



Admission Training Institute 2018 Faculty



Tom Sheppard, Chair

Head of School, St. Andrew's Episcopal School, MN (coed, day, PK-12, 1,100+) • (601) 853-6000
Tom began his independent school career in 1991 at Perkiomen School (PA), where he taught history, coached several sports, and served as a dorm parent. In 1996 Tom jumped into the world of admission as director of admission at Trinity-Pawling School (NY), where he worked for three years before heading west to lead the admission office at Stevenson School in Pebble Beach, CA. In his 14 years at Stevenson, Tom served as director of admission and as director of enrollment management. In 2013, Tom began the next chapter in his professional career as dean of admission and financial aid at The Lawrenceville School (NJ) before becoming head of school for St. Andrew's Episcopal School in July 2018. Tom served on the Admission Leadership Council and co-chaired the Computer-based Testing Committee. He is the 2010 recipient of the William B. Bretnall Award for his distinguished work in the field of admission. Tom has previously served as chair of the Western Boarding Schools Association Steering Committee and as a member of the TABS Admission Academy faculty. Tom holds a B.A. in history from Washington and Lee University and M.Ed. in educational leadership from Lehigh University.



David Baker

Director of Admission & Financial Aid, St. Mark's School of Texas (boys, day, 1-12, 500+)
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David began his career at St. Mark's in 1984 as coach of the debate team. He coached debating and taught public speaking for the 16 years prior to his appointment as the Director of Admission and Financial Aid—a position he has held for the past 17 years. In addition to serving on the Faculty of the Admission Training Institute, David also serves as a member of the Admission Leadership Council. He is a past-president of the Independent Schools Admission Association of Dallas. David serves on the board of trustees of the Dallas Urban Debate Alliance, and is a past board member of Grace Academy of Dallas and the Vogel Alcove. David founded the National Debate Coaches Association and co-founded the International Public Policy Forum and the Old Parkland Debates. David holds a B.A. in Communication from the University of Central Oklahoma and a Master of Liberal Studies from Southern Methodist University..



Eric Barber

Director of Enrollment Management, Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences, CA
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Eric has a wealth of experience in school enrollment and admissions, as well as his background in strategic thinking, access and equity work, and team building. As Crossroads' director of enrollment management, Eric provides leadership in enrollment planning and serves as the point of integration for the recruitment, admissions, financial aid, information management, re-enrollment and retention functions of the school. He oversees both Elementary and Secondary admissions offices. Eric was most recently the director of admission and enrollment management at the Evergreen School in Shoreline, Washington. Prior to that, he served as the associate director of admissions and outreach coordinator at Lakeside School in Seattle, Washington. He is a professional saxophonist, Thai cook, and cherishes time with his wife and two tween/teen children. Eric holds a bachelor of arts in music from the University of Oregon and a master of fine arts from the California Institute for the Arts in jazz and African-American Music..



Anne E. Behnke

Director of Admission, St. Mark's School, MA (coed, boarding/day, 9-12, 250+)
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Anne began her career at St. Mark's School as director of admission in June of 2004 after having served as dean of admission of the Idyllwild Arts Academy (CA) from 1992-2004. Anne's career in the field of admission began while a student intern in the admission office at Spring Hill College (AL). After graduate school at Washington University in St. Louis, Anne served as director of college counseling, dorm parent for the 8th, 9th, and 10th grades, and tennis coach at Sacred Heart Academy (LA). Anne also served as associate director of admission, assistant director of financial aid, and director of field research at Spring Hill College. Outside of admission, Anne is the varsity girls' tennis coach at St. Mark's, a member of the senior administrative team, a weekend administrator, and an advisor to four students. When not at St. Mark's, Anne is a member of two USTA women's travel tennis teams (one of which she captains) and a member of Central Massachusetts Indoor Tennis Association team. Her two cocker spaniels, Nettie and Chloe, often keep her company in her office and on campus when she is on duty. Anne attended ATI in 1993.



Steve Brown

Director of Financial Aid & Institutional Research , The Lovett School, GA
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Steve has worked for more than 15 years at The Lovett School in admissions and financial aid, and has served as a math teacher and coach at Lovett from 1993-98 and periodically since his return to the admissions office in 2005. In his current role, he recommends financial aid grants and assists in the research design, data collection, archiving, reporting, and analysis of information in support of institutional planning, research, and assessment. He holds a B.S. from Wake Forest University and an M.B.A. from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. Steve is also a former professional football player and was an Olympic athlete in the 110-meter high hurdles. Before rejoining the staff at Lovett, he was a sales trader for Wachovia Capital Markets.



Molly Dorais

Director of Admission and Financial Aid, Colorado Rocky Mountain School, CO
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Molly Dorais has been working in the admission office at Colorado Rocky Mountain School since 2002 and has served as the director of admission and financial aid since 2007. Her previous experience includes serving as a sales manager at Tutor.com, an education start-up company, in New York City. Molly attended the Taft School in Watertown, CT and went on to earn a B.A. from Princeton University while studying education policy. In addition to her role at Colorado Rocky Mountain School, Molly is a member of the G32 Character Skills Assessment Development Team, and has served on the Admission Leadership Council as well as on the steering committee for the Western Boarding School Association.



Ayesha Flaherty

Head of Enrollment and Communications, The Langley School, VA (coed, day, PK-8, 500)
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Ayesha Flaherty combines more than 20 years of experience in marketing and communications with a lifelong interest in education. She joined Langley in 2014 to lead admissions, communications, digital marketing and manage Langley's summer and after-school programs. Her work at Langley includes creating new ways to communicate with current parents and the broader community, and developing the current strategic plan, to which she applies an extensive background in change management. But her greatest joy comes from identifying and recruiting students who can truly thrive in Langley's preschool through grade 8 program. Born in England and with family spread across the globe, Ayesha shares a love of travel with her husband and two young sons. Ayesha received her M.S. from Northwestern University and her B.S. from the University of Virginia..



Jasmine B. Harris, Ed.D.

Director of Admission and Placement, The Lamplighter School, TX
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Dr. Jasmine B. Harris joined The Lamplighter School in 2013 as the Director of Admission and Placement. She has spent more than 20 years in schools with the last decade focused on admission, student recruitment, and retention. After gaining experience at all levels of K - 12 education as a teacher and administrator in large public school districts in Texas, she transitioned to independent schools. Jasmine was recruited by The Hockaday School in 2005 to serve as the Director of School and Community Relations, where she spearheaded parent education programs and faculty recruitment. In her current role at Lamplighter, she is responsible for all aspects of admission, including recruitment, re-enrollment, financial aid, and fifth grade placement. Dr. Harris has served as a member of the University of Texas scholarship application review team, is the past Board Chair of the W.H.O. Foundation (Women Helping Others), an active alumnae member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and a former officer of the Independent School's Admission Association of Dallas. Jasmine holds a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, an M.Ed. from Texas Woman's University, and an Ed.D. from Baylor University. Although she has visited schools across the globe, she and her family call Texas home.