

UCCS LEAD PHD E-Newsletter



Ph.D. Educational Leadership,
Research, and Policy

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO COLORADO
SPRINGS

Summer 2018



Greetings, LRF PhD Community! As we prepare for fall, I am excited to share College and Department updates, news on student and alumni professional and scholarly endeavors, and important dates for the upcoming year. For the 2018-2019 academic year, I have a faculty update to share—Dr. Joe Taylor will be joining us full time as an assistant professor this fall. For students preparing for portfolio reviews this summer, please remember the due date is August 6th. As always, please feel free to contact me any time with questions or concerns.

–Dr. Andrea Bingham

10 Year PhD Program Anniversary!



This year marked the tenth anniversary of the PhD program! The celebration was held at the new Ent Center for the Arts, and included a welcome from College of Education Dean, Valerie Martin Conley, and an address from Dr. Dick Carpenter, one of the programs' founders. The program also featured speeches from alumni Dr. Shelman Brown and Dr. Brian Burnett.



Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Joe Taylor

Dr. Taylor is joining the Leadership faculty full time this fall as an Assistant Professor; he taught high school physics and mathematics before completing a Ph.D. in science education at Penn State University. He holds a master's degree in mathematics education from Ohio University and a bachelor's degree in physics education from California University of Pennsylvania. This upcoming academic year, Dr. Taylor will be teaching Intermediate and Advanced Quantitative Research and Statistics (LEAD 7100 and LEAD 8100) in the PhD program, as well as Master's Research Lab (LEAD 7000) and Data Driven Program Evaluation and Curriculum Assessment (LEAD 5220) in the LEAD M.A. program. Please welcome Dr. Taylor to UCCS!



Congratulations to Mountain Lion Grand Slam 3-Minute Thesis Finalist, Eric Mason!



Ph.D. candidate Eric Mason was a finalist in the UCCS Mountain Lion Grand Slam 3-Minute Thesis (3MT) competition this spring. The Grand Slam 3-Minute Thesis Competition is an opportunity for graduate students to showcase their research and scholarship.

The 3MT competition challenges students to a 3-minute/1-slide presentation to explain their research to the audience and judges in a concise and engaging way. Participants were evaluated on how well they explained and communicated the most significant parts of their research.

Congrats to the COE Outstanding Researcher of the Year, Dr. Patty Witkowsky!

Dr. Patty Witkowsky, LRF Assistant Professor, was this year's winner of the College of Education Outstanding Researcher Award! Dr. Witkowsky received the reward for her excellence in research, grant procurement, and productivity. Dr. Witkowsky's research focuses on the experiences of graduate students in student affairs graduate preparation programs as well as student transitions and leadership involvement. She is actively involved in the College Personnel Association of Colorado as the Faculty Representative and the Association for Orientation, Transition, and Retention as an Associate Editor of the Journal of College Orientation and Transition.



Congrats to the UCCS Garrett Swasey Outstanding Staff Award Winner, Dr. Phillip Morris!



Dr. Phillip Morris, LRF Assistant Professor, received this year's UCCS Swasey Outstanding Staff Award. Throughout Dr. Morris's seven years working at UCCS, he has been involved in multiple projects and served in multiple roles simultaneously, including as the grant project director for two U.S. Department of Education grants; Director of Veteran and Military Student Affairs; GPS instructor for traditional and veteran GPS classes; Student Mentor (MOSAIC office); and Assistant Professor. Dr. Morris has supported numerous student veterans through personal crises with compassion and concern through grant writing and donor cultivation, and by creating funding opportunities and scholarships for numerous students, working with faculty and staff across campus to support student veterans, initiating research projects, and supporting all students.

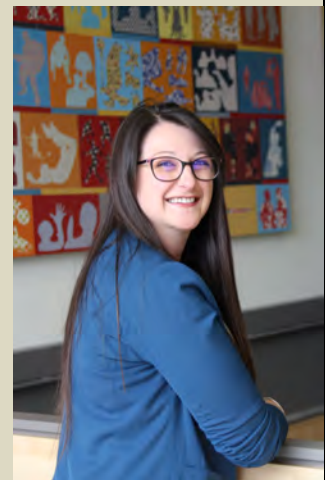
2018-2019 Graduate Research Fellowship Recipients

**Kathryn Starkey
Curtis Garcia
Brandan Comfort**

**Please remember to look out for UCCS fellowship deadlines
from the Graduate School in January 2019!**

Incoming Student Spotlight: Kathryn Starkey

Kathryn Starkey grew up in Jackson, WY in the shadow of the Tetons. She attended the University of Wyoming, earning bachelor's degrees in Social Studies Secondary Education and Political Science. After a successful collegiate debate career, she was recruited to coach debate and earn her master's in Communication Studies at Texas Tech University. There, her research interests included political rhetoric and rural pedagogy. After serving as a faculty member at CSU-Pueblo for four years, Kathryn now finds herself in a new role in the Division of Extended Studies, holding a position that focuses on providing access to education for students both on campus and in her community. Now as she begins her doctoral work, she hopes to build upon her experience in Extended Studies, focusing her research on how education can be provided to those who are often forgotten in education, like rural populations and incarcerated students, through the development of different strategies, avenues, and mechanisms for access and instructional design.



Congratulations, PhD Spring 2018 Graduates!



**Dr. Rebecca Ann Frazier , Teachers Coaching Teachers Coordinator
(Colorado Springs School District 11)**

“Impact of Instructional Coaching on Teacher Competency, Job Satisfaction,
and Student Growth”

Chair: Dr. Carpenter

**Dr. Matthew Michael Lunn , Management Analyst IV, Office of the Chief
of Police, Denver Police Department**

“Change in Use of Force Policy: The Experience of Officers”

Chair: Dr. Carpenter



Important Graduation Dates, 2018-2019

Fall Dates:

November 16: Last day for fall dissertation defense
December 14: Fall commencement at the Broadmoor World Arena

Spring Dates:

April 19: Last day for spring dissertation defense
May 17: Spring commencement at the Broadmoor World Arena



Successful Proposals from Spring 2018

Chad Bowman

Influence of Interpersonal Intimacy on Donor Retention: An Intrinsic Case Study Approach

Chair: Dr. Bingham

Terainer Brown

Interrupting the Metacognitive Cycle: A Closer Look at the Effects of Academic Peer Mentorship on Transitioning College Writers

Chair Dr. Mendez

Sarah Cooksey

Reducing the Barriers to the Provision of Education: A Grounded Theory

Chair: Dr. Mendez

Autumn Hayes-Diges

The Effects of Augmentative and Alternative Communication on Speech-Language Outcomes: A Meta-Analysis

Chair: Dr. Mendez

Amanda Metcalfe

Freedom Movement: A Case Study of Feminist Leadership in Kurdistan

Chair: Dr. Mendez

Student Travel Award Links

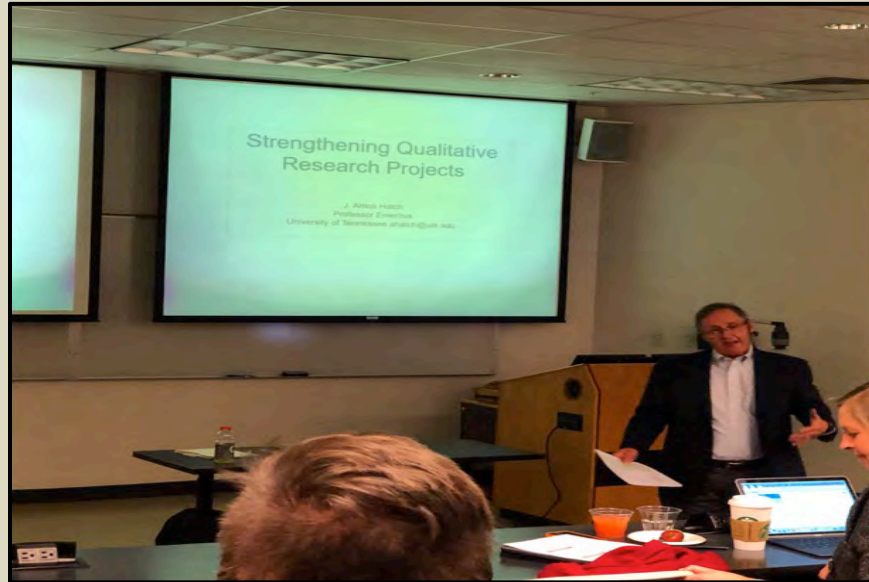
LRF PhD Student Travel & Dissertation Research Funding Request

<http://www.uccs.edu/coe/student-resource-office/department-downloads/lrf.html>

UCCS Graduate School Travel Award Instructions

<http://www.uccs.edu/graduateschool/uccs-finances/finance-resources.html>

Spring 2018 PhD Research Seminar: Dr. J. Amos Hatch



This spring the Department hosted Dr. J. Amos Hatch, Professor Emeritus at the University of Tennessee, for our LRF PhD Research Seminar Series. His presentation focused on how to avoid pitfalls that novice researchers often face when designing, completing and writing up qualitative research projects. Dr. Hatch also discussed ways to strengthen qualitative studies at each stage of their development.

Alumni Profiles

Dr. Nancy Hernandez

Equity Specialist Coordinator, Western Educational Equity Assistance Center



A year and a half after defending my dissertation on *Latino/a Underrated College Graduates*, I am working at the Western Educational Equity Assistance Center (WEEAC). WEEAC offers free and affordable technical assistance and trainings to improve equity in schools, districts, and education agencies in our 13-state region including Colorado. More information is here <https://msudenver.edu/weeac/>.

As a first-generation daughter of immigrants, earning a PhD was surreal. The toll that higher education takes on first generation, low income students affected me after my undergraduate years. I took a seven-year break working in Denver non-profits prior to earning a Master's in Nonprofit Management. Ten years later, I enrolled at UCCS in the doctoral program in Educational Leadership, Research, and Policy. I chose it because it let me keep my job, kept me close to my mentors, and embraced a mixed methods approach to research. Still, I had to learn to put my love of education first - a guilt-inducing lesson that anyone who loves their craft must endure. By staying true to my commitment to social justice, my love of learning, and a need to make education more equitable, I have been able to live an extraordinary life. It is a privilege to serve my community through education, advocacy and activism. In addition to my work in education, I am the Board Chair of the Chinook Fund, an alumna of the Latino Leadership Institute, a member of Chalkbeat's Reader Advisory Board, and a member of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund's Denver Advisory Council.

Dr. John Donovan

Assistant Professor of History, Broward College – North Campus

Dissertation Title: “My Exercise in Life is to Produce a Report that Nobody Reads:” Perceptions of Clery Act Use, Compliance, and Effectiveness



Since my graduation from UCCS in December 2016, it has been an exciting 19 months. I was fortunate enough in June 2017 to be hired as a full-time, tenure-track Assistant Professor of History at the Broward College – North Campus in the Fort Lauderdale, Florida area. I started teaching during the Fall 2017 semester. Broward College is ranked among the top 3 colleges in the nation by the Aspen Institute. Each semester, I teach over 120 students in five classes I created about U.S. History (to 1877), U.S. History (after 1877), and World History in the 20th Century. While teaching during my first year at the college, I also completed a seven-month Association of College and University Educators Professional Development Training course to develop and improve effective teaching practices. At the end of my first nine months of teaching, I was honored to be nominated by the students and selected by college leadership as the 2017 – 2018 Professor of the Year for the Broward College – North Campus. In addition to my academic duties, in May 2018 I served as the moderator for a Broward College panel conducted with the South Florida PBS affiliate on the premier public viewing of a PBS film on the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1892. The panel discussed the historical aspects of the Chinese Exclusion Act, as well as contemporary issues associated with immigration. Over the past year I also coauthored a book chapter about the experience of African-American female librarians during the Jim Crow period for a text entitled *Diversity and Inclusion in Libraries: A Changing Facet of Librarianship* (scheduled for publication in Fall 2018). Additionally, I am currently conducting research about the 1958 goodwill tour of South America conducted by then Vice-President Richard Nixon. My research will include trips to the Nixon Presidential Library archives in California, a visit to media archives and sites from the goodwill tour in Peru, as well as a presentation to an academic conference with a goal to author and publish a book on the 1958 trip. The education and training provided to me by UCCS was invaluable, and the skills I learned in the Educational Leadership, Research and Policy program have been a great inspiration in my pursuit of academic and research opportunities.



Faculty and Student/Alumni Publications and Presentations

Publications

- Behrens, T. K., Holeva, W. M., Carpenter, D. M., Tucker, E., Donovan, J., Luna, C., Field, J., Kelly, C. (2017). Intensity of commonly reported classroom-based physical activity opportunities offered in public schools. *Preventive Medicine Reports*, 6, 157–161.
- Carpenter, D. M., Kaka, S., Tygret, J., & Cathcart, K. (2018). Testing the efficacy of a scholarship program for single parent, post-freshmen, full time undergraduates. *Research in Higher Education*, 59(1), 108-131.
- Kelly, C., Carpenter, D. M., Tucker, E., Luna, C., Donovan, J., & Behrens, T. (2017). A method for evaluating school-based physical activity programming. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 14, 160607.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5888/pcd14.160607>.
- Mendez, S. L., Conley, V. M., Keith, R., Haynes, C., & Gerhardt, R. A. (2017). Mentorship in the engineering professoriate: Exploring the role of Social Cognitive Career Theory. *International Journal of Mentoring and Coaching in Education*, 6(4), 302-316.
- Mendez, S. L., Witkowsky, P., Allee, A., Christensen, B., & Stiles, C. (2017). Sorority ritual participation and self-efficacy. *Oracle: The Research Journal of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors*, 12(1), 1-19.
- Mendez, S. Witkowsky, P., Morris, P., Brosseau, J., & Nicholson, H. (In press). Experiences in a student veteran transition seminar: Exploring the Thriving Transition Cycle. *Journal of Veteran Studies*.
- Nassar, M., et al., *Navigating through assumptions: Faculty transition and social responsibility*. Program presented at the 2018 annual ACPA Convention, Houston, Texas.
- Radigan, P., & Mendez, S. L. (2018). Historical research. In B. Frye (Ed.), *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Educational Research, Measurement and Evaluation* (pp. 783-785). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Witkowsky, P., Dinise-Halter, A., Yakaboski, T., & Long, S. Creating supportive educational communities for non-traditional women in student affairs preparation programs. *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice*, 55(2), 167-180.

Presentations

- Bayer, B., & Witkowsky, P., *Implementing a divisional assessment plan without additional resources*. Program presented at the 2018 annual ACPA Convention, Houston, Texas.
- Clayton, G., Clayton, C., Carpenter, D. M., Winters, M., Ecks, G. (2018, April). Achievement of English Learners in monitor status: A cross sector comparison from Denver. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Conference, New York, NY.
- Grandorff, C., Heasley, P., & Mendez, S. L. (2018). *Academic (in)equalities in knowledge exchange: Why students from around the globe study abroad*. Paper presented at the 20th Annual International Conference on Education, Athens, Greece.
- Haynes, C., & Gerhardt, R. A., Mendez, S. L., Conley, V. M., Tygret, J., & Keith, R. (2017). *Expansion of Increasing Minority Presence within Academia through Continuous Training (IMPACT)*. Poster presented at the 2017 NSF Engineering Education and Centers Grantees Conference, Arlington, VA.
- Mendez, S. L., Conley, V. M., Haynes, C., Gerhardt, R. A., & Tygret, J. (2018). *The IMPACT mentoring program: Exploring the benefits of mentoring for emeriti faculty*. Paper presented at the 2018 American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference & Exposition, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Mendez, S. L., Conley, V. M., Tygret, J., Haynes, C., & Gerhardt, R. A. (2018). *Do mentoring needs differ between early- and mid-career faculty?: Exploring the engineering professoriate*. Paper presented at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, Washington, DC.
- Witkowsky, P., Obregon, V., Bruner, B., & Alanis, J., *Influence of bilingual parent and family orientation programs on families*. Program presented at the 2018 National Migrant Education Conference, Portland, Oregon.
- Witkowsky, P., Obregon, V., Bruner, B., & Alanis, J., *Influence of bilingual parent and family orientation programs on families*. Program presented at the 2018 annual ACPA Convention, Houston, Texas.

