



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION | FALL 2023

# IMPACT REPORT

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## COE Partners with Toyota and Local Districts to Transform STEM Learning

Toyota is investing in the next generation of STEM professionals, and the Eastern Michigan University College of Education is leading the charge in southeast Michigan.

Over the next five years, close to \$10 million will be allocated to the College of Education and its partners for the project—Ypsilanti Community Schools (YCS), Lincoln Consolidated Schools (LCS), Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD), and Toyota USA—for developing youth interest and learning opportunities in STEM. A key project for this mission is the establishment of the STEM Institute—a community resource to encourage collaboration and academic support for students of all ages from pre-kindergarten to post-secondary education.

Alongside YCS, LCS, and WISD, the College of Education faculty will help foster passion and academic growth in STEM throughout southeast Michigan thanks to Toyota's generous investment. This community-centric endeavor is something unique to academia, and Eastern Michigan University is proud to be one of its leading supporters. ■



Alena Zachery-Ross, Ypsilanti Community Schools superintendent; Robert Jansen, Lincoln Consolidated Schools superintendent; Ryan Evelyn Gildersleeve, COE dean; and Naomi Norman, Washtenaw Intermediate School District superintendent.



Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to learn more about the STEM Institute.

With generous donor, alumni, and community support, the College of Education raised \$9.5 million in donations this year. **This is an increase of 1,126% over our goal of \$850k and could not have been done without you!**

# John W. Porter and Michael G. Morris Project Updates

The two endowed chairs for the College of Education play an important role in shaping future educators & Eastern Michigan University's leadership role. The culmination of these projects result in lasting impact for the students and community.

## John W. Porter Project Updates

As Porter Co-Chairs, Dr. Carmen McCallum and Ms. Morgan Breon have been the leading voices for Eastern Michigan University's role in Michigan's urban school districts.

To help mental health practitioners and educators working with Black students in urban regions with past trauma or adverse childhood experiences, the co-chairs are expanding an initiative known as THE W.I.T.C.H., or Wound Intervention Through Care and Healing, Professional Development Training.



Dr. Carmen McCallum (left) and Ms. Morgan Breon (right)

This training utilizes theatre-based workshops to understand, identify and develop positive responses to behaviors stemming from Black trauma. Dr. McCallum and Ms. Breon's goals for this project are to help more educators and practitioners recognize possible symptoms of trauma and have the tools available to address and assist the students.



Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to learn more about the Porter project updates.

## Michael G. Morris Project Updates

Morris Co-Chairs Dr. Brigid Beaubien and Dr. Amanda O. Maher's project, *From the Campus to the Classroom: Integrative Approaches to Empowering Civic Educators*, seeks to give classroom educators more tools and training to be teachers of citizenry to their students. In this pursuit, the co-chairs have focused on *Civic Dialogue*, *Cultivating Civic Connections*, and *Inquiry and Civic Action* as their core topics.

Through this project, the co-chairs seek to install self-auditing tools and processes for faculty and lecturers to gauge their current practice, utilize cross-college collaboration to develop civic capacities and practices, and mentor current students in civics-focused research. ■



Dr. Brigid Beaubien (left) and Dr. Amanda O. Maher (right)



Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to learn more about the Morris project updates.

Last year, the **COE Student Emergency Fund** received 15 inquiries which we were able to fund. The College of Education proudly continues to provide over 120 various scholarships, all made possible by the steadfast support of donors like you!

Donations are always needed and appreciated to the COE Student Emergency Fund and our many scholarships. Visit [emich.edu/give](https://emich.edu/give) and donate to fund O2236 or another of your choice to make a difference. Scan the QR code to give today!



## The Leadership Legacy Awards of 2023

Congrats to several College of Education faculty members who received a Leadership Legacy Award for their projects. These awards support faculty-led initiatives that continue our College's legacy as a leader in education. They expand our impact by addressing critical issues in Michigan's educational landscape and incorporating student participation throughout. Award winners include:

**Dr. Christopher Robbins**, The Workshop for Educational Collaboration and Community

**Dr. Imandeep Grewal**, Community-Based Educator Preparation/NEXT Scholars

**Dr. Sarah Ginsberg**, Transforming the Ownership of Teaching and Learning Through Collaborative Course (Re)Design Learning Community & Research

Congratulations again to the award recipients for their hard work and for helping to address key issues in Michigan's education system. ■



## Celebrating Joy in the College and Community

The Department of Teacher Education gathered on April 7 to host JoyFest. This event brought people together for a day of communal joy through art, play, casual interactions, and open activities for people to participate in. It was a much-needed day to relax, find support in our community, and create joy for one another! ■

## College of Education Alumni Impact on the Community

Students of the COE go on to leave their own impact on the communities and students they serve. Thank you to our alumni for carrying on the spirit and legacy of the college by being exceptional members in the field of education.



**Anupam Chugh Sidhu, '94**

Anupam was appointed to the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents by Governor Gretchen Whitmer in March 2023 to serve an eight-year term. Alongside her fellow regents, she is a leading voice in the university for bettering the student experience.



**Kelle Ilitch, '00**

Kelle was recently appointed as a member of the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board by Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Also known as the Children's Trust Fund, this board serves Michigan families by promoting and funding programs, services, and resources to fight child abuse and neglect.



**Lori Richert, '00**

Lori Richert was awarded the Region 8 Michigan Teacher of the Year. Organized by the Michigan Department of Education, only 10 are selected as a testament to their impact on their schools and communities.

### LaFontaine Teacher of the Year Award Winners

EMU alumni have been selected as LaFontaine's Teacher of the Year award recipients in Washtenaw County. This award is given to those who best represent what an educator should be inside and outside the classroom. Ché Carter '03 attended the event and delivered a keynote address. Congrats to those award recipients for this well-deserved recognition. ■



EMU Alumni pictured from left to right: Ché Carter, '03; Rebecca Schnakenberg, '19; Jennifer Shaw, '06; Abigail Woodman, '09.



# GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The EMU Foundation is excited to announce that funds raised during the 2023 fiscal year have exceeded a remarkable \$20,477,265! This achievement has not only surpassed our initial goal of \$100 million dollars for the Give Rise campaign but has taken us to an impressive ending total of \$119,123,170. This remarkable support speaks volumes about the incredible generosity of our cherished alumni, donors, and community partners.



To make a gift to the College of Education, please scan the QR code or donate at [emich.edu/give](https://emich.edu/give)

The EMU Foundation is an institutionally related, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization soliciting and managing funds on behalf of Eastern Michigan University. Created in 1989 by the EMU Regents, the foundation is governed by an independent Board of Trustees that elects its own officers. All trustees serve as volunteers.



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