

Of Note

Recent Highlights from
UMBC's Language, Literacy & Culture Doctoral Program
Spring 2023

Dear LLC Community,

This is a time of transitions. As we continue to shift from pandemic isolation to in-person classes and community, we also are preparing to move out of our original LLC offices and conference room to temporary offices this June. Sherman Hall will undergo a major two-year renovation and the addition of a grand lobby entrance between the two wings. During those next two years, we will relocate to the other wing of Sherman Hall, and eventually move back to our wing into a dedicated suite of offices and our own seminar room. It will finally give us an area of our own instead of being part of a shared hallway. We hope to share renderings of the new LLC suite next academic year.

Our program began in our current space in 1998, and as we move out, we are planning for our 25th Anniversary in the academic year of 2023-2024. With a generous "Big Idea" grant from the CAHSS Dean's Office, we are creating new promotional and recruiting materials. We will be starting this promotional work at AERA in early April, where three of our current students will accompany LLC's Dr. Goings as the group presents their research and promotes our LLC program at the conference's exhibit hall.

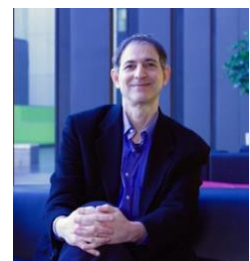
As part of planning for the 25th Anniversary, we have begun thinking about LLC's formation early on as simply an idea among a group of faculty members at UMBC, who in the late 1990s, saw the need for a doctoral program. The program evolved into a stand-alone interdisciplinary program with a regular tenured faculty group, and nine partnering departments with more than 60 affiliated faculty. To document and make available that history, we began constructing a robust intellectual history of LLC starting with a series of conversations with Emerita Professor and Founding Director, Jodi Crandall, and Emerita Professor Bev Bickel. We hope to have a booklet-sized narrative printed, and available as a pdf on our website, as part of our promotional materials. If you have stories or ideas especially from the first decade of the program (1998-2008), then please send us those memories and insights or any copies of photographs you may discover.

We wish to thank **Dr. Fred Anderson**, our Visiting Professor this year, for his contributions to the program. Two LLC students in his English as a Global Language class will present at the upcoming International Association for World Englishes Conference. Going forward, we will begin a search, in the Fall semester, for an Associate Professor of Media Studies to start the next year in 2024. In the interim, we will also have a new Visiting Lecturer for one year.

During this time of transitions, we are hopeful and enthusiastically committed to promoting our vision of a doctoral program that promotes scholarship that matters through inclusive excellence. In future newsletters, and in emailed communications, we will keep you informed about the 25th Anniversary events and publications. If you plan to go to an academic conference, then please let us know.

Onward and in solidarity!

Craig Saper,
Director



LLC Program Highlights and Milestones

Ph.D. Graduates Honored in December



Frank Anderson (cohort 18)

Rhetorics of Transformation: Centering the Experiences of Young People to Create Youth Agency and Positive Change

Co-chairs: Beverly Bickel, PhD and Jennifer Maher, PhD

Shenita Denson (cohort 22)

Retrospective Storytelling, Meaning-making, and Generativity (the passing down of wisdom): Black Intergenerational Stories about Love

Co-chairs: Brandy Wallace, PhD and Kimberly Moffitt, PhD



Susan M. Kerfoot (cohort 8)

The Importance of Objectivity in Biomedical Discourse and Practice: A Critical Analysis

Co-chairs: Beverly Bickel, PhD and Jennifer Maher, PhD

Congratulations! You did it!

Celebration of Bev Bickel through a Conversation about LLC Community Building

On December 7, 2022 our program held a community building event to honor **Beverly Bickel**, LLC Clinical Associate Professor, who retired in 2021. Many alumni, affiliate faculty, and current students came out.



The first panel was comprised of (from right to left) moderator **Ramon Goings** (LLC) and panelists LLC alumnae **Ciara Christian** (LLC '22), **Tunisia Lacy-Lumpkin** (LLC '22), and **Charlotte Keniston** (cohort 21). Our second panel (not shown) consisted of LLC alumnae **Polina Vinogradova** (LLC '11), **Doaa Rashed** (LLC '17), and **Emerald Christopher-Byrd** (LLC '15).

A note of Gratitude for the LLC community from Bev:

Since the overwhelming December 7 event recognizing my retirement, I have been absorbing and reflecting on your messages, often wondering who in the world you were talking about 😊. I am profoundly grateful for your kind words and stories, your beautiful notes, your generous gifts and the many invitations. Thank you to those of you who donated to the LLC foundation and fellowships and to those who contributed to the beautiful White Hill pottery gift that reminds me every day of the collective teaching and learning we share with each other, a cultural practice evoked throughout the formal and informal conversations and gatherings of that winter evening. I deeply appreciated the conversations and panel presenters and their shared reflections on building community and mentoring each other. Thank you to all the presenters and participants in our collective conversations, and to all who reconnected that evening. I am forever moved and inspired by you all. I look forward to continuing stories and conversations and hope you will all stay in touch and help keep me busy.

In honor of you all—LLC alums, students and faculty colleagues from across CAHSS and UMBC—I am making donations to the LLC fellowships as a way to thank you. And this semester, our donations also recognize the powerful leadership of our college by Dean Kimberly Moffitt (please don't miss her [challenge video!](#))



Kimberly Moffitt (CAHSS and LLC) shared her accolades about Bev



Jamie Gillan (cohort 21) and **Tamisha Ponder** (cohort 19), presenting a gift to Bev Bickel



Founding LLC director **Jodi Crandall**, current LLC director Craig Saper, Bev Bickel, and Kimberly Moffitt



You can donate to one of LLC’s foundation funds [here](#).

- Jodi Crandall Fellowship
- Cedric Herring Fellowship
- Publicly Engaged Research and Storywork Fellowship
(*created to honor Dr. Bickel*), part of LLC Program at the link

Sharing our Good News



Pamela Bennett's (PUBL) book, *Parenting in Privilege or Peril: How Social Inequality Enables or Derails the American Dream*, was featured in an Author-Meets-Critics session at the 2023 annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society in Baltimore in February. Among the four critics were former UMBC Professor of Education Mavis Sanders, now Senior Researcher of Black Children and Families at Child Trends.



Felix Burgos (LLC '18) was awarded the Horizon Award for Excellence in Teaching on April 5th. This award recognizes significant teaching accomplishments by an untenured faculty member during some or all of their first six years at Indiana University East that clearly reflect a commitment to student success. He also received the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Building Bridges Award for his commitment to helping and empowering others, and leadership in promoting unity, equity, and diversity.

Steven Dashiell (LLC '20) received an honorable mention for his entry in the manuscript contest of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) Caucus on Class.



Landry Digeon (LLC '20) is set to start a new position as Assistant Professor in the Department of French and European Studies at the University of Cyprus in January 2024. In other good news, he received a \$50,000 investment to further develop his deep-learning movie analysis software, The Möbius Trip.



Jermaine Ellerbe (LLC '14) spent three weeks in Finland during November, 2022 as part of his Fulbright Finland Teachers Fellowship.

Tania Lizarazo (MLLI) is an [On-Ramps for Research Career Acceleration](#) grant recipient.

Elaine MacDougall (cohort 22) is the recipient of the [Diane M. Lee Teaching Award](#), AY '22-'23, which is an award created to support and recognize instructional faculty and staff for their work with students during their year of transition to UMBC.

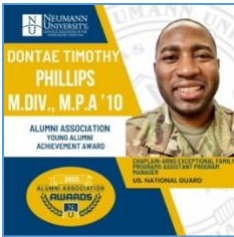


Derek Musgrove (HIST) received a [2023 NEH fellowship](#) for work on “*We must take to the streets again: The Black Power Resurgence in Conservative America, 1980–1997*.” The book aims to provide an in-depth history of the years between the Civil Rights movement and today’s Black Lives Matter movement.



Liz Patton (MCS) received a [2023 NEH fellowship](#) and will conduct research for her forthcoming book *Representation as a Form of Resistance: Documenting African American Spaces of Leisure during the Jim Crow Era*. The book will examine the history of Black leisure and tourism in the U.S. through the perspective of photography and home movies. She seeks to put into context lingering forms of racism that still affect Black tourism on platforms like Airbnb.

Jackie Peng (cohort 23) started a new position at WestEd as a Program Associate II in the Culturally Responsive Systems team. She will be working alongside state agencies, school districts, regional education laboratories, and higher education institutions to strengthen their capacity to create and sustain culturally responsive and equitable systems.



Dontae Timothy Phillips (cohort 25) received the 2023 Young Alumni Achievement Award from the Neumann University Alumni Executive Board in March. Dontae graduated from Neumann University in 2010 with a B.A. in Political Science. This award is given to a living alumni member who is outstanding in their profession and under 40 years old by January 1st in the year the award is presented.

Autumn Reed (LLC '14) was inducted into the [Royal Graham Shannonhouse III Honor Society](#). The honor society recognizes students who have exhibited academic excellence by achieving a GPA of 3.15 or higher after the completion of their first three semesters at UBalt Law.

Jackson Tucker (cohort 25) was accepted to the highly competitive 2023 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute "Reading, Writing, and Teaching the Rust Belt: Co-Creating Regional Humanities Ecosystems" at Ursuline College in Cleveland, OH, which will take place from June 4-18, 2023.

James Wright and **Elaine MacDougall** (both in cohort 22) were awarded \$10,000 by the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) [Interprofessional Education Office](#) and the UMBC Center for Democracy and Civic Life for their Baltimore Writing Center Project (BWCP), originally funded by a Jodi Crandall Fellowship. The Project is a 9-month long, interprofessional learning program and concurrent IRB-approved research study. It responds to an urgent need for undergraduate and graduate students who serve as peer writing consultants in their respective university writing centers across the Baltimore metropolitan area to collaborate and network with one another across experience, expertise, academic disciplinary perspectives, and professional practice and training.

Kyung-Eun Yoon (MLLI) received UMBC's 2023-2026 Presidential Distinguished Faculty Award as the 2023-2026 Presidential Teaching Professor in March.

Hot off the Press

Zane Berge (EDUC) published “The future of interaction in distance education post-pandemic,” In João Mattar (Organizer), *Post-pandemic distance education: A vision of the future*. Brazilian Association of Distance Education. pp: 44-55. He also wrote “Designing workplace training for generational differences: Does it matter?,” *Merits*, 2(4): 400–407 and co-published “[Tailoring workplace training to generational preferences](#),” *i-manager’s Journal of Educational Technology*, 19(1): 35-41.

May Chung (LLC ‘21) co-wrote the chapter “[Fostering Writing Improvement in Joint Professional Military Education](#)” in *Developing Military Learners’ Communication Skills Using the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*, Air University Press, December 2022. She was also featured in the chapter “Mindfulness” in the book *Social-Emotional Learning in the English Language Classroom*, TESOL Press, 2021.



Sherella Cupid (LLC ‘20) and **Antione Tomlin** (LLC ‘21) co-edited the volume, *Black Experiences in Higher Education: Faculty, Staff, and Students*, part of the series Contemporary Issues in Higher Education, Information Age Publishing, 2023.

Teresa Daniell (LLC ‘21) published a [book review](#) of *Visible Borders, Invisible Economies: Living Death in Latinx Narratives* by Kristy L. Ulibarri in *Latin@ Literatures*, Issue #5.

Steven Dashiell (LLC ‘20) published his research “[Deconstructing Gender Capital Involving Conversations of Male Military Sexual Trauma on Reddit](#)” in *Sexuality & Culture* 27, pages 591–607 (2023).

Amy Froide (HIST) wrote “[FTX’s collapse mirrors an infamous 18th century British financial scandal](#)” in *UMBC Magazine*, December 2022.

Ramon Goings (LLC) presented the podcast, “[Black Male Academic Achievement](#),” Retrieving the Social Sciences Episode 37, March 14, 2023.



Irina Golubeva (MLLI) published a chapter on "Intercultural citizenship education in university settings" in the *Handbook of Civic Engagement and Education*, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022.

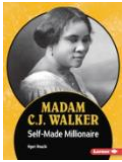
Michael Hunt (cohort 21) published the opinion piece “[Be a Gate Opener, Not a Gatekeeper](#)” in *Inside Higher Ed*, March 2023. He states, “We teach students the rules for applying to grad school—but what if we committed, equally, to rewriting the rules that have historically excluded many students?”



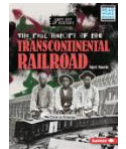
Ruken Isik (LLC ‘22) and **Emek Ergun** (LLC ‘15) coordinated and collaborated on the collective English translation of *The Purple Color of Kurdish Politics: Women Politicians Write from Prison*, Pluto Press, October 2022. This one-of-a-kind collection of prison writings from more than 20 Kurdish women politicians incarcerated on political grounds in Turkey demonstrates Kurdish women’s political determination and refusal to be silenced.

Diane Kuthy (LLC '19) published the article "[Envisioning Freedom: Piecing Together Maryland's Emancipation History](#)" based on her dissertation research in *Art Education*, 75:6, 50-57.

Christine Mallinson (LLC) presented the podcast, "[The Social Science of Dialects](#)," Retrieving the Social Sciences Episode 36, February 28, 2023.



Ngeri Nnachi (cohort 20) published the children's books [Madam C.J. Walker: Self-made Millionaire](#) and [The Real History of the Transcontinental Railroad](#), Lerner Publishing Group, 2023.



Tanya Saunders (LLC) published "[Are Black Women Cisgender? Analyzing Brazilian Blackgender Interventions](#)" in *Cadernos de Linguagem e Sociedade* in Portuguese and English, September 2022.



Michelle Scott (HIST) published the book [T.O.B.A. Time: Black Vaudeville and the Theater Owners' Booking Association in Jazz-Age America](#), University of Illinois Press, 2023. She also published "[Good Business in Missouri: Violence, Minstrelsy and The Case of Louis Wright](#)," *The Journal of African American History*, vol. 107, no 4, December 2022 (491-522).

Mejdulene Shomali (GWST) published the book [Between Banat: Queer Arab Critique and Transnational Arab Archives](#), Duke University Press, 2023.



Antione Tomlin (LLC '21) reviewed the book *School: Questions about Centering Possibility in Black Education*, by C. A. Warren, *Teachers College Record*, 2023. He also co-wrote "[Starting the Year Off Strong: Tips for Streamlining your Job Search Process](#)" in *Interfolio*, January 2023.



Kevin Wisniewski (LLC '18) co-edited the anthology, [Polish Literature as World Literature](#), part of the Literatures as World Literature, Bloomsbury, 2022.

Fan Yang (MCS) published a book chapter in Spanish titled "Creativity from Above and Creativity from Below? Shenzhen, Shanzai, and 'Made in China 2025'" in *Los Usos de la Creatividad: Horizontes en Studies Culturales (The Uses of Creativity: Horizons in Cultural Studies)*, Teseo Press, 2023.



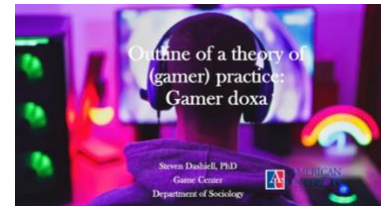
Scholarly Presentations

David Balosa (LLC '20) was a panelist on Politics of Citizenship and National Unity at Drew University's [Dean Hopper Conference: "Modes of Belonging: Kinship, Exile, and Translation."](#) March 2023.



Emerald Christopher-Byrd (LLC '15) moderated an event on March 7th featuring Sybrina Fulton and Loretta Prater focused on police violence and the Black community. This was the [inaugural event](#) for the lecture and award series she began at the University of Delaware.

Stephen Dashiell (LLC '20) presented his theoretical work "[Outline of a Theory of \(Gamer\) Practice: Gamer Doxa](#)" at the Conference on Bourdieu held by Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. He presented his research "A Digital Call of Duty: Masculinity, and the Purposing of Gamification of the US Military" at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting in February 2023 and presented "[Analyzing gender capital in Grand Theft Auto social media conversations](#)" at the Popular Culture Association of the South annual conference in October, 2022. Steven just presented work derived from his dissertation "The Camo Closet: linguistic capital in veteran discourse surrounding disclosure" at the 29th annual Lavender Languages conference in March 2023.



Landry Digeon (LLC '20) presented "A Deep Learning Approach to Cross-cultural TV Series Analysis: Measuring the Impact of Gender and Emotion Display on Shot Scale Distribution" at the International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Management (IEEM) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in December 2022. He also presented "Les Intouchables and The Upside: A Multimodal Digital Approach to Intercultural Comparative Analysis of Film Remakes" at the International Conference on Narrative, Dallas, Texas, in March 2023.



Montia Gardner (LLC '21) recently presented "Analyzing the Organizational Capital of a High Achieving Low-SES Suburban High School" at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference in Baltimore, in February. She was also honored to serve as the Keynote speaker for the Ecumenical Committee of Northwest Indiana's Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Celebration and the Mayors Phenomenal Women luncheon.

Adam Holden (cohort 21) and **Irina Golubeva** (MLLI) co-presented a research paper titled, "Exploring students' perceptions of the campus climate and intergroup relations, and creating a more equitable university" at the Comparative & International Education Society [conference](#) on Feb. 21, 2023. This research was conducted with UMBC students and supported by UMBC's Hrabowski Innovation Fund.

Michael Hunt (cohort 21) virtually presented “Applying Tenets of Holistic Critical Mentoring to Promote the Destandardization of Graduate Admissions Testing Towards Equity in Higher Education”, AAC&U Conference on Diversity, Equity, and Student Success in March 2023. He presented “Social-economic Diversity and Holistic Critical Mentoring: Re-envisioning Mentoring from a Radical Perspective”, in the Looking in the Mirror Dialogue Series, UMBC College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Science (CAHSS) in February. Michael co-presented “How to ensure Active Participation through Accountability Measures for McNair Scholars,” McNair Promising Practices Institute, Orlando, in January 2023.



Michael Hunt (cohort 21) and **Amy Tondreau** (EDUC) presented “Anti-Racism and Our Actions,” Workgroup on Practicing Inclusive Humanities” at [Inclusion and Public Humanities: A Convening](#), Dresher Center for Humanities and the National Humanities Alliance on February 3, 2023.

Ruken Isik (LLC ‘22) and **Emek Ergun** (LLC ‘14) were part of a virtual panel presentation called “Kurdish Women Politicians’ Prison Writing Crossing Borders: Translation as Feminist Solidarity” hosted by American University’s Islamic and Middle East Studies Center on November 16, 2022.

Renee Lambert-Bretiere (MLLI) presented "Pronominal Articles in Kwoma," at the Current Trends in Papuan Linguistics II conference, University Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France, February 16, 2023.

Elaine MacDougall (cohort 22) presented "Imagining an Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program Tutor Training Course" at the 2023 Mid-Atlantic Writing Centers Association Conference at Bryn Mawr College, March 3-4.

Elaine MacDougall and **James Wright** (both of cohort 22) and a colleague virtually presented their initial research on the Baltimore Writing Center Project (BWCP) as part of "Hope in Storytelling: Writing Center Research Toward Linguistic Justice," a panel session sponsored by the International Writing Centers Association (IWCA) at the 2023 [Conference on College Composition and Communication](#) (CCCC).

Jackie Peng (cohort 23) gave a panel presentation on "Re-learning how to teach in an alternate now: Parentscholars co-constructing knowledge alongside our children" at the American Educational Studies Association Conference in Pittsburgh, PA in November, 2022.

Tanya Saunders (LLC) gave the virtual presentation “Are Black Women Cisgender? Analyzing Brazilian Blackgender Interventions” as part of Arizona State University School of Human Evolution and Social Change’s Toward a Liberatory Theory and Praxis Colloquium Series, January 2023.

Kara Seidel (cohort 23) was part of a roundtable on “The Relationship between Informal Language Policies and Disability in Higher Education,” at the American Association of Applied Linguistics Conference in Portland, OR, in March 2023.

Fan Yang (MCS), upon the invitation from colleagues in Portugal, co-presented (with co-author Ralph Litzinger, Duke University) “Rethinking the Eco-Media Event in Pandemic Times,” on February 24, 2023 as part of the Science-Tech Asia series.

Media and Outreach

Steven Dashiell (LLC '20) was interviewed by PBS NewsHour for its piece "[How a new generation of gamers is pushing for inclusivity beyond the table](#)" discussing his research on gaming and the participation of marginalized populations.

Amy Froide (HIST) was interviewed on NPR's [Here & Now](#) about her research on financial fraud in 18th-century London and how it compares to today's FTX scandal. She also wrote about this topic in the *Washington Post* article: "[The FTX Scandal looks like a new twist on an old problem.](#)"

Ramon Goings (LLC) was quoted as a subject matter expert in *Education Week*'s article, "[Districts Want More Teachers of Color But Don't Do Enough to Recruit Them, Survey Finds](#)," February 2023.

Christine Mallinson (LLC) was interviewed by Baltimore native, author, professor, and editor D. Watkins for his article in *Salon* (September 2022), "[Don't tell me my accent doesn't exist](#)," to speak about the centrality of language to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.

And on a more personal note

Adam Holden (cohort 21) and his wife welcomed a daughter, Zoe, in early November. Her big sister, Sophia, and the rest of her family were thrilled to welcome a new member to the family.





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

Virtual copies of all *Of Note* editions can be found at
<https://llc.umbc.edu/of-note-llc-newsletter/>

We regret any errors; if you discover any, please contact Liz Steenrod
at esteenrod@umbc.edu so they can be corrected.