



FORTIFY

Strengthening Teachers and Leaders

2016

Conference Theme: Ensuring Rigorous Instruction for All

Director's Welcome

Thank you for choosing to participate in "Fortify: Strengthening Teachers and Leaders," the annual conference hosted by the Ayers Institute for Teacher Learning & Innovation. Today's program is designed to be a unique learning experience that brings together K-12 and Higher Education professionals. Our goal is to consider and discuss ways to fortify educator practices around this year's theme: "Ensuring Rigorous Instruction for All."



We are honored to have experienced practitioners and prominent educational leaders as speakers and discussion leaders. Each will be sharing his or her expertise on rigorous instruction, data analysis and use, effective collaboration, and leadership practices. I am confident you will leave today inspired by new perspectives and ideas that will benefit your work in education.

On behalf of the Ayers Institute and the College of Education,

welcome to the Lipscomb University campus. We hope you will find the environment comfortable and the content relevant. The conference schedule, session descriptions, and speaker biographies are included in this information packet. At the end of the day, your feedback on the Fortify conference will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Rachael Milligan, Managing Director
Ayers Institute for Teacher Learning & Innovation

Keynote:

Developing a Purposeful Culture of Leadership Excellence

How do school leaders develop a purposeful culture of leadership excellence? This essential question is at the heart of the work for school leaders every day. Character, culture, and communication are key components for leaders to ensure students experience an excellent education every day.

As the Tennessee Principal of the Year, **Mrs. Peggy Greene** will highlight examples that illustrate, as a new principal, how she established and opened a new campus that has earned Tennessee Reward School Status. Washington County Schools serve 8,500 students in a rural community, and this presentation will provide leadership strategies for administrators to



build strong relationships that ensure student success.

Our Keynote Speaker

Each year a public school principal earns the distinction as Tennessee Principal of the Year. This award is given for meritorious service in education and outstanding leadership that leads to overall improvements in their school. Peggy Greene, principal of Ridgeview Elementary School, was named Tennessee's 2015-16 Principal of the Year. Greene helped open Ridgeview seven years ago, and since then the school has seen significant increases in proficiency in all subject areas.

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<http://www.ayersinstitute.org>

ayersinstitute@lipscomb.edu

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The hashtag for posts about today's conference:

#ayersfortify

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Established as a partnership between the Ayers Foundation and Lipscomb University's College of Education in Nashville, Tenn., the **Ayers Institute for Teacher Learning & Innovation** serves as a bridge between policy and practice, as well as between educators in K-12 and higher education. The institute supports both pre-service and current-service educators through individualized educational opportunities, embedded professional learning, and innovative resources that result in positive student outcomes.





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Time	Scheduled Activity		Location
8:00 am	Registration and light breakfast		Ezell 301
8:30 am	Keynote Address: Developing a Purposeful Culture of Leadership Excellence <i>Peggy Greene, Principal of the Year, Washington County Schools</i>		Ezell 301
9:15 am	Break		
9:30 am	BREAKOUT SESSION 1		
	Instructional Focus	Ezell 301	Leadership Focus Ezell 363
	A Collaborative Effort: Integrating Literacy Across All Subjects Every Day <i>Jonathan Sheahen, Principal, Lipscomb Academy Elem. Dr. Michelle Hasty, Lipscomb University Julie Simone, Lipscomb University Suzanne Howell, Lipscomb Academy Marlene Butler, Lipscomb Academy</i>		Leaders as Servants: Transforming Organizations <i>Dr. Chris Marczak, Director of Schools, Maury County Schools</i>
10:45 am	Break		
11:00 am	BREAKOUT SESSION 2		
	Instructional Focus	Ezell 301	Leadership Focus Ezell 363
	The Power of Student Data Conversations and Creating a Culture of Inquiry <i>Dr. Vicky Smith, Austin Peay State University Dr. Mary Laurens Seely, MNPS</i>		Leading a Culture of Rigor <i>Dr. Hank Staggs, Director, Governor's Academy for School Leadership</i>
12:15 pm	Lunch		Ezell 301
12:55 pm	Online resource: eduTOOLBOX – online, academic resource-sharing portal		Ezell 301
1:10 pm	Break		
1:15 pm	BREAKOUT SESSION 3		
	Instructional Focus	Ezell 301	Leadership Focus Ezell 363
	Strengthening Tier I Instruction <i>Dr. Ally Hauptman, Lipscomb University Lauren Bauer, RTI Specialist, Williamson County Schools</i>		Leadership Transforming Learning <i>Dr. Kim Finch, Cumberland University</i>
2:30 pm	Break		
2:45 pm	Structured conversation: Collaborative K-12/Higher Education Working Session <i>How can we support each other in ensuring rigorous instruction for all?</i>		Ezell 301
3:40 pm	Conference Evaluations & Door prizes		Ezell 301
4:00 pm	Closing Thoughts & Conference Dismissal		Ezell 301



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Breakout Session Descriptions

A Collaborative Effort: Integrating Literacy Across all Subjects Every Day

9:30am – Ezell 301 (Instructional Focus)

This interactive session will explore the mutual benefits of collaboration between K-12 and higher education faculty. The presenters will share the framework and structure of the partnership, and participants will engage in several strategies to process the content. Together, the audience and the presenters will explore concepts of motivation, adult learning, and the integration of literacy into pre-K through 4th grade classrooms.

Presenters:

Jonathan Sheahen
Dr. Michelle Hasty
Julie Simone
Suzanne Howell
Marlene Butler

Leaders as Servants: Transforming Organizations

9:30am – Ezell 363 (Leadership Focus)

Organizational leadership, servant leadership, change management, transformational change agent – these topics, plus many more, are prevalent in many of today's organizations, but how does one become "that one" that people want and yearn to follow? "Leaders as Servants: Transforming Organizations" discusses and introduces practical topics that can be instituted tomorrow morning to start shifting the organizational culture to focus on what is truly important.

Presenter:

Dr. Chris Marczak

The Power of Student Data Conversations and Creating a Culture of Inquiry

11:00am – Ezell 301 (Instructional Focus)

The session will move from 'what the data is,' to 'where it comes from' and 'how to use it' in a more holistic approach. Participants will actively participate in data digs and learn effective strategies to implement with students, teachers and staff. Leave this session with tools that can be used to create a student-driven culture of data.

Presenters:

Dr. Vicky Smith
Dr. Mary Laurens Seely

Leading a Culture of Rigor

11:00am – Ezell 363 (Leadership Focus)

Effective educational leadership does not arrive in a box from Amazon nor does rigorous instruction evolve from perfecting a lesson plan template. Participants in this session will engage in ideas and best practices that equip leaders with skills to lead a culture of rigor within their schools.

Presenter:

Dr. Hank Staggs

Online Resource: eduTOOLBOX

12:55pm – Ezell 301 (Combined Session)

Discover a new go-to resource for Tennessee teachers and leaders. The eduTOOLBOX.org website provides access to high-quality units, lessons, task arcs, assessments, videos, and professional learning materials.

Presenter:

Forrest Doddington

Strengthening Tier I Instruction

1:15pm – Ezell 301 (Instructional Focus)

In this session participants will engage in instructional practices that result in deeper learning through reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Presenters will facilitate activities that participants can implement in their classrooms regardless of grade level or content area.

Presenters:

Dr. Ally Hauptman
Lauren Bauer

Leadership Transforming Learning

1:15pm – Ezell 363 (Leadership Focus)

Explore shared leadership that fosters the development of leadership capacity among all members of a school community and connect instructional leadership and learning.

Presenter:

Dr. Kim Finch

Structured Conversation

2:45pm – Ezell 301 (Combined Session)

Participate in a Collaborative K-12/ Higher Education Working Session, "How can we support each other in ensuring rigorous instruction for all?"

Facilitators:

Julia Osteen
Karen Marklein
Rachael Milligan

Many *session presenters* will be available for inclusion in your discussions during the structured conversation.



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Session Presenter Information

Bauer, Lauren

Lauren Bauer is the RTI Specialist for Williamson County Schools. In her role she designed and implemented the RTI plan for WCS in elementary, middle, and high schools. She is currently a doctoral candidate at Lipscomb University.

Butler, Marlene

Marlene Butler serves as coordinator of the elementary Learning Enhancement Program (LEP) at Lipscomb Academy. Mrs. Butler has over 30 years of teaching experience.

Finch, Kim

Dr. Kim Finch is an assistant professor and Director of the Instructional Leadership Program at Cumberland University. She was a principal of urban middle and high schools in Nashville. She served on the TN Principal Evaluation Advisory Council selected by the TN Dept. of Education that made the revisions to the current TN administrator evaluation system. She served on Ayers Institute's "Institutes of Higher Education" (IHE) advisory board that made a significant impact on the integration of the TN Academic State Standards in teacher preparation programs.

Greene, Peggy

Mrs. Peggy Greene has served Washington County Schools for 38 years. She obtained her B.S. and M.Ed. from East TN State University. In 2005, she obtained an additional M.Ed. degree in School Administration from Lincoln Memorial University. Mrs. Greene taught elementary grades for 28 years before assuming administrative roles.

Mrs. Greene demonstrates a unique passion for students and teachers. Her ability to create and communicate a vision that builds capacity for student centered decisions has ensured the success of a new school and has had positive impact on all community members.

Hasty, Michelle

Michelle Hasty is a former middle and high school English Language Arts teacher. She currently serves as the Lead Faculty for the Instructional Coaching program and teaches literacy and instructional coaching courses at Lipscomb University. Her research focuses on adolescent literacy, critical literacy, and written response to text.

Hauptman, Ally

Dr. Ally Hauptman's primary research interests include reading motivation in upper elementary and middle grades and best practices in classroom instruction. She joined the Lipscomb College of Education faculty full-time in Fall 2014.

Howell, Suzanne

Suzanne Howell has taught in the public and private elementary classroom for 24 years. She currently serves as the literacy coach/ reading specialist at Lipscomb Academy Elementary.

Marczak, Chris

Dr. Chris Marczak is the Director of Schools for Maury County Public Schools and serves as an adjunct professor for Lipscomb University and Trevecca Nazarene University. Chris has been married for 20 years and is the father to four girls.

Seely, Mary Laurens

Mary Laurens Seely has been with MNPS since 2010, serving as a data coach, data warehouse business analyst, and currently as the data coach coordinator. An educator for nearly 20 years, Mary Laurens has also been an education consultant in the Divisions of Research, Assessment and Evaluation and Special Education for the TN Dept. of Education. Mary Laurens holds a B.A. in Elementary Education from Millsaps College, an M.Ed. in Special Education from Vanderbilt University, and an Ed.D. in Learning Organizations and Strategic Change from Lipscomb University.

Sheahen, Jonathan

Jonathan Sheahen has served as principal of the elementary school at Lipscomb Academy since 2012. He also has experience as a math coach and elementary school teacher. He and his school have received several awards for leadership and instructional excellence, including: Lipscomb University Research Fellow, 2015; Green Ribbon School, U.S. Dept. of Education, 2013 & 2014; and Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award for Environmental Education and Outreach, 2013 & 2014.

Simone, Julie

Julie Simone is now entering her third decade in teaching and leading and her fifth year teaching at Lipscomb University. She is currently an Instructor in the College of Education and Lead Faculty Liaison for Teach For America. Julie is passionate about educational

justice in high-poverty, high-need settings, as evidenced by her experience at H.G. Hill Middle School and Buena Vista Enhanced Option Elementary School. Julie has experience teaching at all levels of education and in most educational settings, such as public and independent schools, special education and educational leadership.

Smith, Vicky B.

Vicky Smith is an Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Teaching & Learning at Austin Peay State University. She has served as the curriculum, instruction and assessment supervisor of a small school system and as an associate director of assessment, evaluation and research for the TN Dept. of Education. She completed her Ed.D. in 2013 at Lipscomb University. Prior to joining the APSU family, she served as the regional data analyst for the Mid-Cumberland CORE office, supporting educators in their efforts to assess and evaluate their teaching practices and programs.

Staggs, Hank

Dr. Hank Staggs is director of the Governor's Academy for School Leadership in TN. Previously, he was the director of educational leadership at Lipscomb University and was founding director of the Ayers Leadership Fellows program. He has been a TN school principal and a math teacher in both middle and high schools. He is currently an active leadership coach and is credentialed as an Associate Certified Coach with the International Coach Federation.