

Ed Studies Newsletter

September 2016
Volume 2, Issue 1



Dr. Hawkins

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Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Celeste Hawkins

Dr. Hawkins (2014, Cohort 2) joined EMU's Educational Studies program with vast work experience rooted in community involvement. She is a passionate social worker with a rich history of collaboration and leadership in Ypsilanti and has a deep commitment to Ypsilanti Community Schools (YCS). Currently, she is an Assistant Professor for EMU's School of Social Work and continues to serve the community through her ongoing research and activism. With an unwavering passion for urban education, Dr. Hawkins describes her scholarly agenda as one that is "of urgent relevance to the professions of social work and education" and asserts that "current crises in public education undermine the well-being of families and communities." Her scholarly research agenda contributes to the work of scholars and advocates across the country who are seeking to find ways to

interrupt the 'school-to-prison-pipeline.' Dr. Hawkins and her colleague, Dr. Sarah Van Zoeren, are interrupting the 'pipeline' by forging a dynamic partnership through their initiative, Making Youth Matter. In collaboration with YCS, they are devising programs and implementing interventions with the goal to provide supports to improve student outcomes by empowering youth to participate fully in their schools and communities.

Dr. Hawkins's (2014) dissertation was titled: *Making Youth Matter: Exclusion and its Impact on the School Lives of African American students*. She credits the doctoral program for preparing her for the "level of scholarship required in academia," and for helping "me view issues from diverse perspectives and to combine my passion to impact change with the importance of validating it through research." She also expresses appreciation for the

opportunity to co-teach a qualitative research methods course, and states, "teaching as a doctoral student was an invaluable experience." She praises the feedback from her professors as "invaluable" to her development as a researcher, writer, and a scholar.

Dr. Hawkins advises students in the program to develop a clear, concise understanding of their topics of interest and to become familiar with their chosen method as early as possible. In addition, she suggests making a budget of the costs associated with research, and applying for fellowships and funding. As her final words of wisdom, Dr. Hawkins reminds us "to stay diligent, focused, steadfast, and above all to be kind to yourself." We congratulate Dr. Hawkins on the well-deserved Provost's New Faculty Award and Summer Research Creative Activity Award for the 2016-17 academic year and thank her for her commitment to social justice in our community.

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Studies

The Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Studies prepares educators from a variety of community organizations (P-12 schools, higher education and other community contexts) to engage in effective research and practice about teaching and learning within complex social, political and economic systems. A key underlying emphasis of the program is a focus on poverty and its specific impact on urban, as well as suburban and rural communities.

Kudos and Congratulations!

The following have successfully defended their doctoral dissertations:

- **Dr. Jennifer Banks**
(Cohort 2)
- **Dr. Marva Brooks**
(Cohort 3)
- **Dr. Cristal Nichols**
(Cohort 3)

Rose Luster-Turner (ABD, Cohort 1) successfully passed her comprehensive exams



Jani Pulkki (left) and John Mullen (right)

The Forging of a Sustainable Friendship

The relationship between EMU and University of Tampere (UT) began with a serendipitous encounter, but what continues to bind us is a shared pursuit of education, ethics, and ecological justice. In 2013, Dr. Rebecca Martusewicz from EMU's Social Foundations of Education and Educational Studies programs, and Dr. Veli-Matti Väri, philosopher of education, were paired together to organize a pre-conference seminar at the American Educational Research Association's (AERA) annual meeting. With common passions, their initial collaboration evolved into an enduring relationship between our two universities. Dr. Väri has returned to EMU as the keynote speaker at the annual EcoJustice Conference, and after being invited to UT as a guest lecturer in the summers of 2013 and 2014, Dr. Martusewicz earned a Fulbright Award to Finland to continue her research. She has also used her award to create two scholarships—one at UT and another here at EMU— so that students from both universities may continue the EcoJustice conversation.

In spring of 2016, John Mullen (Cohort 7) of the Educational Studies doctorate program was awarded the scholarship and traveled to Finland with Dr. Martusewicz. His research interests concern the theoretical conjunction

of ecology and education, and he further explains, "I am interested in those places that either enhance or undermine the interdependencies of our human and more-than-human life-worlds." John also wants to "learn to cultivate an ecological sensibility in our educational research and practice." While in Finland, he joined Dr. Martusewicz in a seminar that she and her husband offered at UT, as well as at a secondary school in Turku. John adds that our partnership offers a "fantastic opportunity" for students in EMU's College of Education.

This semester we are fortunate to have Jani Pulkki visiting us again from UT. He is a pedagogical studies PhD student in their teacher education department. Jani has previously presented at EMU's EcoJustice Conference, and he is currently here completing his dissertation. He describes his research as "virtue-ethical...an analysis of educational problems of competition in wide terms." In addition, he has published articles on contemplative pedagogy, [which can be viewed here](#). During this scholarly visit, Jani spends much of his time submerged in writing, and adds, "I am grateful to my EMU colleagues who have been hospitable, friendly, and helpful with both academic and non-academic pursuits."

If you are interested in EcoJustice and traveling to Finland, please contact Dr. Martusewicz at rmartusew@emich.edu.

Mark Your Calendars

Social Foundations of Education Fall Conference October 21, 2016
Ypsilanti, Michigan

American Educational Studies Association November 2-6
Seattle, Washington

Literacy Research Association
November 30-December 3
Nashville, Tennessee

Graduate at the Podium
November 18, 2016
Ypsilanti, Michigan
Proposals due October 5, 2016

Graduate Research Conference
March 24, 2017
Ypsilanti, Michigan

Zotero Library Demonstrations
(Halle Library, Room 111)

October 1	10:30 - 11:45
October 4	9:30 - 10:45
October 5	5:30 - 6:45

If you plan to attend a workshop, please send an email with which demonstration you plan to attend to librarian Keith Stanger (kstanger@emich.edu).

Dear Doctor,

I've heard about predatory publishing and wonder what is it and how much should I worry about it?

Dear concerned student,

Predatory publishers are out to get your money, not to ensure your ideas contribute to a scholarly conversation. While some legitimate journals charge small fees or require membership in the organization sponsoring the journal, predatory publishers charge fees but do not subject submissions to a stringent peer review process even though they claim to do so. Some things to look out for are poor editing, multiple journals by the same publisher with the same editorial boards, journals with titles of fields that are not generally grouped together, and so on. Jeffrey Beall, a librarian at the University of Colorado, maintains a list of potential predatory publishers known as [Beall's List](#) and I recommend it as a starting point to help you determine the extent to which a journal might be predatory since it includes a full list of criteria utilized to maintain the list. The library at EMU also offers a [research guide](#) on the topic.

-The Prof

Send questions of activism or of program or career trajectory to Kaia-Marie Bishop at kbishop3@emich.edu.

From the Program Coordinators

Welcome back to a new academic year, EDST/URED students. We hope that your semester has started well.

For this academic year, Chris Robbins and Joe Ramsey will co-chair the EDST program. Chris will perform responsibilities associated with this role in the fall, Joe in the winter. Please, between September and December, direct your program-related inquiries to Chris at crobbin2@emich.edu.

Best,
Chris Robbins and Joe Ramsey

Welcome Cohort 8!



First Row (left to right): Agnes Krynski; Terry Stockton; Lauren Clarkson; Jacque St. Antoine

Second Row: Greg Johnson; David Jagusch; Elizabeth Gray; Rachelle Marshall

Last Row: Tim Golden; Eric Ferris; David Morgan; Jerry Brown

It is a challenge to encapsulate the diverse backgrounds and interests of the Educational Studies' newest cohort. Among them are classroom teachers, university and school administrators, and teacher educators. A sample of their research interests include: the learning experiences of Arab American girls; teacher education; urban education in international contexts; adult basic education; anthropology; modern music education; and juvenile, social and ecological justice. Not unlike previous cohorts, it is their intellectual curiosity, passion for urban education, and persistence that brings them together as scholars.