



November 12 and 13, 2020

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# ASSESSMENT MINI-CONFERENCE

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Virginia Education Assessment Collaborative

# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

### 9:30 - 10:00 **WELCOME SESSION**

Joel Hanel, Accreditation and Assessment Specialist  
University of Richmond

Amy Thelk, Assistant Dean, Accreditation, Assessment, and Accountability  
James Madison University

### 10:30 - 11:30 **STRATEGIES FOR FACILITATING DATA DIALOGUE ACROSS STAKEHOLDERS**

Maggie Barber, Associate Dean, Educator Preparation and Assessment  
Old Dominion University

Adrienne Sullivan, Director of Accreditation  
George Mason University

Angie Wetzal, Director, Office of Assessment  
Virginia Commonwealth University

### 1:00 - 2:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION: CAEP VISIT EXPERIENCES**

Kimberly Gaiters-White, Dean, Syphax School of Education  
Virginia Union University

Gwen Jones, Assistant Professor of Education  
Bridgewater College

Jake Joseph, Assistant Dean for Assessment, Accreditation, and Accountability  
William and Mary

Pete Kelly, Dean, College of Education  
University of Mary Washington

# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

**9:30 - 10:00 WELCOME [BACK] SESSION**

Joel Hanel, Accreditation and Assessment Specialist  
University of Richmond

Amy Thelk, Assistant Dean, Accreditation, Assessment, and Accountability  
James Madison University

**10:30 - 11:30 MEANINGFUL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT TO  
INFORM PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT**

Ben Allen, Executive Director, The Equity Center  
University of Virginia

Sherica Jones-Lewis, Director of Community Research, The Equity Center  
University of Virginia

Jillian McGraw, Director of Teacher Education  
University of Virginia

**1:00 - 2:00 RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION: WHERE ARE WE HEADED?**

Cabrini Jablon, Associate Director of Admission  
St. Norbert College

Tynisha Willingham, Dean, College of Education  
Mary Baldwin University

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## **BEN ALLEN, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA**



Ben is a first-generation quadruple Hoo born and raised in Charlottesville. He earned his Ed.D from the UVA School of Education and has research interests around culturally responsive leadership and establishing strong community partnerships. He has worked as a high school history and AVID teacher in Washington DC and Charlottesville and most recently as an elementary school associate principal in Albemarle County. He is also is a Captain in the Army Reserves and has served as a logistician, military police officer, and currently as an intelligence analyst. He current serves as the Executive Director of the UVA Equity Center.

## **MAGGIE BARBER, OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY**



Dr. Maggie Barber is the Associate Dean for Educator Preparation and Assessment. She previously served as a faculty member in educational leadership at Lehigh University and the University of Utah, where her work focused on the design and evaluation of university-district partnership preparation programs for diverse cohorts of school leaders. In addition to peer-reviewed scholarship, she has served on the research teams for two Wallace Foundation national studies of school leadership preparation. She earned her master's and doctorate in educational leadership from Teacher's College, Columbia University.

## **KIMBERLY GAITERS-WHITE, VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY**



Dr. Kimberly Sures Gaiters-White is the Dean of the Evelyn Reid Syphax School of Education at Virginia Union University. Prior to joining the VUU administration, Dr. Gaiters-White served as Dean of Academic Affairs at Ferrum College and Dean, Teacher Education Chair, and Faculty in the College of Education at Albany State University (ASU) in Southwest, Georgia. She also spent six years teaching English and Special Education in the public school systems of Terrell County and Dougherty County. Dr. Gaiters-White received her EdD (Curriculum Studies) from Georgia Southern University, and her EdS (Educational Leadership), MEd (Special Education), and BA (English) from ASU. Dr. Gaiters-White has engaged in outreach at the local, state, national and international levels with educators, policy-makers, experts and community stakeholders to shape debates over a variety of issues related to higher education access and success, community development, and public policies. She has been acknowledged for her leadership and has garnered numerous awards and recognitions. Dr. Gaiters-White is a member of Saint Teresa's Catholic Church. She is the proud mother of four children (Chasen, Kelsey, Kensley and Jasmyn) and two granddaughters (Riley Rose and Charley Chanel).

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## **JOEL HANEL, UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND**

Dr. Joel Hanel is the Accreditation & Assessment Specialist in the School of Professional & Continuing Studies at the University of Richmond. He supports the Teacher Education Program and Educational Leadership and Policy Studies program in program improvement, assessment, and accreditation. Dr. Hanel additionally serves on ATE-VA Executive Board, teaches political science, and co-chairs the Virginia Education Assessment Collaborative.



## **CABRINI JABLON, ST. NORBERT COLLEGE**

Cabrini M. Jablon graduated from St. Norbert College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication and leadership studies. She then went on to receive her master's degree in organizational leadership and spirituality at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is currently the associate director of admission at St. Norbert College and serves as the admission liaison with the Teacher Education department. Cabrini has been a long time advocate for children in foster care and is currently on the board for Foster the Village, a non-profit that provides necessities as children transition into foster care. Cabrini truly believes her vocation is to love and support the people on the margins of society in any way she can most often through support in the college admission process.



## **GWEN JONES, BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE**

Gwen Jones is currently an Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Bridgewater College where she teaches courses in the Teacher Education Program and supervises student teachers. Dr. Jones has more than a decade of experience in accreditation with NCATE and now CAEP. Currently she is assisting with CAEP assessment tasks for Bridgewater College, as they seek their first national accreditation including organizing program assessment work and writing reports for the upcoming CAEP team visit in late November.

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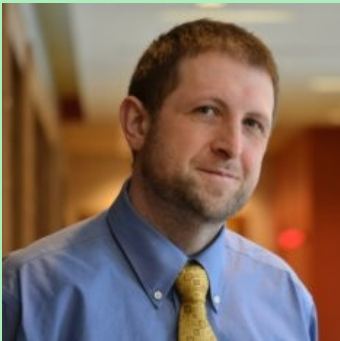
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## **SHERICA JONES-LEWIS, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA**



Born in Charlottesville, Virginia, Sherica spent many of her formative years in nearby Orange County before returning to work in area public schools. She received a Bachelor's of Science in English and a Masters of Elementary Education with a concentration in reading from the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia and went on to work in public schools as a teacher and administrator at the elementary and middle school levels. She later obtained her Doctor of Education degree from Liberty University. Dr. Jones-Lewis joined The Equity Center at the University of Virginia as the Director of Community Research in August of 2020. Her research interests include mathematics education, culturally responsive teaching and learning the impact of arts education, and the sharing of institutional power.

## **JAKE JOSEPH, WILLIAM AND MARY**



Jake Joseph is currently the Assistant Dean for Assessment, Accreditation and Accountability at the William & Mary School of Education. He is the former Assistant Director for the STEM Education Alliance at W&M. He was the Co-PI on several national and regional STEM grants and contracts and currently serves as an external evaluator on a NASA research experiences for teachers program. Dr. Joseph is a former high school chemistry teacher. Prior to his work in education, he worked in industry as a manager and process engineer. He has an M.B.A. and a Ph.D. in education planning, policy and leadership.

## **PETE KELLY, UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON**



Pete Kelly is the Dean of the College of Education at the University of Mary Washington. He is the Convener of the Virginia Education Deans and Leaders group and former chair of the Missouri Council for Education Deans. Prior to his work in administration, Pete taught in special education in middle schools, psychiatric hospitals, and in the Kansas Department of Corrections. As faculty and as an administrator, he has maintained a strong interest in the development of partnerships with PK-12 schools.

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## **JILLIAN MCGRAW, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA**



Dr. Jillian McGraw is the Director of Teacher Education at UVA's School of Education and Human Development. In her role as director, she oversees the administrative and student affairs operations of the teacher education program, including admissions, advising, licensure, and accreditation. Dr. McGraw teaches courses in curriculum and instruction and chairs the teacher education data committee. In addition to co-chairing the Virginia Education Assessment Collaborative, she engages in statewide work through the Council of Virginia Deans, Directors, and Chairs of Education and TransferVA's Teacher Preparation through Transfer initiative. Dr. McGraw previously taught elementary and gifted education while serving as a mentor and coach for novice teachers.

## **ADRIENNE SULLIVAN, GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**



Adrienne Sullivan has worked on accreditation—related projects in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) at George Mason University for over 10 years. Adrienne became the director of accreditation in CEHD in 2016 and helped secure the re-accreditation of NCATE then CAEP, CAATE (Athletic Training), COAPRT (Recreation Management), and CAAHEP (Kinesiology). She is currently helping CEHD's Counseling program seek initial CACREP accreditation. Adrienne's office also oversees the college's use of VIA, its online assessment system, and the college's college-wide assessment process. Prior to coming to Mason, Adrienne was the Executive Assistant to the Provost at University of Maryland University College (now UM-Global Campus) from 1998-2007. Adrienne earned her BA in English from College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and her MA in Educational Management from the University of Bath, Bath, England. Adrienne loves to garden, but is not very successful.

## **AMY THELK, JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**



Amy Thelk serves as Assistant Dean for Accreditation, Assessment and Accountability at James Madison University's College of Education. Part of the CoE team since 2009, she formerly served as Director of Assessment. Prior to entering the world of Educational Assessment, she served as an NSF Program Director and had been a Licensed Professional Counselor. Whenever possible, Amy greatly enjoys reading and spending time outdoors.

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## **ANGIE WETZEL, VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**



Dr. Angela Wetzel currently serves as the director of assessment and as a faculty member within the Foundations of Education department for the School of Education. Wetzel provides leadership for the development, implementation and analysis of student assessments, completer outcomes, and program and unit evaluations. Data on these measures, and additional reports derived from university data sources, are used by faculty and the leadership team to inform decision making and to support program improvement in the School of Education and for partner programs in the College of Humanities and Sciences and School of the Arts. Angie also provides consultation on assessment, evaluation and survey design, including available technology platforms. In collaboration with David Spivey, the assessment systems analyst, Wetzel supports academic program review, accountability and accreditation activities and reporting at the university, state and federal levels.

## **TYNISHA WILLINGHAM, MARY BALDWIN UNIVERSITY**



Tynisha D. Willingham, Ph.D. is the Dean for the College of Education at Mary Baldwin University. Prior to her post at Mary Baldwin, she served in various roles at St. Norbert College, in De Pere, Wisconsin. She was the assistant vice president for academic affairs, associate academic dean, and chair of curriculum and program development for teacher education. She is an interdisciplinary scholar with a focus on literacy and draws from the fields of critical race theory and reader response theory. Her research focuses on working with the community to create change specifically in classrooms to benefit the literacy development of students. Employing qualitative methods, she explores the intersection of literacy practices in the classroom and teacher development. Dr. Willingham's research agenda is informed by her experiences as a teacher in urban and rural context, serving Black and Brown students. She is the co-author of three books: *The literacy leadership guide for elementary principals: Reclaiming teacher autonomy and joy*, *Service-learning initiatives in teacher education programs*, and *Expanding elementary teacher education through service-learning: A handbook on extending literacy field experience for 21st century urban teacher preparation*. Dr. Willingham has a deep passion for teacher development. She works closely with many school districts and has served on boards of education. She is the co-founder of VIDA charter school in Pennsylvania. She is active in many organizations including 2015 Women of Color Leadership Project, 2017 HERS participant, 2019 Center For Exceptional Leadership Emerging Leadership Cohort, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



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The Virginia Education Assessment Collaborative (VEAC) is an outgrowth of several collaborations taking place between Educator Preparation Programs (EPP) in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The purpose of VEAC is to provide a centralized assessment structure for Virginia EPPs that standardizes and reduces the complexity of data collection for both the Virginia Department of Education and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.

## VEAC STEERING COMMITTEE

### Co-Chairs:

Joel Hanel, University of Richmond  
Jillian McGraw, University of Virginia

### Communications Chair:

Adrienne Sullivan, George Mason University

### Committee Members:

Amy Thelk, James Madison University  
Mandy Turner, University of Virginia  
Angie Wetzel, Virginia Commonwealth University

## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

There are many ways to engage in our work!  
Reach out to Adrienne Sullivan: [asulli11@gmu.edu](mailto:asulli11@gmu.edu) to learn more.