Dissertation Awards of Merit



Jenna Rose Sablan PhD '15 Dissertation Title: "No Student is an Island: College Readiness on Guam"

Chair: Dr. William G. Tierney



Erin Abshere EdD '16

Dissertation Title: "The Relationship

Between Employee Value Propositions

and Teacher Employment Decisions"

Chair: Dr. Dennis Hocevar



Trista Ann Beard EdD '16

Dissertation Title: "Significant Others

Dissertation Title: "Significant Others in the Lives of Latino First-Generation College Students: How Social Capital Aids Persistence"

Chair: Dr. Reynaldo R. Baca

Student Speaker



Jeffrey Mark Knepper EdD '15

Dissertation Title: "The Impact of the Mindful Method, Youth Empowerment Seminar (YES! for Schools), on Students' Self-Efficacy, Self-Regulation, and Academic Performance for Becoming College- and Career-Ready"

Chair: Dr. Patricia Tobey



Commencement 2016





Non-Profit Organization US Postage PAID University of Southern California

Flag Bearers



Giil Lee MAT '16

"My educational journey with Rossier was full of challenge and inspiration. I have learned about teaching pedagogy and students' cultural background. As a prospective teacher, now I am geared up to start my first year teaching."



Hui Qing

ME Educational Counseling '16

"I have received tremendous support from the passionate and inspiring Rossier faculty, staff, internship supervisors and my cohort members throughout the Educational Counseling program. I will Fight On in my journey to becoming a specialist in international education!"



Salman Farooq

Master of Marriage and Family Therapy '16

"True transformation comes from one thing and one thing only: people. So fellow graduates, go out there. Find your environment. Maybe it's the lush tropics near Ecuador. Maybe it's the concrete and neon spiral of midtown Manhattan. Maybe it's New Jersey. But wherever that place is, make sure of one thing, and one thing above all else: That you're with people."



Keynote Speaker



Michelle King Superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District

"So, graduates, you are on the forefront of progress. With a degree from the USC Rossier School of Education and an understanding of the complexities of urban education, you are prepared to disrupt the status quo, defy society's expectations and shape the future direction of education."





From left to right: Dean Karen Symms Gallagher, Brent Noyes (second row), Carol Fox, Roger Rossier, Ira Krinsky, Mary James and Doreen Peterson.





























































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