



NOT YOUR LANGUAGE: SPEAKING ON MICROAGGRESSIONS PANELIST(S) BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Christopher Kukk
Professor of Political/Social Sciences
Director, WCSU Kathwari Honors Program
Director, Center for Compassion, Creativity and Innovation

Dr. Kukk is Professor of Political Science/Social Science at Western Connecticut State University, a Fulbright Scholar, HarperCollins author of *The Compassionate Achiever*, founding Director of the Center for Compassion, Creativity and Innovation, Director of the Kathwari Honors Program, founder of the University's Debate Team, and member of Phi Beta Kappa. He received his Ph.D. in political science from Boston College and his B.A. in political science from Boston University. He was also an international security fellow at Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. His research and publications combine neuroscience with the social sciences and focus on education issues, the political economy of natural resources, and the creation and sustainability of civil society. Dr. Kukk was also a counter-intelligence agent for the United States Army, a research associate for Cambridge Energy Research Associates, and has provided the Associated Press, National Public Radio, The Economist magazine, NBC-TV, Cablevision, and Connecticut media with analysis on a wide range of topics and issues. His forthcoming books are based on the idea of weaving values such as compassion into our learning, civic, and business communities.



Dr. Nicholas Gallucci
Professor of Psychology

Professor Gallucci is a Professor of Psychology at Western Connecticut State University. Professor Gallucci focuses on the area of specialization is clinical psychology and my areas of interest include psychological assessment, substance abuse counseling and assessment, sport psychology, and gifted children. Professor Gallucci welcomes student participation in his research projects in these areas. Among the courses that he teaches are Community Psychology and Substance Abuse Counseling: Applied Counseling, but also focuses on cultural diversity and negative implications with social injustices.



Natasha Persad
Consultant, Gender Fair: A Public Benefit Corporation
Co-Founder, Pengo Consulting Strategies & Redline Business Solutions

Ms. Persad is a strategic catalyst for innovative initiatives that address today's challenges of human capital management, achieving, and exceeding business and profitability objectives while addressing various corporate/employment trends. Ms. Persad is familiar with global business protocol and diverse business environments ranging from Fortune 500 to start-ups in all industries. In her role as an independent consultant, Ms. Persad adept in providing vision and counsel in organizations of all sizes, creating and enhancing infrastructure and workplace cultures that are undergoing restructuring, reengineering, downsizing, expansion, or similar transitions. As a champion of Diversity, Equality, & Inclusion initiatives, Ms. Persad offers training strategies for all levels of talent. Known for a contagious passion for excellence and consensus-building interpersonal style.



Carmen E. Hughes
Advocate for Diversity and Inclusion
Head of the Diversity Division, Handel Group Corporation
Board Member, Stamford Community Council

Ms. Hughes is a strong business development professional skilled in Coaching, Sales, Team Building, and Public Speaking. As an experienced Board Member with a demonstrated history of working with non-profit organizations, Ms. Hughes provides a wide-perspective on diversity and inclusion as it pertains to microinequities in the workplace. Working as the Head of the Diversity Division for the Handel Group Corp, Ms. Hughes has provided coaching and consulting strategies to elevate performance and leadership from a top to bottom approach.



Jesenia Minier-Delgado (Moderator)
WCSU Chief Diversity Officer

Mrs. Delgado serves as the diversity and equity compliance officer and advisor Western Connecticut State University since July 2017. Mrs. Delgado's serves as an advisor to President Clark as well as to the executive university staff on all campus affirmative action, employment compliance and diversity programs, ADA/religious accommodations as well as campus accessibilities, policies and procedures related to Affirmative Action and Non-Discrimination as prescribed by the Connecticut State Colleges and University system, and in conjunction with the state and federal regulations. Mrs. Delgado will be moderating the discussion and sharing the social and cultural perspectives pertaining to higher education.



WCSU Student Representative
TBD