

SPRING CONVERSATION SERIES:



Erasing Physical and Verbal Barriers to Promote Open Communication

February 28, 2020, 11:30am-1:30pm - Nancy H. Marcus Great Hall at the Honors, Scholars, & Fellows House

DIRECTO welcomes you to our Spring Conversation Series on diversity and inclusion in research and teaching.

Our goal is to create a "safe-space" for individuals and groups within the FSU community to discuss issues surrounding diversity, inclusion, and equity. More importantly, we want attendees and participants to walk away with tangible ways to incorporate diversity and inclusion in their research projects and teaching methods.

Visit our website:

<https://gradschool.fsu.edu/diversity-and-inclusion-research-and-teaching-organization-directo>



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<http://bit.ly/scs-feb28-2020>

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM

Veiled Lives: Negotiating Identities in the face of the US 2017 Immigration Ban

The Immigration ban of January 27, 2017 excluding citizens of seven predominantly Muslim nations impacted the lives of some students at FSU. My research, conducted with three international, self-identifying Muslim women at FSU, indicates how structural inequality is produced and reproduced across intersectionality of identities like race, class, gender, nationality and religions rather than as homogenous Muslim experiences. These women reveal: the importance of family, community, and school in providing support, their values in constructing their identities, and the confidence in resisting the ban and the larger hegemonic discourse when confronted by the injustices and inequalities of the immigration law. The research indicates the need for: student support programs and spaces that appreciate student cultural diversity; faculty training and sensitization to cultural diversity; alternative programs for diverse cultural engagement crucial for students of international, minority and marginalized groups.



Ms. Melba Marin-Velasquez

12:15 PM - 12:45 PM: LUNCH

12:45 PM - 1:30 PM

Don't Mistake Movement for Progress: A Brief Look into Body and Action

This session will explore how we communicate with others through both verbal language and the physical body. What does it mean to engage our words, senses, and reflexes in order to be fully present when listening and responding to others, particularly when it comes to discussing political and social issues? This breakout session will be a hands-on exploration of mental and physical strategies to deepen dialogue and remain present when navigating opposing views and differing opinions. We will look at how we can better train our reflexes to respond quickly and with compassion, instead of reacting with blame, shame, or judgement. Drawing on Whittington's work in social justice education and Rhynard's movement training in dance, this collaboratively lead session offers tools, exercises and experiences that can be replicated and applied in a variety of settings.



Tiffany Rhynard



Shane Whittington