

# Abstracts

## of the Tennovation Research Symposium at the 2017 LGBT+ College Conference Research and Partnership Posters

Volume 3 • April 2017

### 2017 TENNOVATION RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

---

**James Union Building**  
**Middle Tennessee State University**  
**Murfreesboro, Tennessee**  
**Thursday, April 6, 2017**

### REGISTRATION

---

*James Union Building Lobby, Middle Tennessee  
State University*  
Thursday, April 6—10:00 am-2:45 pm

### WELCOME

---

The Tennovation Research symposium highlights the value of collaboration. Today's presentations are designed to showcase what is possible, and the kinds of resources that are available. The emphasis for Tennovation research is on collaboration in keeping with the Tennovation mission statement—*Cooperation, Collaboration, Success!*

### POSTER/RESEARCH SESSIONS

---

*Tennessee Room*  
*James Union Building, Middle Tennessee State  
University*

Poster session  
11:00 am-12:00 pm  
Tennovation Keynote  
12:15 pm-1:15 pm  
Lunch/Networking  
1:30 pm-2:30 pm  
Data Blitz  
2:45 pm-3:30 pm

### THANKS

---

Thank-you to all of the presenters who have generously offered their time and expertise to share their projects with us today.

---

### 2017 LGBT+ COLLEGE CONFERENCE

*All Identities—Removing Obstacles to Inclusion*

<http://www.mtsu.edu/mtlambd/LGBTplusCC.php>



**POSTER SESSION**  
**Thursday, April 6, 2017, 11:00 AM**  
**James Union Building Tennessee Room**

• POSTERS •

(1001)

**An IRT Analysis of the Verb Subordinates Test.** Aleka A. Blackwell, *Middle Tennessee State University*; Jennifer Cooper, *Tennessee Center for Study and Treatment of Dyslexia*

Email: aleka.blackwell@mtsu.edu

(1002)

**The Impact of Service Learning and Group Dynamics on Learning Outcomes: Group Projects in Social Work Education.** Ariana Postlethwait, MSW, PhD, *Middle Tennessee State University*; April Rand, MSW, PhD, *University of Arkansas*; Sarah Pilgrim, MSW, PhD, *Kansas State University*; Karen Stipp, MSW, PhD, *Illinois State University*

Email: ariana.postlethwait@mtsu.edu

(1003)

**Understanding Experiences of Homelessness in Murfreesboro.** Ariana Postlethwait, MSW, PhD, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: ariana.postlethwait@mtsu.edu

(1004)

**MTSU Campus Climate Assessment for LGBT Students.** Dr. Joey Gray, *Middle Tennessee State University*; Tara Prairie, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: joey.gray@mtsu.edu

(1005)

**The Trouble with Friendship: An Examination of Queer Portrayal in Children's Media.** Alexander Lempin, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: mal6d@mtmail.mtsu.edu

(1006)

**The Double-Edged Sword: A Critical Analysis of Feminist Power Figures.** Alexander Lempin, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: mal6d@mtmail.mtsu.edu

(1007)

**The Acceptance of Homosexuality Across Countries and Demographics.** Madeline Vowell, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: mjv2x@mtmail.mtsu.edu

(1008)

**Criticism of West and Zimmerman's "Doing Gender": Reframing and Finding Solutions through Centering the Transgender Experience.** Rebekah Dawson, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: rkd2n@mtmail.mtsu.edu

(1009)

**Creating Resources for Your LGBT+ Community: The Development of MT Lambda's Identity Pamphlet Series.** Rebekah Dawson, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: rkd2n@mtmail.mtsu.edu

(1010)

**QUILTBAG: Importance of Language in the LGBT+ Community.** Rebekah Dawson, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: rkd2n@mtmail.mtsu.edu

(1011)

**Tennessee Equality Project: You Can Make a Difference.** Robin Stone, *Middle Tennessee State University*; Chris Sanders, *Tennessee Equality Project*

Email: rstone0824@gmail.com

(1012)

**Tolerance of Gay-Straight Alliances in Public Schools: LGBT+ Adolescents' Struggle for Support and Coexistence.** Robin Stone, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: rstone0824@gmail.com

(1013)

**Are Life Path Trajectories Affected by Childhood and Adolescent Experiences of Bullying?** Stephanie Elise Carpenter, *Middle Tennessee State University*

Email: sec5i@mtmail.mtsu.edu

(1014)

**Physician Views of Working with LGBT+ Patients in General Medicine.** Tara Prairie, *Middle Tennessee State University*; Dr. Bethany Wrye, *Middle Tennessee State University*; Sarah Murfree, *Middle Tennessee State University*

•AIGA Designing Inclusion •

AIGA Nashville | The Professional Association for Design asked student designers from all around Middle Tennessee to create a poster focused on identity and removing obstacles to inclusion. The top 15 will be on display at the conference; all submissions will be available to download and print online at [nashville.aiga.org/designinginclusion](http://nashville.aiga.org/designinginclusion).

**Designing Inclusion 2017.** Taylor Watson, *AIGA Nashville | The Professional Association for Design*

Email: [taylor.watson@nashville.aiga.org](mailto:taylor.watson@nashville.aiga.org)

**TENNOVATION KEYNOTE**  
**Thursday, April 6, 2017, 12:15 PM**  
**James Union Building Tennessee Room**

**Stigma Towards the Sexual and Gender Minority Community in Health Care: Studying It, Addressing It, and Moving Forward in an Unsupportive Environment.** Tara Prairie, *Department of Health and Human Performance, Middle Tennessee State University.*

Evidence shows that enacted stigma or discrimination by a physician can lead sexual and gender minority (SGM) patients to avoid care for mental, physical, or sexual health conditions. Preliminary studies found medical residents and physicians calling for educational opportunities that address SGM health in medical schools. Some medical residents and physicians reported feeling uncomfortable with treating SGM patients based on false assumptions regarding the SGM community. Separate interviews with SGM patients from rural areas found that even when patients report positive experiences when seeking health care, they recommend physicians increase their awareness of SGM health issues. The need for more education is in line with professional medical organizations recognizing the need to support SGM patients in their policy. Despite recommendations that medical schools promote awareness and education on SGM health issues, only a small percentage of medical schools in the U.S. have programs in place to address SGM health, advocacy, and research. It is critical that doctors and researchers continue to identify ways to decrease stigma or discrimination toward SGM patients among medical students.

Email: [tprairie@mtmail.mtsu.edu](mailto:tprairie@mtmail.mtsu.edu)

**DATA BLITZ**  
**Thursday, April 7, 2016, 2:45 PM**  
**James Union Building Tennessee Room**

The data blitz is an “open mic” opportunity to present research findings, suggest topics for future research, or discuss community needs. If you would like to participate, see the moderator for a participation form.

**Thanks to our presenting sponsor**

**NISSAN**