

# CENTERS & PROJECTS



## *Research & Outreach*

*Over the decades, the MSU College of Education has been home to major research centers and institutes that have led to new understandings of teachers, teaching and student learning. Annual research in the college now totals more than \$20 million in outside funding and provides many research assistantships for graduate students. Over half of the faculty in the college has funded research projects. The list of grants can be found on our website and in our annual report, but current key research and outreach centers and projects that make the college a dynamic place are described in the following pages.*

## **Broad Partnership**

This \$6-million grant project funded by the Broad Foundation has allowed the college to partner with the Detroit Public Schools. The project involves recruiting outstanding students from Detroit who want to become educators, providing them with financial support, and then having them return to teach in the state's largest district when they complete their teacher preparation at MSU. The project also involves a Summer High School Scholars program, which brings 10th and 11th grade students from the Detroit Public Schools to MSU for a four-week residential program. Also in place is a summer fellowship program in which junior and senior teacher candidates at MSU are part of a seven-week teaching experience in the DPS's Summer School Program.

[www.educ.msu.edu/broadpartnership](http://www.educ.msu.edu/broadpartnership)

## **Center for Curriculum Materials in Science**

The Center for Curriculum Materials in Science (CCMS) is a partnership of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Michigan State University, Northwestern University and the University of Michigan. It is focused on the analysis, design, and use of science curriculum materials, and is designed to prepare leaders in instructional and curriculum materials research and development in science. The agenda includes doctoral and post-doctoral education of future leaders in a multi-institutional setting, research and development on the processes and products of instructional and curriculum materials in science, and related work on implementation and teacher education.

<http://ed-web2.educ.msu.edu/CCMS/>

## **Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning**

The Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) is a joint effort of Michigan State University, the University of Wisconsin and Pennsylvania State University. The center's mission is to develop a national faculty in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics committed to implementing and advancing effective teaching practices for diverse student audiences. As part of this effort, the CIRTL Professional Development Program will embed within a learning community opportunities for graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and faculty to develop teaching-as-research skills in classroom teaching, teaching with technology and teaching to diverse student audiences.

## **Center for Physical Activity and Health**

The Center for Physical Activity and Health (CPAH) was established to study the effect of physical activity on human health and well-being throughout the lifespan. The center, which is a collaboration between the departments of kinesiology and epidemiology, aims to position MSU as a leader for impacting the lives of Michigan and U.S. citizens in terms of appropriate physical activity intervention strategies.

<http://www.msu.edu/~cpah/index.htm>

## **Center for the Scholarship of Teaching**

From its inception, the Center for the Scholarship of Teaching (CST) has sought to find ways to support a community of scholars who want to study teaching practice and the student learning that comes from that practice. The center is designed to have local and practical impact, as well as contribute to the national dialogue about the scholarship of teaching. Four purposes stand out as central in fulfilling this mission: to engage in a set of activities meant to provide insight into how to improve teaching in the broader MSU community; to work toward establishing rigorous and alternative means for faculty review and promotion; to create more cross-college communication in order to engender teachers who are more knowledgeable in their subject areas; and to contribute to the national discourse concerning a scholarship of teaching – what it might look like, how it might be represented, disseminated and enhanced.

<http://www.educ.msu.edu/cst/>

## **Center for Higher and Adult Education**

The Center for Higher and Adult Education seeks to encourage both domestic and international policy work in higher education. Sponsored in part by a generous donation from the Dr. Mildred B. Erickson, Distinguished Chair in Higher, Adult and Lifelong Education, the center works to encourage faculty and graduate student research in domestic and international higher education policy, to expand the education and training experiences available to graduate students in these areas, and to sponsor joint working relationships between the Higher, Adult and Lifelong Education program and partner institutions elsewhere.

<http://www.educ.msu.edu>

## Center for Teaching and Technology

The Center for Teaching and Technology (CTT) in the College of Education has two primary goals: to provide support for faculty, staff and students in their effort to use technology to enhance their professional productivity and to conduct research about the use of technology in education.

<http://ott.educ.msu.edu/ctt/>

## Confucius Institute

The Confucius Institute at Michigan State University (CI-MSU) was established in April 2006, in partnership with China's National Office for Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language (Hanban) and the China Central Radio and Television University (CCRTVU). The mission of this partnership is to promote Chinese language and culture education in Michigan and beyond through innovative uses of technology. CI-MSU plans to offer a comprehensive suite of programs and services that are consistent with the mission, including developing online Chinese language courses, preparing Chinese language teachers, and conducting research about online language education, cognitive process of learning Chinese, as well as cross-cultural teaching.

<http://confucius.msu.edu/>

## Division of Science and Mathematics Education

The Division of Science and Mathematics Education (DSME) has as its mission to improve science and mathematics education from kindergarten through the undergraduate years through the professional development of preservice and inservice teachers and faculty members. Founded in 1989, the division is a unit jointly housed within the College of Education and the College of Natural Science. Academic specialists and faculty members with partial appointments in various departments and colleges, graduate and undergraduate students, and professional and clerical staff work together to conduct a variety of courses, degree programs, and other activities in support of the mission.

<http://www.dsme.msu.edu/>

## Education Policy Center at Michigan State University

To meet the need for information and analysis and to deepen the education policy debate in Michigan and the nation, the Board of Trustees established the Education Policy Center (EPC) at Michigan State University in 2000. Based in the College of Education, the center actively recruits the participation of faculty with related interests and expertise from other colleges within the university as well as other experts from across the country and around the world. The center builds on the foundation of MSU's land-grant mission and the College of Education's national and international reputation for education policy research in its mission to support and inform policy debates at every level of government. The center's outreach activities seek to improve the quality of education for students at all levels of the state and nation's education systems, from early childhood through post-secondary education.

<http://www.epc.msu.edu/>

## Institute for Research on Teaching and Learning

The Institute for Research on Teaching and Learning (IRTL) is an umbrella organization designed to promote, encourage and enhance research throughout the college. As the college's research office, the institute works with faculty on research funding opportunities, and seeks to identify and facilitate outside funding opportunities in the form of grants and contracts from federal or state agencies, provides in-house seed grants and sponsors colloquia.

<http://ed-web3.educ.msu.edu/IRTL/about.html>

## Institute for the Study of Youth Sports

Housed within the department of kinesiology, the Institute for the Study of Youth Sports (ISYS) has been a respected leader in coaching education and research on youth sports for more than 25 years. The institute's primary goal is to help children and youth develop to their maximum potential through physical activity in the context of sport, including recreation, physical fitness, cultural and other productive activities. The institute provides up-to-date information to coaches and others involved with youth sports.

<http://ed-web3.educ.msu.edu/ysi/>

## Literacy Achievement Research Center

The Literacy Achievement Research Center's (LARC) mission is to promote and coordinate research efforts to increase literacy and academic achievement of children and adolescents. The center, which is funded by a grant from Michigan State University Research Excellence Funds, draws on faculty expertise from within the College of Education and throughout the university.

<http://www.msularc.org>

## Office of Academic Outreach

The Office of Academic Outreach makes the wealth of knowledge and expertise at the College of Education available to countless educators throughout Michigan and the world who otherwise would not have access to such learning opportunities. The office coordinates off-campus credit programs that range from Traverse City to Plymouth, England, as well as course offerings online.

<http://ed-web3.educ.msu.edu/OutReach/academic.htm>

## Office of K-12 Outreach

The Office of K-12 Outreach develops and implements programs for teachers, administrators, university faculty and policy makers that translate educational research to application in schools and settings where education policy decisions are made.

<http://ed-web3.educ.msu.edu/outreach/k12out>

## Promoting Rigorous Outcomes in Mathematics and Science Education

In 2003, the National Science Foundation awarded the College of Education and the College of Natural Science a \$35 million grant to establish Promoting Rigorous Outcomes in Mathematics and Science Education (PROM/SE). The project involves more than 70 school districts in Michigan and Ohio and some 40,000 students.

<http://promse.msu.edu/>

## The Skillman Foundation / Future Teachers for Social Justice

The Skillman Foundation initiative rests upon the premise that quality teaching in urban schools connects schools with communities and creates a force for social justice in both. The FTSJ program, targeting up to 200 students in their junior and senior years, serves to encourage and inspire Detroit high school students to pursue degrees in education and to become teachers in their communities. The goal of the program is to create youth leaders through teaching and advocacy opportunities related to the conditions of schooling in Detroit. Through multi-level mentoring and parental outreach, students will broaden their perspective as catalysts for change and growth. FTSJ students received academic training to improve their reading, writing and research skills along with training in peer teaching and enacting social justice projects.

<http://www.educ.msu.edu/ftsjs/>

## Teacher Education Study in Mathematics

MSU and the Australian Council for Educational Research are the international study centers for this collaborative effort of worldwide institutions and experts in mathematics, mathematics education, teacher education and comparative research design. U.S.-TEDS-M is the U.S. component of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) Teacher Education Development Study in Mathematics. U.S.-TEDS, embedded in the international TEDS study, will serve as a national foundation for the improvement of mathematics teaching and learning through its focus on the improvement of mathematics teaching and learning. TEDS-M relies on rigorous methodologies, the use of national representative samples, large-scale surveys of teacher education institutions and faculty and future teachers to study the policy, organization, and outcomes and costs of preparing mathematics teachers at the primary and lower secondary levels across more than 20 countries. The results of this study will inform us whether what students learn in teacher education leads to more effective knowledge of mathematics for teaching.

<http://teds.educ.msu.edu/>

## Teachers for a New Era

Teachers for a New Era is an initiative funded by the Carnegie Corp. and the Annenberg, Rockefeller and Ford foundations. The \$5 million project engages faculty from throughout the university and K-12 teachers. An essential aspect of the team's focus is on the kinds of subject matter knowledge prospective teachers need to improve student learning, the use of assessment to strengthen the entire MSU teacher education program, recruitment of diverse students, and the development of a two-year induction program for beginning MSU teachers. The goal is that by implementing the innovative changes, MSU will prepare even better teachers and serve as a model for other teacher education programs.

<http://www.tne.msu.edu>

## US-China Center for Research on Educational Excellence

The US-China Center for Research on Educational Excellence at Michigan State University aims to develop and disseminate effective models of education that integrates the strengths of both the Eastern and Western educational practices through scientific research of excellent schools and educational programs in China and the United States through modern technologies. The center is funded with a \$5 million donation from the Hong Kong-based Sun Wah Education Foundation. The center works closely with its sister center Beijing Normal University.

<http://ott.educ.msu.edu/excellence/web>

<http://www.educ.msu.edu>