EXPLORING
IDENTITY LEADERSHIP

STEDMAN GRAHAM, educator, author, businessman, and speaker, paid a visit to Long Beach State University as the Keynote Speaker for the Educational Leadership Department’s annual Leadership Symposium. As the keynote speaker, Graham spoke about the importance of self-efficacy and personal motivation in achieving your goals.

On January 27th, the Educational Leadership Department held its 8th Annual Educational Leadership Symposium at the University Student Union with students, alumni, and educational leaders from the community in attendance. Heading with the theme, “Leadership Identity: At the Intersection of Who You Are and What You Do”, the symposium tackled themes relating to structural and social obstacles faced by students in higher education. In her welcome address, Department Chair Dr. Anna Ortiz described the event as one that “showcases the research and ideas of our doctoral students, master’s students and faculty in a setting that fosters engagement and motivation to find the sweet spot between who we are and what we do.” With the aid of Alumni Fellows, Cohort 7 alumni Dr. Kirstie DeBiase and Dr. Elanie Bernal and Cohort 4 alum Dr. Robert Whitman, the event helped bring together members of the educational community in helping empower the role of students as agents of change.

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GR EETINGS
from the Department Chair

Your Feedback Matters

During the course of your time with us as students and continuing during your time as alumni- you have pretty much received surveys from us on a regular basis. The assessment system in the college sends surveys out to current students and alumni on 3-year cycles and administers an exit survey to all graduating students each year. Additionally, we may send out focused surveys periodically to help us make specific decisions. This information is invaluable to us, we make changes annually to better meet student needs. The EDD program is completing a curriculum revision and used feedback from these surveys and from meetings with alumni and other stakeholders to make our courses as current as possible. The EDAD program is undergoing a similar revision to meet the new CTC standards for the administrative credentials- they extensively used feedback from their lecturers and alumni in this revision. For this newsletter, I want to share with you some of the changes that we have made in the EDD program, some of which also positively impact SDHE and EDAD students.

• In all department-designated classrooms individual desks have been replaced with table and chairs. Mobile tables have been placed in the “L” classroom, so that odd space can be better utilized.
• The Pro-Seminar Series is being revised to increase professional and career development topics so that students prepare for advancement earlier in the program.

• In Fall 18 and Spring 19 we are piloting starting courses for Cohort 12 at 5:45 p.m. so that students may park in Employee lots 7 & 8. A necessary part of this pilot is that pro-seminar will be moved to a weekly class meeting.
• We have enhanced the research methodology course sequence. We added an Institutional Effectiveness course to better develop data and decision-making skills. We have replaced the last pro-sem with advanced methods courses that will better assist students to develop their dissertation study. Data analysis support has been built into the final year as a part of EDLD.797.

There have been many more, but what I want to emphasize is that your feedback matters. You also do not have to wait for a formal survey to express your ideas and views. Just drop by or drop us a note. We have implemented many a great idea or made an easy change just because someone spoke up.

- DR. ANNA ORTIZ
Over the course of the day, the symposium included several presentation sessions led by Ed.D alumni and other educational leaders from the community, followed by a number of poster sessions in the grand ballroom, where students and faculty had an opportunity to present their quantitative and qualitative findings from their respective research projects.

In one presentation, SDHE graduate students JaQua Willis, Theresa Tsao, Joe Hernandez, and Ojorlimieyenju OnnekiKami discussed the importance of liberation through education for formally incarcerated students, and the number of obstacles posed for this demographic as they enter the CSU and UC systems. In another presentation, faculty members Dr. Don Haviland and Dr. Avery Olson outlined a beginner’s guide to evaluating programs, from defining a number of evaluation questions to identifying the data needed to collect for sketching out a workplan. In a poster session, Ed.D Cohort 10 student Connie Moreno Yamashiro discussed student experiences with food insecurities and the importance of the creation of an on-campus food pantry to address these problems.

The highlight of the day was the keynote address, presented by Dr. Stedman Graham. Also known internationally as the longtime partner of media proprietor Oprah Winfrey, Dr. Graham has established his own success by delivering his messages of self-growth and identity at seminars at professional business groups, community groups, and universities all around the world. In his keynote address, Dr. Graham emphasized the importance of self-efficacy and creating your own success, as opposed to letting success be a game of chance. In his address, he stated that “you cannot lead anyone else until you can first lead yourself.”
The department is continuing to expand its international presence as faculty member Dr. Charles Slater, accompanied by Dr. Anna Ortiz and Dr. Alejandra Priede, led an excursion of Cohort XI students to Baja, Mexico earlier this year on January 18. The group of 7 students visited the Autonomous University of Baja California (UABC) to engage in a 3-day cultural exchange with graduate students of the university as part of their course in Organizational Culture and Community Engagement in Education.

“Part of the mission of the university and the college is to be global,” says Dr. Slater about the visit. “We can put things into our classes that take into account global issues, but the best way is to actually go to another country... and have that one on one exchange.”

The trip serves as only part of a series of exchanges between Long Beach State and UABC, as LBSU’s College of Education signed a letter of intent to collaborate with the Mexican university in 2008. In the last 10 years, the two universities have dedicated their commitments to creating a network of cultural exchange between the schools’ number of graduate students.
In their most recent visit, a group from UABC visited the campus to attend the 2017 Educational Leadership Symposium, where they signed a new agreement and took part in a series of presentations and workshops. Students were excited to return the favor this year.

“The representation of the EDLD Department’s collaboration through Dr. Ortiz, Dr Priede, and Dr. Slater was in of itself awe-inspiring,” says student Andres Castro, one of the students who participated in the trip. “For example, on the final day of the visit, the professors spoke with so much pride about the Ed. D program and about CSULB’s College of Education and the EDLD Department.”

Accompanied by graduate students from UABC as well as the Escuela Normal Estatal (ENE) in Ensendad, students visited a series of childhood centers and P-12 schools to learn about their different programs and partake in fundamental activities relating to organizational engagement at the international level.

On their last day of the trip, students witnessed a formal signing ceremony in front of television press where the schools not only continued their current arrangement but signed additional separate agreements with each department to further expand the schools’ formal relationships.

Students say this is an important step in opening up a key dialogue about the importance of collaboration and shared ideas in a classroom setting. “We had an opportunity to engage in dialogue between ourselves with our counterparts in universities from Ensenada, Tijuana, and Mexicali,” says Andres. “These interactive activities allowed us the opportunity to share our experiences in the Ed. D program of CSULB’s School of Education as well as explain the PreK-12 system in the U.S. and vice versa.”

The longevity of these kinds of collaborations cannot be more important for the growth of the department. “It gives students a sense of history, culture, and helps ground them,” says Dr. Slater. “My hope would be that our students would develop an increased sense of pride and translate them into a sense of where their students and their parents come from.”
The Educational Leadership Department held its annual Doctoral Gala on May 5th at The Grand Event Center in Long Beach. Celebrating the 5-year reunion of Cohort IV, the night included introductions by alumni Dr. Alex Davis and Dr. Robert Whitman, and guest speakers Dr. Glynetta Fletcher, Dr. Robert Rasmussen, and Dr. Michelle Yanez.

Photos by Alex Carabes | More Photos @ flickr.com/photos/csulbedd
The Educational Leadership Department is set to experience its first change in leadership as Dr. Anna Ortiz is set to vacate her position as Department Chair, to be succeeded by current faculty member, Dr. Don Haviland at the end of this summer. Following an extensive search, Dr. Don Haviland was appointed by College of Education Dean Dr. Shireen Pavri and Provost Dr. Brian Jersky last October and will officially assume his position as Department Chair on August 20th.

“I love this department, our students, and our alum”, says Dr. Haviland of his enthusiasm about taking on the role. “It’s such a strong, vibrant, and healthy department, and that’s what makes it so exciting. I couldn’t be stepping into a better department.”

Growing up in Albany, Dr. Haviland completed his undergraduate career at St. Lawrence University, a small liberal arts college in New York and completed graduate work at Syracuse University before moving to Long Beach with his wife. He began teaching in the department in fall of 2007, the Ed.D program’s inaugural year with Cohort 1.

Since the department was founded in 2012, the program has been piloted under the guidance of Dr. Anna Ortiz, who built the program from the ground up. While this is the first time that the department will undergo such a change, Dr. Haviland says he cannot express enough how much credit Dr. Ortiz deserves for laying down the foundations of the department, and says he is excited to see what he can do to continue the program’s progress.

“It’s not a new department anymore, it’s been around for 6 years or so,” says Dr. Haviland.

“Dr. Ortiz has created such a great culture for everyone, from the consortium, to the symposium, to the gala. There’s a lot of vibrancy.”

The role of a department chair spans from that of a problem-solver, working out scheduling and ensuring faculty can utilize their roles efficiently, to one of a facilitator, helping faculty perform good research and helping students create positive learning experiences. But overall, according to Dr. Haviland, a main focus of the department chair should be that of an advocate for everyone involved in the program.

“It’s an opportunity to be a front point representative to the deans and other departments and let people know what’s happening, the good things that people are contributing, and finding out what the needs are for the department and advocating for those things” says Dr. Haviland.

Dr. Haviland sees this as a momentous opportunity to give back to the department and help make a difference in motivating colleagues and helping students succeed. As a first order of business, he plans on initiating important conversations with individual colleagues and finding out exactly what they want, what they think is important, and what obstacles they face.

Another long-term goal he has in mind is to be more proactive in the professional community, particularly with those in the K-12 background. By engaging with more alumni and community partners, he says it’s a great opportunity to sharpen student’s knowledge of being able to solve real-life problems from the community in the classroom. Dr. Haviland also looks for other opportunities for improvement with technology, and how to incorporate more advanced technological practices to help improve efficiency in the classroom, as well as opportunities to hybridize courses in helping improve flexibility for students.

Overall, Dr. Haviland says he is extremely fortunate to have the kind of guidance offered by Dr. Ortiz coming into this position, but says he is optimistic for the future of the department and the opportunities he plans on bringing to the table as Department Chair.
EDLD Upcoming Events

LEADERSHIP CONSORTIUM

OCTOBER 19-20, 2018

EDLD Summer Mixer

AUGUST 4, 2018

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