

# Equitable Access to Excellent Educators

TOP  
**10** by **20**

**MISSOURI PROUD**



Volume 2

## Excellent Teachers in Urban Schools

This issue highlights College of Education programs within the University of Missouri system that are designed for candidates who desire to teach in urban settings.

### University of Missouri Kansas City (UMKC)

UMKC's Institute of Urban Education (IUE), the first of its kind in the United States, was established as a four-year teacher education program in 2007. The completion of the program leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary or middle school education. The program specifically focuses on preparing teachers for success in urban classrooms and introduces issues of social justice and multicultural learning styles. Field coursework is taught in actual classrooms at charter schools and in Kansas City Public Schools. This features a year-long clinical co-teaching experience that begins before the first day of school. IUE students can earn \$5,000 scholarships per academic year for the program with a four-year commitment to teach in urban school settings in Kansas City.

### University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL)

Through its mission and vision, UMSL is devoted to serving the diverse metropolitan community of St. Louis. The College of Education is the most diverse in the state, with a 25 percent minority representation of faculty and students. The school has successfully partnered with Teach for America to ensure urban schools have highly qualified, culturally diverse educators in classrooms. Teacher candidates also earn dual certification in special education to address statewide specialty area shortages. UMSL offers a "Teach in 12" program that affords teacher candidates who already hold an undergraduate degree the opportunity to earn a teaching certificate in 12-15 months, as well as a Bachelor of Education Studies degree for individuals pursuing non-certified educational arenas.

### University of Missouri-Columbia (MU)

Unique features of MU's teacher preparation program include a full-year clinical experience; a Teach Abroad program for teacher candidates to gain international exposure in South Africa, India, or Ghana; and student-led spring break field experiences in Detroit and Atlanta public school systems to develop cultural competencies. In a strategic effort to recruit culturally diverse teacher candidates, the College of Education offers a four-year, \$6,000-\$8,000 scholarship to first-generation college students from minority groups.

