

Active Centralized Empowerment (A.C.E.) Teaching Without Borders

Get EMPOWERED for Spring Semester
November 11, 2015 • 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. room 428 Armory

Whether it's Journalism, History, English, or Math, the demand and desire on/of teachers to adapt to the ever-changing classroom is constant. Many of these challenges are not spoken of, found in the pedagogical model, or addressed intentionally.

- How does a White, "privileged" professor teach marginalized students in a way that does not come off as racist or condescending?
- How does the professor who feels marginalized as a result of technological advancement regain their power, confidence and credibility in the classroom?
- How do marginalized students who come from another country, speak a different language and operate from a different culture find and feel a sense of belonging and connectedness?
- How can racial and ethnic marginalized groups feel empowered and centralized when they remain the minority in the classroom, quantifiably speaking, or in society through image construction?
- How can we ensure male students are treated fairly in a culture where female students make up the majority such as in the case of journalism and mass communication?
- How can we teach females to be effective leaders right where they are, without the push towards or against gender performativity?
- How can we teach members of the status quo to be more inclusive without misogynistic overtures or white guilt? How can we teach in an environment where technology sometimes rules?

One of the answers to these dilemmas is *Active Centralized Empowerment*: a pedagogical approach that assists in designing a positive environment that is inclusive, addresses issues of diversity and develops Leadership and Self Agency while, simultaneously, meeting learning outcomes, increasing growth mindset and critical thinking. A.C.E. is an innovative method of teaching on a metacognitive level that grows the mindset through critical thinking and empowers, both, the professor and the student. Through simulation and lecture, the participants in this workshop will learn how A.C.E. works and how it can work for their specific classroom, regardless of discipline. It's one of the best ways to teach the person, who happens to be a student, and the teacher, who happens to be a person.

Space is limited so please RSVP to Susan Conrad (slconrad@illinois.edu), Office Support Specialist, College of Media by Friday, November 6.



Dr. Collins' research focuses on leadership development and issues of self-empowerment, gender and race in media, journalism, and college classrooms/newsrooms. For two consecutive years, Collins has won first place in the Open Paper Competition at the National Broadcast Educators Association Conference as, both, coauthor, and sole author, for her research on leadership development, gender, and issues of race coverage in the media and college classrooms. Collins' latest article on Leadership development in the classroom will be published in the upcoming edition of *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*, her study on image portrayals and issues of power in prime time commercials will be published as a book chapter in "Feminists, Feminisms, & Advertising"-release date, 2016, and she has published a book on race relations and the African American situation from a social-psychological perspective titled, "250 Years and still a slave: Breaking free with Active Centralized Empowerment, A new way of thinking and performing." Her research adds to the literature on critical cultural issues of power and location of *Self* and pedagogical approaches, designs and strategies and professional practices that lead efforts towards de-marginalization.

Dr. Janice Marie Collins is a multi Emmy, Associated Press, Best of Gannett award winning journalist with more than 20 years of experience in the journalism industry and an award-winning professor with 14 years of teaching experience on the university level. She was selected as one of the Top 50 Journalism Professors in the nation of 2012 by Journalismdegree.org and was recently inducted into the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Legends 2015 Hall of Fame representing Wake Forest University Women's Basketball. Collins has received recognition for her teaching and service, including a Faculty of Excellence award by the Department of Minority Affairs at Eastern Illinois University and an Excellence Award for Teaching and Service at Hampton University.

Collins earned a Ph.D. in Communications from the Scripps College of Communications at Ohio University-Specializing in Media Management and Critical Cultural Theory and an Associate Certification in Women's Studies. She received a Masters of Science and Women's Studies Certification at the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism at Ohio University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech Communications and Theatre Arts with a concentration in Communication/Rhetoric at Wake Forest University.