The Education Success Project OUR Speakers

Dr. Shane Martin, Dean of LMU School of Education



Dr. Shane P. Martin, an educational anthropologist by training and expert in the areas of intercultural education, cultural diversity, and the spectrum of public, charter and Catholic schools, was appointed dean of the LMU School of Education in 2005 and dean of Graduate Studies in 2012. Dean Martin is visible in the education community as a member of the Green Dot Public Schools National Board of Directors and chair of the Teach For America Los Angeles Board, and is a former member of the Loyola High School of Los Angeles Board of Directors. He is a speaker in a variety of arenas — civic, business, and education — and keynotes conferences in the United States and internationally.

Dr. Ref Rodriguez, LAUSD Board Member

Dr. Ref Rodriguez grew up in Cypress Park and is the first of five children of Mexican immigrants to graduate from college. He cofounded the Partnerships to Uplift Communities, charter public schools that currently serve the communities of Northeast Los Angeles and the Northeast San Fernando Valley. In 2009, he helped launch Partners for Developing Futures, a social investment fund dedicated to investing in leaders of color to start and grow high performing charter schools. Board Member Rodriguez proudly serves schools and families in the communities of South LA and parts of Northeast Los Angeles.





Dr. Maureen Kindel, Founder, The Education Success Project

Throughout her career, Dr. Kindel has navigated various constituencies and distinguished herself in prominent public and private sector leadership positions, most notably, her appointment by Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley as President of the LA City Board of Public Works. She currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and the Executive Committee of the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES): a worldwide elections assistance and democracy building organization working in 26 countries. She is Secretary of the 1984 Olympic Foundation, and former Director of the Southwest Water Company. Dr. Kindel has embraced public education as a professional and personal passion.

Yvette-King Berg, Executive Director, YPI Charter Schools

Yvette King-Berg is the Executive Director of Youth Policy Institute's Charter Schools. She was the former California Charter Schools Association Vice-President of School Development and Outreach-Southern California. She has presented her research about parental involvement at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting. Ms. King-Berg has over thirty years of experience working with teachers, students, parents, and organizations in a variety of positions including Director, Assistant Director, Curriculum Advisor, Bilingual, and Title 1 Coordinators, classroom teacher (K-12) in Pasadena and LAUSD.



The Education Success Project

William D. Parham, Ph.D., ABPP , Professor and Department Chair, LMU School of Education

William D. Parham is the President of the LMU faculty senate, Chair of the Department of Educational Support services, and a Professor for LMU's Counseling Program. Parham is a licensed psychologist, Certified in Counseling Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology, and Past-President of the Society of Counseling Psychology of the American Psychological Association. An expert in trauma-related aspects of education, Parham teaches LMU courses such as "Trauma Counseling: Theories & Interventions." Through his work, Parham has highlighted action programs, procedures, and political advocacy aimed at tapping and sustaining hope and resilience of national and international communities.

Dr. Magaly Lavadenz, Director, LMU Center for Equity English Learners

Magaly Lavadenz is currently a professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at Loyola Marymount University. She is also the Founding Director of LMU's Center for Equity English Learners (CEEL). Dr. Lavadenz has held leadership positions in numerous education related associations. She is a past president of the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE), founding president of the California Association of Bilingual Teacher Educators (CABTE) and is currently President for the California Council on Teacher Education.





Dr. Natividad Rozsa, Administrator of Instruction, Local District Central

Natividad Rozsa is the administrator of Instruction for local district central. Under Roza's leadership, LD Central is paving the way to a new way of acquiring English proficiency, using the arts as a medium. Rosza is committed to changing teacher practice, so that students can engage in a rigorous, deep thinking 21st Century curriculum; which provides opportunities for students to communicate, collaborate, think critically and create.

Dr. Elvira Armas, Associate Director, LMU Center for Equity for English Learners

Elvira G. Armas joined the staff at LMU in 2006 as the Associate Director of the Center for Equity for English Learners (CEEL). Concurrently, Dr. Armas works with the Los Angeles County of Education (LACOE), Multilingual Academic Support Unit as an English Learner Consultant providing professional development for school teams, school districts, and educational leaders. In her career as an educator Dr. Armas has served as a bilingual classroom teacher, mentor, trainer, district advisor, staff developer and curriculum materials developer.



The Education Success Project

Dr. Terese Aceves, Professor, LMU School of Education

Dr. Aceves is a Professor at Loyola Marymount University in the School of Education. Dr. Aceves has supported lowincome, diverse families for over fifteen years in special education advocacy. Her research interests include supporting culturally and linguistically diverse students' learning needs using evidence-based practices, the early intervention and identification of children at-risk for reading difficulties, and special education advocacy for primarily low-income Latino families.



Joshua Kaufman, LCSW, CBITS Trainer



Mr. Kaufman is a psychiatric social worker with School Mental Health of LAUSD, and is currently the program manager of the Trauma Service Adaptation (TSA) Center for Resilience, Hope, and Wellness in Schools. Mr. Kaufman's professional efforts are focused on the implementation and dissemination of evidence-based, traumainformed and trauma-specific practice models, and the provision of clinical consultation and training both within LAUSD and nationally. He has provided trainings focused on response and emergency management for schools, school-based screening and assessment, and trauma awareness in schools, and CBITS for the U.S. Dept of Education, George Washington University, and various communitybased organizations and school districts across the country.

Dr. Shawn Bolton, Director of Health and Wellness, YPI

Shawn Bolton is Director of the Health & Wellness Department (H&W). H&W operates wellness initiatives in three service areas: San Fernando Valley, East Hollywood, and Pico-Union, and serves over 8000 youth annually, providing physical health, socialemotional learning, mental health services, nutrition education, community food access and active transportation. The Health & Wellness Department delivers youth-centered services while also providing wraparound services to the entire family. The values of the department are guided in the spirit, action, mission and resilience of our community. The Health & Wellness Department stands on five core values: Social Responsibility, Community, Holistic Wellness, Social Justice and Cultural Competency.



Jesse Noonan, Chief Academic Officer, YPI



Jesse Noonan, Ed.D., is Chief Academic Officer at Youth Policy Institute, providing a broad range of support to schools to dramatically accelerate student outcomes at schools throughout the Pico Union, East Hollywood, and Northeast San Fernando Valley areas of Los Angeles. She supports the Early Childhood Education, Community School Impact, and Expanded Learning departments to deliver place-based cradle-to-college supports, the goal of which is to ensure that zip code is not destiny in Los Angeles. During her nineyear tenure at Opportunities for Learning and Options for Youth, Jesse was the school's first Director of Educational Programs and led a team instrumental in raising the academic achievement and postsecondary expectations of students in the program.