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Dr. Alan Amtzis is celebrating his 25th year as an education professional. From his earliest days as a substitute teacher in New York City to his current work as director of a masters' degree program for working K-12 teachers, he has been passionate about the interactive, interpersonal aspects of what Philip Jackson has called "life in classrooms."

Dr. Amtzis' educational career has spanned a variety of roles and positions representing various points on the educational continuum. He has been a substitute teacher and a full-time classroom teacher. He has worked in both general and special education. He has been a teacher and a school administrator. His practice-rooted work has been complemented by his work as an educational consultant, a counselor, a researcher, and a higher education program director. Dr. Amtzis' educational career, which is still evolving, makes a strong statement about his role as a community-builder and collaborator whose strengths lie in problem-solving, planning and creativity development.

Dr. Amtzis' research and educational interests are united in his current role as director of an M.Ed. program built around a core of courses that integrate instructional methodology with reflective practice, joining not only theory and practice, but research and experience in ways that enhance teachers' professional identity and practice. Inspired by educators, educational researchers and other socially-conscious artists whose work synthesizes local knowledge with a larger "conversation" about education, Amtzis is currently Chair of the Teacher-as-Researcher SIG for the American Educational research Association (AERA). He has also served on the AERA Executive Council and reviewed manuscripts for several journals including *Journal of Teacher Education*, *Learning Disability Quarterly* and *Educational Policy*. He has presented his work on teacher education, therapeutic education, research methodology, reflective practice and creativity development in over 40 presentations in various national, international and local professional research conferences.