The Problem: The Current State of Education

The national concern for student achievement, access, and equity continue to be a point of emphasis for those in Missouri PK-20 education system. As such,

• How can we expand the reach of high quality educational programming that can be utilized by Missouri’s school leaders?

• How can the program evolve to meet the ever changing needs of our constituents?
The Answer:
MU STATEWIDE COOPERATIVE EdD

An educational innovation and charter member of

The Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate

- Geared to make the EdD a stronger, more relevant degree
- Intensive summer programs as well as multi-campus course delivery during academic year guided by adult learning principles
- Continuous curriculum revision focused on evidence-based practice with input from full-time program faculty from around the state
- Dissertation-in-Practice capstone research
Statewide Cooperative Ed.D Program
University of Missouri

*Operationalizing CPED Principles*

**Construct & apply knowledge in real situations**

**Develop & demonstrate collaboration in communities**

**Compare leadership theory with actual leaders’ behavior**

**Use qualitative and quantitative research design tools to design and analyze educational problems**

**Conduct evaluation projects**

**Statewide cohort**
- Partner institutions’ cohorts
- Biannual newsletter
- Facebook social networking

**Partner Institutions**
- University of Missouri
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Southeast Missouri State University
- The University of Central Missouri
- Missouri State University

**Nearly everyone in Missouri is within 75 miles of a program location**

**Campus Cohort Sites**
- MU
- UMR
- UCM
- NWMSU
- SEMO
- MSU
- Trenton
- St. Joseph
- Kirksville
- Troy
- Poplar Bluff
- West Plains
- Joplin
- Park Hills
- Liberty
- Lee's Summit

**Off-Campus Sites**
- Troy
- Poplar Bluff
- West Plains
- Joplin
- Park Hills
- Liberty
- Lee's Summit
Statewide Cooperation

• Integrated teaching teams from five partner institutions offering access from 17 different Missouri locations
• Over 550 educational leaders from both the PK-12 and postsecondary level completed or are currently involved in the program
• Educational leaders serve in 93 Missouri counties comprising 95% of the state’s total population
• Cooperation and collaboration eliminates program duplication and improves access and quality
Practitioner Focus

• Thematic, problem-based curriculum
• Cooperative, team-based learning through cohort enrollment
• Applied research to address real-world local problems
• Students are employed as leaders and can apply coursework immediately in their communities of practice
• Location and course flexibility allows students to take classes and continue working as educational leaders
Facts and Figures

• 85% Graduation Rate for Cohorts 1-3, over 5 years
  – This compares to 54% for education students nationally who complete a doctoral degree**

• 95% of students report the course requirements contributed to their skill set as an educational professional (Cohort 7, 2011).

• 90% of students find the mix of students enriching to the program (Cohort 7, 2011)

• 93% of students report they perform their jobs better because of what they learned in the program (Cohort, 7, 2011)

What’s next?

Opportunities:
- The formation of PK-20 partnerships through the cohort program and alumni networking
- Simultaneous application of the latest research to educational practice throughout the state
- Collaboration with academic researchers, policy makers, and educational leaders to improve education throughout Missouri

Challenges:
- Navigating the divergent interests of such a diverse population of educators (e.g., rural, urban, and suburban; PK-12 and higher education)
- EdD program competitors within the state
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