

## **UCA Gifted and Talented Education Advisory Board**

Fall 2024 Meeting

**11/4/24**

### **Participating Members:**

- Tim Sisk
- Sarah Cooper
- Brandon Rout
- Amy Hamlett
- Lora Barnes
- Whitney Burdin
- Caroline Carmical
- Angel-Marie Daniel
- Ashley Pozorski
- Paige Reagan
- Samantha Campbell
- Stacey Plumlee

Advisory members were invited to participate virtually in the annual GATE advisory board meeting.

### **GATE Practicum Program Feedback**

Each advisory board member had previously completed the GATE practicum and was asked to indicate their preferred course structure if applying as a new student. Members selected between an 8-week fall course completed during the school year and a 10-week summer course completed independently with 2–3 students. A slight majority (58%) expressed a preference for the summer option.

### **Summary of Perspectives:**

- Summer preference due to time flexibility: Several participants shared that summer allowed them to focus on coursework without balancing full-time teaching responsibilities.
- Challenge of student access during summer: Some noted difficulty in locating students to work with over the summer, especially when GT students were unavailable or hard to contact.
- Fall preference for integration with school-year routines: A few participants felt it would be easier to complete practicum requirements during the school year using students already in their classrooms.
- Program flexibility is key: A recurring suggestion was to offer both options to better accommodate different personal schedules and teaching environments.