



2019 Scholar on Campus Nominee: Mery Diaz, DSW, LCSW

It is an honor to be among the nominated for the 2019 Scholar on Campus award at the New York City College of Technology. I began my City Tech career in 2012 after numerous years of clinical social work practice in mental health organizations and consultation in under-resourced high-need New York City public schools. The transition to academia-where I could bring together theory, practice, and teaching- was a natural next step upon completing my doctoral studies. Rather than approaching the different facets of academic work as separate entities, I have focused on integrating my scholarly activity, teaching, service, and activism so that they are extensions of one another, built from the foundation of my area of practice- children and youth.

My peer-reviewed publications include Diaz, M. (2015). *Tales and trails from the consultation: improving school social work and teacher collaboration through interdisciplinary school-based mental health teams in high poverty urban schools* in Reflections: Narratives of Professional Helping, 19, 4, 41-50; Diaz, M. (2015); *The "new" DSW is here: supporting the completion of the DSW and developing stewards of the enterprise* in the Journal of Teaching in Social Work; and Diaz, M. (2015). *Facilitating urban school social worker collaboration with teachers in addressing adhd: A mixed-methods assessment of urban school social worker knowledge* in the School of Social Work Journal. My work has been cited and continues to gain attention. Other additional past publications include Diaz, M. (2016). *Book review of youth and substance abuse: prevention, intervention, and recovery by Lori Holleran Steiker* in Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work Practice; and Diaz, M. (2015). *A recusant road (Poem)* in The University of Iowa National Poetry Contest for Social Workers 3rd Edition.

Three current and forthcoming projects of which I am proud of and demonstrate the integration of my work are: the forthcoming spring 2019 Columbia University Press publication *Narrating Practice with Children and Adolescents* which I co-edit with Dr. Benjamin Shepard, and in which I contribute a solo-authored chapter, *Finding Justice: Transforming Schools for the Children We Serve*, and a co-authored chapter, *On Narrating Practice with Children and Adolescents*; my work in the first-year initiatives like the First-Year Learning Community research team where I am actively collaborating on teaching and research (we have one accepted abstract for a chapter in an anthology and one practice article under review); the City Tech CREAR Futuros Peer-mentoring program, which I oversee, has brought forth a co-authoring opportunity with former students on the impact of mentoring; and I am collaborating on a position paper with colleagues based on the first Hispanic Serving Institution Forum at City Tech we put together this past fall 2018. Finally, I have a forthcoming book review of Heinonen, T., Halonen, D., & Krahn, E. (2019). *Expressive arts*

for social work and social change to be published in the Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work Practice. I believe my work demonstrates a commitment to social justice issues in education and contributes knowledge in the area of child and youth well-being. I thank you again for your consideration for the Scholar on Campus Award. I look forward to hearing from the esteemed committee.