From the Director

Friends, colleagues, and supporters of the Center,

The 2016 presidential election has made clear that the work of the Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) is needed now more than ever. Our current racially charged political climate suggests that things may get worse before they get better. As we are all aware, the last few years have been filled with racial conflict and ridden with violence. Like many of you, I sometimes get discouraged and wonder if I’ve been wasting my time. The answer is no. But we have much further to go to combat racism in this country than I had imagined.

Social media have helped to expose much of the racism previously hidden from public view. I think all Americans have been surprised by the depths and pervasiveness of racism in our country. For most of us, it is contrary to our hopes and dreams for America, while it has been a rude awakening for others who have been in denial as to the existence of race problems in America.

In 2002, when we began the center, some questioned the need for a center that addressed race—falsely believing that our society had become a postracial one. Well, nobody’s saying that today. In light of this fact, I would like to personally thank the University of Pittsburgh for its wholehearted support and uninterrupted funding of the Center on Race and Social Problems for the past 15 years. We commend Pitt because many universities would not have supported a center with race in its title at the beginning of this century.

This past year was a good year for the center. Our devoted Research Advisory Panel (RAP) chairs allowed the center’s research to influence numerous new disciplines at Pitt. And we funded two pilot studies this year. One focused on African American families and youths, with Lovie Jackson Foster developing tools for parents to effectively communicate cultural strengths and challenges to their children. The other pilot study award went to Jaime Booth, who is partnering with the Latino Family Center to explore stress factors in Latino adolescents.

We once again offered our Summer Institutes, which keep the center connected to the community and address issues of national importance. This summer, we hosted three institutes: one with the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police in which strategies for helping to improve community relations were discussed, a second led by James Huguley on disparities in higher education, and a third led by Helen Cahalane in which a national panel of experts spoke about disproportionality in the child welfare system.

In addition, the center hosted several special events, including a “state of the city” speech by Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto and a moving tribute to the late civil rights leader Julian Bond, who was a friend of the center.

Our students traveled to Cuba to learn about race and other social problems. We also supported the work of our talented and committed CRSP fellows, who work in some of Pittsburgh’s most distressed schools.

These are just a few of the activities in which the center engaged this past year. I invite you to join us at one of our excellent lectures, generously supported by the law firms of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC and Reed Smith LLP. If you are unable to visit the center, you can find all of our lecture videos, reports, and other materials in our Race Research Online Directory at crsp.pitt.edu.

Thank you for your support.

Larry E. Davis, director, Center on Race and Social Problems
Dean and Donald M. Henderson Professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work
Mission

Although progress has been made since the days of Jim Crow, many of America’s race-related problems still remain. Race and ethnicity matter in virtually all aspects of our society and are likely to matter more as our society becomes even more diverse.

The mission of the University of Pittsburgh Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) is to conduct applied social science research on race, ethnicity, and color and their influence on the quality of life of all Americans. The University of Pittsburgh established the center in 2002 to help lead America forward along the path to social justice. The center is interdisciplinary in its approach and multiracial in its focus and is the first race-related center to be housed in a school of social work.

Goals

The goals of the center are as follows:

- Foster high-quality, multidisciplinary research on racial issues. CRSP aims to achieve this goal by developing new knowledge and gaining substantial local and national funding for research.
- Mentor scholars who focus on race-related research. CRSP aims to accomplish this goal by providing students, postdoctoral fellows, faculty members, and other scholars with guidance and support in project design, proposal development and presentation, data gathering and analysis, and publishing.
- Disseminate race-related knowledge and information. CRSP aims to accomplish this goal by providing talks, forums, conferences, lectures, summer institutes, and courses.

Areas of Focus

The center focuses on race-related social problems in the following seven areas:

- Criminal justice
- Economic disparities
- Educational disparities
- Families, youth, and the elderly
- Health disparities
- Interracial group relations
- Mental health

Activities and Functions

Aligning itself with the mission of the University of Pittsburgh, the center is engaged in the following activities and functions:

Research

Executing a high-quality, multidisciplinary applied research program is at the core of the center’s mission. Faculty members who work with the center are encouraged to focus on developing realistic and achievable solutions to the topics they address.

Faculty members affiliated with the center are organized into groups based on the seven problem areas addressed by the center. These groups, called research advisory panels, bring together faculty, students, and practitioners with similar interests to work individually or in groups to develop new research initiatives.

Addressing race-related problems requires a wide range of expertise. The center establishes and maintains relationships with interested faculty members from across the University and provides these social scientists with an identity and a location for research and training on racial topics. The center aids University researchers in developing and obtaining external funding for their projects.

Finally, the center strives to become a national resource for race-related social science information for both academics and the general public, and it serves as a collection site for questionnaires, instruments, and relevant research resources.

Service

With a focus on, but not limited to, the Pittsburgh region, the Center on Race and Social Problems serves the informational needs of the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. It provides the community with both data and technical assistance, conducts special studies on current issues, and disseminates research findings. Interested citizens can attend the center’s seminars, lectures, and conferences to gather information or engage in dialogue on race-related issues. They also are encouraged to go to the center’s Web site for up-to-date information on newsletters, papers, books, conferences, summer institutes, and course offerings.

Education

Students interested in race-related issues have a variety of opportunities to get involved with the center’s research. The center educates, trains, and mentors scholars from the undergraduate to the postdoctoral level. A position on a research project affords individuals the opportunity to gain not only valuable skills and experience but also funding for their education. The center also offers graduate courses on race and related social problems.

Academic Advisory Committee

The center is guided by an academic advisory committee of experts from a range of disciplines at the University of Pittsburgh and across the country.

The University of Pittsburgh members are as follows:

Gerald Cochran, School of Social Work
Willa Dowwell, School of Nursing
Sara Goodkind, School of Social Work
Edmund Ricci, Graduate School of Public Health
John Wallace Jr., School of Social Work
Hidenori Yamatani, School of Social Work

Members from outside the University of Pittsburgh are as follows:

Alfred Blumstein, Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University
Patricia Garin, Program on Intergroup Relations, University of Michigan
James Jackson, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
Ruth McRoy, School of Social Work, Boston College
Michael Sherraden, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis
Robert Taylor, School of Social Work, University of Michigan

“...Jim Crow may be dead, but racism is alive and well. That is the central fact of life for every non-White American, including the president of the United States, eclipsing income, position, and education. Race trumps them all.”

—Julian Bond (1940–2015)
at the 2010 Race in America Conference, University of Pittsburgh
See the tribute on page 13.
Research Advisory Panels

Faculty members affiliated with the center are organized into research advisory panels (RAPs) based on the center’s seven areas of focus. RAPs bring together faculty members with similar interests to share their research and publications and work individually or in groups to publish and develop new research initiatives. RAPs in 2015–16 focused on the following areas:

- **Criminal Justice:** examines racial disparities in the criminal justice system and seeks strategies for reducing racism and increasing fairness in the treatment of all citizens.
- **Economic Disparities:** examines racial disparities in economic conditions, access to opportunities, and outcomes for workers and business owners.
- **Educational Disparities:** studies racial differences in levels of attainment and seeks to improve outcomes from early to postsecondary education.
- **Families, Youth, and the Elderly:** examines the shifting patterns in family composition and their consequences; trends in the quality of life of parents, children, and the elderly; and alternative family composition and their consequences.
- **Health Disparities:** examines racial disparities in health conditions across the life span, access to and quality of care, and strategies for reducing disparities.
- **Interracial Group Relations:** examines racial disparities in health conditions across the life span, access to and quality of care, and strategies for reducing disparities.
- **Mental Health:** examines the relevance of race and culture in relation to mental health services access and outcomes.

**RAP chairs in 2015–16 were as follows:**

- **Criminal Justice:** Jeffrey Shook, School of Social Work
- **Economic Disparities:** Waverly Duck, Department of Sociology
- **Educational Disparities:** James Huguley, School of Social Work
- **Families, Youth, and the Elderly:** Fengyan Tang, School of Social Work
- **Health Disparities:** Daniel Rosen, School of Social Work
- **Interracial Group Relations:** Ashley Woodson, School of Education
- **Mental Health:** Shaun Eack, School of Social Work

Ongoing Externally Funded Research Projects

**Monitoring the Future: Drug Use and Lifestyles of American Youth**

John M. Wallace Jr. (School of Social Work) is a coinvestigator on this project with Lloyd Johnston, Jerald Bachman, Patrick O'Malley, and John Schulienberg (University of Michigan).

Funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse
August 2012–July 2017

Monitoring the Future is an ongoing epidemiological research and reporting project that began in 1975 and has become one of the nation’s principal sources of reliable information on trends in drug use among adolescents and young adults. The goals of this study are to (1) examine within- and between-group racial/ethnic differences and similarities in patterns, trends, and correlates of drug-related attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors; (2) conduct racial/ ethnic- and gender-specific analyses that seek to identify whether risk and protective factors found to be important for White males and females are also important correlates and predictors for non-White youths; and (3) investigate the mechanisms through which individual and contextual-level religiosity influences substance use.

**Problems and Remedies Regarding Racial Disproportionality and School Disciplinary Problems in Greater Pittsburgh and Beyond**

James Huguley (School of Social Work) is the principal investigator.

Funded by the Heinz Endowments
September 2014–September 2015

This project examines the existing literature on the mechanisms of the school-to-prison pipeline, how they interrelate to affect student justice system involvement, this overall process’ relation to racial disproportionality in school discipline, and the degree to which local school discipline policies and practices are equipped to remedy racial inequalities in these areas. Ultimately, this effort will produce a set of best practice, advocacy, and policy recommendations specific to the greater Pittsburgh social, cultural, and political context. These recommendations will in turn assist in the design and support of local efforts to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline and racial disproportionality in ways that might make greater Pittsburgh a model for urban regions nationally.

**Black High-achieving Adolescents in STEM Fields: Planning the STEM Star Initiative in Greater Pittsburgh**

James Huguley (School of Social Work) is a coinvestigator.

Funded by the Heinz Endowments
September 2014–September 2015

This project examines the existing literature on the mechanisms of the school-to-prison pipeline, how they interrelate to affect student justice system involvement, this overall process’ relation to racial disproportionality in school discipline, and the degree to which local school discipline policies and practices are equipped to remedy racial inequalities in these areas. Ultimately, this effort will produce a set of best practice, advocacy, and policy recommendations specific to the greater Pittsburgh social, cultural, and political context. These recommendations will in turn assist in the design and support of local efforts to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline and racial disproportionality in ways that might make greater Pittsburgh a model for urban regions nationally.

**Ask Me, Hear Me**

Lovie Jackson Foster (School of Social Work) is the principal investigator.

Funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
October 2014–September 2017

This project examines the existing literature on the mechanisms of the school-to-prison pipeline, how they interrelate to affect student justice system involvement, this overall process’ relation to racial disproportionality in school discipline, and the degree to which local school discipline policies and practices are equipped to remedy racial inequalities in these areas. Ultimately, this effort will produce a set of best practice, advocacy, and policy recommendations specific to the greater Pittsburgh social, cultural, and political context. These recommendations will in turn assist in the design and support of local efforts to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline and racial disproportionality in ways that might make greater Pittsburgh a model for urban regions nationally.

**Disparities in college-level STEM enrollment and persistence are tied to economic and racial gaps in K–12 school preparation. Yet while remedies have been elusive in K–12 education, a substantial body of literature on college students has documented the essential components of highly effective initiatives for developing Black high-achievers in postsecondary STEM programs. Accordingly, this planning initiative is designed to collaborate with said college-based STEM programs in order to adapt their core features for implementation at the secondary level. Collaborative activities include site visits to successful programs, sharing of best practices, and consulting on program development. It is expected that the planning and exploration proposed here will result in the implementation of a pilot program in a greater Pittsburgh school district for the fall of 2016.**

**Planning the STEM Star Initiative in Greater Pittsburgh and Beyond**

James Huguley (School of Social Work) is the principal investigator.

Funded by the Heinz Endowments
September 2014–September 2015

This project examines the existing literature on the mechanisms of the school-to-prison pipeline, how they interrelate to affect student justice system involvement, this overall process’ relation to racial disproportionality in school discipline, and the degree to which local school discipline policies and practices are equipped to remedy racial inequalities in these areas. Ultimately, this effort will produce a set of best practice, advocacy, and policy recommendations specific to the greater Pittsburgh social, cultural, and political context. These recommendations will in turn assist in the design and support of local efforts to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline and racial disproportionality in ways that might make greater Pittsburgh a model for urban regions nationally.
Current Pilot Studies

Evaluating the Potential Effectiveness of a School-based Trauma Intervention for African American Urban Youth: A Needs Assessment

James Huguley, Shaun Eack, and John M. Wallace Jr. (School of Social Work) and Ming-Te Wang (School of Education)
Funded in 2015

Urban schools are currently struggling to serve students who are facing tough contextual factors that inhibit their readiness for learning. In fact, more than 30 percent of youth in inner cities demonstrate symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder—rates that are twice the rates of soldiers returning from active duty. To date, however, adequate support for trauma-related issues among inner-city youth has been limited, and existing programs often are not designed to help African American students function in the face of ongoing traumatic stimuli.

In response, this project has been designed to assess the potential for the use of cognitive enhancement therapy (CET) in high-needs school communities. CET is a well-established mental health intervention that, unlike many other trauma therapies, assumes that the challenges to cognition are ongoing and not in the past (such as in the case of returning from combat). CET focuses on buffering neurological and social cognitions in ways that help individuals to succeed under cognitive adversity. Moreover, the psychoeducational component of CET can be used to incorporate ideas of racial and social justice in ways that help clients more effectively to conceptualize the contextual challenges that are impacting their mental health.

This project is currently under way. In the spring and fall of 2016, the team will be partnering with local high-needs school districts to assess the need for this intervention. The team has and will survey students to determine whether this intervention would be helpful for their present challenges. Findings from this study will be used to leverage additional funding for interventions in participating districts.


Lovie Jackson Foster (School of Social Work) and Balaji Palanisamy (School of Information Sciences)
Funded in 2016

The first part of the study will focus on designing the A+ FamCare education modules and mobile app in order to engage parents and master’s students from instructional design and social work in translating key components of parental strengths into Web-based module content for African American parents.

The second phase of the study will implement the Web-based module content for African American parents in a usability pilot to evaluate likability, usability, satisfaction, and effects on perceived knowledge and self-efficacy for communicating with one’s children about African American strengths and social problems. Modules will be delivered to participants in phases that will allow us to (1) gather user data on individual modules, (2) make improvements on subsequent modules before they are delivered/piloted, and (3) reevaluate usability of the improved modules with a second pilot group.

The third phase of the trial will develop a paper prototype design to deliver the modules in a future efficacy and dissemination trial.

Exploring the Role of Ethnic Identity in Latino Youths’ Experience of Acculturation Stress and Its Health Outcomes in an Emerging Latino Community

Jaime Booth (School of Social Work), Laura Macia (Center for Health Equity), and Rosamaria Cristello (Latino Family Center)
Funded in 2016

Partnering with the Latino Family Center, this study aims to explore Latino youths’ ethnic identity and its relationship to acculturation stress, assess the relationship between acculturation stress and the youths’ well-being, and test the effect of participating in an arts-based participatory research method on Latino youth outcomes.

Latinos are the fastest growing minority population in the United States. Latino youths account for an even larger portion of the total youth population (24.4 percent) and are expected to increase to 33.5 percent of the total in 2060. Latino youths are experiencing disparities in health and mental health outcomes. Nationally, Latino adolescents report higher rates of early substance use initiation and a sharper increase in mental health issues than their Black and White counterparts. More specifically, feelings of sadness or hopelessness were higher for Latino youths compared to Black and White youths. Latino youths also are more likely to have considered suicide, and Latinas are much more likely to have attempted suicide. Latino youths also have the highest rates of having ever smoked a cigarette and having ever drunk alcohol, and Latinas have the highest rates of current alcohol use of any group.

Acculturation and acculturation stress are important factors impacting youths’ health and well-being. Acculturation has been defined as a process by which immigrants and their children adopt the values, beliefs, customs, and lifestyles of the culture of the

Pilot studies are funded by the Center on Race and Social Problems. Funds are made available each year for qualified University applicants. Visit crsp.pitt.edu for more information.
The purpose of this study was to examine the association between experiences of racial discrimination on ambulatory blood pressure levels, and they found that individuals who experience discrimination, perceived cultural incompatibilities, a lack of commitment to prescribed cultural norms and values, and acculturation gaps between parents and children.

A mixed-method approach will be used to achieve the study aims. Partnering with the Latino Family Center, 40 youths will participate in the Visual Voices program for eight weeks, during which time youth will be asked to respond to prompts about their identity in a variety of art mediums and then will engage in dialogue with their peers about the content that was generated. All art pieces and dialogues will be recorded and coded for themes regarding the youths’ ethnic identity formation, acculturation stress, and any challenges in their health and well-being. Additionally, all youths who participate in the Visual Voices program will complete a preprogram survey prior to participating and a postprogram survey at the program’s completion. Pre- and postprogram surveys will assess the participants’ ethnic identity formation, level of acculturation, acculturation stress, depression, and substance use.

Research Update

Investigating the Impact of African Americans’ Experiences of Racial Discrimination on Ambulatory Blood Pressure and Health Risk Behaviors Using Ecological Momentary Assessment

Laurel Peterson and Nataria Joseph (School of Medicine)
Award Year: 2013–14

The purpose of this study was to examine the association between discrimination and health in African American young adults using an innovative methodology. Laurel Peterson and Nataria Joseph trained and oversaw a team of six University of Pittsburgh undergraduate researchers to assist in collecting data from 60 African American young adult participants in the Pittsburgh community. They found preliminary results linking higher reports of daily racial pride with healthier ambulatory blood pressure levels, and they have submitted these findings, EMA-Assessed Momentary Positive Experience, in the American Psychosomatic Society.

Under the supervision of Peterson, seven students at Bryn Mawr College have conducted or are conducting independent senior theses with the data. Visit crsp.pitt.edu for more details.

Publications

Journal: Race and Social Problems

The center’s journal, Race and Social Problems, published by Springer, first appeared in early 2009. The journal provides a multidisciplinary and international forum for the publication of articles and discussion of issues germane to race and its enduring relationship to psychological, socioeconomic, political, and cultural problems. It publishes original empirical articles that use a variety of methodologies, including qualitative and quantitative (descriptive, relationship testing, and intervention studies), and papers using secondary data sources. It also publishes nonempirical articles, including reviews of past research, theoretical studies, policy proposals, critical analyses, historical reviews and analyses, and solution-based papers on critical contemporary issues.

Articles in the journal are available for free online. For additional information about the journal, contact Editor in Chief Gary Koeske at gkoeske@pitt.edu.

Editors, editorial board, and articles published in the journal over the past year:

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Articles in Volume 7, Issue 3 (September 2015)

“The Impact of Socioeconomic Status and Metropolitan Area Racial Composition on Visible Consumption among Whites and Racial/Ethnic Minorities”
Megumi Omori and Danielle Taarna Smith

“Skin Tone and Individuals’ Perceptions of Commonality and Competition with Other Racial and Ethnic Groups”
Betina Cutila Wilkinson, James C. Garant, and Johanna Dunaway

“Prejudice and Openness to the Other: Investigating Responses to Testimonies of Race-based Suffering”
Aaron Castellón Cargile

“Perceiving the Black Female Body: Race and Gender in Police Constructions of Body Weight”
Nia Oyo A. Kwate and Shatema Tracey

“Do Politically Nonconservative Whites ‘Bend Over Backwards’ to Show Preferences for Black Politicians?”
Daniel T.L. Byrd, Deborah L. Hall, Nicole A. Roberts, and Jose A. Sob

“An Examination of Ethnic Identity and Academic Performance: Assessing the Multidimensional Role of Parental Ethnic-Racial Socialization among a Sample of Latino Adolescents”
Matthew Grindal and Tanya Nieri
Articles in Volume 7, Issue 4
(December 2015)

“Prevalence of Self-care and Ambulatory Disability in Baby Boom and Generation-X Birth-cohorts by Intersectional Markers of Social Stratification”
Carlos Storda

“Collective Action in Response to Microaggression: Implications for Social Well-being”
Khushbeen Kaur Sohi and Purvima Singh

Camille Z. Charles, Rory A. Kramer, Kimberly C. Torres, and Rachelle J. Brunn-Bevel

“Child Poverty during the Years of the Great Recession: An Analysis of Racial Differences among Immigrants and U.S. Natives”
Kevin J.A. Thomas and Catherine Tucker

Articles in Volume 8, Issue 2
(June 2016)

“Perceived Skin Tone Discrimination across Contexts: African American Women’s Reports”


Book Chapter

Op-Eds


CRSP Researcher Publications

Journal Articles


Book Chapter

Op-Eds

The racial designation ‘White’ was invented in colonial North America to divide the African and European working class through law, which created economic and social disparities that did not previously exist. The result is that many White people today feel they have more in common with Paris Hilton than with Freddie Gray, even though their economic and social situation is much closer to Gray’s than Hilton’s.

—Jacqueline Battalora

Neoliberal ideology places the onus on individual actions and suggests that the free market is the solution to all our problems, economic or otherwise. It feeds the hope that even if your lot in life is subpar, with patience and hard work you can turn rags to riches. Yet research shows that enduring racial disparities in wealth, health, education and home ownership are structural, not behavioral.

—Darrick Hamilton

Remembering Julian Bond

The faculty and staff of the Center on Race and Social Problems always had a special relationship with civil rights leader Julian Bond (January 14, 1940–August 15, 2015). When the center was launched in 2002, he gave its inaugural lecture, “Civil Rights, Then and Now.” In 2010, he gave the keynote address, “The Road to Freedom: From Alabama to Obama,” at the center’s Race in America Conference.

The center celebrated Bond’s life in October 2015 with a reception and panel discussion at the University of Pittsburgh’s Alumni Hall. The commemoration featured video of the aforementioned keynote address and a lively panel discussion moderated by Kathy Humphrey, Pitt chief of staff and senior vice chancellor for engagement, that included Don Cravins Jr., senior vice president for policy and executive director, National Urban League, Washington Bureau; Sammie Dow, then director, Youth and College Division, NAACP; Jessica Ruffin, then COO, Coro Pittsburgh, and site director, Public Allies Pittsburgh; and David Shribman, executive editor, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. The topic of the discussion was “Building on the Bond Legacy: Where Do We Go from Here?”

—from Darrick Hamilton
Graduate Study Abroad Course: Cuban Social Policy Issues

During the spring of 2016, 10 students traveled to Cuba for this one-credit graduate course. Taught by Dean Larry E. Davis, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Valire Carr Copeland, and Associate Professor Mary Ohmer, the course focused on education, economics, public health, mental health, gender concerns, social security, and social work.

This course is offered every spring. Class members meet regularly during the term prior to the trip to discuss readings and hear presentations from experts in the field.

Summer Institutes

In both 2015 and 2016, the Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) hosted Summer Institutes, which are topic- and issue-focused events that bring together academic researchers with practitioners, professionals, and community leaders who wish to enhance their knowledge of the subject at hand.

In 2015, CRSP held Racial Justice in School Discipline: Disrupting the School to Prison Pipeline at Multiple Levels. Racial disparities in school discipline are contributing to devastating inequities in education and criminal justice, and such disparities in the greater Pittsburgh area are well documented. National experts joined more than 100 local leaders for this critically important discussion and training session on best practices in racially equitable school discipline.

In June 2016, the center featured two institutes. At the Procedural Justice for the Police and the Community institute, Bureau of Pittsburgh Police Chief Cameron McLay and his team shared the principles of procedural justice and implicit bias with community leaders—emphasizing how the concept is key for promoting positive change in local and national community/policy relations.

At the Race and Child Welfare institute, participants could earn six continuing education credits and learn promising new techniques in research, policy, and practice from members of the community, scholars, policymakers, and agency professionals.

CRSP is proud of the diversity of topics, issues, and audiences who attend our one-day Summer Institutes, which form a key part of our mission to provide space for people to come together for collegial discussions on our society’s most difficult and sensitive topics: race and social problems. The institutes feature both national and local speakers and draw similarly diverse audiences.

More details are available at crsp.pitt.edu.
2015–16 CRSP Fellows

Each year, the Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) selects eight University of Pittsburgh Master of Social Work students to become CRSP fellows. In this role, the fellows, who go through a rigorous application process to be considered for the fellowship, commit to work 10 or 20 hours per week at two of the most economically disadvantaged and racially segregated elementary schools in the Pittsburgh area. They work with experienced staff and faculty members to provide an enhanced learning environment for those elementary students. Both the CRSP fellows and the elementary students find this to be a mutually beneficial and life-enhancing experience, and it also aligns with the University’s strategic mission of building community strength and outreach. In April 2016, the 2015–16 fellows were able to share their work at the inaugural Presentation of Work.

2015–16 Student Paper Award Winners

The Center on Race and Social Problems is pleased to announce the winners of the Student Paper Awards for the best student papers on race.

Information on the 2016–17 award submission guidelines is available at crsp.pitt.edu.

Bhavini Patel is an undergraduate studying sociology and Africana studies whose paper, “Environmental Risk: A Case Study of the Hill District and Homewood-Brushton,” was written for Waverly Duck’s Ethnography of the Internet and Inequality course.

Brittney Singletary is a Master of Social Work student whose paper, “Psychosocial Mediators of Racial Disparities in Depression Risk among Black Americans,” was written as an independent study directed by Shaun Eack.

Hector Ramirez-Cruz is a PhD candidate in linguistics whose paper, “Creole, English, and Spanish: The Racialized Distribution of the Languages in a Multilingual Community,” was written as dissertation research under Shelome Gooden.

The Race Research Online Directory allows users to access more than a decade of information at the touch of a button, including the following:

- More than 200 videos of lectures from the speaker series, Summer Institutes, and Race in America conference
- Pilot studies and other research projects at the center
- Hundreds of publications, including those from the journal Race and Social Problems
- Educational resources, such as graduate course listings and award-winning student papers
- A listing of all center activities

Information available from the Race Research Online Directory is particularly helpful to community leaders and policymakers interested in gaining a better understanding of racial disparities and finding effective strategies for improving these conditions.

To search the database, simply go to crsp.pitt.edu to access the directory. Click on the Search button on the upper right-hand side of any page and type in a topic or the name of a person. You also can click on names of speakers and authors to find all of the center resources available for each person.

In addition, you can search by area of focus. The seven areas of focus for the center and the online directory are criminal justice; economic disparities; educational disparities; families, youth, and the elderly; health disparities; interracial group relations; and mental health.

To access the Race Research Online Directory, visit our new Web site:

crsp.pitt.edu

The Center on Race and Social Problems has always served as a leading resource for race-related research, but now it offers unprecedented access for students, educators, foundations, and government agencies whose work depends on good scholarship.
Faculty and Staff

Faculty members are from the University of Pittsburgh unless noted otherwise.

**Center Staff**
- Larry E. Davis, director
- Penelope Miller, center coordinator
- Martha Johnson, administrative assistant
- Brandon Benjamin, administrative assistant

**Affiliated Faculty**
- Shaun Eack, School of Social Work
- Lové Jackson Foster, School of Social Work
- Sara Goodkind, School of Social Work
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- Dustin Pardini, Psychiatry
- Christine Rago, Behavioral Health
- Jeanette South-Paul, Family Medicine

**External Institutions**
- Alfred Blumstein, Carnegie Mellon University
- Rosalind Chow, Carnegie Mellon University
- Kathy Glass, Duquesne University
- Melanie Hildebrandt, University of Pennsylvania
- Irene Lietz, Carlow University
- Kathy Sigmund, Geneva College
- Karyn Spirtes, Carlow University
- Melissa Swauger, Carlow University
- Judith Touşi, Carlow University
- Michael Vaughan, Saint Louis University

**University Collaborations with the Center**
- College of General Studies
- Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
- Graduate School of Public and International Affairs
- Graduate School of Public Health
- Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business and College of Business Administration
- School of Education
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Information Sciences

**Departments**
- Administrative and Policy Studies
- African Studies
- Economics
- English
- Epidemiology
- History
- Instruction and Learning
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Psychology in Education
- Sociology
- Urban Studies

**Institutes and Centers**
- Clinical and Translational Science Institute
- Institute of Politics
- Learning Research and Development Center
- University Center for International Studies
- University Center for Social and Urban Research
- University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
- Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic

**University Honors College**
- School of Law
- School of Medicine
- School of Nursing
- School of Pharmacy
- School of Social Work
- Swanson School of Engineering
- University Honors College
Opportunities

Annual $500 Student Paper Award
The Center on Race and Social Problems encourages faculty sponsors and their students at each academic level (bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral) to submit their race-focused research papers to our Student Paper Award competition. The variable deadline is mid-May of each academic year.
For more information, visit crsp.pitt.edu.

Pilot Study Funding ($5,000 – 10,000)
The Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) invites full-time University of Pittsburgh faculty members and researchers who have earned a PhD (or similar degree) and are Research Advisory Panel members to submit pilot research proposals that address current race-related social problems within any of the seven areas of focus of CRSP: health; economic disparities; educational disparities; interracial group relations; mental health; families, youth, and the elderly; and criminal justice.
For more information, visit crsp.pitt.edu

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Reed Smith LLP Spring 2017 Speaker Series

Monday, January 23
“Objection! How Evidence Law Perpetuates Racism in the Courtroom”
Jasmine B. Gonzales Rose, Assistant Professor of Law, School of Law, University of Pittsburgh

Wednesday, February 1
“White Privilege: Not So Invisible Anymore?”
Paul Croll, Associate Professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Welfare, Augustana College

Monday, March 13
“For the Sake of All: Translating Evidence into Action for Community Health”
Jason Q. Purnell, Assistant Professor, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis

Wednesday, April 26
“Who Are You? Racial Classification and the Instability of Race”
Michael Omi, Associate Professor of Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies, University of California, Berkeley