



**Idaho State
University**

**College of
Education**

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in Education
Virtual Conference**

Friday, October 28, 2022,
5 – 9 p.m.

Theme: *Nurturing Belonging Among Diverse People and Spaces*

The DEI annual conference gathers faculty, staff, and students in the College of Education to create learning environments and school communities that are safe, caring, and inclusive so that all students can learn and thrive. Moreover, it seeks to foster an appreciation of diversity on the ISU campus, Pocatello community, and the larger society; to promote an inclusive and welcoming environment for all community members; and to provide a platform for ISU teacher candidates to share their concerns, challenges, and strategies about equity and inclusion in the classroom. This conference is geared toward engaging educators of various disciplines in dialogue regarding a range of evidence-based strategies to address equity, inclusion, and nurturing belonging among diverse people and spaces.

Organized by the College of Education.

**Co-sponsored by: Office of Equity and Inclusion and the ISU Diversity
Resource Center**

Schedule Summary

5 – 5:15 p.m.	Introduction • Dr. Esther Ntuli Opening Remark • Dr. Berenice Sanchez
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5:15 – 6:00 p.m.	Keynote: Dr. Sheldon L. Eakins		
Breakout Rooms	Room A Moderator: Dr. Henry Evans	Room B Moderator: Dr. Joel Bocanegra	Room C Moderator: Dr. Celal Perihan
6:05 – 6:40 pm	Anna Grinath	Barbara Wood Roberts	James Ochwa-Echel
6:45 – 7:20 pm	Kimberly Novoa	Victoria Sethunya	Jenny Peek
7:25 – 8:00 pm	Liz Moreno-Chuquen	Jennifer Reichart	Suparna Sinha
8:05- 9:00 pm	Closing Remarks • Dr. Sheldon L. Eakins • Dr. Henry Evans		
For More Information	Visit the DEI Conference Website		

Program Agenda

Introduction 5 – 5:15 pm

Dr. Esther Ntuli

Dr. Emma Wood*

*DEI Conference Moderator

Welcome to DEI

Dr. Berenice Sanchez

Diversity Council Co-chair

Keynote

5:15 – 6:00 pm

Topic: *Are you culturally responsive?*

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Sheldon L. Eakins, Ph.D., the founder of the Leading Equity Center and host of the Leading Equity Podcast

www.leadingequitycenter.com

Follow at: @sheldoneakins

Take a journey with Dr. Eakins as he shares his experiences as an educator living overseas and his introduction to culturally responsive practices. Session attendees will understand the value and impact of addressing their biases to teach through a culturally diverse lens.

Room A

6:05 – 6:40 pm

Presentation Title: *Expanding narratives of undergraduate science learning by examining ways of participating in field science research*

Anna S. Grinath, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Biology Education Research, Idaho State University, grinanna@isu.edu

Preliminary findings from a qualitative case study on undergraduate students' science experiences in a 10-week summer, field-based research experience at a biological field station will be presented. This qualitative research examines the varied ways that undergraduate students participate in the construction and critique of knowledge in this setting and how their ways of participating promote science-linked recognition work. The overarching goal of this work is to disrupt and expand meanings of legitimate participation in science practices that are valued in undergraduate science learning contexts.

6:45 – 7:20 pm

Presentation Title: [Providing ML students support without a co-teacher](#)

Kimberly Novoa, MA, Teacher, knovoa4@gmail.com

After co-teaching Multilingual Learners (ML) for four years, the presenter switched over to Gen Ed and had a classroom of her own last year. She experienced both sides of the teacher hustle in providing supports for ML students. This presentation is geared towards gen ed teachers who need simple yet effective strategies to implement when co-teaching isn't possible.

7:25 – 8:00 pm

Presentation Title: *Teaching African diaspora, race, and gender representation in the Americas to K-12 teachers/graduate students at ISU*

Dr. Liz Moreno-Chuquen, Assistant Professor, Spanish, Global Studies & Languages, Idaho State University, moreliz@isu.edu

This presentation seeks to share a study case on facilitating informed conversations in the classroom about the African diaspora, race, and gender representation in the Americas. Taking my teaching experience in the M.A. program at ISU and expertise in Afro-Latin American and Afro-Latinx Cultural production, this presentation will provide a framework, examples, and preliminary conclusions on how to engage K-12 teachers/graduate students in the creation of class materials and deep conversations about diversity, equity, and inclusion in their classrooms.

Room B

6:05 – 6:40 pm

Presentation Title: [Intercultural competence in research: Nurturing belonging in experimental design](#)

Barbara Wood Roberts, Ph.D., Director, ISU Intercultural Competence Lab, Adjunct Faculty, Department of Psychology, bwr@isu.edu

This presentation looks at ways to broaden research design and recruitment for greater diversity and inclusivity.

6:45 – 7:20 pm

Presentation Title: *What's going on in the mathematics classrooms?*

Sethunya Victoria. MA, Graduate student, ISU, victoriasethunya@isu.edu

Every year there is research done on barriers in teaching or learning mathematics. The issue that stands out for the presenter the most is the achievement gap between mathematics learners. And hence the question- What is going on in mathematics classrooms and what can be done about it?

7:25 – 8:00 pm

Presentation Title: *Classroom culture shock: Scaffolding student experiences with diversity from rural public schools to higher education institutions*

Jennifer Reichart, Executive Director of Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, and Belonging, reichart@richland.edu

High school students who graduate from rural communities often cite that they feel unprepared for the level of diversity that they meet once they go to college. Many students have the best of intentions but feel at a loss as to how to navigate not only an unfamiliar college system but also a new culture. This session will provide both high school teachers and college instructors with innovative scaffolding techniques to help all students feel welcome, include others, and increase belonging.

Room C

6:05 – 6:40 pm

Presentation Title: *Afrocentric education and its importance in African American children's development*

James R Ochwa-Echel Ph.D. Professor, Teaching, Learning, and Foundations Coordinator, Africana Studies Program, jrochwaechel@eiu.edu

The presentation discusses African American thinking and approach to education and schooling. Education for African Americans should be a process of identity development within the context of Pan African kinship and heritage. It should be a means for providing intergenerational transmission of values, beliefs, traditions, customs, rituals and sensibilities, along with the knowledge of why these things must be sustained. Education thus is to prepare young African Americans to accept cultural leadership from the generation that preceded them and build upon their inheritance and make it ready for the generation that follows.

6:45 – 7:20 pm

Presentation Title: [Measuring DEI program efficacy with IDI](#)

Jenny Peek, Minister, Pocatello Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Director, All For Community, Inc, Qualified Administrator, IDI, reichart@richland.edu

My presentation introduces IDI (Intercultural Development Inventory), the psychometric tool for measuring individual and group intercultural competency. Learn how IDI provides useful starting point data, offers intercultural competency development strategies, and measures improvement when repeated at the conclusion of programs. Explore IDI's role in all facets of university structure, from administration to departments to classrooms.

7:25 – 8:00 pm

Presentation Title: [Analyzing feminist pedagogy](#)

Suparna Sinha, Ph.D Student and Graduate Student Instructor, Department of English and Philosophy, Idaho State University, Pocatello, suparnasinha@isu.edu

The objective of this paper is to analyze Feminist Pedagogy as one of the futuristic genres of Pedagogy. Feministic Pedagogy is a type of critical pedagogy which has its base in Feminist Theory and celebrates diversity in classrooms. It believes in banishing binaries of any sort, and allows every opinion made by every student, irrespective of race and gender, to be heard and cogitated upon. Such classrooms also have in-depth discussions about individual experiences and strive not to link or presume any attribute with any race or gender. Every student in a classroom which follows the Feminist Pedagogy style, possesses a sense of belongingness. Paulo Freire is supposed to have laid the foundation of Feminist Pedagogy. This paper explicates the virtues of this utopian style of pedagogy and the criticisms it faces. It also discusses the contribution of some of the scholars who contributed and are still contributing to this field of study. Feminist Pedagogy is the future of pedagogy in this multi-racial world, where globalization and technology have brought about changes in the pedagogy techniques – from the didactic and pedantic to the democratic, where the teacher and the student mutually learn from each other and talk about bringing changes in the milieu which they inhabit.

Closing Remarks & Final Presentation

8:10- 9:00 pm

Topic: *Let's meet the rest of the team: Lessons from uncomfortable situations in life*

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Sheldon L. Eakins, Ph.D., the founder of the Leading Equity Center and host of the Leading Equity Podcast

Confidence is the feeling or belief that one can rely on someone or something. This is not always an easy feeling to achieve. However, as we work through various challenges that test our levels of comfort, we can slowly develop our confidence as educators. Confidence in having difficult conversations and moving up professionally are just some of the daily experiences that we face. In this keynote presentation, Dr. Eakins shares personal stories and research regarding the significance of being confident as educators when facing uncomfortable situations.

Pre-Recorded Video Presentation

Presentation Title: [*An Introduction to Tribal Critical Race Theory \(TribCrit\)*](#)

Hogan Schaak, MA, Instructor in English, Idaho State University,
hannahschaak@isu.edu

I propose to present on Tribal Critical Race theory, or, as Bryan Brayboy calls it, "TribCrit." My presentation would introduce an audience to the history of critical theory in American law from Critical Race Theory to TribCrit. I would include a brief example of TribCrit after defining it, providing the audience with practical ways to employ TribCrit in the classroom.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GsRedKA06s>

Credits- Behind the Scenes

Marketing and Technology Support

Sheldon Harris, Aubi Crabtree and Dr. Emma Wood

2022 DEI Conference Organizing Committee

Committee Members: Dr. Celal Perihan, Dr. Berenice Sanchez, Dr. Shu-Yuan Lin, Ms. Mona Heern, Dr. Joel Bocanegra, Dr. Beverly Ray, Dr. Esther Ntuli.