



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**Fall 2021 Doctoral Forum Retreat  
Saturday, October 30, 2021  
9:30 AM – 11:30 PM  
Virtual Event Through Teams**

- 9:20 – 9:30 Virtual meeting room open. Students and speakers check in.
- 9:30 – 9:35 Welcome, Introductions and Updates (Associate Dean Stephen Mitchell)
- 9:35 – 10:05 Publications and Conference Presentations (Paul J. Geis)
- 10:05 – 10:10 5-minute break
- 10:10 – 10:40 Conducting Literature Review and Helpful Organizing Tools (Vanessa Earp)
- 10:40 – 10:45 5-minute break
- 10:45 – 11:20 Scholarships and Funds for Doctoral Students
- Laura Riddle, Special Assistant, College of Education, Health & Human Services
  - Claire Jackman, Executive Chair for Graduate Student Services
- 11:20 – 11:30 Wrap Up

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**Associate Dean Stephen Mitchell**

Stephen Mitchell has been at Kent State University since 1992. He is the Associate Dean for EHHS Administrative Affairs and Graduate Education and a Professor in Curriculum and Instruction. Steve holds a PhD from Syracuse University and a Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Loughborough University in England. He has authored numerous articles and book chapters related to standards-based teaching in Physical Education, and has co-authored three textbooks, including two related to teaching games for understanding within public school physical education, with one now into its fourth edition. Steve is a past-president of the Ohio Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (OAHPERD), a role in which he fronted advocacy efforts that led to a mandatory standard based Physical Education assessment system in the state of Ohio.

**Paul J. Geis**

Paul is a doctoral candidate in Cultural Foundations. He focuses on applying the concepts of learning and study – from philosophy of education—to the context of education abroad. He has presented his academic work at regional, national, and international conferences, to both scholarly and practitioner audiences. He has also published peer-reviewed pieces in both scholar- and practitioner-facing publications. Prior to coming to Kent State, he worked for more than 15 years in education abroad at three different universities. He holds a BA in French and an MA in Higher Education, both from Boston College. Paul enjoys plant-based cooking (and baking!) and working in his vegetable garden at his home in Alliance, Ohio.

**Vanessa Earp**

Vanessa is the subject librarian for the College of Education, Health and Human Services and also the Coordinator of the Kent Campus Plagiarism School program. She has worked at KSU for 16 years. She has a BS in Communication from the University of Akron, MLS from Indiana University, MS in Reading from Texas A&M, and an EdS in Higher Education from Kent State. She is currently enrolled in the Research, Measurement, and Statistics program here at KSU and is taking her comprehensive exams this semester. Her area of research interest is academic integrity among college students. She lives on a small hobby farm with her husband Paul, 2 cats, and 4 German Shepherds.

**Laura Riddle**

Laura has worked in the College of EHHS for over 20 years and graduated from the college in 2016 earning a BSE in Educational Studies with minors in Sociology and Pan-African Studies. She is now the EHHS Advancement Operations Manager. Her work supports the College's Director of Philanthropy in part through the coordination of the EHHS scholarship opportunities. One of her roles is as scholarship administrator which provides support between Institutional Advancement, where officers create funds, and the college where they are awarded. Stewarding our donor gifts by awarding their scholarships to deserving students is largely what defines her role.

**Claire Jackman**

Claire is a 4th year graduate student of the Department of Psychological Sciences in the area of Behavioral Neuroscience. She is in her second term as the Executive Chair of the Graduate Student Senate. Before joining the Kent State community, she attended Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, PA, where she earned a BS in biology with minors in mathematics and psychology. There, her involvement in student government began as a class senator for two years followed by terms as Executive Secretary and then President before continuing her advocacy efforts in graduate school. Her research investigates the effects of cholinergic drugs on the ability of rats to learn and perform complex serial pattern behaviors. She shares a home with Rhemy, her cat/teaching assistant!