

Bridging Research & Community Voices for Educational Impact

March 31, 2025

Center for Equity, Leadership, and Social Justice in Education (CELSJE)

9:00-9:15 Registration/Refreshments

9:15-9:30 Welcoming & Opening Remarks

Dr. Qi Shi (CELSJE Director) and Dean Afra Hersi

9:30-10:30 Opening Panel Discussion Topic:

“Community Concerns, Strategies, & Research for Solidarity & Strength”

Panelists: Rashawna Sydnor, MEd, Dr. Sedrick Smith (Baltimore City Public Schools), Owen Andrews (Anne Arundel Community College), Dr. Margarita Gomez, moderated by Dr. Stephanie Flores-Koulish

10:30-11:00 Featured RPP Exemplar:

“Leading Forward: Self-Advocate Educators as Trainers”

Presenters: Dr. Leah Saal, Dr. Lisa Schoenbrodt, Raven Shields and Candace Herget

11:00-11:45 Roundtable RPP Lightning Talks by Researchers:

Helping Vulnerable Communities

Presenters: Dr. Pethigamage Perera, Dr. Robert Gilbert, Dr. Marina Lambrinou, Dr. Kristine E. Larson, Dr. Nouf Bazaz, Dr. Karen Terrell, Kristina Collins, M.S., Dr. Jessica Shiller, Dr. Omari Jackson, and Dr. Regina Massella

11:45-12:15 Roundtable Discussions

Student-Directed Needs Assessment

Led By: Dr. Josh Smith and Community of Inquiry (COI) Students

12:15-1:00 Lunch

1:00-1:15 Needs Assessments Presentation

Led By: Community of Inquiry (COI) Students (Desvan Moody and Amelie Burns)

1:15-1:30 Closing Remarks & Q&A

Led by: Dr. Carey Borkoski

1:30-2:00 Networking