

UCLA Institute of American Cultures

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020–2021



**American Indian Studies Center
Asian American Studies Center
Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies
Chicano Studies Research Center**

Message from the Vice Provost



The 2020–2021 academic year will be etched in our memories for some time to come. Its challenges underscored the fact that the work of the Institute and our ethnic studies centers remains not only relevant, but critical for the most pressing issues that we face. The ethnic studies centers, as they have for over fifty years, are engaged in scholarship with campus and community-based partners that aligns directly to the public mission of UCLA.

This annual report provides brief highlights, and please visit our websites to find out more. We are grateful for the support of many alumni, friends, and organizations that enables us to advance research for social justice.

David K. Yoo
Vice Provost & Professor

Institute of American Cultures - iac.ucla.edu

- The UCLA Office of Research and Creative Activities (ORCA) and the UCLA Institute of American Cultures (IAC) with the UC President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) offered four (4) Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowships at UCLA for the academic year 2021–22. These fellows will form a cohort and be affiliated with the IAC's ethnic studies centers. ORCA and IAC also began a Racial and Social Justice (RSJ) Seeds Grants Program that is a part of the Rising to the Challenge (RTC) initiative.
- The Institute of American Cultures has sponsored faculty-staff-graduate student teams to develop K-12 ethnic studies curriculum, resources, and teacher training. The IAC is partnering with the ethnic studies centers, the Teacher Education Program (School of Education), and UCLA Extension.
- The IAC Fall Forum on November 18, 2020 via Zoom featured the 2020–2021 IAC visiting researchers and scholars, graduate and predoctoral fellows, and research grant awardees. Topics varied from "Salvaging Anthropology, Unsettling Sovereignty," "(un)Sanctioned Atlanta: Immigrants Making Place in the New South," "Addressing racial stress and trauma and utilizing racial socialization in families in schools," and "Hidden Burdens: The Experiences of Latino First-Generation and Working-Class Sociologists."

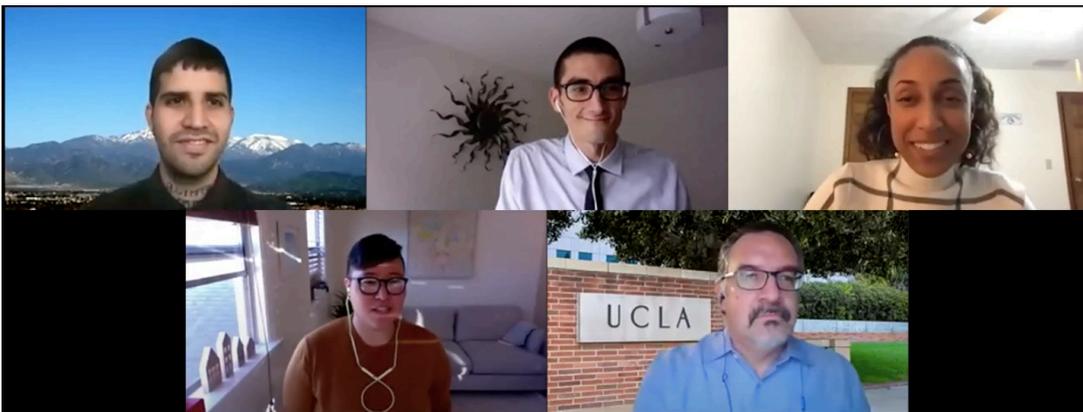
IAC Fall Forum 2020

top L to R: Christopher Soto, Nicholas Barron, PhD & Farzana Saleem, PhD

lower L to R: AJ Kim, PhD, José A. Muñoz, PhD

Link to watch Fall Forum:
<https://youtu.be/DgVDNuf-1FU>

View a complete list of the 2020–21 IAC Visiting Scholars, Graduate/ Predoctoral Fellows, Research Grant Awardees, and Shirley Hune Awardee.



American Indian Studies Center - aisc.ucla.edu

- **Centering Tribal Stories of Cultural Preservation in Difficult Times** - Funded by the UC Multicampus Research Programs and Initiatives, UCLA's Carrying Our Ancestors Home, an Indigenous community-based repatriation education project called "Centering Tribal Stories of Cultural Preservation in Difficult Times," this educational project will produce eight to ten modules on topics such as land rematriation, repatriation of ancestors, and climate change's impact on cultural heritage sites.
- **Efforts to Address Racism, Sexism, and Injustices in STEM** - In partnership with the UCLA Center for Diverse Leadership in Science (CDLS), the AISC was awarded a David and Lucile Packard Foundation grant in the amount of \$590,000. The funding will be used to support the efforts of the CDLS to address racism, sexism, and injustices in STEM.
- **NativeHub@AISC: Digital Archiving for Tribal Communities** will bring the Center into a consortium of universities that serve as hubs to help tribal communities digitize their cultural resources using the Mukurtu platform. What is unique about Mukurtu is its ability to integrate multiple sets of standards and information systems, allowing tribes to determine who has access to specific materials. The platform thus promotes the exchange of cultural materials and shared stewardship in an ethical, anticolonial, and collaborative framework.
- **Research Projects:**
 - **Hate Crime Map** - Launched in October 2020, the Hate Crime Map is an anonymous platform for victims of hate-based assault and crime to record their experiences.
 - **Human Rights of Indigenous Migrants** - In collaboration with the UCLA Promise Institute for Human Rights and the community-based organization Comunidades Indigenas en Liderazgo (CIELO), AISC Director Shannon Speed participated as co-PI on this research about the human rights impacts of migration and US immigration policy on indigenous migrants from Mexico and Central America.
 - **Indigenous Education Now (IEN) Coalition** - The AISC is a founding member of the Indigenous Education Now Coalition, an LA-based coalition engaged in research and advocacy for Indigenous students in K-12. The group successfully lobbied the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education to dedicate \$10 million to support Indigenous Student Achievement.



2020–21 Events included Poetry to Celebrate California Native American Day, Artist Talk with Steven Paul Judd, Book Talk with Tommy Orange, Hate Crime Map @ UC GIS Week, Reimagining Rights in the Americas Special Event – Challenges Concerning the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Defense of Territories of Indigenous and Afrodescendent Peoples, and Red Road to DC: Totem Pole Journey.

(Pictured L): Lummi totem at UCLA
Photo credit: Todd Cheney

Special thanks to Jessica Wolf for UCLA Newsroom article, "[UCLA and Tongva community host traveling Lummi totem pole.](#)"

Publications:

- Editor-in-chief Randall Akee coedited two special issues on "**COVID-19 and Indigenous Peoples: Tools to Promote Equity and Best Practices.**" These issues are posted on the [AISC website](http://aisc.ucla.edu), where anyone can access them for free.
- Director Shannon Speed's *Incarcerated Stories* named one of CHOICE's Outstanding Academic Titles for 2020!
- Release of Director Shannon Speed's Edited Volume, *Indigenous Women and Violence Feminist Activist Research in Heightened States of Injustice*.
- During the 2020–21 year, the Center fundraised to barcode the AISC library collection so that our extensive materials can be circulated. We estimated that \$10,000 would be needed to carry out this work, and thanks to many generous donors, we exceeded our goal! Much gratitude to IAC Assistant Director of Development Christopher Soto, who again led our efforts to increase individual donors and led our annual giving campaign.
- The American Indian Studies Center continued to fundraise for Native American and Indigenous students across campus who were experiencing economic hardship due to the pandemic. We raised \$38,050 and distributed it to 43 students.

Asian American Studies Center - aasc.ucla.edu

The Asian American Studies Center thrived despite the challenging conditions brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. The ongoing work surrounding the publication of *Amerasia Journal*, *AAPI Nexus* and various book projects, maintenance of the Library/Reading Room, projects of the Center for EthnoCommunications, newsletters and digital communications, and grants and development continued. We highlight the following major accomplishments:

AAPI Public Policy Initiative

The AASC launched the AAPI Public Policy Initiative during the 2019–20 academic year and made great strides this past academic year. In April 2021, the AASC received California state funds through Assembly Bill 85 that included an allocation of \$1,100,000.

- Awarded funding for 18 faculty led projects, including 15 research projects and 3 creative projects focused on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to inform policy makers and to ensure equity in pandemic recovery efforts. These projects included efforts to address the problem of anti-Asian hate and racial violence through research and education.
- Further developed the COVID-19 Multilingual Resource Hub (TranslateCovid.org) containing over 1,000 vetted resources in 60 languages with newly translated FAQ's on vaccines in 20 languages for populations suffering high rates of infection. Additional funding was obtained from The California Endowment and the California Wellness Foundation for outreach.

**#STOP
ASIAN
HATE**

Translating COVID-19 version 2.0

Updated resources for Asian American and
Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Communities
www.TranslateCOVID.org

Digital Media Initiative

Progress was made on three major projects under the Digital Media Initiative:

- Created V.1 of a Digital Asset Management System (DAMS) to catalogue and manage our archival collections. We are also collaborating with the IAC Centers under a three-year grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in the amount of \$3.65M for *Archiving the Age of Mass Incarceration*.
- Completed Phase I of the Collective Memories Oral History Project to document the stories of the AASC founders and Asian American movement activists. A total of 40 oral histories have been recorded, edited and archived with support from the Helen and Morgan Chu Chair Endowment.
- The first of the AAPI Storybook projects was unveiled with the online publication of *Vanessa Unmuted*, a fictional story with embedded curriculum to help teachers and students learn about the problem of anti-Asian harassment and gain the understanding and knowledge to better address it in their school settings. In addition, work was begun on an Asian American Studies Multimedia Digital Textbook for high school and undergraduate college students.



(Pictured above): image from *Vanessa Unmuted*



50th Anniversary Commemoration and Educational Programming

The Center completed the Asian American Studies 50th Anniversary Film Festival in February 2021 with an online festival featuring 6 feature films and 18 shorts over two weekends. The Center also sponsored and co-sponsored 35 virtual events during the 2020–21 pandemic year.

Grant, Fellowship, Scholarship, Internship and Academic Prize Awards program

- A total of 43 awards were made to faculty and students for a total amount of \$235,335.

Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies - bunchecenter.ucla.edu

- The Bunche Center was granted a \$3.65 million dollar grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to fund “Archiving the Age of Mass Incarceration,” a three year project that is a collaboration between Million Dollar Hoods and the IAC. The project will acquire an unprecedented set of records from the LAPD, collect a diverse set of oral histories and carceral ephemera from Tovaangaar residents directly impacted by mass incarceration, and make all of this material publicly available via a new digital platform built and shared across the UCLA ethnic studies centers.
- The Bunche Fellows Program received an \$800,000 anonymous gift to strengthen and support the initiative over the next two years.
- The Bunche Center, through its Black Policy Project and Million Dollar Hoods research initiatives, received over \$320,000 in private donations from donors that include the Roy and Patricia Disney Family Foundation, the Reissa Foundation, and the California Wellness Foundation.
- The Bunche Center agreed to administer some of the Rising to the Challenge (RTC) initiatives that were outlined in the RTC BruinPost issued by Chancellor Block and EVC/Provost Carter on June 30, 2020. These initiatives were launched in the 2020–2021 academic year with the Bunche Center administering the selection of five RTC Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellows and ten graduate students to be recipients of the RTC Graduate Summer Research Fellowship. The Center also completed the recruitment process for the first two rounds of the faculty hiring initiative.
- The Center held the first ever virtual Black Convocation on October 6, 2020 via Zoom with approximately 300 students, staff, and faculty in attendance.
- The Bunche Center teamed up with the Los Angeles Lakers Black Action Network for a Career Day event that featured Laker employees from various units within the organization who discussed their roles/responsibilities and provided insight into the sports industry.



(Pictured L): Bunche Fellows

L to R: Kylie Paramore, Kamry Parks, Amora Haynes, Vivica Rush, who were in the first cohort of UCLA Bunche Fellows

Photo credit: Leroy Hamilton

Special thanks to Jessica Wolf for UCLA Newsroom article, "[Bunche Fellows Program aims for HBCU vibe within UCLA.](#)"



[Million Dollar Hoods](#)



[Black Policy Project](#)

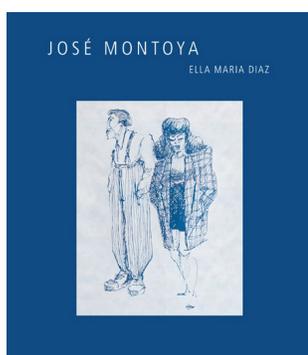
**BLACK
POLICY
PROJECT**
at UCLA



[Bunche Fellows Program](#)

Chicano Studies Research Center - chicano.ucla.edu

- The CSRC received \$189,343 in new grants and gifts for various projects and initiatives. This includes a grant from the Getty Foundation to hire two interns through the Getty Marrow Multicultural Internship Program; and a Furthermore grant in publishing from the J.M. Kaplan Fund to support the exhibition catalog *Christina Fernandez: Multiple Exposures*, which will be a joint publication of the CSRC Press and the California Museum of Photography at UCR ARTS.
- The CSRC received a \$950K grant renewing the IUPLR-Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship Program through 2024 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The grant involves the CSRC and five other research centers in New York, Texas, and Illinois and is administered through the Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR).
- The CSRC received 161 individual gifts in 2020–21, an increase of seventy (70) from the previous year. This included the CSRC campaign to endow the Chon Noriega Arts Fund with \$100,000—a goal that was met in eight months.
- The CSRC neared completion of its multiyear and multicampus project “Critical Mission Studies at California’s Crossroads,” which reconsiders California’s twenty-one Spanish-Indian missions in light of the fields of Indigenous, Chicano, and Mexican studies. A key event this year was the online conference, “*Toppling Mission Monuments and Mythologies*,” on July 15, 2020, with 1,300 attendees during the live event.



- The A Ver: Revisioning Art History series released its twelfth monograph, *José Montoya* by Ella Maria Diaz, the first study of the renowned artist, poet, musician, political activist, and college professor, also known as a cofounder of the Royal Chicano Air Force. The publication is a finalist for two 2021 International Latino Book Awards (winners to be announced in October 2021).

- The CSRC created an e-book version of the popular *The Chicano Studies Reader: An Anthology of Aztlán, 1970-2019*.



- The CSRC Press won ten (10) international book awards, including the prestigious AALA-Thomas Foundation Exhibition Catalogue Award for *La Raza*.
- The CSRC awarded six (6) competitive research grants to scholars and students and welcomed its first cohort of remote fellows and visiting scholars. Funds come from the Institute of American Cultures as well as the CSRC’s Los Tigres del Norte Fund and Tamar Diana Wilson Fund.
- The CSRC Library maintained service learning, extracurricular training and internship programs. The CSRC Library participated in the Getty Multicultural Summer Internship Program and the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program and accepted one graduate student in Chicana/o studies and one graduate student in information studies to help process and preserve collections.
- CSRC director Chon Noriega received notable recognitions with a UCLA Academic Senate Faculty Research Lectureship Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship in the category of Fine Arts, both for 2021–22.



- Following a national search, Veronica Terriquez was announced as the next director of the CSRC, beginning July 1, 2021. She is Professor of Chicana/o and Central American Studies and Urban Planning. Professor Terriquez is the first woman to serve as the director of the CSRC.

(Pictured L): Veronica Terriquez
Photo Credit: Ernesto Chávez,
IAC CSRC Visiting Researcher, 2014-15

- Online events included a UCLA Medal ceremony for CSRC collections donor and former US Congressman Esteban E. Torres; a graduate student workshop focused on applying for faculty positions in the Cal State University system; book talks; and a farewell event honoring Chon Noriega’s nineteen-year tenure as CSRC director.

(Pictured R): The Honorable Esteban E. Torres



UCLA Medal ceremony celebrating The Honorable Esteban E. Torres

UCLA Institute of American Cultures



Institute of American Cultures Staff Photo

Photo: Todd Cheney

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