

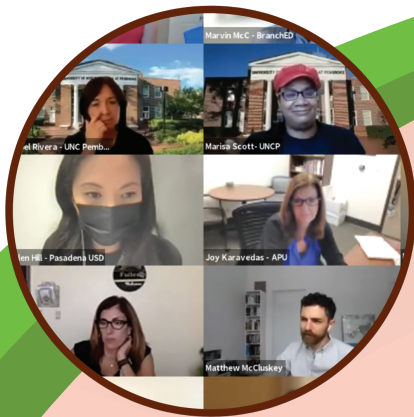
2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



Branch Alliance
for Educator Diversity



In 2021, BranchED experienced growth, took on new challenges, and strengthened our partnerships with you, our MSI deans and faculty. We accomplished so much in 2021 and look forward to an even brighter 2022 where we hope to see more of our community in person.



WINTER 2021

FEBRUARY 2021

In February, BranchED presented “Partners in Prime” at the AACTE 73rd Annual Conference. The presentation focused on creating and maintaining prime partnerships between MSI educator preparation programs and their respective school districts in order to develop teacher candidates.

In mid-February, we joined the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation to host the CAEP Standards Update Webinar, an opportunity for attendees to learn about and unpack changes to CAEP standards for accreditation.

At the ATE Annual Conference, we hosted a symposium panel discussion on Navigating Equity in Clinical Experiences during Social Upheaval with panelists from the University of Hawaii, Alabama A&M University, and Humboldt State University. We discussed how the multiple elements of social upheaval have affected the ability to serve teacher candidate needs equitably and to help candidates and novice teachers understand how to serve students equitably.

We announced the second cohort of the National Teacher Preparation Transformation Center. Institutions comprising the second cohort included Alabama A&M University in Huntsville, Ala., Mount Saint Mary’s University in Los Angeles, Calif., Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas, University of La Verne in La Verne, Calif., Virginia State University in Petersburg, Va., and West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas.

JANUARY 2021

Nearly a year into the pandemic, BranchED had settled into its fully virtual events. We kicked the year off by participating in the Non-profit Resiliency Initiative, a one-year pilot program that helps organizations identify and make progress against the critical financial, programmatic, and operational decisions they are likely to face during and after the crisis.

In the same month, our Founder, President and CEO Dr. Cassandra Herring was selected for the 2021 cohort of the National Voices Fellowship, an effort to “bring people together across partisan and geographical divides while cultivating a new and growing group of education messengers.”



**Branch Alliance
for Educator Diversity**

REDEFINING QUALITY EDUCATOR PREPARATION



SPRING 2021

MARCH 2021

In March, we had two important kickoffs: the Linguistic Diversity Joint Action Group (JAG) and SEL workshops for South Carolina principals. Both initiatives are part of BranchED's Center for Inquiry and Innovation.

APRIL 2021

In April we announced the expansion of the BranchED Board of Directors with the addition of Peter Shulman, the Chief Executive Officer of Urban Teachers. Shulman has two decades of K-12 leadership experience, ensuring all students have access to a group of highly effective educators.

Dr. Cassandra Herring, BranchED Founder, President and CEO, and Dr. Tara Plachowski, BranchED research associate, led a session for an American Educational Research Association (AERA) Roundtable that highlighted the publication, *Creating a Community of Learners: A Case Study*. The session, "Exploring Equitable School and University Partnerships," was part of AERA's "Accepting Educational Responsibility" 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting.

MAY 2021

BranchED developed the Equity Rubric for Open Educational Resources (OER) Evaluation to address the gap in instruments for evaluating OER teacher education instructional materials for equity. The rubric is intended for use by Teacher Educators (TEs) to evaluate OER with the goal of increasing the number of high-quality, equity oriented, and inclusive OER that represents communities of color.

In a partnership with Ed-Fi, BranchED helps EPPs develop Dashboard Starter kits. These starter kits are a way to help EPPs visualize their data and create a user friendly one-stop data shop for EPPs.



2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

SUMMER 2021

JUNE 2021

We hosted an MSI Leaders Community Conversation, providing MSI EPPs an opportunity to discuss leveraging federal funding, supporting district partners, and connecting with colleagues.

We also initiated a collaborative research project to develop a rubric on inclusive instruction and completed a data toolkit in June.

JULY 2021

In July, we released 'A Primer on Inclusive Instruction,' a primer intended for teacher educators, whom we define as individuals who play a role in the preparation of teacher candidates by providing instruction or guidance.

Additionally, we released A Year in the Life of MSI Teacher Educators During COVID-19: Key Takeaways. This report focused on how, for EPPs in Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)

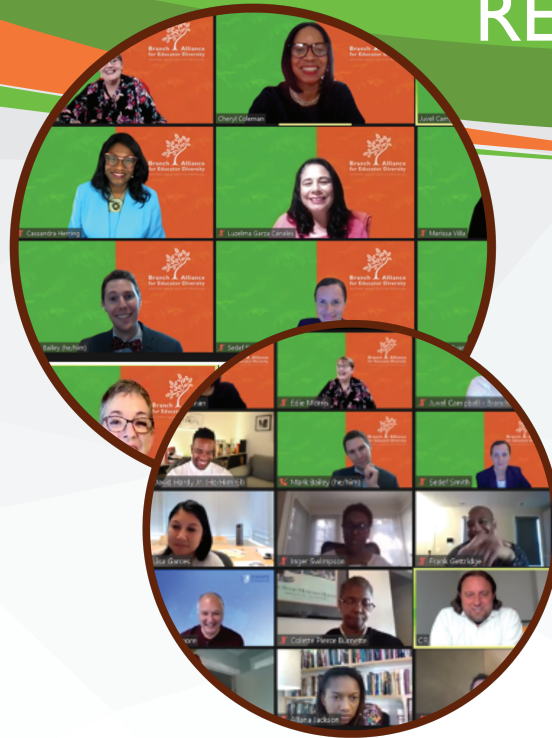
AUGUST 2021

In August, we also published 'Using Equity Reviews to Assess and Address Opportunity Gaps in Teacher Preparation Programs,' which looked at learnings from four prototype reviews conducted at predominately white institutions as well as considerations and opportunities for undertaking like reviews in the future.

The National Teacher Preparation Transformation Center announces its third cohort, which includes Azusa Pacific University, Texas A&M-San Antonio, Pacific Oaks College and University of North Carolina Pembroke. This report focused on how, for EPPs in Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)

who serve a disproportionate number of students of color with great success, the pandemic created increased urgency in meeting the needs of their teacher candidates.

All of our Transformation Center coaches also became Critical Friends Coaching certified this month.



FALL 2021



SEPTEMBER 2021

BranchED continued to expand its board of directors with the addition of Vicki Phillips, chief education officer at the National Geographic Society.

As part of our work in providing a network of school leaders support through intentional professional development centered on strengthening Social Emotional Learning (SEL) competencies, we launched a second cohort comprised of 50+ PK-12 school leaders. Our first SEL cohort completed its work.

Cohort 3 of the Transformation Center launches its 3-year transformation journey with BranchED.



OCTOBER 2021

In October, BranchED launched its strategic planning process for the next five years. We held Community Conversations with our MSI faculty and deans as our way of leading by listening.

We held a site visit with Texas A&M International University, one of our first in-person site visits in more than a year and a half.

Dr. Cassandra Herring is named a Dial Fellow. The Dial Fellowship is designed to equip social entrepreneurs with new communications tools to strengthen their voices and extend the impact of their work.

NOVEMBER 2021

In November, we joined the Georgia Association of Colleges for Teacher Education at their Fall conference in Columbus, Georgia. We presented an interactive session called Modeling Reflective, Equity-Oriented Practice.

We also presented at the EdFi Alliance Summit alongside Texas A&M International University in Austin, Texas. In a presentation called Data Empowerment Partnerships: Quality Teacher Preparation Through Collective Action, we shared about our unique collaboration approaches for data sharing and data empowerment using the Ed-Fi Starter Kits. ”

DECEMBER 2021

In December, we celebrate all we have accomplished together. The BranchED community is like none other – in all, nearly 400 of you have attended our various workshops, webinars, convenings and work groups either leading conversations, listening, or doing both.

The work you do for teacher candidates cannot be measured, but we want to make sure you know that we appreciate you and look forward to a fruitful 2022.