

Dr. Petzko came to UTC in 1998 to join the Graduate Studies Division of the College of Education as a faculty member in School Leadership. She had been a middle school principal in suburban Minneapolis (MN) for seven years, where she received a divisional “Principal of the Year” in 1997 and her school received a “National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence” award in 1996. She had also been a high school associate principal for seven years, and a teacher for 10 years in the Minneapolis area. Vicki received her Ph.D. in 1990 in Educational Policy and Administration at the University of Minnesota, where her dissertation research focused on the legal limitations and attendance rates associated with excessive absence policies in high schools. Prior to her appointment at UTC, Vicki was awarded a partial sabbatical to study topics related to school law at Hamline University School of Law, and engaged in research that year associated with the identification and recruitment of aspiring principals.

Since coming to UTC, Dr. Petzko has chaired the revisions of the School Leadership programs to be in line with new state standards, led the development team for the new master’s degree concentration in Teacher Leadership and the EDS concentration in Instructional Leadership, and was part of proposal team for the doctorate in Learning and Leadership. She has worked with a number of area schools and agencies on Team Building, Curriculum Alignment and the School Improvement process. She has conducted workshops throughout the State on the Change Process, Implementation of IDEA, and Legal Issues for Teachers. In addition, she developed and secured grant money to initiate an "Instructional Leadership Institute" at UTC for area principals, assistant principals, and supervisors. She was appointed to the State committee on standards for administrative licensure programs and the principal licensure re-design committee.

In 1999, Dr. Petzko was recognized as a “UC Foundation Associate Professor”, and in 2001 she received the “Outstanding Scholar and Researcher” award from the College of Education and Applied Professional Studies. She was named to the NASSP (National Association of Secondary School Principals) Task Force on Principal Preparation in 2002, and served as Co-Editor of NASSP’s on-line publication *Connections: Journal of Principal Preparation and Development* from 2003-2005. She currently is on the Review Board for NASSP’s leading research publication, the *NASSP Bulletin*.

From 1999-2005, Vicki was one of four members of a national research team that conducted the third of three-decade studies on middle level leadership. The “*National Study of Leadership in Middle Level Schools; Volume I*” was published in spring of 2002. She has written and published several papers as a follow up to this report. Volume II of the study, *Leaders and Leadership in Middle Level Schools*, which focused on 98 exemplary middle schools was published in 2004. Several follow up papers were also written from those data. Citations for these and other publications can be found on her website at www.utc.edu/~vpetzko.

Vicki is currently a member of the doctoral faculty of the Ed.D. Program in Learning and Leadership, the faculty for the Ed.S. in Instructional Leadership, and faculty/coordinator of the master’s and post-master’s certificate program in School Leadership. She received tenure in 2004 and was promoted to full professor in 2006. Her current research agenda continues to focus on leadership development for aspiring school leaders as well as the ongoing professional development of current school leaders. She can be reached at vicki-petzko@utc.edu.