

Winter 2019

News From the Graduate School - Education

Otterbein University

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EDUCATION

News from The Graduate School Winter 2019



Letter From Dean Barb Schaffner - A Trusted Information Source! Let Otterbein be your trusted information source for new information affecting your day-to-day professional life. The Otterbein Graduate School newsletter is taking on a new vision, purpose and look.

We are excited to launch the newly revised newsletter, whose purpose is to serve you as a developing professional, lifelong learner and leader in your discipline. The newsletter will provide you with information that will affect your professional career. Whether it be a policy change, a cutting edge new practice or a controversial story that has your discipline talking, we will try to bring it to you in each edition.

New Vision: Serve as a Trusted Information Source for your professional life.

New Purpose: Provide You with Information on new developments and issues affecting your discipline.

New Look: Short and Sweet - identifying the new development/professional issue with links to more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Graduate Student Conference
March 26, 2019
5-6:30 p.m.

Doctoral/Masters Commencement
April 27, 2019

Professional Development Workshops:

- * Project-based learning
- * Socratic Seminar
- * Teaching English Learners 101
- * The Price of Privilege

For information contact:
[Amy Featherstone](#)

Connect on:

[Facebook@OtterbeinGradEducation](#)
[Pinterest@otterbeinboard](#)

No Public Schools?

With the decision to close McDonogh 35 Senior High School, New Orleans became the first U.S. city without publicly run schools. Once McDonogh's final class graduates, all of New Orleans schools will be operated by charter organizations. Charter schools are schools that receive public funding but are operated by individuals under the terms of a charter. Charter schools have received intense interest because they have greater freedom to define their mission, but also, just as importantly, they can operate for profit.

The case of New Orleans raises some important questions regarding public schools and the place they have in American society. Should schools, whose function is to promote learning, be for-profit operations? Or should every dollar be spent on a child's learning? Putting the economic question aside: what about the school's social function? To be sure, public schools exist to promote academic excellence. But don't they also serve as lynchpins in our communities? Don't they bring together community members who might not normally meet each other? And in doing so, don't they facilitate the building of trust within the community? So what happens when schools no longer serve a *public* interest and instead begin serving private interests? What will build that trust? Bringing this question closer to home: what would your community be like if all of its public schools closed its doors? [Learn more on the McDonogh closing here.](#)

Here in Ohio, state legislators are preparing to re-examine the funding formula for charter schools. It is a good time for us to reflect on New Orleans and the place public schools has in all of our communities. [Read more on the charter school funding question in Ohio.](#)



Please meet our new Education recruiter, Keisha Jordan

Keisha is the Graduate Education Recruiter and has been part of Otterbein since January, 2019. Keisha holds a Bachelor's in History and Political Science from Virginia Union University, a Master's in Education from The University of Dayton, a Juris Doctor from The University of Cincinnati College of Law, and a second Master's degree in Student Development and Counseling Administration with a certificate in Professional Coaching from Indiana Wesleyan University. When she isn't working, Keisha loves reading, practicing yoga, and exploring her hometown of Columbus with her husband.

Education Graduate Program Director:

Daniel Cho * dcho@otterbein.edu