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Newsletter

Department of Educational Leadership and Higher
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EDAD

EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION & LEADERSHIP

EDAD Program Newsletter

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY • EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION & LEADERSHIP • WWW.STCLOUDSTATE.EDU/EDAD



Internationalization: A Key to Success

St. Cloud State University is widening and deepening its efforts to provide comprehensive and innovative higher education programs, based on the MnSCU Strategic Plan 2010-2014. Such efforts are focused on designing a better future for a new generation of students and employees, centered on involvement, multiculturalism, adaptability and responsibility. SCSU relies on a five pillar action plan to fulfill its mission and vision: Community Engagement, Community of Scholars, the Diversity Task Force, Technology Plan and the International Vision and Plan.

The International Vision and Plan is the most recent attempt to target the enhancement of student experiences, improvement of the campus environment, cultivation and the strengthening of strategic partnerships, broadening of community outreach and development of an international brand.

The International Vision and Plan is significant in its capacity to create an international study, living, and working environment. It will have an enormous impact on SCSU students, business partners and faculty members as it leads to the development of a wide range of interpersonal and multi-cultural skills needed in the global labor market today. Finally, it significantly contributes to the establishment of an international education culture at SCSU with a multitude of broader perspectives growing out of an enriching multi-cultural environment.

This initiative actually creates opportunities for all university members to develop and maintain formal and informal networks that will foster greater opportunities for success in the internationalized society of the 21st century.

Fall 2011 Graduation Dissertation Deadlines

Final Defense

October 28, 2011

Submit for Format Review

November 18th

**Final Formatted and Approved
Copy for Binding**

December 16, 2011

Graduation

December 18, 2011

Spring 2012 Graduation Dissertation Deadlines

Final Defense

March 16, 2012

Submit for Format Review

April 6, 2012

**Final Formatted and Approved
Copy for Binding**

May 4, 2012

Graduation

May 5, 2012

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Heidi Hahn & Amy Christensen**



New Perspectives

At 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 9, 2011, the twelve members of SCSU's Educational Administration and Leadership's Doctoral Cohort III met one another for the first time. The occasion was the Ed.D. Orientation Reception, intended to 'formally' introduce Cohort III members to the Dean of the School of Education, Dean of the Graduate School, and Educational Administration and Leadership faculty and furnish a comprehensive overview of the program of study the new doctoral cohort would experience together.

Dr. John Eller, Program Director of Educational Administration and Leadership, served as event coordinator and master of ceremonies. Welcoming remarks were offered to the cohort members by the Dean of the School of Education, Dr. Osman Luttur-odt Alawiye, and the Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Daniel D. Gregory.

Following the introduction of Doctoral Cohort III faculty members, Dr. Eller encouraged each of the cohort members to provide brief remarks about their current professional positions/status, educational backgrounds, and professional (future job) aspirations. Members of Ed.D. Cohort III are as follows: Ms. Karrie A. Boser, High School Principal (Pierz School District), Ms. Catherine Wyland, Community Services Director (Centennial School District), Mr. Dalton Crayton, Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies (Minnesota State University), Mr. Charles H. Fontaine, School Planning Specialist - Team Leader (Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Center), Ms. Shawn M. Hoffman-Bram, Community Education Director (St. Cloud Area Schools), Ms. Eralda Jesku, Ms. Melissa K. Johnson, Mr. Gracious A. Msuya, Special Education teacher (St. Michael Albertville District), Mr. John Muenich, High School Principal (Hermentown School District), Mr. Deron R. Stender, Ms. Tammy Dewey, Middle School Assistant Principal (Brainerd), and Mr. Curt L. Tryggstad, Superintendent (Little Falls Community Schools).

Early member assessments of the Ed.D. Cohort III include "open," "enthusiastic," "collaborative," "engaging," and "experienced." "This is a fun group of very exciting people with widely diverse professional backgrounds. They will go far!" offered Associate Professor Roger Worner.

To be sure, all assessments of this third Cohort are that it will build upon the already rich tradition and performance levels established by Ed.D. Cohort I and Cohort II.

Changes and Challenges at SCSU

NEW: Department for Campus Involvement
Convocation Week • IT system • Branding Strategy

With completion of its reorganization process, St. Cloud State University implemented a series of structural changes in its organization, effective July 1, 2011. Among more notable changes were the renaming of select "colleges" as "schools." Known previously as colleges, four "new" schools were formed: the School of Education, School of Health and Human Services, School of Public Affairs, and Herberger Business School. Remaining as "colleges" are the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Arts and Science and Engineering. Changes occurred mostly in the form of internal mergers within the same school or between different administrative units. A new Department for Campus Involvement was created and became operational in August 2011. Its purpose includes providing information, programs and services to students in a one-stop-shop for all campus activities previously dispensed by the University Programming and the Center for Student Organizations and Leadership Development. Within the School of Education, a new department of Educational Leadership and Higher Education was formed – under one co-chairpersonship - from the previously distinct Educational Administration and Higher Education programs.

During Convocation Week in August, SCSU staff members were provided an open forum to provide feedback on three of the University's Action Plans, drafted on Diversity, Community Engagement and International Vision. A change that positively impacted the life of students is the recent merger of the IT system, incorporating

With these organizational changes, the University's commitment to quality education has remained constant.

the D2L, E-mail, E-Services and File/Web Space under a single log-in (since Fall of 2011). Last but not least, a new University-wide Branding Strategy has been developed by and is being implemented with the assistance of Earthbound Media Group.

With these organizational changes – aimed at streamlining and enhancing the effectiveness of SCSU's program and service delivery - the University's commitment to quality education has remained constant. Provost Devinder Malhotra recently emphasized in a newsletter on Transition Issues that the core of SCSU's commitments are preserved and will continue to be a distinctive feature of the university. SCSU will continue to meet its students' needs and challenge them to even expand their academic horizons.

Thinking Ahead

Members of the Educational Administration and Leadership Advisory Council met from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 10, 2011. The meeting was chaired and facilitated by Dr. John Eller, Program Director of Educational Administration and Leadership, and focused on "Strategic Planning Brainstorming."

Members of the Advisory Council and their professional responsibilities are as follows:

Dr. Daniel D. Gregory
Assoc. Provost for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies, St. Cloud State University

Dr. Frances Kayona
Associate Professor, Educational Administration and Leadership, St. Cloud State University

Dr. Janine Dahms-Walker
Associate Professor, Educational Administration and Leadership, St. Cloud State University

Dr. John Eller
Professor, Educational Administration and Leadership, St. Cloud State University

Dr. Osman Lutterodt Alawiye
Dean of School of Education,
St. Cloud State University

Dr. Nicholas Miller
Associate Professor, Educational Administration and Leadership, St. Cloud State University

Dr. Roger Worner
Associate Professor, Educational Administration and Leadership, St. Cloud State University

Bob Miller
President, Kendeco Company

Erich Martens
High School Principal,
Sauk Rapids-Rice High School

Julie Swaggert
Middle School Principal,
Buffalo Community Middle School

John Mattke
President/Chief Operating Officer,
Cold Spring Granite Company

Kathy Zavala
Executive Director, MN Workforce Center-St. Cloud

Kris Harlan
Elementary Principal, Maple Lake Public Schools

Nicole Wilke
Community Education Director,
Annandale Public Schools

Patty Popp
Executive Director of Student Services and
Special Education, St. Cloud Area School District 742

Scot Kerbaugh
High School Principal, Annandale High School

Dr. Stephen Malone
Superintendent of Schools, Becker Public Schools

Following welcoming and introductions, Dr. Nick Miller and Dr. Roger Worner provided updates to attendees on the status of licensure and doctoral cohorts. Subsequently, Dr. Eller guided the group through a "brainstorming process" that encouraged participants to identify (1) collaborative opportunities, (2) program marketing, (3) revenue generation, and (4) ways to address and positively impact public perceptions of education and educational leadership. The Advisory Council findings will be used to assist in guiding and strengthening the Educational Administration and Leadership Program.

The next meeting of the Educational Administration and Leadership Advisory Council was set for Thursday, January 26, 2012.

JOIN US ON LINKEDIN!



The Center for Doctoral Studies has now set up a LinkedIn Group. The purpose of the SCSU Center for Doctoral Studies Group is to provide a professional network to reconnect, network, view upcoming events, and to access people in an array of industries and jobs.

Upon interest, follow our LinkedIn Group and enhance your career and networking prospects (<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?about=&gid=4188700>).

Meet David Esposito

David Esposito, a member of Cohort II, tells how the changes in the society and a referral from a great friend led him to pursue a doctoral degree in Educational Administration and Leadership (EDAD).

Tell us something about yourself, your previous and current career.

I have worn many hats in the geographic area where I have lived my entire life. As the community matured and evolved, I found myself paralleling that change in my own ways. I grew up in the city of Crystal, within the Robbinsdale School District, and continue to live and work there. In fact, I have been walking into schoolhouses in the Robbinsdale district every year for 46 years now! I have had two primary employers, both starting in 1979 -- the Robbinsdale School District and the City of Crystal. I continue to work part time and seasonally for the city's parks and recreation department, serving as occasional community center building manager, outdoor pool operator, and special events worker. The latter employment led me to seek licensure as a director of community education, which I am currently completing.

What made you enroll in the EDAD Doctoral Program?

Referral to the program by a friend and colleague. I'm known as a lifelong learner and continue to enjoy the classroom experience both as a student and as a teacher. SCSU was hosting an open house in Maple Grove, and I decided to attend. I was impressed by the program and enamored with the Drs. Worner, so I immediately applied. Ironically, I am here, but my referring friend regrettably is not.

Your life was complicated enough even before you started this program. How does your family feel about it?

My children are grown, so I feel comfortable committing to this program.

Reflecting on your study life, what are three things that you would consider outstanding in this experience?

Serving as a graduate assistant has been a positive experience. Also, I've observed and participated in an administrative setting of a post-secondary institution for the first time. Finally, the position has strengthened my learning and clarified expectations for me in each semester of work.

What challenges or shortcomings do you experience in this program?

There is never enough time to get everything done I would LIKE to get done! I have probably overextended myself by going after the community education licensure at the same time as the doctoral classes, but when all is said and done, I hope to show that it was a time of high achievement.

In your opinion, what could be done in this program more to improve your quality of life?

Honestly, with the supportive attitude of all of the professors, and the support provided by Michele Braun in the office, I think SCSU is well on its way to establishing a reputation of both rigor and support of student quality of life. It is an outstanding organization.

You are actually in your second year. By the end of this year, you may want to concentrate on the dissertation project. How do you feel about it? Do you have any major concerns so far? Do you have any idea or direction on the topic or field you would like to research?

The dissertation project continues to intimidate me, but that dissipates as we move along in each semester. The work is significant, but it becomes a known entity. The topics I am exploring thus far have revolved around the general topic area of school district human resources functions.

Where do you see yourself in three years?

This question is a logical follow-up to the dissertation question. I have had a lifelong interest in human resources functions and would like to be serving in a leadership capacity there. If not, I would like to be utilizing my soon-to-be-obtained license as director of community education. Perhaps there is a position out there for me in the next three years that brings together both of these areas of interest!



"I think SCSU is well on its way to establishing a reputation of both rigor and support of student quality of life."

David Esposito

A culminating project is ...

Two doctoral candidates argue with each other on the topic "Dissertation".

	The Pessimist	The Optimist
Dissertation is	overwhelming.	fun.
Dissertation is	hard competition.	sharing.
Dissertation is	only for professors.	your project.
Dissertation has	endless pages.	just one final paper.
Dissertation is	just something unknown.	a new experience for everyone.
Dissertation	simply costs a lot.	your lucky card in the labor market.
Dissertation	leaves no time for friends.	your "excuse" to companionship gatherings.
Dissertation	is not worth the cost.	a great opportunity for learning and growth.

"Dissertation is your chance to excel and be a leading professional in your field."

Mauch, J. E. & Birch, J. W. (1998). Guide to the Successful Thesis and Dissertation: A Handbook for Students and Faculty. New York : M. Dekker
Sternberg, D. (1981). How to Complete and Survive Your Doctoral Dissertation. New York: St. Martin's Griffin.

How to make a culminating project an enjoyable experience?

Stage 1: Brainstorming

- Identify various possible issues.
- Select a topic of your interests.
- Draft a timeline.
- Create an outline.

Stage 2: Preliminary Conference or Dissertation Proposal

- Visualize your project.
- Define committee membership.
- Create a research framework.
- Organize yourself.
- Keep track of pre-requisites.
- Prepare and conduct the Preliminary Conference or the Dissertation Proposal.
- Follow the IRB Process.

Stage 3: Producing Your Manuscript

- Keep consistency in your writing.
- Collect data and analyze.
- Write your mind.
- Review ... review ... review.

Stage 4: Final Oral Defense

- Visualize your Final Oral Defense.
- Share ... share ... share.
- Prepare and conduct the Final Defense.

Stage 5: Graduation Requirement

- Complete final paperwork.
- Make a final reminder for entering your grade to your advisor.
- Celebrate ... celebrate ... celebrate.

Allison, B. & Race, P. (2004). The Student's Guide to Preparing Dissertations and Theses. London: Routledge.

Murray, T. R. (2000). Theses and Dissertations: A Guide to Planning, Research, and Writing. Westport, Conn.: Bergin & Garvey.

Rudestam, K. E., & Newton, R. R. (2007). Surviving Your Dissertation: A Comprehensive Guide to Content and Process. Los Angeles: SAGE Publications.

Resources for Thesis and Dissertation

Assistance for research and writing:

- Columbia Guide to Online Style
- RefWorks

Databases, indexes, working papers and electronic journals:

- Academic Search Premier (all topics) from EBSCO
- Dissertation Abstracts
- Educator's Reference Complete
- ELM: Electronic Library for Minnesota
- ERIC (Education)
- Professional Collection (Education)
- PsycINFO
- SAGE Journals Online

Dictionaries, encyclopedias and handbooks:

- Credo Reference
- Encyclopedia of American Education
- Encyclopedia of Educational Leadership and Administration
- Encyclopedia of Educational Research
- Handbook of Research on Educational Administration
- Philosophy of Education: An Encyclopedia
- Sage Encyclopedia of Social Science Research Methods
- SAGE Reference Online

High-quality, reliable internet sites:

- American Association of Educational Administrators
- EPE Research Center
- Inside Higher Ed
- Standards for Success
- Library catalogs, e-books and reports
- Books and More Advanced Search (MnPALS Plus)
- E-Books at SCSU.

Publications of government agencies and legislatures:

- ERIC (free Web version)
- U.S. Department of Education

Statistical information, public opinion and data sets:

- Digest of Education Statistics
- FedStats
- Nation's Report Card
- National Center for Education Statistics
- ProQuest Statistical Insight
- U.S. Census Bureau

Thoughts from Cohort members

My Name is **Heidi Hahn** and I am a member of Cohort II. I am currently an Assistant Director of Special Education with the Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative in Brainerd, Minnesota. I thought I would share with you how much I truly appreciate my classmates and the experiences I am gaining with and through them. I have never been around such a talented group of professionals -- they amaze me with the wealth of their rich and diverse experiences. I look forward to each time we get together - I know they will challenge my thinking, encourage me on my educational journey and motivate me to be a better educational leader. I feel truly blessed because I know I am working towards a common goal with a wonderful group of people that will not only be lifelong professional colleagues, but lifelong friends as well.

Becoming a member of Cohort II is the best professional decision I have ever made! Thirteen in 2013 - and we are truly enjoying "the climb" together.

By Heidi Hahn

Amy Christensen

Cohort: I

Research Interest: Reading Fluency

Education Background:

BA - University of MN - Morris, MS in Education-Southwest State University - Marshall

Administration Licensure - SCSU

Currently working on my Doctorate in Educational Administration and Leadership at St. Cloud State University

Licensed:

Elementary Education K-6
Coaching 7-12
District Superintendent
Principal K-12
Community Education Director

Employment:

Elementary Principal at Russell-Tyler-Ruthton (RTR) Public Schools



ST. CLOUD STATE
UNIVERSITY.
A tradition of excellence and opportunity

Why SCSU:

I completed my administration course work through St. Cloud State. I feel I was well prepared for my current job based on the classes that I took at SCSU and I quickly found a job in the field. I waited patiently the next seven years for SCSU to offer a doctoral program and once they did, I enrolled and became a part of their first doctoral cohort in Educational Administration & Leadership.

Biography:

I grew up in Sacred Heart, Minnesota and graduated from Danube-Renville-Sacred Heart High School. I attended the University of Minnesota-Morris where I received my BA in Elementary Education. After graduation from Morris, I immediately began teaching. Five years into my teaching, I began taking Master's classes in Luverne through Southwest State. I liked being a part of the weekend program because I was able to take what I was learning and immediately implement it into my classroom. The day of our Master's Graduation was the day my first daughter, Mya, was born! A couple of years later, St. Cloud State brought their administrative cohort program to Pipestone. I proceeded to get my administrative licensure as K-12 Principal and Superintendent. A couple weeks after finishing classes, I was hired as the K-8 Principal/Superintendent at Lynd Public Schools. In 2004, I took a job with RTR Public School as the elementary principal. RTR Elementary is a K-5 building with 265 students located 25 miles Southwest of Marshall on Highway 23. My family and I live outside of Ruthton on East Twin Lake. My husband, Carmen, is the sales manager at KLOH/KISD Radio Station in Pipestone; my daughter, Mya is eleven, a 6th grader at RTR Middle School; my son, Chase is seven and in 1st grade at RTR Elementary; my youngest, Taya is three years old. In my spare time, I enjoy being with friends and family, walking and playing sports and watching my kids play sports, and reading mystery novels.



Amy Christensen

Have an interesting story or idea?

Contact: Eralda Jesku [edadga2@stcloudstate.edu] or Kelly Liebl [like0401@stcloudstate.edu]