



Division of Innovation, Policy and Research

The Division of Innovation, Policy and Research (IPR) works in partnership with the Graduate School of Education and School for Children to mobilize Bank Street's effort to expand our influence in the public sphere through specific programs, policy efforts, and direct work with children and teachers.

At its core, IPR maintains a research and development function: building from Bank Street's current strengths to explore new opportunities and create new projects that broaden our impact. The Division is purposefully designed to be nimble and able to pivot towards important new opportunities for the College. Our work falls into five general domains: direct service to children and families, direct work with educators and practitioners, scholarship and innovation, policy, and new program development and incubation.

Direct Service to Children and Families

Bank Street Head Start



Bank Street Head Start provides 68 children ages 3 and 4 from low-income families a year-round comprehensive educational program that meets their children's cognitive, social, emotional, health, nutritional, and psychological needs. Bank Street Head Start serves as a model site for practitioners, including a recent video series developed by our Graduate School of Education.

Liberty LEADS

Liberty LEADS provides after-school, weekend, and summer programs designed to support 300 youth ages 10-18 from underserved communities. The program focuses on meeting the cognitive, social, and personal needs of students to help them discover their strengths and talents, attain higher education, develop their leadership capacity, and build the skills necessary to realize their potential and make positive contributions to society. Liberty LEADS is a critical anchor in Bank Street's direct work to support the community of northern Manhattan.

Direct Work with Educators and Practitioners

Center on Culture, Race & Equity

The Center on Culture, Race & Equity works with practitioners and communities to understand the impact of bias and shift towards culturally responsive and strength-based systems and practices. The center's professional development model addresses race and equity on three levels—personal, professional, and institutional. Adults address their implicit attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors and then plan to change—and ultimately do change—their practices as both individuals and institutions. Its most recent projects include working with elementary schools in Washington, D.C. public schools, with early childhood centers in the Bronx, NY, and with social service practitioners in Chicago, IL. The racial and identity issues that have come to the fore in American society have further demonstrated how critical this work is and has led to an increase in the demand for the work.



The Guttman Center for Early Care & Education

The Guttman Center is a pilot program that will work with early childhood professionals in family child care programs and centers serving infants and toddlers in New York City's historically marginalized communities. A partnership between the Graduate School of Education and IPR, the center will run an integrated community-based cost-free professional development program that includes courses, coaching, and community learning networks designed to support child care providers working with infants and toddlers.

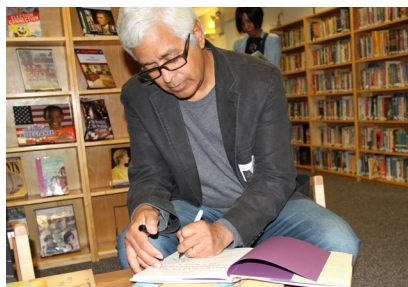
Policy

Sustainable Funding Project

This is Bank Street's current national policy initiative focused on addressing the shortage of adequate public funding for high quality teacher preparation. The goal of the project is in its name: sustainable funding for high quality teacher preparation that includes sustained clinical practice. In support of this effort, the Sustainable Funding Project (SFP) works with states, districts, and teacher preparation providers to move towards funding solutions at scale. SFP is currently working in six states towards a goal of sustainably funding clinically-rich programs that prepare at least 25,000 new teachers each year.

Scholarship & Innovation

Library



The Library is both a physical space at Bank Street College that provides children, families, faculty, and graduate students with resources and materials to support their education as well as a team that supports the intellectual growth and development of the broader Bank Street community. Hosting events such as the annual BookFest, the Children's Book Committee and Irma Black awards, the Spanish Speaking Author and Illustrator Series, and regular Library Salons, the Library team supports opportunities for the College community to celebrate the great work of our faculty, students, and alumni and to foster discussion of old and new ideas that ensure our intellectual growth.

Occasional Paper Series

Published twice a year, the Occasional Paper Series is Bank Street's primary scholarly publication. It is a forum for work that extends, deepens, and tests the progressive legacy on which the College is built. The series has an important voice in national and international conversations about what it means to educate in a democracy while meeting the interrelated demands of equity and excellence. Recent issues include: "Progressive Practices in Public Schools" and "High Needs Schools: Preparing Teachers for Today's World."

The Centennial Innovation Fund

This new initiative provides faculty and staff small seed grants to foster learning collaborations, research, and scholarship across content areas, functions, and divisions within Bank Street College. The Fund's mission is to help broaden and deepen the College's work within and beyond our community.

New Program Development and Incubation

Supporting Progressive Education in New York City

New York City is home to the largest network of progressive schools in the country, with progressive independent, district, and charters schools across the city that have ties to Bank Street. We are pursuing an effort to build partnerships with progressive educators across New York City in order to strengthen our practice collectively. In this first year, IPR, in collaboration with the Graduate School, will build small learning communities of educators focused on finding solutions to key challenges in progressive education.