

## Meet the PAC-TE Officers

### President (through May 31, 2026)



Dr. Tom Conway

Dr. Tom Conway is the Associate Dean of the College of Education at Kutztown University. In addition, Tom is on the Board of Directors of the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE). At ATE, he has served on numerous conference planning committees, as chair of the public relations and communications committee, and as a member of several taskforces (Mentoring) and commissions (Advocacy & Teacher Education Standards). He has served as co-editor of the Pennsylvania Teacher Educator for the past several years. His research areas include mentoring & coaching, advocacy, socio-cultural issues, secondary education, leadership, educational technology, and DEIB topics.

### President-Elect (through May 31, 2026)



Dr. James Preston

Jim is an Associate Professor at Slippery Rock University. In his 17th year at SRU, his is Assistant to the Dean in the College of Education, where he is the Director of Student Teaching and Accreditation Coordinator. Jim earned his Doctor of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction from IUP. He spent 13 years as a secondary mathematics teacher. Jim is a board member of the PA Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (PAMTE) and is president of the PASSHE Field Director's group. As a member of PAC-TE and ATE, he has been an attendee and contributor at both organizations' conferences. Jim is the current co-editor of the Pennsylvania Teacher Educator. Jim was the conference chairperson of the National Student Teaching and Supervision Conference.

### Past-President (through May 31, 2026)



Dr. John Ward

John retired as Dean of the College of Education at Kutztown University. John's Ed.D. in Curriculum & Instruction is from the University of Memphis. He holds a master's degree in special education from the University of Detroit. He earned post-baccalaureate certification in secondary mathematics from the University of Detroit and his undergraduate degree in Economics is from the University of Michigan. He has served as an educational foundations faculty member, a department chair, an interim associate dean, and a dean. He is a member of AACTE and ATE, attends the NAPDS conference, and advocates for Professional Development School relationships. He was a PAC-TE board member from 2012-2018 representing PASSHE schools.

### **Treasurer (through May 31, 2027)**



**Dr. Jane M.  
Wilburne**

I am Professor Emerita of Mathematics Education at Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown, PA. As a scholar, my work has been disseminated through publications in journals such as *Operant Subjectivity*, *School Science and Mathematics*, *Investigations in Mathematics*, and *Mathematics Teacher*. Furthermore, my service to professional organizations includes serving as President of the Pennsylvania Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators, The Pennsylvania Educational Research Association, and the Pennsylvania Association of Supervisors of Mathematics. As the Principal Investigator on multiple research projects funded by the NSF, the Mathematics and Science Partnership, and PDE totaling more than \$8 million, I learned the importance of managing the financial aspects to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of the projects. My roles required me to work with different financial management programs and manage budgets to be sure the strategic goals and objectives of the grant projects were achieved. I have been a member of PAC-TE for over 20 years and have presented at many of the annual conferences, reviewed conference proposals, and reviewed manuscripts for the *Pennsylvania Teacher Education Journal*. As Treasurer for PAC-TE, I will contribute my expertise to the financial aspect of the organization, provide support to the Board, and ensure that the vibrancy and mission of the organization continue in its efforts to promote strong advocacy and support for professional educator preparation.

### **PAC-TE Executive Director**



**Joel Geary**

Joel held several positions in basic education—as an elementary and middle school teacher, a high school reading specialist and instructional coach, and as President of the Educators of Lower Dauphin/PSEA. He also served PDE for several years as the state curriculum consultant in Language Arts, and as a program approval liaison to educator preparation providers. Amazing teacher educators from around the state motivated him to take the role of Certification Officer and Projects Manager at Penn State Harrisburg, where he served joyfully for seven years and helped develop the undergraduate residency program. His degrees are from Clarion University and Millersville University, and he also studied institutional research at Penn State World Campus. Now retired, he enjoys camping, playing with his three grandkids, traveling, and working on his family ancestry. He finally completed a 335-page book for his children and siblings, tracing the family tree back four centuries and revealing the WWII love story of his parents.

## Meet the PAC-TE Directors

At-Large Director (through May 31, 2025)



Dr. Rachael Stevens

I serve as Faculty for the School of Education at Marywood University. I earned my Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of the Cumberlands, Williamsburg, Kentucky. I hold an M.Ed. in Elementary Education from Campbell University, Buies Creek, North Carolina. I hold multiple teaching certificates and have taught in a variety of k-12 settings for a combination of 21 years in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. My undergraduate degree is from Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg Pennsylvania. At Marywood University, I co-chair the curriculum committee for the school of education and I am a co-moderator for Kappa Delta Phi-Education Honor Society and MUSE—Marywood University Student Educators. In addition to serving on the board of directors for PAC-TE, I am also a member of ATE and a lifetime member of the FCCLA Alumni & Associates.

At-Large Director (through May 31, 2025)



Dr. Stephanie  
Gardner

I received my B.S. in Special Education from Penn State and taught in NY & PA for 5 years as an elementary learning support and middle school life skills teacher. I earned my M.Ed. in Elementary Education from Bloomsburg University and a Ph.D. in Special Education from Penn State. I am an Associate Professor of Education at Commonwealth University's Bloomsburg University campus in the Special Education Program. I am also a certified QPR instructor in suicide prevention training through the McDowell Institute at Bloomsburg, a McDowell Institute Faculty Fellow, and serve as undergraduate program coordinator for the Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Wellness for PK-12 Students PDE Endorsement at Commonwealth. I was honored to be selected as PAC-TE's Teacher Educator of the Year in 2021. I see PAC-TE as a driving voice in the field of education in our state and I am grateful to serve alongside leading advocates in the field to create ripples of positive impact for our teacher education programs, teacher candidates, and ultimately the PK12 children that we all serve. My passions include spending time with my husband, two sweet and sassy daughters, and the Great Dane pup while camping, having fun "on the water" at the local river/lakes, and raising backyard chickens and bees.

At-Large Director (through May 31, 2026)



Dr. Amy Rogers

Amy is the Director of Teacher Education and an Associate Professor at Lycoming College, Williamsport, PA. Amy has over 26 years' experience in education as a social studies teacher, literacy coach, and teacher educator. She holds degrees from Lycoming College, Bloomsburg University, and The Pennsylvania State University. Amy is active in the education profession as a member of the Association of Teacher Educator (ATE) National Task member, past Chair of PAC-TE's Certification Committee, and a program reviewer for the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Amy holds professional membership in the following organizations: Association of Middle Level Education (AMLE), International Literacy Association (ILA), Kappa Delta Pi National Honor Society for Education, National Council of Social Studies (NCSS), Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA), and the Public School Board Association (PSBA).

At-Large Director (through May 31, 2027)



Prof. Stephanie Long

Stephanie is an Assistant Professor of Education at Butler County Community College where she serves as chair of the Early Childhood Education PreK-4 and the Child Development/Family Studies associate degree programs. She is also an instructor in the College's Praxis/PECT teacher certification test prep program. She serves on the Mission, Vision, and Goals Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee, and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education Committee. In addition, she is a Higher Ed Consortium member. Stephanie presented at the Virtual Conference – Assessing Student Learning Effectiveness presented by HH Education Events. Stephanie received both her B.S. in Education and Master of Education from Slippery Rock University.

Director Representing State Institutions (through May 31, 2025)



Danielle Bowers

Danielle Bowers is the Field and Clinical Coordinator for Penn State Harrisburg. She has over 13 years in education, spending time as an elementary classroom teacher over various grade levels within several school districts. Danielle earned her B.S. in Elementary Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania followed by a M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Scranton. She obtained the ESL Program Specialist Certification from Penn State University. Danielle's professional interests include curriculum development, early literacy education, and the impact of field experiences on teacher candidates. Outside of teacher education, she enjoys spending time with her husband, their two children, and a playful goldendoodle.



Director Representing State Institutions (through May 31, 2026)



Dr. Karin Sprow Forté

Fourteen years of experience working at a public university in a professional educator preparation program has demonstrated to me that stronger partnerships are needed among the stakeholders in education, including state agencies, education associations, community colleges, school districts, higher education institutions, and community partners, to improve teacher preparation and professional development. At this critical moment for practicing and future teachers, our public universities need to have a robust voice and role in collaborating and advocating for our common goal of continuing to improve the quality of our educator preparation programs.

Director Representing State Institutions (through May 31, 2027)



Dr. Robn Drogan

I am a professor and graduate coordinator, serving Commonwealth University, Bloomsburg, in a variety of capacities. I have served on the University Curriculum Committee since its inception which has broadened my understanding of collaboration, curricular needs, and policy for the new university. I serve as the Graduate Coordinator of our department, working with graduate students to obtain certification and as the host to many certification programs. I am the recipient of state and local grants to enhance instruction for pre-service teachers. As a scholar, my work has focused on the application behavioral supports and PBS, teaming and collaboration, and special education leadership. In addition to PAC-TE, I am a member of Association of Positive Behavior Supports and Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) including sub-divisions DADD, DEC, CCBD, and TED.

Director Representing Private Institutions (through May 31, 2025)



Dr. Veronica Ent

Dr. Veronica I. Ent is a Professor of Education at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA. Her main research areas are the advances in instructional technology and visual media for instruction, blended learning and teaching, innovative instructional methodologies, and the history of American schooling. Veronica has proposed models for teacher preparation in the training of online technologies, strategies for synchronous online learning, rethinking historical technological applications, and approaches for visual learning. She received her Ed. D. in Instructional Design and Technology from the University of Pittsburgh. She teaches courses in instructional technology, curriculum design, online instruction, and visual thinking and learning. She coaches and advises the Saint Vincent College intercollegiate equestrian program where she instructs students in horsemanship of all abilities. Veronica was an elementary teacher for two years and then a high school librarian at Greensburg Salem School District for eight years. She currently serves as the president of the Country School Association of America, a national organization dedicated to the preservation and research of early American one-room schools.

Director Representing Private Institutions (through May 31, 2026)



Dr. Dana Reisboard

Dana Reisboard is an advocate for equitable, inclusive, and exemplary professional educator preparation. She is an Associate Professor of Literacy Education at Widener University, and a founding member of their Community Engaged Teacher Education Program. In this role, she is engaged with undergraduate, master's, and doctoral students. She received a B.A. from George Washington University, an M.A from New York University, and a Ph.D. in Literacy Education from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Her research interests focus on praxis, an iterative and reflective approach to acting, and an ongoing process of moving between practice and theory. Her publications focus on core reading programs, children's literature, the use of critical literacy, and best practices in teacher education. In her free time, Dana enjoys spending time outdoors with family and friends and hiking with her everything dog HazelNut.

Director Representing Private Institutions (through May 31, 2027)



Dr. Briana Bronstein

I am an Assistant Teaching Professor at Widener University. I received my Ph.D. in Special Education from Temple University and completed my postdoctoral training at Rutgers University. As a former K-5 autism support teacher in PA, teaching future educators to work in the field is especially meaningful. I teach at the undergraduate and graduate levels in the special education department. I work closely with our Community Engaged Teacher Education program and enjoy helping our pre-service teachers prepare for their future careers! In addition to my work in academia, I am an active member and leader in the Council for Exceptional Children at both a national and state level. I am the past-president of PA-CEC and have served on the board for several years.