Center for Race & Gender
Annual Review
2019–2020

CRG welcomes you to learn about our transformative & intersectional research, events & community members.
Note from the Director

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR

I don’t suppose that any of us can say that this academic year unfolded the way that we expected. Even with some unexpected turns, my year as Interim Director of the CRG has been a rewarding experience that I will always treasure. A great deal of that pleasure came from working with the fantastic staff, affiliated researchers, Faculty Advisory Board, and members of Working Groups—the people whose energy, ideas, and research fuel the work of the Center. Looking back, I’m proud of the programs that we organized and the groundwork that we laid for future projects. What follows is a review of some of the goals and projects that we carried out this year, many of which will extend into the future and take new shape when Director Leila Voigt resumes the helm on July 1.

- Expanded diversity in Thursday Forum programming. The Thursday Forum Series is a mainstay of CRG programming, offering a wide range of scholarly and creative presentations. This year we expanded our offerings by inviting Working Groups to organize a program such as the terrific conversation with Professor Savannah Shange by the Black/Girlhood Imaginary and adding a workshop-style “How I Write” panel to provide inspiration at the end of RRW week. Next year, the Thursday Forum Series will continue with flexible programming for distance learning, including podcasts.

- Highlighted language justice in the Distinguished Guest Lecture and other events. In recognition of the United Nations’ designation of 2020 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages (now expanded to the Decade of Indigenous Languages), the CRG supported several events that highlighted work in Indigenous Languages. In November, Professor Margaret Noodin, a scholar, poet, and Anishinaabemowin specialist at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, presented the talk, “Djichaagow Waaseyaaziwag (Radiant Souls): Four Women Masters of Social Self-Expression,” in which she discussed the writings of intellectuals Emma Goldman, Margaret Sanger, Gertrude Bonnin, and Maude Kegg through an Anishinaabowin framework. The CRG co-sponsored additional events in language revitalization, and next year, a new Language Revitalization Working Group along with other new and renewing groups.

read the full message

Research Working Groups
“We want to influence the discussion around the complexity around the topics of gender, race, and class. We don’t need to have all the answers but we need to make the complexities clear”

— KENLY BROWN, BLACK/GIRLHOOD IMAGINARY

CARIBBEAN WOMEN POLITICAL THOUGHT

“The working group highlighted the centrality of the aesthetic (art, visual culture, etc.) in political post-colonial movements as well as aesthetic as a pedagogical tool in the classroom. Our working group really wanted to center and prioritize the works for Afro-Caribbean women as intellectuals, artists, and activities.”

— NEBAT KEDIR

TOWARDS THE ABOLITION OF BIOLOGICAL RACE IN MEDICINE: TRANSFORMING CLINICAL EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

“In the paper, we briefly outlined a history of racism in medicine and went into different ways that it manifests in clinical guidelines today and therefore advocate to abolish biological race in medicine. Our paper specifically outlines these problems but we’re thinking of a way to envision a way forward, so the questions that remain are How can we practice anti-racist medicine?”
Research Initiatives

“[CRG has helped IRDP] because it works within the scope of racialized minorities that are marginalized, you can create both comparative approaches to look at what is occurring and can inform your own research by looking at the experiences and research questions that are being developed outside of your own field.”

— Dr. Hatem Bazian, Islamophobia Research & Documentation Project
ARTS AND HUMANITIES INITIATIVE

The Arts & Humanities Initiative emerged out of the creative production rooted in the Undocumented Student Research and Action Initiative, which organized two impactful cultural projects: 1) a creative writing workshop that resulted in the student anthology, It Was All A Dream: Writings by Undocumented Youth at UC Berkeley (2014), and 2) Undocumentation, a 2013 daylong symposium where scholars, activists, and artists explored insurgent citizenships and immigration justice at UC Berkeley, the Bay Area, and beyond.

THIRD WORLD LIBERATION FRONT

“We’re able to connect with statewide organizing like Save California Ethnic Studies campaign that was rooted in evidence found through the intergenerational work we’ve been doing with the TWLF Research Initiative.”
— MARCELO GARZO MONTALVO

UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS RESEARCH & ARTS INITIATIVE

“As the initiative has transformed, I’ve loved that artists have been able to come in who are not in the academy and would otherwise be left out. This feels like a home where art isn’t gazed at, but understood as an urgent rigorous endeavor that can transform social, political, and cultural frameworks.”
— ALAN PELAEZ LÓPEZ

POLITICAL CONFLICT, GENDER AND PEOPLE’S RIGHTS RESEARCH INITIATIVE


Chatterji was also active in various current events: in July 2019, The National published a letter, co-signed by Chatterji, denouncing U.S. policies & atrocities at the Mexico-U.S. border; and in September 2019, Chatterji co-signed a letter to the European Union denouncing the human rights crisis at the Kashmir & Indian border.
“CRG’s powerful commitment to social justice and transformative research enables critical conversations and interventions on the targeting of marginalized and minority communities and civil, political and human rights locally and internationally. This enables the work of the Political Conflict, Gender and People’s Rights Initiative (PCRes) at CRG, which I am privileged to lead.”

— ANGANA CHATTERJI, POLITICAL CONFLICT, GENDER AND PEOPLE’S RIGHTS RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Native/ Immigrant/ Refugee – Crossings Research Initiative

NRCRI organized an international conference titled Native/Immigrant/Refugee: Movements Across Contested Grounds, motivated by two global crises: the heightened regulation of movement across national borders, and the impact of climate change. This conference was postponed because of campus closure and will take place during the 2020-21 academic year.
The initiative received research support from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, the Office of the President Multi-campus Research Programs and Initiative Funding, and the UC Humanities Research Institute, Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study, Social Science Matrix, Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities, and the International Consortium of Critical Theory Programs.

Distinguished Guest Lecture

Scholar and poet, Margaret Noodin (University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee), reflected on the writings of Emma Goldman, Margaret Sanger, Gertrude Bonnin and Maude Klegg through an Anishinaabewin framework during CRG’s Fall 2019 Distinguished Guest Lecture.
BAMPFA’s 2019 Indigenous People’s Day

POETRY READING & PERFORMANCE BY MANHATTAN ARTS & HUMANITIES INITIATIVE, IMMIGRANT STUDENT LEADERSHIP ARTS INITIATIVE

The event will explore the visions of peoples, our stories, our right to self-determination, artistic agency and critical thought.

What can poetry do in settler territories?
How do we deal with the past?
Can a good story help?
And what if the story isn’t real?
What if the story can’t exist?
And what if the real is unimaginable?
Then don’t make the story false?

Alma delia López

Events

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EVENTS

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CAMPUS COSPONSORS

0

STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS SERVED

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EVENTS COSPONSORED BY CRG

CENTER FOR RACE & GENDER

12 SEPT
10 OCT
26 SEPT
17 OCT
24 OCT
7 NOV
14 NOV
5 DEC

CENTER FOR RACE & GENDER

6 FEB
13 FEB
Graduate Grantees
Undergrad Grantees
CRG’s Reach
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