

Ayanna F. Brown, Ph.D

CURRENT POSITION: Erikson Institute-Associate Vice President for Justice, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (JEDI), Ombuds, & Title IX Coordinator, and Professor

Founder and Chief Thought Leader; Thought Spectrum, LLC.

CAREER SUMMARY: I have been a professional educator working at multiple levels of education both in public and private for nearly thirty years. My teaching, scholarship, leadership and community service reflect my engagement with issues related to several areas of equity in education. My work centralizes racialization as a key factor for how students and teachers co-construct learning in classroom conversations and contributes to the complex need for students to engage in critical racial literacies. Furthermore, my scholarship includes teacher preparation pedagogies that work toward advancing community and family engagement.

TEACHING SUMMARY: My teaching career includes middle-level ELA, undergraduate, and graduate education in the areas of English, Social Science, teacher education, and interdisciplinary courses in education leadership, curriculum and instruction, and cognitive sciences. My instructional practices aim to model and implement interactive, dialogic, and constructive learning that builds culturally relevant and responsive pedagogies as normative for building learning communities that transform learning. My classrooms have been the subject for many scholarly works on transformative pedagogies and have been used to engage scholars on discourse analysis in classroom spaces.

RESEARCH SUMMARY: My research explores micro-analytic examinations of pedagogy which contextualizes diverse perspectives within literacy classrooms and schools, more broadly. I utilize sociological and ethnolinguistic theories to expand how to consider the experiences of students as micro-analytic cases from macro-level issues. To this end, I study discussions of race and the linguistic codes that reflect and expand speech communities. It is within the study of language in classroom communities that my teaching, in both undergraduate and graduate courses, works to support those studying educational contexts to think about literacy and literacies as mediated contexts and dynamically situated. My work engages educators and those studying education in considering critical lenses of pedagogy and research that are: (a) dialogic, (b) reflective, and (c) contextualized within the social, political, and economic structures that impact and change education, both publically and privately. Thematically, my research, pedagogy, and activism are centered on culturally responsive and sustaining educational practices, racial literacies, and anti-racist education curriculum and instructional development for teachers at all levels of education.

EDUCATION:

2008 Ph.D.	Vanderbilt University Interdisciplinary degree in Language, Literacy and Sociology Dissertation Title: Constructing "Race" Through Talk: A Micro-ethnographic investigation of discussions of "race" among African American secondary students
1998 M.Ed.	Vanderbilt University Peabody College

Curriculum and Instructional Leadership
Thesis Title: Establishing Family in the Classroom: An Investigation of Culturally Relevant Pedagogy

1996 B.S

Tuskegee University
Secondary Education-Language Arts
Magna Cum Laude

1995 Summer
Pre-Bacc.

Columbia University- Teacher's College
Graduate Courses in Education Leadership (6.0 credits/ 2 courses)
Graduate Studies Consortium with HBCUs, Ivy League, and The Southern Education Foundation (SEF)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Publications

Brown, A.F. & Bloome, D. (2020). Deconstructing and reconstructing language, race, and power relations in a secondary classroom in the United States. *Revista Linguagem em Foco*. V.11,2,46-62.

Brown, A.F. (2018). "Beautiful, also, are the souls of my people:" Literacies within and without. *Voices from the Middle*. National Council of Teachers of English

Brown, A.F., Bloome, D., Morris, M., Power-Carter, S., & Willis, A.I. (2017). Classrooms conversations in the study of race and the disruption of social and educational inequalities. In Fisher, M.T. & Souto-Manning, M (Eds.). *Disrupting inequality through education research: Review of Research in Education*. 41, 1, 453-476

Brown, A. F. & Tuck-Lively, J. (2012) "Selling the farm to buy the cow": black names and racialized consequences narrativized within African American communities. *Journal of Black Studies*, 43,6, pp.667-692.

Brown, A.F. & Copot, H. (Fall 2012) Deconstructing "race" in (re)constructing change. *Council on Undergraduate Research*, 32, 5, p. 30.

Brown, A.F. (December 2011) "Descendants of 'Ruth': Black girls coping through the 'black male crisis.'" *The Urban Review*, 43, pp. 597-619.

Edited Books

Brown, A.F. (2022) (Editor). *Racial literacies informed by the sociopolitical and sociocultural contexts for youth*. National Council of Teachers of English.

William-White, L., Muccular, D., Muccular, G., and **Brown, A.F.** (Eds.). (2013). *Critical consciousness in curricular research: Evidence from the field*. NY: Peter Lang

Book Chapters

Brown, A.F. (2023). Race. In L. M. Barker, D. Gorlewski, J. Gorlewski, & C. Miller (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of English Language Arts Education* (pp. 191-197). Brill.

- Brown A.F. (2022). What constitutes literacy in a society organized by race? Racial literacy as an intellectual imperative. In A.F.Brown (Ed.), *Racial literacies informed by the sociopolitical and sociocultural contexts for youth*. (pp. 8-17). National Council of Teachers of English.
- Brown A.F. (2022). Racial literacy considerations for instruction. In A.F.Brown (Ed.), *Racial literacies informed by the sociopolitical and sociocultural contexts for youth*. (p. 113). National Council of Teachers of English.
- Bloome, D., **Brown, A.F.**, Kim, M.Y, & Tang, R. (2019). Languaging Personhood in Classroom Conversations and Literacy Practices. In Beach, R. & Bloome, D. (Eds.). *Social Worlds: Retheorizing The Teaching And Learning Of Literacy And The Language Arts*. Routledge
- Brown, A. F. (2018). Culturally relevant pedagogy. In Lubniewski, K., Cosgrove, D. F., & Robinson, T. Y. (Eds.). *Supervision modules to support educators in collaborative teaching: Helping to Support & Maintain Consistent Practice in the Field*. Pp. 39-54 Information Age Publishing.
- Brown, A.F. (2013) We will understand it better by and by: Sojourning through Racial literacy. In L. William-White, D. Muccular, G. Muccular, and **A.F. Brown** (Eds.). *Critical consciousness in curricular research: Evidence from the field*. New York, NY: Peter
- Tuck-Lively, J. & **Brown, A.F.** (2013). Grandma’s Brer Rabbit wasn’t the fool you so admire: Teaching to Oppose the Conveniences Blackness Affords Whiteness In L. William-White, D. Muccular, G. Muccular, and A.F. Brown (Eds.). *Critical consciousness in curricular research: Evidence from the field*. New York, NY: Peter Lang
- Bloome, D. & **Brown, A.F.** (2011) Classroom reading and “All That Jazz,” in Grenfell, M. (Ed.) *Language, Ethnography, and Education*. New York: Routledge.
- Brown, A.F.** (2010). “Just because I am a Black male doesn’t mean I am a rapper!”: Sociocultural Dilemmas in Using “Rap” Music as an Educational Tool in Classrooms. In Alridge, D. (Ed.). *Message in the Music: Hip Hop, History, and Pedagogy*. Tapestry Press: PA.
- Brown, A.F.** & William-White, L. (2010). We are not the same minority: The tales of two sisters. In Robinson, C. & Clardy, P. (Eds.) *Tedious Journeys: Autoethnography by Women of Color in Academe*. Peter Lang, USA.
- Bloome, D., Carter, S., & **Brown, A.F.** (2010). Studying literacy practices in classrooms using critical discourse analysis: From the bottom up. In Miller, sj & Kirkland, D. (Eds.). *Change Matters: Critical Essays on Moving Social Justice Research from Theory to Policy*. New York: Peter Lang.
- Brown, A. F. (November, 2005). Using Hip-Hop in Schools: Are we appreciating culture or raping rap? *The Council Chronicle*. Retrieved March 10, 2010.

<http://www.ncte.org/magazine/archives>

Richards, H., Artiles, A.J., Klingner, J., **Brown, A. F.** (2005). Equity in special education placement: A school self-assessment guide for culturally responsive practice. Form A. National Center for Culturally Responsive Education Systems. Retrieved May, 4, 2012. www.nccrest.org.

Richards, H., Artiles, A.J., Klingner, J., **Brown, A. F.** (2005). Equity in special education placement: A school self-assessment guide for culturally responsive practice. Form B. National Center for Culturally Responsive Education Systems. Retrieved May, 4, 2012. www.nccrest.org.

Richards, H., **Brown, A.F.**, & Forde, T. (2004). Addressing Diversity in Schools: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy. National Center for Culturally Responsive Education Systems. Retrieved March 10, 2010. www.nccrest.org

On-Line Journals

Brown, A.F. (2021). Literacies as equitable practices: Turning lesson plans inside-out. *Walking the Talk: Voices for Educational Equity*, 17, 2, pp. 16-23. <https://center4success.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Voices-for-Educational-Equity-v17-2-November-2021.pdf>

Invited Blogs

Brown, A.F. (2021). A great reward. National Council of Teachers of English. <https://ncte.org/blog/2021/10/a-great-reward/>

Invited On-line National Talks

Brown, A.F. (2022). Moderator for the African American Read-In. “Because Claudette,” featuring author Tracey Baptiste and Illustrator Tonya Engel.

Brown, A.F., Cooks, J., Parker, K., Perry, T. (2021) “Literacies as freedom tickets: Black caucus reflect on the texts that set them free. National Council of Teachers of English.

Invited Book Review

Perry, T., Zemelman, S., Smith, K. (2022) *Teaching for racial equity: Becoming interrupters*. Stenhouse Publishers

In Press

Watson, V., Smith, P. & **Brown, A.F. (Eds.)**. in press. Diasporic Tellings of Race, Literacies, Joys, and Geographies in the Lives of Black African Immigrant Youth. *Special Issue in Research in Teaching English*

Current Projects (in development):

Bloome, D. Brown, A.F. & Pinto, B. Reading Comprehension as Social Practices in Social Events.

Brown, A.F. The confluence culturally responsive teaching and the societal demand for racial literacies: A case for 2020 vision. *National Council of Teachers of English invited book chapter for The Black Caucus.*

Brown, A.F. Recasting racial literacies (article)

Brown, A.F., Krieg, A, Robinson, T. & Meadows, M. A quantitative approach to assessing racial literacy: Where discussions of race and teachers' comfort offer validity for praxis. (article)

Brown, A.F., Misra, N. & Morris, J.E. Guided by Sankofa: The trajectory of racial literacies with reason and purpose for understanding our research past.

Brown, A.F. Toward a theory of racial literacies: Reading the world to read everything (book proposal)

LEADERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION

2023-Present	Erikson Institute- Associate Vice President, Ombuds, & Title IX Coordinator
2024-2025	Interim Director of Doctoral Education
2019-2023	Coordinator of the Middle Level English Language Arts Major (MELA)
2018-2023	Elmhurst University Ombudsperson (Elected)
2016- 2019	Department of Education Associate Chair of Curriculum & Professional Development
2015-2016	Chair- Elmhurst College Integrated Curriculum (Liberal Arts General Education Program)

GRADUATE SCHOOL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Erikson Institute Graduate Courses: Teaching and Learning (E497); Dissertation Seminar Special Topics in Research (E590 & E 591)

Elmhurst College Graduate Courses: Diversity Issues in Education (MTL- 596), Culturally Relevant Curriculum & Instruction (MTL 567), Building Academic Literacies for Professional Educators License (EDU 521), and Language and Academic Literacies in K-12 Classrooms: Assessment and Intervention (CSD 516)

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses: Sociocultural Foundations in Education (EDU 104), Secondary Education Building Academic Literacies in K-12 Education (SEC 421), Race & Equity in American Education (EDU 331)

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES (Graduate and Undergraduate)

Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD 516); 21st Century Chicago Honors Lecture Race and Equity in the City (Honors 404); Environmental Racism Honors Lecture (Honors 404).

2003-2005 Vanderbilt University Peabody College
Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant
Equity in Schools

2001-2003 Vanderbilt University Peabody College Graduate School Teacher
Undergraduate Courses: Secondary Education English Language Arts
Methods, Reading Across the Content Area, and Reading Methods

COLLEGIATE SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE

Fall 2021 Field & Clinical Placements for Middle Level ELA Majors
(MELA)

2015-2017 Elmhurst University Secondary Education Student-Teaching Supervisor
Field supervising secondary education student-teachers in middle level
and high school English courses. Monitoring co-teaching lesson
planning and instructional assessments. Collaborating, reflecting, and
instructional feedback processes with clinical instructions.

PUBLIC EDUCATION TEACHING & LEADERSHP EXPERIENCE

1996-1999 Metro Nashville Public Schools
Title: 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher

2000-2004 Metro Nashville Public Schools & Vanderbilt University
Title Imagine College/Project Grad/
Scholarships Coordinator at Pearl Cohn High School

**CURRICULUM WRITING & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
K-12 SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS**

2021-2023	Curriculum Mapping and Curriculum Leadership Consultant and Culturally Responsive Literacy Coach Bessemer City Schools, Bessemer, Alabama
2021	Social Studies Curriculum Mapping Consultant Studies Weekly
February 2020	African American Literacies and Community Support (African American Read in) Mollison Elementary School, CPS; Chicago, Illinois
Dec. 2019- 2020	Midsouth Educational Services & Journey Community Coordinator and Curriculum Consulting for Community Schools In Collaboration with Midsouth Educational Services Memphis, Tennessee; Shelby County Schools
Fall 2019- Jan 2020	The Children’s School Re-Launching Equity Initiatives Using Parent, Teacher, and Admin. Data Parent and Faculty Development to Build Community and Models for Equity
2018- 2020	Middle Level English Language Arts (Grades 5-8) & Reading Teacher Endorsement (Prek-12) Major at Elmhurst University (State of Illinois Approved) Secondary English Language Arts (Grades 9-12) Major at Elmhurst University (State of Illinois Approved)
Winter-Spring 2018	Proviso District 209 Priority Schools Grant- Grit/Growth Mindset Instructional CRP/CSP Coaching and Reflective Teaching
Spring-Summer 2017	Proviso District 209 Priority Schools Grant- Grit/Growth Mindset Instructional CRP/CSP Coaching and Reflective Teaching
Summer 2018	Rockford Lutheran Schools (a) Engaging Critical Race Dialogues Across Content Areas
July 2018	(b) Culturally Responsive Education and Racial Literacies: Pedagogies that Matter
Spring-Summer 2017	Lycee Chicago Francia de Chicago Strategic Thinking for Complex Contexts Considerations for Racial Literacy

Summer 2016	Dr. Pedro Albuza Campos High School Professional Development Workshop on Pedagogy of Equity PT. II Curriculum Planning for Teachers
2015-2016	Curriculum Leadership and Literacy Development Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School CPS; Chicago, Il.
Summer 2015	Dr. Pedro Albuza Campos High School Professional Development Workshop on A Pedagogy of Equity: Developing Literacies of Justice Across All Content Areas
Spring- Summer 2013	OakHaven Early College High School, Memphis Tennessee Culturally Responsive Teaching and Academic Excellence
Summer 2011	Dr. Pedro Albuza Campos High School Professional Development Workshop on Culturally Responsive Teaching
Fall 2010	Lindhop School District 92 Building Partnerships for Content Area Reading
Winter 2010	District 91: Betsy Ross Elementary School Professional Development Workshop on Content Area Instruction
2005 (Summer) Title	Cheekwood Museum/100 Black Men of Tennessee Curriculum Development Nashville, Tennessee
2004 (Summer) Title	Act Like a Grrrl-Actors Bridge Ensemble of Tennessee Curriculum Coordinator/Grrl Facilitator Nashville, Tennessee

LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN K-HIGHER EDUCATION

2020-2023	President of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society of Elmhurst University
Summer 2021	The Center “Literacies as Equitable Practice: Turning Lesson Plans Inside-Out”
2021- Present	Winthrop Harbor Schools Culturally Responsive Foundations and Racial Literacy Instructional Leadership Winthrop Harbor, Illinois (Grayslake Region)
2021-Present	Lake County Technical High School Content Area Literacies and Professional Development for Vocational Educational Instructors
2021-Present	Lake County Regional Office of Education

Professional Development Consultant
Culturally Relevant Teacher and Leadership Institute

- Summer 2020
Fall 2020 Elmhurst University Faculty Retreat
“Resisting the Instructional Caste System at Predominantly White Institutions”
- Summer 2020 Elmhurst NOYCE NSF Grant Lecture
“The Relevancy of Literate Practices in STEM Pedagogy: A Case for Texts”
- Summer 2020 University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health
“Advancing Health, Advancing Racial Justice”
- Summer 2018 The Center for Success in High Needs Schools
Culturally Responsive Education and Racial Literacies: Pedagogies that Matter
- Winter-Summer 2014 Golden Apple Foundation
Scholars’ Leadership in edTPA Preparation and Readiness
- Summer 2010 North Central College
Professional Development Workshop on Developing Reading Instruction for Pre-Service Summer Scholars
- Fall 2008-2017 Associated Colleges of Illinois/Summer Institutes for Educators of Tomorrow- Ongoing professional development of state educators on issues of race, equity, and culturally responsive education. representing the experiences of children of color.

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIP

- Fall 2022-2027 US Department of Education's Office of Elementary Education
The Great Lakes Equity Center
Award: 50K
- Spring 2022-2027 National Science Foundation: Noyce Grant
Promoting Inclusiveness and Diversity in STEM Education (PRIDE)
Co-Principal Investigator
Award: 1.3 million
- Spring 2020-Fall 2021 National Science Foundation: Noyce Grant
Recruiting Elmhurst STEM Undergraduates for Lifelong Teaching (RESULT) Co- Principal Investigator
Award: \$122,893.00
- Spring 2017 Andrew K. Prinz International Fellowship

Discussions of Race in the United States and Brazil: Experiencing racial history in the presence of inequality
Award: 5K

Spring 2017 Mentoring Research Grant
Public Policy Research Center at University Missouri- St. Louis
Award: 2K

Summer 2014 Primary Investigator
Qualitative Coding and Racial Literacy
Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Grant
Undergraduate Student: Michael Meadows
Award: 3K

Fall 2013 Race to the Top III Teacher Education Program Redesign Grant
Co-Principal Investigator
Award: 6K

Summer 2011 Teaching Hispanic Children’s Literature
in Elementary and Middle Schools
Elmhurst College Interdisciplinary Course Development Grant
Award: 6K

Summer 2009 Primary Investigator
Deconstructing ‘race’-talk in college level student writing
Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Grant
Award: \$6.5K

Summer 2008 Primary Investigator
“Using Sociolinguistic Methods to Examine Discussions of
‘Race’ in Secondary Classroom Settings.”
Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Grant
Award: \$6.5K

Summer 2001- 2002 Teacher Researcher and Consultant
Spencer Research Grant
Vanderbilt University Peabody College

Fall 1999 Teacher Research and Consultant on Intertextuality
Spencer Research Grant
Vanderbilt University Peabody College

1999-2001 Teachers as Leaders Initiative (TaLI)
Southern Education Foundation
Vanderbilt University

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

2025-2028	Chair for the Committee Against Racism and Bias in the Teaching of English. National Council of Teachers of English.
2023-2026	Trustee of the Research Foundation National Council of Teachers of English
2023-2024	American Education Research Association Division K Co-Chair for Section 9 Initial Teacher and Teacher Educator Preparation
2022-2023	American Education Research Association Division G Co-Chair for Section 3: Languages, Literacies, and Representations
2020-2023	National Council of Teachers of English National Webinar with Invited Scholars and Authors for Black History Month
Summer 2021-2022	National Council of Teachers of English- Juneteenth National Collaboration and Community Activism with Penguin Random House Books
2020-2022	National Council of Teachers of English-Cultivating New Voices Mentor of Early Career Faculty
2020-2022	American Education Research Association (AERA) Division G Secretary & Director of Communications (Elected) American Education Research Association (AERA)
Summer Fall 2020	National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Invited Appointment Literacy Educator Today Task
Fall 2020	National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Appointed to the Annual Program Planning and Review Committee
2013-2014	National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research Chair and Conference Coordinator (Elected) Coordinator and Host of Mid-Winter Conference
2012-2013	Associate Chair for the Assembly for Research National Council of Teachers of English (Elected)
2010-2013	National Council of Teachers of English Standing Committee on Research
2009-2010	National Language Collaborative (formerly identified as the Commission on Language within the National Council of Teachers of English)

- 2009-2010 National Council Teachers of English Assembly for Research Secretary (Elected)
- 2007-2010 American Education Research Association Division G Newsletter Editor (Appointed)
- 2003-2006 National Council of Teachers of English National Commission on Reading
- 2003-2006 National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research Newsletter Co-Editor for the Assembly for Research

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- 2017 Founding Member The World Congress of Applied Linguistics on Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 (Rescheduled) Toward Racially Literate Thinking: Investigating process within languaging race for white teacher candidates in the United States International Conference of Applied Linguistics (AILA) Scheduled for The Netherlands (August 2020)
- 2017 Researching Talk on Race in Classrooms The 18th World Congress of Applied Linguistics Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- (De)Reconstructing Relationships Between Language, Race, and Power in a Secondary Classroom in the US The 18th World Congress of Applied Linguistics Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- April 2012 American Education Research Association “I Once Was Lost But Now I Am Found”: Teaching Against Cultural Reproduction Vancouver, Canada
- July 2003 International Federation of Teachers Conference Presentation Title: Teaching Reading As Intertextual Practice Melbourne, Australia
- Presentation Title: “African American Males Performing Whiteness: Complexities within Identity Construction and Academic Success. Melbourne, Australia

NATIONAL PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Paper Presentations

- November 2024 Connecting Our Hearts: Having Difficult Conversations in the Classroom
National Council of Teachers of English
- April 2024 American Education Research Association
“The Ecology of Black Education in a Chaotic Political Landscape: Re-creating Community, Advocacy, and Engagement
- April 2023 American Education Research Association
“The Pursuit of Truth ‘Turnt Up’: Considerations for Advancing Racial Literacy Beyond this Space and Time” Symposia Title

“Not regardless of race, but because of it.” The false rhetoric of equity dismantles racial literacy (Paper Presentation)
- November 2022 Special Issues, Volume 2: Racial Literacy: Sociopolitical and Sociocultural Contexts for Youth (a)
Celebrating Juneteenth in Multiple Communities: Creating Spaces for Light and Liberation (b)
National Council of Teachers of English
- April 2022 American Education Research Association
Amplifying Community Activists’ and Scholars’ Voices and Resistance on Black K-12 School Closings
Discussant
- November 2018 Literacy Research Association
The complexities of becoming: Languaging personhood and “double-self” dilemma in literacy learning

National Council of Teachers of English
Title: Urban literacies within and beyond: Middle-School students as raciolinguists and autoethnographers
- September 2018 Race & Pedagogy National Conference
Revisiting Baldwin's Talk to Teachers: The Mis-education of White Folks in The Study of Race, Place, and Schooling.
- April 2018 American Education Research Association
Racial literacies in context: Confronting dysconsciousness as a public educational priority in teacher education
Session Chair & Presenter
- February 2018 National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research
“Take it to the bridge.” Developing racially literate practices as research above the chorus of complacency

November 2017 Literacy Research Association
Improving Critical Racial Literacies Reflection with Pre-Service Teachers

February 2017 National Association of African American Studies
Discussions of race as relevant in teacher education: Casting racial literacies as the means to a social end.

January 2016 Race, Language, and Classroom Discourse
National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research

December 2015 Presentation Title: Counter-scripting blackness against a teacher's literary and pedagogical imagination: An autoethnographic analysis of literacy and identity
Literacy Research Association

Presentation Title: Argumentation, Literacy, and Race in a Tenth Grade Language Arts Classroom
Literacy Research Association

November 2014 National Council of Teachers of English Presentation
Title: Methods in Use for Racial Literacy

April 2013 American Education Research Association
Presentation Title: Critical Discourse Analysis: From the bottom-up

May 2012 International Reading Association
Presentation Title: Racial literacy as Deliberate Pedagogy: Helping teachers learn to facilitate discussions of "race"

November 2011 National Council of Teachers of English
Presentation Title: Racial Literacy in Theory and Practice

May 2011 "We are not the same minority"
Presentation Title: International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry
Urbana, Illinois

November 2010 National Council of Teachers of English
Presentation Title: "Put it on paper": Racial (il)literacy Unmasked Through Teacher Candidate Journals

November 2010 National Council of Teachers of English
Presentation Title: Affirming Students Rights to Their Own Language (Symposium)

April 2010 American Education Research Association
Presentation Title: "Don't make me act my color!": African American Literacies as Racial Literacy

April 2010 International Reading Association
Poster Presentation Title: Reading is *still* a social process: "Race,"

classroom community, and everyday life as key components to engagement in literacy events.

- May 2009 Critical Race Studies in Education
Presentation Title: Perceptions of “The Village”: Struggling to Claim What We Have Come to Construct
- February 2009 National Association of African American Studies
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Presentation Title: “Descendants of ‘Ruth’: Black girls coping through the ‘black male crisis’”
- February 2008 National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research
Bloomington, Indiana
Presentation Title: “Constructing ‘race’ Through Talk”:
An ethnographic examination of discussions of “race” among African American Secondary Students in the South
- April 2007 American Education Research Association (AERA)
Chicago, Il.
Presentation Title: "We fail because they don't listen.": Discourse of Dissension Expressed by African American Secondary Students"
- January 2007 Qualitative Research Interest Group (QUIG)
Athens, Georgia
Presentation Title: Discourse Practices in Constructing “race” as a Social Reality: Analyzing Discussions of “race” Among Secondary Students
- February 2006 National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research
Chicago, Illinois.
Presentation Title: Extending Halliday’s Functions of Language: Uses of Narratives in Discussions of “Race.”
- November 2005 National Council of Teachers of English
Session Chair and Organizer
Title: 50 Years After Brown: Desegregation, Literacy and The African American Experience
- April 2004 American Education Research Association
San Diego, California
Presentation Title: “Loving Our Sons but Raising our Daughters”: Using Black Feminist Theory to Examine the Impact of Gender Positioning Among African American Males and Females in a Secondary African American History Class.
- November 2004 National Council of Teachers of English
Indianapolis, Indiana
Presentation Title: “Why are the cultural politics of rap relevant for teaching?”

- April 2003 American Education Research Association
Chicago, Illinois
Presentation Title: “Just because I am black and male doesn’t mean I am a rapper”: An Ethnographic Study of Intragroup Cultural Discontinuity Among African Americans in an African American History Class.
- November 2002 Tennessee Council of Teachers of English
Nashville, Tennessee
Presentation Title: What’s Intertextuality Got To Do With It? –New Directions for Improving Reading Comprehension in the Middle and High School Grades
- November 2002 Florida Education Research Association
Gainesville, Florida
Presentation Title: Silence, Resistance, and “Performance” Amongst African American Students: A Critical Examination of the Construct of “Acting White” in two Urban Secondary Schools
- April 2002 American Education Research Association
New Orleans, Louisiana
Presentation Title: Teachers who lead, leaders who teach: supporting the development of African American teachers determined to make a difference.
- Spring 2002 Working Conference on The Analysis of Videotape Data of Classroom Life
Nashville, Tennessee
“Fieldnotes and Local Knowledge: What’s Needed to Inform Your Video Analysis

INVITED KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

- June 2024 MAP Equity Center World Café: Celebrating 60 Years of Civil Rights
- July 2023 Book Love Foundation
Libraries in Laundromats
- June 2023 I See Me Inc. 2nd Annual Literacy Summit
Disruption as The Narrative Arc: The Transformative Power of Literacy
- Spring 2022 Lake County Counselors Association
“Embracing the unknown to build stronger & equitable support practices
- August 2018 Keynote Address for Lutheran Schools Association
- June 2018 Keynote Address for the DuPage County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)- Youth Leadership Banquet

PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS AS REVIEWER OR EDITORIAL BOARDS

Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood
Cognition & Instruction
International Journal of Qualitative Research in Education
Research in Teaching English
Reading Research Quarterly
Journal of Black Studies
Urban Education

NATIONAL PROGRAM REVIEW

2023-2024	America Education Research Association Division K: Program Committee Section 8: Teacher and Teacher Education
2020-2023	America Education Research Association Division G: Program Committee Secretary (2019-2021) Section 3- Co-Chair (2022-2023)
2019	National Council of Teachers of English Conference Program Committee Rainbow Strand
2012	National Council of Teachers of English Program Planning Committee Co-Chair for the Standing Committee on Research
2010	Conference Proposal for Division D: Measurement and Research Methodology and Division G: Social Context of Education Conference Proposal Reviewer
2009	American Education Research Association (AERA) Conference Proposal Reviewer
2009	Critical Race Studies in Education Third Annual Conference Proposal Reviews
2004	National Center for Culturally Responsive Education Systems (NCCRESt) Member of the editorial team for the Nashville site, which included reviewing briefs and assessment tools published by NCCRESt written and designed for practioners, researchers and teachers.

Professional Mentoring

Fall 2020-2022	Cultivating New Voices National Council of Teachers of English
Fall 2020	High School Mentoring Initiative Frisco Independent School District
June 2018- Present	Professional mentoring with doctoral students, including conference preparation, dissertation review, committee work, and network development at Northwester, DePaul, University of Illinois Chicago, and University Missouri St. Louis (UMSL)

HONORS/AWARDS

Summer 2018	DuPage County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
Spring 2017	Omicron Delta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi “Lecture Without Limits” Awardee: Strange fruit from old trees: Deepening our roots with critical intersectionalities and disrupting the conveniences afforded to us by low hanging fruit.
Spring 2016	Nominated for the President’s Outstanding Teaching Award
Spring 2003	Culturally Responsive Teaching Award-Vanderbilt University Department of Teaching and Learning

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Elmhurst College Leadership

2018-present	Elmhurst College Faculty Ombuds
2017- 2019	School for Professional Studies
2014- 2017	Appeals Board
Fall Elect 2016	School for Professional Studies Curriculum Review
2013-2016 Chair	Elected: Elmhurst College Integrated Curriculum Committee 2015-2016
2013-2015	Judicial Hearing Committee
2012-2013	Assessment Board
2010-2011	College-Wide Professional Development Workshop on Course Development for the Elmhurst College Integrated Curriculum

2011-2012 Faculty Coordinator for Retention of Students of Color

2009-2010 Student Affairs Council
Co-Chair for 2010-2011

2008-2009 General Education Task Force

Department Leadership

2016- 2019 Department of Education Associate Chair

2013 (Fall) Professional Development for Department of Education on
Culturally Relevant Pedagogy Three-Part Series Seminar

2009-2011 Organization: Chair of Associated Colleges of Illinois/Golden Apple

2009-2010: Co-Advisor for the Student Leadership Council

2007-2008 Organization: Member of the Network for Professional Development

2007-2008 Position: Member of the Graduate Curriculum & Assessment Committee

COMMUNITY SERVICE

2021-2022 “Write My Way Out:” K-8 Wellness Retreat. Encouraging
Student Resilience Using Writing, Music, and Movement to Fight
Anxiety and Depression. Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

2020-2021 “Caring Through Covid,” Serving housing and food vulnerable \
communities distributing PPE in Chicago, Illinois. Phi Kappa Phi
Honor Society

Sep-Dec. 2020 Justice in Learning and Literacies (J.I.L.L): Building on-line
learning networks for K-12 youth and families

July 2020 Trustee to the Forest Park Public Library Board of Directors
Appointed by the Mayor of Forest Park, Illinois

June 2020 Founding Member of Forest Park Against Racism
Co-Leader in Juneteenth 2020: “Meet us At the Bridge:” Stand up
for Black Lives

January 2011 The African-American Read-In/ Will you read to me?
Mollison Elementary School

Since 2015-2019 Brown Babies Read and Play- A diversity book campaign promoting,
collecting, and distributing books to classroom teachers and families

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Since 1996	National Council of Teachers of English <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission on Reading (2004-2006) • Language Collaborative (2006-2010) • Assembly for Research (2004-Present)
Since 2001	American Education Research Association (AERA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division G Social Context of Education • Division K Teaching and Teacher Education • Special Interest Group Critical Examinations of Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Gender • Special Interest Group Research on Black Education
Since 2004	National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research
Since 2005	International Reading Association
Since 2007	National Council of Negro Women
Since 2009	Council on Undergraduate Research
Since 2009	Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
Since 2009	Alpha Mu Gamma- National Collegiate Foreign Language Honor Society
Since 2009	Critical Examination of Race in Education
Since 2015	Literacy Research Association
Since 2016	Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society President of Phi Kappa Phi at Elmhurst University (2020-Present)