

## LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

One University Park Drive  
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### Mission

The mission of the Lipscomb University College of Education is to serve and inspire students so they master the knowledge, attitudes and skills needed to become caring and competent educators in a diverse and technological society. In 2008, the education department became the College of Education to maximize the growth in the department.

The College of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Tennessee State Board of Education.

### Statistics

- 50 undergraduate teacher education graduates annually
- 263 undergraduate teacher education majors enrolled in the 2008-09 school year
- Over 300 graduate students enrolled in the MEd, MA, and MAT programs
- 95 to 100% pass rate on PRAXIS II (teacher licensing exams) for the past four years
- 100% placement rate in 2008

### Awards & Grants

- ▶ **Math and Science Partnership (MSP) grants**, \$1.5 million in the past three years  
For the SEE-Math Workshop, intensive summer teacher institutes for high school and middle school math teachers, held by the College of Education and the College of Natural and Applied Sciences.
- ▶ **Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ) grants**, more than \$200,000  
To provide biology, chemistry and physics in-service workshops for teachers in Middle Tennessee.
- ▶ **Lipscomb/Learning Collaborative Incorporated Partnership**, up to \$3.8 million  
To develop three centers, one in each region of the state, to offer the Master of Arts in Learning and Teaching (MALT) and licensure preparation programs in several "high-need" areas such as: science, foreign language, and special education (Master of Arts in Special Education or MASE).
- ▶ **Transition to Teaching Grants**, \$250,000  
To provide routes to teacher licensure for persons currently teaching on alternative licenses in high-need school districts.
- ▶ **Other grants** in the areas of reading and children's literature from:  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Dollar General Literacy Foundation  
Delta Kappa Gamma

### Programs

Academic programs providing degrees or tailored for licensure completion are available in all of these areas:

#### Undergraduate Degrees

- Interdisciplinary (K-6)
- Biology (7-12)
- Chemistry (7-12)
- English (7-12)
- Mathematics (7-12)
- Physics (7-12)
- History/Government or Economics (7-12)
- Art (K-12)
- French (K-12)
- Instrumental Music (K-12)
- German (K-12)
- Vocal/General Music (K-12)
- Spanish (K-12)
- Health/Physical Education (K-12)
- Theater (K-12)

#### Graduate Degrees

- Instructional Leadership (M.Ed.)
- School Administration (M.Ed.)
- Master of Arts in Learning and Teaching (MALT)
- Master of Arts in English Language Learners (MATELL)
- Master of Arts in Special Education (MASE)

Graduate courses are offered in traditional daytime schedules, online courses as well as accelerated, night and weekend-only schedules.

### Contact information

For more information about the College of Education visit us online at [education.lipscomb.edu](http://education.lipscomb.edu)

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*"There is no better feeling than investing tons of efforts, prayers, and hopes into a student who most think won't make it, and then after almost giving up, seeing them blossom."*

#### Natalie Bradley

Teach For America sixth-grade teacher  
Urban Science Academy in Bronx, NY  
2008 Lipscomb University graduate



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## **Media Advisory**

### **Teach For America to announce Lipscomb University partnership**

- WHAT:** Teach For America, a national program that places talented young leaders in high need classrooms, will announce a new partnership with Lipscomb University's College of Education.
- WHO:** Mayor Karl Dean, who was instrumental in bringing Teach For America to Nashville, will join Lipscomb University President L. Randolph Lowry and Teach For America Tennessee Executive Director Brad Leon for the announcement.
- WHEN:** Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 1:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** The Ezell Center, Room 363, Lipscomb University
- WHY:** Lipscomb University will join an elite group of universities that work with Teach For America. Details of the partnership will be provided at the event.

#### **PROGRAM**



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## **News Release**

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### **Teach For America selects Lipscomb University as Nashville training site**

NASHVILLE (Feb. 11, 2009) – Nashville Mayor Karl Dean and Teach For America Tennessee Executive Director Brad Leon joined Lipscomb University President L. Randolph Lowry on campus today to celebrate Lipscomb’s selection as the local education partner for Nashville’s first Teach For America teaching corps, arriving this fall.

“We have recognized, as a community, the critical link between great teachers and great schools,” said Mayor Karl Dean, who was instrumental in bringing Teach For America to Nashville. “I congratulate and applaud Lipscomb for providing the necessary training for Nashville’s first Teach For America corps members.”

“Lipscomb joins an elite group of universities that work with Teach For America preparing our talented young leaders for service in our nation’s high need classrooms,” said Brad Leon, Tennessee’s Teach For America executive director. “Lipscomb’s College of Education has an excellent reputation. Their strong academic standing and commitment to serving students in Nashville’s Public Schools make this a perfect partnership as we launch our new Nashville initiative to ensure that all students have access to an excellent education.”

In 2008, nearly 25,000 applicants to Teach For America competed for 3,700 teaching positions. The selected graduates commit at least two years to teaching in urban and rural public schools and to becoming lifelong leaders in expanding educational opportunity.

“I am grateful that Mayor Dean had the vision and leadership to bring Teach For America to Nashville,” said Lipscomb University President Randy Lowry. “I look forward to welcoming these new teachers to campus.”

“Lipscomb is honored to partner with this innovative program that offers one solution to the complex challenges facing our public school system,” said Lowry of the new

collaboration. “Providing Teach For America educators with the required coursework for licensure is one way Lipscomb University can serve the community.”

The 50 incoming members of Nashville’s Teach For America corps hold degrees from various academic majors and will begin teaching in selected high-need schools with alternative licenses. This school year, full licensure will be earned through classes at Lipscomb University. Lipscomb also will be the site for the program’s summer orientation which will take place after corps members return from Teach For America’s training institute in Atlanta.

Since the state approved the use of alternative teacher licensure, Lipscomb’s College of Education has been leading the way in recruiting quality professionals from different fields into the classroom.

“Because of our long history of close collaboration with Metro schools we have a keen awareness of the need for qualified teachers. When alternative licensure was approved, we were ready with a variety of unique teacher certification programs,” said Candice McQueen, dean of Lipscomb’s College of Education. “Through these programs we are training individuals from many different professional backgrounds to become teachers. I’m truly pleased that these efforts will be magnified by our partnership with such a well-respected and proven organization -- Teach For America.”

Today, 6,200 Teach For America corps members are teaching in more than 1,600 schools in 29 regions across the country. More than 14,000 Teach For America alumni continue working from inside and outside the field of education for the fundamental changes necessary to ensure educational excellence and equity.

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## **Lipscomb alumna impacts South Bronx community through Teach for America**

For Natalie Bradley an Internet search for nonprofit organizations changed her career path in unexpected ways. Bradley, who majored in communications and minored in Bible at Lipscomb University, wanted to find opportunities to give back to society. While completing her degree, she searched the Internet for volunteer opportunities hoping to find nonprofit agencies that shared her ideals.

“I knew that I wanted to do something that helped society, and I have always been very interested in everyone having freedom. I believe that education is one of the only means to freedom, so I decided to look online for nonprofits that had the same ideals. I found Teach for America off of that, and I applied. Now I am teaching sixth grade at Urban Science Academy in the South Bronx,” said Bradley, who is originally from Johnson City, Tenn. The Urban Science Academy is a middle school serving three neighborhoods of the South Bronx with instruction in grades five through eight. The school has an enrollment of approximately 485 students.



**Natalie Bradley studied in an innovative Lipscomb class at the Tennessee Prison for Women before moving on to teach in an underprivileged neighborhood in New York City.**

Teach for America is the national corps of outstanding recent college graduates and professionals of all academic majors and career interests who commit two years to teach in urban and rural public schools and become leaders in the effort to expand educational opportunity. Their corps members work to ensure that more students growing up today in our country's lowest-income communities are given the educational opportunities they deserve. In the long run, their alumni are a powerful force of leaders working from inside education and from every other sector to effect the fundamental changes needed to ensure that all children have an equal chance in life.

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Lipscomb alumna in Teach For America

“I decided to teach because I want to be able to give students the same opportunities that I have had. Teaching has impacted my life by making me very patient. It has also taught me a lot about unconditional love. Because this is my first year teaching, I am continually growing and have interesting interactions every day. There are a few students who I have seen turn themselves around and truly apply themselves. Although this may seem basic, there is no better feeling than investing tons of efforts, prayers, and hopes into a student who most think won't make it, and then after almost giving up, seeing them blossom,” said Bradley.

While at Lipscomb, Bradley had an opportunity to see the desire for freedom many people experience and the gratitude many feel when given educational opportunities when she took a literature course in the Tennessee Prison for Women. The course was offered as part of an innovative Lipscomb program that brings traditional students and the inmates of the prison together to study a liberal arts topic. Bradley felt the course gave her a new perspective. “I’m really learning the beauty of humanity and the beauty of people. I very much have a heart to learn by walking in other people’s shoes,” she said.

The Teach for America program adds a new dimension to Bradley’s ongoing growth and service. “This is an amazing program. You really are in it to change lives, including yours,” she said. “In saying that, this is also a very demanding job. There are many high stakes. If you are to do this, you need to make sure you are committed because these kids can’t afford to become hopeful by someone who says they care to make a difference in their lives and then get let down by abandonment. Although this is the hardest thing I have ever done thus far in my life, I love it and would not change it for anything.”