



2023
GRADUATE FACULTY
RESEARCH
COLLOQUIUM

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:00AM TO 4:00PM

East Campus Ballroom

ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL
GRADUATE FACULTY RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

Graduate School Mission

The purpose of the Graduate School at Albany State University is to define and promote excellence in graduate education and the research and scholarly activities associated with it. In concert with the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business, Education and Professional Studies and Darton College of Health Professions the Graduate School establishes a high standard of intellectual excellence and ensures the application of that standard in discussions, deliberations, and decisions about faculty, students, curriculum and research direction. The Graduate School is centered on academic issues and on enhancing scholastic excellence in the recruitment, admission, and matriculation of graduate students.

Graduate Faculty Research Colloquium Mission

The mission of the Albany State University Graduate Faculty Research Colloquium sponsored by the Graduate School is to promote research, scholarship, and creative activities among faculty and sharing the results of those research, scholarship, and creative activities with the University Community and community in general. The colloquium provides an excellent opportunity and a venue where faculty who may have already presented the results of their results to an external audience can come and share these research, scholarship, and creative activities with the campus community and community in general. Faculty who are also formulating new research thoughts and agendas/ideas may also present/share these new research thoughts and ideas to the campus community, thus making the colloquium a micro venue to explore new research thoughts and ideas.

Office of Academic Affairs

The Office of Academic Affairs at Albany State University supports the University's mission by providing the guidance and leadership necessary to maintain intellectual discovery and scholarship activity among faculty. Academic Affairs upholds the standards and policies established by the faculty and administration and provides support to assist to faculty in engaging in research and scholarship endeavors.

Administrative Support



“Thank you, Faculty, Graduate School Staff and the Research Colloquium Committee for your unwavering support of our graduate program and students. Today is an exciting day as we witness the impactful research that is being conducted by our students, along with faculty mentors. Every one of the faculty mentors has left a lasting impression on their students. Please accept my sincere appreciation for the hard work and passion that truly comes through as you Inspire our students every day.”

Go Rams!!!

Dr. Angela Peters, Provost and VPAA

Executive Director's Welcome Letter

Welcome to our second annual Graduate Faculty Research Colloquium sponsored by the Graduate School.

The Graduate School extends our warm and deep congratulations to all faculty who are participating and supporting our annual graduate faculty research colloquium. The Graduate School is pleased to work with dedicated faculty who have embraced our vision providing our faculty researchers the opportunity to showcase their research endeavors with colleagues and the campus community.

Prior to establishing this research venue, faculty had no or limited avenue on campus where they can assemble to present the results of their scholarship and creative activities. Thus, this graduate faculty research colloquium, sponsored by the Graduate School was created to promote research, scholarship, and creative activities among faculty and to share the results of those research, scholarship, and creative activities with the University community and community in general. It provides an excellent forum where faculty who may have already presented the results of their research to external audience/s can come and share the research and creative activities with the campus community and community in general. It is known that a lot of our faculty are engaged in research and scholarship activities of which they travel to various conferences domestically and internationally to present. Upon return to campus, those papers are often put on the shelf and saved away on the hard drives without giving the university community the opportunity to listen to those paper presentations which some colleagues may also benefit from. This colloquium will now enable faculty to showcase their efforts with the campus community.

The colloquium is also intended to provide a sharing opportunity to faculty who are formulating new research thoughts, ideas, and agendas with the campus community and receive some constructive feedback.

Finally, on behalf of all Graduate School Staff and the Graduate Faculty Research Colloquium Committee, I thank the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Angela Peters, and her office for their support of this event and their unflinching, resolute, and unbendable support of Graduate School. I extend our deepest gratitude to all faculty from all the three colleges who are participating as presenters and for supporting us in promoting research and scholarship in this manner. Please note that the significant interest you have shown and the speed of your response in submitting abstracts demonstrates the need and desire among faculty to create such an opportunity where they can demonstrate their research and creative abilities on campus. Your participation and support are greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

Charles O. Ochie, Sr., Ph.D.

Executive Director of Graduate School and Professor of Criminal Justice

PROGRAM AGENDA

Thursday, March 30, 2022

Location

East Campus Student Center Ballroom
Dr. Nneka Osakwe/Dr. Kuck, Presiding Officers

TIME	EVENT
8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.	Breakfast/Colloquium Registration
9:00 a.m.	Welcome – Dr. Charles O. Ochie – Executive Director Opening remarks – Dr. Angela Peters - Provost Introduction of Presiding Officers
9:10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Presentation/Session I Dr. Hamidreza Sharifan and Epicurioua Frazier – TiO ₂ Nanoparticles in Irrigation Water Alter a Critical Flavonoid in Crops, a Food Safety Measure Dr. Alisha Topete Cromwell - The Garden Nexus: Reciprocity, Redistribution, and Exchange Dr. Md Niamul Kabir, Ms. Shamaya Paylor, and Dr. Olabisi Ojo - Determining Minimum Inhibitory Concentration of Sodium Salicylate and developing PCR-based identification of <i>Providencia Rettgeri</i> and <i>Providencia stuartii</i> Dr. Belinda Gilbert, Ms. Daphine Mathis, Dr. Veela Hughes, Ms. Seketha Silas - The Utilization of a SWOT Analysis to Improve Effectiveness in Academia
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Short Break
10:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Presentations /Session II Dr. Liqiu Zheng and Ms. Gabrielle Page - ZnO Nanowire Embedded TiO ₂ Film as an Electrode for Perovskite CsPbI ₂ Br Solar Cells Dr. Roger-Claude Liwanga and Dr. Patrick Ibe - Demystifying the Crime of Aggression Under the International Law Dr. Bruce Neubauer - AI and the Changing Landscape of Scholarship Dr. Jim Mayua - The Mandatory Detention of Unlawful Entrants Seeking Asylum in the United States and the Due Process Protection.
12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:10 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Presentations /Session III Dr. Wanda Allen, Ms. Janani Thapa, Ms. Tatiana Y. Woldman, Ms. Heather Padilla, Mr. Jacob Matta, Mr. Grayson Waits, Ms. AntaSha Jones – Mixed Methods Approach to Evaluating Community-Based Interventions Dr. Jason Armstrong and Dr. Sarah Kuck - Saggy Pants Ordinance Analysis: Albany, GA 10 years later Dr. Nneka Nora Osakwe - Integrating Global Learning into an English Composition Course: A Transformative, Learner-Centered Approach

Dr. Erica DeCuir - It's More Than Monkey Bars and Swing Sets: Why Recess is Required for Student Success in K-12 Schools

Dr. Jerry B. Daniel and Dr. Jamie D. Swain - Community Collaboration to Achieve Health Equity: A Tale of Two Georgia Counties

Ms. Tolulope Sanusi and Dr. Devi Akella - Counteracting Workplace Bullying: A Qualitative Analysis of Employees' Resistance Strategies within the Service Industry

Dr. Li Feng - Infinite Series Method in the General Two Trains Puzzle

Dr. Arun K Saha and Mr. Pendleton Walker -

Engineered Material

Presentation of Certificates

3:30 p.m.

End of Program

ABSTRACTS

TiO₂ nanoparticles in irrigation water alter a critical flavonoid in crops, a food safety measure

Dr. Hamidreza Sharifan and Epicurioua Frazier

Gf56

Abstract

Treated wastewater has been applied to irrigate various crops grown in an arid and semi-arid climate to improve crop production. Luteolin is a susceptible flavonoid with anticancer properties in many critical crops. Therefore, cellular luteolin content and synthesis can be considered as food safety indicators. Recently, the progressing trend of nanoparticle application has led to the inevitable direct contamination of crops, irrigation water, and soil in arid areas. Therefore, potential modification of their luteolin content and its chemical structure may be impacted. This study investigates the potential interaction of water containing the environmentally relevant TiO₂ nanoparticles (NPs) levels with the pure luteolin content that can be extracted from crops. Three replicates of 5 mg L⁻¹ of pure luteolin were exposed to a concentration series of TiO₂ nanoparticles (25, 50, 100 ppm) for 48 hours at room temperature using an in-vitro system. After exposure experiments, treatments were subjected to centrifuge and ultrafiltration. The filtrate samples were analyzed by Raman spectroscopy, UV-vis, and dynamic light scattering (DLS). A positive correlation was found between TiO₂NPs concentrations and structural alteration of luteolin content. We found that more than 20% of the luteolin structure was possibly altered in the presence of 100 ppm TiO₂NPs. Furthermore, DLS data revealed that the luteolin was adsorbed onto the TiO₂NPs surface, and the NPs hydrodynamic size was increased. This study provides fundamental insight into agricultural safety measures in exposure to air or water-born nanoparticles.

Biodata

Dr. Hamidreza Sharifan is an assistant professor at the Department of Natural Sciences, Albany State University. His research is centered on the environmental fate of emerging contaminants.

The Garden Nexus: Reciprocity, Redistribution, and Exchange

Dr. Alisha Topete Cromwell

Abstract

The 19th-century Lowcountry is a place where formal and substantive economies ran parallel to each other, both shifting and changing in response to not just large networks of supply and demand across the Atlantic, but to real human suffering, pleasure, and purpose for both the individual and the collective society. The actual lived experiences of Lowcountry consumers and producers relied on reciprocity, redistribution, and exchange, where both economic and noneconomic decisions were enmeshed into a structured institution. This system reflected the integrated social customs that were integral to the functioning of labor and food distribution in the economy of a changing slave society. The garden nexus was one way that American slavery and its emerging capitalism were able to coexist and shape the fortunes of our founders. The nexus depended on the unequal relationships that existed between elite women, free peoples, and the enslaved to function. In the Lowcountry, it was a nexus that included cash and corn and depended on women of all classes and enslaved people in both urban and rural environments to survive.

Biodata

Dr. Cromwell is an Assistant Professor of History at Albany State University. She earned her dual B.A. in History and Anthropology from San Francisco State University, her M.A. in Public History from the University of South Carolina, and her Ph.D. in Atlantic World History from the University of Georgia. Dr. Cromwell's research and teaching interests include capitalism, slavery, women's studies, geography, and map making.

Determining Minimum Inhibitory Concentration of Sodium Salicylate and developing PCR-based identification of *Providencia Rettgeri* and *Providencia stuartii*

Dr. Md Niamul Kabir, Ms. Shamaya Paylor, Dr. Olabisi Ojo

Abstract

The genus *Providencia* comprises of urease-producing bacteria accountable for an extending range of human infections. Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are a common disease related to *Providencia* that's present in patients with long-term urinary catheters. Salicylate and related compounds, such as aspirin, have a variety of effects in eukaryotic systems and are well-known for their medicinal properties. Salicylate also has numerous effects on bacteria, yet only a handful of individuals within the scientific community appreciate these findings. This study investigates the effects of sodium salicylate on the growth of *P. rettgeri* and *P. stuartii*. Minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) of sodium salicylate were determined by using broth dilution methods. Both *P. rettgeri* and *P. stuartii* were grown overnight in tryptic soy broth (TSB) with different concentrations of sodium salicylate to determine MICs of sodium salicylate. MICs of sodium salicylate on the growth of *P. rettgeri* was determined at 17mM – 20mM and MICs for *P. stuartii* was determined at 30mM – 35mM. Based on cultural and morphological identification, pathogen detection and identification methods are time-consuming and not always reliable. A polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based pathogen detection method with genus-specific primers is fast and reliable for detecting *Providencia* species. We have deigned two pairs of primers based on the global regulatory gene *rsmC* to detect *P. rettgeri* and *P. stuartii*. This study will be helpful to control the growth and break down antibiotic resistance by using sodium salicylate on the growth of *Providencia* species. Also, PCR-based tools of this study should make easier the detection of *P. rettgeri* and *P. stuartii*.

Biodata

Dr. Kabir's academic background is equipped with 12 years of research experience in food microbiology, plant pathology-based microbiology, molecular microbiology, plant biotechnology, plant tissue culture, agricultural science, and molecular biology with an emphasis on molecular characterization of plant pathogens and transgenic plants. Dr. Kabir has extensive scientific knowledge and research expertise to microbial food safety in human health evaluating processing microbial food safety and conducting validation studies for liquid and solid foods with the high-pressure processing (HPP, from PBI HUB880 Explorer) using various serogroups of O157 and non-O157-Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* and public health significant serovars of *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Salmonella*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and endospore-forming bacillus.

The Utilization of a SWOT Analysis to Improve Effectiveness in Academia

Dr. Belinda Gilbert, Ms. Daphine Mathis, Dr. Veela Hughes, Ms. Seketha Silas

Abstract

Addressing issues is fundamental to implementing change within organizations. However, effectively tackling issues will require leaders to explore and utilize methods to identify areas of concern so positive outcomes can be reached. For the promotion of growth, using a SWOT analysis can be beneficial. SWOT stands for strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. Research supports this systematic strategy for addressing internal and external factors. The internal factors shed light on strengths and weaknesses, whereas the external factors look at opportunities and threats. Using a SWOT analysis before making a needed change will allow leaders to identify gaps that may be present that one might not see or understand without looking at the big picture. Doing a SWOT first will allow for a methodical approach instead of ineffective changes, which lead to repetitive revisions and dissatisfaction. According to Topor et al. (2018), a SWOT analysis is a commonly utilized tool used to help organizations recognize issues and then formulate strategies to overcome barriers so that change can occur. This project aims to show that using a SWOT analysis can improve practices in varying areas, including administrative, department, program, or person.

Biodata

Belinda G. Gilbert, DNP, MSN-Ed, RN, is an Assistant Professor and serves as the interim ASN Programs Director and co-advisor for the Nursing Student Organization (NSO).

Daphine P. Mathis, MSN-Ed, RN, is a Nursing Instructor and serves as the NSO Advisory. She is currently pursuing her doctorate degree.

Veela W. Hughes, DNP, MSN-Ed, RN, is an Assistant professor.

Seketha Silas, MSN-Ed, RN, is an Assistant Professor and serves as a co-advisor for NSO. She is currently pursuing her doctorate degree. The professors are passionate about effective teaching strategies and improving student and patient outcomes.

ZnO Nanowire Embedded TiO₂ Film as an Electrode for Perovskite CsPbI₂Br Solar Cells

Dr. Liqiu Zheng and Ms. Gabrielle Page

Abstract

A comparative study was conducted to look into the impact of various electron-transporting films on the performance of perovskite CsPbI₂Br solar cells. The solar cells with ZnO nanowires embedded in TiO₂ as an electrode outperformed those with pure TiO₂ or pure ZnO. The enhanced performance is ascribed to the synergetic effect of both TiO₂/ZnO constituent properties. In particular, an appropriate amount of ZnO nanowires embedded in TiO₂ films could optimize the properties of the electron transporting layer by improving electron transport, light harvesting, and overall photovoltaic performance, leading to the power conversion efficiency as high as 10.53%.

Biodata

Dr. Liqiu Zheng is an associate professor and teaches all-level physics courses. She has secured a grant titled "Environmentally friendly high-performance perovskite solar cell with fortified stability" sponsored by the national science foundation.

Ms. Gabrielle Page graduated from Albany State University in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in biological fields. Currently, she is working for one research lab in Atlanta.

Demystifying the Crime of Aggression Under the International Law

Dr. Roger-Claude Liwanga and Dr. Patrick Ibe

Abstract

Since the 1940s, the “crime of aggression” or “crime against peace” has never been prosecuted despite the occurrence of acts of aggression around the world. The offenders of crime of aggression were avoiding prosecution because there was neither a clear court to prosecute this crime nor was there any universal agreement on the scope of the definition of this offense until recently in 2010. Unsurprisingly, current Russia’s invasion of Ukraine intensified the debate on the extent of the meaning of this crime. The presentation will examine the different definitions of “crime of aggression” as provided by legal instruments (including the UN Charter and the Rome Statute). It will highlight the criteria for assessment of acts of aggression and contend there is no need for the execution of an invasion or a military occupation for the crime of aggression to be completely committed. Yet, using the case study of the Ukraine crisis, the presentation will equally highlight some practical and judicial barriers to prosecuting the crime of aggression offenders.

Biodata

Roger-Claude Liwanga: Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, Albany State University; Fellow with FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard University; Adjunct Professor of Child Protection and International Human Rights, Emory University Law School; formerly taught International Laws of War at Suffolk University Law School; and author of the book, *Child Mining in an Era of High-Technology: Understanding the Roots, Conditions, and Effects of Labor Exploitation in the Democratic Republic of Congo* (2017).

Patrick Ibe: Professor of Criminal Justice, Albany State University; Chair of the Criminal Justice Department, Albany State University.

AI and the Changing Landscape of Scholarship

Dr. Bruce Neubauer

Abstract

Artificial intelligence (AI), and natural language processing (NLP) algorithms in particular, are likely to revolutionize the means by which knowledge is discovered, written, reviewed and published in the near future. This revolution is likely to be very disruptive and chaotic. This is not a revolution that scholars can choose to avoid. Artificial intelligence elevates computer agents into the realm of knowledge management and to the essential tasks and responsibilities of scholars. Like humans, AI agents are prone to mistakes and hallucinations. We will witness an explosion of scholarly manuscripts in the midst of communities of scholarship characterized by mixed intelligences. "They" will become not only our tools but our partners in the knowledge industry. It is one thing for humans to query artificial intelligences (AIS) of different varieties. It will be another thing when AIS incorporate different kinds of algorithms being to query one another, and to query humans. The fact is that humans learn and evolve slowly. AIS can replicate and evolve very quickly. This has significant implications for the future of knowledge creation and scholarship.

Biodata

Bruce Neubauer is an associate professor of public administration at Albany State University. His interests include information technologies, complexity, instructional design, and instructional multimedia. His terminal degree in public administration is from the University of Georgia. He is currently earning an additional master's degree in instructional design and multimedia from the University of Georgia.

The Mandatory Detention of Unlawful Entrants Seeking Asylum in the United States and the Due Process Protection.

Dr. Jim Mayua

Abstract

In the last decade, detention has turned into a critical element of receiving states' reactions to asylum seekers. Specifically, the confinement of refuge seekers has been utilized to deflect unlawful contestants from looking for a haven in receiving states. Judges in the US have refused to recognize the rights of asylum seekers by excluding them from domestic protection and from protection from incarceration. This approach constitutes a formidable barrier to the protection of asylum seekers. This paper argues that asylum seekers should not be detained under any circumstance. It further contends that various existing approaches to challenging the detention of asylum seekers in these the U.S. would not succeed unless the question whether asylum seekers are entitled to domestic protection is resolved. This argument is based on the analysis of two significant points. First, I demonstrate that U.S. law acknowledges that asylum seekers can invoke the Due Process Clause for their release. Secondly, the insertion of a “credible fear screening” in the U.S. detention statute indicates that the U.S. Congress recognizes its obligation to protect asylum seekers from expedited removal.

Biodata

Dr. Jim Nzonguma Mayua is an assistant professor of criminal justice at Albany State University. He has a Doctoral of Juridical Science (2022) from Suffolk University Law School, Boston, MA and a Master of Social Science (2015) from the University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium. He also has a Master of Law (LLM) in Human Rights Law (2009) from the University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa. His Bachelor of Law (LLB) was received in 2003 from the University of Kinshasa, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. Dr. Mayua previously worked as a Judicial Law Clerk at Arizona Superior Court in Pima County, Tucson and was also a legal researcher at Manchester, New Hampshire. He also was a Lecturer at the University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa from 2010-2013.

Mixed Methods Approach to Evaluating Community-Based Interventions

Dr. Wanda Allen, Ms. Janani Thapa, Ms. Tatiana Y. Woldman, Ms. Heather Padilla, Mr. Jacob Matta, Mr. Grayson Waits, Ms. AntaSha Jones

Abstract

Following the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 among African American sub-population in rural South Georgia, there was a call to increase access to health services, promote health literacy as it relates to COVID-19 and decrease vaccine hesitancy. One such program was funded by the Office of Minority Health, Health and Human Services, and is being implemented in partnership with Albany State University and the City of Albany. Mixed methods evaluation following a quasi-experiment design was developed to evaluate the program's impact on increasing health literacy and reducing vaccine hesitancy. We are at this time collecting secondary data on vaccination rate, stratified by race, age and income and self-reported primary data on program participation, awareness, and outcomes such as program reviews, and self-reported vaccine hesitancy, and health literacy. We will also be conducting focus group interviews in Spring 2023. The analysis strategy will be a trend analysis on vaccination rates, bivariate analysis on program participation and willingness to vaccinate if not vaccinated, and higher acceptance of vaccination compared to the comparison site. The anticipated results are increased program participants awareness of ways to prevent infection and reduce the severity of COVID-19 by May 2023, vaccine hesitancy, and perception on vaccine uptake strategies. The results will also include findings from the focus group interviews on best practices to COVID-19 awareness and lessons learned. Results will also include the impact of the program on vaccination rates. In combining these various measures, we hope to create a comprehensive evaluation of a community-based health literacy program to identify the most effective health literacy program practices.

Biodata

Janani R. Thapa (University of Georgia), Tatiana Y. Woldman (University of Georgia), Heather Padilla (University of Georgia), Jacob Matta (University of Georgia), Grayson Waits (University of Georgia), Wanda Allen (Albany State University), AntaSha Jones (Albany State University)

Saggy Pants Ordinance Analysis: Albany, GA 10 years later

Dr. Jason Armstrong and Dr. Sarah Kuck

Abstract

The criminalization of how one wears their clothing has been a contentious topic of debate in many communities in the United States. Several municipalities have made it a crime to have “saggy pants.” Saggy or sagging pants are defined as the wearing of pants so far below the waist that it exposes one’s undergarments to others. This style of wearing one’s clothing began in U.S. prisons and spread across the country. While any person of any gender, race, or ethnic background can wear saggy pants, the style is typically associated with a particular demographic: black males. The city of Albany, Georgia, passed a law banning saggy pants in 2010. This article reviews the data of saggy pants citations issued over the last ten years and the surrounding constitutional issues of criminalizing a clothing style. From 2011 to 2019, the Albany Police Department issued approximately 1300 saggy pants citations, of which more than 95% were issued to black males and females. White males and females received the remaining 4% of citations. Albany’s racial makeup is 73.5% black, 22.7% white, and 2.3% Latino. The constitutionality of the ordinance is also in question. Some judges have ruled against saggy pants ordinances, and at least one state has refused to pass such a law as it was deemed unconstitutional. The current political and social climate requires further scrutiny and evaluation of existing ordinances that inordinately impact minority populations and can impose unintended consequences.

Biodata

Dr. Jason Armstrong is an Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at ASU. Dr. Armstrong’s research involves police ethics, police use of force, and social justice issues. Dr. Armstrong is an award-winning educator and law enforcement officer.

Dr. Sarah Kuck is the Executive Director of Academics for eMajor collaborative programs and a Professor of Political Science at ASU. Dr. Kuck is passionate about issues associated with Adult Learners in higher education, including distance education, degree completion, and credit for prior learning. Additionally, she is an award-winning distance educator who is actively engaged in issues associated with quality online education.

Integrating Global Learning into an English Composition Course: A Transformative, Learner-Centered Approach

Dr. Nneka Nora Osakwe

Abstract

This paper acknowledges the importance of global learning for students and faculty in 21st century higher education and beyond. It provides an integrative, learner-centered approach, which integrates international, intercultural, and diversity awareness contents and concepts in enhancing students' global competence. The students learn these values concepts while they are also intensely enhancing their composition, mechanical, and oral communication knowledge and skills. Some focus areas are learner-centered brainstorming, outlining, introducing of topics with thesis, developing of body paragraphs using various rhetorical strategies, writing of conclusions, critical reviews and editing, summarizing of texts, reporting orally and finalizing complete essays and research papers. The presenter will also share an integrative assessment process that includes the use of modified AAC&U/ USG Global learning rubric for equitable and aligned assessment of students' learning.

Dr. Nneka Nora Osakwe is a professor of English and Provost's Special Assistant for Internationalization and Global Engagement. She was the former Director of International Education and has been teaching at the university level for over 30 years with specialty in communication skills, rhetoric and composition, discourse analysis, slave narratives, education and curriculum studies, to name a few. An international education and curriculum specialist, Dr. Osakwe has led multifaceted curriculum internationalization initiatives at ASU, engaging numerous faculty members in integrating global learning into their courses by process of internationalization. She has also led study abroad to three countries and led faculty special issue publications by **International Research and Review (IRR)** Journal of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars, Volume 11, Number 2, Spring/Summer 2022 and Volume 6, Number 2, fall 2017, www.phibetadelta.org. Dr. Osakwe has published numerous other edited books, book-chapters, and articles and is in the editorial board of various journals. She has presented papers in numerous national and international conferences and workshops. Her various internationalization projects culminated in ASU receiving the NAFSA 2023 Spotlight Award for Curriculum Internationalization Initiatives. In fall 2022, Dr. Osakwe received the NAFSA Region VII award for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in International Education. She was named USG- Leadership Fellow in 2021.

It's More Than Monkey Bars and Swing Sets: Why Recess is Required for Student Success in K-12 Schools

Dr. Erica DeCuir

Abstract

Although play during school recess is generally viewed as a staple of elementary education, its foothold has actually diminished in recent decades (London, 2019). High stakes testing demands beginning in the 1990s prompted many school districts to shorten or cancel daily recess, especially during peak testing months. Even in schools with an official recess policy in place, many educators often withhold recess as punishment for academic or disciplinary reasons. There is scant evidence to track the loss of daily recess for individual infractions, but a 2018 study found that nearly 86 percent of elementary school teachers reported taking away recess time as punishment (IPEMA, 2019). The decline in recess is alarming for many reasons—including the potential loss of socio-emotional learning, reduced physical growth and development, and mental recharge obtained from active play.

A growing public campaign for school recess now promotes legislative action to protect student accessibility to recess at the district or school level. In early 2022, amid COVID-response school reopening plans, Georgia became the 10th state to require schools to provide recess to elementary school students. This study investigates the policy record of Georgia's implementation of a school recess law. Georgia's case study provides national policymakers a roadmap toward legislative action that informs evidence-based decision-making in school recess policy.

Biodata

Dr. Erica DeCuir is a professor of Teacher Education at Albany State University. Her research centers on culturally-responsive teaching, K-12 teacher preparation, and the professional development of college and university faculty. Her acknowledgments include program coordinator of middle and secondary education programs (2018-present), director of the Aspiring Teachers Academy (2020-present), Co-PI ASU Noyce Teaching Fellows (2021-present), Albany State University Teacher of the Year (2018-2019), Chancellor's Learning Scholar (2018-2020), Center for Educational Opportunity Fellow (2019-2020), Governor's Teaching Fellow (2016-2017), College of Education's Teacher of the Year (2017), Curriculum Internationalization Faculty Fellow (2016), and faculty coordinator of TEACH Abroad in the Caribbean.

Community Collaboration to Achieve Health Equity: A Tale of Two Georgia Counties

Dr. Jerry B. Daniel, Dr. Jamie D. Swain

Abstract

It is well-documented that health inequities continue to persist for certain population groups. Given such vast inequities in health, the American population does not experience life expectancies and good health on an equitable basis. Various data reveal that health status can be a function of a number of variables, including but not limited to race/ethnicity, gender/sex, age, income, insurance status, geographic location, sexual orientation, and housing status. The purpose of this study was to describe and understand how two rural counties in southwest Georgia developed broad-based community coalitions to address health inequities within their respective counties. This study utilized exploratory, qualitative methodology to examine the development process of creating strong rural coalitions to address health equity. Emerging themes were captured during the development and implementation process of each rural community collaborative. This paper also includes a discussion on challenges and lessons learned. The qualitative themes that emerged reveal a myriad of assets and challenges for each county. Additionally, the development process provided each county with specific priority areas regarding health equity. Overall, the development process laid a foundation for each county to be successful in obtaining competitive funding to address major public health issues. The impetus for this study came from the Healthcare Georgia Foundation's goal of strengthening rural communities' capacity to address the burgeoning health inequities in Georgia. The findings of the study provide a significant step in beginning to understand how rural communities can develop promising initiatives that may have a positive impact on the reduction of health inequities.

Biodata

Jerry B. Daniel (JD, Ph.D., MPH, LCSW) is a Professor of Social Work at Albany State University where he teaches in the Bachelor of Social Work and Master of Social Work programs. He is a licensed clinical social worker, licensed attorney, certified school social worker, and certified school counselor (all in Georgia). He has published in the areas of criminal justice, social work, law, and public health.

Jamie Swain is a licensed clinical social worker and received her MSW from Valdosta State University in Georgia. She is the project director for the Title IV-E and National Child Welfare Workforce Institute (NCWWI) grants. She is passionate about educating and strengthening social work professionals to meet the complex needs of families and vulnerable populations. Her interests include mental health and service provisions to assist children in successfully transitioning into adulthood.

Counteracting Workplace Bullying: A Qualitative Analysis of Employees' Resistance Strategies within the Service Industry

Ms. Tolulope Sanusi and Dr. Devi Akella

Abstract

Workplace bullying since its acceptance as an effective short-term control mechanism within organizations has been flourishing in the US. This paper empirically reviews employees' resistance strategies to workplace bullying, integrating the theoretical philosophies of Foucault's (1977, 1982) power discourses and Scott's (1985) resistance ideologies and thirty-five in-depth interviews, with employees working within the service sector, in specific at a college, motel, non-profit organization and in hospitals. The victims' responses are thematically analyzed using a dialectic phenomenology paradigm, to reveal a series of resistance responses ranging from retaliation, ignoring, quitting, avoidance, and successful implementation of anti-bullying interventions. This study provides interesting insights on how even non-confrontational resistance actions of employees could prove to be determinantal for the organizations. To reinforce the importance of designing zero-tolerance bullying workplaces regardless of the corporate sector, products manufactured, or services offered.

Tolulope Sanusi: is an MBA student and a Graduate Assistant at the School of Business, Albany State University.

and

Dr. Devi Akella: is the Chair and Full Professor of Management at the School of Business, Albany State University. Her research interests constitute workplace bullying, critical management studies, and experiential learning. She is the Associate Editor of the Organization Management Journal.

Infinite Series Method in the General Two Trains Puzzle

Dr. Li Feng

Abstract

In this paper, we study the following “General Two Trains Puzzle”. Suppose initially the two trains T_A and T_B are d_0 units apart, and the fly is at front the train T_A . The two train moves on a straight rail. The train T_A moves towards the train T_B at the speed v_1 with $v_1 > 0$. And train T_B moves in the opposite direction towards the train T_B at the speed v_2 with $v_2 > 0$. The fly travels back and forth until the two trains collide. Also suppose every time when the fly flies toward the train T_B , it flies at the speed f_1 with $f_1 \geq v_1$; and every time when the fly flies toward the train T_A , it flies at the speed f_2 with $f_2 \geq v_2$. What is the total distance that the fly travels? What the distance that the fly travels in each direction? What is the total distance that the fly travels? We will use the infinite series method to deduce the formulas which completely solve the puzzle.

Biodata

Dr. Feng is a full professor of mathematics. He has interest in all kinds of mathematics. His research areas are general topology, dynamical systems and fractals. He has been teaching all kind of math courses in this institution for about twenty-seven years. He has mentored undergraduate and graduate students in math and statistics research. His research papers appear in professional math journals in the USA, Europe, China and Japan.

Engineered Material

Dr. Arun K Saha and Mr. Pendleton Walker

Abstract

In engineered material, electromagnetic or optical properties of material is engineered to design instruments and devices to perform specific tasks. The subject of material property engineering is not new in the literature of science and this is done by costly and expensive chemical processing by trial and error method. In this research, material's electromagnetic property is controlled by adding metal patterns externally on the host material and response from the material is determined by the shape and size of metal patterns. In this presentation, material responses are presented when (a) circular metal patches and (b) thin metal strips are printed on a host material. The first case demonstrates the absorption property of radio frequency signal while the second case exhibits signal blocking property.

Dr. Arun K. Saha is a professor of Physics/Engineering in the department of Math, CS & Physics. His research interest includes microwave characterization of artificial materials and exploring its applications in microwave devices. At present, Dr. Saha and his group is involved in designing an engineered material that will suppress 5G radiations from cell phone towers to ensure safe take off/landing of airplanes and protect human body from high frequency harmful electromagnetic radiation.

Mr. Pendleton Walker is a pre-engineering student in the department of Math, CS & Physics. His research interest is 3D simulation of electromagnetic waves.

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Dr. Roger-Claude Liwanga

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Ms. Seketha Silas

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Ms. Janani Thapa

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