

Welcome and Opening Remarks

We would like to welcome you to the 2020, 21st Century Englishes conference at Bowling Green State University. It is hosted by the Rhetoric Society of the Black Swamp, BGSU's Student Chapter of the Rhetoric Society of America, and BGSU's Rhetoric and Writing Ph.D. Program. Sponsored by the English Department, this conference has been held annually since 2013 with conference themes encouraging discussion on Past and Present Englishes, Interdisciplinarity, Collaboration, Changing Culture, and Creativity in Rhetoric and Writing Studies. This year's conference theme is a reflection of the times, "Critical Divides: Coming Together in Crisis." The conference has historically been a graduate student conference, but recent iterations have included faculty, K-12 instructors, and community members as well. This year's conference is particularly unique in its virtual format allowing greater reach and inclusion outside of the immediate Bowling Green area.

Land Acknowledgement (courtesy of the UWP website)

"A Land Acknowledgement is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories" (Northwestern University, 2020). It is important to understand the longstanding history that has brought you to live here in Bowling Green, or elsewhere. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context:

Colonialism, a practice of domination over Indigenous Peoples, is an ongoing process. We must challenge ourselves to be mindful of how we are participating in conversations and institutions that further these practices. For more information on Land Acknowledgements, please visit [this article](#) by Indigenous writer, Selena Mills.

The land on which we hold classes at BGSU has long been a gathering and meeting space for peoples of the Erie, Cherokee, and Shawnee Nations. We honor and respect the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to the territory on which we gather.

To learn about the removal and genocide of Indigenous Peoples in Ohio, please visit this resource from [The Ohio Historical Society](#) (p. 18).

How to Navigate the Conference

The conference this year is a mix of live and pre-recorded sessions. Time has been reserved in the program and during the conference for viewing pre-recorded sessions. We have a session (A) of live presentations starting on Friday, November 6 at 1pm, followed by a session (B) at 2:30pm reserved for watching pre-recorded presentations. We will start Saturday, November 7 at 10:30am with another live session (C). At noon on Saturday we have time reserved for our pre-recorded keynote session, followed by a live Q&A at 1pm with Bernice Olivas, our keynote presenter. Our 1:45pm session on Saturday is a special panel session that is prerecorded and our final live session (E) is at 3:15pm on Saturday.

Please see the conference website for more details: <https://casit.bgsu.edu/21stcentenglishconf/>

Highlighted Presentations

Keynote with Dr. Bernice Olivas

“Teaching the Whole Student in Digital Space *or* Let Them Write Protest”

We would like to highlight and recommend our keynote speaker’s presentation. The presentation will be held as follows:

Saturday 12:00pm-1:00pm Reserved for viewing the pre-recorded presentation

Saturday 1:00pm-1:30pm Live question and answer session with Dr. Olivas.

Dr. Bernice Olivas, Assistant Professor, Salt Lake Community College

PhD Rhetoric and Composition, University of Nebraska

MA English/Teaching, University of Nebraska

BA English/Creative Writing, Boise State University

Research Focuses: First-Generation students, writing pedagogy, inclusivity, social justice, and identity

Special Panel Presentation with Stevie Scheurich, Chad Iwertz Duffy, Amilcar Challu, Lee Nickoson, Matt Schumann, and Jolie Sheffer

“A Pedagogy from Crisis”: A Conversation with BGSU NEH CARES Act Grant Personnel

We would also like to highlight and recommend our special panel presentation. The presentation is a pre-recorded presentation and time has been reserved for viewing:

Saturday 1:45pm-3:00pm