

English Department Collaboration Grants 2020-21

This quarter, we are pleased to announce that we are funding five Collaborative Grant proposals from faculty across ranks and areas of the department. All proposed projects take up the goals and objectives of our strategic plan, with a focus on engaging in antiracist and anticolonial work as foundational to advancing equity. The five collaborative projects described below help us collaboratively enact antiracist and anticolonial practices in scholarship, teaching, and service. Together, they affirm our commitments by extending the afterlife of job searches (namely honoring a commitment to entering the intellectual and cultural frameworks of new colleagues' work), expanding areas of specialization, elaborating on the possibilities of the humanities, and creating equitable approaches to our assessment of productivity. Please note: there will be a second round of funding for Winter 2021 to support conversations about hiring areas slated for next year. Ideally, these Winter quarter conversations would establish a precedent for a stage in the hiring process in which we build the intellectual groundwork and shared stakes for upcoming searches.

The Transpacific Turn in Teaching and Research: An Online Discussion Series

(Leads: Michelle Liu and Douglas Ishii)

A conversation among faculty across disciplines and departments that aims to arrive at shared understandings of the possibilities and problems of the Transpacific framework, including its scholarly and pedagogical implications. The planned discussion series aims to foster a shared understanding toward an antiracist and decolonial reckoning with intellectual, pedagogical, and institutional contexts.

Black Trans Studies Collaboration

(Leads: Stephanie Clare and David Crouse)

This collaboration aims to engage in and stage conversations around our hiring plan, focusing specifically on our proposed hire in Black trans studies (slated for 2022-23). The collaboration invites English Department faculty members to learn about and participate in the field of Black trans studies as a way to create intellectual groundwork and identify shared stakes.

Toward Equitable Review of Productivity in the Wake of the Pandemic: A Working Group

(Leads: Megan Callow and Habiba Ibrahim)

This is a cross-rank, cross-departmental working group that will identify and document an equitable approach to promotion in the wake of the pandemic. The goal is to complete a usable document, heuristic, or toolkit to inform the department of English as we draft promotion guidelines, something departments are being asked to do by the College Council and which we stated a commitment to doing as part of our department strategic plan.

Toward Antiracist/Anticolonial Scholarly Practices in the Humanities: A Workshop

(Leads: Michelle Liu, Suhanthie Motha, Rae Paris)

This workshop enables BIPOC faculty from across ranks and tracks in the English department and across departments to address how new knowledge arises from antiracist and anticolonial scholarship and scholarly engagement, and offer insights into the conditions, limits, and possibilities of humanistic study.

Humanizing Technical Communication in English and Beyond

(Leads: Megan Callow, Dianne Hendricks [HCDE], Dylan Medina, & Josephine Walwema)

This project continues strategic expansion of the Technical and Professional Communication (TPC) curriculum in English, and works toward human-centered, antiracist, and justice-oriented TPC curriculum and pedagogy. It holds potential for intra- and interdepartmental conversations, particularly with those who are interested in language and rhetoric, STEM fields, discipline-specific writing and communication, digital humanities, data science, and community engagement.