

Fall 2021

NUANCES

Updates for the members and friends of MSSA's
Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities

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Newsletter Editor:

Marcus A Brooks
Doctoral Candidate
University of Cincinnati

Message from Outgoing Chair

What a time we have had over the last four years. Together we went through a name change from the Committee on Minorities to the Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities. We also revived *Nuances*, the newsletter of the Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities that was started by its first editor, Dr. Shondrah Tarrezz Nash in 2007 under the guidance of Dr. Earl Wright, Jr. We also were able to offer travel and registration scholarships to eight students and faculty from HBCUs or that were members of historically underrepresented groups. We initiated



an outreach sub-committee that directly engaged with sociology departments at HBCUs to invite faculty and students to our annual meeting. The committee also joined with the Committee on Women, Gender and Sexualities to co-sponsor sessions related to intersectionality at the annual meeting. Additionally, we revived our push to encourage members of our committees to run for officer positions. I'm excited to have been involved in these initiatives and lead the many volunteers who helped make them successful. I have enjoyed getting to know my fellow sociologists as we have pushed these initiatives forward. I'm thankful to have served the Mid-South Sociological Association for two terms as Chair of the committee. I look forward to welcoming the incoming Chair and helping them transition into office. I hope that you will join me at the CREM luncheon on Friday, October 22 from 12:15 to 1:30 (Fountainview) – in person and online. We will announce this year's travel scholarship winners and officially welcome the new Chair of the committee. For those attending the 2021 annual conference in person, I hope that you get to enjoy all that Charlotte has to offer. I plan to make a trip to the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African American Arts & Culture and grab lunch from Veltree, the Vegan Experience (vegan soul food) while I'm in town.

Dr. Melencia Johnson
Associate Professor of Sociology
University of South Carolina Aiken

Message from Incoming Chair

Hello everyone, it is with great honor to serve as the Chair of the Racial and Ethnic Minorities Committee. I remain dedicated to the education, advocacy, and empowerment of people of color with regards to racial and ethnic groups. I am honored to be among a group of educators who care about social justice and equality. This is a space to provoke actions from our student leaders and educators to address the common issues that plague marginalized communities. Much good will come from their leadership. I look forward to a wonderful two years of service.

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Dr. Kristie Perry is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Social Research at Southern University and A&M College where she graduated from in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in Sociology, and in 2004 with masters of Social Science. She holds a doctoral degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in Sociology. Since 2011, she has been employed at Southern University. She has two daughters, Christina and Jasmine.

Dr. Perry is known for her ability to get things done. She is self motivated, has a strong desire to succeed and is at the least favored by many. Her efforts on getting things done are shown in her ability to create substantial collaborations, partnerships, and relationships. While serving as Assistant Professor, Dr. Perry dedicates her time and efforts to her community. She began her career in Baton Rouge, LA by working as a Program Manger to recruit and select at risk minority youth program participants for training programs designed to enhance academic and vocational skill levels, provide technical training, and life skill training for employment. She counseled young men 18-25 to help them understand and deal with their social, behavioral, and emotional problems, emphasizing preventive and developmental counseling to provide them with life skills. This research was the channel to many research initiatives that Dr. Perry has been a part of. Dr. Perry's funded research initiatives have resulted in (1) Ending the HIV/AIDS Epidemic through Awareness and Testing; (2) Stop sexual violence on College Campuses; and (3) Strengthening Community and Police Relationships.

Dr. Perry's research has also resulted in the expansion of existing knowledge in the discipline. She has conducted research on several projects; perhaps, the most

Message from Incoming Chair

significant of which is the Collective Healing Initiative. In the wake of Alton Sterling and the Police Ambush in the city of Baton Rouge she help identify funds to bridge the gap between the community and the local police. The primary objective of the Collective Healing Initiative was to foster meaningful dialogue and reconciliation among law enforcement agencies and the communities of color they serve, to increase the capacity of victim services programs, and to address officer health and wellness. As a result of the expertise of Dr. Perry and others in conducting the community based research initiative, plans are underway to support officer wellness, survivors of crime, and to reduce violent crime in Baton Rouge. Dr. Perry has been successful in elevating her research at SUBR to levels of local, state, and perhaps, national recognition. Dr. Perry is very influential throughout the community. She has conducted community needs assessments to inform community-university partnerships and to determine the effectiveness of the University in understanding and addressing the best practices of regional development and evaluating the economic and social outcomes of those processes. During the 2011-2015 academic years, she developed presentations on HIV/AIDS and Awareness, for presentation to students and community members to address the HIV/AIDS crisis in the city of Baton Rouge.

Much of her work is on race, religion, and the family. She has been a member and presented in the Mid-South Sociological Association Annual Meeting off and on since undergraduate (2002) at Southern University and A&M College. Just recently she presented two papers at the Mid-South entitled African American Apostasy: The Current Status and Community Attitudes toward Policing: Implications for Social Justice. Her work is focused heavily on the Black Church and Mobilization. More importantly the Black Church's role in community advancement. Currently she serves as Director of United Excel Social Justice Institute. United Excel is a faith based organization dedicated to the education, advocacy, and empowerment of the Baton Rouge community and surrounding areas using a MEDS (morally, economically, domestically and socially) model while promoting peace and justice around the world. She also serves on the board for the Bridge Agency. In this capacity she provides research assistance and advice in the development of programs and legislative policies for economic development and resources, services and activities to low income and moderate families within crime hot spot areas and debilitated neighborhoods and assist with partnerships to revitalize neighborhoods while empowering families.

As director of the Center for Social Research, Dr. Perry also works with the local community agencies on identifying and securing funds to help support the agency missions. She was recently awarded 1.5 million dollars in funding from the Department of Children and Family Services. The Southern University Center for Social Research will implement a statewide Individual Development Account Program that reduces poverty by (1) assisting low-income families with developing savings accounts for the first-time purchase of a home by matching earnings deposited into accounts with available TANF funds; and (2) educating participants about financial management, asset development and other financial literacy components including financial responsibility and savings strategies. She continues to assist the community with housing development and renovation, workforce development for local youth, crime prevention, improve community police relationships, and other needed programs.

Reflection from Nuances Founding Editor

Looking back, I think it was late 2005/early 2006 when Dr. Thomas Calhoun first encouraged me to create a newsletter for the MidSouth Sociological Association's Minority Caucus. Tom went on to become MSSA president, Dr. Keith Durkin was vice president, and Dr. Earl Wright II was Committee on Minorities chair with Dr. Dana Greene taking the reins after Dr. Wright's tenure. Meanwhile, my Committee on Minorities' membership had to have been roughly a year or two. By no means did I think I was suitable for the honor: I was a "new-ish" (and nervous) Ph.D. and a freshman in surviving the pressures of attaining tenure. I considered resigning before penning even a page.



Tom, however, wouldn't hear of it. I thank Tom, as many of us do.

I also appreciate the members of the Committee on Minorities, who entrusted me to share their paths via *Nuances*, whether adapting that doctoral dissertation into a book, chapter or journal publication, or receiving that long-overdue honor in instruction, or moving through the faculty ranks to the Associate Provost's suite. Although nuanced in example, members' endearment to sociological praxis and product were centered in everything they submitted.

With the newer iterations of *Nuances*, I see that same commitment to growth and acknowledgement with past-editors, Dr. Melencia Johnson and Alexis Moore (Ph.D. Candidate) and Marcus Brooks (Candidate), the newsletter's current editor. Therefore, as you "do" sociology in your careers and daily lives, I ask that you keep *Nuances* apprised of what you have learned and continue to bring to your teaching, research, and service.

The editors of *Nuances* look forward to being a part of your progress. The friends and members of the MidSouth Sociological Association's Committee on Minorities want to celebrate with you. Through *Nuances*, I believe, we support each other.

Sincerely,
Shondrah Tarrezz Nash, Ph.D.
Professor of Sociology
Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminology
Morehead State University



We are looking forward to seeing y'all in person (and virtually) at MSSA's annual conference in Charlotte, NC. In the next few sections you will find information of interest about the conference and a directory of local minority owned restaurants and other businesses. The timing of our conference fortunately coincides with the Black Business Owners of Charlotte 5th annual Black Restaurant Week, October 18th-31st, so be sure to eat well in our host city.

CREM is also hosting a group tour of the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture. If you want to attend this event please contact Melencia Johnson, MelenciaJ@usca.edu, to sign up to attend.

A Special Offer for New Members

Greetings from Mid-South Sociological Association, Inc.

As president I am excited to let you know, that thanks to a generous donor, we are offering a new member discount of \$50.00 off our already low prices!!!!*

In addition to the variety of cutting-edge topics (as evidenced by the below call for participation), quality of networking and mentorship, and innovative meeting venues MSSA rewards excellence of our members through numerous monetary awards, including:

- Graduate Student Paper of Distinction Award
- Undergraduate Paper Award
- Stanford Lyman Memorial scholarship
- Stanford Lyman Book Award
- Committee for Racial and Ethnic Minorities Travel/Registration Scholarship
- Women, Gender, and Sexualities Committee Travel/Registration Scholarship

To redeem your new member discount, enter the code NEWMEMBERMSSA50 in promo code in the screen before you are prompted for payment information. Sign up for membership and register for our upcoming conference using our new member portal: MSSA Online Marketplace

For any questions about new member discount please contact Tina Deshotels at tdeshotels@jsu.edu.

*This offer is on a first come first-serve basis and requires a minimum purchase of \$51.00 and you must register for the conference at the time you join in order to receive the discount. The discount is not open to sponsored undergraduates or bulk purchases.

CREM Sessions of Interest

Please note that the final schedule with the Zoom links for virtual attendees will be released at the start of the conference.

Thursday, October 21

Session 6: RACE AND ETHNICITY I

Lakeshore 4

8:00-9:15

Session 11: RACE AND RACISM AT PRIMARILY WHITE INSTITUTIONS (PWIS)

Lakeshore 4

9:30-10:45

Session 14: UTILIZING REDDIT FORUM DATA TO CONDUCT QUALITATIVE RESEARCH ON HIDDEN AND UNDER-EXPLORED POPULATIONS (Workshop)

Welwyn

9:30-10:45

Session 22: IMMIGRATION II

Burnham

1:45-3:00

Friday, October 22

Session 38: COMMITTEE ON SMALL & COMMUNITY COLLEGES BREAKFAST

Foyer

8:00-9:15

Session 43: POSTER SESSION

Lakeshore 1 & 2

9:30-10:45

Session 44: INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT ON RACISM IN AMERICA: IMPLEMENTING CHANGE (Sponsored by AKD)

Lakesore 3

9:30-10:45

CREM Sessions of Interest

Session 45: VIOLENCE AGAINST MEMBERS OF MINORITIZED GROUPS

Burnham

11:00-12:15

Session 49: REDISCOVERING THE SOCIAL JUSTICE ROOTS OF SOCIOLOGY (CO-SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROFESSIONS AND COMMITTEE ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES)

Lakeshore 3

11:00-12:15

Session 50: COMMITTEE ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES LUNCHEON COMMITTEE ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES LUNCHEON

Fountainview

12:15-1:30

Session 53: CULTURAL SOCIOLOGY

Welwyn

1:45-3:00

Session 56: USING ANTIRACIST WORK TO RECONSTRUCT REALITY IN ACADEMIA AND BEYOND: SPONSORED BY SOCIOLOGISTS FOR WOMEN IN SOCIETY – SOUTH (Panel)

Lakeshore 4

1:45-3:00

Session 60: FIGHT ON: CONTINUING THE WORK OF DR. JAMES LOEWEN (Panel)

Lakeshore 3

3:15-4:30

Session 61: UPLIFTING MARGINALIZED STUDENTS AND COLLEAGUES WITH THOUGHTFUL (Panel)

Lakeshore 4

3:15-4:30

Session 62: PLENARY SPEAKER/PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Lakeshore 1&2

4:45-5:45

CREM Sessions of Interest

Saturday, October 23

Session 65: RACE AND ETHNICITY II

Lakesore 3

8:00-9:15

Session 67: POLICE AND CITIZEN BRUTALITY

Welwyn

8:00-9:15

Session 72: IMMIGRATION I

Burnham

11:00-12:15

Session 73: RACE AND ETHNICITY III

Lakeshore

11:00-12:15

Session 74: POTPOURRI

Lakeshore 4

11:00-12:15

FULL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE HERE

Travel Scholarship Winner



Bee Ben Khallouq

Bee (she/her/hers) was born and raised in California and now calls Florida home. She is a first-generation college graduate and the first in her family to seek a doctoral degree. Her parents immigrated to the United States in the 1970s from Mexico. Bee is committed to building community while conducting her research and doing research that can be shared with the public to improve the living conditions of folks. This commitment guides her scholarly activities. Bee is currently a third-year doctoral student at the University of Central Florida. In her free time, she enjoys nature, biking, reading and photography.

She believes that recognizing who we are and how we got here helps us understand and shape our work. Her research focuses on health, health access and social inequalities in health and the medical profession. More specifically, her research agenda is focused on race, class, gender, and gender identity and how these intersect and impact the way that we do medicine. Bee's dissertation explores ritualized heterosexist practices in medicine, from the perspectives of medical trainees.

Join us at the CREM Luncheon for formal award announcements, introduction from incoming CREM Chair, and other information.

**Session 50: COMMITTEE ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES
LUNCHEON LUNCHEON**

**Fountainview
Friday, 12:15-1:30**

Restaurant & Business Directory

BLACK OWNED RESTAURANTS

Breakfast/Brunch

- Uptown Yolk (224 E 7th St, 28202)
 - Chef: Gregory Collier

Lunch/Dinner

- Mert's Heart And Soul (214 N College St, 28202)
 - Southern Soul Food
 - Owners: James and Reneé Bazzelle
- Leah & Louise (301 Camp Rd, 28206)
 - Southern Soul Food
 - Chef: Gregory Collier
- Freshwaters (516 N Graham St, 28202)
 - Southern Soul Food
- Mama Gee's (509 Beatties Ford Rd, 28216)
 - Ghanaian
- Abugida (3007 Central Ave, 28205)
 - Ethiopian

Dessert

- Two Scoops Creamery (913 Central Ave, 28204)
 - Owners: Marques, Jae, and Rich
- BW Sweets Bakery (5820 E W.T. Harris Blvd, 28215)

Restaurant & Business Directory

ASIAN OWNED RESTAURANTS

The Dumpling Lady (1115 N Brevard St, 28206)

- Chinese

Sun's Kitchen (2200 Thrift Rd #2, 28208)

- Chinese
- Chef/Owner, Brian and Mandy Sun

YUME Ramen Sushi & Bar (1508 S Mint St, 28203)

- Japanese

Lang Van (3019 Shamrock Dr, 28215)

- Vietnamese

Choi's Korea & Wing (808 E Arrowood Rd, 28217)

- Korean

HISPANIC OWNED RESTAURANTS

Maria's Mexican Restaurant (5234 South Blvd, 28217)

Salud Cerveceria (3306-C N Davidson St, 28205)

- Brewery

Suárez Bakery (4245 Park Rd, 28209)

- Desserts

The Batchmaker (901 Berryhill Rd, 28208)

- Desserts

Restaurant & Business Directory

MISC. SHOPS & SIGHTS

Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture (551 S Tryon St, 28202)

Pura Vida Worldly Art (3202 N Davidson St, 28205)

- Shopping (Global Cultural Gifts. Handmade. Fair Trade.)

Society Social (2000 South Blvd Suite 195, 28203)

- Home Décor
- Filipino Owned

ONLINE DIRECTORIES OF MINORITY OWNED BUSINESSES BASED IN CHARLOTTE

Charlotte Black Owned

- Many are online only.

Latin American Chamber of Commerce, Charlotte

- Go to "Member Directory"

24-Hour Guide to Supporting Asian Owned Businesses

A Short History of N. Carolina HBCUs



Barber-Scotia College
Founded 1867



Johnson C. Smith University



SAINT AUGUSTINE'S
UNIVERSITY
Transform. Excel. Lead.



As we get ready to come together (physically and virtually) for MSSA's 47th Annual Conference, the Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities continues to recognize the legacy of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities in our host states – see [2020 Nuances](#) for a history of Tennessee HBCU's. North Carolina is home to twelve current and former HBCU's dating back to the opening of Shaw University in 1865. Shaw is noteworthy as being the second southern HBCU, being founded just months after Clark Atlanta University, home of the first American school of sociology. Shaw is also an important site of the history of the Civil Rights Movement as the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee was founded there in 1960. North Carolina HBCU's are also important to the history of Black women, being home to the first post-Civil War women's college, Barber-Scotia College, opened in 1867, and the first dormitory for Black women, Etsey Hall, built in 1873 at Shaw University. Many of these early HBCU's, like Elizabeth City State University (1891) and Winston-Salem State University (1892), were established as normal schools – institutions dedicated to the training of educators. These schools, then, played an important role in fulfilling W.E.B. Du Bois' dream of a Talented Tenth of educated Black Americans who were tasked with the education of their kin. Fayetteville State (1867) exemplifies this tradition of communal self-determinism, being established by Black citizens who bought a plot of land on which the school was built. Present in this history is also the unrealized promise of the Freedman's Bureau which was involved in establishing Fayetteville State and Saint Augustine's University (1867). The Freedman's Bureau only operated only until 1872 due to a lack of Congressional support, so the oldest Black institution in the U.S., the Black Church, took up the cause of educating Black people. Bennett College (1873), Livingstone College (1879), and Kittrell College (1886) were all founded by Christian organizations. Thanks to the efforts of these Black North Carolinians, and their supporters, North Carolina HBCU's have graduated notable alumnae like the sociologist Anna Julia Cooper (Saint Augustine's) and Challenger astronaut Ronald McNair (N.C. A&T State University). These institutions have also been forerunners in Black education including Johnson C. Smith University (1867) which had the first Black president of a southern 4-year institution and Saint Augustine's being the first HBCU to have on-campus television and radio broadcasts. There is much more to learn about North Carolina's rich history of HBCU's. We hope that this introduction can serve as a starting point for further exploration into the important contributions of these educational institutions.



LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE



ECSU
ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

FOUNDED 1891



NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL
AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY



WINSTON-SALEM
STATE UNIVERSITY



NCCentral
UNIVERSITY

2022 Virtual Study Abroad Service

DESCRIPTION

Dolphin Villas Jamaica Limited stands ready to host Virtual Summer 2022 study abroad programs from Jamaica. By utilizing our services— professors will benefit from developing syllabi-concepts which can be brought to life in the Jamaican setting. Thus, while all will benefit, student-participants especially, stand to gain improved learning from local activities and real-life experiences which comport with instructors' course syllabi.

Jamaica is rich in experiential learning opportunities and resources which can facilitate learning about: the contradictions of foreign aid (McNeil, 2019) and effects of international debt; criminal justice, tourism; reggae music, Rastafarian religion; coffee production, bauxite production; and sports. Jamaica being home to one of the world's fastest athletes, is a beta site for understanding how to promote and market sports programs.

Alex Miller, a Director of Dolphin Villas Ltd., is a trained sociologist (PhD, UofSc, 2007) and World Religion instructor (M.Div. Erskine, 1988) with particular experience in field work, especially about forced return migration, along with intimate knowledge of the political and social conditions within Jamaica. Dolphin Villas has 47 years of villa management experience.

This is a viable project that should be considered because it adds to the Cultural Enrichment which is central to sound educational experiences. Furthermore, Study Abroad programs are yielding phenomenal learning results about how the world is working and Guided Pathways to solutions

More information available here: <https://dolphinvillasja.wordpress.com/>

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE

US Department of Education, Benjamin Gillman Scholarship. Students can be awarded "from \$100 to \$5000 (with the opportunity to receive a Critical Need Language Award of up to \$8000)". Link to the Virtual Programs funding information here: <https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/current-recipients/virtual-programs/>

Looking Forward

Here's hoping you all have a fruitful (and safe) conference, both virtually and in Charlotte. We hope that y'all will come to the CREM Committee Meeting where we will begin planning for the future of the committee. This includes welcoming our new committee chair and recognizing Melencia's work and commitment to CREM over her two terms of service. There are many service opportunities - so show up ready to get involved.

We also want to offer congratulations to all the award, grant, and scholarship winners!!!

Our plans to conference in Nashville in 2020 were unfortunately put on hold due to the pandemic. This offered MSSA the opportunity to experiment with a brand new conference format. And we now have the know-how and the infrastructure to continue offering a hybrid conference. As we (hopefully) continue to return to in person conferencing, we carry with us the lesson that for many people 2020's virtual conference season was more accessible than ever, and we are committed to keeping MSSA accessible to all who want to attend. We will finally make our way to Nashville in 2022! We look forward to seeing you all there, online and in person.

