

ALESHA GAYLE

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EDUCATION

- Ed.D** University of Pennsylvania, Reading, Writing and Literacy May 2012
Dissertation: “The Networked Neighborhood: Race, New Literacies and Parent Involvement in an Urban Gentrifying Community”
Committee: Drs. Diane Waff (chair), Lawrence Sipe, Eva Gold, Dina Portnoy
- MA** Teachers College, Columbia University, English Education May 2005
Thesis: “No Child Left Behind? Choice and Information in an Alternative Urban Public School”
Advisor: John Henry Browne
- BA** Florida A&M University, English Literature May 2002
Graduated Cum Laude
Minored in Humanities

HONORS AND AWARDS

NCTE Early Career Educator of Color Leadership Award 2019
2-year mentored, funded national award supports 6 early career scholars in the development of scholarly research agenda in literacy.

Digital Storytelling Fellowship, Temple University 2015
Recipients received training and financial support to develop courses/curricula in digital storytelling within their respective departments.

Teacher of the Year, Temple University 2013 and 2014
Awarded to 2 teachers each year based on student evaluations and departmental recommendation.

HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA July 2016 to present
Director of the Urban Teaching Residency Program, Graduate School of Education

Core Functions

Direct and supervise all aspects of the Urban Teaching Residency Program, a degree-granting teacher certification and master’s program for practicing educators in Philadelphia. Manage curricula, train and support instructors, and advise students. Oversee \$1.2M- budget, research, and seek research and program grants.

Additional core responsibilities include:

- Supervising a diverse cohort of doctoral candidates and field supervisors who support certification candidates in their first year of teaching
- Revising program syllabi and field experiences to ensure adherence to state certification standards for elementary (pre-k-4), middle years (4-8), and secondary (7-12) Instructional I certifications, as well as the certification in Special Education
- Planning and facilitating staff and professional development for 44 program faculty and staff
- Developing and sustaining partnerships with local and state teacher pipelines, including the School District of Philadelphia, AmeriCorps, City Year, Teach for America, and numerous charter school networks
- Recruiting diverse teaching talent, including the largest cohort of male teachers of color in the city of Philadelphia
- Teaching foundational, critical theory, and literacy courses, averaging 120 students per semester in on-campus and online formats
- Advising 22 Urban Teaching Residency student master's theses per academic year

Program Initiatives

- Chartered the M.S. Ed in Urban Education at Penn GSE (Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa, 2018; added Beijing and Shanghai, China, 2019)
- Launched the Special Education Residency arm of UTR, a 5- course add-on for practicing teachers
- Developed the Penn GSE VASTLIFE Program, in which teacher residents serve children living with low-incidence disabilities in poverty-impacted communities
- Founded the Penn GSE KIDS (Keeping Instruction Developmentally Sound) Program, in which teacher residents serve preschool- aged children aged 2-4 living in poverty-impacted communities
- Established the Aide to Teachers Program with the school district, which supports teacher aides and assistants in obtaining teaching certification

M.S. Ed Courses Taught at Penn GSE

- *Contemporary Issues in Urban Education*
- *Critical Media Literacy in the Age of Trump*
- *Critical Race Theory*
- *Digital Storytelling in K-12 Classrooms*
- *Literacy Methods (Elementary, Middle Years, and Secondary)*
- *Advanced Literacy Methods (Elementary, Secondary)*
- *Racial Literacy in Education*
- *Research Methods in Education*
- *School and Society*

Grants

- \$290,000 Aide to Teacher implementation grant, School District of Philadelphia, 2017

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA August 2013 to July 2016
Assistant Professor of Teaching and Instruction, English Department

- Designed course syllabi
- Attended faculty development sessions
- Advised students
- Maintained a 12-credit hour course load each semester

Undergraduate Courses Taught at Temple University:

- *Academic Composition*
- *Advanced Academic Composition*
- *Representing Race in the US*
- *Literacy and Society*
- *Children's Literature*
- *Literature of the Harlem Renaissance*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Penn GSE, Philadelphia, PA present
 Urban Teaching Residency/Chester A. Arthur Elementary School Partnership/*Gentrification and Urban Schools*

- Study considers how parents of young children use and interpret school and community resources

Penn GSE, Philadelphia, PA 2018 to present
 Urban Teaching Residency/*Alternative Route Teachers and Perceived Barriers to Social Justice Pedagogy*

- Study considers first-year teachers' hopes for, perceptions of and resistance to social justice pedagogy in their poverty-impacted schools and classrooms

Penn GSE, Philadelphia, PA 2018 to present
 Urban Teaching Residency (Urban Education Abroad)/*Travel, Teachers, and Technology*

- Study explores how US Urban Education students use new media to explore educational inequity across contexts

Penn GSE, Philadelphia, PA 2017 to present
 Urban Teaching Residency/*Special Education*

- Longitudinal study explores how teachers of children with low-incidence disabilities use technology to inform their teaching of life skills

Penn Annenberg Center for Communication, Philadelphia, PA 2012 to 2013
Research Assistant, Children's Media Lab (Deborah Linebarger)

- Project explored links among media use, poverty, and language acquisition of children aged 0-2

Dissertation, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

2012

Chair: Diane Waff

Race, New Literacies, and Parent Involvement in an Urban Gentrifying Community

- Contemporary critical ethnography; outcomes included recommendations for reaching families living without broadband internet and building inclusivity in neighborhood networks

EPIC, Interagency School Readiness Consortium/Penn Child Research Center, Research Assistant, Philadelphia, PA

- Project explored organic connections between Head Start families and schools. 2008

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Publications

Gayle, Alesha (2015). Digital tools for critical literacy. (67): 73. *Reader*.

Gayle, Alesha (2001). "From Boyz to Daughters: Representations in African- American Cinematic Images." *McNair Research Journal*.

Journal Papers under Review

Gayle, A., "School Choice and Parental Voice: The Digital Lives of Middle-Class Urban Parents," Submitted to: *Research in the Teaching of English*, 2019

Gayle, A., "Gentrification as Literacy," Submitted to *Perspectives in Urban Education*, 2019

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

Discussant, "Black Feminist Code: @The Intersections of Digital Technologies, Literacy Research, and Black Girl Literacies." Presented at National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, November 2019.

Invited Talk, "Teaching Critical Media Literacy in the Age of Trump," Presented at the Experience Liberal Arts Consortium, Shanghai, China, July 2019.

Invited Talk, "Teaching Critical Media Literacy in Higher Education Classrooms," Presented at the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Black Archives, May 2019.

Discussant, "Technology, Modernity, and Schools: Who is Left Behind?" Presented at College Language Association Annual Meeting, April 2019.

Paper Presentation, "Building Community: New Literacies, Alternative-Route Teachers, and Students with Low-Incidence Disabilities." Presented at Literacy Research Association Annual Meeting, November 2018.

Poster Session, "Tech Connect: Technology, Community, and Story with Children with Low-Incidence Disabilities," Presented at National Council of Teachers of English, November 2018.

Paper Presentation, "Technology and Society: Shifting Identities and Digital Worlds." Presented at Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Conference, April 2015.

Paper Presentation, “iProtest: Race, Identity and Organizing in Response to Michael Brown.” Presented at Critical Race Studies in Education Association Annual Conference, May 2015.

Panel Presentation, “The Role of Digital Networks in Community Education.” Presented at Thus Far: Commemorating 60 Years of Brown v. Board of Education Symposium, Swarthmore College, September 2014.

Workshop, “Digital Portfolios in the Literacy Classroom.” Presented at the Annual Conference on Urban Education, April 2014.

Panel Presentation, “Philly Under Fire: Writing, Technology, and Parent Social Networks.” Presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Conference, 2014.

Paper Presentation, “Stop, Drop(Box) and Roll: Participatory Online Literacies in Teaching Writing.” Presented at the Annual Conference on Urban Education, 2013.

Paper Presentation, “University- Based Mentoring: A Continuum of Practice.” Presented at the Ethnography in Education Conference, University of Pennsylvania, 2012.

Paper Presentation, “Technology in Classroom Mentoring.” Presented at the Annual Conference on Urban Education, 2011.

Paper Presentation, “Challenges and Solutions: Overcoming Hurdles in Intern Certification” Presented at the Annual Conference on Urban Education, 2010.

Paper Presentation, “Mentoring Our Way” Presented at the Annual Conference on Urban Education, 2009.

Paper Presentation, “Defining Stereotypes: Continuing Images of African Americans on film.” Presented at the Ronald E. McNair National Research Conference, 2000.

Paper Presentation, “Sambos and Mammies: Stereotypes in African American Cinematic Images.” Presented at the Florida A&M Consortium of Scholars Conference, 2001.

OTHER EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Preschool Teacher, 1994-2002

8th Grade ELA Teacher, 2002-2005, I.S. 172, New York, NY

Dean of Students, 2005, M.S. 242, Bronx, NY (middle school)

Special Assistant to the Regional Superintendent, Region 10—The Upper Manhattan Literacy Project (Harlem, Washington Heights, Upper West Side), 2005-2007, New York, NY

Literacy Coach/Mentor (supporting elementary, middle grades, and secondary teacher candidates), Penn GSE, 2007-2013

Mentor Coordinator, Penn GSE, 2013-2016

Faculty, Literacy and Media, Experience Liberal Arts Consortium, 2019

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

AERA, 2012-Present, member

CLA, 2001-Present, member

CRSEA, 2014-Present, member

Fellowship of Black Male Educators, 2017-present, supporting member

LRA, 2014-Present, member

NCTE, 2012-Present, member

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

NCTE Awards Task Force, Committee Member
BanksGiving Financial Literacy Steering Committee, Member
EdTPA Regional Scoring Pool, Member (PA)
LRA- Ethnicity, Race, and Multilingualism Committee, Member
Penn GSE Teacher Education Collaboratory Committee on Teaching Abroad, Chair
Penn GSE/UTR Steering Committee, Chair
Penn GSE Committee on Executive Education, Member
Penn GSE Committee on State Certification and Compliance, Member
Philadelphia Public School Notebook Steering Committee, Member

Peer-Reviewer for:

- *Research in the Teaching of English* (RTE)
- *Perspectives in Urban Education*

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

Haven Youth Center, Executive Board Member
Philadelphia Resource Parents Association, Member

REFERENCES

Dr. Ed Brokenbrough, Associate Professor
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Dr. Diane Waff, Professor of Practice and Director of the Philadelphia Writing Project
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Additional References

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Dr. Susan Lytle, Professor Emeritus
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