

Hello/Hola/Salut from the Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies!

Table of Contents:

- 1) Election Day – Vote!
- 2) LLCS Meeting Doodle Poll
- 3) Guest Lecture: Rev. Norman Allen – November 10
- 4) Dr. Sierra Publishes Four Works
- 5) Dr. McKoy To Participate in Virginia Tech Panel – November 30
- 6) CEAMAG Conference CFP
- 7) BSU Ten-Minute Play Festival
- 8) Job Opportunity: Dictionary.com Tutors
- 9) Caribbean Word of the Week
- 10) Sigma Tau Delta

1) ELECTION DAY – VOTE!



By Chisom Agbara(BA, Language & Literature Major)

Election Day, November 3, is tomorrow and there is a lot at stake for us as a country. No one individual is going to make our personal problems go away, but we have the power and the right to choose which administration will move this country in a positive direction. We have chanted “Black Lives Matters,” we have protested police brutality, we have fought against race-based discrimination, we have mourned more than 223,000 Americans dying from COVID-19, and now it is time to VOTE!

Prince George’s County Early Voting and Election Day Voting Sites:

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1694/Early-Voting-Election-Day-Vote-Centers>

Prince George’s County Absentee Ballot Drop Off Sites:

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/31910/PGC-2020-PRES-GEN-Drop-off-Locations->

Montgomery County Early Voting

Sites:<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/EarlyVoting/index.html>

All Maryland Early Voting Sites:

<https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2020/2020%20Early%20Voting%20Centers.pdf>

2) LLCS MEETING DOODLE POLL

The Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies will hold a virtual meeting next month so that undergraduates Majoring and Minorng in the department can speak with professors and learn more about the department. We will discuss graduation requirements, Spring 2021 offerings, and answer any questions you might have about the department and how we can help you graduate on time and prepare for graduate school or the job market.

Please fill out this Doodle Poll so we know when the best day to schedule the meeting:<https://doodle.com/poll/byyaqrmkav8isbxd>

3) GUEST LECTURE: REV. NORMAN ALLEN – NOVEMBER 10



Rev. Norman Allen, a minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Davies, Maryland, will engage in a conversation about Christianity and LGBT identity in Dr. Horacio Sierra's ENGL 254: Queer Cultural Studies class on November 10, 11:00-12:00.

Zoom Link:<https://bowiestate.zoom.us/j/98970943479>

4) DR. SIERRA PUBLISHES FOUR WORKS



Dr. Horacio Sierra recently published four works:

-His article "Black Lives Matter in the Medieval and Renaissance Classroom: Utilizing Digital Tools to Enable Student Success" was published in a special issue of *The Sixteenth-Century Journal*. A digital version can be found here:<https://www.escj.org/blog/black-lives-matter-medieval-and-renaissance-classroom-utilizing-digital-tools-enable-student>

-His review of Juan Sanchez's *Miami Motel Stories: North Beach* was published in *Theater Journal*, Volume 72, Issue 3. A digital version can be found here:<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/42951>

-His poems "Old South, New South" and "I Dreamt About Our Criadas Last Night" were published in *The William & Mary Review*, Volume 58. A digital version can be found here:https://issuu.com/wmreview/docs/review_final

5) DR. MCKOY TO PARTICIPATE IN VIRGINIA TECH PANEL – NOVEMBER 30

BLACK MON 11/30
1:30-3 PM ET
ZOOM
TECHNICAL & PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION

Register at: bit.ly/3nRSFmc

Dr. Kimberly C. Harper
Assistant Professor and Director of the Technical Writing Concentration at North Carolina A&T State University. Her research examines social justice, race, and ethos within technical communication, the rhetoric of maternal health, mental health, and hip-hop discourse. She founded *The Spine of Grace*—a podcast on Black maternal health and reproductive justice.

Constance Haywood
Third-year PhD student in Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures at Michigan State University with research interests in Black feminist rhetoric(s) & literacies, online community-building, and digital research ethics.

Dr. Temptaous Mckoy
Assistant Professor and Co-coordinator of Graduate Studies for the Department of Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies at Bowie State University. Her research redefines the field of TPC and challenges it to be more inclusive of the (informal) communicative and learning practices as found in Black communities, such as HBCUs.

Dr. Natasha N. Jones
Associate Professor at Michigan State University, Vice President of the Association of Teachers of Technical Writing, and co-author of *Technical Communication after the Social Justice Turn: Building Coalitions for Action*. Her research interests include social justice, narrative, and technical communication pedagogy.

Dr. Donnie Johnson Sackey
Assistant Professor of Rhetoric & Writing at the University of Texas at Austin and senior researcher with Detroit Integrated Vision for Environmental Research through Science and Engagement (DIVERSE). His research centers on the dynamics of environmental public policy deliberation, environmental justice, and environmental cultural history.

Dr. Cecilia D. Shelton
Assistant Professor at University of Maryland. She draws on Black feminist theory & praxis and prioritizes the perspectives, goals, and experiences of Black people (and other communities structured into the margins) as a way to insist on more equitable solutions to social, political, and organizational problems.

Ja'La Wourman
Doctoral Candidate in Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures at Michigan State University and King-Clayton-Parks Future Faculty Fellow researching the role of race and identity in Black women entrepreneurs branding and content strategies on social networking sites.

Brought to you by the Professional and Technical Writing Program at Virginia Tech, with the support of our sponsors:

Assistant Professor **Dr. Temptaous McKoy** will be part of a coalition of Black scholars in technical and professional communication offering their perspectives on defining Black technical and professional communication on a November 30 panel sponsored by Virginia Tech's Center for Humanities. The discussion will advocate for the inclusion of Black perspectives in the body of mainstream disciplinary scholarship and pedagogical practice and call for carving out the methodological, theoretical, and practical space that will enable other Black scholars, teachers, and practitioners in the field to see and do such work.

The discussion is open to the public and accessible

here: https://virginiatech.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eAvUgkriSVShmjvZkxtmHA

6) CEAMAG CONFERENCE AND JOURNAL CFPS



COLLEGE ENGLISH ASSOCIATION – MIDDLE ATLANTIC GROUP

College English Association - Middle Atlantic Group

63rd Annual Conference – 2021 – Call for Papers

“Writing and Teaching Justice in an Age of Unrest”

6 March 2021 - Virtual Conference

“Writing and Teaching Justice” is the theme for 2021’s CEA-MAG Conference, which will be held online this year with remote panels and keynote address. This year’s theme is a prompt for papers and panels seeking and articulating justice in English, Modern Languages, Cultural Studies, the Humanities and STEM subjects, the Social Sciences, and interdisciplinary subjects. We therefore invite papers and panels from academics in higher education, AP instructors, and graduate students on any topic that is likely to be of interest to this organization. Although proposals may broadly interpret the conference theme along the following subtopics indicated below, we will also gladly review for possible inclusion thematically divergent proposals.

Some Subtopics to Consider:

- Ⓢ Black lives matter. Period.
- Ⓢ What was normal? Or, Lessons the pandemic taught me
- Ⓢ Written, spoken, performed: The rhetoric of protest
- Ⓢ Writing (& righting) civil disobedience
- Ⓢ Teaching literature in an age of authoritarian politics
- Ⓢ Plague Lit 101
- Ⓢ The curve: Grading student work during COVID-19
- Ⓢ In their own words: Teachers on the front lines of instruction during COVID-19
- Ⓢ Quarantined: Building LGBTQ community in a time of social distancing
- Ⓢ Alright: Hip-hop as social protest

Graduate Students: Graduate students should identify themselves to be eligible to compete for the \$100 Christopher Bell prize for best grad student paper and should be prepared to submit a full copy of the accepted conference paper by Feb. 24 to the Program Committee Chair.

Submissions: Please email your paper abstracts (of 500 words or fewer) or panel proposals by 6 January 2020 to Bishnu Ghimire, Program Committee Chair, at ceamagconference@gmail.com. Please include “CEA-MAG” in the subject line of all submissions. Acceptance letters will be sent out in late January.

Paper abstracts and panel proposals should include the following information: Name; institutional affiliation (if applicable); mailing address (including zip code); phone number and email address; title for the proposed presentation; abstract of no more than 500 words (papers at the conference will be limited to 15 minutes); A-V needs, if any; special needs, if any.

Registration: Since this conference will be held virtually, we are asking for a pay-what-you-can contribution so that we can publish the *CEAMAG Journal*. Our usual registration/CEA-MAG membership fee is \$50 (\$35 for adjunct instructors and \$25 for graduate students). The link to the online registration page is on the webpage for the CEA-MAG: <https://www.umes.edu/ceamag/>.

Questions: Questions may be directed to CEA-MAG President LaTanya Rogers at lrogers@fisk.edu. Website: www.umes.edu/CEAMAG.

7) BSU TEN-MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL



BSU Theatre's Eighth Annual Ten-Minute Play Festival

Submission Deadline: December 1 at 11:59 PM

EMAIL YOUR TEN-MINUTE PLAY TO:
Professor Bartlett (bbartlett@bowiestate.edu)

Plays must be properly formatted and ten pages or fewer in a 12-point font.
Submit two copies, one with your name and one without.
Plays must be submitted as a PDF.

Plays will be selected by a committee of students and faculty who will read submissions blindly.

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Email your ten-minute play to Professor Bob Bartlett (bbartlett@bowiestate.edu)

8) JOB OPPORTUNITY: DICTIONARY.COM TUTORS



Dictionary.com is looking to hire 300 tutors by mid-December. They are looking for ungraduated/graduate students that have a passion for writing, reading, and/or math. Tutors are required to work a minimum of 5 hours per week and a maximum of 19 hours per week. \$20 an hour. Students can create their own schedule.

Please go here to learn more and to apply: <http://adtrk.tw/tp/rj6-Y8AJ.y-K>

9) CARIBBEAN WORD OF THE WEEK



Each week **Dr. Kim Evelyn's ENGL 326: Literature of the Caribbean** class brings us a Caribbean word and describes where and how it's used. This week's word is brought to us by English major **Marqui Williams**:

Word: pompaset (Barbados)

Pronounced: pom•po•zet

Definition: to act flamboyantly or show off.

Example: di gyal pompasetting

10) SIGMA TAU DELTA



Sigma Tau Delta is always looking to welcome new members. Whether virtual or in person, this year's Induction Ceremony will be held in the Spring semester.

Membership Requirements:

- Candidates for undergraduate membership must have completed a minimum of two college courses in English language or literature beyond the usual requirements in freshman English. The candidate must have a minimum of a B or equivalent average in English and in general scholarship and must have completed at least three semesters or five quarters of college course work. Candidates for undergraduate membership need not be majoring or minoring in the discipline of English.
- Candidates for graduate membership who did not hold undergraduate membership must be enrolled in a graduate program in English or one of its specializations, have completed six semester hours of graduate work or the equivalent, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale.
- Lifetime Membership Fee: \$80. \$40 goes to the Nu Nu chapter, which will bestow you with Honor Cords and a Medallion at your Induction Ceremony that you can wear during graduation. The other \$45 goes to Sigma Tau Delta's national office, which will supply you with your Sigma Tau Delta society pin and certificate. The fee must be paid in cash.

To learn more about Membership Benefits, please click here:<http://english.org/members/benefits.shtml>

If you are interested in becoming a member, please e-mail hsierra@bowiestate.edu