

## Logsdon, Jeremy

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**From:** Houchens, Gary  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 7, 2025 12:04 PM  
**To:** Houchens, Gary  
**Subject:** EdD Summer Residency - faculty participation  
**Attachments:** EdD Summer Residency Schedule 2025.docx

Doctoral faculty, the summer EdD residency program will be held Monday, June 23 (starting midday) through Thursday, June 26 (ending with lunch). The residency brings together students who have been admitted to the program over the last two years for team building, summer class sessions, and training and information workshops to help them succeed in the doctoral program. Due to anticipated repairs in GRH this summer, the residency will be held in Downing Student Union with all general sessions conducted in the Nite Class space in the Southeast corner of DSU. A full schedule of events is attached, and you are invited to participate in any and all components of the residency. However, there are two parts of the residency in particular that we urge you to attend if your schedule allows:

### **Faculty roundtable and cocktail hour**

On Monday, June 23 at 3 pm we will have a roundtable activity during which program faculty can introduce themselves to students and talk about your research and professional interests. I will also facilitate a panel-style discussion drawing out your advice for students new to the doctoral journey. This event will conclude around 4:15 pm and then you are invited to join us on the patio behind DSU (weather permitting) for drinks and appetizers (we will stay in Nite Class if the weather doesn't cooperate).

### **Keynote speakers**

Please join us for any of the following keynote presentations if you are interested:

On Monday afternoon, June 23, at 1:30 pm prior to the faculty roundtable, Dr. Aaron Thompson, president of the Kentucky Council of Postsecondary Education, will talk about trends and challenges facing K12 and higher education leaders.

On Thursday morning, June 26, starting at 8:30 am, the residency program will conclude with two keynote speakers:

- Dr. Dewey Hensley, founder of Poverty Considerate Schools, will join EdD Director Dr. Gary Houchens for a conversation about student-focused educational leadership. Dr. Hensley is an education consultant who has previously served as principal, chief academic officer for the Jefferson County Public Schools, and associate commissioner for the Kentucky Department of Education.
- Alex Spurrier, education analyst for Bellwether Education Partners, will speak about the challenges of integrating AI in education settings, the recent "Rose Revival" lawsuit for K12 education funding, what the pending "baby bust" means for educators, and more. Alex conducts research and policy analysis on a wide variety of education topics. He previously worked for the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS).

**Please RSVP to me if you are able to join us for the faculty roundtable event on Monday, June 23,** and please join us for these exciting keynote speakers.

**Gary W. Houchens, Ph.D.**

Director, Educational Leadership Doctoral Program  
Professor, School of Leadership & Professional Studies  
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Website: [www.wku.edu/edd](http://www.wku.edu/edd)

Substack: [Schools, Souls, & Civitas](#)

Personal zoom room: <https://wku.zoom.us/my/garyhouchens>



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**From:** Houchens, Gary  
**Sent:** Friday, June 27, 2025 3:38 PM  
**To:** Casale, Ellen; Hudson, Laura; Cottongim, Wes; Mills, Wren; Perry, Will; Klemm, Jennifer; Super, Daniel; Logsdon, Jeremy  
**Subject:** thanks for attending the EdD Summer Residency

Faculty members, the WKU EdD Summer Residency was a great success! Thanks so much for participating in the faculty roundtable. The students reported that it was one of the most helpful parts of the residency, and I'm grateful for your involvement!

**Gary W. Houchens, Ph.D.**

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