



**Thank you for joining us
on our upcoming events!**

2015 Interdisciplinary Conference
**Education | Research
 Humanities & Statistics**
 August 13 | Boston | Massachusetts

KEYNOTE



Spencer H. Kimball, Esq, MA, MS, JD
*Senior Scholar-in-Residence
 Director of the Washington Program
 Adviser to the Emerson College Polling
 Society*
 School of Communication
 Emerson College
 Boston, MA

Spencer Kimball teaches the Political Communication and Communication Studies Capstone courses for graduating seniors and is the advisor for the Emerson Pre-Law Society and the Emerson College Polling Society. He is a Member of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), American Association of Political Consultants, (AAPC) and is certified in Human Subject research by the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI).

He is a national pundit quoted in a variety of publications including the Wall Street Journal, Boston Globe, Huffington Post, Washington Post, Fox News, the National Journal, and National Public Radio (NPR).

Kimball also teaches Public Communication at the graduate level and the course Policy, Advocacy and Public Opinion at the undergraduate level. He has been published in the American Behavioral Scientist (ABS) and the International Association of Business Disciplines (IABD).

Kimball is also a small business owner, serving as the founder and CEO of Kimball Political Consulting, LLC. KPC provides survey research, message strategy and organization to political campaigns around the country. Their client list includes Presidential candidates, U.S. Senators, U.S. Congressmen, Governors and State Senators/ Representatives from over 40 states since 2002.

THEME
**Learning, Assessment, and
 Policies.**

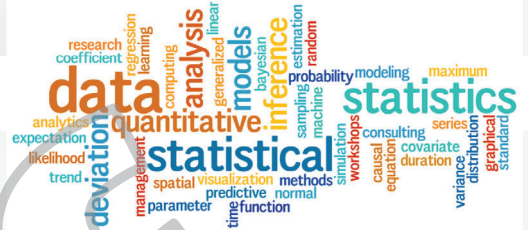


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HONORARY GUEST SPEAKER

THEME SPEAKER

HONORARY GUEST SPEAKERS



Gerardo Blanco-Ramirez, EdD
Assistant Professor
 College of Education and Human Development
 University of Massachusetts
 Boston, MA

Dr. Nnenna K. Uka, Department of Mathematics,
 Abia State Polytechnic, Aba Abia State, Nigeria.
 Topic: **Fostering Creativity in the Teaching and Learning of Mathematics in Secondary Schools in Abia-State, Nigeria.**



Fatemeh Emdad, Ph.D.
Associate Teaching Professor
 Data Science Program
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute
 Worcester, MA

PRESENTERS

Professor Fatemeh Emdad completed her Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics with a concentration in Applied Mathematics at Colorado State University. She is the recipient of the top-ranked student academic award from the President of Shiraz University. She is the author of the book High Dimensional Data Analysis and more than 20 journal and conference articles. She completed her postdoctoral degree with the University of Texas Medical Branch and Shriners Hospital for Children Burn Unit when she was the NIH postdoctoral scientist fellow (under Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award from National Institute of Health).



Julie Zhu, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
 Communication Department
 University of Massachusetts
 Boston, MA

Lin Zhu has extensive research and teaching experience in the U.S. and in China. She specializes in intercultural communication and negotiation and conflict management. Her current research examines how mental models of sojourning students converge to the host nationals' mental models as a result of intercultural communication, and how such convergence of mental models is related to sojourners' psychological health.

Gerardo Blanco Ramirez focuses on the study of international and comparative higher education. In particular, he studies the effects that international quality practices in higher education, such as accreditation and rankings, have on the existing hierarchical relations between Global North and Global South.

Gerardo's work incorporates critical and postcolonial perspectives to the analysis of globalization and internationalization in higher education systems; additionally, he is interested in the study of quality practices in higher education, with emphasis on their cultural and symbolic aspects.

His research relies on qualitative inquiry methods. He has authored or co-authored articles that document the complexities of higher education leadership and internationalization in different countries, including China, Mexico, and the Philippines. Gerardo's teaching focuses on international higher education, qualitative research methods, and leadership and management in higher education.

He earned an MEd in higher education at the University of Maine, and has worked as a practitioner in student affairs and residence life. His EdD is in educational policy and leadership, with a concentration in higher education administration, from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Jaber Alahmari, Doctoral Scholar, University of Exeter, Exeter, United Kingdom and Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Cultural Bureau in London, and Lecturer, UmmAl-Qura University, Saudi Arabia.
 Topic: **Ekphrasis in Ancient Arabic Poetry.**

Youssef Boutahar, Ph.D., EFL Instructor, Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences, Fes, Morocco and Fulbright FLTA of Arabic language and culture at Mercyhurst University, Erie, PA(2010-11). Topic: **Towards Enhancing Educational Leadership and Management Strategies: A Focus on the Moroccan EFL Classroom.**

Ojo Oluwatoyin Layemi and Dr. Abiodun Adebowale Ojo, Fine and Applied Arts Department Tai Solarin College of Education, Omu-Ijebu, Topic: **The Capacity of Visual Arts Education on Human Appreciation of the Celestial Benevolent Forces.**

Amzaourou Oulaid, Doctoral Student, The State University of New York, Buffalo, NY, USA and University of Sidi Mohamed Ibn Abdallah, Morocco. Topic: **Measuring the Cross-cultural Dimensions of Self-directed Learning Readiness: The Case of Moroccan and American University Students.**