Dave Kung*, St. Mary’s College, Maryland, and Kira Hamman, Penn State University, Pennsylvania. The Power of Quantitative Literacy in the Era of Alternative Facts

The Quantitative Literacy movement has made impressive strides over the last few decades, not only toward helping students be more numerate but also toward making clear to a broad audience the social and political value of a numerate populace. However, recent seismic shifts in the way society understands evidence, fact, and truth require a response from the QL community. We suggest three ways the movement might move forward: Rethink the contexts in which quantitative tasks are presented to students, making them relevant in the current environment. Closely examine the implications of tracking some students into QL courses - and keeping other students out. Think deeply about how quantitative literacy can help foster an evidence-based approach to social and political issues.

In the spirit of the inquiry approach we advocate for students, participants will be interactively engaged in questioning and refining these ideas. (Received November 02, 2018)