NAME: Deborah Loewenberg (LOW' en berg) Ball is a professor of education at the University of Michigan. She is currently dean of the School of Education and director of TeachingWorks.

ELEMENTS TO USE FOR AN INTRODUCTION:

1. Deborah Ball is an expert on mathematics instruction and the professional preparation of teachers.
2. Her work draws on her many years of experience as an elementary classroom teacher.

Optional, use any as appropriate:

3. In addition to her full-time experience teaching, she continues to teach every summer in a special elementary math program for entering fifth graders.
4. Together with her colleagues at the University of Michigan, she is working on a fundamental redesign of the initial preparation of teachers.
5. Deborah Ball's work on teacher education has the ambitious agenda of building a system to ensure that every child in every classroom throughout the U.S. will have a teacher with the skills and knowledge needed for responsible practice from day one. This involves assessments of performance tied to skill and effectiveness in helping all students learn, and the professional curriculum and clinical experience needed to achieve that level of performance.
6. Deborah Ball's research has been recognized with many awards and honors. She has served on several national and international commissions, panels, and boards focused on the improvement of education. Most recently, she was appointed by President Barack Obama to the National Science Board. She has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Education, and is a fellow of the American Mathematics Society and the American Educational Research Association.