



SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Education

DIÁLOGOS VIRTUALES

A COE Lecture/Discussion Series on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & the Global in Education

Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 12:00 - 1:10 PM (PT)

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"White Anti-Racism: Dismantling the Internalized Oppression of White Supremacy."

Dani Bedau, Dr. Katie Turner, Dr. Lisa M. Sparaco, and Dr. Shelley Orr
SDSU White Anti-Racist Committee

Racism stems from beliefs, practices and policies perpetuated by White supremacy, the notion that White people are deserving of the power and privilege they have historically wielded over Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. White people have internalized these notions, which operate as systems of oppression shaping interactions on personal, institutional and socio-cultural levels. Racism and White supremacy are pervasive and systemic throughout the U.S. and pose toxic threats to public health, safety, education and well-being. This discussion will explore the concentric circles of internalized oppression of White supremacy among White people to foster, promote and take anti-racism actions in our lives, our work, and our visions for the future.

About the Speakers



Dani Bedau, MFA is a theatre artist and educator. She is an Associate Professor in the School of Theatre, Television, and Film at SDSU. Dani has directed professionally with such companies as Mark Taper Forum, Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, Cornerstone Theatre Company, Native Voices at the Autry, and Indiana Repertory Theatre. She created the Coming Up Taller Award-winning *Will Power to Youth* program in Los Angeles and has engaged work that uses theatre to forge alliances with the Arab-speaking world. Her play *Broad Canvas* premiered at the 26th Annual Arab Theatre Festival in Casablanca, Morocco. Dani served as founding chair of Arts Alive SDSU, creating programming and infrastructure for students, faculty, and staff to engage in transformational arts interactions. She launched the Interdisciplinary Collaborative Teaching Program at SDSU bringing arts and non-arts faculty together to team-teach. Her peer-reviewed journal publications include: *Ubiquity*, *Theatre Topics Journal*, *Reclaiming Children and Youth*, and *Ecumenica*. Dani is currently exploring liveness in virtual theatre spaces as a focus of her research. Dani has over 25 years of experience creating theatre programs that facilitate conversations across areas of social distance.



Dr. Katie Turner, Ph.D. is a lecturer in the School of Theatre, Television, and Film, where she teaches script analysis, theatre history, and performance classes. She also serves as the Undergraduate Advisor for Theatre and the Internship Coordinator for the school. Katie received her PhD from the University of California in Irvine in 2016, where she specialized in United States Theatre and completed a dramaturgy emphasis. She also holds a M.A. degree in Theatre from California State University in Northridge and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre and Philosophy from Fort Lewis College. In addition to teaching and working full time at SDSU, Katie is an active theatre artist. She is currently working to launch Turnkey Theatre, an online theatre company specializing in original interactive audio plays. She is also a perpetual student and is currently completing a 2-year acting certificate in the Meisner-Chekhov Integrated Training program, funded by a grant from the William Male Foundation.



Dr. Lisa M. Sparaco, Ph.D. has a BS in Elementary & Special Education, an MA in Latin American Studies, and Ph.D. in Multicultural Education. Her pK-12 teaching background includes special education, elementary bilingual ed and Spanish language immersion, and high school humanities. She has worked in the US and Latin America with English & Spanish language learners, undergraduates, bilingual and general ed Multiple Subject student teachers & credential candidates, graduate students, adult learners and professional development. She teaches courses on education for a diverse & democratic society and is an active member of the SDSU and California Faculty Association's White Anti-Racism Committees and CFA's Peace and Justice Committee.



Dr. Shelley Orr, Ph.D. is a dramaturg and theatre scholar, specializing in 20th and 21st century theatre. She has a BS in Performance Studies from Northwestern University, an MFA in Dramaturgy from UCSD, and a PhD in Theatre from the UCI/UCSD joint program. She has taught at Washington University in St. Louis and the University of Arizona. Her professional credits include dramaturging or providing dramaturgical support for the San Diego REP, The Old Globe, and Mo'olelo Theatre Company. She dramaturged Marguerite Duras's *Savannah Bay* at New York's Classic Stage Company, directed by Les Waters and starring Kathleen Chalfant. She dramaturged Beckett's *Happy Days*, directed by Robert Woodruff at La Jolla Playhouse; this production had a run at PS 122 in New York. Her article on *Duras's India Song* appears in *Review: The Journal of Dramaturgy* (2019). Her publications have appeared in *Theatre Journal*, *Theatre Topics*, *TheatreForum*, *American Theatre*, *Theatron*, and *Paroles geles*. She has presented at the annual meetings of ASTR and ATHE. Orr is a Past President of LMDA, Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas.