

November 2023 :: Education Week :: Troops to Teachers Funding for Veterans :: Reversing Pandemic Learning Loss :: Reading Specialist Certification :: Awards :: Upcoming Events



Troops to Teachers Virginia Center: opening doors for veterans in education

The **Troops to Teachers Virginia Center** (TTTVC) at the William & Mary School of Education has secured \$760,000 in federal pandemic relief funding through the Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSER). Awarded by the Virginia Department of Education in January 2023, the funding marks a commitment by the Commonwealth to TTTVC's mission of providing support for military veterans and service members transitioning to careers in education. Funding opportunities are currently available for a variety of needs, and funds will be awarded to eligible applicants on a rolling basis through September 2024. [More](#).

FROM THE DEAN



This week, we celebrate our fourth annual Education Week in the School of Education. It's the perfect opportunity to honor our profession and all who contribute to building *Safe, Strong & Just Institutions*.

I hope that each of you will again join me in thanking an educator who has had an impact on you and that you'll find time to celebrate with us this week. Please visit education.wm.edu/wmew for the full schedule of events, including virtual options.

— Dean Rob Knoeppel

WILLIAM & MARY

EDUCATION WEEK 2023

Celebrating and thanking educators

November 13-17, 2023

#WMEducationWeek | education.wm.edu/wmew

FEATURED EVENTS



Courageous Conversation: Actors, Allies & Accomplices

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 7:30 -8:30 p.m., Zoom

Join the School of Education community for our next Courageous Conversation about actors, allies & accomplices.

There is an increasing need for advocacy by allies and accomplices on behalf of marginalized populations that are targets of censure and oppression. This Courageous Conversation will be an opportunity to briefly explore the different forms of support that we provide each other and discuss barriers, facilitators, and needs within the School of Education community. **Register.**

Communicating with our Whole Selves: Exploring Acro Yoga

Wednesday, Nov. 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Lobby

In this demonstration, led by Professor Joan Gavaler and students from the W&M Dance Program, discover the process of learning Acro Yoga as a way to think about healthy and supportive communication. Volunteers will have a chance to play with some paired movements, and we'll talk about what the group is experiencing and observations that anyone wants to share. Let's have some fun together!

[See the full Schedule of Events](#)

NEWS & NOTES



Rising to the Challenge

By Tina Eshleman

Illustrations By Traci Daberko

School of Education faculty and alumni were featured in the cover story of the Fall 2023 issue of the *W&M Alumni Magazine* for their expertise on reversing pandemic-related learning losses.

“Nearly 40% of the nation’s students were unable to experience face-to-face learning for over a year,” wrote professors Lindy Johnson, Meredith Weaver Kier and Janise Parker and doctoral candidate Evan Gallagher. Through their research and observations, they concluded that the closing of schools resulted in “a decline in students’ mental health, academic learning loss and missed milestones that were essential to students’ social-emotional development.”

The alumni magazine feature on education also includes an online exclusive companion article, “Views from the Classroom.” [More.](#)



Celebrating Success: W&M's First Reading Specialist Certificate Cohort

On Saturday, Nov. 4, the School of Education’s **Literacy Leadership Program** celebrated the success of the first cohort to complete its Reading Specialist Certificate. The event marked a significant milestone for the teachers completing the endorsement and a step forward in meeting demand for skilled literacy educators in Virginia.

The Reading Specialist Certificate, developed by Literacy Leadership Program Coordinator Denise Johnson, addresses a statewide shortage of reading specialists. Designed for certified teachers who hold master's degrees in education, the program offers a faster pathway to becoming a reading specialist. The seven-course certificate is offered fully online and incorporates both synchronous meetings and asynchronous work, providing flexibility for working professionals. [More.](#)



Eddy Receives Mentoring Award

Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development and Professor of Higher Education, Pamela L. Eddy, was awarded the Mentoring Award by the **Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)**. The award recognizes extraordinary, tireless and sustained contributions to the professional and scholarly development of emerging scholars. Eddy has chaired 75 dissertations, served on 42 dissertation committees, and supervised 106 master’s projects over her career.

“It is always humbling to receive professional recognition as we have so many colleagues giving so much to our students and to the field that getting singled out goes against the collective work we do,” said Eddy. “Yet, I am very happy in knowing that the work I have done has influenced others—and they in turn are paying it forward.”



Lindsay Blount Ed.D. '24 Earns Student Leadership Award

Congratulations to Lindsay Blount Ed.D. '24! She earned 2023 Military Spouse Student Leadership Award and was featured on the cover of the Fall 2023 issue of *Military Spouse* magazine for the article “Dream Big.”

The magazine describes Lindsay as “a talented, dedicated, and brilliant military spouse student who lives to learn and support the military and military spouse community at a selective university.” The interview highlights her unconventional path to becoming a doctoral student in the **William & Mary Higher Education Administration** and celebrates her commitment to advocacy for those who've served. The online issue also includes a great video interview with Lindsay. [More.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



William & Mary
School of Education

FACULTY RESEARCH BROWN BAG TALKS



NOVEMBER 17, 2023

Learning from the Past, Reflecting on the Present, and Planning for a Just Future

Janise Parker

Associate Professor of School Psychology

Nov. 13-16: [Take Ten: Gratitude Afternoons](#)

Nov. 14: [Healing with Laughter](#)

Nov. 14: [Courageous Conversation: Actors, Allies & Accomplices](#)

Nov. 15: [Communicating with our Whole Selves: Exploring Acro Yoga](#)

Nov. 17: [Faculty Research Brown Bag: Learning from the Past, Reflecting on the Present, and Planning for a Just Future](#)

Upcoming [Admissions Webinars](#):

- Nov. 16: [Literacy Leadership \(MA.Ed. & Certificate\)](#)
- Nov. 30: [Higher Education Ph.D. Fireside Chat](#)

SHARE A STORY

Let us know what you're up to!

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