

BAF FELLOW WORKSHOP & HRRRC FELLOW FORUM 2019



THURSDAY, APRIL 25-27

Texas A & M University, College Station 77843

PRESENTED BY:



THURSDAY 4.25.19



Reception 5:30 - 8:30 P.M.

Keynote Dr. Dennis Wenger, HRRC Founding Director

Location: Dr. Shannon Van Zandt's house

3587 Matoska Ridge, College Station, TX 77843

Food: The Wild Garlic Pizza

Wood-fired Artisan Pizza The Wild Garlic is College Station's premier mobile event catering and pop-up business, offering a full line-up of delicious artisan pizzas, small bites, salads, and desserts. All our pizzas are scratch-made on-site in our brick oven, using fresh ingredients. Whether you're hosting a birthday or holiday party, luncheon, wedding, or corporate event, we have a catering package to fit your needs.

BAF FELLOWS WORKSHOP

Langford A, Adams Presentation Room

Academic Session: “Publishing 101: Getting Ideas Started and Words on Paper”

10:00 - 10:15

10:15 - 11:30

Professional Concurrent Session A: “Building Better Advising and Mentoring Relationships”

10:15 - 11:30

Professional Concurrent Session B: “Setting and Handling First Job Expectations”

11:30 - Noon

Langford A, Adams Presentation Room

Texas BBQ Lunch

Lightning Talks sponsored by Pechakucha

Langford A, Adams Presentation Room



ACADEMIC SESSION



“Publishing 101: Getting Ideas Started and Words on Paper”

- What are some ways that you tackle the flow of your papers (i.e. outline, framework, etc.)?
- How do you choose the perfect journal for your work?
- What are things to consider about writing journal articles versus books versus reports?
- What about writing for the general public?



PANELISTS



Dr. Laura Stough

Associate Professor, Educational Psychology; Assistant Director, Center for Disability and Development, TAMU; Director of Project REDD

Laura Stough is associate professor of educational psychology, assistant director at the Center for Disability and Development, and a faculty fellow at the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center at Texas A&M University. Stough’s current research focuses on the psychological and social effects of disaster on individuals with disabilities. Stough is the author of over 50 academic publications, including the recently released book entitled *Disaster and Disability: Explorations and Exchanges*, which was co-edited with Ilan Kelman.



Dr. Laura Jurgens

Assistant Professor, Marine Biology
TAMU-Galveston

Dr. Jurgens joined faculty in the Department of Marine Biology at Texas A&M University Galveston (TAMUG) in January 2019. She is a core faculty member in the Marine Biology Interdisciplinary Program at TAMUG and in the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB) Interdisciplinary Doctoral Degree Program at Texas A&M (College Station). Dr. Jurgens received her Ph.D. in Ecology at the University of California Davis, where she studied impacts of extreme events on coastal marine populations and ecosystems. She then spent three years as a postdoc at Temple University, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute studying latitudinal variation in species invasions. She also has a background in policy work and community organizing, and is a former community college transfer student. She is committed to increasing equity and inclusion in science, public engagement, and mentoring students with non-traditional backgrounds. Her research investigates processes underpinning ecological resilience from population to ecosystem levels, and from local site to latitudinal scales.

PANELISTS



Dr. Alva O. Ferdinand
Assistant Professor
Department of Health Policy and
Management
Deputy Director
Southwest Rural Health Research
Center, TAMU

Dr. Alva O. Ferdinand is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management and the deputy director of the Southwest Rural Health Research Center at the Texas A&M University School of Public Health. She is generally interested in the impact of laws on public health outcomes. She has been actively developing a research agenda that incorporates her interest in public health policy issues. She has examined such issues as the impact of tax-exemption status on the provision of community benefits among various hospital ownership types, the relationship between neighborhood built environments and physical activity, and the effects of texting-while-driving bans on roadway safety. She has additionally examined variations in the burden of chronic diseases across the urban-rural continuum including cancer and diabetes. Her work has appeared in the American Journal of Public Health, the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, and the Journal of Rural Health, among other journals. Her work has appeared in media outlets such as The Washington Post, CNN, and NPR and she has been called upon to provide legislative testimony based on her research. Dr. Ferdinand holds a law degree from the Michigan State University and a doctor of public health degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.



Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh Associate
Professor, Civil Engineering,
TAMU

Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh is working as an Associate Professor in the department of Civil Engineering at Texas A&M University, USA. He has completed his Ph.D. from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1997. His research interests include: Infrastructure condition assessment and deterioration modeling, Infrastructure management decision support systems, Infrastructure life cycle analysis, Quality assurance systems for infrastructure construction and maintenance, Pavement design, preservation, and management.



Dr. Amir H. Behzadan
Associate Professor, Construction Science,
TAMU

My research interests have evolved over the past several years and encompass adaptive simulation, construction informatics, and advanced sensing and visualization techniques with applications in intelligent construction planning and operations, smart health and ergonomics, productivity, and construction education. My projects have been funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Engineering Information Foundation (EiF), Bentley Systems, and Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management (HCSHWM).

PANELISTS



Dr. Bryce Hannibal

Assistant Research Scientist
Institute for Science, Technology,
and Public Policy, Bush School of
Government, TAMU

Dr. Hannibal's academic interests include environmental sociology, economic sociology, policy formation, social networks, and complex organizations. His current areas of research include the coupled human-natural systems, the water-energy-food nexus, social network analysis, political ecology and network governance, and public policy. His research has been published in *Environment and Behavior*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Environmental Sociology*, the *International Journal of Social Economics*, and *Deviant Behavior*. His dissertation work focused on the relational and network influences of creativity and innovation. The analysis covered a 14-year period of collaboration among professionally recording jazz musicians. From his dissertation he is currently developing methods to analyze network change in dynamic social network analysis. Dr. Hannibal has taught courses on globalization, classical and contemporary social theory, the sociology of work, quantitative research methods as well as workshops on social network analysis in both Liberal Arts and Business School settings. He received his PhD in sociology from Texas A&M University.

PROFESSIONAL CONCURRENT SESSION A

“Building Better Advising and Mentoring Relationships”

- How do you balance having super busy advisors?
- What do I look for in a good mentor?
- What are some best practices for building good relationships?
- What should a mentee not do?



PANELISTS



Dr. Karen Butler-Purry

Associate Provost
Graduate and Professional Studies
Professor
Electrical and Computer Engineering,
TAMU

Dr. Karen Butler-Purry is the Associate Provost for Graduate and Professional Studies (APGPS) at Texas A&M University, a position she has held since 2010. In addition, Butler-Purry is a professor in the department of electrical and computer engineering, having served at all faculty levels beginning with an initial appointment as visiting assistant professor of electrical engineering in 1994. Dr. Butler-Purry has vast experiences in graduate education as a faculty member, administrator, researcher and program leader. From 2001-2004, she served as Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs in the College of Engineering, and served as Associate Department Head in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department from 2008-2010. Further, Dr. Butler-Purry has directed several fellowship and education projects promoting recruitment, retention and advancement of graduate students in STEM fields. Additionally she has served in many capacities on committees for the college, university, and professional societies. Dr. Butler-Purry developed a successful research program with funding from federal agencies such as NSF and ONR, and industry funding from electric utility companies. She has supervised and funded over 40 graduate and 65 undergraduate research students.

PANELISTS



Dr. Cecilia Giusti

Associate Dean for Outreach and Diversity,
College of Architecture
Associate Professor, Landscape
Architecture and Urban Planning, TAMU

Dr. Giusti enhances the Institute's mission to broaden economic, professional, and scholarly opportunities for the under-represented at Texas A&M University as well as in physical and virtual communities of practice. Her scholarship in Latin American studies with an emphasis on Economics and Community and Regional Planning has served her in outreach initiatives to the colonias region along the Texas-Mexico border. She has contributed related, funded research in areas including hazard reduction, economic development, transportation infrastructure, affordable housing, and safe drinking water. Last year she served as Chair for "Dialogos on the Border" in the colonias region as part of a national effort to influence planners, architects, and policy makers to address changes in increasingly diverse communities. Together these accomplishments demonstrate a dedication to multicultural diversity and an intentional combination of research, teaching, and outreach, of great benefit to the Institute in its mission to create opportunities for change by crossing traditional boundaries.



Dr. Nathanael Proctor Rosenheim

Associate Research Scientist, Hazard
Reduction and Recovery Center,
TAMU

Nathanael Rosenheim is a research scientist for the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center in the department of landscape architecture and urban planning at Texas A&M University. His areas of interest are spatial modeling, data science, community development, and food system planning. His recent research uses public demographic and economic data to improve fact-based community planning for hazard mitigation and recovery planning.



Dr. Kayode Atoba

Postdoc, Center for Texas Beaches and
Shores, BAF Graduate, TAMUG

Kayode Atoba is postdoctoral research scientist with the Center for Texas Beaches and Shores and the Institute for Sustainable Communities at Texas A&M University. He holds a Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Science, a master's degree in Geographic Information Systems, and a bachelor's degree in Urban and Regional Planning. Atoba's research focuses on using quantitative and geospatial methodologies to identify the interactions between the built environment and natural hazards. His research evaluates the socio-ecological and institutional factors responsible for the changing dynamics of flood hazard impacts in high risk areas, while also drawing on the broader theory of hazard resiliency to propose best mitigation strategies. Atoba is a mentor and alumnus of the William Averette Anderson Fund, the first interdisciplinary organization in the United States focused on increasing the number of underrepresented persons in the field of disaster research and planning.

PROFESSIONAL CONCURRENT SESSION B

“Setting and Handling First Job Expectations”

- How do you argue for or know what is a competitive salary?
- What are some unknown things about the interview process?
- How did you handle your biggest fears of stepping into your first job?
- Did you suffer from the Imposter syndrome? How did you handle it?
- What were you NOT prepared for in your first job?
- How did you get that dissertation and other research turned into publications



PANELISTS



Dr. Dawn Jourdan

Executive Associate Dean, College of
Architecture; Professor, Landscape
Architecture and Urban Planning, TAMU

Dawn Jourdan is Executive Associate Dean for the College of Architecture at Texas A&M University. In that capacity, she serves as Dean of Faculty, Research and Graduate Programs. She holds the rank of professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning. Previously, Dawn served as associate professor and Director of the Division of Regional and City Planning at the University of Oklahoma (2012-2016). Dawn held a joint appointment between the Colleges of Design, Construction, and Planning and the Levin College of Law from 2008-2012. She began her academic career in 2003 at Texas A&M University. Dawn earned a Ph.D. in urban and regional planning from Florida State University in 2004, a joint degree in law and urban planning from the University of Kansas in 2000, and a B.S. in Urban Affairs and Theatre Arts from Bradley University in 1996. She teaches courses in: land use law, growth management; affordable housing; and planning history and theory, among others. Dawn conducts research at the intersection of planning, law and governance. She is the founding president of the Academic Advisory Council for Signage Research and Education and currently serves as the editor of the Interdisciplinary Journal of Signage and Wayfinding. Dawn is the chair of ACSP's Committee on the Academy.

PANELISTS



Dr. Lisako McKyer

Associate Dean for Climate and Diversity, School of Public Health; Associate Director, Center for Community Health Development; Professor, School of Public Health, TAMU

Lisako McKyer is the Associate Dean for Climate and Diversity in School of Public Health. She also serves as the Director for Center for Community Health Development. She earned an undergraduate degree in psychology with emphasis on developmental and pediatric psychology, and later pursued doctoral studies in clinical science at Indiana University and specialized in pediatric psychology. Dr. McKyer earned her MPH degree in community health in route to her PhD in Health Behavior Indiana University. Her research interests include: minority health issues and health disparities, parental influences on child health behaviors & outcomes, socioecological factors of health behaviors and publications.



Dr. Ali Mostafavi

Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering, TAMU

Ali Mostafavi received his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering at Purdue University in August 2013. He also holds a Master of Science in Industrial Administration (One-year accelerated MBA) degree from the Krannert School of Management at Purdue University. Ali Mostafavi supervises the Urban Resilience, Networks, and Informatics. His research focuses on a system-of-systems paradigm that bridges the boundaries between complex systems science, network theory, and civil infrastructure systems to address sustainability and resilience challenges. He has been a principal investigator (PI/Co-PI) in multiple research projects funded by different agencies, such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), Construction Industry Institute (CII), and Miami-Dade Expressway (MDX). He is also a member of the Infrastructure Resilience Division (IRD) of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Academic Leadership Committee of CII.



Dr. Deidra Davis

Instructional Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning, TAMU

Dr. Deidra D. Davis is an Instructional Assistant Professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning at Texas A&M University. She received her PhD in Environmental Resources and Policy and her Master's degree in Geography from Southern Illinois University Carbondale and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Chicago State University. She has over eight years of teaching experience, has participated on various university and city government advisory committees, and engaged in countless opportunities mentoring students. Her research interests include issues of environmental justice, community engagement, public policy, and land use management.

Specifically, Dr. Davis studies marginalized communities and their involvement in the environmental decision making process. Dr. Davis is knowledgeable, skilled in her field, and passionate about students' success in higher education.

POSTER PRESENTATION

Donta Council

The 2017 Hurricane Season: A Critical Race Theory Perspective

Jennifer Blanks

Identifying Freedom Colony Burial Grounds Affected by Hurricane Harvey using Spatial Analysis Techniques

Celine Robinson

Understanding Natural and Human Initiation and Transmission of Cascading Hazards

Olumide F. Abioye

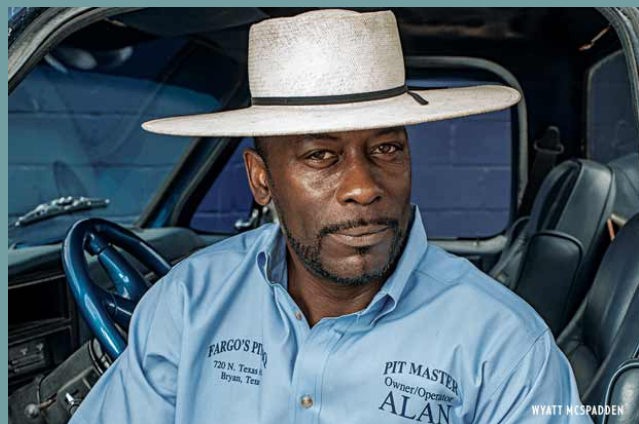
A Novel Optimization Model for Emergency Evacuation Planning

Oronde Drakes

Social Vulnerability and FEMA Individual Assistance



LUNCH & LEARN



Fargo's Pit BBQ

Established in 2000 by Alan Caldwell & Belender Wells, Fargo's Pit BBQ has become a favorite for BBQ lovers all across the Lone Star State. The delicious variety of ribs, brisket, sides and everything else you come to expect from authentic Texas BBQ promises to satisfy even the biggest of appetites.

We invite you to visit Fargo's Pit BBQ, named one of Texas Monthly's "50 Best BBQ Joints in the World" where you will have without a doubt, the best BBQ in town.



Lamar & Niki's Pit BBQ & Soul Food Cafe

Lamar and Niki Cole are the founders and owners who are responsible for creating the best creating the authentic soul food found in the Brazos Valley. Their vision of starting a restaurant came into fruition in 2014. This local, family owned restaurant has become a lot of people's favorite in town.

"She Matters" Panel Discussion



Friday, April 26th | From 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm | Wright Gallery | College Station, TX

Features artist from the "She Matters" exhibition.

REGINA AGU RABÉA BALLIN · ANN JOHNSON AUTUMN KNIGHT

Please join us for a panel discussion.

Location: Langford Building A
Second Floor
Wright Gallery

"SHE MATTERS" Panel Discussion



HAZARD REDUCTION AND RECOVERY CENTER

HRRC Fellows Forum

Date: Friday April 26, 2019

Time: 2-6 PM

Location: Scoates Hall 208

*** Light refreshments will be provided**



Presenters



Sierra Woodruff, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Landscape
Architecture and Urban Planning
Texas A&M University

Presentation Title: "Adaption to
Resilience Planning: Alternative
Pathways to Prepare for Climate Change"



Nathanael Rosenheim, Ph.D.

Associate Research Scientist
Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center
Texas A&M University

Presentation Title: "Hurricane Harvey
Southeast Texas Food Retail and Food Aid
Agency Survey"



Shannon S. Van Zandt, Ph.D. & AICP

Department Head
Department of Landscape Architecture & Urban
Planning
Texas A&M University

Presentation Title: "An Agenda for Equitable
Resilience"

Presenters



Lei Zou, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Geography

Texas A&M Univeristy

Presentation Title: "Towards Disaster Resilient Communities: from Resilience Modeling to Smart Disaster Management"



Bryce Hannibal, Ph.D.

Assistant Research Scientist

Institute for Science, Technology, and Public

Policy, Bush School of Government,

Texas A&M Univeristy

Presentation Title: "The Intersection of Social and Planning Networks: A Post Harvey Study"



15 min Break

Presenter



Carlee Purdum, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Researcher

Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center

Texas A&M Univeristy

Presentation Title: "Exploiting the Vulnerable: All-Hazard Inmate Firefighters and Emergency Response"



Maria Koliou, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Zachry Department of Civil Engineering

Texas A&M University

Presentation Title:

“Quantifying post-disaster business recovery through Bayesian methods: The Case Study of Lumberton, NC following Hurricane Matthew”



Courtney Thompson, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Geography

Texas A&M Univeristy

Presentation Title: "Enhancing Natural Hazards & Vulnerability/Resilience Studies"

Presenter



Laura M. Stough, Ph.D.

Assistant Director

Center on Disability and Development

Texas A&M University

Presentation Title: "Research on disasters and disability"



Walter Gillis Peacock, Ph.D.

Director

Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center

Texas A&M University

Presentation Title: "Linking Social Science and Engineering Models for Community Resilience"



Dinner 6:30 - 8:00

RONIN

800 N Main St, Bryan, TX 77803

Ronin features family farm cuisine with a constantly evolving menu. Set in the beautiful, newly-renovated historic Ice House on Main in downtown Bryan, our restaurant shares an open-air kitchen with our dining room, floor to ceiling exposed brick, and hand-built, suspension tables made from wood salvaged during renovation.

Saturday 4.27.19

Prairie View A&M

University



8:00

Head to Prairie View A&M University

9:45 - 10:00

Welcome by Dr. Louis Ngamassi

10:00 - 10:45

Theoretical Components of Community
Engagement

11:00 - 12:00

Deep Engagement Practice

12:00 - 1:00

Lunch

1:00 - 2:00

Engage Scholarship

2:00 - 3:00

Engaged Leadership

3:00 - 7:00

Toxic Tour with TEJAS

7:00

Adjournment

Theoretical Components of Community Engagement



**BARBARA WILSON,
Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
Urban + Environmental
Planning
University of Virginia

Barbara Brown Wilson's research and teaching focus on the history, theory, ethics, and practice of sustainable community design and development, and on the role of urban social movements in the built world. Dr. Wilson writes for both academic and mainstream audiences, and is the author of *Resilience for All: Striving for Equity through Community-Driven Design* (Island Press: 2018), and co-author of *Questioning Architectural Judgement: The Problem of Codes in the United States* (Routledge: 2013). Her research is often change-oriented, meaning she collaborates with community partners to identify opportunities for engaged and integrated sustainable community development that creates knowledge to serve both local and educational communities.

Deep Engagement Practice Panelists:

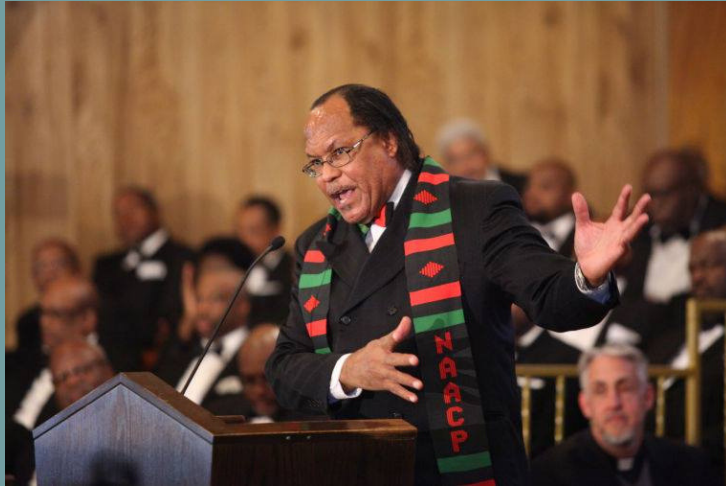


Jaimie Hicks Masterson, AICP
Associate Director
Texas Target Communities
Texas A&M University

Jaimie Hicks Masterson is associate director of Texas Target Communities at Texas A&M University, a high-impact service learning program that works alongside underserved communities to plan for resilience. She is author of "Planning for Community Resilience: A Handbook for Reducing Vulnerabilities to Disasters," which focuses on hazard mitigation strategies and tools for government officials, planners, and emergency managers that can be incorporated pre-disaster. She is the engagement coordinator for the Plan Integration for Resilience project funded by the Department of Homeland Security and a part of the Center for Coastal Resilience at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Masterson also consults with small communities to develop comprehensive plans, economic development plans, and other planning needs where resilience practices are folded and infused into plans and other community initiatives.

Additionally, Masterson authored the Rapid Disaster Recovery Housing Program Report (RAPIDO) which identifies disaster recovery policy recommendations, a technical guide for program implementation, and a program comparison of current disaster recovery challenges and successes. The RAPIDO program focuses on pre-disaster and post-disaster planning strategies for local jurisdictions and social service organizations.

Deep Engagement Practice Panelists:



Gene Collins

West Texas Area Coordinator
Texas NAACP
Chairman
Texas Environmental Justice
Committee

Gene Collins is not only a former Black Panther but he is also a leader in the black community in the Permian Basin. He graduated from Baylor in 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science/ Public administration and received a Master of Arts degree from the University of Texas of The Permian Basin in Educational Leadership in 2011. He is a full-time minister of 25 years for the Highland and Bunche Church of Christ, local Branch President of the Odessa NAACP where he has served for the last thirty years, West Texas Area Coordinator for the Texas NAACP, Chairman of the Texas Environmental Justice Committee, Chairman of the Texas Emergency Response Committee, Chairman of the Texas Religious Affairs Committee, and currently the State President of the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats. Collins served for over six years as the Chapter Chairman for the Permian Basin Chapter of the American Red Cross, three years on the Texas Red Cross State Service Council, and currently is serving as the Director of Partner Services in the National Office in Washington D.C. He has been responsible for many projects in the city of Odessa including the development of the Gertrude Bruce Center, Frederick Douglas Park, Odessa Main Street Odessa, the West Texas HIV-AIDS Consortium, and the Odessa Revolving Loan program. He has served on numerous other local, state, and national boards.

Engaged Scholarship Panelists



Garrett Sansom, DrPH

Research Assistant Professor
Environmental and Occupational
Health
Texas A&M University

Garrett Sansom is the Program Manager for the Environmental Grand Challenge program at Texas A&M University. His professional interests revolve around the human health implications of the environment, urban planning, water security, and disaster preparedness. His empirical focus targets marginalized communities that experience environmental justice issues. Populations within these neighborhoods have been shown to be particularly vulnerable of impacts from the nexus of hazardous substances and natural disasters. Sansom's research has exemplified the belief that investigators should be afforded the opportunity to achieve dual goals that extend scientific knowledge and build local capacity to enacting positive change within the communities being analyzed.

Engaged Scholarship Panelists



Louis Ngamassi, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Accounting, Finance &
MIS

Prairie View A&M University

Dr. Louis Ngamassi, associate professor of MIS, completed a 10-week summer research program at Purdue University with VACCINE (Visual Analytics for Command, Control, and Interoperability Environments). The VACCINE program is in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Summer Research Team for Minority Serving Institutions program, which seeks to enhance the leadership at minority-serving institutions in subject areas that relate to DHS goals. Ngamassi has done extensive research about disaster management and international humanitarian organizations and sought to explore how visual analytics could aid in processing and disseminating disaster social media data. Students interested in learning more about this field should enroll in one of Dr. Ngamassi's courses at the undergraduate or graduate level. In fall 2015, Dr. Ngamassi is teaching MISY 5533: Special Topics in MISY which covers disasters, cyber security and other topics of interest.

Engaged Leadership

Panelist



Kenneth Anderson Taylor, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of the Practice

Director of Outreach and Professional

Development within the Center for Nonprofits & Philanthropy

The Bush School of Government & Public Service

Texas A&M University

Dr. Taylor's primary faculty responsibilities encompass him leading a consulting capstone seminar for graduate students within the Bush School, and teaching a variety of nonprofit management and leadership theory courses. Dr. Taylor also serves as co-faculty within the Agricultural Leadership and Development program (TAMU College of Agriculture & Life Sciences), and annually accompanies students to Thessaloniki and Athens, Greece to explore the variety of leadership models as a scholarly discipline via personal experiences. Per his Center for Nonprofits & Philanthropy duties, Dr. Taylor enjoys working in Texas and beyond with nonprofit organizations on capacity building issues. In this role, he truly gets to utilize his former experience as a nonprofit executive and work with leaders within on a variety of professional development opportunities.

Dr. Taylor earned his MBA from Bellarmine University's Rubel School of Business and also holds a BA in Sociology from the same institution. His PhD in Leadership Studies is from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio and dissertation research focused on the link between leader behavior within nonprofit organizations and its impact on employee job satisfaction.

TOXIC TOUR



Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services

Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services (t.e.j.a.s.) is dedicated to providing community members with the tools necessary to create sustainable, environmentally healthy communities by educating individuals on health concerns and implications arising from environmental pollution, empowering individuals with an understanding of applicable environmental laws and regulations and promoting their enforcement, and offering community building skills and resources for effective community action and greater public participation.

Our goal is to promote environmental protection through education, policy development, community awareness, and legal action. Our guiding principle is that everyone, regardless of race or income, is entitled to live in a clean environment.

Special Acknowledgments



Norma Anderson

Founder and President

William Averette Anderson Fund

Norma Anderson is founder and president of the William Averette Anderson Fund for Hazard and Disaster Mitigation Education and Research (aka, the Bill Anderson Fund), established to promote the study of mitigating the impact of disasters and hazards on vulnerable and underserved populations in the United States.

The fund serves to facilitate a successful graduate school experience for students representing underrepresented populations. The focus is to significantly increase the number of persons of color who perform research and are educators, practitioners, and research funders in hazard and disaster mitigation. The Bill Anderson Fund is fondly named after her late husband Bill Anderson, who dedicated his career to mitigating the impacts of disasters and hazards. Anderson has spent more than four decades in leadership positions in education, corporate communications and administration, training, IT consulting, sales and supply chain management. She is a recognized leader in creating successful programs that help build the skills and career opportunities to underserved and underrepresented urban communities. She was an educator in Montgomery County, Maryland, Phoenix, Arizona, and Columbus, Ohio. She also served as board vice chair to UrbanEd, Inc., a nonprofit that provides District of Columbia children, youth, and adults with technology driven education, information, and skill development. Anderson earned a bachelor's in education from The Ohio State University and an master's in education from Arizona State University Tempe. She lives in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Special Acknowledgments



Jacqueline Patterson

Director

NAACP Environment and Climate Justice
Program

Jacqueline Patterson is the Director of the NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program. Since 2007 Patterson has served as coordinator & co-founder of Women of Color United. Jacquie Patterson has worked as a researcher, program manager, coordinator, advocate and activist working on women's rights, violence against women, HIV&AIDS, racial justice, economic justice, and environmental and climate justice. Patterson served as a Senior Women's Rights Policy Analyst for ActionAid where she integrated a women's rights lens for the issues of food rights, macroeconomics, and climate change as well as the intersection of violence against women and HIV&AIDS. Previously, she served as Assistant Vice-President of HIV/AIDS Programs for IMA World Health providing management and technical assistance to medical facilities and programs in 23 countries in Africa and the Caribbean. Patterson served as the Outreach Project Associate for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, and Research Coordinator for Johns Hopkins University. She also served as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Jamaica, West Indies.

Patterson holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University. She currently serves on the International Committee of the US Social Forum, the Steering Committee for Interfaith Moral Action on Climate, Advisory Board for Center for Earth Ethics as well as on the Boards of Directors for the Institute of the Black World, Center for Story Based Strategy and the US Climate Action Network.

Special Acknowledgments



Frederick D. McClure

Executive Director of Leadership initiatives
Office of the Provost
Texas A&M University

McClure graduated summa cum laude in agricultural economics in 1976. He was a member of the Singing Cadets, the first African-American Student Body President and received the Brown-Rudder Outstanding Student Award. In 1995, he was appointed to a six-year term on Texas A&M's Board of Regents, where he served two years as vice chairman. McClure served as a senior member of the White House staff, advising President Ronald Reagan and President George H. W. Bush on legislative affairs.

Special Acknowledgments



Michelle Meyer, Ph.D.

Associate Executive Director
Hazard Reduction & Recovery
Center
Texas A&M University

Michelle Annette Meyer is the Associate Executive Director of the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center and an Assistant Professor in the Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning Department at Texas A&M University. She received her Ph.D. from the Department of Sociology at Colorado State University (CSU). She earned her BA from Murray State University in Murray, KY and her MA from CSU.

Michelle's research interests include disaster recovery and mitigation, environmental sociology and community sustainability, and the interplay between environmental conditions and social vulnerability. Particularly, Michelle studies inequality and how disaster and environmental settings intersect with structural forces that maintain or transform inequality. She uses the lens of social capital and collective efficacy to theoretically understand how relationships between individuals and between governmental and nongovernmental organizations generate or hinder disaster risk and recovery. Hence, her interests have led her to research expansively on volunteer organizations, volunteerism, and philanthropy in disaster. Michelle aims to generate research that contributes to communities' capacity to be resilient in the face of environmental threats, and do so in an equitable manner.

Special Acknowledgments



John Cooper, Ph.D.

Assistant Vice President Public
Partnership & Outreach
Texas A&M University

Dr. John T. Cooper, Jr. is an Associate Professor of Practice in the Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning Department, and Director of the Texas Target Communities Program, at Texas A&M University. Dr. Cooper's areas of interest include principles of inclusive planning and plan quality. He has a deep commitment to working with emergency planners to increase the extent to which socially vulnerable populations are able to prepare for, survive and recover from disasters.

From 2005-2010, he directed the FEMA-funded Emergency Preparedness Demonstration Program, a \$2.5 million effort to understand barriers to increased disaster awareness and preparedness in marginalized communities.

In addition to serving on the Advisory Board for the Coastal Resilience Center, he serves on the boards of directors for the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities and the Bill Anderson Fund (BAF). A central mission of the BAF is to increase the representation of people of color in disaster research and practice.

Special Acknowledgments



Shannon S. Van Zandt, Ph.D. & AICP
Department Head
Department of Landscape Architecture &
Urban Planning
Texas A&M University

Shannon Van Zandt is a professor and head of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning at Texas A&M University, where she is also a fellow in the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center. She has expertise in coastal resilience, social vulnerability to disasters, and low-income housing. Starting in 2008, Van Zandt led a multi-year study of community recovery in Galveston, Texas, after Hurricane Ike, funded by the National Science Foundation. She currently serves as co-PI on four disaster mitigation-related grants from the NSF, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and others. She is co-author of the 2014 book "Planning for Community Resilience: A Handbook for Reducing Vulnerability to Disasters" from Island Press.

Special Acknowledgments



Walter Gillis Peacock, Ph.D.

Director

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Walter Peacock is professor of urban planning in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning and the Director of the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center at Texas A&M University where he has been a member of the faculty since 2002. He received his PhD from the University of Georgia. He is internationally known for his research on disaster recovery, community resiliency, and social vulnerability. In 2009, he was awarded the Quarantelli Award for Social Science Disaster Theory, acknowledging significant theoretical work in disaster and hazards research. Between 2008 and 2012 he was the holder of the Rodney L. Dockery Endowed Professorship in Housing and the Homeless and in 2012 he was awarded the Sandy and Bryan Mitchell Master Builder Endowed Chair at Texas A&M. In 2014, he received the Distinguished Achievement Award in Research from Texas A&M, an award sponsored by the Association of Former Students. He has conducted research in Florida, Texas, California, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, the former Yugoslavia, Italy, Turkey, and India. He has been PI or Co-PI on several million dollars in external funding since joining TAMU with the majority of that funding coming from the National Science Foundation and National Oceanographic Atmospheric Administration. He has authored or co-authored 3 books and over a hundred journal articles, book chapters, research monographs, and professional papers. He has given briefings regarding household, housing, and community recovery following major natural disasters to local, state, and federal officials. Examples include speaking on Capitol Hill addressing housing recovery issues, serving on an expert team assembled by the National Academies of Science investigating housing and housing assistance, consulting for the Governmental Accountability Office on housing rebuilding and recovery issues, and speaking on a National Academies of Science panel on community resiliency and disaster recovery. He has constantly striven for his research to make a difference in helping make our communities stronger and more disaster resistant and sustainable places to live.



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