



# CENTER FOR CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP

University of Missouri-St. Louis—College of Education

## Highlights 2015

### Dear Friends,

We, at the Center for Character and Citizenship, understand that we could not do the important work of promoting the development of character, virtue and citizenship in children and adolescents without the support and participation of our friends and colleagues around the world. We want to share with you the fruits of OUR (yours and ours) labor this past year. Some of the memorable highlights depicted below are the celebration of the Center's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the



beginning of the second decade of publishing the *Journal of Character Education*. Thank you all for your on-going commitments to the best interests of children and the world they will inherit from us, and to the Center's mission to engage in research, education and advocacy that will foster the development of character, democratic citizenship and civil society.

Sincerely,

Co-Directors

*Marvin W. Berkowitz*  
*Wolfgang Althof*

<http://www.characterandcitizenship.org>  314-516-7522

 UMSLCCC



Save the Date: Special event, April 20, 2016, with Dr. Joel Westheimer (see p. 10).



## Faculty Awards/Recognition

**Dr. Wolfgang Althof** took office as President of the [Association for Moral Education](#) (AME) for a three-year term beginning 2013 at AME's annual convention in Montreal, Canada. In that role, he supported and mentored the organizers of the 2015 annual conference in Santos, Brazil, and is currently involved in planning the 42<sup>nd</sup> AME Annual Conference that will be hosted by Harvard Graduate School of Education, partnering with Tufts University, on December 8-11, 2016. The theme will be *Civic Engagement: A Cultural Revolution: The expanding definitions of 'civic' participation, their intersections with ethics, and the implications for education*. Check the [42nd AME conference website](#) for details.

**Dr. Marvin Berkowitz** was "Invited Distinguished Visiting Professor," at the [Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues](#), located at the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom. In addition, [Peabody Energy Leaders in Education](#) recognized Dr. Berkowitz for his service on their advisory board/judging panel.

## Celebrating the Center for Character & Citizenship's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



The Center's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was celebrated on September 29, 2015, with an afternoon forum and reception marking the occasion. [Dr. Richard Weissbourd](#) gave the keynote speech "Raising Moral Children." Dr. Weissbourd is a Sr. Lecturer on Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Kennedy School of Government, and Faculty Director, Human

Development and Psychology Program. The keynote was followed by three parallel sessions on best practices for empowering education. The forum concluded with Dr. Berkowitz's presentation "Being Good."

The **CharacterPlus®** team, **Tammy Bopp, Kirsten Pelster, Diane Stirling and Suzy Ward** conducted a workshop on classroom meetings building empathy. CharacterPlus® is the CCC's character education community partner. Program Director, **Sandy Diamond**, presented on educating for democracy, which featured the CCC's Citizenship Education Clearing House (CECH). Three CCC Community of Scholars members who participated in a panel focusing on contemporary issues in ethics, Professors **Keith Miller, Matt Keefer, and Wally Siewert**; Ed.D. student **Phillip Boyd** served as panel moderator. A reception followed in the elegant lobby of the Touhill Performing Arts Center with a short program including **Chancellor Tom George, Dean Carole Basile, Diane Kline**, the CEO of CharacterPlus®, and the presentation of student scholarships and awards (see p. 8).

## Outreach – Regional and International

### Leadership Academy for Character Education (LACE™)

In 2015, [LACE™](#) graduated 25 St. Louis area education leaders who successfully completed their year-long study. We celebrated the graduation of Kashina Bell, Scott Doty, Greg Ervin, Kelly Harter, Dave Haug, Robin House, David Huston, Keith Klostermann, Jason Kozdron, Shona Lamond, John McNeill, Richard Mertens, Daniel Murphy, Jerry Oetting, See Moey Oh, Michael Reese, Suzanne Richardson, Theresa Rose, Roger Scherck, Lacey Schmersahl, Rene Sommers, Crystal Taylor, Katie Terbrock, Robert Villigram and Debbie Warren. These educational leaders represented the Bayless, Belleville 118, Belleville Township, Clayton, Farmington R7, Fox, Fox C-6, Jefferson R7, Ladue RS, Lindbergh, Orchard Farm, Orchard Farm R-V, Parkway, Rockwood and St. Louis Public Schools Districts, as well as Churchill Center and School and Singapore Ministry of Education. Diane Kline, CEO of CharacterPlus®, Mary Anne Hoppe, LACE™ Associate Director, and Marvin Berkowitz, CCC Co-Director, presented the LACE™ graduation certificates at the Glen Echo Country Club.



### LACE-led National Schools of Character 2015



Sixty-four schools achieved recognition as National Schools of Character (NSOCs) in 2015, an increase of 20 schools over 2014. LACE™ graduates once again played an important role in leading these schools. These schools are exemplary for their integration of character development with the curriculum in ways that produce a positive impact on academics, student behavior and school climate. The following schools with LACE™ graduates were recognized:

Antonia Middle School and Fox Middle School (Fox C-6); Bayless High School and Junior High School (Bayless); Cold Water Elementary School (Hazelwood); Forder Elementary School, Point Elementary School, Rogers Elementary School (Mehlville); Oak Brook Elementary School (Parkway); Oakville High School (Mehlville); Pond Elementary School and Selvidge Middle School (Rockwood); and, Union Elementary School (Belleville).

We are happy that almost all the NSOC schools in Missouri and one Illinois School are led by LACE™ graduates. The increase in the overall number of National Schools of Character is good news for character education!

### A-LACE



Thanks to the **HTC Foundation**, the Center was able to host two [Advanced LACE](#) (A-LACE) events for LACE™ graduates. Based on the success of the previous networking meetings, on June 16, 2015, the CCC hosted a 'sharing best practice' and networking event for LACE graduates during the CharacterPlus® 21<sup>st</sup> National Conference (photo left).

Recognized character education researchers and workshop presenters mingled with A-LACE and LACE™ education leaders attending the conference. HTC Foundation also helped support the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Forum which offered A-LACE professional development and opportunities to speak with like-minded educators and university faculty.

**Julie Frugo**, Head of School at Premier Charter School in St. Louis, was featured in a *Parade* magazine [article](#) regarding the benefits of character education. Julie is in the process of writing her Ed.D. dissertation in practice at UMSL, after graduating from LACE.

## The Citizenship Education Clearing House

A pioneer in civic education, the [Citizenship Education Clearing House](#) (CECH-pronounced “check”) has been conducting programs in citizenship education since 1967. From the beginning, CECH programs have sought to integrate participatory citizenship education into the curricula of middle and high schools and to facilitate the development and implementation of student-initiated action projects. **Dr. Wolfgang Althof** is the Executive Director of CECH which is now an independent entity under the CCC umbrella. Currently, CECH runs two programs: **Missouri Youth Engaged in Local Government (MY LOGO)** and **Kids Voting Missouri (KVMO)**. **Sandy Diamond** is the program coordinator for both initiatives and **Dr. Marvin Beckerman** is the Chair of the CECH Advisory Board.

[MY LOGO](#) is a unique approach to teaching Missouri elementary and middle school youth about local government and an example of how the Center for Character and Citizenship achieves outreach among school age youth. Through MY LOGO, CECH helps students understand the important role local government plays in community development and points out the significance of becoming active, engaged citizens. By students bringing local community issues into the classroom and bringing the classroom into the local community, students are encouraged to acquire a voice in community decision making.

To accommodate individual student learning styles and diverse communities, MY LOGO has evolved into a unique hands-on learning experience about local government. In some school communities, students learn about local government with local officials, brainstorm local problems, and develop action plans to resolve those issues. Students then present their findings at a Spring Projects Fair. In other schools, MY LOGO students participate in a half-day Local Government Issues Forum. These forums provide students with an opportunity to meet local government officials and dialogue about current local government issues. Both formats culminate with either a Mock City Council Meeting or a Mock Town Hall Meeting.



To give an example, two events in April brought 155 Webster Groves 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students to MY LOGO Local Government Forums. These students met city government officials from the City of Rock Hill and City of Webster Groves and then prepared for a Mock City Council Meeting. This year’s topic was *Should the City of River City pass an ordinance banning texting & talking while biking and walking?* The mayors of both municipalities were recognized with plaques for their participation. **Sandy**

**Diamond**, CECH Program Coordinator, is shown (right) presenting **Mayor Gerry Welch** with the special recognition plaque for Webster Groves.

Another CECH program is [Kids Voting Missouri](#). KVMO is an affiliate of the national non-profit, non-partisan Kids Voting USA program which is administered by the University of Missouri-St. Louis through CECH. KVMO's mission is to promote an educated, engaged citizenry and demonstrate that young people can indeed have a voice in the democratic process.

In Kids Voting, students in grades K-12 study portions of Kids Voting USA's special Citizenship Activities Guide, participate in a simulated voter registration lesson, research and discuss campaign issues and candidates, and then go to designated Kids Voting polls on or near Election Day to cast ballots for many of same candidates and issues as the adult voters.



During the two-decade history of Kids Voting Missouri at UMSL, more than 1,450,000 K-12 Missouri students have had the opportunity to learn about democracy, citizenship, and voting. About 52% of all participating students or about 847,000 students have taken advantage of their opportunity to “vote” and have actually cast a Kids Voting Missouri ballot in state-wide or national elections.

## International Outreach

The Center and its Community of Scholars have been communicating character and citizenship ideas internationally in countries such as China, Colombia, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Turkey.

**China:** We appreciated the year-long sabbatical that **Professor Gao Desheng** spent with the Center for Character and Citizenship studying character and moral education and providing his professional insights. Professor Gao is Director of the Institute of Moral Education at Nanjing Normal University and the Secretary General of the Association of Moral Education in China.

**Colombia:** Andrea (Bustamante) Torres is currently working on her dissertation for a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology. Andrea's dissertation will include data from her native Colombia where she returned to marry Andres Torres. *Felicitaciones!*

**England and Scotland, UK:** The presentation focus at the January 8-10, 2015, Third Annual [Jubilee Centre for Character & Virtues Conference](#) in Oxford, England, explored the *Variety of Virtue Ethics in Philosophy, Social Science and Theology*. **Dr. Marvin W. Berkowitz** and **Dr. David Shields** presented a paper “Mapping the Domain of Virtues.” Dr. Berkowitz was a keynote speaker at the [Character Scotland Conference](#), hosted by the University of Glasgow. His keynote “*A Comprehensive Approach to Effective Character Education*” covered the ‘PRIME’ model of character education.

**Brazil:** The [Association for Moral Education](#) (AME) convened its 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in Santos, a coastal city in the São Paulo state of Brazil. The conference theme was [Inequity, Social Justice and Moral Education](#). **Dr. Wolfgang Althof**, the current President of AME, welcomed the conference attendants from 24 countries and all continents, presented a paper on “Just Community Sources and Transformations. A Conceptual Archeology of Kohlberg’s Approach to Moral and Democratic Schooling,” moderated two symposia and led pre- and post-conference meetings of the Executive Board, as well as the AME Community Meeting at the end of the conference.

**Japan:** The Center is currently consulting on a research project *Measurement Tools for Moral Education* with Reitaku University. President Osamu Nakayama and Professor Takao Inukai consulted with Marvin Berkowitz, Melinda Bier and Wolfgang Althof during their October 27, 2015, visit. Lindbergh High School, a National School of Character hosted a site visit. Data has been collected and is being analyzed in 2016.

**Republic of Korea:** Professor **Ko Dae-Man**, Dean of Graduate School of Social Education at Jeju National University (S. Korea), completed his sabbatical year at the Center for Character and Citizenship. Professor Ko is an expert in Buddhist Ethics and education.

### Singapore:

**Marvin Berkowitz** has been active in Singapore for several years and trained 500 educational leaders in 2015. **National Institute of Education (Singapore):** *SingTeach* (49) published an [article](#) about Marvin Berkowitz’s keynote speech at the Singapore Teachers Conference in 2014, titled “*Fostering Character and Values.*”

Educational leaders from **Ngee Ann Polytechnic** visited the Center and attended the CharacterPlus® National Conference June 16-17, 2015. Visitors included **Teo Hui Leng** (Director, School of Humanities & Social Sciences), **Dr. Joyce Tang** (Deputy Director, School of Humanities & Social Sciences) and **Chionh Chye Aik** (Senior Manager, Student Development & Overseas Programmes, School of Humanities & Social Sciences).

**See Moey Oh**, formerly a principal in Singapore, is working toward an M.Ed. in Educational Psychology program at UMSL, with an emphasis on Character and Citizenship Education. The Singapore Ministry of Education in Singapore is providing her with a full scholarship. When she completes the degree, she will return to a position with the Ministry.

### Taiwan



Marvin Berkowitz traveled to Taiwan and offered the Fourth Annual Taiwan Summer Institute in Character Education in August, 2015, in the wake of a super typhoon. HTC Education Foundation sponsored training for educational teams who were introduced to character education as well as principles of

excellence and excellent principals. The rain and wind caused power outages but nothing could keep the participants away.

**Turkey:** The Center's Associate Director, **Dr. Melinda Bier**, presented a keynote address entitled "Making Character Education Work for the 21st Century" at the Second National Congress on Values Education on November 5, 2015, held at Kirikkale University in Turkey. Center Coordinator, Deborah O'Reilly, also traveled with Dr. Bier and met with the College of Education Dean, Dr. Mehmet Kutlu, and faculty.

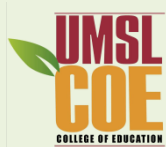
## New Projects/Research



Thanks to the **John Templeton Foundation (JTF)**, the **S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation** and the **Harry S. Singer Foundation**, the **Character Education Research Clearinghouse (CERCh)** project is ongoing.

CERCh moves the implementation of character education forward by providing easy access to the information that stakeholders need to make the best choices and can be accessed from the CCC home page. We are excited to see character education research such as the WWCE (*What Works in Character Education*) [reports](#) and underlying tools and data become easily accessible through CERCh. In addition, we have posted the underlying data for three [systematic literature reviews](#) of the first three virtues -- honesty, diligence and future-mindedness. Systematic reviews make the research literature in character education more accessible to educators through curating and summarizing scientific studies.

## Graduate Degree Programs



**The Master of Education in Educational Psychology Program** is now in its third year. Students focus on general Educational Psychology, Character and Citizenship Education or Educational Research and Program Evaluation. Click [here](#) for M.Ed. program information or contact an advisor at [osis@umsl.edu](mailto:osis@umsl.edu).

The College of Education at UMSL revised its **Educational Doctorate (Ed.D.)** to develop it into a true scholar-practitioner program. Center faculty created a thematic strand on character education and democratic school governance. Faculty members involved in this Carnegie Program for the Education Doctorate initiative during 2015 include **Drs. Wolfgang Althof, Marvin Berkowitz, and Brenda Bredemeier** of UMSL, joined by **Dr. David Shields**, a faculty member at St. Louis Community College - Meramec. UMSL's first Ed.D. learning communities have completed courses and doctoral candidates are working toward their dissertations. Applications for another Ed.D learning community concentrating on the theme "Character Education and Democratic Student Governance" are being accepted until April 1, 2016, for an August, 2016, start (click [here](#) for information).

The **Ph.D. in Education** with an emphasis in Educational Psychology continues with its strong base in character and citizenship research and scholarship. **Erin Schulte** was awarded her Ph.D.

during UMSL's graduation on May 17, 2015. Erin successfully defended her dissertation *Yoga and Adolescent Depression, Flourishing, and Well-being*.

## Student Awards and Scholarships



The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration would not have been complete without recognizing our amazing students. **Marvin Berkowitz** presented the **Adolph and Carol Frank Character Education Scholarship** to **Lyman (Lee) Ellis** with **Dr. Robert Frank** and **Julie Frank**. The scholarship is in honor of their parents. Dr. Frank has also supported the Student Affiliate Scholarships which help graduate students with their research and conference presentation costs.

**Wolfgang Althof** (left) and **Caitlin Battistich Crocker** (right) presented **Amy Johnston** and **Natalie Wiemann** (pictured center) the **Victor A. Battistich Memorial Graduate Award**. Dr. Vic Battistich was internationally known for his work in developing and assessing school-based programs designed to promote the positive development of youth and is sadly missed since his passing in 2008. Including CCC Student Affiliate grants and the **Des Lee Character Education and Des Lee Citizenship Education Scholarships**, \$6,000 in tuition assistance was awarded to graduate students.



### David Gottlieb Citizenship Education Fellowship

This new scholarship was created in memory of the late **David Gottlieb** who passed in 2014 and bequeathed the Citizenship Education Clearing House (CECH) with a \$300,000 endowment in honor of CECH's founder, Teresa M. Fischer and her late husband Aaron Fischer. Up to 15% of the endowment distribution will be set aside each year for the David Gottlieb Citizenship Education Fellowship. This scholarship will go to graduate students in the UMSL College of Education who demonstrate outstanding engagement for initiatives and programs in democratic citizenship education in K-12 schools or informal educational settings.

### Sanford N. McDonnell Memorial Scholarship

In appreciation of the immense contributions by Sandy McDonnell to the field of youth development and ethics, the Sanford N. McDonnell Memorial Scholarship was conceived in 2012. Tax-deductible [donations](#) may be made to the Center specifically for the Sanford N. McDonnell Memorial Scholarship by check or through the University by specifying as designee "Other" – *Center for Character & Citizenship/McDonnell Scholarship*.



## Selected Publications from the CCC Community of Scholars



Volume 11(1) of the *Journal of Character Education* (2015) was published. In addition to up-to-date research, manuscripts describing research-based interventions and results, analyses (conceptual/theoretical/philosophical), thoughtful program descriptions, international perspectives, exemplary practices from the field, and book reviews, will interest practitioners as well as character education researchers

A few 2015 publications by the CCC faculty and Community of Scholars' members are shown below in alphabetical order:

Althof, W. (2015). Just Community sources and transformations: A conceptual archeology of Kohlberg's approach to moral and democratic schooling. In B. Zizek, D. Garz, & E. Nowak (Eds.), *Kohlberg Revisited* (pp. 51-90). Rotterdam, The Netherlands: Sense Publishers.

Berkowitz, M.W. (2015, January 13). *The expanding universe of Character Education: One man's journey*. Invited Distinguished Visiting Professor Address at the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues, University of Birmingham, Oxford, England. Powerpoint presentation retrieved February 10, 2015, from <http://www.jubileecentre.ac.uk/506/papers/seminar-papers>

Cohen, J, Espelage D., Twemlow, S., Berkowitz, M. and Comer, J. (2015, September). Rethinking effective bully and violence prevention efforts: promoting healthy school climates, positive youth development, and preventing bully-victim-bystander behavior. *International Journal of Violence and Schools*, 15, 2-40. <http://www.ijvs.org/4-6053-Article.php?id=119&tarticle=0>

National School Climate Council (2015, May 5). [Berkowitz] School climate and pro-social educational improvement: Essential goals and processes that support student success for all. *Teachers College Record* online publication: [www.tcrecord.org/AuthorDisplay.asp?aid=23069](http://www.tcrecord.org/AuthorDisplay.asp?aid=23069) [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/dcs/upload/School-Climate-Committee-Recs\\_2015.pdf](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/dcs/upload/School-Climate-Committee-Recs_2015.pdf)

Shields, D. L., & Bredemeier, B. L. (2015). Reclaiming competition in youth sports. In P. Kelly (Ed.), *Youth sports and spirituality: Catholic perspectives* (pp. 111-132). Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press.

Shields, D. L., Funk, C. D., & Bredemeier, B. L. (2015). Predictors of moral disengagement in sport. *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology*, 37, 646-658.

Shields, D. L., Funk, C. D., & Bredemeier, B. L. (2015). Contesting orientations: Measure construction and the prediction of sportspersonship. *Psychology of Sport and Exercise*, 20, 1-10.

## Resource Library



If you are in the St. Louis area, remember that the Center has a library of character and citizenship education resources. Simply email or call Beatrice Shivers at [shiversb@umsl.edu](mailto:shiversb@umsl.edu) or 314-516-7522 to check the catalog or make an appointment to use the Center for Character and Citizenship Resource Center, located in our Marillac Hall offices.

## Upcoming Events

**CCC Community of Scholars Event:** [Dr. Joel Westheimer](#) (University of Ottawa, Canada), one of the leading scholars in the field of education for democratic citizenship, will speak on the topic of his book, [What Kind of Citizen? Educating Our Children for the Common Good](#). Be sure to save the date, **April 20, 2016**, from 3-5 p.m. for this free event. Deborah O'Reilly may also be contacted at 314-516-7524 or [oreillyd@umsl.edu](mailto:oreillyd@umsl.edu).

**SICE:** Dr. Marvin Berkowitz will lead the [Summer Institute in Character Education \(SICE\)](#). The SICE provides the educational team the opportunity to plan how to integrate character education into the curriculum. The institute will be held **June 20-24, 2016**, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

## Concluding Remarks

For the last *10 years*, the Center for Character and Citizenship has impacted the research, education and advocacy that foster the development of character, democratic citizenship and civil society. For *20 years*, LACE has prepared almost 700 school leaders to integrate character education into their curriculum and culture. For almost *50 years*, CECH has helped children and adolescents become informed and engaged citizens. Notably, Kids Voting Missouri expects well over 200,000 students to be involved in educational activities about candidates, programs and ballot initiatives, with many of them casting their vote at Kids Voting polls on or before Election Day, November 8, 2016. We look forward to this important legacy being continued and celebrating ***CECH's 50th Anniversary in 2017!***

