

I ILLINOIS

College of Education



11th Annual Graduate Student Conference

2020 VISION RESHAPING OUR APPROACH TO EDUCATION

Friday, March 6, 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

James D. Anderson



The motto for our College is “Great Minds Think Illinois” and nowhere is that more apparent than in the caliber of the graduate students we attract. Our annual Graduate

Student Conference, conceived and organized in every detail by our stellar graduate students, showcases not only the progress of their scholarship but their ever-evolving professionalism.

This year’s theme, Reshaping Our Approach to Education, reflects our students’ deep understanding of the relationship between research and practice. It also indicates their awareness, as educators are always operating in complex conditions of constant change, and by their choices contribute to shaping

futures for individuals and for society. Our graduate students are prepared in every way to make a significant difference in the world not only by the knowledge they gain during their time at Illinois, but also by knowing how to collaborate productively, engage in difficult dialogues, search out the truth when it comes to complex, and at times, conflicting human agendas, and act with honesty and dignity.

They wrestle with difficult ideas and practices as they explore the ways in which educators, the programs they design, and the systems and policies they enact are capable of transforming learners of all backgrounds. This conference demonstrates the level of commitment of our graduate students, their sense of purpose, and the scholarly community they create in our College.

James D. Anderson is dean of the College of Education, the Edward William and Jane Marr Gutgsell Professor of Education and affiliate Professor of History, African American Studies and College of Law at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His scholarship focuses broadly on the history of U.S. education, with a subfield on the history of African American education. His book, *The Education of Blacks in the South, 1860-1935*, won the American Educational Research Association outstanding book award in 1990. He was elected to the National Academy of Education in 2008.

In 2012, he was selected as a Fellow for Outstanding Research by the American Educational Research Association and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. In 2013, he was selected Center for Advanced Study Professor of Education at Illinois. From 2006 to 2016 he served as senior editor of the *History of Education Quarterly*. He served as an adviser for and participant in the PBS documentaries *School: The Story of American Public Education* (2001), *The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow* (2002), *Forgotten Genius: The Percy Julian Story* (2007) and *Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities* (2018). In 2016, he was awarded AERA’s Palmer O. Johnson Award for best article. In 2019, he was awarded the IMPACT award from the Bruce D. Nesbitt African American Cultural Center.



OUR HISTORY AND MISSION

The College of Education Graduate Student Conference started with the aim of building community and encouraging collaboration among graduate students in the college. Initiated by graduate students who desired to create a more inclusive and collaborative research environment, the first fully-fledged graduate student conference was held in April 2010. Each year since then graduate student committees have looked to advance this mission of building and strengthening a collaborative research community. In many ways, the conference has become a space to build networks between faculty, colleagues, and graduate students within the field of education. For the Eleventh Annual Conference, the committee worked to strengthen and expand this mission of highlighting faculty and student research. We conscientiously worked to form a committee inclusive of students and departments across the college as well as reaching out to, and including students from, the larger campus.

In following with tradition of broadening the conversations that are happening here at Illinois, we are excited to have students from Purdue University,

University of Iowa, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, University of Missouri-Columbia, Michigan State University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Indiana University Bloomington, University of Kansas, and Chicago State University.

In an effort to further our professional development efforts and connections between current students, alumni and faculty, we have provided students with a collaborative panel discussion that includes alumni, faculty, and an Illinois State Senator.

As we embark on a new decade in the year 2020, the Graduate Student Conference aims to create space in which we encourage bravery and risk-taking through fearless approaches and innovative practices in education. Our theme, 2020 Vision: Reshaping Our Approach to Education, seeks to explore the evolution of approaches through the lens of globalization, social justice, technology, linguistics and others by ultimately asking: In what ways have we shown bravery, boldness, and/or risk-taking throughout the various areas of education?

OUR SPONSOR: DR. K. PATRICIA CROSS

We extend special gratitude to Dr. K. Patricia Cross, a distinguished alumna of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Professor Emerita at the Graduate School of Education at the University of California at Berkeley. She credits her time as a graduate student at the University of Illinois for laying out the foundation for her commendable career, and in that spirit she has continued to make this conference possible through her generous donation. Her career began as Assistant Dean of Women at the University of Illinois, and as Dean of Women and Dean of Students at Cornell University, after which she continued as a Director of College and University Programs and also as a distinguished research scientist at ETS (Education Testing Service).



Dr. Cross then served as Professor of Education and Chair of the Department of Administration, Planning, and Social Policy at the Harvard Graduate School of Education before assuming her position at Berkeley, from which she retired in 1995. She authored nine volumes and over 200 other works on classroom teaching and assessment, and has contributed significantly to the theory of adult higher learning. The committee would like to thank Dr. Cross for her continued support in strengthening the community and expanding the conversations that are happening here at Illinois.

2020 KEYNOTE SPEAKER & DISTINGUISHED PANELIST

Tamara Hoff Pope, Ph.D.



A staunch advocate of education equity, Tamara Hoff Pope has spent the last decade cultivating the academic, social, and leadership development of first generation and low-income students in higher education.

As the Managing Director of College Success, Dr. Pope oversees engagement and connection with scholars and the College Success Team to ensure that scholars persist and are on track for graduation and career success. Ultimately, she helps scholars position themselves strategically for successful careers post-graduation through identifying critical milestones and pivotal college experiences that support their overall growth and development as future leaders.

Previously, Dr. Pope has taught, mentored, and advised high school and undergraduate students through the Upward Bound, McNair Scholars, and 100 STRONG African American freshmen recruitment and retention programs. Through these programs, she has facilitated study skills workshops, monitored students' academic progress and social acclimation to campus life, and coordinated cultural enrichment programming for students from underrepresented

populations. She has also helped prepare students of color for graduate school through supervising undergraduate research projects, connecting students with GRE test prep courses, and advising students on the graduate school application process. Her own research pertains to the history of African American women in higher education and how they understood the aims and value of higher education in relation to gender and racial progress. Serving in these various professional capacities has enabled Dr. Pope to support the successful matriculation and degree completion of students from marginalized communities.

Dr. Pope has also taught in a number of higher education institutions in the departments of Education/Educational Policy Studies, History, African American Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies. She obtained a B.S. in Mathematics, M.A. and Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies all from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is a former American Educational Research Association (AERA) Minority Dissertation Fellow (2012), a Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Fellow (2011-2015), as well as a Surge Institute Fellow (2017). She continues to volunteer as a leadership certificate coach for undergraduates and tutors Chicago Public School (CPS) students in mathematics. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., world traveler, avid bid whist player, proud Chicagoan and CPS alum.



2020 DISTINGUISHED CONFERENCE PANELISTS

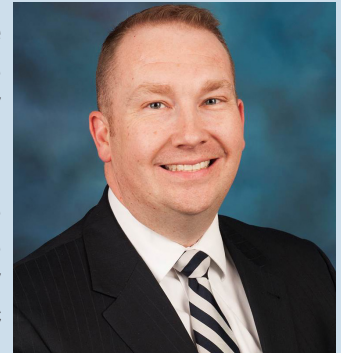


Jaime Roundtree, a native of Chicago's west side, earned an Ed.M. in Elementary Education in 2005 and an Ed.M. in Educational Organization and Leadership in 2010, both from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Mr. Roundtree served as a fifth-grade teacher at South Side Elementary School in Champaign. As a classroom teacher, Mr. Roundtree's goal has been to provide a learning environment where all students have a voice and feel valued. He strives to help students from different walks of life bridge gaps with each other, their teachers, and the curriculum. His goal is to teach students to be critical thinkers and leaders. Mr. Roundtree values life-long learning which has led him to continue his academic journey, as he is currently enrolled in the doctoral program at the U of I and anticipates completion of the degree in May 2022. Mr. Roundtree was recently appointed as principal at Booker

T. Washington Elementary where he continues his work bridging gaps and creating opportunities in the school and community.

State Senator Scott Bennett (D-Champaign) grew up in Gibson City, where five generations of his family worked on their family farm. After graduating from Illinois State University, he moved to Urbana-Champaign to attend law school at the University of Illinois.

Before joining the Illinois Senate, Bennett was a Champaign County Assistant State's Attorney. As an attorney and prosecutor, Bennett has seen firsthand the dangers that accompany a lack of educational and employment opportunities for community youth. He draws on those experiences to fight for education funding and economic development opportunities for the 52nd State Senate District.



Bennett's first priority as state senator has been to protect the Mahomet Aquifer. The aquifer serves as the primary water supply for 15 counties across Central Illinois including Champaign and Vermilion counties. He is working to find a permanent solution to protect this tremendous natural resource for generations to come.

2020 CONFERENCE PANEL MODERATOR



Dr. William Trent is a Professor of Educational Policy Studies and Sociology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He received a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His professional resume includes working as Associate Chancellor, Director of an Educational Opportunity Program and a TRIO Project Director. His research on educational inequality has focused on school desegregation effects at the K-12 and postsecondary levels, benefits and consequences, social organization of school, status attainment research, co- and extracurricular activities, and comparative education. He has been a Fulbright Senior Specialist and served as co-chair of the Committee on Educational Excellence and Testing Equity. In his current professorship, Dr. Trent teaches Access to Higher Education as well as Education and Stratification.

2020 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

- 8:00 - 8:30** **North Lobby** **REGISTRATION**
Continental Breakfast 8:00 - 10:30 a.m.
**All day hospitality (snacks & beverages)
- 8:30 - 9:20** **Room 2** **DEAN'S OPENING REMARKS**
James D. Anderson, Ph.D.
- KEYNOTE ADDRESS: TAMARA HOFF POPE, Ph.D.**
"Our Pledge of Allegiance: With 'Educational' Liberty and Justice for All"
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- 9:30 - 10:45** **Room 42A** **GLOBALIZATION AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**
Organizer: **Yaning Cao**
Chair: **Mary Kalantzis, Ph.D.**
- "An Evaluation of UIUC Study Abroad Participants' Cultural Intelligence" - **Constance Hackler, University of Illinois**
 - "Reshaping Approaches to Education for Global Citizenship in Higher Education Institutions" - **Kathryn K. Burden, University of Minnesota Twin Cities**
 - "A Statewide Survey: Measuring Secondary Science Teachers, Students, and Public's Climate Literacy in Indiana" - **Israt Ferdous, Purdue University**
-
- Room 192** **NEW APPROACHES TO DISABILITY STUDIES IN EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE**
Organizer: **Alissa Irvin**
Chair: **Wenhao David Huang, Ph.D.**
- "Parent-Mediated Interventions for Children with Autism in Low-Resource Settings: A Scoping Review" - **James D. Lee, University of Illinois**
 - "Theorizing How Autistic Students Could Apply ASD - Associated Character Strengths to Problem-Solve Identified Challenges in Transitioning to College" - **Kelly Sears Smith, University of Illinois**
 - "Curricular Areas in Which Students with Intellectual Disability Receive Instruction" - **Julia Snider, University of Illinois**
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2020 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Room 242

EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES THROUGH CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS

Organizer: **Esther Nam**

Chair: **Karla Möller, Ph.D.**

- “In My Mind I am a Boxer: The Function of Boxing for Black and Latino Men in the Era of Mass Incarceration” - **Molly Galloway, University of Illinois**
- “Building an Antiracist Leadership Pipeline: Towards a Framework for Training Educators to Lead for Racial Equity” - **Nathan Tanner, University of Illinois**
- “I Say (S)He’s Just a Friend: A Narrative Analysis on the Process and Privileges of Voluntary Kin Relationships Between Black Men and Women” - **Natilie Williams, University of Missouri-Columbia**

11:00 - 12:15 Room 376

THINKING ACROSS INTERDISCIPLINARY BOUNDARIES IN STEM

Organizer: **Ananya Tiwari**

Chair: **Luc Paquette, Ph.D.**

- “Supporting Science Sensemaking Through Body-Scale VR Modelling” - **James Planey, University of Illinois**
- “Design and Evaluation of an English for Occupational Purposes Learning App for Adult Learners” - **Roberto Rojas, University of Illinois**
- “Enhancing Learning Outcomes Through Embodied Interaction within an Immersive Virtual Reality (VR) Simulation” - **Taehyun Kim, University of Illinois**
- “Spontaneously Produced Metacognitive Language and Achievement in Two University-Level STEM Courses” - **Hannah Valdiviejas, University of Illinois**



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Room 22

DIGITAL ENVIRONMENTS AND LEARNING

Organizer: **Sanchari Banerjee**

Chair: **Jessica Li, Ph.D.**

- “Differential Behaviors between Students with Different Feeling of Difficulty toward a Learning Task” - **Yingbin Zhang, University of Illinois**
 - “The Affordance of Culturally Relevant Design of Digital Environments (VR Platform) on Adolescent African-American Girls” - **Shelana Martin, University of Illinois**
 - “Creativity and Innovation in an Instructional Design Online Master Program: A Case Study - **Carolina Cuesta, Purdue University**
 - “Mixed Reality and Tangible & Embodied Interfaces to Support Collaborative and Creative Decision Making in an Ecological Simulation Introduction” - **Litong Zeng, University of Illinois**
-

Room 192

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND STUDENT EMPOWERMENT

Organizer: **Chequita S. Brown**

Chair: **Nidia Ruedas-Gracia, Ph.D.**

- “A Study of Differential Classroom Practices for Low-SES Students Using Technology by Elementary School Teachers” - **Parama Bhattacharya, Indiana University–Bloomington**
 - “African American Women and the Want for Leadership in Secondary Education” - **Kiwana Brown, Chicago State University**
 - “I Wasn’t Like, ‘I’m Going to Go to College and Do a Project on Kanye: Cultivating Multimodal Literacy Practices for Justice in the College Classroom” - **Logan Middleton, University of Illinois**
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12:30 - 1:30

Room 22

LUNCH & PANEL WITH DISTINGUISHED PANELISTS

Title: “De-politicizing Education”

Panel Moderator: **William Trent, Ph.D.**

Panelist: **Tamara Hoff Pope, Ph.D., Jaime Roundtree, and State Senator Scott Bennett**

Food will be set up in Room 28 starting at 12:15 p.m.

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1:45 - 3:00

Room 22

APPROACHES TO INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Organizer: **Roberto Rojas**

Chair: **Cynthia D'Angelo, Ph.D.**

- “Supporting Distributed Collaboration Using Interactive, Augmented, and Embodied Projections” - **Casey Smith, University of Illinois**
- “Memory by Design: The Effect of Design Principles on Long-Term Memory Encoding and Interest” - **Matt Gadbury, University of Illinois**
- “Practical and Experiential Learning: Reacting to the Past in High School History Instruction” - **Brittany Jones and Kyle Chong, Michigan State University**
- “Personal Epistemologies of Middle School-Aged Children” - **Ross J. Toedte, University of Illinois**

Room 4F

PROFESSIONAL AND CAREER EXPERIENCES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Organizer: **Ananya Tiwari**

Chair: **Sarah McCarthey, Ph.D.**

- “Graduate Teaching Assistant’s Emerging Identity Roles in First-Year Composition Writing Conferences” - **Meng-Hsien Neal Liu, University of Illinois**
- “Early Career Student Affairs Professionals’ Perceptions of Graduate Programs: Preparation to Work with Foster Care Alumni” - **Chequita S. Brown, University of Illinois**
- “Preservice Teachers’ Conceptualizations of Representation: Narratives of Social Justice and Study Abroad Experiences” - **Erin Rondeau-Madrid and Stephanie Oudghiri, Purdue University**

Room 242

THE VOICES OF TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM

Organizer: **Jaehee Park**

Chair: **Gloriana González Rivera, Ph.D.**

- “Teachers’ Perceptions of Teaching AP Statistics” - **Karle Flanagan, University of Illinois**
- “Bringing Empathy into the Writing Process” - **Carrie James, University of Illinois**
- “From Spoken Corpus to the English as a Second Language or Foreign Language Classroom” - **Ai-Ling Kan, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

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2020 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

3:15 - 4:30

Room 4F

APPROACHES TO CRITICAL RACIAL STUDIES IN EDUCATION

Organizer: **Alissa Irvin**

Chair: **Mónica González Ybarra, Ph.D.**

- “Is There A God in Heaven or Not?” - **RL Booker, Jr., University of Kansas**
- “A Critical Review of the Epistemological and Methodological Approaches to Race in Stereotype Research” - **Ming Lei, Michigan State University**
- “Restorative Justice and Gender-Based Violence” - **Rachel Lauren Storm, University of Illinois**
- “Campus Racial Climate in the Digital Age: Examining Student Experiences in Person and Online” - **Brandi Neal, Alex Sikorski, and Jasmine Collins, Ph.D, University of Illinois**

Room 242

EDUCATIONAL APPROACH TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Organizer: **Jaehee Park**

Chair: **Rodney Hopson, Ph.D.**

- “The Borderlands of Identity: One Educators Experience Working with and Caring for Immigrant Students” - **Stephanie Oudghiri, Purdue University**
- “Racialized Boundaries Against Haitian Immigrants in Chile: Case Studies to Project Issues Endured by Immigrant Students in an Educational System of the Global South” - **Manuel Perez-Troncoso, University of Illinois**
- “The Illusion of Choice: New Orleans Public School Through the Pure and Perfect Market” - **Robert Anthony Ward, University of Illinois**

4:45 - 5:15

Room 2

CLOSING REMARKS & AWARDS CEREMONY

Closing Remarks: **Associate Dean Christopher M. Span, Ph.D.**

Awards Presentation: **Dean James D. Anderson, Ph.D.**



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HONG KONG GRADUATE STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

In cooperation with the College of Education Office of International Programs and the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Education, we are pleased to announce the Third Annual Hong Kong Graduate Student Exchange Program. Two students (exchange recipients) from the University of Hong Kong will be on campus this coming fall to share their research. Following a competitive process within the College, two Illinois graduate students will be announced as the 2020 exchange winners. They will represent the College of Education at the Postgraduate Research Conference at the University of Hong Kong in 2020.

2019 HONG KONG STUDENT EXCHANGE RECIPIENTS | ILLINOIS



Ana Esther Garner, M.A. is a doctoral student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership. Her Ph.D. is in Global Studies in Education and her research interests are multicultural education, diversity and equity policies, education

abroad, and mixed methods. She continually raises awareness through instruction on the social disparities between, “the haves and have nots,” in her course on Multicultural Education between the U.S. and China, and facilitates Education Abroad on global citizenship. Through the Office of International Programs, she has facilitated and instructed inbound and outbound programs from China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Greece. As an editorial assistant for the *Journal of Language, Identity, and Education*, Ana advocates for cultural understanding and bridging the gap between practitioners and scholars within the international education field.



Yingbin Zhang is a Ph.D. student in Digital Environments for Learning, Teaching, and Agency (DELTA) program in the department of Curriculum and Instruction. His research interests include how digital learning environments can

support children in becoming self-regulated learners. His presentation titled “The Relationship Between Confusion and Metacognitive Strategies in Betty’s Brain” focuses on whether the use of metacognitive strategies change when students are confused, and whether the use of metacognitive strategies contributes to confusion resolution in Betty’s Brain, a computer-based science learning environment. Yingbin is currently using approaches from educational data mining to model students’ strategic learning behavior and examining the relationship between the behavior and metacognitive experiences, such as the feeling of difficulty and the feeling of familiarity.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Graduate Student Conference committee was a team of graduate students who pulled together in providing a space for the presenting of some of our colleagues' best and brightest research. All committee members have volunteered a large amount of time to make this year's conference possible. Our call for abstracts invited research in education from every discipline of education and our committee is a representation of just that.

We would like to recognize and thank the following graduate students and committee members for their help, hard work, diligence and dedication:

Co-Chairs

- Alissa Irvin
- Jaehee Park

Logistics

- Yaning Cao
- Selim Havan
- Julia Snider

Technology & Communications

- Sanchari Banerjee
- Janny Chen

Conference Selection

- Melissa Kisubika
- Esther Nam
- Jim Sosnowski
- Ananya Tiwari

Design

- Chequita Brown
- Roberto Rojas

A very special thanks to our Faculty Advisor, Associate Dean Christopher M. Span, and Graduate Student Services support and liaison, Kathy Stalter.



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