Bunche Center Newsletter—January 2018

Happy New Year! The Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies is looking forward to an outstanding 2018 that builds on our accomplishments from last year and continues to broaden our reach to faculty and students in Black Studies. The Bunche Center concluded 2017 with some impressive highlights, including the release of two Million Dollar Hoods Reports: "The Price for Freedom: Bail in the City of LA" and "Policing the Houseless 2.0: Arrests by the LAPD (2012-2017)." On top of being acknowledged by the United Nations, these reports were also referenced by numerous media outlets including the Los Angeles Times, LA Weekly, KCRW, Vox, and La Opinión. The Bunche Center aims to build the momentum of Million Dollar Hoods in 2018 and develop new scholarship, collaborations, and public events. As of January 4, 2018, the Bunche Center welcomed Danielle Dupuy, a PhD Candidate in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and a MDH researcher, as the new Assistant Director. We are thrilled to have her join our efforts to raise the Bunche Center’s profile and impact on communities of color. Last week, Kelly Lytle-Hernández, Bunche Center Interim Director, and Tyrone Howard, the Associate Dean for Equity and Inclusion, Professor of Education, Faculty Director of Center X, and Director of the Black Male Institute, joined Common and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on a panel discussion about social justice. This phenomenal dialogue covered feminism, immigration, anti-blackness, history, education, the role of celebrity platforms in social justice, and of course, the youth! The event was organized by the UCLA Black Alumni Association and co-sponsored by the Bunche Center. Flip to page four to read about our exciting lineup of winter 2018 events.
UCLA Prison Education Program

Launched in 2016, the UCLA Prison Education Program was created to offer higher education to incarcerated students and to provide UCLA students and faculty with opportunities to teach and learn in life changing, collaborative communities. Since then, workshops and lectures have been offered at the California Institution for Women (CIW) by over a dozen UCLA faculty from departments including Philosophy, History, Law, Urban Planning, African American Studies, Chicana/o Studies, Writing Programs, and Biochemistry. In spring and fall of 2017, we offered two college credit courses at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJN) and are now preparing to offer a third course in winter 2018. In the pilot courses at the women’s prison and the juvenile hall, the Department of African American Studies offered UCLA students and incarcerated students opportunities to learn together in the classroom. The pilot course at CIW focused on "Narratives of Change," was cross listed in Education, and featured guest lecturer Caroline Streeter, Associate Professor in the UCLA Department of African American Studies and the UCLA Department of English. At BJN, the fall course taught by Laurel Butler, "Narratives of Agency," was offered as the second part of spring Arts Education courses offered by the Visual and Performing Arts Program in the Department of World Arts and Cultures/ Dance. The pilot course at BJN was "Lyrical Minded: Narratives of Justice" and linked to a campus-based course, "Disrupting the School to Prison Pipeline: Arts, Activism and Agency," which was cross-listed between African American Studies, Education, Chicana/o Studies. The course allowed a dozen UCLA students to participate weekly at the juvenile hall and nearly 50 students to meet weekly on campus for classes co-taught by Pedro Noguera, Distinguished Professor at UCLA’s Graduate School of Education & Information Studies.

By Danielle Dupuy

Assistant Director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies

and Bryonn Bain

Director, Prison Education Program

Assistant Professor in Residence

Department of African American Studies

and Department of World Arts and Cultures

On October 13-15, 2017, the UCLA Justice Work Group hosted “Beyond the Bars LA,” which brought together community organizations, activists, policy makers, researchers, students and those directly impacted by issues of incarceration. To learn more about the conference, click here.
SoCal Connected Highlights “The Price for Freedom”

In a KCET video about bail bonds and the price for freedom in Los Angeles County Jail, Isaac Bryan, MDH Researcher and a graduate student in the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, talks about how the bail system is a "cash extraction from the most economically aggrieved communities." As much as a quarter of the 17,000 people in LA County jails are there because they cannot make bail. To access the full video, click here.

“Policing the Houseless 2.0 Arrests by the LAPD (2012-2017)”

The Million Dollar Hoods research team released "Policing the Houseless 2.0 Arrests by the LAPD (2012-2017)" on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. The report analyzes 2017 arrest trends and the types of charges leading LAPD arrests of houseless persons. According to the report, LAPD arrests of houseless persons climbed toward 20% of all arrests in 2017. The most common charge against houseless persons arrested by the LAPD was failure to appear.

To read the full report, click here.

Did you know that the Los Angeles Police Department levied more than $19 billion in money bail on people they arrested between 2012 and 2016? The amount of bail levied was significantly higher for low-income blacks and Latinos. People of color were most likely to pay non-refundable bail bond deposits—Latinos paid $92.1 million between 2012-2016 and African Americans paid $40.7 million.

Charts from “Policing the Houseless 2.0 Arrests by the LAPD (2012-2017)”

LAPD made 7,740 houseless arrests between January 1 and June 30, 2017, pushing houseless arrests from 17.3% of total arrests in 2016 to 19.6% of total arrests during the first half of 2017.
Winter & Spring 2018 events announced!

Justin Dunnavant—“Training the Next Generation of Archaeologists: The Society of Black Archaeologists and Sustainable Archaeology”
Wed., February 7  noon—1:30 pm  Haines Hall 153
This talk is co-sponsored by the UCLA Department of Anthropology. For more info and to download the flyer, click here.

Authors’ Series—Becoming Ms. Burton: From Prison to Recovery to Leading the Fight for Incarcerated Women by Susan Burton
Wed., February 21  4 pm  Location TBA
Susan Burton is the founder of A New Way of Life Re-Entry Project, advancing multi-dimensional solutions to the effects of incarceration. This talk is co-sponsored by the UCLA Law School’s Critical Race Program.

Images in Blackness—librecht baker, vetiver
Wed., February 28  3 pm—4:30 pm  Haines Hall 153
vetiver “pushes back against the dangerous walls that attempt to other our heritage ... These poems induce elevation and celebrate cultural memory.” – Mike Sonksen, author of I am ALIVE in LOS ANGELES! This talk is co-sponsored by Professor Robin D.G. Kelley and the UCLA Department of African American Studies.
For more info and to download the flyer, click here.

Authors’ Series—White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide by Carol Anderson
Tuesday, April 17  Time and Location TBA
Carol Anderson, Professor of African American Studies at Emory University, won the 2016 National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism for her book, White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide. The talk is organized by the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies and co-sponsored by the Department of History and African American Studies.
Faculty and Staff News

Danielle Dupuy, new assistant director of the Bunche Center

Danielle is a doctoral candidate in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and a researcher on the Million Dollar Hoods Project. Prior to coming to Los Angeles, Danielle worked for 7 years in Chicago, initially as a social epidemiologist at the Sinai Urban Health Institute and later as the Associate Director of the Metropolitan Breast Cancer Task Force. During that time, she worked on issues related to racial disparities and social equity in the fields of maternal and child health, breast cancer, urban agriculture, violence, and policing.

In 2013, Danielle enrolled in the Community Health Sciences program with a minor in Law to focus on incarceration and its effect on the wellbeing of black communities in the U.S.

Since coming to UCLA, Danielle co-founded the Justice Work Group at UCLA and is a member of the University of California Criminal Justice & Health Consortium. She helped usher in the first UCLA college courses for high school graduates incarcerated at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall and led the inaugural Beyond the Bars LA conference held in October 2017 at UCLA.

Sarah Haley awarded two national prizes for No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment and the Marking of Jim Crow Modernity

Sarah Haley, Associate Professor of Gender Studies and African American Studies, was awarded the 2017 Joan Kelly Memorial Prize by the American Historical Association and the 2017 Lora Romero First Book Publication Prize by the American Studies Association for her book, "No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment and the Making of Jim Crow Modernity" (The University of North Carolina Press, 2016).

To read more, click here.

The Bunche Center website has been renovated!
Click the image below to subscribe or visit us at www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu.
Library & Media Center News

The Bunche Center’s Library and Media Center (LMC) is located in Haines Hall 135. Regular session hours are Monday—Thursday 10 am—5 pm (excluding campus closure and holidays).

The collection supports graduate level research in African, African American, and Caribbean history and culture.

Materials in the collection consist of books, serials, archives, and audio visual media. Community researchers and artists are welcome to use the collection.

Please contact the Librarian, Dalena Hunter at dhunter@bunche.ucla.edu for information about a specific item or collection.

Support The Bunche Center

We invite you to include the Bunche Center in your charitable giving plans. Contributions of any amount are welcome and all donations are 100%-tax deductible.

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To make your donation to the Bunche Center, Click Here.

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For additional information on how to make a contribution to the Bunche Center, please Click Here. You may also contact the Center directly at 310-825-7403.

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