

**UCLA** Institute of American Cultures

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022–2023**



**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



There is a saying: "the only constant in life is change." Adjusting to both remote and in-person settings during 2022–2023 has involved new layers of change and adjustments, but the Institute and our centers have been fully engaged with projects and events reflected in this brief annual report. We hope that this sampler will lead you to explore further on our websites and that you will, in the year ahead, be able to join us, whether online or in-person (hopefully both). The remarkable work of our centers stands out in terms of its impact and in the wide-ranging partnerships with so many other units on campus and in our communities.

Advancing research for social justice means being open to change, but what has remained constant for over fifty years is our commitment to that process. We are grateful to so many who make our work possible and look forward to the future.

Sincerely,

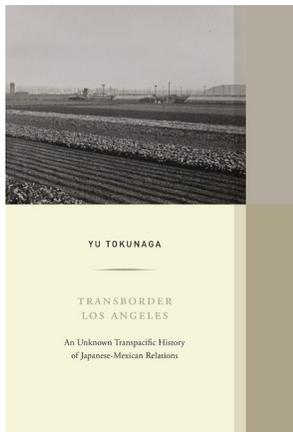
David K. Yoo  
Vice Provost & Professor

## Institute of American Cultures - [iac.ucla.edu](http://iac.ucla.edu)

- The IAC and the ethnic studies centers have been administering [UC Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowships](#), in partnership with the [Office of Research and Creative Activities](#) (ORCA) as well as part of the [Rising to the Challenge](#) and [Hispanic Serving Institution](#) Infrastructure initiatives. The IAC and the Chicano Studies Research Center have further benefitted from the support and leadership of ORCA on UCLA research seed grant programs focused on racial and social justice and Latinx studies.
- IAC partnered with [Gold Shield Alumnae](#) in sponsoring four undergraduate student summer internships that involved working with community partners in advancing equity, inclusion, and social justice. The Gold Shield summer 2023 interns were Kendra Barreras (AISC), Jessa Fate Bayudan (AASC), Kahlila Williams (Bunche), and Linsey Rodriguez (CSRC).
- The IAC Fall Forum on October 20, 2022, featured the 2022–23 IAC visiting researchers and scholars, graduate and predoctoral fellows, and research grant awardees. Topics included, "Unsettling Domesticity: Native Women and the SF Bay Area Outing program," "Getting Away with and Getting Rid of Yellowface: Contemporary Musical Theatre and Asian Americans," "Peeling Apart Impressions: Investigating the Factors that Influence HBCU and PWI Perceptions," and "Indigenous Blackness in the Américas: The Queer Politics of Self-Making Garifuna New York."



IAC Fall Forum 2022



- Professor Yu Tokunaga (Kyoto University) gave a talk and student workshop on his book, [Transborder Los Angeles: An Unknown Transpacific History of Japanese-Mexican Relations](#) (University California Press, 2022) on April 5, 2023, at the Charles E. Young Research Library. This event was made possible by the Sugahara Project and co-sponsored by Library Special Collections and the ethnic studies centers and departments.

**Link to watch IAC Fall Forum 2022:**  
<https://youtu.be/RhWhu-5KMfl>

**top Left to Right:** Pablo José López Oro, Christopher Soto, Kiana Foxx  
**2nd row, L to R:** Donatella Galella, Caitlin Keliiaa

**View a complete list** of the 2022–23 IAC Visiting Scholars, Graduate/Predocorral Fellows, Research Grant Awardees, and Shirley Hune Awardee.

## American Indian Studies Center - [aisc.ucla.edu](http://aisc.ucla.edu)

### Personnel

- Scott Skelton was hired as Senior Editor of the [American Indian Culture and Research Journal](#) on February 2023.
- Shannon Speed was promoted to Paula Gunn Allen Chair and Professor of American Indian Studies, Gender Studies, and Anthropology on July 1, 2023.
- A new Project Coordinator position was created to handle tasks related to the Native Bruins Native American/Pacific Islander (NA/PI) Initiative.

**Native American and Pacific Islander Bruins Rising Initiative:** The establishment of an AI/PI Living Learning community on the Hill, AI and PI student resource centers, a net gain of four AI and four PI faculty lines over the next five years, which began this fiscal year. The initiative includes senior hires, support for postdoctoral scholars and graduate fellowships, increased support for Native staff, and new full-time equivalent (FTE) for staff, which would include a diversity coordinator.

**Native American Opportunity Plan:** The AISC continues to field significant public interest and inquiry regarding the Native American Opportunity Plan, which will ensure that in-state systemwide tuition and fees are fully covered for California students who are enrolled in federally recognized Native American, American Indian, and Alaska Native tribes.

**Donation Campaign:** The 2022–23 winter/spring campaigns focused on BRAID (Books and Resources for American Indians in Detention), the AISC History project, and American Indian Studies Graduation. Expanding our focus from providing blankets for all graduates (still an honored tradition at AISC), we were also able to raise funds that helped support the reception and enabled travel for family members of the students being honored.

### Grants

#### PI Aradhna Tripathi

- \$400,000 David and Lucile Packard Foundation from April 15, 2022 to December 14, 2023
- \$50K David and Lucile Packard Foundation from June 30, 2022 to December 15, 2023
- \$250K Alfred P. Sloan Foundation from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022
- \$1M Waverley Street Foundation for the Climate Hubs Learning Partnership project from 12/18/22 to 12/17/2023

**PI Jessica Cattelino,** UCLA Sustainable LA Grand Challenge as part of the *LA's Indigenous Waters* research project for \$25,000, March 1, 2021 to February 28, 2023

**PI Mishuana Goeman, *Centering Tribal Stories: Gifting Knowledge of Cultural Preservation in Difficult Times*** was established by a three-year \$879,000 grant from the University of California Office of the President, January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2023

### Events

- November 4–5, 2022: The Forgotten Canopy: Ecology, Ephemeral Architecture, and Imperialism in the Caribbean, South American, and Transatlantic Worlds Conference 1: Ecologies + Workshop 1
- February 10–11, 2023: The Forgotten Canopy: Ecology, Ephemeral Architecture, and Imperialism in the Caribbean, South American, and Transatlantic Worlds Conference 2: Ephemeral Architecture and Workshop 2
- April 14, 2023, Community Language Reclamation: Linguistic “Work” and the Future of Collaboration hosted by AISC’s Associate Director, Erin Debenport
- April 14–15, 2023: The Forgotten Canopy: Ecology, Ephemeral Architecture, and Imperialism in the Caribbean, South American, and Transatlantic Worlds Conference 3: Imperialism and Workshop 3
- May 6–7, 2023, UCLA Pow Wow



**L:** Pow Wow Dancers at the 38th UCLA Annual Pow Wow organized by the UCLA American Indian Student Association at the Wallis Annenberg Stadium.



**The Forgotten Canopy: Workshop 1, November 5, 2022, at UCLA Botanical Garden**

**L to R:** (1) Professor Stella Nair, Clark Professor, Clark Library and Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies, (2) Paul Niell, Director of Graduate Studies, Associate Professor, Florida State University, (3) Rudy Ortega, Tribal President at Fernandeano Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, (4) Mona Morales Recalde, Gabrieleño/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, (5) Shannon Speed-Chickasaw Nation, Director of the UCLA American Indian Studies Center, (6) Darnell Hunt, UCLA Executive Vice Chancellor, (7) Abel Valenzuela Jr., UCLA Interim Dean of Social Science

## Asian American Studies Center - [aasc.ucla.edu](http://aasc.ucla.edu)

The Asian American Studies Center made great strides forward in the 2022–23 academic year thanks to the hard work and dedication of the staff along with support from faculty, students, donors, and the many constituencies associated with the AASC. The Center's two main project priorities—[AAPI Policy Initiative](#) and the [Asian American Studies Multimedia Textbook](#)—achieved many milestones this past year, which include the following:

### **AAPI Public Policy Initiative**

On February 10, 2023, over 320 people gathered at the Luskin Conference Center for the first AAPI Policy Summit themed, “Building Solutions for an Equitable Future.” This was a culmination of two years of faculty engagement in policy research since the AASC received California state funds through Assembly Bill 85 (Chapter 4, Statutes of 2021) in April 2019. The Summit brought together policy makers, researchers, community based organizations, and members from the philanthropic and corporate sectors to discuss pressing issues affecting AA and PI populations. Cosponsored with the Asian American Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus and the Luskin School of Public Affairs, the summit featured over 20 studies, including data equity, combatting anti-Asian hate, immigrant protections, economic recovery, healthcare access, and the arts. It also launched the dissemination of briefs authored by AASC faculty affiliates.



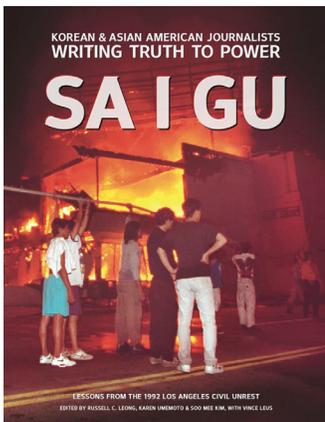
AASC Staff and AAPI Multimedia Textbook Project Staff at the 2023 AAPI Policy Summit

### **AAPI Multimedia Textbook**

In June 2022, the California State Legislature allocated \$10 million to the AASC for the creation of an online multimedia textbook. Entitled *Foundations and Futures*, we scaled up work on the textbook that will help teachers who want to integrate Asian American and Pacific Islanders histories and experiences and create inclusive classroom dynamics by providing free media-enriched readings and lesson plans in history and social studies. This past year, we facilitated work on the first 25 chapters and developed the digital platform, outreach and marketing strategy, teacher training and fundraising plans. We also received additional financial commitments from Philanthropic foundations and continued fundraising to complete the project.

In addition, the AASC together with the AISC, AAS Department, student organizations and student affairs advocates made recommendations to the Chancellor that were issued in the **Native American and Pacific Islander Bruins Rising Initiative**. The AASC began implementation with two faculty searches with the Asian American Studies Department and the Fielding School of Public Health. We will continue to work on other aspects of the initiative moving forward.

### **Events Programming**



AASC hosted and co-sponsored over 40 events, including a film screening of *Free Chol Soo Lee, Remembering the Legacy of Yuri Kochiyama* digital exhibition launch webinar, and *Never Forget: An Online Exhibition of Archival Posters from the Transnational Movement against Martial Law in the Philippines* webinar. We also hosted a special event for the new Korea Times Endowed Chair holder Professor Kyeyoung Park and a book launch for *Sa I Gu: Korean & Asian American Journalists Writing Truth to Power*. The book features voices of reporters, writers, and editors mentored by the Pulitzer Prize-nominated editor and journalist, K.W. Lee, during the most tragic, dramatic event in Korean American history.



Yuri Kochiyama Digital Exhibit:  
<https://learn.aasc.ucla.edu/kochiyama/>

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

The AASC funded 28 awards for both graduate and undergraduate students for a total amount of \$135,450. Additionally, \$61,000 was awarded through the IAC visiting scholar fellowship, postdoctoral and grants programs.

## Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies - [bunchecenter.ucla.edu](https://bunchecenter.ucla.edu)

- Dr. Lorrie Frasure, Professor of Political Science and African American Studies and the inaugural Ralph J. Bunche Endowed Chair, was appointed as the new director of the Bunche Center beginning July 1, 2023.
- The State Legislature appropriated a one-time \$5 million line item in the 2023-24 California State Budget to the Bunche Center. The funding supports faculty-led initiatives such as the [Black Policy Project](#), [Million Dollar Hoods](#), and the [Hip Hop Initiative](#). It also supports the [Bunche Fellows Program](#) as well as the Bunche Library and Media Center. The funding was also used to support the IAC's ongoing work in ethnic studies curriculum, K-12 teacher training, and resource development.
- The State Legislature committed to ongoing annual funding of \$3 million beginning in the 2024-25 fiscal year.
- The Black Policy Project completed facilitation of community listening sessions across the state for the California Reparations Task Force with organizing community listening sessions across the state.
- The Center and the Hip Hop Initiative (HHI) named Medusa and Emile YX? as its two new artists-in residence for the 2023-24 academic year.
- Bunche allocated the final three Rising to the Challenge (RTC) FTEs bringing the total assignment to seven of the 10 RTC FTEs under the Faculty Hiring Initiative.
- The Bunche Center continued implementing a \$3.6 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for "Archiving the Age of Mass Incarceration," a three-year collaborative project between Million Dollar Hoods and the UCLA Institute of American Cultures.
- Black Convocation returned to campus for the first time since 2020, uniting over 200 attendees in celebration.
- Bunche expanded the next class of Bunche Fellows to its largest to date, with 60 individuals (faculty mentors, undergraduate fellows, and graduate fellows) participating in the program.
- Bunche invited Kevin Merida, one of this nation's most distinguished journalists and current Executive Editor of the *Los Angeles Times* to speak to faculty and share insights on his work at the *Times* as well as other outlets.
- The Center hired a communications firm to support communications around research initiatives, a website refresh to be completed in Q1 of AY 2023-24, and fundraising efforts.



**L to R:** Former Bunche Director Kelly Lytle Hernández with Black Convocation 2023 Honorees EVCP Darnell Hunt and former Vice Provost Youlonda Copeland-Morgan.



**L to R:** Bunche Fellows Program undergraduate fellows Ilu Tefera, Madelyn Reasin-Bodden, and Deborah Gallego.

Photo Credits: Leroy Hamilton

## Chicano Studies Research Center - [chicano.ucla.edu](http://chicano.ucla.edu)

### HSI Infrastructure Initiative

The UCLA Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) Infrastructure Initiative launched in 2021–22. In 2022–23, the CSRC continued its leadership role in the initiative by assembling faculty committees who:

- Helped lead thirteen successful recruitments of faculty whose work and/or experiences contribute to Latinx life at UCLA.
- Selected the second cohort of UCLA Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellows. The incoming five fellows will be hosted in the departments of ecology and evolutionary biology; musicology; psychiatry, pharmacology, and pediatrics; and social welfare.
- Selected the second cohort of Latinx Studies Seed (LSS) Grant recipients. Nine LSS grant proposals received funding.

### External Affairs

- In 2022–23, the CSRC received \$1,353,250 in new grants for projects specific to CSRC as well as collaborative projects with other UCLA units and community partners. Supported projects included [California Freedom Summer](#) and [Thriving Youth Survey](#).
- The CSRC received 157 individual gifts for a total of \$81,215. Development efforts included launching the [CSRC STEM Fund](#).

### Research

- With major support from the California Endowment, the CSRC launched the [Thriving Youth Survey](#). This research project will gather and synthesize data to inform health, education, labor, and civic interventions to help young California residents thrive and contribute to the future of their communities.
- [Latina Futures, 2050 Lab](#), led by the CSRC and the UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Institute (LPPI) and supported by a \$15 million state budget allocation, entered its first year. The CSRC and LPPI went through a strategic planning process and began the following: planning a Latina Law and Policy Symposium; identifying scholarly experts who will lead studies on various segments of the Latina population; conducting original research on care work performed by young Latinas; showcasing the CSRC’s Latina Lesbian archives; and other projects.

### CSRC Library

- Images from CSRC archival collections appeared in eight external exhibitions and a combined twenty books, articles, television specials, documentaries, and other publications that were released during 2022–23. CSRC materials also comprised two CSRC-curated exhibitions: [Latina Lesbian Lineage](#) at the CSRC Library and a pop-up version at East Los Angeles Public Library.

### CSRC Press

- The CSRC Press published one printed book, seven research reports or briefs, four issues of the CSRC electronic newsletter, one post on the *CSRC Post*, and two issues of its peer-reviewed journal, [Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies](#). Six book projects were in development during the year.
- The CSRC Press won four international book awards. Among them, [The Artist as Eyewitness: Antonio Bernal Papers, 1884–2019](#) won a Gold medal for Best Biography (English) from the 2022 International Latino Book Awards and [Christina Fernandez: Multiple Exposures](#), a co-publication with UCR Arts, earned a Bronze medal in the national category of Photography from the 2023 Independent Publisher (IPPY) Book Awards.

### Community Relations

- New partners for collaborative research projects include Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE); CLINICAS del Camino Real; College of the Desert; Imperial Valley Community College; Funding the Next Generation, among many others.
- In 2022-23, the CSRC organized and co-sponsored a combined sixty-six events. These included the inaugural [Albert M. Camarillo Lecture](#), featuring Carlos G. Vélez-Ibáñez, Regents’ Professor at the School of Transborder Studies and School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University.



L to R: Carlos G. Vélez-Ibáñez and Albert M. Camarillo



L: The California Freedom Summer project team from Oxnard met at the CSRC to plan data collection for the Oxnard Thriving Youth Survey

# UCLA Institute of American Cultures



**Institute of American Cultures Staff Photo**

*Photo: Todd Cheney*

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