

# *The Currere Exchange*

## *7th Annual Conference and Retreat*



June 15, 2023  
Miami University  
Oxford, Ohio  
“Virtual”

*Autobiography as a method for personal  
development and political action*

## **ABOUT THE CURRERE EXCHANGE**

Welcome to the 7th Annual Currere Exchange Conference and retreat!

The Currere Exchange is a retreat designed to engage “complicated conversations” (Pinar, 2012) among a diverse community of curriculum and education activists. This retreat is an opportunity for graduate students, teachers, school administrators, community activists, professors, and citizens who are interested in curriculum and cultural studies to *affirm, connect, and refresh* their personal, scholarly, and social action agendas.

By focusing on *Autobiography as a method for personal development and political action*, the retreat intends to help participants surface new points of view, challenge the status quo in schools and society, and provide outlets and direction for those interested in troubling the intersections of identity, culture, leadership, curriculum, and politics.

The purposeful ends of the retreat are to engage participants in a ***non-traditional conference format*** focusing more on conversation than presentation, more on dialogue and meaning making than performance. The goal is that participants might create – individually and collectively – a more just community and society in the present and future. That we might create a more relevant and rich curriculum and pedagogy for all. That we might create a more prominent role for autobiographical scholarship as social action in the discourses on leadership, culture, curriculum, teaching, and schooling for a more robust democracy.

The retreat is structured on purpose to create more opportunities for dialogue, collaborative thinking, and creativity. Therefore, the retreat is structured into plenary and working sessions; most of the program will be designed and delivered by participants.

Thank you to all participants for providing a safe and supportive environment for colleagues, a hallmark of effective, collaborative, and democratic leadership.

Conference Hosts ~ Denise Baszile ([taliafda@miamioh.edu](mailto:taliafda@miamioh.edu)) and Tom Poetter ([poettets@miamioh.edu](mailto:poettets@miamioh.edu))

Conference Organizer ~ Jing Tan ([tanj11@miamioh.edu](mailto:tanj11@miamioh.edu))

Conference Co-Chair ~ Tahreem Fatima ([fatimat@miamioh.edu](mailto:fatimat@miamioh.edu))

## RETREAT SCHEDULE

### Thursday, June 15, 2023

9:00 AM-9:45 AM	Plenary 1, Tom Poetter & Denise Baszile <i>The Currere Journeys We Know</i>
9:45 AM-9:50 AM	Break
9:50 AM-11:50 AM	Working Session #1
11:50 AM-12:00 PM	Break
12:00 PM-12:45 PM	Plenary 2: Morna McDermott McNulty, Ph.D. <i>Fiction and Currere</i>
12:45 PM-1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Writing Workshop, Howe Center for Writing Excellence Miami University
2:00 PM-3:00 PM	Working Session #2
3:00 PM	Closing

## Conference Participants

<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>	<u>Presentation Titles</u>
Susan	Adams	sradams@butler.edu	Currere as a Method for a Robust Revision of an Existing Manuscript
John	Andelfinger	<a href="mailto:jandelfinger@gmail.com">jandelfinger@gmail.com</a>	Music, Writing, and Multimodal Currere
Peter	Appelbaum	appelbap@arcadia.edu	Hear Here: Magical Fantasies of Embodied Conviction
Brittany	Aronson	baronson@psu.edu	Teacher Perceptions of Critical Race Theory and Multicultural Education in “Dangerous Times”
Sandro	Barros	barross1@msu.edu	Feral Aesthetics and Chaotic Futurity
Jennifer	Bird	Jenniferlynnbird@att.net	Using Currere Concepts with Writing during Physical Therapy Treatment
Melissa	Bishop	Melissa_Bishop@cbu.ca	Slipping into Darkness: Salvaging the past to (re)humanize the future
Brandon	Bonner	<a href="mailto:brandon.bonner1@louisiana.edu">brandon.bonner1@louisiana.edu</a>	Theme Time Radio Hour Currere
Paul	Collins	paul.collins@famu.edu	To Be Free: The Shared Intellectual Dilemma of Baldwin, Dubois, and Wright
Caroline	Crawford	carolinecrawford@earthlink.net	Now What? Transitioning through Relevancy Angst & First Generation Professor: Do I Belong, and do I Really Want to be Here?
Toby	Daspit	toby.daspit@louisiana.edu	Feral Aesthetics and Chaotic Futurity & Theme Time Radio Hour Currere
Adrian	Downey	<a href="mailto:Adrian.Downey@msvu.ca">Adrian.Downey@msvu.ca</a>	Affect, Tears, and Small Moments: A Dou-Currere in the Foundations of Education
Christina	Flemming	christina.flemming@msvu.ca	Affect, Tears, and Small Moments: A Dou-Currere in the Foundations of Education
Sarrah	Grubb	sjgrubb@iu.edu	Revolutionary Love and Re-Constructing and Re-Invigorating Our Course
Nicholas	Hayes	<a href="mailto:nicholas.alexander.hayes@gmail.com">nicholas.alexander.hayes@gmail.com</a>	Handle Even the Predators
Alice	Kam	Alice.Kam@uhn.ca	Evaluating the Long-Term Impact of a Spiral Integrated Concussion Curriculum Design on Competency Acquisition
Somanita	Kheang	somanitak@gmail.com	Reflection On the Application of Andragogy in Online Instruction: Before, During, and After Pandemic
Haniyeh	Kheirkhah	<a href="mailto:kheirkh@miamioh.edu">kheirkh@miamioh.edu</a>	Teacher Perceptions of Critical Race Theory and Multicultural Education in “Dangerous Times”
Velma	Leonard	velma.leonard1@louisiana.edu	Theme Time Radio Hour Currere

Stephanie	McCall	sdm36@tc.columbia.edu	Girlhood: An Affective Curriculum of Gender and Violence
Michelle	McCoy	<a href="mailto:michelle.mccoy1@louisiana.edu">michelle.mccoy1@louisiana.edu</a>	Theme Time Radio Hour Currere
Denise	McDonald	mcdonald@uhcl.edu	Now What? Transitioning through Relevancy Angst
Patricia	McMahon	plmcmahon77@gmail.com	Envisioning Currere at the Heart of a Doctoral Program
Morna	McNulty	mmcdermott@towson.edu	Feral Aesthetics and Chaotic Futurity
Lori	Meier	meier@etsu.edu	Stuffed: Seeking Slow Currere When the Prize is More Pie
Michael	Metz	mm13ik@brocku.ca	(Play)building My Currere: Embodying Past, Present, and Future
Dennis	Parsons	dennis.parsons@oswego.edu	“My Heroes Have [Sometimes] Been Cowboys:” Using the Method of Currere to Rediscover the West
Maria	Piantanida	mecp1942@gmail.com	Currere in the Space Between: On a Path toward Dialogic Learning
Thomas	Poetter	poettets@miamioh.edu	Policy Advocacy Currere: An Experiment
Curt	Porter	cporter@iup.edu	Music, Writing, and Multimodal Currere
Ivon	Prefontaine	iprefontaine@zagmail.gonzaga.edu	Re-understanding the Method of Currere and its Moments with Age and Experience
Smarty	Satumalay	jabezsmarty33@gmail.com	The Stories of Three Experienced English Teachers in Transitioning to Their Present Working Environment
Amanda	Shackelford	<a href="mailto:Amshackelford1@louisiana.edu">Amshackelford1@louisiana.edu</a>	Reflections on the Process: Currere as an Exploration of Ethnography through the Doctoral Program & Theme Time Radio Hour Currere
Debby	Shulsky	shulsky@uhcl.edu	Now What? Transitioning through Relevancy Angst
Robin	Succar	succar.robino@gmail.com	Righting the Ship: A Currere Course Correction
Naoki	Takemura	naokita@student.ubc.ca	Self-care on Caring
Jing	Tan	tanj11@miamioh.edu	Teaching Sociocultural Studies in Education is Not Easy
Inggrit	Tanasale	inggrittanasale@gmail.com	The Stories of Three Experienced English Teachers in Transitioning to Their Present Working Environment
Dormetria	Thompson	<a href="mailto:robin316@miamioh.edu">robin316@miamioh.edu</a>	I am Here: The Intersections of Blackness and Feminism
Karen	Zaino	zainok@miamioh.edu	Surfacing Un/Reachable Affective Legacies in the Educational Present
Mona	Zignego	<a href="mailto:mbzignego@gmail.com">mbzignego@gmail.com</a>	Audio-Visual Feedback and Equity in Teaching in a Post-Pandemic Reality
Tahreem	Fatima	fatimat@miamioh.edu	Application of Critical Consciousness in Teacher Education

## **WORKING SESSIONS, GROUP ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Group #1**

- 1. Morna McNulty**
- 2. Toby Daspit**
- 3. Dormetria Thompson**
- 4. Sandro Barros**
- 5. Michelle McCoy**
- 6. Amanda Shackelford**
- 7. Dennis Parsons**
- 8. Matthew Burns**
- 9. Kelly Vaughan**

### **Group #2**

- 1. Lori Meier**
- 2. Karen Zaino**
- 3. Peter Appelbaum**
- 4. Somanita Kheang**
- 5. Denise McDonald**
- 6. Caroline Crawford**
- 7. Debby Shulsky**
- 8. Dana Cohen**

### **Group #3**

- 1. Jing Tan**
- 2. Tom Poetter**
- 3. Adrian Downey**
- 4. Nicholas Hayes**
- 5. Maria Piantanida**
- 6. Tahreem Fatima**
- 7. Christina Flemming**
- 8. Dorothy Heard**

### **Group #4**

- 1. Sarrah Grubb**
- 2. Paul Collins**
- 3. Brittany Aronson**
- 4. Haniyeh Kheirkhah**
- 5. Brandon Bonner**
- 6. Alice Kam**
- 7. Patricia McMahon**
- 8. Ethel King-Mckenzie**

### **Group #5**

- 1. Ivon Prefontaine**
- 2. Jennifer Bird**
- 3. Stephanie McCall**
- 4. Melissa Bishop**
- 5. Michael Metz**
- 6. Robin Succar**
- 7. Naoki Takemura**
- 8. Bruce Parker**
- 9. Andy Williams**

### **Group #6**

- 1. Curt Porter**
- 2. Susan Adams**
- 3. John Andelfinger**
- 4. Inggrit Tanasale**
- 5. Smarty Satumalay**
- 6. Mona Zignego**
- 7. Velma Leonard**
- 8. Katherine Smith**

**Thank you for participating in the Currere Exchange!**

**We offer Special Thanks to the following conference friends:**

- Miami University's Department of Educational Leadership;**
- Claire Metzger & Elizabeth Wardle, Howe Center for Writing Excellence;**
- Morna McDermott McNulty for her keynote plenary;**
- Kelly Waldrop, Managing Editor of CEJ.**

# THE CURRERE EXCHANGE

*Sondra Perl's Felt Sense – A Workshop*

## **What is “felt sense”?**

According to Sondra Perl, a renowned writing theorist and educator, “felt sense” refers to the bodily experience of knowing. In her book, “Felt Sense: Writing with the Body” (2004), Perl suggests that this theory can help writers connect with their inner experiences and enhance their writing expression. By recognizing the significance of bodily sensations and instinctive feelings, writers can approach their work with greater emotional awareness.

Accessing your felt sense while writing can be challenging, but it is a skill that can be developed with practice and patience. Once you tap into this physical sensation, you may realize it was always within you. If you find yourself repeatedly deleting or rewriting sentences until they feel right, it could mean you are tapping into your felt sense. This sensation causes a ripple response throughout your body and must be allowed to form by connecting your mind and body. Creating space within yourself can help the felt sense express itself.

## **Workshop Details (60-minute duration):**

In this hour-long workshop, you will have the opportunity to practice felt sense and create a personal space for yourself. Our session will begin with a **10-minute group meditation exercise** to get in the right mindset before we delve into our felt senses. The majority of our time together will be spent exploring felt sense through a **40-minute session where we'll work through various question prompts related to your writing project**. As we wrap up, we'll spend the final **10 minutes reflecting on your experience** with felt sense.

## **Reflective Guiding Questions:**

*What was an insight or ah-ha moment you experienced during this workshop?*

*What was a moment where you felt challenged or frustrated during our session?*

*How can felt sense help you with your continued writing progress?*

## **Further Resources:**

<https://compcomm.commons.gc.cuny.edu/feltsense/part-one-what-is-felt-sense/>

<https://compcomm.commons.gc.cuny.edu/feltsense/guidelines-for-composing/>

**The Howe Center for Writing Excellence:** <https://miamioh.edu/howe-center/index.html>