

Appendix C: Conversation Guide

Research Questions	Conversation #1	Conversation #2	Conversation #3
<p>1. What are the beliefs and practices of novice African American teachers?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Imagine that I am writing a Teacher Spotlight about you. Tell me three to five things that you try to emphasize to your students—your core beliefs or things that you try to provide to your students. 2. When you were describing your beliefs you named (name each one). Are there any examples of (probe each one) in any of the recent activities in your classroom? Tell me a recent story of success as it relates to (name each belief) with a student or in your classroom. Now tell me a recent story of struggle as it relates to (name each belief) with a student or in your classroom or with one of your students. Help me understand how these activities were successful or not successful and how they reflect your beliefs. If they don't reflect your beliefs, is there more you want to tell me about your beliefs? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please explain the lesson plan that you brought in to share. Why do you think your students responded well to this lesson? How does this lesson relate to the beliefs that you discussed during our last conversation? Is there more you would like to add about your beliefs? 	<p>Discussion of Narrative and Follow-Up Questions</p>
<p>2. What are the family/community and school experiences, teacher education, and mentoring opportunities that inform the beliefs and practices of novice African American teachers?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. If you had to tell me two or three things that you think have influenced your beliefs, what would you say? Where do you think your beliefs come from? 5. Assignment for next time: Please bring in a lesson plan that you would like to share and discuss. The lesson plan should be one in which you feel your students enjoyed. Please bring in some artifact(s) that represent something, some place, and someone that has influenced your teaching. This <i>might</i> be a photograph, a letter, paraphernalia, a portfolio, a poem, a song or music, artwork, a figurine—whatever you feel comfortable sharing. Note: There can be more than one something, some place or 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Please describe what you brought to share about something, someplace, or someone that has influenced your beliefs and practices. 3. You brought in ____, ____, and ____ to represent something, someone or some place that has influenced your beliefs and practices. Tell me a story about something that was said, something that happened, something that you did, or something you observed during your time with/at (probe each one) that influenced your beliefs and practices. 	

	someone.		
3. What is the relationship between novice African American teachers' varied backgrounds, training, mentoring and their beliefs and practices?		<p>4. How do you think each of these stories relate back to your beliefs profile and to some of the stories that you have told me about your practices with your students?</p> <p>5. You have described how (name each) has influenced your beliefs about (name each), but what else do you think has influenced your beliefs about (name each)? What about family/community experiences? Early schooling? Teacher education? Mentoring opportunities?</p>	
4. What other variables do novice African American teachers describe as influential to their current beliefs and practices?		6. Can you think of anything else that might explain why you believe what you believe and why you do what you do with your students?	