CESJ @ AERA in Toronto 2019

Critical Educators for Social Justice (CESJ)
Business Meeting:

How to be a critical scholar in troubled times:
Cultivating wellness from within

Confirmed Faculty Panelists:

Dr. Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz
Dr. Crystal Laura
Dr. Subini Annamma

When: Sunday, April 7th, 2019
Time: 7:05 PM – 8:35 PM
Where: Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 700 Level, Room 713A

The Critical Educators for Social Justice (CESJ) Special Interest Group (SIG) of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) is committed to the struggle for social justice, human rights and democracy in education for diverse communities. We promote research, teaching, and activism including but not limited to cultural, racial, linguistic, political, and economic self-determination within our classrooms, schools, and communities. For more info please visit http://www.cesjsig.org and follow us on social media:

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2019 CESJ Award Winners

The CESJ Board would like to congratulate the 2019 CESJ Award winners and extend a huge thank you to all the committee members who took the time to review the applications and make a tough decision!

Outstanding Dissertation Award Winners

Dr. Joe Curnow - Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.

Dr. Stephanie Cariaga - University of California, Los Angeles

Committee Members
Sosanya Jones - Howard University
Tanja Burkhard - University of Pittsburgh
Sherry Deckman - Lehman College- CUNY
Erin Dyke-Oklahoma State University
Ben Kirshner- University of Colorado, Boulder
Ashley Patterson - Penn State University
Denise Yull - Binghamton University- SUNY

Revolutionary Mentor Award Winner

Dr. Alyssa Hadley Dunn, Michigan State University

Scholar Activist and Community Advocacy Award Winners

Dr. Carolina Valdez,
California State University, Fullerton

Dr. Jamila Lyiscott,
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Committee Members
Subini Annamma, University of Kansas
Kari Kokka, University of Pittsburgh
Ayana Allen-Handy, Drexel University
Deanna Chappell Belcher, University of Oregon
Kristin Cipollone, Ball State University
Cati de los Rios, University of California Davis
Madeline Perez De Jesus, University of Saint Joseph
Verónica N. Vélez, Western Washington University
CRITICAL EDUCATORS FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE (CESJ) SIG
INVITED SPEAKER SESSION

How Do You Navigate Your Identities as a Critical Scholar-Educator-Activist?

CONFIRMED PANELISTS

Dr. Subini Annamma
Dr. Kari Kokka
Dr. Bettina Love
Dr. Oscar Navarro
Dr. Dave Stovall

When: Sunday, April 7th, 2019
Time: 8:00 – 9:30 AM
Where: Metro Convention Center Toronto, 200 Level, Room 201B

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How to Be A Critical Scholar in Trouble Times:
Excerpts from Our Webinar

On Wednesday, January 30th, CESJ hosted a webinar with Drs. Cheryl Matias and Deena Khalil to discuss how scholars hold on to their critical identity when facing resistance from students, colleagues, and the public. Moderated by Dr. Denisha Jones, below are some excerpts from the webinar.

Dr. Jones - What is your experience dealing with resistance to your work as a critical scholar?

Dr. Matias - It’s been taxing to say the least. Yes, intellectually taxing, scholarly taxing. But I think the one that’s been the hardest is emotionally taxing. As scholars, we’re already out in isolated areas away from our network that we grew up with, our family, our friends. Some of us are in areas that don’t even see another person of color for a month or so. And so, it becomes very hard and isolating. I had a senior scholar before I went up for tenure tell me that I needed to stop saying the word “whiteness.” No. No. No. “Stop making up the word whiteness,” was the correct phrasing. It had a really big impact on me. I remember it years later. I wish I was the one who coined the word whiteness. I’d be cited everywhere. But at the same time it really showed the resistance people had with my scholarship.

Dr. Khalil - So, one of the ways I feel like I’m constantly resisting is just being in the space of academe and the way that it wants to pigeonhole us into this is what you’re supposed to be doing. So, this is what you’re supposed to be doing. You’re supposed to be choosing a really small area that you’re very committed to as a disciplinary area and working within that space. Like this is what you’re supposed to be doing. You’re supposed to be first author, sole author. This is what you’re supposed to be doing. And I keep thinking well, clearly academe wasn’t really made for us. It wasn’t made for people who have different value systems. And so, part of that resistance has been that. Just saying trying to do that work that I think is important in a way that honors the problem and the people who are struggling in that problem.

Dr. Jones - How do you deal with organizations who attack your work as a critical scholar?

Dr. Khalil - So having grown up the way I explained earlier, I understood the McCarthy like tactics that a lot of organizations take in the way that they address issues that they don’t agree with. You mentioned campus reform. Canary mission is another one where they list folks who should be blacklisted. And it could include students, graduate students, and so people who are vulnerable not just scholars who are publishing because they’re really trying to change the narratives on campus even at the activist level, even at the student level. And so I think that we should be more clear about how we can join various groups who have the same agenda which is resisting various ways of oppressions. colleagues, academics, activists, feel like they’re less alone.

Dr. Matias - There’s just some practical things that I wanted to say in my experiences with many articles that was written about me. Don’t trust emails with students saying they want to take your course and they want to see the syllabus. Often Campus Reform reporters do not reveal that they are reporters. They lie and say they are a student interested in taking a course. And the sad thing is I kind of had a gut feeling, so I responded back saying, “Oh, thank you for your interest. Why is this such an interesting course for you?” Of course, I never got a response back. But yet someone in my school of education forwarded my syllabus. So, I think it’s very important to be cautious with who you’re interacting with and who also make it known to your program or anything that this can happen so that they don’t erroneously send out a syllabus thinking it is an interested student.
As scholars, we’re already out in isolated areas away from our network that we grew up with, our family, our friends. Some of us are in areas that don’t even see another person of color for a month or so.” - Dr. Matias

(...) And I think that that would help students, doctoral students, colleagues, academics, activists, feel like they’re less alone.

**Dr. Matias:** There’s just some practical things that I wanted to say in my experiences with many articles that was written about me. Don’t trust emails with students saying they want to take your course and they want to see the syllabus. Often Campus Reform reporters do not reveal that they are reporters. They lie and say they are a student interested in taking a course. And the sad thing is I kind of had a gut feeling, so I responded back saying, "Oh, thank you for your interest. Why is this such an interesting course for you?" Of course, I never got a response back. But yet someone in my school of education forwarded my syllabus. So, I think it’s very important to be cautious with who you’re interacting with and who also make it known to your program or anything that this can happen so that they don’t erroneously send out a syllabus thinking it is an interested student.

**Dr. Jones:** What is something that you are working on that excites you as a critical scholar navigating troubled times?

**Dr. Matias:** We talk a lot about emotions in teacher education, loving our kids and loving our teaching. But we never deeply psychoanalyze what is your understanding of love depending on the racial positionality that you’re in in a white supremacist society. So that’s my work. My two projects, I don’t know if I could say I’m excited. I’m happy about it. At the same time, it’s kind of disheartening. I’m working on two book projects. One that’s called Surviving Becky’s. And this book ... I’m excited about getting these stories out in a very different way. It’s a pedagogical book so people can maybe read and "Hey, do you notice you’re doing this? Let’s deconstruct it."

We’re doing this book called Critical Theoretical Research Methods in Education. It’s pretty much another pedagogical book showing how some scholars are engaging in theoretical research methods and how to apply it in different subfields in education so that people can use it in their research.

“‘As scholars, we’re already out in isolated areas away from our network that we grew up with, our family, our friends. Some of us are in areas that don’t even see another person of color for a month or so.”’ - Dr. Matias
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CRITICAL EDUCATORS FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE (CESJ)SIG
FOR OUR

SOCIAL AT THE BALLROOM
FREE BOWLING FOR ALL
$5 SHOE RENTAL

Food  Drink  Bowling  Lounge

When: Sunday, April 7th, 2019
Time: 9PM – 11 PM
Where: The Ballroom Billiards & Lounge
145 John St. Toronto, ON M5V 2E4
theballroom.ca

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BOOK CELEBRATION!

Join us for a celebration of words being put to a page.

Let’s talk, think, and laugh together at this book celebration:
Friday, April 5th
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Short discussion between the authors & editors moderated by the brilliant Leigh Patel at
Another Story Book Shop: 315 Roncesvalles Ave. Toronto

Eve Tuck  K. Wayne Yang  Nolan Cabrera  Subini Annamma

Another Story’s entrance is wheelchair accessible and has an e-door. The bathroom is gender-neutral and down a narrow flight of stairs. They have access to wheelchair accessible bathrooms at a local restaurant a few doors down - please email events coordinator anjulagogia@gmail.com for further details on this or other accommodation requests.
Humanizing Borderlands with Radical Love and Creative Resistance: Building Bridges to Hold Space and Honor Place

Critical Educators for Social Justice (CESJ) 11th Annual Graduate Student Forum
AERA – Toronto, Ontario, Canada
When – Friday, April 5th, 2019
Time – 10 AM - 4 PM

The CESJ Graduate Student Forum (GSF) aims to gather a diverse group of graduate students whose work and backgrounds align with CESJ’s mission and values. GSF is a designated free session for 30 graduate students.

Within our current political climate, learning how to be a critical scholar in turbulent times is more imperative than ever before. The continued efforts to dehumanize minoritized and marginalized communities necessitate charting radical paths to dismantle artificial borders between scholarship and activism by sustaining relationships with people, places, and critical counter-spaces.

Educators committed to social justice praxis honor place and hold space to navigate and negotiate realms of liminality, criticality and fugitivity in the academy and beyond. In this intergenerational gathering, critical scholars and scholar-activists, or “scholactivists”, will (re)connect, (re)energize, and strive towards wellness, while building community and strategizing on how to tear down the walls that dehumanize, colonize and otherize our people, our places and planet.

Please direct any questions about the Graduate Student Forum (GSF) to CESJgradforum@gmail.com.

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Dr. Judy Alston
Ashland University

Dr. Daniel Solórzano
UCLA

Dr. Farima Pour-Khorshid
University of San Francisco

Dr. Edwin Mayorga
Swarthmore College

Dr. Cheryl E. Matias
University of Colorado, Denver

Dr. Derrick R. Brooms
University of Cincinnati
CRITICAL EDUCATORS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (CESJ) SIG EARLY CAREER SCHOLARS FORUM

SUSTAINING CRITICAL WORK IN TROUBLED TIMES

CONFIRMED PANELISTS

Dr. Rebeca Burciaga
Dr. Chandni Desai
Dr. Johnny Lupinacci
Dr. Suzanne SooHoo
Dr. Allyson Tintiangco-Cubales

When: April 5th, 2019
Time: 9 AM – 3 PM
Where: Toronto, ON

The forum is designed to support early-career tenure track faculty, non-tenure track faculty, and postdoctoral scholars. During the forum, participants will gather with scholar-mentors from CESJ to discuss various topics related to research, teaching, community-engaged scholarship, and service. (Participants apply each year to attend. If you missed it this year, please apply to join next year!)

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THE CRITICAL EDUCATORS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (CESJ)
1st AERA GRADUATE STUDENT FIRESIDE CHAT

SUNDAY, 04/07/19, 9:55-11:25 AM, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE,
200 LEVEL, ROOM 201B. Toronto, ON.

DR. YOLANDA SEALEY-RUIZ
DR. CHARLES H.F. DAVIS III
DR. VENUS EVANS-WINTERS
DR. PATRICIA KRUEGER-HENNEY

THE ART OF BEING A SCHOLACTIVIST AND GETTING TO PH.D.:
WHAT IT MEANS TO P(RODUCE), H.(UMANIZE), D.(ECOLONIZE) KNOWLEDGE
AS A CRITICAL EDUCATOR FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Graduate Student Fireside Chat (GSFC) is part II of the CESJ series: How to be a critical scholar in troubled
times. The GSFC is meant to provide a space that draws graduate students and distinguished faculty together as
a collective committed to, and reflective of equity and justice in education. Open to all graduate students.

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QUESTIONS? EMAIL: CESJGRADFORUM@GMAIL.COM

Critical Educators for Social Justice (CESJ)
Social Media

Please follow us on social media. We will share pictures from all the
#CESJSIG #AERA19 events!

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@CESJSIG

Please post about CESJ events, tag us, use the hashtags #AERA19
#CESJSIG #CriticalScholarsTroubledTimes on Twitter, IG, and Facebook.
Don’t forget your passport!!!!!!