

# Of Note

Recent Highlights from the  
*Language, Literacy & Culture Doctoral Program*

## Welcome to *Of Note*, Spring 2017

Each semester the Language, Literacy, & Culture doctoral program celebrates the accomplishments of our faculty, students, and alumni. It makes us really proud to be surrounded by professionals who are committed to make a positive impact in our society, especially in challenging times like these. We hope to continue receiving information about the milestones that each member of our LLC community reaches.

### *Congratulations to our newest LLC alumna*

Please join us in congratulating Tracy Irish who graduated last December 21st. Here is a picture of her with Dr. Anne Spence, Professor of the Practice, Department of Mechanical Engineering (left), and Dr. Susan Blunck, Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Education (right) who served as her co-chairs. The title of Tracy's dissertation was *Determining the Impact of the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) Academy Measurement Tool on the Development of K-12 STEM Academies as Professional Learning Communities*. Congratulations Dr. Irish!



### *Celebrating our accomplishments*

**Jessica Floyd, Shirley Basfield Dunlap, Kimberly Feldman, Tymofey Wovk Shawntay Stocks, Erin Berry, Ibrahim Er, Shani Fleming, and Mary Laurents** were honored at the November 10th Candidacy Reception sponsored by the Graduate School. These students have completed their coursework and comprehensive exam and are now engaged in their doctoral research.



**May Chung** (Cohort 17) was selected as the Fall semester student intern at the Secretariat office of the Linguistic Society of America in Washington D.C. May's duties include helping the LSA with social media projects and other programs for student members.

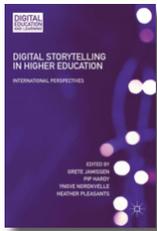
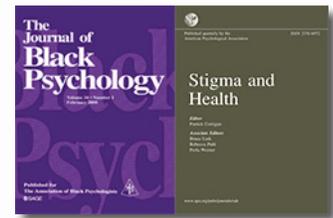
**Steven Dashiell** (Cohort 16) was awarded the 2017 American Men's Studies Association Frankel Scholarship. This scholarship is given at the AMSA Conference to presentations with high "content, quality, and a potential for making a contribution to the field of men's studies". Steven's presentation submission was "Analysis of Masculine Discourse in Online Discussions of Male/Male Military Rape."

**Dr. Tania Lizarazo** (LLC Affiliate Faculty from MLLI) and **Dr. Thania Muñoz** (LLC Affiliate Faculty from MLLI) were awarded the College of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences (CAHSS) Dean's Research Fund for the projects "Moving Stories: Latinas in Baltimore," (Dr. Lizarazo) and "Intercultural Tales: Learning with Immigrant Communities in Baltimore" (Dr. Muñoz)



## Hot Off the Press

**Dr. Shawn Bediako** (LLC Affiliate Faculty from PSYC) co-authored the essay “Depressive Symptoms and Sickle Cell Disease Pain: The Moderating Role of Internalized Stigma”, which will appear in *Stigma and Health*. Also, Dr. Bediako coauthored “Communalism Moderates the Association between Racial Centrality and Emergency Department Use for Sickle Cell Disease Pain,” which will appear in the *Journal of Black Psychology*.



**Drs. Bev Bickel** (LLC Faculty), **Romy Hübler** (LLC alum '15 in Student Life), **Bill Shewbridge** (LLC Steering Committee Member from MCS), and **Ana Oskoz** (LLC Affiliate Faculty from MLLI) expect the publication of their chapter entitled “Faculty Reflections at the Intersection of Digital Storytelling and Community Engagement” in *Digital Storytelling in Higher Education - International Perspectives* being published by Palgrave MacMillan in Fall 17. This collaboration was made possible thanks to Dresher Center’s generous support for the Digital Storytelling working group.

**Dr. Laura Colombo** (LLC alum '11), or Violeta as everybody calls her, is an Assistant Researcher at the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET), Argentina. Her authored and co-authored works have appeared in various Latin American journals, edited books and conference proceedings. Here is a list of her authored work: [“La enseñanza de la escritura académica en la formación del profesorado en Argentina: Una experiencia de aula;”](#) [“Ayudas pedagógicas para la revisión de la literatura en el posgrado;”](#) [“Una propuesta para la enseñanza de la escritura en la investigación.”](#) Co-authored articles and presentations: [“How do faculty conceptions on reading, writing and their role in the teaching of academic literacies influence their inclusive attitude,”](#) which appeared in the journal *Ilha Do Desterro*; [“Real-world tasks for authentic learning: Academic writing and teacher trainees;”](#) [“Escribir para publicar: Una experiencia de aula en el Profesorado de Inglés;”](#) and [“Programas institucionales de alfabetización académica: El caso de la facultad de ciencias veterinarias de la UBA.”](#)



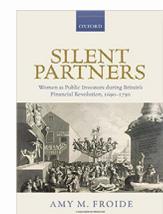
**May Chung** (Cohort 17) published a book review on the journal *Language and Education*, titled [“Authenticity, Language and Interaction in Second Language Contexts, edited by R.A. van Compernelle and J. McGregor.”](#)

**Dr. Sara M. Cole** (LLC alum '13) released her book [Identity and Play in Interactive Digital Media: Ergodic Ontogeny](#). The book, which was built from her dissertation, is published by Routledge in its Advances in Game Studies series.



**Steven Dashiell** published a [review](#) of the book *The Role Playing Society* in the journal *Analog Game Studies*. He also published an entry for the academic blog *The Geek Anthropologist* titled [“It’s in the Cards: Narratives and Storytelling in Magic: The Gathering.”](#) Finally, Steven published an entry for the academic blog *Masculinities 101* titled [“Situating Gratitude: Understanding the Phenomena of Thanks Discourse.”](#)

**Dr. Amy Froide** (LLC Affiliate Faculty from HIST) has recently published [Silent Partners: Women as Public Investors during Britain’s Financial Revolution, 1690-1750](#) (Oxford UP, 2016). This book examines women’s activity in the world’s first stock market, in late seventeenth-century London.



**Delana Gregg** (Cohort 16) and **Dr. Sara Cole** published book reviews in [Hyperrhiz](#), the peer-reviewed online journal specializing in electronic literature, new media criticism and net art.

**Dr. Cedric Herring** (LLC Program Director) and **Anthony Hynes** (Cohort 19) coauthored "Race, Skin Tone, and Wealth Inequality in America". This work is forthcoming in *Color Struck: How Race and Complexion Matter in the "Color-Blind" Era*.

**Diane Kuthy** (Cohort 14) published the article, "[Redlining and Greenlining: Olivia Robinson Investigates Root Causes of Racial Inequity](#)" in the *Art Education Journal*.

## Lateral

JOURNAL OF THE CULTURAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

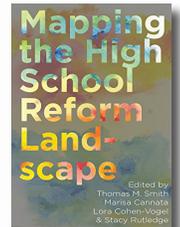
**Dr. Tania Lizarazo** is the first author of the article "Ethics, Collaboration and Knowledge Production: Digital Storytelling with Sexually Diverse Farmworkers in California", which will be published in *Lateral* (Journal of the Cultural Studies Association). Also, her article "El perspectivismo de Reina de América como conocimiento situado de la violencia y la necropolítica en el pacífico colombiano" will appear in *Revista Latinoamericana*.

**Dr. Christine Mallinson** (LLC Faculty) released "[Valuable Voices](#)," a free iPhone app for secondary English educators that helps develop students' linguistic awareness and build English language skills. It was profiled in a [February 2017 UMBC News Story](#).



**Dr. Craig Saper** (LLC Faculty) authored the book chapter "Contested Folk Maps: folkvine.org's conceptual cartographies of sensibility, affect, and utopian visions," featured in *Artistic Approaches to Cultural Mapping: Activating Imaginaries and Means of Knowing*, edited by Nancy Duxbury, W.F. Garrett-Petts, and Albs Longley. Also, Dr. Saper's video-presentation "[Disrupting Scholarship](#)" appeared in the special issue of the *Journal of Electronic Publishing*.

**Dr. Eugene Schaffer** (Affiliate Faculty from EDUC) is the first author of the chapter "The Myth of the Single Lever Turnaround," which will appear in the forthcoming edited book *The Myths of School Reform*. He also co-authored the book chapter "Creating and Sustaining Secondary Schools' Success: Sandfields, Cwmtawe, and the Neath-Port Talbot Local Authority's High Reliability Schools Reform," which appeared in [Mapping the High School Reform Landscape](#).



**Dr. Jason Loviglio** (Affiliate Faculty from MCS) published the peer-reviewed article "[Reading Judy and Jane in the Archive](#)" in the *Journal of Radio & Audio Media*. Dr. Loviglio also published a podcast review, "[Criminal: Journalistic Rigour, Gothic Tales and Philosophical Heft](#)" for *RadioDoc Review*, an international online journal.

**Kevin Wisniewski** (Cohort 15) and **Felix Burgos** (Cohort 14), editors of the online journal [Textshop Experiments](#), released the second issue *Tours and Detours*. This issue contained fifteen contributions from national and international scholars. Wisniewski wrote the [introduction](#) to the volume, and Burgos authored the article "[Transmuting Monuments](#)". The editors of Textshop Experiments are preparing their third open issue, and a new call for papers, [From Digital to Print](#), for the fourth volume has recently been released.



## Talk, Talk, Talk

**Dr. Bev Bickel** gave two presentations at the October 16 Imagining America conference: "Transformative Democratic Media: Reconfiguring the Sources, Forms, Ownership, and Content of Media for Change." With Lee Boot, Chris Kozjar, Sherella Cupid, Steve Bradley, Kate Drabinski, Tania Lizarazo, Denise Johnson, Tahira Mahdi; "Cultural organizing in the academy to support democratic community engagement." With David Hoffman, Lee Boot, Tahira Mahdi, William Klotz, Romy Hübler, Kate Drabinski, Emily Melluso.

Dr. Bickel also worked with some of the Art of Transformation team members at the end of February to present "Art of Transformation: Cultural Organizing Through New Public Media" at the recent Baltimore Researchers' Colloquium sponsored by the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. With Lee Boot, Sherella Cupid, Mandy Morrison.

As a result of the UMBC organizing of the IA conference, the core team was invited to present in October at the 22nd Annual Conference of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities in Washington, D.C.

**Dr. Marina Adler** (LLC Affiliate Faculty from SAHAP) co-organized the session “Social Justice Activism for Latinxs in Local Communities” at the Baltimore Immigration Summit at Towson University, September 30, 2016 and presented “Social Justice Activism for Latinxs: Experiences of a Scholar- Activist.”

**Dr. Laura Colombo** was invited as a speaker and workshop coordinator by the Universidad de Cuenca (Cuenca, Ecuador) and the Universidad del Nordeste Argentino (Corrientes, Argentina).

**Steven Dashiell** presented at the Mid Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association Conference (MAPACA) in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The title of his presentation was “Tie A Yellow Ribbon?: Analyzing the Online Discussion of Veterans Regarding Thanks Discourse.”



**Dr. Jermaine Ellerbe** (LLC alum '15) presented two of his research papers at the Southeastern Regional Association of Teacher Educators Annual Conference Reston, VA, titled “The Greatest Performance in Schools: Teacher Evaluation Circus” and “For Sistahs Who Committed to the Profession When Preparation Wasn’t Enough”. He also did two presentations at the Maryland Council for Social Studies Conference in Annapolis, MD titled “Integrating Primary Sources while Teaching Historical Fiction” and “Fun with Folktales: Cultural Conversations and Connections with German Children’s Literature.”

**Ibrahim Er** (Cohort 14) presented the paper “The Voiceless in The Voice: A Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis” in the 8th International Conference on Multimodality at University of Cape Town, South Africa. He also presented at Mediasia 2016: The Asian Conference on Media & Mass Communication in Kobe, Japan. His paper was titled, “The Voiceless in The Voice”. Finally, Ibrahim presented “Transnational Television Formats as a Means to Study Non-U.S. Television” at the Flow conference at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Dr. Emek Ergun, Dr. Emerald Christopher** (LLC alumnae '15), **Ruken Isik** (Cohort 17), **Rachel Carter** (Cohort 12), and **Dr. Viviana MacManus** (GWST) presented at the National Women’s Studies Association’s (NWSA) 2016 annual conference in Montreal, Quebec. They participated in the panel “Deadly Fixations, Unsettling Dwellings, and Subversive Mobilities at and across Colonial Borders,” which was moderated by Rachel Carter.



**Kimberly Feldman** (Cohort 16) presented “Going Public: Teachers Embracing Activist Identities” with **Dr. Nancy Shelton** (LLC Affiliate Faculty from EDUC), Iris Kirsch, and Erika Strauss-Chavarria at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention in November.



**Dr. Cedric Herring**, in conjunction with **Dr. Loren Henderson** (LLC Affiliate Faculty from SAHAP), **Tymofey Wowk** (Cohort 15), and **Dr. Marie desJardins** (Associate Dean in the UMBC College of Engineering and Information Technology), presented “Gender and Intentions to Persist in Computing and Engineering: The Role of Student Characteristics, Academic, Psychosocial, and Institutional Factors” at the Annual Conference of the Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA.

**Diane Kuthy** collaborated on a quilt and educational materials with artist Olivia Robinson that will be on exhibit until March 10th at Gallery CA. It is based on research about whiteness and visual culture in the 1940’s.

**Dr. Christine Mallinson** presented on “Understanding Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in the Classroom” to the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Education. She also gave a talk at the University of Maryland-College Park, as part of the Language Science Center’s Day of Action. Her talk, “From Framing to Action: Culture and Communication in Researcher-Educator Partnerships,” was part of an invited panel on “Linguistic Diversity in Education”. Dr. Mallinson presented on “Designing and Developing Culturally and Linguistically Supportive Materials for Educators: Technology Tools to Infuse Sociolinguistics into K-12 Classroom Praxis,” as part of the symposium “Language and Educational Justice: A Dialogue between Linguistics and Linguistic Anthropology,” co-sponsored by the Linguistic Society of America and the Society for Linguistic Anthropology, at the Linguistic Society of America Conference.



Finally, Dr. Mallinson presented on “Integrating Linguistics into STEM Education: Innovative Approaches in Translational Science,” as part of the invited symposium “Leveraging Linguistics to Broaden Participation in STEM,” at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world’s largest scientific society.

**Dr. Kimberly Moffitt** (LLC Faculty) served as a keynote panelist at the University of Maryland School of Social Work’s Daniel Thursz lecture entitled, *The 2016 Election & The Future of Social Justice in America*. The lecture featured Washington Post columnist, E.J. Dionne and activist Deray McKesson.

**Dr. Craig Saper** presented “Curating Folkvine.org” at the University Film and Video Association (UFVA), Las Vegas, in August 2016. He also presented “A modernist’s self-invention versus a biographer’s efforts: Robert Carlton Brown II (1886-1959): in the Modernist Studies Association (MSA), Pasadena, November 2016. Also in November, Dr. Saper presented his paper “The Grid, The Hand, and Fluxus,” at the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA) Conference, Atlanta. At the beginning of 2017, Dr. Saper was invited by the Institute of Modern and Contemporary Culture and The Contemporary Small Press at the University of Westminster (UK), to lead the workshop “DIY: Start Your Own Journal, Press, or University”. Finally, Dr. Saper was invited as featured speaker by Avant-Gardes and Speculative Technology (AGAST) at Oxford Brookes University (UK) in the launching of the augmented reality version of Bob Brown’s Reading Machine. Also, at Oxford Brookes, Dr. Saper was invited by the Publishing Faculty Group to present “Publishing Tomorrow Today.”



## Collaborations

**Dr. Bev Bickel** continues to serve as UMBC’s liaison to Imagining America, a national consortium in which UMBC is a leading participant. Thanks to additional support from the Provost’s office, UMBC sent a delegation of 19 graduate and undergraduate students, faculty and staff to the national conference in Milwaukee in October 2016. The delegation was organized by Dr. Bickel, working with **Lee Boot** (Director of the Imaging Research Center), **David Hoffman** (LLC alum ’13) who is now serving on the IA National Board, and the offices of UMBC’s President and Provost. Planning is underway for the fall 17 conference at UC Davis, the new national home of IA. Proposals are due March 20, and feel free to be in touch with Dr. Bickel if you want to talk about participating.

Thanks to another productive Dresher Center faculty working group, Critical Civic Engagement, and the ongoing work of Imagining America at UMBC, Dr. Bickel is actively participating in another interdisciplinary collaboration called the Art of Transformation (AoT), an initiative of the Imaging Research Center. As part of a team that includes graduate students from the IMDA program and computer programmers, Dr. Bickel and LLC students **Sherella Cupid** (Cohort 18) and **Frank Anderson** (Cohort 18) have been busy this past year working with the IRC and Dresher Center on the NEH Humanities in the Public Square grant, “Baltimore Stories” that involved interviews, storytelling, filmmaking and public events.

Dr. Bickel has been working with **David Hoffman** (LLC alum in Student Life) as part of a national research group at the Kettering Foundation entitled “Faculty Public Happiness: Rebuilding Democracy’s Colleges.” The group is drafting a report to the Kettering Foundation and developing a book on Rebuilding Democracy’s Colleges. Each institution involved in the research shared first drafts that were discussed at the foundation last fall in a two-day meeting attended by David Hoffman and Bev Bickel. The UMBC writing team—David Hoffman, **Romy Hübler**, Craig Berger (Student Life), Tahira Mahdi (Community Psychology doctoral candidate), and Bev Bickel—are completing the final draft this spring.

**Dr. Kimberly Moffitt** along with **Shawntay Stocks** (Cohort 13) coordinated “The Obama Effect 2.0” conference October 27- 29, 2016 which featured keynote speech by Dr. Michael Eric Dyson (Georgetown University), author of *The Black Presidency: Barack Obama and the Politics of Race in America*. The two-day conference hosted scholars from across the region who explored aspects of President Obama’s legacy.



Dr. Moffitt is also now serving as vice-chair of the Critical and Cultural Studies Division of the National Communication Association. She is tasked with organizing the 2017 conference paper and panel sessions for the largest division of the organization.

**Dr. Marina Adler**, in January 2017, designed and participated in an educational people-to-people trip to Cuba, “The path of the revolution,” which was organized through the US/Cuba Labor Exchange. **Drs. Cedric Herring** and **Loren Henderson** participated in this tour, which retraced historically significant destinations throughout the island nation.



## **Language, Literacy & Culture in Media**

**Aiyda Evans** (Cohort 19) has carried out with her students a Social Justice Project at Morgan State University in the Department of Sociology & Anthropology. Aiyda organized a student led staff to chair the “Social Justice Mannequin Challenge Time Capsule,” which is a platform for students at Morgan State University to express their social concerns especially in the aftermath of the presidential elections of 2016. On November 18th, 2016, an important number of students collectively staged a “[Mannequin Challenge](#),” which has been trending and has over 50K shares, likes, and views across social media platforms. *The Baltimore Sun* [reported](#) about this performance last December.



**Kimberly Feldman** appeared as a guest panelist on the [Christian Feminist Podcast](#) episode 51 on Christian Feminist Pedagogy and episode 53 introducing new panelists for 2017. She will also be appearing periodically this year as one of the show’s regular panelists.

**Montia Gardner** (Cohort 19) is the newest cast member of [Listen To Your Mother Baltimore](#).

**Dr. Christine Mallinson** was interviewed by The Baltimore Sun for a multimedia feature about Baltimore language variation and change titled, “Hold Up, ‘Hon’: Baltimore’s Black Vernacular Youthful, Dynamic If Less Recognized than ‘Bawlmerese”’. Dr. Mallinson was interviewed about the topic of linguistic activism for the “Talk the Talk” program on the RTRFM radio station in Perth, Australia.

**Tamisha Ponder** (Cohort 19) self-founded non-profit organization Generation Up Next was featured in the [Enquirer Gazette](#). Generation Up Next encourages youth activism and provides teens ages 13-17 with the resources to change their communities.



**Dr. Craig Saper** has been recently [interviewed](#) by blogger Kara Mae Harris. Harris, who is interested in Maryland food history, started to collect cookbooks that were published by Cora, Rose and Bob Brown. She approached Dr. Saper to inquire and learn more about the Browns.

**Dr. Karsonya Wise Whitehead** (LLC alum '09) wrote an [op-ed](#) for The Baltimore Sun, “This is our first 100 days, too, and how we respond matters. If we want real change to happen, we must do everything we can to hold this administration accountable and to never doubt, as Margaret Mead once said, that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world.”

*Thanks to all the people who have shared information about their accomplishments, collaborations and projects for this issue. Please keep us updated about your contributions to academia and to the community.*