

Biographies

**Afesa M. Adams,
Ph.D.**

Afesa M. Adams is Senior Research Associate at the Florida Institute of Education and Professor Emeritus of Psychology at the University of North Florida. Dr. Adams's interests include home/school relations and academic achievement, minority families, mentoring and mentoring relationships, and program development. She has held faculty and leadership positions at the Universities of Florida, Utah and North Florida, and she holds a Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of Utah.

**Dominic J. Brewer,
Ph.D.**

Dominic J. Brewer, Ph.D., is a Vice President of RAND and the Director of RAND Education. RAND was one of the research organizations partnering in the research consortium investigating California's class size reduction program. An economist specializing in education, he has published widely on issues relating to school productivity. Dr. Brewer holds a doctorate in labor economics from Cornell University. He is a Visiting Professor of Economics at the University of California-Los Angeles and a Professor of Policy Analysis at The RAND Graduate School.

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**Madhabi Chatterji,
Ph.D.**

Madhabi Chatterji is Associate Professor of Measurement, Evaluation, and Education, and Research Scientist, Institute for Urban and Minority Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. A methodologist by training, Dr. Chatterji's inquiry and theoretical work is closely linked with matters of practice and policy in assessment, evaluation and measurement. A project recently funded by the National Science Foundation focuses on models for closing mathematics achievement gaps among diverse students by building assessment and evaluation capacity in teachers/leaders at K-12 systems.

**Cheryl A. Fountain,
Ed.D.**

Cheryl A. Fountain is the Executive Director of the Florida Institute of Education, a statewide research center charged with strengthening the quality of education at all levels through research and collaborative partnerships. A researcher focused on education reform and improving learning outcomes for at-risk students, she has been the principal investigator of over 30 major research grants from federal, state, local, and private foundations. Dr. Fountain holds a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the University of Florida. She is a Professor of Education at the University of North Florida.

Carolyn Herrington, Ph.D. Carolyn Herrington is Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at the FSU College of Education. She also is Director of Florida Education Policy Studies at the FSU Learning Systems Institute in the Office of the Provost. Dr. Herrington's 25-year career has focused on connecting educational research with the policy-making process in Florida. Her major research interests include educational accountability and financing, leadership, and politics and policy in national, state and local political arenas.

Patrice Iatarola, Ph.D. Patrice Iatarola is an assistant professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at Florida State University. Dr. Iatarola's research focuses on school finance, resource allocation, accountability, performance and costs. Currently she is studying the impact of New York State's new Regents graduation requirements, including standards-based testing, on high school graduation rates and resource use in New York City's public high schools. Dr. Iatarola holds a doctorate in Public Policy and Administration from New York University.

Christine E. Johnson, M.S. Christine E. Johnson is Associate in Research at the FSU Learning Systems Institute in the Office of the Provost, where she serves as Associate Director for Research at Florida Education Policy Studies. Ms. Johnson has managed research and policy projects on educational accountability, student achievement, school choice, teacher preparation and welfare reform. She holds a master's degree in psychology from Florida State University and has completed course work toward a doctorate in school psychology.

Katherine Kasten, Ph.D. Katherine Kasten is professor of educational leadership in the College of Education and Human Services at the University of North Florida. Her tenure at UNF has included six years as a department chair and nine years as dean of the college. She has served as principal investigator or consultant on several urban initiatives, including the college's urban professional development schools; a multi-year project to support under-prepared beginning teachers in urban schools; and the Jacksonville Urban Systemic Initiative, funded through a grant to Duval County Public Schools from the National Science Foundation. Dr. Kasten has authored/coauthored several books, book chapters, and articles in the area of educational leadership and teacher preparation. She has a doctorate in educational administration from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Susan A. MacManus, Ph.D. Susan A. MacManus is a Distinguished University Professor of Public Administration & Political Science in the Department of Government & International Affairs at the University of South Florida, Tampa. She has published extensively on Florida's state and local politics, demographics, and public opinion. She received her M.A. in political science from the University of Michigan and her Ph.D. in political science from Florida State University.

Roderick J. McDavis, Ph.D. Roderick J. McDavis is President of Ohio University and former provost and vice president for academic affairs and professor of education at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. Dr. McDavis spent 20 years of his academic career at the University of Florida, where he served as Dean of the College of Education, Associate Dean for the graduate school and minority programs, and professor of education. He also has chaired the Board of Directors of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE). His primary research interests and publications include restructuring teacher education programs, improving public schools and districts, counseling ethnic minorities, recruiting and retaining minority students and faculty, and evaluating student personnel programs. Dr. McDavis holds a doctorate in counselor education and higher education administration from the University of Toledo.

Yas Nakib, Ph.D. Yas Nakib is an Associate Professor of Education Policy and Public Policy & Public Administration at George Washington University in Washington, DC. He specializes in analyzing economic and financial aspects of state and national education policies. His research includes analysis of the implementation of school reform and the allocation of resources in schools. Dr. Nakib holds a Ph.D. in Administration and Policy from Florida State University with a concentration in the economics and finance of education.

