

Dr. Jerry K. Pinsel

Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Baton Rouge, LA

Educational background

Ph. D. Louisiana State University
M. Ed. Augusta State University
B. S. Southeastern Louisiana University
Postdoctoral, Institute for the Management of Lifelong Learning, Harvard University

Past positions related to teacher education

As LCTCS V.P. A.S.A., led the statewide effort to create a common Associate of Science in Teaching (A.S.T.) degree that transfers, without loss of credit, to every four-year, public university in the State
Executive Director, Sixth District Professional Development Center, Southeastern Louisiana University
Graduate Teaching and Laboratory School Faculty member, Southeastern Louisiana University
Supervisor of Student Teaching, Louisiana State University
Unit Chair and Teacher, C. T. Walker Elementary School, Augusta, GA

National educational memberships including past or current positions

National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs
Phi Delta Kappa – Southeast Louisiana Chapter Vice President, President, and Past-President

Past NACCTEP Board positions or committees

Member-at-Large, Executive Committee
Scholarship Review Committee
Conference Proposal Committee

What is your vision for community college teacher education programs?

I believe that community college teacher education programs are in unique positions to recruit, and retain, classroom teacher candidates from a broadly diverse audience of individuals who understand their respective communities. They are uniquely positioned to be to identify teacher candidates who want to be a part of bringing quality learning experiences back into those communities. Further, I believe that the future of community college teacher education programs is intertwined with their ability to make each teacher candidate feel important to the process of dramatically changing the lives of young people for the better.

What advice would you give to a future teacher?

I would advise all individuals who enjoy working with others: Consider teaching as a career. The teaching profession is one that gives rise to all other professions; but, it is also a profession that affords individuals opportunities to bring hope and joy into the lives of others. This opportunity often presents itself at times when young people (and their families) most need security and encouragement. When they are no longer youngsters, they may never remember the name of the myriad of individuals who touched their lives; but, they will always remember the

name of “that special teacher”....the one who made a difference in their lives. Finally, I would advise: Stay the course.

Interests or hobbies

I very much enjoy spending time with our two young grandsons, ages one and two. When time permits, I thoroughly enjoy traveling (at home and abroad).