



Maryland Population Research Center

in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
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Newsletter

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New Faculty Associates

Bianaca Bersani, Associate Professor, Criminology, is a life course criminologist, studying factors that facilitate and hinder high-risk and illegal behavior over age. Her work is aimed at understanding how development during emerging adulthood influences engagement in crime and if / how engagement with the legal system influences this development. Other areas of research include a focus on the immigrant-crime nexus. Framed by a life course perspective, she is curious about differences over context and especially socio-historical time.



Angel Dunbar, Assistant Professor, African American Studies, works to illuminate the



precise mechanisms by which discrimination impacts mental health and the family, community, and individual characteristics that disrupt these mechanisms to promote positive youth adaptation. She utilizes

a range of methodologies - including survey, observation, and physiological markers - with advanced statistical modeling to address the precise mechanisms by which racial / ethnic discrimination negatively impacts the social-emotional, psychological, and academic outcomes of children of color. (See *Recent Awards*, page 3)

Arianna Gard, Assistant Professor, Psychology, examines the influence of environmental factors on health and behavior across the lifespan, with a particular focus on the adolescent period. She uses a variety of biological methodologies to probe the mechanisms of



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Director's Note

Welcome back all. I thank our MPRC staff once more for their great efforts to bring MPRC back to near pre-pandemic normalcy. We are now combining a daily in-person presence at Morrill Hall with continuing flexibility for hybrid onsite and virtual research infrastructure support. I also congratulate Heide Jackson on being promoted to Associate Research Professor and Scientific and Technical Core Faculty Director. Heide continues in the STC Statistical Coordinator role, with new relationships now with OACS and DIT for server computing and secure-data access, in addition to ongoing onsite secure-data access in Morrill Hall, and with ongoing statistical programming software and short course provision ("Missing Data and Multiple Imputation" and "Introduction to the MPRC Server" last fall; "What's New in Stata?" and "Using R and R Markdown" already planned for the Spring). I am very grateful to William Fennie for assuming responsibility for the STC roles of maintaining and updating our Morrill Hall audiovisual and computing hardware and network services, in addition to his ongoing Information Services Coordinator role. On the research side, I especially want to congratulate MPRC Faculty Associate, Professor of Sociology, and Journal of Marriage and Family Editor Liana Sayer on having received the two five-year renewal NICHD grants noted in this newsletter, the "Time Use Data for Health and Well Being" R01 research grant and the "Time Use Across the Life Course: Family Inequality and Multigenerational Well-Being" R13 conference grant. I also want to thank Wade Jacobsen and colleagues



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Sponsored Workshop

The Social Contexts of Adolescent Wellbeing

Organized by MPRC Associate Wade Jacobsen and co-sponsored by the Department of Criminology and the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, this one-day symposium will feature two keynote speakers, a panel of seven scholars, and two moderators. They will discuss Adolescent wellbeing from multiple perspectives in a full one-day program on **February 7, 2023**, that will include numerous opportunities for interaction, questions, and insight.

Christopher R. Browning, Distinguished Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University, will discuss "Racial Differences in Activity Space Disadvantage and Everyday Perceptions of Safety: Implications for Understanding Health Disparities".



Dawn Witherspoon, McCourtney Family Early Career Professor of Psychology, Penn State University, will present "What's Place Got to do with It? A Cultural-Developmental Approach to Understand the Impact of Place and Race on Diverse Youth and Families."

Panelists will include **Héctor Alcalá**, Behavioral and Community Health; **Amelia Branigan**, Sociology; **Angel Dunbar**, African American Studies; **Wade Jacobsen**, Criminology; **Nolan Pope**, Economics; and **Sophia Rodriguez**, Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership, of the University of Maryland; and **Cassie McMillan**, Criminology, of Northeastern University.

Session Chairs will be **Rod Brunson**, Criminology; **Kerry Green**, Behavioral and Community Health. Moderators will be **Jean McGloin**, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; and **Lauren Porter**, Criminology. All are University of Maryland scholars.

Research Profile

Katrina Walsemann, Public Policy

Network on Education, Biosocial Pathways, and Dementia across Diverse Populations, NIA, \$420,878

Despite the high prevalence of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD), we have yet to develop clinical interventions that can substantially slow or reverse the course of dementia. One of the most powerful determinants of ADRD, educational attainment, remains poorly understood. To advance scientific understanding of how, why, and for whom education relates to ADRD, Professor Walsemann and her team propose to build an interdisciplinary network of ADRD scientists whose joint expertise is vital to achieving NIA's goal to reduce educational disparities in ADRD: population health scientists, with expertise in the behaviors that shape dementia risk and resilience, and ADRD researchers, with expertise in the biology and neurocognitive aspects of ADRD. The Network will advance scientific understanding of how education relates to ADRD disparities by exploring the socioeconomic, social, psychological, and biological mechanisms that shape resilience and risk and if these patterns differ by race and ethnicity. Identifying and clarifying mechanisms is needed to inform interventions to reduce educational disparities in ADRD. The NIH-funded longitudinal population-based studies that form the core data resources linked to this network, and the Network's leadership, will advance education and ADRD science by establishing an interdisciplinary Network of new, emerging, and established ADRD scientists who will apply cutting-edge methods and techniques from their respective disciplines to answer complex questions about the education-ADRD relationship. The Network will develop new and emerging ADRD scholars, quickly integrate them into the field, and facilitate and elevate their scholarship to have high and sustained impact in education and ADRD. It also will facilitate research collaboration and professional development via annual meetings, small working groups, pilot awards, and workshops. Annual meetings and working groups will provide venues for new and emerging ADRD scholars to develop collaborations with established ADRD scholars across disciplinary boundaries and pilot awards will support collaborative research projects.



New Affiliates

External Affiliates

Mieke Eeckhaut, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Delaware, examines the social and health consequences of social stratification for the family, with current work focusing on inequalities in the use of long-acting contraceptive methods (sterilization, and intrauterine devices and implants) in the United States. She has taken an appointment as Visiting Associate Professor at MPRC and is contributing to the development of scholarly materials based on the DelCAN Evaluation Project. Her recent work has been published in *Demography*, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Demographic Research*, and other journals.

Lori Zehr, U.S. Census Bureau, is a demographer and statistician currently working on activities involving the harmonization and integration of large-scale survey, administrative record, and third-party data sources to enhance or construct subject-matter frames. She also examined the effects of inequalities in parents' income for a recent cohort of U.S. women on inequalities in timing and sequence of young adults' family formation through their early 30s. She focused on how going to college, and financing college with student loans, may be mechanisms through which parental income affects family formation.

Postdoctoral Fellow

Meg Bishop, Family Science, leverages approaches at the nexus of demography, public health, and developmental psychology to examine the developmental and cultural contexts that support LGBTQ+ youth to thrive across the life course. Their current project will use large-scale secondary data (California Healthy Kids Survey) as well as primary data to examine developmental differences in the prevalence and mechanisms of alcohol use among adolescents with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.

Seed Grant Funding

Since our last report the standard call and COVID-19 calls together brought eight proposals of which six were awarded.

Mónica Caudillo

Infant Health during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Mexico
With Co-Is Andres Villarreal and Florencia Torche

Angel Dunbar

Linking Racial Disparities in School Discipline to Black Children's Suicidality
With Co-Is Kamilah Legette, Arielle Sheftall

Sangeetha Madhavan

Kinship, Marriage and Child Health in Kenya: From the Perspective of Men
With Co-Is Kirsten Stoebenau SPH, Ken Leonard AREC, Mike Wagner AASD

Collin Mueller

Linked Lives in Unsettled Times: A Mixed-Methods Study of Racialized Familial Disruption in the Context of U.S. Social Instability - COVID-19
With Co-Is Tony Cheng, UC-Irvine; Theresa Rocha Beardall, University of Washington

Sergio Urzua

Lockdowns and Labor Market Dynamics - COVID-19

Dahai Yue

Life consequences of school quality during childhood and adolescence

Our ongoing Rapid-Response call (see item, right) generated an additional two proposals, both of which were awarded.

Policy Changes and Public Health Crises

In response to a recent call for projects on the Impact of Policy Changes and Emerging and Evolving Public Health Crises on NICHD Populations of Interest, the MPRC Seed Grant program now features an ongoing Rapid Response call. Two Seed Grants have been awarded to date.

Heide Jackson

Evaluating the list experiment method for reproductive health behavior in six U.S. states

Julia Steinberg

Mental health and pregnancy outcomes after being denied an abortion due to the *Dobbs v Jackson* Supreme Court decision
With Co-Is Diana Greene Foster, Antonia Biggs

neighborhood- and family-level influences on developmental outcomes, including functional MRI, genetics and epigenetics, and physiological markers of stress. A prominent feature of her work is to increase sociodemographic diversity in neurobiological research by including historically under-represented groups in research design and implementation.

Amy Morgan, Assistant Professor, Family Science, examines the health of families impacted by incarceration.

Incarcerated people often represent the most marginalized within our society, including economic minorities, people of color, and undocumented citizens.

She uses both qualitative and quantitative research to identify the health, well-being, and resilience processes of individuals and families impacted by incarceration. Future research will employ population health data to better understand the effects of incarceration on family inequality and health.



Thu Nguyen, Associate Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, examines the impact



of discrimination and racial bias on health disparities. She has examined U.S. trends in encounters of health care discrimination overall and stratified by race / ethnicity and investigated the relationship

between health care discrimination and biomarkers of cardiometabolic risk. In other research, she developed a place-level measure of racial climate from Twitter data and examined its association with birth and cardiovascular outcomes. Dr. Nguyen's current research uses online and social media data to track and detect changes in area-level racial bias and to identify local and national race-related events.

Population Working Papers Series

MPRC maintains a Population Working Paper Series. Faculty Associates are invited to upload work that is journal-submission ready to establish their research commitments to an audience of population researchers. For information, contact the Information Services personnel at mprc-support@umd.edu.

Recent Grant Submissions

During the past year MPRC personnel helped researchers to propose more than \$7.3 million in new funding. Proposals marked with an asterisk () have been funded. Recent Awards are listed below.*

Michel Boudreaux

Wildfires and Infant Health, NIEH R01 resubmission, \$3,696,016

Sonalde Desai

* Enhancing the Utility of the India Human Development Survey, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, \$450,000

School-Feeding Programs and Nutritional Outcomes for Vulnerable Children, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, \$99,961.

Heide Jackson

Can List Experiments Improve Measures of Abortion Prevalence and Understanding of Disparities?, Society for Family Planning, \$49,919

Heide Jackson and Michael Rendall

Evaluating Indirect Survey Question Methods on Reproductive Health Behavior, NICHD R21, \$446,401

State differences in cumulative lifetime abortion incidence and its socio-demographic associations in the years immediately preceding *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, NICHD R03, \$156,000

Wade Jacobsen

The Impact of Longitudinal Social Networks on Young Adult Substance Misuse and Recovery, NIDA subcontract from Northeastern, \$97,172

Off-Record Suspension as a mechanism of Inequality in School Discipline, W.T. Grant Foundation, \$344,290

Ken Leonard / Sangeetha Madhavan

Transitions to Adulthood and Transmission of Inequality as seen in a 30-Year Panel from Kagera, Tanzania, NICHD R01, \$1,348,333.

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Recent Awards

Following are some of the projects awarded to MPRC Associates over the last year.

Sonalde Desai

Enhancing the Utility of the India Health & Development Survey, Gates Foundation, \$449,999, 08/11/22 - 05/31/25

Angel Dunbar

Linking Racial Disparities in School Discipline to Black Youth Suicidality, National Institute on Mental Health R21, \$450,438, 09/01/22 - 08/31/23

Typhanyee Dyer

Latent class analysis of syndemic factors associated with HIV care outcomes among women living with HIV in the South, NIMH subcontract from UNC Greensboro, \$77,576, 07/13/2022 - 06/30/2024

Training for Scientists Conducting Research to Reduce HIV/AIDS Health Disparities, NIMH subcontract from UC San Francisco, \$19,999, 09/01/2022 - 04/30/2024.

Jessica Fish

Sexual orientation, gender identity, and alcohol use: A multi-method analysis of developmental differences and key mechanisms, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism F32, \$68,388, 03/01/23 - 02/29/24

Implementing Tobacco Control Strategies to Achieve Health Equity: Engaging LGBTQ Communities in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, Maryland Department of Health, \$125,000, 02/01/22 - 06/30/26

Susan Parker

Initial effects of program elimination on school enrollment and child health outcomes, NICHD R21, \$424,393, 02/18/22 - 04/30/24

Devon Paynes-Sturges

Research Employing Environmental Systems and Occupational Health Policy Analyses to Interrupt the Impact of Structural Racism on Agricultural Workers and Their Respiratory Health (RESPIRAR), National Institute on Environmental Health Sciences R01, \$767,058, 09/01/22 - 06/30/27

Liana Sayer

Time Use Across the Life Course: Family Inequality and Multigenerational Well-Being, NICHD R13, \$50,000, 05/01/22 - 04/30/27

Time Use Data for Health and Well Being, NICHD R01, \$3,178,483, 07/01/22 - 04/30/27

Katrina Walsemann

Network on Education, Biosocial Pathways, and Dementia across Diverse Populations, NIA R24, \$1,895,216, 07/15/22 - 04/30/27

The role of early educational contexts in differential genetic susceptibility to cognitive impairment and dementia, NIA K02, \$723,775, 08/01/22 - 07/31/27.

Research Profile

Devon Payne-Sturges, Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health

Research Employing Environmental Systems and Occupational Health Policy Analyses to Interrupt the Impact of Structural Racism on Agricultural Workers and Their Respiratory Health (RESPIRAR). National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, \$767,058



Structural racism (SR) has been defined as the macro level systems, social forces, institutions, ideologies, and processes that interact with one another to generate and reinforce inequities among racial / ethnic groups. The mechanisms of SR are “unseen” and thus understudied and typically not incorporated into public health interventions. For example, 2.5 million hired farmworkers in the U.S., who overwhelmingly are Black and / or Latinx, live in economically segregated communities with substandard and crowded housing conditions, unsafe or limited water. that render COVID-19 preventive measures such as hand hygiene and social distancing challenging, if not impossible. Additionally, migrant and seasonal farmworkers (MSFWs) are among the lowest paid workers and lack access to health information, preventive care, and medical treatment. To better protect the health of Black and / or Latinx MSFWs and design an equitable response to the inevitable next pandemic, research is needed to understand and dismantle the structural and institutional drivers of health inequities. Dr. Payne-Sturges’ project aims to address this critical need through an innovative community-driven, multilevel and multidisciplinary approach study to: examine the relationships between migrant labor housing policy regimes, indoor air quality, exposure to viruses (e.g., SARS-CoV-2) and respiratory health of MSFWs over time; it plans to characterize structural pathways through which COVID-19 policy and regulatory responses interact and influence racialized health outcomes among MSFWs through a community-based system dynamics group modeling approach; further, the team will evaluate the influence of agricultural migrant employment, public health and housing policy on COVID-19 epidemics across selected agricultural states using a quasi-experimental study design. It is expected that results from the project will inform the design of policies and best practices to counter long-standing mechanisms of SR impacting MSFWs, to optimize living and working conditions for better health protections, and to control future outbreaks of infectious disease among these invisible and vulnerable workers.

2023 Spring Seminars, Workshops, and Events

A full schedule of seminars and other events is planned for Spring 2023. Seminars will be held with a mix of in-person and online formats.

The Spring series will open with a presentation from **Cassie McMillan**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Criminology, and Criminal Justice, Northwestern University. Presentations by **Shareen Joshi**, Georgetown University; **Clare Barrington**, Univer-

sity of North Carolina; **Luciana Gandini**, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM); **Corinne Low**, University of Pennsylvania; **Sonalde Desai**, Distinguished University Professor, University of Maryland, and current President of the PAA; **Gunnar Andersson**, Stockholm University; **Sam Trejo**, Princeton University; **Marcos Rangel**, Duke University; **Rebecca Thornton**, Baylor University; and **Sangeetha Madhavan**, University of Maryland, will follow.

As usual, the Spring series will provide the opportunity for a practice session for graduate students presenting at the upcoming PAA Annual Meeting in April.

The student-organized Journal Club will host two meetings this Spring as well.

The complete Spring schedule and detailed information on topics and speakers can be found in the Events section of the MPRC website.



McMillan

Director’s Note, continued from page 1

for putting together the exciting multi-disciplinary symposium on Adolescent Wellbeing described on page 1 of this Newsletter.

Finally, we are delighted to include in this Spring’s Seminar Series a preview presentation from Distinguished University Professor Sonalde Desai of her April 2023 PAA Presidential Address. We all have much to look forward to in the semester and year ahead.

Proposals Submitted, continued from page 3

Susan Parker

Disabilities, Skill Formation, and Adult Outcomes in Mexico, NICHD subcontract from UPenn, \$193,128

Impact of Mandatory Preprimary on Learning in a Developing Country, NIH R21 subcontract from UPenn, \$443,720

Thurka Sangaramoorthy

UMD-Ethiopia Research Partnership on Climate Change and Global Health, Burroughs Wellcome Fund, \$50,000

Summer Research Fellowship Awards

Constanza Hurtado, Sociology, was awarded this year’s Suzanne M. Bianchi Summer Research Award for her proposal, “Women’s Employment Trajectories and Union Formation in Mexico.” The Bianchi Award commemorates the work of Dr. Bianchi by providing summer funding for a student who plans to present their work at the following year’s PAA conference.

Seungwan Kim, Sociology, also received summer support for his proposal, “Internal Migration and Women’s Labor Force Participation in South Africa.”

Both scholars will be presenting their work at the upcoming PAA Annual Meeting in New Orleans this Spring.

2022 PAA Annual Meeting

A diverse group of 25 MPRC Faculty Associates and 17 Student Affiliates participated in the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America in a variety of roles. Faculty Associates presented 9 papers in oral sessions and 4 posters, and co-authored 11 others. Student Research Affiliates presented 11 papers and 7 posters. Ten Faculty Associates served as Session Chairs and 4 served as Discussants.

2021 Bianchi Scholar **Francisco Lagos Martin** presented “Demographic Changes, School Diversity, and Long-Term Economic Opportunity” in person in Atlanta. Faculty and students are preparing now for the 2023 Annual Meeting in New Orleans this April, where **Sonalde Desai** will give her President’s Address paper.



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