

THE SAHE SCOOP

SPRING 2021

The UCCS Student Affairs in Higher Education Newsletter



ANOTHER UNIQUE YEAR

DR. PATTY WITKOWSKY - SAHE PROGRAM CHAIR

Hello SAHE community! While there has been a bit more stability this year, it remains a year unlike any other. I am confident that through the past year we have learned more about ourselves, our campuses, student affairs, and our society. The greatest challenges and opportunities we have experienced, beyond learning about epidemiology and public health, are learning how to fight racial injustice and the systems that support it. We have also had the opportunity to support historically excluded student populations in higher education and I hope that we will each continue to commit to our own learning to best support our students.

Thank you all for your continued support of our students, each other, and the SAHE program. We are excited to celebrate with our graduating class on May 13th (see invitation information in the newsletter), continue to support our current first year students into their 2nd year with hopefully fewer back and forth course delivery modes, and welcome our new cohort joining us this July.

Inside This Edition:

1. Congrats Graduates!
2. Outgoing Cohort Highlights
3. Welcome New Cohort
4. Incoming Student Spotlights
5. Student Affairs Association
6. Faculty Spotlight
7. Alumni Updates



*Congratulations
SAHE Graduates!*

Keelan Bailey

Leah Butler

Jordan Cushman

Ali Langfels

Sarah Miller

Mark Paquette

Darius Pardner

Karen Perez

Beckie Pyles Munoz

Grady Rogers

Hannah Scobba

Rosanna Smith

Rochelle Taylor

Daniella Trujillo

Stephanie Trujillo

Krista Wallace

*Student Affairs
in Higher Education
Graduation Celebration*

Thursday, May 13, 2021

5:00pm-7:00pm (MDT)

*Join us in celebrating our Fall 2020
and Spring 2021 M.A. graduates!*

ZOOM LINK:

[HTTPS://UCCS-EDU.ZOOM.US/J/96808180186](https://uccs-edu.zoom.us/j/96808180186)

***Join us for the
Graduation
Celebration
via Zoom!***



Class of 2021 Highlights

What is your favorite memory/experience that you have with your cohort, faculty, during practicum, or in general during the program?

"Definitely the SAHE Travel tour to New Orleans! It was fun to make the trip to see different institutions."

"When we all went to BJ's after our very first class."

"My favorite memory was going on field trips with Dr. Mendez' class. We visited four different campuses, and that was a nice change from being in the classroom."

"Submitting the portfolio - it was the culmination of two years worth of work, and the experience of recognizing how I had grown, both personally and professionally, was rewarding."

What advice would you give to an incoming SAHE student?

"Start your practicum early!! You never know when a global pandemic or some other issue may arise."

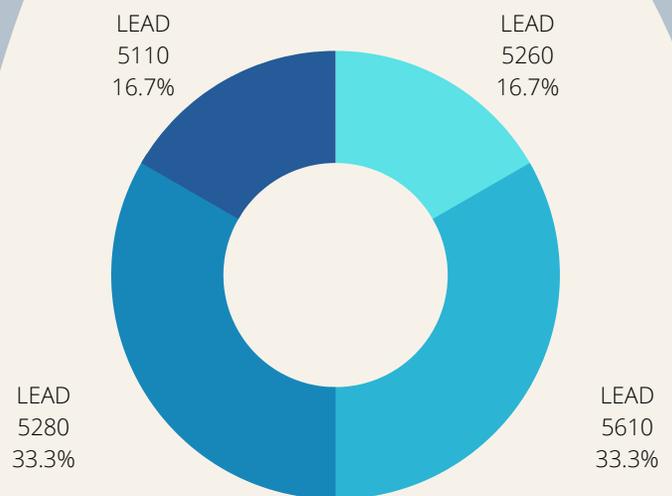
"My best advice would be to learn about the portfolio requirements right from the beginning."

"I would say enjoy the journey and appreciate others' experiences - they can teach you a lot about yourself."

"Utilize your cohort, they are so helpful."

"Keep all assignments saved, by class number, as you need to match them up to competencies within your portfolio."

What was your favorite SAHE Class?



LEAD 5110 - Culturally Responsive Practices in Higher Ed
LEAD 5260 - College Student Development
LEAD 5280 - Legal & Ethical Issues in Higher Ed
LEAD 5610 - Social & Cultural Foundations of Higher Ed

Welcome SAHE 2021 Cohort!

Welcome to our new class of M.A. in Leadership students starting courses in Summer 2021, we are so excited to see you begin!

NOELLE ABBOTT	KATHERINE KANE
KATRINA BELTZ	SAHMYAH KELLEY
CALE BOLEN	KRISTEN LAROY
BREANNA CHRISTIAN	DEMETRIUS MARROW
JODYANNA GALLEGOS	SAVANAH MCDANIEL
ROBERT GUILFORD	ALISHA MEYER
JOSHUA HEDRICK	CORRIE PRESCOTT
SAMANTHA HERNANDEZ	ANNE TAYLOR
LAUREN HOPE	TYLER TOOLE
ANDRE JORDAN	JESICA WHITTAKER

Incoming SAHE Student Spotlights

Undergrad: UCCS - Inclusive Elementary Education & SAHE Minor

Why SAHE at UCCS and what are you most excited for?

"As a graduate of UCCS, I know the campus, students, and program. Being able to learn in an amazing program with amazing people is the best way to fulfill my dreams and goals!" Sahmyah is excited to "[be] able to explore a new side and professional side of student affairs!"

Sahmyah will be the Residence Life & Housing GA at UCCS!

"Being able to see a new perspective of housing as well as develop new and innovative programming opportunities." Sahmyah said that "[to be] able to support and encourage, students from diverse backgrounds in their educational journeys," is what motivates her to work with college students!



**SAHMYAH
KELLEY**

Colorado Springs

Incoming SAHE Student Spotlights

Undergrad: Univ of Arizona - Criminal Justice/Public Mgmt & Policy

What are you most excited for in starting the UCCS SAHE program?

"I'm excited to meet everyone who comes from different backgrounds and experiences. I am also looking forward to bringing my experience from working full-time for 2 years for an International Fraternity Headquarters and learn specific things from an educational standpoint. Also just looking forward to advancing my education and be the 1st person in my family to earn a higher degree."

Why did you choose to pursue SAHE at UCCS and why now?

"I met Dr. Witkowsky via a former student...she plugged the SAHE Program at UCCS and it caught my eye as I'm finishing my last year working for the Fraternity and want to continue progression into higher education at a college/university. After multiple meetings and conversations, I decided this would be a beneficial program for me to attend to achieve my future goals."

Robbie will be the GA for Fraternity & Sorority Life at UCCS!

"I'm excited to get to know the students and organizations in Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) at UCCS and assist in their development/progression while finding non-affiliated students their "home" in FSL. I'm also looking forward to continuing my professional growth in working at a university level in the FSL Office as this is where I want to work post-graduation."



**ROBBIE
GUILFORD**
Lexington, KY

**SAMANTHA
HERNANDEZ**
Colorado Springs



Undergrad: Christopher Newport Univ - Fine Arts

What are you most excited for in starting the UCCS SAHE program?

"I am most excited to learn about different areas of Student Affairs that I haven't had a chance to explore yet. My undergrad experience with Student Affairs mainly centered around Student Activities and Greek Life, so I am looking forward to stepping outside of this comfort zone during the program."

Why did you choose to pursue SAHE at UCCS and why now?

"I chose to pursue SAHE at UCCS because I loved that the program focuses on building us into more confident and balanced leaders so that we can better serve others. The emphasis on helping us grow as leaders and people really spoke to me. I also chose the program because of the faculty I had the opportunity to meet or interact with. Everyone I spoke with was welcoming, kind, and easy to talk to which was something very important to me."

Samantha will be the SAHE GA at UCCS!

"I am excited to be able to work closely with the department in this position and to be a representative of the program. I am also excited to be able to use my Graphic Design background in this role. Graphic Design was the focus of my undergraduate career, and I look forward to being able to combine this love with my passion for Student Affairs."

Student Affairs Association

2020-2021

2019-2021 Mountain Lion Award of Excellence

At the UCCS Student Life 2019-2021 ROAR Awards ceremony on April 27th, 2021, The Student Affairs Association took home the biggest award of the night: The Mountain Lion Award of Excellence! I am so incredibly proud of the work we have done to bring the SAHE cohorts together. No one expected us to take leadership in this way in the wake of Covid-19. No one would have batted an eye if we had simply showed up to our virtual classes and made it through these past few semesters. But we wanted more. More connection between the cohorts, more SAHE spirit when the energy was low, more reminders of why we do what we do. While our virtual celebrations with silly games, peer awards, and random chatter may have seemed small, our hard work has certainly paid off.



Thank you to our wonderful faculty advisor and SAHE program coordinator, Dr. Patty Witkowsky, for planting the SAA seed, and to the passionate SA pros that stepped up beside me to rebuild a dying student org in the middle of a pandemic: Katie Morton (Vice President, First Year), Flora Jathanna (Secretary, First year), Kane Lemasters (Treasurer, First Year), and Mark Paquette (Second Year Representative). Thank you to Student Life for this recognition, to SAHE for the opportunity to lead, and to the SAA members that supported our virtual get-togethers. SAA looks forward to its continued growth and inclusivity on campus. Have a safe and gentle summer!

Bailey Ashida

SAA President, First Year



2020-2021 Elections & Involvement!

If you are an incoming or current SAHE student and want to become involved with SAA in the coming year, look out for info regarding our elections and other involvement during Summer term for our 2021-2022 year!



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Elisa Thompson

Dr. Thompson is teaching the LEAD 5210, Counseling & Helping Skills in Higher Education. This is her first time teaching this course to the SAHE students!



"LEAD 5210 is an opportunity to apply what you have learned about student development theory and learn about counseling frameworks. This class is there to help build confidence in the skills to handle situations as a student affairs professional."

"How would you describe LEAD 5210 in short?"

"What has been your favorite part of teaching SAHE students in the LEAD 5210 course?"

"The SAHE cohort is a fun group to spend the day with, and it is more challenging to think of lessons that allow students to practice the skills we are learning! This class is also a good way for me to utilize the Psychology aspects of my education."

"Skills, I'd like to offer them helping skills and many tools for them to help students. As well, I hope students leave with competence in these skills and confidence in dealing with any student case that comes their way."

"If there is one thing that you could leave with the students of this class, what would it be and why?"

"I really enjoy being at UCCS, we have a unique community and particularly in Leadership, Research, & Foundations, the people and students we have in our department are fantastic!"

-Dr. Thompson

ALUMNI UPDATES

Congratulations to our past graduates on beginning new adventures, positions, and awards! Wishing you the best of luck on your endeavors!

Dr. Sandy Ho - Class of 2010

Received the College of Education's Service Award

Dr. Terainer Brown- Class of 2015

New position: Chief of the Education and Training Branch for the USAF Pacific Command

Lisa Cohe - Class of 2017

Beginning Ed.D in Higher Education Admin at the College of William & Mary

Jon Bogh - Class of 2018

New position: Building Manager of Arnold Hall at the USAFA

Eric Simpkin - Class of 2018

New position: Student Success Coordinator at 2U

Ann Schwab - Class of 2019

Received the College of Education's award for Equity, Inquiry, & Innovation as Curriculum Management Lead in the Office of the Registrar at UCCS

Erik Newhouse - Class of 2020

New position: Recruiter for Wounded Warrior Project's Soldier Ride Team

Regan Welsh - Class of 2020

New position: Isolation Hall Director at CU Boulder

Leah Butler - Class of 2021

New position: Academic Advisor & Retention Specialist at MSU Denver