CRRES Affiliate and Professor of History and Gender Studies, Dr. Amrita Chakrabarti Myers, in solidarity with a boisterous Bloomington crowd, before giving a speech at January’s Inaugurate the Revolution. Professor Chakrabarti Myers was selected as the 2017-18 American Council of Learned Societies Fellow to complete her book project, *Remembering Julia: A Tale of Sex, Race, Power, and Place*, which examines the decades-long relationship between Julia Chinn, an enslaved woman, and US Vice President Richard M. Johnson. Furthermore, Professor Chakrabarti Myers was honored with the 2017 Building Bridges Award, which recognizes individuals that capture Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s vision, spirit, and leadership.
Message from the Center
Dina Okamoto, Director
Michelle Moyd, Associate Director
Tamara Mitchell, Graduate Research Assistant
Jessica Smith, Administrative Assistant

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Thank you for making this year successful! With your participation, support, and enthusiasm, we have continued our work of supporting research on campus by funding small grants for faculty and graduate students (see page 12), fostering opportunities for interdisciplinary research and dialogue, and providing a space for discussion and social connections among students and faculty conducting research on topics related to race and ethnicity.

This past year proved to be significant for CRRES in many ways. Most notably, the Center celebrated its fifth year as a research center in the College of Arts and Sciences at IU. A multi-disciplinary academic site for scholarship, collaborative research, and training related to the topics of race and ethnicity, CRRES was formed in 2012 with fifteen faculty affiliates. Today, the Center has 47 faculty affiliates, four postdoctoral scholars, and thirteen graduate student affiliates. Our affiliates are housed in a wide array of departments throughout the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as in various units across campus, including SPEA, Informatics and Computing, Public Health, Maurer School of Law, and Education. The Center is a vibrant hub not only in terms of highlighting the range of ways that race and ethnicity matter to understanding social issues, but also how race and ethnicity matter to understanding our dynamic social world. CRRES underwent its five-year review this past spring, and we had the opportunity to reflect on the role that the Center has played in the IUB community.

The CRRES Postdoctoral Scholars Program continues to be a key part of the Center. Over the four years of the program, we have recruited postdoctoral scholars from institutions such as Yale, Stanford, Princeton, Michigan, Emory, Northwestern, and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and these scholars have been housed in IU Departments of African American and African Diaspora Studies, Anthropology, Geography, History, Sociology, Political Science, and Psychological and Brain Sciences. This past year, the four CRRES postdoctoral fellows made key contributions to campus intellectual climate and research. Adam Blezdoe gave remarks as part of a student-organized panel, “Construction of Blackness in a White World,” which coincided with Black History Month and was attended by nearly 100 people; Tristan Ivory presented his research as part of the IU African Studies Program’s Colloquium Series; Doranne Levy’s research on racial stress and mental health was widely cited by major news outlets, such as The Atlantic and Forbes; and Hyeyoung Kwon’s article “Intersectionality in Interaction: Immigrant Youth Doing American from an Outsider-Within Position” received an honorable mention for the 2017 Outstanding Scholarly Contribution Award of the American Sociological Association Section on Children and Youth. Given the success of the CRRES Postdoctoral Scholar Program, the Vice Provost’s Office of Faculty and Academic Affairs is working with us to expand the program outside of the College. You can read more about our current and incoming postdoctoral scholars on pages 14-15.

In Fall 2016, we started a new program that extended CRRES’s reach to the IUB undergraduate community. With generous support from the College of Arts and Sciences, we carried out the pilot semester of the CRRES Undergraduate Research Program in the Social Sciences and Humanities. The initiative pairs undergraduate students with faculty mentors conducting research on a topic related to race, ethnicity, or immigration. The students chosen for the program worked on a specific aspect of a faculty mentor’s research, and the faculty served as mentors in research strategies and the knowledge generation process. Based on feedback from participants, the program was successful in its goals to arm undergraduates with advanced research skills and to provide research support for faculty conducting work on race and ethnicity. We hope to continue this initiative and are working with the Office of Engaged Learning to further develop the program. More on the URP, see page 13.

Given the current political climate and the backlash against science, CRRES hopes to continue to provide a space for productive dialogue about race, ethnicity, and inequality among our affiliates but also across campus and beyond. We believe that our affiliates are especially equipped to shape current debates and conversations, drawing upon decades of collective research on race and ethnicity. This past fall, the Center organized a post-election open discussion for the IUB community, and we seek to continue to be nimble enough to host similar forums in the future that allow affiliates and university members to respond to and discuss current events as a part of a research-focused community.

We are already looking forward to the 2017-18 academic year, in part because of what is shaping up to be a spectacular CRRES Speaker Series. Dr. Alondra Nelson, Dean of Social Sciences at Columbia University and President of the Social Science Research Council, who conducts research on race, DNA, and memory, will kick off the CRRES Speaker Series in the fall. Dr. Nelson’s visit will also be a part of Thomerest and the Institute for Advanced Study’s Bannigan Lecture Series. Save the date—September 14 at 4:00PM—for this exciting CRRES event. The following month, Dr. Elizabeth Hinton (Department of History and African American Studies, Harvard) will visit IU and deliver a CRRES Speaker Series talk about her research on poverty, racial inequality, and mass incarceration on October 12. We are also happy to announce that the CRRES Graduate Research Symposium will return in Spring 2018. Stay tuned for more on these and other exciting CRRES events.

CRRES received generous support for our programming and initiatives from many units, departments, and programs at IUB throughout the 2016-17 academic year. We would like to thank African American and African Diaspora Studies, Asian American Studies, Korean Studies, Native American and Indigenous Studies, Black Film Center/Archive, Cinema and Media Studies, Latino Studies, First Nations Educational and Cultural Center, SPEA, Integrated Program in the Environment, and the Departments of History and Anthropology. Moreover, the Center was grateful to be able to support many programs and their events on campus related to research, including the Minorities, Languages and Cultures Project (MLCP); Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS); Black Film Center/Archive; Latino Studies Program; Media School; Jacobs School of Music; Asian American Studies; Asian Culture Center; InLight Film Festival; and Department of Sociology. Finally, the Vice Provost for Diversity, Equality, and Multicultural Affairs generously supported the CRRES First Friday Coffee Hour. We are grateful to DEMA for its continued support of CRRES initiatives.

Lastly, we thank you for supporting CRRES by attending events, applying for grants, participating in discussions, and partnering with us to make research on race and ethnicity a focal point on IUB’s campus. We are also grateful to those that contributed to this newsletter in the form of photos and written material.

If you have any suggestions about future programming and the Center’s continued efforts on campus, please stop by and see us in Schueessler 209 or drop us an email any time. We look forward to seeing you at future CRRES events!

With our deepest gratitude,
Dina, Michelle, Tammy, and Jessica
On April 19, 2017, Professor Michael Gillespie of the City College of New York gave a much-anticipated presentation on his 2016 monograph, Film Blackness: American Cinema and the Idea of Black Film, at the final Speaker Series event of the 2016-2017 academic year. Central to this text, and to Gillespie's research interests more broadly, is the question of what is meant by the term black film and how films represent blackness. His work destabilizes the notion that black film can be read solely as a cultural index of the lived experiences of Black people across the African Diaspora. Rather than focusing on black film as an "emblem of social truth" that must represent the totality of Black lived experience, Gillespie argues that film is a form of mediated representation that articulates blackness through visual and expressive modalities.

In probing the barrier between cinema and lived experience, Gillespie engages in a discourse about the possibilities of representing Black life. The call to seek new articulations of "blackness" and counter-narratives to racial stereotyping and caricature was central to the works of W.E.B. Du Bois, Alain Locke, Zora Neale Hurston, Raymond Saunders, Ishmael Reed, and, more recently, Thelma Golden. While early arguments by Du Bois and Locke called for positive depictions of Black life to counter stereotypes, artists like Saunders and Reed attempted, through their work and in interviews, to explore the limitations and possibilities latent within the designation of "Black Artist" and to ask how the "Black" in "Black Arts" might be defined or understood. Gillespie skillfully builds upon this discourse by asking what kinds of cultural work the term "black film" performs and pushing for a more expansive conception of blackness overall.

Instead of focusing on films with which readers are already familiar, Gillespie skillfully introduces works that are critically understudied yet directly address his concept of film blackness. At his CRRES Speaker Series talk, Gillespie first introduced Ralph Bakshi's use of the racial grotesque in the 1975 film Coonskin. This is a film at once arresting and deeply disturbing for its purposeful deployment of caricature. Although the film may be read as satire that seeks to critique racism and anti-Blackness in American popular culture, viewers are likely to confront white supremacy, nostalgia, and racism in American visual culture and history.

Gillespie then turned to an examination of Chocolate City (1989), a narrative re-imagining of William Douglas Street Jr.'s life as a criminal impersonator. Gillespie suggested that the film evidences a break from prototypical "passing" narratives given that Street is neither interested in whiteness nor loathing of Blackness. As a result, Street's character troubles understandings of race as a static category of existence and opens a space in which to explore film blackness as a performative process.

Gillespie closed his talk by discussing the potential for film blackness to probe the boundaries of genre. In his analysis of Bill Duke's 1992 film adaptation of the novel Deep Cover by Chester Himes, he convincingly argues that the film subverts the tropes of the noir genre in order to draw attention to the racialized mode within which film noir as a genre operates. Likewise, Gillespie sees Barry Jenkins’ Medicine for Melancholy...
a means of interpreting Gillespie is developing In his present research, and experience in film? depiction of Black life does sound play in the For instance, what role of blackness in cinema. about visual articulations of analyzing film that Gillespie contributes a representation. Thus, in discourses about blackness are deeply rooted articulations of black- lens through which visual conceptualization of “film blackness.” This core concept functions as a lens through which visual articulations of blackness are deeply rooted in discourses about representation. Thus, Gillespie contributes a more complex means of analyzing film that provokes new questions about visual articulations of blackness in cinema. For instance, what role does sound play in the depiction of Black life and experience in film? In his present research, Gillespie is developing a means of interpreting the politics of sound in contemporary cinema and in video installations. He terms this lens of interpretation “chronovisuality”, and he briefly offered Leila Weifur’s video installations and Anna Rose Holman’s The Fits as examples of this concept in development. In this manner, Gillespie’s expansive conceptualization of black film’s potentialities forges a new path for the study of race and representation in the visual arts.

Ishan Ashutosh (Assistant Pro- fessor, Department of Geography) published research in Geographi- cal Review and Tides: South Asian American Digital Archive. He co-organized a panel and presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting in Boston (April 2017) and co-organized the “Race, Place, and Capital Workshop” at The Ohio State University (November 2016). Professor Ashutosh was the recipient of the 2017 Asian American Studies Travel Grant and was selected as a mentor for the CRRES Undergraduate Research Program.

Bernard Fraga’s (Assistant Pro- fessor, Department of Political Science) work on student civic engagement at IU was featured on Inside IU in August 2016. He was part of Provost Robel’s “Hot Topics: Voting and Power” panel on Oc- tober 4, 2016, as well as an election night panel at the Media School. His research on the demographics of early voting was featured in The Washington Post on November 4, 2016, and his work on 2016 voter turnout was published in The Washington Post on May 8, 2017.

Alisha Lola Jones (Assistant Pro- fessor of Ethnomusicology, Depart- ment of Folklore and Ethnomusi- cology) delivered a keynote address entitled “You Are My Dwelling Place: Black Male Vocal Worship as Autoeroticism in Gospel Perform- ance” at the Race-ing Queer- ness Symposium of the American Musicological Society in Vancouver (October 2016). Research drawn from that keynote address will be published in the Women and Music Journal in 2018. In November 2016, her chapter “Are All the Choir Directors Gay?: Black Men’s Sexu- ality and Identity in Gospel Per- formance” was published in Issues in African American Music: Power, Gender, Race, Representation. Dr. Jones also delivered the annual lecture for the Bayard Rustin Society for the Chicago Theological Sem- inary (April 2017). Among other recognitions, Dr. Jones was named an innovator in community orga- nization by the Harvard Divinity School (December 2016); she was inducted into the esteemed Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Collegium of Scholars at Morehouse College (March 2017); and the University of Chicago Di- vinity School recognized her with an award for her womanist religious re- search and public engage- ment (April 2017).
Jason McGraw (Associate Professor, Department of History) was awarded the Class of 1948 Herman B Wells Endowed Professorship at IU, which recognizes scholars who are devoted to diversity, inclusion, and academic excellence. He is being recognized with this award for her research and teaching, as well her role directing CRRES, all of which advances the understanding of race and ethnicity among IU students and faculty, and beyond. Dina will be a Visiting Scholar at Harvard’s Charles Warren Center for 2017-18, where she will work on completing a book on diversity, trust, and civic engagement.

In March, Dr. Moyd spent a week conducting archival research for a second book project, Soldiering On: Race, Labor, and Recruitment in Armies of Empire, 1890-1918, in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. The research is funded by the College Arts and Humanities Institute, New Frontiers, and the Institute for Advanced Study. In addition, she won two course development grants from the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL), which will allow her to focus on improving information literacy and primary source integration in two of her courses. Sam Museus (Associate Professor, School of Education) was selected as the recipient of the 2017 NASPA Award for Outstanding Contribution to Research by the Student Affairs Professionals in Higher Education's Asian Pacific Islander Knowledge Community. He had articles published in The Review of Higher Education, Journal of College Student Development, Journal of College Student Development, and Student Services: A Handbook for the Profession. His conference presentations included talks and invited sessions at the Annual Meeting of the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education (Washington, D.C.), the Annual Convention of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) (Columbus, OH), and the American Educational Research Association (San Antonio, TX). He delivered invited sessions and keynote addresses at the University of Southern California, (Los Angeles, CA), Grand Valley State University (Allendale, MI), St. Michael's College, (Colchester, VT), the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI), and the Asian and Pacific Islander Diaspora in Higher Education Summit (San Diego State University, CA), among other institutions. Dina Okamoto (Professor, Department of Sociology) was awarded the Russell Sage Foundation in New York in 2017-18, where she will work on completing a book on diversity, trust, and civic engagement.

In March 2016, she gave an invited talk at Washington University in St. Louis entitled “Colonized Spaces, Occupied Zones: Local Experiences of the First World War in Africa.” In March 2017, she spoke at a workshop at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth on Africa’s role in the Great War. Also in March, she presented the paper “Histories of Humanitarianism in Africa’s First World War” at IU’s African Studies Colloquium. In April 2017, she gave a plenary lecture entitled “Global South Modernities in World War I” at the University of Pittsburgh’s annual Cultural Studies workshop for graduate students. In May, she presented the paper “Communicating the Colonial State: African Soldiers and Expenditional Warfare in German East Africa, 1890-1900” at the University of Warwick (UK) as part of the workshop “Armed people of African descent: Africa and the Americas, 1750-1900.”

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Dr. Okamoto was the recipient of a 2017 Faculty Small Research Grant from the Asian American Studies Program at IU for “Boundary Claims and Comparisons: Substantiating Asian American Panethnicity.” She received a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Award with Ph.D. candidate Mai Thai for “Junior Police Students, Model Citizenship, and Social Control in School” ($11,867). The articles in the book “The Only Speak English Here: English Dominance in Culturally Diverse After-School Programs” (co-authors: Melanie Gast and Valerie Feldman), as well as “Designing Culturally- Relevant After School Program Systems” (co-authors: Sandra Simpkins, Nathaniel Ruggs, Andrea Attekal, and Bic Ngo) were accepted for publication in the Special Issue of Journal of Adolescent Research. Micol Seigel (Associate Professor, Department of American Studies) has been selected as a Visiting Scholar at Harvard’s Charles Warren Center for 2017-18, and will participate in the Warren Center workshop on “Crime and Punishment in American History.” In March 2017, she delivered the CLACS Conference Keynote Address (Indiana University), entitled “Violence Work: Understanding Police Power in a Changing Work.” Joel Wong (Associate Professor, Counseling/Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Programs) published “Circumstances preceding the suicide of Asian Pacific Islander Americans and White Americans” in Death Studies and “The intersection of race, ethnicity, and masculinities: Progress, problems, and prospects” in Psychology of Men and Masculinities. In January 2017, he was appointed the Program Director of the Counseling Psychology Program at Indiana University.

Ellen Wu (Associate Professor, Department of History; Director, Asian American Studies Program) was interviewed about her book, The Color of Success: Asian Americans and the Origins of the Model Minority (Princeton, 2014) for the Washington Post’s Workblog in November 2016. In April 2017, the Washington Post followed up with a video on the history of the model minority stereotype and its current-day implications, based in
Giselle Cunanan (Ph.D. Candidate, Department of American Studies) received IU’s 2016-2017 Won-Joon Yoon Scholarship Award, for a student whose academ-ic, professional, and personal accomplishments and goals exhibit tolerance, understanding, and commit-ment to service. She passed her qualifying examina-tions and prospectus defense and is now A.B.D. She co-authored and presented a paper (with Marimasa Hosan, Ph.D. Student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa) titled “The Limits and Possibilities of Radical Organizing between Asian American and Native and Indigenous Communities” at the National Association for Ethnic Studies Conference Meeting at San Francis-co State University in March 2017.

Jessica David (Ph.D. Student, Department of Coun-seling Psychology) presented on mental health issues in diverse student-athlete populations at the National Collegiate Athletic Association 2017 Inclusion Forum (Providence, RI). She delivered a paper on intergen-erational trauma and the reclamation of the African spirit through sport at the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport Annual Conference (Tampa, FL) and participated in a symposium at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention (Denver, CO). She presented posters at the National LGBTQ Health Conference (Chicago) and the American Psycho-logical Association Annual Convention (Denver).

Ryan Davis (Ph.D. Student, School of Education) was selected as one of three graduate students in the U.S. (one of five worldwide) for the Graduate Scholar-Award presented by the Golden Key International Honour Society. He is the recipient of the Won-Joon Yoon Scholarship presented by IU’s Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Af-fairs. He co-presented papers at the Association for the Study of Higher Education annual meeting and Ameri-can College Personnel Association annual conference.

Jelani Ince (Ph.D. Student, Department of Sociolo-gy) is the first author of the article, “The Social Media Response to Black Lives Matter: How Twitter Users Interact with Black Lives Matter through Hashtag Use,” published in Ethnic and Racial Studies with co-authors Fabio Rojas and Clayton Davis.

Julius Lee (M.S. Graduate, School of Public Health) was the recipient of the Robert Schmidt Scholarship from the Monroe County Health Department, where he completed his spring internship for the Masters in Public Health Program. He received partial funding to attend the Society for Public Health Education Confer-ence in Denver from the School of Public Health. This spring, he presented on Colorectal Cancer Screening at City Hall and Razor’s Edge Barbershop. His synthesis project (We Got You: Protecting Young Sisters and Brothers from Interpersonal Violence and Victimization in Indianapolis) was recognized for best paper amongst his cohort, and he is a first-generation graduate, earn-ing a Master’s Degree in Public Health.

“Student Affiliate News,” continued

Jordan Lynton (Ph.D. Student, Anthropology) pre-sented “Foreign: Deconstructing Chinese Jamaican Transnational Identity Formation and Negotiations of Authenticity” at the American Historical Association (Denver, CO) in January 2017, and “Constructing Identity: An Examination of Chinese Jamaican Identity and Negotiations of Citizenship” at the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Con-ference (Waikoloa, HI) in August 2016. She participat-ed in CRRES’s Workshop on Race Ethnicity and Mo-bility in November 2016, and she was the recipient of an Asian American Studies Travel Grant and a CRRES Travel Grant. She was selected by the Department of Anthropology as AI of the Year for being an Outstanding Interpersonal Communication Section Leader.

Tamara Mitchell (Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Spanish and Portuguese) was awarded the 2017 Tim-othy J. Rogers Summer Dissertation Fellowship. She received a CAHI Travel Grant to present at the May 2017 Latin American Studies Association International Conference in Lima, Peru. Her article, “Carving Place out of Non-Place: Luis Rafael Sánchez’s ‘La guagua aérea’ and Post-National Space,” was accepted for pub-lication in the peer-reviewed journal, Chasqui: revista de literatura latinoamericana. She presented research at the CUNY Graduate Center, NYC (November 2016), and at UC Davis (October 2016).

Alaina Roberts (Ph.D., History Department) has been selected as the 2017-2018 George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center Postdoctoral Fellow at The Penn-sylvania State University. She presented at the Western History Association Conference (October 2016), in a roundtable titled “Family History as a Method in Reconstructing Indigenous and Black West(s).” At the conference, she received the Trenner-Iverson Schol-arship and the Indian Student Conference Scholarship from the Western History Association. She was also the keynote speaker at the IU History Department Awards Luncheon (April 2017).

Kevin Taber (Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Po-litical Science) presented “Going Transnational: Re-mittances, Transnationalism, and Accountability in African Migrant Associations’ Transnational Projects” at the Midwest Political Science Association and “Transnational Accountability Networks: Sub-Saharan African Migrant Associations and Homeland Affairs” at the International Studies Association. He received grants and fellowships from the IU Department of Political Science and an IU Future Faculty Teaching Fellowship, in conjunction with Butler University Department of Political Science.

Lei Wang (Ph.D. Student, Counseling Psychology Program; Graduate Intern, Walter Center for Career Achievement) will present her work at the 2017 Amer-i-can Psychological Association Annual Convention (Washington, DC). She participated in roundtables at the National Multicultural Conference and Sum-mit (Portland, OR). She was the recipient of a CRRES Travel Grant, a GPSG Research Award, a Travel Award for National Multicultural Conference & Summit, and the Division 35 Award from the Society for Psychology of Women, American Psychological Association. She was interviewed by WFHB Bloomington Community Radio on mental health stigma in Asian cultures during Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Nelson O. O. Zounlome (Ph.D. Student, Coun-seling) was selected for the Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship. He received a Student Travel Award to attend the American Psycho-logical Association Conference at which he presented two first-author presentations. He received the Diversity Award in the Student Abstract Competition at the Indiana Psycholog-ical Association Conference, and received 2nd place in the Student Abstract Competition at the Indiana Psychological Association Conference.
URP Faculty-Student Pairs and Projects

Ishan Ashutosh & Abby McIntosh, “The International Geographies of the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act”
Matthew Hayes & Jasmine Harris, “Race and Voter ID Requirements”
Sarah Imhoff & Harmoni El-Amin, “Intersecting Religions: Race, Gender, and Jewishness, and the Work of Florence Kiper Frank”
Aziza Khazzoom & Michelle Bennett, “Conceptions of Arabs and Arabness among Jewish Women who Immigrated to Israel in the 1950s from Iraq and Poland”
Jacob Lee & Brendan Martin, “Japanese and Italian Immigration in the American West, 1882-1924”

2016 Grant Recipient
Kevin Taber, Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science

My fieldwork would not have been possible without the support of the CRRES Research Grant, which allowed for the observation of more than a dozen migrant association meetings and/or public gatherings, through which invaluable contacts for interview respondents were made, while also allowing for a richer contextual knowledge of associations’ histories, rituals, institutions, and membership. [My findings] should provide fruitful ground for scholars and policymakers interested in the development potential of diasporas, as well as their potential roles in promoting transparency and good governance in the Developing World.

2016 Grant Recipient
Lei Wang, Counseling and Educational Psychology

“Racial Discrimination on the Change of Suicide Risk among Ethnic Minorities in the US”

2016 Grant Recipient
Laura McCloskey, School of Public Health

“Eco-social Determinants of Racial Disparities in Infant Mortality within the State of Indiana”

2016 Grant Recipient
Timothy Lovelace, Maurer School of Law

“The World is on Our Side: America and the Race for Human Rights under the Law”

Graduate Student Travel Grants (continued)
Lei Wang, Counseling and Educational Psychology

“Racial Discrimination on the Change of Suicide Risk among Ethnic Minorities in the US”

Faculty Seed Grants
Alex Lichtenstein, History

“Making Apartheid Work: Black Workers and Industrial Relations in South Africa, Oral History”

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Graduate Student Travel Grants
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“Assessing the Oppositional Culture Explanation among Mexican-origin Students”

Julide Etem, Anthropology

“Exploring Syrian Refugees in Turkey through Multi and Hidden Cameras”

Jordan Lynton, Anthropology

“Foreign Deconstructing Chinese Jamaican Identity Formation and Negotiations of Identity”

Angel Nathan, Higher Education

“Crooked Beauty: Analyzing the Parameters of Black Beauty at a Predominately White Institution of Higher Education”

Adam Nicholson, Sociology

“The Growth of the Anti-Black Class: Rethinking Modern Racism in America”

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“The Growth of the Anti-Black Class: Rethinking Modern Racism in America”
The CRRES Postdoctoral Scholars Program is thrilled to share that three of our postdoctoral fellows have accepted tenure-track positions as Assistant Professors for the coming academic year. Dr. Tristan Ivory will join the Sociology Department and the Black Studies Program at the University of Missouri. Dr. Hyeyoung Kwon has accepted a position with the Department of Sociology at Indiana University. And Dr. Adam Bledsoe will form part of the Geography Department and African American Studies at Florida State University.

Each of the three outgoing postdoctoral scholars already has a research agenda lined up for the next phase of their academic careers. Dr. Ivory’s future projects will center on foreign-born women’s labor force participation in the United States, Sweden, and Japan, as well as educational attainment and geographic mobility in Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa. During her time with CRRES, Dr. Kwon began her first book project. Tentatively titled Translating Class, Race, and Immigrant Lives, the work examines the daily lives of Mexican- and Korean-American language brokers who use their bilingual skills to navigate English-speaking institutions for their immigrant parents. In addition to her manuscript, Kwon is developing articles that will examine how race, class, and gender intersect when shaping the emotion work performed by Mexican- and Korean-American language brokers. Finally, Dr. Bledsoe will continue his work on the African diaspora in Brazil, but is also initiating a project that examines Black autonomous communities in the U.S. South.

The Center will miss these postdoctoral scholars’ energy and scholarly contributions. Dr. Ivory was fundamental in the establishment of the Workshop on Race, Ethnicity, and Migration last year (2015-2016), the organization of which Dr. Kwon took over as convenor during the Spring 2017 semester. Dr. Bledsoe leaves CRRES after one year, but during that time he participated in various talks and roundtables in the university and Bloomington community. All three scholars were frequent attendees to the CRRES Coffee Hour, as well as participants and presenters at the Speaker Series and CRRES co-sponsored events. We wish each of them the best of luck with their future endeavors!

Advice from Outgoing Postdoctoral Scholars

Tristan Ivory
“Make sure to take the time to extend your networks as far as possible across the university. There are several great scholars at IU and most of them are incredibly approachable.”

Hyeyoung Kwon
“The CRRES community is really invaluable at IU; there are a lot of faculty members who are very invested in the success of the postdocs. I would suggest that future CRRES postdocs reach out to the CRRES members as they have great advice on how to navigate academia, teaching at IU, and maintaining a healthy work-life balance. The postdocs also have access to the Faculty Success Program, and I would advise future CRRES postdocs to practice the strategies they teach you early on, as I found them to be very helpful.”

Adam Bledsoe
“The collaborative spirit of CRRES and its commitment to bringing together scholars from a number of different backgrounds to study the phenomenon of race is unique. Enjoy your time here and get as much writing done as possible. It’s a great postdoc and you should take advantage of it while you’re here.”

center for research on race and ethnicity in society

Outgoing Postdoctoral Scholars

Dorainne Levy, CRRES Postdoctoral Scholar, 2016-2018
Dorainne Levy is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society and a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Indiana University. She received her Ph.D. in 2016 from the Department of Psychology at Northwestern University. Dorainne’s research primarily explores how discrimination shapes affective, cognitive, behavioral, and physiological outcomes that, in turn, have implications for racial/ethnic disparities in many life domains. She is currently revising articles from her dissertation entitled “The Effects of Emotion Regulation Strategies when Contending with Discrimination Experiences.”

Vanessa Cruz Nichols, CRRES Postdoctoral Scholar, 2017-2019
Vanessa Cruz Nichols (Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Michigan) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society and Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at Indiana University. Her research interests include race/ethnicity, urban sociology, political sociology, and organizations. She is currently working on a book manuscript based on a three-year ethnography of a multiethnic neighborhood in Chicago, which speaks to ongoing debates about the consequences of ethnic/racial diversity for social relations and civic participation. She has also examined how social cues influence the perception of race and skin color, racial attitudes, and social capital among urban families using survey and experimental data.

Denia Garcia, CRRES Postdoctoral Scholar, 2017-2019
Denia Garcia is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society and a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Indiana University. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from Princeton University in 2017. Her research interests include race/ethnicity, urban sociology, political sociology, and organizations. She is currently working on a book manuscript based on a three-year ethnography of a multiethnic neighborhood in Chicago, which speaks to ongoing debates about the consequences of ethnic/racial diversity for social relations and civic participation. She has also examined how social cues influence the perception of race and skin color, racial attitudes, and social capital among urban families using survey and experimental data.
Tumbling through the city in my mind without once looking up the racket in the lugwork probably rehearsing some stupid thing I said or did some crime or other the city they say is a lonely place until yes the sound of sweeping and a woman yes with a broom beneath which you are now too the canopy of a fig its arms pulling the September sun to it and she has a hose too and so works hard rinsing and scrubbing the walk lest some poor sod slip on the silk of a fig and break his hip and not probably reach over to gobble up the perpetrator the light catches the veins in her hands when I ask about the tree they flutter in the air and she says take as much as you can help me so I load my pockets and mouth and she points to the step-ladder against the wall to mean more but I was without a sack so my meager plunder would have to suffice and an old woman whom gravity was pulling into the earth loosened one from a low slung branch and its eye wept like hers which she dabbed with a kerchief as she cleaved the fig with what remained of her teeth and soon there were eight or nine people gathered beneath the tree looking into it like a constellation pointing do you see it and I am tall and so good for these things and a bald man even told me so when I grabbed three or four for him reaching into the giddy throngs of yellow-jackets sugar stoned which he only pointed to smiling and rubbing his stomach I mean he was really rubbing his stomach like there was a baby in there it was hot his head shone while he offered recipes to the group using words which I couldn’t understand and besides I was a little tipsy on the dance of the velvety heart rolling in my mouth pulling me down and down into the oldest countries of my body where I ate my first fig from the hand of a man who escaped his country by swimming through the night and maybe never said more than five words to me at once but gave me figs and a man on his way to work hops twice to reach at last his fig which he smiles at and calls baby, c’mere baby, he says and blows a kiss to the tree which everyone knows cannot grow this far north being Mediterranean and favoring the rocky, sun-baked soils of Jordan and Sicily but no one told the fig tree or the immigrants there is a way the fig tree grows in groves it wants, it seems, to hold us, yes I am anthropomorphizing goddammit I have twice in the last thirty seconds rubbed my sweaty forearm into someone else’s sweaty shoulder gleeful eating out of each other’s hands on Christian St. in Philadelphia a city like most which has murdered its own people this is true we are feeding each other from a tree at the corner of Christian and 9th strangers maybe never again.

Meet the Artist: Arista Alanis

The cover artwork of October CRRES Speaker Series lecturer, Professor Ross Gay’s, Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude was created by Vermont-based artist, Arista Alanis. Arista generously gave CRRES permission to use details from the piece, entitled “...on down the road again,” on the CRRES website and in advertising. Alanis’s work has been shown in studios across the United States, and was most recently on display at the Moira Fitzsimmons Arons Art Gallery in Hamden, CT. To see more of Arista’s work or to purchase a painting, see the artist’s website at aristaalanis.com.
CRRES Visiting Scholar

Dr. Kevin Wang is an Associate Professor at Butler University’s College of Communication, where he teaches courses in advertising and public relations in the Strategic Communication Department. His research focuses on the social and political implications of information communication technologies (ICTs) for individuals, organizations, and processes. His research takes an interdisciplinary approach to explore the impact of ICTs on three thematic areas: 1) governance and policy making; 2) political communication and campaign practices; and 3) political processes and participation. Through these contexts, he investigates different communication questions (e.g., messages, strategies, and effects) grounded in the social scientific tradition.

In 2016, Dr. Wang conducted a study that explored how Asian and Asian American individuals use the Internet to become politically active in the United States and in their countries of ethnic or cultural origins. Specifically, the study examined the relationships between Asian American individuals’ level of acculturation, enculturation, online media consumption patterns, and various ways of online political participation. This project is interdisciplinary in nature and builds on his broader research program on the political implication of ICTs. He plans to continue pursuing this line of research during his sabbatical at IU and in the future.

During his time as a Visiting Scholar with CRRES, Dr. Wang hopes to work on additional data analysis and to complete a couple of manuscripts based on the Asian American online political participation research described above. In addition, he plans to attend CRRES events; take advantage of IU’s libraries and social science research services; and work with and learn from CRRES affiliates.

CRRES welcomes Dr. Wang to IU and the Center for the 2017–18 academic year!

Workshop on Race, Ethnicity, and Migration

During the past year, CRRES was pleased to host the following WREM Presentations:

**Fall 2016**

- **Terri Francis** (Media School), “Eyeballing Thomas Edison’s Caribbean Films: Nascent Queries”
- **Matthew Hayes** (Political Science), “Racial Rhetoric in Black and White: Legislative Speeches on Civil Rights”
- **Jordan Lynton** (Anthropology), “Studying up in the Global South: Rethinking Dominant Ideologies in Ethnographic Research Methods”

**Spring 2017**

- **Aziza Khazzoom** (Near Eastern Languages and Cultures), “Gender Traditionalism Among Western-Identified Israeli Women”
- **Tamara Mitchell** (Spanish and Portuguese), “The Body in Crisis: Reading Roberto Bolaño on Neoliberalism, the Failed State, and Political Precarity”
- **Adam Bledsoe** (Geography), “The Future of Latin American Geographies”

WREM provides a space for faculty, research associates, and advanced Ph.D. candidates to share research and receive targeted, interdisciplinary feedback on race, ethnicity, and/or migration.

I study junior police academies, which are school-police partnerships that expose young people to law enforcement activities and careers. These programs are similar to JROTC military academies in schools, yet are different given the vocation and context of policing in communities of color. Most of the ethnography takes place at a high school, but I also go to different communities to attend events or meet new people. My first field of work was exploratory, where I did observations and interviews to understand how this program operated and how people view their experiences. And while I had knowledge of the education literature, I knew little on police studies. In my second year, I had more specific research questions and a game plan—I was better equipped with the familiarity of my field site and the diverse scholarship where my project fits.

Fieldwork is an embodied experience. There have been times when people mistook me for a high school student. Other times, they thought I was the parent of a teenager. But aside from these countless anecdotes that make for a good laugh, it is the affective element of qualitative research that fuels me: fieldwork affords us broader human connection. Academia can be so individualistic and isolating, I cannot imagine myself in this profession if part of my research did not involve interacting with people. Doing observations is critical to my project, but nothing competes with that feeling from a good conversation.

But with fieldwork comes unpredictability. I’ve learned to stay flexible and accept that plans often change or fail. People can cancel meetings at the last minute, or not even show up. Key gatekeepers can ignore me for months and I have to find different means to reach them. I may scramble to adjust my schedule to capture an unexpected event that unfolds. Collecting good data is not just about writing solid field notes and asking pertinent interview questions—it’s also dealing with the dynamism that comes with interacting with people. Fieldwork keeps me on my toes.

And finally, I must note that I often dwell on the meta-issues of research. How much do I share about my project while in the field? How do I write about marginalized populations? What do I ultimately owe my research participants and the community? These dilemmas are not unique, but how I deal with them is vital, especially since my project involves low-income and working class youth of color. It is the constant reflexivity on power, reciprocity, and the politics of representation that has shaped me as a researcher. In the midst of such complexities—and at times, feeling lost in the field—these human connections make me deeply invested in my work and the impact I hope my findings will have.
Dina Okamoto, Director
Dina Okamoto is Professor of Sociology at Indiana University. As CRRES Director, Professor Okamoto is in charge of new and current programming, and works with other units on campus to facilitate research and training opportunities for scholars studying race and ethnicity. Her research examines the social conditions fostering racial group formation and change, as well as collective action and solidarity across various dimensions of difference. Her most recent project investigates relations between and among immigrants and U.S.-born minority and majority groups in contemporary Atlanta and Philadelphia. Professor Okamoto will be a Visiting Scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation in New York in Fall 2017.

Michelle Moyd, Associate Director; Interim Director (Fall 2017)
Michelle Moyd is Associate Professor of History at Indiana University. As the Associate Director of CRRES, Professor Moyd provides multifaceted support to the Director, including working with the postdoctoral fellows on professional development, and helping to plan the CRRES Speaker Series. Professor Moyd researches African soldiers, the history of warfare in Africa, and trans-imperial histories of race, labor, and recruitment of soldiers in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. She is currently writing a book manuscript entitled Africa, Africans, and the First World War. Professor Moyd will serve as the Interim Director of CRRES for Fall 2017.

Jessica Smith, Administrative Assistant
Jessica has been the Administrative Assistant with CRRES for three years. She maintains the CRRES office, updates the Center's website, and provides administrative support for the Center's activities. She is behind the smooth functioning of a variety of programs, so if you get a small grant from CRRES, receive an invitation to meet with a speaker hosted by CRRES, or enjoy breakfast at the First Friday Coffee Hours, then you have benefited from Jessica's expertise and organizational skills. Jessica earned her B.A. in Psychology at Indiana University and brings years of experience in customer service and administration to CRRES.

Tamara Mitchell, Graduate Research Assistant
Tamara is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. One of her favorite CRRES responsibilities is serving as the principal liaison for the Undergraduate Research Program. Among her duties for CRRES, she writes grants for the Center and prepares the weekly email blast. In terms of her research, her dissertation is concerned with globalization, neoliberalism, and politics, and how these topics are treated formally and thematically in Latin American narrative fiction published from the late-20th century to the present. Her project considers the role of art and the author in post-national literary production.