

## DR. JOSEPH CASEY COSGRIFF

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION;  
PRESIDENT, FACULTY SENATE

Dr. Casey Cosgriff is an associate professor of the Initial Teacher Licensure program at LMU and was elected faculty Senate president for the 2018-2019 and 1029-2020 school years. He helped develop and initiate LMU's undergraduate special education program. He has taught students with autism, intellectual disabilities, and other disabilities in special education for 8 years within school districts in Virginia and Tennessee. Dr. Cosgriff has served as an LMU faculty member and faculty senator since he began teaching special education courses in the Initial Teacher Licensure program at LMU in 2013.

After serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from 1992-1994 in Rome, Italy, Dr. Cosgriff graduated from Brigham Young University in 1997 with a BFA in painting and printmaking. He met Charlene Walker in Richmond, Virginia, while pursuing a MFA in art and they married in Manti, Utah, in December 2000. They are the proud parents of five children: one daughter and four sons.

Dr. Cosgriff obtained his Masters in Special Education from Old Dominion University while teaching functional life and academic skills to middle school students with autism in Norfolk, VA, and Hampton, VA. He then obtained his PhD in Special Education from Vanderbilt University with a research emphasis on developing communication and social schools for individuals with autism and other severe disabilities. He also taught middle school students with a variety of disabilities in Nashville, TN.

Some of Dr. Cosgriff's goals as Faculty Senate President include: using research-based practice to help all students progress in the curriculum, using evidence-based assessments to improve his own and others' practice, improving communications with students, faculty, and the administration, and practicing perseverance in serving LMU students, faculty, and the community. "I'm very excited about getting to know and work with many students, faculty, and staff here at LMU," says Dr. Cosgriff, "I know we can make a difference in this region and that LMU alumni will enhance their fields and improve the practice of education for the good of all students."