

INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF

CATHOLIC
& LASALLIAN
EDUCATION



College of Education & Social Sciences



Dr. Lauren Rentfro, Education Studies



Dr. Jennifer Buss, Special Education

The College of Education and Social Sciences offers six distinct majors at the undergraduate level. These include (1) Early Childhood Special Education (2) Elementary Education (3) Special Education (4) Combined Special Education/Elementary Education (5) Middle Level Education with teaching endorsements in English/Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Sciences, and (6) Secondary Education with teaching endorsements in English/Language Arts, Math, Science with designation in Biology, Chemistry or Physics, Foreign Language and Social Sciences with designation in History or Psychology. In addition, candidates can major in Theology with a minor in Secondary Education.

The College of Education and Social Sciences offers M.A. programs in Early Childhood Special Education, Elementary Education, Secondary Education, Special Education, Reading and Literacy, and Educational Leadership. Curriculum and Instruction M.Ed. programs in Teacher Leadership, English as a Second Language, Instructional Technology, and Reading Teacher Endorsement are also offered. Post-Masters programs include an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership.

The College of Education and Social Sciences serves students in undergraduate and graduate programs. The teacher education programs at Lewis University enjoy field experience agreements with more than 130 schools and districts in northeastern Illinois.

Executive Committee Members

Dr. Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio, Associate Professor, Secondary, Middle and Foreign Language Education; Co-Director of the Institute for the Advancement of Catholic & Lasallian Education; Co-Director, Catholic Educators Program

Dr. Jennifer Buss, Associate Professor, Special Education; Co-Director of the Institute for the Advancement of Catholic & Lasallian Education; Co-Director, Catholic Educators Program

Dr. Kurt Schackmuth, Vice President for Mission

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The Institute for the Advancement of Catholic & Lasallian Education

The Institute for the Advancement of Catholic & Lasallian Education promotes and prepares the next generation of educators and administrators to lead Catholic and Lasallian schools in their efforts to transform lives, educate all and instill Christian and Gospel values in those entrusted to their care.

By focusing on the following areas of service, the Institute offers assistance and programs to advance Pre-K through 12th grade education:

- Leadership Development
- Teacher Preparation
- Professional Development
- Outreach and Consulting
- Grants and Research
- Lasallian Formation



Principal, Beth Cunningham with Father John Belmonte, Superintendent of Joliet Catholic Schools, and Father Dindo Billote, Pastor of St. Mary's in Mokena

The Bishop Roger L. Kaffer Award is in honor of the auxiliary bishop that served in many roles as an educational leader during his more than 50 years of priesthood in the Joliet Diocese. He served as rector of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Romeoville before becoming principal of Providence Catholic High School in New Lenox, where he revitalized the school and personally met with each school family. The following individuals have been recognized as recipients of the Bishop Kaffer Outstanding Diocesan Principal Award which recognizes leadership, commitment to schools, innovation and exceptional work.

Bishop Kaffer Outstanding Diocesan Principal Recipients:

- 2010 - **Sister Carolyn Sieg, OSB**, Principal of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Grade School in Lisle
- 2011 - **Dr. Mary Kelly**, Principal of St. Petronille Catholic Grade School in Glen Ellyn
- 2012 - **Maryann O'Neill**, Principal of Montini Catholic High School in Lombard
- 2013 - **Maureen White**, Principal of St. Irene's Catholic Grade School in Warrenville
- 2014 - **Frank Glowaty**, Principal of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Grade School in Naperville
- 2015 - **Rita Stasi**, Principal of St. Joseph Catholic Grade School in Downers Grove
- 2016 - **Terry Granger**, Principal of Bishop McNamara Catholic High School, in Kankakee and Maternity BVM Elementary School, in Bourbonnais
- 2017 - **Regina Pestrak**, Principal of St. Matthew Catholic Grade School in Glendale Heights
- 2018 - **Beth Cunningham**, Principal of St. Mary's Catholic Grade School in Mokena
- 2019 - **Lynne Scheffler**, Principal of St. Joseph Catholic School in Lockport

Areas of Service

Leadership Development

The College of Education and Social Sciences offers a graduate program (M.Ed.) for Catholic and Lasallian educators, specifically designed for faith-based principal preparation and/or teacher leadership. To assist aspiring Catholic school leaders, Lewis University provides tuition discounts and/or scholarships. The first Education Leadership cohort graduated in December 2013. In partnership with the Joliet Diocese's Leadership Team, a new cohort will begin in August 2019.

Teacher Preparation

Lewis University has always been committed to the formation of teachers for Catholic and Lasallian schools. An emphasis on service and education for those most marginalized is fundamental to Lasallian education. Teacher candidates have the opportunity to complete field and clinical experiences in Catholic schools.

Professional Development

The College of Education and Social Sciences faculty have provided professional development at Catholic and Lasallian schools in the areas of differentiated instruction, comprehension strategies, formative and summative assessment of learning, curriculum modifications for students with disabilities, RTI, inquiry-based science instruction, the common core standards, and working with English Language Learners in the classroom. Keynote addresses, workshops, presentations, and seminars will be customized to meet your needs.

Faculty Provide Service to Lasallian High School in Westchester

The first day back from a winter break at St. Joseph's High School in Westchester, Ill., was a day of professional development for the teachers. Dr. Erica Davila, from Lewis' Ed.D. program, and Dr. Jung Kim, from Reading and Literacy, provided a full day presentation on culturally relevant teaching to the 25+ staff and faculty members present. They began the day with a short video of a TED talk, "The Danger of a Single Story," by Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story). The short video set the tone for the introductory discussions about unpacking identity and power. The group delved into understanding various aspects of identity, including the ways in which we can be both marginalized and/or privileged in different contexts. This helped everyone better understand the importance of inclusive education and how the ways in which we act, speak and interact with others can have a profound impact on whether others feel "a part of" or "apart."

Davila and Kim presented the faculty and staff with various models of culturally relevant teaching and specific examples of lesson plans and themes the teachers can utilize in their respective classrooms. Several teachers shared the work that they are already doing to be more culturally responsive and others were curious to learn more about this approach. The presenters provided some background information on three different models of culturally inclusive teaching:

1. Gloria Ladson-Billing's Culturally Relevant Teaching
2. James Banks' Models of Multicultural Teaching
3. Allan Luke and Peter Freebody's Four Resources Model

After lunch, the faculty and staff were placed in groups according to their subject matter to apply the ideas presented in the morning. Kim remarked, "It was powerful seeing the teachers apply these concepts in their respective disciplines. For some of the teachers, it was more of a challenge; for example, the math faculty struggled with balancing rigorous mathematics teaching objectives and keeping their pedagogy culturally relevant. Other departments, such as English, have already begun this challenging work and took this opportunity to share ideas and brainstorm what limitations they had encountered in doing this work." After the departments met, each small group shared specific concrete goals in moving forward with the work of culturally inclusive teaching, including sharing some of their challenges. One specific goal of the English department was to review the list of the novels they teach and consider how the novels can support their goal to be more culturally inclusive. Several groups shared that they would appreciate more of this type of professional development and others shared the need for more resources to be able to apply these ideas. Lewis University will be going back to St. Joseph's to continue this very important work.

Grants and Research

Lewis University actively seeks grant funds to benefit Catholic and Lasallian schools. In 2016, the College of Education secured a grant from the Community Foundation of Will County to partner with area Catholic schools to give teachers the tools and training needed to integrate technology into reading and writing lessons to enhance literacy instruction in high-need schools. The University also conducts and supports research related to effective practice in Catholic and Lasallian education especially focusing on those most marginalized.

Lasallian Formation

The Institute offers a variety of mission-based professional development opportunities to expand and deepen faculty/staff understanding of Lasallian history, pedagogy, and spirituality, as well as Saint John Baptist de La Salle's educational philosophy and his contributions to the teaching profession.

Exploring Lasallian Mission (ELM) Summer Workshop

Specifically designed for those who work in Lasallian schools or who want to deepen their understanding of the Lasallian charism, Lewis University's Exploring Lasallian Mission (ELM) Program is a summer workshop held each June. ELM's four half-day sessions address the following topics:

- Life and Times of Saint John Baptist de La Salle
- Social Justice and Lasallian Spirituality
- Classroom Pedagogy and the Christian Brothers
- The Lasallian Educator and the Lasallian Movement

Facilitated by Lewis University faculty and staff, the ELM Program can help Lasallian educators inform their own teaching, work practices, and the exploration of their vocation.

Customized Lasallian Formation Experiences and Seminars

Creative and customized Catholic and Lasallian formation experiences for teachers and staff can be developed with principals and campus ministers to address a variety of topics including: the vocation of teaching; the spirituality of the Lasallian educator; the Twelve Virtues of a Good Teacher; the Conduct of the Christian Schools; and Saint De La Salle as classroom innovator.

Diocesan Tuition Discount Initiative

In recognition of dedicated service by the employees of the Diocese of Joliet and the Archdiocese of Chicago, and to encourage the pursuit of lifelong learning and the development of skills as educators and leaders, Lewis University is pleased to offer a 33% tuition discount. It is our hope that this incentive will encourage employees of the Diocese of Joliet and the Archdiocese of Chicago to pursue their higher education goals and become effective leaders in enhancing the spiritual and academic missions of their respective schools. For more information visit:

lewisu.edu/admissions/finaid/diocesetuition.htm

Catholic/Lasallian Scholarship Opportunity

Lewis University is dedicated to Catholic and Lasallian education and prepares teachers and administrators in Catholic schools in the Chicagoland area committed to school leadership. Scholarship opportunities are available for Catholic/Lasallian future school leaders seeking an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership with a Moral and Ethical Framework. The curriculum is grounded in the Lasallian Mission of knowledge, fidelity, wisdom, justice and association. [Our classes combine reflective practice, multiple and varied pedagogy, and foster critical and creative thinking skills.] As a result, the program provides excellent preparation for those committed to leadership in Catholic and Lasallian schools.

Scholarship recipients will receive 50% off of Ed.D. tuition for the duration of the program.

To qualify, scholarship recipients must meet all criteria for admission into the Ed.D. program and have a recommendation from their current school principal and/or president. Finalists will be interviewed.

The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership for Teaching and Learning admission packet, as well as the scholarship application can be found at lewisu.edu/edd.

For more information, please call (815) 836-5610 or e-mail grad@lewisu.edu.

In the News

Catholic Educators Program

The College of Education and Social Sciences is happy to announce the new Catholic Educators Program. Led by College of Education faculty Dr. Jennifer Buss and Dr. Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio, the program is intended to enhance preparation for P-12 teachers to work in Catholic schools through immersion experiences, selected field and clinical placements and spirituality retreats. Lewis alumni who are working in Catholic schools were invited to launch this program with a panel discussion on what makes a great Catholic educator.



(Front row): Michael Dieter '08, '15 of De La Salle Institute, Chicago; Miguel Gonzalez '16 of St. Joseph School, Lockport; Chris Hueg '11, '15 of St. Mary Immaculate, Plainfield; Chris Tiritilli '13, principal of St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic School, Downers Grove; and Bridget Kay '15 of St. George's School, Tinley Park. Back Row: Dr. Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio and Dr. Jennifer Buss, Co-Directors of the Catholic Educators Program.

Lewis Candidates and Faculty Provide Literacy Support for St. Andrew the Apostle Students

Writing in shaving cream, reading to others, crafts and words games enticed 52 St. Andrew the Apostle students into picking up books this summer. The literacy-based activities were part of the free summer reading program for St. Andrew the Apostle School in Romeoville. Lewis University students, faculty and volunteers from the College of Education's Reading and Literacy Program created the four-week program.

The Lewis University College of Education provided each child with a book that he/she could bring home and keep to foster reading at home. Lewis University faculty and students collected funds and books that were donated to build the St. Andrew the Apostle School library. The Will County Reading Council (WCRC) also donated money for the library books to promote literacy.

The program was structured and developed by Lewis University professors Dr. Joyce Hayward and Dr. Deborah Augsburger, assisted by Paula DiDomenico of Leyden High School in Franklin Park. Associate professors Dr. Jennifer Buss and Dr. Mary Fisher volunteered to work with the primary students. Graduate students from the Reading and Literacy Program including Tricia Brennan of Clarendon Hills, Brandon Daun of Plainfield, Tasha Knapczyk of Plainfield and Bri Savic of Lemont were the core teachers for the group. They are currently licensed teachers completing their master's degrees to be Reading Specialists.

Additional student support came from Bonita Grove of Westmont, an Elementary Education graduate student; Tori Ruffatto of Coal City, an undergraduate student majoring in Elementary Education; and Jess Whitney of Plainfield, Heather Jachimowski of Joliet, and Jackie Lehnertz of Bolingbrook, all graduate students in the English as a Second Language program.



Dr. Laura Quaynor, Literacy

Colloquium Fosters the Call to Lasallian Living

Becoming Lasallian is to live with purpose, to strive for excellence and to make a difference in the world. We are called to remember that we are not a group of individuals pursuing narrow interests; rather as Lasallians we are a community using our talents to contribute to the betterment of all of our fellow human beings. Since 2016, more than 100 Lewis University students, faculty and Lasallian partners gather on a Saturday morning during the spring semester at Lewis University in Romeoville for an annual Lasallian Colloquium. The Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education and the College of Education held the 4th Annual Colloquium on Becoming Lasallian on February 2, 2019, at the St. Charles Borromeo Center. The theme of this year's Colloquium was "Education that Transforms."

Keynote speaker for the event was Mr. Ricardo Dominguez, Alumni Support Advisor from San Miguel High School in Tucson. Mr. Dominguez discussed the impact of Lasallian educators going beyond campus walls and how this essential piece of education is hardly voiced but is the most valued by students. Topics presented and discussed in the breakout session included: (1) Becoming a Catalyst for Change (2) Creating a Fruitful Collaboration between the Pastor, Principal and Community (3) What do Inclusive Practices Look Like in the Catholic School? (4) The To-and-Through Approach (5) Student Voice and Choice: Expanding our Understanding of the Educational Experience and (6) Lasallian Public Education: Puzzles and Paradoxes. The theme for the Annual Lasallian Colloquium is always derived from one of the Five Core Principles of Lasallian Schools.

STARNET Early Childhood Today Conference

In collaboration with STARNET Region VI, the College of Education hosted the 10th annual "Early Childhood Today" conference on March 8th.

This was the fourth year that Lewis hosted this event, which focuses on providing specialized training for parents, caregivers and professionals who shape the lives of children with special needs from birth to five years old. The conference began with a keynote presentation by Dr. Sharon Doubet, associate professor of Early Childhood Special Education at Illinois State University. Dr. Doubet presented "Preparing Lifelong Learners: The Pyramid Model in Action," a model for supporting healthy social and emotional growth and well-being in the classroom. Subsequent breakout sessions addressed six themes of social/emotional growth and development, trauma and resilience in young children, inclusive classroom experiences, ESL and bilingual classrooms, appropriate use of technology and working with families and educational teams.

This year's event at Lewis was the largest ever, drawing over 150 participants from all over the region. STARNET provides training, consultation and resources to the early childhood community. The STARNET system assists the State Board of Education in meeting local needs by providing services to professionals and parents of young children with special needs throughout Illinois.



*Mr. Ricardo Dominguez,
Keynote Speaker 4th Annual
Lasallian Colloquium*



Faith In The Presence Of God

The Lasallian school nurtures in its members an awareness of the living presence of God in our world. It calls all to a deeper awareness of their saving relationship with a caring and loving God and moves all to see the world through the "eyes of faith."

Concern For The Poor And Social Justice

The Lasallian school calls its members to a solidarity with the poor and victims of injustice. It calls all to a life-long commitment to respond to their needs through programs of community service, advocacy, and justice education

Quality Education

The Lasallian school provides an education that prepares students not only to contribute to society, but to transform it. It calls all to use their knowledge and talents to critically examine and engage the world in light of the message of the Gospel.

Respect for All Persons

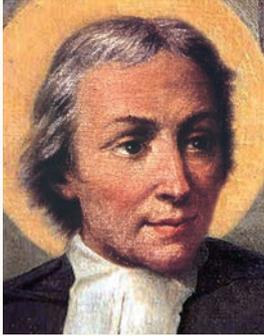
The Lasallian school engages its members in a concerted effort to respect the dignity of all persons. It calls all to respect-filled relationships as the heart of Lasallian education and a key expression of their identity as children of God.

Inclusive Community

The Lasallian school is a united community where diversity is respected and no one is left out or left behind. It calls all to recognize and embrace one another's unique stories and qualities as unique and sacred features of the Body of Christ on earth.

Saint John Baptist de La Salle (1651-1719)

Patron Saint of Education & Founder of the Brothers of the Christian Schools



John Baptist de La Salle was the first son of wealthy parents living in Reims, France over 300 years ago. At the age of sixteen, he was named Canon of the Reims Cathedral, a high-level position in the Church. He completed his theological studies and was ordained a priest on April 9, 1678. Two years later, he received a doctorate in theology. Meanwhile, De La Salle became involved in a project that involved

training a group of rough and barely literate men to become teachers in order to establish schools for poor boys.

At that time, a few people lived in luxury, but most were extremely poor. Only the wealthy could send their children to school. Moved by the plight of the poor, De La Salle determined to put his talents and advanced education at the service of the young people who had little hope for the future. To be more effective, he abandoned his family home, moved in with the teachers, renounced his position in the Church and his wealth, and so formed the community that became known as the Brothers of the Christian Schools, commonly known today as the De La Salle Christian Brothers. De La Salle's enterprise met opposition from Church authorities who resisted the creation of a new form of religious life.

The educational establishment resented his innovative methods and his insistence on gratuity for all, regardless of whether they could afford to pay. Nevertheless De La Salle and his Brothers succeeded in creating a network of quality schools throughout France that featured students grouped in classrooms according to ability and achievement, integration of religious instruction with secular subjects, well-prepared teachers with a sense of vocation and mission, and the involvement of parents. In addition, De La Salle pioneered programs for training lay teachers and Sunday courses for working young men.

In 1900, he was declared a Saint. In 1950, he was made Patron Saint of all those who work in the field of education. His charisma, educational spirituality, and extensive writings inspired Catholic educators in his own time and continue to inspire educators from many traditions today.

The Christian Brothers and the Lasallian Movement Today: A Worldwide Network

Today, the De La Salle Christian Brothers collaborate with thousands of Lasallian lay partners who live out the vision of Saint De La Salle in service of over 1,000 education-related ministries in 79 countries around the world.



This worldwide community of Christian Brothers, numbering about 4,000 today, serves alongside

more than 90,000 lay colleagues for the benefit of over one million students of all ages. Many of those students attend one of 65 Lasallian colleges and universities around the world. Here in the United States, there are approximately 100 Lasallian educational institutions. Lewis is one of six colleges and universities in this country sponsored by the Christian Brothers.

Lewis University Mission Statement

Lewis University, guided by its Catholic and Lasallian heritage, provides to a diverse student population programs for a liberal and professional education grounded in the interaction of knowledge and fidelity in the search for truth.



Lewis promotes the development of the complete person through the pursuit of wisdom and justice. Fundamental to its Mission is a spirit of association which fosters community in all teaching, learning and service.

SIGNUM FIDEI
SIGN OF FAITH

