

OFFICIAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

doing
AUTO
ETHNOGRAPHY

www.doingautoethnography.org

March 10 – March 13, 2016
Angelo State University

Thank You

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Lisa Tillmann
Rollins College

Dr. Carolyn Ellis
University of South Florida

Contributing Guest Scholars

Dr. Tony Adams
Northeastern Illinois University

Dr. Art Bochner
University of South Florida

Dr. Robin Boylorn
The University of Alabama

Dr. Brandon Hensley
Millikin University

Dr. Sandra Pensoneau-Conway
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Desireé Rowe
Towson University

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Angelo State University

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Special Thanks to:

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Paul Hamilton
Dr. Susan Keith
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Heather Valle Brown
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Roselee Wilson

General Information

Conference Badges

Pick up your name badge at the conference registration table. The registration table will not be open on Thursday. On Friday, the registration table will be open in the Plaza Verde Clubhouse from 8:00 am to 11:45 am and 1:45 pm to 4:30 pm. On Saturday, the registration table will be open on the first floor of the Vincent Nursing-Physical Science Building in front of the planetarium from 7:00 am to 11:55 am. If you don't think you'll be able to make it to the registration table, please let me know. Coffee will be available all day Friday and Saturday next to the registration table. There will be breakfast snacks available at 8:00 am on Friday and 7:00 am on Saturday.

Food On-Campus

To check the daily menus of all on-campus dining, go to www.dineoncampus.com/angelo

Parking

Parking is free on campus. Be sure to display your conference parking pass.

Wireless Internet on Campus

Internet access is available on campus. Connect to the wireless network named guest.angelo.edu. If you have any problems, call 325-942-2911.

Workshops

Several scholars working in the field of autoethnography have agreed to facilitate workshops. All conference attendees (presenting and non-presenting) are invited to participate. Check pages 6 - 7 for topic details.

Thursday, March 10

Preconference Performance

Depressive Realism is Why No One Came to My 6th Birthday

Desireé Rowe, Towson University

7:00

Eldon Black Recital Hall

This solo performance piece is composed in two acts that revolve around the desire to reinvent and rediscover our understandings of failure and optimism. Depressive intersplices performative ethnographic writings with an incisive understanding how critical theory is enacted in our everyday experiences. Using the work of Berlant, Halberstam, and Ahmed (among others), Rowe works to match the nuanced discussions of cultural theory with performative engagement of her own experiences. Through discussions of miscarriage, tattoo misspellings, and the birthday party where no one came we find that failure can be (re)constructed as a queer understanding of a life worth living. And, rather than work to redeem our failures, they become significant milestones in our rearticulation of what the imaginary “good life” can be. Because really, how does the good life get constructed? And how can we pull it apart? In this 45 minute show, Rowe hopes to work with the audience to understand that optimism is overrated and that a more nuanced, depressive realism –is where we can all really have fun.

Friday, March 11

Workshops

Presenting Autoethnographies

Tony Adams, Northeastern Illinois University; Derek Bolen, Angelo State University; Robin Boylorn, University of Alabama; Carolyn Ellis, University of South Florida; Brandon Hensley, Millikin University; Sandy Pensoneau-Conway, Southern Illinois University Carbondale; & Desireé Rowe, Towson University

9:00 – 10:15

Vista Verde Room, Plaza Verde

This interactive workshop will focus on presenting autoethnographic research. Topics will include benefits of, and reactions to, sharing autoethnographic research; strategies for, and ethical issues with, presenting vulnerable experiences; evaluating autoethnographic presentations and responding to criticism; and conferences that welcome autoethnography. Participants will have sufficient time to ask questions about presenting their autoethnographic projects.

Autoethnographic Storytelling: A Writing Workshop

Art Bochner, University of South Florida

10:30 – 11:45

Vista Verde Room, Plaza Verde

This workshop will focus on the craft of autoethnographic writing. Topics will include: (1) Features of Autoethnographic Storytelling; (2) Framing and Structuring Stories; (3) Writing Regiments; (4) Voice-Action-Dialogue; (5) Bending and Blending Genres; (6) Discipline; (7) Memory and Truth; (8) The Writing Life.

Lunch Break

11:45 – 1:45

Writing Where it Hurts: Critical Autoethnography As Catharsis

Robin Boylorn, University of Alabama

1:45 – 3:00

Vista Verde Room, Plaza Verde

This interactive workshop will integrate the embodied and emotional process of writing and engaging autoethnography that “hurts”. By taking on the role/point of view of a writer, reader, critic, editor/reviewer, and teacher, participants will work through different ways of “doing autoethnography” that is triggering, painful, hurtful and/or traumatic. We will discuss the cathartic processes of writing (when/where it hurts) and collect strategies for engaging critical autoethnography in a way that promotes healing and transformation.

Negotiating Autoethnographic Projects: Dissertations, Theses, and Other Projects

Sandy Pensoneau-Conway, Southern Illinois University Carbondale &
Derek Bolen, Angelo State University

3:15 – 4:30

Vista Verde Room, Plaza Verde

In this workshop, we explore potentially challenging moments involved with advising and being advised on autoethnographic projects. Coming from multiple perspectives, through participatory reflection and discussion, we hope to respond to questions such as:

- How do/should we advise autoethnographic projects?
- How do we provide feedback on personal experience? What feedback is meaningful for writers?
- What are the ethics of disclosure between teacher/student-advisor/advisee in autoethnographic projects—from all perspectives?
- What happens when the line between the personal and the academic relationship blurs?

This group discussion is designed to be inclusive for autoethnographic advisors, advisees, readers, and writers of all levels.

Dinner Break

4:30 – 7:00

Keynote Address

Autoethnography and Advocacy

Lisa Tillmann, Rollins College

7:00

University Center | CJ Davidson UC 100

This talk invites listeners to explore how their own autoethnographic scholarship and pedagogy might more directly and fully engage structural inequalities such as classism, racism, sexism, and heterosexism. I will chart the evolution of my own (auto)ethnographic work from my first published autoethnography, “A Secret Life in a Culture of Thinness: Reflections on Body, Food, and Bulimia,” to my LGBTQ+ (auto)ethnographies *Between Gay and Straight: Understanding Friendship Across Sexual Orientation* and *In Solidarity: Friendship, Family, and Activism Beyond Gay and Straight*, to the role of autoethnography in my documentary film projects (*Remembering a Cool September*, *Off the Menu: Challenging the Politics and Economics of Body and Food*, and *Weight Problem: Cultural Narratives of Fat and “Obesity”*), to my most recent scholarship on academic labor, antiracist pedagogy, and racism and the War on Terror.

Saturday, March 12

On Autoethnography

8:00 – 9:15

Vincent 158

Chair: Bolton Morales, Angelo State University

Space Between or Space Among: Autoethnography as Thirdspace in Rhetoric and Composition

Shane Combs, Illinois State University

Ethnography and Autoethnography: A Necessary and Productive Tension

Mark Ward, Sr., University of Houston-Victoria

Challenging the Silences: A Phenomenographic Study of How Autoethnography is Experienced

Elizabeth Burke-Cravens, A Brave Space

Visual Autoethnography

8:00 – 9:15

Vincent 263

Chair: Gigi Perez-Langley, Angelo State University

Unpacking Soul

Jasmine Huff, Northwestern University

“There are Many Paths to Energy”: Walking Towards Visual Analysis

Brian Rusted, University of Calgary

Alone, Dark, and Messy: Autoethnographic Visual Rhetoric through Sundahl’s Paintings

Aaron Deason, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Positionalities and Education

8:00 – 9:15

Vincent 241

Chair: Kelsey Merritt, Angelo State University

When Dissociation Serves a Purpose

B. Lee Murray, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada

Autoethnography: An Engine Against the Naturalization of Women’s Oppression

Tela Bayamna, Miami University

Violence, Hierarchy, and the Professor

Chris Godsey, University of Minnesota Duluth

Pimping Myself: A Reflection on the NCA Graduate School Fair

Adam Key, Texas A&M University

Social/Media

9:20 – 10:35

Vincent 241

Chair: Rachel Riggs, Angelo State University

My Television Family: A Narrative Account of Finding Family On and Off Screen

Kelsey Merritt, Angelo State University

Nothing Hidden in your Head The Sorting Hat Can't See... An Autoethnography of Performing Self through Popular Culture

Colin Whitworth, Slytherin

Stephen Henry, Ravenclaw

The Iranian Diaspora: Rebuilding Kin and Cultural Identity and Creating Virtual Community through Social Technology

William Hooshmandi, Brock University, St. Catharines, Canada

Trolling Myself: Frustration and Aggression in Video Games

Jonathan Villarreal, Angelo State University

Approaching Autoethnography

9:20 – 10:35

Vincent 158

Chair: Zack Bolen, Saginaw Valley State University

Why Not More? Autoethnography in Composition

Justin B. Hopkins, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Autoethnographic Research and Ethics Committees

Sarah Helps, Tavistock Clinical, London, United Kingdom

Using Vignettes Within Autoethnography to Explore Layers of Cross-Cultural Awareness as a Teacher

Jayne Pitard, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

Cultural/Historical Identities of Dis/Belief

9:20 – 10:35

Vincent 263

Chair: Dreshawn Murray, Angelo State University

An Autoethnography of an Exchange Student in Taiwan: The Pleasant Encounters

Fangyuan Ju, Soochow University

Mira Min-chun Chiang, University of Taipei

The Time When It All Went Wrong: An Autoethnography

Rebekah Perkins Crawford, Ohio University

Touring Religion: A Search for Marie

Jennifer Erdely, Prairie View A&M University

Writing Social Justice

9:20 – 10:35

Vincent 238

Chair: Lindsey Maurice, Angelo State University

Freedom is Reprieve from Sense and Meaning: On Being Together without Truth or Justice
Joanne Esch, University of Colorado Boulder

Docta Ma-ma

Danette M. Patton, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Victim/_____/Survivor: The Missing “Blank” of Rape Discourse

Shelby Swafford, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Advocating for Human Rights through Cooking: Performance and Artist Statement

Lisa Pia Zonni Spinazola, University of South Florida

Fat Studies

10:40 – 11:55

Vincent 238

Chair: Tracy Simmons, Angelo State University

Fat and Pregnant: An Autoethnographic Call for Research

Melodee Sova, University of Denver

My Body is 300 Pounds of Shame

Melodee Sova, University of Denver

Trimming the Fat: The Weight of Weight Loss Surgery

Mindy Ralston, Angelo State University

On Writing

10:40 – 11:55

Vincent 158

Chair: Citlally Jmenez, Angelo State University

The Effects of Storytelling on Adult Survivors of Emotional and Mental Sexual Abuse – An Autoethnographic Literature Review

Amber Klee, University of South Florida

Writing through Trauma: The Therapeutic Nature of Narrative

Dianah McGreehan, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Pulling a Few Teeth

James Kiser, Angelo State University

Pedagogy

10:40 – 11:55

Vincent 263

Chair: Sandy Pensoneau-Conway

Educating to Tolerate the Intolerable

Igor Vinicius Lima Valentim, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

A Pedagogy of Self-Disclosure: Speaking My Truths into Existence

Karen Anderson-Lain, University of North Texas

Learning through Boxing—An Autoethnographic Study on Bodily Learning in the Scholastic Context

Arwed Marquardt, Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany

Family

10:40 – 11:55

Vincent 241

Chair: Bolton Morales, Angelo State University

Struggles with Identity and Family

Dustin M. Dodson, Angelo State University

Turning Dreams into Reality: The Course Taken by a Nursing Student Towards the Path of Sport

Yu-Hung Tai, University of Taipei, Taiwan

Shih-Han Chiu, Chinese Culture University, Taiwan

Li-Chuan Kao, University of Taipei, Taiwan

Remember Who You Belong To: Creating Families through Bonds of Long and Belonging

Sarah Helps, Tavistock Clinical, London, United Kingdom

The Single Parent Household: Then and Now

B. Lee Murray, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada

Lunch Break

11:55 – 1:30

Trauma

1:30 – 2:45

Vincent 241

Chair: Todd Takeda, Angelo State University

Hit Him Again: An Autoethnography of Violence and Masculinity

Stephen Henry, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Re(visioning) A Life, Past, Present and Future

Brad Crownover, College of Mount Saint Vincent

How Not to Make Love to a Woman

Laurelann Porter, Arizona State University

Re/Establishing Terms of Identity and Self-Discovery After Sexual Assault

Sara Currie, Angelo State University

Our Stories, Other Words:

Autoethnography's Relationship to the Performance of Literature

1:30 – 2:45

Vincent 238

Chair: Colin Whitworth, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Identity Must Flow: (Re)Conceptualizing Identity Through Dune and Flow

Jake Beck, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

"Call Me They": Performing Genderqueer through Plath

Les Delgado, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

"God Bless the Freaks": An Autoethnographic Performance of Being and Accepting Otherness

Colin Whitworth, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Fathers

1:30 – 2:45

Vincent 263

Chair: Tony Adams, Northeastern Illinois University

"Lotus Grows from Mud without Being Polluted": An Autoethnography of a Karate Player Breaking through Parent-Caused Barrier

Wei-chieh Tai, Yu-lin Ning, and An-hsu Chen, University of Taipei, Taiwan

On (Un)writing Father: An Autoethnography of Letting Go of Toxic Relationships

David Purnell, Mercer University

"I Have a Very Young Stepfather": An Autoethnography of a Stepfamily Child's Desire for Father's Love

Guan-Yu Chen, Chien-Chih Chou, and Chiung-Hsien Tseng, University of Taipei, Taiwan

Genders and Sexualities

1:30 – 2:45

Vincent 158

Chair: Mathew Dominguez, Angelo State University

Decolonizing Autoethnographic Exploration of Q̇sunality

Zelaika Hepworth Clarke, Center for Human Sexuality Studies, Widener University and Pluriversity, LLC

Defining Skin: An Autoethnographic Performance of Queer White Feminist

Jacqueline E. Adams, Bowling Green State University

Quarely Me

Danette M. Patton, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Rupturing Silence

Dominique Hill, Miami University

Re/Constructing Relationships

2:50 – 4:05

Vincent 263

Chair: Dreshawn Murray, Angelo State University

Three's a Crowd: You, Me, and the Marines

Brittney Miller, Angelo State University

Marriage or Mirage? The Breakdown of a Break-up

John Marc Cuellar, Ohio University

Tinderella: Navigating Virtual Fairy Tales, Fables, and Sexual Harassment

Kelsey Merritt, Angelo State University

Performing Autoethnography

2:50 – 4:05

Vincent 241

Chair: Theresa Freitag, Angelo State University

Enacting Critical Collaborative Performance Autoethnography: Reflecting on Collective Practice, Black Girlhood, Black Love and Accountability

Hill L. Waters

Performing Heterosexual for Familial Acceptance: An Autoethnographic Journey from Denial to Acceptance

David Purnell, Mercer University

My Body Knows Things: Memory Through Movement

Allison Upshaw, The University of Alabama

Convicted Anew: Advocating for Performance Festivals

Andrea Baldwin, University of Houston-Clear Lake

Identities and Intersectionalities

2:50 – 4:05

Vincent 158

Chair: Sunday Ng'wananogu, Angelo State University

Finding My Front Porch: An Autoethnography of Performing Intersections of Queer and Regional Identity

Colin Whitworth, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Framing a Blaxicana Identity: An Autoethnography of Family, Race, and Community

Ana Thorne, Mount Saint Mary's University

"Love Women and Hate Faggots!": Contradictions in Identity Conceptions and Performance

Antonio Spikes, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Against A Trans Narrative

Jules Roskam

De/Constructing Cultural Expectations

2:50 – 4:05

Vincent 238

Chair: Lauren Conaway, Angelo State University

Able-Bodied Hegemony, Ignorance, and Hyper-Consciousness of Disabilities: A Duoethnography of Sharing Stories and Talking Through Misconceptions and Stigma

L. Shelley Rawlins and Alexandria Dzimitowicz, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Teaching While Lesbian and Other Identities: Sexual Diversity, Race, and Institutionalized Practices through an Autoethnographic Lens

Sondra S. Briggs, Kennesaw State University

A Brief Look at Sociology as Healing Framework for Eating Issues/Disorders

Elizabeth Valencia, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

My Experience of Growing up in a Family of Gender Inequality: An Autoethnographic Inquiry

Pei-shuan Wang and Li-Chuan Kao, University of Taipei, Taiwan

Dinner Break

4:05 – 7:00

Keynote Address

Doing Compassionate Research with Others from an Autoethnographic Perspective

Carolyn Ellis, University of South Florida

7:00

University Center | CJ Davidson UC 100

In this presentation, I concentrate on bringing an autoethnographic perspective to research that focuses on the lives and struggles of others. Through interview film clips and transcripts, I examine the research relationship that has developed between Jerry Rawicki, a Holocaust survivor, and me, a researcher, as we seek together to understand his experiences both during and after the Holocaust. In this collaboration, I develop and extend a relational ethic of care to guide us in how to do close intimate research ethically, in a way that honors our relational responsibilities. I ask, what are the ethical actions to take? How should we be together?

My talk also focuses on issues of authorship and how one works the “I” of autoethnography in collaborative research. Conversations with suffering people involve participation from both researcher and respondent—asking and offering, going forth and backing up, showing strength and vulnerability, listening to pain and feeling/staying with the pain. Since the researcher is part of this conversation, relational ethics requires the researcher to do a continuous self-examination, which involves interrogating and trying to understand self and other while honoring the space and dialogue in between. Researchers must be willing to be vulnerable and share stories from their own lives while participants share theirs, because that is how relationships develop and that is what mutual respect means. We must be self-aware but not self-absorbed, all the while keeping focus on the others’ stories. In the process both researcher and participant should have the possibility of coming to new questions and understandings about ourselves and each other, our relationships and experiences, as well as opening up conversations about the content of our research and its moral and social value.