



The Educere

PSU College of Education Newsletter, Vol. 2 | Issue 9 | September 28, 2020

Dean's Message: Celebrating Achievements and Looking Forward to the Coming Year

Dear College of Education Community,

There are so many great things happening at PSU and in our virtual hallways. Today, we seek to draw inspiration from all of the good work we are doing and contemplate the tasks ahead that will help ensure that the College of Education remains a leader in educator preparation in the State of Oregon.



Dean Marvin Lynn

At my [State of the School](#) speech this Monday, I shared how much we all have to be thankful for at the COE. We remain the biggest college of education in the state and a highly respected institution of higher education for teachers in this community. I'm also proud to say that the COE accrued more Diversity Awards this spring and more master's degrees (457 of them) in 2019 than any other PSU college. Our COE application numbers are also showing a positive trend as we head into the fall.

During the [Community Blessing and Dedication](#) of our new Fourth and Montgomery Building on campus (official name to be announced soon), we discussed the hate incident that occurred on the construction site in May. We also shared how we wouldn't let it stop us from coming together to utilize the state-of-the-art resources this wonderful new space will provide. This site will put the COE in its own home for the first time ever. View a [video](#) of the full event!

At the University level, we're improving practices and policies and setting aside \$1.5 million to use for anti-racist work over the next three years. Here in the COE, we are a leader in anti-racist work, incorporating it into our strategic plan and in our daily interactions with students and colleagues.

We have so many blessings to count and accomplishments to tout! We happily acknowledge all of the achievements and hard work of 2019-20 and welcome the 2020-21 academic year and all of its rich possibilities!

— Dean Marvin Lynn



The co-principals of the Co-Learning Math Teacher Project are COE Assistant Professor Torrey Kulow, left, and Teachers Development Group CEO Ruth Heaton.

PSU faculty member partners with nonprofit CEO on \$2.78M project to improve math teaching

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded a \$2,779,198, five-year grant to Portland State University and the Teachers Development Group (TDG) for a study that aims to improve math teaching and learning.

The project — titled Co-Learning Math Teaching Project: Collaborative Structures to Support Learning to Teach Across the Professional Teaching Continuum — will get underway in November. PSU professionals from the College of Education (COE) and experts from West Linn-based nonprofit TDG will lead a research team from five universities: PSU, Oregon State University-Cascades, Montana State University, University of Washington and University of Maryland-College Park. TDG seeks to improve students' math achievement and understanding through math educators' professional development.

This project also focuses on professional preparation for novice and development for experienced math educators. It entails evaluating and enhancing preservice teacher (student teacher) learning and collaboration with cooperating teachers (mentors working in the field) to improve outcomes for their math students. Through observation, interviews and other forms of data collection and analysis, the research project co-principal investigators from PSU and TDG will create a model based on best practices for student teachers and their mentors to co-learn new math teaching skills.

The Co-Learning Math Teaching Project will offer learning opportunities for the involved teachers and more robust math lessons for their students. The project will also help educators teach more equitably, gaining greater knowledge of the structural oppression and systemic racism that many of their students face. [Read more.](#)

COE-led cross-campus team wins inaugural award and prize for publication on artificial intelligence

The College of Education's (COE) Sam Sennott, a professor, and Linda Akagi, a research assistant, were among a four-person, cross-campus collaborative team who landed the inaugural Katharine G. Butler Trailblazer Award earlier this month.



Linda Akagi, research assistant, and Professor Samuel Sennott

The [Topics in Language Disorders](#) co-editors, editorial board and publisher informed Sennott on August 4 of the award and \$1,000 prize for [AAC and Artificial Intelligence \(AI\)](#), the team's article about artificial intelligence and alternative communication. Sennott and Akagi share the award with colleagues Mary Lee and Anthony Rhodes. Lee died earlier this year, but her team is celebrating the fact that before she passed away, she contributed significantly to a ground-breaking publication and won an award named after a giant in the speech-language field. [Read more.](#)



Lorna Fast Buffalo Horse, Portland Public Schools director of multiple pathways to graduation

Getting ready for school, pandemic and all

At the same time school districts face the choice of whether to open this fall, households with teachers or school-age kids weigh a web of decisions over how to address the new normal.

There are fears and tears aplenty, whether a district opts for a remote, in-person or hybrid option. To help, local educators and [College of Education](#) experts are offering tips on how teachers and families can navigate the challenges of the pandemic, focusing on communication, connection, hygiene and safety. [Read more.](#)

In Other News

COE interns publish piece on remote O&M teaching strategies

The COVID-19 quarantine has inspired three Portland State University College of Education (COE) students to think creatively about remote teaching. [Read more.](#)

Special Education Dept. professor shares vital strategies for supporting English learners experiencing learning challenges

Empowering LLS podcast series host Tan Huynh interviewed Portland State University Special Education Professor Julie Esparza Brown on August 7 about when and how teachers should initiate a student's referral process for special education evaluation. [Read more.](#)

'Incredible' history teacher with two PSU master's degrees wins statewide honor

David Douglas School District officials announced August 13 that Catherine Saks, who received two master's degrees from Portland State, is the 2020 Oregon History Teacher of the Year. [Read more.](#)

Curriculum and Instruction chair earns accolade

A prestigious national organization recently lauded Portland State University College of Education Curriculum and Instruction Department Chair and Professor Will Parnell for a book he co-authored. [Read more.](#)

A Long journey

Long Tran not only earned his bachelor's at Portland State University and has worked here since 2008, but he also remains committed to PSU as an incoming graduate student and now, as the senior fiscal officer in the College of Education (COE). [Read more.](#)

Counselor Education Department welcomes new faculty member

Yi-Wen Su — an adjunct professor at the Palo Alto University and California State University, East Bay — will be joining the College of Education's Counselor Education Department as a tenure-track assistant professor this September. [Read more.](#)

Shanté Stuart McQueen: New professor, new mom

Brand-new College of Education (COE) tenure-track Assistant Professor Shanté Stuart McQueen likes to joke that, other than her academic abilities, she has no secret talent. [Read more.](#)

New C&I staff member is an educator with decades of experience

Curriculum and Instruction Department Administrator Tatiana Nochevnaya has so adeptly stepped into her role that it's easy to forget that her full-time position just kicked off this March. [Read more.](#)

PSU alum wins national honor for PE teachers

Clad in a tuxedo and perched on the couch with his family watching a red carpet awards ceremony on Zoom, Portland State University alumnus Todd Stoddard waited to hear who of the five finalists would be the 2020 National Physical Education Teacher of the Year. [Read more.](#)

Send story ideas to Jillian Daley at jillian@pdx.edu. For more of the latest news, visit the [COE Blog](#). Also, like us on [Facebook](#) to keep up with our latest posts.

Note: Special thanks to Patrick Kelley, Daryn Lee, Elizabeth Snyder, Ryan Carrillo and Tracy Williams-Murphy for their continued, unfailing support with the production of *The Educere*. Your help is deeply appreciated!



Share this email:



Manage your preferences | Opt out using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails.
View this email online.

College of Education PO Box 751
Portland, OR | 97207 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.