Keynote Speaker for Plenary Talk

**Dr. John Alderete: Washington State University**

“Surviving the Politics of Academia—From Washington to the Classroom: Let’s Play Hardball”

John F. Alderete, Ph.D. is Professor of the School of Molecular Biosciences at Washington State University-Pullman. Dr. Alderete is the Past-President of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in the Sciences (SACNAS). He has two B.S. degrees (mathematics and biology) from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. Dr. John Alderete completed his PhD at the University of Kansas.

Prior to WSU he spent ~30-years as a professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He has over 130 papers on studies of the mechanisms of pathogenesis caused by the number one STD agent, *Trichomonas vaginalis*. His most recent finding is the relation between seropositivity to *T. vaginalis* and prostate cancer. He is the founder of two biotechnology companies and inventor of the first-ever Point-of-Care diagnostic for *T. vaginalis*.

He has been a member of study sections and panels for NIH institutes, the NSF, USDA and other government agencies. He is currently a member on the NRC Standing Committee on Biodefense for the U.S. Department of Defense and is a member of the National Advisory Council for the new National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities. He was a member of the Advisory Council for the National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research (NIH). Dr. Alderete has served on National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine panels and as a reviewer of Institute of Medicine (IOM) panel reports.

Equally noteworthy are his many contributions to discussions involving the underrepresentation of minorities in science at the local, state and national levels and his many activities involving minority students and their parents. These include the President’s National Science Board, NIH, FDA, White House Office for Science and Technology Policy, and White House “One Nation” on race and health disparities. He was asked to moderate the session in October 1999, a Public Policy Forum on the “Digital Divide,” as part of the President’s Information Technology Advisory Committee and The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. In April 2000, he moderated a session at the Office of Research on Minority Health/NIH conference on health disparities in Washington, DC. He has received numerous awards throughout his career in science, most notably the Premio Encuentro Award for Science and Technology—the highest honor given to a Latino by the Latino community in our country.
Friday Morning Sessions

“Staying and Paying for Graduate School”: This panel will cover psycho-socio factors that influence the success of graduate students.

Dr. Judi Brown Clarke: Michigan State University

Dr. Judi Brown Clarke is the Diversity Director for the National Science Foundation’s Bio-Computational Evolution in Action Consortium (BEACON) Center at Michigan State University. Some of her responsibilities include the recruitment and retention of students and faculty; grant writing and securing external funding for program initiatives; teaching; program development; mentoring and networking. She holds a bachelor’s degree in audiology & speech science, a master’s degree in education, and doctorate degree in public policy and administration.

In addition to academic success, Dr. Clarke has experienced great athletic success. In the 400-Meter Hurdles event, she is a five-time National Champion and silver medalist in the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, California. She has held numerous national records, and still owns an unbroken World Record as a member of the distance medley relay team. She is the current president of the U.S. Olympian & Paralympian – Michigan Chapter, board member of the U.S. Olympian Association, and member of the U.S, Olympic Committee’s Diversity Workgroup.

Dr. Baranda Fermin: University of North Texas-Dallas

Dr. Baranda Fermin is Assistant Director of the Office of Experiential Learning & Leadership Development and Lecturer in Sociology at the University of North Texas-Dallas. She primarily identifies herself as a social entrepreneur, bringing together her academic research and professional opportunities to assist adolescent and adult learners in making the best out of their talents and opportunities. Her research and writing explore issues of social identity, aspirations, mental health and teaching and learning that emerge in higher education organizations, professionals and the everyday lives of adults pursuing postsecondary degrees.

Her professional skills are used in service as the founder and executive director of Bumble Be, a non-profit educational services firm that provides academic coaching, advising and workshops to low-income girls and women. She received her doctorate in Sociology from Michigan State University and holds a Masters of Education in Human Development & Sociology from Teachers College, Columbia University and a Bachelors of Science in Education from the University of Oklahoma. Her blogs, including Be the Professional Student, use humor and candor to provide helpful tips for navigating life and completing undergraduate and graduate programs with your sanity and spirit intact. Dr. Fermin has also taught sociology at Henry Ford Community College, Lansing Community College and Michigan State University. She graduated from Crosby High School in the small southeast Texas community of Crosby, TX and currently serves, works and plays in Dallas, Texas.
“Academia Reality Check”: As students prepare for the academic job search process, it is important to understand the different opportunities in academia. Whether, large or small, public or private, two- or four-year or minority serving, this workshop will provide participants with a better understanding of the different types of academic institutions; how to look and apply for, and secure positions at various types of institutions; and what to expect as a new faculty member at different types of institutions. This workshop is designed to give students information on how and where to find academic positions, how to evaluate positions, and how to prepare application materials for different types of institutions.

**CharMaine Hines**: Wayne County Community College

CharMaine Hines, Ed.S. is the Associate Vice Chancellor of Adjunct Faculty and Curriculum at Wayne County Community College District. She received both her M.A. (Organizational Communication) and an Ed.S. (Educational Leadership) from Eastern Michigan University. A King/Chavez/Parks Future Faculty Fellow (1994), she has over twenty-one years of experience in higher education as a lecturer in the College of Arts and Sciences and administrator in both the Division of Educational Affairs and Student Affairs. CharMaine “embraces teaching and working in higher education as an opportunity to inspire and empower students through transformative learning”.

**Dr. Howard W. T. Matthew**: Wayne State University

Howard W.T. Matthew is Professor of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science at Wayne State University (WSU) in Detroit, Michigan. He also holds appointments in the Department of Biomedical Engineering and the Department of Surgery. A native of Antigua and Barbuda, he received a B.Sc. degree in Chemical Engineering (1984) from the University of the West Indies, Trinidad. After two years in industrial food processing, he joined Wayne State University for graduate studies, receiving an M.S. degree in 1988 and a Ph.D. in 1992. He spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School and the Massachusetts General Hospital. He then joined the WSU faculty as an Assistant Professor in 1994. He is a recipient of the National Science Foundation’s Early Faculty CAREER Award (1996), and was elected as a Fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE, 2012). His research spans the fields of biomaterials and tissue engineering, focusing on development and application of polysaccharide materials and adult stem cells in a number of tissue engineering applications. His work has two broad themes: harnessing and modulating the mechanics and biological activity of polysaccharide materials; and applying these materials in the development of cell and tissue based therapies. The current target applications include: heart valve and large vessel engineering for pediatric applications; regenerative alternatives to liver transplantation; corneal/ocular drug delivery systems; and regeneration of bone structures after surgical or traumatic bone loss. His research group currently includes 5 graduate students and 4 undergraduate students.
Dr. Pamela Martin: Prairie View A&M University

Dr. Pamela Martin is the Associate Dean in the College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU). Before coming to PVAMU, she served for two years as the Chair in the Department of Psychology at North Carolina Central University. Starting her academic career at North Carolina State University (NCSU), she was the first African American female tenured in the Department of Psychology in 2009. For her outreach efforts in the Raleigh-Durham areas in 2008, Dr. Martin was inducted into the Academy of Outstanding Faculty Engaged in Extension and Engagement at NCSU. She earned a Ph.D. in Ecological-Community Psychology and Urban Studies from Michigan State University. After completing her graduate training, Dr. Martin was a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at the Programs for Research on Black Americans at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. Influenced by ecological theory, Dr. Martin is interested in examining the person-environmental fit between social institutions such as churches and behavioral outcomes. More specifically, her research investigates the role of theology in shaping the daily experiences of African Americans.

Dr. Alec D. Gallimore: University of Michigan

Dr. Alec D. Gallimore has been a faculty member at the University of Michigan since January 1992. He is an Arthur F. Thurnau Professor in the Department of Aerospace Engineering, and directs the Plasmadynamics and Electric Propulsion Laboratory. He is currently the Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Education in the University of Michigan’s College of Engineering. He is also a member of the Applied Physics faculty at Michigan. From 2005 to 2011, Professor Gallimore served as an Associate Dean at the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies where he was the Graduate School liaison to Michigan’s graduate programs in engineering, the physical sciences, and mathematics. Professor Gallimore received his BS in Aeronautical Engineering from Rensselaer (RPI), and his MA and Ph.D. degrees in Aerospace Engineering with a focus on plasma physics from Princeton. His primary research interests include advanced spacecraft (electric) propulsion, plasma physics and advanced plasma diagnostics, nanoparticle energetics, and the use of plasma for energy transfer and environmental remediation.
Friday Afternoon Sessions

“Graduate School Expectations”: This panel will discuss how a student can prepare a competitive application and how they can leverage their undergraduate experiences.

Tony Dennis: Western Michigan University

Tony Dennis’ career in higher education began in 1990 working as an admissions counselor at Kalamazoo College. In 1993 he was hired as Assistant Director of Admissions and Orientation at Western Michigan University. In June of 1999 he was promoted to Director of Recruitment and Outreach Director/Student Services at Western Michigan University’s College of Aviation. Tony has recruited students throughout the United States and has played a significant role in recruiting some of the top underrepresented (minority) students in the country to attend WMU. Tony has a Bachelor of Science degree and holds a Master’s degree in Educational Leadership both from WMU. Tony is Director of Recruitment and retention in the Graduate College of WMU. His primary responsibility in the Graduate College is to direct graduate recruitment and retention programs throughout the university. Collaborate with department chairs, faculty, and graduate advisors to implement recruiting programs to increase the number of enrolled graduate students. In addition, he promotes WMU as a provider of graduate education to college seniors and recent graduates of undergraduate programs, and to non-traditional students with undergraduate degrees. He serves on many university committees, coordinates retention programs, and directs the Graduate Diversity Program.

Dr. Eric Juenke: Michigan State University

Eric Gonzalez Juenke is an assistant professor of Political Science at Michigan State University. He received his PhD from Texas A&M University in 2005. He specializes in American politics, representation, minority politics, state and local elections, U.S. electoral institutions, Latino politics, Black politics, and democratic theory. His recent work appears in The American Journal of Political Science, Political Research Quarterly and State Politics and Policy Quarterly. Current projects include an examination of where and why minority candidates win state legislative office, and a study that links experimentally induced racial bias to voting behavior during an election. Eric serves in a joint appointment with the Chicano/Latino Studies Program.
Strategies for Navigating the Dissertation”

Dr. Deborah Willis: University of Michigan

Deborah Willis is the Program Coordinator for the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professorate at the University of Michigan’s (UM) Rackham Graduate School. She plans, facilitates and implements programs to address the academic and professional development needs of AGEP students which include coordinating the Michigan AGEP Alliance Annual Spring Symposium, dissertation writing groups, a writing workshop series and mostly recently a "fast track to publication” writing pilot program. Throughout her career, Deborah has maintained a commitment to support student and faculty initiatives and programs that facilitate recruitment, retention and successful transitions of people of color to diversify the academy. Dr. Willis also has an appointment at the UM Center for the Education of Women where she coordinates the Women of Color in the Academy Project (WOCAP). Her goal is to develop collaborations and partnerships across the university that lead to transformative experiences for the communities she serves. Deborah contributes to the Washtenaw County community through her active involvement with numerous non-profit organizations. Dr. Willis earned her bachelor’s degree in Sociology from Baldwin Wallace College and her master’s and PhD in Sociology from the University of Michigan.
“Dissertation Committee Selection”: This panel will discuss committee selection criteria, how to form healthy advisor relationships, and dealing with the unexpected (changing advisors/committee members).

Dr. Cinda Scott: New York City College of Technology

Dr. Cinda Scott received her undergraduate degree from Middlebury College where she joint majored in Environmental Studies and Biology with a focus in Conservation Biology and minored in Spanish. Her love of ocean science flourished as an undergraduate when she studied tropical marine biology in Costa Rica. A recipient of an Educational Partnership Program fellowship from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and a scholarship from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, she completed her Ph.D. in 2009 from the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science at the University of Miami in the department of Marine Biology and Fisheries. Her graduate work, a combination of marine science, molecular genomics and evolutionary biology, focused on understanding the genetic basis of gene expression in Fundulus heteroclitus. Dr. Scott joined New York City College of Technology as the NSF I^3 Program Manager and Coordinator of Integrated STEM Projects in November of 2010 and continues to synthesize her scientific expertise with her interest in the science of STEM education by working closely with faculty and students. Dr. Scott also serves as an adjunct assistant professor in the department of Biology at City Tech.

Dr. Jorge Chinea: Wayne State University

“Developing a Teaching Portfolio & Philosophy”: This panel will discuss how a graduate student or post-doc should prepare a teaching philosophy statement and syllabus as well as how they can leverage their teaching assistant experiences.

Dr. Judith Stoddart: Michigan State University

Dr. Judith Stoddart is an Associate Professor of English and an Associate Dean in the Graduate School. She coordinates the MSU University Fellowships Program, and career and professional development programs and workshops. She also serves as part of the conflict resolution team in the Graduate School, presenting workshops and training programs for faculty and graduate students at MSU and at universities across the country.

Stoddart’s research interests in Victorian literature and culture include theories of print culture and visual culture (including painting, photography, and industrial exhibitions) and the changing conceptions of subjectivity and subject–object relations in psychology, evolutionary biology, and philosophy in the nineteenth century.

Dr. Henry (Rique) Campa, III: Michigan State University

Henry (Rique) Campa, III, Ph.D. is a Professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University (MSU) and an Associate Dean in the Graduate School. He received a B.S. in wildlife management from the University of Missouri-Columbia and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in wildlife ecology from MSU. Rique’s research interests are in the areas of wildlife-habitat relationships, ecosystem management, effects of disturbances on wildlife, and the scholarship of graduate education. He has conducted ecological research throughout the U.S. and in Kenya and Nepal. Before coming to MSU, Rique worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a Wildlife Biologist and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources as a Wildlife Research Biologist. Rique has served in leadership positions for The Wildlife Society (TWS) at the national, regional, and state levels and is a Certified Wildlife Biologist with TWS. Rique teaches undergraduate and graduate courses and has taught study abroad courses in Kenya and the Bahamas. At MSU, he has been awarded a Lilly Teaching Fellowship and the MSU Teacher-Scholar Award. In 2004, Rique was selected as an “exemplary teaching professor” to participate in the National Case Study of Learner-Centered Approaches in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources and in 2011 was given The Wildlife Society’s Excellence in Wildlife Education Award.
“Academic Job Searching”: This workshop will cover how a graduate student or post-doc should approach searching, applying, interviewing and negotiating faculty positions.

Dr. Matthew Helm: Michigan State University

Dr. Helm is the Director of Graduate Student Life & Wellness at Michigan State University and reports jointly to the MSU Graduate School and MSU Vice President of Student Affairs and Services. He brings 20 years of experience working in university and nonprofit settings. His current professional focus is on the holistic health, wellness, career, and professional development needs of graduate students. Dr. Helm is a certified wellness director and holistic stress management instructor and has presented numerous times at local, regional, and national conferences. In his multiple roles, Dr. Helm works with faculty and administrators to coordinate the implementation and evaluation of career services and wellness initiatives for graduate students.

Dr. Helm, Ph.D. received a B.A. in psychology and an M.A. in Student Affairs Administration from Michigan State University before working at the University of Arizona as a specialist in leadership development and multicultural education and advocacy. Dr. Helm completed his Ph.D. at the University of Arizona in Higher Education with a concentration in administration, organization, and student affairs. His research focuses on student psycho-social development and graduate and professional socialization.