

# FDC HAPPENINGS

February 6, 2023



A group of five smiling individuals sit in a library setting. Two of the individuals high-five.

## Mini-Grants to Support Student Wellness

*Applications are due by Wednesday, March 8, by 5:00pm. Applicants will be informed of the status of their applications by Wednesday, March 29.*

The Faculty Development Center and the Office of Wellness and Community Responsibility, in collaboration with the Department of Recreation and Intramurals (Rec/IM), invite applications for mini-grants of up to \$250 to help instructors support student wellness in their classrooms. These mini-grants will offer EMU instructors resources for making small changes in their courses in ways that will support student wellness. We are particularly interested in “seeding” promising ideas that might in the future grow to become more comprehensive approaches. Recipients will be expected to implement their project during the Summer or Fall 2023 semesters.

To learn more about the mini-grants, or to apply, please visit our [website](#).

## IN THIS ISSUE

*Page 2*

- Campus Highlights: CONNECT Program

*Page 3*

- Upcoming Events

*Page 4*

- Upcoming Events
- Book Spotlight: The Neurodiverse Classroom
- Teaching Spotlight: Dr. Cam McComb

*Pages 5 and 6*

- Teaching Blog: Mental Wellness Week

# CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS:

# CONNECT TEACHING CONFERENCE: PROGRAM

2

Below is the brief program for the 2023 CONNECT Teaching Conference. Click [here](#) to register. Click [here](#) for the full online program.

**NOTE:** W= Workshop P= Presentation

*From the FDC*

**BREAKFAST: 8:30 AM**

**WELCOME: 9 AM**

## SESSION #1 9:20 - 10:20 AM

**P: Celeste Gentile** - "Effective Teaming and Meeting Mechanics"

**P: Mark Whitters** - "Learning Partnerships Outside the EMU Classroom"

**W: Dibya Choudhuri** - "Making Mistakes in the Classroom: Rupture and Repair"

**W: Brigid Beaubien & Amanda Maher** - "Civics Across the Disciplines"

## 10:30 - 11:20 AM SESSION #2

**P: Mark Whitters** - "Empowering Students as Class Coaches"

**P: Zuzana Tomas** - "Empowering College Faculty to Support and Advocate for International Students"

**W: Michael McVey, Sarah Bushinski & Ann Blakeslee** - "Let's Chat About ChatGPT"

**W: Lake Braendle & Kaycee Johnson** - "Addressing Challenges Faced by Neurodivergent Students"

**Sandbox (featuring):** Michael Foster  
Mary G. Strasma  
John Koolage

## LUNCHTIME PLENARY: 11:30 AM-12:15 PM

**Sean Woolf, Wayne Doyle, Lucas Langdon & Jeanette Zalba** - Building a Broader Tent to Support Student Success

**LUNCH: 12:15 - 1:00 PM**

## SESSION #3 1:00 - 1:50 PM

**P: Dibya Choudhuri** - "Trauma Informed Teaching in Higher Education"

**P: Jillian Graves & Alankrita Pandey** - "Collaborative Interdisciplinary Learning"

**W: Vernnaliz Carrasquillo & Kristi Judd** - "Developing Inclusive Excellence in STEM"

**W: Elizabeth M. Donovan** - "Empowering Students Through Interviewing and Writing"

## 2:00 - 2:50 PM SESSION #4

**W: Mark Whitters** - "Engagement and Partnerships in the Asynchronous Community: The Potential of Gaming"

**Sandbox (featuring):** Leslie Blome  
Dyann Logwood  
Cynthia Macknish

**W: Marisol Garrido-Gutierrez** - "Discussing Accessibility, Equity and Inclusion in Online Course Design"

**Rebecca Pietrowski & Garrett Whitehead** - "CIDI Labs"

# UPCOMING EVENTS

READING IN  
PRINT?  
scan the QR code to  
access the links in  
this issue



3

## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

February 6, 3:30 - 4:45 PM  
Location: Halle 109B & [Zoom](#)  
Facilitated by Hannah Bolin, Dyann  
Logwood, and Jay Sloan

**LGBTQ+**  
**Programming**  
**(Session 1): LGBTQ 101**

### **CONNECT** **Teaching** **Conference**

Date: February 9 & 10  
Location: Halle Library  
Feb 9: Keynote Address @ 5 PM  
Feb 10: Starts with breakfast @ 8:30 AM



## SAVE THE DATE



Join us at the Faculty Development Center to celebrate our most important holiday, Opening Day of Baseball Season! We'll have snacks (including apple pie!), good company, dispensing of wisdom on baseball and teaching, selfies with Eggbert, and, of course, a chance to watch the first pitch of the New York Mets season together! A good time will be had by all! #LGM

### Opening Day

Thursday,  
March 30  
2 PM - 5 PM

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us for the second and third parts of this series. The second session, on February 15, Apologies & Excuses, will focus on feeling the need to apologize or make excuses in the face of a global pandemic. The third, on March 8, Work/Life/School Balance, will reflect on our strengths and weakness in time management. Click [here](#) to register.

### The New Tradition of the Non- Traditional Student

Session 2:  
February 15, 12:30-1:30 PM  
Location: Halle 217 & [Zoom](#)

### Research Writers Collaborative

See [website](#) for  
more  
information

Please consider signing up for the Research Writer's Collaborative this semester. The Writers' Collaborative is an opportunity for EMU faculty to support each other while achieving realistic writing goals (i.e. developing a conference paper, drafting an article, revising a book chapter, etc.). There will be two groups, meeting virtually. Click [here](#) to join the Tuesday group (10 AM - 12 PM). Click [here](#) to join the Thursday group (1:30 PM - 3:30 PM). Please email Dr. Sarah Walsh (swalsh8@emich.edu) if you are interested in participating in the RWC this semester.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

4

## UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)

### LGBTQ+ Programming

Second Session:  
February 20  
3:30 - 4:45 PM  
109B Halle Library & [Zoom](#)

Join us for the second and third workshops in this series. The second workshop, "Infusing LGBTQ+ Issues and Content Across the Curriculum," will explore the implementation of these topics across all educational disciplines. The third workshop, "Faculty-Student Interactions," will gather insight from students and faculty on how we can better create inclusive spaces. Click [here](#) to learn more.

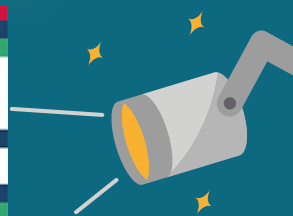
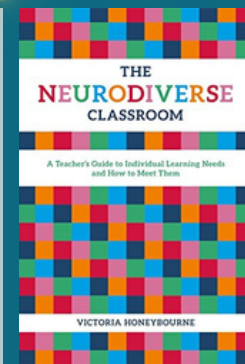
### Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activity Showcase

Thursday, March 23  
4-6 PM  
See [website](#) for details

The Bruce K. Nelson Faculty Development Center and the Office of Research Development and Administration (ORDA) is proud to announce the 2023 Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activity Showcase. We invite all tenured, tenure-track, emeritus, and lecturers to display posters, journal articles, books, artwork, and videos or compact discs of performing art, etc., that highlight scholarly activities that were disseminated/completed during 2022. Display space will be provided. Click [here](#) to register.

## SPOTLIGHTS

This week's book spotlight is *The Neurodiverse Classroom: A Teacher's Guide to Individual Learning Needs and How to Meet Them* by Victoria Honeybourne. In this book, educators can learn how to create an inclusive classroom environment that promotes acceptance and self-esteem of a student rather than labeling them by the difficulties they face within the traditional classroom. Click [here](#) to read the full spotlight or to see other books in our library.



This week we are spotlighting Dr. Cam McComb. Dr. McComb shares her experience with teaching at the K-12 level, how it influences her during her work in higher ed, and her passion for art education. Dr. McComb also shared joys of being named Higher Education Art Educator of the Year by the Michigan Art Education Association. To read the full story, click [here](#).

**Dr. Cam McComb**  
**Professor**  
**K - 12 Art Education**

**A NOTE FROM JEFF:**

*I am happy to share with you this blog entry by Cedrick Charles, Student Body Vice President, a student of mine in two classes, and a wonderful representative of EMU. Cedrick talks about a problem many of us have observed, and sometimes struggled to address, with our students (one helpful resource is provided by the Jed Foundation). Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see our Call for Applications for Mini-Grants to Support Student Wellness. Consider applying if you have an idea that might address the challenges so many of our students are facing; applications are due on March 8.*

*It is tempting to view our jobs as being limited to teaching our disciplines to students. This is vitally important, of course. But I urge you to take a more expansive view of what we do. Student wellness is a concern we should share - if your students are struggling emotionally, they will struggle in their classes, making our disciplinary teaching less satisfying, and less effective. Moreover, as the Jed Foundation notes, just showing students you care will mean a lot to them, and may make a difference for someone. I hope you will take Cedrick's words to heart and encourage your students to participate in Mental Wellness Week this year.*

The current mental health crisis affects millions across America and thousands of students on campus. Between 2009 and 2014, the number of counseling center appointments at American universities rose six times faster than institutional enrollment. By 2017, the number of students who had used mental health services in a given year rose to 34% in the United States, up from 19% just a decade earlier. Seventy-three percent of college students will experience a psychiatric crisis during their time

*By Cedrick Charles*

in college. Today, according to the National Institute of Mental Health, suicide is the second leading cause of death among people aged 10 to 34. This increased demand for mental health services has left many universities unequipped to tackle this crisis.

While the University has repeatedly expressed its support for strong mental health services and has increased spending on this in recent years, its support of CAPS hasn't been sufficient to provide comprehensive coverage in an area of student life that the administration should fund, especially given the increasing needs we are facing (as noted above).

We need a fundamental reimagining of what mental health looks like in the 21st Century. This requires us to work together as a community to show support and offer outlets for students to support mental health. This broad appr-

**SUBMIT A BLOG POST**

*We welcome blog posts from faculty, lecturers, staff, and students on teaching and learning topics. Email us at [faculty\\_development@emich.edu](mailto:faculty_development@emich.edu) with your blog post idea for the opportunity to be featured in future newsletters!*

Each makes tools and coping skills more accessible and breaks down mental health stigma in college. Counseling services are undoubtedly important when they are needed. Still, supporting students and offering them mechanisms to deal with some of their challenges can also be valuable.

So, as we look at what this reimagining can look like, Student Government is hosting a Mental Wellness Week for Students! This will take place from February 20 to February 23. Students can attend the events all week; these events are open to all at no cost.

We will highlight student organizations by partnering with them to hold tabling events. We'll be potting plants with the Botany Club, writing messages of hope with Omega Phi Alpha, and hosting a 'Sip 'n Spill' with Active Minds where students can share mental health stories over refreshments. We will also have a keynote speaker, Josh Rivedal, who combines standup comedy and mental health/suicide prevention.

We invite you to visit Student Government's Instagram page, @emu\_studentgovernment, to find out more about these events and find

a schedule for the week to share with your students. Even sharing more about these wellness events can open the door for important conversations about mental health in your classrooms and around campus. As students, we would very much value the support of the faculty to help us make sure that students know about this week and to encourage them to attend.

The goal of this week is to release the stigma around mental health, educate students on resources available to them, and continue to advocate for mental health resources on campus. This issue impacts many members of the EMU community, and we hope this week can shed light and increase awareness of mental health.

*In addition to publicizing Mental Wellness Week, we invite proposals for any programs you would like to host during the week. Sessions can range from 30 minutes to an hour, and we value any expertise that faculty can offer on mental health and self-care, especially regarding college life. Please email Student Government Vice President Cedrick Charles at [ccharle1@emich.edu](mailto:ccharle1@emich.edu) if you are interested in being a part of wellness week by submitting a proposal or if you have other ideas for how to show support for your students and their mental health.*



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Cedrick Charles** is a junior at EMU who is passionate about hearing the voices of students, and creating tangible, lasting change. As

the Student Body Vice-President, his biggest initiative was to put on this Mental Wellness Week because he thought it to be one of the most pressing issues our student body is facing.

While Student Government continues to advocate for increased institutional resources to support student mental health, the support that comes from the entire campus community is irreplaceable. We are excited to work together with students and faculty to offer more knowledge and resources that students can take advantage of throughout their time at EMU.