**APRIL BAKER-BELL**

Michigan State University | Associate Professor | Department of English and African American and African Studies Department | 619 Red Cedar Rd. East Lansing, MI 48824 | 517-884-4451 | adbell@msu.edu | aprilbakerbell.com

**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D., Rhetoric & Writing**, 2014

Michigan State University

Department of Writing, Rhetoric, & American Cultures

Concentration: Critical Studies of Literacy and Pedagogy | English Education

**M.A., Written Communication**, 2009

Eastern Michigan University

Department of English, Language, and Literature

Concentration: Written Communication and English Education

**B.S., Secondary English Education,** 2003

Eastern Michigan University

Department of English, Language, and Literature

Major: Secondary Education Language, Literature, and Writing | Teaching

Minor: Communication & Theatre Arts | Teaching

**State of Michigan Professional Teaching Certificate**

Secondary English and Speech

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

**Michigan State University**, *Department of English | English Education Faculty*

Associate Professor, June 2020-Present

**Michigan State University**, *Department of African American and African Studies*

Associate Professor, June 2020-Present

**Michigan State University**, *Department of English | English Education* *Faculty*

Assistant Professor, August 2018-June 2020

**Michigan State University**, *Department of Writing, Rhetoric & American Cultures*

Assistant Professor, August 2014-May 2018

**Michigan State University**, *African American and African Studies Department*

Transition Team Member and Core Faculty, August 2019- present

**Michigan State University**, *African American and African Studies Program*

Core Faculty, August 2014- May 2019

**Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College**

Summer Faculty, June 2019– Present

**PUBLICATIONS**

BOOK

**Baker-Bell, April**.(May 2020): *Linguistic Justice: Black, Language, Literacy, Identity, and Pedagogy*. NCTE-Routledge Research series.

Bringing together theory, research, and practice to dismantle Anti-Black Linguistic Racism and white linguistic supremacy, *Linguistic Justice* provides ethnographic snapshots of how Black students navigate and negotiate their linguistic and racial identities across multiple contexts. By highlighting the counterstories of Black students, Baker-Bell demonstrates how traditional approaches to language education do not account for the emotional harm, internalized linguistic racism, or consequences these approaches have on Black students' sense of self and identity. This book presents Anti-Black Linguistic Racism as a framework that explicitly names and richly captures the linguistic violence, persecution, dehumanization, and marginalization Black Language-speakers endure when using their language in schools and in everyday life. To move toward Black linguistic liberation, Baker-Bell introduces a new way forward through Antiracist Black Language Pedagogy, a pedagogical approach that intentionally and unapologetically centers the linguistic, cultural, racial, intellectual, and self-confidence needs of Black students. This volume captures what Antiracist Black Language Pedagogy looks like in classrooms while simultaneously illustrating how theory, research, and practice can operate in tandem in pursuit of linguistic and racial justice. *Linguistic Justice’s* [*Book Trailer*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmbzPzip4Fs).

EDITED PROJECTS

Johnson, L., Gibbs Grey, T., & **Baker-Bell, April** (Eds.), Affirming and confirming our humanity: The importance of storytelling for early career language and literacy scholars of color. *Journal of Literacy Research*, 49(4), 2017. [Special Issue]. (invited).

**Baker-Bell, April**, Butler, T., & Johnson, L. (Eds.), From racial violence to racial justice: Praxis and implications for English Teacher Education. *English Education*, 49(2), 2017. [Special Issue]

ARTICLES

**Baker-Bell, April.** “We Been Knowin: Toward an Antiracist Language & Literacy Education. *Journal of Language & Literacy Education* (JoLLE), 16.1 (2020).

**Baker-Bell, April.** “Dismantling anti-Black linguistic racism in English language arts classrooms: Towards a Black Language Pedagogy. In Special Issue in *Theory into Practice* on Equity in Teaching Academic Language, 59.1 (2020).

**Baker-Bell, April**, Paris, D. & Jackson, D. Learning Black language matters: Humanizing research as culturally sustaining pedagogy. *International Review of* *Qualitative Research*. 10.4 (2017).

**Baker-Bell, April.** “For Loretta: A Black Literacy Scholar’s Journey to Prioritizing Self-Preservation and Black Womanist/ Feminist Storytelling.” In L. Johnson, T. Gibbs Grey, & A. Baker-Bell (Eds.), Affirming and confirming our humanity: The importance of storytelling for early career language and literacy scholars of color. *Journal of Literacy Research*, 49.4 (2017).

Johnson, L., Gibbs, T., & **Baker-Bell, April**. “Changing the dominant narrative: A call for using storytelling as language and literacy theory, research, methodology, and practice.” In L. Johnson, T. Gibbs Grey, & A. Baker-Bell (Eds.), Affirming and confirming our humanity: The importance of storytelling for early career language and literacy scholars of color. *Journal of Literacy Research*, 49.4 (2017).

**Baker-Bell, April,** Stanbrough**-**Jones, R., & Everett, S.“The stories they tell: Mainstream media, pedagogies of healing, and critical media literacy.” In A. Baker-Bell, T. Butler, & L. Johnson (Eds.), From racial violence to racial justice: Praxis and implications for English Teacher Education [Special Issue]. *English Education*, 49.2 (2017).

**Baker-Bell, April,** Butler, T., & Johnson, L. “The pain and the wounds: A call for critical race English education in the wake of racial violence.” In A. Baker-Bell, T. Butler, & L. Johnson (Eds.), From racial violence to racial justice: Praxis and implications for English Teacher Education. *English Education*, 49.2 (2017).

Juzwik, M., Whitney, A., **Baker-Bell, April,** & Smith, A. “Re-thinking Personal Narrative in the Pedagogy of Writing Teacher Preparation.” The Journal of Writing Teacher Education, 3.1 (2014): 27-35.

**Baker-Bell, April.** “I never really knew the history behind African American language”: Critical Language Pedagogy in an advanced placement English language arts class. In K.C. Turner & D. Ives (Eds.), Social justice approaches to African American language and literacy practices [Special Issue]. Equity & Excellence in Education, 46.3 (2013): 355-370.

BOOK CHAPTERS

**Baker-Bell, April.** “I can switch my language, but I can’t switch my skin: What teachers must understand about linguistic racism. In E. Moore, A. Michael, and M. Penick-Park’s (Eds.) *The guide for White women who teach Black boys*. Corwin Press (2017): 97-107.

FOREWORD

**Baker-Bell, April.** Foreword. Other People’s English: Code-meshing, Code-

switching, and African American Literacy by Vershawn Young, Y’Shanda Young Rivera, Rusty Barrett, and Kim Brian Lovejoy. Illinois: National Council of Teachers of English, 2018 (reprinted)

BLOG & NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

**Baker-Bell, April**, Butler, T., & Johnson, L. “The Responsibility of English Teachers in the Wake of Racial Violence.” Literacy & NCTE: The Official Blog of the National Council of Teachers of English (2017). http://blogs.ncte.org/index.php/2017/02/responsibility-english-teachers-wake-racial-violence/

Reid, J. & **Baker-Bell, April.** “From the LSP Graduate Students Representatives: Tips on the AERA Proposal Process.” The American Educational Research Association’s (AERA) Language and Social Processes Special Interest Group’s Newsletter. (2012).

**Baker-Bell, April.** “Discovering Scholarship and Developing Possibilities: Preparation of Teachers for Language Diversity.” The American Educational Research Association’s (AERA) Language and Social Processes Special Interest Group’s Newsletter. (2011).

**AWARDS & HONORS**

**Alumni Award for Innovation & Leadership in Teaching and Learning** Michigan State University College of Arts & Letters, March 2019

**Language and Social Processes Early Career Scholar Award**

American Educational Research Association Language & Social Processes Special

Interest Group, April 2018

**Scholars of Color Transitioning into Academic Research Institutions (STAR)**

**Fellowship**, Literacy Research Association, 2015-2017

**Smitherman -Villanueva Book Retreat**

Stanford University, 2016

**External Connections Award**

Michigan State University College of Arts & Letters, March 2016

**Scholars for the Dream Travel Award**

Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2014

**Cultivating New Voices Among Scholars of Color (CNV) Fellowship**

National Council of Teachers of English, 2012-2014

**Exceptional Educator Nominee**

Eastern Michigan University, April 2005

**Teacher of the Year Award**

Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences, April 2004

**GRANTS &FELLOWSHIPS**

**Summer Faculty Fellowship**

Michigan State University College of Arts & Letters, April 2019, $7000

**Engaged Pedagogy and Programming Funding**

Michigan State University College of Arts & Letters Program Fund Grant, 2018-2019, $5000

**Launch Award**

Michigan State University Diversity Research Network Launch Award Program (LAP),2018-2019, $4500

**Summer Research Fellowship**

Michigan State University HUB for Innovation in Learning & Technology, Summer 2017, $7394

**Summer Faculty Fellowship**

Michigan State University College of Arts & Letters, Summer 2016, $9850

**Creating Inclusive Excellence Grant**

Michigan State University Office of Inclusion and Intercultural initiatives, August 2015, $2300

**Digital Pathways to Transformative Teaching Initiative**

Michigan State University HARP Program funds co-written with David Kirkland, 2013-2014, $25,000

**INVITED TALKS, KEYNOTES, & FEATURED SESSIONS**

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Invited Talk*. August 2020. “We Wanna Be Linguistically Free Too: In Pursuit of Black Linguistic Justice.” Institute for Teachers of Color Committed to Racial Justice. (Virtual Talk)

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Invited Talk*. June 2020. “Linguistic Justice: Black Language Literacy Identity and Pedagogy.” National Council of Teachers of English. (Webinar)

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Keynote.* July 2020. “Linguistic Justice: Black Language Literacy Identity and Pedagogy.” Assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English Grammar (ATEG), Mount Pleasant, MI. (rescheduled for August 2021 due to COVID-19)

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Keynote.* June 2020. “Why We Flee: Radical Self-Preservation for Teachers Who are Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired.” Colorado State University Writing Project, Fort Collins, CO (rescheduled for June 2021 due to COVID-19)

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Invited Talk.* May 2020. “Linguistic Justice: Black Language Literacy Identity and Pedagogy.” Stanford University’s Race, Inequality, Language in Education (RILE), Stanford, CA. (scheduled via zoom due to COVID-19)

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Invited Speaker.* May 2020. “‘What’s Going On, Detroit?’ Bankruptcy, Emergency Management, Resistance, and the Future of the Motor City.” University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Los Angeles, CA (rescheduled due to COVID-19)

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Keynote.* Feb. 2020. “‘We Been Knowin’’: Toward an Anti-Racist Language and Literacy Education.” Journal of Language and Literacy Education (JoLLE) Winter Conferences, Athens, GA.

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Featured Session*. Nov. 2019. “Beyond Spirited Inquiry: Making

Commitments to Linguistic and Racial Justice Actionable.” National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Baltimore, MD.

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Presidential Featured Session.* April 2019. Race and Representation: Community-Based Critical Media Literacies and Digital Activism in the Pursuit of Racial Justice. American Educational Research Association (AERA). Toronto, CA.*(DIVISION B).*

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Invited Talk*. Sept. 2018. “I Can Switch My Language, but I Can’t Switch My Skin: What Teachers Must Understand About Linguistic Racism.” Center for the Education and Excellence of African American Students. Columbia, SC.

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Invited Speaker.*August. 2018. “Reclaiming the First-Year Writing classrooms as a site for racial justice, activism, and transformation.” Spelman College, Atlanta, GA.

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Invited Speaker*. July 2018. “Antiracist Writing Pedagogy.” Bread Loaf School of English, Middlebury, VT.

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Invited Speaker*. April. 2018. Critical Educators for Social Justice

2018 Early Career Scholar Forum. Radical Dreaming for Radical Change. American Educational Research Association (AERA). New York, N.Y

**Baker-Bell, April.** *Keynote*. Feb. 2018 “Teaching and Race in the Literacy

Classroom.” Keynote. Michigan Council of Teachers of English. Shepard, MI.

Alvarez, S. **Baker-Bell, April**, Kynard, C., Pritchard, E. *Featured Session*. Oct. 2017. “Race, Systemic Racism, Critical Literacies.” Deep Think Tank. Conference on

Community Writing. Boulder, Colorado.

**REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2020). **Linguistic Justice": Scholars of Color Converge on Black Language, Literacy, Identity, and Pedagogy.** National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). **Denver, CO.**

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2020). **Decolonizing Literacy Practices: Using Multiliteracies as a Medium.** National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). **Denver, CO.** (Chair)

**Baker-**Bell, April (2020). Linguistic Justice: Black Language, Literacy, Identity, and Pedagogy. World Congress of Applied Linguistics (AILA). Groningen, the Netherlands. (rescheduled to August 2021 due to COVID-19)

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2019). Dismantling White Supremacy in Critical Teacher Inquiry: Humanizing Black and Brown Youths in English Education. National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Baltimore, MD.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2019). Thug Teaching: Teaching about Race, Racism, and Activism in the English Language Arts Classroom using The Hate U Give. National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Baltimore, MD. (CHAIR).

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2019). Changing the Dominant Narrative: A Call for Using Storytelling as Language & Literacy Theory, Research Methodology & Practice. American Educational Research Association (AERA). Toronto, CA.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2019). “From Silence to a Seat at the Table: Literacy Research and Pedagogies that are Inclusive of Black Girl Language Practices.” National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research (NCTEAR). Birmingham, AL.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2018). “Ebonically Speaking”: Toward Linguistic Justice in English Language Arts Classroom. National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Houston, TX.

##### Baker-Bell, April. (2018). Unflattening English (Teacher) Education: A

Programmatic Approach for Raising Student Voice and Speaking Out for Equity and Justice. National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Houston, TX.

##### Baker-Bell, April. (2018). College Workshop. National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Houston, TX. (Organizer).

**Baker-Bell, April** (2018). Changing the dominant narrative: A call for using

storytelling as language & literacy theory, research methodology & practice. Literacy Research Association (LRA). Palm Springs, CA.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2018). Town Hall Session: Re-envisioning Literacy Research: An intergenerational panel. Literacy Research Association (LRA). Palm Springs, CA.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2018). Reclaiming literacy research: Centering activism, community, and love: Moving forward. Literacy Research Association (LRA). Palm Springs, CA.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2018). Reclaiming the town hall meeting: A teach in. Literacy Research Association (LRA). Palm Springs, CA.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2018). Re-envisioning literacy research. Re-envisioning LRA: A fireside chat. Literacy Research Association (LRA). Palm Springs, CA.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2018). Literacy as a space for hope and transgression. Literacy Research Association (LRA). Palm Springs, CA. (Chair)

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017). Beyond Respectability Politics in Language and Literacy Research: Toward Theories of Justice for Linguistically and Racially-Diverse Students. Literacy Research Association, Tampa, FL.

### Baker-Bell, April. (2017). From Racial Violence to Racial Justice: Praxis and Implications for English Education. Literacy Research Association, Tampa, FL.

### Baker-Bell, April. (2017). Teachers’ Reflexivity Around Linguistic Diversity: The Mediating Role of Language Ideologies on Practice. Literacy Research Association, Tampa, FL. (Discussant)

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017). Ebonically Speaking: Recapturing the Voices

and Agency of Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Learners in

English Language Arts Classroom (Classroom Demonstration).

National Council of Teachers of English, St. Louis, MO.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017). “GETTING IT RIGHT”: Using Our Voices and Our Agency to Uphold Our Mission. National Council of Teachers of English, St. Louis, MO.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017) Reclaiming Racial Justice: English Education in the Wake of Racial Violence. National Council of Teachers of

English, St. Louis, MO

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017). Linguistic (In)Justice: How Black Students Experience, Navigate, and Negotiate Linguistic Racism. Invited (as part of) Innovations and Challenges on Research in Language and Race, 18th World Congress of Applied Linguistics, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017). Writing While Black: Cultural and Linguistic Mismatch, Dehumanization, and Resistance in a Basic Writing Classroom, 18th World Congress of Applied Linguistics, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017). Access and Justice for Linguistically Marginalized Communities of Color: Moving Beyond the Rhetoric of Cultivating Capacity, Creating Change (Language Policy Committee Workshop), Conference on College Composition and Communication, Portland, Oregon.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017). Academic Mothering in Rhetoric and Composition (SIG), Conference on College Composition and Communication, Portland, Oregon

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2017). Writing While Black: Disrupting Hegemonic Language Ideologies, Conference on College Composition and Communication, Portland, Oregon.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2016). STAR Fellows Session: Navigating the academy: Voices of early career literacy scholars of color, Literacy Research Association, Nashville, Tennessee. *INVITED SESSION.*

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2016). Toward a pedagogy of linguistic justice: interrupting White, monolingual pre-service English teachers’ attitudes toward Black language, Literacy Research Association, Nashville, Tennessee.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2016). Ebonically speaking: Advocating for linguistic justice in English language arts classrooms (Classroom Demonstration), National Council of Teachers of English, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2016). A pedagogy of healing: Faces of English educator advocates (Roundtable Discussion), National Council of Teachers of English, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2016). Learning Black language matters: Humanizing research within justice, National Council of Teachers of English, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2016). The Language, Literacy, and Culture of Social Change: Voices of the shifting south, National Council of Teachers of English, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2016). “Learning Black Language Matters,” Paper/Video Presented at theAnnual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, D.C. (invited). *PRESIDENTIAL SESSION ON QUALITATIVE RESEARCH FOR ADVOCACY*.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2016). Academic Mothering in Rhetoric and Composition (SIG), Conference on College Composition and Communication, Houston, Texas

**Baker-Bell, April** (2016). Writing While Black: Cultural and Linguistic

Mismatch, Dehumanization, and Resistance in a Basic Writing

Classroom, Conference on College Composition and Communication,

Houston, Texas

**Baker-Bell, April** (2015). Understanding, Rethinking, and (Re)Imagining Linguistic Diversity in the Classroom and Beyond. Literacy Research Association 65th Annual Conference, Carlsbad, California.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2015). “The Stories They Tell”: Narratives and Counternarratives of Black Youth in Mainstream Media. National Council of Teachers of English, Minneapolis, MN.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2015). Language Diversity and African American Students. National Council of Teachers of English, ***FEATURED SESSION***. Invited by NCTE Language Collaborative, Minneapolis, MN.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2015). We Women Speak: Reflections on My First Year in Academia. Invited to speak at the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Chicago, IL. (invited).

**Baker-Bell, April** (2015). The Risks and Rewards of Motherhood in the Academy: Making Various Perspectives Visible. Conference on College Composition and Communication, Roundtable, Tampa, FL.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2014). “It’s Not Really a Bad Language:” Dialogic Constructions of the Historical, Cultural, and Political Underpinnings of African American Language. Literacy Research Association, Marco Island, FL.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2014). Hidden Art: Social Identities, Beliefs, and Values in Urban Youth Drawings. National Council of Teachers of English, Washington, DC.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2014). From Theory to Practice: Implementing Translingualism in Classrooms Among Speakers and Writers of African American Language. Conference on College Composition and Communication, Indianapolis, IN.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2013). “STOP KILLING MY VIBE”. A Critical Language Pedagogy for Speakers of African American Language, National Council of Teachers of English, Cultivating New Voices Poster Session, Boston, MA.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2012). African American Language in 21st Century Classrooms: From Code-Switching to Critical Language Pedagogies. Presented at the National Council of Teachers of English, Cultivating New Voices Poster Session, Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2012). “I Never Really Knew the History Behind African American Language”: The Benefits of Critical Language Pedagogy in High School English Language Arts Classrooms. Presented at the National Council of Teachers of English, Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Baker-Bell, April**, Wolke, S., & Jackson, D. (2011). The (Metaphorical) Ruler Slap: The Importance of Historical and Cultural Understanding of African American Language and Jamaican Patios. Presented at the National Council of Teachers of English, Chicago, IL.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2011). Beyond the Contexts of Our Discipline: Creating a Space for K-12 Teachers in Rhetoric and Composition. Presented at the 22nd Penn State Conference on Rhetoric and Composition, State College, PA.

Juzwik, M., **Baker-Bell, April,** Smith, A., Whitney, A. (Discussant). (2011). Rediscovering Praxis: Making Connections in English Teacher Education. Presented at the Conference on English Education, New York City, Bronx, NY.

**Baker-Bell, April,** & Wolke, S. (2011). School of Hard Knocks: Jay Z, Nas, and Damian Marley Remix African American Rhetoric(s), Western Classical Rhetoric and Digital Literacies. Presented at The Ohio State University Hip-Hop Literacies Conference, Columbus, OH.

**Baker-Bell, April** (2010). Moving from Correction to Code-Switching: Re-thinking "Ebonics" in the Composition Classroom.  Conference on College Composition and Communication, Louisville, KY.

REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Swenson, J., **Baker-Bell, April**, Sauvie, A., Matthews, J. and Butler, T. (2014). From Research & Theory to Practice: African American Language (AAL) in the Secondary Classroom. Michigan Council of Teachers of English.

Juzwik, M. & **Baker-Bell, April.** (2012). Responding to Twenty-First Century Trends in Secondary Writing through Partnerships that Support Transitioning into Higher Education (Workshop). Presented at the Summer Seminar in Rhetoric & Composition, East Lansing, MI,

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2009). Code-Switching and African American Vernacular in the English Class: An Analysis of Teachers' Attitudes Options and Strategies. Presented at the Michigan Council of Teachers of English (Bright Ideas annual spring conference), East Lansing, MI.

**Baker-Bell, April**. (2009). Code-Switching and African American Vernacular in the English Class: An Analysis of Teachers' Attitudes, Options and Strategies. Presented at the Rhetoric & Composition section of the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters, Detroit, MI.

CONSULTING

**Baker-Bell, April.** (Mar. 2019)“Linguistic Racism in English Language (ELA)classrooms.” Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, Wayne, MI.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (Jan. 2019) “Antiracist Pedagogy in Math Education.” Washtenaw Intermediate School District Responsive Mathematics Institute

(RMI). Ann Arbor, MI.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (Aug. 2018) “Linguistic & Racial Justice: Implementing antiracist pedagogy in the secondary English Language Arts classroom.” Novi Community Schools, Novi, MI.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (Nov. 2018) “I Can Switch My Language, but I Can’t Switch My Skin: Culturally Proficient Language Instruction.” Plymouth, MI.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (Mar. 2017) “Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy of Language.” Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, Wayne, MI.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (Feb. 2017) “I Can Switch my Language, but I Can’t Switch My Skin.” African Heritage, Inc., Northeast, Wisconsin.

**Baker-Bell, April**. (July 2012) “African American Language & Literacy”, Summer Reading Thinking Institute, Oakland Schools, Waterford, MI.

**Baker-Bell, April.** (2011). Jumpstart Writing Program, Division of Community Education, Wayne State University, Dr. Julie Mix, English Coordinator, 2011

PRESS

Do We Judge People on the Way They Speak? | NPR—Michigan Radio, July 2014

CAMPUS ORGANIZING

“Guardian Dead” Ancestor-Led Intellectual Practices Event. Speakers Eric Darnell Pritchard and Alexis Pauline Gumbs. Lead Organizer. Michigan State University. March 2019.

The Hate U Give (THUG) Event Series. Lead Organizer. Michigan State University. October 2018 – January 2019.

The Responsibility of Teachers in the Wake of Racial Violence Teach-in. Lead Organizer. Michigan State University. August 2015.

African American Read-In on behalf of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Lead Organizer. Michigan State University. Lead Organizer. February 2015

**TEACHING EXPERIENCES**

GRADUATE TEACHING

**Anti-Racist Language & Literacy Pedagogies** (online)

Michigan State University | Department of English | Fall 2020

**Anti-Racist Writing Pedagogies**

Breadloaf School of English | Middlebury College | Summer 2019

**Critical Media Literacy Pedagogy as a Tool for Youth Activism and Racial Justice**

Breadloaf School of English | Middlebury College | Summer 2019

**Linguistic Injustice: A Black Counterstory of the English Language**

Michigan State University | Department of English | Spring 2019

**Approaches to Teaching Antiracist Writing, Intersectionality, and Critical Literacies in Composition Studies and English Education**

Michigan State University | Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures | Spring 2018

**Composition Studies: Issues, Theory, and Research**

Michigan State University | Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures | Fall 2015

**African American Language & Community Immersion**

Michigan State University | Department of African American and African Studies | Spring 2016 | Spring 2015

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

**Anti-Racist Language & Literacy Pedagogies** (online)

Michigan State University | Department of English | Fall 2020

**Writing, Reading, Teaching to Save Our Lives**

Michigan State University | Department of English | Spring 2019 | Spring 2020

**Linguistic Injustice: A Black Counterstory of the English Language**

Michigan State University | Department of African American & African

Studies | Spring 2019

**Linguistic Injustice: An Introduction to the English Language**

Michigan State University | Department of English | English Education Program | Spring 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 | Fall 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2020 (online)

**Media Injustice: Women of Color Researching the Representation of Black Bodies in Mainstream News Media**

Michigan State University | Department of African American and African Studies | Spring 2017

**Linguistic Injustice: African American Language and Community-Based Participatory Action Research**

Michigan State University | Department of African American and African Studies | Fall 2017

**First-Year Composition: The Evolution of American Thought**

Michigan State University | Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures | Summer 2015 | Spring 2011 | Fall 2010

**Basic Writing**

Wayne State University |Department of English | Spring 2010

**Foundations in Writing**

Wayne State University |Division of Community Education | Fall 2009

**Composition I**

Oakland Community College-Highland Lakes Campus | Department of

English | Fall 2009 (two courses) | Summer 1 (two courses)

**Composition II**

Oakland Community College-Highland Lakes Campus | Department of

English | Spring 2010 (two courses)

SECONDARY TEACHING

**English Language Arts** (Grades 9), Certified English Teacher

Detroit Public Schools | 2005 - 2007

**English Language Arts** (Grades 9 &12), Certified English Teacher

Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences | 2003 - 2005

**English Language Arts** (Grade 12), Student Teacher

Detroit Public Schools | 2003

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES**

RESEARCH

Diversity and Inclusion Professional Development Program Model for Educators | Michigan State University | Lead Researcher | Summer 2017

Michigan Teachers as Researchers Collaborative | Michigan State University in collaboration with the Writing in the Digital Environments (WIDE) Research Center |Research Assistant | 2013-2014

Center for Applied Inclusive Teaching and Learning in Arts and Humanities

(CAITLAH) | Michigan State University | Grant Writing & Program Development Research Assistant | 2011-2012

ADMINISTRATIVE

Assistant Curriculum Coordinator

Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences | Curriculum Planning and Teacher Development | 2004-2005

Program Administrator

Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences | Second Chance Credit Recovery Program | 2005

EDITORIAL

Editorial Board Member

Community Literacy Journal (CLJ) | 2017-present

Editorial Board Member

Journal of Literacy Research (JLR) | 2016-2019

Assistant Editor

Research in the Teaching of English (RTE) Journal | National Council of

Teachers of English in collaboration with Michigan State University, 2012-2013

MENTORING

Teacher Mentor

Oakland University | Department of Teacher Development and Educational Studies | September 2012 - June 2013

ADVISING

**Current Students**

*Jerrice Donelson*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures, Michigan

State University, 2017-Present. PhD Student.

*Ja'La Wourman*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures, Michigan State University, 2018-Present. PhD Student.

*Bria Harper*, Department of English, Michigan State University, 2018-Present. PhD Student.

*Kaelyn Muiru*, Department of English, Michigan State University, Chair, 2020-Present. PhD Student.

**Graduated Students**

*Suban Nur Cooley*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures,

Michigan State University, 2017-2020. PhD

Student.

*Mary Neville,* Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Education,

Michigan State University, Committee member, 2016-2020. PhD

Student.

*Davena Jackson*, Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher

Education, Michigan State University, Co-chair, 2016-2019. PhD Student.

*Shewonda Leger*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures,

Michigan State University, Committee Member, 2016-2019. PhD

Student.

*Cassie Brownell*, Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Education, Michigan State University, Committee member, 2014 - 2018. PhD

Student.

*Wonderful Faison*, Writing, Rhetoric, & American Cultures, Michigan State University, Committee member, 2015-2018. PhD Student.

*Sakeena Everett,* Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Education, Michigan State University, Committee member, 2014-2015. PhD Student

*Cona Marshall*, African American & African Studies, Michigan State University, Co-

chair. 2015-2016. PhD Student.

*Ashley Newby*, African American & African Studies, Michigan State University,

Committee member, 2014-2016. PhD Student.

*Raven Jones-Stanbrough*, Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Education, Michigan

State University, Committee member, 2014-2016. PhD Student.

*Ronisha Browdy*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures, Michigan State

University, Committee Member, 2014-2017. PhD Student.

*Kunihiko Minamoto*, African American & African Studies, Michigan State

University, Committee Member, 2015-2017. PhD Student

*Mirabeth Braude*, Writing, Rhetoric, & American Cultures, Michigan State

University, Committee member, 2015-2016. MA Student.

*Tania de Sostoa-McCue*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures, Michigan State

University, Committee Member, 2016-2017. MA Student.

**Former Student Committees**

*Eric Rodriguez*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures, Michigan State

University, 2017-2018. PhD Student.

*Erin Schaefer*, Writing, Rhetoric, & American Cultures, Michigan State University,

Committee member, 2016-2017. PhD Student.

*Stephanie Mahnke*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures, Michigan State

University, 2016-2017. PhD Student.

*Beth Martin*, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures, Michigan State University,

Committee Member, 2016-2017.

**Undergraduate Student Committees**

*Carter Page*, Department of English, Michigan State University, Thesis Advisor. Fall

2019.

*Sarah Geist*, Department of English, Michigan State University, Thesis Advisor. Fall

2019-Spring 2020

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

**Graduate Students**

*Leah Gaines* | African American & African Studies | 2016-2017

*Kamahra Ewing* | African American & African Studies | Spring 2016

*Mary Neville* | Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Education | Spring/Summer

2016

**Undergraduate Students**

*Nicole Fisher* | Teacher Education | Summer 2016

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

**Graduate Students**

*Nick Sanders* | Writing, Rhetoric, & American Cultures | Fall 2019

*Everardo Cuevas* | Writing, Rhetoric, & American Cultures | Spring 2018

**SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

*Committee Chair*

Revision of Opportunity to Learn Position Statement

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) | January 2019- April 2019

<http://www2.ncte.org/statement/opptolearnstandards/>

*Task Force Member*

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Mentor Program| April- August 2019

*President-Elect*

Michigan Council of Teachers of English (MCTE) | 2019 – present

*Planning Committee Member*

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Convention Planning Committee | February 2019 | February 2018

*Teach-In Organizer*

Literacy Research Association 2018 Conference Planning Committee |2018

*Ethnicity, Race, and Multilingualism Committee Member*

Literacy Research Association, 2017-2018

*Co-Organizer*

Race, Gender, Sexuality & Language Research Network | World Congress of Applied Linguistics (AILA), 2017-Present

*College Section Steering Committee Member*

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) | Elected position | 2017-2021

*Promising Researcher Award Committee Chair*

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) | 2017

*Scholars for the Dream Selection Committee Chair*

Conference on College Composition and Communication| 2017

*Standing Committee on Research (SCR) Member*

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) | 2015-2018

*Language Policy Committee Member*

Conference on College Composition and Communication | 2015-2018

*Division K Diversity Award Committee Member*

American Educational Research Association | 2016

*Founder and Co-Organizer*

Academic Mothering in Rhetoric and Composition SIG | 2015-2017

*Rainbow Strand Selection Committee Member*

National Council of Teachers of English | 2012-2017

*Newcomers Think Tank Mentor*

Conference on College Composition and Communication Annual Convention | 2016

*Reviewer*

English Education Journal | January 2018 | January 2019

*Reviewer*

International Multilingual Research Journal | Special Issue |2015

*Reviewer*

Research in the Teaching of English (RTE), *2013, 2014,* 2015, 2019, 2020

*Reviewer*

enculturation: journal of rhetoric, writing, and culture | Special issue on Cultural Rhetorics | 2015, 2017

*Reviewer*

Journal of Literacy Research (JLR), 2011, 2012, 2016

*Stage I Proposal Reviewer*

Conference on College Composition and Communication Annual Convention| 2014, 2017

*Ambassador*

National Council of Teachers of English Ambassador Circle | 2012 - 2014

*Promising Young Writers Program Chair*

Michigan Council of Teachers of English | 2009 – 2012

* *Judge*
* National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Awards in Writing | May 2010, July 2011
* *Reviewer*

Equity & Excellence in Education Journal, Special issue on Social Justice Approaches to African American Language & Literacies | 2013

*Graduate Student Representative*

Language and Social Processes Special Interest Group (LSP SIG) | American Educational Research Association (AERA) | 2011-2013

**INSTITUTIONAL****SERVICE**

Hiring Committee | Department of English | 2020

Salary Committee | Department of English | 2018-2019

Reappointment, Promotion & Tenure Committee | Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures | 2017-2018

Rhetoric and Writing Graduate Advisory Committee (RWGAC)| Department of Writing, Rhetoric, & American Cultures | 2017-2018.

(AEO) Hiring Committee | Department of Writing, Rhetoric and American Cultures | 2016-2017

Professional Development Series Committee | African American and African Studies program | 2016-2017

Citizen-Scholar Committee Member | College of Arts and Letters| 2015-2016

English Education Coordinator Search Committee | Department of English | 2015-2016

English Education Junior Faculty Search Committee | Department of English | 2015-2016

Teacher Education Committee (TEC) | 2015-2016

* Ad Hoc Transition Committee | African American & African Studies program | Fall 2015

Creativity Exploratory Faculty Advisory Board | College of Arts and Letters | 2015-present

* Graduate Affairs Committee | African American & African Studies program | 2014 – 2016

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Michigan Council of Teachers of English (MCTE)

World Congress of Applied Linguistics (AILA)