

Jules Purnell, M.Ed.

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Education

Ph.D., Social Justice Education

University of Massachusetts Amherst | Amherst, MA
Expected Graduation - 2030

Intended Area of Focus: Restorative practices for sexual harm in higher education

M.Ed., Human Sexuality Studies

Widener University | Chester, PA
Graduated Summa Cum Laude - 2018

Area of Focus: Sexual violence prevention and intervention in minoritized populations

Practicum Experience: Lost in Translation, LGBTQIA+ Competency for Valley Youth House

B.A., Sociology and Women and Gender Studies, *Concentration: Deaf Studies*

University of Southern Maine | Portland, ME
Graduated Summa Cum Laude - 2015

Thesis: Editing Transitions, Transgender Representation in Popular Media

Professional Appointments & Experience

Independent Consultant and Facilitator | Greenfield, MA

Self Employed

2012-2025

Served as content creator, workshop presenter, public speaker, and mediator for various organizations and one-on-one educator for individuals. Made and maintained contacts, managed scheduling and logistics, sent invoices and collected fees, and responded to communications with clients and business partners. Selected clients include: Manning CICS, Justice Outside, Mary McDowell Friends School, Lincoln Financial, and Valley Youth House.

University of Massachusetts Amherst | Amherst, MA

Teaching Assistant, Social Justice Education

2025

Worked as a Graduate Assistant within the College of Education. Served as part of a team of Teaching Assistants for the course Social Diversity in Education. Facilitated classroom discussions, graded assignments, and supported learning of undergraduate students.

Lecturer, Sociology

2023-2025

Worked within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, developed syllabus and built out online modules via Canvas for in-person classes such as Sexuality and Society and Generation Z Culture using both classic and contemporary sociological concepts and theories. Taught 35 students. Collaborated with and managed work of a Teacher's Aide.

Title IX Training Specialist

2022-2024

Worked within Equal Opportunity and Access, served as primary training liaison for students, staff, and faculty at UMass for all matters related to Title IX, sexual violence prevention and response. Planned and created educational offerings responsive to “on-demand” need. Facilitated creation of Adaptive Resolution/Restorative Justice process program for Title IX-related reports. Partnered with organizations across campus to provide support with respect to DEI-related needs and concerns.

Muhlenberg College | Allentown, PA

Associate Director of Prevention Education

2019-2022

Worked under the Title IX office, planned and organized evidence-based and trauma-informed programming and other interventions preventing sexual, gender, and intimate partner violence at Muhlenberg. Oversaw Restorative Justice program through Title IX, serving as facilitator and advisor to complainant and respondent parties in sexual misconduct cases. Trained and managed the work of Peer Education group Voices of Strength. Created content for and regularly posted to the Prevention Education social media accounts.

Adjunct Faculty, Psychology of Human Sexuality

2020-2021

Worked within the Psychology department, developed syllabus, reading list, and built online modules via Canvas for virtual, synchronous/asynchronous blended course focusing on historical and contemporary psycho-sexological theoretical frameworks. Taught 16-24 students.

Adjunct Faculty, Foundations of Student Success: Healthy Relationships & Sexuality

2021

Served as faculty member for themed section of required *First Year Seminar/Foundations of Student Success* course, focusing on healthy relationships, sexual health, intersectionality, identity development, and other aspects of sexual self. Taught 18 students. Collaborated with and managed work of a Teacher’s Aide.

Planned Parenthood | Newark, DE

Teen Council Coordinator

2018-2019

Developed and implemented curricula for adult and youth populations. Worked with adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities through Sexuality and Disability program. Delivered lessons on HIV and pregnancy prevention, sexual violence prevention, healthy relationships, anti-racism and intersectionality, and more. Recruited, trained, co-wrote and delivered lessons with Teen Council members. Trained colleagues and area teachers in effective sexuality education teaching strategies. Served on DEI Committee.

Valley Youth House | Norristown, PA

Experiential Instructor

2016-2018

Developed and implemented curricula pertaining to necessary life skills including sexual health, budgeting, housing rights, higher education, and many others for youth in foster care and juvenile justice systems. Facilitated Youth Advisory Board and Belong LGBTQIA+ Meetup groups on a weekly basis. Taught workshops of 5-12 youth, age 14 to 20.

Youth Justice League | Portland, ME

Co-facilitator

2015

In conjunction with Preble Street Teen Center, co-facilitated monthly meet-up group encouraging youth with DHHS history and/or experiencing homelessness to find their voices and engage in social justice. Frequent focus included using art to engage in personal storytelling and activism. 5-7 attendees per group.

Women and Gender Studies 101 | Portland, ME

Teacher's Aide

2015

Facilitated discussion on gender, sexuality, power dynamics, and intersectionality and supported the work of the professor of an intro-level WGS course at the University of Southern Maine. Approximately 25 students.

Maine Educationalists on Sexual Harmony | Portland, ME

Co-facilitator

2014-2015

Organized series of events with fellow community sexuality educators on topics of gender, sexuality, and healthy relationships. Produced and distributed educational and promotional materials for groups. Performed on-stage skits to approximately 100 attendees, providing audience with better consent communication tools and greater understanding of sexuality.

Women and Gender Studies Program | Portland, ME

Interim Assistant to the Director

2012-2015

Acted as liaison to Director of Women and Gender Studies, students, and professors and acted as main point of contact for visitors to WGS Program. Coordinated events in collaboration with Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity, Wellness Center, and Multicultural Center. Promoted WGS program through presentations for undeclared students, tabling events, and community events.

Awards

Susan F. Feiner Outstanding Graduate of Women & Gender Studies

2020

Women and Gender Studies Program

University of Southern Maine

APPLE Orchard Award for Excellence in Education

2018

Sexuality Education Training Institute

Planned Parenthood of Delaware

Best LGBTQ Anthology

2018

Author/Contributor

Nominee, Lambda Literary Award

**Outstanding Contribution to Campus Diversity
& Outstanding Student Organization (GSSO)**

2014

Student Involvement Recognition Gala

University of Southern Maine

USM Dean's List

2013-2015

Full-time Students

University of Southern Maine

Selected Presentations

Valley Youth House Staff Training | Bethlehem, PA

2017-Current

Provided consulting and facilitated workshops on topics including gender and sexuality, harm reduction strategies, and cultural awareness at various Valley Youth House sites and through virtual trainings.

Lessons Learned from LGBTQIA+ Parenting | Virtual Presentation

2025

Spoke on a panel hosted by Early Care & Learning Council for mental healthcare professionals, sharing best practices for interacting with LGBTQIA+ families. Approximately 10 attendees.

JEDI Extension | Amherst, MA

2025

Based on popularity of 2024 presentations, co-presented expansion on *Introduction to Restorative & Transformative Justice* and panel discussion based on previous year's *Neurodivergence in Higher Ed: Getting to Know Our Colleagues*. Approximately 50 attendees at each.

Who Belongs Outside? | Virtual Presentation

2024

Created presentation materials for antiracist outdoor recreation organization Justice Outside in response to request for updated materials. Collaborated with head staff trainer to ensure materials were in keeping with desired outcomes and company culture.

Microaggressions and Workplace Culture | Amherst, MA

2024

Presented workshop for Manning College of Information and Computer Sciences on toxicity in workplace culture. Content included upstander training in response to racist and transphobic microaggressions. Approximately 50 attendees.

JEDI Conference | Amherst, MA

2024

Co-presented two workshops, *Introduction to Restorative & Transformative Justice: Seeding Restorative Mindset in the UMass Amherst Community* and *Neurodivergence in Higher Ed: Getting to Know Our Colleagues*. Approximately 50 attendees at each workshop.

Surrogate Partner Collective | San Francisco, CA

2024

Developed and co-facilitated a training for surrogate partner therapists and other touch practitioners on best practices for those working with transgender, non-binary, gender non-conforming, and intersex clients. Approximately 40 attendees.

UMass Dartmouth Sexual Health Variety Show | Dartmouth, MA

2024

Created and co-facilitated presentation related to sexual anatomy and health with author Rachel Gross and performer Kyle Marian Viterbo as part of UMass Dartmouth's Sexual Health Variety show. Included trivia, historical perspectives, and queer and trans-affirming education. Approximately 20 attendees.

Science Friday (NPR) SciFri Book Club | New York, NY

2022

Spoke on panel of experts for the NPR Science Friday book club series event "We're Going to Talk About the Vagina" for the book *Vagina Obscura*. Served as expert on queer and trans-inclusive reproductive anatomy for adult learners. Approximately 50 attendees.

Healthy Sexuality Series | Conshohocken, PA

2021

Contracted by independent school AIM Academy for students with language-based learning differences to develop and implement semester-long, age-appropriate and culturally responsive sexuality education, including dating violence and abuse prevention for grades 6-12.

Woodhull's Sexual Freedom Summit | Arlington, VA

2017

Facilitated workshop "Love Outside the Lines," on mainstream narratives and academic discourse around non-monogamy in the United States, and how these outlets often leave out the experiences of people of color, folks of diverse class backgrounds, families with children, LGBTQIA+, and disabled individuals. Approximately 30 attendees.

Planned Parenthood Staff Training | Philadelphia, PA

2017

Provided medically and culturally accurate information on best care practices for clinicians working with transgender and non-binary patients. This training included information on the

proper use of gender-neutral pronouns and data on common health outcomes for patients from this demographic. Performed for both Philadelphia and Pottstown locations.

University of Amsterdam | Amsterdam, Netherlands

2017

Presented for Division of Obstetrics and Gynaecology staff and students on sexual and dating violence against transgender and non-binary individuals. Presentation included a brief PowerPoint and question and answer portion.

HSED Talks | Philadelphia, PA

2017

Gave TED Talk-style presentation with Widener University's Human Sexuality Education program entitled *Trans Masks: Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Assault Among Trans Men/AFAB NB Trans People*. Presentation included a brief PowerPoint presentation with data and statistics concerning this population.

Queer People of Color Movements: Art and Activism | Portland, ME

2015

Sat on panel including both artistic and academic perspectives on people of color in queer and trans movements using various avenues to affect change in their communities and on the global stage. Co-hosted by the Women and Gender Studies Program of USM and the Maine Humanities Council. Approximately 50 attendees.

Think and Drink: Disrupting Gender / Portland, ME

2015

Sat on panel discussing gendered experiences of queer and trans activists in greater Portland community and policies regarding use of public space. Approximately 100 attendees.

MESH(in) | Portland, ME

2015

Organized, planned, obtained space for, and presented at day-long conference at the University of Southern Maine in conjunction with Maine Educationalists on Sexual Harmony. Approximately 10 participants per workshop, 100 attendees total.

Selected Media

NPR Life Kit

2021

Featured in the October podcast release focusing on reframing jealousy in ethical non-monogamy.

Sex Ed In Color

2019

Featured in Pride month podcast episode, discussing history of Pride and participation of transgender people.

Take Back Your Sex

2017

Interviewed by Tanya Marie and Megan Ashley for ongoing podcast series. Topics included how patriarchy and capitalism contribute to oppression as well as LGBTQIA+ concerns.

Loving Without Boundaries

2017

Interviewed by Kitty Chambliss for ongoing blog and podcast series. Topics included personal discovery of polyamory as well as intersection of non-monogamy and trans identity.

Poly Role Models

2017

Interviewed by Kevin Patterson of Poly Role Models for the launch of web video series. Topics included lessons learned through practicing ethical non-monogamy as well as sexuality and gender identity.

Service

Transformative Justice Coalition

2023-2025

Served as an active member of the TJC, including supporting and creating curriculum for *Beyond Survival* reading group.

JEDI: Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, UMass Amherst

2022-2025

Served as an active member of JEDI, including planning and delivering workshops at annual JEDI Conference.

Bias Resource Education Team, Muhlenberg College

2020-2022

Acted as a member of Bias Resource Education Team and served on Training sub-committee.

Peer Education Facilitator, Muhlenberg College

2019-2022

Facilitated NASPA certification and organized work of all peer education groups on campus.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Muhlenberg College

2019-2022

Sat on DEI committee within Division of Student Affairs.

Alcohol Oversight Committee, Muhlenberg College

2019-2022

Partnered with Counseling Services to help inform policy relating to alcohol on campus.

Memberships and Certifications

University of San Diego's Center for Restorative Justice

2021

Completed intensive 32-hour facilitator training in restorative justice for sexual harm through USDCRJ.

American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT)

2020-2025

AASECT-certified Sexuality Educator and Continuing Education provider.

World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH)

2020-2025

Standing member

Selected Publications

Purnell, J. (2022). What Can Be Done and Where Do We Turn? In L. Erickson-Schroth (Ed.), *Trans bodies, trans selves: A resource for the transgender community* (2nd ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press, USA.

Weber, I., Dukes, C., Gannon, S., Harper, M., Johnson, T., ... Purnell, J., Rosenberg, S. (2020). *You're In Charge* (1st ed.). Newark, DE: Planned Parenthood of Delaware.

Stutzer, A. (2017, May 04). Stealthing is Rape. Period: #NowWhat. Retrieved from <http://ecosalon.com/stealthing-is-rape-period-nowwhat/>

Purnell, J. (2015, June). Pride Guide. *Dispatch Magazine*, p. 24.