BREANA ABBOTT BAYRAKTAR

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced (15+ years) higher education administrator and instructor, with 10+ years at a majority minority-serving institution. Successful leader of cross-campus/interdisciplinary teams with project management experience. Thorough knowledge of instructional/course design and assessment, for F2F/hybrid/virtual environments. Experienced in supporting implementation of HIPs, authentic assessment, active/experiential learning. Frequent presenter on SoTL & instructional topics for diverse audiences.

SKILLS

– creation/delivery of undergraduate & graduate courses
– creation/delivery of faculty & staff development programs
– expert Canvas user/trainer
– knowledge of pedagogy, instructional design, best practices in student engagement
– experience promoting a culture of collaboration across college units
– developing interactive online learning environments
– qualitative/mixed methods research design

EDUCATION

Ed.D. in Educational Leadership, Manhattanville College (*now Manhattanville University*)
M.Ed. in Adult Education, George Mason University
B.A. in French and History, College of William & Mary

SELECTED FACULTY POSITIONS

Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning, George Mason University
Blended Learning/Hybrid Pedagogy Specialist   2022 – present
Affiliate faculty, Higher Education Program, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Develop and offer professional development workshops for full-time/adjunct faculty. Develop new initiatives to meet faculty needs. Mentor faculty in applying SoTL/evidence-based practices to assess & improve student outcomes.

Northern Virginia Community College
Associate Professor, English as a Second Language   2018 - 2022
Assistant Professor, English as a Second Language   2015 - 2018
Instructor, English as a Second Language   2011 - 2015
Co-Chair, English Direct Enrollment Task Force   2021 – 2022
　　　Managed the work of a team of faculty and staff to develop policies and procedures for the direct enrollment of students into English coursework.
Chair, ESL Discipline Group   2018 - 2022
　　　Represented 50+ faculty across 5 campuses & collaborated across college departments/units to coordinate program planning for English language learners.

Led emergency development of an online placement test for English language learners in response to the COVID-related closure of campus testing centers, leading to placement and subsequent enrollment of over 1500 students (April 2020-Dec. 2021)

Lead Faculty, Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (CETL)   2018 - 2022
Developed and offered professional development workshops for full-time and adjunct faculty and college staff.

Resource Coordinator, High-Quality Remote Synchronous Task Force   Summer 2020
Developed faculty pre-training self-assessment & intensive summer training program for faculty new to teaching online.

Coordinator, BRIDGE Program Development Team   Summer 2019
Coordinated creation of a new "bridge" program for F1 visa students, including curriculum & schedule development, admissions, and program evaluation.

The George Washington University Center for Equity and Excellence in Education
Senior Research Associate   2011 - 2012
Conducted program evaluations, including developing evaluation criteria and procedures; conducted observation/interviews of teachers, students, and administrators; prepared evaluation reports

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SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses delivered face-to-face, asynchronous (via Canvas and Blackboard), synchronous online (via Zoom and other web meeting systems), and hybrid (either face-to-face/asynchronous online or synchronous/asynchronous).

George Mason University   2022 - present
    Higher Education Program, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
    HE 703: Higher Ed in the Digital Age (spring 2023, spring 2025)
Northern Virginia Community College   2011 - 2022
    Department of English as a Second Language
    Teaching English for Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)   2013 - 2022

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS

Principal investigator & project manager   2024 - 2026
    Fund for Excellent and Innovation grant ($93,000)
    State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)
    "Preparing Students and Educators for Ethical AI Integration in Higher Education"
Co-principal investigator & project manager   2021 - 2024
    Virtual Library of Virginia Course Redesign Grant ($27,250)
    "English Composition Co-Requisite Support Course for English Language Learners"
Selected participant, *Dartmouth Seminar for Composition Research*   2021
    "Transparent assignment design in college composition courses"
Principal investigator & project manager   2020 - 2023
    Virtual Library of Virginia Course Redesign Grant ($15,350)
    "Pre-College Composition for English Language Learners"
Teaching Faculty Reward & Recognition   ($2,000)   2020, 2021, 2022
    Northern Virginia Community College

SERVICE

George Mason University
LMS Review Advisory Committee   2023 - present
Mason Academic Assessment Council (MAAC)   2022 - 2024
Learning Environments Group (LEG)   2022 - present
Learning Environments Assessment Group (LEAG)   2022 - present

Northern Virginia Community College
Return to NOVA Advisory Group (appointed position)   2021 - 2022
Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Committee (appointed position)   2020 - 2021
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Syllabus Taskforce (appointed position)   2020 - 2021
Campus Convocation Planning Committee (appointed position)   2018 - 2021
College Governance
    Chair, *Woodbridge Campus Forum Council* (elected position)   2018 - 2022
    Senator, *College Senate* (elected position)   2020 - 2022
    College Senate Steering Committee   2021 - 2022
    College Senate Committee on Committees   2018 - 2021
    Instructional & Student Services Committee   2012 - 2014
Festival of the Arts Planning Committee   2017 - 2020
ESL Discipline Review Committee   2017 - 2019

External Service
Associate Editor, *To Improve the Academy*   2025 - present
Reviewer   2020 - present
    International Journal of Academic Development
    To Improve the Academy
    Journal of Response to Writing
Chair (elected position)   2023 - present
Communications Coordinator (elected position)   2022 - 2023
    Virginia Education Development Collaborative
Coordinator, *TILT-VA Research Team*   2020 - 2022
    State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Institutional Support Structures as Catalysts for Faculty Development and Teaching Excellence (under review).

Bridging the Gap: Exploring the Relationship Between Instructor Feedback Beliefs and Practices (under review). With Kiruthika Ragupathi and Katherine A Troyer.

Supporting the Shift: Professional Development for Alternative Grading Practices. *New Directions for Community Colleges* (in press). With Indigo Eriksen.

Applying TILT to Authentic Assessment in a Diverse, Interdisciplinary Graduate Course. In *TILTed Pedagogy: A Collection of Evidence-Based Assignments to Inspire Learning*, edited by Shannon M. Sipes, Mandy Frake, and Jennifer C. Friberg (in press).

Building Trust Through Feedback: A Conceptual Framework for Educators. *Teaching & Learning Inquiry* (2025) With Kiruthika Ragupathi and Katherine A Troyer.

Equity-Minded Writing Placement for a 'New Normal': Four Case Studies of Student Self-Placement (SSP). In *WPA Advocacy in a Pandemic: Lessons Learned*, edited by Todd Ruecker, Sheila Carter-Tod, and Heidi Estrem (2025). With Lisa Mastrangelo, Jolivette Mecenas, and Katherine Daily O'Meara.

Reduced Stress through Agency and Autonomy: Community College Student Perspectives of Labor-Based Grading. *Teaching English in the Two-Year College* (2024). With Indigo Eriksen.

Finding community through an academic development collective: Overcoming constraints through strategic collaboration. *International Journal for Academic Development* (2024).

Cross-Institutional FLCs That Support Equity-Based Pedagogy and Student Success. In *Faculty Learning Communities: Working Towards a More Equitable, Just, and Antiracist Future in Higher Education*, edited by Kristin N. Rainville, David Title, and Cynthia G. Desrochers (2023). With Kim Case, Jodi Fisler, and Heather Keith.

Inclusive Student Engagement Strategies and Students' Sense of Belonging in Multimodal Learning Environments. In *Emerging Stronger: Pedagogical Lessons from the Pandemic*, edited by Jeffrey Chin and Michele Lee Kozimor (2023).

Supporting English Language Learners in the Era of Direct Enrollment. *Inquiry: The Journal of the Virginia Community Colleges* (2023).

Disconnect between Instructor Feedback Beliefs and Practices. July 19, 2022. Center for Engaged Learning, Elon University. With Kiruthika Ragupathi and Katherine A. Troyer.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

Advocacy in the Context of Faculty and Educational Development. [Pre-conference workshop.] Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2025. With Time Ball, Dayna Henry, Jessica Taggart, Sevinj Iskandarova, and Fang Yi.

Utilizing Learning Outcomes in Hybrid Teaching and *Best Practices in Hybrid Teaching* [2-day workshops]. Richard Bland College, August 2024.

Blogging as Public Scholarship. [Workshop]. Radford University Professional Development Week, May 2024.

Finding Your Path: Strategic Planning and Assessment for Educational Developers [Pre-conference workshop.] Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2023. With Pam Tracy and Gilpatrick Hornsby.

Advocacy in the Context of Faculty and Educational Development. [Pre-conference workshop.] Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2023. With Pam Tracy and Gilpatrick Hornsby.

A Research Based Framework for Redesigning Your Assignments. [Workshop]. Old Dominion University, Faculty Professional Development Conference, online, May 2022. With Heather Keith.

Experiential learning in the HyFlex classroom. [Panel] Student Opportunity Center, online, July 2020. With K. Henry, J. L. Jones, and J. Kang.

Supporting Faculty in Developing Their Teaching Practices. [Panel]. State Council of Higher Education for Virginia Day of Dialogue Conference, Richmond, VA, June 2019.

SELECTED REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

The Power of Feedback: Equipping Developers with Feedback Literacy Strategies. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2024. With Katherine Troyer.

Uniting for Impact: Strategies for the Formation of MegaSoTLCollaborations. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2024. With Dayna Henry and Jessica Taggart.

Frameworks for Elevating SoTL Programming through Fostering Relationships. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2024. With the POD SoTL SIG.

Cultivating Trust in the Feedback Process: Instructor Practices and Learning Environment Conditions. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, October 2024. With Kiruthika Ragupathi.

From Concept to Classrooms: Initiating Successful MegaSoTLProjects. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, October 2024.

Faculty impressions of alternative grading practices and barriers to implementation. Teaching English in the Two-Year College-Southeast Conference (TYCA-SE), February 2024. With Indigo Eriksen.

We want to, but how: Faculty impressions of alternative grading practices and barriers to implementation. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2024. With Indigo Eriksen.

(Re)Examining Key Practices for Fostering Engaged Learning. Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Conference, January 2024. With Jessie Moore, Melinda Adams, and Jennifer Dobbs-Oats

Finding community: From crisis management to "insider" support and validation. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2023.

Can We Talk? Fostering Trans-disciplinary Discourse in SoTL Programming. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2023. With Sara Nasrollahian, Anna Santucci, Devshikha Bose, Peter Felten, Holly Buckland Parker, Cynthia Korpan, and Travis Thurston.

Navigating Challenges and Reaping Benefits of Long-Term, Multi-Institutional, International SoTL Partnerships. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, November 2023. With Jennifer Dobbs-Oates, Katherine Troyer, Kiruthika Ragupathi, Peter Felten, Rachel Forsyth.

Exploring Feedback Beliefs and Practices among Higher Education Faculty: A Cross-Institutional, Mixed Methods, International Research Study. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, November 2023. With Katherine Troyer and Kiruthika Ragupathi.

Narratives of Feedback: Exploring Faculty Beliefs and Practices on Feedback as Dialogue and Relationship in a Cross-Institutional Study. Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE) Conference, June 2023.

Reduced stress through agency and autonomy: Community college student perspectives of labor-based grading. Teaching English in the Two-Year College-Southeast Conference (TYCA-SE), February 2023. With Indigo Eriksen.

Reduced stress through agency and autonomy: Community college student perspectives of labor-based grading. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2023. With Indigo Eriksen.

Cross-Institutional Partnerships to Strengthen Educational Developer Toolkits. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2022. With Heather Keith, Kim Case, Laura Lukes, and Dayna Henry.

Successful OER Projects: From Conception to Grant to Publication. VCCS New Horizons Conference, April 2022. With Cathy Gaiser.

Sharing What Works in English Direct Enrollment. [Panel]. VCCS New Horizons Conference, April 2022.

Success for ELLs Through Directed Self-Placement and Corequisite Support. Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) International Conference, March 2022. With Elaine George and Nataliya Schetchikova.

Anti-Racist Assessment and the Covid-19 Pandemic as Catalysts for Directed/Informed Self-Placement. Conference on College Composition & Communication Annual Convention, March 2022. With Katherine O'Meara, Lisa Mastrangelo, and Jolivette Mecenas.

Cross-Institutional Interdisciplinary Initiative to Reduce Equity Gaps Through Transparent Design. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2022. With Heather Keith, Kim Case, Jodi Fisler, and Mary-Ann Winklemes.

Student-Centered Flexible Course Design Strategies. Old Dominion University Faculty Summer Conference, Online, May 2021.

Faculty-Led Professional Development: Meeting Faculty Where They Are. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2020.

Dealing with student writing: How to craft better assignments. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2019.

Supporting Non-Native English-Speaking Students in Reading and Writing Across the Disciplines. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2018. With Stephanie Harm and Martha Wheeler.