

Leadership Council Chronicle

September 2023



Meet Two More New Professors

We're excited to welcome f ve—yes, five!—new professors to our team at the <u>UNC Center for Urban Education</u> (CUE) this fall. In this edition of the newsletter, we'll introduce two of them: Micaela Munoz and Kaci Coats. (We introduced the other three last month.) We appreciate our new colleagues sharing a little about themselves.

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Micaela Muñoz is teaching Earth and Life Science this fall and will emphasize the relationship between science and social justice. She is from Argentina and moved to the United States when she was eight years old. After 21 years in the country, she became a citizen last year. "It was an emotional moment for me and my family," she said.

Muñoz has been teaching ninth-grade bio

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New CUE Professor Kaci Coats

Kaci Coats

Kaci Coats is teaching Advanced Assessment in Special Education this fall. She received her bachelor's degree from Ouachita Baptist University and holds a master's degree in Educational Leadership and Special Education Administration from the University of Northern Colorado.

Coats spent 16 years in Colorado's education sector as an educator in various settings. She worked in youth corrections and public schools, was a student services leader at a network of Denver charter schools, and provided technical assistance to schools across the state with the Colorado League of Charter Schools.

In 2022, she launched the Collaborative for Exceptional Education to provide training and technical assistance to Colorado schools. She also advocates at the district and state levels to increase the level of quality educational options available to Colorado's diverse learners.

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Coats has led several initiatives to build paraprofessional-to-special educator pipelines, so she jumped at the opportunity to join the CUE team. "I have found that people who work in schools while building their knowledge and skills in a thoughtful and sustainable way stay in the profession longer," said Coats. "CUE is addressing the educator shortage and, over time, bolstering educator retention."

In her spare time, Kaci loves hiking with friends and her dog Layla, playing board and card games with family, and laughing at/with her husband and their two boys.

Thinking about Becoming a Teacher?

We are enrolling new students for the spring 2024 semester. Call Dr. Rosanne Fulton, Director, UNC Center for Urban Education, at 303-637-4334 or <a href="mailto:emai



Center for Urban Education