Quote of the week:
"Learning sometimes occurs because someone insists that you recognize the excellence in yourself."
-Rita Pierson.

Workshop Series: Exploring and Unpacking Post-PhD Career Possibilities: Recognizing and Articulating the Value of What You've Learned as a Graduate Student
1:00-2:30 PM EST, Tuesdays March 9-30, 2021
What Have I Really Learned?, Tuesday March 9, 2021
Developing Professional Skill Sets in Mentoring and Advising Relationships, Tuesday March 16, 2021
Developing Professional Skill Sets in Communities and Networks, Tuesday March 23, 2021
Putting It All Together: Articulating and Implementing a Career Development Plan, Tuesday March 30, 2021

Can you articulate your graduate skills? Are they related to project management? Leadership? Creative thinking? In this event, we will help you identify the transferable skills you are acquiring as a graduate student that extend beyond your disciplinary specialty. Knowing how to identify and speak to the less obvious, but perhaps more universal, skills you are developing during your graduate studies will help you uncover career options that best suit your interests, goals, and capabilities. By the end of this session, you will be equipped to recognize and articulate your graduate skillset, and to translate that skillset into terms and concepts that are recognizable by a wide range of employers, both in academia and beyond.

We encourage participants to attend all workshops, but you may choose to register for individual workshops within this series.
How Completing a TAR Project Impacted My Career: Reflections from CIRTL TAR Alumni
1:00-2:30 PM EST, Thursday March 18, 2021
Are you thinking about taking on a Teaching-as-Research (TAR) project? Join us to hear from a panel of CIRTL alumni who will share their experience doing a TAR project - not the research they conducted, but what they learned from the process and how they leveraged their TAR project in their career. Alumni from University of Pennsylvania, Lafayette College, Emmanuel College, and Stanford University will reflect on the ups and downs of the TAR process, discuss how the experience impacted their career and instructional approach, and answer questions from the audience.

Considering the Whole Self in Teaching and Learning: Mental and Physical Wellbeing in the Classroom
1:00-2:15 PM EST, Fridays March 12 and 26, 2021
It is no secret that stress, anxiety, and other mental health challenges are prevalent in higher education. In fact, in recent years, more students have reported experiencing negative academic impacts from stress than from the common cold and flu (c.f., NCHA, 2019). Yet the standard mental health policies we include in our syllabi often frame these experiences as something to be addressed solely outside of the classroom. This two-part workshop takes a different approach, recognizing that instructors and TAs have the power to support and prioritize students’ (and our own) physical and mental wellbeing in the classroom, and that doing so can foster student learning. This re-centering of health and wellbeing is crucial now more than ever, as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic intersect with and amplify pre-existing stressors for teachers and learners, including but not limited to anti-Black racism, political turmoil, and increasingly common climate disasters.

In this two-part workshop, participants will explore the relationships between mental and emotional health, the human body, and learning. Through a combination of asynchronous modules and synchronous workshop and discussion sessions, participants will frame the literature of mental health and bodily awareness in the classroom with their lived experience and leave with concrete methods of incorporating new insights into their own practice, with a particular focus on creating learning objectives and designing assessments that consider and support the whole student. These novel approaches will help students and teachers to experience more positive, rewarding, and healthy class spaces, and to support each other in working toward this vision.

Becoming an Anti-Racist Educator
1:00-2:30 PM EST, Tuesdays April 13, 20, and 27, 2021
Discuss and crowd-source possible solutions to the challenges of bringing anti-racist teaching into a STEM community and classroom in this three-session workshop. The first session will emphasize the importance of self-reflection and participants will practice discussing their identities and privileges as a basis to begin anti-racist work. Participants will also discuss their experiences with racial inequities and bias occurring both inside and outside academia. In the second session, participants will discuss and practice ways to address bias and interrupt microaggressions that may occur during conversations around race. The discussion will then move to ways to implement anti-racist teaching into course curriculum and participants will consider and explore ways to use evidence-based strategies to create an equity-based, race-conscious classroom. The final session will be centered on discussing the challenges of facilitating online workshops on anti-racism. At the end of this series, participants will take away an action plan of how they can engage in anti-racist work on their campuses.
**CIRTL Network Teaching-as-Research Presentations**
3:00-4:30 PM EST, Thursday April 15, 2021
Hear graduate students and postdocs from across the CIRTL Network share the results of their Teaching-as-Research (TAR) projects in this online presentation session. TAR projects investigate questions about teaching and learning, including assessing the effectiveness of specific learning activities and tools, examining the learning process about a specific topic, or characterizing the student experience in the classroom.

**If you are interested in presenting your completed TAR project in this event, sign up here:**

---

**dB-SERC Lunch (virtual)**
12:00-1:00 PM, Monday, February 22, 2021
The discussion will be virtual, so please sign up using the link below to receive the Zoom link. During the lunch, Dr. Natasha Holmes from Cornell University will give a talk on exploring men and women's roles in physics lab group work. The abstract is as follows:

While group work is common in most introductory physics labs, research in physics education has found that students' experiences in those groups are not necessarily in common. I'll discuss our recent work evaluating how students participate in the hands-on aspects of physics labs, particularly illuminating imbalances between men's and women's participation. I'll also describe how nuances in students' perceptions of these experiences and differences in single-gender versus mixed-gender groups motivate different types of instructional interventions (or even no intervention at all!).
**Through a Lens Darkly: Black Photographers and the Emergence of a People**
2:00-3:00 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2021
Facilitated Session with Arif Jamal

**Chat with Kim Haas**
6:30-8:00 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2021
Pitt alumna Kim Haas will talk about the launch of her travel series “Afro-Latino Travels With Kim Haas,” which explores how African heritage, dance, food, spirituality, and enterprise has left a lasting imprint within this corner of the world.

**Revising the Imagination: An Author Panel on Queer Fantasy Fiction**
11:00 AM-12:00 PM, Wednesday, February 23, 2021
Join us for a special discussion with five fiction authors who are infusing the fantasy genre with LGBTQIA+ characters. Faced with powerful creatures, magical possibilities, and time travel woes, these new queer heroes emerge triumphant as role models for readers of all ages.

**Blue, Gold, & Black: A Reflection Of The Black Pitt Experience Through The Years**
6:00-7:30 PM, Wednesday, February 24, 2021
This year’s K. Leroy Irvis Black History Month program – Blue, Gold, & Black: Reflections Of The Black Pitt Experience Through The Years – will feature a cross-generational panel of Black Pitt community members reflecting on their Pitt experiences in the midst of volatile racial climates and the preview of the new living digital archive meant to capture and curate the Black Pitt experience through the years. This program is being co-sponsored by Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, University Library System, University Communications, Pitt Athletics, African-American Alumni Council, and the Pitt Alumni Association.

**Bridging the Digital Divide Kickoff!**
6:00-7:00 PM, Thursday, February 25, 2021
Join the CCAC in Homewood and University of Pittsburgh African American Alumni Council (AAAC) for a webinar series to learn about careers in STEM! Webinars will feature a Pitt AAAC speaker, detailing their career path and highlighting their career field. Speakers will also serve as mentors for participating CCAC students!

**Deliberative Dialogue Series Lessons of activism from Malcolm X**
7:00-8:00 PM, Thursday, February 25, 2021
Please join Emiola Jay Oriola (A&S ’13), founding program manager of the Office of Interfaith Dialogue and Engagement at the University of Pittsburgh, as he moderates a discussion with two renowned panelists who will discuss the lessons of activism taught by Malcom X.

**The Black Impact**
12:00-1:30 PM, Thursday, February 25, 2021
Join us Feb. 25 as current and past Black faculty and administrators engage in conversation about the impact of their various roles as they relate to Black student success at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Daughters of the Dust**
1:00-2:00 PM, Friday, February 26, 2021
Facilitated Session with Dr. Tamara Butler and Dr. Patricia Williams Lessane.
#BLM: Reception in Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia
2:00-3:30 PM, Friday, February 26, 2021
While the Black Lives Matter Movement has revived global conversations about racism and systemic inequality, its reception in our region manifested not only in anti-racist solidarity protests but also in pro-nationalist activism, most notably in Russia. Join us to discuss whether the Black Lives Matter movement will have a lasting impact on the struggle against racism and for civil rights and social equality in our region.

---

University Center for Teaching and Learning

Teaching Effectively with and without PowerPoint - Canvas Edition!
1:00-2:30 PM, Tuesday, February 23, 2021
PowerPoint should enhance the quality and effectiveness of teaching. In this workshop, we will cover best practices for designing slides for use during lectures and review sessions that will help students better engage and retain course material. Participants will leave the workshop knowing how to design PowerPoint presentations which contribute to more effective learning and how to incorporate visual presentations in the new Learning Management System, Canvas.

Flex@Pitt: Using Classroom Technology
10:00-11:00 AM AND 1:00-2:00PM, Friday, February 26, 2021
B26 Alumni Hall
The Teaching Center's Classroom Services team will offer training sessions to faculty, staff and TAs who want to gain experience with the Zoom Room hardware used in the Flex@Pitt model. Attendees will have the opportunity to use equipment that is identical to the equipment in classrooms. By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to operate Zoom Room hardware and schedule Zoom meetings for Zoom rooms (starting from Canvas.)
ALL ATTENDEES MUST WEAR A FACE COVERING AT ALL TIMES.
Please bring the mobile device (laptop, iPad, etc.) that you will be using for teaching to this session.
Leveraging LinkedIn: Building Your Online Presence
3:00-5:00PM, Wednesday, February 24, 2021
LinkedIn is one of the most powerful tools used to develop an effective network, yet many users don’t know how to get the most out of the platform. This program will focus on the major concepts of LinkedIn; creating a profile, making connections and finding opportunities, for both first time and experienced users. Attendees will learn tips and tricks to ensure their profile stands out and are targeted to attract the people or organizations who can help them advance their careers.

This is an interactive session that will utilize breakout rooms. Please be sure that you are in a setting where you are able to speak aloud, and that you are running the most current update of Zoom.

Black History Trivia Night
6:00-7:00PM, Thursday, February 25, 2021
Please join the University of Pittsburgh Department of Medicine Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Library System as we host Black History Trivia Night. Make sure to bring your knowledge and competitive spirit as we quiz you on various topics that acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of Black innovators in the health sciences! You can play as an individual or play as a team with your friends and family. Also, you do not want to miss out on the prizes that we have in store for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers!
If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Anastasia White, DEI Program Coordinator (whiteaj2@upmc.edu) and Marissa Spade, HSLS Marketing and Web Specialist (MMS258@pitt.edu) at any point.

Additional Resources:

- Pitt-CIRTL website: [www.cirtl.pitt.edu](http://www.cirtl.pitt.edu)
- CIRTL website: [http://www.cirtl.net/](http://www.cirtl.net/)
- dB-SERC website: [http://www.dbserc.pitt.edu/](http://www.dbserc.pitt.edu/)
- UCTL website: [www.teaching.pitt.edu](http://www.teaching.pitt.edu)
- OACD website: [www.oacd.health.pitt.edu](http://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu)
- OACD Video Library: [https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/video-library](https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/video-library)
- Postdoc Career Club: [www.uppda.pitt.edu/postdoc-career-club-0](http://www.uppda.pitt.edu/postdoc-career-club-0)
- AME website: [www.ame.pitt.edu](http://www.ame.pitt.edu)