The AGEP Student Success Conference will be held on Friday November 22-Saturday November 23, 2019, and features interactive tracks that explore different stages of the Ph.D. journey and faculty career development including starting with applying into graduate school.

This activity is most appropriate for undergraduate students nearing the graduate school application process, graduate students and post-docs at all levels of their respective careers as well as faculty looking to advance their mentoring skills. The Conference will be held at Chittenden Hall on Friday and the Kellogg Conference Center and Hotel on Saturday in East Lansing, MI. Enclosed are the biographies of the preliminary list of speakers. For more information, please visit https://grad.msu.edu/AGEP/conference or call the MSU AGEP Program Manager, Steven Thomas at 517-432-3268.

Keynote Speaker for Saturday Luncheon 12:00-1:20 PM

Dr. Cecilia Conrad: Managing Director, MacArthur Fellows and 100&Change

Cecilia Conrad leads the MacArthur Fellows Program, the MacArthur Awards for Creative and Effective Institutions, and 100&Change, the Foundation’s competition for a single $100 million grant to help solve a critical problem of our time.

Before joining the foundation in January 2013, she had a distinguished career as both a professor and an administrator at Pomona College, Claremont, CA. She joined the economics faculty at Pomona College in 1995. She served as Associate Dean of the College (2004-2007), as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College (2009-2012), and as Acting President (Fall 2012). Conrad’s academic research focuses on the effects of race and gender on economic status. Her work has appeared in both academic journals and nonacademic publications including The American Prospect and Black Enterprise. She was also an economist at the Federal Trade Commission and a visiting scholar at The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies. Conrad serves on the Board of Trustees of Muhlenberg College and Bryn Mawr College.

Conrad was the director of the American Economic Association’s (AEA’s) Committee on the Status Minority Groups in the Economics Profession (CSMGEP)’s mentoring program. Graduate students who participated in the program during Conrad’s tenure as director (1998-2005), are now on the faculty of Pomona College, Harvard, Yale, Ohio State, Cornell, University of North Carolina, and Howard and on the staffs of the Mathematica Policy Institute, the Urban League, and several government agencies. She is a past president of the National Economic Association and of the International Association for Feminist Economics. Dr. Conrad received her B.A. degree from Wellesley College and her Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University.
Saturday Morning Sessions 10:45 AM-11:45 AM

“Graduate School Expectations”: This panel will discuss how a student can prepare a competitive graduate school application that leverages their undergraduate experiences. Strategies for how to avoid common mistakes during the first years of graduate school will also be discussed.

Paul Guèye: Michigan State University

Dr. Paul Guèye received his Bachelors and Master’s degree in Physics and Chemistry from the University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal. He then moved to France to pursue a Ph.D. thesis in Nuclear Physics that he obtained in 1994 from the University of Clermont-Ferrand II. His research thesis consisted of two experiments that compared electron and positron scatterings off carbon-12 and lead-208. This study is currently serving as a core basis for the upcoming International Linear Collider that requires a high energetic polarized positron beam. Dr. Guèye joined the nuclear physics group of Hampton University in 1995. He was part of the first sets of experiments conducted at the Department of Energy funded Thomas Jefferson laboratory located in Newport News, Virginia. While continuing his work at this facility, Dr. Guèye is also currently involved in low energy nuclear physics experiments at the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory/Facility for Rare Isotope Beams in East Lansing, Mi. Dr. Guèye is also a Past-President of the National Society of Black Physicists, the Executive Director of the MoNA Collaboration at NSCL/FRIB, the Chair of the Liaison Committee for Under-represented Minorities of the American Institute of Physics and a member of various national and international advisory committees on physics and physics education.

Dr. Guèye is a strong advocate of K-12 education. He has established and leading several programs focusing on pre-college students with various federal and non-federal organizations (Department of Energy, National Science Foundation, NASA, National Radio Astronomy Observatory, etc.).

Pero Dagbovie: Michigan State University

Dr. Pero Gaglo Dagbovie is a Professor of African American History and Associate Dean in The Graduate School at Michigan State University. His research and teaching interests comprise a range time periods, themes, and topical specialties, including black intellectual history, the history of the black historical enterprise, black women’s history, black life during “the Nadir,” the civil rights-Black Power movement, hip hop culture, and contemporary black history. His books include Black History: “Old School” Black Historians and the Hip Hop Generation (Bedford Publishers, Inc., 2006), African American History Reconsidered (University of Illinois Press, 2010), Carter G. Woodson in Washington, D.C.: The Father of Black History (The History Press, 2014), and What is African American History? (Polity Press: Cambridge, UK, 2015). He is on the editorial boards of The Journal for the Study of Radicalism and The Journal of Black Studies and is a lifetime member of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. He has been involved in public history and African American history educational programs. He served as a scholar consultant for the permanent exhibit, “And Still We Rise: Our Journey through African American History and Culture,” at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, Michigan.
“Becoming a Faculty Entrepreneur”: This panel discussion will be an introduction to different aspects of faculty entrepreneurship. Topics for discussion will include technology transfer, commercialization of academic research, consulting, and book publication.

Christina Campbell: University of Cincinnati

Professor Christina Campbell earned a Ph.D. in Community Psychology at Michigan State University and a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Psychiatry, Division of Prevention and Community Research at Yale University. She is currently a faculty member at the University of Cincinnati, School of Criminal Justice. Her primary research interests include delinquency prevention, risk assessment, juvenile justice and child welfare policy, race, and neighborhoods. She has also conducted research on racial and health disparities experienced by individuals who are involved in the criminal justice and child welfare system, juvenile sex offender assessments, and prisoner reentry. She has published her research in various peer reviewed academic journals, which include Criminology Public Policy, Criminal Justice and Behavior, Child and Youth Services Review, Journal of Offender Rehabilitation, Journal of Traumatic Stress, and Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice. She has received funding support for her research from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Institute of Justice, and the National Science Foundation. Her most recent grant, which was funded by the National Institute of Justice, was used to address race and sentencing disparities for juvenile offenders in Columbus, Ohio. She is a NIJ W.E.B. DuBois research fellow and is also a member of the American Psychological Association, Society for Community Research and Action, American Society of Criminology, and the Racial Democracy, Crime & Justice Network. She teaches in the area of juvenile justice and corrections and uses research to shape policies and practices in efforts to facilitate social change efforts designed to increase equity and improve outcomes for marginalized populations. For the past two years, she has received the UC Black Faculty Association Mentor of the Year award. She has also expanded her research internationally and is currently working with child welfare agencies in Canada to help build culturally adaptive assessments and practices for ethnic minority youth.
Katrenia Reed Hughes:  Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

Dr. Hughes, known by her students and clients as “Dr. K”, has a Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D) from Indiana State University, and an MBA in Leadership from Butler University. Katrenia’s life mission is to help others put their Passion to Purpose. Her consulting firm, Passion 2 Purpose, LLC - provides STEM program evaluation, executive coaching, team development, performance assessment, and strategic planning offerings. Dr. Hughes has had the honor of being invited to deliver keynotes on a variety of topics in her areas of expertise. In her most recent corporate role, she was an Enterprise Learning & Development Partner at OneAmerica in Indianapolis. She has over a decade of experience teaching college students and 10 years working in corporate Organizational Development. While at Indiana State University Katrenia had an opportunity to teach undergraduate psychology courses such as Abnormal Psychology and Human Sexuality - serving as the Human Sexuality course coordinator, Katrenia led a team of graduate teaching fellows. Results of her passion for teaching was recognized with an Educational Excellence Award in the College of Arts and Sciences, at Indiana State University.

Robert Maleczka:  Michigan State University

Dr. Robert E. Maleczka, Jr. is a Professor of Chemistry at Michigan State University. He received a B.S. in chemistry from the University of Illinois, and then spent three years in the anti-infective discovery group at Abbott Laboratories, before undertaking graduate studies at the Ohio State University. He earned his Ph.D. under the direction of Leo Paquette and then moved to the University of Pennsylvania as an American Cancer Society post-doctoral fellow in the laboratories of Amos Smith. In 1995, he began his independent career at MSU as an assistant professor. He moved up the ranks, being promoted to associate professor in 2001, full professor in 2006, and being named Department Chair in 2010. The Honors bestowed on Professor Maleczka include being named the EPA’s 2008 Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award, the Novartis Lecturer title at Yale University, and Mentor of the Year award from the MSU Chapter of the National Society for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE). In 2006, Professor Maleczka and his collaborator Professor Milton “Mitch” Smith (Chemistry) co-founded BoroPharm, Inc. a Michigan-based company dedicated to the preparation and commercialization of novel building blocks for pharmaceutical syntheses. Professor Maleczka is an active member of the profession. Among his service and outreach roles, he has served as a Diversity Scholar in the Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning, as an invited participant ACS/EPA Green Chemistry Market Roundtable and White House Forum, as a member and Chair of the ACS Award for Affordable Green Chemistry Selection Committee, as the elected treasurer of the ACS Division of Organic Chemistry, and a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Chemical Sciences Roundtable (CSR).
“Academic Job Searching”: This workshop will cover how a graduate student or post-doc should approach searching, applying, interviewing and negotiating faculty positions.

Jelani Zarif: Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Jelani Zarif is an Assistant Professor of Oncology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine - Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Zarif is also a member of the Bloomberg - Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy. His research focuses principally on prostate cancer immunology and identifying the molecular mechanisms by which host immune cells contribute to prostate cancer metastasis. Dr. Zarif received his Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology in the lab of Dr. Cindy Miranti from Michigan State University in 2014. His dissertation research focused on Androgen Receptor (AR) signaling in prostate cancer and elucidated how AR controls prostate tumor cell adhesion and invasion. He then completed two post-doctoral fellowships at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He has been the recipient of several awards, including the Prostate Cancer Foundation's Young Investigator award, The Patrick C. Walsh Prostate Cancer Research Fund, and the NCI K22 Career Transition award.

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”.
**Ronnie Dun: Cleveland State University**

Dr. Ronnie A. Dunn, is the Chief Diversity Officer and an Associate Professor of Urban Studies at Cleveland State University. As CDO he serves on the executive leadership team and is responsible for developing policies and practices that enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the university and the broader community. Dr. Dunn’s research interests include issues affecting minorities and the urban poor with particular expertise in race, crime, and the criminal justice system and the issue of racial profiling, which led to the use of traffic cameras in the city of Cleveland and municipalities throughout Ohio, the governor’s appointment of a statewide taskforce and advisory board on Community-Police relations, and introduction of bias-free policing legislation to the Cleveland City Council and as a statewide policing standard. He is a Cleveland native, an Air Force veteran and a frequent media commentator on racial and social issues. He was named a 2019-20 NADOHE CDO Fellow and is past chair of the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and the Cleveland NAACP’s Criminal Justice Committee.

**Allen Linton II: Associated Colleges of the Midwest**

Allen Linton II is the new Director of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives for the Associated Colleges of the Midwest. Allen works to manage and execute all aspects of the Mellon-funded Faculty and Undergraduate Fellows Program for a Diverse Professoriate, while also coordinating with ACM staff and campus-based colleagues to ensure that all current and future ACM programs promote equity and inclusion for students, faculty, and staff. He is currently a doctoral candidate in political science (concentrating on American politics) at the University of Chicago.
Saturday Afternoon Sessions 2:50 PM-4:00 PM

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

**Regina Garza Mitchell**: Western Michigan University

Regina Garza Mitchell is an associate professor of higher education leadership at Western Michigan University. She teaches courses on topics such as higher education governance, organizational change, leadership, and qualitative research. Her research focuses on organizational change and leadership, primarily in a community college setting. She was a KCP fellow during her doctoral program at Central Michigan University.

“Strategies for Navigating the Dissertation”: This seminar will focus on how to make the dissertation writing process smooth and will address issues such as negotiating with faculty committees, and making progress despite the demands of the doctoral educational process. Though this seminar is ideally suited to graduate students who have entered or are about to enter the dissertation process, graduate students at other stages of their programs will get valuable information about academic writing in general and anticipated experiences with the dissertation.

**Tiffeny Jimenez**: National Louis University

Dr. Tiffeny R. Jimenez is a Community Psychologist and Associate Professor within the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences at National Louis University (NLU). She is currently most passionate about a few research issues: 1) creating more inclusive communities and socially just practices through organizational and community-level systems change; 2) developing theory and methods to examine deep cultural ideological structures influencing the nature of oppressive community systems, and 3) developing educational opportunities that promote indigenous community-based transformational systems leadership. More recent writing projects include: examining Community Psychology education within a global decolonial context, and collaborative praxis towards building the decolonial village. She is also currently working to develop the ideological infrastructure needed to support ethical and deliberate community engagement across NLU for communities we serve in the Chicagoland area. She is most active in the Society for Community Research and Action, the American Evaluation Association, and the Chicagoland Evaluation Association. She has worked and written most on various community-based research projects.
spanning social justice issues, including: coordinating a collaborative statewide cross-disability leadership training initiative, consulting on initiatives to change the culture of a university to be more supportive of women faculty in the STEM fields, and conducting a collaborative network system analysis with a community-wide systems change initiative across a tri-county area assisting in the development of a data-driven capacity-building process to increase the knowledge of community members for restructuring a local human services system.

Sonya Maria Johnson: Beloit College

Dr. Sonya Maria Johnson holds a Dual Major Ph.D. in Socio-Cultural Anthropology and African American & African Studies from Michigan State University. She is the Andrew W. Mellon Assistant Professor of Religious Studies in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Beloit College. Johnson’s current research and writing center around Cuban African descendants’ engagement of ancestral spirits from the island-nation’s colonial past as a way to affirm their "African" identity, and as a means to establish a ritual homeland inside their inherited diasporal circumstances. She integrates the significance of contemporary Palo ritual realities into theoretical discourses about religions created within the "Black Atlantic"; those diverse social spaces throughout the Caribbean and North, Central and South America wherein Africans and their descendants' enduring presence has reconfigured the social, economic, and political landscapes.

Dr. Johnson has published and presented on this work at the annual Meetings of the American Academy of Religion; the American Anthropological Association; the Bi-Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD); the Transatlantic Roundtable on Race and Religion; the International Sociological Association’s Religious Roundtables; and, most recently, at the 9th annual Women of the Mediterranean Conference in Fez, Morocco. Johnson is a 2018-2019 fellow of the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religious Studies and currently serves as an Executive Board member for ASWAD and is treasurer-elect for the organization.
“Persistence and Financial Planning for Graduate School”: This panel will cover psycho-social factors (e.g. mentorship, TA growing pains, networking, mental health, etc.) and financial concerns (e.g. funding, budgeting, insurance, etc.) that influence the success of students.

**Annmarie Cano:** Wayne State University

Annmarie Caño, Ph.D. is Associate Provost for Faculty Development and Faculty Success and a Professor of Psychology at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Caño conducts research on emotion regulation and intimacy processes in couples facing physical and mental health problems. As a first-generation college student and Latina, Dr. Caño is committed to supporting access, diversity, and inclusion in higher education and is conducting research in this domain as well. Dr. Caño has over 70 publications and has served as PI on 4 grants from the National Institutes of Health. In 2016, she was elected Fellow of the American Psychological Association in two divisions (Society for Health Psychology and Society for Couple and Family Psychology). Dr. Caño has served the field as Associate Editor at Health Psychology and Journal of Family Psychology and currently sits on the editorial boards of American Psychologist and Journal of Pain. She earned her master’s and doctoral degrees in psychology from Stony Brook University and her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Princeton University.

**Meg Akehi:** Michigan State University

Meg Akehi works for MSU Counseling and Psychiatric Services and is currently working on her PhD in Higher, Adult and Lifelong Education (HALE) at MSU. She has almost 20 years of experience working with college students and young adults dealing with life transitions, grief, interpersonal relationships, conflict resolution, spiritual identity development, depression and anxiety. In addition to providing counseling, Meg is also available as a consultant for individuals and organizations concerning mental health issues, team dynamics, conflict resolution, leadership development and personal development. She is also available to provide workshops on various topics to large and small groups. Topics include conflict resolution, spiritual growth, personal growth, improving interpersonal relationships, and team building.