



# INSTRUCT & INSPIRE

## Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Claudius G. Clemmer College of Education

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### Actions and words speaking

**together:** Dr. Huili Hong exemplifies diversity in action. As CUI Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Teacher Education Honors Program and the ESL Endorsement, she instructs teacher-candidates in pedagogy that is broader, deeper and more effective through the embrace of diversity. At the same time, she is also demonstrating through her research on sociolinguistics, the study of language from an ethnographic perspective, that words themselves can serve as powerful actions to facilitate diversity.



Dr. Huili Hong

are many different kinds of diversities, different cultures and versions of language,” Dr. Hong points out.

**A local welcome for the global community:** A native of China who came to the U.S. to study English, Dr. Hong has played a key role as translator and host welcoming the international community to ETSU and the region. And as an active member of Tri-Cities International Mothers’ Club, Dr. Hong has also forged a

creative collaboration with local elementary school teachers, which includes an immigration presentation to second-graders. The presentation is popular with young

children who are learning that where we all come from isn’t as important as where we are all going, together.

“Everyone learns better in a classroom where all voices are heard,” Dr. Hong notes. To that end, her newly proposed research study aims to join the efforts and voices of teachers, teacher-educators, administrators, English language learners, their parents and communities, to co-construct a culturally and linguistically responsive and responsible pedagogy.

*Below: Teacher-candidate Jasmine Martin working with students at Northside Elementary School, where the student population is ethnically and socio-economically diverse.*



# CUAI DIVERSITY IN ACTION

**Actions for words:** Dr. Hong works with professional organizations like the TN State Reading Association (TSRA) Diversity Committee and the National Council of Teachers of English Language Collaborative to promote the rights of English language learners who speak in a non-dominant variety of English. With the recent award of a TSRA Storytelling Council Grant, she will explore local teachers’ and teacher candidates’ stories and experiences working with socially and linguistically diverse student populations.

ETSU’s diversity ranges from first-generation English speakers to first-generation college students. “There

*“Diversity” inset photos, from left: CUI teacher-candidates Rachel Anna Kamnkhwani, Hunter Oliver, Erika Colin; CUI faculty Dr. Chih-Che Tai; and teacher-candidates Francis Cobbinah and Jasmine Martin.*



**Speakers at the recent Towne Acres Elementary Immigration Presentation**  
From left: Andreas Herholtz from Germany, Yumi Smith from Japan, Dr. Huili Hong from China, and Catherine Layne from Great Britain.



# CUAI EXCELLENCE IN PLAY



For ETSU students, the one-year Master's is a real game changer.

They're leading the field—infield, outfield, as well as the teaching field—and their performance is superb, on the stage or in the classroom. For these CUAI students, exciting extracurricular activities fit hand in glove with a rewarding academic life. For designated hitter **Caleb Longley**, a graduating senior with one remaining year of baseball eligibility, the one-year MAT program will put him in perfect position to score—runs for the Buccaneers next year and a dream job as a coach in just 12 months. The MAT was also attractive to **Chelsea Wood**, who plans to combine her hands-on skills in theatre design with her undergrad degree in theatre and an MAT in Theatre Arts for a career

teaching high school theatre arts. CUAI undergraduates **Emma Martindale** and **Leah Decker** are pursuing their long-held dreams of becoming K-6 teachers, enjoying team support across the board, and with the year-long residency program helping them feel as confident in front of the classroom as they are in front of a crowd. And for experienced actors **Catherine Squibb** and **Austin Wingate**, command of the stage at Jonesborough Little Theatre is translating into compelling classroom performance. The curtain rises on options well played, and careers well begun, in CUAI!

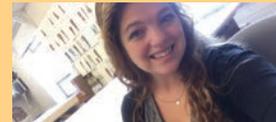
Headline photo above: Martindale at bat.  
Theatre stage photos by Keith Dixon.

**Just the Ticket: MAT, English**



**Catherine Squibb, Actress**

**Just the Ticket: MAT, Theatre Arts**



**Chelsea Wood, Theatre Designer**

**Just the Ticket: Undergrad K-6**



**Austin Wingate, Actor**

## Tell us: #whyteach

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Teacher-candidates Kendra Edgall (left) and Hannah Haworth (right), and Dr. Aimee Govett (center), CUAI Professor and Graduate Coordinator.

**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:****Dr. Lori Meier****CUAI IDEAS IN FLIGHT**

**Call it the new frontier: The academic space that connects STEM with the social studies, a space that has remained largely unexplored, even as educational and funding focus on STEM has intensified. Now, however, Dr. Lori Meier, CUAI Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator of Elementary Education, is working to change that. This spring, at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Social Studies, Dr. Meier presented “Spaceflight in the Curriculum: Social Studies as Seeds for STEM,” making the case for STEM-Social Studies curriculum integration through the vehicle of space exploration.**

The following Q & A with Dr. Meier explores this recent project as well as other areas of her academic interest that are also taking flight.

**Q: STEM, as most people know, is the acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. How do you see the social studies as part of that equation?**

A: While people tend to think of STEM subjects as self-contained, in fact, at the heart of any STEM initiative is a social studies rationale, value or purpose informing the work.

Regardless of the project—whether involves chemistry, physics, or mathematics—most initiatives have purposeful roots in the social studies, be it citizenship, geography, global awareness, conservation, societal improvement or technological change. Social needs are the seeds for STEM.

**Q: So the social studies may play a part informing the direction and parameters of a STEM project?**

A: As I pointed out in my presentation, science can tell us how to clone a T Rex; social studies can show us why it may not be the greatest idea. The social studies have an important place at the STEM table for many reasons.

**Q: What makes space flight particularly well-suited as a vehicle of engagement?**

A: Right now, with private exploration like Space X, future Mars flights, and the new NASA SLS launch vehicle, the space community is entering an era of consequence and public interest unlike any since the Space Shuttle program. People are hungry for a social connection to the achievement of space exploration. The success of the recent blockbuster, *Hidden Figures*, is an excellent example. NASA’s WPA-style posters for Mars exploration have also been very popular.

**Q: So NASA is seeking out ways to engage the public?**

A. Absolutely, and that’s where I hope to help, creating cross-curricular K-8 materials, sources and lessons that may be disseminated to inform and engage learners at the earliest levels.

**Q: What other projects are you working right now?**

A. Outside of my work in social studies teacher education, my other research areas are curriculum theory and curriculum studies. I’m inquisitive about all kinds of things related to educational experience and am working on projects centered around outside-of-school learning contexts, incorporating the writings of Thoreau into curriculum studies, intellectual curiosity, and the use of the *currere* (the study of narrative lived experience) as a post-modern qualitative research process.

*BELOW: Dr. Meier (right) and friend and collaborator Peggy Masters, GSDO Program Analyst, during Meier’s recent visit to the Kennedy Space Center.*



# CUAI: IN THE NEWS

## Leading achievements recognized with CCOE Honors

Leading scholarship and national service by CUA I faculty were recognized at the 2017 Clemmer College of Education Honors Reception, with the Faculty Research Award received by **Dr. Huili Hong**, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Teacher Education Honors Program; and the Faculty Service Award accorded to **Ms. Deborah Parrott**, Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator of the School Library Media program.

CUAI graduate and undergraduate students who earned recognition included:

**Lori Campbell**, Outstanding CCOE Graduate Student.  
**Erika Colin**, Outstanding CCOE Undergraduate Student.  
**Cameron Buck**, Outstanding CCOE Teacher Candidate.



Top left, Ms. Deborah Parrott and Dr. Richard Rhoda, Interim Dean. Below left: Dr. Huili Hong and Dr. Rhoda.



**Hannah Miles**, Jane Melendez Outstanding Reading Student Award.  
**Erika Fugate**, Hogan Award for Outstanding Undergraduate in Secondary Education Award.  
**Ashlynn Fezell**, Outstanding CCOE Graduate Assistant.  
**Elisa Henson**, Outstanding CCOE Student Worker.  
**Carol Gassaway**, Outstanding CCOE Tuition Scholar.

## Faculty Scholarship

Recent and upcoming publications by CUA I faculty include:

Dr. Huili Hong, Dr. Karin Keith, Dr. Renee Moran and LaShay Jennings, M.A.ed, co-authors: "Using Imagination to Bridge Young Children's Literacy and Science Learning: A Dialogic Approach," accepted by the *Journal of Childhood Studies*.



Clockwise: Dr. Huili Hong, Dr. Karen Keith, Dr. Renee Moran and Ms. Lashay Jennings.



Dr. Ryan Nivens, co-author: "Assessing Journal Quality in Mathematics Education," accepted by *Journal for Research in Mathematics Education*.

Deborah Parrott, M.L.S., and Renee Lyons, M.L.S., co-authors: "Embracing Our Common Goal: School and Public Library Connections," published in *School Library Connection*.



Ms. Deborah Parrott (left), and Ms. Renee Lyons.



Dr. Lori Meier, author: "Educational Experience, Foundations, and Dissent in Teacher Education," published in *Currere Exchange Journal*; and "Outside Curriculum, Currere, and Spaces of Learning: Embracing Tensions at the Margins of Teacher Education," published in *Curriculum and Teaching Dialogue*.

## CUAI Alumni Named Teachers of the Year across Tennessee



Of the 19 ETSU alumni who earned 2017 Teacher of the Year awards across Tennessee, almost half were CUA I alumni. Pictured here are **Nancy Miles**, a third-grade teacher at Southside School in Johnson City, and **David Nutter**, a health sciences teacher at Indian Trail Intermediate School, also in Johnson City.

**CUAI**

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."  
 —W.B. Yeats



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