

Of Note

Recent Highlights from
UMBC's Language, Literacy & Culture Doctoral Program
Fall 2019

Dear LLC community,

This feels like the “season of growth” for LLC. I write to you this semester with tremendous excitement and joy as I reflect on the many accolades and opportunities upon us. We have started a new semester with two newly-minted Ph.D.s and several other graduate students who have either successfully completed the comprehensive exams or presented their dissertation proposal. We also celebrated Jonathan Inscoc (cohort 19) as the newest “Jodi Crandall Fellowship” awardee and two of our alumni, Drs. Bev Bickel and La Jerne Cornish, were acknowledged at the UMBC Alumni Awards for “Outstanding Faculty Award” and “Outstanding Alumna in the Humanities,” respectively. Finally, our own Liz Steenrod was honored with this year’s “Presidential (Non-Exempt) Staff Award.” Congratulations to all who have worked hard to make LLC look so good!

Our Program continues to experience positive change and development. Last semester two of our LLC graduate assistants, Sherella Cupid (cohort 17) and Tony Hynes (cohort 19), conducted focus groups and a survey of current students and alumni to consider our successes as well as our growth areas. The results of those tools have provided new and exciting potential for the Program, such as curricula changes and the development of new initiatives to support our thriving intellectual community.

One such program was the introduction of our Summer Writing Accountability Group (S.W.A.G.), which I modeled after a similar group for faculty initiated by affiliate faculty member Dr. Shawn Bediako (PSYC).

A small, yet mighty group of us (graduate students and LLC faculty) met 2-3 times a week for the months of June and July to share space, generate writing energy, and seek feedback on our work. It was fruitful to me personally, and I hope to see this initiative thrive as our “dissertating” numbers increase.



S.W.A.G.

In addition to adding seven new graduate students (cohort 22) to our community, LLC will also grow in its core faculty. We are now in the midst of a search for a scholar who can enhance our teaching and research capacity in the areas of global literacies and critical diversity/equity. Please share the announcement with your networks so we can be certain to attract the best (newest) colleague to LLC.

I do hope you enjoy reading about the successes and accomplishments of our graduate students, core and affiliated faculty, alumni, and friends. This semester update is our way of keeping our community informed and sharing great news. As you will *note*, we are certainly experiencing GROWTH!

May the semester be a continued success for all and thank you for being a part of our community.



Kimberly Moffitt,
Director

Kimberly Moffitt kicked off the new academic year with a Riddle whose winning respondent received a small prize.

How they Eat in Heaven riddle

If you go to visit hell, you will see a room in a kitchen. There is a pot of delicious stew on the table with the most delicate aroma you can imagine. All around, people sit. Only they are dying of starvation. They cannot get a bit of the wonderful stew God has made for them. Why is that? They are starving because they only have spoons with very long handles. With these ridiculous, terrible spoons, the people in hell can reach into the pot but they cannot put the food in their mouths. Oh, how hungry they are! Oh, how they swear and curse each other! Now, you can go and visit heaven. What? You see a room just like the first one: the same table, the same pot of stew, the same long spoons. But these people are all happy and well-fed. Why do you think? What makes the heaven and hell described in this story such different places? Might there be a particular theoretical framework or concept that comes to mind? Then, explain, offering an example, of how the answer applies to a community like ours.

Riddle Winning Response

by **Steven Dashiell** (cohort 16)

What immediately comes to mind is one of utility.

Hell is an example of what we call in sociology rational choice theory, in that people engage in the social world out of a sense of self benefit. Thus, the reason the people in Hell are starving is because their approach is self centered; they are only thinking about how *they* can use *their* spoon to get *their* soup. It is, in effect, self defeating by being self centered.



Because if we take a more structuralist approach, focused on works like Bourdieu or Tatum, we'd see that the system with that kind of "wrong thinking" is set to fail. When you center yourself, you miss the structural issues that are causing the problems. The starvation isn't occurring because the spoons are long or they are the wrong size; the problem is the individuals are engaging in a self centered ideology, and thus they have the "wrong tools for the job".

What works the best is what is going on in Heaven, where individuals are acutely aware of the structural issues, and compensate with a more communitarian process. Thus, a liberatory concept is created. The spoons are the wrong "tools" to feed yourself, but...what about your neighbor? If individuals consider the spoons as a means to feed someone else, and trust that others would do the same (because it is the right thing to do), it would allow all to be fed. Further, recognizing the gifts of others (some are taller, some have longer arms, or more stamina) and they can use those gifts to better help others, and place faith in their compatriots to help them.

LLC is a lot like this - we all come to the table with different gifts, different backgrounds and different inner tools. But we all sit at the same table (the program) with large spoons (the interdisciplinary knowledges we are given, that are at times unwieldy) and the same pot of soup (the stages of completion). We benefit from the inner tools, and we rely on each other to "feed", because the spoons are just too big to try and feed ourselves (it is just too much). And the end result is not to be "full" but to make sure we are all "fed".

This is why I, who am finishing my sixth year (and prayerfully defending in the spring) talk to one of my cohort mates (who finished 2 years ago) every day, and she encourages me constantly. This is why my advisor has been unbelievably patient and helpful with me from my first day to today. This is why I regularly check in on people in the cohorts immediately before and after mine. There's no value in being "fed" or "fed fully" if the people around you are starving, and with epistemological spoons such as we have, there's a chance you can provide something to those around you and they can do the same.

The synergy is why this program lives. Why writing my dissertation isn't "isolating". This program, LLC, is unerringly "all in", and commitment to seeing everyone fed does not end when your stomach is full (i.e. you've graduated). Those who have completed the program have stuck around to assist me - Jessica, Emek, Erin, Mary have been sources of support even though they've long finished. However, their commitment shows me that once I finish, that doesn't mean my time at the table is done.

Here's to sticking around until everyone is fed. And not a moment later. No matter how long it takes.

Introducing Cohort 22

Welcome to the LLC Community!



L-R: Zareen, Bethany, Evan, James, Elaine, Shenita, and Katie



Shenita Denson was born and raised in the American south. Through the LLC Program, she plans to research the process of unlearning the stories we (or others) tell about ourselves and how that process can serve as an empowerment tool to create and re-frame our self-narratives. Additionally, Shenita is exploring how sharing our self-narratives allows us to cope, be resilient, counter societal master narratives and dismantle generational barriers caused from silenced stories. An advocate for the power of voice, Shenita also creates diverse and engaging experiences, tools, spaces and workshops that allows transformative conversations to take place. Shenita is a lecturer and has taught courses in Active Citizenship and Service Learning, Public Speaking, Interpersonal Communication, and First-Year Writing. Passionate about service, Shenita currently serves as the 2018-2020 Public Relations Co-Chair for the National Communication Association's African-American Communication and Culture Division and Black Caucus groups. She is also the First Vice-President of the Black Graduate Student Organization at UMBC.

Katherine Kohler graduated from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA in 2004 with a B.A. in Communication and a minor in Spanish. She then travelled overseas to independently teach English. In 2006, she returned to the U.S. and began a business in financial advising, in which she is still an associate. In 2011, she decided to return to her original studies, and completed a M.A. in Intercultural Communication at UMBC. Her focus was in intercultural training. Since 2013 she has worked as an instructor in the MLLI department, facilitating the Introduction to Intercultural Communication courses. Katie enters the LLC Ph.D. program at UMBC with initial research interests in intercultural competence, emotional intelligence, and mindfulness models of teaching in higher education.



Evan Lincove comes to the LLC doctoral program with a B.A. in English from American Jewish University and a Master's of Public Policy from the University of Southern California. His research focus is the relationship of language to reason, with particular interest in rhetoric, ideology and public policy; epistemological aspects of rhetoric; materiality of language; and critical thinking.

Elaine MacDougall is currently the Director of the Writing Center and lecturer in the English department at UMBC. Elaine completed her B.A. in English at UMBC in 1999 and earned her MLA from Johns Hopkins University in 2005. Along with teaching writing, she is a certified yoga teacher and enjoys incorporating ideas of mindfulness and well-being into her classes and life, both on and off the mat. Currently, Elaine teaches with the Veteran's Yoga Project, utilizing a trauma-informed approach to the practice. Her research interests include trauma and writing studies, possibly looking at how early writing experiences can shape one's identity as a writer. Elaine will always be a student due to her love of learning and obsession with school supplies.



Bethany Pace is a member of the Communications and Media team at Towson University. She earned her B.A. in Journalism and her M.Ed. in Counselor Education and Higher Education Administration from The Pennsylvania State University. Among other interests that include spending time with her family and being a crime junkie, she hopes to conduct research that explores the illness experiences and narratives of children living with sickle cell disease.

Zareen Taj, originally from Afghanistan, is a naturalized U.S. citizen who came here in 2000. She earned her dual bachelor's degree in Women's Studies and Political Science and her M.S. in Women's Studies from Towson University. She has worked continuously to promote women's rights and immigrant's rights and has attended numerous conferences, given speeches, and mentored refugees in the U.S. She has 18 years of experience mentoring/assisting refugees in the Baltimore area to be empowered and lead a better life in this country. After two decades of absence, Zareen returned to Afghanistan for a two-month video documentary journey that she organized and led. She made a second trip to research the empowerment of Afghan women and authored the book, *Journey to empowerment: Women after Taliban*. She is married and has two daughters. As an LLC student Zareen plans to explore about identities and resilience of Hazara women.



James Wright serves as the Multilingual Writing Specialist at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, Writing Center. He works with writers studying, teaching, and working in health and human services and focuses his research on translanguaging pedagogy and curriculum development, graduate-level faculty development, global and community literacies, and the politics of multilinguality. Recently, James has been reading Dunbar-Ortiz's (2014) *Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*, Reynold's (2009) *John Brown, Abolitionist*, and Lakomaki's (2014) *Gathering Together: The Shawnee People through Diaspora and Nationhood, 1600–1870*. James lives with his spouse, Tania, and daughter, Daniela, in Baltimore City, where they keep a small kitchen garden, watch a lot of *Kim's Convenience*, insist on immigrant American rights, and celebrate Ecuadorian-inspired food,

music, and dance.

LLC Program Highlights and Milestones

Summer 2019 Ph.D. Graduates



L-R: Kimberly Moffitt, Claudia Galindo, Shawntay Stocks, Mavis Sanders, Michelle Scott, and Bev Bickel



L-R: James Smalls, Joan Gaither, Diane Kuthy, Denise Meringolo, Nicole King, Kate Drabinski, and Bev Bickel

Shawntay Stocks (cohort 13) *Faculty Diversity Initiatives at a Historically Diverse Institution: A Critical Race Theory Analysis*. Mentors: Mavis Sanders (EDUC) and Claudia Galindo (UMD, College Park)

Diane Kuthy (cohort 14) *Whitework: Uncovering the Visual Culture of Whiteness Through Quiltmaking, History and Art Education Curricula*. Mentors: Nicole King (AMST) and James Smalls (VARTS)

Jodi Crandall Fellowship Award Winner



Kimberly, Jon, and Jodi

After a competitive application process, **Jonathan Incoe** (cohort 19) was presented the Jodi Crandall Fellowship for Research in Language, Literacy and Culture Award on May 2, 2019 by **Dr. Jodi Crandall**, founder of the LLC Program. Jon's project is called "Sociolinguistics and Sound Studies – An Examination of the NPR series, *Vocal Impressions*" and he will be working in collaboration with **Dr. Jason Loviglio** (MCS).

The Crandall Award is a monetary award made to at least one current LLC student with a research project in collaboration with another person in the LLC community (another student, professor, affiliate faculty member, or program graduate). Click [here](#) to contribute to the Jodi Crandall Fellowship for Research in LLC fund. *Thank you!*

LLC Spring Social

May 2, 2019

At LLC's annual Spring Social in May, the Program gave special recognition to **Cedric Herring**, whose research on equity, inclusivity, and social inequality continues through our students. Dr. Herring was LLC's director from 2015 to 2018, until he unexpectedly passed away in April 2018.

Sherella Cupid (cohort 18) moderated a conversation with three LLC students whose research aligns with Dr. Herring's in some way. **Harry Bhandari** (cohort 19), **Rachel Carter** (cohort 12), and **Tony Hynes** (cohort 19) shared their reflections and research. **Loren Henderson** (SOCY), Dr. Herring's widow and research collaborator, also shared her reflections.



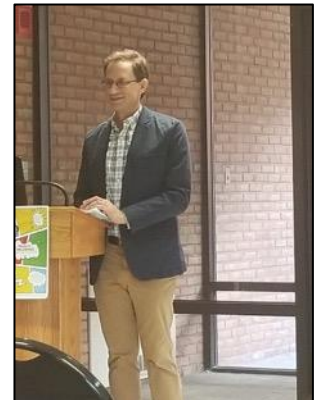
L-R: Harry, Rachel, Sherella and Tony

Dr. Barry Mauer, Campus Lecture

September 24, 2019

Alyssa Brumis (cohort 20) and **Craig Saper** (LLC) organized a campus lecture on September 24th by Barry Mauer, Associate Professor of English at the University of Central Florida. Mauer presented his research on the ways in which right-wing eliminationist rhetoric directly motivates stochastic terrorism and violence. Mauer also spoke at Red Emma's bookstore in Baltimore on September 25th.

Alyssa introduced Mauer at both events, and set the talks in the context of the goals of higher education.



Dr. Barry Mauer

LLC Celebrates Two Alumnae

October 3, 2019

Two LLC alumnae received awards from the UMBC Alumni Association this fall and LLC hosted a reception to honor their outstanding achievement. **La Jerne Cornish** (LLC '05) received the Outstanding Alumni of the Year Award in the Humanities and **Beverly Bickel** (LLC '05) received the Outstanding Faculty Award.

La Jerne was part of the LLC Program's first cohort and currently serves as Provost and Senior Vice President of Ithaca College. Bev was in LLC Cohort 3 and is a Clinical Associate Professor in Language, Literacy & Culture.



Bev and La Jerne

Sharing our Good News

Jessica Berman (ENGL) was awarded the Lipitz professorship in UMBC's College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Sonya Crosby (cohort 20) was selected and participated in Harvard's Graduate School of Education's Institute for Management and Leadership in Education (MLE) program. The two-week in-residence program invites experienced administrators to engage in strategically about their institutions' change agendas.

Shenita Denson (cohort 22) was elected First Vice-President of UMBC's first Black Graduate Student Organization, effective August 2019.



Mary Gallagher (cohort 18) received a National College Learning Center Association ([NCLCA](#)) dissertation research grant which includes funds to attend their 2020 conference.

Irina Golubeva (MLLI) has been invited as an external expert to the Council of Europe (Strasbourg, France) to develop the Portfolio of Competences for Democratic Citizenship, and starting September 2019 she leads the Center for the Advancement of Intercultural Communication housed at the Department of Modern Languages, Linguistics and Intercultural Communication at UMBC.

David Hoffman (LLC '13) and **Romy Hübler** (LLC '15), Director and Assistant Director of UMBC's Center for Democracy and Civic Life, received their first external grant which supports their work with colleagues at two other universities in developing tools to support new civic pedagogies and institutional change strategies. David has been selected as Chair-Elect of the Steering Committee for the American Democracy Project. Romy has been named as UMBC's liaison to the American Democracy Project and UMBC's LEAD Representative in the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education's LEAD Initiative on Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement. In addition, she has been appointed to the planning committee for the 2020 Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Meeting in Minneapolis.



Tracy Irish (LLC '16) is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Education Department and recently became the director of CIRTl (Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning). CIRTl is a national network of colleges and universities for graduate students to learn about effective teaching practices.

Tyson King-Meadows (POLI) has been selected as a 2019-20 ACE Fellow through the American Council on Education's prestigious education leadership program.

Alyse Minter (cohort 19) was awarded two Maryland Delegate Scholarships by Delegates Regina Boyce and Maggie McIntosh, and the Maryland Senatorial Scholarship by State Senator Mary Washington.





Ryan Monroe (LLC '06) is director of programming and training for the Peace Corps in Kyrgyzstan, having previously been a Peace Corps volunteer who trained rural literacy volunteers in Honduras in the mid-80s.

Ngeri Nnachi-Azuewah (cohort 19) was awarded two fellowships this summer. As an [Urban Leaders Fellow](#), she worked with a CO State Representative and did research at the University of Colorado-Denver's School of Public Affairs. Her other fellowship was with the [Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies](#) at Monticello where she explored the plantation records pertaining to young Black slaves.

Doaa Rashed (LLC '17) accepted a position at Rutgers University-New Brunswick as an Associate Teaching Professor and Director of the Language Engagement Project; a new campus-wide initiative that involves developing models for language study and cultural engagement in different disciplines.

In collaboration with Mary Tabaa, Clinical Instructor in the TESOL Professional Training Program, **Doaa Rashed** (LLC '17) received a U.S. Department of Education grant to host six Egyptian scholars from the Fulbright Junior Faculty Development Program for ten weeks this summer.

Liz Steenrod (LLC) was awarded the Presidential Distinguished Non-Exempt Staff Award for 2019-20 at an awards ceremony in April 2019. She was nominated by Bev Bickel and Kimberly Moffitt.



Liz is pictured with her husband Steve and daughter Camille who were at the event.

Tissa Thomas (cohort 17) received a summer Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship.



Kevin Wisniewski (LLC '18) was appointed Director of Book History and Digital Initiatives at the [American Antiquarian Society](#), in Worcester, Massachusetts.

L-R: **Felix Burgos** (LLC '18), Kevin, and **Craig Saper** (LLC) celebrate Kevin's new position.

Hot off the Press



Marina Adler (MLLI) contributed the chapter, "Space and the Intersection of Gender, Work, and Family. Recent Currents in US Scholarship," in the book, [Family and Space: Rethinking Family Theory and Empirical Approaches](#), published by Routledge, 2019.

Laurel Burggraf Bassett (cohort 20) wrote the review, "[Fandom's Alchemy in the Classroom: Leaden Realities to Golden Possibilities](#)" in *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge*, issue 35.

Laura (Violeta) Colombo (LLC '11) wrote, "[The role of social relations in the making of a doctoral thesis](#)," in the *International Journal of Educational Research and Innovation* (IJERI), 10, 366-378, 2018.

Kate Drabinski (GWST), **Nicole King** (AMST), and Joshua Davis co-edited *Baltimore Revisited: Stories of Inequality and Resistance in a U.S. City*, Rutgers University Press, August 2019. **Shawntay Stocks** (cohort 13) contributed poems in this book.



Jessica Floyd (LLC '17) wrote "The Erotic Clash of 'a boy shaggin' mate' and 'a little Bumboy': Ships' Stations and Genital Imagery in 'The Shaver,'" in *The Nautilus: A Maritime Journal of Literature, History, and Culture*, Volume X, 2019.

Amy Froide (HIST) contributed a chapter on fraud and corruption in the 18th-century stock market, called "The Long Shadow of the South Sea Bubble: Memory, Financial Crisis, and the Charitable Corporation Scandal of 1732," in the book, *Boom, Bust, and Beyond: New Perspectives on the 1720 Stock Market Bubble*, ed. Stefano Condorelli and Daniel Menning (De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2019), pp. 179-198.

Tony Hynes (cohort 19) wrote the essay, "[Why we shouldn't call adoptees lucky](#)," in the online magazine, *Catapult*, in September 2019.

Charlotte Keniston (cohort 21) wrote the article, "[The \(Social\) Mediated Myth of Childbirth](#)," in *In Media Res* on May 6, 2019.



Nicole King (AMST) wrote, "[Trump's Dehumanizing Attacks on Baltimore Are Hiding an Awful Truth—and He Knows It | Opinion](#)," in *Newsweek.com* on August 1, 2019.

Edward Larkey (MLLI) wrote the article, "[Narratological Approaches to Multimodal Cross-Cultural Comparisons of Global TV Formats](#)" in the online journal *VIEW: Journal of European Television History and Culture*, Vol 7, Issue 14, 2018, pp. 38-58. The article engages in a transcultural multimodal comparison of 10 versions of the Quebec TV series *Un Gars, Une Fille* (1997-2002) to point out cultural similarities and differences in the depiction of gender roles and relations as well as family conflict management strategies.

Christine Mallinson (LLC) co-drafted the [first-ever statement on race](#) for the Linguistic Society of America, that was formally approved by the LSA in May 2019. Christine also co-authored an article, "[Toward Racial Justice in Linguistics: Interdisciplinary Insights into Theorizing Race in the Discipline and Diversifying the Profession](#)," that was accepted in the journal *Language*. It is currently being featured on the *Language* website in open access form as a "target" article, with an open call for invited responses to our piece in order to promote dialogue.

Kimberly Moffitt (LLC) co-edited the book, *Gladiators in Suits: Race, Gender, and the Politics of Representation in Scandal*, published by Syracuse University Press, August 2019.



Alison Morrow (cohort 19) wrote the reviews, "[Katherine Busse, Framing Fan Fiction](#)" and "[Rebecca Williams, Everybody Hurts](#)," in *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge*, issue 35.

Dena Smith's (SOCY) book, *Medicine over Mind: Mental Health Practice in the Biomedical Era*, as part of the Critical Issues in Health and Medicine series, was published in September 2019.

Caron Wildy (cohort 21) wrote the review, "[Rukmini Pande, Squee from the Margins: Fandom and Race](#)," in *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge*, issue 35.

Tymofey Wowk (cohort 15) wrote the article, "[Quality Control: The value of standards](#)," in *Marijuana Venture: The Journal of Professional Cannabis Growers and Retailers*, on April 11, 2019.

Fan Yang (MCS) wrote the chapter, "Writing about Transnational Media: From Representation to Materiality," in the volume, *Writing about Screen Media*, ed. Lisa Patti, Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2019.

Talk, Talk, Talk

Laurel Burggraf Bassett (cohort 20) presented at the Mid-Atlantic British Studies Conference as part of a panel called, “World to Table: Digesting the Long Eighteenth Century,” in April 2019.

Felix Burgos (LLC ‘18) and **Ruken Isik** (cohort 17) made presentations at the UNC Charlotte international conference, [Denial: The Final Stage of Genocide](#), organized in part by **Emek Ergun** (LLC’16) in April 2019.



L-R: Ruken, Emek, and Felix

May Chung (cohort 17) received a travel award to participate in a panel, “The Art of the Kill,” at the International Writing Centers Association conference in October 2019. They will discuss the ethical challenges of working with foreign nationals and military officials and the serious repercussions of linguistic miscues.

Sonya Crosby (cohort 20) received an [AADHum Initiative](#) scholarship to attend [HILT 2019](#) (Humanities Intensive Learning and Teaching training) in June 2019.

In March 2019, **Steven Dashiell** (cohort 16) participated in the digital conference, Maritime Toxic Masculinity, organized by Global Maritime History. Steven participated in a panel called “[The Docks: Semiotic Examination of Masculinity and the Sexual Constructs of the Lone Sailor](#).” In April, Steven spoke about masculine-affirming discourse in role playing game settings in his presentation, “Table Talk: Capital and Value in the Metadiscourse of Analog Games” at the Popular Culture Association (PCA) conference in Washington, DC.

Shenita Denson (cohort 22) gave a presentation at the Black Communities Conference at UNC-Chapel Hill in September 2019 entitled, “Creating Positive Spaces + the (Empowering) Black Narrative.”

Jessica Floyd (LLC ‘17) presented “‘Till I got a load, a right full-house:’ Old Salt as Sexual Killjoy in ‘Serafina’” at the [2019 Popular Culture Association conference](#) in April 2019. In March, Jessica presented “Shaping a Hyper-Masculine Sailing Identity: Sex, Violence, and Otherness in Examples of ‘Blow the Man Down’ Located in the James Madison Carpenter Collection” at the digital conference, [Maritime History: Broadly Conceived](#).



Montia Gardner (cohort 19) reading an excerpt from Toni Morrison’s *Site of Memory*. Morrison passed away in August and the Dresher Center for the Humanities and the English Department hosted a “Beloved Reading” in the Library on September 18, 2019.

Irina Golubeva (MLLI) presented, “Building empathy in the Intercultural Communication classroom through intercultural telecollaboration,” at Educating the Global Citizen: International Perspectives on Foreign Language Teaching in the Digital Age Conference, LMU, Munich, Germany in March 2019; “Developing active intercultural citizenship through participation in study abroad,” at the conference of Comparative and International Education Society (CIES), San Francisco, CA, in April 2019; “Building Empathy in Intercultural Communication Classroom through Meta-cognitive Tasks” at the Conference of International Academy for Intercultural Research, SISU, Shanghai, China in July 2019; and “Addressing Empathy in Intercultural Communication students through participation in a Virtual Exchange,” at EVALUATE Conference on Virtual Exchange and 21st Century Teacher Education, University of Leon, Leon, Spain in September 2019.

David Hoffman (LLC '13) and **Romy Hübler** (LLC '15) led three presentations at the 2019 Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Meeting in Fort Lauderdale: “Change the Meanings, Change the Culture,” “Thrive Your Pedagogy: Creating Mutual and Reciprocal Environments for Student Learning,” and “Engaged Pedagogy and Civic Learning: Promoting Civic Agency.”

Renée Lambert-Brétiere (MLLI) and **Tania Lizarazo** (MLLI) presented "Digital Storytelling and Documentary Linguistics: Transforming Engaged Scholarship into Public Knowledge" at [PRELA 2019: Professionals and Research in Applied Linguistics: methodological challenges, social implications and perspectives for action](#), in Lyon, France in June 2019.

Edward Larkey (MLLI) participated in a research seminar entitled, “Digital Humanities and German Studies: Intersections, Innovations, Opportunities,” sponsored by the Digital Humanities Network, at the German Studies Association meeting in Portland, OR in October 2019. His contribution was based on his paper submitted to a special issue of the *Digital Humanities Quarterly* entitled "German Narratives in International Television Format Adaptations: Comparing Du und Ich (ZDF 2002) with Un Gars, Une Fille (Quebec CA 1997-2002).

Elaine MacDougall (cohort 22) is presenting “Writing to Flourish: Positive Approaches to College Writing” at the Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference 2019: Contemplative Rhetorics & Literacies at Montana State University, Bozeman, MT, in October 2019.

Alyse Minter (cohort 20) was an invited panelist for the 2019 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference, Spectrum Leadership Institute in Washington, DC. The panel presentation was entitled, “Spectrum Institute: Self Care.” In October, Alyse will present “‘This is a Marathon, Not a Sprint.’ Self-care and Women of Color in LIS” at the California Library Association Conference in Sacramento.

Jacki Stone (cohort 18) co-presented, “Utilizing Student Engagement and Well-Being Data to Inform Student Affairs Practice,” at the American College Health Association (ACHA) national conference in May 2019.

Polina Vinogradova (LLC '11) and **Heather Linville** (LLC '14) presented results of their research project “Diverse Voices of Advocacy” supported by the TESOL mini research grant for the TESOL International Association: “Diverse Voices of Advocacy: In Conversation with the TESOL Community” at the TESOL International Convention in Atlanta, GA, in March 2019.

Kevin Wisniewski (LLC '18) will be presenting “Compositor of Types: Mary Katharine Goddard and Baltimore’s Revolutionary Press,” at the American Printing History Association (APHA) 2019 Conference in October 2019.

LLC in the Media

Kimberly Moffitt (LLC) participated in four roundtable discussions about the June and August Democratic Party presidential debates with Marc Steiner on [The Real News Network](#).

Craig Saper (LLC) was mentioned in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* article, “[After a Career in Higher Education, an Encore.](#)”

Fan Yang (MCS) was invited to appear on China Global Television Network’s program, [The Heat](#), to talk about the Chinese New Year.

On a more personal note



Erin Berry-McCrea (LLC '18) and husband welcomed their first child, Skylar McCrea on September 17, 2019.



Myra, Shazia and Shahid's daughter, on her first day of kindergarten this fall. **Shahid Mokal** was LLC's IT Coordinator who moved to Abu Dhabi last winter.



Violeta Colombo's (LLC '11) son, Ciro, was born on October 2, 2018 and since then he hasn't stopped smiling and filling her life with joy. Violeta resides in Argentina, working at the Institute of Linguistics at Universidad de Buenos Aires.



L-R: **Bev Bickel** (LLC), **Heidi Faust** (cohort 13), **Landry Digeon** (cohort 15), **Doaa Rashed** (LLC '17), **Romy Hübler** (LLC '15), **Amy Pucino** (LLC '14), **David Truscello** (LLC '04), **Rita Turner** (LLC '11) with baby, and **Ryan Donnelly** (cohort 16) gathered together to celebrate Amy's commitment to Anjal (*not pictured*) in September.



Adam Holden (cohort 21) with baby Sophia, born on September 7, 2019.

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/>.)

Edited by Liz Steenrod, Tony Hynes, and Sherella Cupid.