

# Elevating Education

INNOVATION AND IMPACT  
IN COMMUNITIES



2017 | IMPACT REPORT



**LMU** | **LA**  
School of Education

Loyola Marymount University



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SOE BY THE NUMBERS  
2016-2017

STUDENT ETHNICITY

American Indian  
0.1%

Asian/Pacific Islander  
9.5%

Black or African American  
9.8%

Hispanic or Latina/o  
38.2%

Other  
5.6%

Two or More Races  
4.3%

White  
32.9%

# Elevating Education

**1,375**  
Total Students

**45**  
Full-Time Faculty

**14.8**  
Average Class Size

**62**  
Doctoral Students

**17%**  
Doctoral Admit Rate

a **MESSAGE** from the Dean | **Shane P. Martin, PhD**



We are proud to celebrate our 25th anniversary this year. Our establishment as a School of Education in 1992 signified our expansion as a professional learning community, although LMU's first teacher education program was established in

1948. Twenty-five years ago, we were a team of about 10 full-time faculty and three full-time staff working out of the basement of the Sacred Heart Chapel. Since then, we have grown exponentially. We have established our renowned EdD in Educational Leadership for Social Justice program, built meaningful partnerships with PreK-20 stakeholders both locally and nationally, and have made significant strides in our

global impact. The wide range of innovative programs taught by our distinguished faculty offer today's educators an enriched learning experience that is committed to the education of the whole person and social justice — an approach that is deeply rooted in our Jesuit traditions.

We also continue to be recognized for being at the forefront of efforts to transform educational settings. That reputation is reflected in our rapid rise in *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Graduate Schools" rankings. The latest listing places us 62nd in the country — the third highest-ranking Jesuit institution, and

in the top 5 percent of the 1,500 schools, colleges and departments of education nationwide.

We celebrate our achievements, but are well aware that our work has just begun. This year's Impact Report highlights some of the ways LMU's SOE continues to elevate education. We remain steadfast in our commitment to reimagining educator preparation through approaches that put all youth at the center of our work. For the next 25 years and beyond, our outstanding faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners will continue to tirelessly promote social justice in classrooms and communities, and strive to ensure that all children receive the quality educational experience they deserve.

**807**

Credentials Awarded

**376**

MA Degrees Awarded

**\$22.6m**

Total Financial Aid to Students

**\$13,705**

Financial Aid Per Student

**86%**

Students Receiving Financial Aid

# Raising the Bar

**PARTNERS** *working together*

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## Center for Equity for English Learners

SOE's Center for Equity for English Learners, the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Sobrato Family Foundation are working to improve outcomes for young English Learners by expanding the pipeline of highly qualified bilingual teachers.

The five-year partnership, funded by a \$2.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education — the largest grant in SOE history — annually supports professional development for up to 84 bilingual teachers in transitional kindergarten through third grade. Eighteen SOE teacher candidates will also participate in professional development over the course of the grant. As part of the program, which was launched in August at three LAUSD schools with large populations of ELs, CEEL is conducting research on the Sobrato Early Academic Language program that is being used for the professional development.

“The need for high-quality, evidence-based professional development for educators of English Learners is critical,” says CEEL executive director Magaly Lavadenz. “CEEL is thrilled to partner with LAUSD and the Sobrato Family Foundation to implement a research-based model that improves outcomes for young ELs.”







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### Center for Undergraduate Teacher Preparation

With a \$250,000 grant from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, SOE's Center for Undergraduate Teacher Preparation is strengthening its four-year integrated programs of teacher preparation as a strategy to address the state's teacher shortage.

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing has encouraged the development of undergraduate teacher preparation programs, both to bring qualified teachers into the classroom sooner and to increase the pipeline of students entering the profession. With the grant, CUTP is strengthening outreach to LMU undergraduates. In addition, CUTP will collaborate with El Camino College, a grant partner, to build a teacher preparation pipeline for community college students transferring to LMU.

"Our school does an excellent job preparing candidates to be the types of teachers students need in our urban communities," says Annette P. Hernandez, CUTP's senior director. "To have a dedicated center working with undergraduates who want to get in to these classrooms sooner reflects our commitment to meeting this critical need."

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### Upward Bound at LMU

Each year at Westchester Enriched Sciences Magnets, just blocks from the LMU campus, 58 students from disadvantaged backgrounds reap the benefits of LMU's Upward Bound program through wide-ranging activities and counseling services aimed at increasing college enrollment rates. Now the program, housed in SOE, has received a \$1.2 million U.S. Department of Education grant to support these students for the next five years.

In its first decade, Upward Bound at LMU has transformed the lives of WESM participants, who come from low-income families in which neither parent has a bachelor's degree. "Nationally, the six-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time undergraduate students who began seeking a bachelor's degree at a four-year degree-granting institution in the fall of 2009 was 59 percent," notes Norma Romero, director of Upward Bound at LMU. "By comparison, the six-year graduation rate for LMU Upward Bound alumni is 76 percent." Among the program's 126 graduates is Fatima Galvez, who completed her bachelor's degree in 2014 and started SOE's master's-degree program in bilingual education this fall.



# Uplifted by Education

## Center for Catholic Education

Catholic schools have served generations of U.S. families for nearly two centuries through strong academics, character development, spiritual nourishment and education of the whole person. But these schools face significant challenges, from declining enrollment and financial struggles to the need for professional development and research on best practices.

SOE's Center for Catholic Education has established itself as an invaluable resource for confronting these challenges through leadership development, teacher preparation, and research and outreach. "At a time of great need, our contributions are being recognized both locally and nationally," says Fr. Robert Walsh, SJ, CCE's executive director.

Nationally, a key producer of the scholarly research and expertise so vital to elevating Catholic schools is the *Journal of Catholic Education*. Housed in the CCE and overseen by a governing board of representatives from Catholic colleges and universities across the country, the open-access, biannual peer-reviewed journal promotes and disseminates scholarship on the purposes, practices and issues in Catholic education at all levels.



## ELEVATING *Catholic Schools*



**Catholic schools have played a critical role in the lives of generations of families and in communities large and small. As we seek to grow our schools for the sake of the Church and the country, LMU's Center for Catholic Education is a vital partner that advances the mission of Catholic education both in Southern California and nationally."**

— Thomas Burnford, President and CEO, National Catholic Educational Association

The CCE's national leadership was also on display in July at the Education Law Symposium in Louisville, Kentucky, where leading experts on the law as it applies to Catholic education and ministry addressed a host of important topics. The annual event, co-sponsored by SOE and the National Catholic Educational Association, is directed by Sister Mary Angela Shaughnessy, SCN, Distinguished Fellow in the CCE, who has been named one of the 25 most influential persons in Catholic education.

The CCE continues its unique partnership with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles through the CAST (Catholic Archdiocesan School Teachers) program, which since 2005 has brought uncredentialed full-time teachers in diocesan schools to SOE for a two-year program. The Catholic School Leadership Academy prepares Catholic school principals and other leaders through a two-year MA program as well as a four-course certificate program in Catholic School Administration. In addition, the SOE's iDEAL (Innovation in Digital Education and Leadership) Institute, directed by Shannon Tabaldo, cultivates teachers and administrators as advocates for equity in educational technology access across a range of schools. Teachers at St. Aloysius Gonzaga School have called the impact the iDEAL Institute has on their school "immeasurable," allowing students to build their content knowledge at their own pace as well as giving teachers real-time data to assess and accommodate accordingly.

PLACE Corps (Partners in Los Angeles Catholic Education), a nationally recognized Catholic teacher service corps housed within the CCE, has prepared hundreds of talented and faith-filled educators for positions in Los Angeles Catholic schools since 2001. PLACE Corps members serve as teachers in primarily under-resourced Catholic schools while earning a master's degree in education and California preliminary teaching credential. During the experience they live with their peers, building a strong, supportive and faith-filled community.

In July, Antonio Felix, MA '07, '10, took the reins as director of a newly expanded PLACE Corps, which now serves the dioceses of Orange and San Bernardino as well as the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Felix embodies the important contributions CCE is making to Catholic schools. In his second year as a middle-school math and science teacher at a Catholic school in South Los Angeles, he enrolled in CAST and earned a master's degree in education. Felix later enrolled in SOE's Catholic School Leadership Academy, which prepared him for a position as principal at Nativity School.

"I am excited to help support Catholic school educators and serve PLACE Corps at LMU," Felix says. "The social justice and Ignatian principles that distinguish our SOE gave me the lens through which I see education, and those principles continue to motivate me every day."

# Stepping Up as a Community

**APRIL 9**

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## **Kappa Delta Pi and SOE Awards Ceremony**

Antonia Hernández, nationally renowned for a career spanning four decades in social justice, philanthropy and the nonprofit sector and for her lifelong devotion to underserved communities in Los Angeles and beyond, accepted SOE's 2017 Educator of the Year award and delivered a keynote speech at the annual event. Since 2004, Hernández has headed the California Community Foundation, which supports nonprofits and public institutions throughout Southern California with funds for health and human services, affordable housing, early childhood education, community arts and culture, and other areas of need.

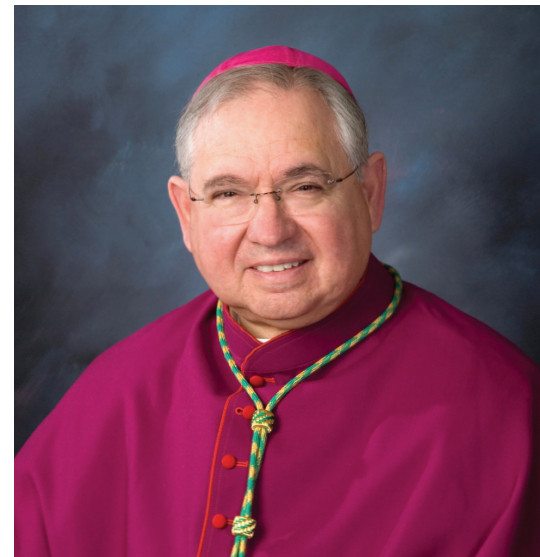


**FEBRUARY 27**

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## **Education Salon**

Archbishop of Los Angeles José Horacio Gómez (right), along with a dynamic group of Los Angeles and statewide education leaders, participated in the Education Salon event “Advancing Education in Los Angeles: The Dreamers.” The event, hosted by LMU President Timothy Law Snyder, featured a rich discussion of the ongoing changes in immigration policy and enforcement within the context of K-12 education — including the implications for school leaders who find themselves in the role of advocates as they serve families that may be affected by these policies.







JULY 28

### Better Together: California Teachers Summit

Hundreds of teachers gathered at LMU for a free day of learning during the third annual summit. LMU attendees participated in TED-style talks presented by local teachers, and joined discussions about topics such as blended learning, differentiation and STEM education. Jill Biden, a longtime educator and wife of former Vice President Joe Biden, delivered the keynote address from the headquarters site at Saint Mary's College in Moraga, California, which was live-streamed to the LMU participants. LMU was among more than 30 sites for summit events that took place statewide, attracting approximately 10,000 teachers. The Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, the California State University and the New Teacher Center hosted this year's California Teachers Summit. LMU served as the statewide fiduciary on behalf of the AICCU.



### International Impact: Culture of Encounter

SOE faculty and students have been active globally in 2017:

- Students in “Comparative Education: USA and Philippines,” a course in the Department of Specialized Programs in Urban Education taught by Edmundo Litton, spent two weeks in late June and early July studying in Manila, Philippines. In July, SOE professors Fernando Estrada and William Parham led 14 students in SOE's Counseling Program on a summer study abroad program in Guanajuato, Mexico. The 10-day curriculum focused on multiculturalism in counseling and education.
- Also in July, the III International Colloquium on Languages, Cultures and Identities in Schools & Society in Soria, Spain, directed by SOE professor Francisco Ramos, brought together students and professionals to address how the integration of language, culture and identity affects immigrant populations worldwide.
- Earlier in 2017, a collaboration between SOE and Queen's University Belfast resulted in an international exchange among educators at Catholic and Protestant schools in Northern Ireland and traditional public schools and public charter schools around Los Angeles. As part of the initiative, participants visited classrooms in Northern Ireland in January, and met in Los Angeles and at LMU in April.

## GRANTS

Grants of \$250,000 or more received in 2016-2017.  
For a complete list, please visit [soe.lmu.edu](http://soe.lmu.edu)

### BETTER TOGETHER: CALIFORNIA TEACHERS SUMMIT

#### • Shane P. Martin

- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, \$2,000,000
- S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, \$250,000

### CENTER FOR EQUITY FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

#### • Magaly Lavadenz

- U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, \$2,750,000

### CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE TEACHER PREPARATION • Annette P. Hernandez

- California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, \$250,000

### MATHEMATICS LEADERSHIP CORPS

#### • Katharine Clemmer

- Leonetti/O'Connell Family Foundation, \$550,000
- Cotsen Foundation for the ART of Teaching, \$313,934

### UPWARD BOUND • Norma Romero

- U.S. Department of Education, \$257,500

## FUNDRAISING

SOE exceeded its fundraising goal for fiscal year 2017 through a campaign that raised \$4,454,477 in funds to support student scholarships, expand research opportunities and foster innovative programs throughout Southern California and across the state.

## SPONSORED RESEARCH & CONTRACTS

### FISCAL YEAR 2017

**\$7,667,294**

*This total represents sponsored research and contracts for the School of Education and the university's education unit.*

## ALUMNI spotlights



### Kristina Waters, MA '17

At age 6, Waters was diagnosed with Landau-Kleffner syndrome, a rare childhood neurological disorder characterized by a loss of the ability to speak and understand spoken language. Waters overcame her disorder, and graduated last May from SOE's School Psychology program with a 3.9 grade-point average and a school psychologist position in Fairfield, California that she started this summer. "The LMU School of Education has shown me that I am exactly where I should be," she says. "As someone who once couldn't speak, I now have the opportunity to advocate and speak for students who need someone to believe in them."

### Luis Garcia, EdD '17

Garcia was a high school dropout serving the first of what would be three prison sentences when he began telling his friends and family he hoped to one day get his doctorate. That dream, some 25 years in the making, was fulfilled in the spring when Garcia graduated with his EdD from SOE's Educational Leadership for Social Justice program. An L.A. County Jail program that allowed inmates to take classes toward a high school diploma placed Garcia on the remarkable path that culminated with the EdD graduation ceremony in front of his friends and family. "It was an amazing feeling, and all the more special to receive the degree from a program that emphasizes social justice," Garcia says. "Now I want to be a voice for people who are in the position I was in, and to contribute to the transformation of more inclusive and equitable education environments in custody settings."





## Faculty highlights



### Karen (Hizon) Valdes, MA '83

Valdes, who has served as assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction for the Menifee Union School District in Menifee, California, since 2006, was appointed to the California State Board of Education in March by Governor Jerry Brown. Valdes earned her SOE master's degree in educational psychology with an emphasis in special education.



### Antonia Darder

Over the course of her career, the internationally renowned Freirean scholar, who serves as SOE's Leavey Presidential Chair of Ethics and Moral Leadership, has explored how racism and class inequalities in schooling are linked with political issues and ethical concerns. Darder's important contributions were recently recognized with the prestigious Scholars of Color Distinguished Career Contribution Award from the American Educational Research Association. She also earned a 2016 Book Award from Alpha Sigma Nu for the *International Critical Pedagogy Reader*, which Darder co-edited.

### Martha McCarthy and Enikia Ford-Morthel

McCarthy (r.) and Ford-Morthel (pictured left in bottom left photo) were honored at the LMU Faculty Awards ceremony in April 2017. McCarthy, the President's Professor of Educational Leadership, received the Rains Award for Excellence in Scholarship or Creative Works. An internationally renowned expert in educational leadership and educational law, she has examined issues related to church-state relationships, the First Amendment, anti-discrimination, student testing and bullying, among others, through her research. Ford-Morthel, a part-time faculty member in SOE's Specialized Programs in Urban Education Department who also serves as assistant superintendent of the San Francisco Unified School District, received the Part-Time Faculty Distinguished Teaching Award. At SOE's regional sites in San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose, Ford-Morthel instructs new teachers, including members of the LMU/Teach For America partnership.



Shane P. Martin, PhD  
Dean and Professor

Manny A. Aceves, EdD  
Associate Dean,  
*Strategic Partnerships & Educational Effectiveness*

Timothy Chang, MA  
Associate Dean for Business Services

Mary K. McCullough, PhD  
Associate Dean for Faculty

Doris Madrigal, PhD  
Assistant Dean for Academic Services

Jordan Gadd  
Director of Strategic Planning and Engagement

Kerry Toolan, MA  
Director of Development

Edmundo F. Litton, EdD  
Chair, *Specialized Programs in Urban Education*

William D. Parham, PhD, ABPP  
Chair, *Educational Support Services*

Candace Poindexter, EdD  
Chair, *Elementary and Secondary Education*

Elizabeth C. Reilly, EdD  
Chair, *Educational Leadership*

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Manager of Communications  
Sheila Rodriguez

Editor/Writer  
Dan Gordon

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Jim Shoemaker,  
Veronica Puleo, Chris Flynn



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