

Diversity Matters

Office of Equity, Diversity, and Global Engagement



Welcome

I have been thinking a lot about counting, how we as humans are hard-wired to notice quantity, and experience confusion, or upset when something put before us is taken away.

Last year, I counted: all the people I lost, my 50 years (and feeling old), the many hours on Zoom, and the pounds I gained during the pandemic. That counting fostered too close a focus on what I considered spaces of lack.

This year I have practiced a different kind of counting--one that considers the abundance surrounding me daily. I have counted all the sweet moments with my 98-year-old grandmother, counted my steps to health (thanks Android watch!), some pounds lost (hello shopping spree!) and I have counted (and many times, hugged) the awesome folks with whom I am fortunate to work. I am frequently reminded that I can count on my team and colleagues to work collaboratively, and with the commitment to a culture, climate, policies and practices that honor and support the rich diversities and arrays of excellence, intellect, and talent in our college as a guidepost.

Now that summer break is upon us and many will spend more time off campus than on, I am counting the days until I see you all again. Have a wonderful summer, and count every joy.

- Noelle Arnold, PhD
Senior Associate Dean and Director of EDGE
Professor of Educational Administration

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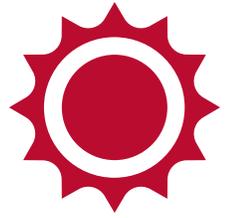
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Meet the Staff

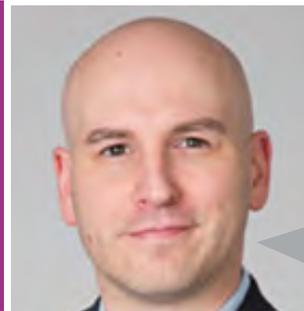


...and their favorite summer activity!



Noelle Arnold, PhD
Senior Associate Dean;
Professor of Educational
Administration

"My favorite thing to do in summer is to take weekend road trips with my hubby."



John Rensink
Senior Director, The Bright Initiative

"I love to get out into the wilderness with my family. I've got two young boys and we're kind of an outdoorsy bunch. They're just about old enough to do some overnights this summer."



Tei Street
Education Director of
Health Science Academies

"I love working with students in the summer. Then, I take a couple of weeks to replenish on Caribbean beaches."



Jenna Azotea
Education Abroad Specialist

"Anything active and outdoors! I especially love running and biking local trails, kayaking, and swimming."



Christine Fagan, EdD
Special Projects Manager

Christine's favorite summer activity is attending her son's baseball games. The out-of-town tournaments are fun and exciting, and get to experience fun things to do in other cities.



Neal McKinney
Graduate Research Associate

"I love to spend time by any body of water."



Ryann Randall
Assistant to the Director

"Ruhani and I truly enjoy being outdoors during the summer months. I love going for walks at the park, sitting by the riverfront in downtown Columbus and eating a nice big scoop of blue cotton candy ice cream."



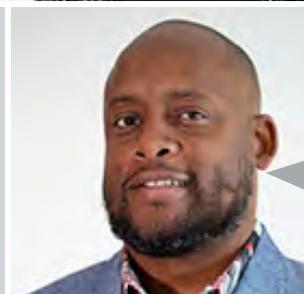
Carlotta Penn, PhD
Senior Director of
Partnerships and
Engagement

"I love exploring the outdoors with my kids and husband, and getting away for some R&R somewhere far from Columbus!"



Austin McClellan
Graphic Designer

"I love going to the beach or any body of water to take a dip and catch some rays!"



Muhammad Khalifa
Executive Director of Urban and Rural Initiatives

"My favorite summer activity is traveling the continent of Africa with the family, and committing to justice work in non-exoticizing and culturally responsive ways."

College and Community Engagement

Equity and Justice Read Around

The EHE-OSU Equity and Justice Read Around was created by The College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE) at The Ohio State University to bring together Central Ohio educators and young people to read and discuss works related to justice and equity.

Through book grants and literacy programming the Equity and Justice Read Around will feature works related to racial justice and equity in addition to works that amplify and support the unique voices of those often relegated to the margins and their rich array of excellence, intellect, and talent.

Teaching for Black Lives books donated to Worthington School



Thanks to a generous, anonymous donation, EDGE was able to gift copies of the book to teachers taking a course focused on diversifying

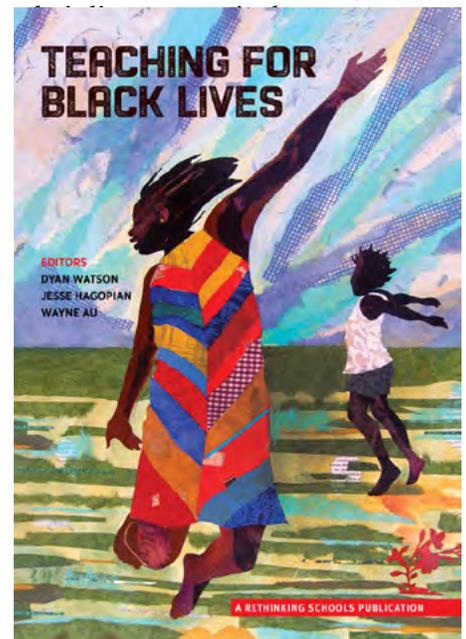


Art Reception with Nikole Hannah-Jones

EDGE collaborated with Experience EHE Week to host an art reception featuring paintings and poetry by Champion Middle School students. Students from Metro Early College School contributed digital artwork for the event. The art is inspired by the book: *The 1619 Project: Born on the Water* by Nikole Hannah Jones and Renée Watson.

EDGE Program Specialist Ryann Randall led this initiative, working with Champion Middle School teachers to determine art direction and coordinating all aspects of the exhibit and reception.

Some of the students' artwork is on display in Arps Hall. ■





Urban and Rural Initiative

The College of Education and Human Ecology is sponsoring a free Culturally Responsive School Leadership virtual academy for districts across Ohio. Seating will be limited to two leaders per district, and all participants will receive free books and readings. Other leaders in the participating districts will also receive a free text (Yes limited number of books available for non-attendees of participating districts!).



The Urban and Rural Initiative is embarking on a listening tour to hear the needs of various stakeholders across Ohio. We hope to hear from parents, students, teacher, administrators, legislators, community members, and scholars that can all inform Ohio State University how to serve and improve land grant activities with regard to urban and rural education.

Visit go.osu.edu/URI for more information. ■

Sponsorships

-  The American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE)
-  YWCA Women of Achievement
-  OSU PRIDE
-  The Initiative for Race Research and Justice at Vanderbilt's Peabody College
-  Dr. Caroline Clark awarded \$1,200 sustainability grant

Dean's Diversity Post Docs

During Experience EHE week, 12 Dean's Diversity Postdoc candidates spent 2 days on campus for on-site interviews and experiences. Six of those candidates will join EHE fall 2022. Ryann Randall helped to coordinate the visit.

Monthly Awareness Initiatives

The EDGE Office took opportunities throughout the semester to produce monthly initiatives to celebrate and bring awareness to specific communities across the spectrum of diversity.



In March, Dr. Carlotta Penn published a Q&A interview with shea martin, a Teaching & Learning doctoral student about the importance of International Transgender Day of Visibility, a day that celebrates the accomplishments of transgender and gender non-conforming people as well as raising awareness of their ongoing discrimination.



In April, Dr. Carlotta Penn published a Q&A interview with Dr. Peter Paul, Professor in the Special Education program in the Department of Educational Studies, and Program Chair of Special Education to raise awareness about National Deaf History Month, which commemorates important markers in Deaf history. ■

Health Science Academies



As the school year draws to a close, the students of the Health Sciences Academies (HSA) are excited to have completed state testing and are now engaged in end of the year activities. East High School is preparing for graduation for the Class of 2022. Many of the students are focused on finding summer employment or internship opportunities. A cohort of 5 students from East will spend eight weeks conducting cancer research at The James with the CAMELOT program. After a two year hiatus, due to the pandemic, The OSU College of Medicine welcomed the eighth grade students from Champion Middle School for the Dr. Margaret Ginn-Pease Medical Research Day. Students were able to tour the simulation labs, which was a big hit. The students loved working with medical students to dissect a cow's heart. The day was completed with an interactive visit to the Jameson Crane Sports Medicine Center.



The four elementary Health Sciences Academies have been engaged in rigorous exploration of health sciences. The Health Sciences Academy at Trevitt Elementary School has just been named as one of seven finalists nationally for the **Colgate Kids Bright Smiles Award** which is focused on oral health education and overall health and well-being.

The first place winner will receive \$10,000 and the second and third place winners will receive \$5,000. The winners will be determined by public vote and announced on May 18th.



EHE Legacies Recap

Throughout Spring semester, EDGE highlighted individuals for their phenomenal work within the field of education.



In January, we showcased **Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Heritage Month**. We focused on students and faculty for their dedication to the field of education and their extraordinary research. Lisa Delacruz Combs, 2nd year doctoral student in the Higher Education & Student Affairs Program, Binaya Subedi, Assistant Dean from the Newark Campus, and Shirley L. Yu, associate professor in the Educational Psychology program are all doing outstanding work in the field of education.



Erin Satterwhite – 3rd year doctoral student in the HESA program



Bryanna Stigger – 2nd year doctoral student in the HESA program



Dr. Donna Y. Ford – Distinguished Professor in EHE



Dr. Jonda C. McNair – Charlotte S. Huck Endowed Professor of Children's Literature.



Dr. Robert Ransom – Retired from the Office of Equity and Diversity in EHE



H. Richard Milner IV – Cornelius Vanderbilt Distinguished Professor of Education



Dr. Kia McKinnie – Director in the Office of Academic Affairs



Dr. Jenell Igeleke Penn – Clinical Assistant Professor, Assistant Director of Teacher Education and the Director of Recruitment, Mentoring and Retention for Diversity and Social Justice in EHE.



Dr. Erica Womack – Program Director for Made for Medicine



Dr. Karen Beard – Associate Professor and Chair of the Educational Administration program.



During **Black History Month**, we highlighted current students, alumni, current faculty and staff and all the outstanding work that these individuals are doing surrounding equity, diversity, and inclusion. Each week during the month of February we introduced 3 individuals and they are listed below:

Khadijah Jones – 2nd year doctoral student in the HESA program



Leslie T. Fenwick – Dean in Residence at the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE)



March was **Women's History Month** where we highlighted the extraordinary women of EHE. Dr. Patricia L. Scharer, Faculty Emeritus, Dr. Gina Ginn, CEO of Columbus Early Learning Centers and Sylvia Harris, author of diverse children's books, were mentioned for their outstanding work within the field of education.





During **Autism Awareness Month**, we showcased individuals working within the field of Special Education. Erik Wilson, Director of Special Education at Oakstone Academy, Jill Medley, Owner and Executive Director of The Learning Spectrum, and Dr. Rick Kubina, Professor of Special Education at Penn State University were all chosen because of their time and effort in working with those on the Autism spectrum.



May is **Mental Health Awareness Month** and we highlighted alumni of the Counselor Education program for their magnificent work within the field of mental health. Dr. Renae Mayes, Associate Professor, University of Arizona, Dr. Malik Henfield, Professor and Founding Dean of the Institute for Racial Justice, Loyola University Chicago and Dr. Sean Gorby, Assistant Professor, Capital University. ■



Christine Fagan, EdD
Project Lead



EDGE BOOKSHELF

diversity-centric readings from EHE faculty and staff



Office of Equity, Diversity and Global Engagement

EDGE Bookshelf Recap

The EDGE Bookshelf showcases the literary contributions of EHE faculty and staff whose work centers diversity, equity, anti-racism, and justice, and includes recommended readings from featured faculty members. It is our hope that the Bookshelf serves as one resource through which we can learn from one another as we continue to grow as an anti-racist, inclusive, and equity centered college community.



Black History Month (February 2022)
Featured Scholars included: Dr. Noelle Arnold, Dr. T.K. Daniel, and Dr. Rhodesia McMillian



Women's History Month (March 2022) Featured Scholars included: Dr. Kaprea Johnson, Dr. Ashley Landers, and Dr. Tasha Lewis.



Special Education Awareness Month (April 2022) Featured Scholars included: Dr. Donna Ford and Dr. Matt Brock.



Neal McKinney
Project Lead





Global Hub



The resumption of international travel has been wonderful for global engagement. Students, faculty and staff continue to demonstrate their enthusiasm for developing relationships and expanding their scholarship and worldviews through international teaching, learning, and research opportunities. There are currently 16 active international partnership agreements led by EHE faculty and staff, and 13 Global Education programs. Our first group to depart since the start of the pandemic included 23 students who traveled to Rome in March to better understand social change. Our next group of 20, comprised of Ohio State students and in-service Ohio teachers, is set to travel to Mexico in June to teach in local classrooms! ■

New International Partnership Agreements

- Philip Ward - Marmara University, Turkey

Global Education Programs

- Multicultural Histories and Legacies of Rome: Classics, Colosseums, and Cathedrals (March 2022)
- Educational, Cultural, and Linguistic Engagements in Oaxaca, Mexico (June 2022)



Carlotta Penn, PhD
Senior Director of
Partnerships and
Engagement



Jenna Azotea
Education Abroad
Specialist

Partnership Highlight – University of Tsukuba

Drs. Ivan Stefano, Tiffany Wilde, Danene Fast met with faculty from University of Tsukuba to discuss avenues for continued collaboration among faculty, staff, and students at the two institutions. All educators expressed interest in faculty exchanges, conference collaborations, study abroad programs, and virtual language exchange opportunities for students. ■

Global Hub Highlights

Global Hub Highlights features EHE faculty, staff, and students who lead or participate in international programs. This series showcases the importance and reach of international engagement across the EHE community. Spring semester has been an active time for global engagement, and EDGE highlighted Natalie Moran, undergraduate student in Fashion and Retail Studies. Natalie participated in the Spring Break trip to Rome. ■



Natalie Moran
Undergraduate student, Fashion and Retail Studies
Program Name: Multicultural Histories and Legacies of Rome: Classics, Colosseums and Cathedrals (Spring Break 2022)
Purpose of Program: To learn about where my family is from

EHE Hosts International Delegations

In February, President Schejter of Oranim College of Education met with Dean Don Pope Davis, Senior Associate Dean Noelle Arnold, Drs. Carlotta Penn and Laurie Katz to discuss the mutual interest in continuing the institutional partnership established in 2016.

In May, Dr. Penn and Jennifer Bostic from the Schoenbaum Center met with a delegation of Serbian educators who were in Ohio touring educational institutions with a focus innovation and diversity. Elizabeth Angerman from the Office of International Affairs coordinated the visit. ■



What Peace Corps Taught Me about Education: Three Returned Volunteers Share Their Experience

The Peace Corps is back. After two years of absence from the field in the wake of the COVID pandemic, Peace Corps resumed service to Zambia and Dominican Republic in March, and is actively recruiting for positions in 24 additional countries. Whether you are a graduating senior interested in current opportunities, or just exploring the Peace Corps experience for the future, this is an exciting time to learn more. ■

EHE Education Abroad Program First to Travel Since March 2020

Buon viaggio! The [Multicultural Histories and Legacies of Rome: Classics, Colosseums and Cathedrals](#) group traveled over Spring Break as one of the first short-term, faculty-led programs to resume travel since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Multicultural Histories and Legacies of Rome: Classics, Colosseums and Cathedrals program provides student participants with the opportunity to understand what social change is and how (and when) to implement it to create more just, inclusive and equitable communities at home and abroad. The two-part experience features an eight-day global learning experience in Rome, Italy (with excursions to Florence and near Pompeii) that creates a hands-on way to explore the ideas, concepts and theories examined in a semester-long course taught at The Ohio State University Columbus campus. ■

Look for additional information and applications to open soon for the following EHE programs:

- [Sustainability and Social Justice in Ecuador](#)
- [Teaching & Learning Globally in Israel](#)
- [Higher Education in the Dominican Republic: Access, Equity, and Opportunity](#) ■

EHE Ambassador Award Recipients

This year, we were able to award 4 EHE Ambassadors across our two traveling programs over Spring Break and Summer 2022. Congratulations to Inshira Dartey, Natalie Moran, Alexis Oliver, and Byann Rasul! ■

Missed this spring semester event?

Global Learning Going Virtual: Student Stories ■

Looking Forward

Happy Juneteenth!

Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, when Union Army Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger notified the last slaves in Galveston, TX that they were free; despite the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Though the holiday has been celebrated by African Americans for 156 years, as of last year, Juneteenth is now an official federal holiday! Our office hopes that all will find a way to celebrate and advocate for freedom and equity for African Americans. ■



*Below is the eponymous poem of Clint Smith's book **Counting Descent**.*

COUNTING DESCENT

by CLINT SMITH

After Alan Michael Parker

My grandfather is a quarter century older than his right to vote & two decades younger than the President who signed the paper that made it so

He married my grandmother when they Were four years younger than I am now & were twice as sure about each other than I've ever been about most things.

They had six children separated by nine years, three cities & one Mason Dixon line; there were twice as many boys as girls but half as many bedrooms as children which most days didn't matter because poor ain't poor unless you name it so & kids prefer playing to counting so there was never much time to wallow in anything but laughter.

My mother was the third youngest or the third oldest depending on who you ask. She was born on a federal holiday which my grandmother was thankful for, said the Good

Lord only got one day off when he built the world, so one day is all she needed too.

Mom says Dad was persistent, wouldn't give up when he asked if he could take her down the

street to get some coffee which back then cost two dollars less than it is now. Now my mom is trying to stop drinking coffee but still loves my dad, they've been married for thirty-

one years & have three kids who are six years & 3,551 miles apart. My birth took twelve hours & forty-three minutes which is probably because my head is five

times too big. My mom said that my head was big because I needed enough room to read all the books in the library which seemed like infinity even though I didn't really know what infinity meant but I had heard my teacher say it once when she talked about the universe & books felt like the universe to me. I was

pretty good at math too, until about fifth grade when they started putting numbers & letters together which didn't make much sense. My brother is seventy months younger

than me but is taller & knows more about numbers so it doesn't always feel like this is true. My sister is twenty-four years of loyal & eight years of best friend. I am the oldest

of three but maybe the most naive, I still believe we can build this world into something new, some place where I can live past twenty-five & it's not a cause for celebration because these days

I celebrate every breath, tried to start counting them so I wouldn't take each one for granted. I wish I could give my breath to the boys who had theirs taken but I've stopped counting

because it feels like there are too many boys & not enough breath to go around.