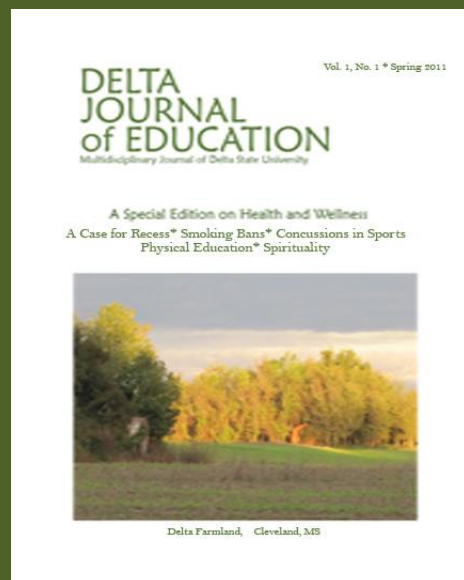


BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF AUTHORS

For the Special Edition of the Delta Journal of Education on Health and Wellness
Volume 1, Issue 1 (April, 2011)



Alan W. Barton

Dr. Alan W. Barton is Associate Professor of Sociology and Community Development at Delta State University in Cleveland, MS. He teaches courses on Sustainable Development, Education and Participatory Community Development, and Rural Sociology. His research spans topics in environmental education, public health, race and ethnicity, and natural heritage tourism, and has focused on Latin America, the Pacific Northwest, and the American South.

Laura Baylot Casey

Dr. Laura Baylot Casey is an assistant professor of special education at the University of Memphis where she also serves as director of the applied behavior analysis graduate program. She holds her BCBA-D and current research interests include merging applied behavior analysis with other mental health fields and working with and educating parents, families, and professionals working with children with exceptionalities.

Katherine Powers

Dr. Katherine Powers serves as a licensed psychologist and BCBA-D in Memphis, TN. She works in private practice and as an adjunct instructor at the University of Memphis.

Kristen Niemeyer

Kristen Niemeyer is a nationally certified school psychologist currently enrolled in the doctorate of education program at the University of Memphis, with a concentration in applied behavior analysis and special education.

Susan Elswick

Susan Elswick is a Licensed School Social Worker in the state of Tennessee and she is currently enrolled in a Doctoral program in Education with a specialty in Applied Behavior Analysis at the University of Memphis.

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Dr. Kathleen Burriss

Dr. Kathleen Burriss is a professor in the Department of Elementary and Special Education. She is the Coordinator for the Curriculum and Instruction Graduate program and teaches courses in qualitative research, policy, and problem-based learning. Dr. Burriss received her B.A. and M.S. in Elementary Education from the SUNY Colleges of Fredonia and Buffalo respectively. After 15 years as a kindergarten teacher, Dr. Burriss graduated from Arizona State University in 1992 with an Ed.D. in Early Childhood. Her research interests explore children's play and outdoor physical activity.

Dr. Larry Burriss

Dr. Larry Burriss is a professor in the School of Journalism, a past president of the MTSU Faculty Senate, and a former member of the Tennessee Board of Regents. He has served as dean of the college of mass communication and director of the School of Journalism. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from The Ohio State University, where he majored in broadcast journalism. He also has a master's degree in human relations from the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Burriss received his Ph.D. in communication from Ohio University, and his law degree from the Concord Law School. His primary teaching areas are communication law, and mass media and national security. Dr. Burriss has worked in both print and broadcast news, and in public relations. He has published extensively in professional research journals, as well as in popular magazines. He was an Air Force lieutenant colonel, and served in Mali, Bosnia, Somalia, Central America, England, Germany and the Pentagon.

Christopher J. Williams, Sr.

Dr. Christopher J. Williams, Sr. is an elementary school principal in Jackson County, Mississippi. He has been an educator for nine years, the last six years serving in an administrative capacity. He is a member of National Association of Elementary School Principals, Mid-South Education Research Association, International Reading Association, Association of Curriculum and Supervision Development, and the Mississippi Association of Reading. He received his PhD from The University of Southern Mississippi in 2010.

Gary B. Peters

Dr. Gary B. Peters is an associate professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He holds memberships in Phi Delta Kappa, Mid-South Educational Research Association, Southern Regional Council on Education Administration, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Council for the Professors of Educational Administration, American Council for Teacher Education Programs, and the Mississippi Educational Involvement Initiative.

Irene Pintado

Dr. Irene Pintado is an assistant professor of Health Education in the Department of Health and Kinesiology at Mississippi University for Women. She received her Ph.D. in Public Health at the University of South Florida in 2006. Her research interests include evaluation of injury prevention programs, use of the media to disseminate health information in rural areas, and effect of school climate and school organizational culture on student risk behaviors.

Amy Shepherd

Amy Shepherd is a graduate student in the Master of Science in Health Education program at Mississippi University for Women. She has been an elementary school teacher for eight years. She received her B.S. degree in Elementary Education from Mississippi University for Women in 2001.

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Dr. Mark Bean is a professor and chair of the Department of Health and Kinesiology at Mississippi University for Women. He received his Ph.D. in Exercise Physiology from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1989. He is an American College of Sports Medicine Certified Exercise Program Director. His research interest includes physical activity epidemiology and youth sports.