



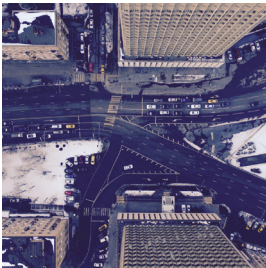
THE 25TH ANNUAL MURAP CONFERENCE

SPATIAL JUSTICE

JULY 18-19, 2019

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL
Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

*Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the
Moore Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program*



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Booklet designed by Erica Wei Wu
<https://ericaweiwu.com>

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MURAP HISTORY

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the MURAP Academic Conference. Housed in the Institute of African American Research (IAAR), the mission of the Moore Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (MURAP) is to contribute in a significant way to achieving diversity in academia by increasing the number of students in the US-both from underrepresented minority groups as well as others with a proven commitment to diversity-who pursue doctoral degrees in the social sciences, humanities, and fine arts.

MURAP is named after our first doctoral recipient, Dr. Mignon Moore, now Associate Professor of Sociology at Barnard College and past director of Columbia University's Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) program. Professor Moore's educational and professional pursuits are a model of the academic excellence and dedication to academic diversity that MURAP strives to uphold for all of its student fellows. In order to foster the entrance of talented students from diverse backgrounds into graduate school and faculty positions within our targeted areas, we provide a 10-week intensive residential summer program.

The 20 students in each year's class, all rising juniors and seniors in colleges and universities from across the nation, work one-on-one with UNC-Chapel Hill faculty mentors to design and execute high-caliber research projects of their own. In addition, they attend four workshops geared to preparing them for the challenges ahead (GRE Review, Communication Skills, Writing Techniques and Clinic, and Graduate Professional Development) and participate in social and educational activities organized by the program's graduate assistants or chosen by the members of the cohort.

With the generous continued support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and both the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Interim Chancellor, Kevin Guskiewicz, and Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, Dr. Robert Blouin, MURAP aims to achieve its mission by identifying and training students of great promise and helping them to become scholars of the highest distinction. Please see our list of summary statistics to gauge our program's results as of our last graduating class. For more information about MURAP please visit our website at <http://murap.unc.edu>.

SUMMARY STATISTICS

AS OF JULY 2019

	Number	Percent of Total
Total Number of Alumni (1989-2018)	529	100.0%
Enrolled in graduate & professional school	304	57.5%
Pursued or are Pursuing a PhD (Total)	180	34.0%
Completed	95	18.0%
In Progress	85	16.0%
Pursued or are pursuing an MA	123	23.3%
Completed	101	19.1%
In Progress	22	4.2%
Alumni in Academia of those who Completed PhD (95 alumni)	73	76.8%
Alumni with Tenure of those who Completed PhD (95 alumni)	21	22.1%

SCHEDULE

DAY 1: THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2019

9:00-9:15am

Welcome

Dr. Ronald Strauss, Executive Vice Provost

Opening remarks

Prof. Mai Nguyen, MURAP Interim Director and Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning

Prof. Karla Slocum, Director, UNC Institute of African American Research, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Thomas Willis Lambeth Distinguished Chair in Public Policy

9:15-10:45am

A Sampling of MURAP Students' Research I

Moderator: Prof. Charlene Regester,
MURAP 2019 Mentor

Siani Antoine, UNC-Chapel Hill

Mentor: Prof. Seth Kotch

"The Penalty for Integration: Black Physicians in the Civil Rights Movement and the Rejection of the Black Hospital"

Kelsey Milian, Furman University

Mentor: Prof. Michael Figueroa

"Community Music: A Case Study of the El Sistema-inspired U.S. Program Kidznotes"

Uyen Nguyen, Davidson College

Mentor: Prof. Kumarini Silva

"Revisiting the Bandung Conference and Its Legacies for Contemporary and Future Afro-Asian Relations and Political Alliances"

10:45-11:00am

Break

11:00-11:45am

Featured Presentation

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, James B. Duke
Professor of Sociology, Duke University
“The Black (and Brown) Survival: Our
Struggle for Respect, Equality, and
Happiness in HWCUS”
Introduction: Prof. Seth Kotch

11:45am-1:00pm

**Lunch and MURAP Scholars Research
Exhibit**

1:00-2:15pm

Environmental Justice

Moderator: Danielle Spurlock

Diamond Holloman, PhD Candidate,
UNC-Chapel Hill

“‘I Didn’t Want to Be a Victim’: Uneven
Development and Grassroots Responses to
Hurricane Recovery in Eastern North
Carolina”

Danielle Spurlock, Assistant Professor of
City and Regional Planning, UNC-Chapel Hill
“Park Maintenance and Urban Tree Canopy:
Denial of Urban Basic Amenities”

Gabriela Valdivia, Associate Professor of
Geography, UNC-Chapel Hill

“Life-with-oil In The Petro-city: An Urban
Political Ecology Of Ordinary, Entangled
Toxicities”

2:15-3:15pm

Keynote Speaker

Mary Pat Brady, Associate Professor of
English, Cornell University

“No Borders, No Justice: Scale and the
Deportation Regime”

Introduction: Prof. Ariana Vigil

3:15-3:30pm

Break

3:30-4:45pm

Contested University Spaces

Moderator: William Sturkey

William Sturkey, Assistant Professor of History, UNC-Chapel Hill

“How to Make a University Lie About Race: The Failure of Historical Memory at UNC”

A.D. Carson, Assistant Professor of Hip Hop and the Global South, University of Virginia
Title Case: Clemson University and Addressing Its Legacy of Slavery

Lynn Rainville, Director of Institutional History, Washington and Lee University

“Tracing Descendants of Enslaved Communities”

its

4:45pm

Closing Remarks

Prof. Karla Slocum

DAY 2 : FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2019

9:00-9:15am

Welcome

Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz

9:15-10:45am

A Sampling of MURAP Students' Research II

Moderator: Prof. Michelle Robinson, MURAP 2019 Mentor

Karly Smith, UNC-Chapel Hill

Mentor: Prof. Allison De Marco

“Where the Strong Black Woman Revives: The New Usage of Instagram for Mental Health Support

Alexis Rhodes, Marquette University

Mentor: Prof. Priscilla Layne

“Time Travel and Black Disposability: Reexamining the ‘Strong Black Woman’

Narrative in the Netflix film, *See You Yesterday*”

Regina Zehner, Columbus College of Art and Design

Mentor: Prof. Michael Palm

“Phantom Geographies: The Spatial Hauntings of Black Characters In Film”

10:45-11:00

Break

11:00am-12:15pm

Spatial Justice and Scholar Activism

Moderator: Elizabeth Sweet

Elizabeth Sweet, Assistant Professor,
University of Massachusetts-Boston

“Bodies in Social Science Research: Methods, Meaning, and Activism”

William A. “Sandy” Darity, Jr., Samuel
DuBois Cook Professor of Public Policy, Duke
University

“Scholar Activism and Zip Code Justice”

Allan Parnell, Vice President, Cedar Grove
Institute for Sustainable Communities and
Senior Fellow at the UNC-Chapel Hill Kenan
Institute

“Planning Racial Inequality: Evidence from
Litigation”

12:15-1:15pm

Lunch

1:15-2:00pm

Special Performance: Sonny Kelly, PhD
Candidate in Communications, UNC-Chapel
Hill, Performance from *The Talk*

2:00-3:15pm

MURAP Alumni Panel

Moderator: Kimberly Hardy (MURAP 2005)

Tanisha Burford (MURAP 2002)

Assistant Professor in the Psychology
Department, North Carolina Central University

Omari Dyson (MURAP 2000)

AP Assistant Professor in the Department of
Peace and Conflict Studies, UNC-Greensboro

Robynn Cox (MURAP 2001)

Assistant Professor of Social Work, University
of Southern California

3:15pm

Closing Remarks

Prof. Rosa Perelmuter, Professor of Spanish
and former MURAP Director

Prof. Mai Nguyen

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



MARY PAT BRADY

Mary Pat Brady is Associate Professor of English at Cornell University. She is the author of *Extinct Lands, Temporal Geographies: Chicana Literature and the Urgency of Space* (Duke University Press, 2002), which was awarded the Modern Language Association's Prize for the Best Work of Latina/o and Chicana/o Literary and Cultural Criticism. She is also an associate editor of the sixth edition of *The Heath Anthology of American Literature* (Cengage 2008-2009). An earlier essay, "The Contrapuntal Geographies of Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories" (published in *American Literature* in 1999)

won the Norman Foerster Prize for the best essay published in that journal for 1999. She has also taught at Indiana University, UC Santa Barbara, and UCLA; she has also served as the Director of Cornell's Latina/o Studies Program. She is currently working on a project that examines the relationship between neoliberalism and Latina/o literatures and cultures.

FEATURED SPEAKER



EDUARDO BONILLA-SILVA

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva is Professor of Sociology at Duke University. Since August 2017, he has been the president of the American Sociological Association. Though Bonilla-Silva is trained in class analysis, political sociology, and sociology of development (globalization), his work in the last 20 years has been in the area of race. His book, *Racism without Racists: Color-Blind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequality in America*, was originally published by Rowman & Littlefield in 2003, and has since been re-published several times. Bonilla-Silva has published on racial theory, race and

methodology, color-blind racism, racial grammar, HWCUs, race and human rights, race and citizenship, whiteness, and the Obama phenomenon among other things. In all of his work, he contends that racism is fundamentally about "racial discrimination"; hence, racism is a collective and structural phenomenon in society.

FEATURED PERFORMER



SONNY KELLY

Sonny Kelly is a scholar, performer, story teller, motivator, speaker, and comedian. Currently pursuing a PhD in Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill, Sonny's dissertation, "Pipelines to Pathways: Reframing and Reclaiming Black Youth Identity Through Performance," mobilizes performance-centered pedagogy, ethnography, and participatory action research toward equity and inclusion. Currently, his research

is focused on seeking innovative approaches to addressing the Achievement Gap between thriving and marginalized students and the School-to-Prison Pipeline. He teaches courses in Public Speaking, Performance and Interpersonal Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill, Fayetteville Technical Community College and Robeson Community College. Sonny has served as a U.S. Air Force officer, a non-profit organization director, university admissions counselor, award winning pharmaceutical salesman, college communications instructor, and a church youth pastor. Sonny has also acted professionally on stage and television for over 20 years.

PANELISTS



A.D. CARSON

A.D. Carson is an award-winning performance artist and educator from Decatur, Illinois. He received his Ph.D. from Clemson University doing work that focuses on race, literature, history, and rhetorical performances. A 2016 recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Excellence in Service at Clemson, Carson worked with students, staff, faculty, and community members to raise awareness of historic, entrenched racism at the university

through his *See the Stripes* campaign, which takes its name from his 2014 poem. His dissertation, "Owning My Masters: The Rhetorics of Rhymes & Revolutions," was recognized by the Graduate Student Government as the 2017 Outstanding Dissertation. Carson is currently Assistant Professor in Hip-Hop and the Global South at the University of Virginia. Follow A.D. Carson on Twitter/IG @aydeethegreat.



ALLAN PARNELL

Allan M. Parnell is Vice President of the Cedar Grove Institute for Sustainable Communities and a Senior Fellow at the Kenan Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill. For the past fifteen years, Dr. Parnell has served as an expert witness in civil rights and fair housing cases across the country, including *Jerry R. Kennedy, et al., v. The City of Zanesville, et al.*, *BBC Baymeadows, LLC v. City of Ridgeland*, and *Inclusive Communities*

Project v. Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Prior to his current positions, Dr. Parnell was a Visiting Research Associate at the East-West Population Institute in Honolulu, a Research Associate for the Committee on Population at the National Academy of Sciences, and a member of the sociology faculty at Duke University. He has been the Principal Investigator on grants from the NIA and NICHD.



LYNN RAINVILLE

Lynn Rainville is an author, public historian, anthropologist, and teacher. She has served as a professor and in a series of leadership positions at Dartmouth College, the University of Michigan, the University of Virginia, and Sweet Briar College. She received her B.A. from Dartmouth College and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. She has spent the last two decades studying historic American

cemeteries, segregated schools, enslaved communities, poor farms, and World War I. Her grant-funded research has produced numerous articles and books, including *Hidden History: African American Cemeteries in Central Virginia* (2014); *Sweet Briar College* (2015); *Virginia and the Great War* (2018); *Invisible Founders: How Two Centuries of African American Families Transformed a Plantation into a College* (2019).



DANIELLE SPURLOCK

As a city and regional planning scholar, Dr. Spurlock's research lies at the intersections of land use, social equity, and environmental protection. Over the past four years, she has collaborated with Communities in Partnership, a nonprofit in Old East Durham, and researchers from Duke University and North Carolina State University (NCSU) to examine how information elicited from nontraditional engagement techniques. Dr.

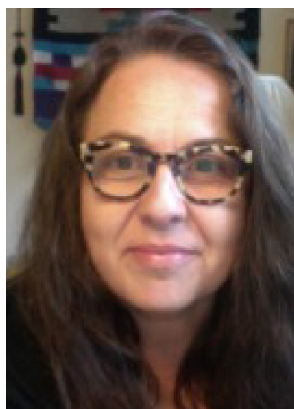
Spurlock is investigating engagement processes can shape local agenda-setting and policy-making and change how planning elicits and incorporates information from community stakeholders into policies that address green gentrification, displacement, and health disparities.



WILLIAM STURKEY

William Sturkey is an historian of race in the American South. He teaches courses on Modern American History, Southern History, the Civil Rights Movement, and the History of America in the 1960s. His first book, *To Write in the Light of Freedom*, brought together the newspapers, essays, and poems produced by African American Freedom School students during the Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964. His second book,

Hattiesburg: An American City in Black and White, is a biracial history of Southern Jim Crow that was published by Harvard University Press in the Spring of 2019. Dr. Sturkey is currently working on a biography of the legendary Vietnam War hero Master Sergeant Roy Benavidez.



ELIZABETH SWEET

As an expert in planning theory and qualitative research methodologies, Elizabeth L. Sweet is joining the University of Massachusetts Boston as an Assistant Professor of Equitable and Sustainable Development in the Urban Planning and Community Development Program and the department of Africana Studies, in the Fall of 2019. She engages in collaborative community economic development focusing

on the links between economies, violence, and identities. Using feminist and anti-racist frameworks, her work in Latino/a/x and Native communities creates long term collaborations and inclusive projects that both push the boundaries of planning theory and methods while at the same time provides practical interventions for planners. One of her current projects focuses on Afro-Mexicans and the legacy of slavery in Mexico for Mexican immigrants in the US.

MURAP ALUMNI



LISA CALVENTE

Lisa B. Y. Calvente is Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at DePaul University. Her primary areas of research are the Black Diaspora, Cultural Studies, and Performance Studies. Her research centers on the critical interrogation of anti-black and brown racism in the United States to generate possibilities of belonging and social justice. She is co-editor of *Imprints of Revolution: Visual Representations of Resistance* (Roman & Littlefield International 2016) and contributor to *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society*, the journal of Cultural Studies, *Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race Nation and Culture* as well as edited volumes in her field. She is currently completing her solo-authored monograph, *Moving Blackness: Black Circulation, Racism, and Relations of Homespace*.



ROBYNN COX

Robynn Cox is an Assistant Professor in the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, and a faculty affiliate at the USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging and the USC Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics. She was a 2018-2019 visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis' Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute, and Kelso Fellow at the Rutgers School of Management and Labor Relations. Her research interests include the fields of crime, health, labor, housing, and social and racial inequality, and primarily focuses on understanding the social and economic consequences of mass incarceration. Cox earned her MA and Ph.D. in economics from Georgia State University, and earned her BA in Economics and Spanish and Latin American studies from Duke University.



OMARI DYSON

Omari L. Dyson is an Academic Professional (A.P.) Assistant Professor in the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. Dr. Dyson received his Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Curriculum Studies from Purdue University. He has authored and co-authored various works that attend to the inter-relationship among power, culture, and social identity(-ies). As an interdisciplinarian, he plays

close attention to how love, power, humanism, reflection, caring, mindfulness and voice impact social transformation. As a community servant, personal trainer, and group exercise instructor, Dr. Dyson has dedicated himself to serving various communities in his quest to combat child and adult obesity through critical health education and wellness, physical activity and movement, policy reform, and virtual reality.

FACULTY MENTORS



Pictured at the top: Prof. Michelle Robinson, Prof. Michael Figueroa, Prof. Kumarini Silva, Prof. Charlene Regester, Prof. Seth Kotch. Pictured at the bottom: Prof. Ariana Vigil, Prof. Priscilla Layne, Prof. Brian Hsu, Prof. Allison De Marco. Not Pictured: Prof. Michael Palm



ALLISON DE MARCO

Allison De Marco is an Advanced Research Scientist at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, Research Fellow at the North Carolina Poverty Research Fund, and research faculty at the School of Social Work. Her research focuses on racial equity, poverty, neighborhood effects, work and family. She is currently pursuing a program of research on racial equity interventions in educational settings and working with governments to

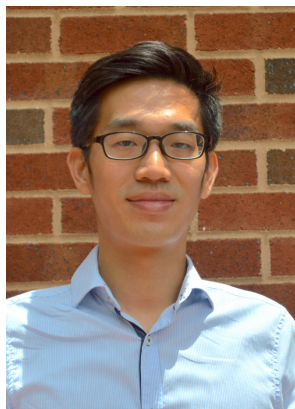
apply a racial equity lens in policy making. She received her BA in Psychology and Art History from UCLA in 1996, her MSW from USC in 1999, and her PhD from the School of Social Welfare at UC Berkeley in 2006.



MICHAEL FIGUEROA

Michael A. Figueroa is an Assistant Professor of Music and Associate Director of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. He is an ethnomusicologist who specializes in music and politics in the modern Middle East. His research projects include a book on how Israeli musicians shape public debates about the conflict over Jerusalem; essays on connections between music and Israeli poetry, musical theatre, and film; and a

new book project examining popular music and the racial awakening of post-9/11 Arab America. He earned a BA from Northwestern in 2006 and a PhD from the University of Chicago in 2014.



BRIAN HSU

Brian Hsu received his PhD in Linguistics in 2016 from the University of Southern California. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Linguistics at UNC-Chapel Hill, where he was previously a postdoctoral fellow. His research aims to identify the mental structures and operations that underlie variation in language grammars, with a focus on both syntax and phonology. His current project investigates cross-linguistic variation

in the distribution of determiners within noun phrases, as a window on the syntactic expression of reference and indexicality.



SETH KOTCH

Seth Kotch is an Assistant Professor in the Department of American Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill and conducts research on the history of criminal justice in the American South. His first book, *Lethal State: A History of the Death Penalty in North Carolina*, was published by UNC Press in February 2019. He served as Co-Principal Investigator of “Media and the Movement,” a National Endowment for the Humanities-sponsored

project that studied the role of media in the Civil Rights Movement and served as PI on the Smithsonian’s Civil Rights History Project. His digital projects include “A Red Record,” which explores lynching in the American South.



PRISCILLA LAYNE

Priscilla Layne is an Associate Professor of German at UNC-Chapel Hill. She received her PhD from the University of California at Berkeley in 2011. Her book, *White Rebels in Black: German Appropriation of African American Culture* was published in 2018 by the University of Michigan Press. Her publications address topics including representations of Blackness in German film, German hip hop, Turkish German culture

and translation. She has presented at national and international conferences. She is currently working on her second book project, *Out of this World: Afro-German Afrofuturism*.



MICHAEL PALM

Michael Palm is an Associate Professor of Media and Technology Studies and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill and Affiliated Faculty in the Department of American Studies. His teaching and research focus on the history of everyday technology and the politics and economics of popular culture. His book, *Technologies of Consumer Labor: A History of Self-Service*,

was published by Routledge in 2017, and his current book project explores the revived popularity of vinyl records. He is currently serving as President of UNC-Chapel Hill's chapter of the American Association of University Professors.



CHARLENE REGISTER

Charlene Regester is an Associate Professor in the Department of African, African American & Diaspora Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. She published *African American Actresses: The Struggle for Visibility* with Indiana University Press and it was nominated for a 2010 NAACP Image Award. She recently completed a book manuscript titled *Signifying Moments: African American Actors Provoke Controversy On and Off Screen, 1919-1966*. She has published in several film studies journals and appeared in the documentary *The Birth of a Movement: William Monroe Trotter and the 1915 Protest to Ban The Birth of a Nation* (PBS 2017).



MICHELLE ROBINSON

Michelle Robinson is an Associate Professor of American Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. She completed her BA at Harvard University and received a Master's in Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School before earning her PhD in American Studies at Boston University. Her book *Dreams for Dead Bodies: Blackness, Labor and Detective Fiction* was published by the University of Michigan Press in 2016. Her current project, titled "Come Tell Us How to Go to Heaven," combines religious studies and social history to examine the anxieties and aspirations different communities brought to their encounters with the Reverend Billy Graham.



KUMARINI SILVA

Kumarini Silva is Associate Professor of Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill. She is the author of *Brown Threat: Identification in the Security State* (University of Minnesota Press, 2016) and co-editor of *Feminist Erasures: Challenging Backlash Culture* (Palgrave UK, 2015) and *Migration, Identity, and Belonging: Defining Borders and Boundaries of the Homeland* (Routledge, forthcoming in 2020). She is currently

working on a book project that extends the exploration of racialized identification in *Brown Threat*, to understanding how affective relationships, especially calls to and of love, animate regulatory practices that are deeply cruel and alienating.



ARIANA VIGIL

Ariana Vigil is an Associate Professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill where she focuses on contemporary Latinx literature and culture, focusing on issues of militarization, immigration, and transnational activism. She earned a BA from Ohio State University, where she participated in a summer research program very similar to MURAP. She later earned an MA and PhD

in English from Cornell University. She is the author of *War Echoes: Gender and Militarization in Transnational Latina/o Cultural Production* (Rutgers University Press, 2014), *Understanding Francisco Goldman* (University of South Carolina Press, 2018) and *Public Negotiations: Gender and Journalism in Latina/o Literature* (Ohio State University Press, forthcoming).

STAFF



Pictured at the top: Atticus Jaramillo, Liann Yamashita, Jen Boehm, Kimberly Hardy. Pictured at the bottom: Prof. Mai Nguyen, Mimi Gordor, María Durán, Geovani Ramírez. Not Pictured: Marie Garlock.



MAI THI NGUYEN

Mai Thi Nguyen (Interim Program Director) is an Associate Professor of City & Regional Planning at UNC-Chapel Hill. She received her M.A. in Sociology at Pennsylvania State University and PhD in Urban Planning at UC Irvine. Dr. Nguyen is a leading expert in housing policy. Her research focuses on housing policy, social and spatial inequality, and resilient communities. She is currently the Board Chair of the Urban Affairs

Association, a premier professional association for scholars and practitioners of urban affairs. She is the founder of Planners 2040, a Facebook discussion group that engages over 2,000 urban planning scholars globally in lively discussion on innovative teaching and research topics.



MIMI GORDOR

Mimi Gordor (Program Coordinator) works with the Director to plan and implement the 10-week MURAP summer program. She graduated cum laude with a BA in English from Bryn Mawr College. Mimi is interested in African women's diasporic fiction and how African characters navigate the diaspora vis-a-vis transnational notions of race, class, and gender. She is also interested in Afropolitanism and its increasing use in Africa-centered literature. She will begin

her first year as an English PhD student at Duke University in the fall of 2019. She is a proud MURAP 2016 alumnae.



JEN BOEHM

Jen Boehm (Writing Coordinator) is a PhD candidate in the Linguistics Department at UNC-Chapel Hill. Her dissertation research analyzes the acoustic properties of regional dialects of S'gaw Karen, an understudied language spoken in Burma and Thailand. Her work also analyzes how these dialects are changing in the diaspora. As a founding member of the Karen Research Group and the UNC Refugee Committee, Jen

works closely with the local Karen community to document their language and record their stories. At UNC, she has taught courses in introductory linguistics, sociolinguistics, and first-year writing.



MARÍA J. DURÁN

María J. Durán (Conference Organizer) is a PhD Candidate in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at UNC-Chapel Hill. Her dissertation examines grief and public mourning in the works of Chicana/o playwrights. The central question she asks is, to what extent can practices of public mourning be understood as tools of political resistance? María will continue her research agenda and teaching in Latinx Studies at

Brandeis in Fall 2019. She is a proud MURAP 2008 alumnae.



MARIE GARLOCK

Marie Alisa Garlock (Communication Skills Instructor) designs participatory health communication initiatives as a performing artist dedicated to centering the stories/priorities of persons facing life-threatening illness. She partners in awarded narrative research on health justice: US Commission on Civil Rights, RWJ Foundation, Forward Together/PPC, hospitals and universities, and community-generated curricula on healthcare

access, advanced cancers, environmental health, burn injuries, HIV/AIDS, family violence, and mental health in the US, Tanzania, Kenya, and Malawi. Marie is on an ArtPlaceAmerica team guided to transmute toxicities of environmental racism and health rights violations in the rural south through abolitionist legacies of visual/performing arts, and Black, youth-led movements (itisinyou.org).



KIMBERLY HARDY

Kimberly Hardy (Resident Graduate Assistant) is a doctoral student in higher education administration at Louisiana State University. Her research focuses on K-12/ university partnerships that increase access to higher education for racial and ethnic minority students, low-income students and first-generation college students. She is a proud MURAP 2005 alumnae.



ATTICUS JARAMILLO

Atticus Jaramillo (Graduate Assistant for Professional Development) is a PhD candidate in the Department of City and Regional Planning at UNC-Chapel Hill. His research explores the relationship between housing policy and social inequality in the United States. He is particularly interested in how low-income housing programs can help mitigate the negative effects of neighborhood disadvantage on children, with a focus on outcomes related to health and well-being.



GEOVANI RAMÍREZ

Geovani Ramírez (Writing Assistant) is a PhD candidate in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at UNC-Chapel Hill, where he specializes in Multiethnic and Latinx US literatures. His dissertation explores the ways Mexican-heritage women writers use the topic of labor in their works to interrogate and re-shape notions of class, race, gender, culture, (trans)national identities, and citizenship.



LIANN YAMASHITA

Liann Yamashita (Assistant to Program Director) is a PhD candidate at Duke University's Sociology department. Her dissertation focuses on the racial identities of Southeast Asian refugees in North Carolina, exploring how these communities' political statuses and migration histories impact their experiences as Asian Americans. Liann has also conducted research on race in Hawai'i, examining topics ranging from how settler colonialism impacts

its residents' racial views, to the role of ethnic humor in perpetuating racism. She is a proud MURAP 2015 alumnae.

STUDENT COHORT



Pictured at the top: Kay Hawthorne, Alexis Rhodes, Zaria El-Fil, Taleah Gainey, Siani Antoine. Second Row: Gab Timbrook, Makalah, Erica Williams, Karly Smith, Jada Gannaway, Makalah Hampton, Taleah Gainey, Sebastian Mejia. Third Row: Elyse O'Bannon, Jennifer Ricano, Shayla Bezjak, Reg Zehner. Pictured at the bottom: Aylin Corona, Kelsey Milan, Virginia Leach, Uyen Nguyen.



SIANI ANTOINE

“The Penalty for Integration: Black Physicians in the Civil Rights Movement and the Rejection of the Black Hospital”

Siani Antoine is a rising senior at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she is majoring in United States History with minors in African American Diaspora Studies and Southern Studies. She is interested in researching providers and patients in the history of African Americans within western medicine, specifically the Black physician in the Jim Crow South. Under the guidance of Dr. Seth Kotch,

her work examines the Black physician's role in the integration of healthcare during the Civil Rights Movement, and how their advocacy negatively impacted Black hospitals, Black midwives, and Black medical schools as well as the ideology of Black personalized medicine. In the future, she hopes to be a professor of the History of Medicine while pioneering diversity initiatives in History and Education.



SHAYLA BEZJAK

“Linguistic Ideology in Children's Literature: Where is Spanish Okay?”

Shayla Bezjak is a rising senior at Smith College, where she is majoring in Sociology and minoring in Education and Child Study. Shayla serves as the Chair of her institution's first-generation and low-income student organization (CLIFS) and is the first Program Associate for First-Gen Out Loud, a leadership program dedicated to creating community and sharing the narratives of first-generation college students through digital storytelling. This summer, her

research under the mentorship of Dr. Brian Hsu focuses on the use of Spanish words in children's picture books. She will be looking at how, where, and which characters use Spanish in the context of the political and social ideologies about Spanish language use in the U.S. Following her undergraduate education, Shayla plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Educational Sociology somewhere closer to her home state of Colorado, and would like to continue to be a mentor for first-generation students and create programs for marginalized groups at her home institution and beyond.



AYLIN CORONA

“I wish I was the Monster You think I am’: (Dis)ability Representation and Intersectionality in *Game of Thrones*”

Aylin Corona is a senior at DePaul University in her hometown of Chicago. She expects to graduate in December 2019 with a BA in Anthropology and minors in Museum Studies and History. As of 2018, she is a McNair scholar. Her research interests include personal narratives, particularly those by women in royal courts. Most of her research falls under the 16th century Tudor and Stuart courts but extends to other

royal families around the European continent. Her previous research experiences show a depth of diversity. She currently works in a research lab in her institution, conducting a longitudinal study on retention of first-generation college students, under the supervision of Dr. Ida Salusky. Her research this summer focuses on the treatment of individuals with disabilities in European royal courts and their depiction in modern-day television, specifically HBO’s *Game of Thrones*, under the guidance of Dr. Priscilla Layne. She plans to pursue a PhD in Early Modern European History.



ZARIA EL-FIL

“Labor, Terror, and Slavery: Reproduction and Gender in the Making of Nineteenth-Century America”

Zaria El-Fil is a senior at the University of Texas at Austin triple majoring in Psychology, African & African Diaspora Studies, and Humanities with a minor in History. El-Fil is a scholar in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program as well as the Mellon Engaged Scholar Initiative. Her thesis, *Labor, Terror, and Slavery:*

Reproduction and Gender in the Making of Nineteenth-Century America (which garnered the 2018 Lora Romero Award for Interdisciplinary Research in Race, Ethnicity and Gender), places the experiences of enslaved women at the forefront of her historical work in order to acknowledge the symbolic violence, social injury, and forms of cultural domination and oppression that have reduced enslaved women to asterisks in the telling of history. Under the guidance of Dr. Charlene Register, El-Fil is investigating the integral nature of reproduction to the economics of enslavement as a part of her larger thesis. At the graduate level, she hopes to earn a doctoral degree in History and continue her quest to love and care for the experiences of enslaved women.



TALEAH GAINEY

“The Other Me?: Experiences of Black Girlhood in Media Entertainment”

Taleah Gainey is a rising senior in the Media Communications Studies Department with a concentration in Communication and Culture at Ursinus College. She is interested in media psychology as it relates to race and mental health disparities within marginalized communities. Specifically, she is curious to understand African American media entertainment experiences and the engagement of entertainment as a means of coping and healing from race related

mental health disparities. This summer, her work specifically examines girlhood studies to understand children's media as a means of socializing historical race trauma in African American girls as they interact with cartoons and consumerism. She believes that work servicing black youth, and black girls specifically, can encourage better relationships between Black Americans and the representations of their role in society. She explores this concept under the guidance of Dr. Michael Palm. After completing The MURAP Program, Taleah hopes to pursue a Ph.D degree in African Studies or Communication Studies.



JADA GANNAWAY

“Get Out: Black Emigration in the Nineteenth Century, 1817-1879”

Jada Gannaway is a rising senior at North Carolina Central University and is majoring in History and English with a concentration in writing. Her research and teaching interests include African Diaspora studies, with a primary focus on black migration patterns from the Caribbean to the United States in the twentieth century, black internationalism, and black feminism. She presented her work on the Black Panther Party during the Vietnam War at the 2018 ASALH,

Association for the Study of African American Life and History, conference. There she exemplified collegiate and professional research alongside trained professional historians. This summer, her research explores nineteenth century assimilationist, Frederick Douglass, and, separatist, Martin R. Delany's ideologies surrounding black emigration and black nationalism and how their influences impacted black migration and the Pan African Movement. Under the guidance of Dr. Seth Kotch, her work highlights Pan-African ideas while assessing the oversimplified complex relationship between Douglass and Delany. After completing her undergraduate studies, Ms. Gannaway plans to pursue her doctorate in the field of African Diaspora Studies.



MAKALAH HAMPTON

“My Home Girls Standing to My Left and My Right’: An Analysis of Comedic Protest in Situational Comedies with Black Female Leads”

Makalah Hampton is a Senior Mass Communications major with an English minor at Tougaloo College in Jackson, Mississippi. She is a recipient of the UNCF/Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, which has allowed her to present on representations of black women in television at Emory University in Atlanta, GA, 2018 and race and higher education at the University of the Western Cape in Cape Town, South

Africa, 2019. Hampton’s research focuses on black female led situational comedies (sitcoms) produced in the late 1980s and 1990s and explores the ways in which black screenwriters and black actresses began to utilize the sitcom format to create more positive and diverse representations of black women. This summer, she will work with faculty mentor, Dr. Charlene Regester, who will guide her research project as she examines how black female led sitcoms utilize comedy to protest limited depictions of black womanhood and elevate the black television image. Upon obtaining her B.A., she intends to pursue an MA and PhD in Film and Media Studies.



KAY HAWTHORNE

“Music as a Vehicle for Health Education: Blues and the Jake Leg Epidemic

Kay Hawthorne is a rising junior in the Liberal Arts and Health and Human Sciences departments with specializations in Public Health (with a concentration in Global Health) and Anthropology at Purdue University. She is obtaining minors in Sociology and Women’s Studies. She is interested in pedagogies of sex, maternal health and practices, and similarities and differences between branches of the African diaspora. This summer, her work examines how music

is used as a vehicle for health education, specifically pertaining to Blues music during the Jake Leg Epidemic of the 1920’s, under the guidance of Dr. Michael Figueroa. In the future, she will pursue her Ph.D. in Anthropology, and possibly also a Master of Public Health, hoping to develop a lens of cultural and medical anthropology.



VIRGINIA LEACH

“Exclusion of the Included: An Analysis of Campus Racial Climate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill”

Virginia Leach is proudly from Baltimore, Maryland and is a first-generation college student at Drew University. As a rising senior in the Sociology Department, her research interests include reproductive rights of marginalized women and affordable housing in the United States. Under the umbrella of reproductive rights, Virginia is researching how maternal mortality negatively

affects women of color as a form of racial injustice. She is the Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion branch of Student Government, which focuses on ways to improve the campus climate surrounding issues of inequity, hostility and intolerance. This summer, under the guidance of Dr. Allison De Marco, her work explores the daily acts of discrimination of students of color that attend historically white universities. After completing the MURAP program, Virginia will graduate from her home institution in Spring 2020 with plans to earn her PhD in the field of Sociology.



SEBASTIAN MEJIA

“Ipqua, Gracias, Thank You Gracias Ipqua: Language Acquisition, Indigeneity and Identity”

Sebastian Mejía is a first-generation rising senior who is pursuing a dual degree in Latin American/ Caribbean Studies (Honors) and International Affairs with a minor in Portuguese at Florida State University. His research interests include decolonization and indigeneity in Latin America. Under the guidance of Dr. Ariana Vigil, his work this summer examines how deculturated groups living in the U.S engage with indigeneity via the acquisition of indigenous

languages. Outside of academia, he serves at a community garden that offers low-cost organic produce to the surrounding Tallahassee community. After graduating from Florida State University, he would like to pursue a doctorate in Latin American/Caribbean Studies, to continue his research and hopefully obtain a professorship at a leading research institution.



KELSEY MILIAN

"Community Music: A Case Study of the El Sistema Inspired U.S. Program Kidznotes"

Kelsey Milian is a rising senior with a concentration in Sociology and Educational Studies at Furman University in Greenville, SC. She is interested in music education, ethnomusicology, latinx diaspora, sociology, and performance poetry. However, her research examines the intersection between applied ethnomusicology and community music in after-school music programs such as the El Sistema U.S. program Kidznotes in Durham, NC.

Kelsey was classically trained on the violin since she was

9 years old under the direction of after-school music education programs in Miami, FL. For the past 10 years, she has incorporated her musical training into understanding how community music functions in communities of color where there is lack of access to arts education. She currently holds the president position of Furman University's Student Diversity Council, which is the umbrella organization of eight diverse clubs at her university catered towards cultural diversity and education. This summer, under the guidance of Dr. Michael Figueroa, her work examines the intersection of applied ethnomusicology and community music with the El Sistema U.S. program Kidznotes. After graduating from Furman University, she would like to pursue a doctoral degree in Sociology of Education. She is also interested in pursuing a degree in ethnomusicology that builds upon her current research at MURAP.



UYEN NGUYEN

"Revisiting the Bandung Conference and Its Legacies for Contemporary and Future Afro-Asian Relations and Political Alliances"

Uyen Nguyen is a first-generation immigrant and college student from North Carolina. She is currently a rising senior at Davidson College, where she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Africana Studies and a minor in Economics. At Davidson, Uyen is an active figure on campus, serving as the SGA Senator, Academic Liaison of Black Student Coalition, and Representative of Asian Cultural Awareness Association. Along with her activism

on campus, she is also a candidate for an honors thesis in Africana Studies, where she will explore the experience of Black women in the prison system. This summer, under the mentorship of Dr. Kumi Silva, Uyen's goal is to study the first Afro-Asian Conference in Bandung, Indonesia in 1955. By looking at the anti-colonial efforts that emerged during the Bandung Era, she offers a glimpse of the contemporary collaboration between Asian and Black communities in the current neoliberal moment. After graduation, she plans to pursue a dual degree JD/Ph.D. program to study law and Africana Studies, specifically Afro-Asian historical relations.



ELYSE O'BANNON

"Burying Your Virtual Body: Mourning and Memorization"

Elyse O'Bannon is a rising senior at Swarthmore College, where she is majoring in Religious Studies and minoring in Black Studies. Her research interests include mourning and grieving cultures in the United States, death and popular culture, and funeral rituals. Her previous work has looked at the way that celebrity impacts fan communities online. This summer, under the guidance of Dr. Michele Robinson, her project examines the relationship between social

media and the self, and how this relationship impacts grieving and mourning practices on social media sites. She is a Mellon Mays scholar, a DivEx Fellow and has presented her work at events at Swarthmore College and the University of Pennsylvania. Upon graduating from her undergraduate program, Elyse plans to pursue a PhD in Religion with a specialization in Religion and Society.



ALEXIS PAULIN-EDWARDS

"They Stole Our Story" Differing Feminist Perspectives on Hulu's *The Handmaid's Tale* As Told Through Twitter"

Alexis Paulin-Edwards is a rising junior at Hunter College double majoring in Political Science and Africana, Puerto Rican, and Latino Studies with a double minor in Human Rights and Women and Gender Studies. She is interested in the manners in which Black women have historically resisted discrimination and marginalization through their intersectional political activism. This summer, under

the guidance of Dr. Michelle Robinson, Alexis's work examines the ways in which Black women respond to the white female appropriation of Black female historical trauma and pain. After completing MURAP, Alexis will continue her research on the topic of Black women and their pain within her scholarship as a Mellon Mays Fellow. In the future, she hopes to pursue a PhD in either Women and Gender Studies or Black Studies. No matter where her academic journey takes her, she intends for her work to focus on the intersectional experiences of women of color.



ALEXIS RHODES

“Time Travel and Black Disposability: Reexamining the ‘Strong Black Woman’ Narrative in the Netflix film, *See You Yesterday*”

Lex Rhodes is a rising senior in the Department of Communications with a specialization in Communication Studies and Africana Studies, with a secondary concentration in Social Welfare & Justice and Sociology at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI. As a first-generation college student, Lex has worked to change the narrative of the traditional college student in pursuit of creating better learning

conditions in educational institutions that promote diversity and inclusion in policy, practice, and curriculum. This summer, under the guidance of Dr. Priscilla Layne, associate professor in the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages at UNC-Chapel Hill, she is examining the negative effects of the ‘Strong Black Woman’ narrative on the lived experiences of Black women as they are portrayed in Afrofuturist literature. After completing her undergraduate studies, she intends to pursue a Master’s in Education, Policy, and Leadership with a focus on Diversity and Equity in education and Education Counseling. She aspires to use her experience to assist underrepresented scholars as they navigate higher education.



JENNIFER RICANO

“Classic Taíno Vowels: A Phonological Description”

Jennifer “Jen” Ricano is a rising senior at Duke University majoring in Neuroscience and Linguistics with a minor in Spanish. She serves as the President of the Duke Splash program, an educational outreach event held once a semester. Jen is interested in the development of various dialects in the Spanish language, language acquisition in multilingual individuals, and the role of cognition in learning. This summer, her work examines the phonology of the Classic Taíno dialect spoken in the pre-Columbian

Greater Antilles under the guidance of Dr. Brian Hsu. After graduating from her undergraduate program and a year or two of gaining neuroscience lab experience, Jen plans to earn her Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience and pursue research on the applications of neuroscience on language acquisition with an ultimate goal of advocating for early foreign language education in the United States public education system.



KARLY SMITH

“Where the Strong Black Woman Revives: The New Usage of Instagram for Mental Health Support”

Karly Smith is a rising junior at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill double majoring in Sociology and African American and Diaspora Studies with a minor in Social and Economic Justice. This summer, under the guidance of Dr. Allison De Marco, she is researching how African American women are using Instagram as a place for alternative mental health care practices. Her other research interests surround African American women's mental

health, global citizenship, and autoethnography. Karly was the recipient of the 2018 Incubator Award from the Wilson Library at UNC-CH. She is the Co-Founder of Malawi Woyee! Carolina-Malawi Partnership, a student organization dedicated to working with Malawian partners to expand human rights. She was also a 2018 Sean Douglass Leadership Fellow. In the future, Karly hopes to obtain a PhD in Social Work to continue the expansion of mental health care for women of color and social justice for the marginalized.



GAB TIMBROOK

“WE’VE BEEN HERE, SO WHAT?: Confronting Race and Ideas of Belonging in Punk”

Gab Timbrook is a rising senior at Appalachian State University, majoring in Multidisciplinary Anthropology and double minoring in Sociology and Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies. Their experiences as a queer black person have infused in them a disposition of fierce criticality that informs the research that they pursue. Much of Gab's work in MURAP is also influenced by critical frameworks of feminist theories, black studies, decolonial thinking,

and more. Their growth as a scholar and human being during MURAP has been strengthened with the guidance of their mentor, Dr. Kumi Silva of the Department of Communications. Their project seeks to probe and disrupt white-washed and hypermasculinized narratives of punk by exploring its emergence as unbounded response, rather than through “universal” and decontextualized understandings of the symbolic, as numerous previous scholarly works have done. After completing MURAP, Gab will return to Appalachian to write their honors undergraduate thesis and finish out their senior year. After graduation, Gab plans to pursue a PhD in Anthropology or Cultural Studies.



ERICA WILLIAMS

“And We Become Our Mother’s Daughters: Violence, Silence, and Loneliness in *Homegoing* (2016) and *We Need New Names* (2013)”

Erica M. Williams is a rising senior at Washington University in St. Louis, where she double majors in Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies and Psychological & Brain Sciences: Cognitive Neuroscience. As a member of the first historically black Greek-letter sorority, Alpha Kappa Sorority Incorporated, her research interests are inspired by themes of black womanhood, sisterhood, identity,

and sexuality. This summer, she is working under the guidance of Dr. Ariana Vigil to examine how 21st century female black diasporic writers and their texts factor into an expanding and evolving black feminist literary tradition. Specifically, Erica will be employing Black feminist theory to investigate intergenerational relationships between mothers and daughters in Yaa Gyasi’s *Homegoing* and NoViolet Bulawayo’s *We Need New Names*. After completing her undergraduate studies, she hopes to pursue a doctorate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.



REG ZEHNER

“Phantom Geographies: The Spatial Hauntings of Black Characters In Film”

Reg Zehner is a rising senior from Columbus College of Art and Design with a concentration in Art History and Advanced Sculpture. They are interested in Black art from modern to contemporary time, environmental racism and social praxis within art institutions. They investigate how representation is used to communicate and also manipulate history. This can be shown through the representation of cultural workers in the museum world or how people

from marginalized communities are being represented. This summer, their work examines Black Geographies within horror films, analyzing how landscapes such as the city, plantation and suburban have been romanticized, mystified or even vilified by Hollywood. Their research is under the guidance of Dr. Michael Palm. In the past, Reg has programed multiple exhibitions/ events such as Space, Community, Resource Panel Discussion with the Black Infinity at No Place Gallery in 2017 and has shown work in various galleries like 934 Gallery this past February. At the moment, they co-run an artist studio and gallery space called Friend, which opened in January of 2019. After graduation, they are interested in pursuing a PhD in Art History.

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Upholding opportunities for educational diversity



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