Dear College of Education Graduate Students,

Happy New Year! Despite this short month, there are many great events occurring across campus. First, the Graduate Student Council will hold our January meeting on **Wednesday, January 14th at 3:00 PM in Rackley 304**. We will be discussing our upcoming elections to be held in February. If you are interested in running for a position on the Council, please join us to find out more about the responsibilities entailed with the positions. We will also be discussing our plans for the Spring semester. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. We hope to see you there!

Each academic year, our organization holds a town hall meeting for graduate students to discuss the workings of the College of Education. This year, the event will be on **Friday, January 30th from Noon to 1:30 PM in Rackley 303**. We will be providing lunch and plan to discuss the results of our college-wide survey. We invite all graduate students to attend this informal discussion and bring any questions, comments, and concerns. Later this semester, we will discuss our thoughts at another town hall with the Deans in attendance. This is a great opportunity to initiate change!

Please join us on **Friday, January 30th at 6:30 at Northland Bowl** for a College-wide bowling night. The College of Education Graduate Student Council, Education Policy Studies Student Association and International Education Student Association are co-sponsoring a welcome back event. We hope you bring a friend and get ready for a great night of bowling and fun with College of Ed friends.

More information on the above events and more great happenings from around the College of Education are available below. As always, please contact the CoEGSC at psucoegsc@gmail.com if you would like to share upcoming events and/or have other relevant announcements. Please consider joining our list serve and following us on our Facebook Group and Twitter (@COEGSCpsu) for more up-to-the-minute information. Finally, a sincere ‘thank you’ to everybody who submitted a proposal for our first College of Education Symposium. We’re looking forward to showcasing some amazing Penn State CoE students!

Wishing you a productive January,
Graduate Student Council

Kristina Brezicha, President, kfb126@psu.edu
Aubree Webb, Vice President, amw403@psu.edu
MinSoo Kim-Bossard, Treasurer, mxk462@psu.edu
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Amy Ricketts, C&I Representative, arr217@psu.edu
Kate Marino, Ed Psych, Counseling, and Special Ed Representative, kam664@psu.edu
"Nou Sonje" We Remember.

January 12, @ 5pm in Memorial Lounge of Pasquerilla Spiritual Center

Monday, January 12, marks the 5th anniversary of Haitian earthquake disaster which demolished Port-au-Prince, claimed over 200,000, and displaced 1.5 million people. CIGSA is holding vigil ceremony, Monday, January 12, 5pm in Memorial Lounge of Pasquerilla Spiritual Center, in the memory of those victims. The program will entail brief film screening, discussion on the conceptualizations of Haiti, and will conclude with a moment of silence/prayer. All people and all faiths are welcome.

College of Education Graduate Student Council January Meeting
January 14th @ 3PM in Rackley 304

This meeting we will be discussing our constitution, the election to be held in February and the Spring schedule of events. This meeting is open to all and we hope you consider joining the meeting.

Ayiti Cheri: 5th Year Anniversary of the Haiti Earthquake
January 14, 2015, 6:00pm, in Heritage Hall, HUB-Robeson Center

This commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the Haitian earthquake is hosted by NCNW AND CSA with music by CodeBlack.

Forum on Black Affairs' 40th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Banquet
January 15, 2015 @ 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 5:45 p.m.) in President’s Hall, The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel

Ticket information: contact Grace Hampton, fobabanquet@psu.edu or 814-865-8113
Travel information: On Thursday, January 15, 2015, there will be two (2) shuttle bus round trips provided to the Penn Stater, from the HUB – Robeson Center and Shields Building, between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. (Following the conclusion of the banquet, there will be two (2) round trips back to Shields Building and the HUB – Robeson Center between 9:00 and 9:30 p.m.)

Making the Most of Your TA Experience
January 15, 2015 @ 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. in 315 Rider Building

Because teaching assistants are situated between faculty and students, the role requires unique skills in navigating potentially challenging situations. In this interactive workshop, Graduate Consultants Stephen Van Wert and Whitney Zimmerman will consider common problem situations and discuss ways to resolve them.

Takeaways: Strategies for communicating with students and faculty supervisors, grading efficiently, and getting teaching experience and feedback as a TA. Register »

Coffee Hour with Jaime Alves, Ph.D.
January 16, 2015 - 3:30pm - 5:00pm, E. Willard Miller seminar room, 319 Walker Building and John J. Cahir Auditorium, 112 Walker Building

3:30 p.m. Refreshments are offered in the E. Willard Miller seminar room, 319 Walker Building 4:00 p.m. The lecture begins in the John J. Cahir Auditorium, 112 Walker Building.

This presentation explores the racialized dimensions of policing practices in Brazil. To do so, we look not at the police, their administrative organization, and practices, but rather, we examine the modes of sociality reflected in and produced by police violence. Drawing from a statistics-based analysis of the social and political outcomes produced by the state in its preparation of mega-sporting events – evictions, incarceration, and police violence, for example – we identify a nexus between, on the one hand, racialized violence against black bodies, and on the other, white loyalty to the state, despite, or precisely because of, a specific type of violence perpetrated by the state on white bodies. Our primary contention is that we cannot understand white victimization by the police – and the outrage it produces – without taking into consideration two foundational, dialectical aspects of the regime of rights: complicity and disavowal. White vulnerability to this specific form of state violence – a form of violence that is nevertheless contingent and produces collective horror – reflects not only the disavowal of black challenges vis-a-vis urban life, but also the strengthening of the white public sphere. For more information, click here.

**URL:** [Coffee Hour To Go](#)

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**“There’s Racism in Canada? Blackness, Race and Racism from a Canadian Perspective”**

**Presented by El Jones.**

*January 16, 2015 @ 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. in 124 Sparks Building*

The following bio is courtesy of [Halifax Municipal Website](#). HRM Poet Laureate, 2013 - 2015, El Jones is a spoken word activist and teacher. She was the two-time captain of the back-to-back national championship Halifax slam team in 2007 and 2008. El has performed all over Canada, including at the 10th Anniversary All-Star edition of When Sisters Speak in Toronto. In 2012, she was sponsored by Citizenship and Heritage Canada on a reading tour of Nova Scotia with George Elliott Clarke. Her poetry is particularly committed to political causes and social justice and has worked extensively with organizations around Halifax performing and presenting on issues of social change. She is dedicated to using poetry in prison outreach and youth engagement, and volunteers twice a week at Centerline Studio on the corner of Uniacke and Gottingen. El is current artistic director of Word Iz Bond Spoken Word Artist Collective and can be seen performing on the third Thursday of every month at the Company House at 2202 Gottingen Street in Word Iz Bond’s SPEAK! series, one of the oldest continually running spoken word series in Canada. She currently teaches in the African Canadian Transition Program at NSCC and in the Women’s Studies program at Acadia. El believes that poetry can empower the powerless and give voice to the voiceless. For more information: contact: Rob Peeler, rjp218@psu.edu, 814-863-5911 or click here.

**Selma**

*January 17, 2015 @ 4:00 P.M. or January 19, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. at College 12 theater near the Nittany Mall*

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US FOR OUR SHOWING OF THIS GROUNDBREAKING FILM! #PSUSelma. The Paul Robeson Cultural Center will be hosting two FREE showings of the movie Selma. This is for all current Penn State students, staff, and faculty. Please sign-up for ONE showing to secure your seat. One ticket per person. Multiple sign-ups will NOT be honored.
Register for the event below. Ticket REQUIRED to enter event. LIMITED TICKETS! Tickets will be available for pick-up on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 from 10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. & Wednesday, January 14, 2015 from 10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. We will have tickets available for pick up from the Paul Robeson Cultural Center front desk for those that have signed up. (Please bring your PSU ID)

If tickets are NOT picked up by 8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 it will be forfeited and given to someone else. As you register please tweet, instagram, etc with #PSUSelma Ticket REQUIRED to enter event. One ticket per person.

Please sign-up to secure your seat at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XDM_goFMgWiRxN-4KIK0Ya3KSkZEl3GdADjl1nH3f4/viewform?c=0&w=1

MLK Service Trip for Penn State students
January 16-18, 2015, Depart 6:00 p.m. Friday, return by 5:00 p.m. Sunday in The Washington Seminar Center, Washington, D.C.; Register by Tuesday, January 13th.

This two-day trip is sponsored by the Lutheran Campus Ministry, Wesley PSU, Westminster Presbyterian Fellowship, 3rd Way Collective, and The Center for Spirituality and Ethical Development (CSED) and will include service, learning, interfaith reflection, sightseeing, and fun!

An informational meeting will be held at 8:00 p.m. on January 13 in the Harshbarger Room in the CSED; email presbyterian@psu.edu for more information.

Cost: $30.00/person, includes transportation, lodging, food, and program (financial assistance is available) Interested Penn State students should register by Tuesday, January 13 at http://goo.gl/hJhp8x

Live from the Afrikan Resistance!
January 17, 2015 @ 04:00 PM to 06:00 PM in Webster’s Bookstore Cafe, 133 E Beaver Ave, State College, PA 16801

El Jones, one of Canada’s hardest hitting poets and Halifax’s controversial Poet Laureate, will perform from her new collection of spoken word, Live from the Afrikan Resistance! For more info, Contact: Rob Peeler, rjp218@psu.edu, 815-863-5911 or click here.

MLK Day of Service
January 19, 2015 @ 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in HUB-Robeson Center, Alumni Hall

Join us as we come together to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and volunteer in our local community at various service agencies. Sign up today at www.volunteer.psu.edu.

Audio broadcast of Martin Luther King Jr.’s address at Rec Hall on January 21, 1965: “Have You Heard? Notable Speeches at Penn State”
January 19, 2015 @ 11:00 a.m. in Foster Auditorium, E102 Paterno Library

Musical selections from The Pennsylvania State University choir Essence of Joy
January 19, 2015 @ 1:00 p.m. in Franklin Atrium, W106 Patee Library
GA 101: First Steps in Planning a Course  
*January 19, 2015 @ 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. in 315 Rider Building*

This interactive workshop, presented by Graduate Consultants Stephen Van Wert and Whitney Zimmerman, is for graduate students and postdocs who either now or in the future will be teaching courses independently.

*Takeaways:* Strategies for identifying learning goals; guidelines for writing syllabi.

[Register »](#)

Community Showcase  
*January 20, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m. in West Cultural Lounge*

GA 102: Strategies to Enhance Your Students’ Learning  
*January 21, 2015 @ 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. in 315 Rider Building*

Students can make great learning gains when they have a chance to apply new concepts and skills. Join Graduate Consultants Whitney Zimmerman and Stephen Van Wert for GA 102: Strategies to Enhance Your Students’ Learning.

*Takeaways:* Adaptable and efficient active-learning methods; quick ways to collect feedback on students’ understanding. [Register »](#)

Speak for Peace: Social Justice Reception and MLK Oratorical Contest  
*January 21, 2015 @ 6:30 p.m. in HUB-Robeson Center, Heritage Hall (Free ticketed event)*

Free tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Office of Student Activities (209 HUB-Robeson Center).

Documentary *Little Rock Central: 50 Years Later*, sponsored by the Penn State Reads program  
*January 21, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m. in Freeman Auditorium, HUB-Robeson Center*

Little Rock Central high school was the first high school in the South to be desegregated, in 1957. This documentary examines students’ lives at the school today, the legacy of desegregation, and the challenges facing America’s education today. The documentary will be followed by a discussion led by Michael Burroughs, Assistant Director of the Rock Ethics Institute.

Suzanne Mettler and Higher Education  
*January 22, 2015 @ 04:00 PM to 05:30 PM in 102 Paterno Library - Foster Auditorium*

Dr. Suzanne Mettler is the Clinton Rossiter Professor of American Institutions in the Government Department, Cornell University. She will discuss the following: When it comes to discussions about rising college costs, attention is often directed squarely at college and university leaders, but federal and state policymakers also play an enormous role in providing individuals with the ability to afford college. In recent decades policymakers have abdicated their responsibility for ensuring an affordable, accountable and high quality postsecondary system of higher education in the U.S., slowly dismantling a legacy in which earlier generations of lawmakers made higher education a pillar of the nation’s economic, social and civic foundation. How and why has this failure of public duty taken place? And what specific actions can Americans take to encourage a renewal of political leadership in stewarding American higher education? For more information, [click here](#).
Evening Celebration featuring Dr. Michael Eric Dyson
January 22, 2015 @ 6:30 p.m.; event begins at 7:00 p.m. in Schwab Auditorium (Free ticketed event)

“Pharaoh and Moses: The Radical Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. in the Age of Obama”: this lecture will address the continuities and conflicts between the prophetic legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the presidential legacy of Barack Obama. Using his recent books and essays on Dr. King and President Obama as well as recent national events in Ferguson and beyond as a starting point, Dr. Dyson will address their similarities, differences, and the clashing and confused expectations of Obama in light of his identification with Dr. King’s life and rhetoric.

Free tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Office of Student Activities (209 HUB-Robeson Center), the Paul Robeson Cultural Center (21 HUB-Robeson Center), or online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mlk-evening-celebration-feat-dr-michael-eric-dyson-tickets-10203136857.

"The Burden of Cosmopolitanism: Singapore's Search for Past, Present, and Future"  
Nicolai Volland
January 22, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m. in Palmer Lipcon Auditorium, Palmer Museum of Art

Part of the Cities: Pacific Rim Series and sponsored by the Institute for Arts and Humanities. For more information, click here.

Peace Sit-in
January 23, 2015 @ 5:30 p.m. in West Cultural Lounge

GA 103: Creating Effective Tests and Rubrics
January 23, 2015 @ 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. in 315 Rider Building, University Park

This workshop, presented by Graduate Consultants Whitney Zimmerman and Stephen Van Wert, will focus on ways for participants to make sure their tests are functioning accurately and fairly in determining what students have learned.

Takeaways: Guidelines for test blueprints, multiple-choice tests, and rubrics. Register »

Emerging Scholar Speaker Series
January 26th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in 216 Willard

This speaker series is free and open to the public. For complete information on the speakers’ presentations, please click here.

9:00-9:45 - Caitlin Verboon, Ph.D. - Yale University (History)  
"Public and Private Rights Are Confounded: Freedom, Disorder, and the Renegotiation of Urban Space after the Civil War"

9:45-10:30 - Nicole Myers Turner, Ph.D. - University of Pennsylvania (History)  
"Powering the Pulpit: Politics of Black Religious Institutions in Post-Emancipation Virginia"

10:30-11:15 - Selah S. Johnson, Ph.D. - University of California at Los Angeles (History)  
"The Day the District Shook: The April 4, 1968 Washington Riot and the Aftermath"

11:15-Noon - Mary Hicks, Ph.D. - University of Virginia (History)
“Juan Jozeph's Map of the Atlantic: African and Creole Mariners, Mobility and Commerce during the Era of the Slave Trade”

Noon-12:45 - Nicole Spigner, Ph.D. - Vanderbilt University (English)
"Niobe's Echoes: Phillis Wheatley and H. Cordelia Ray's Ovidian Poems"
(Spigner will present in 217 Willard)

12:45-1:30 - Kenton Rambsy, Ph.D. - University of Kansas (English)
"Understanding and Text-mining African American Short Fiction"
(Rambsy will present in 217 Willard)

How To Create An Exhibition Poster Session
January 26, 2015 @ 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in 112 Kern Graduate Building

This presentation will focus on the mechanics of creating a research poster, including organization, format and presentation. Please visit the Graduate School Website to register for the poster information session. Students who are unable to attend this information session may view the video that will be posted on the Graduate School website following the event.

Luncheon Series with William Blair, Ph.D., and Sabra Statham, Ph.D. "Assessing the William Dorsey African American Scrapbook Collection"
January 27, 2015 from noon to 1:00 PM, 217 Willard Building

Free and open to the public. Abstract TBA, click here for updated information.

Phenomenology and the Politics of Love - Hegel and Levinas in Discussion
January 27, 2015 from 02:30 PM to 04:00 PM, location to be determined

Presented by Dr. Brigitta Keintzel, Professor of Philosophy, University of Vienna, more information on this lecture is forthcoming. To find out more, contact Carolyn Umbricht, ccu1@psu.edu, 814-863-0314 or click here.

Applying for Academic Jobs
January 29, 2015 @ 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. in 315 Rider Building

Thinking of a career in academia? Whether you are interested in teaching at a community college, small liberal arts school, or a research-intensive university, this workshop will introduce you to the process of applying for academic jobs. Participants will learn about the job search timeline and suggestions for preparing early. Example job application materials will be discussed. Graduate students of any year and post-docs are welcome to attend this workshop led by Senior Research Associate and Instructional Consultant Kathy Jackson and Graduate Consultants Stephen Van Wert and Whitney Zimmerman.

Takeaways: Guidelines on job-search timing and materials Register »

Professional Development Opportunities

New Instructor Orientation - Spring 2015
Date(s): Monday, January 12, 2015 to Friday, February 13, 2015
Time(s): Angel access information will be provided to participants via email
Location: Online Course
Good teaching involves planning, lots of it and at every level. This online, self-directed workshop, open to all new instructors at Penn State, is offered at the start of each semester through Angel, Penn State's course management system. Moderated by Cindy Decker Raynak, Senior Instructional Designer, this self directed workshop will provide you with a brief introduction to the resources and strategies that are crucial to good teaching and planning.

Registered participants will receive an email with ANGEL access information. Register here.

**AERA Funded: Institute on Statistical Analysis for Education Policy: Causal Analysis Using International Data**

_Due date: February 17th, 2015_

The AERA Grants Program is accepting applications to attend the (http://www.aera.net/ProfessionalOpportunitiesFunding/AERAFundingOpportunities/StatisticalAnalysis-CausalAnalysisUsingInternationalData/tabid/14751/Default.aspx) Institute on Statistical Analysis for Education Policy: Causal Analysis Using International Data, with a deadline of Tuesday, February 17, 2015. The Institute will be held May 19-22, 2015 in Washington DC. Those selected for participation will receive support covering the Institutes fees, transportation, housing, and meals for the dates of the Institute. Advanced graduate students and early career scholars and researchers are especially encouraged to apply. Please help us in disseminating information to colleagues who may be interested.

Supported by the National Science Foundation, the Institute's goal is to build the capacity of the U.S. education research community to use large-scale national and international data sets such as those from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), NSF, and other federal agencies for basic, policy, and applied research. The focus of the 2015 Institute will be on inferring causality and the methodologies available to support causal inferences using data from Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). Advanced doctoral students and recent doctorates are especially encouraged to apply.

Applicants must have completed at least one year of statistics courses at the doctoral level and have familiarity with multiple regression methods.

For further information about the AERA Grants Program and the Institute review the (http://www.aera.net/ProfessionalOpportunitiesFunding/AERAFundingOpportunities/StatisticalAnalysis-CausalAnalysisUsingInternationalData/tabid/14751/Default.aspx) Call for Applications. You may also contact the AERA Grants Program at (mailto:grantsprogram@aera.net) or (202) 238-3226.

**Ongoing Events**

**Poster Exhibit: “University Libraries Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Black History Month”**

_December 8, 2014 through February 28, 2015 @ Pattee Library, Central Lobby (Mall Entrance)_

Posters designed by Penn State students for the 30th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration poster design competition