There is a lot happening at UCLA’s Graduate School of Education and Information Studies. As one of the top graduate schools in the nation, our work is enlightening information science and practice and transforming learning and schools in Los Angeles and across the globe. Here is a quick look at what’s going on this fall.

The Graduate School of Education and Information Studies celebrated the new school year with a convocation ceremony on September 27 welcoming students and faculty back to campus. This fall 904 graduate students will join with 61 faculty members as well as other researchers and staff in research and learning activities ranging from the study of knowledge infrastructures to the impact of trauma on learning. Among those graduate students will be some 126 new teaching candidates in UCLA’s Center X Teacher Education Program and 34 education leaders in the Principal Leadership Institute learning to make a difference as social justice educators.

Conferences & Colloquia
Plans are underway to bring some big thinkers to campus this fall. Information Studies professor Sarah T. Roberts is leading the development of the All Things in Moderation Conference December 6-7, exploring the red-hot topic of commercial content moderation. Information Studies is also promoting the exchange of intellectual ideas through the IS Colloquium series starting on October 12 with a visit from Astrid Von Rosen, Senior Lecturer, Art History and Visual Studies, University of Gothenburg. More great IS sessions to follow.

On September 28, Julia Phelan, senior research scientist at UCLA CRESST, moderated an expert panel exploring What’s the Evidence: Do After School Programs Make a Difference for Kids? And on October 26, Ed&IS will gather brain experts, educators and others to explore learning differences and strategies to address them at the Education–Brain Research Connection, 2017 Cognitive Diversity Summit. UCLA. Connie Kasari, Professor of Psychological Studies in Education and Psychiatry at Ed&IS and director of the Kasari Autism Research Lab, Jennie Grammer, Assistant Professor, UCLA Graduate School of Education/Human Development and Psychology and Maryanne Wolf, Director, Center for Reading and Language Research, Tufts University, will present. The new UCLA Center for School Transformation led by Distinguished Professor of Education Pedro Noguera and director Joe Bishop kicks off with a 2-day summit on November 8 and 9: Reimagine Education. On November 4, the UCLA Writing Project and Center X hosts, With Different Eyes: A Conference for Teachers of Diverse English Learners Across the Disciplines. Django Paris, co-author and co-editor of “Culturally Sustaining Pedagogies” keynotes.

Bruins at Ed&IS also head off campus to share the word. Wasserman Dean Marcelo Suárez-Orozco travels to Rome in November to share the findings from last spring’s international workshop at UCLA with the Pontifical Academy of Sciences on Humanitarianism and Mass Migration. The findings will be presented at the Vatican during a meeting “Health of People and Planet: Our Responsibility.” The meeting will be attended by leaders from nations across the globe, government officials, leading academic thinkers and theologians and activists.

Research and Learning
As always, research and learning are at the forefront of the work at Ed&IS. In September, Professor and Co-Director of the UCLA Civil Rights Project (CRP) Gary Orfield and researcher Jongyeon Ee publish new CRP research commissioned by the Leroy Collins Institute at Florida State University examining the re-segregation of Florida Schools. CRP is examining segregation and charter schools, with additional looks at these issues in New Jersey and Washington D.C. UCLA Professor and CRP co-director Patricia Gándara continues work on the UC Mexico Initiative and is leading the process to establish ties between the California Department of Education and the education department in Mexico. CRP will publish new research detailing the plight of students we share across the border between California and Mexico. UCLA Black Male Institute doctoral student Earl Edwards, who last spring published a commentary in Education Week entitled “Advice From a Formerly Homeless Youth”, continues with the Institute’s growing work and research looking at vulnerable populations across Los Angeles, including homeless and foster youth.
Fall at UCLA Ed&IS

Information Studies Distinguished Professor Christine Borgman and her team at the Center for Knowledge Structures continue their major study, “If Data Sharing is the Answer, What is the Question?” Education Professor Linda Sax is currently leading the BRAID (Building Reputing and Inclusion for Diversity) research project, a study focused on efforts to attract and retain women and students of color in computing majors. This fall, the team will attend industry and scholarly conferences around the country and administer follow-up surveys to thousands of computing students nationwide.

Professor Cecilia Rios-Aguilar, the director of the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI), and her team are analyzing data from a new research effort, “Improving the Financial Aid Process in Community Colleges Through Text Messaging”, a study of more than 1,000 students examining the use of texting to assist community college students in accessing needed resources and support. The research will be submitted for publication later this fall. HERI has also already begun gathering data for the 2017 version of its annual survey of “The American Freshman.” The survey is led by Assistant Professor Kevin Eagan, director of the Cooperative Institutional Research Program.

Professor Carola Suárez-Orozco and the team at the UCLA Center on Immigration, Globalization and Education are reviewing and coding of thousands of hours of classroom video in a systematic examination of the enactment of teacher bias in the classroom.

Professor Alison Bailey and Professor Rashmita Mistry continue their evaluation of the Learning in Two Languages program (now known as Three Bs/Tres Bs), at UCLA Lab School. To date, the study has revealed predominantly successful trajectories of student Spanish and English language proficiency and academic performance in English and mathematics, and provided an understanding of students’ cognitive, social and intrapersonal development in bilingual contexts. In October, Bailey and Mistry will share their research with parents at the Lab School. Working with UCLA colleagues and teachers at the Lab School, Mistry is also exploring the attitudes of young children about wealth and poverty including an intervention study to design, implement, and evaluate an arts-based inquiry unit to teach children about wealth, poverty and civic responsibility. Bailey also received a new NSF grant and is beginning work with Abeer Alawan of UCLA Engineering and the MIT Media Lab to conduct language and literacy development research at the Lab School with Kindergartners in the iSTEAM Lab and their families.

Professor John Rogers co-edits the October issue of PS: Political Science and Politics, one of the flagship journals of the American Political Science Association. The issue features a special section on teaching and learning about economic inequality. Rogers co-authored the issue’s introductory article, as well as another about teaching about economic inequality in U.S. high schools. Also included is an article by UCLA’s Professor Rashmita Mistry (with several students and former students) entitled “The Politics and Pedagogy of Economic Inequality,” as well as highlights of a roundtable featuring Professor Pedro Noguera among others.

Distinguished Education Research Professor Sandra Harding is helping to launch a new open access journal: Tapuya: Latin American Science, Technology and Society. Created through affiliations with the Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S) and the Asociación Latinoamericana de Estudios Sociales de la Ciencia y la Tecnología and others, the journal seeks to explore the diversity and richness of Latin American STS issues, perspectives and research methods and to examine the creative flows of influence between Latin America and Euro-American cultures. UCLA Professor of Education Teresa Mccarty is a member of the journal’s International Advisory Board.

Important projects, new and old are also underway this fall. Professor Carola Suárez-Orozco and Dean Marcelo Suárez-Orozco joined with Adam Strom to launch Re-imagining Migration a new organization created to foster understanding about the successful inclusion of migrant youth across the globe. There is a new website.
Barbara K-12. Among other activities, Barbara the Community School is expanding its movement. (https://uclacs.org/) This fall, ing and furthering the community schools showing how the school is advancing learn- includes the final 2016-17 annual report and persistence rates rise significantly. Be high school graduation, college-going rates and their libraries. As you can see, a lot is happening and there is probably more. But with apologies to the many faculty, staff and projects that may not have been mentioned, that’s it for now. Happy Fall.
Leadership of the School

Marcelo Suárez-Orozco  
Wasserman Dean, Ed&IS

Christina Christie  
Chair, Education Department

Jonathan Furner  
Chair, Information Studies Department

Laura Lindberg  
Executive Director, External Affairs  
(310) 206-0375

Contact us: alumni@gseis.ucla.edu