

Trocaire College can be your leading source for experts who offer timely insight and expertise. We have conducted dozens of interviews for both local and national publications because we have knowledgeable administration, faculty and staff members who can speak to a number of different topics, such as trends in higher education and the career fields of healthcare, business and technology. Please refer to this Media Guide, which helps to identify the “go-to” people at Trocaire College who can help bring context, clarity and credibility to various higher education and industry topics.

*To get in touch with any of our experts, please contact Laura Jacobs at [ljacobs@e3communications.com](mailto:ljacobs@e3communications.com) or 716-807-5922.*

## ADMINISTRATION

### *Business and Higher Education Trends*



**Bassam M. Deeb, Ph.D., *President***

Dr. Deeb is an experienced higher education administrator, with previous leadership experience in student services, academic affairs, enrollment management and student life. He has taught in academic areas including education, counseling, special education, and geography. Dr. Deeb currently serves on the board of directors for the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities and the Commission of Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU) and is a member of the Western New York Consortium for Higher Education. He can speak on higher education trends, healthcare and career-focused education and non-traditional student populations.



**Jennifer Blickwedehl, Ph.D., *Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs***

Dr. Blickwedehl has worked in higher education for more than 10 years. As a former biology professor, her teaching expertise is in the deconstruction of complex biological systems and educational strategies for underprepared students. Jennifer can speak on design and implementation of new programs, effective teaching practices, faculty mentoring and current trends in higher education.



**Michael Cucinotta, CPA, MBA, *Vice President, Finance***

Michael has held leadership roles in finance and accounting for over 30 years, including nearly two decades as director of financial services at Linde PLC, the world’s largest industrial gases company. His specialties include organizational leadership, mergers, compliance, strategic planning, and financial reporting.



**Richard T. Linn, Ph.D., *Chief Academic Officer***

Dr. Linn is an experienced college administrator, licensed psychologist, researcher, and author of peer-reviewed publications, primarily in the healthcare arena. He can speak on higher education topics including accreditation, administration, program development and regulatory trends; on topics in neuropsychology including dementia, head trauma, learning disabilities and functional ability; and on healthcare topics including quality measurement and patient outcomes.



**Jacqueline Matheny, MS, *Special Assistant to the President for External Affairs***

Jackie has more than 30 years of experience in higher education, specifically in the enrollment management area. She oversees the marketing department, strategic initiatives involving current and future partners and enhancing Trocaire's role in the community at large. Jackie can speak on the college search process, non-traditional student populations, community relations, and building strategic partnerships.



**Jan Peters, MS, SPHR, *Chief Human Resources Officer***

Jan has 20+ years global human resources leadership experience within organizations in all phases of the business cycle and within multiple industries, including financial services, management consulting, manufacturing, information technology services, tourism, hospitality, and higher education. Prior to transitioning to her HR career, she served 10 years as a communications officer within the US Army and is a Desert Storm veteran. Jan can share her expertise with employee relations, organization culture transformation, performance management, total rewards, staffing and employee career development.



**Kamu Pindiprolu, BS, *Chief Information Officer***

Kamu oversees the continued development of an innovative, robust, and secure information technology environment throughout Trocaire College, including the implementation of a new student information system. He has more than 20 years of IT experience and developing successful business strategies and systems for education-based organizations.



**Kathleen Saunders, MEd, *Vice President of Enrollment & Student Affairs***

With more than 30 years of working in higher education, Kathleen has spent most of her career in enrollment and student affairs. Her strengths are affecting organizational change and process development. Kathleen can speak on all aspects of enrollment management; student services and support; career development; and program development.



**Gary Smith, Ed.D., *Vice President for Innovation and Advancement***

Dr. Smith has more than 25 years of academic experience as a faculty member, researcher, and administrator. Named a Fulbright Specialist, he has published work on Chinese business and culture. Gary can speak on subjects including entrepreneurship, workforce development, leadership, and international and domestic higher education.

## **PROGRAM DIRECTORS & DEANS**

Industry experts in healthcare, business, and technology.



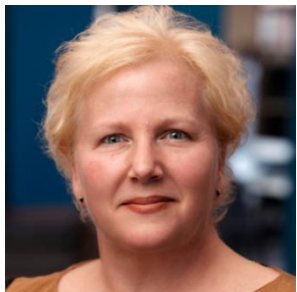
**Ginalyn Dake, MSN, BSN, RN, *Director, Practice Nursing and Simulation-based Learning***

Ginalyn has been in the nursing field for more than 20 years and has 7 years of experience as a nurse educator. In addition to her roles at Trocaire, she continues to work per diem at Sisters of Charity Hospital in the newborn nursery and NICU. She can speak on most topics associated with nursing, especially those that focus on maternal/newborn/NICU patients.



**Jacob Fisher '14, MSN, RN, *Director, AAS Nursing***

Jacob oversees the AAS nursing program, providing day-to-day operational support to faculty, staff and community partners to ensure a robust, meaningful education. An alumnus of Trocaire, Jacob has been with the institution since 2012 in various roles including student, professional tutor and nursing faculty prior to his latest appointment. He has experience with student success, academic supports, simulation, digital learning and faculty development.



**Linda Kerwin, Ed.D, CST, RN, MA, MSN, *Interim Dean, Allied Health & Nursing, Director, Surgical Technology***

A healthcare provider and educator in the Western New York area for nearly 40 years, Dr. Kerwin is recognized for clinical excellence and has earned high marks for quality and creative classroom teaching, laboratory simulation, outcomes assessment and curriculum development. Linda oversees the college's programs in massage therapy, medical imaging, nursing and surgical technology. She also serves on both college and community outreach committees regarding healthcare delivery, curriculum development and design, student learning outcomes assessment and laboratory simulation.



**Cynthia Leffel, Ph.D. MSN, RN-BC, Director, BS in Nursing and Lab-based Learning**

Dr. Leffel has been a nurse for 30+ years, nurse educator for more than a decade, and holds multiple degrees in nursing education. Her professional specialties included 17 years in long-term care and geriatrics as well as staff education and quality assurance. In addition to her teaching and leadership roles at Trocaire, Cynthia is also a peer reviewer for both Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing and the New York State Education Department.



**Dan Neville, MS, Director and Associate Dean, Trocaire Technology Institute**

Dan oversees the Cybersecurity, Data Analytics, and Healthcare Informatics programs. He has nearly 20 years of higher education experience, primarily with adult learners in career and technical education. After going back to school in his 30s, he had a successful IT career as a director and head of research and development for a telecommunications firm and holds several patents. As a career-changer himself, he can speak on overcoming the challenges, hurdles, and perceived roadblocks faced by adult learners.



**Susan Sullivan, BS, LMT, Director, Massage Therapy**

Susan has been a massage therapy educator in classroom, clinical and community service settings for nearly 25 years. In addition to her role as Director, she continues to teach both Eastern (Shiatsu) and Western massage modalities, as well as coordinating the on-site student clinic and externship opportunities. Susan is a small business owner and has been a practicing licensed massage therapist since 1997. She transitioned to the massage profession from a career in the telecommunications industry, specializing in accounting and finance.



**Jaime L. White, M.ED., RT (R) (CT) (ARRT), Director, Medical Imaging**

Jaime has been a registered radiologic technologist since 2013 and holds an additional certification in computed tomography. She is a member of the Association of Educators in Imaging and Radiologic Sciences; the Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology; and the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. Jaime has a passion for inclusion, diversity and equity, especially within healthcare. She can speak to patient care and safety, exam protocol and procedure and identification of pathology with the field of radiology, as well as curriculum development and design and student learning outcome assessment.



**Yang Zhao, Ed.D., MS, MA, *Program Director, Management Programs***

Dr. Zhao is a seasoned educator having worked in domestic and international higher education over the past 20 years as a faculty member, researcher, and administrator. Her entrepreneurial activities over the past 15 years in the U.S. have included the ownership and management of several hospitality and real estate related businesses. Dr. Zhao currently serves as the vice president of finance on the board for the National Association for Talent Development Buffalo Niagara Chapter. She is also a member of the American Institute for Economic Research. Dr. Zhao can speak on subjects including international and domestic higher education, leadership and management, organization and talent development, international business and economics, digital learning, curriculum design and development, teaching, and advisement. Dr. Zhao was named a Fulbright Specialist in 2017.

**FACULTY AND STAFF**

Trocaire College has many well-educated and talented faculty and staff members who can speak to an eclectic array of topics inside and outside of the classroom and the college. Contact Laura Jacobs at [ljacobs@e3communications.com](mailto:ljacobs@e3communications.com) if you are seeking someone to address a specific academic topic, and we will connect you with someone who can assist.