

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Student Presentation

This will be an oral presentation, for information only.

*Bios Attached*

Cruz Credle, ASUW President, UW Tacoma

Xheni Diko, ASUW President UW Bothell

Elizabeth Thomas, Associate Professor and Associate Director for Graduate  
Education, UW Bothell Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Program



**Cruz Credle**  
**President 2009-10**  
**ASUW Tacoma**

Born in North Carolina and raised in Lakewood Washington, Cruz Credle began his college career at UW Tacoma in 2006, joining others to create the first freshman class of the campus. Since becoming a Husky Promise student, Cruz has been able to get involved with many clubs and organizations on campus, ranging from the activities board to his current role as ASUWT President. One of his biggest accomplishments within the organization has been leading an initiative to restructure the student government, to include the ASUWT Constitution and By-Laws, to better align the organization with the now four year University.

A senior now in the Milgard School of Business, Cruz is studying business management with plans to become a store director in the Albertsons Supervalu company after graduation. He has been employed with the company for six years, working part time, while enrolled at school.

With the help of his brother, Cruz has begun to develop a real estate business with the intent of renting suitable places to low income families. Cruz now owns and rents property, which he plans to expand after graduation. Cruz looks to acquire less than ideal property, in hopes of renovating these places to rent to others.

This year, Cruz is working to leave a legacy at the Tacoma campus, getting involved wherever possible. Before graduation, he wishes to strengthen the communication between the Board of Regents and ASUWT as well as contribute in developing the traditional student culture on the Tacoma campus. In his role as Student Body President, Cruz spends most of his time advocating on behalf of the student body and encouraging student involvement at UW Tacoma.

With three jobs and school, there is not much free time, but when possible, Cruz enjoys home renovation, bike riding, and relaxing in any way possible.

**Xheni Diko**  
**President 2009-10**  
**ASUW Bothell**



My name is Xheni Diko and I am serving as ASUWB President! I began my college career at the University of Washington Bothell as part of the first freshman class back in 2006 and have had an incredible experience ever since. Now in my senior year, I am majoring in the IAS program with a concentration in Global Studies and a minor in Human Rights. Looking back on the last three years, I have been able to take advantage of countless opportunities UW Bothell has provided me from serving as the Director of Student Advocacy last year to attending two Alternative Spring Break trips to competing with DEC in Anaheim, California.

Upon my graduation, I am taking a year off and applying to law school. Eventually, I would like to work for the U.S. Department of State focusing on foreign policy.



## **Elizabeth Thomas**

Associate Professor

Associate Director for Graduate Education

Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences Program

UW Bothell

Elizabeth Thomas, Ph.D. is Associate Professor and Associate Director for Graduate Education in the Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Program at the University of Washington Bothell. She completed her undergraduate work at Georgetown University and graduate work in Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. At UWB, she teaches courses on research in the social sciences, community psychology, and psychology and the arts. Her research examines social and cultural contexts for learning and development, with a particular focus on the role of the arts and the potential of participatory strategies for community research and action. She recently co-edited a special issue of the *American Journal of Community Psychology*, "Imagining participatory action research in collaboration," to be published in September 2010. She also served as editor of *The Community Psychologist*, a publication of the Society for Community Research and Action, from 2006-2009.

### **Recent Courses Taught**

BIS 343 Community Psychology

BIS 348 Cultural Psychology

BIS 434 Psychology and the Visual Arts

BIS 489 Projects in Community Psychology

BIS 490 Senior Seminar: Community-Based Program Evaluation

BPOLST 592 Qualitative Inquiry

### **Selected Publications**

Langhout, R., & Thomas, E. (in press). Imagining participatory action research in collaboration with children: An introduction. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 46, 1/2.

Thomas, E., & Mulvey, A. (2008). Using the arts in teaching and learning: Building student capacity for community-based work in health psychology. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 13, 2, 239-250.

Place, N., Hillyard, C., & Thomas, E. (2008). Students and teachers learning to see: Using visual images in the college classroom to enhance the social context for learning. *College Teaching*, 56, 2, 74-77.

Thomas, E., Place, N., & Hillyard, C. (2008). Students and teachers learning to see: Using visual images in the college classroom to promote student capacities and skills. *College Teaching*, 56, 1, 23-27.

Thomas, E., & Gillespie, D. (2008). Weaving together undergraduate research, assessment, and mentoring of junior faculty: The case of an interdisciplinary program. *Innovative Higher Education*, 33, 1, 29-38.

Thomas, E. (2007). Student engagement and learning in a community-based arts classroom. *Teachers College Record*, 109, 3, 770-796.