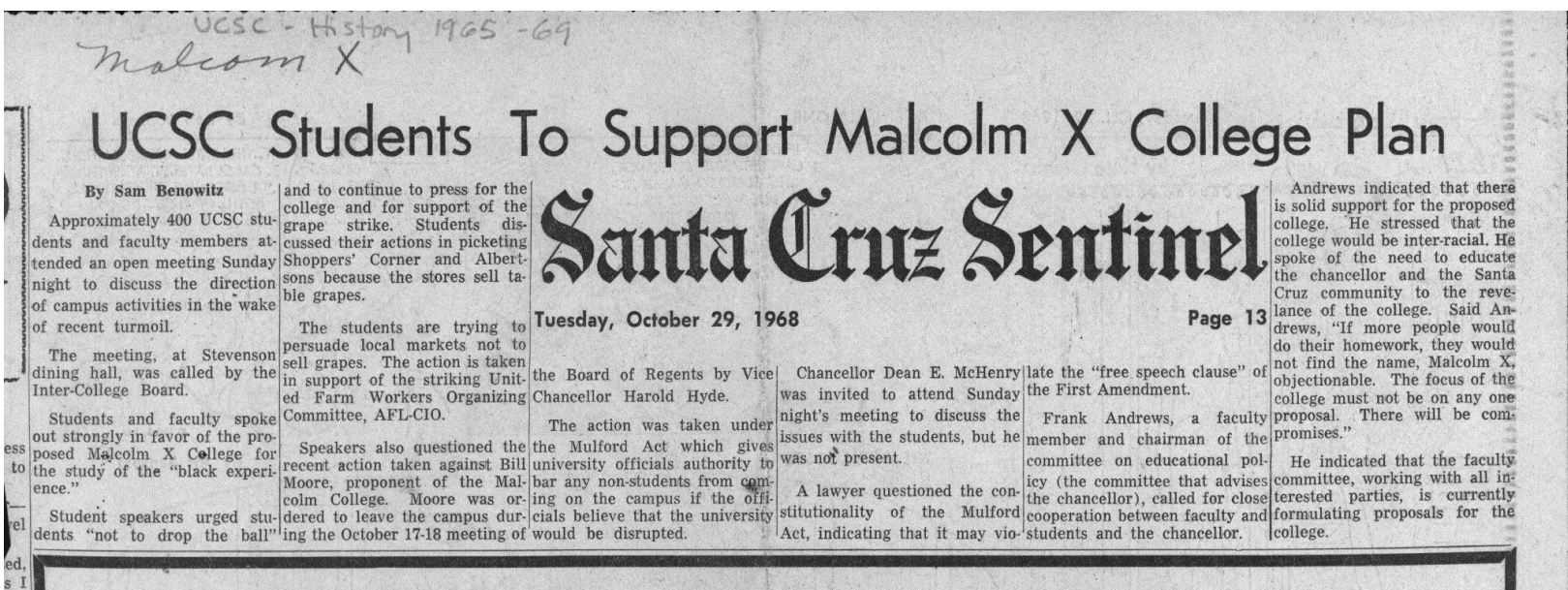


Critical Race and Ethnic Studies

2022-23 NEWSLETTER



Benowitz, Sam. "UCSC Students to Support Malcolm X College Plan." *Santa Cruz Sentinel*. 1968-10-29. SCPL Local History.
<https://history.santacruzpl.org/omeka/items/show/98364>.

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CRES Chair's Letter

Dear CRES community,

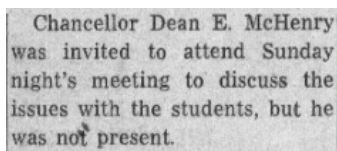
Last year, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies hit a critical milestone. After many decades of student organizing, grinding behind-the-scenes faculty labor and advocacy, and deeply dedicated staff support, CRES finally became a department. Over half a century after students at Berkeley led the way by both creating the conditions for and laboring to ensure the establishment of ethnic studies as a field of study in the UC system, we succeeded in formalizing ethnic studies as a department in its own right at Santa Cruz. With partnership from the Humanities division, we hired two new faculty in Black studies, Fahima Ife and Sophia Azeb, who bring brilliance and strength to CRES. We also hired two powerful UC President's Postdoctoral Fellows, Jennifer Mogannam and Fui Niumeitolu, who will join us in Fall of 2023. Even as we bid farewell to our beloved assistant manager and advisor, Shauntay Larkins, we have hired two new staff, Domingo Canizales and Dejon Barber. These are, no question, monumental victories.

Moments of institutionalization, however, are moments of danger. We cannot afford to lose sight of why we started down this path, pushing for the transformation of the university in which we are housed. In 2011, a petition for ethnic studies that garnered over 1,000 signatures argued specifically for a department as the desired outcome: "The time is right—indeed, long overdue—for the establishment of a department" with "permanent faculty lines, a major and a minor, and a field studies component." Today, precisely because we are a department, CRES houses our own faculty, runs independent searches, and controls our budget. Ours is hands-down the fastest growing major in the Humanities. By working closely with the BSU following the 2017 Afrikan/Black Student Alliance's reclamation of Kerr Hall, we established the Black Studies minor in Fall 2020, and we have hired three scholars of Black Studies. We have also worked with the ethnic resource centers to formalize service learning in our curriculum, and we now have the foundations—through budding collaborations with an indigenous land trust, a Black radical library, and an abolition feminist organization—of a far-sighted field studies component that positions community organizers as teachers in our curriculum. In keeping with the animating vision of the most recent wave of sustained organizing for ethnic studies, we have realized critical race and ethnic studies at Santa Cruz, here quoting from the 2011 petition, "as an urgent comparative, local and global, interdisciplinary, and multilingual project—a critical theoretical and political project that articulates with queer, feminist, and

labor studies in challenging asymmetrical power relations and fostering emergent and minoritized forms of knowledge production.”

Yet on a campus where the main administrative building is named after UC President Clark Kerr who presided over the opening of UC Santa Cruz in 1965 and where the library immortalizes the inaugural chancellor, Dean E. McHenry, there are few overt infrastructural reminders of the many decades of direct action by students and faculty who replenished the frontline in the decades-long struggle for ethnic studies. Students staged hunger strikes, seized control over events and transformed them into the grounds for brilliant guerrilla theater, and taught their own political education classes. Their names are lost to history. All we have are evocative traces of their courage and leadership in transforming this predominantly white institution.

Yet trying to recover the names of the students who led the struggle for ethnic studies at UC Santa Cruz might not be the right task. After all, the students who were part of the autonomous group fighting for ethnic studies during the great recession over a dozen years ago often chose anonymity. If unnamed, the students who organized in the late 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s for ethnic studies nonetheless remain palpable in news accounts as forces of historical change, and it is their political vision that bears retrieving. A late October 1968 *Santa Cruz Sentinel* article describes the advocacy of students and faculty for what is now known as Oakes College to be named “the Malcolm X College,” a space dedicated to “the study of the ‘black experience.’” I wish to underscore this: fifty-two years prior to CRES inaugurating the Black Studies minor, the Black Liberation Front at Santa Cruz fought for a Black studies college to be named after Malcolm X. The article captures Chancellor McHenry’s response:



Chancellor Dean E. McHenry was invited to attend Sunday night's meeting to discuss the issues with the students, but he was not present.

Similarly, [a biography of “Master Plan” architect Clark Kerr](#) captures the “palpable hostility” that greeted him on his return to Santa Cruz to attend the first graduating ceremony in 1969, an experience he described as one of the worst afternoons of his life: “Some students made expressions of contempt as they came onstage to receive their degrees. Some went so far as to throw their diplomas at Kerr or McHenry. Still another group seized the stage and hijacked the commencement through a form of guerrilla theater. Their leader harangued Kerr and McHenry for creating Santa Cruz ‘as a capitalistic-imperialist-fascist plot to divert the students from their revolution against the evils of American society and,

in particular, against the horrors of the Vietnam War.” These students then wrested authority from Chancellor McHenry and conferred an honorary degree in absentia to imprisoned Black Panther leader Huey Newton, asking “the audience to rise in appreciation of all that...the Black Panthers had accomplished.” I recently asked a friend of mine, a retired Marxist economist, about the demonstration, which he took part in. “I remember at the time how energized the place was,” he recalled, adding, “Kerr was such an ass.”

This commencement takeover is the fabled origin of the multi-decade struggle for ethnic studies at UC Santa Cruz. It is enshrined as “[Graduation Coup](#)” in the timeline developed by Engaging Education (e2) to memorialize the long struggle to establish ethnic studies as a field of study. We would do well to study it and other actions, including BSU’s flipping the script on “necessary trouble” at the John R. Lewis naming ceremony last spring. We forget, at our peril, that “the administration does not prioritize disciplines that are critical of dominant power structures, let alone anything to do with Third World Students,” to quote from a member of the autonomous student group that fought for ethnic studies during the great recession.

Contemporary universities are designed to manage and “celebrate” diversity, to neutralize grassroots power through the symbolic inclusion of difference. Ethnic studies, by contrast, emerged as an anti-disciplinary formation—as grounded in critique of the university’s role in reproducing the status quo as it was in the struggles of colonized peoples to survive and the urgent necessity to organize. This has been and remains our collective task.

Warm regards,

Christine Hong

Introducing New Staff and Faculty

We are thrilled to welcome **Domingo Canizales** as our new CRES Undergraduate Advisor and Administrator for the Center for Racial Justice! Domingo joined the department in Fall 2021. Domingo is a Chicana writer and educator from Nuevo, CA. He earned his BA in Literature from UCSC and his MFA in Writing and Poetics from The Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at Naropa University. Prior to joining the CRES team, Domingo taught various subjects as a public-school teacher in Portland, OR where he



prioritized working with diverse communities in underrepresented areas. Domingo is currently working on a book length creative project centered on his father's experiences within the prison industrial complex.

Joining us Fall 2022 is **Dejon Barber**, our new Assistant Manager and Undergraduate Program Coordinator! Dejon (she/her) is a creative artist and performer who has worked in higher education since she was a student worker. She grew up living in many different small towns near Redding, CA. As a first generation college student she earned 3 Associate Degrees at community college before transferring to University of Maryland, University College Europe where she studied Art History while living in Italy. She is a firm believer that everyone has their own educational journey and in the power of studying abroad to broaden one's own experience. She is coming from the Art Design Games and Playable Media major, where she was the advisor for the past year. Prior to that she worked with the office of student equity at Cabrillo College coordinating a program for people who are or were in the foster care system. She looks forward to bringing her top three VIA strengths (Kindness, Curiosity and Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence) to the CRES community.



We are very pleased to welcome **Marisol LeBrón** as an Associate Professor in Critical Race & Ethnic Studies and Feminist Studies! Professor LeBrón joined us in Fall 2021 from the department of Mexican American and Latina/o Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. She is a scholar of critical prison and policing studies whose interdisciplinary research, spanning the fields of critical ethnic studies, Latinx studies, and transnational American studies, is grounded in anti-imperialist critique.

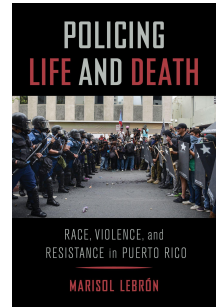


Demonstrating how U.S. police and colonial power have always been two sides of the same coin, Professor LeBrón's writings examine the imperial infrastructure behind policing and Puerto Rico's historic function as a "laboratory for U.S. domestic and foreign policy." LeBrón is the author of *Policing Life & Death: Race, Violence and Resistance in Puerto Rico* (UC Press, 2019), which traces the rise of punitive governance in Puerto Rico over the course of the 20th century to

the present, and how the state uses police power to manage ongoing crises stemming from the archipelago's incorporation into the US as a colonial territory.

Her incisive analysis of how the debt crisis, Hurricane Maria's aftermath, and police repression have fundamentally shaped life in Puerto Rico have appeared in numerous media outlets, including *The Washington Post*, *Truthout*, and *The Guardian*.

Professor LeBrón is one of the creators of the [Puerto Rico Syllabus](#), a teaching resource rooted in liberatory grassroots education, which explores the imperial geopolitics behind and people's resistance to the pauperization of Puerto Rico. She also serves on the editorial collective of *The Abusable Past*, the digital companion to *Radical History Review*.



Professor LeBrón's commitment to socially engaged scholarship is evident in her vibrant repertoire of classes, including "Policing Latinidad," "Black and Latinx Intersections," "Prisons and Punishment in American Society," and "Queer Latino/a Studies." She is a public intellectual whose outward-facing scholarship reflects her deep commitment to anticolonial racial justice struggles. Please join us in welcoming Professor LeBrón to UCSC!

Black Studies Recruitment

CRES conducted an open search in Black Studies and is pleased to welcome two new faculty to the department Fall 2022!

Sophia Azeb was recently an assistant professor in the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Chicago. Her current book project, "Another Country: Constellations of Blackness in Afro-Arab Cultural Expression," examines how Blackness and Black identity is variously translated, mobilized, circulated, and contested by African American, Afro-Caribbean, African, and Afro-Arab cultural and political figures across North Africa and Europe in the twentieth century.



Sophia will be teaching four courses in 2022-23. In Winter, she's offering an upper-division elective on "Black Speculations" and a senior seminar on "The Black Transnational." In

Spring, she's offering an upper-division elective on "Third World Feminisms" and a graduate seminar on "Exile and Diaspora."

fahima ife is an artist-scholar of Black Studies. Specializing in 20th and 21st century Black aesthetic production, they study literary, performance, visual art, corresponding art histories, and consider representations of black(queer) and trans* sociality. They are the author of *Maroon Choreography* (Duke University Press, 2021) and other works appearing in various places including *liquid blackness: journal of aesthetics & black studies*, *Obsidian: Literature & arts in the African Diaspora*, and *Interim*. An immediate success, *Maroon Choreography* is recipient of the inaugural Duke University Press Scholars of Color First Book Award, is featured in *The New York Times Book Review*, *Poets & Writers*, and the *Academy of American Poets*.



fahima will be teaching two courses in Winter 2023: an undergraduate elective, "Music + Performance - Listen: A House Party," and a graduate seminar on "Ecopoetics + Ecoaesthetics: Provocations."

PPFP Recruitment

In 2021, CRES conducted a targeted recruitment of two President's Postdoctoral Fellows, Jennifer Mogannam and Fuifuilupe Numeitolu. We are thrilled to announce that both fellows will be joining us in Fall 2023!

Jennifer Mogannam is currently a UC President's postdoctoral fellow in the departments of Anthropology and Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies at UC Davis and earned her Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from UC San Diego. Jennifer is a critical, cross-disciplinary scholar and educator of Palestinian and Arab transnational movements, third world solidarities, gendered power in anti-colonial struggle, and violence and revolution. She has organized in Palestinian and Arab American community spaces for over



15 years, most recently with the Palestinian Feminist Collective.

Fuifuilupe Niumeitolu is a Tongan/Pacific Islander, scholar, storyteller and community organizer. Her research and community work center issues of climate and environmental justice, ending violence against women and building radical solidarities with California American Indian tribes to protect Indigenous Sacred Sites. She graduated with her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley in 2019. Currently, she is a University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellow and Facilitator of the Oceania Research Working Group in the Department of Native American Studies at University of California, Davis. Fui is a part of the Sogorea Te Land Trust, an Urban Indigenous women-led organization, that rematriates Indigenous lands back to Indigenous peoples located in Oakland, California.



CRJ Summer Institute

This summer, the Center for Racial Justice held its inaugural Summer Institute, “[Political Education and Liberatory Knowledge](#),” complete with immersive, hands-on workshops that emphasized solidarity against systemic oppression and community-based strategies to fight anti-black racism and imperialism.

Each day of the inaugural CRJ Summer Institute featured teaching and collective study sessions, shared dialogue, and workshops framed by different political educational approaches to racial justice, both past and present. The Summer Institute ran from August 10-12. These virtual events were free and open to the public. The attendance for the three days totaled 222 people.

The UCSC NewsCenter published an article reviewing the first day of our inaugural Summer Institute led by Yusef Omowale, a staff member of the Southern California Library. Read the full article here:

<https://news.ucsc.edu/2022/08/crj-inaugural-summer-institute-feature-dw.html>



Faculty Updates

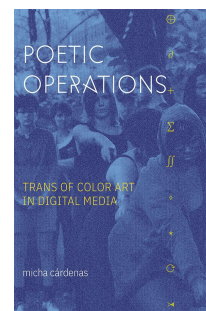
To learn more about the amazing and wide-ranging scholarship being done by our diverse CRES faculty, we encourage you to visit their [faculty profile pages](#).

CRES Faculty Promoted to Tenure!

In 2021-2022, a large cohort of junior CRES faculty were awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Congratulations to [micha cárdenas](#) (Performance, Play, and Design), [A.M. Darke](#) (Performance, Play, and Design), [Camilla Hawthorne](#) (Sociology), [Jenny Kelly](#) (Feminist Studies), and [Savannah Shange](#) (Anthropology)!

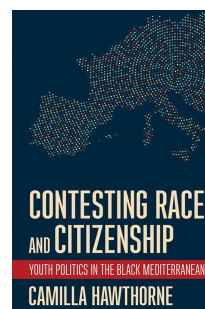
CRES Faculty Research Accomplishments

[micha cárdenas](#) (Performance, Play, and Design) published a new book, [Poetic Operations: Trans of Color Art in Digital Media](#) with Duke University Press in March 2022. Her recent article “Poetics of Trans Ecologies” was published in the Journal of Cinema and Media Studies. Her artwork has been exhibited at [Transmediale](#) (2021), the the Tarble Art Center (2021), the Stamp Gallery (2022), and the [Tangled Arts + Disability](#) in Toronto (April 2022). She will be giving a [virtual talk](#) about her book at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County on October 20. Cárdenas recently became an editor with the journal [Transgender Studies Quarterly](#), and co-edits the book series [Queer/Trans/Digital](#) at NYU Press.



[A.M. Darke](#) (Performance, Play, and Design) released two online public art pieces, [‘Ye or Nay?](#), exhibited at [Difference Machines](#) at the Albright-Knox Gallery and [fairlyintelligent.tech](#), exhibited at [Tracked and Traced](#) at Science Gallery Detroit.

[Camilla Hawthorne](#) (Sociology) published the co-edited volume [The Black Mediterranean](#), the co-edited Critical Ethnic Studies special issue “[Border Regimes and Resistance in Global Perspective](#)” (with Jennifer Kelly), and the article “[Black Mediterranean Geographies](#)” in *Gender, Place & Culture*. Her monograph, [Contesting Race and Citizenship](#), was published with Cornell University Press in June of 2022.



[Christine Hong](#) (Critical Race and Ethnic Studies and Literature) is our inaugural department chair, having assumed the role after serving as undergraduate director from 2017-2019 and director from 2019-2021. As director of the [Center for Racial Justice](#) (CRJ), she alongside Becca Covarrubias, in partnership with all five divisional deans and the Institute for Social Transformation, launched the “Transforming Structures of Whiteness in University Leadership” series this past year. She also organized the CRJ’s inaugural [Summer Institute](#). As part of a collective committed to political education on the unending Korean War, she participated in the launch of the open-access [Ending the Korean War syllabus](#), which is housed on the Korea Policy Institute website. She is an inaugural member of the [steering committee](#) of the new UC Ethnic Studies Faculty Council and will be organizing regular council meetings starting in Fall 2022 in order to convene the 300+ ethnic studies faculty across the system so as to begin organizing together from a foundation of collective strength. For the 2022-23 academic year, she will be serving as co-chair for the University of California Area H (ethnic studies) Implementation Committee and co-facilitating, along with Jenny Reardon, a campus-based research and planning hub to develop the new Science and Justice minor, a collaboration with the Science and Justice Research Center that will be housed in CRES.

[Jenny Kelly](#) (Feminist Studies and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) published “Pinkwashing, Tourism, and Israeli State Violence,” [Q&A: Voices from Queer Asian North America](#), ed.s Kale B. Fajardo, Alice Y. Hom, and Martin F. Manalansan (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2021). With Camilla Hawthorne, she also co-edited the [Critical Ethnic Studies](#) Special Issue: [Border Regimes and Resistance in Global Perspective](#), Volume 6, Issue 2 (July 2021). She also participated in several roundtable discussions: “Palestine: Resurgent and Emergent Solidarities” at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (November), the Book Launch event for “Q&A: Voices from Queer Asian North America,” with co-editors Martin Manalansan, Alice Hom, and Kale Batingue Fajardo and contributors (November), and “The Detours Guide Series: Decolonization in Asia and Beyond,” with series editors Hōkūlani Aikai and Vernadette Vicuña Gonzalez and volume editors, at the Association for Asian Studies (March), and “Q&A Roundtable 4: Queer Unsettlings: Geographies, Sovereignties,” (April), in addition to talks on her research at the annual meetings of the the American Studies Association (October), the National Women’s Studies Association (November), and the Middle East Studies Association (December).

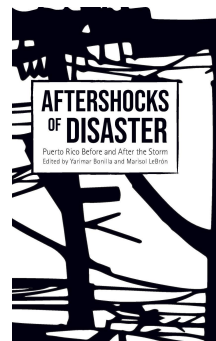
Her first book, [Invited to Witness: Solidarity Tourism across Occupied Palestine](#) is forthcoming with Duke University Press (January 2023). She is currently working on her second book project, *Detours: A Decolonial Guide*



to *Palestine*, an edited volume in the Detours Series at Duke University Press, co-edited with Somdeep Sen (Roskilde University) and Lila Sharif (Arizona State University). She will be delivering the keynote address at the Sequels Symposium sponsored by the Ethnic and Third World Literatures (E3W) graduate program in the Department of English at University of Texas at Austin on March 30-31, 2023.

Lastly, in June 2021, with Marisol LeBrón, she also welcomed the best baby ever—Isla Sofia Kelly-Lebrón—a tiny human named Isla into the world and has spent most of AY 2021-2022 chasing her around.

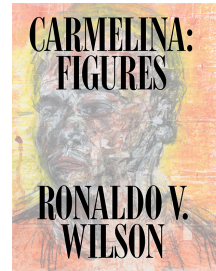
Marisol LeBrón (Feminist Studies and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) published “Abolish,” reflecting on the movement to abolish policing in the aftermath of the killing of George Floyd in a [2020 Keywords Symposium](#) that appeared in *Theory & Event*. Along with Sarah Molinari, she published an [op-ed in Truthout](#) about Puerto Rico’s debt restructuring deal and the on-going harm caused by austerity on Puerto Ricans’ everyday lives. Her book *Policing Life and Death* was recently [translated into Spanish](#), as was [Aftershocks of Disaster](#). This academic year, she began serving as an editor for the journal [Society & Space](#) and became an Executive Editor for [NACLA](#). She should be working on a new book about the history of Latinx encounters with policing in the U.S., but instead she can be found driving around Santa Cruz county trying to get her daughter, Isla, to nap.



Felicity Amaya Schaeffer (Feminist Studies and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) is currently serving as the [Baskin Presidential Chair in Feminist Studies](#). Her new book, *Unsettled Borders: The Militarized Surveillance of Indigenous Sacred Land* was published by Duke Press in June 2022. In *Unsettled Borders*, Schaeffer examines the ongoing settler colonial war over the US-Mexico border from the perspective of Apache, Tohono O’odham, and Maya who fight to protect their sacred land. Schaeffer traces the scientific and technological development of militarized border surveillance across time and space: from Spanish colonial lookout points in Arizona and Mexico; to the Indian wars when the US cavalry hired Native scouts to track Apache fleeing into Mexico; to the occupation of the Tohono O’odham reservation; and the recent launch of robotic bee swarms. Labeled “Optics Valley,” Arizona builds on a global history of violent dispossession and containment of Native peoples and migrants by branding itself as a profitable hub for surveillance. Schaeffer reverses the logic of borders by turning to Indigenous sacred sciences, or ancestral land-based practices that are critical to reversing the ecological and social violence of surveillance, extraction, and occupation.



Ronaldo Wilson (Literature and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) was extremely busy this last year with the publishing of his books *Carmelina: Figures* (Bushwick, NY: Wendy's Subway, 2021) and *Virgil Kills: Stories* (Brooklyn, NY: Nightboat Books, 2022). He also edited the [Interim Journal](#). Solo performances last year included Ronaldo's [Carmelina: Figures](#), A Tearing, Panel feat. Coach and ByeBye, The Emily Harvey Foundation, New York, NY.



Alice Yang (History and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) is currently chair of the History Department, co-director of the Center for the Study of Pacific War Memories, and oral history director of the Okinawan Memories Initiative. Her research interests include transnational Asian American history, memories of the Pacific War and the War on Terror, oral history, gender history, and civil rights activism. Alice is completing a manuscript on Japanese American women's activism from 1941 to the present and submitted an essay "'Never Again is Now': Japanese American Protest the Detention of Migrant Children at Fort Sill" for *Public History Weekly*. She is also working with Densho on oral history projects on the World War II mass incarceration of Japanese Americans, its aftermath, redress activism, and contemporary multiracial activism. During the coming year, she will also continue working with the oral history teams of the Okinawan Memories Initiative and Watsonville is in the heart.

CRES Faculty Awards and Recognitions

Micha Cardenas (Performance, Play, and Design) was awarded the COT Excellence Teaching Award for 2021-22! She will be giving the keynote address at the New Media Caucus symposium [Future Bodies](#) at Virginia Tech. She will be speaking on a Presidential Panel at the 2022 National Women's Studies Association Annual Meeting titled ["Expanding Trans Health Care and Reproductive Justice"](#). She will also be presenting her artwork at an event with the New York Times at KQED in San Francisco called ["Art and Tech in a Warming World."](#)

A.M. Darke (Performance, Play, and Design) was recognized as one of [Google's Black Women Techmakers](#) for his ongoing development of the [Open Source Afro Hair Library](#), featured in [The New York Times](#), [VICE News](#), and [Essence Magazine](#).

Camilla Hawthorne (Sociology) was the 2021 recipient of the [Leonardo Humanities Award](#) for Early Career Researchers/Scholars from the Leonardo da Vinci Society and the Italian Scientists and Scholars of North American Foundation (ISSNAF) Bay Area Chapter.

Christine Hong's book, *A Violent Peace*, was the recipient of an Association for Asian American Studies book award.

Jenny Kelly's (Feminist Studies and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) second book project is "[Detours: A Decolonial Guide to Palestine](#)," a co-edited volume in the [Duke University Press Detours Series](#), co-edited with Lila Sharif (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) and Somdeep Sen (Roskilde University). To support this project, she has been awarded a 2021-2022 Committee on Research Faculty Research Grant and a 2022-2023 Public Humanities, Digital, and Community-Engaged Research Fellowship.

Nick Mitchell (Feminist Studies and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) was awarded the Distinguished Teaching Award for 2021-22!

Ronaldo Wilson (Literature and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) is a recipient of the 2021 MacDowell Interdisciplinary Artist Fellowship!

KT Yamashita (emerita, Literature and Creative Writing) received the National Book Award 2021 Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters and was honored at the [72nd National Book Awards Ceremony](#).

Alice Yang (History and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) received a Public Humanities, Digital, and Community-Engaged Research Fellowship for the 2022-2023 for "Stop Repeating History: Japanese American Women, Memories of the World War II Incarceration, and Contemporary Transnational Antiracist Activism." She also received a California Civil Liberties Public Education Fund award to create an exhibit on Japanese American women's activism that will include community programs with activists at Cowell's Smith Gallery, the Watsonville Public Library, and the Japanese American Museum of San Jose. She was part of the Okinawan Memories Initiative team that received a Luce Foundation Grant to develop an "Okinawa Association Archives Project." She also was part of the Densho team that received a National Endowment for the Humanities, Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan for "Restarting an Oral History Program on the Japanese-American World War II Incarceration and Its Aftermath."

CRES Student News

Peer Advisor

Adria Vidales (they/them) is a 5th year Oakes student studying Critical Race and Ethnic Studies and Environmental Studies with a concentration in Agroecology, minoring in Education. Adria also holds roles as a Demeter Seed Librarian, Student Intern for AFSCME 3299 and is a core member of the Worker Student Solidarity Coalition! They are passionate about collective liberation, building relations with non-human relatives, traditional Mexican herbalism, and much more. They've been around the block a couple of times, so feel free to ask them questions about anything you might be curious about!



Undergraduate Representative

Mikaya Jordan will be serving as undergraduate representative for 2022-2023. She is a 4th year transfer student pursuing a CRES major and Film and Digital Studies minor. She was notably the [inaugural recipient](#) of the Jay Family Humanities Award in Fall 2021.

Graduate Representatives

Amritpal Kaur (Amrit) is an immigrant, queer South Asian storyteller, entrepreneur, and community organizer. They immigrated from Punjab, India to Los Angeles in 2000 with their family, just shy of the 9/11 attacks and xenophobia that would follow many Middle Eastern & South Asian communities. Their creative work challenges white supremacy and traditional narratives of API folks, LGBTQ+ and BIPOC individuals, while exploring community healing, individual mental health, and joy as transformative tools in dismantling multiple systemic oppressions and binaries. Amrit's current goals are to work on their narrative and documentary projects through their production company, Brown Girl Joy Productions, which they co-founded with their siblings Jaspreet Kaur and Amandeep Kaur.



Anny L. Mogollón Rojas is CRES and feminist studies DE from the Literature department. Her research looks at the representation of domestic workers in U.S. literary and cultural production and is especially interested in domestic worker self-representation. Other research interests include digital organizing and activism, migration and labor, Latinx/e representation in media, and environmental racism.



CRES DE Spotlight

Kiley McLaughlin (Literature) sat down with fellow CRES DE and Literature graduate student, Talib Jabbar, to talk about her creative/critical dissertation project which includes an experimental novel and collection of essays. Read the interview here: <https://cres.ucsc.edu/news-events/news/grad-spotlight-mclaughlin.html>.

Opportunities for CRES Designated Emphases

CRES has a vibrant Designated Emphasis (DE) program, with graduate students from 11 departments across 3 academic divisions. Keep an eye out for future Works in Progress events and graduate student spotlights, which feature the research of our DEs.

Critical Pedagogies Fellow Program

A new program introduced this year, Critical Pedagogies Fellows are provided two quarters of support - a GSRship followed by a GSIship - to mentor and oversee CRES's three peer-to-peer courses, CRES 45, *Pilipinx Historical Dialogue*, CRES 70B - *Black Radical University?*, and CRES 70U - *(Un)docu Studies*. CRES 45, 70B, and 70U are unique student-initiated and student-facilitated courses. Each course is primarily led by undergraduate student coordinators, emphasizing a horizontal-learning pedagogy, where the "teachers" of the classroom are peers to the students.

The inaugural cohort of Critical Pedagogies Fellows are:

- **Yuki Obayashi** for CRES 45
- **Andrea Vazquez** for CRES 70B
- **Raul Meneses Samperio** for CRES 70U

DE Research and Travel Grants

The CRES program provides small grants (up to \$250) to graduate students who are conducting research and/or traveling to conferences. More information on the application process can be found here: <https://cres.ucsc.edu/graduate/de-opportunities.html>

The 2022 recipients include **Whitney DeVos, Yulia Gilichinskaya, Gabriel Mindel, Rowan Powell, Gabe Evans, Shah Hussein, Amrit Kaur, Uriel Serrano and Ka-eul Yoo.** Congratulations!

New and Exciting CRES Courses

CRES 15 - Resource Centers Service Learning Course

Fall 2022, CRES rolls out its first field study course! CRES 15 offers students from all majors the opportunity to intern at one of 6 UCSC Resource Centers. Students will organize educational community-oriented programs and projects to address retention and equity issues in higher education. Through this course, students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, project planning, and writing skills by combining theoretical concepts and experiential learning experience. Students explore texts that highlight resiliency of minoritized communities through the study of trans, queer, Asian American/Pacific Islander, Black, American Indian, Chicanx/Latinx, undocumented, and feminist political thought. Enrollment is by permission code only and intended for students who already have an academic internship or those students who are interested in an internship opportunity with one of the Resource Centers. This course can be used by CRES majors as a lower division elective.

CRES 70B - Black Radical University?

Launched in Spring 2022, this new peer-to-peer course emerged from a collaboration with the Black Student Union (BSU) around Black student organizing and Black liberationist pedagogies. Students explore and archive histories of Black studies organizing on the UC Santa Cruz campus and beyond (locally, nationally, and globally), as well as Black liberationist pedagogy (eg. decolonial thought in the Third World, freedom schools in the U.S. South, Black



Panther Party liberation schools, Black feminist pedagogies). This course will be offered again in Spring 2023.

CRES 70U - (Un)docu Studies

Another new peer-to-peer course borne out of student engagement, (Un)docu Studies was first offered in Winter 2022 and will again be offered in Winter 2023. Legal papers, as a violent affirmation of settler sovereignty, do not capture the complexities of who we are, much less all our relations - to each other, to place, to life worlds. In this class, by exploring those complexities, we strive to create communal space where we courageously articulate self, community, and relationality in ways that state documents must disavow.

CRES-EDUC 121 - The Struggle for K-12 Ethnic Studies

Launched in Winter 2022, CRES-EDUC 121, *The Struggle for K-12 Ethnic Studies*, filled to capacity before the first day of enrollment was over! Tricia Gallagher-Guersten will teach the asynchronous, online course again in Winter 2023. The course covers critical analysis of the movement for K-12 ethnic studies in historical and contemporary time periods with a particular focus on the Liberated Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum. Students read, discuss, and analyze past and present K-12 ethnic studies research, policy, and practice to deepen their knowledge and strengthen their ability to critique issues in K-12 ethnic studies education while reflecting on how the concepts and questions that arise relate to their own educational experiences and lives.

This course counts towards the requirements for the CRES-EDUC 4+1 MA/C pathway.

CRES-ARTG 142 - Black Aesthetics: Interventions in Digital Media

Another new course, bridging the intersections of art, science and race was introduced Winter 2022 by principal faculty, A.M. Darke. *Black Aesthetics* explores how we conceptualize a Black Aesthetic in the realm of digital art and media? How do we re/define Black virtuality when, historically, computer graphics has failed to accurately render Blackness? This course looks at the field of digital media from a technological and cultural perspective, understanding the ways in which anti-Blackness has been embedded in our technology, from photography to video games. Concurrently, the course examines the history of the Black Aesthetic as an interventionist art movement, and finds ways to intervene in the contemporary digital media landscape. It's being offered again in Fall 2022 as both a CRES major and Black Studies minor elective.

New Faculty Courses!

Our new faculty, Sophia Azeb and fahima ife, will be offering several new courses this coming year. Prof Azeb will be teaching **CRES 132, *Black Speculations***, and **CRES 190C, *The Black Transnational Imaginary*** in Winter 2023. Prof ife will be teaching **CRES 113, *Music + Performance - Listen: A House Party***, and **CRES 202, *Ecopoetics + Ecoaesthetics: Provocations*** in Winter 2023. In Spring 2023, Prof Azeb will be teaching an upper division elective on ***Third World Feminisms*** and a graduate seminar on ***Exile and Diaspora***.

CRES Departmental Recognition: Awards, Honors and Fellowships

Faculty Awards and Honors		
First Name	Award or honor	(Other info), date or year
micha cárdenas	Committee on Teaching's 2021-22 Excellence in Teaching Award	
Christine Hong	2022 Association for Asian American Studies Book Award for Outstanding Achievement in Literary Studies	for <i>A Violent Peace: Race, U.S. Militarism, and Cultures of Democratization in Cold War Asia and the Pacific</i>
Nick Mitchell	Committee on Teaching's 2021-22 Distinguished Teaching Award	
Karen Tei Yamashita	2021 Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters	
Faculty Research Grants and Fellowships		
Jenny Kelly	2021-2022 Committee on Research's Faculty Research Grant	
Jenny Kelly	2022-2023 Public Humanities, Digital, and Community-Engaged Research Fellowship	(CRES/FMST) for "Detours: A Decolonial Guide to Palestine."
Felicity Amaya Schaeffer	Committee on Research Faculty Research Grant	CRES/FMST
Ronaldo Wilson	2021 MacDowell Interdisciplinary Artist Fellowship	Literature/CRES
Ronaldo Wilson	Committee on Research Faculty Research Grant	Literature/CRES
Karen Tei Yamashita	Committee on Research Faculty Research Grant	Literature/CRES
Alice Yang	Committee on Research Faculty Research Grant	Literature/CRES
Alice Yang	Luce Foundation Grant	for the Okinawan Memories Initiative's "Okinawa Association Archives Project"
Alice Yang	2022-2023 Public Humanities, Digital, and Community-Engaged Research Fellowship	(History/CRES) for "Stop Repeating History: Japanese American Women,

		Memories of the World War II Incarceration, and Contemporary Transnational Antiracist Activism.”
Graduate Awards and Honors		
Christian Alvarado	2022-23 ACLS Dissertation Fellowship.	Ph.D candidate in History of Consciousness with a DE in CRES
Christian Alvarado	2022-2023 UC President’s Pre-Professoriate Fellowship	Ph.D candidate in History of Consciousness with a DE in CRES
Theresa Hice-Fromille	2022-2023 American Sociological Association’s Minority Fellowship Program	Ph.D candidate in Sociology with a DE in CRES
Kelsey McFaul	THI Year-Long Dissertation Fellowship for 2022-2023	Ph.D candidate in Literature with a DE in CRES
Gabriel Mindel	Fall 2022 THI UC Network Dissertation Project for work on “Profanity: Performance, Protest & the Sovereign Politics of Noise”	Ph.D candidate in History of Consciousness with a DE in CRES
Anny Mogollón	2021 THI Summer Public Fellow for work on Project: “California Domestic Workers Coalition”	Ph.D candidate in Literature with a DE in CRES
Xindi Li	2021-22 Summer Research Fellow for work on Project: “Machine Infrastructures: Testing Race and Resilience in Built Environment”	Ph.D candidate in History of Consciousness with a DE in CRES
Marina Segatti	2022 THI Summer Research Fellowship	Ph.D candidate in Feminist Studies with a DE in CRES
Ka-eul Yoo	2022-23 UC President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship	Ph.D candidate in Literature with DEs in CRES and FMST
Ka-eul Yoo	Article “The Crime of Leprosy: The Red Threat and U.S. Hansen’s Disease Policy in Cold War Korea was published in <i>Amerasia</i> , the oldest Asian American studies journal in the country	Ph.D candidate in Literature with DEs in CRES and FMST
Ka-eul Yoo	2021-22 UC Society of Fellows Award for work on Project: “Cold War Disability: The Biopolitics of U.S. Military Empire in Post-1945 Asia”	Ph.D candidate in Literature with DEs in CRES and FMST
Undergraduate Awards and Honors		
Mikayla Jordan	Fall 2021 Jay Family Humanities Scholarship	CRES
Ronald Gunna	2021-2022 THI Undergraduate Public Fellow for work on Project: “Editorial Intern, The American Prospect”	CRES/FMST
Theresa Bostic	2021-2022 THI Undergraduate Research Fellow for work on Project: “Santa Cruz’s Elusive Figure: London Nelson”	History/Sociology/Black Studies Minor
Arianna Nocello	2022 Dean’s Award for “ in my briefs and opera gloves ”	CRES/Politics

A “farewell” message from outgoing CRES Assistant Manager (and the new Director of Student Achievement), Shauntay Larkins:

whew, **y’all**! when christine asked (“voluntold”) me to pen a farewell for the newsletter, i was in a pickle, to say the least. never a fan of “good-byes”, i also think part of me was/is in denial. up until very recently, i was fairly convinced that i was going to my grave with CRES as my final crowning professional achievement, but the universe had other plans, i guess.

the decision to leave CRES and embark on this new professional adventure was not an easy one by any stretch and one i did not undertake lightly. in fact, i think it was because of you all--the faculty and staff, the students, both grad and undergrad and my colleagues-in-arms, other advisors—that i even considered applying (shout out to taylor for the nudge!) for my current role which i officially started may 1st. while it is a brand-new divisional position, i saw it as an opportunity to advocate on behalf of not only students studying in the humanities (and by extension, their advisors as well) but really as an opportunity to advocate on behalf of CRES specifically. i’m forever in awe of the intersectional, brave work i see being done by our community **every** day. it’s the type of work that a lot of academics still won’t touch for the very real fear of professional ostracization (shout out to jenny kelly!) or faculty like micha and CRES DE ka-eul, who, with their work in trans and disability studies respectively, serve to uplift and make invisible communities visible. it’s the cutting-edge work of faculty like a.m. that help make black people feel seen and our likenesses appropriately represented in arenas that a sci-fi “blerd” like me used to only dream about. and i’ve lost track of the number of students who have shared with me that christine hong, savannah shange or nick mitchell have helped “opened their eyes” and fundamentally change how they “view the world”. how i could i not want to be a part of that? work on behalf of that, especially when it’s the world that’s in desperate need of changing? i may not be in these streets agitating like i used to—but getting to support the important work y’all do? well—i could do that all damn day...i may need the occasional glass of wine (or two) but still...

sooo...with that, i want to say a few “thank yous”.



firstly, “thank you” for the absolute care, grace and love i was shown by everyone when i lost my dad (and best friend) just 5 short months after joining CRES—you may not have the slightest clue as to how life-sustaining that was during such a dark time for me but i want you to know that it meant everything.

to our amazing faculty: “thank you” for allowing me the privilege of serving y’all these past 3.5 years. whether you always realize it or not—the work you do and how you show up for our students is so vitally important. you are beacons of light, of what is possible for **so** many of them. i’m in touch with several of our students via social media, around campus and in real life. you have equipped them (and continue to) with the intellectual tools, emotional confidence, and a devout sense of purpose and they are determined that generations coming up behind them will have it easier, better--not only on this campus but in society at large. believe me when i say they are out in the world, doing the damn thang. thank you for being such a joy to work with—for always keeping it strictly 100, for being collegial even when you didn’t always agree, for loving up on each other and helping keep CRES toxicity-free. “i actually enjoyed our faculty meetings” said no one in the history of ever—except maybe me.

to my “fox-hole” mate, taylor: frankly, i can’t imagine going through this journey with anyone else. your tenacity, lack of poker face and your continuous support have been invaluable. so while you are the person who encouraged me to apply for my new position, you are also one of the primary reasons that i stayed. thank you for always making me feel like my work was appreciated, valued, and for encouraging me to continuously develop myself professionally.

to my students: what can i say? y’all are the reason i’m here. you are the reason, i **LOVE** being an advisor and as a result, want to be better at it. your passion, empathy, courage, brilliance, humor, and yes, even your rage--i’m literally here for it all. my late dad asked me once if i ever regretted not having kids of my own. pfft...as if!! how could i regret having kids when i literally have 100+ of you that i’m trying to successfully help navigate young adulthood at a PWI and graduate so you can go off and do whatever it is you feel called to do. i know it hasn’t been easy these last few years but thank you for trusting me with your hopes, your fears, your dreams, your tears and for legit making me LOL-like **for real**. being your advisor has been an absolute gift and i’m so excited for what lies ahead for each one of you.

some parting pieces of advice: take naps--often. i know white supremacy and the patriarchy never sleep but that doesn't mean you shouldn't. in this soul-crushing grind and hustle culture, slowing down becomes a revolutionary act. so while you're dismantling multiple systems of oppression, please remember not only to play but rest as well. AND above all, continue to be quintessentially and unapologetically YOU.

to christine: our fearless leader. mi familia. thank you (and shoutout to Neda!) for trusting taylor to hire me sight unseen--LOL! thank you for trusting my knowledge and experience, for allowing me to be your side-kick in many ways, and for conspiring with taylor to make it known in no uncertain terms how much you appreciated my contributions to the endeavor that is "CRES". hopefully, you already know how i feel about you so i will simply say this, and it comes from a place of absolute love and adoration--time for you to rest a bit. with your soft-soften, low-key gangster ways, you go hard not just for our department, but you serve to work on behalf of students, staff and faculty in the broader campus community in ways that folks may not be aware of. i know this institution doesn't appreciate you but whether she realizes it or not, she needs you and faculty like you--to keep her honest and so she can live up to the promise.

lastly, before i go one final "thank you" to the broader CRES community--for in a lot of ways, making this campus a significantly better place to be--a place i'm glad i came back to. while i had zero idea that it would lead to this moment (and everything in between), the life-altering leap of faith i took back in september 2013 when i applied for the senior admissions officer position was totally worth it. to say working with all of you has been the highlight of my career thus far is an understatement of epic proportions. make no mistake--this is "see you later" and **not** "good-bye". and while i will miss the everyday-ness of CRES "tings", the truth is i'm not going far. you can find me on the 5th floor, still, (yes, still) looking out for my beloved CRES fam. best believe. luh, y'all. ♡