

VSBPE

Date: Jan. 12, 2021

Item: Review Team for UVEI New Program ROPA Review

ITEM: Shall the VSBPE approve the following review team members for Upper Valley Educator Institute's New Program ROPA Review for the Specialized Literacy Endorsement?

AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the VSBPE approve the following review team members for UVEI's new program ROPA review.

Tess Dussling, ROPA Team Chairperson, received her B.S. from the University of Miami, her M.S. from Florida International University, and her Ph.D. from Syracuse University. Her areas of expertise are literacy education, early literacy interventions, instructional approaches for helping struggling literacy learners, English language learners, teacher preparation, and working with culturally and linguistically diverse students. Tess is an Assistant Professor of Education at St. Michael's College, where she heads the ROPA-approved literacy education program.

Sandra Mings-Lamar received her B.A. from Seattle University and her M.A. from San Francisco State University. She has been the Director of International Programs and an ESOL teacher and department head at Lyndon Institute, and is currently the ELL Coordinator for the White Mountain Regional School District in Whitefield, NH. Sandra holds a Vermont educator license with endorsements in Director of Curriculum, English Language Learner, and Principal, and has served on a Peer Review panel for the AOE.

Christine Kurucz earned her B.A. in English with Secondary Ed Certification from SUNY Geneseo, her M.S. degree in Reading from SUNY Cortland, and then her Online Teaching Certificate from Plymouth University. She has taught in North Carolina and New York and has spent the last 20 years in Vermont teaching high school English at Twin Valley Middle High School in southern Vermont. She has endorsements in secondary English and as an online teaching specialist, and is representing the VSBPE on the review team.

Cera Putney-Crane earned her B.A. from SUNY Old Westbury and her M.S. from Marywood College, as well as completing postbac studies at St. Michael's College. She

is a literacy teacher at Lyman C. Hunt Middle School and holds endorsements in English Language Learner and Reading/English Language Arts Coordinator.

Ellen Cairns is the ROPA Coordinator at the AOE. Ellen received her B.S. from The University of Vermont in Elementary and Special Education and is a former elementary school teacher.