

6th Annual

DIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM

**THURSDAY
APRIL 8, 2021**

*Contemplating Privilege & Discomfort:
A journey toward an anti-racist institution*

**Join us for a virtual forum full of speakers, dialogue, & education.
Use the QR code below to register.**



OFFICE OF
**DIVERSITY
EDUCATION**

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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Opening Keynote Speaker

**Dr. Robert O. Davies,
CMU President**

9 - 9:30 A.M.

SESSION TWO

9:30 - 10:30 A.M.

“Perceptions of the work environment and opportunities for career advancement: Race matters”



Dr. Kechi Iheduru-Anderson

Dr. Kechi C. Iheduru-Anderson is the inaugural Nursing Program Director and associate professor at CMU. She is an Inaugural Fellow of American Association of Colleges of Nursing Elevated Leaders in Academic Nursing (ELAN). Her research interests focus on race and racism in nursing leadership and education.

10:30 A.M. -
12 P.M.

SESSION THREE

“Diversifying the Landscape of Mental Wellness through Commitment & Collaboration”



Kristie Miner, MA, LPC
CMU Counseling Center
(pictured to the left)

I tend to take a client centered and cognitive-behavioral approach in counseling, while making sure that each session addresses the needs of the client. It's important that sessions are collaborative as well as interactive. In addition to my role at the CMU Counseling Center, I am a child sexual abuse treatment therapist at Listening Ear Crisis Center in Mt. Pleasant.

Amy Campbell, MA, LPC
CMU Counseling Center
(pictured to the right)

As a counselor I strive to provide people with the tools that will allow them to grow and heal mentally, emotionally, physically and spiritually. I came to work at CMU with the hopes of supporting students as they navigate their way through life's transitions. I value the therapeutic relationship with students as well as connecting them with different resources.



Soup and Substance: Progress report on DEI efforts at CMU

Dr. Nikita Murry



Nikita Murry directs the Office of Diversity Education at Central Michigan University. In this role, Dr. Murry uses workshops, intergroup dialogue, and social justice principles to help ensure an equitable and inclusive university environment exists for students, employees, and the greater community.

She earned her doctorate in counselor education and supervision from Western Michigan University, and a Master of Arts degree in professional counseling/school counseling from CMU. She holds a professional counseling license in the state of Michigan and specializes several areas, including social justice, trauma, and healthy sexuality. She also is a certified school counselor.

1 - 2 P.M.

SESSION FIVE

“Using the digital world to guide students toward resources: The ODE Digital Toolkit”

Katya Domínguez
(pictured to the left)



Katya Domínguez is currently a junior at CMU, majoring in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Mathematics. A member of the Honors program, she is also the founding president of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and the professional development chair for the Society of Women Engineers. Katya also founded the Spanish Campus Ambassador program, which allows CMU to give campus tours in Spanish.

Shelby Laupp
(pictured to the right)

Shelby is a senior at CMU, majoring in Integrative Public Relations with a minor in Sport Management and will graduate this May. She is a co-founder and PR chair of the RSO Women in Sports. Shelby is a part-time host at Olive Garden and an intern for CMU’s Office of Diversity Education.



“How does your syllabus sound?: Creating an inclusive and learner centered syllabus”



Dr. Stef Lassitter, CMU Office of Curriculum & Instructional Support

Stef had worked as a curriculum developer, faculty, and administrator at various universities before settling down at Central Michigan University where she consults with faculty on teaching strategies and learning improvement. She has created numerous instructional videos and hosted workshops on teaching and learning in multiple modalities.

2 -
2:30 P.M.

SESSION SEVEN

“Art in Activism: A reconstruction of Jim Crow”



Marceil Davis
(pictured to the left)

Marceil Davis is an academic advisor in CMU’s College of Education and Human Services, a co-host on the Hip Hop and Homilies Podcast, and a performing and recording artist on the Refuge Creative Collective label where he is also the founder.

Corby Blem
(pictured to the right)

Corby Blem is a local artist creating art, leading workshops, and drawing caricatures at events in the central Michigan area since 2004.



Q & A - Pre-recorded Sessions

3 - 4 P.M.



Mimi Gonzalez-Barillas

Mimi Gonzalez-Barillas is the Diversity Communications Specialist for the Office for Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. A CMU journalism degree alum, she returned to Central after earning an MFA in Creative Writing from Mills College. After a stand-comedy career of twenty-five years, she facilitates writing workshops, commits random acts of publishing, and still performs.



Dr. Lissa Schwander

Dr. Schwander has been a social work educator for over twenty years and is currently an Assistant Professor and Field Director at Central Michigan University. She has a PhD in Sociology from Michigan State University and a BA in Sociology and MSW from Rutgers University. Her research includes the use of the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) to enhance student understanding of themselves in relationship to those with whom they interact.



Angie Jasper

Andrea Jasper, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Counseling and Special Education at CMU where she teaches coursework in special education, specifically on intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorder, diversity, equity and inclusion, and transition. Dr. Jasper has worked with, and advocated for, individuals with exceptional needs. Her research interests focus on learners with low-incidence disabilities and emotional behavioral disorders, classroom management, and issues of diversity.

Q & A - Pre-recorded Sessions

3 - 4 P.M.

Teresa Homsi (pictured to the left)



Teresa Homsi is a junior majoring in journalism and environmental studies with an anthropology minor. In addition to co-running Central Sustainability, Teresa creates educational content for Facilities Management and works for Central Michigan Life as a beat reporter. Her passions include sustainability, journalism and environmental policy. In the future, she would like to work alongside communities on sustainable development projects.

Eric Urbaniak (pictured to the right)

Eric Urbaniak is a second-year student majoring in Biology and Public/Nonprofit Administration. He co-runs Central Sustainability and works as a Sustainability Liaison in Facilities Management. Through both positions, Eric hopes to bring awareness about sustainability issues to the campus and community while improving the tangible sustainable operations on campus. He is passionate about sustainability education, waste reduction, and policy writing. Post-undergrad, Eric aspires to work in the government sector on sustainable community development.



Evening Keynote Speaker

Dr. Abdul El-Sayed



7 P.M.

CNN commentator and Michigan 2018 gubernatorial candidate, Abdul El-Saed, is a physician, epidemiologist, speaker and author of three books focusing on this country’s “epidemic of insecurity” and the empathy politics we will need to treat it. His progressive platform includes universal healthcare, tuition-free higher education and pathways to 100% renewable energy.

Thank you for attending the 6th Annual Diversity Symposium! A special thank you to our presenters & the staffs of both the Park Library and the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Support!