

Faculty Information

Dr. Michael F. Buckley, Adjunct Professor
Dr. Morgan L. Donaldson, Associate Professor
Dr. Shawn Dougherty, Assistant Professor
Dr. Michele Fenc-Bagwell, Assistant Professor in Residence
Dr. Richard Gonzales, Assistant Professor in Residence
Jennifer Michno, Instructor in Residence
Dr. Jennie Weiner, Assistant Professor
Dr. Sarah Woulfin, Assistant Professor

PROFESSORS OF PRACTICE:

Paul Freeman, Ed.D., Superintendent, Guilford Public Schools
Betsy Gunsalus, Director of Curriculum & Assessments,
Simsbury Public Schools
Kelly M. Lyman, Assistant Superintendent, Region 15
Thomas Mooney, Professor in Residence, Neag School of
Education, Adjunct Professor, UConn Law School
Erin Murray, Assistant Superintendent, Simsbury
Public Schools
Howard Thiery, Superintendent, Regional School District 17



UCAPP

University of Connecticut
Administrator Preparation Program

UConn
NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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University of Connecticut Administrator Preparation Program

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WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THE PROGRAM

"UCAPP has given me a whole new perspective on education. It has opened my eyes to opportunities and career paths I didn't even know I was interested in before I applied."

—Tom Reed-Swale teacher,
Union School in Farmington

"UCAPP prepared me for the challenges of the Urban High School Principalship – I constantly refer back to projects, class discussions and simulations that I participated in during my UCAPP experience. Whether it be identifying resources to improve school intervention plans, improving classroom practice or navigating special education law, I feel extremely well prepared! My UCAPP cohort members and I are still in touch today! We frequently email one another to communicate about problems we are trying to solve, programs we are implementing or innovative ideas that we are seeking to gain insight into. The UCAPP experience helped me to form a broad set of networks that I frequently rely upon."

—Adam Johnson, principal, Law and Government Academy in Hartford



"The UCAPP program has been one of the most powerful learning experiences of my career. The combination of academic studies, practical intern experiences, and opportunities to collaborate with your cohort and supervisor, create a perfect fusion of opportunities for any aspiring administrator."

—Kelly Sanders, teacher, West District Elementary School in Farmington

The UCAPP program not only provides a rigorous level of educational leadership preparation, but is also staffed with top educational leaders who provide individualized attention to prepare each person for the work of leadership. With the ceaseless process of self-study, internship experience, training, and education promoted through the UCAPP program, good leadership qualities are readily developed. What emerges are educational leaders with the potential to be visionary, strong, and influential."

—Jennifer Michno, Alumnus

*Preparing High Quality Leaders
for Connecticut's Schools*

University of Connecticut Administrator Preparation Program

Program Goals

The goal of UCAPP is to prepare school leaders who have the knowledge and skills to:

- Implement a vision of learning supported by the school community.
- Develop and sustain an effective instructional program.
- Create a safe and productive learning environment.
- Promote a positive school culture that respects diversity.
- Design comprehensive professional growth plans for staff that are linked to evaluation and promote a culture of continuous learning.
- Collaborate with families and community members to positively impact student achievement.
- Influence the political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context of the school community.
- Act with integrity and in an ethical manner.

UCAPP students demonstrate their knowledge and skills through course assessments as well as through internship experiences.

Application Process

- All application materials are due by March 1st of the application year.
- To apply to the University of Connecticut Administrator Preparation Program: Please visit the UCAPP website at www.ucapp.uconn.edu and select “How to Apply” under “future students” for information regarding the application process.
- The admissions committee will review applications that (a) are received by the March 1st deadline and (b) contain all information required.

Program Description

UCAPP is a two-year program designed for working professionals who aspire to become highly effective school leaders. Students who successfully complete UCAPP are awarded the Sixth-Year Diploma and are eligible for endorsement for Connecticut State Certification as Intermediate Administrators (092). The program uses a cohort model organized by geographic area across the state.

Academic Component

UCAPP courses, seminars, and modules are taught by distinguished full time as well as adjunct faculty, all of whom bring to their teaching deep expertise in both research and practice. All courses are grounded in adult and experiential learning theory. The coursework provides students with the theory behind leadership practice connected to best practice in schools. Priority is placed on integrating coursework with specific internship experiences throughout the two-year program. As the program progresses, students assemble an electronic portfolio that documents their administrative competency as outlined by the Connecticut Standards for School Leaders and NCATE standards.



Internship

The internship, a central component of the UCAPP program, immerses students in actual leadership roles by placing them in schools with accomplished school leaders who have a track record of success in leading highly functioning schools. Prior to the beginning of an internship, great care is taken to match each student intern with an appropriate mentor administrator. Internship arrangements take into account each intern’s professional goals, work schedule, and UCAPP objectives. The internship consists of 90 hours per semester of on-site/off-site activities that are aligned with course theory and are designed to develop proficiency in the Connecticut Standards for School Leaders. The internship is coordinated through a partnership with the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS).

Cohort Experience

UCAPP students remain together as a cohort for the entire program, providing students with the opportunity to learn from each other, build relationships with each other as aspiring administrators, and collaborate on projects. A clinical supervisor is assigned to each cohort for the entire program. The clinical supervisor works with course instructors, students, and mentors to link theory to practice throughout the UCAPP experience.

Basic Program Outline

The UCAPP program of studies includes:

Year One: Summer Semester	
School Leadership and Administration of Educational Organizations	3 credits
Contemporary Educational Policy Issues	3 credits
Practicum	1 credit
Year One: Fall Semester	
Supervision of Educational Organizations	3 credits
Practicum	2 credits
Year One: Spring Semester	
Program Evaluation for School Improvement	3 credits
Practicum	2 credits
Year Two: Summer Semester	
Special Education Topics for Administrators	3 credits
Practicum	3 credits
*Learning: Its Implication for Education	3 credits
Year Two: Fall Semester	
Curriculum Laboratory	3 credits
Practicum	2 credits
Year Two: Winter Intersession	
Legal Aspects of Education	2 credits
Year One: Spring Semester	
Creating and Sustaining a Positive School Climate	3 credits
Practicum	2 credits
PROGRAM TOTAL	35 credits

*Learning: Its Implication for Education

The Connecticut State Department of Education requires a graduate course in learning theories for 092 certification. UCAPP offers an online course in the second year summer intersession for the completion of this requirement. A comparable course taken within the last five years may satisfy this requirement pending the UCAPP Director’s approval.