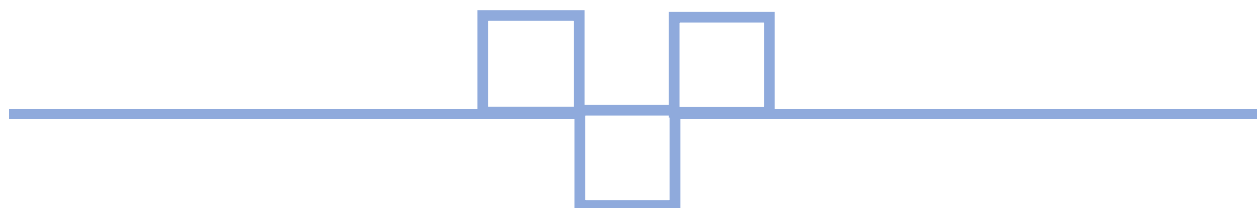
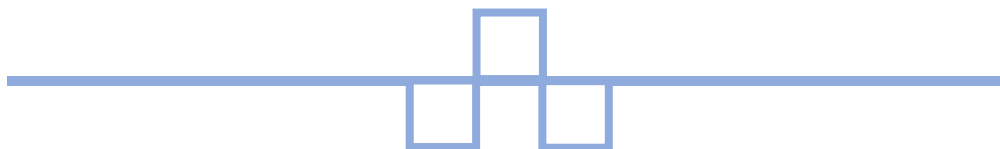


UK-JLU Faculty Workshop Series, 2021

Facilitating Active & Engaged Learning in Virtual Environments



Speaker Biographies



吉林大学
Jilin University



Office of China
Initiatives
International Center



Center for the Enhancement
of Learning and Teaching

(listed in order of appearance on the schedule)



Dr. Kathi Kern

Associate Provost of Teaching, Learning, & Academic Innovation; Director of the Center for the Enhancement of Learning & Teaching; Professor of History

Associate Provost Kern earned a PhD at the University of Pennsylvania where she was a Mellon Fellow in the humanities and won the Dean's Award for distinguished teaching. At the University of Kentucky, she has won the Chancellor's (now the Provost's) Award for Outstanding Teaching, the UK Alumni Great Teacher Award, and the UK College of Education's "Teachers Who Make a Difference" Award. In 2009-10 she served as the Stanley Kelley Jr. Visiting Associate Professor for Distinguished Teaching at Princeton University. Professor Kern is the author of *Mrs. Stanton's Bible* (Cornell University Press, 2001), which was named as an Outstanding Academic Book by *Choice Magazine* that year. In 2016 she was named as a Distinguished Lecturer by the Organization of American Historians and has presented her research to academic audiences in Japan, China, India, and France. Her scholarly work on teaching has led to a career of public service to teachers around the world. With US federal grant awards totaling nearly six million dollars, Professor Kern has trained teachers in the Mississippi Delta, Alaska, Eastern Kentucky, Afghanistan, China, Iraq, Japan, and Pakistan. Currently, she is working on a book entitled *The Tagore Craze in America*, in which she studies Americans' fascination with the Bengali writer and his impact on American ideas about religion and gender. As the head of the Provost's division of Teaching, Learning, & Academic Innovation, Dr. Kern has been a key part of the University's executive leadership overseeing the transition to virtual, hybrid, and modified instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Trey Conatser

Associate Director of the Center for the Enhancement of Learning & Teaching

Trey Conatser is finishing a PhD at The Ohio State University, where he served as the graduate associate director of the Digital Media and Composition Institute and received awards for innovation in teaching and digital scholarly production. At the University of Kentucky, Trey works with faculty and administrators to foster a culture of innovative, inclusive, and effective teaching. In addition to his responsibilities at CELT, Trey teaches courses in writing, digital humanities, literature, and college teaching and learning. His research engages innovative teaching methods that are informed by digital humanities theories and methodologies. Currently he is working on a project that explores the value of code and code-based pedagogy in the humanities curriculum and he has published his scholarly work in venues such as *College Teaching*, the *Journal of Digital Humanities*, *Computers & Composition Online*, and *New Media & Society*. His work on code-based pedagogy in the library archives is forthcoming in the *Palgrave Handbook on Digital and Public Humanities*. With Associate Provost Kern, Trey presented to faculty at Jilin University in 2018 and has helped to facilitate faculty programs for China University of Mining and Technology, Qingdao Technological University, and Nangarhar University in Afghanistan. For the past year, Trey has worked with CELT to support faculty, staff, and students as the University moved to remote, virtual, and modified instructional formats in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Dr. Jill Abney

Assistant Director of Presentation U; Faculty Instructional Consultant at the Center for the Enhancement of Learning & Teaching

Dr. Abney earned a PhD in history from the University of Kentucky in 2016. For the next three years she worked as an Assistant Teaching Professor of History and the Coordinator for Social Studies Licensure at the University of Southern Mississippi. At UK Dr. Abney coordinates the Presentation U tutoring center, which provides peer-driven academic support for students on assignments and other coursework. As a CELT faculty instructional consultant and member of the Teaching & Learning leadership team, Dr. Abney has worked for the past year to support the institution, especially its faculty and students, during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has hosted workshops, consultations, and student feedback sessions for faculty and staff across the institution. In 2019 Dr. Abney was the coordinator and lead instructor of a three-month teacher development program for faculty from China University of Mining and Technology. She specializes in 19th century British history and is a former high school history teacher whose research interests include gender and social power, rhetoric, and inclusive forms of pedagogy. She continues to teach courses in the UK Department of History on 19th and 20th century American, British, and European history.



Dr. Ashley Sorrell

Assistant Director of Professional Enhancement for the Graduate School; Senior Faculty Instructional Consultant at the Center for the Enhancement of Learning & Teaching

Dr. Sorrell earned a PhD in history from the University of Kentucky in 2016. In her role as assistant director of graduate student professional enhancement, she supports graduate students across the institution with events and programming related to teaching and career diversity, competitions for research and teaching presentations, and the campus wide orientations for graduate students and teaching assistants. For her role as a senior consultant at CELT, Dr. Sorrell works with instructors on inclusive teaching practices, student engagement strategies, and collaborative pedagogies. In 2018 she was a mentor and instructor in a four-month teacher development program for faculty from China University of Mining and Technology. Before joining CELT, she was a teaching assistant for the UK Department of History and was awarded the Provost's Outstanding Teaching Award. She continues to teach courses in history, civic engagement, and women's and gender studies, as well as courses in teaching and learning for the Preparing Future Faculty & Professionals program at UK. For the past year, Dr. Sorrell has worked with the Graduate School and CELT to respond to the changes in instructional delivery and academic culture caused by the pandemic.



Dr. Shauna Morgan

Director of Equity & Inclusion Initiatives for Teaching, Learning, & Academic Innovation; Faculty Affiliate in African American & Africana Studies

Dr. Morgan earned a PhD in English from Georgia State University in 2012. At the University of Kentucky, she leads in the development and implementation of efforts to promote equitable and inclusive teaching in and beyond the classroom. In addition to consulting with faculty and facilitating workshops and other events, Dr. Morgan has worked at the college and university level to design and facilitate semester- and year-long programming for faculty and students. She currently leads the University's task force for diversity, equity, and inclusion through faculty development and instructional practices. Drawing from her own pedagogical ethic, Dr. Morgan fosters transformative academic experiences through interdisciplinary faculty development, community engagement, and innovative, collaborative practices with academic and administrative units. Dr. Morgan holds a tenured faculty position at Howard University where her creative and scholarly work is focused on the African Diaspora, particularly representations of womanhood, neo-anticolonialism in 21st-century literature, and global intersections of Black cultural productions. Before joining the professoriate, Dr. Morgan worked in higher education administration on student and staff development around matters of diversity in housing and residence life, admissions, and student activities.



Kate Collins

Faculty Instructional Associate at the Center for the Enhancement of Learning & Teaching

Kate is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and has previously served as a student intern at CELT and later as the operations manager, coordinating resources and organizational support. She has been a participant and leader in campus initiatives to encourage women's and girls' involvement in STEM and continues to strive for more support of underrepresented students. As a faculty instructional associate, Kate consults with instructors, facilitates events, and contributes to CELT's central mission of fostering a culture of innovative teaching and inclusive learning at UK. She often works on issues involving educational technologies and has completed Google's Higher Ed Trainer Workshop. Kate assists in the delivery of a large-enrollment civics course in the UK core curriculum, for which she manages communications, the videoconference platform, online materials, and a team of undergraduate learning assistants. She also has worked on the campus-wide Culture of Conversation project, which brings students together to discuss critical and current issues affecting them. For international work, she has been an instructional assistant in teacher development programs for faculty from China University of Mining and Technology in 2018 and 2019. For the past year Kate has supported instructors in their transition to virtual, hybrid, and modified in-person instruction through consultations and programming.