

# Of Note

Recent Highlights from  
UMBC's Language, Literacy & Culture Doctoral Program  
Spring 2018

## Welcome to *Of Note*, Spring 2018

The Language, Literacy, and Culture Program's newest tradition is the newsletter *Of Note*, which highlights our community's many accomplishments semi-annually. This issue marks its sixth release. As demonstrated in these pages over the past three years, the LLC community is vibrant, hardworking, and collaborative. Thanks to everyone who sent in their information; indeed, this is just a part of the totality of achievement of our colleagues. For this reason, we encourage members of the LLC community to continue sharing their milestones with us. We hope to keep this tradition strong by being as inclusive as possible.

### Congratulations to our newest LLC alumni



Dr. Doaa Rashed with mentors Dr. Susan Blunck and Dr. Christopher Rakes



Dr. Jessica Floyd (center) with Dr. Christine Mallinson (left) and mentor Dr. Amy Froide

Please join us in congratulating Jessica Floyd and Doaa Rashed who received their Ph.D. diplomas during the graduation and hooding ceremony on Wednesday, December 20th.

Dr. Floyd's dissertation title was *Jib-Booms, Barrels, and Dead-Eyes: Singing Sex in Sea Chanteys*. Her mentors were Dr. Amy Froide (History) and Laura Rosenthal (English – UMD).

Dr. Rashed's dissertation was titled *Investigating the Factors Influencing ESL Teacher Professional Identity in Higher Education: A Mixed Methods Study*. Her mentors were Dr. Susan Blunck and Dr. Christopher Rakes (Education).

Congratulations!

## Celebrating Our Accomplishments!



Ten LLC students were honored on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Candidacy Reception sponsored by the Graduate School. These students have completed their coursework and comprehensive examinations and are now engaged in their doctoral research. Congratulations to them and their mentors!

L-R: **Dr. Christine Mallinson** (LLC Faculty), **May Chung** (LLC Cohort 17), **Deanna Cerquetti** (Cohort 16), **Steven Dashiell** (Cohort 16), **Dr. Thania Muñoz** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication), **Teresa Daniell** (Cohort 17), **Dr. Cedric Herring** (LLC Faculty), **Dr. Bev Bickel** (LLC Faculty), **Heidi Faust** (Cohort 13), **Dr. Bryce Peake** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/Media and Communication Studies), **Dr. Ed Larkey** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication), **Jaclyn Stone** (Cohort 18), **Dr. Bambi Chapin** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/Sociology, Anthropology, Health Administration and Policy), and **Landry Digeon** (Cohort 15).

LLC candidates not pictured: **Jiselle Jules** (Cohort 16), **Erin Roth** (Cohort 17), and **Eva Wright** (Cohort 15).

**Erin Berry-McCrea** (Cohort 15) has recently been appointed as COFAC (College of Fine Arts and Communication) representative for Lecturer Task Force at Towson University. Erin also received two Towson University Diversity Faculty Fellowships for individual research in 2017.



**Dr. Karen Carpenter** (Cohort 1) retired as Galley Creative Group owner at the end of 2017, twenty years after founding the branding agency. "I've so enjoyed meeting and working with business owners; it has been an honor." This is Dr. Carpenter's second retirement, the first from her faculty position in the English Department at UMBC, where she taught several LLC courses.

**Dr. Emerald Christopher-Byrd** (Cohort 14) was invited in May to deliver the Convocation Address speech in the Department of Women and Gender Studies at the University of Delaware.

**Steven Dashiell** completed all of the requirements for the graduate certificate in Gender & Women's Studies in May.



**Dr. Jermaine A. Ellerbe** (Cohort 7) recently accepted a teaching position with the Montgomery County Public School System, marking his 20th year as an educator in Maryland. He is returning to his passion as a Social Studies teacher at Briggs Chaney Middle School. He will be teaching both 6th Grade Advanced World Studies and 8th Grade Advanced United States History. Dr. Ellerbe was also accepted into Towson University's Fulbright-Hays sponsored program, "Dimensions of China" for Summer 2018.

**Heidi Faust** was awarded a course development grant from the U.S. Department of State American English E-Teacher Scholarship Program, administered by FHI360, to convert an existing TESOL Methodology online course to a creative commons (CCBY 4.0) completely open educational resource (OER). The course will be offered to English Language Teachers in over 100 countries and is designed specifically to reach educators in low-bandwidth and low-resource environments.

**Montia Gardner** (Cohort 19) received a short-term fellowship award from the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies. This award allows fellows, like Montia, to use the Digital Archeological Archive of Comparative Slavery or Getting Word, which is an oral history project of the descendants of Monticello's enslaved families.



**Dr. David Hoffman** (Cohort 8) was named to the inaugural cohort of American Democracy Project Civic Fellows: <http://www.aascu.org/AcademicAffairs/ADP/CivicFellows/>

**Dr. Heather Linville** (Cohort 12) has been promoted from the rank of Assistant to Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Dr. Linville is the Director of the TESOL program at UWL and a member of the Department of Education Studies.



**Dr. Christine Mallinson** received a UMBC CAHSS Dean's Pedagogy and Teaching Award for the project "#lingwiki: Promoting Public Scholarship, Diversity, and Inclusion in Linguistics." In 2018, Dr. Mallinson was awarded the Society for Linguistic Anthropology Interdisciplinary Public Engagement Award, along with co-awardees Anne H. Charity Hudley, Mary Bucholtz, Arthur Spears, and Elaine Chun.

**Dr. Doaa Rashed** (Cohort 11) received the Achilles-Harper-Swenson Emerging Researcher Award for her research on "Investigating the Factors Influencing ESL Teacher Professional Identity in Higher Education: A Mixed Methods Study" from the Consortium for Research on Educational Assessment and Teaching Effectiveness (CREATE) Conference.

**Dr. Uzma Rashid** (Cohort 11) became certified as a PADI open water scuba diver and has been having the time of her life in amazing waters everywhere ever since. Most importantly, she has perfected the art of cooking biryani. LLC family is welcome to join her in Pakistan for that and more.

**Dr. Jeremy Trucker** (Cohort 10) became the English Department coordinator for CCBC's online courses in October 2017. The previous year he became the English Department Coordinator for CCBC's Dundalk campus.

**Dr. Michelle R. Scott** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/History) received the 2017 Letitia Woods Brown Article Prize from the Association of Black Women Historians for her article, "These ladies do business with a Capital B: The Griffin Sisters as black businesswomen in Early Vaudeville," published in the *Journal of African American History*.



**Dr. Polina Vinogradova** (Cohort 9) and **Dr. Heather Linville** (Cohort 12) obtained a research Mini-Grant from the TESOL International Association for the study "Diverse Voices of Advocacy in TESOL".

**Shelly Washington** (Cohort 20) accepted a new role as Vice President of Community Bank Marketing Strategy at Wells Fargo. She will lead initiatives related to financial health education and small business partnerships.

## Hot Off the Press



**Dr. Jessica Berman** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/English) published the article "[Practicing transnational feminist recovery today](#)" in *Feminist Modernist Studies*. Dr. Berman also wrote the article "[A transnational critical optic, now](#)" for the 44<sup>th</sup> volume of *College Literature*.

**Erin Berry-McCrea** co-authored the commentary "21st Century Black Codes in K-12 School Policies Related to Black Hair" on the [Teachers College Record: The Voice of Scholarship in Education](#).

**Dr. Bev Bickel** co-authored the article "[The art of transformation: Cultural organizing by reinventing media](#)" published in *Public: A Journal of Imagining America* along with **Frank Anderson** (Cohort 18), Lee Boot (director of the IRC), **Sherella Cupid** (Cohort 18), Denise Griffin Johnson (CultureWorks and USDAC community partner), and Chris Kojzar (IMDA/Visual Arts student). This article chronicles collaborative cultural organizing and media work in Baltimore anchored in the Imagining Research Center (IRC) at UMBC.

**Dr. Gloria Chuku** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/Africana Studies) published the book chapter "Women and the Nigeria-Biafra War," in [Postcolonial Conflict and the Question of Genocide: The Nigeria-Biafra War, 1967-1970](#), edited by A. Dirk Moses and Lasse Heerten (Routledge).

**Steven Dashiell** published "[Rules lawyering as symbolic and linguistic capital](#)" in the online academic journal *Analog Game Studies*. In September, Steven published "[Answered with a question mark: Researcher reflexivity in geek spaces](#)" on the academic blog *The Geek Anthropologist*.

**Shani Fleming** (Cohort 14) co-authored the article "[Redesigning physician assistant education to promote cognitive diversity, inclusion, and health care equity](#)" in *The Journal of Physician Assistant Education*.

**Mary Gallagher and Katherine Morris** (Cohort 18) co-authored the article "A Union of Voices: Building a Multilingual Positive Community through a Multilingual Mentors Program," which appeared in [The Peer Review](#).

**Dr. Loren Henderson** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/Sociology, Anthropology, and Health Administration and Policy) published the article "[Racial discrimination, religion, and the African American drinking paradox](#)" in *Race*



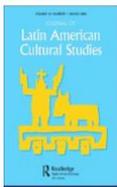
and *Social Problems*. Dr. Henderson also co-authored "[Separate and unequal: The impact of socioeconomic status, segregation and the great recession on racial disparities in housing values](#)" in the journal *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*.



**Dr. David Hoffman** co-authored with Jennifer Domagal-Goldman, Verdis Robinson, and Stephanie King a series of entries for the *Forbes Civic Nation Voice* blog: "[Civics unbound: Knowledge, skills, and dispositions for a thriving democracy](#)"; "[Civic learning and democratic engagement for what? Envisioning a thriving democracy](#)" and "[Hope and strategy for a thriving democracy](#)".



**Dr. Renée Lambert-Brétière** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication) authored the article "La multifonctionnalité des conjonctions bó et bò en fon" [The multifunctionality of the conjunctions bó and bò in Fon], which was accepted for publication in the international journal [Linguistique et Langues Africaines](#), vol. 3 [Linguistics and African Languages].



**Dr. Tania Lizarazo** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication) co-authored "[Ethics, collaboration and knowledge production: Digital storytelling with sexually diverse farmworkers in California](#)", featured in *Lateral* 6(1).



Dr. Lizarazo also published "[El perspectivismo de Reina de América como conocimiento situado de la violencia y la necropolítica en el pacífico colombiano](#)." [Reina de América's perspectivism as situated knowledge of violence and necropolitics in the Colombian Pacific] in *Revista Latinoamericana*. Finally, Tania's article "Alongside Violence: Rewriting Daily Performances as Everyday Survival in Chocó, Colombia" appears in the Spring issue of the [Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies](#).



**Dr. Christine Mallinson** published the second edition of the research text, [Data Collection in Sociolinguistics: Methods and Applications](#) (Routledge). She also published the chapter "Southern Language and Linguistics" in [The Routledge History of the American South](#).



**Dr. Craig Saper** (LLC Faculty) and Dr. Helen Burgess, editors of [HyperRhiz Electric Press](#), released the first volume in the Electric Book series titled [The Middle Shore](#), by Lara Farina and Katherine Richards. HyperRhiz Electric publishes long-form scholarly projects built partially or wholly in online format: electric objects that cannot be printed. Also, at the end of 2017, Dr. Saper published a new edition of Bob Brown's *Houdini*. This new edition includes a foreword by LLC doctoral candidate **K. A. Wisniewski** (Cohort 15), an introduction by Saper, and a new cover and text design. It is the latest title from the revamped Roving Eye Press, the press originally started by Brown in the late 1920s.



Dr. Saper also published the following two articles: "Intimate Bureaucracies: A [Sweetened and Condensed] Manifesto," in [Beyond Critique: Contemporary Art in Theory, Practice, and Instruction](#), Ed. Pamela Fraser and Roger Rothman; and "[The Other/ness Media Machine](#)," Review. of *The Experience Machine: Stan VanDerBeek's Movie-Drome and Expanded Cinema* by Gloria Sutton in *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge* 32, 2017. Electronic journal.



**Dr. Uzma Rashid** had her article "[Muslim women: The challenges and politics of diversity within American Muslim community](#)" published in the *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*.

**Dr. Polina Vinogradova** published "The role of speaking in L2 program and curriculum design" in [The TESOL encyclopedia of English Language Teaching](#), edited by J.I. Lontas.



**Kevin Wisniewski** and **Felix Burgos** (Cohort 14) recently edited and released the Winter issue of *Textshop Experiments: [From Digital to Print](#)*. This fourth issue includes a video essay by Kevin titled "[The projector finds a hobby](#)".

## Spreading the Word!

**David Balosa** (Cohort 14) presented the paper "Global Social Media Role in the African Process of Renegotiation of Its Relationship with the Western World for 'a Better Africa-a Better World'" at the Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of the Portuguese Studies Review conference at Trent University in Ontario, Canada.



**Shirley Basfield Dunlap** (Cohort 16) is currently directing the play *RED VELVET*, the remarkable life of the 19th-century actor Ira Aldridge, the first African-American actor to achieve international renown as a leading man in Shakespeare's plays. *RED VELVET* premiered at the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company on February 2nd. The play will be performed at this location until February 25th.

**Dr. Jessica Berman** presented the closing keynote address, "*The Case for a Transnational Critical Optic, Now*," to the "Literature and the World: Theories, Concepts, Debates" Symposium in December at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. In January, she presided at a roundtable on "Memory and the Archive" at the MLA convention in New York.

**Erin Berry-McCrea** and **Mary Laurents** (Cohort 16) presented their research in the *CURRENTS: Humanities Now* series offered by the Drescher Center for the Humanities. Erin and Mary were the graduate fellows of Fall 2017.

**Dr. Beverly Bickel** co-organized the workshop "The Art of Transformation: Cultural Organizing and Mapping" at the Imagining America conference, in Davis, CA in October. Presenters in this workshop included **Sherella Cupid**, Chris Kojzar (IMDA/VA), Lee Boot (IRC), & Denise Johnson (CultureWorks and USDAC).



**Dr. Scott Casper** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/History) taught "*History of the Book in America, from Colonial to Modern*," at Rare Book School in Charlottesville (with Jeffrey Groves of Harvey Mudd College). In addition, CAHSS Dean Casper chaired the "Teaching with Material Culture and Historic Site" roundtable at the American Historical Association conference in Washington, DC.

**Dr. Emerald Christopher-Byrd** presented the paper "*Twenty-First Century Jane Crow: Violence, Trauma, and Resistance*" at Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora, in Seville, Spain, in November. She also participated in the National Women's Studies Association Conference with the presentation "*I'm Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired: Black Women and Political Activism as Resistance*." Finally, Dr. Christopher-Byrd presented the paper "*Feminists, What's Good?: Black Women, Race, and Sexuality*" at the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities in Hempstead, NY in June of last year.





**Dr. Gloria Chuku** was invited to present "*Women and the Politics of Gender and Ethnicity in the Nigeria-Biafra*" at the Remembering Biafra: History, Memory, and the Legacy of the Nigerian Civil War International Conference at George Washington University last April. Dr. Chuku also presented the paper "*Formal Education and Women's Agency in Colonial Africa: A Historical Survey*" at the 2017 TOFAC International Conference in Ondo, Nigeria. Finally, Dr. Chuku presented "*Mbonu Ojike, an African Cultural Crusader or an Ungodly Nationalist?: Religion and the Politics of Decolonization in Nigeria*" at the 60th Annual Conference of the African Studies Association, in Chicago, Illinois last November.

**Steven Dashiell** In November, Steven presented at the Mid Atlantic Popular Culture Association conference in Philadelphia, PA. In a panel entitled "Masculinity and Language", with **Dr. Jessica Floyd**, Steven presented "*Out of the (Camouflage) Closet: Disclosure of Veteran Status for Postwar Male College Students*".

**Heidi Faust** gave a keynote address titled "*Engaging and motivating young learners: Ten tips for the EFL classroom*" at the English Teachers Symposium held at the Instituto Especializado de Nivel Superior [IENS]: Centro Cultural Salvadoreño Americano in San Salvador, El Salvador.



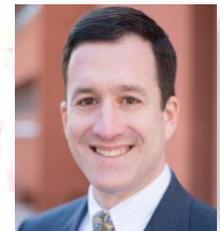
**Kimberly Feldman** (Cohort 16) co-presented with **Nancy Shelton** (LLC Affiliate Faculty/ Education) and Richard Meyer, "*WLU Opening Session: Literacy educators talking back to public education policy, mandates, and legislative trends*" at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention in St. Louis.



**Shani Fleming**, chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Mission Advancement Commission (DIMAC), organized the first meeting of the commission to present the strategic plan for the Physician Assistant Education Association.

**Dr. Jessica Floyd** (Cohort 16) presented "*The Bull with a Hard-on, the Cow Sayin' No!': The Sexual Narratives of Sea Chanteys and the Formation of Masculine Bonds*" at the American Folklore Society annual conference in Minneapolis, MN. Also, Dr. Floyd presented "*But I guess yer a bad un, kind sir': Sailor Vernacular as Performance of Identity in Sea Chanteys*" at the Mid-Atlantic Popular Culture Association Conference in November 2017.

**David Hoffman** co-presented "*Advancing civic learning and democratic engagement in higher education across institutional types: A theoretical framework*" at the Association of American Colleges and Universities' 2018 annual meeting in Washington, DC.



**Ruken Isik** (Cohort 17) presented a paper titled "Reclaiming Kurdish Dress as Political Struggle" at the MESA 2017 Annual Conference in Washington, DC in November.

**Dr. Renée Lambert-Brétière** presented the paper "*Why write when no one wants to read? New methods in the language revitalization of Kwoma*" in the panel on language revitalization at the Arizona Linguistics Circle 11th conference held at the University of Arizona in October, 2017.

**Dr. Christine Mallinson** and co-author Anne H. Charity Hudley organized the symposium “Linguistics and Race: An Interdisciplinary Approach Toward an LSA Statement on Race,” at the Linguistic Society of America conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. They also delivered a paper and a poster about communicating with educators about language variation as part of the panel session “Expanding the Reach of Linguistics: Collaborations with Other Disciplines and Beyond.”

**Alyse Minter** (Cohort 20) co-presented “*Intersectionality in the workplace: The experiences of women of color in LIS*” and “*Surpassing “woke”: Foundations for implementing strategic inclusive practices in academic libraries*” at the Towson Conference for Academic Libraries in July 2017.



**Dr. Doaa Rashed** participated in the panel “Next Steps in Assessing Graduate Learning” at the 2017 UMBC Provost’s Teaching and Learning Symposium. Dr. Rashed also presented in the CREATE Conference last October in Virginia Beach on “*Exploring Factors Influencing ESL Teacher Professional Identity Utilizing Mixed Methods.*”

**Dr. Uzma Rashid** moderated a discussion titled “*Seeing Islam as others saw it*” with Dr. Robert Hoyland from the New York University, at #ThinkFest, a literary festival, Lahore, Pakistan, in January 2018. She also presented the paper “*Unpacking xenophobia towards the ‘other’ in Pakistan*” at the 1st International Conference on Migration, Integration, and Social Cohesion, BUITEMS, Quetta, Pakistan, in collaboration with UNHCR, last December.

In November, Uzma presented “*Christian women in Pakistan: Stories of struggle for survival at work*” at the International Conference on Gender, Human Rights, and Islam, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, Pakistan. In May, Dr. Rashid was also an invited speaker at the International Conference on Sociology in Islamic Geographies, Istanbul, Turkey. Finally, Uzma organized the First International Conference on Contemporary Issues in Muslim Societies and Cultures, University of Management and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan.



**Dr. Craig Saper** presented “*Simulations in Digital Humanities: Online and AR Reading Machines,*” at HASTAC in Orlando, Florida. At the Society for Literature, Science & The Arts (SLSA) in Arizona, Dr. Saper presented “*GET READY TO READ: dj readies does dyslexia on the reading machine, 6’ 40.*” Finally, In August, Dr. Saper presented the paper “*Small Presses As Global Modernism, Formative Years: From Way & Williams to The Blind Man, The Bum, and The Others,*” Modernist Studies Association’s annual meeting in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

**Dr. Jeremy Trucker** presented “*Innovations in honors liberal arts and social science curricula: Analyzing outcomes of contemporary thematic honors classes*” at the National Collegiate Honors Conference, in Atlanta, GA.

**Dr. Polina Vinogradova** delivered the keynote address “*Coming full circle in international education: Questions of empowerment, privilege, and advocacy*” at the NAFSA Research Symposium in Washington, DC.

## The National Women's Studies Association.



In November, 2017, the 38<sup>th</sup> version of the NWSA's conference, *Forty years after Combahee: Feminist scholars and activists engage to movement for Black Lives*, took place in Baltimore. More than 1,000 presenters (faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars) from different universities around the United States and the globe participated.

Participants who presented their work or moderated panels include LLC students and alumni **Erin Berry**, **Rachel Carter** (Cohort 12), **Dr. Emerald Christopher-Byrd**, **Sherella Cupid**, **Steven Dashiell**, **Dr. Emek Ergun** (Cohort 9), **Ruken Isik**, and **Shawntay Stocks** (Cohort 13); and LLC Affiliate Faculty **Dr. Nicole King** (American Studies), **Drs. Amy Bhatt**, **Kate Drabinski**, **Viviana MacManus**, and **Carole McCann** (Gender and Women's Studies); and **Drs. Tania Lizarazo** and **Thania Muñoz** (Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication); and **Dr. Michelle Scott** (History).



Emerald Christopher-Byrd, Rachel Carter, Emek Ergun, Ruken Isik



Erin Berr-McCrea



Sherella Cupid, Ruken Isik, Emerald Christopher-Byrd, Rachel Carter, Shawntay Stocks

## Language, Literacy and Culture in Media



**Shirley Basfield Dunlap** was interviewed about the play she is currently directing, *Red Velvet*, in [Midday with Tom Hall](#). *Red Velvet* was also reviewed in the [Baltimore Sun](#). In addition, she participated in the radio program [Humanities Connection](#) to talk about Ira Aldridge, who the play was about.

**Erin Berry-McCrea** was featured in an *Xo Neco*le article titled: "[The Ph. D Struggle: 5 Women Talk About How They Combat Imposter Syndrome.](#)"

**Dr. Emerald Christopher-Byrd** was invited by WVUD'S Campus Voices 91.3 FM to discuss the topic "Race, Class, and Gender."

**Dr. Gloria Chuku** appeared in the podcast "African Women and Political Participation," on [Maryland Humanities Connection](#). Dr. Chuku was also interviewed at the George Washington University conference as an invited speaker. Here's the link to her [interview blog](#).



**Dr. Christine Mallinson** and co-author Anne H. Charity Hudley were interviewed for *Ms. Magazine* on the topic of "[Writing the Language of a Feminist Classroom.](#)"

**Dr. Kimberly Moffitt** (LLC Faculty) was invited to participate in "[Midday](#)" in WYPR. Dr. Moffitt discussed the #MeToo movement and the lack of diversity and due process.



**Sedrick Smith** (Cohort 18) published an Op-Ed for the *Baltimore Sun* titled "[Quality abounds in Baltimore schools](#)" where he wrote about the great work that teachers and students are doing in the schools of Baltimore city.

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

This issue was edited by **Felix Burgos** (Cohort 14), in collaboration with Liz Steenrod and Mary Farrell.