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Dean's Corner: Re-envisioning the College of Education

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Re-envisioning the College of Education

Since I became Dean in 2016, my first year and a half provided time to learn and grow with the COE students, alumni, faculty, and staff. 2017 was an exciting year of change for the COE as our academic departments were reorganized into four new departments. We have accomplished much and are endeavoring to do so much more through our partnerships and programs.

In this issue of *Colleagues*, we will highlight the impact of COE faculty, staff, and students in Michigan and the country. A local example is Dr. Barbara

Lubic who is working with businesses and community organizations to spread literacy in Grand Rapids. Dr. Lubic and the COE community volunteered during the summer to provide books and read stories to children in the Alger Heights and Garfield Park communities.

Our field courses also provide students with real-world experiences and allow them to discover how education is deeply ingrained into communities. Courses in the Grand Rapids and Detroit areas allow students to collaborate with communities and recognize how people and projects are an integral part of education. More of our courses are now moving off-campus and held in schools where students can implement their learning in real-world settings. In part, this work is highlighted in the articles about Dr. Lisa



Dr. Barry Kanpol, Dean of the College of Education stands in the courtyard of the DeVos Center

Perhamus' involvement in the Detroit area and our co-teaching models.

The work of some of our faculty and staff also led to a national spotlight on Grand Rapids. The award-winning Grand Rapids Public Museum School is proving that cultural institutions, schools, and universities can come together to create a unique place of learning.

Our exceptionally prepared graduates were recognized by the Michigan Department of Education the past two years. This issue also celebrates two COE alumni who were named the Michigan Teachers of the Year in 2016 and 2017.

Barry Kanpol
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