



NASPA[®]

Student Affairs Administrators
in Higher Education

2019-2020 Emerging Faculty Leader Academy Cohort

Katherine Bender
Assistant Professor and Program Director
Bridgewater State University

Jackie Clark
Assistant Professor
St. Martin's University
@jycdesign

Crystal Garcia
Assistant Professor
Auburn University
@CrystalEGarcia

Nichole Garcia
Assistant Professor of Higher Education &
College Affairs
Rutgers University
@DrNicholeGarcia

Amber Manning-Ouellette
Assistant Professor
Oklahoma State University
@almouellette

Jonathan Pryor
Assistant Professor
California State University, Fresno
@JonathanTPryor

Emerald Templeton
Assistant Professor
Michigan State University
@EmeraldOnHE

More information about this program can be found here:

https://www.naspa.org/images/uploads/main/Emerging_Leaders_Overview.pdf



Katherine Bender
Assistant Professor and Program Director
Bridgewater State University

Katherine M. Bender PhD, counselor educator and program director for Student Affairs Counseling at Bridgewater State University, is a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA), The American College Counseling Association (ACCA), The Association of Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), and The National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA). Her professional areas of interest include: suicide prevention, mental health and higher education, wellness in the legal profession, selfcare and wellness in helping professions, and clinical supervision. Dr. Bender has counseling experience in a variety of higher education settings and consults regularly with law school staff and students on counseling and mental health concerns. Dr. Bender has spoken at over 50 law schools in the United States and has presented at numerous national conferences. She is currently a reviewer for the *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice*. She has published in law journals on the mental health of law students. Dr. Bender is passionate about the need for campus community involvement in addressing the mental health needs of today's higher education students. She also is passionate about running road races in costumes and spending time with her nieces.



Jackie Clark
Assistant Professor
St. Martin's University
@jycdesign

Jackie is currently an Assistant Professor in the College of Education and Counseling at St. Martin's University in Lacey, Washington. She is also the director of a new Higher Education & Student Affairs M.Ed. program. In 2017, she graduated from the University of Georgia with her Ph.D. in College Student Affairs Administration. While there, she served as the Graduate Program Coordinator for the M.Ed. program in College Student Affairs Administration. Prior to completing her Ph.D., Jackie worked for Premier, an educational content provider and in residence life at Virginia Tech, the University of Mary Washington, and Nova Southeastern University. Her research interests include small college environments, administrative structures in higher education, professional competencies, and social/professional capital in student affairs.



Crystal Garcia
Assistant Professor
Auburn University
@CrystalEGarcia

Crystal E. Garcia is an Assistant Professor of Administration of Higher Education at Auburn University. She completed her Ph.D. in Educational Studies specializing in Educational Leadership and Higher Education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dr. Garcia has worked in education for over a decade spanning K-12 and higher education contexts. Her research critically examines the mechanisms by which racially minoritized college students experience campus environments. Dr. Garcia was awarded the 2018 AERA Hispanic Research Issues SIG Dissertation of the Year Award as well as the 2018 ACPA Burns B. Crookston Doctoral Research Award. She serves as a member of the Editorial Boards for the *Journal of College Student Development* and the *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice* as well as a member of the NASPA Faculty Council. Her work has been published in journals including *The Review of Higher Education*, *The Journal of Higher Education*, and the *Journal of Hispanic Higher Education*.



Nichole Garcia
Assistant Professor of Higher Education
& College Affairs
Rutgers University
@DrNicholeGarcia

Dr. Nichole Margarita Garcia is an Assistant Professor of Higher Education in the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. She is a recipient of the Andrew W. Mellon dissertation fellowship which she completed a comparative study on Chicana/o and Puerto Rican college-educated families to advance narratives of intergenerational achievement and college choice processes. As a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania she was engaged with RISE (Research, Integration, Strategies, and Evaluation) for boys and men of color which is a field advancement effort to understand and strategically improve the lives, experiences, and outcomes of these populations. Dr. Garcia was recognized for her methodological expertise using critical race theory and quantitative methods and invited to lead one of the first peer-reviewed special issues to advance “QuantCrit” for the internationally recognized journal *Race, Ethnicity and Education*. She received her PhD in Social Science and Comparative Education with a specialization in Race and Ethnic Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Nichole Margarita Garcia is an Assistant Professor of Higher Education and College Student Affairs at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. As a Chicana/Puerto Rican her research focuses on the intersections race, feminism, and Latinx/a/o communities in higher education. Dr. Garcia has worked as a college preparation consultant for eight years and has dedicated research efforts to examine Latinx/a/o student college access and success. She is a regular contributor to *Diverse Issues in Higher Education Magazine* and *Motivos: Bilingual Magazine*. She received her PhD in Education from the University of California, Los Angeles.



Amber Manning-Ouellette
Assistant Professor
Oklahoma State University
@almouellette

Dr. Amber Manning-Ouellette is an Assistant Professor in Higher Education and Student Affairs at Oklahoma State University. She also serves as the master's program coordinator, responsible for recruitment, selection, advising, and curriculum development for both the Master's in Higher Education and College Student Development programs. Her research foci include socially just leadership education, student learning outcomes, student cognitive development, and first-year student transition. Dr. Manning-Ouellette has authored several articles and book chapters including research on: health care reform and higher education, the differences in student learning in online and traditional course settings, and how service-learning influences the persistence of women in STEM fields. She is the recipient of the 2016 ACPA and FYE grant for her research on women in STEM and service-learning. Dr. Manning-Ouellette was selected as one of five Iowa Campus Compact Faculty Fellows for 2016-2017. In 2017, she received the Gender and Sexuality Equity Research Award and the Wilbur L. Layton Faculty Recognition Award at Iowa State University and in 2018 she was awarded the excellence in undergraduate teaching by a lecturer at Iowa State University. Previously, Dr. Manning-Ouellette worked in student affairs administration for over 7 years while completing her Doctorate of Philosophy in Educational Administration and Higher Education at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC). During that time, she served as the director of enrollment management for the College of Business, focusing on the recruitment and retention strategies of undergraduate students.



Jonathan Pryor
Assistant Professor
California State University, Fresno
@JonathanTPryor

Jonathan T. Pryor, PhD (he/him/his), is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at California State University, Fresno, working with Master's students in the Higher Education Administration and Leadership program. He received his PhD in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from the University of Missouri. His scholarship explores staff leadership, LGBTQ equity in Higher Education, and the experiences of LGBTQ college students. Prior to Fresno State, he worked in student affairs for 10 years, most recently managing the LGBTQIA Programs & Services at the University of Missouri-Kansas City..



Emerald Templeton
Assistant Professor
Michigan State University
@EmeraldOnHE

Dr. Emerald Templeton is an Assistant Professor in the Higher, Adult, and Lifelong Education (HALE) program at Michigan State University where she also serves as the Coordinator of the Student Affairs Administration master's program. Dr. Templeton earned her doctorate in Organization and Leadership with an emphasis in Higher Education Administration from the University of San Francisco. Her research broadly focuses on access and equity in higher education. Specifically, she explores how institutional policies and practices perpetuate systemic inequities resulting in the exclusion of communities of color. Along this line of inquiry, Dr. Templeton examines the logics embedded within the institution that influence the assumptions, values, and beliefs of individual actors.