STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION: Delaware and the Nation

Monday, October 30, 2017
Clayton Hall, University of Delaware
Strengthening Partnerships in Health and Education: Delaware and the Nation
Monday, October 30, 2017 | Clayton Hall, University of Delaware

7:45 a.m.    Registration, Light Breakfast
             Clayton Hall Lobby

8:15 a.m.    Morning Session
             Room 128

   Student Presentation
   Kaamilah Diabaté, Senior, Howard High School of Technology

   Conference Welcome: National Overview
   Robin Morgan, Interim Provost, University of Delaware
   The Honorable Tom Carper, Senior United States Senator, Delaware
   The Honorable Chris Coons, United States Senator, Delaware
   The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester, United States Congresswoman, Delaware

   The Vision Coalition
   Gary R. Stockbridge, President and CEO, Delmarva Power; Chair, Vision Coalition
   Susan S. Bunting, Secretary of Education, Delaware Department of Education

   Panel Session: Social Determinants of Health and Education
   Dan Rich, Director, Community Engagement Initiative, University of Delaware
   Susan S. Bunting, Secretary of Education, Delaware Department of Education
   Erin K. Knight, Associate Director, Partnership for Healthy Communities, University of Delaware
   Lolita A. Lopez, President and CEO, Westside Family Healthcare
   Karyl Thomas Rattay, Director of the Division of Public Health, Delaware Department of Health and Social Services

10:30 a.m.   Healthy Break
             Clayton Hall Lobby

             Student Poster Session

11:00 a.m.   Keynote Address Introduction
             Room 128
             Dennis Assanis, President, University of Delaware

             Keynote Address
             The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 47th Vice President of the United States
             Founding Chair of the Biden Institute, University of Delaware

11:45 a.m.   Break
             Clayton Hall Lobby
Noon
Luncheon Sponsored by the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance
Room 101 A/B
Kathy Matt, Dean of the College of Health Sciences, University of Delaware
The Honorable Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor, State of Delaware
Dennis Assanis, President, University of Delaware
Rita Landgraf, Director, Partnership for Healthy Communities, University of Delaware

1:45 p.m.
Afternoon Sessions

Idea Exchanges
Rooms 119 & 120 (See pages 13–14 for Idea Exchange table listings.)
Introductions led by:
   Erin K. Knight, Associate Director, Partnership for Healthy Communities, University of Delaware
   Mark Holodick, Superintendent, Brandywine School District
   Kelly Sherretz, Policy Scientist, Institute for Public Administration, and Assistant Director, Partnership for Public Education, University of Delaware
   Ernest Dianastasis, CEO, The Precisionists, Inc.
Idea Exchanges facilitated by more than two dozen community leaders.

Social and Emotional Learning Workshop
Room 125
Paul Herdman, President and CEO, Rodel Foundation of Delaware
Ila Deshmukh Towery, Principal, Education First
Dorrell Green, Director, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Delaware Department of Education
Michele Marinucci, Director of Student Services, Woodbridge School District
Wendy Turner, 2017 Delaware Teacher of the Year, 3rd Grade Teacher, Mt. Pleasant Elementary School, Brandywine School District

3:30 p.m.
Planning Forum: University of Delaware Partnership for Healthy Communities
Rooms 128
Tony Allen, Provost and Executive Vice President, Delaware State University
Brian M. Rahmer, Director, Community Health Engagement in the Office of Health Equity, Christiana Care Health System
Michelle Rodgers, Associate Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension and Outreach, University of Delaware
Cindy Bo, Chief Strategy & Business Development Officer, Nemours Children's Health System
Yasser Payne, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Delaware
Matt Swanson, Executive Chairman, Innovative Schools
Rita Landgraf, Director, Partnership for Healthy Communities, University of Delaware
Erin K. Knight, Associate Director, Partnership for Healthy Communities, University of Delaware
Joseph Robinette Biden, Jr., was born November 20, 1942, in Scranton, Pennsylvania, the first of four siblings. In 1953, the Biden family moved from Pennsylvania to Claymont, Delaware. He graduated from the University of Delaware and Syracuse Law School and served on the New Castle County Council. Then, at age 29, he became one of the youngest people ever elected to the United States Senate. Just weeks after the election, tragedy struck the Biden family when Biden’s wife, Neilia and their one-year-old daughter, Naomi, were killed and their two young sons critically injured in an auto accident. Vice President Biden was sworn in to the U.S. Senate at his sons’ hospital bedside and began commuting to Washington every day by train, a practice he maintained throughout his career in the Senate. In 1977, Vice President Biden married Jill Jacobs. Jill Biden, who holds a Ph.D. in Education, is a life-long educator and currently teaches at a community college in Northern Virginia. The Vice President’s son, Beau, was Delaware’s Attorney General from 2007–2015 and a Major in the 261st Signal Brigade of the Delaware National Guard. He was deployed to Iraq in 2008–2009. Beau passed away in 2015 after battling with brain cancer with the same integrity, courage, and strength he demonstrated every day of his life. The Vice President’s other son, Hunter, is an attorney who manages a private equity firm in Washington, D.C. and is Chairman of the World Food Program USA. And his daughter Ashley is a social worker and is Executive Director of the Delaware Center for Justice. Vice President Biden has five grandchildren: Naomi, Finnegan, Roberta Mabel (“Maisy”), Natalie, and Robert Hunter.

As a Senator from Delaware for 36 years, Vice President Biden established himself as a leader in facing some of our nation’s most important domestic and international challenges. As Chairman or Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee for 17 years, then-Senator Biden was widely recognized for his work on criminal justice issues, including the landmark 1994 Crime Act and the Violence Against Women Act. As Chairman or Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for 12 years, then-Senator Biden played a pivotal role in shaping U.S. foreign policy. He has been at the forefront of issues and legislation related to terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, post-Cold War Europe, the Middle East, and Southwest Asia.

As the 47th Vice President of the United States, Joe Biden continued his leadership on important issues facing the nation and represented our country abroad, traveling over 1.2 million miles to more than 50 countries. Vice President Biden convened sessions of the President’s Cabinet, led interagency efforts, and worked with Congress in his fight to raise the living standards of middle class Americans, reduce gun violence, address violence against women, and end cancer as we know it.
SPEAKERS (in order of appearance)

**Kaamilah Diabaté** is a senior at Howard High School of Technology. She earned first place recognition at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Communication Contest and the 19th Annual NAACP Essay Oratory Contest. She also spoke at the 2016 TEDxWilmington Annual Conference. Throughout her high school career, she has maintained a 4.0 GPA while serving as the captain of Howard’s varsity basketball team and pursuing many other endeavors both in and out of school. In 2017, Diabaté competed in SkillsUSA National Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Robin Morgan** is the interim provost at the University of Delaware. She began her career at the University in 1985 as assistant professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, became a full professor in 1991, and later held a joint faculty appointment with the Department of Biological Sciences. In 2001, she was named acting dean of the UD College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, a role she took over officially the following year. After 11 years as dean, she became the interim chair of the Department of Biological Sciences for 2 years before being named chair in 2016. She has served on a number of association boards and is currently a member of the board of trustees for Longwood Gardens. Dr. Morgan earned her bachelor’s degree in biology from Meredith College and her doctorate in biology from The Johns Hopkins University. She also did post-doctoral research at the University of California at Berkeley.

The Honorable Tom Carper, United States Senator, Delaware, attended The Ohio State University on a Navy R.O.T.C. scholarship, graduating in 1968 with a B.A. in economics. He went on to complete five years of service as a naval flight officer, serve three tours of duty in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War, and continued to serve in the Naval Reserve as a P-3 aircraft mission commander until retiring with the rank of captain in 1991 after 23 years of military service. Senator Carper moved to Delaware in 1973 where he earned his M.B.A. at the University of Delaware using the G.I. Bill. He served three terms as Delaware’s State Treasurer, five terms as a U.S. Congressman, and two terms as Governor before being elected to the U.S. Senate in 2000. During more than 40 years of public service, Senator Carper has worked tirelessly on raising student achievement and improving our health care system. Today, he and his wife of 30 years, Martha, live in Wilmington and are the proud parents of two sons.

The Honorable Chris Coons, United States Senator, Delaware, has worked hard to earn a reputation as a principled, pragmatic legislator eager to find bipartisan solutions to the issues confronting Delaware and the nation. He has emerged as a strong voice for job creation and the innovation economy, responsible deficit reduction, progressive social justice, and forward-looking foreign policy. Unwilling to be sidelined by partisan gridlock, Senator Coons has worked creatively to make a difference. Though legislation to support job creation continues to be obstructed in Congress, Senator Coons organized job fairs around the state to help Delawareans find work. Though funding for new police officers has been stalled by the
economic downturn, Senator Coons founded the first-ever Senate Law Enforcement Caucus to help strengthen local, state, and federal public safety efforts. Though legislation in support of equality indifferent to sexual orientation or gender identity is moving slowly, Senator Coons recruited 12 of his colleagues for a stirring video that urged LGBT youth to remember ‘it gets better.’ Serving on the Appropriations, Foreign Relations, Judiciary, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and Ethics committees, Senator Coons is uniquely positioned to nurture American innovation and make the United States more competitive in the global market. He is the ranking member—the top Democrat—of two subcommittees: the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Bankruptcy and the Courts, and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government. A longtime New Castle County resident, Chris grew up in the Pike Creek and Hockessin areas and lives in Wilmington with his wife, Annie, and their three children, Michael, Jack, and Maggie.

The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester, United States Congresswoman, Delaware, is the first woman and the first person of color to represent The First State in such a role. She serves on the House Committee on Education and Workforce as well as the House Committee on Agriculture. Congresswoman Blunt Rochester began her professional career as a caseworker for then-Congressman Tom Carper, helping people during challenging times with their Social Security benefits, disability insurance claims, IRS disputes and housing needs. She served in the cabinets of two Delaware governors as the first female African-American Secretary of Labor and the first African-American Deputy Secretary of Health and Social Services and State Personnel Director. As Secretary of Labor, she managed 500 employees and an $87 million budget; she focused on connecting employers to resources and jobseekers—particularly those on welfare or leaving Delaware prisons. As State Personnel Director, Congresswoman Blunt Rochester was commissioned to investigate the Delaware State Police for racial and sexual discrimination. She also served as the CEO of the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League—an action-oriented, public policy research think-tank focused on the inclusion of people of color. Congresswoman Blunt Rochester holds a degree in international relations from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and later earned a master’s degree in urban affairs and public policy from the University of Delaware. Congresswoman Blunt Rochester has helped women enter the workforce in the Middle East, provided vaccines to children in Africa, and co-authored a book while living in China with her late husband Charles. Her book, THRIVE: 34 Women, 19 Countries, One Goal, profiles women who reinvented themselves while living in a foreign country. She is the proud mother of Alyssa, age 28, and Alex, age 31, both of whom graduated from Delaware’s public schools.
Gary R. Stockbridge is region president of Delmarva Power, an Exelon company. He is the primary executive responsible for engaging with state and local officials; community leaders; and business, consumer and nonprofit organizations within the Delmarva Power region. In that capacity, he plays a critical role in shaping policy and managing issues to deliver value to our customers and key stakeholders. Stockbridge has more than 30 years of utility experience since he started with PECO Energy in Philadelphia. He received his undergraduate degree in engineering and M.B.A in finance from Drexel University in Philadelphia. Stockbridge is the board president for the Workforce Investment Board in Delaware appointed by Governor Jack Markell and currently serving under Governor John Carney, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) state chair of Delaware and Chair of Vision Coalition of Delaware. He serves as incoming chair for the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce and board member for the Delaware Business Roundtable.

Susan S. Bunting was appointed by Governor John Carney as Delaware's Secretary of Education in January 2017. She previously served as Indian River School District’s superintendent. Under her leadership the district gained acclaim for its district-wide reform initiatives such as the K–12 implementation of research-based Learning Focused Strategies, its systemic use of balanced scorecards, its participation in the Vision 2015 Network, its initiation of Spanish Immersion programs, and its establishment of an IB Programme at Sussex Central and a STEM Academy at Indian River high schools. Dr. Bunting co-created IRSD’s Leadership Institute and Administrative Development Program, both of which have been recognized as SuperStars in Education by Delaware’s Chamber of Commerce. She earned her B.S. in psychology and elementary education from American University, a master’s degree in education from Salisbury University, and a Doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Delaware.

Dan Rich is director of the Community Engagement Initiative, University Professor of Public Policy in the School of Public Policy and Administration, and senior policy fellow in the Institute for Public Administration at the University of Delaware. He is a recipient of the University’s Medal of Distinction. From 2001 to 2009 he served as provost, responsible for all programs of instruction, research, and service. From 1996 to 2001, he served as founding dean of the College of Human Services, Education and Public Policy, and from 1991 to 1996, as dean of the College of Urban Affairs and Public Policy. Throughout his career, Dr. Rich has focused on increasing the university’s role in public service and its responsiveness to the needs of the wider community. He initiated the Knowledge-based Partnership Conference series that brings together higher education, government, business, and nonprofit leaders to address key policy challenges facing Delaware and the nation.
**Lolita A. Lopez** is the president & CEO of Westside Family Healthcare, a non-profit community health system with a mission to provide equal access to quality healthcare, regardless of ability to pay. Since coming to Westside in August of 1990, Ms. Lopez has successfully grown the organization from a small, one provider center with 3.5 employees, to today’s Joint Commission accredited Primary Care Medical Home (PCMH) with six comprehensive health center locations and one mobile medical unit providing services statewide. Today, the organization employs a workforce of over 265 professionals. Ms. Lopez is a trustee and member of the board of Christiana Care Health System, the Visiting Nurses Association board of directors, the Delaware Technical Community College board of trustees, and the Delaware Center for Health Innovation board of directors. She is a recipient of the City of Wilmington Community Legends award. Ms. Lopez is a graduate of the University of Delaware, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education, and a master’s degree in mental health counseling.

**Karyl Thomas Rattay** is the director of the Division of Public Health (DPH) within the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services. As DPH director and Delaware’s state health officer, Dr. Rattay leads nearly 700 employees who promote health, reduce health inequities and protect Delawareans from disease, environmental hazards, and public health emergencies. Between September 2001 and June 2004, Dr. Rattay served as a Senior Public Health Advisor to the Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary of Health in the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C. Dr. Rattay earned a Medical Doctorate from the Medical University of Ohio in 1992 completed her pediatric residency at Georgetown University and a preventive medicine residency at the University of Maryland. Dr. Rattay earned a master of science in epidemiology from the University of Maryland in 2001. She holds bachelor of arts degrees in zoology and pre-medicine, which she received in 1987 from Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio.

**Dennis Assanis** is the 28th president of the University of Delaware, having taken office in June 2016. Dr. Assanis is a distinguished educator with a wide range of academic leadership experience and a worldwide reputation as a scholar and expert in both fundamental and applied studies of internal combustion engines and energy systems. Before coming to UD, Dr. Assanis served as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Stony Brook University and as vice president for Brookhaven National Laboratory Affairs. He previously taught and conducted research at the University of Michigan and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Born and raised in Athens, Greece, Dr. Assanis holds four advanced degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, including a doctorate in power and propulsion.
Kathleen S. Matt serves as dean of the College of Health Sciences at the University of Delaware. In addition, Dr. Matt is co-director of UD’s health education partnership with Thomas Jefferson University (TJU). In these capacities, she facilitates a broad range of collaborative activities including joint educational programs and faculty appointments, research and educational pilot grant programs, and regional research conferences. Dr. Matt earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in biology from the University of Delaware and received her doctorate in endocrine physiology from the University of Washington, Seattle. Prior to coming to UD, Dr. Matt served as the associate vice president for clinical partnerships and research infrastructure at Arizona State University, where she served as a liaison between ASU and various community partners in facilitating clinical collaboration and innovation. In this role, she developed a model for medical public–private partnerships by working with institutions that had diverse interests and objectives and, in the spirit of collaboration, determining common objectives.

The Honorable Bethany Hall-Long serves as lieutenant governor for the state of Delaware. From 2002–2017, Dr. Hall-Long served as a member of Delaware’s legislature, first as a representative and then as a senator. She served as the chair of the Health and Social Services committee where her efforts were aimed at ensuring a stronger, healthier Delaware by combating addiction, focusing on a stronger mental health system, fighting cancer, and health inequities in our state. Dr. Hall-Long has served as a fellow for the U.S. Senate as well as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. At the University of Delaware, she currently serves a professor of nursing and joint faculty in urban affairs. Her research and community service record with at-risk groups such as pregnant teens, diabetics, homeless and the mentally ill, makes her a nationally recognized health scientist. Bethany is a graduate of Indian River High School, earned a nursing degree from Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, and a doctorate in health policy and nursing administration from George Mason University.

Rita Landgraf joined the University of Delaware’s College of Health Sciences in early 2017 as professor of practice and distinguished health and social services administrator in residence. She serves as director of the UD Partnership for Healthy Communities (PHC), a cross-college, cross-state initiative. Prior to joining the faculty at UD, she served as cabinet secretary of the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services from January 2009 through Feb 2017, under Governor Jack Markell’s administration. As secretary, she led the principal agency charged with keeping Delawareans healthy, ensuring they get the health care they need, and providing children, families, individuals with disabilities and seniors with the essential services they depend on. She managed one of the largest departments in Delaware’s government, with an annual budget of more than $2 billion.
Paul Herdman is president and CEO of the Rodel Foundation of Delaware, which he joined in 2004. He is a founding member of the Vision Coalition of Delaware, Delaware’s public-private partnership whose aim is to transform public schools to world-class status. Paul is an Aspen Institute-NewSchools Fellow in entrepreneurial leadership. He has served as a senior manager at New American Schools, consulted with Brookings Institution, RAND, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, and The World Bank. Paul has taught K–12 in the U.S., South Africa, and Australia, and co-founded an Outward Bound-based school-within-a-school in New York City. Paul holds a bachelor of science degree in biology from the University of Delaware, and master of arts and doctor of education degrees in education administration and planning from Harvard University. He and his wife, Dana, live in Wilmington and have three children in Delaware public schools.

Ila Deshmukh Towery specializes in college and career readiness education strategies, social-emotional learning, innovations in school design and next-generation learning experiences for students. Her past and current clients include: the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, the Raikes Foundation, NoVo Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education. A first-generation American and woman of color, Dr. Towery is committed to helping her clients develop innovative approaches to systemic education reform, with students at the center. She previously served as TNTP’s director of external evaluation where she launched and/or completed six studies in partnership with leading researchers and some of the nation’s largest school districts. Dr. Towery was a key contributor and served as project director to TNTP’s $20M+ i3 grant. She has taught mathematics and was research director at the Boston Plan for Excellence. Dr. Towery has a bachelor’s degree in political science and education from Swarthmore College and a doctorate in child development from Tufts University.

Dorrell Green serves as director of the Department of Education’s newly formed Office of Innovation and Improvement commissioned by Governor John Carney. The Wilmington-based team will support Delaware’s schools most in need with a focus on struggling schools in the City of Wilmington. Mr. Green served for five years as assistant superintendent in the Brandywine School District where he was responsible for all operational functions of the district: transportation, discipline, nutrition, facilities, budget, and human resources. He has worked with all student populations—at-risk, community-based, and traditional—throughout his career, always with the goal of closing the experience and opportunity gaps for young people. Mr. Green earned a bachelor of science in elementary education and master’s degree in educational leadership from the University of Delaware. He is currently pursuing his doctorate from Wilmington University. Mr. Green serves as a member of the Wilmington Community Advisory Council, which has produced recommendations for reducing youth violence in the City of Wilmington.
Michele Marinucci has served as the director of student services for the Woodbridge School District since August 2011. She currently serves as the president of Delaware Association of School Administrators, president of the DASEP Delaware Administrators of Special Education Programs, co-chair of the Delaware Special Education Strategic Plan Advisory Council, and an appointed member of Delaware's Behavioral Health Consortium. Dr. Marinucci's passions include supporting students with disabilities and those with behavioral health needs. Her duties as director of student services for Woodbridge include responsibility for special education, McKinney Vento, homebound services, consolidated application, ESLELL, migrant, preK program and employee daycare, summer school and extra time, school counselors, and co-chair of the district calendar committee. She holds her undergraduate degree from Delaware State University, and a master's degree and doctorate of education in educational leadership from Wilmington University.

Wendy Turner is the 2017 Delaware teacher of the year and now teaches 3rd grade at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School in the Brandywine School District. As the teacher of the year, she has advocated strongly for social emotional learning and supporting students impacted by trauma with a compassionate schools framework to foster resiliency. Currently she is part of the Mt. Pleasant Elementary School team that is working with the Office of the Child Advocate's Compassionate Schools Collaborative. As a teacher, she works to infuse her classroom with life lessons on citizenship, empathy, growth mindset, mindfulness and gratitude with a theme of "Beyond Academics." Ms. Turner helped create school-wide programs at Mt. Pleasant such as growing food in a hands-on school garden and student projects designed to develop environmental stewardship. She is a state finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching was named Outstanding Environmental Educator by the Delaware Nature Society in 2014.

Erin K. Knight has worked with federal, state and community-based health organizations for nearly 20 years. She is currently an assistant professor in the School of Public Policy and Administration, associate director of the Center for Community Research and Service, and associate director of the Partnership for Healthy Communities at the University of Delaware. Her research focuses on policies and practices to address social determinants of health and advance health equity. In collaboration with the Delaware Division of Public Health, she recently published a “Health Equity Guide for Public Health Practitioners and Partners.” Dr. Knight is currently a co-investigator on a multi-year evaluation of the Delaware State Innovation Model (DE SIM) aimed at transforming the state's healthcare system.
Mark Holodick has a long history with the Brandywine School District and the state of Delaware. A graduate of Concord High School and Talley Middle School, Dr. Holodick also served as assistant principal and principal at Concord before becoming superintendent in October 2009. Prior to his tenure with Brandywine, he was principal at Delmar Middle and High School for three years. Dr. Holodick firmly believes that the foundation of Brandywine School District is built on professionalism, customer service, and meeting the needs of all students. He and his wife, Angie, live in Brandywine Hundred and have three children in the Brandywine School District.

Kelly Sherretz is a policy scientist with the Institute for Public Administration and the assistant director of the Partnership for Public Education at the University of Delaware. She earned her master of public administration from the University of Delaware and has been working in educational policy since 2004. She has extensive policy expertise on a variety of issues ranging from early childhood through student access to higher education and she has studied teacher and administrator hiring practices as they relate to Delaware public schools.

Ernest Dianastasis is founder and CEO of The Precisionists, Inc., a global administrative services and information technology company focused on employing 10,000 people with disabilities by the year 2025. Prior to this, Mr. Dianastasis served as a senior executive at the IT company CAI, and he grew the Delaware Valley operation from 1 to 1,400+ associates, making CAI one of the three largest IT firms in the Delaware Valley. He has been a member of The Delaware Business Roundtable since 2001 and currently serves on the executive committee. He serves on the Vision Coalition of Delaware focusing on improving the future of public education in Delaware. Mr. Dianastasis and The Precisionists are involved in a number of local charitable causes. He is a board member and former chairman of the board for Easter Seals of Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore. He earned a bachelor’s degree in finance and an M.B.A. in management from Lehigh University.

Tony Allen is provost and executive vice president of Delaware State University, a position he accepted in July 2017 after thirteen years in senior executive positions with Bank of America. Dr. Allen holds a doctorate in urban affairs and public policy from the University of Delaware, and has devoted much of his career to public service and community engagement. He was the co-founder of Public Allies Delaware, which has to date amassed over one million hours of public service by over 1,000 participants. Dr. Allen was also the founding president of the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League, and is the recipient of the Whitney M. Young Award for Advancing Racial Equality, the National Urban League’s highest honor. He is currently the chairperson of the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission. He worked as a speechwriter and special assistant for then-U.S. Senator Joseph Biden, served on Governor John Carney’s transition team, and also served as a University of Delaware trustee from 2008–2017.
Brian M. Rahmer is the director of community health engagement in the Office of Health Equity at Christiana Care Health System. Dr. Rahmer’s current work exists at the intersection of inclusive community development, place-based capacity building, and the changing economics of population health improvement for sustainable whole-systems transformation. A life-long Delawarean, Dr. Rahmer earned a doctorate in urban affairs and public policy from the University of Delaware School of Public Policy and Administration where he holds an appointment as policy fellow in the Center for Community Research and Service. He also holds an appointment as adjunct fellow in the Center for Public Health Initiatives at the University of Pennsylvania. He currently sits on the Healthy Neighborhoods Committee at the Delaware Center for Health Innovation, the National Executive Steering Committee for All Children Thrive, and the Delaware Policy and Advocacy Committee at the Great Rivers Affiliate of the American Heart Association.

Michelle Rodgers serves as associate dean and director of cooperative extension and outreach where she provides overall leadership for programs, personnel and the organizational development of University of Delaware Cooperative Extension. Dr. Rodgers applies 30 years of extension experience to foster collaborations that serve Delaware’s agriculture industry, families and communities while delivering outcomes through statewide programs. She is a member of UD’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources leadership team focusing on internal and external operations and relationships and serves as co-chair of the Council of Community Engagement and Public Service Centers. Nationally, Dr. Rodgers serves as project director for the CES-Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Partnership for Healthy Communities and just completed training as a fellow in the Food System Leadership Institute (FSLI). She holds a B.S. degree in home economics education from Indiana University of PA, and a master's degree in rural sociology and doctorate in agricultural education both from Penn State University.

Cindy Bo is the chief strategy and business development officer for Nemours Children’s Health System, Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. At Nemours, she manages the strategies and business development processes in support of new growth and integration opportunities for both the hospital and practice in the Delaware Valley. She is also an appointed member by Governor John Carney on the Delaware Economic and Financial Advisory Council. Ms. Bo is currently serving on several distinguished boards. She is a board member for the Clinic for Special Children in Strasburg, Pa., the American Lung Association for the Mid-Atlantic and the Delaware Center for Health Innovation. She is an executive team member of the United Way of Delaware Young United Professionals. She currently volunteers for the Nemours Children’s Health System, Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children and the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware. Ms. Bo has earned her M.B.A., with high distinction and honors, from Columbia Business School and her B.S., summa cum laude, from Binghamton University School of Management.
Yasser Arafat Payne is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware. Dr. Payne completed his doctoral work at the Graduate Center-City University of New York where he was trained as a social-personality psychologist. Dr. Payne completed a postdoctoral fellowship funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIH-NIDA) whereby he worked on a re-entry and intervention based research project in New York City’s largest jail, Rikers Island. Dr. Payne has organized a street ethnographic research program centered on exploring notions of resilience and resiliency with the streets of Black America using an unconventional methodological framework entitled: Street Participatory Action Research (Street PAR)—the process of involving members of street identified Black populations in research-activism centered projects. His research program also focuses on Black racial identity, street identity, physical violence, Gangster Rap music and culture as well as the topic of street participatory action research.

Matt Swanson is currently executive chairman of Innovative Schools, guiding the organization to be an engine for importing and launching innovative education initiatives within Delaware. Mr. Swanson’s prior professional background focused on corporate finance in New York and Los Angeles before the launch of his start-up FineStationery.com in 1999. A pioneer in Internet strategy and technology innovation, FineStationery.com revolutionized the consumer experience and overall reach of the online print industry. Mr. Swanson is serving as chairman of the Delaware Center for Health Innovation that is overseeing the implementation of a $40 million grant to transform the healthcare system across the state of Delaware. Mr. Swanson is also an adjunct professor of entrepreneurship at the University of Delaware business college. Mr. Swanson holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Vermont and an M.B.A. from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.
IDEA EXCHANGES

Tables 1–10 are located in Room 119.
Tables 11–24 are located in Room 120.

Building Effective Family-School Partnerships – Table 4
Amy M. Pleet-Odle, Inclusion Consultant, Inclusion Focused Coaching

Civic Engagement/Social Capital – Table 24
Peggy Geisler, Consultant, PMG Consulting

Community Solutions to Improve Literacy – Table 3
Diane Frentzel, Program Manager, Delaware Readiness Teams

Connecting, Creating, and Enhancing Economic Opportunity – Table 6
Tyrone Jones, Chief Impact Officer, United Way of Delaware

Coordinating a Multi-Tiered Support System for the Whole Child – Table 14
Megan Pell, Project Coach, Delaware Positive Behavior Support, University of Delaware Center for Disabilities Studies

Crossing Organizational Boundaries to Strengthen Education – Table 23
Liz Farley-Ripple, Director, Partnership for Public Education, University of Delaware

Developing the Future of College and Career Advising – Table 15
Jenna Ahner, Senior Program Officer at the Rodel Foundation of Delaware
Shawn Snyder, Principal, Milford High School

Facilitating Diverse Communities – Table 7
Carol Henderson, Vice Provost for Diversity, University of Delaware

Food Security and Nutrition – Table 22
Allison Karpyn, Senior Associate Director, Center for Research in Education and Social Policy, University of Delaware

Fostering Student Ownership – Table 12
Kevin Lair, Eighth Grade Teacher, Friere Charter School Wilmington; Founder, Peer Mediation Program

Housing as a Determinant of Health – Table 8
Jane C. W. Vincent, Senior Fellow, Center for Community Research and Service, University of Delaware
Linking Community Development and Health – Table 10
Steven Peuquet, Director, Center for Community Research and Service, University of Delaware

Meeting the Needs of At-Risk Students – Table 11
Margie López Waite, Head of School, Las Américas ASPIRA Academy

Neighborhood and Built Environment – Table 19
Cassandra Codes-Johnson, Deputy Director, Delaware Division of Public Health

Partnerships to Develop Student Employability Skills – Table 17
Chandlee Kuhn, Director, Office of Work-Based Learning, Delaware Technical Community College

Policy, Law, Funding and Structures – Table 9
Bettina Riveros, Vice President, Christiana Care

Poverty, Financial Well-Being, and Security – Table 20
Mary Dupont, Director of Financial Empowerment, Delaware Department of Health and Social Services

Racism and Other Forms of Discrimination/Bias – Table 21
Yasser Arafat Payne, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Delaware

Removing Barriers to College Access – Table 2
Justina Sapna, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Delaware Technical Community College
Shana Payne, Director, Delaware Higher Education Office, Department of Education

Resiliency and Trauma Informed Practices – Table 18
Leslie Newman, CEO, Children and Families First of Delaware

Self-Care Strategies for Building Resilience – Table 5
Teri Lawler, Psychologist, Stanton Middle School

Supporting Early Childhood Professionals – Table 16
Kim Krzanowski, Director, Office of Early Learning, Department of Education

Two-Generation Strategies to Support Families – Table 13
Julius Mullen, Chief Clinical Officer, Children and Families First

Valuing Student Diversity through Cultural Competence – Table 1
Gloria Grantham, President and CEO, LANE Professional (Educational) Service, Inc.
IDEA EXCHANGE FACILITATORS

Jenna Ahner is a senior program officer at the Rodel Foundation of Delaware. In her role, she supports the organization’s policy priorities, specifically projects related to college and career readiness, access, and success. She has worked at the University of Delaware on projects focused on education and public libraries. Ms. Ahner holds a bachelor of arts in international relations and public policy and a master of public administration from the University of Delaware.

Cassandra Codes-Johnson currently serves as the associate deputy director for the Delaware Division of Public Health and provides oversight for over 500 dedicated public health staff who work daily to promote and protect the health of Delawareans. Over the years, she has worked in the private, nonprofit and government sectors with one clear goal in mind: Identify opportunities to improve the lives of people through the improvement of systems and processes.

Mary Dupont is the director of financial empowerment for the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS). She joined the DHSS following a 30-year career in the non-profit sector as a social entrepreneur designing, replicating and implementing high impact programs designed to increase economic opportunity. Since joining state government in 2009, she has worked with the DHSS and United Way of Delaware to develop and launch Stand By Me®, an innovative financial empowerment strategy, focused on increasing economic security for all Delawareans.

Liz Farley-Ripple serves as the director for the University of Delaware Partnership for Public Education and co-leads the Center for Research Use in Education. She is an associate professor of education and public policy in the School of Education and a senior faculty fellow in the Institute for Public Administration at the University of Delaware. She is an active member of the policy and practice communities through partnerships with the Delaware Department of Education, districts, and community organizations as well as coordinating and advising in education leadership programs.

Diane Frentzel is the program manager of the Delaware Readiness Teams. In her role, Ms. Frentzel provides leadership and management to the 19 Delaware Readiness Teams statewide. Prior to joining the Delaware Readiness Teams, she worked as a director at Bright Horizons. She has a bachelor of arts in early childhood development and education from the University of Delaware.
Peggy Geisler is the owner and senior consultant of PMG Consulting LLC, which works with not-for-profits and businesses on infrastructure, strategic planning and training as well as conducts community based planning in both Maryland and Delaware. Ms. Geisler holds a B.A. in clinical psychology from University of Maryland and her M.A. in clinical psychology from Salisbury University.

Gloria Grantham is CEO/president of LANE Professional Services, an educational consultant company specializing in urban education since 2000. Her experiences include, but are not limited to: turnaround schools, executive coaching, the teaching and learning process, school and classroom disciplinary concerns, curriculum development including content and common core state standards, classroom teacher instruction (she is trained in Daggett’s Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships Framework), grit, and data-driven and project-based instruction.

Carol Henderson serves as vice provost for diversity at the University of Delaware. She has been a college professor and educator for over 22 years. She is the author, contributor and editor of four books, and has contributed numerous essays to many collections. Dr. Henderson has cultivated a diversity network that includes chief diversity advocates, student leaders, members of the executive leadership team, as well as strong network ties with the Office of Equity and Inclusion, Center for Teaching and Assessment of Learning, the Faculty Senate, Human Resources, the Center for Diversity, and others at the University of Delaware who are working diligently to leverage diversity as an institutional value and academic priority in all facets of the academic community.

Tyrone Jones is chief impact officer for the United Way of Delaware, after spending 8 years with AstraZeneca as director of Delaware external affairs. He has 25+ year of leadership experience inspiring innovation, change, collaboration and partnerships in corporate, community and government affairs and in addressing pressing social and economic issues. Mr. Jones graduated from the University of Delaware where he earned a B.S. in criminal justice.

Allison Karpyn serves as senior associate director in the Center for Research in Education and Social Policy (CRESP) and associate professor in the Department of the Human Development and Family Sciences. Dr. Karpyn has published widely in journals including Pediatrics, Preventive Medicine and Health Affairs on program evaluation methods, topics related to school food, supermarket access, food insecurity, healthy corner stores and strategies to develop and maintain farmer’s markets in low-income areas.
Kim Krzanowski is the executive director for the Office of Early Learning. Working with professionals in the early childhood field who strive to become better educators has been a keystone in Kimberly Krzanowski’s career. As a true Delawarean, Kim has over 16 years of experience in early learning as a former early childhood teacher, center administrator and higher education faculty member. Kim is a strong and dedicated advocate for children and families receiving access to high quality care and education. She serves on numerous advisory boards and statewide committees to implement policy changes that are needed to ensure all children have a strong foundation from the beginning. These committees include T.E.A.C.H® Early Childhood Delaware, Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children Professional Development, New Castle County Vocational School District Early Childhood Career Program and the Delaware Early Childhood Professional Development Strategic Planning Committee.

Chandlee Kuhn retired from the Family Court of the state of Delaware in 2015 after 17 years as a judge and chief judge of the court and currently serves as director of work based learning at Delaware Technical Community College in the Delaware School Pathways Initiative. During her tenure on Family Court, Judge Kuhn spent much of her time working on local and national juvenile justice issues and determining how children came into the justice system.

Kevin Lair is in his third year of teaching eighth grade U.S. History at Freire Charter School Wilmington. As one of the founding teachers of the school, he leads the peer mediation program as well as student council. He also serves on the school’s citizen’s budget oversight committee. He was a 2015 Teach For America Delaware Corps member, received his B.A. in political science and global business from Washington College, and recently earned his M.A.T. from the Relay Graduate School of Education. He seeks to promote educational equity and excellence throughout Delaware and the nation.

Teri Brown Lawler is a results-driven educator serving the students and families of Delaware for the last 28 years. Dr. Lawler works collaboratively with educational partners and community stakeholders throughout the region on projects that involve systems change and developing a trauma-informed system of care, program development and evaluation, as well as grant writing and fund development. She is a member of Delaware’s Compassionate Schools Learning Collaborative, the State Systemic Improvement Plan Advisory Council (DOE), the Delaware Early Literacy Initiative (DOE), and the City of Wilmington’s CDC Advisory Council for Youth Gun Violence Prevention.
Margie López Waite is one of the founders of Las Américas ASPIRA Academy and serves as head of school. Prior to becoming a teacher, Margie worked at MBNA/Bank of America for 16 years. After the merger with Bank of America, Margie decided to pursue her life-long goals and passion in education. She earned her master’s degree in secondary education and school leadership certification from Wilmington University in May 2008. Margie earned her undergraduate degree in marketing from Delaware State University in May 1990. She taught in the Appoquinimink School District as a Spanish teacher.

Julius Mullen is the chief clinical officer for Children & Families First of Delaware where he leads a team of program managers representing a number of professional disciplines including education, behavioral health and child welfare. He enjoys presenting at leadership conferences across the United States and relishes mentoring up and coming managers as well as doctoral students. Dr. Mullen can also be found on the campus of Wilmington University where he has taught psychology, counseling and education courses since 2004. Dr. Mullen and his wife Tasha are both clinical mental health experts who direct a grassroots youth leadership program in Western Sussex Delaware called IMPACT.

Leslie Newman is in her 11th year as CEO of Children & Families First, having served as director of development for 15 year before that. She is a commissioner for the Child Death Review Commission and a member of the Delaware Early Childhood Council, serving as chair of its health committee. Leslie has chaired Delaware’s Home Visiting Community Advisory Board since its inception in 2008. She is a member of the Healthy Neighborhoods Committee, part of the Delaware’s Health Innovation Plan and a member of the Division of Family Services Advisory Board. In addition, Leslie is president of the board of the Milton & Hattie Kutz Foundation.

Yasser Arafat Payne is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware. Dr. Payne completed his doctoral work at the Graduate Center-City University of New York where he was trained as a social-personality psychologist. Dr. Payne completed a postdoctoral fellowship funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIH-NIDA) whereby he worked on a re-entry and intervention based research project in New York City’s largest jail, Rikers Island. Dr. Payne has organized a street ethnographic research program centered on exploring notions of resilience and resiliency with the streets of Black America using an unconventional methodological framework entitled: Street Participatory Action Research (Street PAR)—the process of involving members of street identified Black populations in research-activism centered projects. His research program also focuses on Black racial identity, street identity, physical violence, Gangster Rap music and culture as well as the topic of street participatory action research.
Shana Payne is the director of the Delaware Higher Education Office for the Department of Education. A native of Delaware, Shana graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in American studies and teacher preparation. After college, Shana taught global studies and African American studies in the Coatesville Area School District. She then went on to complete her M.A. in urban affairs and public policy at the University of Delaware. In 2002, Shana began at College Summit, a national nonprofit organization focused on building college-going culture in high schools. Her decade of work at College Summit took her to schools in urban and rural settings all across the country, and provided a strong foundation of best practices focusing on college access, school district relationship management and scaling of best practices. As Higher Education Director, Shana serves as a liaison between the K–12 system and the higher education institutions on issues related to college access, enrollment, persistence and affordability.

Megan Pell currently trains educators, individuals and teams, in best practices related to multi-tiered systems of support for behavior as an instructional coach within the Delaware Positive Behavior Support Project at the University of Delaware’s Center for Disabilities Studies. She has presented research findings at national, regional and local conferences.

Steven Peuquet is director of the University of Delaware’s Center for Community Research and Service and associate professor in the university’s School of Public Policy and Administration. He is a city planner and urban economist with expertise in the areas of poverty, housing, homelessness and community revitalization who leads his center’s efforts to develop new knowledge and approaches to reduce poverty, increase social and economic opportunity, and promote healthy communities.

Amy M. Pleet-Odle has been a career educator for nearly five decades, starting as an English then special education teacher chairman. Owner of Inclusion Focused Coaching, her consultation brings a systems approach to school transformation, targeting special educator effectiveness, administrator role, family engagement, and youth empowerment.

Bettina Riveros serves as chief health equity officer for Christiana Care Health System where she has responsibility for strategically engaging community stakeholders in partnerships that advance Christiana Care Health System’s strategic aims and vision for a healthy Delaware and furthering its work in cultural competency, diversity and inclusion. Among her many accomplishments, Ms. Riveros was responsible for developing the strategy to implement the Affordable Care Act in Delaware, including the Health Insurance Exchange partnership model and Medicaid expansion that expanded access to health care for thousands of Delawareans.
Justina Sapna serves as vice president for academic affairs at Delaware Technical Community College. Since 2012 she has served in a college-wide leadership role as principal investigator and project director for Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training. Ms. Sapna earned a bachelor’s degree in English and secondary education from Salisbury University and a master of instruction from the University of Delaware.

Shawn Snyder is principal at Milford High School. He earned a bachelor of science in English education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master of instruction with a library media specialist certificate from the University of Delaware. He has served as a teacher in Delaware for the past ten years.

Jane C. W. Vincent serves as a senior fellow with the University of Delaware Center for Community Research and Service and interim president for Delaware Public Media. Most of her work has focused on affordable housing and community development. From 2010 through January 2017, she was appointed by President Barack Obama as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, overseeing all activities within Region III: the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

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