2023 AGEP Student Success Conference
Speaker Lineup

Generating Knowledge to Improve Local Communities and the Global Economy
Greeting Colleagues,

The AGEP Student Success Conference will be held on Thursday, November 9-Saturday November 11, 2023 and features interactive tracks that explore different stages of the graduate student journey and advanced career development including starting with applying into graduate school.

This activity is a great opportunity 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 develop their mentoring skills. This is also a wonderful chance for individuals hoping to apply for employment. The Conference will be held as a hybrid event. 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 Director, Steven Thomas at 517-432-3268.
Social Media Branding Techniques:

This panel will discuss how audience members can communicate their research and professional advancement to broader audiences using social media.

Terah J. Fox: LinkedIn

Terah Fox is a Group Manager, Employee Communications at LinkedIn, where she leads internal communications for the company’s Global Talent Organization. During her 18-year career as a communications professional, Terah has partnered with leaders across several industries and business functions to build communications strategies for enterprise initiatives, executive communications, employee engagement and community relations. Terah’s work is industry agnostic, including time in tech, consumer-packaged goods, utilities, finance, food & beverage and business consulting. Before her role at LinkedIn, Terah led employee communications for the HR, IT and Supply Chain functions at food and snacks giant, Conagra Brands. She also managed field-force communications and media relations for multinational gas and electric company, National Grid. Prior to that role, Terah spent time at international public relations and communications agency, Fleishman Hillard, where she served as an inaugural member of the agency’s Diversity Counsel. Terah’s work has been recognized by the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC), the Association of Marketing and Communications Professionals and others. She holds an MA in Organizational Communication from the University of Missouri – St. Louis and a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Missouri-Columbia. A Kansas City, MO native, Terah spent time in St. Louis, MO and Ithaca, NY before settling in Omaha, NE.
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.

Pamela Martin: University of South Carolina

Dr. Pamela Martin is a Professor in the Department of Psychology and African American Studies Program at the University of South Carolina. Prior to returning to her alma mater, she served as the Associate Dean in the College of Juvenile Justice and Interim Department Head in the Psychology Department 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 (NCCU). At NCCU, she instituted the department’s branding message and the use of social media to help the department’s green efforts. She also increased the number of undergraduate and graduate students participating in research. Starting her academic career at North Carolina State University, 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 NC State University. She holds a B.S. in Psychology from the University of South Carolina, an M.A. in Psychology from North Carolina Central University, and 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.
Getting Involved in Science Policy Careers
This panel will focus on skills on how to explore science policy careers at different levels of government including local, state, and federal.

Sheril Kirshenbaum: Michigan State University
Sheril Kirshenbaum is an Emmy Award-winning scientist and author working to enhance public understanding of science and improve communication between scientists, policymakers, and the public. She hosts Serving Up Science at PBS and her books include Unscientific America with Chris Mooney and The Science of Kissing. Sheril has been a Presidential Leadership Scholar, a Marshall Memorial Fellow, a Congressional science fellow, and a Next Generation Fellow. She has hosted blogs with Scientific American, Wired, and Discover Magazines, as well as the NPR podcast, Serving Up Science. Her research focuses on how senior congressional staffers make decisions about science and policy.
This workshop will cover how a graduate student or post-doc should approach searching, applying, interviewing, and negotiating faculty positions.

**CharMaine Y. Hines: Wayne County Community College District**

Dr. CharMaine Y. Hines, serves as District Vice Chancellor for Academic Accountability and Policy at Wayne County Community College District, a comprehensive, multi-campus urban/suburban institution of education in Southeast Michigan.


CharMaine holds a Doctorate of Education in Community College Leadership from Kansas State University (KSU), with distinction as KSU’s nominee for the 2022 College of Graduate School/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award for Social Sciences.
Enhancing Grant-Writing Skills & Identifying Untapped Resources
4:30 PM-5:30 PM ET
During this session, panelists will cover how to identify Request for Proposals (RFPs), build effective grant-writing teams, and communicate with grant program directors.

Ashley Johnson: The Kresge Foundation
Dr. Ashley Johnson is a Program Officer at The Kresge Foundation. Ashley supports the Education Program which funds student-focused postsecondary access and success efforts that remove barriers to postsecondary degrees for traditionally marginalized populations. Before joining the foundation in 2021, Ashley served as the founding Executive Director of Detroit College Access Network (DCAN) and the Director of the Detroit Promise, where she led Detroit’s citywide college access network and worked to create equitable pathways for postsecondary access and success on behalf of Detroit students and families. With over 15 years of experience in K12 and higher education, she also held positions with the University of Michigan Wolverine Pathways program and as a high school teacher.

A native of Shelbyville, Tennessee, she earned a Ph.D. from Michigan State University in K-12 Education Administration with a specialization in Urban Education as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Mississippi.
Friday Plenary Sessions (Nov 10)

Federal Grant Opportunities  9:30 AM-10:30 AM
This presentation will cover a range of federal grant opportunities for graduate students and junior faculty.

Carleitta Paige-Anderson: National Science Foundation

Carleitta Paige-Anderson currently serves as Lead Program Director for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP) in the Division of Equity for Excellence in STEM at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Her academic journey began at Virginia Union University (VUU), where she developed a passion for basic science research and earned a BS in Biology. After obtaining a PhD from Wake Forest University and completing a post-doctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University, she returned to VUU. Over the years, she established a research program investigating biochemical signaling mechanisms in disease-causing bacteria and viruses. By leveraging her scientific expertise to integrate research into the academic curriculum, she was selected as a 2013-2014 Senior Fulbright Scholar in Surabaya, Indonesia at Universitas Airlangga. At VUU, she also served as the founding director of the VUU Center for Undergraduate Research, Dean of the University College, and Vice-President for Student Development and Success. Her collective efforts are rooted in enhancing the research and education capacities of HBCUs, a community she is excited to serve in her current role. Paige-Anderson attributes much of her success to the support of her family and friends.
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.

**Ami Iceman-Haueter: MSU Federal Credit Union**
Ami Iceman Haueter serves as the Chief Research and Digital Experience Officer at Michigan State University Federal Credit Union (MSUFCU), overseeing the digital experience, user experience and research teams. Iceman Haueter serves as a critical part of the digital pillar of the credit union, creating critical alignments with the Innovation and Digital Services team to create an impactful member experience from start to finish. She focuses on leveraging member feedback and insights to drive digital change that is accessible and easy. Iceman Haueter thrives on and finding creative way to move concepts to reality to serve MSUFCU members.

**Katrenia Reed Hughes: IUPUI and Passion 2 Purpose, LLC**
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. 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.

**Megumi Moore: Michigan State University**
Dr. Megumi Moore is the Director of the Graduate School Office of Well-Being (GROW), a collaboration between The Graduate School and the Division of Student Life & Engagement. GROW provides opportunities for graduate and professional students to build skills to better address the challenges of graduate school that impact their well-being. With support, resources, and a sense of community, we believe that all graduate and professional students can thrive while achieving their academic and professional goals. Dr. Moore holds a PhD in Higher, Adult and Lifelong Education (HALE) from Michigan State University, a Master’s in Counseling from Ashland Theological Seminary, and a Bachelor’s in Psychology from the University of Michigan. She also has a background in providing workshops and trainings on various psychoeducational topics, team dynamics, conflict resolution, leadership development, spiritual growth, and navigating transitions.
Culturally-Responsive Mentoring
This workshop will focus on skills on how to build a research team and current research trends around mentoring. This event will be valuable for any graduate student, post-doc, faculty member or community leader interested in developing their skills in cultural sensitivity as well as the creation of inclusive environments and work teams.

Randall J. Roper: Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Dr. Randall Roper is an Associate Professor of Biology and Director of the IUPUI Graduate Mentoring Center at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. As the inaugural Director of the IUPUI Graduate Mentoring Center, he organizes monthly programs for faculty, staff and students to improve mentoring. During the past three years, the Center has concentrated on Culturally Aware Mentoring. The goal of his laboratory research is to find how genes in three copies lead to skeletal and cognitive deficits in individuals with Down syndrome. His laboratory is composed of outstanding graduate and undergraduate students that concentrate their studies on skeletal and neurological traits associated with Trisomy 21. He enjoys training and mentoring the next generation of scientists. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife and four daughters as well as training for and running marathons.

Etta Ward: Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Etta Ward has led research and faculty development operations in the IUPUI Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research for over 19 years. As the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research Development, her primary role is to advance the IUPUI research mission through faculty research and professional development. In addition, she promotes effective mentoring as a strategy for personal and professional success, which has been central to many efforts and grown well beyond the boundaries of academia. As a National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN) certified facilitator for mentor training, Ward has built a body of work around effective mentorship—especially, targeting underrepresented populations. She promotes competency-based and culturally-aware mentoring strategies that bolster inclusive mentoring cultures. Ward views this work as her professional calling, with potential to impact mentoring generations into the future. She values opportunities to pay-it-forward by sharing her insights and passion with diverse audiences from all career stages, disciplines, and professions.
Friday Plenary Sessions

All About Negotiating: A Recession-Proof Guide

This presentation will discuss skills on how students and instructors modify study and teaching techniques based on current neuroscience research.

Christina Campbell: University of Cincinnati

Dr. Christina Alicia Campbell is a first-generation college student from Los Angeles, California. She is currently a tenured Associate Professor in the School of Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Campbell earned a B.A. from San Diego State University in 2006, and a Masters and Ph.D. in Psychology from Michigan State University in 2012. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Psychiatry, Division of Prevention and Community Research at Yale University in 2014. Her passion for research was cultivated as a Ronald E. McNair Scholar and National Institutes of Health, Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) Scholar.

Dr. Campbell's primary research interests include delinquency prevention, risk assessment, juvenile justice, child welfare policy, and reducing racial disparities. Dr. Campbell has over 35 research publications. Her research is published in various peer-reviewed academic journals, which include Criminology Public Policy, Criminal Justice and Behavior, Child and Youth Services Review, Crime and Delinquency, Journal of Traumatic Stress, and Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice.

In addition to research and teaching, she has mentored scholars pursuing graduate and professional degrees. After over 10 years of service, Dr. Campbell started Academe180, a professional development group designed to provide support for academics transitioning into the workplace.

Dr. Campbell has provided workshops and one-on-one consultation services for academics across several areas which include, negotiating academic job offers, academic entrepreneurship, navigating graduate and professional school, racial/ethnic minorities in STEM, and first-generation college student success.

Dr. Campbell's most sought-after university workshop entitled, "All about Negotiating: What to do before, during, and after the job offer" has helped academics secure over half a million dollars of additional research startup funds and salaries. She is also an author and illustrator of a children’s book for adults titled “The ABC’s of Negotiating.” This book was designed to teach academics foundational skills for asking for what they need and want while on the job market.
Saturday Workshop Sessions (Nov 11) 10:45 AM-11:45 AM ET

Graduate School Exploration and Managing Mentor Expectations:
This panel will discuss how a student can prepare a competitive application and how they can leverage their undergraduate experiences as well as how to avoid common mistakes during the first years of graduate school.

**Heather Hill: Cleveland State University**

Dr. Heather Hill serves as an Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology in College of Education and Human Ecology at Cleveland State University. In this role she teaches courses in learning and development theory and the social, cultural and psychological foundations of education. Through curriculum that centers the scholarship of Black and Brown researchers and examines the intersectional influences of race, class and gender in schooling, she facilitates critical dialogue and community building that develops teachers for equity-centered teaching, leading, and social action. Her approach to teaching emerges from lessons learned through research with Black girls reading and writing across urban public language arts classrooms and digital reading and writing environments. Her research highlights the historical and sociopolitical aspects of literacy education and points to possibilities for contexts of schooling to serve as spaces and places for empowerment, community building, critical consciousness raising, and academic achievement for and among youth generally, and Black girls in particular. She received her B.A. in political science from Bowling Green State University. She also her masters degree in educational administration and doctoral degree in Literacy, Education & Society, from The Ohio State University.
Intellectual Property::How to Take your Ideas to the Next Level
This presentation will be an introduction to different aspects of faculty entrepreneurship. Topics for discussion will include technology transfer, commercialization of academic research, and consulting.

Jennifer Carter-Johnson: Michigan State University
Dr. Carter-Johnson focuses her interests on intellectual property law and policy. She combines her scientific and legal training to investigate issues at the intersection of biological research and the law. Carter-Johnson was a visiting faculty fellow at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Missouri, from 2008 until she joined Michigan State University College of Law in fall 2010. Prior to that, she practiced law in Seattle, Washington, specializing in intellectual property licensing and representation of biotechnology companies. Professor Carter-Johnson graduated with highest honors from Union University with a B.S. in mathematics and biology. She then received her law degree with honors from the University of Michigan Law School, where she was an articles editor and symposium coordinator of the Michigan Law Review. She earned her Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of Virginia, where her research concentrated on immune system development. A member of the Washington State Bar, she is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Carter-Johnson's publications include "The Shifting Landscape of Patent Licensing," BioPharm International (2007); "Lack of the Trosine Phosphatase SHP-1 Causes an Enrichment of CD4+CD25+ Regulatory T Cells," The Journal of Immunology (2005); "Cutting Edge: Dependence of TCR Antagonism on Src Homology 2 Domain-containing Protein Tyrosine Phosphatase Activity," The Journal of Immunology (2003); and "The Tyrosine Phosphatase SHP-1 Influences Thymocyte Development by Setting TCR Signaling Thresholds," International Immunology (1999).
Leadership and Promotion Strategies 10:45 AM-11:45 AM ET

During this session, panelists will discuss how to balance research/teaching duties with administration responsibilities as well as how to leverage professional development opportunities after tenure.

Valerio Ferme: University of Cincinnati

Valerio Ferme, PhD, serves as the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, providing oversight and strategic direction for the University of Cincinnati’s (UC) more than 46,000 students, 6,000 faculty and 13 academic colleges, the Graduate School, UC Online, and a collection of state-of-the-art university libraries. As the university’s chief academic officer, Ferme oversees the human and fiscal resources that fuel UC’s academic and research mission with assistance from the academic deans and Provost senior staff while also supporting various aspects of faculty and student success.

Ferme joined UC in 2019 as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences - UC’s largest college - overseeing a $125 million budget and 21 departments. During his decanal term Ferme created a 21st Century Task Force to support the college’s strategic plan, spearheaded a college-wide commitment to sponsored research, expanded co-op and academic offerings, and created the position of Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence and Community Partnerships. Prior to UC, Ferme served as Dean of the College of Arts and Letters at Northern Arizona University from 2017-2019 and Divisional Dean for the Arts and Humanities at the University of Colorado from 2015-2017, where he also served as Chair of the Department of French and Italian for six years. At the University of Colorado, Ferme’s work also focused on curricular enhancements as well as support for underrepresented minorities. In 2014, Ferme was recognized for his pedagogy with the Boulder Faculty Assembly Excellence in Teaching Award and in 2017 for his work in Inclusive Excellence on behalf of staff and underrepresented graduate students with a Special Recognition Award from the Office of Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement. Ferme earned undergraduate degrees in Biology and Religious Studies at Brown University, a Master in Comparative Literature and Italian Studies from Indiana University and a PhD in Comparative Literature from UC Berkeley, where he was awarded Fulbright and Chancellor’s Fellowships. As a scholar, Ferme has published three monographs, three edited volumes, two scholarly translations and a bilingual collection of poetry, in addition to over 60 articles and reviews.
Jonathan Garrett: Enverus
Jonathan has worked in the oil and gas industry for more than 15 years. He currently leads the Customer Success organization as Senior Vice President at Enverus, the world’s largest energy data and analytics company. An engineer by training, he’s worked offshore on rigs in the Gulf of Mexico, on product development of cutting-edge engineering technology, as a commercial advisor and analyst, and now on the data & analytics side of the energy business. In his free time, he is passionate about personal finance and capital markets. He has undergraduate and graduate degrees in Industrial and Operations Engineering from the University of Michigan. He lives in Houston, Texas with his wife Kyla, daughter Lydia and dog, Bella.
Keynote Speaker for Saturday Luncheon  12:00 PM-1:20 PM ET

Generating Knowledge to Improve Local Communities and the Global Economy

Kelly Mack: Association of American Colleges and Universities

Dr. Kelly Mack is the Vice President for Undergraduate STEM Education and Executive Director of Project Kaleidoscope at the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). In this capacity, Dr. Mack provides leadership for the organization’s mission level commitments to quality and inclusion through the delivery of world class professional development aimed at empowering our nation’s finest STEM faculty to competitively train and educate more STEM students. Prior to joining AAC&U, Dr. Mack was the Senior Program Director for the National Science Foundation ADVANCE Program while on loan from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore where, as a Professor of Biology, she taught courses in Physiology and Endocrinology for 17 years.

Dr. Mack’s holistic approach to STEM reform is grounded in a strategic vision that foregrounds inclusion as an immutable factor for achieving excellence in undergraduate STEM education. Her leadership in STEM reform has led to: significant increases in the capacity of STEM faculty to implement culturally responsive pedagogies, major shifts in the ways in which leadership development for STEM faculty is delivered, and the expansion of both physical and virtual convening platforms for knowledge generation, exchange, and dissemination.

Recognized as a national thought leader in higher education, Dr. Mack’s work has been highlighted in Diverse Magazine and U.S. News and World Report. Currently, she is an advisor to several institutional transformation initiatives at NSF-funded ADVANCE institutions, as well as other national STEM reform collaboratives. She is also co-founder and chair of the board of the Society of STEM Women of Color, Inc., and has served as member of numerous board and national committees.

Dr. Mack earned the BS degree in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and, later, the PhD from Howard University in Physiology. She has had extensive training and experience in the area of cancer research with her research efforts focusing primarily on the use of novel antitumor agents in breast tumor cells, as well as the use of bioflavonoids in the regulation of estrogen receptor positive (ER+) and estrogen receptor negative (ER-) breast tumor cell proliferation. Most recently, her research efforts have examined STEM leadership development and the impact of mindfulness on STEM faculty self-efficacy.
Saturday Closing Remarks & Awards

Closing remarks will be made by MSU AGEP Program Director, Steven D. Thomas. Best presenter awards will be given at this time. This is a great opportunity to connect with recruiters and listen to our live performance by La Shaun ‘Phoenix’ Moore and other musical guests.

La Shaun ‘Phoenix’ Moore: InsideOut Literary Arts
La Shaun “Phoenix” Moore is a Detroit-based vocalist, spoken word artist, activist, culture creator and wife. Moore's interdisciplinary work is infused with her love for the city of Detroit, hip-hop, God, social justice and her family. She is currently working on her first memoir exploring the complexities of the Mother Wound and how it is rooted in her immediate family. Moore is the coach of the Youth Performance Troupe for InsideOut Literary Arts. She is the recipient of the 2020 and 2021 Creators of Culture Award by CultureSource.
The Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) is a National Science Foundation program that supports recruitment, retention, and graduation of underrepresented U. S. minorities in doctoral programs of the natural and social sciences, mathematics, and engineering. Undergraduates, graduate students, post-docs, and faculty who participate in building the AGEP Community at MSU rise to meet the challenge of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at U. S. colleges and universities, by nurturing and developing world-class STEM and Social, Behavioral and Economic sciences faculty members who fully reflect the diversity in race, gender, culture and intellectual talent of the U. S. population.

National Need

The United States faces a growing demand for a highly educated science and engineering workforce. The annual number of Black, Hispanic, and American Indian citizens earning a PhD must quadruple in order to contribute the science and engineering talent necessary for the U.S. to become self-reliant.

AGEP at Michigan State University – Impact

The MSU AGEP Learning Community represents 75% of doctoral students at MSU who are Black, Hispanic or American Indian citizens that in NSF sponsored departments. Ninety percent of the MSU AGEP Community graduate student participants complete an advanced degree. Over the past 10 years, the MSU AGEP Community has grown from six graduate students in 2006 and faculty to over 250 participants annually with over 400 alumni nation-wide.

The MSU AGEP Learning Community began with support from NSF, and AGEP has become a self-sustaining component of the matrix of graduate student support provided by the MSU Graduate School. A cross-disciplinary MSU AGEP Learning Community of graduate students and faculty meets monthly; discusses active research by participants using everyday language; and considers current topics of regional and national importance for public policy. At MSU, AGEP is a proven strategy for diverse recruitment, retention, and persistence in graduate education. The AGEP Student Success Conference hosted by MSU is cross-disciplinary experience, full of scientists, engineers, social scientists, policy makers and community leaders and students.

For more information, visit us at:
MSU AGEP website: https://grad.msu.edu/agep
MSU AGEP Program Director: Steven Thomas, deshawn@msu.edu

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