



CHBS Canopy

Inclusive Excellence

Volume 1 | Issue 10 – February 27, 2023

CHBS Viewpoints on Health

March 23, 2023

The theme for this year's Viewpoint on Health event is health disparities and race. Linda Villarosa who is a contributing public health reporter for the NY Times Magazine and author will be the evening speaker. You will find additional information for the evening event [here](#).



Planned sessions with AUHs, select faculty and student groups are scheduled as well. If you would like to participate in conversations with the author and have read her book, please contact your AUH or Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee representative for more information.

The **CHBS DEI/IE Student Task Force** has compiled a list of resources for students to familiarize themselves with Linda Villarosa's book (*Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of our Nation*) and the topic of disparities in health and health care. The flyer below was created for students to access the list by scanning the QR code. We invite faculty and staff to help distribute the flyer to the students.

The Student Task Force represents one of the task forces related to CHBS's six domains of change. To join in their efforts contact Dr. Yingjiu Nie, nieyx@jmu.edu

**Disparities in Health and Health Care
Student Resources**

A series of introductions to chapters of *Under the Skin* by Linda Villarosa
A list of videos, research articles, and podcasts

<http://bit.ly/412jp79>

↑ Scan the QR code to access the resources.

Acknowledging and Moving Beyond Performance



Karen Diver, Senior Advisor to the President Native American Affairs at the University of Minnesota visited the campus last week. Among her many comments was a challenge to move beyond performative land acknowledgment statements and to focus on contemporary Native Americans and Tribal concerns. Land acknowledgement is only a first step to accountability for historical harms committed against Indigenous Nations in the genocide and displacement of Indigenous Peoples. Acknowledging displacement and genocide says to your Indigenous students, colleagues, and friends, “I see this wrong, I understand your pain, and I pause with you to hold that for a moment.” But, action and relationship

building must go far beyond this. Native America is growing, rebuilding and has much to offer the broader culture of the US. Using 2020 Census data, the U.S. Office of Minority Health identified 87 percent of those who identify as American Indian/Native American alone or in combination population live outside of tribal statistical areas; 13 percent live on reservations or other trust lands. There are 574 federally recognized American Indian/Native American Tribes, with Virginia Tribes being some of the newest. With 60% of the population living in metropolitan areas our engagement cannot be based solely on assumptions of reservation residency.

Within our college, Indigenous self-identified students deserve to have both focus and content in their courses on the Indigenous experience. Diver suggests at a minimum, the contributions, traditions, perspectives, and problem-solving processes should be addressed at least once a term in all courses. The awareness of Indigenous perspective-taking that is not rooted in western philosophy should be addressed. In this Diver discussed who many Indigenous People consider “kin” is not solely rooted in biology, but in many unique cultural and spiritual perspectives that connects all living things. Students who do not identify can benefit from stepping out of their comfort zone to view the world from a different historical and societal position.

Some suggestions to get you started:

- Recognize your biases. We all have implicit bias with our limited exposures to Indigenous produced and self-determined content. Question what you believe to be true of Indigenous Peoples, you’re bound to find areas of incomplete or incorrect information.
- Attend Indigenous subject matter workshops/trainings to improve your knowledge and sensitivity. Unlearning our biases takes effort and being conscious that we cannot know their lived or historical experiences no matter how good our research, manuscripts, or service might be.
- Read more from Indigenous authors – Tanya Talaga (Seven Fallen Feathers or All Our Relations), Robin Wall Kimmerer (Braiding Sweetgrass), Linda Tuhiwai Smith (Decolonizing Methodologies), or from the JMU libraries [Indigenous health](#) and [Indigenous research](#).
- Recognize there are Indigenous scholars and Tribal institutions of higher education who contribute to professional literature. There are 37 accredited Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) in the US.



Continued

- Work to establish mutual relationships with Tribal Nations recognizing their sovereignty. Wanting to talk to the head of the Nation, is like asking to talk to the president. Instead, we should ask permission and request contacts at our level. Get to know the Virginia Tribes.
- Have we strived to develop relationships with Urban Indian Centers for recruitment purposes in all areas of employment and with student recruitment? Is it in your unit's plan?

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Paralympic Skills Lab (PSL)

KIN 100 Skill Lab is bringing three celebrated Paralympic athletes along with local athletes on March 1st. PSL is an evidence-based intervention that demonstrates its impact and positive attitude change toward inclusive practices and disability. Dr. Cathy McKay organizes the experience, now in its seventh year, that is funded by the Kinesiology Department, the Health Science Department, and a JMU Faculty Senate Mini-Grant.

Learn more about the athletes involved including three-time gold medalist Paralympian Trevon Jenifer (Team USA Wheelchair Basketball player), gold and silver medalist Nickey Nieves (Team USA Women's Sitting Volleyball player), and two-time medalist, Marybai Huking (USA Women's National Goalball Team).



Lauren Ridloff (actress) said “It is so important to showcase people with disabilities with intersectional identities because that allows viewers to see beyond disability....People with disabilities are multilayered—we are complex breathing human beings defined by more than just what we lack.” Poet Pat Parker wrote “The first thing you do is forget that I’m black. Second, you must never forget that I’m black”. The world that emerges for all of us is one that goes beyond the external imposed limitations of the past and recognizes, as society’s members boldly pronounce, we are here, capable, and demand equity in all things. There are differences among us, both seen and unseen. Our quest must be to treat everyone with dignity and respect and to see them as whole beings with potentials and possibilities. The Paralympic Skills Lab provides a great example of positive engagement with individuals who have intersecting identities and how single-issue identity work is not always the best strategy.

Are you running into accessibility barriers on campus?

If you are running into accessibility barriers within the college, please reach out to BJ Bryson (brysonbj@jmu.edu). The Dean’s office would like to work towards remedying any concerns within our ability. If there are other concerns across campus, please report these using this [form](#).

Academic Affairs Strategic Plan

This week the Provost's Office shared the [Academic Affairs Strategic Plan](#) (AASP) with an initial set of action items and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Of note are the mission and vision statements:



Mission

We are an inclusive academic community committed to excellence in the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge. We advance intellectual and creative discovery through transformative learning experiences that positively impact our lives and communities.

Vision

To establish ourselves as a national university, we distinctively combine the best qualities of liberal arts, research, and professional education. We empower diverse faculty, staff and students to change the world ethically and equitably.

The values of academic excellence, collaboration, equity, faculty and staff development, integrity and transparency, and stewardship are further delineated with descriptions and sample behaviors for each value.

Please take time to review the Academic Strategic Plan as developed by [the committee](#).

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Did you know?



As the national observance of the contributions and history of Black America comes to an end for this month, let us observe the contributions of Black Men who built one of our nations hallmark buildings, the U.S. Capitol. The Capitol building serves as one of the nation's seats of policy decision making. Slave markets once occupied the land between the Capitol



building and the Washington Monument, which was also partially built by enslaved labor when skilled paid labor was hard to find in the country. You can read a short article on the contributions of Black enslaved workers who contributed not only their labor but their ingenuity to solve complex structural issues of the Capitol, the White House, and the Tidal Basin where most will enjoy the Cherry Blossoms every spring.

For Staff – From JMU Talent Development

Session
<u>Gateway to Inclusion</u> Wednesday, March 15, 2023 1:30 – 4:30 PM
<u>We Can Talk About Race at Work</u> Wednesday, April 19, 2023 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<u>Insider-Outsider Dynamics of Inclusion</u> Wednesday, May 3, 2023 1:30 – 3:30 PM

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For Faculty -

Beitzel Lecture Series - 'Gangsters of Capitalism'

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Grafton-Stovall Theatre

Jonathan M. Katz will be presenting material from the book *Gangsters of Capitalism: Smedley Butler, The Marines, and the Making and Breaking of America's Empire* and copies will be available for purchase at the event. This event is co-sponsored by Gandhi Center and SMAD.

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CHBS Professional Learning Community Session

Session Title: **Building and Strengthening Capacity for Inclusive Teaching**

Presenters:

Ana Abad-Jorge, Modjadji Choshi, Jeanie Corey, Lori Gano-Overway, Raihan Khan, Jill Lassiter

April 14 at 11:00am - 12:30pm (90-minute Virtual Workshop via Zoom)

[Register](#)

Description: This interactive workshop will focus on ways that attendees can build further capacity to engage in inclusive teaching practices. Attendees will self-assess their current inclusive teaching practices using the Inclusive Teaching in Higher Education Rubric prior to the workshop. During the workshop participants will share resources and strategies they have used in their areas of strength, and learn from others how to modify their own inclusive teaching in areas self-identified for improvement. Presenters will share additional resources and a guidebook for continuing to build capacity and evaluating teaching practices.

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For Everyone -

We Keep Us Safe & We Keep The Peace: A Conversation on Policing in America (Pt. 2)

Tuesday, February 28, 2023
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Wilson Hall Auditorium

A conversation on policing in America is a two part series exploring the history of policing in America and its impact on marginalized groups and identities.

Sponsored by: Center for Multicultural Student Services

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Coalition of OT Advocates for Diversity JMU Chapter Presents

A Conversation with Judy Heumann, Disability Rights Leader

[Taking Action When It's Uncomfortable | Facing History and Ourselves](#)

March 1, 2023 | 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm EST
HBS OT Lab, Second Floor

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Compassion Fatigue & Vicarious Trauma

Tuesday, March 7, 2023
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
[Student Success Center, 3240](#)

Join us to learn more about the best ways to help someone who has experienced trauma while also reducing the risk of experiencing compassion fatigue or even vicarious trauma. No registration required.

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JMU's Annual Diversity Conference

Geared toward JMU Faculty and Staff, the Diversity Conference is an all-day event located in the Festival Conference and Student Center which allows you to participate in your choice of three informational or workshop sessions.

[More information found here.](#)

Wednesday, March 22, 2023
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

CHBS Viewpoints on Health Speaker Series: Linda Villarosa

Thursday, March 23, 2023
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Wilson Hall Auditorium

New York Times Magazine journalist Linda Villarosa examines the American healthcare system and society that leads to Black people living sicker and dying earlier as an example of health disparities among marginalized populations. Her book with narrative stories and supportive research, *Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of Our Nation*, provides the foundation for this presentation.

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Women's History Month Speaker - Hope Giselle

Thursday, March 23, 2023
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
The Union, Warren 256

Sponsored by CMSS

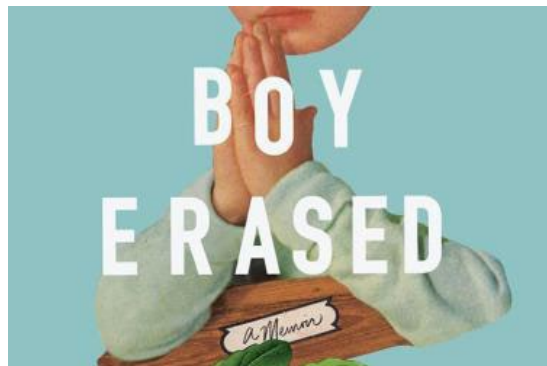
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A Conversation with Garrard Conley

Join us for a reading and presentation by Garrard Conley, LGBTQ activist and bestselling author of "Boy Erased", that addresses the horror of conversion therapy on the lives of young people.

Thursday, March 30, 2023
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Become a [JMU Safe Zone Member!](#)



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Documentary Screening: The Power of One Voice Film

Thursday, March 30, 2023
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
[Carrier Library 301](#)

Learn about the life of Rachel Carson and the profound implications of her environmental work by viewing this groundbreaking documentary by Mark Dixon. *Co-sponsored by the Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World and JMU Libraries*

Humanitarian Fundraiser for Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria

Friday, March 31, 2023

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

The Union, Taylor 404

Sponsored by the Muslim Student Association

Background Information: On February 6, 2023, a powerful 7.8 magnitude earthquake and a series of strong tremors and aftershocks devastated southeast Turkey and northwest Syria. The death toll has passed 47,000 and continues to rise. Reports indicate that there are over 87,000 injuries and at least 47,000 buildings have been destroyed or damaged. Tens of thousands are injured and hundreds of thousands displaced across a region already beset by turmoil from the nearly 12-year conflict in Syria and the ongoing refugee crisis.

[World Vision](#)

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LGBTQ+ Symposium

Saturday, April 8, 2023

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The Union Ballroom

SOGIE will be hosting a symposium to offer research-based presentation and dialogue around LGBTQ+ experience for the JMU community

Have you seen this digital presentation by the Community Foundation of Central Blue Ridge – [This is Home](#)