

# SCHOOL OF EDUCATION EDUCATION LEADERSHIP & POLICY STUDIES NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021 EDITION



## WE MADE IT!

2021 has been the year that unprecedented times became rather precedented. We have welcomed new students, new staff and new faculty members as we made our way back to campus this fall. This semester has been nothing short of eventful. From thought provoking conversations and discussion posts in class to protests on campus and graduate students unionizing across the nation. Our campuses and schools are shifting. What a time to be a student in the ELPS department. It has been a blast, you all have put in so much work this semester and now it's time to celebrate and rest! See you in the spring.

With Lots of Bison Love,

Kathleen Rzucidlo, Lucia Cuomo and Stacey Speller

ELPS FALL 2021  
NEWSLETTER

## IN THIS ISSUE

Semester Recap, Upcoming  
Events and Announcements

Resources, Funding,  
Fellowships and Conferences

Student Spotlights

Faculty Accolades

And More!

# FALL SEMESTER EVENTS

## HUSOE Homecoming Celebration 10/21

Alumni Guest Speakers

Thomas Parker, M.S.

Maimunah Marah, M.Ed.

Teresa Grant, Ph.D.

Weade W. James, Ph.D.

## 42nd Annual Charles H. Thompson Lecture Colloquium, 11/3

"Black Scholar Activism in the Post-Education Reform Era"

Keynote Speaker: Ivory A. Toldson, Ph.D.

## Critical Race Theory: Addressing the truth, the lies, and misnomers 11/16

Moderated by - Shannon Waite, Ed.D.

Panelists

Travis J. Bristol, Ph.D.

Meisha Rose-Porter

Shareefah Al'Uqdah, Ph.D.

Celeste Malone, Ph.D.

Helen Bond, Ph.D.

Altheria Caledra, Ph.D.



**42nd Annual Charles H. Thompson Lecture-Colloquium**

Co-Sponsored by:

- The Journal of Negro Education
- Howard University School of Education
- The Charles H. Thompson Lecture Colloquium Committee

**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Ivory A. Toldson, Ph.D.**  
Editor-in-Chief of The Journal of Negro Education

**"Black Scholar Activism in the Post-Education Reform Era"**

Wednesday, November 3, 2021  
5:00 PM- 6:30 PM

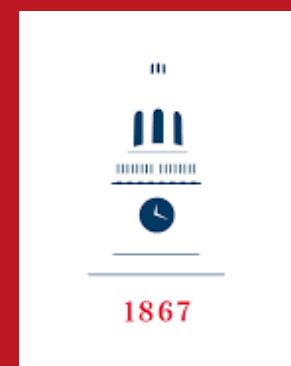
Register Here:  
<https://forms.gle/xG5TzedYfgu1wVuY6>



**With over 300 participants this event was a hit! This dynamic panel came together to have an insightful conversation and share so many resources with the community. It was the perfect way to celebrate National Education Week!**

## GSAC EVENTS

Virtual Game Night- Oct 11  
Student-Faculty Mixer- Oct 22  
Holiday Toy Drive - December 7  
Check out page 2 for more GSAC news



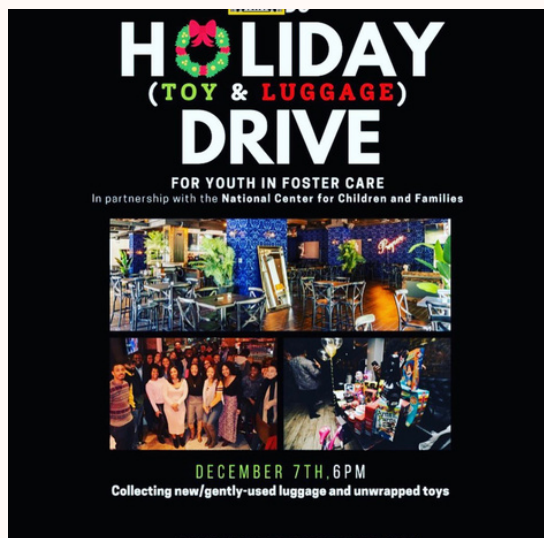


# MEET GSAC

- The Graduate Student Advisory Council will develop and maintain relationships with all internal and external constituents of the HUSOE.
- The Graduate Student Advisory Council will act as a liaison between faculty and students by serving as a voice and advocate for students and alumni.
- The Graduate Student Advisory Council will enhance or develop systems that put students first.
- The Graduate Student Advisory Council will organize and collaborate with students to provide information, best practices, and trainings that allow students to sharpen the skills necessary to matriculate successfully through our programs.

## Meet the GSAC Executive Board

- Shaina Thomas, ELPS '23, President**
- Nicole Moore, ELPS '22, Vice President**
- Wafa Alnasser, ELPS '25, Secretary**
- Reginald Hutchins, ELPS '24, Treasurer**
- Adrina Burney, ELPS '22, Masters Student Representative**
- Courtney Gibbs, ELPS '24, Event Coordinator**
- Jacquetha Charles, M.Ed Administration '24, Event Coordinator**
- Rebekah Jackson, ELPS '24, Communications Chair**



@HU\_SOE\_GSAC



**Be sure to follow GSAC on social media to keep up to date with all of the wonderful events they are putting together in real time!**

## WELCOME OUR NEW FACULTY

### DR. JORGE BURMICKY

Dr. Jorge Burmicky is joining the ELPS department as an Assistant Professor. His research examines the leadership pipeline in higher education, with an emphasis on racially minoritized leaders at MSIs, community colleges and regional universities. His work also explores policies and practices that support the educational outcomes of men of color, specifically the impact of men of color programs and initiatives on student success.



### DR. SHANNON WAITE

Dr. Shannon Waite is joining the ELPS department as a visiting assistant professor. Dr. Waite is an educational policy maker for the largest urban public-school district in the nation. In March of 2018, she was appointed as a Mayoral appointee to the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP) and as a Trustee on the Board of Education Retirement System (BERS). She uses her platform and voice to increase the level of transparency and public accountability for the 1.1 million public school students and their families attending the city's schools. Her work as a scholar-activist drives her staunch advocacy for anti-racist and equitable education for all; and particularly, for historically marginalized communities of color and communities with lower SES.

### DR. CAROL A. MOYE

Dr. Carol A. Moyer is joining the ELPS department as a Visiting Professor. She has extensive experience in K-12, higher education, juvenile justice, and corporate management spanning 30 years. Dr. Moyer's research has focused on academic and non academic factors that impact teachers' perception of assessment and accountability policies. Dr. Moyer develops and facilitates training and coaching that integrates a deeper, historical context of the impact of systemic racism, implicit bias, and social justice through a lens of Critical Race Theory and the Cultural Responsiveness Framework as they pertain to education, teaching and learning



# Meet Our New Students

ELPS Ed.D. and M.Ed.



Please welcome to newest additions to our Education Leadership an Policy Studies programs

### Ed.D. Program

- Ashley Lopez
- Kevin Trice
- Betty Cowens
- Joshua Middleton
- Kiona Byrd
- Arthur Mola
- Wualanda
- Thenstead
- Cecily Matthews
- Sharon Welch
- Amber Ownes
- Rhonda Moore
- Shelley Anderson
- James Walker
- Stephen Shepherd Jr.
- Derrick Holifield

### M.Ed Program

- Terese Lowery
- Nada Alruwais
- Willis Jefferson
- Quentin Singleton
- Oluwale Kuponipe
- Lauren Lynn
- Crystal Donaldson
- Aleisha Archie-McMillan
- Jacquetha Charles

We want to highlight a special ELPS student. Kiona Byrd was selected as 1 of 13 fellows to work on The Hill for this legislative session. Byrd gas teaching experience by way of Teach For America. Byr is working for Congressman David Trone (D-MA-6) and her portfolios are education, criminal justice, healthcare and education policy.

*“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving the community & world better than you found it”*

Marian Wright Edelman

# Meet Our New Students

HELPS Cohort 5



Please welcome the 13 newest additions to the Higher Education Policy and Leadership Studies program

- Alexus Laster
- Arsene Frederick
- Asa Mack
- Elaine Flowers
- J. Elijah Bratton
- Jessica Stamp
- Kathleen "K" Rzucidlo
- LaDan Wallace-Johnson
- Marissa Thornton
- Qyana Stewart
- Stacey Speller
- Tiffany Lathan-Smith
- Tracey Holmes

The semester kicked off with the HELPS program being written about in FORBES Magazine in an article titled, "Which University is Producing Scholars for the Future of Higher Education?" Cohort 5's very own Stacey Speller was interviewed and gave us this take away just a few weeks into the program.

"There's something powerful about being in a room with a group of critical thinkers who are unpacking scholarly work with an intentional focus of seeking justice for marginalized communities."



## *"The Live Five"*

# Successful Defenses

## **Bilal Badruddin**

On October 11, 2021, HELPS doctoral student Bilal Badruddin successfully defended his dissertation proposal titled, "Pardesi No More: Understanding Belonging for Desi/South Asian Students in Asian American Greek Letter Organizations at AANAPISIs"

## **Wafa Alzahrani**

On November 1, 2021, EAGLE doctoral student, Wafa Alzahrani successfully defended her proposal titled, "A Comprehensive Evaluation of Virtual Learning Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic in K-12 Schools in Saudi Arabia".

## **Brandon Brown**

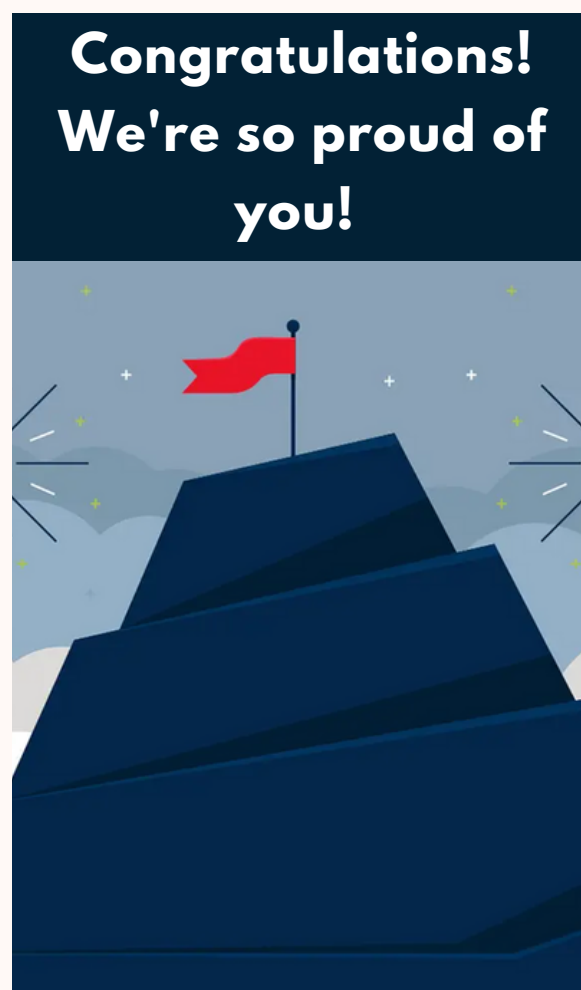
On November 2, 2021, HELPS doctoral student Brandon Brown successfully defended his dissertation proposal titled, "An Exploration of Howard University's Place-Building Strategies as an Anchor Institution in the Historic Pleasant Plains, LeDroit Park, and Shaw Communities"

## **Cecil Duffie**

On November 10, HELPS student, Cecil Duffie defended his dissertation proposal titled, "A Charge to Keep I Have!": Examining the Lived Experience of Black Religious and Spiritual Leaders in Higher Education.

## **Melody Andrews**

On December 10, EAGLE student, Melody Andrews successfully defended her dissertation proposal titled, "#MainCharacterEnergy: The Influence of the Black Female Literary Protagonist on the Culturally Sustaining Praxis of Black Women ELA"



## Student Highlights

**Jessica Stamp**, HELPS, published her first article on October 11, 2021. Application of The Theory of Planned Behavior to Generation Z and Higher Education. *Journal of Student Research*, 10(3).  
<https://doi.org/10.47611/jsr.v10i3.1294>

**K. Rzuicidlo**, HELPS, received the Silver Scholar Award by the NACA® Research and Scholarship Group for a research study with Dr. Burmicky titled, A Snapshot of Campus Involvement in the COVID-19 Pandemic: An HBCU-based Case Study

**Deltonia Shropshire**, EAGLE, has published her first journal article. SP safety, autonomy and healthcare simulation practice in the COVID-19 era. She is interested in leadership and scholarship in medical and healthcare education. The full article can be found [here](#).

**Karen Bussey**, HELPS, started a new position as policy advisor to New Jersey's Office of the Secretary of Higher Education implementing the Governor's education, workforce, and economic development initiatives. Her portfolio helps the economy of the state recover and adapt from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic by closing equity gaps in the state's education-workforce pipeline.

**Karen Bussey**, HELPS, recently released a policy report and set of one-pagers with the Institute for Higher Education Policy entitled, "The Most Important Door That Will Ever Open." Realizing the Mission of Higher Education Through Equitable Admissions Policies. The policy report discusses inequities within the college admissions and enrollment pipeline. Link to the work can be found here:  
<https://www.ihep.org/publication/mostimportantdoor/>

**Bilal Badruddin**, HELPS, has been appointed to the Peer Review Board for the Oracle, the official research journal of the Association for Fraternity/Sorority Advisors (AFA).

**Marissa Thornton**, HELPS, secured an internship with the American Council of Education (ACE)

**Sean Miller**, EAGLE, named 2021 George Washington Mount Vernon History Teacher of the Year!



**Celebrate these  
milestones!  
Congratulations!**

## Student Highlights

**Ashleigh Brown-Greir**, HELPS, accomplished so much!

### **Publication**

Examining International Student Support Services at HBCUs: Recruitment, Preparation, and Training. Center for Minority Serving Institutions, Rutgers University-New Brunswick.

### **Conference Presentations**

Representation Matters, Building Engagement with Alumni: Partnerships That Yield Results. NAFSA: Association for International Educators Regions Conference Presentation.

Representation Matters, Building Engagement with Alumni: Partnerships That Yield Results. Diversity Abroad's Global Inclusion Conference.

### **Keynote Speaker**

US-UK Fulbright Commission. Summer School Fair.

### **Grant Funding**

Citizen Diplomacy Action Fund for international HBCU xchange, Inc. (iHBCUx) U.S. Department of State, administered by The Partners of the Americas.



**Congratulations!**



## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

### DR. SOSANYA JONES



*Dr. Sosanya Jones was appointed Associate Editor for The Review of Higher Education.*

*Dr. Jones was interviewed and featured in a U.S. News and World Report article on Stranded Credits. The U.S. News article "What to Know About Stranded Credits" was published on Monday, October 4th*

*Dr. Jones and her co-author, Dr. Chad Kee of Morgan State, had their article "The Invisible Labor of Diversity Educators in Higher Education" published by The Social Justice Journal*

### DR. JORGE BURMICKY

Dr. Burmicky received three paper session acceptances to present at the 2022 American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual conference focused on organizational models for men of color programs, Latino men in community colleges, and a duoethnography research project.

Dr. Burmicky, along with his graduate assistant (K. Rzuclidlo) received a research grant from the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) to study campus involvement in the COVID-19 era at Howard University

Dr. Burmicky was selected for the 2022-23 NASPA Emerging Faculty Leaders Academy - Cohort VII

Dr. Burmicky was appointed for a three-year term to be serve in the Research in Brief Board for the Journal of College Student Development.



## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

### DR. MELANIE CARTER



*Dr. Carter has launched the Center for HBCU Research, Leadership and Policy*

*Dr. Carter published her work, ROI Reciprocity for Historically Black Colleges and Universities on October 25, 2021*

### DR. SHANNON WAITE

*Dr. Waite gave the keynote in October at the Educational Opportunities Program for the SUNY system in NYS.*

*Dr. Waite was the moderator for the Critical Race Theory: Addressing the truth, the lies, and misnomers panel discuss this past semester.*

*Dr. Waite published in a special issue of the Journal of Educational Supervision.*

*Waite, S. R. (2021). Towards a Theory of Critical Consciousness: A New Direction for the Development of Instructional and Supervisory Leaders. Journal of Educational Supervision, 4 (2). <https://doi.org/10.31045/jes.4.2.4n>*



## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS & PROMOTIONS

### DR. ROBERT T. PALMER



*Dr. Palmer secured a generous grant this semester from the Bill and Melinda Gate Foundation.*

*The vision for this grant is to provide support and assist HELPS students who have and are experiencing significant financial hardship.*

*Dr. Palmer was also promoted to Full Professor. Congratulations!!*

### DR. SOSANYA JONES

*Dr. Jones received tenure and a promotion to Associate Professor. Congratulations!!*



# Congratulations Doctor!



**We are so proud!!**

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Brianna Clark who successfully defended her dissertation, "Revival: Reimagining Our Reach Exploring Stakeholder Perceptions Concerning The Future of HBCU Athletics in a Time of Multiple Crises"

Brianna Clark is a Graduate Research Associate (GRA) at the American Council on Education (ACE) and now Ph.D. recipient in the inaugural cohort of the Higher Education Leadership and Policy Studies (HELPS) program at Howard University. She is the second graduate of this program.

Brianna's research focuses on intercollegiate athletics, particularly HBCU athletics, and gender and racial equity in sport. Brianna primarily assists ACE's research team in producing research to inform policy in the areas of equity-minded leadership, institutional transformation, and student success.

Before joining ACE, Brianna worked in various functional areas within student affairs, such as new student orientation, academic advising, career services, residence life, and athletics. She most recently served as a Learning Specialist within Student-Athlete Support Services at Howard University.

Brianna holds a master's degree in Counseling from Old Dominion University and a bachelor's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences from Virginia State University.

## Congratulations Doctor!

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Shaneena Cole McDonnaugh Holland who successfully defended her dissertation, "Do You Have What it Takes to Lead Black and Brown Children in Gifted Education?" Maryland Urban Elementary School Principals' Preparation, Self-Efficacy, and Culturally Responsive Leadership in Gifted Education "

Currently, Shaneena Cole McDonnaugh Holland is a first year principal in Prince Georges County Public Schools. Shaneena's research focuses on Black and Brown children in gifted education. More specifically, the school principal's role in supporting students of color in gifted education.

Shaneena has been an active member of the Prince Georges' County Public School District (PGCPS) for eight years, serving as an assistant principal, instructional lead teacher (ILT), talented and gifted coordinator, classroom educator, professional development facilitator for both PGCPS and her assigned school. Prior to relocating to Maryland, she worked as a classroom educator, curriculum writer, data coach, mentor teacher and gifted and talented advisory member in the Brandywine School District located in Wilmington, Delaware for eight years. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware.

Shaneena is an advocate for children of color and has earned the Outstanding Educator in Gifted and Talented- Local School Administrator for the state of Maryland. In addition, she has lead an elementary school to earn the status of Excellence in Gifted and Talented Education (EGATE).



**Congratulations!!**

# Funding Opportunities & Other Important Information

## AERA Congressional Fellowship Program

Details about the program, eligibility requirements and application instructions are available here. Below is a brief description. The application deadline for the 2022-2023 Congressional Fellowships is Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

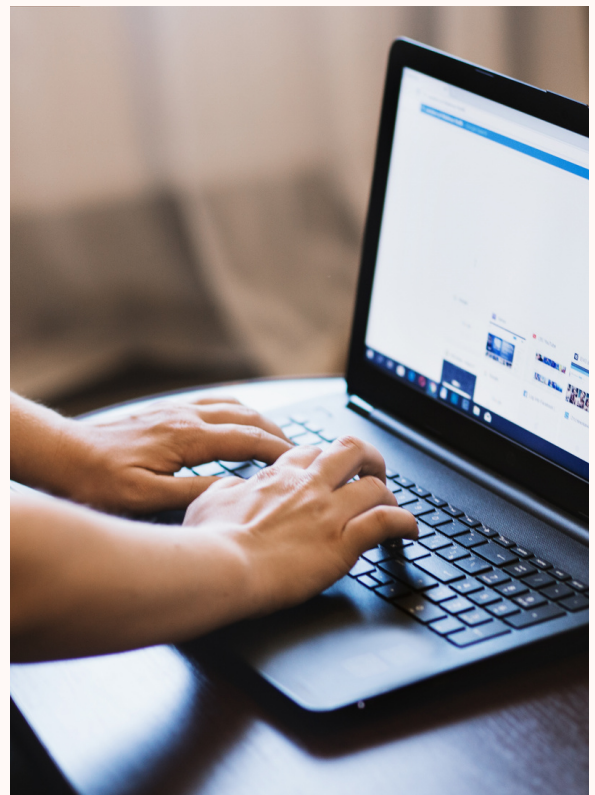
**The Graduate Student Council** has opened a form that students can fill out and apply for funding to help them attend, present or volunteer at conferences. Each student is eligible to receive up to \$500 a year, please be sure to submit a request if you plan on attended any conference or workshops. Here is the link [tinyurl.com/GSCfundingform](https://tinyurl.com/GSCfundingform)

**NASPA 2022 Conference Funding** is being provided by Jim Rhatigan Fellowship Scholarship. The deadline to apply is December 31, 2021. Who can apply? Graduate students pursuing a master's or doctoral program in higher education, student affairs, or other related fields. Funds must be used towards the cost to attend the 2022 NASPA Annual Conference, as well as a pre-conference event.

[Apply Here](#)



**Be sure to use  
these resources!**



## ***You did it!***

You made it to the end of another semester



***“When I dare to be powerful — to use my strength  
in the service of my vision, then it becomes less  
and less important whether I am afraid.”***

***-Audre Lorde***

Whether it was your first semester with us and the journey has just begun or this was your last semester and you have successfully obtained your degree, we want to be sure you know that the ELPS department is proud of you! Continue on in your success, dare to be powerful and make the difference that is needed in our education system.

We hope that you will take this winter break to rest, recharge and come back ready in the new semester to take on each and every challenge, opportunity and assignment on with the same energy and more of this semester.

See you next semester!