

About the Guest Editors

Kala Burrell-Craft, Ph.D. is the Dean and Professor of the College of Education at Grambling State University. Dr. Burrell-Craft is a scholar-activist who has built her career around addressing educational equity in urban and rural contexts. She uses critical theories to research topics related to identity development, anti-racist teacher and leadership preparation, culturally responsive pedagogy, critical literacies, and social justice. Her work stands out in the field for its practical application, having served as a K12 teacher and administrator in middle and high school settings in the Baltimore and Washington, DC areas before transitioning to higher education.

Dr. Burrell-Craft has multiple publications in peer-reviewed journals and has been awarded over eight million dollars in grants. She has been a member of AABHE since 2018 where she received third place for the dissertation award. She is a graduate of the Leadership and Mentoring Institute (LMI) Class of 2022, the award recipient of the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education's 2024 Early Career Award, the award recipient of the 2022 American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education's Best Practice for Multicultural Education and Diversity award, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She also serves on the American Educational Research Association's executive board for the Research Focus on Black Education SIG and co-chair of Division G's Section 3 that focuses on Language, literacies, and representations.

John A. Williams III, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Urban Education at

Texas A&M University at College Station, in the department of Teaching, Learning and

Culture. He received his undergraduate degree in Sociology and masters in Education Policy at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His doctorate is in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on Urban Education from The University of North Carolina at Charlotte. His research focuses on developing and replicating best practices, policies, and personnel to dismantle inequitable discipline outcomes for Black students in K-12 school environments. Dr. Williams has spent time working with teachers, school district administration, juvenile justice practitioners and community members across the country, to de-silo how we support Black children as critically conscious learners. Dr. Williams has multiple publications in peer-reviewed journals such as the Journal of Negro Education, Teacher and Teacher Education, Urban Education Research and Policy Annuals, Education Policy, and the Journal of Urban Education. Lastly, he is the founder and director of ULTRA, the Urban Lab for Transformative Research and Assessment.

Petra A. Robinson, Ph.D. is the Interim Director of and Associate Professor in the School of Leadership & Human Resource Development, in the College of Human Sciences & Education at Louisiana State University (LSU). She previously served as Director of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development for the College, where she led initiatives to advance faculty excellence, mentorship, and scholarly productivity. Her research and practice focus on analytical literacy, adult learning, and human resource development, with an emphasis on leadership, equity, and professional capacity building. She has presented widely at national and international conferences and is the author or editor of eight books, including *The Adult Learner: The Definitive Classic in Adult Education and Human Resource Development* (10th ed.).

Most recently, Dr. Robinson was awarded funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Robert Noyce Program for a multi-year initiative supporting teacher research and STEM education through place-based, experiential learning focused on Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity Education.

Dr. Petra A. Robinson maintains an active and robust research portfolio, with numerous peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, and co-edited volumes that advance scholarship in adult learning and human resource development.

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