

# VASP



## VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF School Psychologists



## Working with Culturally Diverse Students and Families Charlottesville — May 10, 2019

### Presenter: Dr. Candice Hughes, Founder and Co-President of Bridging Cultures

Dr. Hughes, a graduate of the Urban School Psychology program at Fordham University in New York City, is an experienced teacher and school psychologist who has worked in public schools in the United States and in international schools in Germany and Switzerland.

Her personal and professional international experiences led Dr. Hughes to serve as one of four partners in the establishment of the company, Bridging Cultures GmbH, in Zurich, Switzerland in 1996. Following her family's repatriation to the United States in 1999, Dr. Hughes established Bridging Cultures Inc. to help individuals, families, and organizations in cultural transition.

She has created a Cultural Transition Resiliency Model which she uses in her private practice with individuals and families and in her consulting and training work with multicultural school and organizational communities.

Dr. Hughes is a faculty member of The Chicago School of Professional Psychology where she serves as an Associate Professor in the School Psychology program and as an Adjunct Faculty for the International Psychology Department.



## Working with Culturally Diverse Students and Families in School Communities

### Program Description

School communities in the USA have increasingly become settings where student, family, and staff members tend to represent a range of racial, ethnic, cultural and socioeconomic differences as well as other types of diversity such as sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, and individual ability differences. Further, increased numbers of international migratory families are entering these school communities with unique experiences and needs. As a result, many school communities have transitioned from monocultural settings where everyone is more alike than different to multicultural settings where everyone may be more different than alike! How to navigate these differences to create a sense of unity or inclusiveness in these complex school settings can be challenging.

These changes have led to an increase of intercultural intersections that have the potential to serve as either opportunities or roadblocks to learning and connectedness within a school community because of the differing educational worldviews and expectations embodied by its diverse members. These intersections occur when common school setting features such as educational values, instructional methodology, ways of learning, behavior standards, performance expectations, relationship making, and communication styles are experienced in markedly different ways by the multiple role holders representing differing cultural and/or other types of diversity in a school community. They occur as a reality of bringing diverse people together in a school community and they create a powerful potential for positive transformational change and outcomes. They also carry the risk of negative and destructive outcome for individuals and groups in the community if not navigated with cultural sensitivity and competencies.

This workshop provides a resilience-building model to address these diversity realities and intercultural needs of families, diverse and mainstream, and those who serve them in today's school communities. Its focus is educational success for students, support for their families, and increased professional diversity competencies for school professionals working in these school communities.

#### **Learning Objectives:** Participants will

1. Learn about three analytical dimensions that can serve as a navigational focus for school professionals to address the complexity of diversity in their school community, namely:
  - a. the culture of school communities and the types of intercultural intersections that occur in them
  - b. Cultural and diversity features of family community members
  - c. Diversity-focused developmental transition of students.
2. Learn how to apply the key concepts of five professional sets of knowledge when working with culturally diverse students and families: 1) cultural and diversity, 2) resilience principles, 3) ecological theory, 3) positive psychology, and 4) social justice.
3. Engage in a case study activity to gain practice in working with this navigational model
4. Develop an action plan to apply the information presented in this session to their own school community in which they work.

## ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

### Fees (includes meals)

VASP Members/Retired Members - \$100 (VASSW Members register at VASP Member price!)

Non-Members - \$200 (School Psychologists/School Social Workers who are not VASP or VASSW members)

VASP Student Members - \$40 (VASSW Student Members register at the VASP Student Member price!)

### Hotel

Doubletree is offering a special group discount of \$129 per night for VASP. Call (434) 964-4461 and indicate that you are with VASP.

Reserve your room by **04/09/19** to guarantee the special rate.

### Meals

Continental breakfast, morning and afternoon snacks, and a buffet lunch are included in your registration fee. Vegetarian options will be available. For other food accommodations or allergies, contact Kelly Acevedo at [kefkd5@gmail.com](mailto:kefkd5@gmail.com).

### Weather and Other Cancellation

In the unlikely event there is a cancellation, we will send a notice to the email address listed in your registration.

### Refunds

VASP registration fees are refundable if requests are received by May 3, 2019 at [vaspweb.org](http://vaspweb.org) or by contacting us via email. After that date, a \$50 processing fee will be deducted for the refund. VASP is not responsible for hotel fees or cancellations.

### Accessibility

The Doubletree by Hilton is ADA compliant. For special needs, please email Sarah Nevill at: [snevill@culpeperschools.org](mailto:snevill@culpeperschools.org).

### Continuing Education Credit

VASP is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) to offer 6 hours of NASP-approved professional development for school psychologists that attend the conference in its entirety. VASP maintains responsibility for the programs it offers.

### Vendors

Tables will be available for vendors or for school systems that would like to recruit school psychologists. Contact Sarah Nevill (email below) for pricing and details.

### SCHEDULE

#### **Thursday, May 9, 2019**

7:00pm-9:00pm VASP Board Meeting - All VASP Members are welcome to attend board meetings.

#### **Friday May 10, 2019**

7:30am-8:30am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30am-11:30am Morning Session

11:45-12:45 Buffet Lunch

1:00-4:00 Afternoon Session

### Questions?

Email us! Sarah Nevill, [snevill@culpeperschools.org](mailto:snevill@culpeperschools.org) or Kelly Acevedo, [kefkd5@gmail.com](mailto:kefkd5@gmail.com).