Hello from Sangren Hall!

It has been fun working on the inaugural issue of The EDLD Beat! As the former editor of my high school newspaper, The Notre Dame Academy Vista, this exercise was a welcome blast from the past during the busyness of the end-of-semester grind! I particularly appreciated hearing all the great things going on with scholars at all stages from our dynamic section of the ELRT department.

The photo at left shows me during one of my most memorable moments in the program so far – the department’s short-term study abroad trip I took to Canada last spring! This first of its kind program was meant to make studying abroad accessible to students on a budget or with other responsibilities. As a busy working mom and full-time student, I was delighted to be afforded the opportunity to engage with this trip and receive a College of Education and Human Development scholarship to make the experience even lower cost! It was my very first visit with our neighbors to the north!

Your Student Editor,
Katie Giardello

The Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership (EDLD) includes four concentration areas: higher education, K-12, organizational analysis, and workforce education and development.
Faculty Feature: Dr. Donna Talbot

“The Accidental Chair”

Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology, Dr. Donna Talbot never intended to be a department chair. For that matter, she never intended to become a faculty member. Like many EDLD higher education doctoral students and alumni, she was on the student affairs administration track. But, a 3-hour layover in Pittsburgh on her way to (and from!) an ACPA (American College Personnel Association) conference changed all that.

During the layovers, an Au Bon Pain and Dr. Carney Strange came together to change the course of the soon-to-be Dr. Talbot’s career, helping her realize the magnitude of impact she could have around her core values of equity and diversity by pursuing faculty positions following her PhD conferral. And the rest, as they say, is his/herstory!

Dr. Talbot began her career at WMU in 1992 in the Counselor Education & Counseling Psychology department that was home to the College Student Affairs program. She led the charge to move the Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA) program into the Educational Leadership, Research, & Technology Department in 2007 with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion centered as a critical component of the refreshed program.

In 2012, the ELRT department chair became Interim Dean of the College and approached Dr. Talbot to assume the chairperson role as she was the only person within the department “none of her faculty colleagues objected to” filling the temporary vacancy. Unfortunately, the Interim Dean passed away unexpectedly shortly after

and Dr. Talbot has been in the Chairperson role permanently since. In 2018, Dr. Talbot was recognized with the WMU Diversity and Inclusion Award for Excellence in Diversity.

Truly, her leadership has made such a difference in so many students lives!

What the what?

What are you teaching?
EDLD 6510 – Foundations of Student Affairs in Higher Education

What are you reading?
Mostly dissertations … just completed Brené Brown’s Dare to Lead.

What are you writing?
A co-authored book chapter, with doctoral student Chris Sligh, on integrating spiritual and leadership development. This monograph series is expected to be published in 2021.

Read more about Dr. Talbot here.

Photo: Dr. Talbot with Dr. Marylu McEwen, her mentor and dissertation chair at the University of Maryland.

Photo: Dr. Talbot, Dean Li, and other EDLD faculty members with the ELRT Dominican Republic cohort.
Faculty & Student News

Presentations & Publications


Compton, P., Giardello, K. (PhD Student), LeCureux, C., & McIntyre, L. (2019). Transfer Credit Articulation & Efficiency. Presentation at the National Institution for the Study of Transfer Students Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.


Griffin, R., Vainer, D., & Snyder, B. (2019, April) MyName-preferred name. Session presented at Ellucian Live, New Orleans, LA.

Faculty & Student News, Con’t.

Presentations & Publications, Con’t.


Awards & Other Recognitions
Aamir Hasan (PhD Student) was recognized as Student Fundraiser of the Year in WMU’s Annual Giving Program for 2018-2019.

Lisa Garcia (PhD Student) was recognized with the 2019 College of Education and Human Development Rising Star Doctoral Student Award and the Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award from WMU’s Graduate College. Garcia was also elected to the Council for the Study of Community Colleges Board as its Graduate Student Representative.

Diana Hernández (PhD Student) was awarded the prestigious WMU Distinguished Service Award in September 2019.

Monica Liggins-Abrams (PhD Student) was selected as a New Professional and Graduate Student review board member for the Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice for the 2020-2023 term.

Job Updates
Monica Liggins-Abrams (PhD Student) was promoted to Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives for the Office of the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at WMU in May 2019.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
BEST WISHES FOR A HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS 2020
Alumni News

Presentations & Publications


Awards & Other Recognitions

Afar Albalawi (PhD, ’19) received the WMU Graduate College Research and Creative Scholar Award.

Michael Burde (PhD, ’16) was elected President of the Michigan Association of State and Federal Program Specialists (MASFPS).

DeAnna Burt (PhD, ’09) completed the 2019 Lakin Fellowship through the Thomas Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership.

Vun Doublestein (PhD, ’17) was awarded the WMU Make a Difference Award in September 2019.

Melinda Gruber (PhD, ’15) just completed a Health and Aging Policy Fellowship.
Alumni News, Con’t.

Awards & Other Recognitions, Con’t.
Kay Keck (PhD, ’07) received the 2019 Distinguished Woman in Higher Education award from the Michigan ACE (American Council on Education) Women’s Network.

Rachael Postle-Brown (PhD, ’19) was awarded the WMU Graduate College Dissertation Completion Fellowship in her final year of studies.

Job Updates
Heidi Beidinger-Burnett (PhD, ’13) has been named Director, Master of Science in Global Health Program and Assistant Director of Community Health and Policy at the University of Notre Dame. She is also co-founder of the Notre Dame Lead Innovation Team (ND LIT).

Gregg Dionne (PhD, ’16) has been appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at Central Michigan University.

Mark Deschaine (PhD, ’13) was appointed Associate Professor of Educational Leadership in the Department of Leadership and Counselor Education at the University of Mississippi.

Kymberli Flanagan (PhD, ’11) developed a new school, the Shield Leadership Institute, in partnership with Michigan law enforcement officials. She serves as Chief Education Officer to Shield, providing leadership development to first line of command officers at regional locations throughout the state.

Kevin Macina (PhD, ’19) has been named Superintendent of Byron Center Public Schools beginning in January 2020.

Ryan Rowe (PhD, ’13) has been named Executive Director of the South & West Washtenaw Consortium.

Carl Wozniak (PhD, ’10) has retired as Associate Professor in the School of Education at Northern Michigan University.

Jason Werkema (PhD, ’09) was promoted to Dean of the School of Music, Worship, and Technology at Grace Christian University. He was also recently commissioned to record tracks for music legend, Chris Tomlin, on his newest album, "The Maker and the Instrument" in 2019.
## Fall 2019 Dissertation Defenses – Congratulations, Doctors!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Newest EDLD Doctor</th>
<th>Committee</th>
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| Kelly M. Amshey     | Dr. Brett Geier, Chair  
                    Dr. Dennis McCrumb  
                    Dr. Michael Shibler | The Impact of Character Education Programs on Middle School Bullying Behavior |
| Dustin Anderson     | Dr. Patricia Reeves (chair),  
                    Dr. Jessaca Spybrook,  
                    Dr. Erika Hunt | The Learning Experiences of Practicing School Leadership Coaches: A Multiple Case Study |
| Mary Francis Benzo Hernandez | Dr. D. Eric Archer (chair),  
                            Dr. Patricia Reeves,  
                            Dr. Nancy Bjorklund | Dominican Public School Novice Principals’ Description of Their Early Career Experiences and Needs Entering the Principalship |
| Ann Marie Bingham   | Dr. Jianping Shen (chair),  
                    Dr. Patricia Reeves,  
                    Dr. Brian Pyles | The Role of Mental Models in Sensemaking During the Data-Driven Decision-Making Process and Their Impact on Instructional Practice |
| Bette A. Ludwig     | Dr. Sue Poppink (chair),  
                    Dr. Louann Bierlein Palmer,  
                    Dr. Glinda Rawls | The Impact of Goal Orientation and Learning Organization on Mobbing of Academic Advisors in the U.S. |
| Somaia Hamza Mustafa | Dr. Nancy Mansberger (chair),  
                        Dr. Lynn Nations Johnson,  
                        Dr. Wanda Hadley | Female Senior Student Affairs Officers’ Experiences in Decision-Making Across Their Careers |
| Sukinah Ali Al Ramel | Dr. Patricia Reeves (chair),  
                      Dr. Lynn Nations-Johnson,  
                      Dr. Nancy Mansberger | Principal Leadership and the Development of Teacher Professionalism and Autonomy Within a Collaborative School Culture |
| Dipsy Etanisla de Ramirez | Dr. Louann Bierlein Palmer (chair),  
                          Dr. Patricia Reeves,  
                          Dr. Jeannette Chaljub | How Elementary Teachers Demonstrate Leadership to Increase Science Learning |
| Christine L. Robinson | Dr. Andrea Beach (chair),  
                        Dr. Louann Bierlein-Palmer,  
                        Dr. Randy Ott | Change in Attribution Perspective, Shame, and Academic Identity for Freshmen on Probation Enrolled in University Academic Recovery Courses: A Mixed Methods Study |
| Colleen Kay Stano   | Dr. Louann Bierlein Palmer (chair),  
                    Dr. Ramona Lewis,  
                    Dr. Carol Hustoles | From Convict to Co-ed: Formerly Incarcerated Students’ Sense of Belonging in Higher Education |
EDLD Directory

D. Eric Archer
Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership in Higher Education

Patricia Reeves
Professor of Educational Leadership, & Evaluation, Measurement and Research

Louann Bierlein Palmer
Professor of Educational Leadership

LaSonja Roberts
Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership

Regina Garza Mitchell
Associate Professor of Educational Leadership in Higher Education

Lynda Root
Administrative Assistant II

Brett Geier
Associate Professor of Educational Leadership in K-12 Leadership

Jianping Shen
Professor of Educational Leadership, & Evaluation, Measurement and Research

Wanda Hadley
Associate Professor of Educational Leadership in Higher Education

David Szabla
Associate Professor, Organizational Change Leadership

Joseph Kretovics
Associate Professor of Educational Leadership in Higher Education

Donna Talbot
Chair & Professor, Dept of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology

Sue Poppink
Associate Professor of Educational Leadership

Linda Walters
Administrative Assistant I, Graduate Admissions

Get to know the EDLD faculty better: https://wmich.edu/leadership/directory/edleadership