

# College of Education

## Dean

Daniel L. Clay

## Associate Dean for Faculty and Graduate Education

Pamela M. Wesely

## Associate Dean for Research

## Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education and Educator Preparation

Mark A. McDermott

### Undergraduate major: BA

**Undergraduate minors:** educational psychology; human relations

**Undergraduate certificate:** education data analytics

**Graduate degrees:** MA; MAT; MS; EdS; EdD; PhD

**Graduate certificates:** applied behavior analysis; institutional research and effectiveness; integrated career, substance use, and mental health counseling; K-12 equity and inclusion; online teaching; talent development

**Website:** <https://education.uiowa.edu/>

## Resources

### Linda R. Baker Teacher Leader Center

The Baker Teacher Leader Center (BTLC) strengthens Iowa's educator workforce by promoting integrity, academic freedom, belonging, and continuous improvement. Through high-quality professional learning, collaborative partnerships, and innovative initiatives, the BTLC empowers educators to unlock their potential and build strong, connected school communities. The center serves as a trusted space where educators, students, and community partners come together to learn, co-design solutions, and advance practices that drive meaningful innovation across PK-12 education.

### The Belin-Blank Center

Located in the Blank Honors Center, the Belin-Blank Center creates opportunities for equitable talent development through outreach, professional learning, psychological services, research and assessment, and student programs. Professional development opportunities include a graduate certificate in talent development, coursework in gifted education and talent development (including coursework for the state of Iowa talented and gifted endorsement), the Belin-Blank Talent Development Fellowship, and practicum experiences.

Precollege student programs include Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, above-level testing for students in grades 3-9, precollege summer and academic year programs for high-ability students in grades 3-11, and the Iowa Online Advanced Placement Academy.

Other services include the Assessment and Counseling Clinic, which specializes in twice-exceptionality, and the Acceleration Institute, which is dedicated to the study of academic acceleration for talented students. The center also

administers the Bucksbaum Early Entrance Academy, a highly selective early-entrance program for accelerated students who are ready to enroll as full-time University of Iowa honors students, and the Academy for Twice-Exceptionality, a support program for talented, neurodiverse UI students, specifically those diagnosed with autism.

For more information, contact the Belin-Blank Center.

### Blommers Measurement Resources Library

The Paul Blommers Measurement Resources Library maintains a noncirculating archival collection of books, journals, research reports, and reference materials related to educational and psychological measurement, testing, assessment, and evaluation, as well as an extensive, noncirculating collection of published and unpublished tests. The library supports the teaching and research needs of faculty, staff, and students at the University of Iowa, primarily serving the College of Education through consultation and special access.

### Center for Advanced Studies in Measurement and Assessment

The Center for Advanced Studies in Measurement and Assessment (CASMA) conducts interdisciplinary, research-based initiatives that advance both the theory and practice of educational measurement and assessment. CASMA performs, promotes, and disseminates methodological research in psychometrics and measurement that addresses contemporary challenges and innovations in testing and assessment, including the growing role of artificial intelligence in assessment systems.

The Center devotes substantial resources to research in areas such as equating, scaling, and linking; generalizability theory; computerized adaptive and multistage testing; research synthesis and meta-analytic methods; causal inference; and the application of artificial intelligence and machine learning to educational measurement, including automated scoring, adaptive item generation, and AI-enhanced assessment analytics. CASMA also offers workshops and training sessions on these topics for researchers and practitioners.

In addition, CASMA maintains extensive, freely available suites of computer programs hosted on its website. The site also features CASMA research reports and technical notes covering a wide range of topics in educational measurement and applied statistics.

### Center for Evaluation and Assessment

The Center for Evaluation and Assessment (CEA) provides third-party program evaluation, assessment, and other research services to a broad range of clients working in multiple programmatic areas. The center's mission is to provide high-quality program evaluation and research services to support data-driven decision-making, to train graduate students, and to advance evaluation theory and practice.

As a team of faculty, staff, and graduate students, the CEA conducts multiple forms of program evaluation and assessment in collaboration with colleges, universities, and school systems around the world. Evaluators do formative and summative work, utilizing a variety of methodologies to meet the needs of project stakeholders. Project funding has come from the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of

Health, the United States Department of Education, the Iowa Department of Education, and the United States Department of Health and Human Services. CEA services not only inform projects and decision-making but also advance evaluation work and methodologies, including the measurement and assessment of applied educational initiatives.

## Center for Research on Undergraduate Education

The Center for Research on Undergraduate Education (CRUE) is dedicated to the study of undergraduate education in the United States and beyond. This rigorous research explores various topics, with an emphasis on understanding dynamics and improving equity within college experiences, environments, interventions, and outcomes.

## College of Education Writing Resource

The College of Education Writing Resource provides academic writing support for graduate students at the College of Education. Students sign up to work collaboratively with a writing tutor throughout the composing process—from conceptualizing ideas to polishing and publishing/finalizing the paper. The mission is to facilitate each student's individual growth as a writer and to foster a collaborative writing community. Services are free to graduate students in the College of Education.

## Cooperating Schools Program

The Cooperating Schools Program (CSP) is a university-wide service that facilitates the placement of research projects and service-learning projects conducted by faculty, staff, and students in public schools throughout Iowa. The program provides information to help researchers obtain permission to conduct research in Iowa schools. The Cooperating Schools Program was instituted at the request of school administrators charged with the responsibility of approving research projects in their schools.

## Education Technology Center

The Education Technology Center (ETC) offers a wide range of services to the College of Education's faculty, staff, and students. Their services include technical support, collegiate file and application servers, standard office tools, and specialized applications for media production. The center also provides secure folders and directories, electronic mailing lists for various groups, and digital signage. Additionally, the ETC supports faculty with instructional technology for courses, including accessibility, online teaching tools and media production platforms like ICON and UICapture/Panopto.

Throughout the college, SMART Boards and wireless access are readily available in open and private spaces for individual and group work. Every classroom and conference room is equipped with digital presentation systems and videoconferencing capabilities. Faculty, staff, and students can reserve and check out a variety of devices and services from the center, including laptops, web cameras, computer projectors, audio recorders, video cameras, podcasting studio equipment, and more. Overall, the College of Education maintains over 1000 computers, laptops, and mobile devices, along with dozens of digital signs and SMART Boards.

## Grants and Research Services Center

The Grants and Research Services Center (GRSC) works with faculty, staff, and students to ensure success across the full life cycle of grant development and management. GRSC staff members offer expertise and services in identifying internal and external sources of funding, budget development, pre- and post-award management, and research design and methods. The college also provides limited funds for faculty research, professional development, and travel.

## Iowa Testing Programs

Iowa Testing Programs (ITP) provides assessment expertise to schools in the state of Iowa and consultation with the Iowa Department of Education and area education agencies. Its faculty and staff develop standardized educational tests, such as the widely used Iowa Assessments, for use in elementary and secondary schools worldwide, and the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress, for use in the state of Iowa for summative assessment. Iowa Testing Programs also conducts research studies in educational measurement, publishes the results of these studies, sponsors lectures and symposia, provides consulting and in-service training to educators and school systems, and provides training experience and financial support for graduate students in educational measurement, statistics, and evaluation.

## Libraries

The University of Iowa Libraries is the largest library system in Iowa. Along with six branch libraries, the Main Library houses a wide variety of resources in print and online including books, journals, databases, media materials, and archival collections. An education librarian provides specialized research support to College of Education students, staff, and faculty, and assists faculty and teaching assistants with their instructional needs.

## Office of Graduate Teaching Excellence

The Office of Graduate Teaching Excellence (OGTE) is dedicated to excellence in college teaching and the preparation of future faculty. The office facilitates opportunities for research, teaching, and service. OGTE develops and conducts workshops and seminars that address the developmental needs of College of Education doctoral students, from their first semester on campus through the completion of their degrees. The office also guides students through the process of earning the graduate Certificate in College Teaching (Graduate College).

## Office of Student Services

The Office of Student Services assists students, faculty, staff, and the general public with graduate and undergraduate admission, undergraduate advising, recruitment for the Teacher Education Program (TEP) and undergraduate programs, Graduate College examinations, student field experiences, and teacher licensure/certification. It also serves as a liaison with other university units, including the Graduate College, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Admissions, and the Office of the Registrar, and with external agencies, including the Iowa Department of Education, out-of-state teacher licensure/certification departments, and school district personnel in Iowa and outside of the state. A variety

of applications and information materials are available at the office and on its website.

## **Scanlan Center for School Mental Health**

The Scanlan Center for School Mental Health (SCSMH) aims to positively impact school mental health and well-being across Iowa and beyond. Through its comprehensive approach of innovative research, professional development, training, clinical services, and actionable resources, SCSMH supports K-12 schools and college campuses in creating nurturing learning environments where both students and staff can thrive.

## **Wildlife Instruction and Leadership Development**

Wildlife Instruction and Leadership Development (UI WILD) includes the Iowa Raptor Project, Iowa Wildlife Camps, and School of the Wild programs. Each program has a unique educational focus, but a shared commitment to awaken awareness, nurture appreciation, and inspire action for all things wild in program participants. The Iowa Raptor Project (founded in 1985) is dedicated to the conservation of birds of prey and their habitats through live raptor education programming and research. The Iowa Wildlife Camps (founded in 1991) provide weeklong conservation education programming for campers from preschool through high school during winter, spring, and summer breaks. The accredited and multidisciplinary School of the Wild (founded in 1998) offers weeklong experiences in the wild for participating schools introducing students from all backgrounds to the woodlands, wetlands, and prairies of Iowa. The UI WILD programs are centered at the university's Macbride Nature Recreation Area but are growing throughout Iowa and beyond, and provide many educational opportunities for College of Education students including volunteer roles, internships, camp instructor positions, practicum experiences, and student teaching opportunities.