

Of Note

Recent Highlights from
UMBC's Language, Literacy & Culture Doctoral Program
Fall 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Transitions often challenge us emotionally, intellectually, and financially; they are also a call to action. Sometimes the transitions are sad, somber, and mournful; sometimes celebratory and hopeful. What is gratifying is how when confronted with challenges our LLC community rises to the occasion with help and support.

Returning to campus safely

Although we continue to mourn the pandemic's toll, LLC is slowly returning to our shared on-campus spaces and in-person meetings. We will continue to ensure that all LLC workplaces and classroom are literal safe spaces. Please avail yourselves of the [mental health resources at UMBC](#) if necessary.

Meeting increased financial needs

LLC will continue to offer the Jodi Crandall Fellowship, and this year on a trial basis, the Cedric Herring Fellowship. Our community served individuals with a variety of needs by organizing ways to help. Also, LLC is working towards increasing funding opportunities.

LLC faculty developments

Some transitions are cause for celebration. As mentioned in our last newsletter, we were able to hire Dr. Rebeca Gamez; Dr. Ramon Goings stands for promotion to associate professor and tenure this academic year; and Dr. Christine Mallinson will be taking a sabbatical in the spring and plans to devote that time to work on her research projects. Dr. Kimberly Moffit, our interim-Dean, is the incoming co-editor of CSMC, *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, and we hope our students will have the opportunity to support her editorial work.

Dr. Beverly Bickel plans a much-deserved retirement at the end of January 2022. Those of you who know Dr. B do not need reminding of our colleague's exemplary dedication to

the community at large, the university and especially to our LLC students; this is a bitter-sweet transition for everyone. Although LLC will keep Bev engaged with our program, especially including mentoring students toward completing dissertations, we know that LLC must find new faculty; we have a [search](#) under way now for a scholar in Black expressive culture across the Diaspora. In the spring, we hope to hold a celebration, perhaps raising funds for initiatives that Bev championed for decades, especially to support doctoral student projects in community engagement and participatory action research.

Program Review of LLC

This academic year, LLC goes through an academic program review and this spring external reviewers will call on LLC's stakeholders for insights on the program's needs, vision, and challenges. Thank you in advance for participating in this once every 7-year opportunity to strategically guide our program into the future.

Thank you for staying connected and supportive during these many transitions.



Craig Saper,
Interim Director

Program Highlights and Milestones

Welcome to the LLC Community!

Last fall, one of our newly admitted students was not able to come to the U.S. because of the pandemic. After a year delay, Iñaki has arrived in Baltimore and is busily immersed in coursework and teaching Spanish through the Department of Modern Languages, Linguistics and Intercultural Communication.

Sergio Iñaki Zárate comes from Bogotá, Colombia, where he did interdisciplinary research both at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana and at an independent level. He was associated with REDEPUNK, the Latin American Punk Studies Network Initiative, an empirical musician, fanzine writer and editor, and founding/former member of the underground record label Towers of Acre.

The goal of Iñaki's doctoral research is to give an account, from the point of view of historical memory, ethnography and archival work of the relationship between creative practices and meanings of politics that have arisen over time in the multiplicity of groups and experiences that make up the political initiatives of the Do it Yourself (DIY) communities of Bogotá, Colombia.



2021 Candidacy Reception

Eight LLC students achieved candidacy in the past 12 months and were honored at a virtual Graduate School event on October 15th. These students are in the midst of their dissertation research, having successfully defended their proposals.

Harry Bhandari
(cohort 19)

Alyssa Brumis
(cohort 20)

Ciara Christian
(cohort 21)

Tunisia Lumpkin
(cohort 19)



Alyse Minter
(cohort 20)

Alison Morrow
(cohort 19)

Kaleigh Mrowka
(cohort 21)

Sonya Squires-Caesar
(cohort 13)

Congratulations on reaching this important milestone in your doctoral journey!

Spring and Summer 2021 Ph.D. Graduates



Teresa D. Daniell
cohort 17

Co-Mentors: Drs. Christine Mallinson and Thania Muñoz

Bridging Cultural Borderlands of Identity: Latina Veterans on Negotiating Double Minority Status in the Military

Tissa J. Thomas
cohort 17

Co-Mentors: Drs. Kimberly Moffitt and Dawn Biehler

Understanding Students' Perceptions of Space and Place-Making on UMBC's Campus Landscape



Montia Gardner
cohort 19

Mentor: Dr. Pamela Bennett

Shadowed Beneath Thy Hand: Organizational Capital and the Cultivation of Academic Talent at a Low-SES Suburban High School



Antione D. Tomlin
cohort 19

Co-Mentors: Drs. Christine Mallinson and Keisha Allen

When They See Us: Narratives of Black Male Teachers



J Inscoc
cohort 19

Co-Mentors: Drs. Jason Loviglio and Christine Mallinson

Sonic Waves of Grain: Paul Harvey's American Evangelism

Eva Wright
cohort 15

Mentor: Dr. Craig Saper

PTSD and Narration: Traumatic Stories' Impact on Realism in Film and Literature



Katherine Morris
cohort 18

Co-Mentors: Drs. Beverly Bickel and Francine Hultgren

Being Called to Social Work: What Latina Women Carry

Congratulations!
You did it!



LLC Funding Opportunities

Jodi Crandall Fellowship Award Winners

The Jodi Crandall Fellowship for Research in Language, Literacy & Culture is named for the LLC Doctoral Program's founder and professor emerita, Dr. Jodi (JoAnn) Crandall. It provides monetary awards to current LLC students for collaborative interdisciplinary research projects. Collaborators can be fellow LLC students, core faculty, affiliate faculty, or alumni of the program.

After a competitive application process last spring, the following students received awards in May 2021.

- **Michael Hunt** (cohort 21) in collaboration with **Dr. Ramon Goings** (LLC):
Listening to the Voices of Mentees from a Holistic Critical Mentoring Perspective
- **Jamie Gillan, Kaleigh Mrowka, and Charlotte Keniston** (all from cohort 21) with their shared mentors, **Dr. Beverly Bickel** (LLC) and **Dr. Tania Lizarazo** (MLLI):
Conduct a Listening Tour of Public Stories Labs and Initiatives and Create Short Digital Productions that may help Envision the Creation of such a Lab at UMBC
- **Chelsea G. Mays-Williams, Lauren Pollak, Nneka Chisholm-Edwards, and Kara Seidel** (all from cohort 23) with advisement from **Dr. Kimberly Moffitt** (LLC and CAHSS):
Methods for Bridging Intersectional Discourse: A Reflexive Content Analysis of *Lovecraft Country*

New in 2022:

Cedric Herring Fellowship for Research

Current LLC students are encouraged to submit a one-page proposal for the Cedric Herring Fellowship for Research in Language, Literacy & Culture this spring. General areas that fit the parameters of this award include diversity in organizations, stratification and inequality, and/or race and educational policy.

Applications received by March 1, 2022 will be considered by the Herring Fund Advisory Board. The proposal should include a one-page description of the project and a separate page with a budget justification detailing how funds will be used. The funding can be used for any research-specific costs, including, but not limited to, archival reproductions, transcriptions, books, computer software, and equipment.

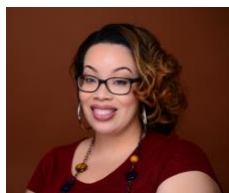
***** CALL FOR PROPOSALS *****

due March 1, 2022

Both of these Fellowships are accepting proposals for new awards to be made in Spring 2022. Please email a one-page proposal and one page budget justification for either fellowship to Liz Steenrod at esteenrod@umbc.edu by March 1 2022. No paper copies, please.

Sharing Good News

Keisha Allen (EDUC), **Jiyoan Lee** (EDUC) and **Kerri Evans** (SWOK) were awarded a 2021 Hrabowski Innovation Fund Grant to develop a board game focused on the immigrant experience in the United States from pre-kindergarten through higher education.



Erin Berry-McCrea (LLC '18) has become Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion with Generation USA, a global non-profit that provides free job training, placement, and support to help people find life-changing careers. She looks forward to catalyzing Generation's EDI Journey.



Sherella Cupid (LLC '20) is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Louisiana State University in the Manship School of Mass Communication and College of Human Sciences and Education. She “uplifts much gratitude to my mentor, Dr. Moffitt, for her expertise, care and guidance in this process.”

Steven Dashiell (LLC '20) is American University's College of Arts and Sciences Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity. Steven has joined the Department of Sociology and the AU Game Center.



His research examines the nature of discourses in male-dominated subcultures.

Shenita Denson (cohort 22) was selected as 2021 Baltimore Field School Fellow, held this past summer, sponsored by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Landry Digeon (LLC '20) and **Haniyeh Barahouie** (MLLI) initiated the Digital Humanities Research Group (DHRG) supported by the Dresher Center for Humanities. The DHRG brings together faculty members and graduate students interested in exploring new ways to



engage in and learn about the use of technology in humanities scholarship. It offers a practical approach to epistemological issues with hands-on, informal workshops. The group is also a space to share their research projects, talk about their experiences and challenges, and potentially discuss solutions.



Jermaine Ellerbe (LLC '16) was named a 2022 NEA Foundation Global Learning Fellow and will participate in a 12-month professional development program that includes in-person workshops, online coursework, webinars by leading experts, peer learning, and an international field study experience in South Africa.

Rebeca Gamez (LLC) is Visiting Lecturer for LLC. Her research interests include relational and comparative race and ethnicity, space and place, immigration, educational inequality, and critical qualitative research methodologies. Prior to earning her doctorate in Education at Johns Hopkins University, she was a middle school literacy teacher and has extensive experience in grassroots community organizing around financial justice, immigrant rights, and educational equity issues.

Ramon Goings (LLC) is serving as a co-PI on a 3-year \$577,000 [grant from the Institute of Educational Sciences](#) to examine how teacher recruitment programs contribute to diversifying the teacher workforce.



Irina Golubeva (MLLI) was awarded a UMBC Strategic Award for Research Transitions (START) grant for the research project, “Exploring the effectiveness of immersive Virtual Reality experience for developing empathic concern and intercultural sensitivity.” She also was elected a member of the Board of the International Academy of Intercultural Research.



J Incoe (LLC '21) has accepted a full-time contingent lecturer position at Towson University in the Communication Studies Department.



Denise Meringolo (HIST) was appointed Dresher Center for the Humanities Acting Director for AY 2021-22.



Satarupa Joardar (LLC '15) started a new position as Communications Specialist at Cascadia College in Bothell, WA. She will lead Communications, Outreach, and Marketing efforts at the college.

Alyse Minter (cohort 20) is the Fall 2021 [Dresher Center Graduate Student Research Fellow](#).



Ngeri Nnachi-Azuwiah (cohort 20) was awarded a \$4,000 scholarship for an essay she wrote for the SECU MD Foundation. Her essay was about what qualities make for a successful change agent and what does it mean to be a change agent in the community.

Christine Mallinson (LLC) received a 3-year research grant from the National Science Foundation, funded through its Build and Broaden Program. Her co-PI is Anne H. Charity Hudley of Stanford University. The project, "Collaborative Research: Linguistic Production, Perception, and Identity in the Career Mobility of Black Faculty in Linguistics and the Language Sciences," will begin in January.



Jennifer Mata-McMahon (EDUC) was appointed the new director of the [Sherman Center for Early Learning in Urban Communities](#) in August. She succeeds Mavis Sanders, the Center's inaugural director.

Kara Seidel and **Nneka Chisholm-Edwards** (both from cohort 23) began a new Graduate Student Organization for the LLC Program with **Beverly Bickel** (LLC) as their faculty advisor. The GSO will facilitate events that foster community within the program.

Sedrick Smith (LLC '20) was named Resident Principal of The Mount Washington School in Baltimore city.

Hot off the Press

Shenita Denson (cohort 22) published her first peer-review article, "[It Doesn't Have to Protest: A Review of Black or Right: Anti/Racist Campus Rhetorics](#)," in *Writers: Craft & Context Journal*, Vol. 2 No. 2 (2021).

Kim Feldman (LLC '18) and high school Black Student Achievement Program Liaison Cheryl Grimes co-authored, "You matter: PDS partners collaborating to recruit more diverse teacher candidates," published in [PDS Partners: Bridging Research to Practice](#) in September 2021.

Sarah Fouts (AMST) co-authored the article, "[The Great Unbuilding: Land, Labor, and Dispossession in New Orleans and Honduras](#)" in *Southern Cultures*, Vol. 27, No. 2, 2021.

Rebeca Gamez (LLC) co-authored the article "['We have that Opportunity now': Black and Latinx Geographies, \(Latinx\) Racialization, and 'New Latinx South,'](#)" in *Journal of Leadership, Equity, and Research*, Vol. 7, No. 2, 2021.

Ramon Goings (LLC) wrote "[Five Considerations when applying for a Professor Position](#)" as part of the Smart Scholar series in Interfolio.com, June 16, 2021.

Irina Golubeva (MLLI) co-authored two Portfolios of Competences for Democratic Culture, a young learners' version and a standard version for adults, through the [Council of Europe](#).



Chuck Hodell (LLC '04) published a new textbook entitled, [Introduction to Instructional Systems Design: Theory and Practice](#), Association for Talent Development, 2021.

Francis Hult (EDUC) co-wrote "[Discursive Ripple Effects in Language Policy and Practice: Multilingualism and English as an Academic Lingua Franca in Transnational Higher Education](#)," *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics*, Vol. 44, Issue 2, 2021.



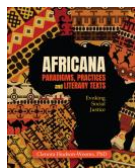
Renée Lambert-Brétière (MLLI) authored "How to smell without a verb 'to smell' in Fon," a chapter in [The Linguistics of Olfaction](#), John Benjamins, 2021.

John Lawton (cohort 21) wrote the book review, "[The PMC Goes on Trial](#)" of Catherine Liu's *Virtue Hoarders: The Case against the Professional Managerial Class* in *Rhizomes*, Issue 37 (2021).

Jiyoona Lee (EDUC) co-authored "[EPIK teachers' beliefs about language learning and teaching processes](#)" in *English Teaching*, 76(2), 81-105 and "[Young learners' voices: Towards a learner-centered approach to understanding language assessment literacy](#)" in *Language Testing*, Vol 38, Issue 3, 2021. And with **Shannon Sauro** (EDUC): "[Assessing language learning in virtual exchange: Suggestions from the field of language assessment](#)" in *Journal of Virtual Exchange*, Volume 4, 2021. Jiyoona also wrote "[Comprehensive review of the effect of using music in second language learning](#)," chapter 15 in *Crossing Borders, Making Connections: Interdisciplinarity in Linguistics*, De Gruyter Mouton, 2021.



Jennifer Mata-McMahon (EDUC) co-edited [The Bloomsbury Handbook of Culture and Identity from Early Childhood to Early Adulthood: Perceptions and Implications](#). London, UK: Bloomsbury Academic, 2021. She also co-wrote one of its chapters with departmental colleagues, **Kindel Nash**, **Jiyoona Lee**, and Joshua Michael, "Developing their Best Reading and Writing Selves: Fostering Positive Literacy Identities for Bi/multilingual Students and Families in Baltimore, USA."



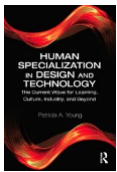
Ngeri Nnachi-Azuwaha (cohort 20) contributed the chapter, "End Emmett Till Continuums: Beyond George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ma'Khia Bryant" in the textbook, [Africana Paradigms, Practices and Literary Texts: Evoking Social Justice](#), Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2021.

Jackie Peng (cohort 23) wrote "[Executive Functioning and Kindergarten Readiness](#)" in *Edutopia*, August 3, 2021. Jackie is coaching early childhood and elementary teacher candidates as a Graduate Assistant in the Sherman STEM Teacher Scholars Program.

Erin Roth (LLC '18) and Sarah Chard (SAPH) co-wrote "[Affective Practices of Diabetes Self-Management Among Older Adults: Cumulative Effects of Childhood Adversity](#)" in *The Gerontologist*, August 18, 2021.

Shannon Sauro (EDUC) edited and co-wrote with six others the report, [Developing Virtual Innovation and Support Networks for In-Service and Pre-Service Teachers](#), for the VALIANT project, funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. Shannon also co-authored two articles in *CALICO Journal*, Vol 38, 2021: "[There's always an option': Collaborative writing of multilingual interactive fanfiction in a foreign language class](#)" and "[Swedish as a Second Language: Teachers' Perceptions and Experiences with CALL for the Newly Arrived](#)."

Kevin Wisniewski (LLC '18) published the article, "Compositors of Types: Mary Katharine Goddard, Francis Hopkinson and Design in Eighteenth-Century America" in *Printing History*, journal of the [American Printing History Association](#) (APHA), Number 27-28, 2020. In early 2021, Kevin founded the new book series [Textshop Editions](#), a small press dedicated to experimental writing. In May, he published the second title: "Sonnet 100" by experimental visual artist Marilyn Allen.



Patricia Young (EDUC) wrote [Human Specialization in Design and Technology: The Current Wave for Learning, Culture, Industry, and Beyond](#) (2021, Routledge), in which she traces moments in history that have sparked or dampened innovation in instructional design and technology across industries.

Talk, Talk, Talk

Juanita Ashby-Bey (LLC '07) was a featured panelist at Coppin State University Department of Teaching and Learning's virtual colloquium, [Culturally Responsive Teaching: Research and Practice in an Urban Context](#) on October 6, 2021.

Bev Bickel (LLC) and **Bill Shewbridge** (MCS) chaired the U.S. east coast four-hour session of the 24-hour global conference, "Story Work for a Just Future," hosted by the University of Loughborough on June 21-22, 2021.

Bev Bickel, **Tania Lizarazo** (MLLI), **Jamie Gillan** (cohort 21), **Kaleigh Mrowka** (cohort 21), and **Charlotte Keniston** (cohort 21) presented a roundtable about their accepted chapter, "'The Story in The Middle': The Power of Collaborative Story Processes," in a forthcoming Smithsonian Press edited collection entitled *Story Work for a* Of Note – Fall 2021

Just Future - Co-creating Diverse Knowledges and Methods within an International Community of Practice. The book will be published along with a complete digital collection on the Smithsonian Learning Lab that Charlotte is part of leading.

Alyssa Brumis (cohort 20) virtually presented "The Twilight Zone: Case Studies in Mis/Disinformation & Mass Media" at the ECREA's European Communication Conference post-conference, [Disinformation Studies: Perspectives to an Emerging Research Field](#), on September 10, 2021.

Steven Dashiell (LLC '20) presented his work on metadiscourse in tabletop gaming at the Popular Culture Association conference in June 2021. In April, Steven presented at the [17th annual Tampere University \(Finland\) Game Research Lab Spring](#)



[Seminar](#). His research looked at discussions of the use of black face paint by live-action gamers, and the ways in discussions individuals use masculine discourse to dissuade from senses of racism.

Kim Feldman (LLC '18) presented and published a paper with department colleagues at the Bulgarian Comparative Education Society International Conference in June 2021. The paper, "[Impact on student learning: The contribution of a professional development collaboration](#)" can be found in *New Challenges in Education: Lessons from Around the World*, Volume 19.

Rebeca Gamez (LLC) virtually presented "They're killing our vibes, our friendships, our unity: Schools, Race, and Place and African American and Latin and Central American Immigrant Youths' Negotiation of Ethnoracial Difference, Division, and Unity" at the 2020-2021 American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference, April 2021. In August she presented "Reproducing Anti-Blackness through Latinidad: A Case Study of New Horizons Middle School," at the 2021 American Sociological Association Conference. Rebeca made a presentation to graduate students at Virginia Tech's College of Architecture and Urban Studies on October 4th concerning issues related to race, racism, and systemic racism as it relates to creating and designing inclusive spaces in the context of Baltimore and Washington, DC.

Ramon Goings (LLC) was keynote speaker at the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education graduate student conference in Miramar Beach, Florida, in October 2021.

Irina Golubeva (MLLI) virtually presented her research this summer at "[The Body, Embodiment and Bodyfulness](#)" conference at Ludwig-Maximilians University (Germany), the Hungarian Conference on Educational Research (Hungary), and the [World Congress of Applied Linguistics](#) (AILA) in the Netherlands.

Francis Hult (EDUC) addressed the United Nations twice this past summer - in relation to the High Level Political Forum and the Conference on Least Developed Countries - discussing the

importance of multilingual education. He was also a keynote speaker at the Conference on Multilingualism (COM 21) hosted (virtually) at the University of Hamburg, Germany.

Ngeri Nnachi-Azuwiah (cohort 20) gave the virtual presentation, "Connecting Black Thought Waters and Generations Removed" at the Common Ground Consortium of the University of Minnesota Conference titled, *Advancing Black Intellectualism: Commemorating 100 Years of Black Women with PhDs*, in May 2021.

Autumn Reed (LLC '14) presented her commissioned paper, "The Impact of COVID-19 on Faculty Recruitment," at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's virtual workshop series on Promotion, Tenure, and Advancement through the Lens of 2020, September 2021.

Craig Saper (LLC) made three presentations this summer and fall including the paper "From Artisanal Socialism and Arts & Crafts Feminism of the 1890s to the Black Queer FIRE!! of the 1920s" for a panel at the American Comparative Literature Association in April 2021; a presentation at the Science Literature and Arts Society on the Mail-art of Owen Smith in October 2021; and a paper and discussion on "The Hinge-figure in and of Modernist Studies: Liesl Olson" on a round-table for a special event with the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature (SLSA) in June 2021.

Kevin Wisniewski (LLC '18) moderated the "Collaboration Strategies for Digital Black Books Projects" panel and co-presented on the American Antiquarian Society's "Black Self-Publishing" project at Representation and Recovery, Association of Documentary Editing Annual Meeting, Dickinson State University, Dickinson, ND, in July 2021. He also presented "Playing with Print: Francis Hopkinson and Humor in Early America," The American Literature Association (ALA) 31st Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, in July 2021 and "Managing Maryland's Revolutionary Presses: Design and Entrepreneurship from Two Women Printers in Colonial America," at the 2021 USTC Conference, *Gender and the Book Trades*, University of St. Andrews, Scotland, in June 2021.

Media Appearances

Kim Feldman (LLC '20) was a panelist on the [Christian Feminist Podcast episode #145](#) discussing the novel *Speak* by Louisa Hall.

Ramon Goings (LLC) was on the Maryland State Board of Education Task Force for Academic Equity and Excellence for Black Boys and wrote a portion of their report, [Transforming the Culture of Maryland's Schools for Black Boys](#), April 2021, that generated many local news stories.



Chuck Hodell (LLC '04) and Dennise Cardona, UMBC Digital Content Specialist, have started a [YouTube Channel](#) to support the field of ISD.

Michael Hunt (cohort 21) was a guest on the [Higher Ed Live](#) podcast, season 1, episode 4 discussing the destandardization of admissions testing. Michael also wrote the Op-Ed, "[It's time to do away with the GRE](#)," in Inside Higher Ed, June 28, 2021.

Craig Saper (LLC) wrote a letter to the editor about O. Henry and the use of pseudonyms among early 20th century writers in the [New Yorker Magazine](#), August 9, 2021.

James Wright (LLC Cohort 22) joined [The Table](#) podcast's episode 4, "Capitalizing the B in Black: the Importance of Race and Language." This episode discusses the impact of social media and the 2020 racial justice protests on the decision to capitalize the B in Black by major news outlets. How to incorporate inclusive language in academia is also discussed. Spring 2021.

And on a more personal note

Autumn Reed (LLC '14) is pursuing her J.D. in the part-time evening law school program at the University of Baltimore.

Zareen Taj (cohort 22) is working to help bring family members from Pakistan to Baltimore. These family members recently left Afghanistan and are filing paperwork so they can enter the U.S. Zareen comes from an ethnic minority group, the Hazara, who have been brutally targeted by extremists; [Zareen](#) has written on this issue for *Ms. Magazine* and other outlets. She is very grateful for the support that she has received.



Thank you for your contributions to this edition of our newsletter! We love hearing from you.

(If you discover inaccuracies on these pages, please write to esteenrod@umbc.edu so they can be corrected.)