KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

HELLO FROM THE FALL EDITION OF OUR QUALITATIVE RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

The Kansas State University Qualitative Research Student Organization aids students in forming and enriching foundational knowledge of qualitative inquiry and research methodology, and provides peer-to-peer support within qualitative practice. In this issue, you will find information on our Qualitative Research Graduate Certificate Program, a Student Spotlight section on the new Qualitative Research Student Organization President, Shawnette L. Williams, a Faculty Spotlight on new faculty member Dr. Trish Gott, recent student and faculty accomplishments, events from the fall semester, upcoming conferences, and ways to connect with our Qualitative Research Student Organization.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Interested in Qualitative Inquiry?

Consider our newly created Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Research. This 18-credit hour graduate certificate is offered in response to the demand for trained qualitative researchers at the national and international levels. The need for trained qualitative researchers reflects an interdisciplinary demand, such as those who can work in academia, public health, non-profit sector, business and marketing, amongst others. For additional information visit our website at:

https://coe.k-state.edu/academics/certificates/qualitative-research.html and contact:

Dr. Kakali Bhattacharya, Program Coordinator / kakalibh@k-state.edu
GETTING THE MOST FROM OUR SILENT WRITING RETREATS

YOU CAN’T EDIT A BLANK PAPER!

Each semester the Qualitative Research Student Organization hosts a series of silent writing retreats. These retreats allow an opportunity for students and faculty to work on writing projects while being surrounded by others with the same focus. Coming together as a community promotes the idea that we are not alone on this journey. This event is also hosted via Zoom to provide connected space for our students who are at a distance. Look for session schedules and announcements at the following locations:

Facebook: @KStateQual, @qualgradcertksu,
OrgSync, Twitter, and Canvas QI-CoP

VANGUARD LECTURE SERIES FALL 2018
FEATURED DR. ANALOUISE KEATING

We were thrilled to host Dr. AnaLouise Keating during her visit to Kansas State University on November 27, 2018. Dr. Keating shared her ongoing work and emerging ideas in a lecture entitled “Collaborating with Spirit: An Anzaldúan Approach to Qualitative Research.” Dr. Keating’s dedication to share and build on the work of Gloria Anzaldúa inspires faculty and students nationally and globally. Dr. Keating also sat down with Dr. Bhattacharya to discuss Anzaldúa’s influences in humanities and educational research. The interview can be viewed at https://youtu.be/LKPFFvB2c3o.

"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted"
-Albert Einstein
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

MEET YOUR NEW QUALITATIVE RESEARCH STUDENT ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT

Shawnette L. Williams is a doctoral student in the Adult Learning & Leadership PhD program. Her goal is to improve overall workplace performance by strengthening the relationship and learning between employers, employees, family and community. Her research and academic interests include resilience, leadership, diversity, equal opportunity in the workplace and emotional intelligence. Shawnette's education and service commitments include exploring ways to improve educational opportunities in the Fort Riley area. She is dedicated to the love of learning and serves as Chair of the Upper Iowa University Advisory Committee, Fort Riley. She is also a member of the Military & Veterans Education Initiative at Kansas State University. She is a veteran and has served in the US Army, selflessly giving over 27 years of service.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Trisha Gott, Ed.D., is specifically involved with Alternative Breaks program, the Coffman Leadership Institute, and the Mandela Washington Fellowship Civic Leadership Institute. Trish teaches selected courses in the leadership minor, supports service-learning initiatives, and serves as the assistant director for the Staley School.

1. How does qualitative inquiry inform your research and scholarly practice?

For me, qualitative research is about approaching the research in a way that is broad, generative, and allows me to seek new ways of knowing. Qualitative inquiry provides me a way to ask big questions that may be difficult to answer and are hard to pin down – and that is precisely the point. Qualitative inquiry offers an orientation and a process to not just asking big questions but also seeking ways to understand them through deep understanding of nuance, context, and the evolving nature of the subject at hand. It is the approach I take centrally in my research across areas of interest.

2. What are some of the key-take aways that you hope students will gain in your qualitative research classes?

I hope students will gain a sense of exploration in their research. Through qualitative methodologies students can explore areas of their intended field with depth and with nuance. I hope to see students use these qual courses as an avenue to sharpen their practices and deepen their curiosity as they approach big questions in the field.

“I want to understand the world from your point of view. I want to know what you know in the way you know it. I want to understand the meaning of your experience, to walk in your shoes, to feel things as you feel them, to explain things as you explain them. Will you become my teacher and help me understand?”

~James P. Spradley
3. What qualitative research courses do you teach? What are your favorite components of teaching courses on qualitative research?

EDLEA 968 Discourse Analysis – this is a course offered in the summer. We look at discourse analysis as a method and theory for qualitative research. I love this course because students have the opportunity to learn about discourses in their field of study and begin to understand how discourse shapes reality. We practice discourse analysis in the class – it is a great class to get familiar with the theory and methods of this practice in education.

4. In what ways have the knowledge and use of qualitative inquiry helped you in your current faculty position?

Qualitative inquiry is central to my approach to research and qualitative scholarship – I am a researcher. It is also the topic of one of the classes I teach – so I think about it as a scholar, teacher, and practitioners. Beyond that, it has offered me an orientation to my field, colleagues, and the world. An orientation that is open to new ways of knowing and that approaches challenges from a generative, learning standpoint.