



Monika Byrd, Ph. D.

IPSLEI Board Chair

Monika has over twenty-five years of experience in humanities education and leadership development training, program and curriculum design. Monika earned her undergraduate degree from Beloit College in Wisconsin, where she earned membership in Phi Beta Kappa, a Master's degree at the University of Louisiana, and her Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership with The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. Her experiences in education and non-profit leadership span the globe from the United States to Cameroon. At Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, she served as the Associate Vice President of Leadership Development and International Education. She has also taught undergraduate History and Leadership Development Studies at Brazosport Community College in Texas, Lone Star College – Tomball, also in Texas, and Southern Illinois University, and graduate leadership courses at Mississippi State University. Since 2006, Monika has been a facilitator for instructor certification seminars at the United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy. Her research interests include organizational leadership in the American Fire Services, and servant leadership among the women who spearheaded activism on several fronts in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century: The Settlement Movement and the human rights movement in American church missions abroad.

Monika is a contributing editor for three editions of the textbook, *Leadership Development Studies: A Humanities Approach*. and supporting resources, including the design and facilitation of training events for faculty and administrators. She is a frequent presenter on humanities-based leadership development and has presented at the National Council for Student Development conferences, the National Conference of Student Leaders, the American Association of Community Colleges Conventions, the Association of Community College Trustees Conventions, the Annual Conventions for the Association of Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership Educators' Annual Conferences, the International Association of Fire Chiefs Conventions, the American Jail Association Convention, and the Fire and Emergency Services in Higher Education Conferences convening annually at the National Emergency Training Center.

Monika has served on several state, community, or educational boards, including for the Mississippi Community Leadership Association, The American School of Douala in Cameroon, and The Glacier Society.