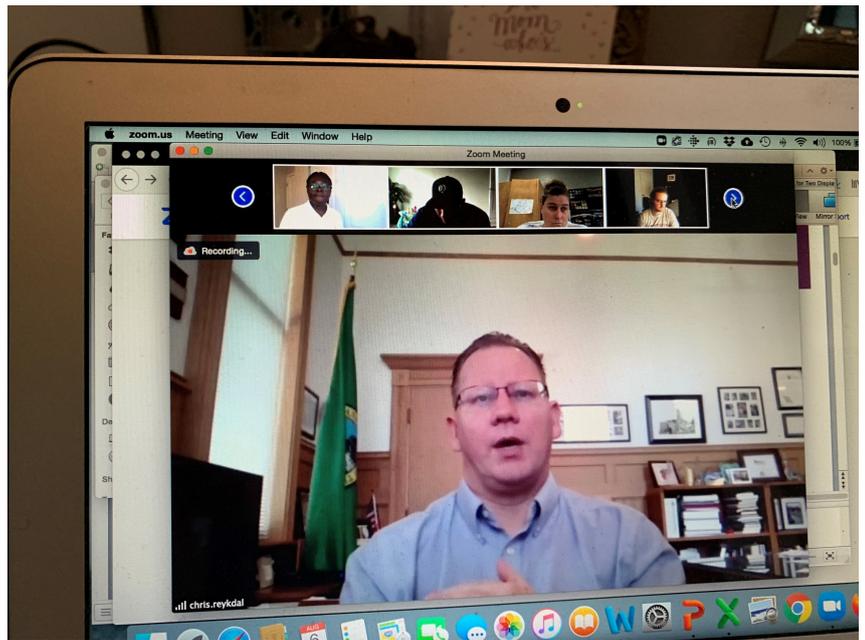
An equity panel representing multiple school districts and initiatives also shared their work with our interns. There is, and continues to be, an emphasis on equity in leadership. Students were required to create an equity action plan for implementation this year during their internship.

Several new instructors taught in our Summer Academy this summer:

Scott Niemann, Executive Director of HR in the Olympia School District

Melissa Munson-Merritt, Camas Prairie Elementary Principal in the Bethel School District

Greg Barker, Director of the Association of Washington Student Leaders.



They joined the annual Summer Academy instructors of Kurt Hatch, Associate Director at AWSP; Nancy Faaren, former Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning at the Olympia School District; and Linda Maier, Director of the SMU School Administration Program.

In spite of the online learning, it was a wonderful experience of making connections, learning new material, and expanding horizons.

“ *2020 is a very weird year to do the summer academy. Being online, I was worried that I wouldn't feel connected to my cohort. Boy was I wrong! The summer academy made these people feel like family. I enjoyed the support from everyone (classmates and all teachers). I felt enriched by the guest speakers and the wealth of knowledge and perspective each of the instructors had to share with us. The instructors genuinely cared about us, and our journey to become a principal.*

Selfishly, I enjoyed not having to drive the hour to campus every day and the zoom format worked much better than I ever expected.

- Summer 2020 Academy Student



THE YEAR OF TRANSFORMATION

Erin Jones presents on the issue of retention of faculty and staff of color



On Friday, September 25, the College of Education and Counseling sponsored a conversation via Zoom with Erin Jones. Erin Jones is a grounded, accessible leader of racial healing and social justice. Her compassion and global perspective invite authentic engagement, personal reflection, and recommitment to equity.

Erin shared her story and invited us to think how we can all better support our faculty and staff of color. She brought her work and her experiences to help provide us with the tools we need to engage in critical conversations, unpack our unconscious bias, and use an equity lens in viewing the world.

Led by Dr. Linda Maier, Director, School Administration Program and Chair for the Education Department and Dean Crane, CEC initiated and funded via the Advancing System Equity Grant, presentations by Independent Education and Systems Consultant, Erin Jones. They also coordinated with Dr. John Hopkins, Associate Dean for Students and Director of the Diversity and Equity Center and Dr. Julia Chavez, Director of the Center for Scholarship and Teaching in organizing the presentations and the creation of a Friday Faculty Lunch discussion between the presentations on the same topic. The presentations were well attended by faculty and staff and lunchtime discussion was robust.



IT IS THE YEAR OF TRANSFORMATION AT SAINT MARTIN'S, AND WE ARE COMMITTED TO REFLECTING OUR BENEDICTINE VALUES: CARE FOR OTHERS; LISTEN WITH OUR HEARTS; NURTURE AND DEVELOP OUR COMMUNITIES; AND STAND FOR THOSE IN NEED.

CEC FACULTY NEWS

DR. THERESA HICKEY

Theresa planned to present an interactive session (Identity, Mindset, & Engagement – Reframe your teaching to leverage student strengths) at The Teaching Professor Conference in Atlanta, GA, in Spring. This pedagogy-centered conference draws over 1,200 participants and focuses on equity-based, practical teaching methods. She was invited by the Global Math Department to give a webinar in December and plans to present, “Wonder, Plan, Run, Reflect: Action Research in the Math Classroom.” She participated in Facilitating Courageous Conversations, a Seattle professional development session on leading conversations around race and racism. She also was invited to provide a short review for the Univ. of Puget Sound College of Ed’s Race and Pedagogy Journal: Teaching and Learning for Justice. Dr. Hickey wrote a short reflection on the nature and power of critical reflection.



DR. RONNIE GORDON

Dr. Ronnie Gordon had a busy summer. He worked with Dr. Tam Dinh on the new Race and Ethnic Studies minor currently being proposed at Saint Martin's. With Saint Martin's Future Educators (SMUFE) and Dr. Eric Boyer, he is organizing a virtual on-campus experience for local high school AVID programs. And Dr. Gordon is currently working as an active member of the North Thurston School District Equity Action Team (EAT) to evaluate lessons, practices, and readings for implementation which include Ethnic Studies and LGBTQIA+, as well as evaluating best practices for hiring and retaining BIPOC staff and administrators (the school board recently passed an Equity Resolution for the school year).

DR. KAREN RIZZO

Karen is our newest faculty member of the College of Education and Counseling. She will be presenting at the 2021 Council for Exceptional Children Conference in March. The title of the presentation is "Science for all: The most effective strategies for teaching science to students with moderate and severe intellectual and developmental disabilities."



CEC FACULTY NEWS

DR. LINDA MAIER

Linda earned a certificate from Quality Matters for successful completion of the course: Improving Your Online Course. She also participated in several summer sessions preparing for the fall semester and presented for a Friday Faculty Lunch on Faculty Learning Communities. In addition, Dr. Maier participated as a selected peer reviewer on papers submitted for presentation at American Educational Research Association Conference in April.



DR. LETICIA NIETO

Leticia is working remotely with a group of playwrights and actors in Amsterdam. They are exploring the issue of Dutch colonization. This is a quote from one of the productions. "I visited a fort where enslaved people were traded. When I walked in, I immediately saw in front of me. "Momotou, 19 years, 50 guilders." I'm standing there as a free person, But it is not over. It's still going on. If you pay attention, you'll see it."



Washington State Society for
Clinical Social Work
Identity • Integrity • Diversity

CEC FACULTY NEWS

DR. CELESTE TRIMBLE

Since the beginning of the 2019-2020 academic year, Celeste Trimble published fourteen articles for a popular audience of primarily educators, librarians, and students. Thirteen of them were on the website of Worlds of Words: Center for Global Literatures and Literacies, of which she is on the Executive Board. It is the second-largest global children's literature collection in the world, after the International Youth Library in Munich.

She participated in the Institute for Racial Equity in Literacy workshop in Summer, 2020. Entitled, "Understanding Systemic Racism: Society, Schools, and Classrooms," This weeklong workshop with Tricia Ebevaria and Sonia Cherry Paul included readings, discussion groups, writing assignments, lectures, videos, and action planning meetings. Sadly, four of her presentations that were scheduled for this past Spring and Summer were postponed. A presentation with students from the Tohono O'odham Nation and a presentation about Home and Displacement in children's literature and YA to be presented with Seemi Aziz at the Tucson Festival of Books were postponed. Her work with authors at the second annual Seattle Children's Book Festival was postponed. And a presentation about water in international Indigenous children's literature at the Children's Literature Association conference was postponed and rescheduled for Summer 2022.

She is currently at work on a presentation for the Young Adult Studies Association international conference in early November. Her working title is "I'm not the one to tell this story: Rebecca Roanhorse, cultural appropriation, anti-Blackness, and staying in one's lane." Drawing from and re-assembling conversations about Roanhorse and her work from social media, book reviews, public lectures, and various popular publications, the story of this issue within the children's literature and Indigenous literature communities is highly contentious and it requires serious and thoughtful consideration.

