

# Office of Educator Support and Partnerships

Official Newsletter



INSIDE THE ISSUE

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

## A word from the Executive Director

Spring represents new beginnings and the Office of Educator Support and Partnerships (OESP) has a number of new initiatives to share. I begin with Camp EduAdventures. This is a summer day camp that is coming to the OESP starting July 8, 2019. Please share the camp information found within the newsletter and follow us on Facebook.



## CAMP EDUADVENTURES

The OESP is happy to help our clinical interns prepare for experiences in the schools. Last semester, we held an Open House where our Professional Development School (PDS) partners were invited to campus and interns had an opportunity to meet and talk to members about possibly conducting their experiences at our partners' schools. With the success of this event, we were planning to hold another Open House, inviting all our P12 partners that place our candidates. To prepare for the Open House, the OESP teamed up with the Office of Career Advancement (OCA) to conduct a number of professional workshops to get our interns ready to meet field professionals. Unfortunately, the Open House had to be cancelled, but my team is working on plans for the 2019-2020 school year.

## PROJECT IMPACT

## TEACHER PIPELINE PROGRAMS

Information about Project IMPACT continues to be in high demand. I recently presented about the program to over 100 high school students at the New Jersey Consortium for Excellence Through Equity-South. IMPACT students continue to be invited to visit local schools to discuss their experiences as a program member and again at the NJACTE Leading for Diversity Conference.

## PDS HIGHLIGHTS

These are just a few of the events and activities that will be discussed further in this issue of the newsletter. The remaining newsletter will share the happenings of the office throughout the the spring semester.

## EDTPA, OCE, & PRAXIS LAB

As always the OESP continues to work hard to communicate information to the Rowan community and P12 partners. My team and I are happy to support the mission and vision of the College of Education.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stacey Leftwich  
Executive Director  
Office of Educator Support and Partnerships

## OESP OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



# Camp EduAdventures

For the third year the College of Education (COE) is holding a summer day camp. Led by Rowan COE faculty, staff and upper-level education majors, the camp engages campers in fun, hands-on, interdisciplinary activities that incorporate learning in an active, experiential way. Children experience a wide variety of exciting activities and trips that are infused with fun and adventure.



## 2019 Camp EduAdventures Weekly Themes and Trips

Week 1: Adventures in Creative Expression | The Broadway Theatre of Pitman

Week 2: Adventures on the Waterway | Independence Seaport Museum

Week 3: Adventures in the Animal Kingdom | TBD

Week 4: Adventures in Agriculture | Johnson's Farm

Week 5: Adventures in Health, Fitness, and Nutrition | Bounce U

Week 6: Adventures in Science and Technology | Franklin Institute

**Follow us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/CampEduAdventures](https://www.facebook.com/CampEduAdventures)**

**Visit us at:**

**<https://academics.rowan.edu/education/Eduadventures/index.html>**

# Project IMPACT

Eight IMPACT scholars will receive their IMPACT blazers. The Blazer Ceremony is an event that highlights students who have successfully passed the Praxis Core examination and are headed towards completing the first Transition Point. Bishop John Edmondson will be the keynote speaker and will provide an inspirational message titled *Discovering the Real You*. Congratulations to Jacob Brown, Terence Jones, Caleb Jones, Marcus King, Deric Luciano, Odilon Perez, Elijah Robinson and Nicholas Silva who will be awarded blazers on May 4th at 11:00 AM in the Owl's Nest of the Chamberlain Student Center.

On February 8th, Dr. Johnson and Mr. George Guy, Rosa International Middle School Principal and MOC Lead Facilitator, along with mentors and IMPACT scholars visited with over 80 Cherry Hill school district students at Cherry Hill East High School. Information was shared regarding Project IMPACT.

***“It was a great experience talking to the many high school teachers who met us. We heard first hand from them what it is like to be a teacher of color and the joy they get out of knowing they are a role model to students who look like them. We talked to the students about college and how IMPACT convinced many of us to apply to Rowan.”***

**Kavon Johnson  
Cohort 2  
Project IMPACT**



Scholars Odilon Perez, Kavon Johnson, Amiel Holiday, Seth Bermudez, Samir Jones, Terence Jones and Deric Luciano visit Cherry Hill



First Row: Deric Luciano, Odilon Perez, Seth Bermudez and Amiel Holiday  
Second Row: Senam Bradley, Elijah Robinson, Kavon Johnson and Samir Jones



Deric Luciano presents to Cherry Hill HS Men of Color

# Teacher Pipeline Programs

The Rowan Urban Teacher Academy (RUTA) continues to grow. In 2017, after a two year hiatus, RUTA returned, offering programs in school districts. Bridgeton was the first to offer the program, followed by Pleasantville and Camden City in 2018. The Camden City RUTA is a part of the Camden Neighborhood Promise Grant that was awarded to the COE in 2014. This year, two sites will offer the program to high school students, which allows participants to work with Rowan faculty, plan and teach mini-lessons and activities to school children in academic summer programs. The program includes a visit to Rowan for a campus tour, working with the avatars in the TEACHLive Lab, a presentation in the Planetarium and a welcome lunch hosted by the dean's office. Thanks go out to lead faculty facilitators, Eshe Price and Daniel Tulino, who will be implementing the summer program.

The Camden City schools and the RELAY Graduate School of Education participated in information sessions on a pilot program being implemented in fall 2019. The pilot is meant to attract new teachers to Camden, provide them with robust, hands-on training and align their Clinical Practice with schools that will be hiring for full-time positions. The goal is to create a sustainable pipeline of high-potential educators for the city of Camden.

This semester, we hosted friends from the Collingswood Public Schools as they facilitated group interviews for a new Clinical Practice Internship for candidates in P-6 programs (Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, and Teacher of Students with Disabilities). This pilot program is the result of intentional professional collaboration to address an identified need in strengthening the pipeline of candidates moving from preparation to professional, resulting in districts and schools in our region hiring these clinical interns! Collingswood is supplying each intern with a \$4000 stipend as an added incentive to teach and learn alongside master teachers in P-6 classrooms.



*Dr. Leftwich welcomed students participating in the Camden RUTA*



*Information sessions were conducted to share the Camden and RELAY Pilot*



*Members from Camden and RELAY presented to Rowan students interested in the Pilot*



# Professional Development Schools

## PDS Highlights

For the third year, the PIRs organized the African American Read-In event at their PDSs. The Read-In is the nation's first and oldest event dedicated to diversity in literature. It was established in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month. This initiative has reached more than 6 million participants around the world.

***"As an administrator in the College of Education, opportunities to work with young learners are rare. That is why it is important for me to participate in events like this, so I don't lose sight of having an impact on P-12 learners."***

**Dr. Stacey Leftwich**



Dr. Leftwich reads to 2nd graders at Horace Mann Elementary School in Cherry Hill

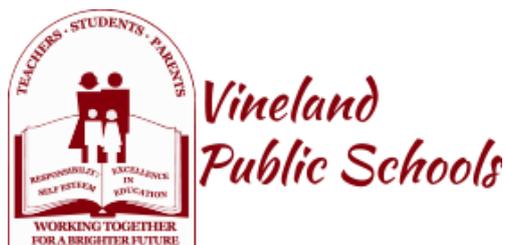


African American Read-In participants at Cherry Street School in Bridgeton

# More from our Professional Development Schools

## New PDSs

Plans are being made to welcome three new PDSs to join the COE PDS Network. Glassboro Intermediate School will be the final Glassboro school to join the network, making the district a Professional Development District (PDD) next year. Other schools joining the network include D'Ippolito Elementary of Vineland Public Schools and the Sewell School of Mantua Township School District. All three schools will be honored with a banner unveiling in the fall. The added PDSs will bring the network up to 13 schools.



## National Association of PDS Conference

Rowan administrator, Professor-In-Residence (PIRs) and P12 members presented at the NAPDS conference in Atlanta from February 14-17. Glassboro teachers Andrea LoCastro and Lisa Rencher from the Thomas Bowe School presented using PDS to increase the number of students with disabilities accessing inclusive classrooms. In addition, Dr. Leftwich and PIR Natoya Coleman presented on using PDSs to create and implement a lead supervisor model to provide consistent supervision for clinical practice interns. Next year, the conference will be held in Atlantic City and the conference committee chair has contacted Dr. Leftwich to consider hosting the executive board's tour of Rowan's PDSs during their conference visit.



Ph.D. student and PIR Natoya Coleman and Dr. Leftwich present at the NAPDS Conference in Atlanta

# Office of Clinical Experiences

As part of the OCE's commitment to help cooperating teachers prepare for hosting Rowan interns, for the second semester, OCE supported the cooperating teacher (CT) online training. This is a training that helps prepare CTs and provides a refresher for current CTs who have agreed to host a clinical intern. The training introduces cooperating teachers to four modules focusing on:

**Student Teaching Then and Now:** information about how the clinical practice experience has changed over time

**The Professional Clinical Intern:** the role and responsibilities of the clinical intern as well as topics that a cooperating teacher should be prepared to share with an intern

**Evaluating and Assessing:** procedures used with each clinical intern

**What Have You Learned?:** a short assessment of participants' learning

At the end of module 4, participants are given a PD certificate and an opportunity to complete a feedback form, which is used to improve the online training.

## edTPA

As edTPA scores for the state of New Jersey become consequential next year, Dr. Lori Kroeger, Assistant Dean of Assessment and Enrollment Management, co-sponsored with OESP an edTPA boot camp with clinical interns on March 28th. The boot camp was meant to help prepare students whose edTPA scores will become consequential in Fall 2019. To help faculty continue to prepare for this consequential year, an edTPA Retreat will be held on May 22nd and a Curriculum Inquiry event will take place on June 13th.

## Praxis Lab

During the Fall 2018 semester, the Praxis Lab served 171 students with a total of 476 sessions. Out of these students, 57 have taken the Praxis Core and all 57 students have passed the exam. Out of the students who took the exam last semester, 20 of them were taking it for the first time. During this semester, students' scores increased an average of 11 points. In addition, the Praxis Lab presented to 12 different classes/student organizations. Three Online Praxis Core Boot Camps have been offered, one winter intersession and two spring sessions. Online Boot Camps will be offered in July and August.



*The Praxis Core Boot Camp is intended to help prepare participants who will be taking or retaking the Praxis Core exam. The Boot Camp will run online for 6 weeks, consisting of pre-assessment, test taking strategies, content refreshing and post-assessment.*

### **Praxis Boot Camp Dates**

- Session 1: April 1-May 6
- Session 2: April 15-May 20
- Session 3: May 20-June 24
- Session 4: June 10-July 15
- Session 5: July 1-August 5
- Session 6: July 22-August 26

**The Spring & Summer Praxis Core Boot Camp information can be found at:**  
[https://academics.rowan.edu/education/\\_docs/bootcampflyer20182019.pdf](https://academics.rowan.edu/education/_docs/bootcampflyer20182019.pdf)

# OESP Outreach Activities

## Milk and Cookies

For the second semester, the OESP hosted Milk and Cookies to help promote several events being co-sponsored by the Office of Career Advancement (OCA). Teacher Preparation candidates who are getting ready for Clinical Practice were informed of a number of workshops to prepare them for school placement and future employment.



## Bring a Student to Rowan Day

As a spin off of *Bring Your Child to Work Day*, the OESP will team up with the Office of Admissions and Kappa Delta Pi to host the first *Bring a Student to Rowan Day* (BSRD). Similar to the national day that brings children to work, BSRD will give high school and middle school learners, involved in our teacher academies and other pipeline programs, an opportunity to be matched with a Rowan University Education Major student and have a glimpse into a day in the life of a Rowan student. School learners will be exposed to class sessions with Rowan hosts, recreational campus activities (panel discussions, a student organization meeting, campus tours with stops at the financial aid and admission offices, etc.), on campus lunch and dinner, ending the day with an ice-cream social and meeting hosted by Kappa Delta Pi. The ultimate goal is to not only expose school learners to a typical day in the life of a college student, but encourage them to consider applying to Rowan University one day. The event is scheduled to take place on April 25, 2019.

**Milk and Cookies  
Kick-Off Event**

**Get Prepared  
for Clinical  
Placements**

**Wednesday, February 6th**

**JAMES  
HALL  
ATRIUM**

**10:45AM-11:00AM  
AND  
12:15PM-12:30PM**

**Rowan University**  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Sponsored with the  
**Office of Career  
Advancement (OCA)**

**Congratulations  
Class of 2019!**

**Rowan**   
**University**

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**