

2026

SPRING COMMENCEMENT

Candidates for the
Doctoral Degree



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY
CHICAGO

Christ at the Center



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO
SPRING COMMENCEMENT
CLASS OF 2026

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTORAL DEGREE

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CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Sonya Boone

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *Examining the Relationship Between Leadership Styles and Employee Engagement of Black Workers*

Committee: Cedric Knott, Jacqueline McCoy, Ruba Abuhashish

Corrine Chen

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *Leadership Strategies on Green Procurement Initiatives in the Automotive Industry*

Committee: Karolyn Rubin, Jacqueline McCoy, John Schwarm

Sarah George

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *Exploring Leadership Strategies for Successful Robotic Process Automation Integration Within Business*

Committee: Noal Staubus, Jacqueline McCoy, Rey Lao

Rebecca Gilliam

Innovation in Human Resources

Dissertation Title: *Nonfamily Employees, Successor Family-Member Leaders, and Voluntary Turnover Intentions*

Committee: Jacqueline McCoy, Paul Brower, Ruba Abuhashish

Rebecca Jackson

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *A Quantitative Multiple Linear Regression Examining the Relationship Between Ethical Leadership and Employee Engagement*

Committee: Charlene Dunfee, Jacqueline McCoy, Paul Brower

Berkay Luleci

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *Leadership Styles and Job Satisfaction in the U.S. Banking Industry: A Multiregression Analysis*

Committee: Charlene Dunfee, Jacqueline McCoy, Paul Brower

Natthakrita Sae-Tung

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *A Case Study of SME Leaders in Thailand's Agri-food Sectors Innovative Strategic Planning Skills to Attain Long-term Organizational Sustainability*

Committee: Ruba Abuhashish, Jacqueline McCoy, Pamela Randle

Karyn Stephens Randazzo

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *Exploring HR Leadership Strategies to Improve Remote Worker Engagement*

Committee: Jacqueline McCoy, Ruba Abuhashish, Pamela Randle

Stanley Thomas

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *Navigating Change: Insights into Strategies for Sustaining Power Grid Initiatives*

Committee: Karolyn Rubin, Jacqueline McCoy, Paul Brower

Marcelo Antonio Vieira Carnevale

Strategic Leadership & Innovation

Dissertation Title: *Strategies Leaders Use in Manufacturing the Automotive and Machinery Components Sector for Flexibility, Agility, and Responsiveness for Sustainable Supply Chain Resilience*

Committee: Jacqueline McCoy, John Schwarm, Ruba Abuhashish



CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Jennifer Brown

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Teacher Job Satisfaction: A Qualitative Study of Impacts of Principal Leadership*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Tamara Korenman, Mary Ball Brant

Thomas Byers

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Organizational Listening Theory: A Qualitative Approach on an Intervention to Amplify Teacher Voice*

Committee: Williams Spears, Peter Sullivan, Elizabeth Wallick

Barbara Campbell

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Breaking the Stained-Glass Ceiling: A Study of the Challenges and Strategies of Women Leaders in Pentecostalism*

Committee: Jamie Kowalczyk, Kim Marxhausen, Chad Kendall

Meagan Dougherty

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *A Qualitative Research Exploration: Support Services Perception on What Followership Training Should be Offered to Ensure Effective Student Athlete Followership*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Pamela Konkol

Jason Flick

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Rise of Alternative and Emergency Certified Teachers*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Lisa Bloom

Kimberly Fomby Jefferson

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Investigating Outcomes Associated with the Lived Experiences of Self-employed Black Women Business Owners | Freedom or Fatigue?*

Committee: Juan Vives, Peter Sullivan, Sean Davenport

Philip Herro

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Experiences of Junior College Women's Basketball Players*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Pamela Konkol

Carol Holmes

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Impact of Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Stigma: A Qualitative Study*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Arthur Safer

Symira Jenkins

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Rethinking Achievements: The Contributions of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Educators on Urban Charter Middle Schools*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Dennette Foy

Donald Kalkstein

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Exploring the Role of Emotional Intelligence in NBA Coaching: A Phenomenological Study*

Committee: Jamie Stangel, Kim Marxhausen, Arthur Safer

Richard Marsh

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *A Qualitative Examination of Intent and Purpose in Educational Athletics in American Secondary Schools*

Committee: Jamie Stangel, Kim Marxhausen, Arthur Safer

Fernando Noriega

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *A Mixed-Method Study of Leadership Style and Organizational Culture in Sports*

Committee: Scott Ebbrecht, Peter Sullivan, Sharon Beverly

Kalisha Stout

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Weight of Impact: An Examination of Employees' Experiences of Implicit Bias and Institutional Betrayal Within a Criminal Justice Department*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Dennette Foy

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Oluwabukola Adaramola

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *How Virtual Teams in the Oil and Gas Sector Perceive Participative Leadership During the Pandemic*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Kathryn Hollywood

Mohannad Alqadi

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Influence of Situational Leadership II Styles on Teleworkers' Performance and Productivity After The COVID-19 Pandemic: A Mixed-Methods Study*

Committee: Katherine Green, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Elizabeth Brennan

Drew Brown

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Perceptions of Parental Involvement by NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Lacrosse Coaches*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Kathryn Hollywood

Kelli Cameron

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Physician Recruitment: Factors Impacting Early Career Practice Selection*

Committee: Juliette Christie, Kristina Kaufman, Karen Calendo

Jeffery Camp

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Importance of Effective Mentorship in Reducing Burnout and Turnover During Organizational Change*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Katherine Green, K. Camille Murray

Najmiyeh Fekripour

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *A Qualitative Study of Gender Inequity in Sports*

Committee: Jamie Stangel, Jie Lin, Arthur Safer

Arnita Harris

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Breaking Barriers: A Qualitative Study of Black Women's Pathways and Experiences in Executive Leadership*

Committee: Steve Song, Mary Ball Brant, Elizabeth Brennan

William Harris

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *How Collegiate Student-Athletes Navigate Athletic and Academic Demands: A Qualitative Phenomenological Study*

Committee: Elizabeth Owolabi, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Tony Lyons



CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

Yolanda Howe

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *From Home to the Executive Suite: Challenges of Female Leadership in a Neoliberal Environment*

Committee: Andrea Silverstein, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Ann Lane

Iman Mashaal

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The International School Leadership Model in Saudi Arabia: Leader Perceptions and Maximizing the Effectiveness of the Model*

Committee: Alison Clark, Lisa Bloom, Sally AlTurki

Diana McClarien

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *A Qualitative Study on Factors Affecting Teachers' Turnover Intentions in Early Childhood Education in a Large Urban City in the Midwest*

Committee: Jenna Nelson, Kathleen Mulvaney-Panjwani, Karen Ellefsen

Walter Mendenhall

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Rebuilding the Black Metropolis: Exploring Sustainable and Prosperous Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Solutions in African American Communities in Chicago*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Sarah Miltz-Frielink, Ethel Williams

Amanda Nelson

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Demographic Factors Influencing Program Outcomes in Early Childhood Education Programs*

Committee: Katherine Green, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Julie Davis

Omolara Olakunmi

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *A Qualitative Exploration of Business Leaders' Perspectives on Strategies for Business Survival Against COVID-19 Impact*

Committee: Joan McGarry, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Frank Billingsley

Carlos Ortiz-Lugo

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Perceptions of Trust, Procedural Justice, and Police Accountability in Minority Communities*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Donald Comi

Kimberly Prather

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Miseducation of Student-Athletes: A Study of Anti-Intellectualism in Today's College Athletes*

Committee: Jamie Stangel, Kim Marxhausen, Scott Ebbrecht

Christine Reeves

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Influence of Gender and Organizational Hierarchy on Employee Engagement: A Study of School-Based and Central-Office Employees in a Single School District*

Committee: Katherine Green, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Dawn Giannoni

Amy Seligson

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Effects of Unethical Leadership on Subordinates in a Nonprofit Organization*

Committee: Steve Song, Alison Clark, Pamela Konkol

Keith Tower

Leadership: Organizational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Exploring Trait Leadership During a Rapid-Onset Enduring Crisis: Using the Leader Portrait to Bring Understanding to How Pastors' Personalities Were Expressed During the COVID Crisis of 2020*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Kathryn Hollywood

Sarah Woodward

Leadership: Sports Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Effects of the High School Captain Training Program Experience on Collective Efficacy*

Committee: Andrea Silverstein, Thomas Gollery, Katherine Green

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Stephanie Alexander-Johnson

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Equity on the Edge: A Qualitative Study of School Leaders Perceptions of DEI Under Federal Mandates*

Committee: Adam Hiebel, Pamela Konkol, Rebecca Hornberger

Alexander Aschoff

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Teaching Through Transition: High School Educators' Lived Experiences with Competency-Based Education*

Committee: Glenn Schlichting, Jie Lin, Mary Zaharis

Michele Bertola

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Belonging Is Key: A Study of Latinx/o/a Students' Sense of Belonging in High School*

Committee: Mary Zaharis, Mary Ball Brant, Denise Glasgow

Danielle Boldt

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Informed Leadership: Teachers' Perceptions of the Administration's Role in Creating Sustainable Professional Development and Its Implementation in the Classroom*

Committee: Mary Ball Brant, Georgia Belesis, Mary Zaharis

Paris Branton-May

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Perspectives of Principals on Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports/Restorative Justice*

Committee: Evelyn Nedderman, Pamela Konkol, Mary Zaharis

Julie Bryniczka

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Amplifying Leadership: Exploring the Link Between Upward Feedback and Principal Practice*

Committee: Mary Zaharis, Mary Ball Brant, Glenn Schlichting

Armetta Burney

Leadership: Higher Education

Dissertation Title: *Against the Current: How African American Female Leaders Confront and Navigate Barriers in Higher Education*

Committee: Jessica Heybach, Pamela Konkol, Sarah Militz-Frielink

David Chordas

Leadership: School Leadership - Initial Leader

Dissertation Title: *Parent Perceptions of Resilience in Children Taking Multiple Advanced Placement Classes*

Committee: Dennis Kowalski, Ann Frkovich, Arthur Safer

Kim Cline

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Intersections of Collaboration in Related Service Providers: Revealing the Interplay Between Work Life Factors and Collaborative Potential*

Committee: Andrea Dinaro, Hayal, Kackar-Cam, Nancy Cavaretta

Timothy Collins

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *An Analysis of an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Program and Its Relationship to Student Self-Efficacy, Identity, and Academic Success*

Committee: Paul Sims, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Krista Parent

Aquanette Crockett

Leadership: Teacher Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Instructional Coaching: Understanding the Role of Instructional Coaches Through Servant Leadership*

Committee: Alison Clark, Jie Lin, Susan Kramer

Kyla Darling

Leadership: Educational Technology

Dissertation Title: *Behind the Curtain: Examining the Impact of Workplace Incivility on Nurses Transitioning from Education to Clinical Practice*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Barbara Calabro, Katherine Cabai

Nick Dettwiller

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Perceptions of Teacher Motivation and Community Engagement in a New or Renovated School*

Committee: Denise Glasgow, Julie Davis, Mary Zaharis

Jamila Dillard

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *Black Women Navigating Predominantly white Spaces*

Committee: Cheli Thomas, Pamela Konkol, Jihad Matariyeh

O'Neil Edwards

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *Teachers' Perceptions of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Implementation and Its Impact on Students' Literacy Improvement: A Qualitative Study of Instructional Practices, Challenges, and Outcomes*

Committee: Amy Varchmin, Peter Sullivan, Mark Gordon

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF EDUCATION
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Julianne Evans

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Exploring Teachers' Unions and Administration Views on Both Helpful and Harmful Collective Bargaining Agreement Policies*

Committee: Denise Glasgow, Mary Ball Brant, Arthur Safer

Ashley Groeneveld

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Teacher Retention and Satisfaction in a Unit School District in Illinois: A Case Study*

Committee: Craig Schilling, Peter Sullivan, Glenn Schlichting

Rochelle Halley

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Impact of Teacher Buy-in on the Curriculum Change Process*

Committee: Paul Sims, Mary Ball Brant, Kim Sekulich

Patricia Harper Reynolds

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Exploring the Perspectives of Parents, Teachers and School Leaders on Gentrification and Public Education*

Committee: Steve Song, Peter Sullivan, Philip Salemi

Michelle Howard

Leadership: School Leadership - Initial Leader

Dissertation Title: *Leadership Matters: Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Implementation Within K-12 Public School Buildings*

Committee: Christopher Maddox, Jill Williams, Karen Ellefsen

Pamela Hunt

Leadership: Higher Education

Dissertation Title: *Exploring the Complexity of Evaluating Nursing Students Performance: Perceptions of Clinical Nursing Faculty in the Northeastern United States*

Committee: Alison Clark, Juliette Christie, Lauren Gross

Nathan Karasek

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Understanding the Perceptions of Teachers Regarding the Impact of Their Disciplinary Actions on Students*

Committee: Mary Zaharis, Mary Ball Brant, Timothy Baker

Mark Kimball

Leadership: School Leadership - Initial Leader

Dissertation Title: *8 Perceptions of Culturally Responsive Social Emotional Learning Practices in Closing the Achievement Gap, from the Perspective of African American High School Students*

Committee: Dennis Kowalski, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Arthur Safer

Yolanda King Massey Payne

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *An Examination of Teacher Preparation to Support Elementary Students Experiencing Childhood Trauma*

Committee: Craig Schilling, Tamara Korenman, Karen Ellefsen

Jessica Langman

Leadership: Reading, Language & Literacy

Dissertation Title: *English Language Arts Curricular Use and Teacher Self-Efficacy Among Elementary School Reading Teachers*

Committee: Elizabeth Owolabi, John Schwartz, Samantha Lazich Caesar

Lauren Leitao

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Examining How Allyship and School Culture Shape Dual-Language Teacher Retention: A Qualitative Study*

Committee: Jenna Nelson, Ann Frkovich, Andrea Silverstein

Matthew Linton

Leadership: Teacher Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Challenges and Opportunities in Teacher Collaboration: A Qualitative Study*

Committee: Alison Clark, Matthew Basham, Barbara Calabro

Karen Marino

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Professional Learning Experiences that Impact Building One's Self-Efficacy When Working with English Language Learners*

Committee: Glenn Schlichting, Elizabeth Owolabi, Philip Salemi

Joseph Matise

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Post Pandemic Stress and The Educational Workforce*

Committee: Teri Greene, Matthew Basham, Dorothea Fitzgerald

Dimitra Mullins

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Student Perception of Wellness and Chronic Absenteeism from the Classroom at a High-Achieving High School*

Committee: Denise Glasgow, Ann Frkovich, Arthur Safer

Courtney Mustafa

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Outcomes of Grade Retention: Perceptions of Adults Retained in Grades K-8*

Committee: Katherine Green, Mixon Ware, William Spears

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF EDUCATION COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Min Namkung

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Middle School Teachers' Perceptions on the Factors Affecting Teacher Retention*

Committee: Paul Sims, Angela Tagaris, William Stanton

Fawnisha Perry

Leadership: Higher Education

Dissertation Title: *Persistence Amidst Predominance: A Phenomenological Exploration of Black Male Scholars at Predominantly White Institutions of Higher Education*

Committee: Jessica Heybach, Mary Ball Brant, Pamela Konkol

Lana Powers

Leadership: Teacher Leadership

Dissertation Title: *From Cold Iron to Kindling Minds: A Phenomenological Study of Student Motivation and Engagement*

Committee: Pamela Konkol, Rebecca Hornberger, Donna Knight

Julie Ramski

Leadership: Early Childhood Education

Dissertation Title: *How Do Preschool Teachers Perceive the Use of Picture Books to Teach Early Mathematics?*

Committee: Katherine Green, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Nancy Cavaretta

Teresa Reiche

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Leadership Juggling Act: Navigating the Complex Role of Elementary Principals in Balancing Responsibilities*

Committee: Glenn Schlichting, Victoria Stockton, David Bein

Sasha Saibi

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *General Education Teachers' Perceptions on the Inclusion of Students with Disabilities*

Committee: Denise Glasgow, Mark Gordon, Julie Davis

Elizabeth Sanchez Szepesi

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Assessment Practices with Emergent Bilinguals in Dual Language Bilingual Education*

Committee: Mary Zaharis, Mary Ball Brant, Gena Lewis

Kristine Seifert

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Understanding the Intricate Relationship Between Transformational Leadership, Emotional Intelligence, and School Culture: Insights from Teachers*

Committee: Mary Zaharis, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Glenn Schlichting



CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF EDUCATION
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Crystal Skoczylas

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *An Examination of Female Adolescent Experiences Related to Self-Determination and Advocacy in an Alternative Educational Setting*

Committee: Mary Zaharis, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Amy Varchmin

Robyn Snyder

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Perceptions of Educational Leaders on Their Leadership Development and Self-Efficacy Through Mentoring*

Committee: Denise Glasgow, Peter Sullivan, Craig Schilling

Danielle Starks

Leadership: Teacher Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Exploring Teachers' Attitudes Towards Inclusion: The Impact of Professional Development on Inclusive Education Practices*

Committee: Kevin O'Mara, Mary Ball Brant, Peggy Snowden

Kathryn Stilwell

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *The Development of Antiracist Consciousness in White Educators*

Committee: Cheli Thomas, Pamela Konkol, Ebonyse Mead

Juan Suarez

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *Leveraging Oracy Development to Lead Dual Language Curriculum & Instruction Improvement*

Committee: Kari Pawl, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Jenna Nelson

Tonya Thomas

Leadership: Teacher Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Barriers to Equitable Engagement Faced by Black American Parents in Elementary Education*

Committee: Denise Glasgow, Mary Ball Brant, Arthur Safer

Elecy Varghese

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Facilitating Real-Time Learning Among English Language Learners in Mainstream Secondary Science Education*

Committee: Mary Ball Brant, Pamela Konkol, William Spears

Haley Vermeer

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Principal Retention: The Role of Teacher Leadership Teams and Relationships with Teachers*

Committee: Glenn Schlichting, Victoria Stockton, Philip Salemi

Gail Wiercioch

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *Confidence in the Moment: Navigating Spontaneous Instructional Decisions in a Standards-Driven Environment*

Committee: Margaret Trybus, Jie Lin, Kim Sekulich

Marie Zlotnikov

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Promoting Equitable Environmental Sustainability in Illinois Public Schools: Infrastructure Adaptation and Curriculum Enhancement*

Committee: Craig Schilling, John Lupinacci, Richard Kahn

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Sana Abuhashish

Leadership: Reading, Language & Literacy

Dissertation Title: *The Influence of Classroom Management on Students' Reading and Literacy Learning in Private Schools*

Committee: Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Ball Brant, Arthur Hendricks

Kelli Bell

Leadership: Early Childhood Education

Dissertation Title: *Understanding Parenting and Child Regulation Development Through the Lens of Single Mothers with Low Economic Status*

Committee: Mary Ball Brant, Pamela Konkol, Mary Sanford

Jaemin Borrero

Leadership: Early Childhood Education

Dissertation Title: *Early Childhood (EC) Educators' Teaching Strategies, Preschoolers' Social-Emotional Development, and Diversity in Child Care*

Committee: Christopher Maddox, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Karen Ellefsen

Jeffery Bridges

Leadership: Higher Education Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Understanding Plagiarism and the Conceptual Thoughts Behind AI Platforms in Tertiary Indonesian Universities*

Committee: Katherine Green, Mixon Ware, Christopher Esposito

Margaret Bruce

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Teacher Perceptions of the Impact of Mentorship on Teacher Retention in Rural and Remote Alaskan School Districts*

Committee: Craig Schilling, Elena Lyutykh, Denise Glasgow

Tequila Cornelious

Leadership: Reading, Language & Literacy

Dissertation Title: *Coaching Conversations: Dialogue That Influences the Implementation of Culturally Relevant Education*

Committee: Kari Pawl, Jie Lin, Pamela Konkol

Claudine Derouen

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *Teachers' Perspectives of the Influence of Politics and Social Movements on Secondary Social Studies Curriculum in New York State*

Committee: Katherine Green, Mixon Ware, Christopher Esposito

Thaddeus Fields

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *The Perceptions of Intervention Specialists on using Assistive Technology to Address Communication Gaps for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Basic Qualitative Study*

Committee: Elena Lyutykh, Ann Frkovich, Andrea Dinaro

Helena Fields

Leadership: Special Education Leadership

Dissertation Title: *An Inquiry into the Positive Adaptations that Promote Resiliency and Retention in Special Education Teachers*

Committee: Bridgett Henry, Tamara Korenman, Kathleen Briseno

Lauren Fitchett

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Teacher Retention in Independent Schools*

Committee: Debra Arfsten, Jie Lin, Mary Zaharis

Justin Georgacakis

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Physical Educators' Perception of Bridging Disciplines Through Cross-Curriculum Content*

Committee: Andrea Silverstein, Mary Ball Brant, Debra Bockrath

Patricia Griest

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Chronic Absenteeism: An Ecological Look at Policy to Practice*

Committee: Rebecca Hornberger, Adam Hiebel, Cassandra Montello

John Gunderson

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *Intercultural Development and Language Acquisition Through Study Abroad Service Learning: An Exploratory Case Study*

Committee: Katherine Green, Mixon Ware, Arthur Safer

Jorge Hernandez

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *How Do Latino Individuals in the United States Experience Healthcare in the Context of Their Cultural and Family Practices?*

Committee: Juan Vives, Peter Sullivan, Maribel Hulla

Belford Hernandez

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *Stories from Music Education Students: A Narrative Inquiry about their Career Choice*

Committee: Christopher Esposito, Pamela Konkol, Ricardo Pedroza

Paul Jackson

Leadership: School Leadership - Initial Leader

Dissertation Title: *Shifting Grading Paradigms: Secondary School Teachers' Lived Experiences with Standards-based Grading Reform*

Committee: Rebecca Hornberger, Adam Hiebel, Cassandra Montello

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Crystal Jimenez

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Quiet Observers: Assistant Principals' Career Decisions After Observing Principal Role Demands*

Committee: Genelle Morris, Mary Ball Brant, Glenn Schlichting

Cynthia Johansen

Leadership: Early Childhood Education

Dissertation Title: *Empowering Early Childhood Educators: Navigating Self-Efficacy in STEM Education in Washington State*

Committee: Lauren Wellen, John Schwartz, Arthur Safer

Hannah Macko

Leadership: School Leadership - Initial Leader

Dissertation Title: *The Ecology of Belonging: Navigating Relational Leadership and Student Agency in Suburban Schools*

Committee: Ellen Cahill, Adam Hiebel, Elizabeth Wallick

Beatriz Maldonado

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Finding Mastery: A Narrative Inquiry on Urban Superintendent Tenure*

Committee: Maja Miskovic, Mellissa Gyimah, Colleen Transier

LaQuesha Martin

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *K-12 Educators' Perception of Using Generative AI for Lesson Planning and Instruction*

Committee: Andrea Dinero, Jie Lin, Samuel Kwon

Alisa McCallum

Leadership: School Leadership - Initial Leader

Dissertation Title: *Social and Emotional Learning in School: What Teachers Say*

Committee: Paul Sims, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Rebecca Hornberger

Louis McHugh IV

Leadership: Educational Technology

Dissertation Title: *Faculty Usage of Learning Management Systems Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic: Through the Lens of the Technology Acceptance Model*

Committee: Kathryn Wozniak, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Maurice Dawson

Bertha Moreno-Paz

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Long-term English Learners' Perspectives on English Language Development*

Committee: Gena Lewis, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Kim Sekulich

Fiona Myers

Leadership: Curriculum & Instruction

Dissertation Title: *Exploring University EFL Educators' Perceptions of Student Motivation and Their Strategies to Enhance English Language Learning. A Qualitative Study in Japan*

Committee: Jenna Nelson, Ann Frkovich, Andrea Silverstein

Cecilia Okoronkwo

Leadership: Special Education Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Reading Problems of Middle School Students with Specific Learning Disabilities: Teachers' Perceptions of Effective Instructional Strategies*

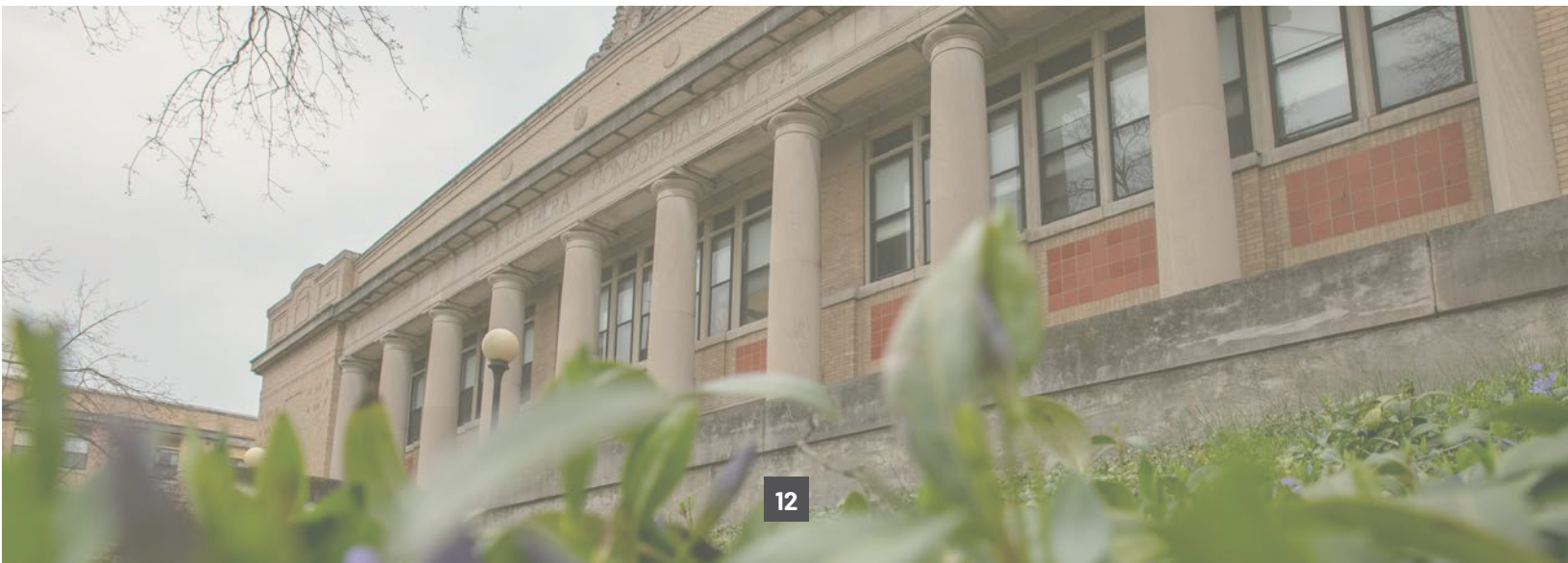
Committee: Elizabeth Owolabi, Tamara Korenman, Andrea Dinero

Jamila Omar

Leadership: Reading, Language & Literacy

Dissertation Title: *How Digital Read-Aloud Programs Impact Elementary Students' Reading Scores*

Committee: Christopher Maddox, Jill Williams, Karen Ellefsen



CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Heather O'Neil

Leadership: Reading, Language & Literacy

Dissertation Title: *Exploring Preservice Teachers' Temporally Situated Stories on the Construction of a Writerly Identity*

Committee: Patricia Becker, Pamela Konkol, Kari Pawl

Raquel Oriol

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *A Correlation Study of the Middle School Principal Evaluation Process and Leadership Practices in New York State*

Committee: Margaret Trybus, John Schwartz, Juan Vives

Denise Pearl-Lackey

Leadership: Educational Leadership

Dissertation Title: *Building Capacity for School Leaders: The Impact of Professional Development on Teacher Evaluation Practices*

Committee: Rebecca Hornberger, Hayal Kackar-Cam, Pamela Konkol

Reza Pootrakul

Leadership: Educational Leadership

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Leadership: Reading, Language & Literacy

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Emily Schuck

Leadership: Higher Education Leadership

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