## THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



## **SPEAKER SERIES**SOE hosted its first speaker on September 13 as part of the 2018-

SOE hosted its first speaker on September 13 as part of the 2018–2019 Lecture Series. These lectures are co-sponsored by the School of Education and the Office of the Vice President of Research. The lecture series, in its first year, is designed to bring high-profile speakers and researchers to the Saint Louis University campus to interact with SLU students and faculty. We are so pleased to introduce the December speaker **Dr. Stephen Raudenbush**.

Dr. Raudenbush is the Lewis-Sebring Distinguished Service Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Chicago and Chairman of the Committee on Education. He is a leading scholar on quantitative methods for studying child and youth development within social settings such as classrooms, schools, and neighborhoods. He has also developed measurement tools applied to the design and analysis of longitudinal and multilevel research.

He is currently studying the development of literacy and math skills in early childhood; methods for assessing school and classroom quality; and methods for heterogeneous effects of interventions.

This semester we have been pleased to host Kelvin Adams from St. Louis Public Schools, John Q Easton from University of Chicago, and Whitney Harris from the University of Arkansas. Next semester, we look forward to hosting Cory Kodell from the University of Missouri, Anna Egalite from North Carolina State University, Margie VanDeven the Commissioner of the Missouri Department of Education, and Tomas Morrez from the Urban Institute.



Dr. Stephen Raudenbush

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### FACULTY AND STAFF SPOTLIGHT

**Dr. Joy Voss** began teaching over 30 years ago after receiving her Masters in Early Childhood Special Education and her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction. After working in special education for 15 years, Dr. Voss found her home at SLU where her love for serving students and the community heightened. In 2014 she began working with the Belize 2020 Project. Belize 2020 is a nonprofit volunteer organization focused on improving the quality of life in Belize. Dr. Voss' favorite aspect about the project is its ability to foster a sense of community to help empower individuals. For example, Dr. Voss commissioned young men in a local prison to create tables and chairs for students at St. Martins de Porres School is Belize City, Belize. The prisoners were enthusiastic to support the community that they were raised in.

In the past four years, Dr. Voss has seen a considerable amount of educational growth due to the collaboration between the SLU School of Education, Belize's Ministry of Education, and the SLU/Belize 2020 Project.

She feels that SLU Alumni from the School of Education will be able to connect their experiences in St. Louis Urban School with ones they have in Belize, allowing for more discussion about education inequalities and barriers.

Contact joy.voss@slu.edu if you would like more information or how you can support the Scool of Education commitment to Belize!



# UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Speaker Series

December 6 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM Boileau Hall

#### First Friday Mass and Speaker

December 7 12:00 PM- 2:00 PM Boileau Hall

#### Service Opportunity: Kingdom House Holiday Market

December 8 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM 1410 S. Tucker Blvd 63104



#### THE ABILITY INSTITUTE

The Ability Institute is an initiative created by students at the School of Education in 2010. Original to SLU, the purpose of the Ability Institute is to promote inclusion for people with disabilities, which is achieved through the ability exhibit that is showcased around the world each year. The exhibit has seven multimedia stations that are used to aid participants in understanding disabilities. Some features of the ability exhibit include an overview of the disability movement, an "Ability IQ" quiz, and an interactive space rope that helps demonstrate communication conditions for people with low vision.

The Ability Institute's exhibit encourages attendees to be cognizant of the struggles that people with disabilities face daily and actively work to improve awareness within our society. In addition to that, the Ability Institute wants to emphasize the need for ability allies and their commitment to being an ally for inclusion.

Karen Myers

# **ABILITY EXHIBIT**

Allies for Inclusion: The
Ability Exhibit is a traveling
exhibit that you can bring to
your school or event! It is
designed to promote the
inclusion of people with
disabilities through respect
for others, comfort during
interaction, and awareness of
disability issues.

Using a multi-media approach, the exhibit offers suggestion for becoming disability allies and educators.

Contact Karen.Myers@slu.edu
if you would like more
information on this traveling
exhibit!



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