With a national, state, and local shortage of teachers, particularly those that are culturally and linguistically diverse, innovative recruitment practices are needed to provide communities with highly qualified teachers that can impact all children in meaningful ways. In this presentation, Dr. Amber Meyer will share how in collaboration with her colleagues, Drs. Claudia Burgess and Vince Genareo, Salisbury University was awarded a five-year, $2.1 million-dollar, Department of Education grant through the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) to increase the enrollment of culturally, linguistically, and socio-economically diverse teaching candidates. Specifically, the I’M³ POWER CAMP Scholars Program was designed to provide a variety of support systems to enhance the educational attainment opportunities of migrant/seasonal farmworkers and their families who aspire to be elementary or early childhood educators. This grant is currently in the early implementation stages with a focus on recruitment.

Dr. Amber Meyer has a PhD from Michigan State University with a specialization in Language and Literacy. She is an Assistant Professor in the Early and Elementary Education Department at Salisbury University. At Salisbury, she teaches literacy methods, literacy assessment and intervention, and theoretical education courses to undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Meyer’s research interests include teacher learning and professional development of early and elementary teachers across the development spectrum (pre-service to in-service), supporting teachers to develop and refine high-leverage practices (facilitate text-based discussions), and serving ELL students through research-based practices in literacy instruction. She has presented her research at national conferences such as American Education Research Association, Literacy Research Association, National Educators of Young Children Association, and American Reading Forum.