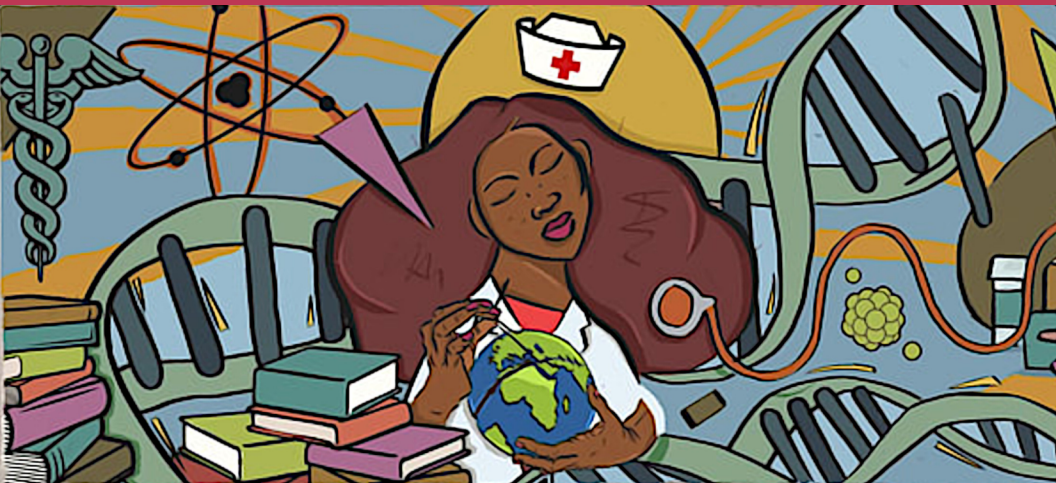


# RACE, ETHNICITY, AND PLACE CONFERENCE

# MIDDLE ATLANTIC DIVISION OF THE AAG

online joint meeting



# Program

october 21-23, 2020



## **REP/MAD-AAG Joint Meeting Planning Committee**

Mark Barnes  
Sarah Blue  
Jeremy Tasch  
Joe Wood

### **REP Conference Director**

Sarah Blue, Texas State University

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# Welcome

Welcome to the joint virtual conference of the Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference (REP) and the Middle Atlantic Division of the American Association of Geographers (MAD-AAG). The virtual conference replaces the conference that was to take place in Baltimore this same week but which we have had to postpone until October 2021.

The virtual conference has several features that we often are unable to bring you in the usual live format. Our virtual program features many student presenters, including several who are presenting from outside the US. We are all struggling with how most effectively to employ virtual communication technologies, and we hope very much that the conference will go smoothly for you. One very important aspect of this conference is that we have colleagues spread over multiple time zones all participating simultaneously—note that times in the program are in the US Central Time Zone, since the program is being hosted by Texas State University. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with questions, concerns, etc. as the conference proceeds.

A special feature of the conference is a keynote interview with Dr. Leana Wen, Baltimore Health Commissioner and now a professor at George Washington University, a CNN contributor, and *Washington Post* columnist. She will address Covid-19 and vulnerable populations with a particular focus on Baltimore in an interview with Professor Marie Price from George Washington University. This plenary session is brought to you by the American Association of Geographers and the American Geographical Society.

We also hope you can join us for a welcome plenary at 5:30 (Central Time) on Wednesday, October 21, where you can meet conference participants virtually, test out your Zoom skills, and view a film that celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit of young men—"Squeegee Boys"—who live in West Baltimore, the site of the October 2021 live conference.

*Sarah Blue, Texas State University  
Mark Barnes, Morgan State University  
Jeremy Tasch, Towson University*

*Joe Wood, University of Baltimore and American Geographical Society*

# Conference Guidelines

All sessions of this conference will be held on Zoom. Information necessary to log in at the appropriate time and day are available below. Moderators will manage video and voice access. Presenters will be responsible for sharing their screens during their presentation to present their power-point or other illustrations from their own computers. Participants can pose questions at any time via the chat function; for paper sessions only and at the discretion of the session chair, attendees will be able to ask questions directly via voice and video.

Evening plenary sessions, including Wednesday's Welcome Session will also be accessed by Zoom.

All paper, panel, and workshop sessions are 80 minutes long, with 10 minutes between sessions. Each session will accommodate three or four papers at 15 minutes each with time for introductions and discussion, or a full panel or workshop presentation. Chairs will be responsible for maintaining time, noting that the 10-minute break is necessary to transition between sessions. Each session will automatically close after 83 minutes. Session participants are asked to log on 7 minutes early to test their video and audio.

Chairs have the responsibility to cut off presenters who go on too long without bringing their presentation to a conclusion, ensuring that each presenter gets equal time to present. We also ask that attendees turn off their camera, in addition to their microphone, while papers are being presented. Moderators may automatically turn-off microphones and cameras of attendees as needed.

Judges will use the REP Paper Presentation Rubric provided to them for evaluating papers in the student research presentation competition.

If you have any questions regarding these guidelines, or feel uneasy about using Zoom in a conference setting, we encourage you to attend Wednesday evening's virtual Welcome Session at 5pm, where Zoom practice will be possible.

## Zoom Access Information

### **ZOOM SESSION ALPHA**

<https://txstate.zoom.us/j/96762338444?pwd=bDN0K2JZcTgwYXRvcWVhNm9pMXhCUT09>

Meeting ID: 967 6233 8444 | Passcode: REP

### **ZOOM SESSION BETA**

<https://txstate.zoom.us/j/99958678818?pwd=YzZ3MzZqdTRRZDdEN2dHV6czVrUT09>

Meeting ID: 999 5867 8818 | Passcode: REP2020

### **ZOOM SESSION GAMMA**

<https://txstate.zoom.us/j/96613538624?pwd=K3JBVElWUXhOY21heVU2dVqxdWYyZz09>

Meeting ID: 966 1353 8624 | Passcode: REP

### **ZOOM SESSION DELTA**

<https://txstate.zoom.us/j/95039333381?pwd=NVJ6TzBYWG5DNnNvQndwYmZUVE11QT09>

Meeting ID: 950 3933 3381 | Passcode: REP

### **ZOOM SESSION EPSILON**

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_QRQM3roPQ72\\_DRud2Xu\\_vw](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QRQM3roPQ72_DRud2Xu_vw)

Meeting ID: 930 6003 3880 | No passcode

# Schedule Overview

	Wednesday, Oct 21	Thursday, Oct 22	Friday, Oct 23		
8:30	All times are in central time	Concurrent Sessions I	Concurrent Sessions VI	8:30	
10:00		Concurrent Sessions II	Concurrent Sessions VII	10:00	
11:30		Lunch break	Lunch break	11:30	
12:30		Concurrent Sessions III	Concurrent Sessions VIII	12:30	
2:00		Concurrent Sessions IV	Concurrent Sessions IX	2:00	
3:30		Concurrent Sessions V	Concurrent Sessions X	3:30	
5:00		Plenary #1 Conference Welcome, Short Film on Baltimore and Zoom Practice	Plenary #2 Keynote Program with Dr. Leana Wen	Plenary #3 Closing Program and Student Competition Results	5:00
5:30					5:30
		All times are in central time			All times are in central time

## Wednesday, October 21

5:30  
p.m.CST

**BYOB Plenary #1**  
**REP/MAD-AAG Conference Welcome with a Short Film on Baltimore and Zoom Practice**  
*ZOOM SESSION DELTA*

**REP Conference Welcome Remarks** by Sarah Blue, Mark Barnes, and Joe Wood

**A Celebration of West-Baltimore:** Showing of short film "By Any Means Necessary: Story of Survival" with producer Leon Smith-Bey, Baltimore's Arch Social Club, interviewed by Joe Wood, University of Baltimore and the American Geographical Society. This 30-minute film discusses the entrepreneurial efforts of West Baltimore young men—"Squeegee Boys"—to make money while highlighting the effects of structural racism on employment opportunities in Baltimore.  
*Brought to you by the Arch Social Club.*

**Zoom Practice:** Attendees will be welcome to ask questions they might have about the conference program and to try out some of the Zoom features prior to their session, such as the "screen sharing" feature used to share your presentation slides with the audience.

# Thursday, October 22

8:30 a.m.-  
9:50 a.m.  
CST

**Covid-19 and Vulnerable Populations (1): The Global South**  
*ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*  
Chair: Sarah Blue  
*Texas State University*

**Media Bias and Social Polarization: A Qualitative Exploration of the Public Discourse towards Vulnerable Social Groups During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Kingston, Jamaica**  
Robert Kinlocke, Aleem Mahabir, Romario Anderson, Rose-Ann Smith, Kristinia Dougherty and Chandradath Madho

*The University of the West Indies at Mona, Jamaica*

**Covid-19 Vulnerability and Racial Discrimination in Ecuador**

María Belén Noroña  
*University of Oregon*

**Informal Food Systems and Differential Mobility During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Arequipa, Peru**  
Aaron Malone<sup>1</sup>, Yezelia Cáceres Cabana<sup>2</sup> and Anabel Taya Zegarra<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Colorado School of Mines*, <sup>2</sup>*Universidad Nacional de San Agustín de Arequipa*

**COVID-19 and Water Access in Sub-Saharan Africa: Ghana's Free Water Directive May Not Benefit Water Insecure Households**

Benjamin D. Agbemor<sup>1</sup>, Sarah L. Smiley<sup>1</sup>, Ellis A. Adams<sup>2</sup> and Raymond Tutu<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Kent State University*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Notre Dame*, <sup>3</sup>*Delaware State University*

**Panel - Connecting the dots: From People to Planet, Race to Place, and COVID to Climate**

*ZOOM SESSION BETA*  
Organizer and chair:  
Lisa Ferretto, *Hord Coplan Macht & Baltimore Sustainability Commission*

**Panelists:**

*Lisa M. Ferretto, Hord Coplan Macht & Baltimore Sustainability Commission*  
*Melanie Ray, Hord Coplan Macht & National Organization of Minority Architects*  
*Laura Wheaton, Ayers Saint Gross & AIA National, New Urban Agenda*  
*Kathleen L. Lane, AIA, American Institute of Architects, Baltimore*

10:00 a.m.-  
11:20 a.m.  
CST

**Covid-19 and Vulnerable Populations (2): Transnationalism and Mobility**  
*ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*  
Chair: Paul N. McDaniel  
*Kennesaw State University*

**Place-Branding for Immigrant and Refugee Integration and Receptivity Amid a Pandemic: A Comparison of Welcoming Cities Networks in Australia and the United States**

Paul N. McDaniel, Rajit Das and Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez  
*Kennesaw State University*

**A Failed Promise: Transnational Adoptees Advocating for Citizenship Amid Covid-19**

Christopher Pierce  
*Texas State University*

**Expressions of Social Injustice: Pandemic, Lockdown, and Homelessness in Indian Cities**

Sujaylta Bhattacharjee  
*University of Mumbai*

**COVID-19 in the Camps: (Im)mobility at the US-Mexico Border During a Global Pandemic**

Sarah Blue and Jennifer Devine  
*Texas State University*

# Thursday Schedule

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10:00 a.m.- **Concurrent Sessions II (cont'd)**

11:20 a.m.  
CST

**Panel - Resilience in  
Baltimore  
Neighborhoods**

ZOOM SESSION BETA  
Organizer and chair:  
Anne Draddy  
Baltimore Office of Sustainability

**Panelists:**

Abby Cocke, *Baltimore Office of Sustainability*  
Aubrey Germ, *Baltimore Office of Sustainability*  
Roxane Prettyman, *First Mount Calvary Baptist  
Church in Sandtown-Winchester*  
J.C. Faulk, *An End to Ignorance & Bmore  
Community Food*

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11:20 a.m.- **Lunch break**

12:30 p.m. *DROP-IN LUNCH IN ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*

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12:30 p.m.- **Concurrent Sessions III**

1:50 p.m.  
CST

**Asian Lives in North  
America and in Europe:  
Experiences, Identities,  
and Discriminations**

ZOOM SESSION ALPHA  
Chair: Wei Li  
Arizona State University

**Anti-Asian racism and the Constitution of Space in  
Everyday Life - Taking the Impact of the  
Corona-Pandemic on the Southeast Asian  
Communities in Germany as Example**

Kimiko Suda  
Humboldt University of Berlin

**Geography of COVID-19 and Asian Americans:**

**Vulnerability, Infection, and Anti-Discrimination**  
Siqiao Xie, Wei Li and Yining Tan  
Arizona State University

**Hmong in the Twin Cities: Diaspora Experiences  
and Personal Identities**

Anisha RajBhandary  
Macalester College

**What Does China Mean to Me? An Investigation of  
Chinese American College Students' Ethnicity  
Construction**

Yan Wang  
University of Kentucky

**Workshop - Getting the Word  
Out about Geography: How to  
Extend Your Work Beyond the  
Academy**

ZOOM SESSION BETA  
Facilitators: Emily Fekete, Coline  
Dony and Lisa Schames, AAG

This workshop offers guidance to help articulate  
your academic writing across different forms of  
media, from blogs and podcasts to vlogs and social  
media, and funding sources to assist in the  
dissemination of your work.

*This workshop is organized by the American  
Association of Geographers.*

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2:00 p.m.- **Concurrent Sessions IV**

3:20 p.m.  
CST

**Black and Brown Lives  
Amidst the COVID-19  
Pandemic: Reactions,  
Responses, and  
Recommendations**

ZOOM SESSION ALPHA  
Chair: Denise  
McLane-Davison  
Morgan State University

**"Where Life is Precious...": Intersectional Feminism  
in the Time of COVID-19**

Judy Rohrer  
Eastern Washington University

**Face Masks and Race in the Pandemic: How Race  
Factors Into the Risks of Wearing or Not  
Wearing Masks**

Karol Chandler-Ezell  
Stephen F. Austin State University

**COVID-19 Among New York's Latinx Immigrant**

**Population: Impacts and Policy Recommendations**

James J. Biles<sup>1</sup> and Alejandro Andrade<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>City University of New York, <sup>2</sup>Center for In Situ Policy  
Research

**Suma Latina Collective: The Cultural Brokers COVID-19  
Response Team Work in Boulder County**

Guillermo J. Estrada-Rivera  
Boulder County Government

# Thursday Schedule

2:00 p.m.-  
3:20 p.m.  
CST

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## Concurrent Sessions IV (cont'd)

### Panel - Vacants in the Village: Securing the Family Home in the Age of COVID19

ZOOM SESSION BETA

Organizer and chair: Nneka N'namdi, *Fight Back Bmore*

#### Panelists:

Nneka N'namdi, *Fight Blight Bmore*  
Bree Jones, *Parity Homes*  
Andre Robinson, *The Robinson Group*  
John Kern, *Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service*

3:30 p.m.-  
4:50 p.m.  
CST

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## Concurrent Sessions V

### Social, Spatial And Environmental Justice in the City

ZOOM SESSION ALPHA

Chair: Louie Kiskowski,  
*Maryland Department of Planning*

#### Analyzing Displacement through Community Vitality

Solange Muñoz  
*University of Tennessee*

#### New Approach to Opportunity: Evaluating a Voucher Mobility Program in Charlotte, NC

Michael D. Webb and Atticus Jaramillo  
*University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

#### How Neighborhood Effect Averaging Might Affect Assessment of Individual Exposures to Air Pollution: A Study of Ozone Exposures in Los Angeles

Junghwan Kim and Mei-Po Kwan  
*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

5:00 p.m.  
CST

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## BYOB Plenary #2

### REP/MAD-AAG Keynote Program with Dr. Leana Wen, George Washington University

ZOOM SESSION ALPHA

**Dr. Leana Wen**, formerly the Baltimore Health Commissioner and now a CNN contributor and *Washington Post* columnist, speaks about Covid-19 and vulnerable populations with a particular focus on Baltimore in an interview with Professor Marie Price of George Washington University.

*Sponsored by the American Association of Geographers and the American Geographical Society*

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# Friday, October 23

8:30 a.m.-  
9:50 a.m.  
CST

## Concurrent Sessions VI

### **Educating for Social Justice**

*ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*  
Chair: Jessica Schiller,  
*Towson University*

### **Schools as Essential Social Infrastructure:**

**Examining Institutional Decision Making, Adaptive Capacity and Social Equity During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Sarah Heck, Melissa Gilbert and Hamil Pearsall  
*Temple University*

### **Can We Imagine Social Justice on Stolen Land?**

**What will be required of us as non-Native activists?**

Deanna Chappell Belcher  
*University of Oregon*

### **Race, Privilege, and Mobility: A Case Study of High School Youth in a Paris *Banlieue*, Mantes la Jolie**

Raymond S. Jennings  
*Paris Sorbonne Université*

### **Analysis of the Most Effective Ways to Train Greek College Students in Intercultural Competence**

Justice Brakache  
*Kennesaw State University*

### **(Un)Just Institutions, Politics and Policies: Rights to Exist, Power to Decide**

*ZOOM SESSION GAMMA*  
Chair: Andrea Presotto  
*Salisbury University*

### **Unequal Justice for Central American and Chinese Asylum Seekers**

Alisa Hartsell and Sarah Blue  
*Texas State University*

### **What Happened Afterwards: The Transgender Community's Successes and Challenges in Substantively Accessing Their Human Rights in India**

Shamayeta Bhattacharya, Bandana Purkayastha and Debarchana Ghosh  
*University of Connecticut*

### **Can Social Institutions Awaken Sleeping Giants? A Pilot Electoral Geography Study of Latinx Voter Turnout in Texas Counties in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election**

John Ponstingel  
*Texas State University*

10:00 a.m.-  
11:20 a.m.  
CST

## Concurrent Sessions VII

### **Past to Present, Local to Global**

*ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*  
Chair: Tracy Edwards  
*Frostburg University*

### **An Historical Geography of German Immigrant Labor in Baltimore, 1840-1860**

James M. Smith  
*Towson University*

### **Constructing Arctic Conflict**

Jeremy Tasch  
*Towson University*

### **Gender and Differential Vulnerability to Plague in British India, Hong Kong, and Sydney**

Kent Barnes  
*Towson University*

### **Historicizing the Vernacular South: 1910-1930**

Jesse Andrews  
*Oklahoma State University*

# Friday Schedule

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## 10:00 a.m.- Concurrent Sessions VII (cont'd)

11:20 a.m.  
CST

### Panel - Education and the Curricula

*ZOOM SESSION BETA*  
Organizers and chairs: Eric Sarmiento and Jennifer Devine, *Texas State University*

### Panelists:

Monica Barra, *University of South Carolina*  
Caroline Faria, *University of Texas at Austin*  
Tao Leigh Goffe, *Cornell University*  
Traci-Ann Wint Hales, *University of Texas at Austin*  
David Padgett, *Tennessee State University*  
Jeffrey Palmer, *Cornell University*

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## 11:20 a.m.- Lunch break

12:30 p.m. *DROP-IN LUNCH IN ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*

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## 12:30 p.m.- Concurrent Sessions VIII

1:50 p.m.  
CST

### Putting the Numbers to Work: Statistical and Spatiotemporal Analysis at the Service of Transformative Scholarship

*ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*  
Chair: Jay Newburry, *Binghamton University*

### Spatial Distribution of Border Ethnic Communities of India's North-East

M. Pauminsang Guite  
*Jawaharlal Nehru University*

### The Noah Virus: Who is Infected with High Resiliency for Disaster?

Chris Ellis  
*Cornell University*

### The Cocaine-Wildlife Connection: Conservation Crime in Central America

Sara S. Moya and Jennifer Devine  
*Texas State University*

### Socioeconomic Disparities Between the Mohegan Tribe and New London County Through Two Decades

Michaela Wang  
*Newark Academy*

### Panel - Monumental Struggles: Removing and Renaming Public Symbols to White Supremacy

*ZOOM SESSION BETA*  
Organizers and chairs: Derek H. Alderman, *University of Tennessee*, and Jordan P. Brasher, *Columbus State University*

### Panelists:

Destiny Shippy, *Wofford College*  
Samantha Bowden, *Rutgers University*  
Carson Smith, *Oxford University*  
Wil Patrick, *University of Victoria*  
Kica Matos, *Vera Institute of Justice*

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## 2:00 p.m.- Concurrent Sessions IX

3:20 p.m.  
CST

### Reshaping Landscapes, Making Places

*ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*  
Chair: Elizabeth Chacko, *The George Washington University*

### "Managing" Retreat: Reframing Indigenous Place

Debra M. Butler  
*University of Massachusetts-Boston*

### Restorative Landscapes: An Inventory of Refugee-Led Urban Farming Organizations

Frida Foss, Emily Skop and Cerian Gibbes  
*University of Colorado, Colorado Springs*

### Temporary Murals in Washington, DC: A Reflection on People, Politics, Power and Place

Elizabeth Chacko  
*The George Washington University*

# Friday Schedule

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2:00 p.m.- 3:20 p.m.  
CST **Concurrent Sessions IX (cont'd)**

**Panel - Latinx immigrant communities in times of Covid-19 Pandemic**

*ZOOM SESSION BETA*  
Organizer and chair: Melisa Argañaraz Gomez  
*University of Maryland, Baltimore County*

**Panelists:**

Monica Guerrero Vazquez – *Centro Sol, John Hopkins University*  
Maricruz Abarca – *University of Baltimore & member of Latino Racial Justice Circle*  
Tania Lizarazo – *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*  
Vanessa Gonzalez-Wright – *Latinx Development and Diversity, Undocumented Student Support, University of Towson*  
Yolanda Valencia – *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*

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3:30 p.m.- 4:50 p.m.  
CST **Concurrent Sessions X**

**Anti-Racism in Everyday Life**

*ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*  
Chair: Ibipo Johnston-Anumonwo  
*State University of New York, College at Cortland*

**Black Feminisms, Black Misrecognition, and Syndemic Racism in the Urban US and South Africa**

Davon Woodard  
*Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*

**Reimagining Black Joy, Pain & Pleasure: Can the Master's Tools Facilitate Black Liberation Performance?**

Denise McLane-Davison  
*Morgan State University*

**"True Colors" Revisited: Continuity and Change in Everyday Racism**

Ibipo Johnston-Anumonwo  
*State University of New York, College at Cortland*

**Panel - Encroachment or Opportunity? Geography in a World of Interdisciplinary Programs**

*ZOOM SESSION EPSILON*  
Organizers and chairs: Ken Foote, *University of Connecticut*, Shannon O'Lear, *University of Kansas* and Mark Revell, *AAG*

**Panelists:**

Melissa Gilbert, *Temple University*  
Grant Saff, *Hofstra University*  
Hengchun Ye, *California State, Los Angeles*  
Kavita Pandit, *Georgia State University*

How do geography departments maintain enrollments and disciplinary robustness when addressing the opportunities and pressures to rebrand, rename, merge, or blend with other fields and disciplines? Join the discussion with four leading geographers who have met similar challenges.

*This session is part of AAG's leadership webinar series*

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5:00 p.m.  
CST

**BYOB Plenary #3  
REP/MAD-AAG Closing Program**

*ZOOM SESSION ALPHA*

While waiting to learn the **results of the Student Research Presentation Award Competition**, we will have a second **showing of the video: "By Any Means Necessary: Story of Survival"** with producer Leon Smith-Bey, Baltimore's Arch Social Club, who will be interviewed by Joe Wood, University of Baltimore and the American Geographical Society. This 30-minute film discusses the entrepreneurial efforts of West Baltimore young men—"Squeegee Boys"—to make money while highlighting the effects of structural racism on employment opportunities in Baltimore.

*Brought to you by the Arch Social Club.*

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# Panel Abstracts

## **Panel - Connecting the Dots: From People to Planet, Race to Place, and COVID to Climate.**

Organized and chaired by Lisa Ferretto, Hord Coplan Macht & Baltimore Sustainability Commission

### *Panelists:*

*Lisa M. Ferretto, Hord Coplan Macht & Baltimore Sustainability Commission*  
*Melanie Ray, Hord Coplan Macht & National Organization of Minority Architects*  
*Laura Wheaton, Ayers Saint Gross & AIA National, New Urban Agenda*  
*Kathleen L. Lane, AIA, American Institute of Architects, Baltimore*

Equity, Environment, and Economy. People, Planet, and Prosperity. Racial, Environmental, and Social Justice. We have all heard about this three-legged stool of Sustainability and never has it been more apparent – that all three legs are falling down. All three are undergoing a current crisis. All three pose a massive threat that disproportionately affects populations unjustly. We need to connect the dots from people to planet, from race to place, from COVID to Climate. We cannot try to solve one crisis to inform the other, but need to address and respond to these threats simultaneously with a road to recovery, prevention, and ultimately resilience. How are the architecture, design, and sustainable professions in Baltimore and across the country addressing these complex challenges?

SUSTAINABILITY, CLIMATE CHANGE, EQUITY, JUSTICE, ENVIRONMENT

## **Panel - Education and the Curricula**

Organized and chaired by Jennifer Devine and Eric Sarmiento, Texas State University

### *Panelists:*

*Monica Barra, University of South Carolina, Department of Anthropology and School of Earth, Ocean, and Atmosphere*  
*Caroline Faria, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Geography & the Environment*  
*Tao Leigh Goffe, Cornell University, Africana Studies and Research Center*  
*Traci-Ann Wint Hales, University of Texas at Austin, African and African Diaspora Studies Department*  
*David Padgett, Tennessee State University, History, Political Science, Geography, and Africana Studies*  
*Jeffrey Palmer, Cornell University, Department of Performing and Media Arts*

Educational curricula at all levels are currently the object of growing scrutiny and public debate,

reflecting their centrality in the construction, maintenance, and potential transformation of dominant discourses and structures of oppression. This session offers an opportunity for scholars who are incorporating social justice perspectives in their pedagogy to share their experiences, goals, and challenges. Panelists will share initial reflections, followed by open discussion. Potential topics of discussion include: selection of course materials and strategies for counter-hegemonic pedagogies; contending with 'canonical' texts and thinkers; bringing together teaching and justice-oriented research; responses from students; institutional and disciplinary obstacles; and the salience of the current political climate and anxieties about public backlash.

SOCIAL JUSTICE, PEDAGOGY, CURRICULUM, INTERDISCIPLINARY, CRITICAL EPISTEMOLOGIES

## **Panel - Encroachment or Opportunity? Geography in a World of Interdisciplinary Programs**

Organized and chaired by Ken Foote, University of Connecticut, Shannon O'Lear, University of Kansas, and Mark Revell, AAG

### *Panelists:*

*Melissa Gilbert, Temple University,*  
*Grant Saff, Hofstra University,*  
*Hengchun Ye, California State University, Los Angeles*  
*Kavita Pandit, Georgia State University*

What are the opportunities and challenges faced by geography departments among a growing number of interdisciplinary programs in closely related fields, such as Environmental Studies, Global and International Studies, GIScience, Urban Studies, Geosciences, Environmental Science and Sustainability Studies? Sometimes geographers have built alliances with nearby disciplines, in others competition has ensued. These issues have led to questions about rebranding, renaming, merging or blending geography with other programs. These four geography leaders have faced these questions as academic leaders in a range of universities

SUSTAINABILITY, CLIMATE CHANGE, EQUITY, JUSTICE, ENVIRONMENT

## **Panel - Latinx immigrant communities in times of Covid-19 Pandemic** Organized and chaired by *Melisa Argañaraz, University of Maryland, Baltimore County*

### *Panelists:*

- Monica Guerrero Vazquez, Executive Director, Centro Sol, John Hopkins University*  
*Maricruz Abarca, Student, University of Baltimore and member of Latino Racial Justice Circle*  
*Tania Lizarazo, Assistant Professor, University of Maryland*  
*Vanessa Gonzalez-Wright, Assistant Director, Latinx Development and Diversity, Undocumented Student Support, University of Towson.*  
*Yolanda Valencia, Assistant Professor, University of Maryland*

The Latinx community is affected disproportionately by COVID-19. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics is reporting almost 17% of Covid-19 deaths were among the Latinx population during this summer. In the state of Maryland, approximately 15% of residents who tested positive for the coronavirus were Hispanic/Latinx. Panelists in this session will discuss the disparities surrounding living arrangements, access to health services, education, and policy challenges affecting Latinx immigrant communities in the midst of the pandemic. Other topics include the ways in which local communities across the US are organizing to provide different types of care to those who are restrained by documentation status. Special focus will be given to rapid responses within the Baltimore community to people of undocumented status at risk of COVID-19.

LATINX IMMIGRANTS, INEQUALITY,  
GEOGRAPHIES OF HEALTH AND SOLIDARITY

## **Panel - Monumental Struggles: Removing and Renaming Public Symbols to White Supremacy** Organized and chaired by *Derek H. Alderman, University of Tennessee, and Jordan P. Brasher, Columbus State University*

### *Panelists:*

- Destiny Shippy, Wofford College*  
*Samantha Bowden, Rutgers University*  
*Carson Smith, Oxford University*  
*Wil Patrick, University of Victoria*  
*Kica Matos, Vera Institute of Justice*

This session is organized in response to recent antiracist, anti-colonial toppling and resisting of monuments and the un-naming/renaming of streets, schools, parks, and other

places that valorize white supremacists and colonizers. The purpose of the session is to assemble a group of scholar-activists whose work across a variety of places and struggles advance our critical understanding of the significance of these memorial challenges and changes. Contributors recognize that these struggles are "monumental;" they are more than mere performative gestures but part of the tough memory-work of coming to terms with wider histories and geographies of oppression and building more socially just futures. We ask panel participants to focus on the connections between memorial landscape change, sense of belonging, the political-emotional wellbeing of historically marginalized groups, and the material conditions of the communities where they live, work, and organize. Finally, the session will highlight unique challenges to these monumental struggles posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

ANTIRACIST, ANTI-COLONIAL, MEMORIAL  
LANDSCAPES, MONUMENTS, PLACE NAMES

## **Panel - Resilience in Baltimore Neighborhoods** Organized and chaired by *Anne Draddy, Baltimore Office of Sustainability*

### *Panelists:*

- Abby Cocke, Baltimore Office of Sustainability*  
*Aubrey Germ, Baltimore Office of Sustainability*  
*Roxane Prettyman, First Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Sandtown-Winchester*  
*J.C. Faulk, An End to Ignorance & Bmore Community Food*

The Baltimore Office of Sustainability supports community-trusted Resiliency Hubs in historically underserved neighborhoods. We use grant funding to purchase snow blowers, refrigerators, 2-way radios and other essential items that can be used during weather and other emergencies. Since COVID-19, these hub leaders have become central locations for vulnerable residents for food, PPE's and other essentials. The Office intentionally plays a supporting role to these outward facing organizations.

RESILIENCE COMMUNITY CONNECTING  
EMERGENCY UNDERSERVED

**Panel - Vacants in the Village: Securing the Family Home in the Age of COVID19**  
Organized and chaired by Nneka N'namdi,  
*Fight Blight Bmore*

*Panelists:*

*Nneka N'namdi, Fight Blight Bmore*  
*Bree Jones, Parity Homes*  
*Andre Robinson, The Robinson Group*  
*John Kern, Maryland Volunteer Lawyers*  
*Service*

Black people's property ownership and rights have been under constant challenge. Never in America have Black people had full and complete property rights: voting, access to equity, control of the allocation of tax dollars generated from property though always having all the full responsibilities of ownership: mortgages, taxes and upkeep often at higher cost. The outcome has remained the same over time Black owned properties are undervalued and Black neighborhoods are disinvested which has contributed to a lack of generational wealth transfer among Black families. In the process millions of homes and acres of land once owned Black families are no more.

The tools used to challenge and ultimately erode Black property ownership have shifted from full prohibition of Black land ownership to a mix of sharecropping, restrictive covenants, redlining, contract lending, urban renewal, tax sale foreclosures, ground rent seizures, etc.... Given the ever changing political and economic environment, how can Black property owners defeat the challenges to their property rights? Drawing from the historical record, analyzing map data and applying the cultural technology of people of African descent this panel will lay out a method for using estate planning as a part of a larger framework to defeat the challenges to Black property ownership and generational wealth transfer.

GENERATIONAL WEALTH, ESTATE PLANNING,  
SOLUTIONS, CULTURAL TECHNOLOGY,  
FUTURISTICS

# Paper Abstracts

## **COVID-19 and Water Access in Sub-Saharan Africa: Ghana's Free Water Directive May Not Benefit Water Insecure Households**

Agbemor, Benjamin D.<sup>1</sup>, Sarah L. Smiley<sup>1</sup>, Ellis A. Adams<sup>2</sup> and Raymond Tutu<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kent State University, <sup>2</sup>University of Notre Dame, <sup>3</sup>Delaware State University

COVID-19 has brought global attention to the critical role of water in managing infectious outbreaks. Although Sub-Saharan Africa could become a COVID-19 hotspot, some are optimistic that given the right strategies and interventions the region can contain the pandemic. One such intervention is Ghana's directive to provide free water to domestic users for six months to ensure that water insecure households do not compromise appropriate hygiene and sanitation during COVID-19. We highlight in this commentary how the complex geographies of water provision in the region could undermine the overall benefits of such initiatives, especially to poor and water insecure households.

GHANA, COVID-19, WATER INSECURITY

## **Historicizing the Vernacular South: 1910-1930**

Andrews, Jesse

Oklahoma State University

This study extends sociologist John Shelton Reed's and his followers' work delimiting a vernacular South back to the early 20th Century. Using historic city guides, I recorded and modeled the prevalence of the terms "southern" and "Dixie" at the beginning of business names in approximately 300 cities in 1910 and 1930. Then, I mapped the ratio of the "southern" and "Dixie" relative to "national" and "American." Notably, the relative frequency of "Dixie" expanded dramatically between 1910 and 1930, while "southern" shrank proportionately during the same period. This change in the term frequency differs significantly from what studies have observed using data from the past 40 years. Notably, Dixie's expansion between 1910 and 1930 was the strongest along the route of the Dixie Highway, casting doubt on the idea that historically the term was solely an indicator of neo-confederate sympathies. Ultimately, this study problematizes some of the assumptions behind the delimiting of vernacular regions via keywords. Thus, despite being a macroscale aggregation technique in order to measure vernacular regions via this method effectively requires a keen understanding of local geographies and historical circumstances.

AMERICAN SOUTH, VERNACULAR REGIONS, HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY, DIXIE HIGHWAY

## **Gender and Differential Vulnerability to Plague in British India, Hong Kong, and Sydney**

Barnes, Kent

Towson University

The Third Plague pandemic, 1894 to 1950, was global in scope. It originated in China, reached the port of Hong Kong in 1894, and spread via commercial and military shipping, to every habitable continent. Vulnerability to plague varied by race, ethnicity, and class, which in turn influenced differential access to medical services under colonial rule. However, an understanding of vulnerability to plague during this pandemic is incomplete without considering the intersections of place, sex, and gender. Places, both workplace and home, and sex and gender are central to understanding human exposure to plague, as well as understanding morbidity and mortality among afflicted populations. Analyses of archival data of victims and of compiled statistics from 1894 to 1921 for parts of British India, Hong Kong, and Sydney were conducted to ascertain sex and gender differences between victims. The results indicate that such differences exist between documented plague victims.

THIRD PANDEMIC, PLAGUE, PLACE, GENDER

## **Expressions of Social Injustice: Pandemic, Lockdown, and Homelessness in Indian Cities**

Bhattacharjee, Sujayita

University of Mumbai

The purpose of the study is to explore the aspects of homelessness and social injustice in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown in selected cities of India. Since the urban areas are zones of high population density, the cities in India have emerged as hotspots of the pandemic. Cities in India also have a large share of the homeless population. The homeless in the Indian cities are suffering greatly under the pandemic and measures of lockdown. As a result, they are fighting a dual battle, one against the SARS-COV-2 virus and the other against hunger. The data used in the study are essentially derived from secondary sources of various natures. The findings of the study not only reveal the deplorable plight of the homeless in Indian cities under the pandemic and lockdown, but it also exposes the social injustices that are faced by the homeless under the prevailing scenario.

CITIES, COVID-19, HOMELESS, INDIA, LOCKDOWN, PANDEMIC

## **What Happened Afterwards: The Transgender Community's Successes and Challenges in Substantively Accessing Their Human Rights in India** Bhattacharya, Shamayeta, Bandana Purkayastha and Debarchana Ghosh *University of Connecticut*

What happens after legal changes are made to improve the lives of vulnerable and discriminated transgender community in India? This paper examines the experiences of transgender individuals after two major legal reforms in India: decriminalization of Section 377 (which initially criminalized same-sex activity) in 2018 and the amendments to the Transgender Persons Bill of Rights in 2019. Drawing upon archival information and two focus group discussions with fifteen participants, the findings are mixed. There is success in achieving legal recognition for transgenders after decades of struggle and activism, however, ongoing individual and communal struggles to substantively access the rights persist. Barriers such as institutional and spatial heteronormativity prevent trans communities from substantively accessing rights. We show how this gap between legal recognition and substantive access to rights results in trans people's continuous struggle in public and private spaces to claim rights through practices like clapping and rallies.

SUBSTANTIVE RIGHTS, HUMAN RIGHTS,  
TRANSGENDER BILL OF RIGHTS, SECTION 377,  
INDIA

## **COVID-19 among New York's Latinx Immigrant Population: Impacts and Policy Recommendations**

Biles, James J.<sup>1</sup> and Alejandro Andrade<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>City University of New York, <sup>2</sup>Center for In Situ Policy Research

This paper provides an overview of a large survey of more than 500 Latinx immigrant households in New York State. This rapid appraisal highlights the disproportionate incidence of COVID-19 symptoms and limited access to health care and social assistance among the state's Latin American immigrant population. In addition, the study reveals that unemployment levels and income losses among Latinx immigrants far surpass the effects among the US-born Latinx population and immigrants, in general. The widespread loss of employment and earnings is associated with pervasive vulnerability, desperate livelihood strategies, and a precipitous decline in the transfer of remittances.

COVID-19, LATINX IMMIGRANTS, SOCIAL  
JUSTICE, POLICY

## **COVID-19 in the Camps: (Im)mobility at the US-Mexico border during a Global Pandemic**

Blue, Sarah and Jennifer Devine  
*Texas State University*

The novel coronavirus has detracted media attention away from the humanitarian crisis unfolding on the US-Mexican border, yet the situation of asylum seekers has never been more dire. In March 2020, the US federal government began a series of measures designed to dramatically restrict immigration into the United States as part of its response to the global health crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic. These measures have worsened an already precarious situation at the US-Mexico border for an estimated 60,000 asylum seekers living in refugee camps who have been prevented by the Trump administration's "Stay in Mexico" policy enacted in January 2019 from entering the United States to request asylum. This article will use the theoretical lens of the politics of (im)mobility and a political ecology approach to understand how the administration has weaponized the virus and pandemic response policies to further violate the human rights of asylum seekers. Ethnographic research methods, including interviews with humanitarian aid workers and legal advisors, illustrate the impacts of forced (im)mobility in the camps during COVID. Specifically, we analyze how federal immigration policy enacted under the pretext of closing the border has halted asylum proceedings, resulted in deportations without due process, and further restricted asylum seekers' access to the legal right to request asylum, to legal aid, and to basic needs (health care, food, shelter, school for children, safety) in the name of public health.

ASYLUM, COVID-19, IMMOBILITY, US-MEXICO  
BORDER, REFUGEE CAMP

## **Analysis of the Most Effective Ways to Train Greek College Students in Intercultural Competence**

Brakache, Justice

*Kennesaw State University*

There are specific patterns of relating with destructive behavior that causes harm in unsurprising ways as a result of bias and snowballing injury. This injury damages the development of, and undermines, an individual's feeling of self-esteem, skewing his or her character. Resulting in a tradeoff of his or her ability to relate to other people.

Greek students are in need of care, warmth, and correction to (1) decrease the incidence of social violence perpetuation among participants, (2) increase self-reported prosocial intervening behaviors, (3) increase knowledge of and skills for safely intervening in situations when social



violence may occur; correcting misperceptions in normative beliefs. This will affect negative attitudes toward prejudice behavior. While increasing knowledge of the elements constituting effective and appropriate communication with people of other cultures and increasing empathy for victims of social assault.

I recommend rewarding good behavior and a various combination of methods such as:

- Discussions.
- Workshops and presentations.
- Awards and Recognition.
- Inclusive Leadership.
- Online Intercultural Competence training.
- Course Materials.

For any Greek college students to be effectively trained in intercultural competence, these recommendations should be considered: continuously evaluate new evidence, stay open minded, understand that there are varying points of view, and make sure you show respect to others.

INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE, GREEK LIFE,  
COLLEGE STUDENTS, IMPLICIT BIAS, DIVERSITY  
& INCLUSION

## **“Managing” Retreat: Reframing Indigenous Place**

**Butler, Debra M.**

*University of Massachusetts-Boston*

Home is of the human psyche, that which we understand of “being” within home-ways and home-spaces, viscerally resolved to preserve and protect. In experiences of diaspora and (im)migration, heimlos or “place-less-ness” is not only physical and material loss, but loss of interconnectivity of family and kin, identity, culture, memory, a disruption of personal and collective self. This stress or “rootshock” of losing one’s emotional ecosystem (Fullilove, 2014) results in trauma, alienation and solastalgic injury (Albrecht et al, 2007; Wendelbo 2018; Burnett, 2017). Embedded within assemblages of home, e.g. life forms and vibrant matter (Bennett 2010) are conditionally, contextually and temporally bound. Being in and of place provides balance, “having “roots”, the absence of fear, and mechanisms of sustainability (Fullilove 1996/2011). Yet, despite legacies of colonial hegemony, displaced, captured, stolen, interred and replaced bodies (labor), diasporic/indigenous red, black and brown peoples persist and continue resistant, resilient and adaptive lifeways, cosmologies and intimacies with earth and each other (Foreman 1932/1972; Kickingbird, Ducheneaux 1973; Grande 2005; Reséndez 2016). These performances critically question managed retreat and examine the managed retreat narrative as a current strategy of “aporetic” dispossession (Butler, Athanasiou, 2013), a result of institutionally designed and consolidated states of vulnerability and precariousness. This paper

examines the convergence of such systemic dispossession with irreversible climatic- induced re-settlement and site expansion; and (2) the tensions, intersections and parallels of red, black and brown legacies used to negotiate place/time/spaces and envision communal assemblages for themselves and within receiving communities.

DISPLACEMENT, HOME, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES,  
RESISTANCE

## **Temporary Murals in Washington, DC: A Reflection on People, Politics, Power and Place**

**Chacko, Elizabeth**

*The George Washington University*

Murals on exterior walls are a form of public art that can signal political beliefs, protest, ethnic pride and power, as well as community identity and solidarity. In the summer of 2020, temporary murals appeared in the city of Washington, D.C. that fixed in time reactions to three momentous events: the killing of George Floyd in Minnesota by police officers, voting on a bill that could make D.C the 51st state and the rise and spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. In this paper, I present and analyze a selection of these temporary public murals which speak to people’s desires, fears and imaginations and highlight the interplay of justice, power, equity and place through the use of visual imagery and symbols.

TEMPORARY MURALS, WASHINGTON, DC,  
PLACE, POWER, REPRESENTATION

## **Face Masks and Race in the Pandemic: How Race Factors Into the Risks of Wearing or Not Wearing Masks**

**Chandler-Ezell, Karol**

*Stephen F. Austin State University*

Wearing a face mask or resisting and even ridiculing mask-wearing is a surprising point of contention in the midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic in the USA. This simple health precaution to prevent disease spread is emotionally- and politically-charged with racial, ethnic, and demographic identity. An individual’s race, ethnicity, and place strongly factor into their compliance with public health guidelines to wear a mask. Asian Americans were already familiar with mask wearing, yet politically motivated slurs like “China Flu” or “Chinese Virus,” caused threats increased prejudices and threats exacerbated by anything that made them stand out. African Americans were more willing to wear masks for safety than other groups like rural whites, but they run risks from others or police associating masks with criminal behavior and being the victims of violence. African Americans—especially men—have to calculate risk: Covid or proactive prevention of another perceiving you

as a threat. Essential workers, especially those in lower paying service jobs, were attacked for wearing masks. Masks have become irrational ethnic and socioeconomic badges.

FACE-MASK, ETHNICITY, VIOLENCE, COVID-19,  
MASK-WEARING

## **Can We Imagine Social Justice on Stolen Land? What Will Be Required of Us as Non-Native Activists?**

**Chappell Belcher, Deanna**  
*University of Oregon*

Tania Mitchell (2008) shared three conditions for justice work within higher education, that can be applied to all activist work: social change orientation, sharing power, and relationship building. The overarching challenge for me, in my work in public schools is: "Can we imagine enacting these three tenets within the context of higher education, or within any school, when all schools are built on Indigenous homelands, education systems are enmeshed in settler colonial matrices of power?" This question is especially urgent in cities, where Black and Brown students are increasingly subjected to neoliberal encroachments on their minds, bodies, and neighborhoods, while their urban Native peers are relegated to near-invisibility.

Working together, we will be asking further questions – not to find the answers. This work is not a place for easy answers. I envision the session as a place for beginnings and continuations, for working together; and hopefully a place for productive connections.

INDIGENOUS HOMELANDS, JUSTICE, ACTIVISM,  
SOLIDARITY; PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## **The Noah Virus: Who is Infected with High Resiliency for Disaster?**

**Ellis, Chris**  
*Cornelle University*

Events over the past 20 years, and especially the COVID-19 pandemic, have brought the topic of prepping back to the forefront of public awareness and scholarly inquiry. However, in the 40 years of study, one of the most fundamental issues in this research remain unresolved. How many preppers are there? Due to the lack of quantification, nearly all data is qualitative in nature and has acquired a polarizing tinge with the dominant description of this group closer to caricature than fact. Opposing perspectives to this portrayal, while well-grounded, still suffer from selection bias. This paper utilizes two new national large-N surveys of Americans from FEMA. I reinterpret a term from the literature, resilient citizen, but for the first time make it a falsifiable and calculable definition to offer for the genre. I provide descriptive statistics of this group to argue that

resilient citizens are closer to average Americans in many respects and are more accurately portrayed by the challenger viewpoint.

PREPPER, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, FEMA,  
RACE

## **Suma Latina Collective: The Cultural Brokers COVID-19 Response Team Work in Boulder County**

**Estrada-Rivera, Guillermo J.**  
*Boulder County Government*

Hispanic/Latinx residents of Boulder county make up for less than 15% of the entire county population. However, they account for 25% of the county's COVID-19 cases and nearly one-third of hospitalizations. These disparities in our region are experienced due to a lack cultural competency, language access and other equity issues. A multi-sector team of Latinx Cultural Brokers in the county, named "The Suma Latina Collective" came together to support existing efforts in areas of community outreach, resource coordination and an increase of accessibility for those disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The group put together a list of culturally competent resources that responded to the needs of Hispanic/Latinx Undocumented residents who had no access to existing emergency response structures. With the help of community partners a resource catalog and an awareness campaign have been launched to support those who are still struggling with the effects of COVID-19.

CULTURAL BROKERS, COVID-19, COMMUNITY  
WORK, LATINX, LATINO

## **Restorative Landscapes: An inventory of Refugee-Led Urban Farming Organizations**

**Frida Foss, Emily Skop and Cerian Gibbes**  
*University of Colorado, Colorado Springs*

Placemaking is a process experienced by refugees resettling in receiving communities. The broad goal of this research is to explore how placemaking occurs amongst refugees participating in urban farming. While the refugee experience is typically framed as one of trauma, loss, and uncertainty, we challenge this generalized narrative and articulate the ways in which refugees become rooted and employed through their resettlement experiences. To better understand the landscape of urban refugee farming in the US today, we are creating an inventory of various organizations that support this kind of programming. In turn, a visualization of existing programs nationwide will provide a mechanism to explore not only the locations of these programs, but also a database of these organizations, including an overview of their missions, goals and programming, as well as the

clients they serve. Initial findings indicate that there are many organizations that support this kind of programming in the United States. The database offers a starting point for assessing the effects of these particular spaces for refugee recovery and placemaking.

PLACEMAKING, RESETTLEMENT, REFUGEE RECOVERY, URBAN FARMING

## **Spatial Distribution of Border Ethnic Communities of India's North-East**

**Guite, M. Pauminsang**

*Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Manipur, a north-eastern border state of India, is broadly divided as one-tenth valley surrounded by nine-tenth hills. As per Census of India 2011, thirty-three ethnic tribes, which is about forty per cent of the total population of Manipur, are occupying the hills. In contrast, the remaining non-tribe ethnic group known as 'the Meitei' are settling in the valley, but, dominated the democratic government by two-third of its representatives in the Assembly. There are frequent events of conflicts among the ethnic communities over land ownership and other political issues. To gain strength for safeguarding and promotion their identities, ethnic tribes tend to associate to form larger ethnic communities such as the Naga, the Kuki and the Zomi, leading to various ethnic-based political demands. This paper attempts to explain the complexity of spatial distribution of the ethnic communities, which is a fundamental prerequisite for peace and development of the region.

NORTH-EAST INDIA, ETHNIC TRIBE, MEITEI, NAGA, KUKI, ZOMIS

## **Unequal Justice for Central American and Chinese Asylum Seekers**

**Hartsell, Alisa and Sarah Blue**

*Texas State University*

The 1980 Refugee Act was written to address concerns of inequality around determining refugee and asylum eligibility based on humanitarian grounds. Unfortunately, the act failed to remove consideration of foreign relations from determinations, creating an unbalanced system that continues to discriminate against asylum seekers and effectively moving border enforcement into the U.S. interior. We argue that foreign policy relationships continue to have an outsized influence on what, since 1980, is meant to be a humanitarian system. We explore this through focusing on the largest groups in the U.S. immigration system: Central American and Chinese asylum seekers. This paper looks at key legal interpretations that have narrowed the definitions for asylum seekers. It then examines

specific geopolitical relations that continue to influence the outcome of humanitarian asylum claims. This research draws on precedent cases and executive orders that have shaped humanitarian relief in comparison with immigration court outcomes.

IMMIGRATION, HUMANITARIAN ASYLUM, ASYLUM SEEKING

## **Schools as Essential Social Infrastructure: Examining Institutional Decision Making, Adaptive Capacity and Social Equity During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Heck, Sarah, Melissa Gilbert and Hamil Pearsall**

*Temple University*

In response to health and safety guidelines following the onset of the novel Coronavirus, many schools across the United States have closed their physical buildings and transitioned schooling fully online. Consequently, school districts had to determine how best to deliver services in addition to educational outcomes including programs addressing food insecurity and information technology access. This paper examines the institutional decision-making practices among school administrators in Pennsylvania and applies an intersectional feminist approach to studying hazards to investigate how school districts are mobilizing to deliver essential services beyond educational outcomes to students and families and analyze the impacts of the disruption on social vulnerability. We argue that through a focus on how school districts react to changing rules and regulations regarding the provisioning of resources, we can better understand how organizational processes shape and are shaped by struggles for racial equity and healthy communities.

SCHOOLS, SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, RACIAL EQUITY, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES, DIGITAL INEQUALITIES, FOOD INSECURITY

## **Race, Privilege, and Mobility: A Case Study of High School Youth in a Paris**

**Banlieue, Mantes la Jolie**

**Jennings, Raymond S.**

*Paris Sorbonne Université*

Although becoming more widespread, the use of racial categories and racialized discourse in France remains highly controversial, is largely forbidden, and continues to be mandated as such by the French government. As a result, racial and ethnic identity comes under heavy scrutiny by individuals who attempt to employ it. However, several scholars have pointed to a racialized reality visible across employment, housing, and public space amongst other

arenas. Previous scholarship has underlined the pervasive nature of privilege and mobility in combatting ideologies of color blindness on one hand and exposing processes of racialization on the other. In this paper, I seek to understand how race, privilege, and mobility intersect in the French context through questionnaires and multiple focus group sessions with high school students from various ethnic and racial backgrounds in the Parisian suburb of Mantes la Jolie. I examine how youth in this context experience movement and how their movement can be governed and informed by the social construction of space in relation to their racialized identity. With a better sense of where, how often, why and why not, I conclude in theorizing the possibility of a tangible racial reality of French social life.

RACE, PLACE, IDENTITY, PRIVILEGE, MOBILITY,  
REPRESENTATION, *BANLIEUE*, YOUTH,  
CITIZENSHIP, FRENCH REPUBLICANISM

## **“True Colors” Revisited: Continuity and Change in Everyday Racism**

Johnston-Anumonwo, Ibipo  
*State University of New York, College at Cortland*

At the end of the last century, findings based on undercover investigative journalism in St Louis, Missouri revealed race-based prejudice and discrimination in housing, employment and other day-to-day urban activities. This presentation examines the degree to which stark anti-Black racism that existed in St Louis is evident or altered decades later in cities of New York state and in neighboring Mid-Atlantic states. Using research on differential experiences of residents in urban and suburban locations across New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, twenty first century evidence about contemporary realities of race-ethnicity and place indicates the need for continued interventions for dismantling racial bias and discrimination in order to foster social justice, equity and inclusion among the country's increasingly diverse population.

RACISM, EVERYDAY RACISM, ANTI-BLACK  
RACISM, CITIES, USA

## **How Neighborhood Effect Averaging Might Affect Assessment of Individual Exposures to Air Pollution: A Study of Ozone Exposures in Los Angeles**

Kim, Junghwan and Mei-Po Kwan  
*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

The neighborhood effect averaging problem (NEAP) can be a serious methodological problem that leads to erroneous assessments when studying mobility-dependent exposures (e.g., air or noise pollution) because people's daily mobility could amplify or attenuate the

exposures they experienced in their residential neighborhoods. Specifically, the NEAP suggests that individuals' mobility-based exposures tend toward the mean level of the participants or population of a study area when compared to their residence-based exposures. This research provides an in-depth examination of the NEAP and how the NEAP is associated with people's daily mobility through an assessment of individual exposures to ground-level ozone using the activity-travel diary data of 2,737 individuals collected in the Los Angeles metropolitan statistical area. The results obtained with exploratory analysis (e.g., a scatterplot and histograms) and spatial regression models indicate that the NEAP exists when assessing individual exposures to ozone in the study area. Further, highincome, employed, younger, and male participants (when compared to low-income, nonworking, older, and female participants) are associated with higher levels of neighborhood effect averaging because of their higher levels of daily mobility. Finally, three-dimensional interactive geovisualizations of the space-time paths and hourly ozone exposures of seventy-one selected participants who live in the same neighborhood corroborate the findings obtained from the spatial regression analysis.

AIR POLLUTION, HUMAN MOBILITY,  
NEIGHBORHOOD EFFECT, NEIGHBORHOOD  
EFFECT AVERAGING PROBLEM (NEAP),  
UNCERTAIN GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT PROBLEM  
(UGCOP)

## **Media Bias and Social Polarization: A Qualitative Exploration of the Public Discourse Towards Vulnerable Social Groups During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Kingston, Jamaica**

Kinlocke Robert, Mahabir, Aleem, Romario Anderson, Rose-Ann Smith, Kristinia Dougherty and Chandradath Madho  
*The University of the West Indies at Mona, Jamaica*

During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Jamaican news reports were regularly posted online, highlighting breaches of social distancing among economically marginalized communities in Kingston. This instigated comments riddled with disdain for these vulnerable groups, despite being known to lack the capacity needed to adhere to various public health protocols. This research aims to examine discourses of development and disparity by exploring the ways in which media representations of calls for social distancing have unearthed latent social cleavages. Using thematic analysis, online comments were manually coded and emergent themes were classified according to categories reflecting sentiments of othering and social polarization. Reports were found to have embodied class-based tensions, perpetuating constructions of vulnerable groups as the 'threatening other' which was used to legitimize

the rejection of these groups. These findings suggest that media coverage potentially influences social divergence, countering core principles of inclusiveness and integration. Accordingly, coverage should be more sensitive to the portrayal of vulnerable groups.

COVID-19, JAMAICA, SOCIAL DISTANCING,  
MEDIA BIAS, SOCIAL POLARIZATION

## **Informal Food Systems and Differential Mobility During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Arequipa, Peru**

Malone, Aaron<sup>1</sup>, Yezelia Cáceres Cabana<sup>2</sup> and Anabel Taya Zegarra<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Colorado School of Mines, <sup>2</sup>Universidad Nacional de San Agustín de Arequipa

This paper uses mobility justice and critical resilience perspectives to analyze the COVID-19 pandemic's impacts on urban food systems in Peru. Early efforts to restrict hours at public markets, the lynchpin of urban food systems, proved counterproductive, failing to secure distribution while inadvertently worsening viral transmission. Mobile food vendors, selling fresh produce from personal cars and trucks, have emerged as a novel, informal response. We conducted twenty-one informal interviews with mobile vendors, market vendors, and customers in Arequipa, Peru's second largest city, to understand the evolving food system. We conclude that the informality and mobility of impromptu itinerant vendors have prevented the collapse of the city's food distribution system, but this resilience comes at a high price that is borne disproportionately by the most marginalized. Mobile vendors have prevented the collapse of the city's food distribution system and made possible the privileged, protective immobility of the middle and upper classes.

FOOD SYSTEMS, MOBILE PRODUCE VENDORS,  
RESILIENCE, MOBILITY JUSTICE, PERU

## **Place-Branding for Immigrant and Refugee Integration and Receptivity Amid a Pandemic: A Comparison of Welcoming Cities Networks in Australia and the United States**

McDaniel, Paul N., Rajit Das and Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez

Kennesaw State University

Despite vacillating national discourses on immigration policy and complications of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, a growing number of cities are affiliating with the international "welcoming movement"—a transnational city network of municipalities implementing receptivity plans, policies, practices, and branding initiatives. Within this context, how are welcoming cities responding to the COVID-19

pandemic as one example of their place-branding practices? This paper contributes to understanding of immigrant receptivity processes' intersections with municipal place-branding practices amid a pandemic by assessing municipalities' pandemic responses within nationwide networks of Welcoming Cities in two immigrant-receiving society contexts: Australia and the United States. These two networks were selected because they are the most comprehensive national networks of welcoming cities with over 50 municipal affiliates in Australia and over 100 municipal affiliates in the U.S. In the context of a pandemic, findings offer insights regarding place-branding for immigrant integration and receptivity.

IMMIGRATION, RECEPTIVITY, IMMIGRANT  
INTEGRATION, CITY BRANDING, PLACE  
BRANDING, WELCOMING CITIES, COVID-19

## **Reimagining Black Joy, pain & Pleasure Can the Master's Tools Facilitate Black Liberation Performance?**

McLane-Davison, Denise

Morgan State University

Without community there is no liberation, only the most vulnerable and temporary armistice between an individual and her oppression. But community must not mean a shedding of our differences, nor the pathetic pretense that these differences do not exist —Audre Lorde 1984

Black spatial humanities intentionally center Black performance of citizenship, freedom, and resistance as transformative tenants of understanding space in relation to human behavior and culture across time and place (Gallon, 2016). The 2015, community unrest following the death of Freddie Gray, serves as a historical marker for understanding decades of structural inequities based on race. Starting with the idea that "Baltimore communities are safe" I underscore how ethnic displacement and race-based public policies contribute to structural racism in Black spaces. Thus, how might we work collectively through a social justice lens to recover Black humanity through the cultural memory of joy, pleasure, and pain for future generations?

BLACK SPATIAL HUMANITIES, ETHNIC  
DISPLACEMENT, STRUTURAL RACISM

## **The Cocaine-Wildlife Connection: Conservation Crime in Central America**

Moya, Sara S. and Jennifer Devine

Texas State University

This paper analyzes the illegal wildlife trade in Central America and its connections to cocaine trafficking through a comparative case study of Costa Rica and Guatemala. Specifically, we ask: What are the spatiotemporal and species

patterns of wildlife and cocaine trafficking from 2000-2014 in the two countries? And, what relationship, if any, exists between cocaine and wildlife trafficking? We use the US Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Management Information System (LEMIS) on cocaine seizures as a proxy for cocaine flows. We supplement these data with qualitative data gathered from interviews with protected area stakeholders who explain the mechanisms of wildlife trafficking and its relationship with cocaine markets. Our research reveals that wildlife trafficking activities have increased alongside an increase in cocaine traffic, revealing drug trafficking organizations' involvement in the trade, overlaps in smuggling routes and supply chains, and the erosion of protected area governance.

CENTRAL AMERICA, CONSERVATION, CRIME,  
WILDLIFE

## Analyzing Displacement through Community Vitality

Muñoz, Solange

*University of Tennessee*

Critical approaches to the study of displacement focused on mapping vulnerability factors and analyzing power structures driving racial, social and environmental injustice often ignore and exclude the collective resilience, everyday vitality, and community knowledge that characterize rooted urban neighborhoods and build immunity to serial forced displacement. Building on theoretical and methodological foundations in critical, black and latinX geographies, black feminist theory, and environmental justice, we argue that while vulnerability mapping has made significant contributions to academic understanding of displacement and inequity, methodological constraints fail to (1) identify intersectional oppressions and name them as such, (2) center community knowledge and strengths, and (3) advance community activism, thereby limiting contributions of such analysis to positive change. Moving beyond these constraints, this paper presents a methodological approach to collaborative urban displacement research that addresses those failures with a case study of the Globeville and Elyria-Swansea (GES) neighborhoods in North Denver and in partnership with the GES Coalition. Vulnerability-mapping reveals that rapid reinvestment in the area, the rise of the legalized marijuana industry, and the COVID-19 pandemic contribute to physical, social, cultural, and economic displacement pressures in GES, one of the poorest neighborhoods in the City of Denver. Yet asset-mapping also reveals GES as a space of community resilience and innovation where

leaders are advancing a model of equitable, regenerative development that (1) offers real and practical solutions to neighborhood displacement and (2) provides an alternative vision of the city, its recognized members, and their rights and responsibilities.

DISPLACEMENT, COVID-19, URBAN  
GEOGRAPHY, VULNERABILITY-MAPPING, ASSET-  
MAPPING

## Covid-19 Vulnerability and Racial Discrimination in Ecuador

Noroña, María Belén

*University of Oregon*

Urban areas in Ecuador are among the most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. According to local media and official data, the most vulnerable are those populations of low socioeconomic status who have difficulties accessing health services and safety networks. However, these groups have been described as unable to follow state-led safety protocols such as quarantines, social distancing, and proper use of masks. Preliminary research results show that such inability is directly linked to poverty, uncivil behavior, disobedience, indigenous and African ancestry, and even savagery.

In this preliminary results presentation, I make visible how structural racism is hidden behind the ideology of social inclusion through one's identification to mestizaje (the racial blend of indigenous, afro, and white colonizers). This ideology negates structural inequality rooted on racism, among mestizos perceived as whiter, versus those perceived as closer to their indigenous/and or afro Ecuadorian ancestry.

RACISM, MESTIZO, COVID-19

## A Failed Promise: Transnational Adoptees Advocating for Citizenship Amid Covid-19

Pierce, Christopher

*Texas State University*

Transnational adoption has served as an avenue for American families to serve as humanitarians and promote U.S. democratic goals. However, the lack of formalized adoption and immigrant institutional structures, the advent of the Illegal Immigration and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, and the September 11th attacks heightened fear and criminality against immigrants. This has isolated an adult adoptee population that upon entry into the United States was the product of saviorship from American values that have been transformed into undocumented immigrants that are eligible to be deported from the only country and family they know. These events and more have created tragic circumstances that broke the promise of

kinship and membership upon adoption into American society. This paper outlines the historical background of the creation of undocumented adoptees and the resiliency of adoptee justice advocacy groups and adoptees that have faced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

TRANSNATIONAL, ADOPTEES, CITIZENSHIP,  
DEPORTABILITY, UNDOCUMENTED

## **Can Social Institutions Awaken Sleeping Giants? A Pilot Electoral Geography Study of Latinx Voter Turnout in Texas Counties in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election**

**Ponstingel, John**  
*Texas State University*

The Latinx population is the second largest ethnic group in the United States. In Texas, nearly two-fifths of the population is classified as Latinx, and Latinx persons make up over 28 percent of the state's eligible voters. Yet, both in Texas and nationwide, Latinx turnout is consistently and disproportionately low compared to other ethnic groups. Consequently, Latinx persons are often viewed, collectively, as a "sleeping giant" in American politics—the group's weighty presence in the population has yet to make its full imprint on the ballot box. This article draws on data for the 2016 Presidential election to gain insights into the electoral geography of Latinx voter turnout in Texas. Crucially, we estimate the extent to which the presence and density of certain formal social institutions varies systematically with county-level Latinx turnout, after controlling for common determinants of voting behavior. Employing a combination of King's ecological inference (EI) and weighted least squares (WLS) regression, we find that place-based community organizations have a significant, positive relationship with Latinx turnout after accounting for common socioeconomic variables. These findings have important implications for policy and research, as they suggest a potential leverage point for waking a "sleeping giant" ahead of the 2020 election.

INSTITUTIONS, LATINX VOTER TURNOUT,  
ELECTORAL GEOGRAPHY, U.S. POLITICS, TEXAS

## **Hmong in the Twin Cities: Diaspora Experiences and Personal Identities**

**RajBhandary, Anisha**  
*Macalester College*

The Asian American "model minority" portrait, primarily based upon voluntary immigration experiences of East and South Asians with greater socio-economic resources, hardly accounts for the immigration experiences of Hmong Americans who arrived as refugees. Utilizing extensive literature review and first person interviews, this paper explores Hmong

diaspora and identity in the Twin Cities of Minnesota, analyzing how Hmong Americans reconcile with stereotypes set for Asian "model minorities" and construct their own unique identities. Through adopting the "Asian diaspora" perspective, this paper examines how Hmong Americans in the Twin Cities area create their personal identities through various connections to the history of war, the refugee experience of moving across spaces, family networks and relations, as well as the localized experience of urban livelihoods. Due to the Twin Cities Hmong community's large size and diversity, studying this community contributes a more nuanced understanding of the multitude of Hmong American urban identities.

ASIAN DIASPORA, HMONG AMERICANS, URBAN  
LIVELIHOODS, ASIAN MODEL MINORITY,  
IDENTITY, REFUGEES

## **"Where Life is Precious...": Intersectional Feminism in the Time of COVID-19**

**Rohrer, Judy**  
*Eastern Washington University*

In the liminal time-space of COVID-19, breath and life have come into high relief. We are challenged with how to scale macro and micro questions about how we live with ourselves, our communities, our institutions, other living beings, and the environment. What sort of life truly matters? Whose lives matter? In what follows, I use the breath and life to weave some thinking from Black and Indigenous feminist scholar-activists on the pandemic, the collapsing capitalist economy, the uprising for racial justice, and how all of this is coalescing in an historic moment.

FEMINISM, INTERSECTIONALITY, RACIAL JUSTICE,  
DECOLONIZATION

## **An Historical Geography of German Immigrant Labor in Baltimore, 1840-1860**

**Smith, James M.**  
*Towson University*

This paper focuses upon German immigrant labor in Baltimore from 1840-1860. The Germans formed the largest single European immigration stream to Baltimore in the nineteenth century. I rethink German immigration through the context and structural forces of the emerging world capitalist system. Germans migrated in the midst of wars, political unrest, crop failure and the rapid social changes of the industrial revolution. Key questions center upon the push factors in central Europe crucial for German immigrants to Baltimore and the pull factors in the urban region, particularly labor market opportunities that made Baltimore an important destination city. How did the skills of German immigrant labor match with

craft industries and commerce in the urban capitalist economy of Baltimore? To address these issues, I analyze data from the 1860 census for two Baltimore wards, and combine this information with broader data from the Historical Statistics of the United States, thus gaining deeper insights into immigrant life and work in Baltimore on the eve of the Civil War.

BALTIMORE, IMMIGRANT LABOR, GERMAN IMMIGRATION, INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

## **Anti-Asian Racism and the Constitution of Space in Everyday Life: Taking the Impact of the Corona-Pandemic on the Southeast Asian Communities in Germany as Example**

Suda, Kimiko

*Humboldt University of Berlin*

Taking the current racist media coverage on Covid-19 and racist discrimination against Asians and Asian Germans as example, this paper examines the interconnectedness of (post)colonial discourses and racializing marking practices and the way they are affecting the constitution of space in the everyday life of Southeast Asian Communities in Germany. In regard to methods and theories, this paper is based on discourse analysis and the analysis of the constitution of space in everyday life by referring to Reiner Keller's (2011) "sociology of knowledge approach to discourse" and Martina Löw's (2000) "sociology of space". Löw's concept includes materiality, social structures and space. First results from a collaborative research project with the title "Social Cohesion in Times of Crisis. The Corona-Pandemic and Anti-Asian Racism in Germany", will be presented in this paper. My sub-project consists of an online-survey with 500, and an in-depth diary study with 60 members of Southeast Asian communities in Germany. They were asked to share their everyday life experiences since the start of the Corona-Pandemic.

ANTI-ASIAN RACISM, CORONA, GERMANY, SPACE, DISCOURSE, QUALITATIVE SURVEY, DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

## **Constructing Arctic Conflict**

Tasch, Jeremy

*Towson University*

The Arctic as a place of contestation is popularly portrayed to have been "sparked" on August 3, 2007, when a three-man crew of the Mir-1 submersible placed a titanium Russian flag on the seafloor at the North Pole. Much of the international reaction following the global distribution of the grainy flag photograph was expressed famously by Canada's then Foreign Minister, Peter MacKay: "This isn't the fifteenth

century. You can't go around the world and just plant flags and say, 'We're claiming territory.'"

Although the placement on August 3, 2007 of a titanium flag on the seabed grabbed headlines, this was not the first time a flag was planted in the vicinity of the North Pole. And although Greenland and Denmark made it clear to President Trump that Greenland was not an empty lot with a "For sale" sign, Trump's fumbled attempt at a real estate deal did further highlight that the Arctic is increasingly viewed by some observers as an arena for geopolitical competition if not conflict. This presentation ranges across diverse news media's continued call for an "Arctic Cold War" and Hollywood's capitalizing on Cold War tropes to present the Arctic as, in fact, a much more staid place of rules and international cooperation.

ARCTIC, CRITICAL GEOPOLITICS, RUSSIA, COOPERATION

## **Socioeconomic Disparities Between the Mohegan Tribe and New London County Through Two Decades**

Wang, Michaela

*Newark Academy*

This paper employs the 1990, 2000, and 2010 United States Decennial Census to assess whether and to what extent the casino economy helped to close this socioeconomic gap between the Mohegan tribe and its surrounding community. These three Decennial Census cover two decades, from six years prior to the erection of Mohegan Sun casino to fourteen years afterwards, including the Great Recession 2007-2009. Income, employment, education and housing parameters are selected as socioeconomic indicators.

The profitable advent of the Mohegan Sun in 1996 dramatically improved the socioeconomic status of the Mohegan Tribe between 1990 and 2000. In fact, for most of these indicators—poverty, median household income, employment, home ownership, and car ownership—disparities shifted; tribal socioeconomic parameters improved from well below the level of New London County in 1990, to the same level or above the county rates in 2000.

However, economic downturn in 2007-2009 Great Recession impacted Mohegan people remarkably. By 2010, disparities for household income, employment, home ownership, education, and car ownership returned. Nevertheless, for all but tribal college graduation rates, employment, and car ownership, rates did not fall back to their pre-casino levels.

The casino bridged socioeconomic inequalities, but at the face of economic crises, the mono-product economy grew vulnerable.

INDIGENOUS, SOCIO ECONOMIC DISPARITY, NATIVE AMERICAN



**What Does China Mean to Me? An Investigation of Chinese American College Students' Ethnicity Construction**

Wang, Yan  
*University of Kentucky*

Chinese Americans' loyalty toward America has been constantly scrutinized by the American public. They have long been depicted as "inassimilable" and "alien" and thus never "real Americans. This suspicion became even stronger when China is emerged as an unneglectable entity in the world. On the contrary, Chinese public has always portrayed people of Chinese descent "the daughters and sons of Chinese nation," as if they are forever Chinese. Contextualized under this tension, this qualitative research investigated the meaning of China to those students as they engaged in their ethnic identity construction. This research is of particular importance in the current time when the confrontation between China and US is in getting accelerated. Chinese American college students' heritage language proficiency, their family/parents' association with and attitude toward China, their physical interaction with people in China, their immigration status, as well as the locale of the various intersections impacted on how Chinese American college students incorporated China into their ethnic identity construction. Though China was largely considered as their country of heritage, not their own country, the relationship between citizenship and political loyalty deserves seriously contemplation.

CHINESE AMERICAN COLLEGE STUDENTS,  
ETHNICITY, CHINA

**New Approach to Opportunity: Evaluating a Voucher Mobility Program in Charlotte, NC**

Webb, Michael D. and Atticus Jaramillo  
*University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

Encouraging households in subsidized housing to move to opportunity neighborhoods has long been a policy goal. This paper presents the design and early outcomes from an implementation and outcomes evaluation of INLIVIAN's (formerly the Charlotte Housing Authority) Opportunity Housing program. Using flexibility provided by the agency's participation in the Moving to Work demonstration, this innovative program leverages the mobility of Housing Choice Vouchers to assist 100 households with young children (under age 8) in moving to opportunity neighborhoods in Charlotte and surrounding communities.

The evaluation aims to address the following questions:

\*What are the characteristics of program participants, what are their motivations for joining

the program, and how do they perceive the services provided?

\*How do the neighborhood conditions of program participants change after enrolling in the Opportunity Housing program?

\*What barriers do staff face in implementing the Opportunity Housing program? How can implementation be improved?

\*How do landlords and property managers in opportunity neighborhoods perceive the program, and does it change their perception of tenants with vouchers?

PUBLIC HOUSING, HOUSING VOUCHERS,  
CHARLOTTE, NEIGHBORHOODS

**Black Feminisms, Black Misrecognition, and Syndemic Racism in the Urban US and South Africa**

Woodard, Davon  
*Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*

Modern South Africa and the United States have evolved through differing political and economic histories. However, today, in both countries, many Black residents experience similar urban spatial, social and economic realities. Grounded in Black feminist voices this paper, first, situates case study cities, Chicago, IL, USA and Johannesburg, South Africa, as palimpsest sites of Sylvia Wynter's ethnoclass conceptualization of 'Man' and 'other' reified through the profession of urban planning. Second, grounds the continued political, social, and economic misrecognition of Black residents in this historical, and contemporary, syndemic racism.

BLACK FEMINISM, URBAN PLANNING, US,  
SOUTH AFRICA

**Geography of COVID-19 and Asian Americans: Vulnerability, Infection, and Anti-Discrimination**

Xie, Siqiao, Wei Li and Yining Tan  
*Arizona State University*

The purpose of this article is to report and analyze the double victimization among Asians/Asian Americans during COVID-19, including their vulnerability to infection and anti-Asian racism. We construct an Asian-specific Social Vulnerability Index (ASVI) to compare with the CDC SVI, mapping them out nationally to visualize the differential geographical patterns. We then conduct an empirical study of the state of California with both correlation analysis and GIS mapping to explore the association of ASVI with Asian COVID-19 infection cases and death rate, and anti-Asian discrimination and hate crimes. We conclude that the method of constructing ASVI may be applied to other

# Paper Abstracts

vulnerable groups. The research findings contribute to our knowledge of the unequal social outcomes of pandemics across people and place. The article ends with further discussion to summarize findings, reveal data limitations, suggest future research directions and provide policy suggestions.

ASIAN, SOCIAL VULNERABILITY, MORAL PANIC,  
COVID-19, CALIFORNIA

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# Workshop Abstracts

## **Workshop - Getting the Word Out about Geography: how to extend your work beyond the academy**

Organized by the American Association of Geographers and facilitated by Emily Fekete, Coline Dony and Lisa Schames

Raising awareness about the work of geographers starts with you! Past AAG Presidents have often called for geographers to actively pursue opportunities to highlight their work in venues beyond academic journals. For example, Derek Alderman utilized storytelling as a method to call for increased public communication and broadening publications under his geography is R.E.A.L. initiative, while David Kaplan argued that geographers must start developing alt-ac skills for the growing market. Yet, cultivating a circulation strategy beyond academic journals requires time because we are trained in academic writing and may be unsure of how to translate our work for different outlets or audiences. Students may be interested in pursuing careers where writing for the general public or promoting geographic ideas is a vital component of their daily job duties.

This workshop is meant to help you see how to articulate your academic writing across different forms of media. Participants in this workshop, in any stage of their career from students to later career professionals, can expect to:

- Familiarize themselves with the growth of alt-metrics and the changing scholarly publication landscape

- Learn about outlets outside of research journals for promoting their work such as blogs, vlogs, podcasts, social media, invited talks, op-eds, etc.

- Explore the different geographic and demographic audiences of particular media

- Discuss in small groups experiences with public scholarship

- Develop actionable plans to move forward with their own writing agenda

- Understand funding sources available to support public education

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION, ALT-ACADEMIC CAREERS, NON-ACADEMIC WRITING, MEDIA, WORKSHOP



# Race, Ethnicity, and Place

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