



**Phil Bratta \$2500**

As Managing Co-Chair of the 2014 Inaugural Cultural Rhetorics Conference: Entering the Conversation!, which was held October 30-November 1, 2014 at MSU, I worked to provide a dedicated space for scholars, artists, and activists in the subfield of cultural rhetorics to do work that bridges the academy and nonacademic community practices. With over 220 participants from institutions all over the US and Canada, the conference generated meaningful conversations, practices, and connections. I hope to continue to organize events and create spaces for the inclusion of marginalized practices in and with higher education because such inclusion will enrich the field of Rhetoric and Writing

Studies from pedagogy to research to civic engagement and social justice as well as cultural communities. Currently, I am working with Dr. Malea Powell to develop a cultural rhetorics journal and consortium that will strengthen relationships and continue rich conversations and collaborations in Rhetoric and Writing Studies.



**Leticia Carrillo \$2500**

Throughout my years in graduate school I have had the pleasure of participating in SROP, a Summer Research Opportunity Program, aimed at preparing undergraduate students for a research intensive graduate career. More recently, I helped establish a new chapter at MSU that is part of a national organization called SACNAS (Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native American in Science -

<https://sacnas.org/>). The goal of our organization is to build a community of graduate students, and ultimately undergraduates, of diverse backgrounds who aspire to advance their careers within the STEM disciplines. I am most proud of having played a key role in these organizations as well as having mentored young scholars.



**Ruth Ann Church \$2000**

My discipline is importing coffee and more broadly, working as an economist and business person in an agricultural value chain. First, I started a coffee business that is unlike any other coffee importing business. I focus on importing great-tasting decaffeinated green coffee and selling it to specialty roasters. But I'm most proud of how I've been able to volunteer my networking strengths and meet some really great leaders. For example, in my photo, I am standing with Isabelle Sinamenyie, the leader of the International Women in Coffee Alliance in Burundi.



**Ka Wai Li \$2500**

Having a background on Experimental Psychology, one of my leadership activities in support of my discipline of Criminal Justice is to promote interdisciplinary integration. My research employs experimental methods to examine the nature and degree of self-report bias on fear-victimization paradox among gender. Since I have joined MSU in Fall 2013, I have received 2013-14 Student Paper Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, a Research Scholars Fellowship from the College of Social Science and the highest award at the Environmental Risk and Decision Making Symposium at MSU. Currently, I am the principal investigator of a research project about fear of crime and risk of victimization among United Kingdom and Hong Kong students. COGS Leadership Endowment Fellowship will allow me to include United States students in the database, making the findings generalizable to other populations in different geographical contexts, as well as to help to advance the development of experimental methods in the discipline of Criminal Justice.



**Katy Meyers \$2500**

Katy Meyers Emery is a PhD candidate in the Department of Anthropology with a research focus on mortuary archaeology. Meyers Emery has been a disciplinary leader in a unique way- blogging. Over the past five years, she has been the sole creator and author of Bones Don't Lie, which provides news and commentary on bioarchaeology and mortuary archaeology for the public and other archaeologists. With over a half million hits, 400 posts, and 9,000 followers, Bones Don't Lie has a major following and is one of the top ranked archaeological blogs. Meyers Emery is also the Assistant Editor for Bioarchaeology for the Society of Archaeological Sciences Bulletin and is involved with digital archaeology groups to improve transparency and sharing in the discipline.



**Ian Werkheiser \$2000**

Ian Werkheiser is a coordinator for the transdisciplinary Food Justice and Sovereignty Workgroup for the Center for Regional Food Systems. Ian also works for the Sustainable Michigan Endowed Project, a Kellogg-supported foundation which works to promote sustainability in Michigan. He co-created *Food Justice and Peace*, an annual transdisciplinary conference on food justice at MSU. He has also worked on organizing several major conferences, including *Everybody Eats: Cultivating Food Democracy*, a community-based conference on Michigan food issues, and the first *Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition Statewide Summit*, which

brought together stakeholders, policy makers, academics, and activists from around Michigan to work on issues of food and environmental justice. His research focuses on Environmental Justice, Food Justice and Food Sovereignty, and social epistemology. He is currently working with La Via Campesina on a project looking at barriers to women's participation in the food sovereignty movement.

### **Phil Bratta, Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures**

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### **Leticia (Ruby) Carrillo, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Ruby's doctoral studies are in biochemistry and molecular biology and being the only Mexican American in her department motivated her to build a community, called MSU-SACNAS, of Latin Americans and other underrepresented graduates students, driven to pursue a higher education in the STEM field.

### **Ruth Ann Church, Community Sustainability**

Ruth Ann Church is pursuing a second masters in Community Sustainability to support her small coffee importing business and the award will specifically help her fulfill her volunteer role with the International Women in Coffee Alliance

### **Ka Wai (Carrie) Li, School of Criminal Justice**

Having a background on Experimental Psychology, one of her leadership activities in support of her discipline of Criminal Justice is to promote interdisciplinary integration of knowledge, especially focusing on the utilization of experimental methods to examine the nature and degree of self-report bias on fear-victimization paradox among gender.

### **Katy Meyers Emery, Anthropology**

Katy is a PhD candidate in Anthropology studying the diversity found within burial rituals in Anglo-Saxon England, is the creator of a popular mortuary archaeology blog, Bones Don't Lie, the Assistant Editor of Bioarchaeology for the Society for Archaeological Science Bulletin, and has published in popular magazines introducing archaeology to the broader public (Including Darling Magazine and Dig Magazine for Kids)

### **Ian Werkheiser, Philosophy**

In addition to publishing and presenting on issues in social epistemology, environmental justice, and food sovereignty, Ian Werkheiser has created an annual Workshop on Food Justice and Peace here at MSU, and co-organizes a transdisciplinary Work Group on Food Justice and Sovereignty through the Center for Regional Food Systems