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Letter from the Past President

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Message From the Past President

As the Past President of the New York Association for Teacher Education (NYACTE), I am thrilled to welcome Dr. Christine Ashby and Dr. Julia White as the new co-editors of our association journal, *Excelsior: Leadership in Teaching and Learning*. Dr. Ashby is an associate professor and Dr. White is an assistant professor in the School of Education at Syracuse University. They have worked closely with the staff of the Syracuse University Libraries to move *Excelsior* from a print journal to an online, fully open-access journal (<https://surface.syr.edu/excelsior/>). This is an exciting venture and will allow many more people access to the research published in the journal.

Excelsior is a vehicle for communicating with teacher and leader educators in New York State about the research work that is being carried out. Our goals for the journal are to: (a) produce quality research to be disseminated among our member institutions, (b) form an archive or collection of knowledge and best practice, and (c) serve as a validation of quality research conducted by our colleagues in teacher and leader education.

This first issue in the new format has articles dealing with key issues that we face in teacher and leader education: the role of the clinical educator in teacher preparation, university leadership of professional schools, expanding capacity to serve multilingual learners, and recruiting teachers during a time of dropping enrollments. I encourage you to read these articles and engage with colleagues in discussions about these important issues.

Special thanks to the individuals who serve on the *Excelsior* editorial board and who devote much time, effort and thought in their review process. Their service only helps to ensure we are publishing work that reflects the high standards of our profession, new and innovative methodologies and pedagogies in the field, and the foundation of academic research and professional knowledge.

As I move from NYACTE President to NYACTE Past President, I am very grateful to Dr. April Bedford, Dean of Brooklyn College, CUNY, for her willingness to serve as President of NYACTE. I know she will do a fantastic job as President!

As always,

Joanna O. Masingila