



FACULTY

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

ADDRESSING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

for
Academic Success and Career Readiness

Friday, February 24, 2023



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION
WWW.CHE.IN.GOV





INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

2023 FACULTY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**Student Engagement: Addressing Student Engagement for
Academic Success and Career Readiness**

Friday, February 24, 2023

Ivy Tech Community College

Corporate College and Culinary Center

2820 North Meridian Street | Indianapolis, Indiana 46208

- 8:00 a.m.** **Registration, Coffee, Light Breakfast, Networking**
- 9:00 a.m.** **Welcoming Remarks**
- *Chris Lowery, Commissioner for Higher Education*
 - *Dr. Ed Berger, Faculty Commission Member*
- 9:15 a.m.** **Moderated Panel – Funding Student Engagement for Community and Career Readiness**
- *Moderated by: Chris Lowery, Commissioner for Higher Education*
 - *Grace Findley, Vice President of Philanthropic Partnerships, Strada Education Network*
 - *Claudia Cummings, President and CEO of the Indiana Philanthropy Alliance*
- 10:15 a.m.** **Break – Coffee and Networking**
- 10:30 a.m.** **Breakout Series One – Models for Student Engagement I: Off-Campus or In Class**
- *Engaging Students Off Campus: Community Projects and Partnerships*
 - *Pedagogical Practices for Student Engagement*
- 12:00 p.m.** **Lunch and Keynote with Dr. Jillian Kinzie**
- *Video from Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education*
 - *Presentation by Jillian Kinzie, Interim Co-Director, National Survey of Student Engagement, Center for Postsecondary Research, Indiana University Bloomington*
 - *Moderated by Dr. Ed Berger, Faculty Commission Member*
- 1:00 p.m.** **Breakout Series Two – Models for Student Engagement II: On-Campus and Equity Practices**
- *Academic Engagement on Campus: Co-Curricular Approaches*
 - *Equity and Engagement: Best Practices for Instructors and Institutions*
- 2:15 p.m.** **Closing Remarks**
- *Chris Lowery, Commissioner for Higher Education*
 - *Dr. Ed Berger, Faculty Commission Member*

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Funding Student Engagement for Community and Career Readiness

Moderator: Chris Lowery, Commissioner for Higher Education

Panelists: Grace Findley, Vice President of Philanthropic Partnerships, [Strada Education Network](#)
Claudia Cummings, President and CEO of the [Indiana Philanthropy Alliance](#)

Location: Room 212 - Ballroom

The Pandemic Turning Point: Fostering a Student Engagement and Purpose Reset in Higher Education

Presenter: Jillian Kinzie, Senior Research Scientist; Interim Co-Director, National Survey of Student Engagement, Center for Postsecondary Research, Indiana University Bloomington

Description: The conditions of the pandemic are showing an enduring impact on teaching and learning in higher education. While some have claimed a pandemic-induced strain of student disengagement, Dr. Kinzie will discuss new research and the potential for a student engagement reset and a renewed emphasis on college value. Adapting to add flexibility, promote student agency, address entering student concerns, encourage relationship building and reflection on purpose, and address holistic student success, may help improve overall conditions of student life.

Location: Room 212 - Ballroom

Learn More:

NSSE Project Website:

National Survey of Student Engagement

<https://nsse.indiana.edu/>

NSSE Annual Results 2022 Message from the Interim Co-Directors

<https://nsse.indiana.edu/research/annual-results/2022/index.html>

Article:

Exploring The Influence Of Course-Based Career Experiences And Faculty On Students' Career Preparation

<https://www.naceweb.org/career-readiness/trends-and-predictions/exploring-the-influence-of-course-based-career-experiences-and-faculty-on-students-career-preparation/>

Article:

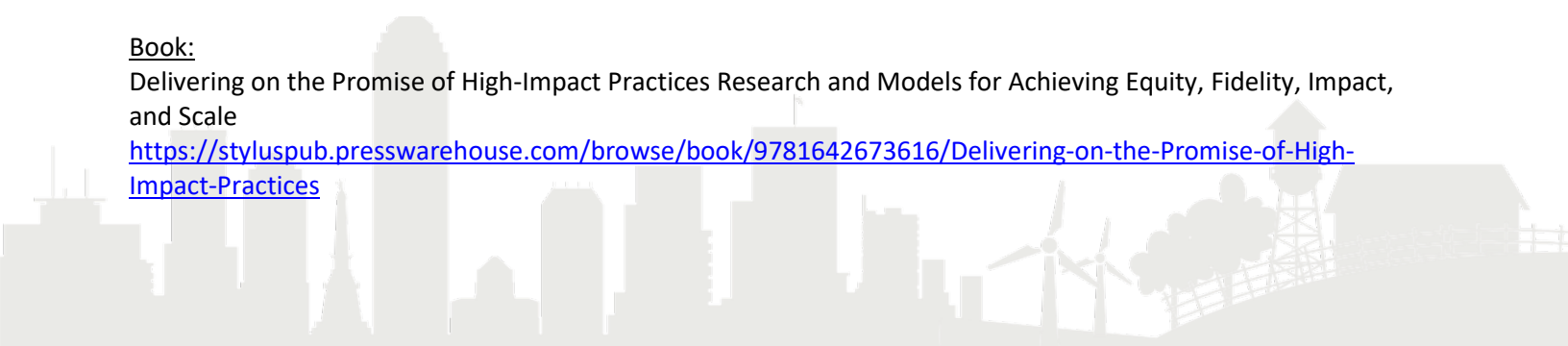
Tracking Student (Dis)Engagement Through the Pandemic: What Colleges & Universities Can Do to Foster an Engagement Reset

<https://journals.flvc.org/jpss/article/view/132559/136899>

Book:

Delivering on the Promise of High-Impact Practices Research and Models for Achieving Equity, Fidelity, Impact, and Scale

<https://styluspub.presswarehouse.com/browse/book/9781642673616/Delivering-on-the-Promise-of-High-Impact-Practices>



MODELS FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT I: OFF-CAMPUS OR IN CLASS

Breakout Series One (10:30 a.m. - 11:45 p.m.)

Engaging Students Off Campus: Community Projects and Partnerships

Moderator: Dr. Ed Berger, Faculty Commission Member

Description: This breakout focuses on student engagement strategies that include off-campus partners.

Panelists:

Dr. Erin F. Doss, Associate Professor of Communication Arts, Indiana University Kokomo

Dr. Alan G. Krabbenhoft, Professor of Economics and Director, KEY Center for Innovation Indiana University Kokomo

Description: *Experiential Learning Outside the Classroom: How to Recruit, Maintain, and Fund Community Partnerships.* Developing external partnerships seems intimidating but can create valuable learning experiences; this presentation details the process of recruiting and working with community partners and provides an example of how institutions can support this work.

Learn more:

Dr. Doss: <https://www.iuk.edu/humanities-and-social-sciences/communication-performing-arts/faculty/erin-doss.html>

Dr. Krabbenhoft:
<https://www.iuk.edu/kci/index.html>

Brandy Mmbaga, Faculty Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Lacy School of Business Assistant Dean for Community Engagement, Lacy School of Business

Description: *Engaging with a Purpose.* This mini presentation aims to get attendees exposed to ways to purposefully engage with their environment/community.

Learn more:

Brandy Mmbaga LinkedIn:
www.linkedin.com/in/brandymmbaga

Location: Room 212 – Ballroom



Pedagogical Practices for Student Engagement

Moderator: *Dr. Ken Sauer, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer*

Description: This breakout presents in-class pedagogical strategies to engage students.

Panelists:

Stephanie M. Gardner, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Associate Head for Curriculum, Teaching, and Learning, Department of Biological Sciences, Assistant Director of the EMBRIO Institute, Co-Director of the CURE – Purdue Program, Purdue University

Description: *A CURE is within reach: Expanding access to undergraduate research.* In this session participants will learn about different Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) models across a range of disciplines and hear lessons learned from a professional development program which supports instructors as they develop, teach and evaluate the impact of their CURE.

Learn more:

Research group:

<https://www.bio.purdue.edu/lab/gardner/>

CURE – Purdue Program:

<https://www.purdue.edu/undergrad-research/faculty/cure/index.php>

Holly Dickin, Associate Lecturer of Mathematical Sciences, Ball State University

Description: *Quick and Easy Strategies (that you can use next class) for Keeping Students Engaged.* As an instructor for entry level mathematics classes with 100+ students, it can be a challenge to keep students engaged and on-task. This session will start the conversation with a few strategies that Holly has implemented and then open the floor to hear from our peers in hopes to build a lively discussion.

Learn more:

<https://www.bsu.edu/academics/collegesanddepartments/math/about/facultyandstaff/faculty/dickinholly>

Location: Room 118



MODELS FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT II: ON-CAMPUS AND EQUITY PRACTICES

Breakout Series Two (1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Academic Engagement on Campus: Co-Curricular Approaches

Moderator: Dr. Ken Sauer, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer

Description: This breakout explores on-campus, co-curricular approaches to engage students.

Panelists:

Jenn Horn, Instructor in English and Liberal Arts, University of Southern Indiana

Reva Johnson, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Bioengineering

Description: *Supporting Student Engagement and Success with Living Learning/Themed-Learning Communities.* A discussion of some of the many facets of student engagement that lead to academic success with a focus on Living Learning/Themed-Learning Communities, including LLC/TLC-focused, First-Year Experience courses.

John Ruff, Senior Research Professor of English from Valparaiso University

Sara Gundersen, PhD, Associate Professor of Economics, IEF Program Director.

Learn more:

<https://www.usi.edu/liberal-arts/english/faculty>

Description: *Art + Economics + Engineering = Human.... How?* Art is integral to the human experience. How can we intentionally engage students and faculty in the appreciation and discussion of art? How might art spark student curiosity both during and outside of class? We'll describe our experiences in using art as the framework to weave together our disciplines. We hope to learn from all of you and host a discussion on how to connect across technical and creative disciplines.

Location: Room 118



Equity and Engagement: Best Practices for Instructors and Institutions

Moderator: Dr. Ed Berger, Faculty Commission Member

Description: This breakout promotes strategies for equity and inclusion in student engagement.

Panelists:

Dr. Tammy Greene, Professor of Life Science, Ivy Tech Community College-Kokomo

Dr. Elizabeth Murray, Associate Professor of English, Ivy Tech Community College-Kokomo

Description: TILT: Transparency In Learning and Teaching. TILT provides equitable teaching and learning practices that reduce systemic inequities in higher education.

Learn more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sArDzEulmDo>
<https://projectinfoit.org/smart-talk-interviews/transparency-in-teaching-and-learning/>

Ryan McCombs, M.A., Ph.D. Candidate Director, Disability Access Center, Purdue University Fort Wayne Past President, Indiana Association of Higher Education and Disability

Description: *Building Equity and Inclusion through Impactful Disability Access Practices.* This session will discuss creating an equitable disability-inclusive culture through disability access practices and understanding barriers and accommodations for higher-education students.

Learn more:

Ryan McCombs LinkedIn -
(<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ryan-mccombs-86798045/>)

Purdue University Fort Wayne Disability Access Center
(<https://www.pfw.edu/dac>)

Location: Room 212 - Ballroom



2023 FACULTY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE PRESENTERS AND PANELISTS

Chris Lowery

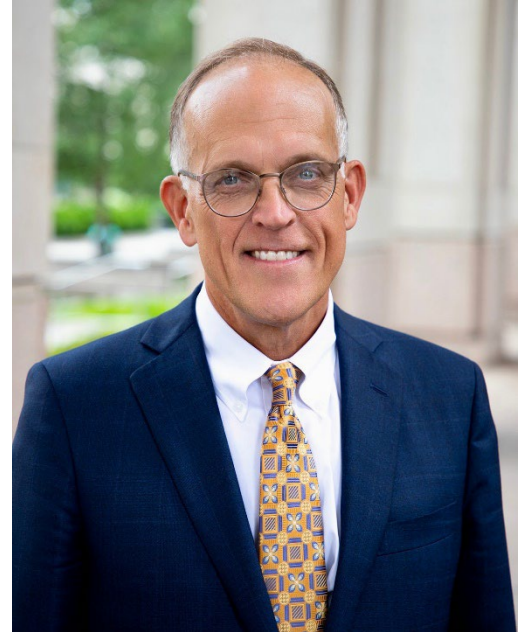
Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education

Chris Lowery was appointed in 2022 to serve as Commissioner for Indiana's Commission for Higher Education, the coordinating agency charged with ensuring the state's postsecondary education system is aligned to meet the needs of students and the state.

Prior to joining the Commission, Lowery was senior vice president, workforce, careers and adult strategy at Ivy Tech Community College where he provided overall leadership of Ivy Tech workforce and career initiatives and organization. Before working in higher education, Lowery led public policy and engagement for Hillenbrand, Inc. and served as an aide to former Indiana Governor Robert D. Orr and then-Senator Dan Quayle.

As Commissioner, Lowery is committed to increasing college completion by improving the college-going rate, engaging adult learners and ensuring students of all ages understand the value proposition of higher education. He collaborates with policymakers, higher education leaders and community partners to maintain college affordability and guarantee quality higher education is delivered and tied to career relevance as the Commission continues its efforts to realize the state's goal of at least 60 percent of Hoosiers with quality education and training beyond high school.

Currently, Lowery is on the Board of Trustees of the Sagamore Institute think tank where he previously served as chair. Additionally, he serves on the Boards of Directors of AgriNovus Indiana and Shepherd Community. He's also a member of the Advisory Council for the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning. Lowery was Chair of the Career Coaching and Navigation Action Team for Governor Eric Holcomb's Workforce Cabinet. He has served on various other boards of directors including Gleaners Food Bank, the Indiana Construction Roundtable Foundation, the Indiana Council for Continuing Education, the State Workforce Innovation Council, the Distinguished Alumni Council of the Indiana University O'Neil School of Public Affairs and the Batesville Community School Corporation. He is a regular speaker in Indiana and nationally on topics ranging from the future of higher education, the economy and workforce preparedness to innovation, leadership and social impact investing. Lowery holds the degree of Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs from Indiana University and a Master of Science in Management from Indiana Wesleyan University.



Edward Berger, Ph.D.

Faculty Commission Member

Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Edward Berger is the Inaugural Associate Vice Provost for Learning Innovation, and Director of the Innovation Hub, as well as Professor of Engineering Education and Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University. He is also the Executive Director of the Mechanical Engineering Education Research Center at Purdue (MEERCat Purdue), which pursues fundamental research and research-to-practice projects in student success, teaching with technology, and institutional culture and change. He has been a tenured engineering professor at three institutions (University of Cincinnati 1996-2004, University of Virginia 2005-2014, Purdue University 2014-present).

He began his faculty career with a research portfolio broadly in the area of tribomechanics, including dynamics of interfaces and structures with friction. From 2005-2010, his research portfolio underwent a transformation into engineering education research, and since then he has been a PI or co-PI on \$12M+ in federally-funded projects for engineering education research. He has 50+ journal publications across mechanical engineering and engineering education topics. In 2008, he won a Commonwealth of Virginia state-wide teaching award for his integration of technology into undergraduate education.

He recently completed an IPA assignment at the National Science Foundation (August 2019 – December 2020) in the Engineering Directorate, Division of Engineering Education and Centers. He oversaw a \$15M annual budget for engineering education research and collaborated across the agency on programs including ERC, AI Institutes, and Advanced Manufacturing.



Dr. Jillian Kinzie

**Interim Co-Director, National Survey of Student Engagement
Center for Postsecondary Research
Indiana University Bloomington**

Dr. Jillian Kinzie conducts research and leads project activities on effective use of student engagement data to improve educational quality and serves as senior scholar with the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA) project. She is co-author of *Assessment in Student Affairs* (2016), *Using Evidence of Student Learning to Improve Higher Education* (2015), *Student Success in College* (2005/2010), and *One Size Does Not Fit All: Traditional and Innovative Models of Student Affairs Practice* (2008/2014). She is co-editor of *New Directions in Higher Education* and serves on the boards of the Washington Internship Institute, and the Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education.



Dr. Jillian Kinzie received the Robert J. Menges Honored Presentation by the Professional Organizational Development (POD) Network in 2005 and 2011. Kinzie earned her PhD from Indiana University in higher education with a minor in women's studies. Prior to this, she served on the faculty of Indiana University and coordinated the master's program in higher education and student affairs. She also worked in academic and student affairs at Miami University and Case Western Reserve University.



Grace Findley

**Vice President, Philanthropic Partnerships
Strada Education Network**

Grace Findley joined Strada in 2018 after spending over a decade and a half as a higher-education fundraiser. Like most development professionals, Grace fell into her career after graduating from Kent State University with a degree in psychology. She joined the Peace Corps and served as a volunteer in Azerbaijan. Through her service, Grace worked alongside the leadership of the community to build an education program for young women. This role led her to grant writing and individual fundraising to support the programs designed with Azerbaijani leadership. After returning from the Peace Corps, Grace entered into professional life as a fundraiser at several universities; prior to coming to Strada, Grace was the VP of Development for the Regional Campuses at Indiana University Foundation. At Strada, the Philanthropic Partnership team works with Strada's initiatives to find philanthropic partners to invest in post-secondary education. Grace also holds an M.A. in Philanthropic Studies from the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI in Indianapolis, Indiana. Grace and her husband, Andrew, reside in Indianapolis with their two sons, dogs, and a cat.



Claudia Cummings

President & CEO

Indiana Philanthropy Alliance

Claudia Cummings is the president & CEO of the Indiana Philanthropy Alliance (IPA), one of the largest statewide networks in the country created to boost philanthropy's impact in communities throughout its state borders.

A strategic leader and dedicated public servant, Claudia brings a distinct vision and passion to maximizing the impact of Indiana's foundations, corporations and social investors that collectively hold more than \$21 billion in assets and make more than \$850 million in grants annually.

During her tenure leading IPA, Claudia has worked with leadership to inspire innovation and action; to engage members in collaborative forums to address key issues; and to amplify the diverse voices that make up Indiana's philanthropic sector.

Prior to joining IPA, Claudia served as vice president of strategic development at Conexus Indiana, the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership (CICP) initiative that has positioned the Hoosier state as the best place for advanced manufacturing and logistics industries to invest, employ, and succeed. For more than ten years, she served in senior leadership at Conexus Indiana, overseeing nationally recognized collaborations on workforce development and education between industry, academic, philanthropic, and public sector partners.

Prior to her work with Conexus Indiana, Claudia served as Deputy Commissioner at the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA), where she focused on small business development. In addition to her role at IDOA, Claudia previously worked in various policy, communications, and leadership positions for the Mayor of Indianapolis, Speaker of the Indiana House, Marion County Clerk, and U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana.

Claudia is deeply involved in her community, including service on the boards of Sagamore Institute, Goodwill Education Initiatives, Indiana University Public Policy Institute and the Bowen Center for Public Affairs at Ball State University. She previously served as a member of the Indiana Election Commission, State Workforce Innovation Council, and the Board of Directors of the Indianapolis Local Public Improvement Bond Bank.

Claudia earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Franklin and Marshall College; a Master of Public Affairs from Indiana University's O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs; and an executive certificate from the Dartmouth College Tuck School of Business.



Ken Sauer, Ph.D.

Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Dr. Ken Sauer oversees new program approvals and program reviews, transfer of credit, dual credit, and campus mission statements/policies. He is also the Executive Director of the Indiana Board for Proprietary Education, liaison to the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the Governor's Health Workforce Council.

Dr. Sauer leads Indiana's inter-agency participation in the National Governors Association Community of Practice on Learning and Employment Records, the Credential Engine Indiana initiative and the Indiana e-Transcript Program.

Since 2007, Dr. Sauer has been the Governor's designee on the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) and is a past Chair of the Compact. He is also a member of the Midwestern-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (M-SARA) Regional Steering Committee and the National Council-SARA Data Committee.

Previous employers include the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCES), where he helped lead the development of the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP), which NCES still uses for annually collecting data from all U.S. colleges and universities.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from St. John Fisher College and a Doctorate in Government/International Relations from Claremont Graduate University.



Erin Doss, Ph.D.

**Associate Professor of Communication Arts
Indiana University Kokomo**

Dr. Erin F. Doss is an associate professor of communication arts at Indiana University Kokomo. She has been active in experiential learning and community outreach for more than a decade and is interested in creating classroom and campus activities that provide real-world learning opportunities and engage students with the community.



Alan G. Krabbenhoft, Ph.D.

**Director, KEY Center for Innovation
Professor of Economics
Indiana University Kokomo**

Dr. Krabbenhoft currently serves as the Director of the KEY Center for Innovation (KCI). The Center is charged with identifying organizations within the regional community that need some assistance and matching them with students who serve as consultants. Prior to becoming the Director of KCI, he served as Dean of the School of Business at IU Kokomo from June 2014 to July 2021. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, he oversaw the MBA capstone course where he supervised graduate business students in live consulting projects serving businesses, nonprofit organizations and government entities in the region. Over the course of his career, Dr. Krabbenhoft has supervised over 200 students working on more than 50 projects both in the U.S. and U.K. He has also worked with other economists to support economic development. Prior to joining IU Kokomo, Dr. Krabbenhoft was the founding Dean of the College of Business at Purdue University North Central (PNC) in Westville, Indiana.



Dr. Krabbenhoft earned his Doctorate in Economics at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. His teaching and research interests include economic development, financial management and management consulting. He is the author of several book chapters, a sizable number of peer-reviewed journal articles, multiple reference works and has presented his work at conferences both in the U.S. and abroad. He also is a regular contributor of articles for the local press.



Brandy Mmbaga

Faculty Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Lacy School of Business
Assistant Dean for Community Engagement, Lacy School of Business
Butler University

Dr. Brandy Mmbaga received her Bachelor's in Electronic Media Management from MTSU and her master's degree in Education from Belmont University. Her Doctorate is from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Mmbaga is originally from California. She is currently a professional in the education industry where she serves in a few capacities within the college of business. Perhaps the one that she is most passionate about is her role as faculty director for diversity, equity, and inclusion as it centers around people and progress- two things that she loves. Dr. Mmbaga's areas of research include employee use of social media, digital influence on the organization, reputation, social evaluations, strategic communication and organizational behavior, social media, critical/ disruptive events, and receiver phenomenon communication.



Stephanie M. Gardner, Ph.D.

**Associate Professor and Associate Head for Curriculum,
Teaching and Learning, Department of Biological Sciences
Assistant Director of the EMBRIO Institute
Co-Director of the CURE – Purdue Program
Purdue University West Lafayette**

Stephanie M. Gardner is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Purdue University. She has a doctorate in Physiology from UW-Madison and did a postdoctoral fellowship in Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Gardner is a physiology educator and discipline-based education researcher. Her research includes revealing student reasoning and approaches with science practices like constructing mechanistic explanations and analyzing and graphing biological data. Data from this research are used to design and evaluate classroom materials and instruction to improve student learning.



In addition to her research and teaching, Dr. Gardner leads graduate student and faculty professional development workshops around inclusive and innovative instruction. She is the co-director of the [CURE - Purdue program](#) which aims to broaden access to research experiences for more and diverse undergraduate students by training and supporting instructors to bring research into the classroom as Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs).

Finally, Dr. Gardner is the Assistant Director of the [EMBRIO Institute](#) which is an NSF-funded Biology Integration Institute that brings together science and education researchers from 6 different institutions across the United States to work together to transcend disciplinary boundaries to promote discovery and train the next generation of diverse scholars with skills in integrative biology.



Holly Dickin

**Associate Lecturer of Mathematical Sciences
Ball State University**

Holly Dickin is in her 12th year as a full-time, non-tenure line faculty member for the Department of Mathematical Sciences in the College of Sciences and Humanities at Ball State University (BSU). Previously, Holly taught at the University of Idaho as well as teaching both middle school and high school math in Texas and California, respectively. During her time at BSU, she has led and co-led multiple redesigns of several math classes (including quantitative reasoning and precalculus classes) in order to better serve and meet the needs of the ever-changing student population.

Outside of teaching, Holly spends much of her time cheering on her favorite soccer player and tuba player who happens to be graduating from high school this year. Her son, Cody, is attending Purdue in the fall to study engineering. They also enjoy camping whenever possible.



Sara Gunderson

Associate Professor of Economics

Valparaiso University

Sara Gunderson is an Associate Professor of Economics and has been at Valparaiso University (VU) for 11 years. She specializes in Development Economics and researches topics on religion and education in Africa. She has also published work on economics pedagogy. Her work has been seen in the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, the International Journal of Educational Development, the Journal of Education, Management, and Religion and the Journal of Economic Education.

Professor Gunderson teaches Econometrics, the Economics of Race and Gender, the Economics of Developing Nations, the Economics of COVID-19, and courses in Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. In 2019, she created a course on Economics and the Arts, which covered art markets and also explored economic themes in art. The course was unique in that it did not require a prerequisite and was accessible to students majoring in the arts, along with economics majors.

Professor Gunderson received the College of Arts and Sciences Emerging Teacher Award in 2015 and the VU Excellence in Teaching Award in 2020. She serves as the program director for the Master's program in International Economics and Finance. She is a member of the Center for the Status of Women in the Economics Profession. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband and two kids.



Reva Johnson, PhD

**Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Bioengineering
Valparaiso University**

Reva E. Johnson, PhD is an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Bioengineering at Valparaiso University. Most of the time she's just trying to crisscross neurons between science and stories, especially in poetry form. Her current research focuses on human movement and learning, sensory feedback for human-machine systems, and engineering education. In 2021 she was named a National Rising Star by the Kern Entrepreneurial Engineering Network. She is an associate editor of *Assistive Technology*, the journal of the Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA). Reva earned her MS and PhD in biomedical engineering from Northwestern University, where she studied powered prosthesis control and sensorimotor adaptation at the Center for Bionic Medicine in the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab. She completed her undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering at Valparaiso University, where she played on the women's soccer team.



John Ruff

**Senior Research Professor of English
Valparaiso University**

John Ruff is a Senior Research Professor of English from Valparaiso University. There he directed an interdisciplinary writing-intensive, first-year humanities core program for 18 years. As Friedrich Chair of American Literature, he taught a variety of underrepresented works of American literature in courses on the Harlem Renaissance, narratives of migration and immigration, growing up Asian American and Indigenous American writers. For the past two years, he has convened an interdisciplinary faculty colloquium to explore how best to deploy the permanent collection of the Brauer Museum of Art for teaching and learning.



Jenn Horn

Instructor in English and Liberal Arts

Valparaiso University

Jenn Horn has a Master of Arts in Folklore from Indiana University Bloomington and a Master of Arts in English from the University of Indianapolis. She is currently taking a pause from playing roller derby to finish a Doctorate in Education at the University of Southern Indiana, and her dissertation is tentatively titled “Folklore and FYE: Creating Community through Created Tradition.” Horn works exclusively with undergraduates and because she mostly teaches core classes, the undergraduates she works with are often freshmen. In addition to working with freshmen in the classroom and as an advisor, she has also mentored a Living Learning/ Themed Learning Community since 2017, helped coordinate the College of Liberal Arts First-Year Experience course since 2017 and sat on the University’s First-Year Experience course’s Anchor Council since 2018.



Tammy Greene, Ph.D.

**Department Chair for the School of Arts, Sciences and Education
Professor of Life Sciences
Ivy Tech Community College Kokomo**

Dr. Tammy Greene is currently department chair for the School of Arts, Sciences and Education as well as a professor of life sciences at Ivy Tech Community College in Kokomo. She has been with Ivy Tech Community College since 2015. Tammy holds a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology and Human Biology and a Master of Science in Human Biology from the University of Indianapolis. She also has a Doctorate in Biological Anthropology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.



Elizabeth Murry, Ph.D.

**Associate Professor of English
English and Communication Program Chair
Ivy Tech Community College Kokomo**

Dr. Elizabeth Murray is an Associate Professor of English at Ivy Tech Community College Kokomo. She also serves as the English and Communication Program Chair. She has been a faculty member at Ivy Tech since 2011. Elizabeth earned her Bachelor of Arts in English and History from Butler University, Master of Arts in English from Ball State University, Master of Legal Studies from IUPUI and Doctorate in English from Northern Illinois University.



Ryan McCombs, M.A.

**Director of the Disability Access Center
Purdue University Fort Wayne**

Ryan McCombs, M.A. serves as the Director of the Disability Access Center at Purdue University Fort Wayne in Indiana. Ryan also holds a board position as the Immediate Past-President of the Indiana Association of Higher Education and Disability. Ryan has been a long-time member of the International Association of Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD) and Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (NASPA). Ryan earned his Master of Arts in Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education at Ball State University in 2017 and his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Central Michigan University in 2014. He is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from Purdue University West Lafayette and will graduate in May 2023. In addition, Ryan has eight years of experience within the field of education, including a mixed experience as a student affairs and disability services professional, as well as time as a K-12 educator. Currently, as Director, Ryan draws from his own disabled experiences to help ensure students have equal access within the campus environment by grounding his work in the social justice model of disability.

