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## Editor's Note

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# Editor's Note

**MARIO D'AGOSTINO**

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When I first learned that my institution, Nova Southeastern University (NSU), was acquiring *Experiential Learning & Teaching in Higher Education (ELTHE)*, I was immediately struck by two seemingly disparate emotions: elation and apprehension. On one hand, I was grateful for the opportunity to join the journal as Managing Editor, especially since I revel in overseeing a prospective author's writing process. It is such an amazing experience assisting authors with their ideas and watching as an initial node of thought materializes on the page, enduring and withstanding countless drafting, revising, and editing suggestions, before finally arriving at its final form. Indeed, this was an exciting time for those of us involved in the journal's transition from Southern Utah University (SUU) to NSU. Beyond the excitement many of us felt, I personally could not evade my sense of apprehension. As someone familiar with *ELTHE*'s catalogue and the important voices that have graced the pages of this journal, my concern regarded *how* we would rise to the occasion and sustain the incredible foundation laid by the editors, reviewers, and authors that came before us. After all, the journal's inaugural Editor, Kurt Harris, did not shy away from setting a grand objective for the journal in his "A Note from the Editor," writing that: "[the goal of *ELTHE*] is to build an internationally recognized and oft-cited journal" that is "dedicated to the promotion of experiential learning and teaching specifically in higher education." ("A Note," 2017). With Harris' mandate in mind, Dr. Kevin Dvorak—the journal's incoming Editor-in-Chief—and I immediately got to work laying out a plan for how we would push *ELTHE* into the future.

We are so excited to have *ELTHE* at NSU. During its time at SUU, *ELTHE* established itself as a vital space for experiential practitioners in all disciplines to share their best practices for teaching and learning in higher education. Now that we are situated at this critical juncture amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we understand that there is an enormous demand for mobilizing and circulating the ideas of experiential educators, especially as many of us perform the looming, lumbering work of moving programs to exclusively online or hybrid teaching models for fall 2020. In recogniz-

ing the appetite for this scholarship—and in keeping with Harris’ directive above—*ELTHE* at NSU wishes to extend its readership to all members of the National Society for Experiential Educators (NSEE). Beyond simply strengthening our audience and readership, though, we want *ELTHE* to be *the* preeminent repository for the many diverse disciplines, distinct voices, and dialogic viewpoints that permeate our field.

While Volume 2, Issue 2 is shorter than subsequent issues due to the journal’s transition, we are proud of the articles that follow. Taken together, these articles are principally concerned with community-based pedagogies in experiential spaces. Maureen Snow Andrade and Jonathan Westover research student motivation for enrolling in service-learning courses, as well as examine the likelihood for course and program completion among millennial students in “Engaging Millennial Students through Community-Engaged Experiential Learning.” Alternatively, Carolyn Casale and C. Adrainne Thomas investigate interactive field-based experiential learning activities designed to understand and strengthened ties with various community stakeholders in “Community Engagement through Interactive Field-Based Activities.” It was an absolute pleasure reading through these submissions as we prepared them for publication; I can only hope that within them, our readership will find deeper perspectives on the topics discussed, sparking their curiosity and motivating them to further engage with the publishing process (for more information on *ELTHE*, or if you are interested in submitting to, or reviewing for, the journal, visit our new website at <https://nsuworks.nova.edu/elthe/>).

As we move forward with *ELTHE* at NSU, I want to extend our sincerest gratitude to SUU and all the editors who devoted their time to the journal (Kurt Harris, Tammy Buehler, Abigail Lochtefeld, and Earl Mulderink). I also want to thank the journal’s current Editor-in-Chief, Kevin Dvorak, for his patience and much needed guidance during the journal’s transition; the journal’s current Production Manager, Dr. Eric Mason, who laid out the journal and who reviewed each article with lapidary precision; Gena Meroth who manages and oversees the journal’s website on NSUWorks; and Drs. Martha Snyder and Teri Williams for their consultation during the transition process. Finally, a special thank you to Dr. Marianna Savoca and NSEE for their enduring and dedicated support to the field of experiential education and, most especially, for their endorsement of this journal.

Onward and upward.

## References

Harris, K. (2017). A note from the editor. *Experiential Learning & Teaching in Higher Education*, 1(1), 5-6.