



## ELATE 2020 ELECTIONS

The [English Language Arts Teacher Educators](#) are governed by an Executive Committee made up of elected ELATE members as described in the ELATE Constitution and Bylaws and serve a four-year term. The Chair of the ELATE Executive Committee is automatically a voting member of the [NCTE Executive Committee](#).

The Nominating Committee prepares a slate of candidates for vacancies that occur annually on the ELATE Executive Committee and selects candidates for the succeeding year's ELATE Nominating Committee. The candidate who receives the largest number of votes in the election will chair the committee.

### About the 2020 Candidates

Each spring, the English Language Arts Teacher Educators elects its Executive Committee and Nominating Committee. The following nominations were made by the 2019-2020 Nominating Committee.

The ELATE Nominating Committee consists of **Tracey T. Flores**, University of Texas, Austin, chair; **Ashley S. Boyd**, Washington State University, Pullman; **Jennifer Dail**, Kennesaw State University, GA; **Sharonica Nelson**, University of Alabama, Birmingham; and **Jon M. Wargo**, Boston, College, Chestnut Hill, MA.

Names on the ballot are presented in random order. The biographical information concerning the nominee's experience and service to NCTE and ELATE was supplied by the individual nominee.

View candidate bios below.

### [ELATE Executive Committee](#)

(three to be elected; term to expire November 2024)

The ELATE Executive Committee is responsible for the governance of NCTE's English Language Arts Teacher Educators guides the affairs of the Conference. All Executive Committee members serve four-year terms.



**DONJA THOMAS**, High school English teacher/ Black studies curriculum developer, Gahanna Lincoln High School; 7-12 integrated language arts. **Membership(s)**: NCTE, ELATE. **Award(s)**: NCTE Penguin Random House Teacher Award for Lifelong Readers/Maya Angelou Teacher Award for Poetry Runner-up Award, Central Ohio Social Justice Award, OSU College of Education Dr. Alivia Bozeman Critical Educator Award, NCTE Cultivating New Voices Among Scholars of Color Fellow. **Publication(s)**: Authored chapter in *Race, Justice, and Activism in Literacy Instruction*; co-authored chapter in *The Routledge Reader of African American Rhetoric: The Longue Duree of Black Voices*. **Program Contribution(s)**: NCTE, CCCC, AERA, OCTELA.

**Position Statement:** As a passionate educator and Black studies curriculum developer, I commit my efforts to ELATE through helping teachers establish more learning spaces of introspection that center critical conscious literacies and curricular practices rooted in the Black experience, in order to sustain diverse student's cultural pride and leadership development.



**LINDY JOHNSON**, Assistant professor, English education, William & Mary; director, Eastern Virginia Writing Project. **Formerly:** High school English teacher, Boston Public Schools. **Membership(s):** NCTE, ELATE-Graduate Strand Chair, ELATE Commission on Writing Teacher Education. **Award(s):** Steve Cahir Early Career Award for Research on Writing, AERA Writing and Literacies SIG; Divergent Award for Excellence in 21st Century Literacies Research. **Publication(s):** Articles in *English Education* (Special Issue: Professional Development for Equity and Social Justice), *English Teaching: Practice and Critique*, *English Journal*, *Theory into Practice*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, AERA, LRA.

**Position Statement:** NCTE has been my professional home for 20 years and I am committed to sustaining and nurturing the critical work of English teachers and teacher educators. As a member of the ELATE executive committee, I would commit to collaborate with my colleagues to advance the work of the organization by advocating for policies and practices that support teacher and student agency around issues of equity and diversity.



**KEISHA MCINTOSH ALLEN**, Assistant professor of secondary education, University of Maryland, Baltimore County. **Formerly:** 9-12 English language arts and AP language teacher. **Membership(s):** NCTE, AERA, AESA. **Award(s):** CNV Fellowship. **Publication(s):** Articles in *Teachers College Record*, *Urban Education*, and *Journal of Multicultural Education*. **Program Contributions:** AERA, NCTE, LRA.

**Position Statement:** Given the current socio-political context, it is important that we are preparing all teacher candidates to position literacy, including disciplinary literacy, as a social justice issue that enables pK-12 students to pursue a variety of careers, engage critically in the world around them and be self-actualizing. As an ELATE executive committee member, I will advocate for critical and transformative research and policies that are inclusive and reflective of the breadth of pK-12 students, teachers, and pre-service teachers' lived experiences, skills and talents.



**BRYAN RIPLEY CRANDALL**, Associate professor of English education; director, Connecticut Writing Project; Fairfield University, CT. **Formerly:** High school English teacher, Louisville Writing Project teacher consultant. **Membership(s):** NCTE, NCTEAR, ELATE, LRA, NWP. **Award(s):** Coalition of Community Writing Outstanding College-Community Project awardee, Divergent Award for Excellence in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacies Research, Elizabeth M. Pfriem Civic Leadership Award, Innovation Award for Community Engagement and Service, MLK, Jr. Vision Award. **Publication(s):** *Voices from the Middle*, *The ALAN Review*, *Teaching/Writing: The Journal of Writing Teacher Education*, *Teaching English in Texas*, *Study and Scrutiny*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, NCTEAR, NWP, LRA.

**Position Statement:** My teaching and research helps me to see the power of community when enhancing the success of every individual. Differences should be bridges, rather than barriers. It is my intent to celebrate the ELATE community and its mission through the engagement and support of teachers of English language arts and literacy.



**MARK LETCHER**, Assistant professor, English education, ELA teaching program chair, Lewis University, IL. **Formerly:** ALAN president; co-chair, CEE Commission on Writing Teacher Education; co-chair, CCCC SIG, English education/composition collaborations. **Membership(s):** NCTE, ELATE, ALAN, CCCC, AERA. **Publication(s):** *English Journal*, *The ALAN Review*, *English Education*, *Voices from the Middle*, *Teaching/Writing*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, ELATE, ALAN, NWP, CCCC, AERA.

**Position Statement:** As a graduate student and early-career professor, ELATE provided me with invaluable support and resources. More importantly, it provided me with a professional home. I now want to give back to ELATE, by helping to recruit, retain, and support English educators and preservice teachers. We work in tenuous educational times and need inclusive and equitable support more than ever. If elected, I pledge to work collaboratively to provide teacher educators

and English teachers with knowledge, practice, and support, so that they feel they have a home here, as well.



**JUNG KIM**, Associate professor of literacy, Lewis University, IL; co-chair, Asian American Caucus; Standing Committee on Diversity & Inclusion. **Formerly:** High school English teacher/literacy coach; Standing Committee on Research; ELATE Nominating Committee. **Membership(s):** NCTE, ELATE, ALAN, LRA, AERA. **Publication(s):** Bloomsbury Press, Rowman & Littlefield Press, *TESOL Encyclopedia of English Language Teaching*, *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, AERA, LRA, ALAN.

**Position Statement:** As a former high school English teacher, literacy coach, and current teacher educator, I believe strongly in creating and supporting spaces for *all* people to belong and be celebrated, whether in pK-12 or post-secondary classrooms or in professional organizations. I believe strongly in working alongside others to dismantle systems of oppression and advocate for greater equity and social justice—particularly for the most vulnerable. I hope to use my voice within ELATE to help continue moving this work forward.

### ELATE Nominating Committee

(five to be elected; term to expire 2021)

Members of the ELATE Nominating Committee choose candidates for the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee for the following year. The person receiving the most votes serves as chair.



**GRACE D. PLAYER**, Assistant professor of literacy, University of Connecticut; communications chair, NCTE Asian American Caucus; student-faculty liaison, Neag School of Education Equity and Social Justice Committee. **Formerly:** K-9 classroom teacher, literacy staff developer, community-based educator. **Membership(s):** NCTE, LRA, AERA. **Award(s):** NCTE Cultivating New Voices Fellow, Ralph C. Preston Award for Scholarship and Teaching Contributing to Social Justice and Education Equity, UPenn; Dean's Incentive Award, UConn. **Publication(s):** Articles in *LRTMP*, *Language Arts*, *LEARNing Landscapes*; chapters in *Handbook of Reading Research, Vol 5* (forthcoming); *Race, Justice, and Activism in Literacy Instruction*; **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, LRA, AERA.

**Position Statement:** As a member of the ELATE Nominating Committee, I will offer my perspectives as a critical Woman of Color literacy scholar who is committed to partnering with youth and communities of color in my work as a justice-oriented educator, researcher, artist, and writer. I will work with the Nominating Committee to construct a slate of candidates representing a diversity of perspectives, particularly historically marginalized perspectives, that will enhance NCTE's commitments to equity and justice.



**BRIANA ASMUS**, Assistant professor of education, ESL and bilingual program director, Aquinas College, MI. **Formerly:** Middle and high school English teacher, S. Korea, Japan, USA; lead teacher, Beijing Middle School summer program, Rottech Education; co-chair, ELATE-SJ. **Membership(s):** NCTE, ELATE, MITESOL. **Award(s):** OELA National Professional Development Grant. **Publication(s):** Co-editor, *Engaging the Critical in English Education: Approaches from the Commission on Social Justice in Teacher Education*; chapter contributor, *Queer Adolescent Literature as a Complement to the English Language Arts Curriculum*; article in *Language Arts Journal of Michigan*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, ELATE, MITESOL.

**Position Statement:** I believe that using socially just models in teacher preparation can change the world. I am committed to preparing the next generation of teachers to face challenges posed by the current political climate. As part of the ELATE Nominating Committee, I hope to lift up the voices of those who are committed to a progressive future of teacher education.





**RICK MARLATT**, Assistant professor of English language arts and literacy, New Mexico State University. **Formerly:** High school English teacher; poetry editor, *The Coachella Review*. **Membership(s):** NCTE, ELATE Commission on Digital Literacies and Teacher Education, AERA. **Award(s):** NMSU Emerging Scholar, DFEI Fellowship. **Publication(s):** *English Journal*, *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*, *Action in Teacher Education*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, ELATE Commission on Digital Literacies and Teacher Education, SITE.

**Position Statement:** Within the too-often isolated world of academia, ELATE affords us a collaborative home where we are surrounded by engaged colleagues whose intellectual curiosities are as infectious as they are inclusive. Together, we prepare cultural advocates to enact social change. As a member of the nominating committee, I will recruit diverse leaders in teacher education who promote literacy as activism by impacting the lives of youth and their communities now and into the future.



**CHANDRA L. ALSTON**, Assistant professor of English education, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. **Formerly:** High school English teacher; teaching fellow, Stanford Teacher Education Program (STEP). **Membership(s):** NCTE, ELATE, AERA. **Awards:** NAEd/Spencer Literacy Predoctoral Fellowship. **Publication(s):** *English Journal*; *Research in the Teaching of English*; *Journal of Teacher Education*; *Teachers College Record*.

**Position Statement:** As a member of the ELATE nominating committee, I will work with members to recruit diverse candidates who work across domains of English language arts toward anti-racist policies and practices in English teaching and teacher education.



**MARIA LEIJA**, Assistant professor of early childhood education, University of Texas at San Antonio. **Formerly:** K–6 language arts, English language development, middle school English teacher. **Membership(s):** NCTE, LRA, AERA. **Award(s):** CNV Fellowship. **Publication(s):** Articles in *Theory into Practice*, *Bilingual Research Journal*, *The Reading Teacher*, *Social Studies and the Young Learner*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, LRA, AERA.

**Position Statement:** As a teacher educator, I am committed to ensuring that teachers are prepared to serve all students in a manner that honors their knowledge and experiences through culturally sustaining practices. As an ELATE nominating committee member, I will collaborate with members to advance the mission of the organization.



**MIKE P. COOK**, Assistant professor of English Education, Auburn University; ELATE Commissions on Social Justice in Teacher Education and Writing Teacher Education. **Formerly:** High school English teacher. **Membership(s):** NCTE, ELATE, NCTEAR, AERA. **Award(s):** Graduate Student Award of Excellence, University Advisor of the Year, Outstanding Conference Paper. **Publication(s):** *Perspectives on Digital Comics: Theoretical, Critical, & Pedagogical Essays*; articles in *English Teaching: Practice & Critique*, *ALAN Review*, *Voices from the Middle*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, CEE/ELATE, NCTEAR, LRA, AERA.

**Position Statement:** Given our existing political context, it becomes vital that we, as English Educators, work to promote equity and justice in our research and teacher preparation. ELATE, as an organization, provides fertile ground for such work. Working with committee members, I will help identify and nominate candidates who will support the mission of ELATE and propel the organization forward.



**JOAQUIN MUÑOZ**, Assistant professor, Augsburg University, Minneapolis, MN. **Membership(s):** NCTE, LRA. **Awards(s):** NCTE Cultivating New Voices Fellow, Augsburg University Distinguished Award for Service. **Publication(s):** Chapters in *Where No Child Has Gone Before? Youth Agency in Science Fiction and Fantasy*, *Comic Connections: Reflecting on Women in Popular Culture*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, LRA.

**Position Statement:** In my practice as a teacher educator, my goal has always been for my students to develop their skills to build relationships with students that are holistic and humanizing, with a mind towards equity and justice. As a member of the ELATE nominating committee, my goal will be to cultivate partnerships with members to develop goals of creating just, and equitable, education experiences for all students, through the selection and elevation of leaders committed to inclusion and equity. By building our capacity to work towards justice in education, we better our world.



**DARREN CROVITZ**, Professor of English education, Kennesaw State University, GA; director of English Education; technology director, GCTE. **Formerly:** High school teacher; Peace Corps volunteer; community college, university instructor. **Membership(s):** NCTE, ELATE, GCTE. **Publication(s):** Co-author, *Grammar to Get Things Done, More Grammar to Get Things Done, Inside Out: Strategies for Teaching Writing*; articles in *English Journal, Teaching English in the Two-Year College*. **Program Contribution(s):** NCTE, NCTEAR, CEE, ALAN.

**Position Statement:** I believe teacher preparation is best anchored on principles of care and community, focused on helping teacher candidates develop the ability, flexibility, and patience to meet and work with students in their own contexts. ELATE mirrors these principles in providing a supportive framework for our often-unique English education situations. I hope to contribute to ELATE's mission through nominating colleagues who embody the principles of commitment, inclusiveness, care, and servant leadership.

### **Important Information Regarding the 2020 Election**

NCTE, ELATE, TYCA, and Section election ballots will be sent by email to current members in April. If NCTE does not have an email for you on file and you would like to receive a ballot by email, please visit ["My Account"](#) and add it to your membership record. (You may also use ["My Account"](#) to change your email address and update your member profile.) You can contact our NCTE Customer Service Department (877-369-6283) and speak with one of our representatives to update this information as well.

**Elections will close at 11:59 pm Central Time, Monday, June 1, 2020.** Results will be posted mid-June.

**Questions:** Please contact [Linda Walters-Moore](#) at NCTE Headquarters.