



**KINGFISHER INSTITUTE**  
for the Liberal Arts and Professions



## OUR MISSION

The Institute supports innovative and integrative approaches to education, research, and community engagement. The Institute creates opportunities for faculty, staff and students to bring together the critical and reflective aspects of the liberal arts and sciences with the emphasis on application and practice in the professions.



## ABOUT

The Kingfisher Institute for the Liberal Arts and Professions aims to influence every student in each of Creighton's schools and colleges.

The Institute, which was formally established in 2019, is founded on a bold vision for the future of higher education: that liberal arts education and professional education complement one another.



## OUR VISION

The Institute seeks to create a culture of dialogue between the liberal arts and sciences and the professions at Creighton University and beyond. The Institute will elevate Creighton by identifying and nurturing the productive intersection of the professions with the liberal arts and sciences.

## OUR INSPIRATION

The Kingfisher Institute is inspired by the Gerard Manley Hopkins poem, "As Kingfishers Catch Fire, Dragonflies Draw Flame," which Creighton President the Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD, highlighted in his inaugural presidential address.



## CONTACT

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## Q & A WITH THE DIRECTOR



## TRACY LEAVELLE, PhD

### Who founded the Kingfisher Institute?

“I am very proud to be the inaugural director of the Kingfisher Institute. The creation of the institute was a collective effort that included people from across Creighton’s campus. Conceived in that spirit of collaboration, the institute will help create and strengthen networks that unite our schools and colleges and take ideas from many places and help them grow, whether it’s related to curricular innovation or transdisciplinary research. That’s what we’re here for.”

### Why was the Kingfisher Institute established?

“We saw an opportunity to really think about what makes a Creighton education special but even more so, to think about the ways that we can have a deeper impact. The emphasis on health and humanities gives us a chance to address the concerns that many people have, both practitioners and patients, that the healthcare system does not properly account for the full humanity of everyone involved. We think that our graduates can go out into the world, better prepared to take care of their patients and themselves in a very stressful career or profession.”

### What are the Institute’s goals in 2019?

“Our goals for 2019 are to get firmly established and make sure people around campus and in the community know what the Kingfisher Institute is and what we are trying to get accomplished. We have the inaugural themes, 'Race in America: 1919-2019' and 'Narratives of Health and Illness,' which are guiding a lot of our programming.”