

Of Note

Recent Highlights from the Language, Literacy & Culture PhD Program Fall 2015

The BIG News: LLC Announces Its New Director



The Language, Literacy & Culture PhD Program is pleased to announce that Dr. Cedric Herring is the new Director. Prior to coming to UMBC last year, Dr. Herring was Professor of Sociology and Public Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He was also the Founding Director of the Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy and former Interim Head of the Department of Sociology at UIC. Dr. Herring is also former national President of the Association of Black Sociologists and recipient of the Joseph S. Himes Lifetime Achievement Award.



The LLC Program extends its sincere gratitude to Dr. Craig Saper who has served as its Director for the past three years. During his tenure as Director, Dr. Saper managed the growth of the program from 8 affiliated departments to 9. He also conducted a thorough analysis of the program for LLC's 7-year External Academic Program Review and obtained the approval of the USM to grant masters degrees. He will remain Professor in LLC and will gladly devote more of his time to research.

Newcomers

Dr. Kimberly Moffitt, Associate Professor, has begun a 3-year term in which she will have shared faculty responsibilities in both American Studies and the Language, Literacy & Culture PhD Program. Her teaching interests include culture, media studies/criticism, Black hair and body politics, sports and media, and popular culture. Dr. Moffitt's research focuses on mediated representations of marginalized groups as well as the politicized nature of Black hair and the body. She has published three co-edited volumes, including *Blackberries and Redbones: Critical Articulations of Black Hair and Body Politics in Africana Communities* (Hampton Press, 2010), *The Obama Effect: Multidisciplinary Renderings of the 2008 Campaign* (SUNY Press, 2010) and *The 1980s: A Transitional Decade?* (Lexington Books, 2011). She has also published her work in academic journals and several edited volumes.

Dr. Moffitt often writes op-ed articles for the *Baltimore Sun* and is a frequent guest on local public radio programs. She is a member of the public service sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and a founding parent and board member of Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys Charter School, a 4th-12th college preparatory school.



The Language, Literacy & Culture PhD Program is pleased to introduce our newest cohort of PhD students:



Frank Anderson has spent his adult life advocating for youth from at-risk environments and connecting them to the resources they need to be

successful. He has experience in group homes, residential facilities, city schools, and is currently a service coordinator for the Choice Program at UMBC. Frank is interested in arts-informed research in education, particularly poetic inquiry. In his daily work, Frank uses arts programming as a meeting ground, a place for youth in Baltimore to build relationships with members of the UMBC community and begin engaging in the college conversation at an early age.

Sherella Cupid, a Gates Millennium Scholar, comes to LLC from Goucher College, where she completed her Master of Education (MEd) in At-Risk and Diverse Learners.



She is interested in investigating issues in education with the intent of increasing teachers and students' agency and gaining further knowledge on the influence that enrichment programs have on PreK-16 students, particularly minority, female, and international students. She is also interested in looking at the ways enrichment programs and education can be equalizing forces for students.



Before entering the LLC PhD Program, **Mary Gallagher** completed her MA in TESOL at UMBC. She hopes to continue the research that she began in that

program on the experiences, academic needs, and interventions for transfer students, multilingual learners, and other nontraditional populations in higher education. While completing her studies, Mary will continue her full-time work in a university academic support center at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG).



Kyle Goehner is interested in baseball, especially when played by the New York Yankees. He is interested in studying how power operates in a college setting, especially the role it plays in helping or holding back high risk students.

Katie Morris has been a faculty member with UMBC's Social Work Program and teaches Information Technology in Social Work Practice and Social Work Methods. She has gained a great deal from her teaching experience. She teaches at the Shady Grove campus and has a large number of bilingual students enrolled in her classes. She has noted that some of the bilingual students struggle through the writing intensive curriculum of the social work program and hopes to develop a program that can benefit these students. She sees the LLC curriculum as a way to expand her research knowledge and practice in order to better serve her students, the social work program, and the UMBC community.



Sedrick Smith is an 11-year National Board Certified Social Studies teacher at Baltimore City College High School, where he is also the Varsity girls' soccer and girls' lacrosse coach. He received his M.Ed. from Loyola University of Maryland in 2014 in Literacy Education. He plans to conduct research on African American male students in Advanced Academic programs.



Jacki Stone serves as the community health and safety specialist, and special assistant to the associate vice President of student affairs at UMBC. Jacki is interested in intersections of identity development, human development theory, and social justice, all in the context of higher education environments. She looks forward to learning about the breadth and depth of humanities and social sciences during her research and education.

Hot Off the Press



Félix Burgos. 2015. “Uncovering the Campus: Memory, Space and Trauma” *Hyperrhiz: New Media Cultures*.



Ron Collins published “A Review of the Language and History of Stereotypes, Controlling Images, and Human Performance as the Link Between the Enslavement of Blacks and Educational Underachievement in America.” This chapter appeared in *Africalogical Perspectives: Historical and Contemporary Analysis of Race and Africana Studies*.



Jessica Floyd. 2015. “Review of Marcus Rediker’s *Outlaws of the Atlantic: Sailors, Pirates, and Motley Crews in the Age of Sail*.” *Hyperrhiz 12: New Media Cultures*.

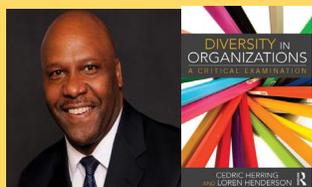


Claudia Galindo, Associate Professor of Language, Literacy & Culture, is coauthor of the following recent publications:

Galindo, Claudia and Sonnenschein, S. (In-press). “Decreasing the SES math achievement gap: Influences of initial math proficiency and home learning environments.” *Contemporary Educational Psychology*.

Hampden-Thompson, G. and **Claudia Galindo** (2015).” Family structure instability and the educational persistence of young people in England.” *British Educational Research Journal*, 1-18.

Sonnenschein, S. and **Claudia Galindo** (2015). “Home and classroom learning environments and children’s math entry-level skills affecting math achievement.” *The Journal of Educational Research*, 108(4), 261-277.



Cedric Herring, Professor and Director of Language, Literacy & Culture, is co-author (with Loren Henderson) of a new book entitled, *Diversity in Organizations: A Critical Examination*. In addition, he is coauthor (with Loren Henderson, Hayward Derrick Horton, and Melvin Thomas) of “Credit Where Credit is Due? Race, Gender, and Discrimination in the Credit Scores of Business Startups” in *The Review of Black Political Economy*. He also coauthored (with Hayward Derrick Horton, and Melvin Thomas. 2015. “Life at the Edge: Racialized Precarity and Economic Insecurity in the United States.” *Research in Race and Ethnic Relations* 19:125-143.



David Hoffman has published several pieces on higher education’s role in fostering civic agency and democracy, which was the focus of his dissertation research:

Hoffman, David. (2015). Fostering civic agency by making education (and ourselves) real. In H. Boyte (Ed.), *Democracy’s education: Public work, citizenship and the future of colleges and universities* (pp. 154-160). Nashville, TN: Vanderbilt University Press.

Hoffman, David, C. Berger, and Bev Bickel. (2015, Winter). Democratic agency and the visionary’s dilemma. *Diversity & Democracy* 18(1), 18-19.

Hoffman, David. (2015, July 1). Describing transformative civic learning and democratic engagement practices. American Democracy Project (blog): <https://adpaascu.wordpress.com/2015/07/01/describing-transformative-civic-learning-and-democratic-engagement-practices/>

Hoffman, David. (2015). Take action, and leave the ivory tower stereotype behind. In Zócalo Public Square 'Up for Discussion' forum on "How U.S. Colleges can Make the Grade." <http://www.zocalopublicsquare.org/2015/05/16/how-u-s-colleges-can-make-the-grade/ideas/up-for-discussion>.

Ruken Isik published a review of AnaLouise Keating's *Transformation Now!* in *Rhizomes*.



Christine Mallinson, Associate Professor of Language, Literacy & Culture and LLC graduate student **May F. Chung** published a book review in *Teachers College Record*, the high ranking educational journal published by Columbia University. They reviewed the book *Bridging between Research and Practice: Supporting Professional Development through Collaborative Studies of Classroom Teaching with Technology*, by Sara Hennessey (Sense Publishers, 2014).

Professor **Mallinson** also published the article "Sociolinguistics" for the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Linguistics*. The Oxford Research Encyclopedia program is a new venture by Oxford University Press designed to build "a series of highly discoverable, peer-reviewed, online encyclopedias with essays planned, written, and reviewed by the world's leading scholars and scientists" on core topics "in all of the major disciplines."



Cara Okopny continues to publish and contribute to the field of feminist eco-criticism. Her recent publications include: Okopny, Cara. (2016). Imagining ideology: Proper Environmentalism in Seventh Generation's digital and social media marketing images. In K. Golombisky & P. Kreshel (Eds.), *What's the Big Idea? Feminist Perspectives on Advertising*. Lexington Press.

Okopny, Cara. (2015). Nature's keepers?: Constructing women's environmentalism in green marketing. *Reconstruction*, 15.3. Special Issue: Arts and Sciences.

Okopny, Cara. (2014). Women's eco-labor: A feminist discourse analysis of popular media narratives in the U.S. *Women and Language*, 37.2.

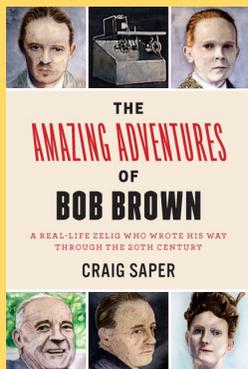


Autumn Reed authored the following works:

Reed, Autumn M. 2015. "Drawing Discursive Boundaries of Difference in U.S. News Coverage of the "Honor Killing" of Noor Faleh Almaleki." In *Public and Political Discourses of Migration*, edited by Amanda Haynes, Martin Power, Eoin Devereux, Aileen Dillane and James Carr. London: Rowman and Littlefield International. (Book Chapter)

Reed, Autumn M. and R. G. Tull. Encouraging Equilibrium: Career-Life Balance Outreach and the Advancement of Women in Engineering, 13th LACCEI Annual International Conference: "Engineering Education Facing the Grand Challenges, What Are We Doing?" July 29-31, 2015, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. (Published Paper in Engineering Conference Proceedings)

Reed, Autumn M. and R.G. Tull. "Programmatic Interventions for Developing Diverse Global Eminent Faculty Scholars through International Collaborations." *Proceedings of ASEE International Forum*. Seattle, WA. 2015. (Published Paper in Engineering Conference Proceedings)



Craig Saper, Professor of Language, Literacy & Culture, co-edited a special issue of a scholarly journal on Mapping Culture, that included his co-authored introduction and the concluding essay and video-essay that serves as the afterward for the issue.

Two of his students published book reviews in that same issue. After 15 years of archival research, interviews, and much academic detective work, Craig's major book publication *The Amazing Adventures of Bob Brown: Real-Life Zelig Who Wrote His Way Through The 20th Century* is In Press with Fordham University Press for a Spring 2016 release. The cover was just completed, and he will have more to say about the book when it appears in print. Craig also published two other scholarly books since January: *Electracy* (2015) and *1450-1950* (2015). He also published a chapter on "The Banana Paradox," about an important conceptual and networked artist, and his documentation and video ("Puppet Show For the Birds" about scientists using puppets to train whooping cranes) appears in an exhibit on cross-pollination. Among his major digital humanities projects, after four

years of planning and preparation, Saper is co-founding an electronic scholarly press for book-equivalent digital humanities projects. He is now starting work on three major projects (two new books and one documentary) including a book project on a humanities-based alternative to the unfortunate current trend toward administrative-heavy, efficiency-processes, and data-driven management models in some industries, K-12, and higher education institutions. As part of an upcoming Dresher Center for the Humanities Fellowship, Professor Saper will work on his script based on his book *Amazing Adventures*.



Other scholarly activities for Professor Saper include:

Saper, Craig J., Gregory L. Ulmer, and Victor J. Vitanza. Edited and with preface by Craig Saper and V. Vitanza, *Electracy: Gregory L. Ulmer's Textshop Experiments*. , 2015. Print.

Saper, Craig J., *The Amazing Adventures of Bob Brown: A Real-Life Zelig Who Wrote His Way Through the 20th Century* (Fordham University Press, In Press).

Saper, Craig. Edited with an Introduction. *Bob Brown's 1450-1950* (Roving Eye Press, 2015).

Saper, Craig J., "Puppet Show For the Birds" (documentation and video of whooping crane rearing) in *Cross-Pollination* exhibit, Fall 2015.

Saper, Craig J., "Banana Paradox," Jacques, Michelle (ed.). *Anna Banana: 45 Years of Fooling Around with A. Banana*. Vancouver and Victoria, BC: Figure 1 Publishing and Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, 2015.

Saper, Craig J., and Lynn Tomlinson. "After Cinema: Projection Mapping Digital Culture in the Video-Esséance," *Hyperrhiz: New Media Cultures*, 12 (Summer 2015).

Saper, Craig J., "Concrete Poetry in America: A Story of Intermedia Performance, Publishing, & Pop Appeal," *Coldfront poetry and poetics magazine* (forthcoming, September 2015)



Tissa Thomas' review of Kelsi Nagy and Phillip David Johnson's *Trash Animals* was published in *Hyperrhiz 12: New Media Cultures*.

Rita Turner published her first book *Teaching for EcoJustice: Curriculum and Lessons for Secondary and College Classrooms*.

Convening the Conveners ...



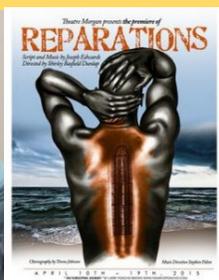
Beverly Bickel, Clinical Associate Professor of Language, Literacy & Culture, is a lead organizer of UMBC's hosting of the 2015 Imaging America (IA) national conference scheduled for October 2015. Organizing for Imagining America became a major part of Dr. Bickel's winter, spring and summer work. As the UMBC IA campus liaison, she worked with IA national staff and participated actively in the conference's central organizing team, the UMBC Planning Committee with faculty, staff, UG and graduate students) and the IA Baltimore Organizing Committee composed of over 150 Baltimoreans who gathered throughout the year

around the city to discuss conference themes, develop session and site specific workshop proposals. The conference which will gather higher education humanities scholars, artists, designers, social scientists, community organizers, cultural workers and others will occur September 30-October 3. It will be based in Mt Vernon and take place throughout the city with its final day at UMBC. Dr. Bickel and Lee Boot (Associate Director, Imaging Research Center) were recently interviewed by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* about the conference organizing and its relationship to the Baltimore uprising. Check out the [conference website](#), [watch the video](#) about the conference, and consider attending!



UMBC TESOL Professional Training Programs hosted a group of curriculum leaders from the Instituto Cultural Peruano NorteAmericana (ICPNA) Lima Binational Center in Peru at UMBC this summer for a week long Institute. The institute was coordinated by **Heidi Faust** who presented strategies for Teaching English in the Content Areas. The institute also included presentations by **Christopher Browder** and **Mary Tabaa**. Professor Emeritus **Jodi Crandall** also shared her expertise in the training.

In the News/Media



Shirley Basfield Dunlap directed the stage play, *Reparations*. The play tells the story of a successful lawyer who takes a case defending an insurance provider whose ancestor company insured enslaved Africans. He encounters an Ancient Ancestor Spirit with a mission to redirect his lost soul. What happens when divine intervention meets denial and arrogance? Dunlap and her artistic team craft the show masterfully through the edgy delivery, spectacle, music and dance. One of the goals of the project was to use the arts to create a local, regional and national dialogue around reparations and reconciliation.



Ruken Isik was interviewed by VOA Kurdish Service TV on Women in Politics in Turkey. She also published an article in *The Kurdish Question* about a Kurdish guerrilla whose dead body was stripped naked and photographed by Turkish soldiers in Turkey.

Kimberly Moffitt made a [TEDx UMBC Talk](#). During her presentation, Moffitt discussed her involvement in founding the Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys, a public charter school opening next year to serve boys in grades 4 through 12. The school will provide academic programs and a full host of support services to students and families, including social workers, school psychologists, and a collegiate fellows program to connect students with mentors. She explained that she became involved in the school not as an educator or a researcher, but as a parent concerned with her son's classroom experiences as he moved beyond the early elementary years. She sees the school as an opportunity to cultivate a supportive educational space for her child and other young boys across Baltimore City.



Ingrid Parker was the subject of “Audacity, empathy keys to commander’s leadership” article on the U.S. Army’s website.

Erin Roth was featured on a report by [Reuters](#) US about stigma and isolation in senior housing transitions.



Joan Shin was featured in *UMBC Magazine*'s Fall 2014 issue. The article highlights Dr Shin's important contribution to the professional development of EFL teachers in different parts of the world. Also, the piece gathers testimonies from teachers and students who praise Dr. Shin's invaluable work and insights into the teaching of English.

Talk, Talk, Talk ...



David Balosa presented the subject “Global Intercultural Citizenship: A Perspective in Including Africa in the Global Order” as an invited participation in a symposium “Intercultural Communication in the Construction of an Inclusive Global Order” led by Professor Wenshan Jia, Chapman University, California at the 9th Biennial Congress of the International Academy for Intercultural Research (IAIR), in Bergen, Norway.



In September 2015, **Erin L. Berry** will present the results of her pilot study research in her paper titled: “Computer Mediated Communication in the Transition from College to Career: A Study of Black Female U.S. Undergraduates’ Sociolinguistic Practices on Social Media: at the 6th International Language in the Media (LiM) 2015 Conference in Hamburg, Germany at the University of Hamburg. In October, she will be presenting her paper titled: “‘Real Recognize Real...’ But Online You Look Unfamiliar: Sociolinguistics and the Social Media Landscape of Black Female Millennials at HBCUs” at the Social Media Technology Conference & Workshop (SMTCW) <http://socialmediatechnologyconference.com/> hosted by Howard University and Bowie State University in Washington, DC. She also presented “Embodied & Disembodied Social Spaces: An Analysis of Sociolinguistic Self-Presentation Training Programs at HBCUs” at UMBC’s 37th Graduate Research Conference.



Rachel Carter was moderator of UMBC’s 37th Graduate Research Conference.

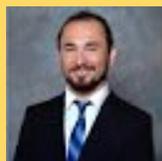
Ron Collins co-presented “The Young Scholars Program: A College Recruitment and Retention Partnership Model” at the AACRAO conference.



In March, **May F. Chung** presented at Maryland TESOL’s “*Breaking Down Borders: Graduate Students Revolutionizing TESOL*” 8th Annual Spring TESOL conference held at UMBC. Her conference talk, “*Dialects & ESL*” focused on how to incorporate non-standard dialects for ESOL speakers. Additionally, she presented at Towson University’s “*Forging Linguistic Identities*” Conference. The title of her presentation was “*The Hmong among Many: A Descriptive Analysis of a Southern Interlanguage Variety*”. Later that month, she co-presented with **Tym Wowk** and an undergraduate statistics researcher Claire Hempel at the UMBC Graduate Research Conference. The title of their presentation was “*Understanding the Classroom Context of Latino English Learners and Its Influence on their Social-Emotional Development.*” In April, May presented at the South Eastern Conference on Linguistics at North Carolina State University on “*Teaching Language Variation to Chinese Teachers of English.*”



Steven Dashiell presented “*The Magic of Manhood*”: *Discursive Analysis of Hegemonic Masculinity Constructions Among Bronies*” at the Popular Cultural Association/American Cultural Association 2015 Annual Conference. He also presented “*Not in my Stable*”: *The Use of Distancing Discourse among Male Participants on a Brony Website*” at the Lavender Languages Conference, American University.



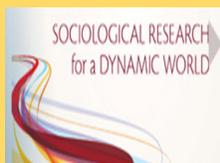
Ibrahim Er presented “*Glorification of Chastity in a Turkish Adaptation of the US Crime Series Monk*” at the UPenn 2015 French and Italian Graduate Society Conference “*Rewriting*” in March 2015. He also presented “*Quantitative Analysis of Scoring in TV Series Adaptations: A Comparison of Monk and Galip Dervis*” at UMBC’s 37th Graduate Research Conference.



Heidi Faust and **Joan Shin** were invited Keynote speakers at the Teaching English to Young Learners Conference at the Instituto Cultural Peruano NorteAmericana (ICPNA) Centro Binational Center, where they supported EFL teachers in working with young and very young learners of English. ICPNA participants from their online course *Teaching English to Young and Very Young Learners*, offered through TESOL Professional Training Programs at UMBC, were also empowered to present at the conference. Dr. Faust also made the following presentations: “Collaborating to Support English Learners in the Content Areas.” Intermediate Unit #1, Coal Center, PA. June, 2015. “Making Content Comprehensible for Young Learners of English.” [Invited Keynote Speaker] Instituto Cultural Peruano NorteAmericano (ICPNA) Centro, Huancayo, Junin, Peru. May, 2015. “Successful Online Instruction in Professional Writing: The UMBC Advanced Professional Writing in English Course.” Interagency Round Table (ILR), Foreign Service Institute, Washington, DC.

Kimberly Feldman presented “*Beyond the Teachers Lunchroom: Professional Identity, Teacher Voice, and Education Reform*” at UMBC’s 37th Graduate Research Conference.

Jessica Floyd presented her paper “Jack’s Jiboom Got Bent;’ Hypermasculinity and Representations of the Uncanny in the Sea Shanty ‘Blow the Man Down’” at the Second Annual International Conference on Advances in Women’s Studies in Toronto, Canada at Ryerson University in June.



Cedric Herring presented “Black Wealth, White Wealth: The Sources of Racial Differences in Net Worth” at the Association of Black Sociologists Conference in Chicago and “Homophily or Diversity in Business Startups? Racial Composition of Ownership Teams and New Firms’ Performance” at the American Sociological Association Conference in Chicago. He was also a keynote speaker at Keene State College in New Hampshire.

David Hoffman was the keynote speaker for the kickoff session of the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore/Business Volunteers Maryland LEAD series (leadership/civic engagement professional development workshops), and joined others from UMBC in leading a session called “What Does Democracy Feel Like? The Craft of Creating Campus Cultures of Empowerment” at the ADP/TDC/NASPA Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement meeting in New Orleans.

Romy Hübler presented about UMBC’s BreakingGround organizing efforts at the 3rd Annual Imagining America Organizing Institute in Baltimore in June 2015.



Satarupa Joardar presented “Twitter and mainstream media discourses of a social movement: An exploratory case study of the Indian anti-corruption movement of 2011” at UMBC’s 37th Graduate Research Conference.

Christopher Justice presented “The Rhetoric of Watershed Mapping” and co-presented “Who gets to project what? Projection Technologies in the Writing Classroom” at the 2015 Conference on College Composition and Communication Conference in March 2015.

Mary Laurents presented “An Expanded Interpretation of Melucci’s Concept of Negotiated Collective Identity and its Application to the 19th Century English Public Schools at UMBC’s 37th Graduate Research Conference.

Heather Linville presented “Speaking up for Justice: How ESOL Teachers Advocate for English Language Learners” at the 2015 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting.



In February 2015, **Christine Mallinson** was invited to give a two hour workshop, “Understanding Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Education,” to students and faculty in the Department of Education as part of their ongoing speakers’ series, “Collegial Conversations: Celebrating the Exceptionalities of All Our Students.” In April 2015, Mallinson and LLC graduate students **Erin L. Berry** and **May F. Chung** each presented at the 82nd annual South Eastern Conference on Linguistics, in conjunction with the Language Variation in the South (LAVIS) conference, held every 10 years. Mallinson’s presentation at LAVIS with longtime collaborator Anne H. Charity Hudley (College of William & Mary), “We Must Go Home Again: Interdisciplinary Models of Progressive Partnerships to Promote Linguistic Justice in the South,” delivered as part of the panel “Linguistics in the Public Sphere,” has been invited for publication in conference proceedings volume, *Language Variation in the South IV: The New South*, to be published in late 2015 by University of North Carolina Press. In July 2015, Mallinson and Hudley delivered a two-day mini-conference on “Engaged Scholarship in Linguistics: Partnering with Educators to Communicate about Language Variation” at the prestigious, biennial Linguistic Society of America Summer Linguistics Institute, held this year in Chicago. The workshop introduced 50 student and faculty participants to important theoretical, ethical, and logistical considerations when working with educators, students, parents, administrators, and local communities in order to promote collaborative, sustainable models of engaged scholarship. Mallinson and Hudley were joined at the workshop by invited guest panelists Dr. John R. Rickford (Stanford University) and Dr. Michel DeGraff (MIT), well known for their efforts to bring linguistic research into the public sphere. William & Mary undergraduate student Adryan Flores (photo, far left) and LLC graduate student Erin L. Berry (photo, far right) were invaluable in serving as student assistants for the workshop.



Cara Okopny presented “Who cares? Constructing women’s environmentalism in green marketing.” International Environmental Communication Association in Boulder, Colorado. June 2015.

Thomas Penniston presented “Applied and Service-Learning Quantative Outcomes” at the 2015 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting.



Jiselle Providence presented “The Ricochet of Resistance: The Cultural Reproduction of Violence in Trinbagonian Mores” at the Society for Caribbean Research Junior Research Conference in January 2015 and at UMBC’s 37th Graduate Research Conference.

Amy Pucino presented “Expanding Notions of Care: A Qualitative Inquiry of Adolescent Iraqi Refugee Perceptions of the Meaning of Teacher Caring and Its Benefits” and co-presented with Claudia Galindo “A Quantitative Analysis of the Academic and Socioemotional Impact of Caring Teachers on Adolescents Whose Families Came to the US for Political Reasons” at the 2015 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting.

Craig Saper made the following presentations: HASTAC Spring 2015. Screening of video-essay. UFVA August 2015. Screening of video-essay and presentation of “What Happened to Mary: The Invention of the Tie-In.” CCCC Spring 2015. Panel on video-essay in the composition classroom. Performance Philosophy Chicago Spring 2015. Panel on Craig Saper’s *Intimate Bureaucracies* (2011)

Kevin Wisniewski was a Fall 2014 Dresher Center Graduate Residential Fellow and gave a CURRENTS: Humanities Work Now talk on The Hopkinson Hoax of 1763 in November 2014. He also presented “*Compositors of Types: Typography and Design in Eighteenth-century America*” at the Beauty of Letters: Text, Type, and Communication in the Eighteenth Century Conference in March 2015.



Tymofey Wowk co-presented with **Claudia Galindo** “*The Social-Emotional Development of Latino English Language Learners: Impact of the Classroom Environment*” at the 2015 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. He also co-presented with **May Chung** and Claire Hempel “*Understanding the Classroom Context of Latino English Learners and Its Influence on their Social- Emotional Development*” at UMBC’s 37th Graduate Research Conference.

Taking It to Another Level

Félix Burgos and **Kevin Wisniewski** started a peer-review scholarly journal on textshop experiments, the pedagogy for teaching rhetorical invention, with application to any form of production of texts or works in Arts and Letters fields, or for teaching creative thinking in general.



Emek Ergun has just started a new job as a Lecturer in the Women’s and Gender Studies Department at Keene State College, NH. In the department, Emek will teach courses on introduction to feminist studies, women of color feminisms, feminist activisms, and politics of sex and virginity.



Heidi Faust served the U.S. Department of State as an English Language Specialist in Turkmenistan this winter on a curriculum project designed to support EFL teachers in preparing over 8,000 English speaking volunteers for the upcoming 2017 Asian Indoor Martial Arts Games, in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy Office of Public Affairs in Ashgabat, and the College of Sports and Tourism. She also served on an English Language Specialist program for the U.S. Department of State in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, where she served as an English Language Specialist for the U.S. Department of State. Faust is the current chair of the Intercultural Communication Interest Section of TESOL International Association. In this position, she is responsible for the final review and selection of interest section proposal selections for the upcoming TESOL Convention to be held in Baltimore in the Spring of 2016.

And the Winner Is ...

Emek Ergun's dissertation titled, "Doing Feminist Translation as Local and Transnational Activism: The Turkish Translation of *Virgin: The Untouched History* and Its Reception" was recently selected as one of four finalists for the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) and the University of Illinois Press' First Book Prize. The result of the contest will be announced in November at the 2015 NWSA conference, in Milwaukee, WI. Emek is currently co-editing a collection of essays called *Feminist Translation Studies: Local and Transnational Perspectives*, which is under contract with Routledge.

David Hoffman received the 2013-2014 University System of Maryland Board of Regents' Staff Award for Exceptional Contribution to the Mission of UMBC (Professional Staff).



Romy Hübler was recipient of the Jessica Soto-Perez Award, which honors a graduate student who strives, during their time at UMBC, to aid graduate students in their academic and professional pursuits. She was also featured as an exceptional graduate student of the Class of 2015. Dr. **Hübler** was also named a Fellow of *Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life* where she is helping to plan this year's higher education consortium's 2015 National Conference in Baltimore and collaborate with local cultural and humanities organizations, artists, community activities, and university consortium members to further the democratic transformation of higher education and civic life. She was also named a *Campus Compact* Research Fellow, where she is working to develop a better understanding of the competencies and professional development practices of community engagement professionals.

Autumn M. Reed is a 2015 International Society for Language Studies Founders' Emergent Scholar Award Finalist.

Brian Souders received the *Jakubik Family Endowment Staff Award 2014–2015*.

In the Money

Steven Dashiell was one of the recipients of the Delphi Academic scholarship from the Delphi Foundation. This scholarship is provided annually as financial support for active members or alumni of the Delta Lambda Phi Social Fraternity.

Winners of the inaugural Jodi Crandall Fellowship for Research in Language, Literacy & Culture included **Erin Berry, Jermaine Ellerbe, Landry Digeon, and Ibrahim Er**.



Front: Jodi Crandall, Erin Berry, and Ibrahim Er
Back: Jermaine Ellerbe, Landry Digeon, and Craig Saper

LLC's Newest Alumni

Below are the names, dissertation titles, and names of mentors of LLC's 2014-2015 PhD recipients.

LLC Graduate	Dissertation Title	Mentor
Emerald Christopher-Byrd	The Love and Marriage Playbook: Contemporary Guidelines for Black Women in Relationship Advice Literature	Michelle Scott
Latasha Eley	#Teamlightskin Vs. #Teamdarkskin, #Teamnatural Vs. #Teamrelaxed: Black Women's Experiences of Skin Hue and Hair Politics in College	Beverly Bickel, Kimberly Moffitt
Emek Ergun	Doing Feminist Translation as Local and Transnational Activism: The Turkish Translation of <i>Virgin: The Untouched History</i> and Its Reception	Carole McCann
Hui Chih (Hilda) Huang	Variational Pragmatics of Mandarin Chinese: A Comparative Study of Gossip in China and Taiwan Sitcoms with Implications for the CSL Classroom	Thomas Field, Ana Oskoz
Romy Hübler	From Isolation to Participation: Engaged Graduate Education	Beverly Bickel, Joby Taylor
Satarupa Joardar	Twitter and Mainstream Media Discourses of a Social Movement: An Exploratory Case Study of the Indian Anti-Corruption Movement of 2011	Craig Saper, Beverly Bickel
Kelly Lynch	Unveiling Anti-Immigrant Discourse in Popular Online News Reporting of Immigration Reform	Jennifer Maher
Masibonge Ian L. Ngidi-Brown	Through the Lens of uBuntu: Inclusive, Critically Diverse, and Local-Derived Transformation Efforts in a South African Bank	Beverly Bickel, Omar Ka
Uzma Abdul Rashed	Exploring Muslim Women: A Qualitative Study of the Construction of Gendered Religious Identities among Graduates of an Islamic School	Mavis G. Sanders
Christopher Browder	English Learners With Limited Or Interrupted Formal Education: Risk And Resilience In Educational Outcome	Claudia Galindo
Hye-Sook Lee	The Intersection Between Professional Development And Professional Learning Communities: Working Towards Improving The Educational Experiences Of English Learners	Claudia Galindo, JoAnn Crandall
Zuotang Zhang	An Ethnography Of Traditional Rural Folk Funeral Practice In Northwestern China	Joby Taylor, Beverly Bickel



Other Noteworthy Accomplishments



Now in its second full year, the Teachers' Democracy Project—a \$1.4 million grant funded project led by former advisee Dr. Helen Atkinson (LLC '09) as its director and Dr. Bev Bickel as the PI with Inte'a de Shields, LLC doctoral candidate, as its Research Assistant and incoming LLC student Sherella Cupid also working as a Research Assistant for the project—is in full operation based in the Youth Dreamers house in Waverly in Baltimore City. A new cohort of TDP Fellows who are Baltimore City public school teachers began work together this summer and will participate in an entire year series of workshops in which they produce authentic products (videos, curricula, lessons) for use in their classrooms and as part of community organizing efforts. Other teachers and community mem-

bers are becoming TDP Associates and will participate in events and workshops based on their interests. Teachers and education advocates attended the TDP Summer Institute consisting of seven full-days of workshops on social justice curriculum writing, education advocacy, being a reflective teacher, and video production with students in schools and classrooms. Activities led by teachers have included responses to the uprising in Baltimore in the spring with advocacy work around school closings and a large community event at the Arch Social Club called "School Stories: The Human Face of Policy"; teachers attending regional and national conferences, the opening of a lending library for teachers at the of over 400 books and 20 sets of video equipment; active partnerships with New Lens and Wide Angle Youth Media; and the production of 18 short videos on classroom and education topics now available on the newly designed TDP website along with a fully developed calendar of community events and workshops through June 2016. Visit TDP at: www.TDPBaltimore.org

This spring, **Craig Saper**, who concluded his three-year term as Bearman Family Chair, is a Co-PI on a \$1 million equipment grant (that was awarded partial funding in July 2015 by NSF with other matching funds). He is also a team-member on another \$1 million plus equipment grant that was also funded.

We Are Family



LLC Program Management Specialist Liz Steenrod and her husband Steve vacationed in the Canadian Rockies.



Professor Kimberly Moffitt and her husband Noah Garrison at Universal Studios Orlando hanging with Popeye and Olive Oyl.

Dr. Bickel and her husband David Truscello (LLC '04) celebrated several major family events during the spring of 2015 including their daughter



Nora's graduation from the University of Baltimore law school and their son David's marriage in Boston to Marianne. They are thrilled and enjoying each celebratory moment resulting from enormous effort and expansive love.

Introducing the Herring-Henderson Family



Seated: Kiara, Christopher, and Justin
Standing: Ashley, Cedric, and Loren

The Saper family continues to have many successes. (Craig Saper's wife,) Lynn Tomlinson's book on *Cross-Pollinated: Hybrid Art Abuzz* was just published; Lynn curated a related exhibit, which opens this fall of 2015 at Towson University (before it tours nationally). Her critically acclaimed film *The Ballad of Holland Island House* has won numerous awards, including from Greenpeace, and it has been screened at many festivals internationally throughout Europe, the Americas, and Asia. Starting this fall she is an Assistant Professor in Electronic Media and Film at Towson University, and her MFA film is a finalist for the Student Academy Awards. With her husband, LLC's Craig Saper, she collaborated on a video-essay, which has screened at a few conferences and was published in the spring. She is giving keynote addresses at conferences and workshops around the US this fall. Sam Saper published his book of comedic short stories, *Everything Short of Anything* in the spring of 2015, and he has had readings at local bookstores including Red Emma's; Sam decided to attend UMBC (over other universities) starting this fall after being awarded a President's Premiere Scholarship, and after sitting-in on two humanities classes in MCS and English. Lucy Saper has worked as a model in 2015 for a start-up called lily trotters (lilytrotters.com), and she starts high school at Garrison Forest School this fall.



Shahid Mokal, LLC's IT Coordinator extraordinaire, became a new dad on January 8th, with the birth of his daughter Myra Saleem Mokal. Congratulations to him and his wife, Shazia!

Support the LLC Doctoral Program

The LLC program could not exist without the creative and determined support of our students, graduates, faculty, colleagues, families and friends. Financial contributions are essential to LLC. Your contribution to the LLC Foundation allow us to provide additional graduate assistantships, support students in the final stages of dissertation preparation, sponsor speakers and host events. We welcome all tax-exempt contributions of any size!

Donations to LLC can be sent to the USM Foundation in care of Bernadette Mannone, 3300 Metzert Road, Adelphi, MD 20783
301-445-8040
www.usmd.edu/umf

Please make sure that the checks are made out to the USM Foundation with a notation for the LLC Program 05-20307

The Jodi Crandall Fellowship for Research in Language, Literacy & Culture

In honor of a lifetime of achievement and to recognize Jodi Crandall's 14 years as the Founding Director of the Language, Literacy, & Culture PhD Program, we have established the Jodi Crandall Fellowship for Research in Language, Literacy & Culture.

This fund will provide modest support for collaborative, interdisciplinary research by LLC students who plan to work with any of the following:

- Other LLC students
- LLC regular or affiliate faculty
- LLC graduates

If you want to share in honoring Jodi and in supporting collaborative graduate student research in the program she founded, then please consider giving generously to the new fellowship.

You may contribute online, at <http://alumni.umbc.edu/support>. Fill out your name and other information, and the next page will ask you to indicate the designation for your gift; please choose the drop-down option "Other – Please Designate Below" and then write in "Crandall Fellowship" in the field provided. The following page will ask for your billing information to submit your gift.

You may also contribute by writing a check payable to "UMBC Foundation," and please write "Crandall Fellowship" in the memo line. Checks should be mailed to: Language, Literacy & Culture PhD Program, UMBC, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250.

If you have any questions, please contact: Dr. Bev Bickel of the Language, Literacy & Culture PhD Program.

