



Levin College of Public Affairs and Education


January 24, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to introduce you to the “new” Levin College of Public Affairs and Education at Cleveland State University!

Cleveland State University (CSU) recently completed a realignment process called CSU 2.0, which is a forward thinking, growth-oriented plan that will allow CSU to return from the global pandemic as a stronger, more focused institution. As a result, the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, the School of Communication, the Department of Criminology and Sociology, and the College of Education and Human Services were realigned to produce a new entity: The College of Public Affairs and Education. The Levin family generously provided a transformational gift in October 2022 to support the new college which now bears their name. The Maxine Goodman Levin School of Urban Affairs also retains the Levin name.

CSU 2.0 has four main guiding goals for positioning the University to thrive in an environment marked by enrollment uncertainty as well as calls for higher education to engage in addressing equity and inclusion, among other issues confronting civil society:



GOAL 1

Seek distinction as a leading public urban research university



GOAL 2

Differentiate on student success and engaged learning



GOAL 3

Strengthen anchor mission / become a beacon institution



GOAL 4

Build financial strength / strengthen campus community



Levin College of Public Affairs and Education

The Potential

Challenges such as economic inequality, public safety, technological advances, and climate change, are all inextricably linked. My colleagues and I, in the new college, hope to create a larger space for more intensive work in economic development, community development, city planning, public safety, health, education (including primary, secondary, and adult education, as well as educational leadership), and new media. I believe the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education is well-positioned to address these goals using our core units' best strengths.

For example, the nationally ranked Maxine Goodman Levin School of Urban Affairs, has earned an international reputation for conducting research in economic and community development, affordable housing, energy, and population studies that improve public policies and expand opportunities for underserved people and communities. Most important, the Levin School continues its powerhouse role in training change agents for the public and nonprofit sectors.

Folding the expertise of our education and human services faculty and staff into the new Levin College of Public Affairs and Education provides valuable capacity as we work to address key challenges facing American democracy. One of the most pressing matters in public affairs is the ability of our public schools—especially urban schools—to prepare students for post-secondary attainment. The Levin College is well-situated to respond in both a local and regional context. At the regional level, our teacher preparation programs already have an equity focus, as do the well-regarded master's programs and doctoral program in Urban Education. In addition, the education faculty brings a significant body of work in K-12 STEM education that spans categories such as equity, youth development, and workforce preparation.

Locally, I am proud to share that our Center for Urban Education and its 'hand and glove' relationship with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) has led to a collaboration that provides deep analyses of District data that has been credited with greatly informing CMSD management decisions, which have resulted in better educational outcomes over the last few years.

Our Criminology and Sociology Department addresses social justice and criminal justice with a specialized focus on social inequality, gender, race and ethnicity, health, mental illness, aging, and policing. The applied work of the Criminology Research Center is well-valued by various Cleveland and Cuyahoga County (OH) offices that rely on its crime data analysis.

The School of Communication encourages students to examine the powerful, transformative role that communication plays in contemporary society. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for careers in fields such as public relations, integrated strategic communication, mediation and relational communication, as well as health communication. In addition, it trains journalism students to investigate and bring visibility to the important challenges facing our country.

Our cross-disciplinary research and practice can (and will) inform areas, including leadership development (we have two extraordinarily strong centers:



Levin College of Public Affairs and Education

The Center for Public and Nonprofit Management and the Center for Educational Leadership), Energy Conservation (Center for Energy Policy), increasing access to good livelihoods (the Center for Economic Development), and enhancing civic engagement (the Office of Civic Engagement).

Lastly, our faculty, staff, and students of Levin College have made their voices heard during a series of listening sessions held over the past year. They want a work and learning environment that embodies diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). We are intentionally cultivating a culture in the new college that fosters the values of our students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Together we are creating pipelines through which traditionally underrepresented groups can thrive.

Despite the many complexities brought about by the realignment, this is an extremely exciting time. I have been inspired by the work of my colleagues over the past two years and look forward to sharing the important work of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni as we build this institution with the goal of one college, one destiny!

Sincerely,



Roland V. Anglin, PhD, Dean and Professor
Levin College of Public Affairs and Education



Academic Programs



Significant Areas of Research



 **100**
FULL-TIME
FACULTY MEMBERS

 **16**
RESEARCH *and*
APPLIED CENTERS

Combined External Support



LEARN MORE ABOUT US