

Monday, August 19, 2024 Faculty Institute 8:30am - 4:30pm

Location: Student Center Ballroom

PechaKucha

Collaborative Conversation Sessions

Tuesday, August 20, 2024
Faculty and Staff Institute
8:30am - 12:30pm

Location: Fine and Performing Arts Building

Dionne Warwick Theater

President's Address: State of the University

Collaborative Conversation Sessions

Fall 2024 Faculty Institute Monday, August 19, 2024

Agenda			
8:30am - 9:00am	Registration and Continental Breakfast		
9:00am - 9:20am 9:20am -10:20am 10:20am - 10:30am	Welcome Dr. Aminta H. Breaux, President Dr. Guy-Alain Amoussou, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Eva Garin, Director of The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning		
10:30am -11:00am	PechaKucha Adobe SoTL Experiential Learning and High Impact Practices Embedded Tutoring		
	Collaborative Conversations		
11:15am - 12:15pm Collaborative Conversations Choose One Breakout Session	 ♦ Adobe SoTL Discussion Panel I: Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Business ♦ Adobe SoTL Discussion Panel II: Colleges of Education and Professional Studies ♦ Cultivating Cultural Responsiveness: Mirroring Evidence-Based and Research-Informed Practices Used through the UJIMA Center at Bowie State University ♦ Using Active Reading Strategies to Empower Undergraduate Students Success ♦ The Role of Instructional Design at Bowie State University ♦ The Art of Asking: Transformative Strategies for Survey Design Excellence ♦ BlackBoard ULTRA: Friend, Not Foe ♦ Faculty and Staff Presidential Achievement Awards - Benefits, Procedures, and Process 		
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch		
1:30pm - 1:45pm	Evaluations and CETL Offerings with Dr. Eva Garin		
1:45pm - 3:30pm	Artificial Intelligence - AI Facilitator: Dr. Andrew Mangle Presenters: Dr. Darsana Josyula, Dr. John Shook, and Nicole Wilson Full Faculty Collaborative Conversation - Student Center Ballroom		
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Desserts: Sip and Write		

What is PechaKucha?

PechaKucha (Japanese: IPA: [petsa kutsa], chit-chat) is a storytelling format in which a presenter shows 20 slides for 20 seconds of commentary each. Pecha Kucha, chit-chat in Japanese, is a unique presentation style. These presentations are known for telling stories through images rather than text and are typically brief. They use the 20x20 rule, where each presentation consists of 20 slides, and each slide is displayed for only 20 seconds, automatically progressing to the next one. This results in a total presentation time of 6 minutes and 40 seconds.



PechaKucha Slides

- It keeps presentations **concise and dynamic**, making them feel fast, light, and engaging.
- It minimizes distractions and maximizes engagement.
- Since there is no text to read from, presenters have to be more prepared and make the effort to craft a coherent story, resulting in a seamless narrative.
- It helps speakers stay on-topic, preventing them from going off track and adding unnecessary details to their talks.

https://24slides.com/presentbetter/what-is-a-pecha-kucha-presentation

SoTL Adobe Discussion Panel I: Presenters from the College of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences

Panelists: Dr. Gaye Acikdilli, Dr. Amina Ayodeji-Ogundiran, Dr. Tyesha Burks, Dr. Ella Carter, Dr. Andrew Mangle

Location: The Beacon Room - CNSMN 1230

Session Description: SoTL (The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning) is educational and pedagogical research studies, undertaken by faculty. The sharing of faculty scholarship is explicitly designed to build, synthesize, and apply evidence to enhance and improve student learning. This panel will share SoTL course redevelopment findings with Adobe to improve student learning and outcomes. This presentation seeks to enhance the quality of our teaching within and beyond our own classrooms. Facilitator: Dr. Darilyn Mercadel

Objectives:

- Participants will engage with the findings of SoTL research studies to illustrate how Adobe can be utilized to enhance student learning and outcomes.
- Participants will be equipped with practical, evidence-based strategies with Adobe findings, derived from SoTL research and reflection to implement within their own teaching.

SoTL Adobe Discussion Panel II: Presenters from the College of Education and the College of Professional Studies Panelists: Dr. Pauline Belton, Professor Ogechi Chieke, Dr. Melissa Duchene-Kelly, Dr. Jennifer West

Location: CNSMN 1220

Session Description: SoTL (The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning) is educational and pedagogical research studies, undertaken by faculty. The sharing of faculty scholarship is explicitly designed to build, synthesize, and apply evidence to enhance and improve student learning. This panel will share SoTL course redevelopment findings with Adobe to improve student learning and outcomes. This presentation seeks to enhance the quality of our teaching within and beyond our own classrooms. Facilitator: Dr. Melissa Duchene-Kelly

Objectives:

- Participants will engage with the findings of SoTL research studies to illustrate how Adobe can be utilized to enhance student learning and outcomes.
- Participants will be equipped with practical, evidence-based strategies with Adobe findings, derived from SoTL research and reflection to implement within their own teaching.

Cultivating Cultural Responsiveness: Mirroring Evidence-Based and Research-Informed Practices Used through the UJIMA Center at Bowie State University

Presenters: Dr. Masica Alston-Jordan, Dr. Nikki Ham, Dr. Marja Humphrey

Location: CNSMN 1224

Session Description: This session aims to apply culturally responsive teaching practices that enhance student engagement and achievement. Drawing from the evidence-based and research-informed practices utilized at the UJIMA Center at Bowie State University, participants will gain valuable insights and practical strategies for fostering an inclusive and equitable learning environment. UJIMA - Swahili, meaning collective work and responsibility.

Objectives:

• Participants will engage with culturally responsive methods with strategies to create learning spaces that respects and values diverse cultural back grounds and perspectives with research informed techniques.

Using Active Reading Strategies to Empower Undergraduate Students' Success

Presenter: Dr. Peter Parker Location: CNSMN 1222

Session Description: The presenter will demonstrate effective strategies to improve students' reading comprehension. Participants will engage in reading techniques beneficial to students who are beginning their college careers. Participants will engage with the 3R Reading Method as well as the SQ3R Method.

Objectives:

- Participants will discuss and analyze reading strategies with assignments from multiple disciplines.
- Participants will integrate digital reading tools and resources to support interactive and engaging reading experiences.

The Role of Instructional Design at Bowie State University

Presenter: Dr. Sara Ibrahim, Dr. Andrew Rider **Location:** The **Baltimore Room - Student Center**

Session Description: Instructional design is the process of creating effective and engaging learning experiences, to facilitate and improve learning outcomes. This presentation will explore the various ways instructional design can enhance your courses and will include a review of recent and past projects from the Department of Academic Transformation.

Objectives:

- Participants will apply instructional design principles to your online classroom using the Blackboard Learning Management System.
- Participants will discover how the instructional design services offered at Bowie can enrich the student learning experience.
- Participants will learn how collaboration between instructional designers and faculty can improve course materials for greater student success.

The Art of Asking: Transformative Strategies for Survey Design Excellence

Presenter: Shama Akhtar Location: CNSMN 1223

Session Description: This session will share survey development strategies that yield actionable insights. This session will share best practices for question development that engage respondents and elicit the most informative and honest responses, ensuring the highest quality of data collection. The presenter will also share services offered by the Office of Planning, Analysis, & Accountability in survey research design and administration.

- Participants will frame questions that engage respondents and elicit the most informative and honest responses, ensuring the highest quality of data collection.
- Participants will understand the services offered by OPAA in survey research, design, and administration.

Blackboard ULTRA: Friend, Not Foe Presenter: Dr. Katrina Kardiasmenos

Location: CNSMN 1221

Session Description: This session aims to provide you with the necessary foundation to confidently navigate the Blackboard Learn Ultra Course View and utilize its features to enhance your teaching. Whether transitioning to Learn Ultra or simply looking to deepen your understanding, this session will provide the answers you need. So, let us dive in and unlock the potential it offers to create engaging and successful learning environments. Get ready to explore the platform, gain practical skills, and discover how Blackboard Learn Ultra can revolutionize the way you teach.

Objectives:

- Participants will engage with the main features and functionalities of the Ultra Course View.
- Participants will discuss converting original Blackboard courses to Ultra Course View.
- Participants will discuss the advantages of using an ULTRA course view over the Original view.
- Participants will discuss pedagogical best practices of Blackboard Learn Ultra.

Faculty and Staff Presidential Achievement Awards - Benefits, Procedures, and Process

Presenter: Mary Ogan

Location: The Columbia Room - Student Center

Session Description: By the end of this seminar, participants will be well-informed about the benefits of the Presidential Achievement Awards, the detailed procedures for nominating and selecting candidates, and the entire process from start to finish. This knowledge will empower the campus community to actively participate in and support this prestigious awards program.

Objectives:

- Participants will understand detailed procedures and process for nominating and selecting candidates.
- Participants will understand the benefits of engaging with the Presidential Achievement Awards.
- Participants will understand the entire process from start to finish.

Breakout Session Locations

BGS - Center for Business and Graduate Studies
CNSMN - Center for Natural Sciences Mathematics and Nursing
FPAC - Fine and Performing Arts Center
JEP - James E. Proctor Jr. Building

Student Center - The Baltimore Room and The Columbia Room
Student Center - Student Center Ballroom
Thurgood Marshall Library

Campus Map



Fall 2024 University-Wide Faculty and Staff Institute Tuesday, August 20, 2024

The Dione Warwick Theater in The Fine and Performing Arts Center		
8:30am - 9:00am	Registration and Continental Breakfast	
9:00am - 10:00am	State of the University Dr. Aminta H. Breaux, President	
10:00am -11:00am	Strategic Plan Committee	
11:15am - 12:15pm Collaborative Conversations Choose One Breakout Session	 ♦ Thurgood Marshall Library Fall 2024 Research Café/Open House ♦ Introduction to Adobe Express and its Capabilities for BSU Staff ♦ Photography: A Pedagogical Tool and Medium for Personal Meditation ♦ Making the Move to Blackboard Ultra Course View: Get all of your questions answered! ♦ Designing a Future Roadmap for HR Training and Development ♦ Extension on Assignments, Incompletes, Grade Changes and EIT Accessibility: Understanding the Role of Disability Support Services in Higher Education ♦ Raising the Bar: Course Redesign as Stimulus for Student Success ♦ Addressing and Reporting Student Behavior in a Classroom Environment ♦ The Instructional Design Role at Bowie State University ♦ Safe Space Awareness ♦ Adobe Podcast: Share in the Experience - Engage Your Audience with Creative Content ♦ Adobe Firefly: Engage Your Audience with Creative Graphics and Designs with AI ♦ Adobe Portfolio: Enhancing Student Outcomes with Samples of Success ♦ Understanding the Operations of Enrollment Management ♦ Summary of Types of Funds ♦ R2: Restructuring and Reinventing BSU's Research Ecosystem ♦ Promoting A Culture of Compliance: Policies, Procedures, Protocols, and You ♦ Campus Technology Updates ♦ Meet and Greet: New VP of Marketing and Communications 	
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch for Faculty will be provided by your College Dean	
1:30pm - 3:30pm College Meetings	College of Arts and Sciences Student Center Ballroom College of Business BGS 1209 College of Education JEP 102 College of Professional Studies JEP 117	
3:30pm-5:00pm	Department Meetings	

Thurgood Marshall Library Fall 2024 Research Cafe/Open House

Presenter: Dean Sophia Sotilleo and Library Staff

Location: Library - First Floor

Session Description: The Thurgood Marshall Library welcomes you to the Fall 2024 Research Cafe/Open House. Participants will engage with current and new library vendors to share how they can assist with supporting BSU Research goals and how they can support your research. Our Faculty Librarians and Library Staff will be available to showcase BSU Discovery — Our new library Management System. This session will offer one-on-one opportunities to answer questions and share information on available resources to support faculty and staff, teaching and research. The Graduate Resource Center, Student Tutoring Center, Disability Support Services, and Office of International Education & Student Services will be available to give updates on support services to assist faculty and students. Coffee and Tea service will be available for the day.

See you at the library!

Objectives:

- Participants will tour Thurgood Marshall Library Space and meet library staff and support services.
- Participants will receive information related to areas of your research and teaching.
- Participants will learn about the various research services and spaces available in the library.
- Participants will meet with vendors to engage with information about resources.

Introduction to Adobe Express and its Capabilities for BSU Staff

Presenter: Dr. Antonia Charles-Strowbridge

Location: FPAC 2103

Session Description: Adobe Express is a platform with tools to create professionally designed content. Presenter will engage participants with the possibilities to include Adobe Express within your workspace.

Objectives:

- Participants will engage with Adobe Express to demonstrate creativity within an organized platform.
- Participants will discuss create content to show samples of design success.

Photography: A Pedagogical Tool and Medium For Personal Meditation

Presenter: Dr. Art Vidrine

Location: JEP 347

Session Description: Conscious photography- the act of close looking and being present in the moment, can be a pedagogical tool inviting students to dive deeper into a subject and a gateway for personal meditation. It is a mindset that can be developed like any other skill, which we will explore in a hands-on way in this breakout session.

- Participants will take photographs (with smartphone cameras) with greater intentionality aesthetically and conceptually.
- Participants will engage students to explore a topic deeper through mindful observation and creative expression through photography.

Move to Blackboard Ultra - Course View: Get all of your questions answered!

Presenter: Tolulope Oladipo

Location: JEP 345

Session Description: This session aims to provide you with information to confidently navigate the Blackboard Ultra Course View and its features to enhance your teaching. Whether transitioning to Ultra or simply looking to deepen your understanding, this session will provide the answers you need. So, let us dive in and unlock the potential it offers to create engaging and successful learning environments. Get ready to explore the platform, gain practical skills, and discover how Blackboard Ultra can revolutionize the way you teach.

Objectives:

- Participants will engage with main the features and functionalities of the Ultra Course View.
- Participants will identify the strategies for converting your original Blackboard course to Ultra.
- Participants will discuss the advantages of using an ULTRA course view over the Original view.
- Participants will discuss pedagogical best practices of Blackboard Ultra.

Designing a Future Roadmap for HR Training and Development

Presenters: Mary Ogan, Manager of Training and Development, Jill Wardell, Director, Talent Learning & Organization Development, UMBC, and Hannah Hahn, Senior Internal Consultant, Georgetown University

Location: FPAC 2202

Session Description: Come to this session to help create a roadmap for future training and development.

Objectives:

- Participants will understand better the current state of Bowie State's HR training and development.
- Discuss the current trends of workplace and barriers to professional development opportunities.
- Learn about the upcoming organizational development project to design a future road map.
- Participate in a mini focus group session to share ideas of an ideal state of training and development with HR.

Extension on Assignments, Incompletes, Grade Changes and EIT Accessibility: Understanding the Role of Disability Support Services in Higher Education

Presenters: Glennis Daniels-Bacchus, Jarryd Sampson, and Renata Zgorski

Location: The Columbia Room - Student Center

Session Description: Staff of the Disability Support Services will provide an overview of the role of the Disability Support Services, and assist faculty and staff in understanding the purpose of an accommodation and Electronic Information, Accessibility. Participants will gain an understanding of the accommodations process.

- Review the process for Extension on Assignments using the guidance from Department of Education.
- Determine the role of DSS in Academic Issues (Change of Grade and Incomplete requests).

Raising the Bar: Course Redesign as Stimulus for Student Success

Presenter: Dr. Matthew Crosston

Location: BGS 1208

Session Description: A quick but lively interactive discussion to open up new conversational pathways at Bowie State about creating a teaching environment that can foster course redesign as a catapult for intensifying rigor, thus allowing student expectations to prosper rather than dwindle.

Objectives:

- Participants will consider the value of raising standards and rigor as a part of student success.
- Participants will assess how course redesign methods can make teaching innovation easier.
- Facilitator will enliven faculty debate about systematic course evaluation and revision.
- Facilitator will empower faculty with strategies to get students to embrace higher standards.

Addressing and Reporting Student Behavior in a Classroom and Campus Environment

Presenter: Ebony Gordon, Trish Johnson, L.J. Moore, and Ina Ramos

Location: CNSMN 1221

Session Description: Presenters will provide participants with an overview of the Student Code of Conduct and Student Rights and Responsibilities. Additionally, participants will learn about the additional student support services that our offices work with directly and indirectly and how it works with our sanctioning components. This presentation will give emphasis to the University's new smoke-free campus policy and how to address and report those who violate the policy. Presenters will share Students' Rights and Responsibilities via the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards processes.

Objectives:

- Participants will engage the process flow for the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards.
- Participants will identify ways to assist with student success through the resources provided by the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, Counseling Services and Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATOD) department.
- Participants will discuss ways to report concerns related to students' exhibited behavior.

The Role of Instructional Design at Bowie State University

Presenters: Dr. Sara Ibrahim and Dr. Andrew Rider Location: The Baltimore Room - Student Center

Session Description: Instructional design is the process of creating effective and engaging learning experiences to facilitate and improve learning outcomes. This presentation will explore the various ways instructional design can enhance your courses and will include a review of recent and past projects from the Department of Academic Transformation.

- Participants will apply instructional design principles within the Blackboard Learning Management System.
- Participants will discover instructional design services offered at BSU to enrich the student learning experience.

Safe Space Awareness Training
Presenter: Dr. Keadrick Peters

Location: FPAC 2101

Session Description: Safe space is a voluntary network of faculty, staff, students, and community members who believe that every member of the university and the broader community should have an equal opportunity to grow and learn in a safe and open environment. During this awareness training the BSU community will have opportunity to learn the best practices to avoid harming our LGBTQ+ students and community.

Objectives:

• Explain the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning related communities) identities, examine prejudice, assumptions, and privilege.

Adobe Podcast: Share in the Experience - Engage Your Audience with Creative Content

Presenter: Dr. Shannell Thomas

Location: CNSMN 1220

Session Description: Adobe Podcast is an innovative platform with a suite of features that makes recording practical and easy to implement as a student activity. Presenter will discuss the use of podcasts to engage students with socially relevant themes and outcomes.

Objectives:

• Participants will engage with the podcast experience as implemented within a course.

• Participants will share in faculty discussion of creating the podcast and the podcast outcomes.

Adobe Firefly: Engage Your Audience with Creative Graphics and Designs with AI

Presenter: Mr. Kevin Bryant, Adobe Strategic Education - Senior Customer Success Manager

Location: CNSMN 1223

Session Description: Firefly models and services powers generative AI in creative apps. Learn about Firefly with Adobe Express to bring ideas to life with creative content.

Objectives:

Participants will engage with Adobe Express with generative AI.

• Participants will engage with Firefly with Adobe Express to bring creative ideas to life.

Adobe Portfolio: Enhancing Student Outcomes with Samples of Success

Presenter: Dr. Alex Anderson Location: CNSMN 1224

Session Description: Adobe Portfolio is a platform that can capture student or faculty samples of relevant content. Presenter will engage with Adobe Portfolio to demonstrate use of the platform within a course.

- Participants will engage with Adobe Portfolio to showcase work within an organized platform.
- Participants will discuss organizing content to show samples of student success.

Understanding the Operations of Enrollment Management

Presenter: Dr. Brian Clemmons, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs

Location: JEP 102

Session Description: This session will provide information related to the entire on-boarding process for new students, the functions of the departments that are involved throughout the process, and key employees to contact for questions.

Summary of Five Types of Funds

Presenter: Manish Kumar, Vice President for Administration and Finance

Location: JEP 117 Session

Session Description: This presentation will provide attendees with a brief overview of the five types of funds used at Bowie State University.

R2: Restructuring and Reinventing BSU's Research Ecosystem

Presenter: Lawrence T. Potter, Jr., Ph.D., Assistant Vice President for Research (Interim)

Location: CNSMN Beacon Room 1230

Session Description: This session aims to explore the growth and infrastructure of Bowie State University's research ecosystem and the measures being implemented to establish a robust framework that supports educational excellence and fosters more ambitious research outcomes.

Promoting A Culture of Compliance: Policies, Procedures, Protocols and You

Presenter: Karen Shaheed, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Chief of Staff

Location: FPAC 2105

Session Description: This session will provide an overview of the legal and policy framework for university operations and offer tips for ensuring compliance with university policies and minimizing risk to the university and will also share information on protocols for working with the Office of the President.

Campus Technology Updates

Presenter: Maurice Tyler, Vice President of Information Technology

Location: BGS 2209

Session Description: This session will include conversations about campus IT initiatives.

Meet and Greet: New VP of Marketing and Communications

Presenter: Ms. Sabrina Ram

Location: BGS 2211

Session Description: Attend this session to learn more about the new Vice President of Marketing and Communications. Attend this session to engage with the new strategic vision and advantages for combining University Relations and Marketing and Events and Conference Services under one department.

Faculty Collaboration with the Division of Philanthropic Engagement

Presenters: Brent Swinton, Vice President for Philanthropic Engagement and Executive Director of the BDU Foundation, Daphne DeShields, CPA and CFO of the Bowie State University Foundation

Location: BGS 2215

Session Description: Attend this session to determine when to work with DPE vs. OSRP to pursue funding and will understand the difference between BSU Foundation accounts vs. departmental/state budgets to administer grants from private foundations and corporations.

Breakout Session Locations

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Title III Professional Development

One-Time Funding Requests:

- Faculty can apply for a one-time request for funding if needed. Information is accessible via the Title III webpage or the Title III Opportunities Microsoft Teams.
- Funding for one-time requests is limited and is coming from remaining funds from previous grant years

Non-Travel Professional Development Funding:

- Title III provides funding for non-travel professional development with a cap of \$3,000.
- Funding is first come, first serve

Diners Club Card Recommendation:

Faculty who travel frequently are recommended to apply for a Diners Club Card.

International Travel on Title III:

Faculty can travel internationally on Title III.

- Applications will be accepted starting October 15, 2024. The application for international travel will be available on the Title III Opportunities Microsoft Teams on October 1, 2024.
- The Department of Education must approve Title III international travel applications before a faculty member travels.
- The Title III Director will forward all applications to the Department of Education Program Officer. If approved, the faculty member can submit an internal travel packet via Workday.
- Note: Faculty should submit an application packet first to avoid completing a full travel packet if there is a potential denial.
- Title III International Travel Applications are due to the Title III Office at least 120 days before traveling. This allows the Program Officer ample time to review the travel application and the faculty member to create a travel packet with approvals to meet the 45-day deadline for the Title III Office and the 30-day deadline for Grants Accounting (Renee) before the start of their travel.
- Funding is first come, first serve

Travel Options:

Option 1: Two domestic trips during the grant year (October 1st – September 30th)

- Full-time faculty: funding up to \$3000 per trip.
- Adjunct faculty: funding up to \$1500 per trip.

Option 2: One international trip during the grant year (October 1st – September 30th)

- Full-time faculty: funding up to \$6000 per trip.
- Adjunct faculty: funding up to \$3000 per trip.

Note: Funding for One-Time Requests are not the same funds allocated for faculty development. Two different "pots" of funding.

2024-2025 CETL Fellows

Dr. Gaye Acikdilli, College of Business

Gaye Acikdilli is an Associate Professor at the Department of Management, Marketing, and Public Administration with the College of Business at Bowie State University. Dr. Acikdilli's teaching experience includes many business and marketing courses delivered at the bachelor and master levels for over fifteen years. She brings experience from companies and trade associations. Her previous appointments were at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and Baskent University in Turkey as an Assistant Professor. She taught at the University of Seoul in South Korea during the summer session. She has also delivered short-term courses as an exchange professor in Germany, Austria, and Denmark. She connects business leaders to students that include presentations, team projects, and academic service-learning (S-L) opportunities.

Dr. Acikdilli's research focuses on global marketing, business, entrepreneurship, and sustainability. Her work has been published in the Journal of Marketing Theory and Practice, International Journal of Business & Emerging Markets, Journal of International Consumer Marketing, and Journal of the Knowledge Economy, among others. Her articles are frequently cited; for example, "Marketing Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): Marriage of Convenience or a Shotgun Wedding?" published in the Journal of Business Ethics, has had more than 500 citations in works by other scholars. She has a chapter in the book "Sustainable Tourism Practices in the Mediterranean."

She actively participates in international academic conferences. She also serves as an Advisory Board Member at the MBAA International Conference, Vice Program Chair, and Chair of the Student Track for the Association of International Business Research and Practice (AIBRP).

Dr. Melissa Duchene-Kelly, College of Professional Studies



Dr. Melissa Duchene-Kelly is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at Bowie State University. She obtained her PhD in Human Development from the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Duchene-Kelly is trained in Learning Online, Teaching with Technology Online (LOTTO I and LOTTO II) and has her certificates in Blackboard, Quality Matters, and High Impact Teaching Strategies (HIT). She has served in a number of positions in the field of early childhood development including researcher, practitioner, and teacher. She has co-authored publications regarding children and families and has presented at several professional conferences. Dr. Duchene-Kelly has facilitated programs at an early childhood center to increase family engagement from those families whose children have a diagnosed disability and/or who are at developmental and/or environmental risk. In addition, she has led workshops designed to educate practitioners on the importance of quality care,

theories of development, and curriculum design when working with children in early childhood. Her research focuses on parent experiences raising children with Autism Spectrum Disorder from underrepresented communities.

2024-2025 CETL Fellows

Dr. Mesfin Etefa, College of Arts and Sciences



Dr. Mesfin Etefa is a distinguished Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Bowie State University, where he has been dedicated to teaching full-time since 2021. With a robust academic background, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems and a Master of Science in Applied Mathematics from Bowie State University, followed by a Doctorate in Industrial and Computational Mathematics from Morgan State University. Dr. Etefa is recognized as a subject matter expert in fractional calculus and its applications. His research interests are centered around finding solutions to fractional differential equations and analyzing their stability, contributing significantly to the field. He is an active member of NEERLab at Morgan State University and ADJOINT at the University of California, where he collaborates with leading researchers and engages in cutting-edge mathematical investigations. His exemplary contributions to the field of mathematics have

earned him prestigious accolades, including the Researcher of the Year Award from the Department of Mathematics at Bowie State University for both 2023 and 2024. This recognition highlights his impactful research on fractional calculus. Additionally, he has been honored with the Alumnus Award from Bowie State University, celebrating his achievements and contributions to the academic community. Dr. Etefa has authored seven significant publications, including influential work on the existence and uniqueness of solutions to evolution equations. His scholarly work has enhanced the understanding of fractional calculus and its applications, establishing him as a leading expert in his field. His dedication to advancing mathematical research and his role as an educator make Dr. Etefa a valued member of the academic community at Bowie State University and beyond.

Dr. Masica Jordan-Alston, College of Education



Dr. Jordan Alston, a licensed clinical professional counselor and certified peer recovery specialist, is a highly accomplished professional in the field of counseling and psychology. She holds a B.S. in Sociology and an M.A. in counseling psychology from the University of Maryland's Bowie State University, as well as a Doctorate of Education in counseling/psychology. In 2022, she completed a Participatory Design and Applications certificate program at MIT. Dr. Alston has made significant contributions to promoting economic gain and entrepreneurship in marginalized communities. She has been featured in interviews with CNN's Lisa Ling, American journalist Roland Martin, and various media outlets such as FOX and local talk shows. Her work as the former Dean of Students at the SEED Public Charter School of Washington, DC, was showcased in the documentary film "Waiting for Superman."

Dr. Jordan Alston's notable achievements include being published in TIME magazine and other prominent publications. In addition, she received the prestigious BSU Presidential Service award in 2023 for her exceptional contributions. She was also recognized as a member of the "Millionaire's Club" by BSU's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) for her instrumental role as a Co-PI on federal grants, helping secure over 5 million in revenue. With expertise in cultural responsiveness and trauma responsiveness, Dr. Alston serves as a board member and advisor for various initiatives related to behavioral health and childhood experiences. She has taught multicultural counseling, presented on international platforms, and developed educational systems for cultural responsiveness used by organizations nationwide. Dr. Alston has been at the forefront of combatting the opioid epidemic, providing expert testimony to the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Furthermore, Dr. Alston is a subject matter expert in youth mental health, having advised on the overhaul of the juvenile justice system and developed diversion programs for young offenders. Through her vast experience, Dr. Alston has assisted numerous agencies and countries in developing clinical programs, evidenced-based practices, and peer support programs. She has conducted workshops, seminars, training sessions, audits, and assessments for various organizations.

2024-2025 CETL Fellows

Professor Kathryn Kawecki, College of Professional Studies



Kathryn Kawecki is an Associate Professor in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts, where she has taught since 2016 and now serves as Theatre Arts' Academic Program Coordinator. In 2023, she received BSU's College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Creative Work Award. Professionally, she is a Mid-Atlantic based theatre artist at DC/Baltimore area theaters including CATF, Flying V, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company (CSC), InSeries, and 1st Stage, where she is an artistic associate. She serves as co-chair on USITT's Set Design Commission's Distinguished Achievement Awards Committee and has been a judge for theatre Washington's Helen Hayes Awards. Upcoming Mid-Atlantic projects include set designs for CSC's 2023-24 season including As You Like It, The Oresteia, and Romeo and Juliet. Recent Mid-Atlantic designs include set designs for The Phlebotomist and How the Light Gets In at 1st Stage and costume

designs for Othello/Desdemona at InSeries and for Bob Bartlett's Love and Vinyl, for which she also wrote the preview article "Love and Vinyl' to mix it up at KACHUNK! Records in Annapolis." Additional honors for include awards from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for her faculty designs for on Pipeline (BSU Theatre, Excellence in Set Design) and Harvest (Gettysburg College, Commendation in Costume Design) and nominations for her professional work on Proof (Helen Hayes Award Nomination), Elijah (Henry Award Nomination), The Taste of It (NY Innovative Theatre Award Nomination), My Fair Lady (IRNE Award Nomination), as well as several DC/Baltimore area Broadway World nominations. To see examples of her design work, visit kaweckidesign.com.

Dr. Darilyn Mercadel, College of Education, CETL Fellow for Adobe



Dr. Darilyn Mercadel is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Elementary Education Programs at Bowie State University. With a multifaceted role of teaching undergraduate courses, and coordinating ELED programs, she serves as CETL Fellow for Adobe, and as a Faculty Assessment Fellow. Dr. Mercadel's ability to leverage technology to enhance educational outcomes demonstrates her dedication towards equitable pedagogical practices to achieve educational excellence. She spearheads research initiatives resulting in quantifiable improvements in student achievement and teacher development. Her ability to analyze and synthesize assessment data from various sources underscores her dedication to data-driven instructional improvement.

Dr. Mercadel currently has two research articles submitted towards publication, Utilizing Diagnostics to Increase Students' Reading Grade Level Placements, and Utilizing Diagnostics to Increase Students' Mathematics Grade Level Placements. Dr. Mercadel also has texts in publication, Unleashing Innovative Mathematical Methods, and Performance with Math Help (AI), and Empowering New Foundations in Education. Dr. Mercadel earned her Ph.D. from the University of New Orleans, in Curriculum and Instruction/Special Education, and completed a Doctoral Fellowship in ED Leadership with Cross Cultural Competence from the U.S. Department of Education. Complementing her doctoral achievements, she also holds an M.Ed., and an M.F.A. from the University of New Orleans, with a focus on film, television, and theatre arts. This diverse educational background enriches her interdisciplinary approach to education, blending the realms of innovative practices and creative expression. Her commitment to fostering innovation in education has made her a respected voice in the field.

Notes and Takeaways

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The Faculty Institute is coordinated by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)

Dr. Eva Garin, Director

2024-2025 CETL Fellows

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Dr. Masica Jordan-Alston, College of Education
Professor Kathryn Kawecki, College of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Darilyn Mercadel, College of Education, CETL Fellow for Adobe

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