

The Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research

2018 Faculty Fellows



“The TIMIS Project: Trauma-Informed Mental Health Interpreting Services for Victims of Domestic Violence”

Dr. Lluís Baixauli-Olmos, College of Arts & Sciences (A&S) — Modern Languages

- Dr. Katy Hopkins (College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) — Counseling and Human Development, Cardinal Success Program)

In partnership with the Center for Women and Families and the Cardinal Success Program, the team will use interpretation to counter structural inequalities that non-English speaking survivors of domestic violence face in seeking and receiving mental health care and other services.

“Project Uncaged”

Dr. Susan Buchino, School of Public Health and Information Systems (SPHIS) – Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences

- Dr. Katy Hopkins (CEHD — Counseling and Human Development, Cardinal Success Program)

In partnership with Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services (YDS) and Sarabande Writing Labs, the team will facilitate and evaluate writing workshops as a trauma-informed intervention for girls detained at YDS, then publish books of the girls’ poetry as a tool to engage policy makers and the media about juvenile justice reform. In conjunction with the intervention, the team will develop a UofL class on how to conduct these workshops, identify structural and systemic barriers to clients’ mental health, and understand health impacts of the arts.

“Improving the Educational Outcomes of Homeless Youth in Jefferson County, Kentucky”

Dr. Namok Choi, CEHD – Educational Leadership

- Dr. Joseph Petrosko (CEHD)
- Dr. Hee Hyul Moon (Kent School of Social Work)

In partnership with the Jefferson County Public School district, the team will assess the school mobility of homeless students in efforts to inform strategies to support academic achievement in homeless families.

“Building on the Cultural Assets of Mill Creek Elementary School”

Dr. Michele Foster, CEHD – Early Childhood and Elementary Education

- Dr. Armon Perry (Kent School of Social Work)
- Dr. Ahmad Washington (CEHD – Department of Counseling and Human Development)

In partnership with Mill Creek Elementary School within the Jefferson County Public School district, the team will conduct intervention research to assess how educators, students and parents of the school think about and engage in educational pedagogies and practices to improve student engagement.

“Promoting Cervical Cancer Screening and HPV Vaccination among African-American Women”

Dr. Scott LaJoie, SPHIS – Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences

- Dr. Karen Kayser (Kent School of Social Work)

In partnership with Park DuValle Health Center, Portland Family Health Clinic and Shawnee Christian Healthcare Center, the team will develop a culturally appropriate, theory-driven intervention to promote actions to prevent cervical cancer.

University of Louisville • Louisville, KY 40292

P: 502.852.2371 E: transdis@louisville.edu W: louisville.edu/socialjustice

The Consortium is directed by the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research and the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice, in collaboration with the Brandeis Laboratory for Citizenship, the Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky, and Health Sciences Center Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

“Louisville Association for Community Economics: Developing a Community-Owned Grocery Store”

Ariana Levinson, Brandeis School of Law

- Dr. Michele Foster (CEHD — Early Childhood and Elementary Education)
- Dr. Maurice Gattis (Kent School of Social Work)
- Dr. Bruce Kemelgor (College of Business)
- Dr. Lisa Markowitz (A&S — Anthropology)
- Dr. Justin Mog (Office of the Provost – Sustainability)

In partnership with the Louisville Association for Community Economics, the team will conduct employment law research and a location feasibility study, explore case studies of similar cooperatives, and engage community residents in the development of a community-owned grocery store in one of Louisville’s downtown neighborhoods.

“Kanafani in Kentucky”

Dr. Russell Vandenbroucke, A&S — Theater Arts

- Dr. Kelly Kinahan (A&S – Urban and Public Affairs)
- Dr. Avery Kolars (A&S — Philosophy)

In partnership with KRM and the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the team will present readings of the stage adaptation of “Returning to Haifa,” a novella about Palestinian displacement, to understand how refugees and others experience dislocation, dispossession, and urban renewal--both "there and then" in Haifa and "here and now" in Louisville--in an effort to influence both public understanding and housing policy.

2017 Returning Faculty Fellows

“Elucidating the Stories of Wellbeing in the West Louisville Community: A Phenomenological Study”

Dr. Meera Alagaraja, CEHD — Educational Leadership, Evaluation, & Organizational Development

- Dr. Lisa M. Hooper (CEHD — Counseling and Human Development)
- Dr. Emma Sterrett-Hong (Kent School of Social Work)

In partnership with the Park DuValle Community Health Center, the team will interview and document how West Louisville residents define and experience well-being. The results will aid the clinic in the assessment of wellbeing and coping strategies among its patients.

“Middle-School Citizen Science Investigation of Global Climate Change: Developing Local Environmental Justice School Partnerships”

Dr. Mary Brydon-Miller, CEHD — Educational Leadership, Evaluation, & Organizational Development

- Dr. Shira Rabin (A&S — Biology)
- Dr. Bronwyn Williams (A&S — English)

In collaboration with Marion C. Moore Traditional Middle School (JCPS) and Four Winds Nature Institute, this project will develop local partnerships, research capacity, and pedagogy to enable teachers and students to participate in an international collaborative study of global climate change.

“LGBTQ Adolescent Health in Louisville: An approach to identify and assess local priorities”

Dr. Ryan Combs, SPHS—Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences

- Dr. Maurice Gattis (Kent School of Social Work)
- Dr. Amber Pendleton (School of Medicine — Pediatrics)

In partnership with the Louisville Youth Group and the JCPS LGBTQ Student Supports Subcommittee, this project will engage LGBTQ youth and others to identify health priorities and inform the development of a health communications campaign to improve the health of LGBTQ adolescents in Louisville.

“Microaggressions in Clinical Medicine”

Dr. Lauren Freeman, A&S—Philosophy

- Jennifer Stephens (School of Medicine)
- Dr. Dwayne Compton (School of Medicine — Office of Community Engagement and Diversity)

In partnership with the Kentucky Health Justice Network, this project supports the completion of a book about the effects of microaggressions in clinical medicine and how to avoid them. This work will include public presentations and discussions with medical professions with the goal of including the research as part of medical students’ education.

“Project STAAR: Survivors of Trafficking Creating Art, Agency, and Resilience”

Dr. Jennifer Middleton, Kent School of Social Work — UofL Human Trafficking Research Initiative

- Dr. Maurice Gattis (Kent School of Social Work)
- Dr. Lesley Harris (Kent School of Social Work)
- Dr. Theresa Hayden (A&S—Criminal Justice)
- Dr. Jennie Vavrousek, MD (School of Medicine — Pediatrics)
- Dr. Zhixia (Richard) Li (Speed School of Engineering — Civil & Environmental Engineering)
- Dr. Olfa Nasraoui (Speed School — Computer Engineering & Computer Science)

In partnership with the Kristy Love Foundation, this project seeks to increase awareness of the issue of human trafficking within the community of Louisville (a “hot spot” for human trafficking activity) and to improve the ability of systems to appropriately and effectively respond to human trafficking in a trauma-informed manner - in order to reduce stigma and promote resilience amongst victims of human trafficking.

“Strengths and Needs of the Louisville House Ball Community”

Dr. Emma Sterrett-Hong, Kent School of Social Work

- Dr. Kaila Story (A&S — Women and Gender Studies, Pan-African Studies)
- Dr. Ryan Combs (SPHIS—Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences)
- Dr. Maurice Gattis (Kent School of Social Work)

In partnership with individuals from the Louisville House Ball Community, this project uses photovoice to engage members of this community to assess their needs and develop appropriate interventions to support young Black and Latinx men and transgender women in this community.

“Learning how the Community Leads: Evaluating and Informing City-Based Participatory Engagement in West Louisville”

Dr. Angela Storey, A&S — Anthropology

- Dr. Daniel DeCaro (A&S — Urban and Public Affairs, Psychology)
- Dr. David Johnson (SPHIS—Health Management and Systems Sciences)
- Dr. Lauren Heberle (A&S — Sociology, Center for Environmental Policy and Management)

In partnership with Louisville Metro Government (Dr. Allison Smith, PhD, Biology), this project examines the expectations, experiences, and hopes of West Louisville residents as they engage with three Louisville Metro-based participatory projects: West Louisville Community Council and redevelopment of the Heritage West site; outreach efforts surrounding the release of the histories of redlining interactive toolkit; and the Metro Brownfields program. By examining these processes, the researchers seek to create place-based, responsive tools to improve community engagement.

“Transforming Learning Communities: A Multi-Year Project Supporting Teachers of Adolescents”

Dr. Shelley Thomas, CEHD — Middle & Secondary Education

- Dr. Shantel Crosby (Kent School of Social Work)
- Dr. Penny Howell (CEHD — Middle & Secondary Education)

In partnership with Westport Middle School, Seneca High School (JCPS), and the Kentucky Department of Education, this project will explore trauma informed classroom management stances and perspectives with a group of preservice teachers and follow their enactment of these into their first year of teaching.

“Black Men as Agents of Change in Children’s Literacy Success”

Dr. Kathryn Whitmore, CEHD — Early Childhood Research Center

- Dr. Ahmad Washington (CEHD — Counseling and Human Development)
- Dr. Faye Jones (Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Health Sciences Center)

In partnership with the Metro United Way, this project seeks to understand what happens when a library of culturally relevant children’s literature is added to a pediatric clinic waiting room, accompanied by interactive read aloud provided by Black men volunteers from the community.

Special Projects

Housing Justice in Louisville Metro and Beyond

Dr. Lauren Heberle, A&S — Sociology and Center for Environmental Policy and Management

- Dr. Rachel Carter (A&S – Theatre Arts)
- Dr. Cate Fosl (A&S — Women’s and Gender Studies, Anne Braden Institute)
- Dr. Meena Khalili (A&S – Fine Arts)
- Dr. Kelly Kinahan (A&S — Urban and Public Affairs)

In partnership with the Metropolitan Housing Coalition (MHC), this project will produce an annual State of Metropolitan Housing Report for metro Louisville and will expand the range of disciplines and students involved in this research, the goal of which is to improve access to safe, fair, and affordable housing.

Immigration and Human Rights: Identifying the Needs of the Latin@ Community in Louisville

Dr. Adrian Archuleta, Kent School of Social Work

- Professor Enid Trucios-Haynes (Brandeis School of Law)

In partnership with the La Casita Center, the project is researching legal and social services needs, including mental health needs.