

# Dr. Donna-Marie Cecere

[linkedin.com/in/donna-marie-cecere-ed-d-42568828/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/donna-marie-cecere-ed-d-42568828/)

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

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- Highly motivated, collaborative, and versatile instructor with over 15 years of academic and transformational leadership experience.
- Demonstrated success in strategic planning, fiscal management, resource development, school climate/culture, policy setting, faculty development, and administration within higher education.
- Strategically develops and markets academic programs with an emphasis on quality, access, and student success and contributes academic development expertise due to involvement in professional committees and boards.
- Passionate about developing student-centric curriculum while providing the tools and advising necessary for students to enter the workforce.
- Creative, entrepreneurial, and innovative problem-solver across all phases of the academic process to advance institutional mission.

## EXECUTIVE COMPETENCIES

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|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| • Academic Leadership             | • Curriculum Development     | • Academic Assessment (department self-study) |
| • Higher Education Best Practices | • Effective Communication    | • Student Mentoring (Early Alert)             |
| • Strategic Planning              | • Academic Program Expansion | • Faculty Support                             |
| • Fiscal Management               | • Public Speaking            | • Academic Advising (FYE)                     |

## PUBLICATIONS, AWARDS, & ACTIVITIES

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### Awards:

- Department Recognition, Visionary Leader in Experiential Learning: *Bay State College*, Boston
- Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year: *McIntosh College*, Dover, NH
- English Honors Award for Poetry: *Massachusetts College of Art and Design*, Boston
- Art School Trust Fund Award and Scholarship: *Massachusetts College of Art and Design*, Boston
- Outstanding Designer of the Year: *Massachusetts College of Art and Design*, Boston

### Publications:

- Doctoral Dissertation, *The Millennial Generation : Common Experiences Guiding them into Adulthood*
  - A psychological portrait of today's adolescences as they mature
- Trade Publication, *Cloth, Paper, Scissors*, Tantalizing Tissue

**Member and Participant:** AERA, *American Educational Research Association*

### Board Member:

- MSCA Union, *Massachusetts State and College Association*, Credentials Committee
- SFD, *School of Fashion Design*, Boston, MA

### Guest Speaker:

- *Historic Costume Society*, American Textile History Museum, Lowell, MA
- COF *Colleges of the Fenway*, Teaching and Learning Conference, Boston, MA

## EDUCATION

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**Doctor of Educational Leadership, 2016**  
*Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH*

**Master of Arts, 2012**  
*Lesley University, Cambridge, MA*

**Bachelor of Fine Arts, Fashion Design**  
*Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA*

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## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Strategic Business Consultant**

2017-Present

Providing guidance in the form of knowledge, technical functions, and proven strategies for start-up local and international fashion brands.

### **Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA**

Assistant Professor, 2018-Present

Visiting Lecturer, 2008 – 2014

- Advise students, providing educational guidance and assistance for students by planning schedules, recommending courses, and determining appropriate education solutions.
- Counsel and track the advancement of students including for at-risk students.
- Aide the Department Head by serving as a subject matter expert in fashion design with the conceptualization and implementation of innovative curriculum which combined fashion design and business management.
- Lead Instructor of PCE and Fashion Certificate Programs.
- Faculty Member: Travel Abroad Belgium and France, Intensive Two-Week Study Program.

*Committees: Co-Chair Civic Engagement Council, Travel Abroad Program, Department Self-Study Committee*

### **Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH**

Instructor, M.Ed. Program, 2018- Present

- Educational Leadership

### **Momenta, Portsmouth, NH**

Consultant, 2017-2018

- Analyzed wearable art competitor offerings (specifications, pricing, promotional) for new product development.
- Served on a cross functional team which developed presentations for clients to guide the creation of marketing plans and strategies.
- Implemented and refined social media presence including on-line education for existing/new product lines.
- Assisted product development with product ideas through trend forecasting to increase shares in market.
- Supported CEO/marketing managers with focused branding, positioning, and marketing tools for products.

### **Bay State College, Boston, MA**

Department Chair of Fashion Design and Merchandising, 2014 - 2017

- Provided transformational leadership and supervision relating to academic instruction, academic policy development, academic program review, teaching effectiveness, scheduling, faculty and staff recruitment, training, and evaluation.
- Performed as a department liaison to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, handling NEASC reviews and the development of academic operational and capital budgets.
- Collected, analyzed, and reported data related to student academic performance, curricular, enrollment patterns, and advising appointments and associated outcomes.
- Established social service-learning projects opportunities and school-wide service-learning missions, including local missions and study abroad.
- Monitored academic and behavioral progress of all departmental students which included early alert, mid semester progress reports, academic warnings, and probation.

- Instituted and directed the Chair Collaborative Team in partnership with departmental chairs to share best practices and resolve issues with solutions to be presented to the VP of Academic Affairs.
- Introduced and maintained articulation agreements with post-secondary community colleges.
- Initiated corporate opportunities which allowed students to translate their academic interests into the real world through meaningful experiential learning.
- Orchestrated strategic efforts involving higher education issues, trends, and best practices involving academic operations and student life.
- Restructured faculty pay scale and organized student workshops discussing diversity and belonging.
- Instituted departmental FYE (First Year Experience) which included: departmental orientation, information, advising, and Early Alert.
- Assessed all new and transfer undergraduate student's academic progress which emphasized and improved student development, retention, and engagement.
- Upgraded the Evening Fashion Division by implementing new initiatives, curriculum, and assessments.
- Developed two new program tracks under Business Management, BS in Business Management with a Fashion Industry Concentration (minor in design or merchandising).
- Created a new program track, BS in Fashion Merchandising with a Design Concentration.
- Established department and school-wide curriculum and tactical planning to maintain and update teaching methodologies. New class developments both on-line and on ground included: Psychology of Fashion, Technology for the Fashion Industry I and II, Textile Design, Pattern Drafting III, Brand Management, Creative Presentations, Consumer Behavior, and Trend Forecasting.
- Executed multiple contemporary art exhibitions collaborating with artists as well as outside stakeholders producing successful presentations representing the local culture.
- Instructed five classes per school year while restructuring the department's student advising experience.

Committees: *College Leadership Team Member, Director of the Chair Collaboration Team, Chair Promotional Committee, Co-Chair Service-Learning Committee (including Travel abroad with students), FYE, Academic Standing Committee, Curriculum Committee, and Faculty Senate President.*

#### **McIntosh College, Dover, NH**

Full-Time Instructor, 2007 - 2008

- Instructed and advised students on multitudes of Fashion Merchandising, Design, and Analysis subjects.

#### **Senior Class Dean and Art and Design Department Chair, East Boston, MA**

Savio Preparatory High School, 2001 - 2005

- Acted as an academic leader and developed curriculum for all Art Department courses.
- Enforced school's Code of Conduct and provided Warning Reports and daily updates to the Vice-Principal.
- Developed measures to certify that all Seniors met the necessary requirements to succeed and graduate.
- Provided leadership in implementing interventions (both in-house and outside resources).
- Served as a liaison using restorative justice when communicating with students, administration, and parents.
- Supported/advised graduating students with Higher Education research and admissions applications.
- Student Achievements: 2001, 2002, 2003 & 2004 Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards
- Student Achievements: 2004 Massachusetts Drama Guild Festival: Best Set Design

Committees: *Academic Probation, Chair Culture and Climate Accreditation*

### **VOLUNTEER**

- Crittenton Women's Union, Boston, MA
- Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth, NH
- Pan Mass Challenge Rider and Fund Raising, Boston, MA
- New Hampshire Wool Tour, Deering, NH