

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF FIELD EXPERIENCES

OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARDS SPRING 2018

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The UNO College of Education is excited to announce the winners of the Spring 2018 Outstanding Mentor Awards. These individuals are being recognized for their incredible dedication to UNO's teacher candidates!

Mentors were nominated by their student practicum or clinical practice candidates. Students could nominate a cooperating teacher, a UNO faculty member, or anyone who helped guide them as they gained teaching experience this semester. The top nominees for both clinical practice and student practicum were selected by a panel of reviewers.

AWARD DESCRIPTION

Characteristics of an exemplary mentor may include but are not limited to:

- is available to answer questions, address concerns, and provide guidance.
- is approachable and positive.
- cares about me and encourages development.
- listens and responds to needs and concerns.
- offers support and resources when needed.
- encourages new ideas and supports candidates in trying new things.
- models professional actions and ethical practice.
- demonstrates knowledge of best practice and is a valuable resource.
- provides feedback on strengths and areas for growth (verbal, written, or electronic).

























































STUDENT PRACTICUM OUTSTANDING MENTOR RECIPIENTS



"From my first day Mrs. Fogarty had me help her teach lessons. If she was leading a lesson she would have me co-teach with her and would frequently get my input on various grammatical/cultural topics in the classroom. If I was leading a lesson by myself she would be in the back of the classroom at her desk and would hold up note cards with positive reminders. After each lesson, we would always have discussions about what worked and what didn't. I also witnessed numerous students come to her for help. She always made every student feel heard and respected. Mrs. Fogarty uses the positive relationships she has created with her students as a way to accommodate all students and is aware that not every student is coming from the same walk of life."

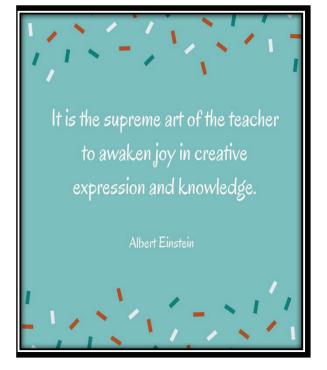
Machaella Fogarty Bellevue West High School



"On my first day in the classroom Ashley told me that I was free to teach as much as I wanted and that I was welcome to try any strategies and lessons. She said she would support me in any endeavor I wanted to pursue. She followed through in this area and was always excited for me to try new things. She is excellent when it comes to classroom management and developing positive and professional relationships with her students. She introduced me to other staff members and her educational team, inviting me to meetings, student support sessions, and professional development. She was always available if I needed help planning or preparing; she shared many source materials to help with brainstorming lesson ideas. She provided feedback that improved my teaching immensely. She made the environment enjoyable and constructive."



Ashley Stronck Woodrow Wilson Middle School



"Mrs. Bryan loves her kindergarten students. This shows in her interactions with the students and their overall behavior in class. They have been shown how valuable everyone is in the classroom and, as a reflection of what they have experienced, display the same attitudes toward their peers. Mrs. Bryan also opened her vast closet for me to peruse with a seemingly unending supply of materials for lesson planning and implementation. She offered guidance and was extremely flexible in letting me schedule small and large groups so I could fulfill my requirements. She exemplified professionalism by speaking with respect about and with students and her professional peers."



Heather Bryan Ashland Park Robbins Elementary School

CLINICAL PRACTICE OUTSTANDING MENTOR RECIPIENTS



"Shelley is always available for any questions I have and is always willing to help me implement my own ideas into the classroom. She goes above and beyond by not only providing all of her students multiple opportunities to learn, but also providing opportunities for them to bring what they learn into the community. She is a dedicated mentor who believes in giving teacher candidates the room to spread their wings in the classroom is a necessity for the teaching profession. She is always there for support or advice. However, she also understands that I need the space to try new things and make mistakes. Her ability to mentor other teachers and dedicate herself to teaching a range of students is commendable."



Shelley SheetsRalston Middle School



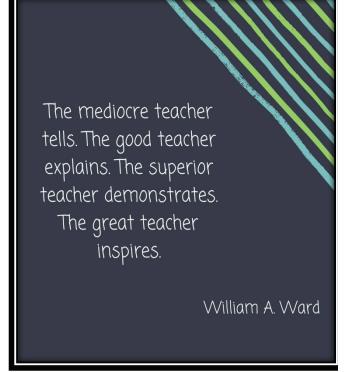
"Jessica has been nothing but welcoming, encouraging, and supportive since my first day. She greeted me with a binder full of information that I would need for the whole semester, including things like school schedule, unit plans, important dates, seating charts, and more. She frequently looks at me throughout the day and says, 'What are your questions about this?' She does a good job of anticipating moments that may not make sense or may be confusing for a new teacher. Jessica has also helped me navigate the professional world of teaching by giving me some interview tips and application pointers. Jessica goes above and beyond everyday not just for me, but also for her students."

Jessica Korth Bryan Middle School



"Melissa has been the incredibly supportive and flexible with me this semester. I flood her with questions and requests for feedback and reassurance. She always provides me with valuable information to ensure that I am successful. She has given me a home within her English classes and has never second guessed my judgement. She provides me with constructive criticism so that I can grow and develop and reminds me that this is a job that is never really finished. There is always something to work on or improve. She gives me positive feedback to let me know when I do things that are exemplary. She is truly an inspirational teacher and I am so fortunate to have her as my mentor."

Melissa Inmon Westside High School



OUTSTANDING CLINICAL PRACTICE & STUDENT PRACTICUM AWARDS

SPRING 2018

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The UNO College of Education is excited to announce the winners of the Spring 2018 Outstanding Clinical Practice and Student Practicum Awards. These candidates are being recognized for going above and beyond to meet students' needs!

Candidates were nominated by cooperating teachers, speech-language pathologists, and supervisors for four different candidate awards: student motivator, knowledge expander, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) innovator, and humanities integrator. The top nominees were selected by a panel of reviewers.

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

Knowledge Expander Award

- Teaches strategies to support reflection on learning process
- Uses a variety of techniques to maintain interest and momentum
- Is concerned with having participants learn and demonstrate understanding of meaning rather than memorization
- Creates appropriate alternative ways to proceed when faced with any given scenario; he/she can quickly spot the relevant patterns and issues

Humanities Integrator Award

Uses art, music, language arts, and/or social science to

- Incorporate the contributions of varied cultures and multiple perspectives into teaching and learning
- Engage students at multiple cognitive levels
- Promote the analytical skills of the students



STEM Innovator Award

Uses science, technology, engineering, and/or math

- In innovative ways to engage others in learning
- To employ different techniques and instructional strategies
- To emphasize higher order thinking skills and metacognitive strategies

Student Motivator Award

- Is upbeat and gets others excited about learning
- Thinks about all the factors that might affect a situation or person
- Creates a supportive environment
- Shows awareness of those who feel left out and makes an effort to include them
- Demonstrates concern for others' emotional and physical well-being on a daily basis
- Volunteers for and participates in activities outside of the work day



CLINICAL PRACTICE KNOWLEDGE EXPANDER RECIPIENTS



"During a science lesson on oviparous animals Ashley shared several readaloud books about animals that hatch from eggs. The students were fascinated by these anchor texts and had many of their own stories, knowledge, and connections about all different types of animals. The students then participated in an exciting egg activity that helped Ashley monitor students' progress through this formative assessment. Ashley again help to expand her students' knowledge by hatching real chicken eggs in the classroom."

Ashley Reeh Elementary Education



"Lily plans lessons that actively engage the learner, and she provides a variety of activities that engage all different learning styles. Lily also develops lessons that utilize all four modalities for the acquisition of a second language: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. She swiftly was able to establish an appropriate rapport with students and begin active involvement, and her enthusiasm for the subject matter and student learning is apparent by her preparation of lessons, professionalism, and willingness to continue learning."

Lily Mescher Secondary Education, Spanish



"Autumn is a high-energy, committed teacher who incorporates a variety of highengagement instructional strategies. In her Nebraska unit, students could 1) develop their note-taking skills in journals; 2) learn new content during station work; 3) create clay pots like the Pawnee tribe did; 4) create culture boxes and video explanations about the material in their boxes; and 5) create game boards to demonstrate knowledge. Autumn consistently uses observation and written data to assess understanding-she knows her students."

Autumn Henkenius Elementary Education

CLINICAL PRACTICE HUMANITIES RECIPIENT



"Paul has done an outstanding job of finding examples of philosophy, music and art to incorporate into the classroom. Recently, Paul took the task of identifying four major philosophers from the Romantic Era. He then taught the students not only their philosophical ideas, but also how to find those ideas with the books the students are reading in that unit AND applying the same ideas to our own lives. Paul did an outstanding job teaching this content."

Paul Sanders Secondary Education, Language Arts



CLINICAL PRACTICE STEM INNOVATOR RECIPIENTS



"Jordan selects applications and learning situations where technology enhances student motivation and understanding. She uses her knowledge of students and expected outcomes to select technology-assisted instruction. She considers logistics and shows multiple ways to access information. For example, during the Freedom Walkers unit, students were given access to a website through a QR code. They explored information using personal phones and iPads."

Jordan Cobb Elementary Education

"Jared is skilled at integrating technology in appropriate ways. As he hears about technology apps, he researches the software and evaluates whether or not it would be a helpful learning tool. For example, Jared studied EPIC! Reading software and developed a system to provide individual reading plans for each of the students during independent reading. Other staff members seek his help in employing technology."







"Lexi used technology in all content areas and as an integral part of the class's whole group, small group, and independent work. For one lesson, students created a biome newscast, and Lexi showed examples of real newscasts to get them interested. Not only did Lexi successfully use technology to engage, motivate, and help students meet the lesson objectives, it helped Lexi establish positive relationships with her students."

Lexi Hatt Elementary Education

CLINICAL PRACTICE STUDENT MOTIVATOR RECIPIENTS



"We have become bigger, better, stronger, more confident and positive people because we have been fortunate enough to have had someone as amazing as Allison be a part of our lives. She understands that to truly educate, you must see the "whole" child and tap into their talents and interests. She makes each and every student feel as though they belong and that what they have to contribute to the classroom learning environment is valuable; she includes ALL students in every learning situation and finds opportunities to allow students to collaborate and learn from one another."

Allison Falt Elementary Education

"It is so evident that Sarah has a passion for children and has worked to create a positive environment for her students. She provides hands-on activities that give these young students the movement, engagement, and fun they need to succeed. Even Sarah's transitions and brain breaks are fun, engaging, and help motivate the students. After listening to a read aloud, Sarah had the students stand up and move. She put sight words on note cards and placed them face down. She played music while the students danced, marched, and skipped. When the music stopped they had to find a sight word card, turn it over and read it. The students loved it! Not only did they get an opportunity to move and get the wiggles out, they were practicing their sight words."

Sarah Harvey Elementary Education





"Jeremiah encourages reluctant learners to get excited about learning. He uses materials that are interesting and relevant to the students' lives. He promotes learning by challenging students and always encourages them to do their best. All students are included, and his lessons are differentiated so that students do not feel left out. Jeremiah is a role model for the students because he treats all students fairly and creates an environment where students what to learn and succeed. On one particular occasion, Jeremiah redirected a student who was misbehaving. His supportive nature prevented the student from being removed from school."

Jeremiah Gillett Secondary Education, Special Education



STUDENT PRACTICUM KNOWLEDGE EXPANDER RECIPIENTS



"Ms. Brown consistently demonstrates the ability to take the curriculum and extend student's learning. She plans with her students in mind and captures students' attention with hands-on objects. She utilizes every opportunity to build personal relationships and uses this knowledge to connect the content to students' experiences."

Samantha Brown Elementary Education

"Anna is obviously a lifelong learner. She engaged students in learning, utilizing research based strategies. She reflected on her lessons by seeking out feedback and asking questions. It was important to her to know the students' progress throughout her time aiding her in lessons that met the students where they were in learning."



Anna Palmesano Elementary Education



"Mariah always works hard to help the students become the critical thinkers. Her lessons are engaging and relate to each of the students. She wants the students to understand the material, not just memorize it. Mariah is constantly using questions that motivate the students to think deeper about what is being asked of them."

Mariah Johnson Elementary Education

STUDENT PRACTICUM STUDENT MOTIVATOR RECIPIENTS



"Sarah goes above and beyond to prepare lessons that that include humor, technology, and games to get students interested. They are eager to explore new techniques and ideas and jump right into each project. She is always aware of hesitant students and finds ways to engage them. Sarah can take a project and turn it into something amazing that piques interest and gets students thinking outside of the box. Students are encouraged to make their art purposeful and have meaning, not just work for a grade."

Sarah Schneiderwind Art

"Delaney seeks out students who need extra help and jumps right in to assist them. She works diligently to plan lessons that will engage students and focus on grade level skills. She is kind and helpful, while firmly and respectfully holding students to classroom expectations. She has a warm, inviting personality, and kids respond positively to her."



Delaney Bruening Secondary Education, Special Education



"On day two with the students, Amanda asked if she could lead a review game. She took initiative in other areas as well. She introduced herself to the students, circulated around the room to help with questions, graded "Selena" packets that covered identifying stereotypes and prejudice, comprehension, and IB Reflection. She attended team meetings and asked to sit in on a SAT. It is really awesome to see such enthusiasm."

Amanda Petty Secondary Education, Spanish



STUDENT PRACTICUM HUMANITIES RECIPIENT



"Jessica is able to bring a great deal of creativity to working with our students. She thinks outside the box about how to prepare lessons for a student that don't fit the mold of the strategies being taught in class. She stays persistent and creates effective lessons. Her lessons are sure to engage the student in known material but also have him experience new learning, all while keeping him engaged and focused on learning."

Jessica MartysElementary Education

Congratulations to all of our nominees! Thank you for engaging your students during field experiences and supporting our future educators!

Teacher Candidates

Michelle Albrecht Morgan Bruning Martin **Courtney Cloyed** Haley Foutch Amber Krupski Kenna Lorenzen Lorena Martinez Connor Mazzei Nadia Missak Tiffany Ohlrich Alexander Plambeck **Katie Quint** Lisa Scarpello Kelsev Sheridan **Courtney Swift** Rachel Weber **Tucker Whitaker**



Mentors

Lindsey Anderson Atalie Arnold Ted Burchard Megan Christensen Mary Biggs Alisen Brewer Amy Dahlhauser Blake Doyle Colleen Durante Jennifer Grimes Shervl Homan Anne Karabon Sharon Kelly Jordan Klepfer Janet Koenig Christi Krehbiel Jennifer Lemke Jen Moore Janie Morris Jennifer Parker Charlie Petrosik Molly Spisak Amanda Steiner Beth Stilwell Pam Sutton **Brooke TeKrony** Eileen Tolliver-Humpal Clinical Practice Award winners Ashley Reeh, Lily Mescher, Lexi Hatt, and Paul Sanders presented at the UNO Distinguished Alumni Luncheon on April 11. This event was an opportunity for teacher candidates to demonstrate the unique and innovative strategies that they implemented during their Clinical Practice experience. Ashley displayed books that she has used to guide her students, Lily discussed strategies for helping students as they learn a new language, Lexi showcased a hands-on lesson on circuits, and Paul exhibited self-made handouts that taught students about the different eras of history





2018 Dean's Award Winner:

David Chouinard

Athletic Training

Undergraduate Major Award Honorees:

Celeste Kantaras

Elementary Education

Amber Krupski

Elementary Education

Erik Mueller

Elementary Education

Amber Emanuel

Secondary Education

Connor Mazzei

Secondary Education

Berkley Stanton

Library Science

Sarah Schmidt

Speech-Language Pathology

Kajsa Haines

Secondary Education/Special Education

Kelsy Nei

Elementary Education (K-6 Deaf/Hard of Hearing)

Nathan Olson

Physical Education (Exercise Science)

Amber Mazankowski

Physical Education (Exercise Science)

Amber Kelly

Public Health

Jake Burnside

Recreation Leisure Studies

David Chouinard

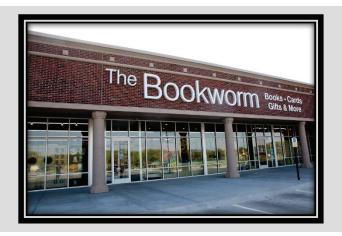
Athletic Training

Emma Leone

Biomechanics

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