

Susan Dreyer Leon
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Education

- 1999 **Doctor of Education** **Teachers College, Columbia University, NY**
Department: Curriculum and Teaching. Area of concentration: educational leadership. Dissertation areas: student voice, school reform, alternative education, and urban education
- 1988 **Master of Arts** **Teachers College, Columbia University, NY**
Mellon Urban Education Fellows Program. Area of concentration: social studies education.
- 1987 **Bachelor of Arts** **Columbia College, Columbia University, NY**
Major: South Asian history Minor: American history

Licenses

- Vermont:**
- 2002-2009 Level II Vermont Professional Educators License
Grades 7-12 Social Studies (expired)
- New York:**
- 1998-2003 Certificate of Qualification for School Administration/Supervisor (expired)
- 1993 Permanent Public School Teacher Certificate, New York State
Grades 7-12 Social Studies

Employment

- 2018-present **Chair, Education Department**
Antioch University New England **Keene, NH**
- 2016-2018 **Associate Chair, Education Department**
Antioch University New England **Keene, NH**
The Associate Chair has primary administrative oversight for both the Experienced Educators and Integrated Learning programs. In consultation with faculty, other program directors and the Education Department Chair, the AC coordinates the normal activities of both programs, provides a single point of contact for administrative systems at the campus level, and coordinates the work of the certification programs with the State DOE and the IHE Networks. The AC also works with faculty to support and promote our new innovations in dual certification and NBEC as well as looking for further opportunities to improve the marketing and visibility of the unique strengths of our certification programs.
- 2010-2016 **Director, Experienced Educators Program**
Antioch University New England **Keene, NH**

Director of M.Ed programs for working teachers. Position gives relief from teaching one course in order to be an advocate for students and faculty, oversee curriculum and assessment design, coordinate recertification processes, oversee program budget, marketing, recruitment, hiring and supervision of adjunct faculty. Position also includes development of new curriculum and degree programs at the Master's and EdD level.

2003-
Present **Core Faculty** **Antioch University New England, Keene, NH**
Full-time faculty position in the Education Department includes teaching in the master's program for elementary certification, and teaching and advising in the M.Ed. program for Experienced Educators, Mindfulness for Educators, Integrated Learning and the Principal's Certification Programs.

2001-
2003 **Lead Teacher** **CHOICES Program, Springfield, VT**
Served as site administrator for a growing off-site alternative program connected to Springfield High School. Responsibilities included full time teaching, staff supervision, budget oversight, and design of over-all program including curriculum, assessment, and future planning. CHOICES served approximately 40 students, both high need EH special education students and disaffected learners in grades 7-12. In addition to daily program administration, the position also included teaching a full course load of social studies and science classes.

1997-
2000 **Director** **Satellite Academy High School, NY**
Director of a New York City public alternative high school of 200 students and approximately 25 staff members. Responsibilities included supervision of day-to-day operations of the school, supervision of staff, coordination of professional development, co-ordination of curriculum and assessment, oversight of student attendance, discipline and conflict mediation, creation of parents' organization, and participation in long range planning for the school.

2000 **Adjunct Assistant Professor** **New York University, NY**
Taught in the department of Teaching and Learning. Responsible for teaching the integrating seminar for undergraduate and graduate students during their student teaching field placements in social studies.

1990-
1997 **Teacher** **Satellite Academy High School, NY**
Development of curriculum and teaching of classes in social studies, science, video, and the arts. Additional responsibilities included serving on the school's management team, creation of student portfolios, and helping develop teacher portfolios. Also supervised student teachers from Teachers College, Columbia University.

1988-1990 **Teacher** **Julia Richman High School, NY**
Social Studies teacher for grades 9-12 in a large, urban high school setting. Courses taught included global and American studies. Faculty sponsor for the student newspaper. Assistant girls' track and cross-country coach.

Awards

2000 **Columbia College Alumnae Achievement Award**
Awarded for professional achievement and service to the college

Publications

- 2016 “Mindful facilitation: Don’t do something. Just stand there.” Co-authored with Laura Thomas published on Edutopia
<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/mindful-facilitation-pbl-laura-thomas>
- 2015 “Collaboration, Rubrics, and Teacher Evaluation” co-authored with Laura Thomas, in *Rubric Nation*, Tenam-Zemach, J. Flynn, Jr. eds
- Winter 1997 *International Journal of Qualitative Studies*
Book Review Section. Review of Tony Wagner’s 1994 book, *How Schools Change*. The book is reviewed from the perspective of its effectiveness as a piece of qualitative research.

Presentations

- 2018 PLC’s and Adult Development
August 2018 SAU29 Keene, NH
- 2018 Introduction to Professional Learning Community
August, 2018 Framingham Centre Nursery School, Framingham, MA
- 2018 Mentor Training
June, 2018 SAU19 Keene, NH
- 2018 “**Mindfulness for Teachers and Students**” In-Bloom Conference
April 2018 Kittery, ME
- 2018 “**Sense and Savor Walk**”
Workshop presentation for educators at In-Bloom Conference
April 2018 Asheville, NC
- 2015 “**Mindful Leadership**”, co-presented with Robbie Hertneky, New Hampshire Women in Higher Education Leadership Conference, March 2015.
- 2015 **Educon** Philadelphia, PA
Mindfulness Practices for Educators, presentation at an education conference.
- 2013 **Center for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education**, Amherst, MA
“Contemplative Pedagogy in Online Education”
with Claire Stanley, Susan Dreyer-Leon, Jack Millett, and Carol Rodgers
One of the root meanings of “contemplation” is “marking out a space for observing together” and the online education environment--when held within a contemplative pedagogy container--allows for just this. When every voice in an online course is heard, understood, and responded to with care, compassion, and gratitude, participants experience the heart of learning and wisdom through dialogue and a co-construction of meaning. Contemplative practice and online learning includes both students and instructor engaging in reflections on past experiences and future action steps in light of analysis from multiple points of view. Frameworks for

analysis drawn from poetic, scholarly, artistic and meditative disciplines, promote breadth and depth of understanding in the midst of and in relation to one's personal life and in relation to our vulnerable and extraordinary local and global communities.

- 2012 **Coalition of Essential Schools Fall Forum** **Providence, RI**
 “Mindfulness for All: How to Maintain a Tone of Decency in a time of stress.” Co-presented with Selena Goldberg. Presentation and discussion on of the role of mindfulness in education for both students and teachers.
- 2009 **Antioch Center for School Renewal** **Keene, NH**
 Experienced Coaches Gathering: a technical support meeting for NSRF Critical Friends Group coaches in the region.
- 2008 **Tri-State Cosmetology School Owners Association** **Lebanon, NH**
 Facilitation of annual meeting and teacher professional development seminar
- 2008 **Antioch Center for School Renewal** **Keene, NH**
 “Work before the work” workshop on developing professional learning communities in schools.
- 2006 **Coalition of Essential Schools Fall Forum** **Boston, MA**
 Tibetan/American dialog on education. A discussion of personal development issues for students and teachers in American education viewed through the perspectives of participants and facilitators, Andy Wood and Tibetan educator and monk, Lobsang Phutsok.
- 2005 **Coalition Center for Essential School Reform** **San Francisco, CA**
 Workshop on creating cultures of responsibility in schools.
- 2004 **National School Reform Faculty Annual Meeting** **New York, NY**
 Helped to facilitate sessions on critical friendships, facilitative leadership, and equity for the New York City chapter of the National School Reform Faculty.
- 2003 **Coalition of Essential Schools Spring Forum** **Portsmouth, NH**
 Co-facilitated round table discussion of the role of a “behavioral interventionist” in integrating mental health services in an alternative education setting.
- 2000 **Coalition of Essential Schools Fall Forum** **Providence, RI**
 Co-creation and facilitation of two-hour workshop on teacher research.
 Activities
 included exploration of the purpose and methodology of teacher research, possible
 research projects of interest to participants and presentations of examples of teacher research, including my doctoral dissertation.
- 1998 **Annenberg Institute for School Reform** **Cambridge, MA**
 Facilitation of workshop on methods for sharing professional teaching experiences, lesson plans, and student work. This was part of the on-going work of the National School Reform Faculty Coaching project.
- 1997 **Coalition of Essential Schools Fall Forum** **San Francisco, CA**
 Facilitation of a day-long workshop on methods for sharing teachers’ work with

- present The IHE Network represents all of the teacher preparation programs in the state of New Hampshire and is a policy and standards organization.
<http://ihenetwork.org/about-us>
- 2015-17 **Professional Learning Community** U28, Erving, MA
PD Consultant/co-leader
In conjunction with Paul Bocko, provided planning, leadership coaching and facilitation for the development of professional learning community groups at U28.
- 2015 **Critical Friends Group Training**
MC2 Charter High Schools Keene & Manchester, NH
Providing the first half of traditional critical friends group training for the full faculty of both campuses of the MC2 Charter High Schools.
- 2013-2020 **Vermont Insight Meditation Society** Brattleboro, VT
Member of the Board of Trustees. Board President 2015- Present.
- 2012 **Critical Friends Group Trainer** Windham NESU, Bellows Falls, VT
Through the Antioch Center for School Renewal. Providing 5 day training for teachers and administrators in the use of the Critical Friends model of professional learning community development.
- Group
- 2011 **School Coach** Springfield, VT
Working through the Antioch Center for School Renewal, providing professional development experiences for a K-2 elementary school that is undergoing both structural and leadership transitions. Primary focus is on building professional learning community using Critical Friends Group activities and protocols and helping re-establish a social and emotional curriculum.
- 2011 **Professional Standards Board Committee : member** Concord, NH
Member of the committee of the Professional Standards Board Committee charged by the Commissioner of Education for NH to re-write and update the rules governing the certification of School Principals(Ed 614.04), Principal-Instructional Leaders and Associate Principals (Ed 506.04) and District Administrator(Ed 506.06).
- 2011 **Mindfulness for Educators Certificate Program** Brattleboro, VT
This program was a three way partnership between the Antioch Center for School Renewal, The Center for Mindful Inquiry and the Barre Center for Buddhist Studies. The year-long, 9 credit graduate certificate program is designed to help teachers PreK-University level to apply the ideas of reflective practice and mindfulness to teaching and learning situations. Responsibilities include help with program design and administration, coordination of work among the three partners, recruitment, and assisting with teaching and administration of in-person course work.
- 2011- **Board of Trustees MC2 Charter School: member** NH

- 2020 Member of the board for a P-20 state-wide charter school network whose primary premise is a shift from the “batch and queue” model of public schooling to “continuous flow,” where learners progress and graduate based on demonstrated proficiency in competencies, rather than time.
- 2009- **Springfield School District: PD Instructor** **Springfield,**
2011 **VT**
Working for the Antioch Center for School Renewal taught the Developing Mind course to PreK-12 level teachers in the Springfield School district. Responsibilities included teaching, classroom visits and oversight of curriculum projects designed to implement more developmentally appropriate curriculum design.
- 2009 **Strategic Planning Steering Committee: secretary** **Springfield, VT**
Member and secretary for year-long committee of the Springfield, VT School Board for the development of a district-wide 5 year strategic plan using the planning process of the Vermont School Boards Association.
- 2009 **Hillsboro-Deering Alt. High School: Consultant** **Hillsboro, NH**
Helped with planning and redesign of program for alternative high school program. Included observation of current program, development of professional development proposal, facilitation of in-service days and assistance with planning for 2009-2010 school structure and academic program.
- 2008 **Consultant: Springfield High School** **Springfield, VT**
Consultant to teachers and administrators for the re-constitution of the district alternative program.
- 2007- **School Reform Initiative: National Facilitator** **Keene, NH**
present Facilitation of Critical Friends Group Coaches’ training sessions and consultation with local districts to incorporate Critical Friends Group model of professional learning community into their schools
- 2007- **School Leadership Network: Co-director** **Keene, NH**
2008 Coordination and facilitation of a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation to develop a network to support principals and other school-level administrators in the Monadnock, NH region through the development of a professional learning community for school leaders at the district and regional level.
- 2006- **Westminster Vermont Schools: Consultant** **Westminster,**
Present **VT**
Consultant for the development of Critical Friends Groups, Professional Learning Community Groups and coordination and evaluation of professional development and leadership initiatives.
- 2008- **Board of Directors QED Foundation: member** **Amherst,**
present **NH**
Serve as a member of the board for a not-for-profit organization committed to school reform through “empowering everyone with the knowledge and skills to use their voices effectively and with integrity in co-creating our common public world.”

- 2006-
2007 **NH State Department of Education: Consultant** **Moultonboro, NH**
Consultant to Moultonboro Academy and partnership districts on the formation of competencies for the State of New Hampshire's new competency-based graduation requirement. Work included development of staff in-service training and general support for staff-lead workshops to develop competencies in English, Math, and Social Studies.
- 2002-
2006 **CES School Reform Coach** **Poultney High School, Poultney, VT**
Serving as a school coach in conjunction with Poultney Jr. High and High School's Comprehensive School Reform grant. Responsibilities include working with faculty and students to implement reforms consistent with the Coalition of Essential Schools reform model. In particular working with faculty on redesign of curriculum and pedagogy, working the student leadership team on raising awareness of student issues in the school community, and working with school leaders to develop an effective shared governance model.
- 2004
2006 **Leadership consultant** **Kindle Farm, Newfane, VT**
Serving as a consultant to the leadership team at Kindle Farm as they reorganize their governance and supervision structures to support their increasing size and diversity of programming.
- 2003-
2008 **MRPSOC New Program Committee** **ANEI, Keene, NH**
Participated on the New Programs Committee for the implementation of K-12 school-based programming for the 11 million dollar Monadnock Schools of Choice Grant at Antioch New England Institute. Work included advising of teachers in the MRPSOC M.Ed program and oversight and evaluation of school-based programs including a Reggio Emilia kindergarten program and a parent/family partnership program Winchester, NH; A district-wide elementary foreign language program in SAU 29; a school-wide technology integration and electronic portfolio program in Westmoreland, NH., and federal after school programs for elementary students in Claremont and Winchester, NH.
- 2001-
VT
2002 **Springfield High School Leadership Team** **Springfield,**
Member of the principal's advisory group for Springfield High School. Responsibilities include discussion of curriculum, assessment, school policy, and budget.
- 1997-
NY
2000 **New York Consortium for Performance-Based Standards** **New York,**
Member of organization formed to protect and support alternatives to standardized testing in New York City and State.
- 1994-
NY
2000 **New York Networks for School Renewal.** **New York,**
Seven schools chosen to receive part of the Annenberg Challenge Grant money provided to New York City Schools committed to reform and restructuring based on the principals of the Coalition of Essential Schools. Network involvement included planning and development of new schools. Mentoring for staff at those schools, administration of grant money, development of collaborative professional development activities among member schools and support and planning for political efforts to protect and nurture small and alternative schools in New York City.