

Schools of Education Learning Collaborative

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

Each program year, the Schools of Education Learning Collaborative (SOE-LC) undertakes two major Collaborative Research investigations to examine issues of importance to the entire membership. Collaborative Research investigations are developed and executed with input from the institutions that make up the Schools of Education Learning Collaborative, with members playing a lead role in defining each investigation's goals. These projects present a collaborative effort by members to create a dataset that benefits each institution. Members also assist in these projects by providing survey lists, benchmark data, and best practices examples.

Examples of Recently Completed and Upcoming Collaborative Research Initiatives

REPORT TITLE	METHODOLOGY	TARGET REPORT RELEASE DATE
<i>Assessing Effective P-12 Partnerships</i>	Member Interviews; Secondary Research	Completed
<i>Student Preferences: Recruiting and Preparing Educators</i>	Primary Research	Completed
<i>Faculty Productivity and Incentives at Schools of Education – Benchmarks and Practices</i>	Benchmarking Data; Member Interviews; Secondary Research	Winter 2009/2010
<i>Annual Report 2009 – The Year In Review for Schools of Education</i>	Research Synthesis	January 2010
<i>Models for Effective Teacher Education Programs and Outcomes of University-Based Teacher Education</i>	Primary/Case Study Research; Literature Review	Summer 2010
<i>Successful Management and Integration of Clinical/Field Experiences</i>	Primary Research; Benchmarking Data	Fall/Winter 2010

Assessing Effective P-12 Partnerships

This case analysis project focuses on examining members' partnerships with local P-12 schools. The investigation assesses the operations, management, and impact of members' programs at their partner schools and explores ways that data on pupil performance can be used to improve members' programs. The results of this investigation are designed to assist members in identifying promising practices for achieving increased pupil performance and in demonstrating the impact of programming to university leaders, policy-makers, and other external constituencies.

Examples of Recently Completed and Upcoming Collaborative Research Initiatives (cont.)

Student Preferences: Recruiting and Preparing Educators

Schools of education face competition from new sources, changing student preferences, and a declining share of the educator preparation market. This national market research study helps members better understand student characteristics, needs, and emerging areas of interest overall and by education sub-discipline. Data related to student decision-making; differences between student populations; motivations for enrolling and pursuing a chosen education career path; preferences regarding program delivery modes; and ongoing professional development needs is presented. Members can use the results to differentiate and modify existing programs, to add new programs in emerging areas of interest, to convey the benefits and outcomes of programs, and to design and deliver competitive programs.

Faculty Productivity and Incentives at Schools of Education – Benchmarks and Practices

Schools of education need more information about how to define, assess, and incentivize faculty productivity in the three main areas of faculty responsibility – teaching, research, and service. This practices and benchmarking investigation explores these issues in detail across the membership and takes account of various categories of faculty. The goal of this research is to enable members to create comparable benchmarks with peer institutions that can guide strategic decision-making regarding the establishment of faculty productivity expectations. In addition, the study focuses on the identification and implementation of incentives to encourage excellence in particular areas of institutional focus.

Annual Report 2009 – The Year In Review for Schools of Education

Our annual state-of-the-market review and outlook examines key issues that leaders at schools of education should be considering in the year ahead. The goal of this annual report is threefold. First, we review the work we've achieved together in the last year as a group. Second, we provide insight into the present and future challenges and opportunities for schools of education. Lastly, we highlight the ways that we can work together as a group to address these challenges.

“Higher education is changing. We need to allow hard data to inform our decisions, and Eduventures is one way we can get objective research information. . . I've been very pleased with the quality of research that I've seen from them.”

Dr. Gerardo Gonzalez
University Dean
School of Education
Indiana University - Bloomington

Models for Effective Teacher Education Programs and Outcomes of University-Based Teacher Education

More than ever, SOEs seek to demonstrate the impact of university-based educator preparation programs on graduates and their K-12 students and want to use this data to improve their programs to achieve maximum impact. Our 2009 national survey of new educators uncovered strengths and weaknesses in educator preparation programs. Building on this foundation, this investigation will entail a meta-analysis of research on university and non-university-based program outcomes and the findings of studies conducted to-date that link educator preparation programs and their components to student outcomes. In addition, we will identify and develop case studies of innovative and effective educator preparation programs.

Successful Management and Integration of Clinical/Field Experiences

Our past research has demonstrated the importance of strong and longer-term clinical/field experiences in producing well-prepared educators. However, implementing these field experiences can be challenging as SOEs navigate obstacles ranging from finding high-quality cooperating teachers, partnering with districts, and other logistical considerations. In addition, as increasing numbers of SOEs develop programs delivered online, the challenge of managing clinical and field experiences from afar can become especially complex. This investigation will examine how to best structure and deliver high-quality, cost-effective, and manageable field and clinical experiences. In addition, a survey of cooperating teachers and other field placement supervisors may be a component of this investigation.

RESEARCH BRIEFS

Research briefs are developed by the SOE-LC research team to provide timely insight into emerging areas of interest for the collective membership. Research briefs are typically short, focused reviews of available secondary literature or in-house Eduventures research or expertise, and are meant to provide the SOE-LC membership with an overview of data and trends related to a targeted topic of interest. Research briefs are developed in response to collective interest throughout the membership and the agenda is adjusted to reflect current and timely issues in the field.

EXAMPLES OF RECENTLY COMPLETED AND UPCOMING RESEARCH BRIEFS

REPORT TITLE	TARGET REPORT RELEASE DATE
<i>Leadership in an Uncertain Economy</i>	Completed
<i>Strategically Recruiting Math and Science Teachers</i>	Completed
<i>Strategically Recruiting Educators For Summer Session</i>	Completed
<i>Strategically Recruiting Adult Education Students</i>	Completed
<i>Strategically Recruiting Prospective Undergraduate Education Students</i>	Completed
<i>Strengthening Development and Fundraising Strategies</i>	Completed
<i>Creating High-Quality Clinical Experiences for Online Education</i>	Fall 2009
<i>Outcomes Assessment Tools and Measures – New and Emerging Approaches</i>	Winter 2010
<i>Pathways to Teaching at Schools of Education</i>	Spring 2010
<i>Strategic Planning for Success in 2010-2011 and Beyond</i>	Summer 2010

Outcomes Assessment Tools and Measures – New and Emerging Approaches

Many of the measures that are used across the country today to assess teacher quality and program outcomes are limited. For accreditation and assessment purposes, most institutions rely on alumni and employer surveys to yield data about

graduate success in the field and impact on student learning. This investigation would seek to uncover and identify new and emerging measures assessing teacher quality in use across the country. In-depth case studies would be developed of tools and approaches in use at individual institutions, consortia, and states across the country.

Pathways to Teaching at Schools of Education

This study will provide an overview of the scope and scale of alternative pathways to teaching being administered by member schools of education, based on national data about alternative programs across the country. In addition, 4-6 case studies of successful partnerships between alternative programs at schools of education will be reviewed to explore how SOEs are successfully operating alternative programs.

Strategic Planning for Success in 2010-2011 and Beyond

Prior to the launch of the Schools of Education Learning Collaborative, we conducted a national survey of deans and leaders at schools of education across the country to identify their key issues and challenges and to identify strategies being implemented to deal with these challenges. Changes in the administration, federal legislation, and a challenging economy have created new challenges and opportunities for SOEs. This research brief will examine deans' and SOE leaders' predictions for the future and provide insight as to how SOEs are adapting strategic plans and goals to succeed in a changing environment.

CUSTOM ANALYSIS

Custom Analysis consists of targeted, member-specific research studies with topics identified and prioritized by individual members. The studies focus on strategic or operational issues specific to that member involving either primary or secondary research and use several possible methodologies such as benchmarking, analysis of members' in-house data and identification of best practices.

All past Custom Research Reports are made available to the entire membership, allowing members to benefit from research conducted on behalf of other member institutions. The Learning Collaborative currently has over 60 Custom Research Reports available to members in its research library.

“The Common Indicators for Schools of Education report is spectacular; comprehensive yet concise. I am sharing it with the Director of University Assessment who is struggling to get a handle on how to begin assessing undergraduate and graduate arts & science schools.”

Dean
Graduate School of Education
Private University in the Northeast

SAMPLE CUSTOM RESEARCH REPORTS BY SOE-LC RESEARCH THEME

Serving Students

- Doctoral Student Funding Structures
- Overview of Federal and State Incentives for Teachers

Strategically Marketing Programs

- Enrollment Trends and Recruitment Strategies in Undergraduate Education Programs
- Benchmarking Marketing Activities in Schools of Education

Delivering Programs Online

- Online Master’s Degree Programs in Education for Current Teachers
- Employer Perceptions of Online Teacher Preparation Programs

Streamlining Operations

- The Efficient Management of Schools of Education – Organizational Design and Operational Benchmarks
- Strategies to Internationalize Schools of Education

Demonstrating Accountability

- Measuring Teacher Success – A Review of Approaches
- Understanding and Influencing the U.S. News Rankings

MEMBER ROUNDTABLES

Member Roundtables are web teleconferences that convene the membership to discuss research findings, best practices, and implementation strategies. They allow members to speak directly with the SOE-LC research team, relevant experts and other member institutions in order to leverage the collective wisdom of the membership on specific topics. All Member Roundtables are recorded so member institutions can access them afterwards if they are unable to attend in person.

Examples of Recent and Upcoming Member Roundtables

- *Innovation in Educator Preparation Programs to Create Great Teachers*
- *Offering Education Programs Online – Successes and Challenges*
- *Effective Strategies for Fundraising and Development*
- *Recruiting and Preparing Educators*
- *Encouraging and Supporting Faculty Grant Acquisition*
- *Preparing Educators to Use and Integrate Technology (Upcoming in Winter 2010)*
- *Making Use of Assessment Data –Practices and Innovations in Assessment Data Management and Integration (Upcoming in Winter 2010)*
- *Organizational Structure and Change to Support Quality and Internal Efficiencies at Schools of Education (Upcoming in Winter 2010)*
- *The Impact of Federal and State Policy Changes on SOEs – Opportunities and Challenges (Upcoming in Spring 2010)*
- *Cost Containment and Quality Preservation – Achieving Both Goals at SOEs (Upcoming in Spring 2010)*

Eduventures, Inc.

101 Federal Street | 12th Floor | Boston, MA 02110

For More Information:

Visit our Web site at: www.eduventures.com
E-Mail us at: Questions@Eduventures.com
Call us at: (617) 532-6014