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Dr Xiu Cravens is an assistant professor in education policy and comparative and international education at Peabody College of Education and Human Development, Vanderbilt University. Her scholarly work involves qualitative and quantitative research in the areas of leadership development and accountability measures for educational reform. She is particularly interested in addressing the conceptual and methodological challenges of cross-cultural comparison and generalization in international education policy research. She has authored or co-authored research articles that appeared in academic journals such as the *Comparative Education Review*, *Educational Administration Quarterly*, *Journal of Educational Administration*, *Elementary School Journal*, *Leadership and Policy in Schools*, and *American Journal of Education*.

Dr Cravens also serves as the associate dean for international affairs at Peabody College and the China liaison for Vanderbilt University. In this role, she has lead the institutional efforts in working with universities and institutions worldwide, particularly in the Asia-Pacific Region, in research, faculty and student exchange, and professional development for school administrators.

Dr Cravens grew up in Nanjing, China and attended the High School Affiliated with Nanjing Normal University. She earned her B.A. in literature and linguistics from Peking University, her M.S. in communications from the University of Tennessee, and her Ph.D. in education policy from Vanderbilt University.

