

Wednesday, October 10th

8:00–8:45 | Sign-in at the **WELCOME TABLE**

OPENING AND WELCOME
8:30 | **CONF CENTER**

AMERICAS AND SYSTEMS OF DEMOCRACY: FINDING MY VOICE AND ROLE.

8:45–9:50 | **CONF CENTER**



ANNASTACIA BELLADONNA-CARRERA

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the start of the democratic wave that swept over Latin America and turned military dictators into political flotsam. Despite serious pitfalls, democracy has held up surprisingly well in the region. Has a new-found renaissance of democracy similarly

hit the United States? As North Americans, what does it mean to be an “American”? What does this all have to do with me, here in Minnesota?

Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera is the Executive Director for Common Cause Minnesota. Common Cause Minnesota serves as an independent voice for change and a watchdog against corruption and abuse of power. Annastacia previously worked as Legislative Director for a Minnesota state agency, the Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA). Prior to joining the Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA), she worked closely with diverse Minnesota communities, partners and stakeholders in her roles as Assistant to the Director, City of St. Paul Department of Human Rights; Interim Executive Director, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Minneapolis Area Office; and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Manager, Minnesota Department of Transportation Office of Civil Rights; to name a few. Annastacia is focused on advancing intergenerational socio-economic equity for all Minnesotans caged by a democracy aided with a lack of transparency, and swelling of dark money, meant to make government work for the very few while advancing restrictive voting laws to marginalize the poor, the geographically isolated and most vulnerable Minnesotans.

BREAKOUT SESSION ONE

10:00-10:50AM

COMMUNICATION CULTURE THROUGH FOOD | **CONF A**

Few of us consider the role food plays in our communication with others; however, food is at the center of our interpersonal and social interactions. Food and dining communicate multiple messages, from emotions like love and anger, to the process of conflict and forgiveness. Culture adds a fascinating layer to the study of food communication. Food provides insight into the history and identity of a people, as well as a culture’s way of life and system of values. More importantly, we may find that dining together is the key to cultural understanding and friendship.

Tracy Murphy is a long-time communication faculty member and department chairperson at SCC. She is dedicated to both communication studies and global education, with a particular interest in Chinese culture.

INTERSECTIONAL EXPLORATION OF DOMESTIC AND SOCIAL VIOLENCE | **E119**

The Committee Against Domestic Abuse, Inc. (CADA) is a non-profit victim’s advocacy and emergency shelter organization based in Mankato, Minnesota. It has been engaged in its mission to provide shelter, advocacy, and educational services for 35 years. The shelter program provides emergency housing to female survivors of domestic and sexual violence and their children. This session will discuss diversity issues present within domestic and social violence, and take a closer look at how these issues impact the greater Mankato community.

Porter Arch, M.A., M.S. is the Education Program Manager at CADA where they provide both community and in-house trainings on domestic and sexual violence.

Kelsey Johnson-Rode is the Nicollet and LeSueur County Community Advocate at CADA with the mission of providing safety and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence through education, advocacy, and shelter.

A MISSION TRIP TO BELIZE | **CONF B**

To most people from the United States, Belize is a tourist area consisting of beautiful islands, coral reefs, Mayan ruins, and tropical weather. But behind all of the beauty lies extreme poverty. Learn how a group from southern MN formed their own adult mission trio dedicated to improving the lives of Belizeans through construction projects. See the people they impacted, hear the stories of the mission work, and see why these people would give up their vacation and spare income year after year to do this work.

Jay Stencel is an instructor in Civil Engineering Technology at South Central College. He has a BS from the University of MN in Civil Engineering, and a MS from Vanderbilt University in Environmental Engineering. He has been married for almost 20 years and has three children. Together they live in southern MN and operate a small crop and livestock farm. The family are all devout Christians and very active in their local church.

MYTHS/MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT LATIN AMERICAN CULTURES | **CONF C**

This session will give you an opportunity to ask the questions that you always wanted to ask about Latin American countries, languages, customs and traditions. Join this open conversation with SCC’s own, Ediel Fernandez, Prospective Student Coordinator.

Ediel Fernandez was born and raised in Guanajuato, México. He moved to Minnesota in September of 2000. Ediel has over 15 years of experience in higher education in México and the United States. He served as the Director of Multicultural Affairs at Ridgewater College and the Multicultural Enrollment Advisor at Riverland CC. Currently he is the Prospective Student Coordinator at SCC.

THE MATHEMATICS OF THE MAYAN CIVILIZATION | **E108**

The Maya Civilization had a sophisticated counting system, which required only three symbols. We will examine the structure of the counting system, how to add and subtract with Maya numerals, and even discover how to write large numbers using such few symbols. In addition, we will discuss how several Maya scientific achievements resulted from their knowledge of mathematics.

Ashley Priem is a Mankato native in her fourth year of teaching mathematics at South Central College. In addition to mathematics, Ashley enjoys board gaming, fitness, playing music, and spending time with her family and cats.

BREAKOUT SESSION TWO

11:00–11:50

ETHNIC MEAL BUFFET

HERITAGE HALL

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM | \$8.00

HIDDEN BIAS | **E103**

Learn what hidden bias is, how it is perpetuated, and what can be done about it. Take the Harvard Implicit Association Test; learn your score (you won’t need to reveal it to anyone). This training occurs in a computer lab where participants take the 20 minute test as part of the session.

Rikki Walters conducts investigations into complaints of harassment of discrimination; assures compliance with the MN State System, state, and federal policies, procedures, and statutes; develops and delivers training, and serves as consultant on issues of policy and procedure.

WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN | **E106**

Join Jenn Melby-Kelley as she shares personal lessons, experiences and takeaways regarding women in leadership, specifically within the community of Mankato. She will share some of her personal history, incidents that happened to her as a young girl, teenager, and woman, and discuss what it means to empower women. Empowering women helps all of humanity!

Jenn Melby-Kelley is a Mankato native, a graduate of Minnesota State University - Mankato, a second-generation entrepreneur, lead singer/songwriter for the band Sister Gin, one of the area’s most visible LGBTQ leaders, and a well-known local advocate for arts, music, small business, entrepreneurship and positive social change. For the past 11 years, Jenn has worked tirelessly to grow her business, The Coffee Hag.

GIS AND GPS | **E119**

What are GPS and GIS? GPS stands for Global Positioning Satellite, GIS stands for Geographic Information Systems... Still Confused? I will explain more about what these two are used for, who they are used by, and what the practical uses are in everyday society, as well as a few technologically advanced uses.

Katie Hueper has been teaching at SCC for 3 years, both Geography and GIS. She earned degrees in GIS, Geography and Earth Science from MSU-Mankato. She is originally from the Western Twin Cities, but now lives with her family on a farm in rural Southern MN.

BREAKOUT SESSION THREE

12:00–12:50

Lunch in **HERITAGE HALL** | **ETHNIC MEAL BUFFET** | \$8

LGBTQIA+ INDIVIDUALS AROUND THE WORLD | **E106**

Curious to know how LGBTQIA+ individuals are treated in other countries? Are these individuals treated with respect or scorn? Come hear members of SCC’s PRIDE group (People Really Interested in Diversity) discuss laws, protections, and discrimination around the world for this population.

Dr. Kirstin Cronn-Mills teaches literature, writing, and critical thinking classes and is in her nineteenth year of teaching at South Central College. She and Teresa Neufelder are the faculty advisors for SCC PRIDE (People Really Interested in Diversity Education), and the students facilitating the panel with them are either current or alumni members of PRIDE.

SIESTA AND THE GLORIOUS GIFT OF SLEEP | **E104**

A siesta is a nap taken in the afternoon and is a common practice in some countries such as Spain, Italy, Greece, and the Philippines. In this session, we will explore the tradition of the siesta and its health benefits. We will also explore the biology of sleep and its impact on our physical and psychological health.

Jane Greathouse is a psychology instructor at South Central College. She is a fervent advocate of getting at least seven hours of sleep each night.

DIVISIBLE: HOW MEDIA STEREOTYPING GENERATES DIVISION | **E102**

The presentation will discuss how historical and contemporary negative- ethnic, cultural, and gender- stereotypes are used in mass communications. This session will discuss how, through mass media, we are inundated with negative messaging that produces unconscious biases and how these biases can have a destructive impact on our society.

Originally from Birmingham, AL, Antwon Key has worked with various public and private institutions for over five years as a graphic artist and photographer. In 2017, he earned an MFA in Graphic design from the Vermont College of Fine Arts and decided to become an educator. He taught Graphic Design at Maynard Jackson High School in Atlanta, GA, and is now currently teaching Graphic Communications at South Central College in North Mankato.

PERFORMANCE

1:00-2:00

TROPICANTE LATIN QUARTET | **CONF CENTER**

Tropicante is synonymous with rhythm and joy! Lead singers Karin Stein (Colombian) and Ed East (Panamanian), together with their drummer and bass player, serve up a strong dose of energy with their Latin beats. Colombian “cumbias,” Dominican “merengues,” Brazilian “sambas,” Venezuelan “tambores,” Cuban “sones,” and a few pop tunes thrown in, are the perfect formula for drawing in audiences of all ages and cultures. This Midwest-based ensemble tours nationwide every year from September to late November, and tours abroad once a year, taking its joyful sounds to places like Malaysia, Costa Rica, Germany, and Romania. Seeing lead singers Ed East and Karin Stein in action is living proof that the terms “Hispanic” and “Latino” can’t be summarized, not only because of Ed’s and Karin’s contrasting ethnic backgrounds and genders. Ed East is Panamanian. His upbringing in Panama City meant noise, hustle, bustle, and those chaotic smells and sights so characteristic of any Third World metropolis. Karin Stein, his Colombian partner, brings to the music of Tropicante to the perspective of her rural upbringing. She is a cowgirl from the eastern llanos or plains of Colombia. While he rode buses and watched TV, she rode horses and watched the red ibis stalk across emerald green rice fields. There was no TV in her neck of the woods. No electricity for that matter. Tropicante’s lively concerts are sprinkled with anecdotes and humor. Together with their superb drummer and bass player, Ed and Karin make fun magic on stage which draws everyone in and spreads non-stop smiles and musical joy.



Thursday, October 11th

8:00–8:45 | Sign-in at the **WELCOME TABLE**

OPENING AND WELCOME
8:30 | **CONF CENTER**

RUNNING OUT OF DACA

8:45–9:50 | **CONF CENTER**



ANTONIO GOMEZ

Antonio Gomez was 5 years old when he was smuggled into the United States. He grew up in Le Sueur, MN, and for many years he faced the fear of deportation. It was not until 2012, through a policy called DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) enacted by the Obama administration, that some of the fear was lifted. Although

the policy alleviated some of the distress Gomez and thousands of others like him felt around the country, it continues to be a temporary fix today. Listen to this motivating story, where Gomez, through his perseverance and hard work, was able to overcome the many obstacles that young, undocumented, immigrants face. Gomez not only attained degrees at South Central and Gustavus Adolphus College, but has moved through several positions at Taylor Corporation and UnitedHealth Group, finally becoming a Senior BA Analyst. He will recount memorable moments in his life that helped shape him, allowing us a deeper understanding for who these so called “Dreamers” are. They are our neighbors, friends, students, co-workers, who, like Gomez, aspire to one day be fully accepted and recognized as citizens of the only country they know as home, the United States of America.

BREAKOUT SESSION ONE

10:00–10:50

CONNECTED BY COFFEE: FAIR TRADE AND YOU | **CONF A**

Join The Mankato Area Free Trade Initiative as they introduce the practice of Fair Trade through a short video clip and brief overview of Fair Trade, with considerable time devoted to answering participants’ questions. The presentation will summarize the main goals of Fair Trade, with a specific focus on the relationship between the people who produce our products and those who purchase them.

Paul Prew is a professor at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where he teaches courses on theory, environment and globalization. While his area of specialization is the political economy of the environment, he has collaborated with others in the area of Marxist Theory, philanthropy, race and perceptions of police, genocide and pedagogy. Owing to his volunteer work for local non-profits and dedication to social justice on campus, Dr Prew received the Diversity Champion Community Peace Maker and Global Citizen awards at his university.

sessions continue on next page ---->

** **VENDOR BOOTHS** open throughout the day in the Conference Center Hallway **

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

CONFERENCE



South Central
COLLEGE



BIODIVERSITY- AN ECOLOGICAL SERVICE IN DECLINE | CONF C

We are currently witnessing the sixth mass extinction event in Earth's history, and evidence suggests it is broader and faster than any in the past. This session focuses on the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss, why we should care, and the efforts underway to preserve biodiversity.

Shawn Schroeder earned a M.S. in Biology from Minnesota State University, Mankato in 2002. As a graduate student, he conducted eutrophication research in the Heron Lake system, which transcended the broader issue of deforestation. He continues to research the topic of deforestation and related issues as a college instructor and a member of the Ecological Society of America. Shawn Schroeder teaches biology and ecology courses at South Central College.

LEARN DAKOTA! | CONF B

Join Upper Sioux Tribal Member Naomi Anywaush and learn to speak some Dakota! Participate in fun games and other activities as you learn a bit about the Dakota language and the tribe of Minnesota.

Noami Anywaush is an enrolled member of the Sisseton Tribe of Minnesota. She is a Dakota Language intern at the Upper Sioux community, as well as a Tribal Historic Preservation officer and surveyor. A former SCC student, Naomi is now working on her degree in Political Science at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

PROGRAMS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE | E112

Learn about the University of Minnesota Extension programs that make a difference in the lives of our most diverse and vulnerable families across Minnesota. SNAP Ed, school food service training, and nudging to health for food shelves are just a few of the programs that we will explore.

Kelly Kunkel is a health and nutrition Extension Educator with the University of Minnesota Extension. Much of her work has been dedicated to changing the food environment to improve food access and choice for low income and youth audiences, through programming with food shelves, overindulgence education, and school food service training. Kelly Kunkel has worked for the University of Minnesota Extension since 1994.

BREAKOUT SESSION TWO

11:00-11:50

ETHNIC MEAL BUFFET

HERITAGE HALL

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM | \$8.00

UAE: THE INTERSECTION OF ANCIENT AND MODERN WORLDS | E119

This presentation explores the ways in which ancient Arab and Islamic traditions intersect with the modern world. You will learn how these very different worlds coexist for women in the United Arab Emirates.

Carol Burns taught students with special education needs in southern Minnesota school districts for thirty- three years. She joined the Department of Special Education at Minnesota State University, Mankato in 2007 where she taught methods courses and supervised teacher candidates. In 2010, Carol became the Assistant Director in the Center for Mentoring & Induction at MSU, Mankato. Training education leaders to support beginning teachers with the goal of accelerating teaching effectiveness is the heart of her work. In this role, she accompanied student teachers to the United Arab Emirates for two years.

SIESTA AND THE GLORIOUS GIFT OF SLEEP | CONF A

A siesta is a nap taken in the afternoon and is a common practice in some countries such as Spain, Italy, Greece, and the Philippines. In this session, we will explore the tradition of the siesta and its health benefits. We will also explore the biology of sleep and its impact on our physical and psychological health.

Jane Greathouse is a psychology instructor at South Central College. She is a fervent advocate of getting at least seven hours of sleep each night.

SWORDS, FLINGS, AND A GATHERING OF THE CLANS:

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND DANCING | CONF C

In this demonstration and clinic, sisters Mallory and Hannah Murphy will introduce you to some of the styles and history of traditional Scottish dance. They will talk about Scottish culture, demonstrate a few different traditional dances, and offer a short clinic on introductory foot moves for those interested in giving it a try.

The Murphy sisters began Scottish dance lessons in early elementary school as a part of the Mapleton Kilties and Burns Night celebrations held each January. They received lessons and danced for each of the annual Robert Burns Night festivities all through school. Mallory, age 17, is a high school senior at Maple River High School. She is a musician, guitar-player and singer-song writer, who performs at the Coffee Hag, Curiosi-tea House, and other open mic opportunities. Hannah, age 21, helps to carry on the tradition through teaching for the Mapleton Kilties. Hannah is an alumnus of the Maple River High School and of SCC (AA degree in 2015, AS in Biology in 2016). Currently she is a senior at MSU, graduating in December with a bachelor's degree in Bio-medical science. She will begin her graduate program in epidemiology next fall.

THE ETHICS OF IMMIGRATION | CONF B

Is the U.S. facing an immigration crisis? Is the presence of undocumented workers helping or harming the country? Should we build a wall along the Mexican border? Dr. Kurt Dershem will facilitate an interactive discussion addressing these and related ethical issues.

Dr. Dershem has been teaching Philosophy at South Central College since 2004.

BREAKOUT SESSION THREE

12:00-12:50

Lunch in HERITAGE HALL | ETHNIC MEAL BUFFET | \$8

ABSORBING SOUTH AFRICA: WORKING TO ELIMINATE | E121

In May 2013, a group of nineteen individuals, including SCC and MSU students and professors Scott Fee and Becky Davis, embarked on a journey in understanding humanity, exploring the history of human rights, and being immersed in South African culture by spending fourteen days on the ground in country. The trip included experiencing Cape Town, District Six, Port Elizabeth, various museums explaining apartheid (the former South African law requiring "apartness" of the races), Drakenstein Prison (where Nelson Mandela spent the last 18 months of his imprisonment), Eden Campus Tertiary School of Business Administration, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Sedgefield, Smutsville and its artists' colony, the Garden Route, an African safari, an elephant park, an ostrich park, and personal connections with South African students. This session will chronicle the highlights of this trip.

Rebecca Fjelland Brooks (Becky) has been an English and Humanities instructor at South Central College since 2005. Her courses have included Children's Literature and The History and Culture of South Africa. She is the author of two young adult novels (most recently Chasing AllieCat), anthologized short stories, and ten children's books (most recently Beauty Missing, Hair Hissing: Medusa Tells All). She has traveled overseas with student groups five times.

WOMAN IN ISLAM: STUDENT PANEL | E123

In an effort to dispel myths about Islam and to educate about the religion, a group of 5-7 Muslim women will informally discuss issues and provide opportunities for audience questions. Topics could include the hijab, marriage, and family roles, female genital mutilation practices, and girl's/woman's rights.

GLOBAL BUSINESS REQUIRES AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING | E112

Kato Engineering designs and manufactures power system equipment with an emphasis on generators, motors and controls systems. Kato Engineering equipment provides power and motion in some of the most extreme and critical environments in the world including oil drilling, mining, military defense support, and critical infrastructure. Cultural differences consistently impact our daily business. Awareness of these differences greatly affects the efficiency and effectiveness one has in large scale global business. This presentation is to share stories and experiences that require awareness and understanding.

Christian Bailey has been with Kato Engineering for just over two years where he has focused on strategic cost savings projects and more recently is leading a large defense program. Previously he held various project/program management and product development roles at Thomson Reuters in Eagan, MN. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, as well as a MBA with a focus in global business from the Carlson School of Management.

IMMIGRATION ISSUES IN THE COURT SYSTEM | E119

Join Judge Greg Anderson as he discusses immigration issues as they relate to the local justice system, with emphasis on the Padilla issues. He will focus specifically on ICE holds and local jails (mentioning Watonwan County) and how the system works for local facilities. Hopefully participants will leave this session having a better understanding of the relationship between immigration and political policies, and the local community.

Judge Greg Anderson is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, CLA 1984. After graduation, Anderson attended the University of Minnesota Law School in 1987. He worked as a law clerk from 1987-1989; a prosecutor from 1989-1994; a public defender from 1994-2008; and he became a District Court Judge in 2008 when he was appointed by Governor Pawlenty and sworn in August 1, 2008. He was then re-elected in November of 2010. Judge Anderson presently serves on the State Psychological Services Committee and the District Labor Management Committee.

PERFORMANCE

1:00-2:00

ZORONGO FLAMENCO | CONF CENTER

Celebrate the exotic and sultry ambiance of the early 1900's in Spain known as "Café Cantante" when flamenco dancers and musicians performed for glamorous patrons in cabarets! An afternoon of traditional Spanish Flamenco dance and music includes 3-4 dancers and a guitarist.

Susana di Palma is unparalleled as a performer and choreographer. She is respected and recognized internationally for her innovative flamenco/theatre works. She has spent a lifetime studying all aspects of the art of flamenco. Her performance and choreographic skills have, at their core, the essence of flamenco tradition. Although she is an accomplished and critically acclaimed flamenco soloist, her unique contributions to her art form are her provocative theatre/flamenco works that reflect and respond to our contemporary world.

Di Palma, who founded Zorongo Flamenco in 1982, remains the most tantalizing dancer to watch, with a passion so fierce that smoke emanates from her" - Mpls StarTribune, July 2015

In 2006, the Bush Foundation selected Susana to receive a second Bush Fellowship for choreography. She has received numerous grants for her choreography from such funders as: McKnight Foundation, (2002-3), Minnesota State Arts Board, Jerome Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, and in 2012, a Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative grant to attend la Bienal de Flamenco in Sevilla.

A beloved teacher, Susana has taught flamenco for over 30 years. She directs the Zorongo Flamenco School and has taught for 15 years as an adjunct instructor in the Dance Department at the University of Minnesota.



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