



11TH ANNUAL DEAN'S SYMPOSIUM

LEADING FOR THE GREATER GOOD:
PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP IN ACADEMIA

Keynote Speakers



Rick McCown

Rick McCown is a professor of education and the Pierre Schouver, C.S.Sp. Endowed Chair in Mission at Duquesne University. He earned a Ph.D. in educational psychology at Indiana University where he received the Maris and Mary Higgins Proffitt Award for the Outstanding Dissertation and, more recently, an Outstanding Alumni Award. At Duquesne he has served as Department Chair and Interim Dean. He has also served as Duquesne's Principal Investigator for the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED) and as a Senior Improvement Research Fellow for CPED. He has published ten books focused on the teaching-learning process that have been adopted by universities in over 40 countries. He was elected to the Pennsylvania Society of Teaching Scholars. At Duquesne, he has received awards for teaching, research, and service, including and his university's highest teaching award: the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching.



Taili A. Thompson

Taili A. Thompson joined Allegheny County Health Department in 2016 as the manager for the Office of Violence Prevention. His previous work included ten years working for a violence prevention organization, One Vision One Life. Mr. Thompson also served as the program manager for the city of Pittsburgh Initiative to Reduce Crime (PIRC) for three years.

Mr. Thompson founded the nonprofit Youth Opportunities Development (Y.O.D.) in 2012 whose mission was to develop young leaders in communities that had high exposure to disease of violence. Y.O.D. has worked to ensure peaceful, prosperous communities through mentoring, education, and empowerment of youth.

Mr. Thompson, a 1991 graduate of Perry Traditional Academy, has his bachelor's degree in legal studies from Point Park University, and an associate degree as a Paralegal from Community College of Allegheny County. He has been doing community-based work since 1999. His work in the area of violence prevention, specifically, began in 2003. Mr. Thompson is recognized as a leader, and activist in the Allegheny County region.



Ellen Goldring

Ellen Goldring is the Patricia and Rodes Hart Professor and Chair in the Department of Leadership, Policy and Organizations at Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. Her research interests focus on the intersection of education policy and school improvement with particular emphases on education leadership. A fellow of the American Educational Research Association and past vice president of AERA's Division L-Policy and Politics, she is the recipient of the University Council for Educational Administration's Roald F. Campbell Lifetime Achievement Award. She has appeared on the Edu-Scholar Public Influence Rankings of top scholars in education policy for the past four years.

The Institute of Education Sciences, the Wallace Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation fund Dr. Goldring's current research. Her current research projects include the evaluation of the Wallace Foundation's Principal Supervisor Initiative, a district reform initiative that aims to revise the role of principal supervisors in urban districts; the study of the implementation of the Instructional Partnership Initiative, a teacher professional learning approach across the state of Tennessee; and, a validation study of a diagnostic assessment of instructional leadership capacity.



David Gussak

David Gussak, Ph.D., ATR-BC., is a professor and chair for the Florida State University Department of Art Education. He has presented extensively internationally, nationally and regionally on art therapy in forensic settings, working with aggressive and violent clients, the work of the art therapist, and various governmental and legislative issues facing the field.

Prior to his teaching for Florida State, David was the director of the graduate art therapy program in the Department of Psychology and Special Education at Emporia State University in Kansas. He has also been an adjunct and visiting professor for several art therapy programs across the United States.

His first solo-authored book, "Art on Trial: Art Therapy in Capital Murder Cases," published by Columbia University Press, is now available. He is currently co-editing the "Wiley-Blackwell Handbook of Art Therapy" with Dr. Marcia Rosal. David is the co-editor and contributing author for "Drawing Time: Art Therapy in Prisons and Other Correctional Settings" and has published articles on forensics and art therapy, art therapy and computer technology and the work of the art therapist.