



Spring 2021
The HELP!
Newsletter

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When I can believe three years have gone by. Despite life and my studies having its ups and downs, God has truly blessed my time in the HELP program. I never forget when my wife and I were going back and forth for a few days in the spring of 2018, deciding whether or not we should pursue this degree. With four kids and a crazy work schedule, it is hard to get a period of fun-interrupted time to really think. God works in mysterious ways though and all of the sudden one night our power went out (which never happens when the kids went to bed which never happens). We spent that time discussing what sacrifices we would have to make and what this degree could mean for our family. As it turns out, every area of concern had an answer from finances

Thank you for your great work in building a strong foundation for the HELP program! I benefit from each conversation with you. Wishing you every day is filled with health and happiness! Thank you.

Yizhe Huang

I consider myself very lucky to have drawn Bob Michael as my dissertation chair! Bob listened, provided sage advice, showed genuine interest in my work, offered encouragement, was responsive, and kept me motivated. In other words, he modeled what it means to be a Ph.D. Thank you for your service and commitment to the UNG EdD program. I truly appreciated your mentorship.

Keith Atonia

Thank you for your dedication to this program and for every time you asked "so what?" Your perspective makes our work unquestionably stronger during this doctoral journey and your encouragement is so appreciated. I'm grateful I got to know you and learn from you. Best wishes

Ashlee Pollard

As one of the EDD students from the cohort that began in the fall of 2019, I have truly enjoyed taking the EDD 8000 course for the past two semesters. With his

At the end of the spring 2021 semester, Dr. Robert Michael will be stepping back from his role within the HELP program. Dr. Michael has been an incredible resource of information, experience, and advice for the program as a whole and individuals alike. Dr. Michael will surely be missed and his influence will be felt in this program for years to come. We wanted to dedicate this space of the newsletter for students and faculty to thank Dr. Michael for his mentorships.

Early in the development of my dissertation topic, Dr. Michael took the time to discuss my ideas and provide valuable insights. His knowledge of student success and higher education in Georgia broadened my thinking and helped guide me to my current research work. I am thankful for his willingness to listen and share.

- Elizabeth Hutchins

I met Dr. Michael in my first semester EDD 8000 class, and before the year was over he agreed to chair my dissertation committee. This proved to be a defining moment for me: Dr. Michael has been encouraging, helpful, and his critical suggestions have improved everything I've written. His positive attitude has been infectious, and he's never failed to inspire me when I really needed it. And he is also humble: At one point, I told him that I wanted to contact the USG system office for some information. He offered to "ask around." I responded "sure, if you know any of those folks." It was months later that I discovered he was a retired Vice Chancellor for the USGI. I truly feel blessed to have gotten to know and work with Dr. Michael.

Keith Luoma

Mental Health Corner

Mark Your Calendar!

Summer 2021 Dates

Summer Classes Begin: June 7, 2021

Summer Withdraw Deadline: July 7, 2021

Summer Classes End: August 5, 2021

Summer Graduation Date: August 6, 2021

Dissertation Submission Deadline: August 10, 2021

Fall 2021 Dates

Fall Registration: March 29, 2021

Fall TAP Application Deadline: July 15, 2021

Fall TAP Registration: August 3, 2021

Fall Classes Begin: August 23, 2021

** * Click the images above and below for information regarding [graduate student mental health](#) and [tips for writing your dissertation](#) **

3Tips for Writing and Finishing Your Dissertation
Appeared in *3Inside Higher Ed* R Q - D Q X D U \\
By: Bertin M. Louis

