CRG’s Annual Review
2020 - 2021

CRG welcomes you to learn about our intersectional research, events & community members.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR
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Dear friends,

What a year.

As we come to the end of an academic year like no other, I feel such a mix of emotions. Grief for so much suffering.
Anger for so much injustice. Awe and gratitude for the resilience, creativity, and strength I see in the work of CRG’s brilliant researchers, grantees, working groups, affiliated faculty, and intellectual partners who span the globe. Despite it all, the vital work of CRG continued and flourished this year, creating new networks of connection and forging new pathways for thought. From our Distinguished Lecturers Angela Davis and Gina Dent to our Radical Kinship series, from our special event with Helen Zia to our research on justice and borders, CRG has consistently addressed the challenges of this moment.

I hope you find much to appreciate in our 2020-21 report, documenting what, despite it all, was an amazing year.

In community,

Leti Volpp
Director, Center for Race & Gender
Robert D. and Leslie Kay Raven Professor of Law in Access to Justice, Berkeley Law

CRG Celebrates 20!
This spring marked the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Center for Race and Gender. Because we couldn’t gather in person, CRG created another way to mark the occasion – please click the image above or here for a visual representation of CRG accomplishments over the past twenty years. You will see a snapshot of pathbreaking and pioneering research, and our vibrant and beautiful community.
AY 20–21 Research Initiatives

- ARTS AND HUMANITIES
- ISLAMOPHOBIA RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT
- NATIVE/IMMIGRANT/REFUGEE - CROSSINGS
- POLITICAL CONFLICT, GENDER AND PEOPLE’S RIGHTS
- THIRD WORLD LIBERATION FRONT
- UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS RESEARCH

RESEARCH INITIATIVE SPOTLIGHT

This spring, the Political Conflict, Gender and People’s Rights (PCRes) Initiative was awarded a three-year grant of $370,000 from the Henry Luce Foundation to examine the fault lines between citizenship, religion in the public sphere and belonging in contemporary South Asia. This is a UC Berkeley-Stanford collaborative project with CRG Researcher and Founding Co-Chair of PCRes, Angana Chatterji, serving as PI with Thomas Blom Hansen and Sharika Thiranagama as Co-PIs. PCRes was also awarded a $45,000 grant by the Norwegian Rafto Foundation for Human Rights. Among other issues, PCRes is undertaking research on majoritarianism and Islamophobia in India as it impacts civil liberties and dissent. PCRes appointed two Distinguished Scholars (non-resident): human rights lawyer Parvez Imroz and human rights defender Khurram Parvez of Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society. PCRes also launched the Shah Commission Papers Collection in the Archive on Legacies of Conflict in South Asia: The Right To Heal, a UC Berkeley-
Stanford Libraries collaboration. Together with scholar-activist Harsh Mander, Chatterji hosted a series of workshops on “Witness, Agency and Counter-Memory in India” in the fall. Chatterji also submitted numerous allegations, expert testimony and briefs and provided expert support in asylum cases. While the pandemic provided challenging conditions for research, PCRes was able to continue conducting research through innovation, and was delighted and grateful to work with amazing student research assistants. A CRG Forum on Kashmir that Chatterji is co-organizing will be held in AY 21-22.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES INITIATIVE
CRG’s Arts and Humanities Initiative Research Scholar, Alán Pelaez Lopez, hosted and curated a new series for AY 20-21, the “Radical Kinship Series.” The series hosts conversations that confront ISLAMOPHOBIA RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT (IRDP)
In March, IRDP released a new issue of the Islamophobia Studies Journal, 6(1), IRDP’s Director, Hatem Bazian is publishing new book in May 2021, Erasing the Human: Collapse of NATIVE/IMMIGRANT CROSSINGS RESEARCH INITIATIVE (NIRCR) 2020-21 featured several events organized by NIRCR, with three CRG Forums in Spring 2021 on issues such as indigenous immigration, design politics of the border, and chronopoliti UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS RESEARCH INITIATIVE
In Fall 2020, the Undocumted Students Research Initiative released a report, “Climate Study of Undocumented Students at UC Berkeley,” with findings based upon focus
how we fail and succeed to show up for one another in the midst of violence. Fall 2020 conversations Alán curated were:


Spring 2021 conversations were "Rituals for Grief & Love: A Reading with Poets Sade Lanay and Sasha Banks" and "Afro-Latinx Feminisms in the URL & IRL Spheres."

cs in migration studies along with five guest lectures provided for UC Berkeley courses in the fall, supported by the University of California Humanities Research Institute (UCHRI), the Townsend Center for the Humanities, UC Berkeley Social Science Matrix, the Sather Foundation, and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research ORU Seed Fund. This year the Initiative was granted a second Peder Sather Grant Program also led to the launch of the Center for Race and Gender. This research initiative has been working on a online digital portal that archives and documents twLF’s critical role in shaping UC Berkeley's identity, its relationship with Bay Area-based 1960s social movements, and its impact on the inception and development of critical research and pedagogy. The online portal is scheduled to go live in 2021. Initiative members groups and surveys of undocumented students on campus conducted in 2019. The report provides an updated and nuanced assessment of the daily experiences of undocumented students navigating life on campus, as undergraduates, graduate students, students with DACA, and students without DACA. Recommend actions to help UC Berkeley leverage student experiences to better support its undocumented student members were made. The report release
Alán also hosted “Sana Sana: Live Zoom Reading & Interview on Poetic Practice & Healing with Ariana Brown.”

Award for collaborative research with Norwegian partners through 2023. include students, staff, and faculty from the Center for Race & Gender, the Ethnic Studies Library, the Multicultural Community Center, the Ethnic Studies and African American Studies Department, and American Cultures.

coincided with a Fall CRG Forum. Funding for this research was provided by the Othering and Belonging Institute.

AY 20–21 Research Working Groups

- COLOR OF NEW MEDIA
- CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LAB
- DIGITAL ETHNIC STUDIES
- FREEDOM SCHOOL FOR INTERSECTIONAL MEDICINE AND HEALTH JUSTICE
- LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION WORKING GROUP
We are living through unprecedented times where there is no immediate return back to “normal.” How has this changed your research?

The virtual format has allowed us to invite a wider range of guest speakers from different parts of the world, and it has helped us grow our audience to include people from around the world as well.

What are some race and gender questions that are driving you and your research right now?

Many people in our group are currently exploring ways in which they can mobilize their academic training to move towards greater racial and gender equity. Language endangerment is tied to racial and gender discrimination, and language revitalization is necessarily tied to racial and gender justice.

How has CRG helped you to think and mobilize around those questions?

Using this academic venue has allowed us to amplify often under-heard perspectives within the Academy. In particular, we’ve been able to host scholars and activists who have non-traditional academic backgrounds, are not affiliated with Universities, and who have languages other than English as their primary language. Hearing these speakers has directly impacted how members of our group approach their research and activism.
Anthropology; Education; Classics; Environmental Science, Policy, & Management; Ethnomusicology; and language and area studies departments. Our principal goal for the LRWG is to provide a centralized venue for conversation and collaboration between the interdisciplinary researchers and practitioners of language revitalization at UC Berkeley. The research conducted by members of the LRWG necessarily involves a critical consideration of race and gender, as language endangerment is often driven by suppressive policies directed towards minority ethnic and linguistic groups. Furthermore, language revitalization requires and valorizes skills and knowledges that are often marginalized in formal, westernized educational contexts, and which may be held by people
otherwise marginalized by their race or gender.

COLOR OF NEW MEDIA

The Color of New Media working group seeks to add new voices, and new lenses, to the new media studies “conversation,” in order to diversify and broaden the scope of that conversation. The overarching goals of this group are to share resources on issues of race/ethnicity/nation and new media, to foster the creation of new

CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LAB

The Critical Environmental Justice Lab at UC Berkeley was established in the Fall of 2017. The CEJ Lab’s purpose is to provide a space for students and faculty to cultivate a deeper understanding of the social and environmental relations that articulate at the conjuncture of environmental justice and

CRITICAL UNIVERSITY STUDIES

The Critical University Studies working group contends with issues of power, race, class, and gender in higher education. We draw inspiration from the Black radical tradition and Black feminism in particular, Indigenous studies, and decolonial theory. In this working group we seek to 1) deepen our theoretical

(DECOLONIZING) MUSEUMS

Decolonizing Museums, takes decolonizing work as an object of inquiry, rather than a goal. Drawing on case studies from museums around the world, this working group will focus on the fraught histories embedded within institutional frameworks of white supremacy, racism, and settler colonialism, as well as their
scholarship on these issues, and to nurture fellowship and social networking among scholars, particularly scholars of color, working in the field of new media studies.

systemic racism. The goal is to advance this critical perspective to help shape members' theoretical and methodological approaches to research and teaching.

inquiry and empirical links with existing scholarship, 2) strengthen our methodological approaches on how to conduct ethical and rigorous research in university and community settings, and 3) cultivate community that supports graduate students through milestones, and creates networks beyond degree completion.

imbrications with patriarchy and heteronormativity. Decolonizing Museums imagines alternative future practices while considering participants' specific roles—as subjects living with differing legacies of colonization—in this project.
DIGITAL ETHNIC STUDIES

Digital Ethnic Studies is an undergraduate and graduate student-led working group that is oriented around critical issues and questions related to digital media and technology. Our focus on technology considers how interconnection with digital logics, practices, and infrastructures substantially transforms Ethnic Studies discourses around bodies, communities...
s, histories, power, and movements. Drawing from multiple disciplines and fields, our diverse scholarly background bring together a wealth of knowledge across geographies, histories, and cultural traditions. Educate and engage in other forms of healing (non-Western and indigenous) that are prevalent among communities of color and/or predominantly marginalized voices, mostly of women of color, already providing essential critiques of the use of biological race in healthcare, and to further bridge the gap in critical race theory and medicine. Our history and lived experiences of women of color as focused teaching points that are advancing justice demand we research, and practice. We aim to amplify critical voices, and to further bridge the gap in critical race theory and medicine. Our history and lived experiences of women of color as focused teaching points that are advancing justice demand we
AY 20–21 Events

While we did not have a chance to gather in-person with the...
CRG community this year for any of our events, we were able to share CRG’s programming with a wider audience around the world, from the SF Bay Area to the coast of Australia. Our live
streamed Zoom webinars reached over 5000 people across 28 countries.

Miss one of CRG’s events from this past year? You can watch or listen the audio recording of the event by visiting CRG's media archive at https://www.crg.berkeley.edu/media-archive/.
AY 20–21 STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

Despite the obstacles that our student research community faced during this past year they continue to persevere and be very active. The CRG awarded $17,000+ in research grants this academic year to 12...
graduate students and 11 undergraduates for original projects that engage race and gender in significant ways.

Graduate Grantees

AYA FABROS
SPRING 2021

Sociology

Institutionalized Precarity: States, Philippine Migrants and the Making of Global Worker Families, 1974-2020
Undergrad Grantees
Public Health
Sofreh Salamati: Creating A Health Education Intervention for Afghan Refugee Women

MARIA CRISTINA ORTIZ
SPRING 2021
Ethnic Studies, Political Science

Forbidden Fruit: Exposing the Underbelly of Napa’s Wine Industry Through the Exploration of Latinx Immigrant Labor
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