Dr. Emma Hipolito has over fifteen years of experience facilitating K-12 university partnership to this work. As the Director of the UCLA History-Geography Project, she provides professional learning opportunities to teachers in the Los Angeles area. In this role she oversees several partnerships with districts focused on supporting quality social studies instruction and has originated, written and directed federal and state grants focused on enhancing teachers’ pedagogical and content knowledge. During the past year she has coordinated Center X’s Ethnic Studies Initiative including developing a research plan and organizing data collection for the UCLA TEP Ethnic Studies Pilot. From 2009 to 2015, she directed the Teacher-Initiated Inquiry Project (TIIP), a multi-year, multi-million dollar funded grant, which created a clearinghouse to award grant monies to teams of teachers to engage in innovative practice and thus promote educational excellence and reform. Prior to joining Center X in 2002, she served as a high school social studies teacher. Her areas of specialization are teacher development, social studies instruction, and literacy. Dr. Hipolito holds a bachelor’s degree in history, master’s degrees in Education and in American Studies, and a doctorate in Education.