

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

*Doctoral Hooding and
Graduation Ceremony*



9 MAY 2024

CONTENTS

This program is for ceremonial purposes only and is not to be considered an official confirmation of degree information. It contains only those details available at the publication deadline. **Please note that not all graduates' names are listed, as some students opt out of having their names appear in Northeastern publications.**

We ask those in attendance to kindly silence their electronic devices and to remain in their seats until the platform party has left the stage and the graduate recessional has finished.

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PROGRAM

MATTHEWS ARENA, BOSTON
TEN-THIRTY A.M.

Prelude

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Jared Auclair

Interim Dean, College of Professional Studies

Faculty Speaker

Joan Giblin

Associate Teaching Professor

Announcement of the Candidates

Presentation of the Dean's Medal for Outstanding Doctoral Work

Jared Auclair

Interim Dean, College of Professional Studies

Remarks of the Dean's Medal Speaker

Bijoy Sagar

Doctor of Law and Policy

Charge to the Graduates

Jared Auclair

Interim Dean, College of Professional Studies

Recessional

We ask those in attendance to kindly silence their electronic devices and to remain in their seats until the platform party has left the stage and the graduate recessional has finished.

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Rachel Ann Adriko Spillberg

Dissertation: *Leveraging Technology to Support Teaching and Learning in Uganda*

Advisor: William Boozang

Brigette Allen

Dissertation: *Co-Creating Change: Design Thinking Approaches to Sexual Violence Prevention in Higher Education*

Advisor: Lindsay Portnoy

Thomas John Ambrose

Dissertation: *What Teachers Say About Teaching Reading at the High School Level: An Action Research Study*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Ethnie Marie Anantua

Dissertation: *Exploring New York City Educators' Perceptions of Teaching and Learning in a High-Stakes Testing Environment*

Advisor: Hattie Hammonds

Francisco Juan Ayala

Dissertation: *Teacher Knowledge of and Beliefs about Executive Functioning, Strategies They Use to Support Students with EF Deficits, and How These Variables Relate to Their Teaching Experience*

Advisor: Tracy Pascua Dea

Jacob Barr

Dissertation: *Teacher Leadership: Influences on Teacher Self-Efficacy and Collective Teacher Efficacy*

Advisor: Kristal Clemons

Christopher Andrew Bates

Dissertation: *Increasing Employment Outcomes for Culturally Diverse Students Through Experiential Learning in Higher Education*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Andrew J Bauman

Dissertation: *The Elephant in the Church: Exploring Women's Experience with Sexism & Abuse in the Protestant Church*

Advisor: Andrew Anderson

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Morgan Alexandria Beatty

Dissertation: *Working While Black: Examining the Career Development Gap in the Black Workforce and Investigating the Racist Roots of Professionalism*

Advisor: Mounira Morris

Anjum Biswas

Dissertation: *Exploring The Impact Of Empathic Communication On Stress Among Students In Higher Education Institutions*

Advisor: Karen Phillips

Nicolas David Blaisdell

Dissertation: *An Investigation into Pathway Preparation and Student Motivation*

Advisor: William Boozang

Sasha Alana Blake

Dissertation: *Fostering Teacher Self Efficacy: Understanding the Impact of Trauma Through Student Behavior*

Advisor: Sara Ewell

Alexandra Motoko Blenis-Gittens

Dissertation: *Re-Engaging Latinx English Learners in Middle School: An Action Research Study*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Sarah Jennie Bollinger

Dissertation: *Adapting to Change: How is Higher Education preparing students to be workforce ready?*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Elizabeth Ann Brumbaugh

Dissertation: *Teacher Care: An Action Research Study On Teacher Wellness And Creativity In A Tk-12 Independent School Community Of Practice*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Matthew Donald Burns

Dissertation: *Supporting Student Workers Through a Cross-Organizational Advisory Team*

Advisor: Rashid Mosley

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Jacqueline Monique Cade

Dissertation: *Pressing Toward the Mark: HBCU Support of African American Students with Learning*

Advisor: Carolyn Bair

Chanun Tenell Caine

Dissertation: *Empowering Early Learners: An Exploration of Anti-Bias Education in Early Learning Environments*

Advisor: Lindsay Portnoy

John D Carlstroem

Dissertation: *A Self-study in Agentic Independent School Leadership: Authentic Listening Toward Collaborative Partnership with African American Families*

Advisor: Dana Wright

Emily Teeple Carpenter

Dissertation: *Strengthening Rural College Student Career Development*

Advisor: Joan Giblin

Alicia Laura Castro

Dissertation: *Building Capacity for Implementing the CASEL, SEL Framework in Grades 4 & 5 of a Title I District Using: An Action Research Study*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Pamela Joan Cernjul

Dissertation: *Pedagogy for Trauma Sensitive Children*

Advisor: Afi Wiggins

Keisha La'Rae Chandler

Dissertation: *The One Room Schoolhouse: An Action Research Study of the Retention of Novice Black Teachers in Their First-to-Fifth Year*

Advisor: Joseph McNabb

Juli Charkes

Dissertation: *Minding the Gap: Understanding the Role and Needs of Interim Appointees in Higher Education*

Advisor: Joseph McNabb

Hui Wen Chin

Dissertation: *Sifting Through Preschool Teachers' Funds of Knowledge to Reveal Culturally Sustaining Child-Feeding Professional Learning Opportunities at One University in Singapore*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

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Chun On Cho

Dissertation: *How Do School Leaders Experience School Climate During the Transition to Autonomous Schools Under School-Based Management and Then into the Remote Environment?*

Advisor: Thomas Wylie

Maritza Estela Ciliberto

Dissertation: *Teachers of the Deaf Experiences and Beliefs about Bilingual ASL/English Education and Teacher Preparation Programs*

Advisor: Karen Reiss Medwed

Ashley Nicole Cinelli

Dissertation: *Deepening Middle School English Teachers' Understanding of and Capacity for Critical Literacy Practices Through Coach-Facilitated Professional Learning Communities*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Shannon Tamson Conley

Dissertation: *The Impact of Informal Teacher-To-Teacher Feedback on Instructional Practices in the Middle School English Classroom*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Christopher Kelly Cooper

Dissertation: *Using Art to Illustrate Medical Empathy to Physician Assistants*

Advisor: Lynda Beltz

Ann M. Cox

Dissertation: *Supporting Mental Health and Wellness in a Graduate Teacher Preparation Program*

Advisor: Alice McIntyre

Judy Annette Cruz-Ransom

Dissertation: *Trauma-Informed Practices in Community Colleges: Enhancing Student Support Through Faculty and Staff Professional Development*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Jinghang Cui

Dissertation: *Hybrid Course Model in Physical Education: Enhancing Undergraduate Learning experience in a Leading Chinese Public University*

Advisor: Joseph McNabb

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Rosalind Alessandro DaCruz

Dissertation: *Increasing Efficacy in Deeper Learning Practices through Adult Learning*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Zachary Reid Dane

Dissertation: *Providing Engaging and Relevant Professional Learning Opportunities: An Evaluation of the Perceived Efficacy of Micro-Credentials & Digital Badges Upon K-12 Educators in a Large Urban School District*

Advisor: Lindsay Portnoy

Page C Davis

Dissertation: *Where They Are, Based on Where They Have Been, Further Informed By Where They Seek to Go: Transgender and Gender Diverse Identities in College*

Advisor: Cherese Childers-McKee

Sigrid Merecia Davison

Dissertation: *Breaking the Ice: Educator Leaders' Entrée into Equity and Inclusion Leadership in a Rural High School*

Advisor: Cherese Childers-McKee

Guerson Doricent

Dissertation: *The Lived Experiences of Mental Health Clinician at a Public Psychiatric Hospital in Haiti*

Advisor: Mounira Morris

Catrina Shaquan DosReis

Dissertation: *A Seat at the Table: The Value Proposition of an HBCU Career Center*

Advisor: Joan Giblin

Christine Dixie Douville

Dissertation: *"Just Because I Failed, Does Not Mean I am a Failure": An Action Research Approach to Exploring and Supporting the Needs of Repeating Nursing Students*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Mary Angelita Diaz Dulatre

Dissertation: *The Leadership Style of Women of Color in College Presidencies: A Content Analysis of their Leadership Communications*

Advisor: Nancy Pawlyshyn

Shayna Louise Duncan

Dissertation: *Integration of Technology into Middle School Classrooms*

Advisor: Lindsay Portnoy

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Bekir Duz

Dissertation: *Data-Based Decision-Making (DBDM) in Education*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Baron A. Dyer

Dissertation: *Perceptions and Realities in Policing: A Comprehensive Action Research Study on the Experiences of Police Officers Within a BIPOC Community*

Advisor: Rashid Mosley

Camille Angela Edwards-Thomas

Dissertation: *Navigating the Intersection: The Lived Experiences of Black Women in Pre K-12 School Leadership*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Karen E.B. Elliott

Dissertation: *Challenging Curriculum/Assessment and Grade Reporting Practices*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

Mazen Elshami

Dissertation: *Evaluation of the Opportunities and Challenges Syrian Refugees Face in Accessing Higher Education While Living in Refugee Camps in Jordan*

Advisor: Michael Dean

Samantha Frances Lang Enos

Dissertation: *Adolescent Struggling Readers' Positive Student-Teacher Relationships*

Advisor: Andrew Anderson

Jennifer M. Farrell

Dissertation: *It's Showtime: Education, Employment and Health - An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis of Performing Arts Education*

Advisor: Aly McDowell

Kelli Ann Fenlon Winamaki

Dissertation: *Inspiring Inclusivity: Enhancing Employees' Confidence in Working with Young Adults with Disabilities in Project SEARCH Host Businesses*

Advisor: Chong Kim-Wong

Carolyn Cartier Fieger

Dissertation: *Addressing Inequities in STEM Elementary Education through Professional Learning Communities and Teacher Led Professional Development*

Advisor: Michael Dean

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Alec Daniel Fisher

Dissertation: *The Experience of Academic Staff during Curriculum Change in Higher Education*

Advisor: Loretta Ovueraye

Katia Flowers

Dissertation: *A Shared Multicultural Leadership Team's Performance in an International School in Thailand*

Advisor: Lynda Beltz

Katherine Ann Foecking

Dissertation: *Building Positive Student-Teacher Relationships: A Foundational Element for Successful Classroom Management*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Chardas Khalis Freeman

Dissertation: *Sustainability in K-12 Education: How Can Schools Support Students to Address Challenges of Environmental Sustainability?*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Stephanie S Fumiatti

Dissertation: *Teacher Engagement and Input in Curriculum Development*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

Haley Catherine Gaughan

Dissertation: *Starting Small: Perspectives on Building Family and Community Engagement in Preschool*

Advisor: Noor Ali

Jackson Barrett Goodwin-Jamison

Dissertation: *Improving SEL Skills Through Instruction*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Susannah M. Gravel

Dissertation: *Understanding How Students and Teachers Experience Creativity in the Curriculum*

Advisor: Tyneka Holley

Amy Terese Greenstein

Dissertation: *Giving Them What They Need: Online Orientation for the Adult Learner*

Advisor: Lynda Beltz

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Matthew Charles Gulotta

Dissertation: *Resisting Low Engagement in Collegiate Aviation Emergency Remote Teaching During the Pandemic: An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis*

Advisor: Corliss Thompson

Kevin D. Guyton

Dissertation: *Restorative Justice a Pathway to Hope: An Exploration of the Impact Restorative Justice has on the Schooling Experiences of Black Boys and the Teachers who Teach Them*

Advisor: Cherese Childers-McKee

Robert E Hanke

Dissertation: *Mergers and Acquisitions in Higher Education: Experiences of Senior Leaders*

Advisor: Thomas Wylie

Sherry De-Lois Harley

Dissertation: *Understanding the Assignment: The Lived Experiences of Black Girls at a Predominantly White Independent School*

Advisor: Cherese Childers-McKee

Erica L. Harrington

Dissertation: *Improving Instruction to Increase Academic and Social-Emotional Outcomes for Elementary-Aged Multilingual Learners in an Underperforming Urban Public School*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Richard Kevin Hathaway

Dissertation: *Developing Emerging Leaders in Civil Society: An Experiential Learning Initiative in North Macedonia*

Advisor: Karen Smith

Philip Dennis Hernandez

Dissertation: *More Than a Place to Sleep: The Role of Student Housing in Supporting First-Generation and Historically Excluded College Students in the Two-Year Setting*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Kathryn Elizabeth Hinshaw

Dissertation: *Professional Learning Pathways: A Practical Approach to the Structured Literacy Competencies*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

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Delilah Marie Holmes

Dissertation: *The Illusion of Choice: The Realities of a Compulsory Public School Choice Program and its Impact on Opportunity*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Efrosini Hortis

Dissertation: *Reimagining Institutional Resources to Support Persistence and Retention of First-Generation Students in a Four-Year Public Institution in the U.S.: An Action Research Study*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Andrew Blair Hossack

Dissertation: *Staying Curious Together: Piloting a Collaborative Inquiry Model in an Independent, International K-12 School*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Marie Helen Huhnke

Dissertation: *Making Sense of the Cultural Structure of Equity: A Structural Functionalist Approach*

Advisor: Loretta Ovueraye

Patrick David Hutchinson

Dissertation: *An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis of How International Students Make Sense of Information Literacy*

Advisor: Daniel Volchok

Dwayne D. Jones Sr.

Dissertation: *Empowering First-Year Success: A Study on the Impact of First-Year Peer Mentorship Program on First-Year, First-Generation Black Male Students*

Advisor: Joseph McNabb

Kathleen Corinne Kaulins

Dissertation: *A Seat at the Table: Female Investors' Perspectives on the Gender Diversity of Private Company Boards*

Advisor: Joan Giblin

Christopher Michael Keller

Dissertation: *Collaborating Outside of the Silo: An Action Research Study of Interdisciplinary Collaboration of Teachers at a Small Suburban Middle School in the Northeast*

Advisor: Andrew Anderson

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Brendan James Kent

Dissertation: *School leader's perspectives of implementing and supporting Social Emotional Learning (SEL): An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Jo Kogut

Dissertation: *A Collaborative Math Curriculum: Nurturing Academic and Social-Emotional Growth for High School Students*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

William Wai-Yin Kwok

Dissertation: *Strategies for Integrating Martial Arts-based Mindfulness into Educational Settings*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Vivian Lanzot

Dissertation: *Mentorship Matters: The Impact of Black and Latino Administrative Women Leaders in Higher Education and the Role That Mentoring Plays in the Trajectory of Their Career*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Shareen M. Laskar

Dissertation: *Tuition Isn't Their Only Bill: An Exploration of Holistic Approaches to Address College Readiness in Public and Urban Higher Education Institutions.*

Advisor: Lindsay Portnoy

Donald Michael Leonard

Dissertation: *Creating Cultures of Belonging on Collegiate Athletics Teams*

Advisor: Joan Giblin

Ariel Dulcidia Leitao Leonelli

Dissertation: *What's the #vibe: Exploring the Impact of Peer Influence through Social Media on College-Going Decisions*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Christine Ritter Loch

Dissertation: *Psychological Empowerment Among Virtual-Based Professionals in the Pharmaceutical Industry: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis*

Advisor: Sean Gallagher

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Lucy Siying Lu

Dissertation: *Strengthening Co-op Educators' Support Practices for International Students' Transitional Experiences in the American Workplaces*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Widline Luctama-Compere

Dissertation: *Human Capital Management (HCM) Technology Implementation to Support Human Resource Teams*

Advisor: Aimee Williams

Christopher Allan Lukasik

Dissertation: *Using action research to develop public policy work in gender-based violence organizations*

Advisor: Rashid Mosley

Tina Lulla

Dissertation: *The Enrollment of Black and Latinx Students in Advanced Placement Science Courses*

Advisor: Loretta Ovueraye

Jennifer Anne Madonna

Dissertation: *Preparing Teachers for Praxis Shock Through Pre-Service Teacher Preparation Programs*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Sonia Malkani

Dissertation: *Career Advancement: Immigrant Working Women*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

John-Joseph Edward Marderosian

Dissertation: *Investigating High Teacher Turnover at an Historically Underserved School District*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Jennifer Lynn Martin

Dissertation: *Leadership Preparation for Mid-Level Female Leaders at Spokane Community College*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

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Adetokunbo Martins

Dissertation: *Enhancing the Academic Self-Efficacy of Black and Hispanic High School Students in STEM*

Advisor: Neil Trotta

A. Anthony Duva Mastracchio

Dissertation: *The Effects of Social Media Integrated Instruction on English as a Second Language Learner's Achievement in Vocabulary Comprehension*

Advisor: Michael Dean

Kathleen Ann McCaffrey-Pomerleau

Dissertation: *Unlocking the Power of Co-Collaboration: The Impact of Educator Involvement in Educational Technology Development*

Advisor: Cherese Childers-McKee

Lisa Andrea McCalla

Dissertation: *Persistent Pearls: Understanding Activism Through the Experiences of Black Women in Black Greek-Lettered Sorority Alumnae Chapters*

Advisor: Mounira Morris

Julia Lyu Mears

Dissertation: *The lived experience of BIPOC professional staff at "Flagship University"*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Meredith Eden Merchant

Dissertation: *The Disconnect of Soft Skill Development and Job Skill Proficiency in Higher Education*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Judith Mary Merra

Dissertation: *Teacher Interview as Methodology to Examine how White Teachers are Taking Action in the Wake of George Floyd's Death*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Ryan C. Merrill

Dissertation: *Sensemaking in Higher Education: The Experiences of First-Time Public University Presidents*

Advisor: Carolyn Bair

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David Merry

Dissertation: *Managing Organizational Change in Career Services Units*

Advisor: Sean Gallagher

Nicole Renee Miller

Dissertation: *Searching for Cultural Competence: A Study Exploring the Disconnect Between the College Classroom and the Workplace*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Ryan David Miller

Dissertation: *I Don't Know What I Don't Know: An Action Research Study regarding the Impact of Youth Travel/Club Sports on High School Athletic Participation*

Advisor: Andrew Anderson

Enrique Morales-Diaz

Dissertation: *Latinx Institutional Agents: A Narrative Inquiry of How They Employ Their Community Cultural Wealth at Hispanic-Serving Community Colleges in New England*

Advisor: Michael Dean

Dena Helena Mortensen

Dissertation: *READ and Rehearse: An Effective Model for Professional Development in Reading*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

Bonnie Joy Niemann

Dissertation: *Montessori Educators' Understandings and Perceptions of Critical Race Theory, and Their Receptiveness to Its Inclusion in Curriculum*

Advisor: Aly McDowell

Sarah Chaplin Barnes Norsworthy

Dissertation: *Pages of Potential: An Action Research Study on the Affordances and Constraints of Using Picture Books as Tools to Deepen Adult Senses of Identity and Belonging*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Jennifer Marie Olivieri

Dissertation: *School-Community Relationships*

Advisor: Michael Dean

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Stephen Philip Ostendorff

Dissertation: *The Classroom is Only Part of the Challenge: Employing Interventions That Help Retain Adult Learners in Higher Education*

Advisor: Lynda Beltz

Joshua Charles Otlin

Dissertation: *Learning to Assess for Learning: An IPA Study Exploring Teachers' Experiences with Professional Development in Formative Assessment*

Advisor: Andrew Anderson

Jonathan Edward Page

Dissertation: *Finding a Place for Us: Improving the Social Connectedness and Sense of Belonging for Black Students at a Predominately White Institution (PWI)*

Advisor: Mounira Morris

Sandra Lee Passalcqua

Dissertation: *A Change in the Educational Landscape of a Rural Community: A School for the Joy of Learning*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Bindi R. Patel

Dissertation: *Latina Student Success: Identity and Experiences of Latina Community College Students*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Elizabeth Marie Pawlowski

Dissertation: *Stuck in the Middle: Examining the Impact of the Learning Environment on Adolescent Motivation*

Advisor: Paula Boyum

Diane C. Perez

Dissertation: *Exploring the Transfer Student Capital-Building Experiences of Lateral Transfer Students*

Advisor: Dan Volchok

Kelli Ann Perkins

Dissertation: *Beyond #BlackGirlMagic: The Persistence of Black Women to Senior Level Careers in Higher Education Administration*

Advisor: Mounira Morris

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Rochel Alicia Pinder

Dissertation: *Part-time & Adult Learners of Color: Factors Influencing Persistence in a Certificate Program Pathway to a Degree*

Advisor: Joan Giblin

Emily Anne Lavoie Plante

Dissertation: *The Process and Impact of a Community of Practice on Teacher Knowledge and Integration of Culturally Responsive Pedagogy*

Advisor: Andrew Anderson

Ashley Shavon Porter

Dissertation: *For Us, By Us: The Unique Experiences of Black Women Educators in K-12 Schools*

Advisor: Mounira Morris

Danielle Nicole Pusateri

Dissertation: *Building Gender Justice Leaders: How a Series of Professional Learning Conversations Can Assist Early Learning Professionals in Supporting Transgender/Non-Binary Children and Their Families*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Stephanie Ann Ramos

Dissertation: *Shatterproof: Perspectives of Latinx Leaders in Northeastern Independent Secondary Schools.*

Advisor: Afi Y. Wiggins

Retha Reynolds

Dissertation: *Achieving Equity for All Students: Culturally Relevant Project-based Learning and the Academic Achievement Gap*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Susan Cheryl Riello

Dissertation: *Designing and Delivering Online Learning Experiences to Support Graduate Student Well-Being*

Advisor: Joseph McNabb

Joseph Wyatt Robertson

Dissertation: *Improving Student Learning through PBL, Student Choice, and Community Partnerships*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

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Jason Fields Roth

Dissertation: *College and Career Readiness, Addressing an Initiative for Instructional Implementation in the Secondary Classroom*

Advisor: Lindsay Portnoy

Madeleine Roberta Ryan

Dissertation: *Transformative Leadership: BIPOC Faculty and Staff as Catalysts for Recruiting and Sustaining a Multicultural Student Body*

Advisor: Mounira Morris

Mark Ira Scheinbaum

Dissertation: *How Can a Documentary Presentation of HMC (Historically Marginalized Community) Post-Graduate Stories Inspire other HMCs to consider Applying to Graduate School?*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Darren M. Schwartz

Dissertation: *Time Management and Instructional Leadership*

Advisor: Michael Dean

Stefanie Gail Seidner

Dissertation: *Latinx Immigrant Parents and the Home-School Relationship: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis*

Advisor: Shira Leibowitz

Alicia Marie Serrato

Dissertation: *The Successes and Challenges of Implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Support in Urban Elementary Schools*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

Jennifer Jane Sharp

Dissertation: *Belongingness in Underrepresented in Medicine Doctor of Physical Therapy Students*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Cicily Teresa Shaw

Dissertation: *Undermatching in College Admission and the Role of the School Counselor*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

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Linda S. Shields

Dissertation: *How School Meal Programs Can Improve Dietary Quality in Nutritionally Disadvantaged Adolescent Populations by Expanding Food Preferences by Exposing Students to Unfamiliar, But Healthy Food Choices*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Marcos Omar Silva

Dissertation: *Online Resource Library to Engage Youth in Conversations about Social Inequities*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

Beth Ellen Simmons

Dissertation: *Examining Student Engagement in Powerful STEM Secondary Classrooms: Measuring Opportunities to Develop Deeper Learning Competencies*

Advisor: Tracy Pascua Dea

Jason Chadwick Singleton

Dissertation: *Placing Students at the Center: Examining How Teacher Empathy Modeling and Empathy-Infused Student-Centered Learning Experiences Cultivate Empathetic Middle School Classrooms and Learning Communities*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

Laura Myerchin Sklaroff

Dissertation: *Trauma and Technology: Understanding Barriers and Solutions to Long COVID Care Access*

Advisor: Lindsay Portnoy

Melissa Amelia Spash

Dissertation: *Implementing School Autonomy in a Medium-Sized Urban School District: The Potential of Principals' Networks for Increasing Capacity and Effectiveness*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Kellie Lynn Stewart

Dissertation: *Exploring Sign Language Interpreter Decision-Making: Accepting or Declining Assignments*

Advisor: Karen Phillips

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Lauren Mary Stiles

Dissertation: *General and Special Education Teachers' Experiences with Co-teaching as Ongoing Professional Learning*

Advisor: Andrew Anderson

Yifan Sun

Dissertation: *Breaking the Silence: Exploring Career Advancement and Personal Wellbeing of Asian American Employees on a Two-year Community and Technical College Campus*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Kevin A Thomas

Dissertation: *On College Student Success, Living-Learning Communities, and Self-Regulated Learning: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis*

Advisor: Chong Kim-Wong

Jacqueline M. Tiermini

Dissertation: *"The System is Built Upside Down": Constructing a Collaborative Model for Career Awareness*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Stefany Tomlinson

Dissertation: *Still, I RISE: A Framework for Transforming Experiences for Black Women Leaders in K-12 Urban Education*

Advisor: Mounira Morris

Robert L. Totino

Dissertation: *Strategies to Potentially Maintain Financial Sustainability by a Small, Private, Nonprofit Higher Education Institution: An Action Research Study*

Advisor: Wendy Crocker

Heather Nicole Tucker

Dissertation: *Administrative Strategies to Advance Co-Teaching for Students with Disabilities*

Advisor: Christopher Lawrence

Casey Nicole Vaughan

Dissertation: *A New Paradigm: Market Driven Matriculation Designed to Optimize Academic Post Graduate Success*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

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Bonnie Veronico

Dissertation: *Why Have All the Teachers Gone? An Action Research Investigation into the Causes of Teacher Departures from the Field of Adult English Language Learning, and the Viability of Ongoing Professional Development as a Solution for Career Persistence*

Advisor: Kelly Conn

Marquis Trevor Victor

Dissertation: *The Impact of Critical Consciousness on the Leadership, Structure and Work of Elevated Thought*

Advisor: Joseph McNabb

Tracy Jean Wagner

Dissertation: *It Has to be the Fabric: Practicing District-Level Equity-Minded Leadership in a Predominantly White High School*

Advisor: Alice McIntyre

Taiwana Sherri Walker

Dissertation: *A Picture is Worth A Thousand Words: Teachers' Reflections on Using Visualizations in an English Language Arts Classroom to Build Reading Comprehension and Critical Thinking*

Advisor: Aly McDowell

Kathryn Elizabeth Welch

Dissertation: *Using Trauma-Informed Practice to Support Students and Educators in a Post-COVID World: An Action Research Project*

Advisor: Ella Benson

Carla Stevens Wieggers

Dissertation: *Leading Abroad: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) of International Dean of Student Life Roles in U.S. Study Abroad*

Advisor: Michael Thomas

Erin C Wieseahn

Dissertation: *The Impacts of Belonging, Shared Vision, and Positive Working Conditions on School Culture and Collective Teacher Efficacy*

Advisor: Alice McIntyre

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Amanda Beth Willand

Dissertation: *Exploring and Improving Culturally Responsive Practices for Students with Autism*

Advisor: Melissa Parenti

Nichole LaDawn Yates

Dissertation: *Fostering Belonging with Black Women in Organizational Leadership*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

Anthony Yuan

Dissertation: *An Investigation of Teachers' Experience of Teaching Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Hong Kong Mainstream Preschools*

Advisor: Patricia Mason

Nikki Elise Yuskowski

Dissertation: *Highlighting Social-Emotional Learning In The Content-Based Curriculum*

Advisor: Kimberly Nolan

Cara Jane Zimon

Dissertation: *Let's Talk about It: Supporting Novice Teachers through Virtual Conversation Spaces*

Advisor: Christopher Unger

DOCTOR OF LAW AND POLICY

Mark Antony Addison

Dissertation: *Title IX Investigator Perceptions of Federal Regulatory Compliance Burdens and Impact on Work Regarding Sex Discrimination at Institutions of Higher Education*

Advisor: Megan Kennedy

Colonel Ralph J. Capio

Dissertation: *Identification and analysis of the impact government shutdowns have on small and socially disadvantaged businesses and how to ameliorate them*

Advisor: Megan Kennedy

Jabulani Dube

Dissertation: *Conflict in Ethiopia: An Analysis of United States foreign policy during the Ethiopia Tigray Conflict (2020 to 2022)*

Advisor: Fiona Creed

Michele Frazier

Dissertation: *The Calm in the Storm: Alternative Crisis Response Models in the Era of Defund the Police and Back the Blue*

Advisor: Megan Kennedy

Daniel Gannon

Dissertation: *Breaking Barriers: Empowering Leaders to Expand Access & Attainment for Socially Vulnerable Communities*

Advisor: Megan Kennedy

Paula Jean Grow

Dissertation: *Hidden in Plain Sight: A study in maximizing the potential of employees with disabilities*

Advisor: Fiona Creed

Rochelle Higgins

Dissertation: *On The Road to Reparations: A Qualitative Study Exploring Accessibility to Comprehensive College-Readiness Student Support Programs for African American Students*

Advisor: Megan Kennedy

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Steve Russell Jean

Dissertation: *Operation Breakthrough: Adoption Barriers to Optimizing Artificial Intelligence for Health Equity among Black Veterans with Heart Failure*

Advisor: Kevin Brannon

Harold L. Miller Jr.

Dissertation: *Understanding The Lived Experiences of Black Male Alumni Who Have Received Special Education Services in Boston Public Schools*

Advisor: Tracy Pascua Dea

Andrea M. Noktes

Dissertation: *The Second Glass Ceiling: Uncovering Barriers to Capital for Women Entrepreneurs in Small Business Lending*

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Advisor: Richard Swanson

Alexandra Punch

Dissertation: *Shifting Attitudes: Measuring the Impact of Information on Opinions Toward Safe Consumption Sites in New York State*

Advisor: Ted Johnson

Linda Ann Siebert Rapoport

Dissertation: *The Dynamics that Successfully Led the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Pass Workplace Family Policies into Law through Ballot Initiatives and Legislator Led Negotiations with Coalition and Employer Leaders*

Advisor: JD LaRock

Bijoy Sagar

Dissertation: *Policy barriers to the adoption of digital health interventions in the management of chronic Type 2 diabetes among African American adults in the United States*

Advisor: Neil Maniar

Zahraa Nazim Saiyed

Dissertation: *Equity and social vulnerability in earthquake and wildfire mitigation policy*

Advisor: Megan Kennedy

Jennifer Lynn Sherillo

Dissertation: *Barriers To Mental Healthcare In The Veteran Administration: A Qualitative Study Examining Veteran's Perceptions Of Access To Mental Healthcare In South Carolina*

Advisor: Kevin Brannon

Mary Kathleen Speta

Dissertation: *A Selling Sex in America: A qualitative Review & Inquiry*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

Nicolette Fariello Springer

Dissertation: *The Power of Information: Exploring the Influence of Knowledge on the Public Opinion of Pay Equity Legislation*

Advisor: Megan Kennedy

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Robin Henrikson Beaulieu

Dissertation: *Patient Centered Care in a Geriatric Home Care Population: challenges and successes: a series of case reports*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

Kevin Guang Ann Cai

Dissertation: *Management of Canalithiasis Posterior Canal BPPV: a case study*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

Kwan Yin Ching

Dissertation: *Osteochondral Lesion in the Hallux's Proximal Phalanx: A Physical Therapy Case Report*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

Joel Aaron Desautels

Dissertation: *Post-operative medial patellofemoral ligament reconstruction quadriceps inhibition in female athletes: a case series*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

Tonya Annette Juge

Dissertation: *Thoracic Outlet Syndrome: A Case Study*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

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Rachel Elise Krantz

Dissertation: *Audit of the Major Trauma Service Within a London Hospital for NICE Guidelines on Rehabilitation Following Traumatic Injury (Spinal Cord Injury)*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

Amy Louise Morris

Dissertation: *Scoliosis: Current State of PT Knowledge in Assessment and Treatment*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

Heather D Ross

Dissertation: *Early-onset puberty: The exogenous factors influencing peripheral precocious puberty and the developmental consequences impacting adolescent girls*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

Eileen Louise Tran

Dissertation: *OA method proposals for Student Centered Goal Setting in School-Based Physical Therapy*

Advisor: Jeananne Elkins

DEAN'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING DOCTORAL WORK

The Dean's Medal for Outstanding Doctoral Work is the highest honor awarded by the College of Professional Studies to a doctoral graduate. It was established to acknowledge exemplary academic achievement and to recognize demonstrated creativity.

The process for determining one or more recipients involves evaluating nominated candidates based on the following criteria: the degree of comprehension, innovation, and creativity; the scope and importance of the work to a field of study; and the caliber of writing. Faculty advisors from all three doctoral programs are invited to nominate students whose final doctoral work they deem exceptional. A review committee composed of faculty from the college chooses a group of finalists, and the Dean of the College makes the final decision.

2023 Dean's Medal Recipient

Hui Wen Chin, EdD

Committed to supporting the well-being of both young children and their educators, Hui Wen Chin's research sifted through the beliefs, values, and experiences of early childhood educators (ECE) at a university in Singapore to identify how educators make choices related to the feeding practices of young children. Chin is a graduate of Northeastern's Doctor of Education program and a recipient of the Dean's Medal for Outstanding Doctoral Work for her dissertation, *Sifting through Preschool teacher's funds of knowledge to reveal culturally sustaining child feeding opportunities at one university in Singapore*.

By using a "Sifter Model" that evolved from a course assignment, a reflection tool was designed to develop participant introspection and help educators align their ideals with their child-feeding practices. A WhatsApp channel was leveraged as both a data collection method and to create community. The findings from her study reflect change at several levels radiating from the educator's personal values, attitudes and beliefs about child feeding.

Chin's comprehensive literature review respectfully weaves Eastern and Western perspectives and resisted a reductionist dichotomy. Her research has already made significant contributions to the education discipline having appeared in publications for parents, academics, and educators.

By utilizing clear aims and objectives and a well-justified research design, Chin's study demonstrated how responses crafted with participants can address a challenge in the local context. Ultimately, this research illustrated that power for decision-making about child feeding resides within each participant regardless of external factors. The recommendations from this study impact several levels beginning with educators and moving to scholar-practitioners, tertiary education, and finally government.

Chin is an early childhood education instructor and course writer at the Singapore University of Social Sciences. A citizen of the world, she has lived in Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia

and the United States. She earned a bachelor's degree in media and communications and American studies from the University of Melbourne, a master's degree in food studies from New York University, and a master's degree in early childhood education from Boston University. Prior to becoming a teacher-educator and scholar-practitioner, she wrote about food and travel for both print and online publications. Chin has also started a small batch granola business and worked as a preschool teacher.

Bijoy Sagar, DLP

A lifelong believer in the power of technology and innovation to change lives, Bijoy Sagar has taken this hope for the future and aimed it at solving the problem of access to digital health interventions for African Americans. A doctoral graduate of Northeastern's Law and Policy program, Sagar's thesis, *Policy barriers to the adoption of digital health interventions in the management of chronic Type 2 diabetes among African American adults in the United States*, was developed from his longstanding desire for families, patients and caregivers to find hope for healthier lives, in part aided by the potential of data and technology.

As a scholar – practitioner, Sagar completed a dissertation that applies the research skills gained in the Doctor of Law and Policy program to a problem he identified as a practitioner working in the life science and pharmaceutical sectors. During his time working as a senior technology leader, Sagar learned that technology only has meaning when seen in the context of helping to solve larger social problems. By taking his passion for the exciting potential inherent within data and technology he completed an exceptional research study aimed at breaking down barriers to medical technology for marginalized groups.

Sagar focused his research on improving equity in health care while seeking to find ways to improve outcomes for African Americans, a group who are disproportionately affected by Type 2 diabetes and suffer worst outcomes than other groups. He used a health equity measurement framework to guide data collection and analysis. By determining which variables affect the intention to use the digital intervention, Sagar can use his findings to further policy and improve access for marginalized groups.

Originally from Mumbai, India, Sagar holds a bachelor's degree in geology and a master's degree in geochemistry from the University of Mumbai. He is also a double Husky having earned a master's from the D'Amore-McKim School of Business at Northeastern. Sagar is currently the Chief Information and Digital Officer of Bayer, while also serving as a private equity advisor and board member. He divides his time between New Jersey and Dusseldorf, Germany with his wife Jawahara and daughter Mira with whom he shares a passion for travel.

A UNIVERSITY ENGAGED WITH THE WORLD

THE HISTORY OF NORTHEASTERN

Founded in 1898, Northeastern is a global research university and the recognized leader in experiential learning. Despite the university's current preeminence, Northeastern had modest origins.

At the end of the 19th century, immigrants and first-generation Americans constituted more than half of Boston's population. Chief among the city's institutions committed to helping these people improve their lives was the Boston YMCA. The YMCA became a place where young men gathered to hear lectures on literature, history, music, and other subjects considered essential to intellectual growth.

In response to the enthusiastic demand for these lectures, the directors of the YMCA organized the "Evening Institute for Young Men" in May 1896. Frank Palmer Speare, a well-known teacher and high-school principal with considerable experience in public schools, was hired as the institute's director. Two years later, under Speare's direction, the YMCA advertised the creation of the "Department of Law of the Boston YMCA," and on October 3, 1898, Robert Gray Dodge taught the first class. The program, an immediate success, marked the birth of Northeastern University. Speare would later remark, "We started with an eraser and two sticks of chalk."

When demand for other courses grew, Speare moved to add more programs, and in 1909 the full-time day colleges began instruction. That same year, the Evening Polytechnic School announced "cooperative engineering courses," in which students would have an opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in the workplace—the beginning of Northeastern's signature cooperative education program.

Decades of expansion

The school continued to grow, and in 1922 the College of Business was founded. More space was needed. The university purchased the former home of the Boston Red Sox in 1929, and in 1934 the Boston architectural firm Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson, and Abbott was awarded the contract to design Richards Hall. Using what was to become the campus signature—white brick—Shepley, Bulfinch presented plans for a neoclassical building. Opened in 1938, Richards Hall was the first building to appear on the front quadrangle.

As the campus grew, so did Northeastern's programs. In 1935, the College of Liberal Arts was added, signaling that Northeastern was on its way to becoming a major university.

When Speare stepped down as president in 1940, he was replaced by Carl Stephens Ell, dean of the College of Engineering. It was under Ell's leadership that Northeastern first admitted women to full-time day programs.

In the postwar world, Northeastern, like its peer institutions, saw a phenomenal increase in the number of people attending college. The university expanded its programs to accommodate this growing population of increasingly diverse students. In rapid succession, additional programs and colleges were established: College of Education, 1953; University

College, 1960; College of Pharmacy, 1962; College of Nursing, 1964; Boston Bouvé College, 1964; College of Criminal Justice, 1967; and College of Computer Science, 1982.

This expansion of programs brought with it a need for more buildings—and land. When Ell retired as president in 1959, he was succeeded by Asa S. Knowles. Under his leadership, suburban properties in Weston, Nahant, and Burlington were acquired and the Boston campus blossomed with new buildings, including various undergraduate dormitories designed to accommodate the increasing number of residential students at what had been primarily a commuter campus.

Transforming the Boston campus

When Knowles retired in 1975, he was succeeded by Kenneth G. Ryder, who had begun his career at Northeastern as a member of the history department and had risen through the ranks to become executive vice president before his election as president. Under his leadership, the university expanded and enriched its programs, particularly in the arts and humanities, and continued to improve its facilities. Plans for the Snell Library were finalized during Ryder's tenure, and the campus was beautified. During these years, Northeastern also deepened its commitment to Boston and its neighborhoods.

In 1989, Ryder stepped down as the fourth president of the university. He was succeeded by John A. Curry, Northeastern's executive vice president and its first alumnus to become president. With President Curry in charge, the university embarked on a series of ambitious undertakings, including a new science and engineering research center, a state-of-the-art classroom building, a recreation complex, and several new graduate and undergraduate programs.

To support these new ventures, Curry led Northeastern in a successful fundraising campaign. His years of leadership also featured significant restructuring as the university prepared to enter its second century. In June 1996, after four decades of service, Curry retired from Northeastern. To succeed him, the trustees elected Richard M. Freeland as the university's sixth president.

Elevating experience

A distinguished historian and administrator, President Freeland brought to the university a renewed sense of energy and mission. His programs were designed to support his vision of Northeastern as a university that would be student-centered, practice-oriented, and urban. Northeastern developed the West Campus with architecturally acclaimed residence halls and teaching facilities for the health sciences and computer science, and added new spaces to enrich student life on campus.

When Freeland stepped down in 2006, he was succeeded by Joseph E. Aoun, an internationally known linguistics scholar. Northeastern's seventh president came from the University of Southern California, where he served as dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences. President Aoun developed an academic plan outlining the university's vision in several areas: experiential learning, global outreach, use-inspired research, urban engagement, and intellectual life. He greatly expanded global co-op opportunities. He also aligned the university's research with three worldwide imperatives—health, security, and sustainability—with a focus on interdisciplinary solutions.

A rising global profile

Under Aoun's leadership, Northeastern launched a system of campuses designed to be platforms for lifelong learning aligned with area economies. The first two opened in Charlotte, North Carolina (2011), and Seattle (2013). Additional campuses followed in Silicon Valley, California (2015), and in Toronto (2016).

In 2016, Aoun led the development of a new academic plan, Northeastern 2025. The plan was a blueprint for transforming the university into a global university system—featuring networks of learners and innovators—designed to empower people to succeed in this era of unprecedented technological change. Accordingly, the university expanded the role of its global campuses to serve as platforms for learning, research, and industry partnerships. In 2019, it opened another location in Vancouver and acquired New College of the Humanities in London, now officially Northeastern University London and offering undergraduates a unique opportunity to earn a dual U.S./U.K. degree. Later in 2019, Northeastern launched a research campus in Arlington, Virginia, an addition to two existing research campuses in Nahant and Burlington, Massachusetts (formed in 1967 and 2012 respectively).

Then in January 2020, technology entrepreneur David Roux and his wife, Barbara, made an investment in the university to open the Roux Institute in Portland, Maine. The institute focuses on graduate studies and research in fields such as AI, digital engineering, and advanced life sciences, amplified by industry partnerships. It was specifically designed to be a model of how higher education can ignite economic development in regions of the country largely bypassed by the innovation economy, setting a new bar for what the global university system could achieve.

Resilience and momentum

The same revolutionary vision for global learning and discovery that inspired Northeastern 2025 infuses the university's latest academic plan, Experience Unleashed. The plan is designed to deepen the impact of Northeastern's global network by maximizing the power of experience to understand and solve the world's interconnected, ever-evolving challenges.

In 2022, the university took a significant step in realizing the potential for its global system by merging with Mills College in Oakland, California, becoming the first university with comprehensive residential campuses for undergraduate and graduate students on both U.S. coasts. Northeastern's Oakland campus is now home to Mills College at Northeastern and the Mills Institute, focused on equity, social justice, and women's leadership. Later in 2022, Northeastern announced its newest campus in Miami, with graduate education and innovation partnerships aligned with South Florida's economic growth.

On October 3, 2023, Northeastern marked its 125th anniversary. The milestone offered an opportunity both to recognize how the entire Northeastern community has been shaped by the power of experience and to herald the next 125 years of world-changing impact. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our university community, Frank Palmer Spear's "eraser and two sticks of chalk" have evolved into one of the world's most innovative universities. Our faculty collaborates more fluidly with experts across industry, government, and community-based organizations. Ideas and solutions can be scaled. And our students are empowered to be true global citizens, scientists, entrepreneurs, and creators—prepared to make an impact wherever they go.

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