



## FEBRUARY 2019 FACULTY CONVERSATION

Supporting Multilingual Learners in Your Classroom

Wednesday, FEBRUARY 13, 2019 • 12:00-1:15 pm • Fenwick 1014A

### FACILITATOR BIOS

#### **Faculty Facilitator: Esther Namubiru, M.A.**

**Esther Namubiru** is an English and writing instructor teaching with INTO Mason. She is also the 2019 Faculty Fellow for Language Diversity at Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning. In this role, she creates resources for faculty who work with multilingual and multicultural students. In addition to these roles, Namubiru serves as a consultant on Mason's *Writing Across the Curriculum* committee. Prior to teaching at George Mason University, Namubiru tutored writing at the University of Virginia, George Mason, and at Northern Virginia Community College. She obtained her Masters of Arts in Linguistics at the University of Virginia after completing her bachelor's in communication at George Mason University. Currently, she is pursuing a doctorate with GMU's Writing and Rhetoric program. Having been an international and multilingual student and now a multilingual instructor, Namubiru is motivated to ensure the success of international students and their faculty.

#### **Faculty Facilitator: Deborah M. Sánchez, Ed.D.**

**Deborah M. Sánchez, Ed.D.** is a Term Assistant Professor, English Language, INTO George Mason University. She also has a joint appointment with CEHD. Deborah has taught 4 years at Mason + 14 years of teaching in various contexts, including ESL in middle grades, ELA in high school, developmental English and ESL in higher education and preparing future K-12 English teachers. At Mason, she regularly teaches EAP 506/507/508 *Graduate Communication Across the Disciplines*, in face-to-face classroom. Deborah received her B.A. in English Literature from University of Dayton; she studied Teaching English as a Second Language at Wright State University; she earned M.Ed. and Ed.D. degrees in Literacy and Second Language Studies from The University of Cincinnati.

### **Faculty Facilitator: Aimee Weinstein, D.A.**

**Aimee Ledewitz Weinstein, D.A.** is a Term Assistant Professor of Humanities and Graduate Pathway Advisor with INTO Mason, where she works with International Graduate students on their research writing, transition management and other assorted aspects that characterize a move to a new culture and American university life. Dr. Weinstein works with the INTO Mason Mentoring Committee and is part of the Mason Faculty Learning Community on the Study of Teaching and Learning, where her research interests lie. She received her doctorate from the Department of Higher Education at George Mason University where she focused on teaching writing to second language learners via a hybrid classroom. Dr. Weinstein lived for more than ten years in Tokyo, Japan where she taught writing at Temple University, Japan. Her publications are mostly from Japan and include English-language travel and food journals as well as both print and online news sources.

### **Faculty Facilitator: Sara Mathis, Ph.D.**

**Sara Mathis, Ph.D.** is the Introductory Course Coordinator and Term Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication, CHSS. This is her first year at George Mason University. In spring 2019, Sara is teaching distance education sections of **COMM 101: Fundamentals of Communication**. Prior to coming to GMU, Sara served as the Assistant Basic Course Director at University of Nevada-Las Vegas. Her work there included developing new curriculum for introductory-level courses in Public Speaking, Interpersonal Communication, and Critical Thinking & Public Argument. You can learn more about Sara at her departmental webpage: <https://communication.gmu.edu/people/smathis4>