2022 MEETING / APRIL 20 - 22
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
UMASS AMHERST CENTER AT SPRINGFIELD

THE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT NETWORK
The University of Massachusetts Amherst acknowledges that it was founded and built on the unceded homelands of the Pocumtuc Nation on the land of the Norrwutuck community.

We begin with gratitude for nearby waters and lands, including the Kwinitekw -- the southern portion of what’s now called the Connecticut River. We recognize these lands and waters as important Relations with which we are all interconnected and depend on to sustain life and wellbeing.

The Norrwutuck community was one of many Pocumtuc Indian towns, including the Tribal seat at Pocumtuc (in present day Deerfield), Agawam (Springfield), and Woronoco (Westfield) to name just a few. The Pocumtuc, who had connections with these lands for millennia, are part of a vast expanse of Algonquian relations. Over 400 years of colonization, Pocumtuc Peoples were displaced. Many joined their Algonquian relatives to the east, south, west and north—extant communities of Wampanoag, including Aquinnah, Herring Pond, and Mashpee, Massachusetts; the Nipmuc with a reservation at Grafton/Hassanamisco, Massachusetts; the Narragansett in Kingstown, Rhode Island; Schaghticoke, Mohegan and Pequot Peoples in Connecticut; the Abenaki and other Nations of the Wabanaki Con-federacy extending northward into Canada; and the Stockbridge Munsee Mohican of New York and Massachusetts, who were removed to Wisconsin in the 19th century. Over hundreds of years of removal, members of Southern New England Tribes would make the journey home to tend important places and renew their connections to their ancestral lands. Such care and connection to land and waters continues to the present day.

Today, Indigenous Nations in southern New England continue to employ diverse strategies to resist ongoing colonization, genocide, and erasure begun by the English, French, Dutch, Portuguese and other European Nations, and that continued when Tribal homelands became part of the United States. Native Americans from Tribal Nations across the U.S. and Indigenous peoples from around the world also travel into these Pocumtuc homelands to live and work. This land has always been and always will be, Native Land.

We also acknowledge that the University of Massachusetts Amherst is a Land Grant University. As part of the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862, Tribal lands from 82 Native Nations west of the Mississippi were sold to provide the resources to found and build this university.

This Land Acknowledgement is the first step in the university’s commitment to practice intellectual humility whilst working with Tribal Nations toward a better shared future on Turtle Island. We aim to foster understanding, deep respect, and honor for sovereign Tribal Nations; to develop relationships of reciprocity; and to be inclusive of Native perspectives and thriving Native Nations far into the future. Members of Massachusetts-based Tribal Nations who are kin to the historic Pocumtuc contributed their insights in composing this acknowledgement -- namely Tribal representatives from Mashpee, Aquinnah, and Stockbridge Munsee. As an active first step toward decolonization, we encourage you to learn more about the Indigenous peoples on whose homelands UMass Amherst now resides on and the Indigenous homelands on which you live and work.

learn more about our land acknowledgement at: https://www.umass.edu/diversity/land-acknowledgement
Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of our entire Campus Compact team and Board, it is my pleasure to welcome you to The Research University Civic Engagement Network 2022 annual meeting. As the new president of Campus Compact, I’m thrilled to be in community with all of you over the next few days as I experience my first TRUCEN convening.

While Zoom and virtual meetings and conferences have played a critical role in keeping us connected and engaged with one another over the past couple of years, I hope you share my elation in finally being able to meet together in person, and on the beautiful campus of University of Massachusetts Amherst and the UMass Amherst Center at Springfield! I extend a heartfelt thank you to Chancellor Subbaswamy, Provost McCarthy, Professor Joseph Krupczynski and the incredible team at UMass Amherst for their willingness and work to host the 2022 TRUCEN meeting.

Our meeting’s strategic focus on racial justice, youth engagement, and community-engaged research anchored in equity and community voice will serve to collectively ground us in the most important work ahead. As we begin the long recovery from the pandemic, I think we are all feeling the urgency to rethink and transform our engagement practice in light of a crisis that has disrupted not only our institutions and the lives of our students, but also the agendas, well-being, and capacities of our diverse community-based partners and coalitions.

We undertake this “re-engagement” work in our classrooms and neighboring communities in the wake of a hard fought and long-overdue racial justice reckoning that is pushing us, as individuals and institutional leaders, to ensure that equity and anti-racism commitments are situated at the center of our engagement practices like never before. I am excited that the themes and sessions of this year’s meeting are guiding us to take these issues head on.

The greatest strength of TRUCEN, as I’ve been told and seen first hand these past few months, is the consistent, relational, and sustained space it provides for participants to interact in authentic, collegial, and supportive ways. Over the past two years, TRUCEN’s sustained conversations have allowed continued space and time for brainstorming and reflecting on practice in ways that recognize both the successes and short-comings of the work we do and the ways in which we seek to shape our institutions. I encourage us to remain mindful of the ways we can continue to incorporate meaningful virtual interactions into the network’s ongoing activities, even as we take advantage of the joys and benefits of gathering again in person.

TRUCEN remains Campus Compact’s most enduring and celebrated affinity group, serving as a model for how higher education institutions can advance common priorities through sustained collegial networks that are willing to strategize together and support each other’s work. For this reason and others, I am delighted to be joining this year’s conversation.

Sincerely,
Bobbie Laur
WEDNESDAY 4/20

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITY
3:00 – 5:00 PM
Walking Tour
Downtown Springfield

2:00/3:30 PM
Shuttles to Hotel
BDL Airport

3:00 – 6:00 PM
Registration
UMass Center at Springfield

4:30 – 6:00 PM
Welcome Reception
UMass Center at Springfield

6:30 – 8:00 PM
Dinner / The Glass Room

THURSDAY 4/21

7:00 – 8:00 AM
Breakfast / Sheraton Hotel

8:15 AM
Bus Departure / Sheraton Entry

9:15 AM
Bus Arrival / Haigis Mall
UMass Amherst

9:30 – 10:00 AM
Opening Remarks / Old Chapel

10:00 – 11:15 AM
Session #1 / Old Chapel

11:15 – 11:45 AM
Table Reflection / Old Chapel

12:00 – 1:00 PM
Lunch / Goodell Lawn

1:00 – 2:15 PM
Session #2 / Old Chapel

2:15 – 2:45 PM
Table Reflection / Old Chapel

3:00 – 4:15 PM
Keynote / Bernie Dallas Room

4:15 – 4:45 PM
Networking Break

4:45 PM
Bus Departure / Haigis Mall

5:25 PM
Bus Arrival / Gateway City Arts
Holyoke

5:30 – 6:30 PM
Dinner / Gateway City Arts
Theater performance 6:00 - 6:30

6:30 – 7:30 PM
Video Screening/Panel
Gateway City Arts

8:00 PM
Bus Departure / Gateway City Arts

8:30 PM
Bus Arrival / Sheraton Hotel
Springfield

FRIDAY 4/22

8:00 – 9:00 AM
Breakfast
UMass Center at Springfield

9:00 – 10:15 AM
Session #3
UMass Center at Springfield

10:15 – 10:45 AM
Table Reflection
UMass Center at Springfield

11:00 – 1:00 PM
Session #4 / Lunch
UMass Center at Springfield
Sustained Conversation Groups
Report-out / Discussion

1:00 – 1:30 AM:
Closing / Final Reflections
UMass Center at Springfield

1:45 PM
Shuttle to Airport / Sheraton Entry

2:00/3:30 PM
Shuttles to Hotel
BDL Airport
WEDNESDAY
4/20

Shuttles to Hotel

Meeting Registration

Pre-Conference Activity

Walking Tour of Downtown Springfield Non-Profits

Performance Project: The Performance Project is a community of many ages and ancestries that engages young people in intensive artistic training, intergenerational mentoring, leadership development, and community building through the arts. www.performanceproject.org

Valley Ventures Mentors: Valley Venture Mentors (VVM) is a Western Massachusetts nonprofit with a mission to help entrepreneurs turn their ideas into thriving, scalable businesses. VVM’s programs strive to prepare startups for significant growth and investment through mentorship, building social capital, and intensive training. www.valleyventurementors.org

Make-it Springfield: Make-It Springfield supports the creative needs of a diverse Springfield community. Its dynamic, eclectic learning environment invites people of any background or skill level to explore and create, while promoting inclusion and collaboration in all forms of culture, art, and technology. www.makeitspringfield.org

The Ethnic Study: T.E.S. is a Black and Womxn-owned co-working space that offers small businesses, entrepreneurs, nonprofits and, creatives reliable & flexible shared workspaces, through memberships and day passes. Visitors, and members can share resources, intellect, and culture at our single-level workspace! www.theethnicstudy.org

Welcome Reception
Welcome Message from Joseph Krupczynski, Director of Civic Enagement and Service-Learning at UMass Amherst and Clayton Hurd, Director of Professional Learning and Engaged Scholarship at Campus Compact.

Dinner
THURSDAY
4/21

AGENDA

Charles Room
Sheraton (2nd FL)
Sheraton Entry
Haigis Mall
Old Chapel

Breakfast
Bus Departure
Bus Arrival
Opening Remarks & Land Acknowledgement

Opening Remarks from UMass Amherst Provost John McCarthy and President of Campus Compact Bobbie Laur + Land Acknowledgement from Terrell James.

SESSION #1

RACIAL JUSTICE AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

This session brings together scholars who are examining the relationship between racial justice, youth voice, and transformative participation. Through methods that include Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR), critical arts-based community literacy, and promoting the classroom as a communal place of reciprocal learning, the panelists examine critical issues that put youth voices and action at the center of their engaged teaching and research.

Panelists:

Olga M. Correa / Director / Student Bridges / UMass Amherst
Keisha L. Green / Associate Professor / Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies at College of Education / UMass Amherst
Dr. Joanne E. Marciano / Assistant Professor / Department of Teacher Education / Michigan State University
TreaAndrea M. Russworm / Associate Professor / Department of English / UMass Amherst
Vaughn W. M. Watson / Associate Professor / Department of Teacher Education / Michigan State University

Moderator:

Mari Castañeda / Professor of Communication / Dean of Commonwealth Honors College / UMass Amherst

Table Reflection

The panelists will join us at the tables and engage in a conversation with TRUCEN members about how racial justice and youth voices are prioritized on your campus. How does youth engagement shape campus leadership, reciprocal community engagement, and innovative curricular and co-curricular practices?
SUPPORTING COMMUNITY WELL-BEING THROUGH ENGAGED RESEARCH

This session of community-academic teams will discuss how they integrate equity in their collaborations; how they navigate power and positionality in the context of diverse lived experiences; and the challenges of building community capacity and well-being through their joint efforts. Whether working on issues of public health, climate change or public policy, the panelists see the future of community-engaged and participatory research as an important tool for reciprocal power sharing that mitigates the persistent inequities in community-academic partnerships.

Panelists:
Lorraine Cordeiro / Director / Center for Research on Families / UMass Amherst
Donna Haghighat / Chief Executive Officer / Women’s Fund of Western Massachusetts
Kelley Bryant / Community Engagement & Research Manager / Women’s Fund of Western Massachusetts
Brenda D. Evans / Community Research Liaison / Center for Community Health Equity Research / UMass Amherst
Ana Jaramillo / Program Supervisor / Holyoke Health Center
Krista M. Harper / Professor / Department of Anthropology and the School of Public Policy / Associate Director, Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR) / UMass Amherst
Terry Gibson / Field & Cultural Organizer / Neighbor to Neighbor

Moderator:
Luis Arturo Valdez / Assistant Professor / Community Health Education / School of Public Health and Health Sciences / UMass Amherst

Table Reflection
The panelists will join us at the tables and engage in a conversation with TRUCEN members about how they build reciprocal relationships with their community partners. What strategies do you use in support of capacity building and community well-being, power-sharing, and addressing historical inequities with your community research partners?

Break
THURSDAY

4/21

AGENDA

KEYNOTE

COMING INTO CONSCIOUSNESS:
RETHINKING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN THE WAKE OF PANDEMICS

Informed by the stewardship and activism that has guided the formation and ongoing work at the intersection of 38th and Chicago in South Minneapolis where George Floyd’s life was taken in May of 2020, this keynote explores the possibility for a redefinition and new approach to partnerships in community-engaged work. Centering community voice, strategies for mutual aid, and a commitment to social justice, Mitchell considers how higher education community engagement can be an active contributor to building more just and equitable futures.

Tania Mitchell
Associate Professor of Higher Education / College of Education and Human Development / University of Minnesota

Networking Break

Bus Departure

Bus Arrival

DINNER / PERFORMANCE / SCREENING / PANEL

DINNER

PERFORMANCE: SOMEWHERE: A Devised Theater Exploration of Being Re/ Evolutionary by UMass students and Re/Emergence Collective.

SCREENING & PANEL: Screening and panel discussion of "Mosiac," a documentary that captures the stories of people of color across Western Massachusetts leading the way toward healthier communities and advocating for equity, justice, representation, and transformation.  

www.wmhenfilm.org

Bus Departure

Bus Arrival

Bernie Dallas Room

Goodell Hall

3:00 - 4:15 PM

4:15 – 4:45 PM

4:45 PM

5:25 PM

5:30 – 6:30 PM

6:00 – 6:30 PM

6:30 - 7:30 PM

8:00 PM

8:30 PM

Goodell Lawn

Haigis Mall

Gateway City Arts

Gateway City Arts

Gateway City Arts

Gateway City Arts

Gateway City Arts

Sheraton Entry

TRUCEN 2022 PROGRAM  I  7
SESSION #3

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY VOICE IN OUR ENGAGEMENT WORK

This session will focus on strategies and approaches to assure community voice in academic teaching and research activities. Community organization representatives will share their perspectives on what they seek from campus community partnerships and two panelists will speak specifically about “Holyoke Bound” and “Springfield Bound,” which provide opportunities for students to be oriented to their community engagement through presentations and workshops by community members.

Panelists:
- Tanisha Arena / Executive Director / ARISE for Social Justice
- Samantha Hamilton / Manager / Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts (PHIWM) Live Well Springfield Coalition
- Terrell James / Ph.D. Student + Program Director / IMPACT / UMass Amherst + Organizer / Springfield Bound
- Maria Salgado-Cartagena / Director of Community Advocacy / Hampshire College + Organizer / Holyoke Bound

Moderator:
- Deborah Keisch / Senior Lecturer and Program Director / Community Scholars Program / UMass Amherst

Table Reflection

The panelists will join us at the tables and engage in a conversation with TRUCEN members about how you assure community voices are heard in your engagement work. What practices or processes do you use to assess community impact and allow for meaningful contributions from community partners in your research and learning environments?
SUSTAINED CONVERSATION GROUPS / LUNCH

TRUCEN's Sustained Conversation Groups are virtual convenings organized around key topics for our members. This afternoon we will have a report-out and discussion of the 2021-2022 groups. Members who are not in-person at the annual meeting can join via zoom: https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/97834201693

**Anti-Racist Pedagogies**
Co-Conveners: Deborah Keisch (UMass Amherst) & Jesús Hernández (Brown)
This group has been exploring practices, pedagogies, and programming for anti-racist Community Engaged (CE) teaching and learning that counteract institutionalized and persistent racism on our campuses and in our community engagement.

**Strengthening Engagement in a Challenged Democracy**
Co-Conveners: Nancy Thomas (Tufts) & Renee Brown (Michigan State)
This group has continued work that it began last year, to explore what higher education's role can be at this time in history as Democracy faces serious threats: political polarization and extremism, undemocratic governance structures, and persistent racial injustice and social inequalities.

**LUNCH**
Grab a sandwich and take a break in the lounge, or return to your group for conversation/reflection.

**Supporting Equity-Focused Community Engaged Research**
Convener: Joseph Krupczynski (UMass Amherst)
This group has been in conversation around innovative methods and theoretical frameworks for Community Based Research (CBR) that encourage equity-focused and ethical research practice.

**Closing / Final Reflections**

**Shuttle to Airport**
Tania D. Mitchell is an associate professor of higher education in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota. Her teaching emphasizes college students and their development, issues of equity and access, leadership, and policy and practice in the functional areas of student-facing units in institutions of higher education. Her research focuses on the experiences of minoritized students in higher education and service-learning as a critical pedagogy to explore civic identity, social justice, student learning and development, race and racism, and community practice. She interrogates practices in higher education that aim to contribute to a more just world. Dr. Mitchell is a recipient of the Early Career Research Award (2011) and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award (2019) from the International Association for Research in Service-Learning and Community Engagement (IARSLCE) as well as the American Fellowship from the American Association of University Women. In 2021 she was inducted into the Academy of Community Engagement Scholarship (ACES). Her scholarship has been published in numerous books and journals and she is the editor (with Krista Soria) of Educating for Citizenship and Social Justice: Practices for Community Engagement at Research Universities (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018) and Civic Engagement and Community Service at Research Universities: Engaging Undergraduates for Social Justice, Social Change, and Responsible Citizenship (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016). She is also the editor (with Corey Dolgon and Tim Eatman) of the Cambridge Handbook of Service Learning and Community Engagement (Cambridge University Press, 2017) and (with Stephanie Y. Evans and Andrea D. Domingue) Black Women and Social Justice Education: Legacies and Lessons (SUNY Press, 2019).
OPENING REMARKS

JOHN McCARTHY
PROVOST
SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
UMASS AMHERST

John McCarthy has been Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of Massachusetts Amherst since July 2017. Prior to being named Provost, he was Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School. A native of Massachusetts and a graduate of Harvard (BA) and MIT (PhD), McCarthy joined the faculty of the UMass Linguistics Department in 1985, after stints at UT Austin and AT&T Bell Labs. He is a recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and several National Science Foundation grants, and he was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Linguistic Society of America, and the Cognitive Science Society. Provost McCarthy is a recipient of the University’s highest teaching and research awards, and his former PhD students honored him with a Festschrift entitled Phonological Argumentation: Essays on Evidence and Motivation.

BOBBIE LAUR
PRESIDENT
CAMPUS COMPACT

Bobbie Laur was named President of Campus Compact in January 2022. Campus Compact is the nation’s largest national organization dedicated to higher education civic and community engagement. Compact's work centers on higher education's responsibility to create a just, equitable, and sustainable future. Bobbie’s passion, research, and work have been grounded in the place-based mission of higher education. With deep experience in the institutionalization of community engagement and creating institution-wide strategies to advance the work, Bobbie has consulted and supported campuses throughout the country in creating sustainable structures and pathways to strengthen civic and community engagement. Bobbie previously served as the Executive Director of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities and held leadership roles at Towson University and San Diego State University. Bobbie serves on a number of national and Baltimore-based boards that advocate for creating vibrant and healthy communities.

SESSION #1: RACIAL JUSTICE AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

OLGA M. CORREA
DIRECTOR
STUDENT BRIDGES
UMASS AMHERST

Olga M. Correa is a community-engaged scholar committed to elevating youth voices in the fight for educational justice. At UMass Amherst, she serves as the interim Director and Course Instructor of Student Bridges Agency and is a Ph.D Candidate in Educational Leadership. Olga’s research focuses on contemporary school segregation in K-12 public schools and working alongside youth to challenge and dismantle educational policies and practices that uphold racial discrimination and exclusion in schools. Olga holds a bachelor’s degree in Sociology from William Paterson University and a Master’s degree in Higher Education Administration from UMass Amherst.
KEISHA L. GREEN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
TEACHER EDUCATION & CURRICULUM STUDIES
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION / UMASS AMHERST

Keisha L. Green, Ph.D., is a mama-scholar-activist and critical teacher educator with research interests in English Education, youth literacy practices, critical literacy, and critical pedagogy. She is published in journals including International Journal for Qualitative Studies; Equity & Excellence in Education; Race, Ethnicity, and Education; and Educational Forum. She has authored chapters in edited volumes including Humanizing Research: Decolonizing Qualitative Inquiry with Youth and Communities and Youth Voices, Public Spaces, and Civic Engagement. Dr. Green currently serves as an Associate Professor of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies at UMass Amherst College of Education, where she is the co-founder and co-director of the Center of Racial Justice and Youth Engaged Research and co-editor of the acclaimed journal Equity & Excellence in Education. Dr. Green also serves as a consultant for area educational institutions supporting their diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.

JOANNE E. MARCIANO
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Joanne E. Marciano is Assistant Professor of English Education in the Department of Teacher Education at Michigan State University and a former New York City public high school English teacher. Her research examines opportunities for educators to disrupt inequities by enacting participatory approaches to curriculum and teaching that acknowledge and extend youths’ literacy practices as strengths. She has published her work in journals including Urban Education, Journal of Teacher Education, Research in the Teaching of English, and Journal of Multicultural Education. She is co-author with Dr. Michelle Knight-Manuel of the books Classroom Cultures: Equitable Schooling for Racially Diverse Youth and College Ready: Preparing Black and Latina/o Youth for Higher Education – A Culturally Relevant Approach. She was awarded the 2021 Outstanding Publication of the Year Award by the Narrative Research SIG of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) for her paper “This is America: Examining artifactual literacies as austere love across contexts of schools and everyday use, co-authored with Dr. Vaughn W.M. Watson. Dr. Marciano’s research has been funded by: the AERA Education Service Research Project initiative; the AERA Division K Re-envisioning Teaching and Teacher Education in the Shadow of the COVID-19 Pandemic small grants program; the AERA Division G Small Grant Program; the Engagement Scholarship Consortium; Michigan State University’s College of Education; and the Michigan College Access Network. She received her doctorate from the Department of Curriculum and Teaching at Teachers College, Columbia University, and is the recipient of a 2019-2021 Reading Hall of Fame Emerging Scholars Fellowship.

TREAANDREA M. RUSSWORM
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
UMASS AMHERST

A self-proclaimed AfroGeek, TreaAndrea M. Russworm is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a Series Editor of Power Play: Games, Politics, Culture (Duke University Press). She is also currently an Associate Editor for Outreach and Equity for the Journal of Cinema and Media Studies. With research expertise...
VAUGHN W. M. WATSON  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  


MARI CASTAÑEDA  
PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION  
DEAN OF COMMONWEALTH HONORS COLLEGE  
UMASS AMHERST  

Mari Castañeda is Professor of Communication and Dean of Commonwealth Honors College at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is also affiliated with the Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latina/o Studies, and Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies. She received her Ph.D. in 2000 from the University of California, San Diego and her B.A. from UCLA in 1993. Her fields of study include Latinx/Chicana communication studies, academic cultures of care, digital media, and communications policy. Her engaged scholarship has appeared in various journals/monographs and she is the co-editor of Mothers in Academia; Televi- novelas and Soap Operas in the Digital Age: Global Industries and New Audiences; and Civic Engagement in Diverse Latinx Communities: Learning from Social Justice Partnerships in Action.
SESSION #2: SUPPORTING COMMUNITY WELL-BEING THROUGH ENGAGED RESEARCH

LORRAINE CORDEIRO
DIRECTOR
CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON FAMILIES
UMASS AMHERST

Dr. Cordeiro is the Director of the Center for Research on Families at UMass Amherst and an Associate Professor of Nutrition in the School of Public Health and Health Sciences. Dr. Cordeiro focuses on diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts at UMass, nationally, and internationally. Dr. Cordeiro is a community-engaged scholar that studies the associations between food security, high risk health behaviors, and hunger among adolescents and women in multiple social and cultural contexts. She validates food security assessment tools within refugee and immigrant communities. Dr. Cordeiro has worked extensively on behalf of women and children in underserved populations – from Lowell, Massachusetts to Tanzania, Bangladesh and Cambodia. Dr. Cordeiro is the recipient of several distinguished awards and fellowships including the Tufts University Presidential Award for Citizenship and Public Service, the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship, UMass Amherst Distinguished Teaching Award, UMass Civic Engagement and Service-Learning Faculty Fellow, and the 2016 Community Research Innovative Scholar at the University of Massachusetts Medical School’s Center for Clinical and Translational Science.

DONNA HAGHIGHAT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
WOMEN’S FUND OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Donna Haghighat came to the Women’s Fund with over 12 years of experience developing programs, cultivating relationships, launching startups, fundraising, directing communications strategy, creating strategic plans and building advocacy programs. Under her leadership, the Women’s Fund has successfully launched The Young Women’s Initiative for girls and young women of color in Springfield, focused on gender and racial equity and moved from direct programming to partnerships and community investing. This has allowed the Women’s Fund to focus on advocacy, research and fundraising. Prior to joining the Women’s Fund, Haghighat was Principal at Collabrinth Collective, LLC. Previous roles have included Executive Director of the Aurora Women & Girl’s Foundation, Chief Engagement and Advocacy Officer for YWCA Hartford Region, a strategic consultant, Chief Development Officer for Hartford Public Library, Interim Director and Grants/Program Manager of the Women’s Education and Leadership Fund, and Co-President of AAUW CT. Haghighat was awarded the Trinity College Alumni Medal of Excellence in 2019, was the grand prize winner of the 2012 University of Hartford’s Barney School of Business International Business Plan Competition and was recognized as The Trinity Club of Hartford’s Person of the Year in 1999 and the Trinity College National Alumni Association Award in 1996.

KELLEY BRYANT
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & RESEARCH MANAGER
WOMEN’S FUND OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Kelley first connected with the Women’s Fund in 2017 while pursuing her Master’s in Higher Education Administration at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Following graduation, Kelley happily joined the Women’s Fund in 2019 as Project Coordinator. In this role, she worked closely with all of the Fund’s team members to manage the Young Women’s Initiative, event logistics, and various committees such as the Research Advisory Committee for the research report on the Status of Women and Girls in Western Massachusetts, 2019. As the Community Engagement and Research Manager, she focuses on amplifying the Fund’s mission. Kelley
Brenda D. Evans is a lifelong resident of Springfield, MA and double alum of UMass Amherst. She has 25 years of education and experience in the public health field, which includes training, health care workforce development and community engagement. She is dedicated to population health and health equity via advocacy and intersectional systematic change to achieve optimal health for all. Brenda’s public health career has included 10 plus years at the City of Springfield, Department of Health & Human Services; Director of the PV AHEC, a health care workforce development program which included a youth component and an adult workforce component. She was a founding member and director of the Community Outreach Worker Network (COWNT) Coalition of Western MA providing support and training & networking opportunities for Community Health Workers from 2006-2016. She is currently Community Research Liaison for the Center for Community Health Equity Research @ UMass Amherst SPHHS; connecting faculty researchers with community-based organizations and/or entities, with aligned interests, to perform community based participatory research or community engaged research and founding director of the CHW Coalition of greater Springfield and co-founder of the Hampden County Resource Network.

Ana Jaramillo is a Program Supervisor at the Holyoke Health Center in Holyoke, MA where she has been working since 2010. Ana is known to be highly reliable and proficient staff member that keeps the best interests of the health center and the community it serves at the forefront of everyone’s concerns—and in their hearts. Ana was born and raised in Medellin, Colombia where she graduated with a degree in Food Science Engineering from La Salle University. Due to concerns about their safety, in 1999 Ana and her husband, Juan Carvajal, and their daughter Susanita, immigrated to the United States, at first settling in Gainesville, FL where she worked in various local restaurants. As most immigrants’ experience upon arrival, the family found their professional, economic and personal life was very different from that in their home country, and it demanded adaptability on all levels. Ana and her family accepted the challenges facing them, and their strength, creativity and courage resulted in a new, positive and successful life Western Massachusetts. In 2001, Ana and her family moved to Holyoke where she used every single educational, cultural and workforce opportunity available to improve her language and polish her professional skills. Ana went on to graduate as a Chef from Connecticut Culinary Institute and worked as a Culinary Instructor for Dean Technical High School in Holyoke for five years. Ana is also a Serve-Safe Instructor and Proctor certifying Spanish-speaking restaurant workers to handle food per industry standards.
KRISTA M. HARPER  
PROFESSOR / DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY / ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR / INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE

Krista Harper studies mobilizations around the environment, urban infrastructure, food justice, and placemaking. She has carried out participatory research with community organizations in Hungary, Portugal, and the United States. Harper is an expert on Photovoice and participatory visual/multimodal research methods that engage community members in documenting and analyzing topics they care about. Harper has published two books on this approach, Participatory Visual and Digital Methods (with Prof. Aline Gubrium, Routledge, 2013) and edited volume Participatory Visual and Digital Research in Action (with co-editors Aline Gubrium and Marty Otañez, Routledge, 2015). Her latest project, “Elevating Equity Values in the Transition of the Energy System”, collaborates with community partners in Holyoke, Massachusetts to center the perspectives of urban residents in the transition to renewable energy technologies and decarbonization policies, with a focus on equity and environmental justice in marginalized communities. Harper has also led student teams in conducting participatory design ethnography research on higher education libraries, campus planning, and carbon mitigation efforts.

TERRY GIBSON  
FIELD & CULTURAL ORGANIZER  
NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Terry Gibson is a Field and Cultural Organizer for Neighbor to Neighbor working out of the Springfield office, and Co-Coordinator of Dwight St. Garden Holyoke. As an organizer, Terry is tasked with building power in the Springfield area, specifically using the arts as a way to make space, narrate or highlight the issues community members are organizing around. As Co-Coordinator of Dwight St. Garden, Terry assists in organizing volunteers and community partners to co-develop workshops and other community-based projects addressing placemaking, food, and environmental justice struggles. An artist and activist born in Silver Springs, MD, he has lived up and down the East Coast and has lived in Holyoke for three years, moving from Pittsburgh, where he volunteered and strongly supported quite a few urban agriculture projects. Steeped in the living history of his grandmother, who taught him and his brothers to be passionate about a variety of social and racial justice issues, his curiosity and openness to building relationships as a way to dismantle White Supremacy led him to organizing with groups focused on criminal justice, homelessness, substance abuse and sustainable farming. In the last 5 years Terry has been using art, photography and assemblage as another way to highlight social and racial injustices issues in the community, most recently showing work at the Springfield Museum.

LUIS ARTURO VALDEZ  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SCIENCES  
UMASS AMHERST

Dr. Valdez is an Assistant Professor in Community Health Education and serves as core faculty in the Center for Community Health Equity Research at the School of Public Health and Health Sciences of the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He also is a co-founder and Associate Director of “Nosotros Comprometidos a Su Salud”, a program within the College of Public Health at the University of Arizona developed to foster community-engaged research collaborations, service, and education to advance health equity.
A first-generation Mexican immigrant trained in health behavior and social epidemiology, Dr. Luis Arturo Valdez specializes in using community-engaged, multilevel perspectives, and mixed methods approaches, to understand and address the impact of systemic processes that perpetuate racial/ethnic disparities in historically marginalized populations. Currently, Dr. Valdez is interested in understanding how individual-level experiences interact with macro-level characteristics to influence the health-related behaviors of Latino men. Specifically, his research examines a range of health behaviors related to alcohol and substance misuse, chronic stress, healthy food choice, and physical activity, with an emphasis on developing and testing culturally-and gender-responsive interventions. He also works to identify and assess the ways in which patriarchal systems impact the health and wellbeing of minoritized communities as well as how these systems affect the ways in which research is conducted.

**SESSION #3: CULTIVATING COMMUNITY VOICE IN OUR ENGAGEMENT WORK**

**TANISHA ARENA**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**ARISE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Tanisha Arena is a black woman in community leadership as the executive director of ARISE for Social Justice, occupying the world’s messiest intersection, the space where race, gender, culture, identity, politics, and the law all collide. She has a passion for social justice, transparent, authentic leadership and speaking truth to power. She is the host of the award-winning podcast, Unapologetic, bringing the hard truths of our social issues to the forefront, connecting past to the present. She is a guest commentator on Vaya Con Munoz, a weekly radio show airing on 101.5 WHMP that focuses on local and national political issues. As a consultant for Growing A New Heart, she trains on Holding Space: holding affinity, anti-racism, self-education, support groups and on Dialogues Across Differences of social location, including race and ethnicity. She has deep roots in the field of anti-violence work. Prior to that, Tanisha worked in the private sector, during which time she was a mentor at True Colors, a support and advocacy organization for sexual minority youth in Hartford, CT. Tanisha holds a bachelor’s degree from Central Connecticut State University and a Master’s Degree in Non Profit Management from Bay Path University and a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace certification through the University of South Florida’s Muma College of Business. She is a published author, public speaker, and freelance writer.

**SAMANTHA HAMILTON**

**MANAGER**

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS**

With over 18 years of working in the region, Samantha Hamilton has made a deep commitment in investing in Springfield through diverse professional experience and community-based work. Currently, Hamilton manages the Public Health Institute of Western Mass’s (PHI-WM) Live Well Springfield Coalition. Through this initiative, she leads the Climate Change and Health Equity Initiative which engages policy and advocacy to create strategies that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve health outcomes for those of marginalized communities based in cities and towns directly impacted by climate change, and dismantle systemic racism. Before this project, she led the Transforming Community Initiative, a program that promotes health equity through policy, systems, and environmental change strategies for access.
Terrell "TL" James is a Ph.D. student in the Anthropology department at UMass Amherst, and the program director for IMPACT, a service-learning program for first-year students that focuses on social justice, contemplative practice, and self-awareness. He is also a trainer for the UMass Alliance for Community Transformation, where he supports the undergraduate student facilitation team for the course Grassroots Community Organizing. As a scholar and activist, Terrell spends much of his time working on projects in his hometown, Springfield. He is currently working as a learning and evaluation team member with a group of community leaders around improving residents’ access to locally sourced food. In the Fall of 2021, Terrell coordinated Springfield Bound, which brought together a historian, elected officials, and community organizers to share their knowledge about how Five College community members could participate in reciprocal community engagement work in Springfield. His research interests include Black radical traditions, antiblackness, community-based research and practice, and critical youth studies.

Maria Salgado-Cartagena is the Director of Community Advocacy at Hampshire College, and the long-time organizer for "Holyoke Bound," an orientation for students, staff, and faculty from the Five College community (UMass, Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke and Smith Colleges). "Holyoke Bound" allows students to explore the community and cultural assets of Holyoke before their community engagement within the city. She is also known as the People’s Historian of Holyoke’s Puerto Rican Diaspora and she loves exploring histories that are not always shared in mainstream circles. Maria began her career as a volunteer at the community-based organization Nueva Esperanza in Holyoke, where she was introduced to Campus-Community Partnerships by one of its founding directors, Carlos Vega. Under Carlos’ mentorship she began to develop her critical practice of community engagement that values reciprocal partnerships, and honors the community’s investment of time, shared organic knowledge and emotional labor.

Maria Salgado-Cartagena
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ADVOCACY
HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE
ORGANIZER / HOLYOKE BOUND

Maria Salgado-Cartagena is the Director of Community Advocacy at Hampshire College, and the long-time organizer for "Holyoke Bound," an orientation for students, staff, and faculty from the Five College community (UMass, Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke and Smith Colleges). "Holyoke Bound" allows students to explore the community and cultural assets of Holyoke before their community engagement within the city. She is also known as the People’s Historian of Holyoke’s Puerto Rican Diaspora and she loves exploring histories that are not always shared in mainstream circles. Maria began her career as a volunteer at the community-based organization Nueva Esperanza in Holyoke, where she was introduced to Campus-Community Partnerships by one of its founding directors, Carlos Vega. Under Carlos’ mentorship she began to develop her critical practice of community engagement that values reciprocal partnerships, and honors the community’s investment of time, shared organic knowledge and emotional labor.
PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

DEBORAH KEISCH
Senior Lecturer / Program Director
Community Scholars Program
Civic Engagement & Service-Learning
UMass Amherst

Deborah has been immersed in the field of education for over two decades as a practitioner, researcher, and activist—and is committed to research and teaching practices that support the work of social change. Her interests include a critical examination of U.S. public education, public education activism, engaged pedagogy, community engagement, storytelling for social change, anti-racist education in predominately white institutions, and the pedagogy and practice of solidarity, resistance and liberation struggles for hope and healing. Deborah holds a bachelor’s degree in human ecology from the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, where she became certified to teach K-8th grade while exploring Acadia National Park with groups of elementary students. She also holds a master’s in education from Teachers College, Columbia University, and a PhD in anthropology from UMass Amherst, where she studied the social and political foundations of U.S. education, the contemporary context and culture of teaching and learning, and how institutions of higher education can create spaces for students to become critical scholars and activists.

CLAYTON HURD
Director of Professional Learning & Engaged Scholarship
Campus Compact

Clayton serves as the director of professional learning and engaged scholarship at Campus Compact. In this role, he oversees a national credentialing program for higher education community engagement professionals; manages a national network of equity-focused communities of practice (CoPs) to advance promising practices in community engagement and campus-community partnerships; and edits and curates the organization’s extensive collection of print publications and online knowledge resources, among other responsibilities. He also currently serves as lecturer in the Program on Urban Studies at Stanford University. Clayton received his doctoral degree in cultural anthropology from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

JOSEPH KRUPCZYNSKI
Professor / Department of Architecture
Director / Civic Engagement & Service-Learning / UMass Amherst

As a professor, university administrator, public artist and designer, Joseph’s scholarship and creative work explores spatial justice, Latinx identity, and restorative creative place-making as he builds participatory platforms for meaningful engagement—especially in collaboration with underrepresented communities. He is one of the founding directors of the Center for Design Engagement (CDE)—a non-profit community art/design resource center in Holyoke MA. As the director of Civic Engagement and Service Learning (CESL) at UMass Amherst he supports programs and courses that allow students, faculty and staff to work collectively with communities for a more just world.
Using Devised Theater techniques UMass Amherst students facilitated by members of the Re/Emergence Collective explored the university’s slogan ‘Be Revolutionary.’ As a multigenerational group of artists/scholars/citizens we questioned how can art and creativity reimagine a new society? Under the guidance of Professor Judyie Al-Bilali the company engaged in ensemble building exercises, discussed feature and documentary films, improvised the texts of dreams, embodied the words of feminist, writer and human rights activist Audre Lorde and together navigated the demands of life in an educational institution undergoing profound change within a larger society in transition. Our offering is SOMEWHERE: A Devised Theater Exploration of Being Re/Evolutionary featuring an opportunity to engage in conversation with our audience. We discovered that some of our most revolutionary practices are listening, mindful breath, pausing to reflect and renew, holding multiple truths and respect for individual autonomy while committing to the demanding work of creating community. Our ongoing research asks; is it possible for ‘We the People’ to finally take on our leadership role? We are inspired by the words of author Toni Cade Bambara, “The role of the artist is to make the revolution irresistible.”

MOSAIC is a documentary produced by The Western Massachusetts Health Equity Network and the School of Public Health and Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Directed by Michelle Falcón Fontánez, a young local filmmaker, the short film highlights the transformational work of local leaders of color and other voices from the Connecticut River Valley to the Berkshires. Focusing on the intersection of racism and health, the film captures the stories of people of color across Western Massachusetts, in partnership with four local, grassroots organizations leading the way toward healthier communities and advocating for equity, justice, representation, and transformation. The film explores what becomes possible when we ask: What would a world without racism look like? What would it be like if quality healthcare were accessible to all? How can we embrace and support wellbeing in all its manifestations? What could healthy communities look like and accomplish?
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