Weekly Happenings Newsletter

The CIRTL Network
CENTER FOR THE INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH, TEACHING, & LEARNING

Check https://www.cirtl.net/ for updates.

How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Alumni Reflections (Spring 2022)

Alumni from CIRTL programs go on to many different kinds of careers. This four-part event series features alumni from different career paths reflecting on their current work, how CIRTL prepared them for their career trajectories, and how their CIRTL experiences helped shape their professional interests and activities. We will give you a chance to submit questions when you register. Join us on:

- 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesday, March 9, 2022: How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Hearing from Academic and Research Staff
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesday, March 16, 2022: How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Hearing from Teaching Faculty
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesday, March 23, 2022: How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Experiences in Academia from Underrepresented Groups in STEM
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesday, March 30, 2022: How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Hearing about Positions beyond Academia

Quote of the week:
"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

-Harriet Tubman
Imagining Post-PhD Career Possibilities: Advocating for your Professional Skills and Value (Spring 2022)

This four-part series supports graduate students and postdoctoral researchers at all levels, especially those nearing transitional phases, to articulate and build upon professional skills acquired within and outside of academic experiences. Participants will: identify skills and competencies developed in multiple settings; determine areas for additional development; and develop self-awareness and agency in pursuit of diverse post-graduate careers. In support of the professional development of equity-deserving communities, this series increases equitable and inclusive participation by uncovering the hidden curriculum of graduate education and by highlighting post-PhD career possibilities and diverse academic institutions and populations served. The first three sessions will emphasize strengths and skill development, and the fourth will be an opportunity for reflection and integration as part of a career plan. Participants will recognize and express their unique and marketable professional skills and value. In addition, they will gain self-awareness and agency regarding their employability.

- 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Monday, March 14, 2022: Graduate Skills and Competencies: What Have I Really Learned?
- 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Monday, March 21, 2022: Mentoring and Advising Relationships: What Skills Am I Developing?
- 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Monday, March 28, 2022: Building My Networks and Engagement in Communities: What Connections Am I Growing and Why?
- 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Monday, April 4, 2022: Putting It All Together: How Do I Articulate and Implement a Career Development Plan?


**dB-SERC Lunch Discussion**

*12:00 – 1:00 PM, Monday, February 21, 2022*

The next dB-SERC lunch discussion will take place Monday, February 21st from 12 – 1 pm. The discussion will be virtual, so please sign up using the link below to receive the Zoom link. During this dB-SERC lunch discussion, Dr. Kirill Kiselyov from the Biology Department will give his talk “Storytelling in Cell Biology”.

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Check [https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/](https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/) for updates.

**Best Practices in Online Teaching**  
12:00 – 1:30 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022  
Faculty who teach online or hybrid classes want to know how to design and teach courses that are pedagogically effective. This workshop will summarize and synthesize research about the most effective practices in teaching, learner-centered courses, and point to Canvas tools that can help you implement engaging teaching strategies. Topics covered will include strategies and tools for planning sequenced assignments and activities, managing the course, and evaluation. The workshop will be of interest to faculty who teach online or who are interested in incorporating online components into their traditional courses. Bring your questions, ideas, and experiences to share.

**Responsible Use of Learning Analytics: A Faculty Panel**  
3:00 – 4:00 PM, Wednesday, February 23, 2022  
This panel session will explore the implications of learning analytics for administrators and faculty. Panel discussion topics will include ethical considerations when using learning analytics, the benefits and drawbacks of learning analytics, and how learning analytics is used in research and teaching. Attendees will have a better sense of research projects involving learning analytics, how learning analytics are used at the institutional level at Pitt and elsewhere, and what ethical concerns might arise in using learning analytics.

**Mentoring Academy | First Session**  
12:00 – 2:30 PM, Thursday, February 24, 2022  
Introduction to Mentor Training: This session will launch the spring sessions for the Mentoring Academy. The first of three, this session will provide an opportunity to discuss the different roles that mentors and mentees play, and covers the first four competencies in the Mentoring Academy (Introduction, Communication, Aligning Expectations, and Assessing Understanding). Participants will have an opportunity to discuss the principles of effective mentoring through interactive case studies. Participants can attend one session or choose to attend all sessions to complete all eight competencies based on the National Research Mentoring Network curriculum.
Check [https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/](https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/) or [https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion](https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion) for updates.

**Blue, Gold, & Black: Reflections Of The Black Pitt Experience Through The Years**
*William Pitt Union, Tansky Room Lower Lounge*
*6:00 – 7:00 PM, Monday, February 21, 2022*

The University of Pittsburgh invites you to join us at the unveiling of the University of Pittsburgh's Blue, Gold, and Black digital archive. We will also be bringing together a collection of voices from the Pitt community, in person and digitally, from current, active staff and students as well as alumni from across the decades. The event itself will be small and socially distanced. To reach the wider Pitt community, we will also be broadcasting it live on Zoom. [Register to attend remotely](https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/).

**Communiversity: Writing Places "This is Where We Find Ourselves" with Njaimeh Njie**
*Pitt Hill Community Engagement Center 1908 Wylie Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15219*
*1:00 – 2:15 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022*

Local artist and activist Njaimeh Njie will discuss her recent book, "This is Where We Find Ourselves" and exhibition in partnership with Silver Eye Center for Photography. Together we will discuss her relationship to place and how this serves as a pathway for exploring her own aesthetic visions and lines of inquiry in her work. This is part of an ongoing Communiveristy class hosted at the Pitt Hill CEC.

**Living Archives: Hill District Past & Present**
*Pitt CEC in the Hill District 1908 Wylie Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15219*
*5:00 – 8:00 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022*

Experience the rich history of the Hill District through curated digital and physical archives provided by University of Pittsburgh's Library System. Then stay for a special viewing of a documentary being produced by the university's film students that captures the Hill District of the past and the revitalization of the Hill District at present.

**Black Jeopardy Trivia Social**
*7:00 – 10:00 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022*

Pan African Graduate & Professional Student Association (PANAF) invites undergraduate & graduate students to join us on Tuesday, February 22 from 7:00 PM- 10:00 PM to play Black Jeopardy based on the SNL skit. Create a group or play solo and compete with others on popular Black culture music, cinema, and trends. Non-Pitt affiliated individuals are allowed to attend as well as long as a Pitt student, faculty, or staff completes the purchase.

**Open Mic N'at: Black History Month**
*9:00 – 10:00 PM, Tuesday, February 22, 2022*

Celebrate Black experiences and voices with this special night of music, spoken word, and more. At Open Mic N'at, the "n'at" is anything you can share via Zoom. Take us through a slideshow of your visual art. Share your video creations. Record music and harmonize with yourself live. Of course, we welcome all the usual open mic performance genres, too: original music or covers; poetry, storytelling, and spoken word; skits or monologues. Our virtual stage is open to all Pitt faculty, staff, and students.
Community Cafe with Rusty Cundieff and Linda Addison
Watch Party: Pitt CEC in the Hill District (1908 Wylie Ave)

Zoom Registration
6:00 – 8:00 PM, Wednesday, February 23, 2022
This virtual community cafe will feature Rusty Cundieff and Linda Addison, two key figures in Black film making. Please join us virtually OR in person at the Hill District CEC. Rusty and Linda will be virtual but the CEC will be hosting a watch party. Please choose which way you will be viewing when you register.

Understanding Health Disparities in the Black Community
CEC in Homewood (622 N. Homewood, 15208)
5:30 – 7:30 PM, Thursday, February 24, 2022
Join us for an event focused on celebrating the legacy of Black health professionals and addressing pervasive health disparities! The national theme for Black History Month 2022 is Black Health and Wellness. In honor of the theme, the University of Pittsburgh School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences' Wellness Pavilion and the Community Engagement Center in Homewood will be hosting a panel of Black Health & Wellness Professionals and University of Pittsburgh students. The panel will focus on celebrating the legacy of Black health professionals and addressing pervasive health disparities in the Black Community. Following the panel, community organizations and Pitt units will be tabling with information about health and wellness resources available through Pitt and in the community.

Can I Get a Witness? The Effects of Racial and Gendered Stress and Resiliency on Black Maternal and Infant Outcomes
6:00 – 7:30 PM, Thursday, February 24, 2022
Online seminar by Dr. Fleda Mask Jackson, researcher, writer and activist. As a leading authority on stress from gendered racism and its impact on maternal and birth outcomes, Jackson is the author of numerous peer-reviewed scientific articles, book chapters, and refereed and public presentations on the topic. Her work is cited in major newspapers, magazines and media outlets that include ProPublica, Vox, Ebony, Essence, CNN and NPR. Her work has been featured in the documentaries “When the Bough Breaks,” an episode of the award-winning PBS series “Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick,” and in the film, “Crisis in the Crib.” She also appeared in the Lightbox production, “Death by Delivery,” a documentary on black maternal mortality in Georgia.

Your Story Matters: Uncovering the History in Your Attic
Pitt CEC in the Hill District 1908 Wylie Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
6:00 – 8:00 PM, Thursday, February 24, 2022
Join August Wilson House for “Uncovering the History in Your Attic”. This project unveils the Your Story Matters oral history collection and includes a discussion on how to preserve family heirlooms to help tell stories.
**Transnational Dialogues in Afrolatinidad - Digital Afrolatinidad**  
12:15 – 1:30 PM, Friday, February 25, 2022  
This webinar focuses on the important links between Afrolatinidad and digital humanities/platforms. These virtual spaces inform, connect, and create greater access to regional, national, and global audiences interested in Afro-Latinx and Afro-Latin American studies. Our panel of scholars and digital curators share their experiences on a variety of projects, ranging from a mobile app that engages contemporary understandings of maroon communities to a podcast on the Afro-Latinx community in Washington, D.C. to a new volume on Digital Afro-Latinx Studies!

**Black Excellence Bash**  
7:00 – 9:00 PM, Friday, February 25, 2022  
The Black Excellence Bash is the closing event for the K. Leroy Irvis Black History Month programming. It is to celebrate the work and achievements and to cultivate joy in our community throughout the ages. This year the Excellence awards will be honoring community members (students, faculty, staff, and alum) who have made contributions to the “Health and Wellness” sector. This will be a night of fun and recognition to serve as a reminder that positive experiences exist in Black History and there is so much to celebrate. Black is joy and Black is excellent.

See [https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/content/professionalism-series](https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/content/professionalism-series) for more info.

**LinkedIn: Optimize Your Profile & Tap Into the Platform’s Hidden Power**  
3:30 - 5:00 PM, Wednesday, February 23, 2022  
The universe of career options available to PhDs in the health sciences is widespread and exciting, but daunting to many who might not know which path to take. Join us as we guide you through an exploration of the vast array of career options available and help you to understand and develop the skills needed to achieve career success.

During this workshop, presented by Josh Henkin, PhD, attendees will learn about several resources to search and explore careers outside of academia. You will also be introduced to tools you can use to identify how your professional values, interests, and skills align with potential careers of interest.

We'll help you discover what macro and micro skills you possess, and discuss how to increase your confidence in articulating and demonstrating the value you bring to an organization.
## Additional Resources:

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