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On the cover (from left to right): Richard Rothstein, Research Associate, Economic Policy Institute; Jason Q. Purnell, Assistant Professor, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis; Michael Omi, Associate Professor, Asian American and Asian American Diaspora Studies, UC Berkeley; Maurita Bryant, Assistant Superintendent, Allegheny County Police; Paul Croll, Associate Professor Sociology, Anthropology, Social Welfare, Augustana College
Greetings and welcome to our 2016–17 Center on Race and Social Problems Annual Report.

The Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) at the University of Pittsburgh celebrated its 15th anniversary in the fall of 2017. This year, like all previous years, has been one full of exciting and meaningful events at a very turbulent time in our country’s history.

We had a very successful speaker series in that all lectures were very well attended. During the summer of 2017, CRSP offered three summer institutes. The annual Race and Child Welfare Summer Institute was held on June 7 and 8 to a sellout audience of child welfare professionals from across the country. This year, the topic was national and local perspectives on the intersections among immigrants, human trafficking, and social services. Featured speakers included Pittsburgh City Councilman Dan Gilman and Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, who both spoke about Pittsburgh’s commitment to immigrants and refugees as a matter of principle and policy. Yolanda Padilla from the University of Texas at Austin and Rowena Fong were keynote speakers on days one and two. Diego Chaves-Gnecco described his experiences in setting up a medical/social work clinic for immigrant children at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC and Dawn Brubaker of Jewish Family & Children’s Service of Pittsburgh conducted a workshop on understanding immigrant cultures.

The Policy and Community Summer Institute also attracted a full-capacity crowd of law enforcement professionals and featured City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Chief Scott E. Schubert; acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania Soo C. Song; and University of Pittsburgh law professor David A. Harris, who also hosts 90.5 WESA’s Criminal (In)justice podcast. Presentations and workshops on recognizing and avoiding bias were provided by the Pittsburgh Police academy training team.

The segregation Summer Institute focused on national and local perspectives on residential segregation and its related issues: education, health, and the law. Jacob Rugh of Brigham Young University, and Claudia Colton of Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Sciences at Case Western Reserve University provided the keynote addresses. A diverse audience attended a variety of panels and workshops offered throughout each day.

Our yearly trip to Cuba went well. The students and faculty who went found it to be a very eye-opening experience.

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
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 eight areas:

- Criminal justice
- Economic disparities
- Educational disparities
- The Elderly
- Families and youth
- Health disparities
- Interracial group relations
- Mental health

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 further 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.
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 eight 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
- Sara Goodkind, School of Social Work
- John M. 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 Gurin, 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
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 receiving country. Acculturation stress occurs when individuals 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 youths 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 post-program surveys...
will assess the participants’ ethnic identity formation, level of acculturation, acculturation stress, depression, and substance use.

**Racial Disparities in the Treatment and Outcomes of Bladder Cancer**

Nathan E. Hale DO, MS; Jonathan G. Yabes, PhD; Robert M. Turner II, MD; Mina M. Fam MD; Gerald T. Cochran PhD; Daniel Rosen PhD; Lindsay M. Sabik PhD; Jeffery R. Gingrich, MD; Benjamin J. Davies, MD; and Bruce L. Jacobs, MD, MPH

1University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Urology; University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Urology; Department of Urology, UPMC; University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work; University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work; University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health; University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Urology; University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Urology; and University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Urology

Bladder cancer is the second most common genitourinary malignancy in the United States, with an estimated 74,000 new cases and 16,000 deaths in 2015. Approximately 25% of patients with newly diagnosed bladder cancer have muscle-invasive disease at the time of presentation. The gold standard treatment for these patients is radical cystectomy because cystectomy is associated with the highest survival rates. However, alternative bladder-sparing treatments (e.g., chemotherapy and/or radiation) exist for patients who either refuse cystectomy or who are not considered surgical candidates.

For patients with muscle-invasive bladder cancer, there are conflicting reports as to whether race and gender are associated with the treatments and the subsequent survival outcomes. For example, while one study demonstrates that black patients are more likely to receive a cystectomy, another study reports that they are less likely to receive surgery compared to white patients. Black patients with bladder cancer have a greater risk of death than white patients. Few studies examine treatment patterns based on gender. According to one study, men and women have similar rates of radical cystectomy. However, a more contemporary study shows that women are more aggressively treated with cystectomy, yet have worse survival. Taken together, it is unclear how race and gender predict treatment patterns for bladder cancer and if differences in treatment patterns are contributing to observed disparities in survival outcomes.

For these reasons, we performed a large population-based study to better understand racial and gender differences in the treatment of patients with nonmetastatic muscle-invasive bladder cancer in the United States. Further, we examined the extent to which differences in treatment patterns by race and gender were associated with differences in overall and bladder cancer-specific mortality. In this large population-based study, we sought to examine the relationship between race and gender on bladder cancer treatment patterns.

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The Center on Race and Social Problems awarded more than $244,516 in pilot grants over a 10-year period, from 2004 to 2014, which resulted in a return on investment of $6.50 for every $1.00 allocated to pilot grants.
We found that race and gender are predictive of cystectomy rates in the setting of muscle-invasive bladder cancer.

A potential explanation for these survival disparities is differences in treatment patterns among different racial and gender groups. We investigated the association between race and the selected treatment for patients with nonmetastatic muscle-invasive bladder cancer. Using the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER)-Medicare data set, we identified 4925 patients initially diagnosed with nonmetastatic muscle-invasive bladder cancer between 2004-2011. We fit multivariable logistic regression and Cox models to assess the relationship between race, gender, treatment selected, and survival adjusting for differences in patient characteristics.

Of the 4925 patients with nonmetastatic muscle invasive bladder cancer, 1947 (40%) received a radical cystectomy while 2978 (60%) received some alternative bladder sparing intervention. Black patients were significantly less likely to receive a cystectomy with an odds ratio of 0.51 (p-value < 0.001) when compared to white patients. Women were significantly more likely to receive a cystectomy with an odds ratio of 1.50 (p-value <0.001) compared to men. No difference in perioperative chemotherapy utilization was observed. Overall mortality was observed to be worse among black patients, but no difference was noted in bladder cancer specific mortality. Women were found to have superior overall mortality, but worse bladder cancer specific survival.

Race and gender were found to predict treatment patterns, particularly radical cystectomy, and influence the survival of patients diagnosed with muscle invasive bladder cancer. Further study of treatment decision making is needed to better understand these difference observed in treatment patterns.

A manuscript has been reviewed by all authors and is being reviewed by the approval committee with SEER/Medicare to approve it for submission to be published in a medical journal.

Note: All faculty members listed in this section are from the University of Pittsburgh unless noted otherwise.

Research Advisory Panels

Faculty members affiliated with the center are organized into research advisory panels (RAPs) based on the center’s eight 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 recidivism 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
- The Elderly: studies the trends in the quality of life of the elderly and alternative interventions
- Families and Youth: inspects the shifting patterns in family composition and their consequences; trends in the quality of life of parents and children; and alternative interventions
- 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: inspects interracial group dynamics and provides insight into and strategies to improve intergroup relations
- Mental Health: studies the relevance of race and culture in relation to mental health services access and outcomes

RAP chairs in 2016–17 were as follows:

- Criminal Justice: Jasmine B. Gonzales Rose, School of Law
- 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: Junia Howell, Department of Sociology
- Mental Health: Shaun Eack, School of Social Work

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.
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 Schulenberg (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 also are 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 the principal investigator. Funded by the Heinz Endowments. September 2014–September 2015

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.

**Drug Use and Lifestyles of American Youth**

John M. Wallace Jr. (School of Social Work) is a coinvestigator. Funded by the National Institutes of Health. August 2012–April 2017

This study examines within- and between-group racial/ethnic differences and similarities in patterns, trends, and correlates of drug-related attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors; conducts racial/ethnic- and genderspecific analyses that seek to identify whether risk and protective factors found to be important for White males and females also are important correlates and predictors for non-White youths; and investigates the mechanisms through which individual and contextual level religiosity influences substance use.
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 8, Issue 3 (September 2016)

“An Ecological Approach to Racial Environments and Their Relationship to Mental Health”
José A. Soto, Nana A. Dawson-Andoh, and Dawn P. Witherspoon

“Hardship Among Older Adults in the HRS: Exploring Measurement Differences Across Socio-Demographic Characteristics”
Reginald D. Tucker-Seeley, Gillian Marshall, and Frances Yang

Paul Thomas

“Belief in Race as Biological: Early Life Influences, Intergroup Outcomes, and the Process of ‘Unlearning’”
John Tawa

“Did the Difference Between Black and White Americans in Anger-Out Decrease During the First Decade of the Twenty-First Century?”
William Magee and Patricia Louie

Articles in Volume 8, Issue 4 (December 2016)

“Bullying and Victimization Among Young Elementary School Children: The Role of Child Ethnicity and Ethnic School Composition”
Pauline W. Jansen, Cathellijne L. Mieloo, Anke Dommisse-van Berkel, Marina Verlinden, and Jan van der Ende

“Community Resources in a Diverse City: Supermarket Location and Emerging Racial Hierarchies”
Heather A. O’Connell, Lester King, and Jennifer L. Bratter
“Understanding Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Arrest: The Role of Individual, Home, School, and Community Characteristics”
Lauren Nichol Gase, Beth A. Glenn, Louis M. Gomez, and Tony Kuo

“Coloring the War on Drugs: Arrest Disparities in Black, Brown, and White”
David W. Koch, Jaewon Lee, and Kyunghee Lee

“Reciprocal Family, Friendship and Church Support Networks of African Americans: Findings from the National Survey of American Life”
Robert Joseph Taylor, Dawne M. Mouzon, Ann W. Nguyen, and Linda M. Chatters

“Does a Self-Affirmation Intervention Reduce Stereotype Threat in Black and Hispanic High Schools?”
Jenifer L. Bratter, Kristie J. Rowley, and Irina Chukhray

Articles in Volume 9, Issue 1 (March 2017)

“Race and Religious Participation: Introduction to Special Issue”
Robert Joseph Taylor

“Race, Religion, and Immigration Policy Attitudes”
R. Khari Brown and Ronald E. Brown

“No Longer “Bound for the Promised Land”: African Americans’ Religious Experiences in the Reversal of the Great Migration”
Sabrina Pendergrass

“Predictors of Religiosity in a Cohort of African Americans”
Janice Bowie, Hee Soon Juon, Tamara Taggart, Roland J. Thorpe Jr., and Margaret Ensminger

“What Would I Know About Mercy? Faith and Optimistic Expectancies Among African Americans”
Jacqueline S. Mattis, Wizdom Powell, Nyasha A. Grayman, Yohance Murray, Yasmin C. Cole-Lewis, and Janelle R. Goodwill

“Church-Based Exchanges of Informal Social Support Among African Americans”
Robert Joseph Taylor, Linda M. Chatters, Karen D. Lincoln, and Amanda Toler Woodward

“Religious Involvement and the Black–White Paradox in Mental Health”
Dawne M. Mouzon

“Racial Discrimination, Religion, and the African American Drinking Paradox”
Loren Henderson

Articles in Volume 9, Issue 2 (June 2017)

“Religious Perspectives on the Impact of Race on Health and Social Behaviors across the Life Course: An Introduction to a Special Issue”
Robert Joseph Taylor

“Mosque-Based Social Support and Collective and Personal Self-Esteem Among Young Muslim American Adults”
Ann W. Nguyen

“Religious Social Support, Discrimination, and Psychiatric Disorders Among Black Adolescents”
Meredith O. Hope, Shervin Assari, Yasmin C. Cole-Lewis, and Cleopatra Howell Caldwell

“African American Adolescents’ Psychological Well-Being: The Impact of Parents’ Religious Socialization on Adolescents’ Religiosity”
Sheretta T. Butler-Barnes, Pamela P. Martin, and Donté T. Boyd

“Mental Health Help-Seeking Profiles Among African Americans: Exploring the Influence of Religion”
Krystal Hays and Karen D. Lincoln

“Differences Between African Americans and Non-Hispanic Whites Utilization of Clergy for Counseling with Serious Personal Problems”
Linda M. Chatters, Robert Joseph Taylor, Amanda Toler Woodward, Amy S.B. Bohnert, Tina L. Peterson, and Brian E. Perron

“Race and Religion in Social Services”
Suzie S. Weng

“Congregational Composition and Explanations for Racial Inequality Among Black Religious Affiliates”
Ryon J. Cobb, Dilara K. Üsküp, and Steven T. Jefferson
CRSP Researcher Publications

Journal Articles


Book Chapter


Op-Eds


Larry E. Davis, “We have failed American workers—that is why Trump won,” Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, March 12, 2017.
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
Fall 2016 Speaker Series

“Extensive data from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) collected from U.S. corporations with at least 100 employees from 1966 to the present show that, in 1985, black men held 6 percent of management-level jobs at U.S. companies. In 2011, that number was still 6 percent. Similar lack of movement for Hispanics and women also was reported.”

—Frank Dobbin

“The schools that the most disadvantaged black children attend today are segregated because they are located in segregated neighborhoods far distant from truly middle class neighborhoods. Our ability to desegregate the neighborhoods in which segregated schools are located is hobbled by historical ignorance.”

—Richard Rothstein

“The Pittsburgh Police Department was under a court order from 1975 to 1991, mandating that for every white male hired they were to hire one white female, one African-American male, and one African-American female. At the time the court order was imposed, Pittsburgh had only 1 percent women at the rank of police officer. By 1990, the department had the highest representation of women police officers in a major U.S. metropolitan city at 27.2 percent.”

—Maurita Bryant

“Students who are suspended just once are two to three times more likely to repeat a grade or drop out of school. In addition, children who are suspended from school are more likely to have decreased math and reading scores, increased misbehavior and ultimately enter the criminal justice system. The national pattern of over-disciplining certain groups is reflected in local practices. In local suburban, economically diverse districts with hundreds of black students are suspended four to eight times more often than whites.”

—James Huguley
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

Reed Smith LLP
Spring 2017 Speaker Series

“A trial is not an independent investigation of the truth. Instead, rules allow certain evidence to be presented to juries, and those same rules keep other evidence out. Attorneys use evidence law to establish the story of a defendant’s guilt or innocence—and procedure rules favor white racial reality. For instance, the fact that someone fled upon seeing police can be offered as circumstantial proof of guilt. The prevailing theory is that only the guilty run.”
—Jasmine Gonzales Rose

“Do we have a system where everyone is treated fairly, or do we have a system where whites have an advantage? White privilege is defined as a state of relative advantage in society. Whites are often unaware of their privilege, and even question its existence.”
—Paul Croll

“A comparison of life expectancy between two zip codes less than 10 miles apart in St. Louis, Missouri, shows a racial disparity of over 18 years for life expectancy at birth. I call this the geography of inequality: conscious decisions, both historically and in the present day, created this reality. There is a need for civic education to influence the public and policymakers act to address inequities that affect the entire community—so it is important to tell an economic story as well as a moral one.”
—Jason Q. Purnell

“The real world is messy with no clear answers. Race emerged as an organizing factor in society due to political action—thus the definition of race is an unstable social category, evidenced by the changing nature of demographic questions on the US Census. While the concept and definition of race is constantly changing, the political project of racial equality remains incomplete. Thus, the fundamental dynamics of race including institutional racism and continued inequality along racial lines remain in place today.”
—Michael Omi
Graduate Study Abroad Course: Cuban Social Policy Issues

In Spring 2017, Professors Jaime Booth, Valire Carr Copeland, and James Huguley led a class of MSW students to Cuba. As has been true in the past, students found it to be an exciting course. The students who went were: Kedra Browning, Abigail Carpenter, Courtney Gardner, Ariel Goehring, Cassandra Hourlland, Chih-Ying Liu, Rosaly Maldonado, Tessa Paivanas, Andrew Perrow, and Devino Sinclair.
In both 2016 and 2017, 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 July 2016, CRSP held Race and Higher Education. An outstanding panel of national leaders shared the latest research and information aimed at reducing racial disparities in higher education access, persistence, and faculty representation. The Center invited participants to earn six (6) continuing education credit hours and learn through collegial discussion with colleagues who share your challenges and passion.

The morning keynote address and panel presentation engaged participants in discussions of racial equity issues in higher education. Afternoon workshops focused on specific issues such as admissions, student persistence, K-12 preparation, and faculty supports.

Keynote speaker:  
Kedra Ishop, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, University of Michigan

Workshops:  
Liliana Garces, Penn State University; Affirmative action and admissions policies

Richard Reddick, University of Texas at Austin; Faculty of Color retention and advancement

Gina Garcia, University of Pittsburgh; Student of Color campus life and persistence

Jason Lee, Detroit Area Pre-Engineering Program; Rigorous K-12 supports for college success

Additional Presenters:  
Karina Chavez, Executive Director, Pittsburgh Council of Higher Education

Saleem Ghubril, Executive Director, The Pittsburgh Promise

In June 2017, the center featured two institutes. Tactical Perceptions for the Community: Recognizing Bias continued a collaboration with the Pittsburgh Police Chief. The second annual Chief’s Institute with the City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Safety and Bureau of Police was a followup to 2016’s Chief’s Institute on Procedural Justice for the Police and Community. The Institute explored the concept of implicit bias, its effects on interactions between law enforcement and the public, and strategies for mitigating it.

More details are available at crsp.pitt.edu.
2016–17 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 will 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 2017, the Fellows were able to share their work at the second Presentation of Work.

Pictured from left to right in the first row are Meghan Hough, Cody Harmon, and Tailer Speight.
Pictured from left to right in the second row are Louisa Munian, Rebecca Sherrill, Deirdra Bullock, and Amanda Dugan.

2016–17 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 2017–18 award submission guidelines is available at crsp.pitt.edu.

Devin Rutan, undergraduate in Urban Studies, whose paper Food Oases: A Case Study of East Liberty” was written as an independent study for Waverly Duck.

Allison Hall, JD/MSW candidate in Law and Social Work, whose paper The Language of Osama Bin Laden: How Language is Used as a Proxy for Race in Discrimination Against Arabic Speakers in U.S. was written for Jasmine Gonzales Rose’s Race & The Law seminar.

Kess Ballentine, PhD candidate in Social Work, whose paper “A Theoretical Analysis of Differential Diagnosis of Oppositional Defiance Disorder and Attention-Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder by Race” was written for John M. Wallace Jr.’s macro-theory course.
Faculty and Staff

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

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University Collaborations with the Center

Colleges and Schools
College of General Studies
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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

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

Departments
Administrative and Policy Studies
Africana 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
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.

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](http://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 eight areas of focus for the center and the online directory are criminal justice; economic disparities; educational disparities; families and youth; 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](http://crsp.pitt.edu)

**University of Pittsburgh**
School of Social Work
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 eight areas of focus of CRSP: health; economic disparities; educational disparities; interracial group relations; mental health; families and youth; the elderly; and criminal justice.

For more information, visit crsp.pitt.edu

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Rich Fitzgerald asked the University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics to assemble a group of distinguished civic leaders to examine what could be done to make incarceration policies and practices in Allegheny County “fairer and less costly, without compromising public safety.” This presentation provided an overview of the problems, the process, and the results, and included time for audience Q&A.
Reed Smith LLP
Spring 2018 Speaker Series

Tuesday, February 20
“No Way Out: Precarious Living in the Shadow of Poverty”
Waverly Duck, Associate Professor,
Department of Sociology, University of Pittsburgh

Thursday, March 22
“Race and Compounded Adversity: Evidence from the New York City Longitudinal Survey of Well-being”
Kathryn Neckerman, Senior Research Scientist,
Columbia Population Research Center,
Columbia University

Thursday, April 5
“The Real Record on Racial Attitudes”
Camille Zubrinsky Charles, Walter H. and Leonore C. Annenberg Professor in the Social Sciences;
Professor of Sociology, Africana Studies, and Education;
Director, Center for Africana Studies,
University of Pennsylvania