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## Press release : 2014 : 04 : 10 : USFSP Professor Presents Research at AERA

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# USFSP Professor Presents Research at AERA

Posted April 10, 2014 at 7:52 am by [Jessica Blais](#)



USFSP Assistant Professor of Education, AnnMarie Alberton Gunn, Ph.D., presented research at the national conference of the American Education Research Association (AERA) in Philadelphia. Gunn's presentation, "Teacher's Moving Forward on Their Self-Cultural Awareness Spectrum: Museums and Diverse Children's Literature," attempts to answer this research question:

*Does participation in a multicultural children's literature course that includes a cultural literacy civic engagement project with the FL Holocaust Museum influence students' teaching pedagogy?*

It would appear that it does. "Initial findings show that our graduate students, most of whom are practicing teachers, are looking for issues of inequity when developing their own lesson plans," said Gunn. "In turn, we'll know better how these social and political issues may impact K-12 students."

Next semester, Gunn will continue to measure impact by visiting the classrooms of former students. "What's exciting is that in analyzing diverse, multicultural issues, my students are feeling more empowered to teach," she said.

“Dr. Gunn’s work is having a measurable impact on the teachers in the College of Education’s graduate programs,” said Vivian Fueyo, Ph.D., interim regional vice chancellor of Academic Affairs. “Integrating research in multicultural children’s literature with community engagement with the Holocaust Museum is a notable example of the applied research for which USFSP faculty are becoming increasingly well-known.”

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