

# OFFICE OF EDUCATOR SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIPS

## OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

## Inside the Issue

**Executive Director's  
Message**

**OESP Structure**

**New Faces**

**Project IMPACT**

**Teacher Pipeline  
Programs**

**PDS Highlights**

**Office of Clinical  
Experiences**

**Praxis Lab**

**Alumni Spotlight**

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## A word from the Executive Director

It is a new academic year and the Office of Educator Support and Partnerships (OESP) has been busier than ever. In the first issue of the AY 18-19 office newsletter, I begin with a slightly revised office structure. You will notice that Camp EduAdventures has been added to the structure. Starting summer 2019, OESP will oversee the summer camp. Please look for information throughout the year on camp updates.

The remaining newsletter will share the happenings of the office at the end of the spring semester, throughout the summer and the start of the fall semester. As always, the issue begins with introductions of new faces.

Next, I highlight Project IMPACT, which joined the OESP last year. Last spring, four IMPACT scholars received their IMPACT blazers, which symbolized the scholars moving into the professional portion of their program. During this year's Tie-Tying induction ceremony, the new cohort 3 IMPACT scholars joined the IMPACT program. In addition, a new scholars and mentors orientation took place, which is highlighted in this issue.

I also highlight three Rowan Urban Teacher Academies (RUTA) that took place over the summer as well as a visit from our Williamstown High School Teacher Academy.

This year the OESP welcomed two new Professional Development Schools (PDSs) to the PDS Network and their banner unveilings are presented in this issue.

The Office of Clinical Experiences (OCE) helped with the implementation of an online cooperating teacher training. Also, highlighted is the first Clinical Practice and Experiences Open House, which OCE co-hosted.

The Praxis Lab is highlighted to share updates about the Praxis Core Boot Camps.

The newsletter ends with Alumni Spotlights. Recent graduates from the College of Education (COE) are highlighted.

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.

All the best,



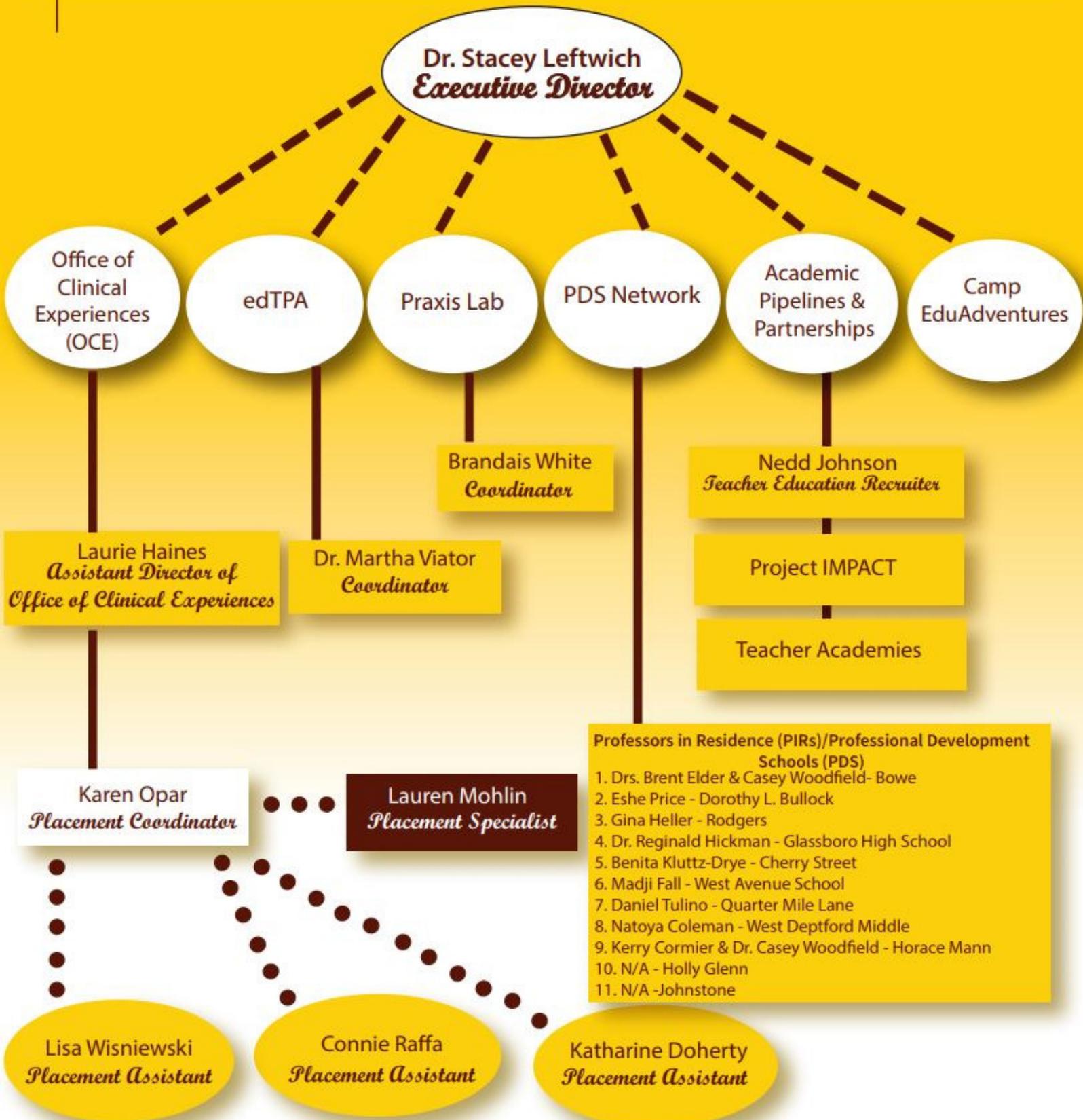
**Dr. Stacey Leftwich**  
Executive Director, Office of Educator Support and Partnerships



# OESP Structure



## OESP Structure



# New Faces in the OESP

Although not a new face to the COE, the dean's office welcomes **Dr. Cori Brown** who will serve as the new Associate Dean of Faculty and Student Affairs.

With two new PDSs joining the network, new PIRs have been hired. **Dr. Reginald Hickman** is the new PIR at the Glassboro High School and **Ms. Kerry Cormier** is the new PIR at Horace Mann Elementary School in Cherry Hill.



Dr. Cori Brown



Dr. Reginald Hickman



Ms. Kerry Cormier

Another new face to the PDS Network is **Dr. Casey Woodfield**. Dr. Woodfield will serve as a co-PIR at both Bowe School and Horace Mann. Although the network was sorry to see Dr. Mary Cormier retire from Cherry Street School in Bridgeton, **Ms. Benita Kluttz-Drye** joins the PIR team and will serve as the new PIR at Cherry Street.



Dr. Casey Woodfield



Ms. Benita Kluttz-Drye

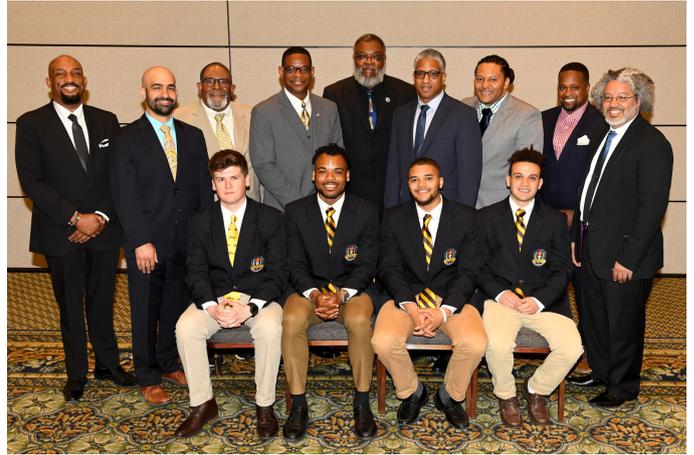


Mr. Brian Connors

Finally, the OESP welcomes **Mr. Brian Connors** who will serve as the new graduate assistant.

# Project IMPACT

The Project IMPACT program has been busy. Four IMPACT scholars received their IMPACT blazers on May 5th. The Blazer Ceremony is an event that highlights students who have successfully passed the Praxis Core examination and are headed towards completing the first benchmark.



On July 19th the COE welcomed cohort 3 to the Glassboro campus. The new Project IMPACT scholars and their families participated in an orientation dinner. Scholars were given an overview of their role and responsibilities in the program, heard from current IMPACT students about their experiences in the program and met mentors from the Men of Color (MOC) Network.

The COE also welcomed 21 current and new MOC Network mentors to the Glassboro campus on July 23rd. The MOC mentors have committed to mentoring students in the Project IMPACT program. The mentors participated in an all-day orientation with special guests, Drs. Travis Bristol and Marcelle Mentor.



On September 22nd, the new Project IMPACT cohort participated in the Tie-Tying Ceremony. This event is the new scholars' induction into the program. Scholars received a special tie, which is tied by their assigned MOC mentors.

# Teacher Pipeline Programs

The Rowan Urban Teacher Academy was a great success! Three academies took place between July and August. This COE pipeline program for high school students interested in becoming teachers in urban settings was hosted by the Bridgeton, Pleasantville and Camden City school districts. The Camden City RUTA was a part of the Neighborhood Promise Grant that was awarded to the COE. The two week summer program allowed participants to work with Rowan faculty, and plan and teach mini-lessons and activities to school children in academic summer programs. The program included a visit to Rowan for a campus tour, worked with the avatars in the TEACHLive Lab, a presentation in the Planetarium and a welcome lunch hosted by the dean's office.



The Williamstown Teacher Academy also visited the COE over the summer. Twelve students from Williamstown High School came to campus where members of OESP, Dr. Nedd Johnson and Dr. Martha Viator as well as Associate Director of Advising Services, Ms. Dorothy Abruzzo-Klumpp and former Associate Dean, Dr. Zeynep Eran presented information about the teacher education program. The students also participated in a campus tour, worked with the avatars in the TEACHLive Lab, visited the Planetarium and were provided a welcome lunch hosted by the dean's office.



# Professional Development Schools

## New PDSs

The COE welcomed two new PDSs to the PDS Network. Glassboro High School and Horace Mann Elementary school will join the eleven PDSs in the network. On September 24th, the Horace Mann Elementary School's PDS banner was unveiled.



On September 25th, the Glassboro High School's PDS banner was unveiled.



## PDS Highlights

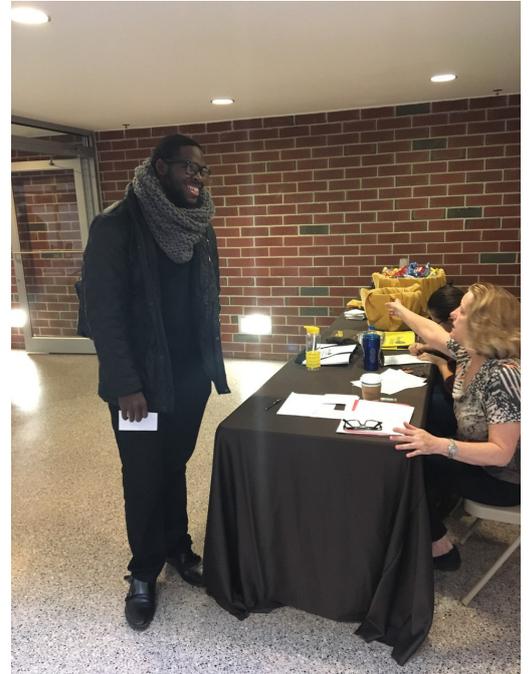
The spring semester ended with a PIR retreat. On June 18th, the PIRs met to reflect on the year, establish goals for next year and brainstormed an outline for a book prospectus on PDS work for Rutgers Press.

The fall semester began with a PIR orientation. On September 7th, all current and new PIRs met to prepare for the year. The focus of the orientation was to help new PIRs and established PIRs with PDS research. The group also mapped out the application and interview process for candidate hoping to conduct their clinical practice experience at a PDS. By spring 2018, all PDSs will host undergraduate courses onsite. Look for more of the latter in the next newsletter.

# Office of Clinical Experiences

The COE initiated a new policy requiring all new cooperating teachers (CTs), who will host a clinical intern, to participate in an online training. The OCE team was not only instrumental in helping to keep a record of the teachers who needed the training, but provided financial support so both new and former CTs could take the course for free.

On October 15th, OCE co-hosted with OESP the first Clinical Experiences and Practice Open House. Teacher education students, PDSs and selected school partners were invited to participate in the event. The open house was created for students to meet with potential school members before applying for clinical practice. In addition, school partners also had the opportunity to meet with students, invite students to their schools and set up days and times to conduct interviews before placements are assigned. A second open house will take place in April with the hopes of inviting additional school partners who wish to host clinical practice teacher candidates.



# Praxis Lab

The focus of the Praxis Lab has changed slightly. This year Praxis Core preparation will continue to take priority, but students will be pre-assessed to determine if they should sign up to take the online Praxis Core Boot Camp instead of working face-to-face in the lab. Students who test needing help in more than one of the three content areas will need to sign up for the Boot Camp. The camp will run five times during the year. Two camps will occur during the fall, two camps in the spring and one camp during winter session. Students who need help in one content area will be welcomed into the lab for six free one-on-one sessions.



**PRAXIS CORE  
BOOT CAMP**

**ATTENTION!**  
1st 15 registrants who completed at least  
6 sessions in the Praxis Lab will receive  
the course textbook for **FREE!**

## OVERVIEW

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. Participants should register online through the College of Education's [Praxis Lab website](#). Register today because seats are limited to the first 25 registrants (**only one session is required**).

## LOCATION:

Online

**DATES:** Choose your preferred semester and select 1 of the following sessions.

### Fall

Session 1: September 17-October 22  
Session 2: October 8-November 12

### Winter

Session 1: December 31-February 4

### Spring

Session 1: February 4-March 11  
Session 2: February 18-March 25

\$100 fee pays for registration and online supports. However, a textbook is required and can be purchased in Rowan's Bookstore (UNLESS YOU ARE ONE OF THE FIRST 15 REGISTRANTS). Once registered, the fee is non-refundable (unless the course is canceled).

Attendance and participation is mandatory to get best results.

## Course Contents

- Week 1 Pre-Assessment and Test Taking Strategies**  
In this session participants will begin by taking a 15-minute Pre-test. The remaining session will be used to analyze incorrect responses and determine the area and types of questions the participants are insufficient in. Participants will learn healthy study habits and test-taking strategies on how to approach and answer questions. In addition, participants will leave the session with daily task assignments in preparation for the following session.
- Weeks 2 & 3 Content Refreshing**  
The session will focus on Reading and Writing content through interactive instruction, video practice and sample questions.
- Weeks 4 & 5 Content Refreshing Continue**  
The session will focus on Math content through interactive instruction, video practice and sample questions.
- Week 6 Post-Assessment**  
Participants will take a practice Praxis Core exam. Those who pass the practice exam will receive a certificate and be dismissed from the Boot Camp. Those who do not pass one or more subject areas of the practice exam will have the option to come to the Praxis Lab for additional help.



**Rowan University**

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

# Undergraduate Alumni Spotlight

## Erin Anderson

Erin Anderson graduated summa cum laude from Rowan University in May 2018 with degrees in secondary education and history, along with an endorsement in teaching students with disabilities. She began her quest to become an educator as a high school student involved in the COE's RUTA program. Her clinical experiences included work at Bridgeton and Buena high schools as well as Archbishop Damiano School (ADS), which serves students with moderate to severe disabilities. Erin completed her clinical practice at Delsea Regional Middle School, where she taught four sections of history to students at varying educational levels. Erin was involved on campus as both a student worker in the COE Dean's Office, and as an admissions ambassador. She has accepted her first full-time position as a social studies and special education teacher at Burlington Township High School. Her first year is off to an amazing start! Erin cannot imagine herself doing anything but education.



# Graduate Alumni Spotlight

## Angelica Velazquez

Angelica Velazquez graduated from Rowan University in May 2018 with a Masters of Arts in Counseling in Educational Settings, along with a focus in Higher Education. She began her quest to become a counselor as an undergraduate psychology major at Stockton University. Her clinical experiences throughout graduate school include: an interim career counselor for the Office of Career Advancement, treasurer of the Counseling National Honor Society (Chi Sigma Iota), and success coach for the Educational Opportunity Fund's ASCEND program. Angelica was involved on campus as both a graduate assistant for the OESP, and as peer mentor to First-Year Graduate Students. She has accepted her first part-time academic advising position as an exploratory studies major advisor at Rowan University. Angelica cannot wait to continue to her journey while helping students succeed.



*Go Profs!*

