



January 2021

A Word from the Associate Dean

Welcome to a new semester and Happy New Year to you all. While this semester will look much like the last one did, I encourage you to embrace this new semester with renewed vigour and a sense of curiosity for all that you are learning. If this is a semester that includes both in-class learning and field experience, really consider the connection that exists between theory and practice. What role does the theory of learning play in our classrooms? What role ought it to play? If this is a semester of fully in-class learning for you, really take the time to engage with your instructors, with the content and with the many stellar researchers who work in education. With the advancements to COVID vaccinations we have seen over the past several months, there is a glimmer of light at the end of this tunnel but we must not wait for that end point. Engage now. Be inquisitive now. As we all know, time seems to fly and the semester will be over before we know it. All the best for a successful 2021.

-Dr. Amy Burns, Associate Dean

Research Updates & Reminder

Reminder that Summer 2021 PURE Program & Werklund Undergraduate Research Awards are due by **February 5, 2021!**

\$3000-6000 available per selected candidate (can apply for both but would only be selected for 1 award) – last year 10 Werklund students received award funding for 8-16 weeks of research.

Why apply? Now more than ever research can offer unique insight into what education contributes to our society in a pandemic, and how this has, in turn contributed to innovation and creative solutions within education. It also provides a unique experiential learning & networking opportunity to incorporate into interviews and your career search.

Details on the awards & app process can be found here:
<https://werklund.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate-programs/current-students/continuing-student-awards>

A podcast bringing pre-service teachers in conversation with leading scholars in the field of education.

Ed Students in Conversation

Produced by Dr. Astrid Kendrick and Dr. David Scott
Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary

New Podcast!

Building Relationships and Respect while Student Teaching through a Pandemic

Produced by Astrid Kendrick & David Scott, this podcast covers students' experience from their field experiences in their field placements during Covid-19.

Synopsis: Teaching is hard, but imagine learning how to teach during one of the most difficult periods in recent memory. Partner Teacher Paul, a 30-year teaching veteran, discusses some of the successes and challenges faced by three diverse Werklund School of Education student teachers, Alec, Cecilia, and Sabrina.

Listen here: [Building Relationships and Respect while Student Teaching through a Pandemic | voicEd](#)





Kudos to our Partner Teachers

Field 3 students had a lot to say about their partner teachers this year – here are a few highlights:

“Thank you to the staff for welcoming me and the other pre-service teachers into the school! I always felt welcomed and was greeted with a smile every morning. I feel so fortunate to be returning in the New Year and to be a part of such a caring and supportive community. A big thank you to my partner teacher, for mentoring me and teaching me this semester. I learned so much from her and I am honoured to work along -side her every day.”

“For myself, the lack of experience combined with the quarantine period in the beginning of the year had me questioning my path and future career. As stress increased from university courses my family had to convince me to stay enrolled and not put my degree on pause. However, after working alongside my partner teacher and the school community, I was completely reassured about my place in education and ability to make a difference in students’ lives. Walking into a building having met nobody yet every staff member greets you with warm smiles and friendly conversations shows how strong of a community my school is, and why it is such a great place for student teachers to learn.”

“From day one I felt welcomed and valued as an important part of the school community. I am very grateful for my partner teacher. Thank you for sharing so much with me about your profession and providing an amazing exemplar of how to educate students. I feel extremely lucky to have had this opportunity and I am very excited to return in February.”

“The teachers and administration were all extremely welcoming and offered me assistance and advice at every turn, creating a warm environment for my first time teaching, and the students were fantastic as well. My partner teacher has been absolutely amazing in showing me the ropes and guiding me through the many facets that go into teaching - I couldn't have asked for a better partner teacher or a more caring school.”

Winter Coffee Chat Career Series

These series require registration, visit our website for more information:

<https://werkklund.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate-programs/current-students/graduation-and-career>

- **January 12**, 6-7:30PM – Recognizing the impact of COVID on your experience, Dr. Amy Burns, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs in Education will be discussing how to talk to employers about remote teaching and your Field Experiences.
- **January 19**, 6-7:30PM - Join us for a Coffee Chat to chat about Graduation, Certification and Teacher Qualifications Service (TQS).
- **February 2**, 2-3:30PM - Join us for a presentation with Chris W. Gonsalvez, ATA Executive Staff Officer, Professional Development. We will be discussing employment as a teacher, contracts and collective agreements, accessing advice and assistance from the ATA, and more!
- **February 9**, 1-2:30PM - Join us for a Coffee Chat to chat about your applications to the School Boards and Interviews.

Virtual Education Career Fair

January 26, 9AM-4PM

Registration is required: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/careers/students/events-students/ways-meet-employers>

- This fair is a great opportunity to explore teaching opportunities both locally and abroad. Over 41 employers will be participating in the Virtual Education Career Fair.
- Career Tip: Some employers interview on the spot, so bring a resume and dress professionally!
- We strongly encourage our Final Year students to participate

Other Career Workshops

A variety of Career Workshops are offered by Career Services and the ESA to assist with your Job Search

- Career Services Workshops: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/careers/students/student-services/careers/students/student-services/careers/students/events>
- Education Students Association (ESA) Workshops & Events: <http://ucalgaryesa.weebly.com/>

Other Upcoming Dates

Jan. 12 & 14: PURE Research info sessions

See more info here: <https://taylorinstitute.ucalgary.ca/pure-awards>

Feb. 5: Summer Research Award apps close

Feb. 16: Field 4 begins for 500-level students