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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sept. 25, 2012

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**University of New Orleans Assistant Professor Selected as Emerging Leader**

ARLINGTON, Va.—Belinda Cambre, assistant professor of educational leadership at the University of New Orleans, has been recognized as an Emerging Leader by PDK International, a global association of education professionals.

The PDK Emerging Leader program recognizes top educators under age 40 from around the world for their leadership. A committee made up of PDK's past Emerging Leaders selected the 22 honorees from a competitive field of applicants, based on their outstanding professional accomplishments.

In addition to being honored at an event in Washington, D.C., honorees also have the opportunity to be published by PDK, apply for grants, and participate in PDK initiatives.

"Honoring these young leaders is one of PDK's most important initiatives," said William J. Bushaw, PDK International's executive director. "We know the future of education is in good hands with leaders like these making a difference in the lives of our students."

Prior to taking a position in higher education, Cambre was an elementary school teacher and reading interventionist in Los Angeles and Baton Rouge. Her research interests include legal and fiscal policy decisions, especially surrounding accountability and school reform issues. She presents frequently at regional and national research conferences, and has published numerous articles on the subject. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science, a master's degree in public policy, a juris doctorate and bachelor's degree in civil law, and a doctorate in educational leadership.

"I am most passionate about issues surrounding law and education," said Cambre. "I love sharing my knowledge of the law with my students, and in the future, I would like to work with charter school governing bodies to ensure compliance with state and national laws and policies."

Cambre is a member of many professional organizations, including PDK International and the American Educators Research Association. She was a recipient of the Toyota Innovation Grant in Math and Science, and she currently serves as a member of the board of directors for the Morris Jeff Community Charter School in New Orleans.

For more information on PDK's 2012-2013 Class of Emerging Leaders, go to [www.pdkemergingleaders.org](http://www.pdkemergingleaders.org).

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**About PDK International**

Founded in 1906, PDK International is a global association for professional educators. The organization's mission is to support education, particularly public education, as the cornerstone of democracy. More information is online at [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org).

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