**Event Title**: [Outline]: **Developing the MA-MFA in Literature, Creative Writing, & Social Justice**

**Event Description**:

Our Lady of the Lake University offers a radically unique Master of Arts-Master of Fine Arts degree in Literature, Creative Writing, and Social Justice. Each graduate course is created through the optic of social justice, and the MA-MFA graduates are scholars and artists. Non-Anglo scholars and artists have been marginalized in academe. No more. 60% of OLLU's MA-MFA graduates are non-Anglo. This program serves its community and its field. Come hear four students speak about transformation.

**Statement of Merit**:

OLLU, a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) charter member, has a specific purpose of offering higher education to first generation students. OLLU's student population is >60% Hispanic, >60% female, and >60% first generation. These numbers translate to the graduate program. Thus, social justice and diversity are inherent to OLLU. Further, the English Department at OLLU offers the only MFA in San Antonio, one couched in social justice.

**EVENT CATERGORY: Program Development**

**Event Organizer Moderator**: Dr. Wallis Sanborn

Wallis Sanborn is Graduate Program Head and Associate Professor of English at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas. The Department of English, Mass Communication, and Drama offers an MA and an MA-MFA in Literature, Creative Writing, and Social Justice.

He is the author of Animals in the Fiction of Cormac McCarthy (2006) and The American Novel of War: A Critical Analysis and Classification System (2012) and the editor of The Klondike Stampede (2017).

His work has appeared in *They Rode On: Blood Meridian and the Tragedy of the American West, Gale’s Contemporary Literary Criticism, Harold Bloom’s Modern Critical Views, The Cormac McCarthy Journal, Southwestern American Literature, Texas Books in Review, Voices de la Luna, Iron Horse Literary Review,* and *Concho River Review*.

**Event Participants:**

**Kelly Daughtry:** Kelly Zayas Daughtry is an emerging writer and MA/MFA graduate student in Literature, Creative Writing, and Social Justice at Our Lady of the Lake University. She is the 2018-2019 Benoist Scholar and is an MFA candidate focusing on creative nonfiction and fiction.

**Carolina Hinojosa-Cisneros:** Carolina Hinojosa-Cisneros is an MA/MFA student in English at Our Lady of the Lake University where she is a Jack Sr. and Doris McCord Smothers Scholar. She is the 2019 Recipient of the Ruben Alves Award in Theopoetics.

**S.T. Shimi:** S.T. Shimi has been writing and making performance work in San Antonio since 1994. Born and raised in Singapore, she  examines the intersections and contradictions of multiple identities in irreverent, provocative and visually intriguing ways.

**Opening Remarks & General Announcements:**

Good afternoon and welcome to Developing the MA-MFA in Literature, Creative Writing, & Social

Justice, and thank you … .

**Participant Initial Remarks:**

**Kelly Daughtry:**

**Carolina Hinojosa-Cisneros:**

**S.T. Shimi:**

**MODERATOR QUESTIONS:**

1. This is directed to each member of our panel: Please define Social Justice.
2. Follow-up: How does the OLLU MA-MFA Program define Social Justice?
3. How does OLLU’s definition jibe with your definition?
4. How do the faculty in the MA-MFA Program incorporate Social Justice into the classroom?
5. How does the OLLU MA-MFA Program offer access to a terminal degree to the previously marginalized?
6. How has the OLLU MA-MFA program transformed your concept of Social Justice?
7. How has the OLLU MA-MFA Program transformed you … as a critic, a scholar, an artist, and a social justice warrior?