



## CENTER FOR CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP

University of Missouri-St. Louis—College of Education

### *Highlights 2016*

#### *Dear Friends,*

We, at the Center for Character and Citizenship, appreciate your involvement with our center. This review of a exciting and fulfilling 2016 will highlight areas of accomplishment toward the Center's mission to engage in research, education and advocacy that will foster the development of character, democratic citizenship and civil society. Thank you all for your on-going commitments to the best interests of children and the world they will inherit from us.



Sincerely,  
Co-Directors

*Marvin W. Berkowitz*  
*Wolfgang Althof*

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

 UMSLCCC

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Center for 2017 by [clicking here](#).  
Thank you.

#### **Faculty Awards/Recognition**

**Dr. Wolfgang Althof**, CCC Co-Director and Teresa M. Fischer Professor of Citizenship Education, finished his three-year term as President of the [Association for Moral Education](#) (AME) for a three-year term at the end of the 42<sup>nd</sup> AME Annual Conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts, hosted by Harvard Graduate School of Education, partnered with Tufts University, on December 8-11, 2016. The conference attracted a large number of new attendees as well as the core membership from 36 countries for dialogue around the theme of *Civic Engagement: A Cultural*

*Revolution: The expanding definitions of 'civic' participation, their intersections with ethics, and the implications for education.*

With Dr. Steve Sherblom of Lindenwood University, Dr. Althof co-chairs the upcoming 43<sup>rd</sup> annual conference on November 2-4, 2017, in St. Louis, which explores the theme *Evolving Ethics, Moral Education, and the Struggle for Democracy*. Keynote speakers include [Dr. Frans de Waal](#) and [Dr. Kimberly Norwood](#). [Click here](#) for more on the AME conference.

**Dr. Marvin W. Berkowitz**, CCC Co-Director and Sanford N. McDonnell Professor of Character Education, participated as an advisor to several John Templeton Foundation projects in the US and abroad (Spain, England). In 2016, Dr. Berkowitz's chapter "Raising ethical children" was published in the 10th anniversary of D. McGowan's *Parenting Beyond Belief*. This year again included traveling worldwide to speak at conferences and offer workshops in Colombia, England, Scotland, Singapore, Spain and Taiwan. For instance, Dr. Berkowitz conducted a series of 7 workshops on character education, moral dilemma discussion and developmental discipline, at the request of the Singapore Ministry of Education, May 30-June 4, 2016, and led the Summer Institute in Character Education in Taiwan in August.

Dr. Berkowitz delivered the keynote address at the Torchbearers of Liberty President's Day Celebration at the National Liberty Museum (NLM) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on February 15, 2016. On March 31, 2016, he delivered an invited lecture "Keeping the Baby and the Bathwater: A Developmental and Pedagogical Lens on Character Education and Parenting" to the Civic and Moral Education Initiative and led a workshop on "Rethinking character education through four disciplinary lenses" for the Spencer New Civics Early Career Scholars Program on April 1, 2016, both at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA. Dr. Berkowitz presented at the July 26-27, 2016, Workshop on Approaches to the Development of Character at the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in Washington, DC. For his presentation "Effective Features and Practices that Support Character Development," [click here](#).

**Dr. Melinda Bier**, CCC Associate Director, wrote and was awarded two grants with CCC Co-Director, Marvin W. Berkowitz. The John Templeton Foundation awarded a three-year grant "Building the Capacity, Quality and Readership-base of the *Journal of Character Education*" and a one-year grant "Cultivating Virtue: Servant Leadership Development for Education." In a national competition, Dr. Bier was invited as one of eight evaluators selected for intense training in the Systems Evaluation Protocol methodology through the Partnerships for Advancing Character Evaluation Program (PACE).

Dr. Bier and her co-authors published an [article](#) examining evidence for the value of smoking media literacy in middle school associated with the CCC program Youth Empowerment in Action (YEA!). YEA! Service learning projects focus on health risk prevention through protective factors such as media literacy, civic engagement and youth-led participatory research. Additional publications on academic standards and prosocial learning are forthcoming in 2017.

## Outreach – Regional and International

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

In 2016, 25 educational leaders (pictured right) successfully completed their year-long study in LACE™ . We celebrated the graduation of Shonda Ambers-Phillips, Kyle Baker, Adam Brower, Jamie Buss, Gustavo Cotto, Diane Cox, Connie Dougherty, Mary Florence Goding, Tracy Gray, Holly Hite, Greg Jones, John Krause, Jenny Marquart, Kelly Mignerone, Todd Minichiello, Lanor Payne, Kate Piffel, Nichole Rothermich, Karl Shining, Lindsey Smith, Tyson Strickler, Lisa Thompson, Marla Wasserman, Lindsay Weiss, and Kim Wright. These educational leaders represent the Belleville 118, Belleville Township, Farmington, Farmington R-7, Francis Howell, Hazelwood, Kirkwood, Lincoln County RIII, Orchard Farm, Parkway, Pattonville, Riverview Gardens, Rockwood, St. Louis Public Schools, Troy RIII, and Windsor school districts as well as Premier Charter School. *Congratulations!* Mary Anne Hoppe, LACE™ Associate Director, and Marvin Berkowitz, LACE Director, presented the LACE™ graduation certificates at the Glen Echo Country Club.



Among the notable presenters, we had a first -- LACE™ alumna and recent UMSL Ed.D. graduates, **Drs. Amy Johnston, Julie Frugo and Kevin Navarro**, took LACE™ participants deeply into the characteristics of exemplary character education leaders using their model of the *Connected Leader* on November 17, 2016. Thank you to our outstanding presenters Phil Vincent, Tom Lickona, Charles Elbot, Clifton Taulbert, Hal Urban, Maurice Elias, Jo Ann Freiberg and Pat Ciccone, for their contributions to LACE™.



This is LACE™'s 20<sup>th</sup> year furthering character education in St. Louis metropolitan area schools. We estimate that approximately 250 of our graduates are still leading schools in the St. Louis area. Another regional LACE™ is starting in January, 2017, in Kansas City, Missouri, with the University of Missouri – Kansas City's regional professional development center.

Stephanie Prichard, (middle, between Marvin Berkowitz and Hal Urban), former principal, is

replicating the year-long academy with direction and mentoring from LACE™'s Director, Dr. Marvin W. Berkowitz and Associate Director, Mary Anne Hoppe.



The CCC is supporting Character.org in curriculum enhancement for e-learning. We are grateful for the LACE graduates, pictured right at the the College's Ed-Collabiat, who shared their time and knowledge about applying the *11 Principles of Effective Character Education* with our friends at [Character.org](http://Character.org). Character.org provides training, resources and evaluates applications for Schools and Districts of Character, providing leadership and advocacy for character education in schools and workplaces.

### LACE™-led National Schools of Character 2016

Our LACE™ graduates are making a difference both in Missouri and Illinois. Congratulations to the following Missouri Schools who are 2016 State Schools of Character: Barretts Elementary School, Bayless Elementary School, Bayless School District, Bowles Elementary School, Craig Elementary School, Fox C-6 Don Earl Early Childhood Center, Geggie Elementary School, George Guffey Elementary, John Cary Early Childhood Center, Kennard Classical Junior Academy, Lincoln Elementary School, Rockwood School District, Sappington Elementary School, Uthoff Valley Elementary School, Valley Park Middle School, Woerner Elementary School, and Woerther Elementary School, as well as Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in the Illinois side of the area. Thank you to the schools and their districts for prioritizing character education by belonging to CharacterPlus and sending their school leaders to the Leadership Academy in Character Education.

### Advanced LACE (A-LACE)



Thank you to HTC Education Foundation for making possible our evening “East Meets West - Character Education in Action.” Graduates of our LACE Program and the CCC staff participated in experiential exercises with yoga and karate. A-LACE participants experienced first-hand the benefits of yoga and karate for increasing self-control and focus. Applications and considerations for use in the schools for fundamental character concepts were shared. Special

thanks to Dan Moriarty (pictured above, right) of Stick with Character for the martial arts segment and Dr. Erin Schulte of the Parkway School District for yoga as a tool for positive attitudes among high school students experiencing stress.

### Citizenship Speaker Event

The CCC hosted [Dr. Joel Westheimer](#) (pictured right) from the University of Ottawa, Canada, one of the leading scholars in the field of education for democratic citizenship. Dr. Westheimer spoke on the topic of his most recent book, *What Kind of Citizen? Educating Our Children for the Common Good* and was interviewed on public radio station KWMU on April 20, 2016. LACE participants, A-LACE graduates, students and faculty had opportunities to meet and greet the speaker individually as well as network after the event.



## The Citizenship Education Clearing House

For 50 years, CECH has helped children and adolescents become informed and engaged citizens. Under the umbrella of the Center for Character and Citizenship, CECH currently operates two programs. Here is a brief report on the activities of Kids Voting Missouri (KVMO) and Missouri Youth Engaged in Local Government (MY LOGO), prepared by Sandy Diamond, Program Coordinator.



### Kids Voting Missouri (KVMO) Program Overview

Since 1996, KVMO has been part of the national non-profit, non-partisan program, Kids Voting USA. Students in grades K-12 study portions of KV USA's special Activities Guide and then go to designated Kids Voting polls on or near Election Day to cast ballots for many of the same candidates and issues as adult voters. The Center for Character and Citizenship at UMSL administers KVMO in the Eastern Region of Missouri through its Citizenship Education Clearing House (CECH). During KVMO's 20-year history, nearly 1,650,000 K-12 Missouri students have had the opportunity to learn about democracy, citizenship, and voting by participating in Kids Voting Missouri. In these years, about 60% of all participating K-12 students, nearly a million, have taken advantage of their opportunity to "vote" and have cast a Kids Voting Missouri ballot on or near Election Day. Voter turnout in KVMO students is very similar to that of Missouri adults: about 67% on average during Presidential elections, compared to 54% in non-presidential elections. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, [www.census.gov/hhes/www/socdemo/voting/](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/socdemo/voting/)).

To prepare for the 2016 election, regional superintendents were asked for their support, and superintendents from 24 area school districts pledged to encourage their schools to participate. Special events like a High School Forum on Social Media, held at UMSL, gave students extra-curricular opportunities to deepen their political literacy. KVMO hosted planning meetings for representatives of all participating school districts and schools, including a special workshop for all 75 principals in the urban St. Louis Public School District.



From August 2016 until voting day, students learned about the candidates and issues; engaged in research and lively debate; simulated the voter registration process; and then had a chance to cast a mock vote for many of the same candidates and issues as the adult voters. Using an on-line voter system called DoubleClick Democracy saved more than \$50,000 in program costs. More than

192,000 K-12th grade students at 360 St. Louis metropolitan area schools had an opportunity to vote. Of these, 72% or about 139,000 actually cast ballots in the 2016 Kids Voting election. Most voting took place before the actual Election Day as a majority of schools were closed on November 8th. All results were posted on-line beginning at 7:05 p.m. on Election Night.

### MY LOGO Program Overview

While few students have a chance to view Congress or their state legislature up-close and in person, virtually every student at least in smaller communities can observe and participate in the city council or school board meeting that is “down the street.” Unfortunately, the level of government closest to the people is usually far removed from social studies textbooks that tend to focus on national and state governance.



Hon. Edward Mahan, Mayor of Rock Hill

To accommodate individual student learning styles and diverse communities, the Missouri Youth Involved in Local Government (MY LOGO) program has evolved into a unique array of hands-on learning experiences about local government. Due to changes in the state curricula, the focus recently shifted from Middle School to 3rd grade. In 2015, CECH piloted an elementary school local government program with several 3rd grade classes in one school district in St.

Louis County (Webster Groves). MY LOGO teamed up city government officials with the 3rd grade classes and brought classes to City Hall to learn about local government; the culmination of the program was a Mock City Council meeting put on by the students. The 3rd grade pilot project was successful and CECH and the Webster Groves School District expanded the program for the 2015-2016 school year to include all elementary schools in the Webster Groves School District and partnered with municipalities serving this district.

Founded in 1967, the **Citizenship Education Clearing House (CECH)** will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in October 2017 through a “Celebration of Citizenship.” Stay tuned for more detailed information in the CCC Bulletin. During five decades, CECH has been demonstrating how participatory citizenship education helps young people become informed citizens, engaged for the greater good in a democratic society. With CECH’s leadership, thousands of teachers, students, and local government officials have helped empower students to improve their communities. CECH is very proud of its accomplishments and looks forward to helping prepare more students to become active, responsible citizens and community leaders.

### International Outreach

The Center and its Community of Scholars have been communicating character and citizenship ideas internationally in countries such as Colombia, the United Kingdom, Japan, Kenya, Singapore, and Taiwan. The CCC currently has contracts on projects at the University of Leeds (England), the University of Navarra (Spain), and Reitaku University (Japan).

**World Affairs Council of St. Louis:** Melinda Bier, CCC Associate Director, hosted delegates to the Center from France, Pakistan and Kazakhstan in April-June. The delegates have been interested in youth programs such as YEA! (Youth Engagement in Action!), directed by Dr. Bier. The June 21st meeting with four journalists from Kazakhstan and their interpreters focused on youth media literacy as part of a balanced education centered on critical thinking and civic engagement.

The CCC has many ongoing international academic and professional relationships. A few are summarized below.

**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.

**United Kingdom:** The fourth annual conference of the Jubilee Centre of Character and Virtues, held January 7-9, 2016, in Oxford, England, featured the theme Cultivating Virtues: Interdisciplinary Approaches. [Click here](#) for a presentation by CCC Co-director Marvin Berkowitz "Keeping the baby and the bathwater: A developmental and pedagogical lens on character and virtue education."

**Japan:** The Center is currently consulting on a research project *Measurement Tools for Moral Education* with Reitaku University.

**Kenya:** The Center supported professional development across Kenya through supplying character education books and electronic equipment to the Coalition for Character Building and Community (CCBC). In addition, Dr. Marvin Berkowitz, CCC's Co-Director, mentored CCBC Executive Director, Arthur Oyange, and Peter Kingori. The CCBC has implemented Character Education successfully and advised the Ministry of Education on criteria to be used when ranking schools apart from academic performance. Most recently, Mr. Kingori co-presented a paper with Marvin Berkowitz at the Association for Moral Education conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Singapore:** **Marvin Berkowitz** has been active with the Singapore Ministry of Education. The Ministry sponsored **See Moey Oh** (pictured right with Marvin Berkowitz) to study at UMSL. She graduated with an M.Ed. in Educational Psychology with an emphasis on Character and Citizenship Education and is currently a principal in Singapore.



**Taiwan:** Dr. Berkowitz offers professional development in Taiwan during the summer which is sponsored by the **HTC Corporation**. HTC Education Foundation partnered with the Center to support CCC operations and ongoing professional development for LACE graduates (A-LACE) with a multi-year gift.

## New Projects/Research

**Grants and Contracts:** [The John Templeton Foundation](#) awarded the CCC two grants with Dr. Marvin W. Berkowitz and Dr. Melinda C. Bier leading those efforts. The first grant is titled, “Building the Capacity, Quality and Readership-base of the Journal of Character Education.” As a result, we welcomed Jonathan Tirrell (Tufts University) as a co-editor of the journal with Dr. Berkowitz. The grant will also fund new subscriptions for graduate students. The second grant is “Cultivating Virtue: Servant leadership Development for Education.” The grant’s purpose is to create instructional materials which intentionally cultivate several virtues espoused in the servant leader philosophy advanced by Robert Greenleaf. In collaboration with the Women’s Circle grant, the project will develop and pilot test course materials for educators focusing on servant leader virtues. In addition, Dr. Bier is working with [Character.org](#) to review and develop video materials for website educational presentations on the *11 Principles of Effective Character Education*.

**PACE:** Partnerships for Advancing Character Program Evaluation (PACE): LACE is one of the 16 character and virtue development programs to be involved in the PACE project. The John Templeton Foundation funded the PACE project to build evaluation expertise and capacity for youth programs. CCC Associate Director, Dr. Melinda Bier, is among the 8 evaluators selected from a national pool to participate in the PACE Project at Montclair State University. Stephanie Prichard (LACE, UMKC) and Deborah O’Reilly (CCC Coordinator, UMSL) participated with Dr. Bier in the week-long workshop held in Atlanta, October 17-21, 2016. The project includes additional online and in-person workshops through October 2017. This workshop focused on issues in evaluative thinking and specifically the Systems Evaluation Protocol. [Click here](#) for more information on PACE.



### Graduate Degree Programs

**The UMSL Master of Education in Educational Psychology Program** is now in its fourth 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 [oasis@umsl.edu](mailto:oasis@umsl.edu). Congratulations to **Ashley Kilcullen, Lindsay Digar, and See Moey Oh**, who graduated with a Master of Education in Educational Psychology with an emphasis in Character and Citizenship Education on May 14, 2016.

A new certificate in Character and Citizenship Education was approved to be offered in 2017. This certificate includes several courses regularly offered in the M.Ed. and Ph.D. programs plus electives from either the College of Education or College of Arts and Sciences. The certificate will be helpful for graduates who wish to add to their credentials and identify them as having

the foundation to be an integral part of new or ongoing efforts in schools integrating character and citizenship education into the curricula. The certificate requires application prior to graduation requirement cutoff dates.

The College of Education at UMSL revised its Educational Doctorate (Ed.D.) to develop it into a



(Left to right) Brian McCauley, Amy Johnston, Julie Frugo and Kevin Navarro

true scholar-practitioner program. Dr. Wolfgang Althof, Dr. Marvin W. Berkowitz, **Dr. Brenda Bredemeier** and **Dr. David Shields** created a thematic strand on character education and democratic school governance delivered over three years. **(Drs.) Lee Ellis, Julie Frugo, Amy Johnston, Brian McCauley, Kevin Navarro** and **Natalie Weimann** (pictured left) are the first graduates of this Ed.D. cohort.

**Dr. Amani Qashmer** (pictured right/center with Dr. Berkowitz and her spouse) completed her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology with an emphasis on Character and Citizenship Education. Her dissertation title is *The Impact of Character Education on Adolescent Moral Ideal Self- Development*.



## Student Awards and Scholarships

**Victor A. Battistich Memorial Graduate Award:** The CCC congratulates **Melissa Hild** who received the 2016 Victor A. Battistich Memorial Graduate Award. The award honors the memory of University of Missouri-St. Louis faculty member Dr. Victor “Vic” Battistich, who passed away June 30, 2008. Vic was one of the Center's most productive and distinguished scholars. Melissa is pursuing her Ph.D. in Education (Educational Psychology) with a primary focus in program evaluation and a secondary focus in character education.

**Adolph and Carol Frank Character Education Scholarship:** **Amani Qashmer** was awarded the 2016 Adolph and Carol Frank Character Education Scholarship. Amani completed her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology in June 2016. She returned to Amman (Jordan) with her husband and two children and is missed by all.



**David Gottlieb Citizenship Education Fellowship:** This new award was created in memory of the late David Gottlieb who passed in 2014 and bequeathed the Citizenship Education Clearing House (CECH) with an endowment in honor of CECH’s founder, Teresa M. Fischer and her late husband Aaron Fischer for citizenship education initiatives and operations. The recipient must demonstrate high quality work as an education practitioner that fits CECH’s focus on

participatory citizenship in a democratic society. Fields of practice can be schools, school districts, or settings outside the traditional classroom that emphasize informal learning. The

inaugural fellowship was awarded to **Mark A. Kasen**, an UMSL Ph.D. student in Educational Psychology. **Joan Esserman**, CECH Advisory Board member, Mark and **Dr. Marvin Beckerman**, Chair of the CECH Advisory Board, are shown to the left. Read more about [Mark Kasen](#) on the CCC website.

**Sanford N. McDonnell Memorial Character Education Fellowship:** Our newest student award is made in appreciation of the immense contributions by Sandy McDonnell to the field of youth development and ethics. The CCC will make its first award in Spring 2017.

**Des Lee Scholarships:** **Andrea Bustamante Torres** received the Des Lee Character Education Scholarship and **Christopher Funk** received the Des Lee Citizenship Education Scholarship.

In addition to the named awards discussed above, through its [Graduate Student Affiliate Program](#), the CCC provided \$2,800 toward College of Education graduate student dissertation costs and conference presentations.

## Upcoming Events

**June 19-23, 2017, Summer Institute in Character Education (SICE):** The SICE, led by Dr. Marvin Berkowitz and Dr. Amy Johnston, is scheduled for Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at UMSL. SICE is designed for school character education leadership teams to learn about character education, as well as for team-building and action planning for the upcoming school year. Send inquiries to Beatrice Shivers at [shiversb@umsl.edu](mailto:shiversb@umsl.edu) with the subject line "Summer Institute" or [click here](#) to register.