

Collaboration Consortium: “Participatory Research” Topic

Bios for Interdisciplinary Dialogue Attendees

Tuesday, November 5, 2019

HOSTS

- [Center for Community and Citizen Science](#)
- [Center for Regional Change](#)
- [DataLab \(Data Science and Informatics\)](#)
- [Davis Humanities Institute](#)
- [Energy & Efficiency Institute](#)
- [Feminist Research Institute](#)
- [John Muir Institute of the Environment](#)
- [Policy Institute for Energy, the Environment & the Economy](#)
- [Undergraduate Research Center](#)
- [Innovation Institute for Food & Health](#)

INVITEES

Ashley Vater, *CUREs Consultant, Microbiome Special Research Program, UC Davis*

Ashely collaborates with faculty to develop and teach courses that bring research into the classroom such that first-year undergraduate students can contribute by generating and analyzing data. Over the past two years, Ashley has worked closely with UC Davis Professor Eisen on First-Year Seminar investigative microbiome courses that include The Nectar Microbiome - For the Birds and the Bees, Investigating Antibiotic Resistance in Koala Poop, and Hands on Experience with Big Data In Biology.

[Source <https://microbiome.ucdavis.edu/people/ashley-vater>]

Asiya Natekal, *Data & Informatics Coordinator, Center for Regional Change, UC Davis*

Asiya Natekal is a postdoctoral scholar at the Center for Regional Change, UC Davis. Her research interests lie at the intersection of the built environment and sustainability. She is passionate about the role of the built environment and its impact on its residents. Prior to joining the CRC, she worked as an adjunct professor at the University of California, Irvine and California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. In that capacity, she taught courses related to urban planning, sustainable urban design, and spatial analysis. She holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Mumbai University, Master of Urban and Environmental Planning from Arizona State University, and PhD in Planning, Policy and Design from University of California Irvine.

[Source <https://regionalchange.ucdavis.edu/staff/asiya-natekal>]

Carla Fresquez, Academic Program Coordinator, First-Year Seminars Course-Based Undergraduate Research Experience, Office of Undergraduate Education, UC Davis

Dr. Carla Fresquez is the FYS Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (FYS-CURE) Academic Program Coordinator, where her goal is to provide as many first year and transfer students as possible with the thrill of a deep dive into the rich research culture and opportunities that UC Davis has to offer. She is the first in her very large extended Chicana family to receive a doctorate; a PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from UC Santa Cruz. Her dissertation research focused on understanding the biotic and abiotic factors impacting the distribution of an ecotonal plant community found at the margins of salt marsh wetland communities of the central coast. She now focuses on identifying pathways, curricula, and programming to provide quality research opportunities for students across all majors and from all backgrounds.

[Source <https://fys.ucdavis.edu/people/carla-fresquez>]

David de la Peña, Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture & Environmental Design, Department of Human Ecology, UC Davis

David de la Peña is Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Design in the Department of Human Ecology at UC Davis. As an architect and urban designer, he has practiced professionally for over a decade, specializing in sustainable architecture and community-based design. He received a Masters in Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin (1998), and a Masters in Urban Design (2006) and PhD in Environmental Planning (2013) from UC Berkeley. His research focuses on participatory urbanism and the engagement of designers in grassroots community projects. He has published articles and chapters on participatory design in Barcelona and the US, and on grassroots urban agriculture movements in California. Additionally, he is a lead collaborator since 2013 on the US Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon entries for UC Davis, and is involved in numerous campus planning initiatives around communities for sustainable living and experiential learning.

[Source <https://ams.ucdavis.edu/faculty/erica-kohl-arenas>]

Elizabeth Vasile, CASPER Program Manager, UC Davis Medical Center

Elizabeth Vasile is a program manager for UC Davis' Community & Special Populations Engaged Research (CASPER), and Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC). She was previously Executive Director of the Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging (CEDA) at UC Berkeley. She earned a PhD in Geography from UC Berkeley, and worked for over 10 years in the private sector as a research consultant conducting applied field research, in the U.S. and Latin America, and specializing in program evaluation and strategy development. Before returning to work in academia in 2014, she managed several small businesses and non-profit operations. Her research interests center on the geographies of mobility: migration, tourism, and diasporas.

[Source <https://www.populationsciences.berkeley.edu/people/elizabeth-vasile>]

Erica Kohl-Arenas, Faculty Director, *Imagining America, American Studies, UC Davis*

Erica Kohl-Arenas is the faculty director of *Imagining America* and serves on the UC Davis faculty as Associate Professor in the Department of American Studies. Kohl-Arenas' scholarship and teaching focus on critical studies of philanthropy and the nonprofit sector, participatory community development, grassroots social movements and cultural organizing. Previously, Kohl-Arenas was a member of the faculty of the Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy at The New School in New York City where she was awarded tenure in May 2017. Kohl-Arenas has a bachelor's degree in sociology from Reed College, and she completed a master's degree in community and regional development at UC Davis before earning a doctorate in social and cultural studies in education at UC Berkeley in 2010.

[Source <https://ams.ucdavis.edu/faculty/erica-kohl-arenas>]

Gail Patricelli, Professor, *Department of Evolution and Ecology, UC Davis*

Gail Patricelli is a professor in the UC Davis Department of Evolution and Ecology, and the Animal Behavior Graduate Group Chair. Her research interests comprise behavioral ecology, bioacoustics and conservation in birds, with a focus on understanding the diversity and complexity in animals' signals. Patricelli current projects address breeding behaviors, sexual selection, acoustic communication, and the effects of noise pollution on sage-grouse and other wildlife. Since 2002, Patricelli has attained 11 honors and awards for her works. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Biology and Studio Art from Whitman College. Patricelli attained her Master's and Doctorate's degree from University of Maryland.

[Source: <https://biology.ucdavis.edu/people/gail-patricelli>]

Helena Rhim, Project Manager, *Local Government Commission, Sacramento*

Helena Rhim is a Project Manager in the Climate and Energy Team and joined the LGC team in June 2017. Helena's work includes managing the planning of the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) Forum, conducting workshops and providing technical assistance to Clean Power Alliance member agencies through the Sustainable Energy Incubator program, and providing input on energy policies, programs, and funding opportunities that are relevant to the City of Fresno as part of a Community Action Plan.

Prior to joining LGC, Helena obtained a master's degree in Environmental Management with a focus on environmental economics and policy from Duke University. While at Duke, Helena interned at an environmental justice organization to research the community impacts of fossil fuel infrastructure and worked as a research assistant at the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions on sustainable water impact investing. Helena also holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Virginia .

[Source <https://www.lgc.org/staff/entry/1041/>]

Ingrid Behrsin, Postdoctoral Fellow, *Office of Public Scholarship and Engagement, UC Davis*

Ingrid's research explores the ways in which political economic processes, scientific knowledge production, and citizen mobilization converge around environmental infrastructure projects. Her PhD dissertation attended to the material and discursive

construction of waste as a renewable energy source in the European Union, and investigated the ecological, economic, and political implications of this framing in the context of waste-to-energy (WTE) production. Ingrid operationalized this work through comparative, multi-sited case studies of WTE projects in two Austrian states. She also holds an MSc in Community and Regional Development from UC Davis, and a BA in International Development from UC Berkeley.

[Source: <https://publicengagement.ucdavis.edu/people/ingrid-behrsin>]

Jacob Hibel, Associate Professor of Sociology and Deputy Director, Center for Poverty Research, UC Davis

Much of Jacob Hibel's current research focuses on large-scale immigration's consequences for children, schools, and communities. He is particularly interested in community-level effects: the consequences of living and attending school in an immigrant-rich community versus one with lower historical immigration levels. With support from the William T. Grant Foundation, Professor Hibel is conducting a series of studies examining cross-community variation in the formation and implementation of policies designed to increase access to special education, English acquisition and gifted/talented education services among children of immigrants.

[Source: <https://sociology.ucdavis.edu/people/jhibel/>]

Janice Morand, Associate Director, Internship and Career Center, UC Davis

Janice Morand is the Associate Director for the UC Davis Internship and Career Center (ICC). ICC provides comprehensive career and professional development services to guide students and recent alumni in making informed career choices and connections. The ICC assists students with career exploration and experience in desired fields via internships, as well as part time employment.

[Source: <https://icc.ucdavis.edu/staff-directory/>]

Jennifer Greenier, Associate Director, Research Education and Training Programs, CTSC

Jennifer Greenier is associate director of the Research Education and Training programs administered by the Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC). She also serves as the director of the FUTURE Program, a professional development and career exploration program funded by the NIH Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST) initiative for biomedical graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. Greenier leads a team of program managers responsible for implementing training grants that are collectively designed for research career development for medical students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty. She earned a master's degree in Marine Science from Moss Landing Marine Labs and a doctorate in Genetics at UC Davis.

[Source: <https://health.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/aboutus/leadership.html>]

Joanne Hild, Executive Director, Sierra Streams Institute

Joanne Hild is the Executive Director for Sierra Streams Institute. Sierra Streams Institute is a regional watershed science organization based in Nevada City, California, dedicated to increasing watershed stewardship capacity throughout the Sierra Nevada region and

beyond. Joanne has her MS in Zoology from University of Massachusetts in Amherst and her BS in Biology from Tufts University. She worked as a research scientist with the Wildlife Conservancy (mountain lions) in Sacramento, with the Bermuda Biological Station (effects of oil on coral growth and limpets) and with Cornell University (pigeon navigation). She was a Biology Professor at Sierra College for 15 years, teaching various general biology, anatomy and physiology, and ecology courses. Joanne previously worked as a high school biology teacher for one year.

[Source: <https://sierrastreamsinstitute.org/team/joanne-hild/>]

Juan Carlos Sanchez, *Environmental Justice Policy Analyst, Policy Institute for Energy, Environment, and the Economy, UC Davis*

Juan Carlos is an Environmental Justice Policy Analyst focusing on responsible urban development and the equitable distribution of public recreation spaces. He came to UC Davis after working as an Adjunct Faculty for several Community Colleges in Southern California, and as a Lecturer at Cal Poly Pomona.

[Source <https://policyinstitute.ucdavis.edu/about/our-team/>]

Kaylene Keller, *GIS & Data Manager, Refuges Inventory & Monitoring Program, US Fish and Wildlife Service*

Dr. Keller is now the GIS and Data Manager for the Refuges Inventory & Monitoring Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Southwest Region. The Regional Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) branch is designed to address the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) critical information needs and to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation strategies on national wildlife refuges across the Southeast. I&M assesses the status of NWRS lands, waters, and biota and provides monitoring support, expertise, and advice to refuges and partners in the face of accelerating climate change and threats from other environmental stressors. The primary purpose of the I&M is to provide information support management decisions at multiple geographic scales.

[Source: <https://watershed.ucdavis.edu/people/kekeller>]

Laci Gerhart Barley, *Lecturer with Potential Security of Employment, Department of Evolution and Ecology, UC Davis*

Laci attended the University of Kansas (KU) for a bachelor's degree in Biology. She then worked for a year with the Institute for KU Educational Research and Public Service (now the Center for Public Partnerships and Research), which manages federal grant money and pre-/post-award services for KU researchers. She attained her PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at KU, and began post-doctoral research at Kansas State University on the Novus Research Coordination Network. Laci then spent three years teaching introductory biology and botany in the Math and Science Programs at the University of Hawai'i, West O'ahu and at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa.

[Source <https://gerhartbarley.blog/>]

Lindsay Poirier, Associate Professor, Science and Technology Studies, UC Davis

Lindsay Poirier is a cultural anthropologist of data cultures, expertise, and infrastructure. Interlacing training in both ethnography and computer science, Poirier critically examines datasets and data infrastructures as ethnographic artifacts, while she also theorizes and implements alternative data models and platforms. She is the lead platform architect for the Platform for Experimental Collaborative Ethnography (PECE) – an open source digital humanities platform, which supports several international research projects, including The Asthma Files, the Disaster STS Network, and STS Infrastructures. She has also represented the “empirical humanities” (including the qualitative social sciences) in international efforts to support research data sharing. Poirier has worked with the civic technology community in New York City to advocate for data publishing practices, curriculum, and legislation that promote civic engagement with the city’s open data program.

[Source <https://sts.ucdavis.edu/people/lpoirier>]

Lorena Marquez, Assistant Professor, Chicana and Chicano Studies, UC Davis

Dr. Márquez specializes in Chicana/o history through the late 20th and early 21st centuries. She is currently working on a manuscript on the Chicana/o movement in Sacramento that examines and analyzes political activism, identity, gender, and community during the civil rights era of the 1960s and 1970s. Her experiences in both the archives and in the Sacramento Chicano Movement Oral History Project serve as the basis for her teaching and research. Her work ultimately contributes to the expanding knowledge of the ethnic Mexican population in seldom-studied U.S. sites, highlighting an often contradictory and multi-dimensional Chicana/o experience.

[Source: <https://chi.ucdavis.edu/people/lorena-marquez>]

Lorraine Hwang, Academic Coordinator, Computational Infrastructure for Geodynamics, UC Davis

Lorraine Hwang is the Coordinator for Computational Infrastructure for Geodynamics (CIG). It is a community-driven organization that advances Earth science by developing and disseminating software for geophysics and related fields. CIG aspires to accelerate the understanding of the dynamical properties of the Earth and Earth-like systems by providing innovative methods, resources, and technologies enabling research from core to crust, and beyond. CIG provides leadership in computational geophysics and drive paradigm shifts and fundamental changes in geoscience by addressing challenges in multi-disciplinary science and creating a broad-based community whose research and pedagogy are fundamentally based in modeling and computation.

[Source <https://regionalchange.ucdavis.edu/staff/asiya-natekal>]

Marlené Mercado, PhD Student, Cultural Studies, UC Davis

Marlené Mercado is a Cultural Studies PhD student with research interests in prison abolition studies, Chicanx literature, culture, and politics, critical race and ethnic studies, Latinx critical theory, LGBTQIA and queer of color studies, Chicanx/Latinx decolonial feminisms, written and oral narratives, social justice, queer theory.

[Source <https://culturalstudies.ucdavis.edu/people/marlene-mercado>]

Stephanie Maroney, *Interim Associate Director and Mellon Public Scholars Program Manager, UC Davis Humanities Institute*

Stephanie Maroney completed her PhD in Cultural Studies at UC Davis, with a Designated Emphasis in Feminist Theory and Research. Drawing from feminist science and technology studies and critical food studies, her dissertation, "Eat Right for Your Microbes: Reimagining Dietary Health and Subjectivity in the Probiotic Present," examines how the science of the human microbiome is shaping ideas about how to eat for our multispecies bodies. Previously as a Program Manager at the UC Davis Feminist Research Institute, Stephanie managed the website, social media, and provided administrative support related to project development. [Source <https://fri.ucdavis.edu/people/stephanie-maroney>]

Stephen Kiyoi, *Head of Researcher Services, Shields Library, UC Davis*

Stephen Kiyoi is the Head of Researcher Services at the UC Davis Shields Library. He has experience and training in library management and leadership, grant funded research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and diversity and inclusion initiatives. He is Past President of the Northern California and Nevada Medical Library Group, and has held leadership positions for the MLA, ALA, and NN/LM. Prior to joining UC Davis, Stephen was an Associate Fellow at NLM, where he worked on user interface design, outreach to special populations, and legislative advocacy. Stephen received his MLIS from UCLA, and Masters in Healthcare Administration and Interprofessional Leadership (MS HAIL) from UCSF.

[Source: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/stephen-kiyoi-06b51714>]

Titus Brown, *Associate Professor, Department of Population Health and Reproduction, UC Davis*

Titus' lab (DIB Lab) tackles questions surrounding biological data analysis, data integration, and data sharing. The lab's primary interest is in genomic, transcriptomic, and metagenomic sequence analysis. The lab is the primary developer of the Khmer software, for faster and more efficient sequence analysis of high-throughput sequencing data (<http://khmer.readthedocs.org/>). The lab also runs quite a bit of training in data-intensive biology (<http://dib-training.readthedocs.org/en/pub/>).

[Source: <https://biology.ucdavis.edu/people/c-titus-brown>]

Vajra Watson, *Director, Office of Research and Policy and Equity, UC Davis*

Dr. Vajra M. Watson is the Director of Research and Policy for Equity at UC Davis. She seeks innovative ways to align people and systems that advance social justice. As a scholar-activist, Dr. Watson examines both the perils and promises of education and the potential of innovative community school partnerships. In 2008, Watson founded Sacramento Area Youth Speaks (SAYS), a social justice movement that breaks the barriers of underachievement by elevating the voices of students as the authors of their own lives and agents of change. In this capacity, she designed an award-winning training program that pairs community-based poet-mentor educators and teachers together to develop grassroots pedagogies that reclaim and reimagine schooling (<https://www.says.ucdavis.edu/>). Watson received her B.A. from UC Berkeley and her Doctorate from the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University.

[Source <https://equity.ucdavis.edu/vajra-watson-bio>]