

OCADU 2021 Academic Year Welcome | **Keynote**

POSSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES OF THE SETTLER UNIVERSITY

Photo of Leigh Patel



Leigh Patel

Professor, School of Education,
University of Pittsburgh

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

Online via Zoom

All students, faculty and staff welcome!



ASL interpretation will be
provided during the event.





Description

In this talk, Professor Patel will trace the logics and practices of stolen labour on stolen land that has been crucial to the development of education in settler colonies.

She will address the potential for universities to be engines for social change with historical and contemporary examples of universities protecting its property through material erasure and epistemic violence. She will also address the constant existence of political education to agitate and alter power structures.



About Leigh Patel

Leigh Patel's work is based in the fact that as long as oppression has existed, so have freedom struggles. She is a transdisciplinary, community-based researcher as well as an eldercare provider, educator, writer, and cultural worker. Prior to being employed as a professor, she was a middle school language arts teacher, a journalist, and a state-level policymaker. Professor Patel is also a proud national board member of **Education for Liberation**, a nonprofit that focuses on supporting low-income people, particularly youth of color, to understand and challenge the injustices their communities face.

She has interviewed and written for public outlets, such as The Atlantic, Beacon Broadside, NPR, The Conversation, and The Feminist Wire. She has published dozens of academic research articles, and is the award-winning author of five books. Her latest book, ***There is No Study Without Struggle: Confronting Settler Colonialism in Higher Education***, connects the distinct yet deeply connected intertwined forms of oppression while also shedding light on the crucial nature of political education for social transformation. Her walk-on song is "Can I Kick It" by A Tribe Called Quest. You can follow her on twitter @lipatel.