

# CURE

ANNUAL REPORT | 2017



**RUTGERS**  
Center for Urban Research  
and Education

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“In a dream, I saw  
a city invincible”.  
-Walt Whitman

**TABLE  
OF  
CONTENTS**

**A Message from the Director | 1**

**CURE Seminar Series | 2**

**CURE Events and Activities | 8**

**Affiliate Scholars | 12**

**Research | 14**

**Affiliated Research Centers | 16**

**Looking Ahead | 17**

# A Message from the Acting Director:

Natasha O. Fletcher

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I am pleased to report that this past year has been another active and successful year for the Center for Urban Research and Education (CURE). As we continue to seek opportunities to engage in substantive discourse around important topics such as poverty, growing socioeconomic inequality, and the resulting disparate access to salient resources, i.e. housing, jobs, and education, there is a lot of trepidation about the direction of public policies under the new administration. For instance, it is not clear whether promising initiatives such as the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule, a stepchild of the landmark legislative act of the Civil Rights era, the Fair Housing Act of 1968, will be developed and more widely implemented.

However, as Richard Rothstein, author of *The Color of Law*, points out, “if racial segregation was produced through government policies, government also has the ability to enact policies to dismantle it”. As such, there is hope that residential segregation along racial and economic lines can indeed be dismantled with the political will to do so. While some of our attention is drawn to such large-scale, national policy trends, we are also interested in local and

regional themes around community development, social justice, and political power struggle.

Through our monthly seminar series, we brought a diverse array of scholars to our campus. The seminars were well-attended and attended by a diverse group of students, faculty, and members of the community (both Camden and the region) to hear about topics such as homelessness, social entrepreneurship, and the student debt crisis. It is through our own research, our regularly held seminars, and our social media presence that we keep our network engaged in these critical issues that affect us all. Moreover, our network of CURE-affiliated scholars is growing, and our regularly held meetings have produced some wonderful exchanges on research, as well as new research collaborations and joint project funding proposals.

Our signature event this year, “A Community in Healing: Rolling out Trauma Informed Practices”, attracted 120 attendees. Together with the Camden Healing 10, a cross-sector collaboration bringing a trauma-informed paradigm to Camden, New Jersey, we planned this summit to raise awareness of how adversity, trauma, and toxic stress impact the Camden communities, individuals, and organizations. Focused on the implementation of trauma-informed practices in Camden and the region, it also featured the results of a CURE research study on a youth nonprofit organization in Camden that has dramatically improved its efficacy since the adoption of trauma-informed care. This study was also published in the spring edition of *Shelterforce* and featured in the documentary *Hope Works Here: A Camden Story*, which was produced by Villanova University’s Social Justice Documentary Program.

The year was also filled with other wonderful activities. In July, I presented a paper on social housing in Europe versus affordable

housing in the US at the World Congress of Political Science in Poznan, Poland. In September, I gave a talk on affordable housing in the Philadelphia region to a new cohort of Americorps volunteers at Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia. Along with several CURE affiliated scholars, I presented at the Eastern Sociological Society’s annual meeting in Philadelphia, and like many of our Rutgers faculty and graduate students, presented a paper at the Urban Affairs Association annual meeting in Minneapolis. Several of our affiliated graduate students presented at the annual Community Development Graduate Research Forum hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, as well as the Student-Led Economic Development Conference in Camden.

We look forward to another exciting and productive year at CURE that has already gotten off to a good start. On July 21, 2017, we hosted the National Summit for Inclusive Communities and Sustainable Regions in collaboration with Building One America and Cleveland State University that drew an audience of about 100 labor leaders, civil rights leaders, academics, and others. In the fall, we will roll out our seminar series featuring cutting-edge research presentations by a variety of seasoned and emerging scholars, graduate students, and experts from the community. Moreover, we will enter into year two of research on the determinants of concentration of poverty, funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation, as well as continue new local research projects in Camden and Philadelphia. We are also planning a film series, as well as a conference at our campus in Spring 2018. As always, we welcome your suggestions for programming and ideas for new research projects and look forward to continue expanding our network.



# CURE Seminar Series

**The purpose of the monthly seminar series is to provide members and affiliates of the Rutgers–Camden community with opportunities to hear about interesting, cutting-edge research and initiatives by scholars, community activists, and others engaged in urban research and/or urban change.**

*Interested in attending an upcoming CURE Seminar? Visit [cure.camden.rutgers.edu/seminars](http://cure.camden.rutgers.edu/seminars) for the 2017-2018 schedule. Seminars are free and open to the public.*



# “Biases in Teachers’ Expectations”

## Seth Gershenson, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Public Policy, School of Public Affairs at American University  
Research Fellow, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany



Seth Gershenson is an assistant professor of public policy at American University’s School

of Public Affairs and a Research Fellow for the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany. He earned his Ph.D. in economics from Michigan State University in 2011 and a B.S. in economics from Drexel University in 2005. His primary research interests are in the economics of education, specifically issues relating to teacher labor markets, summer learning loss, and the roles of expectations and home environments in the education production function.

Dr. Gershenson’s research has been supported by the W.E. Upjohn Institute, the Spencer Foundation, and the American Educational Research Association. His work has been published in

peer-reviewed journals such as the *Economics of Education Review*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Economics Letters*, *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, and *Education Finance and Policy*.

Dr. Gershenson’s talk summarized his recent research with Nicholas Papageorge of Johns Hopkins University on (i) how teachers form expectations for their students, (ii) whether teachers’ expectations are racially biased, (iii) how biased expectations affect educational attainment, and (iv) possible policy solutions.

October 2016

# “American Governor: Chris Christie’s Bridge To Redemption”

## Matt Katz

Reporter  
WNYC and NPR



Matt Katz is a political reporter for WNYC and NPR who covered New Jersey Gov. Chris

Christie for more than five years, first for The Philadelphia Inquirer and then for WNYC and New Jersey Public Radio. He ran The Christie Tracker, which followed the governor through scandal and presidential candidacy, and appeared weekly on WNYC Studios’ Christie Tracker Podcast. In January 2016, Matt’s biography of Christie, *American Governor: Chris Christie’s Bridge to Redemption*, was published by Simon & Schuster’s Threshold Editions. Matt has written about politics for The Washington Post, The New York Times, The New Republic and POLITICO magazine.

In 2015, Matt and a team from WNYC won a Peabody Award for their coverage of, Christie and the Bridgegate scandal. Prior to covering

the Statehouse in Trenton he spent time in Afghanistan, writing a series on reconstruction efforts that won the Livingston Award for International Reporting. In 2009, his four-part investigation about Camden set the stage for an end to the state’s takeover of city government.

In this October seminar, Matt shared the inside political story about Chris Christie’s seven years as governor, from the Bridgegate scandal to his controversial role in Camden to his presidential candidacy.



# “Land Use Regulation, Housing Development, and Racial Segregation in the Greater Philadelphia Region”

**Christopher Wheeler, Ph.D.**

Doctoral Graduate, Public Affairs – Community Development  
Rutgers University–Camden



*Christopher Wheeler completed his doctoral degree in public affairs – community development at Rutgers–Camden in 2017. He earned a master’s degree in government administration from the University of Pennsylvania in 2008 and a master’s degree in public affairs from Rutgers–Camden in 2016. His research interests include poverty dynamics, community and economic development, housing policy, and housing affordability. Dr. Wheeler has presented papers at various conferences, including the Urban Affairs Association Conference and Black Doctoral Network Conference. He was also recently published in Community Development, the peer-reviewed journal of the Community Development Society.*

This talk explored the landscape of land use regulation across the Greater Philadel-

phia region in relation to patterns of racial segregation. The Greater Philadelphia region is marked by variable housing development patterns heavily impacted by locally-determined land use regulation. Such regulations contribute to regional racial segregation by constraining the type of housing development preferred and accessible to racial and ethnic groups.

In this seminar, Dr. Wheeler explained the implications of exclusionary land use regulation on regional housing development patterns and the spatial organization of households by race.

# “Granting American Urban Culture in the Great Society”

**Mark Krasovic, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor  
Interim Director, Clement A. Price Institute  
Rutgers University–Newark



*Mark Krasovic is an assistant professor of history and American studies and interim director of the Clement A. Price Institute at Rutgers University–Newark. His first book, “The Newark Frontier: Community Action in the Great Society”, was published earlier last year.*

Various federal programs in the 1960s, including Kennedy’s anti-delinquency program, the War on Poverty, and Model Cities, funded large numbers of arts programs in America’s cities, often intending to provide job training for marginalized peoples or to bolster their chances of survival in modern urban society. But the process of federal grants almost inevitably defies intentions. Local community groups often put the money to different uses, re-imagining its purpose and what constituted “urban culture.”





# “Surviving Poverty: Creating Sustainable Ties among the Poor”

**Joan Maya Mazelis, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor  
Rutgers University–Camden

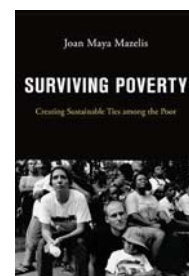


*Joan Maya Mazelis, Associate Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice at Rutgers University–Camden, is an affiliated scholar at Rutgers–Camden’s Center for Urban Research and Education.*

*Surviving Poverty* carefully examines the experiences of people living below the poverty level, looking in particular at the tension between social isolation and social ties among the poor. Joan Maya Mazelis draws on in-depth interviews with poor people in Philadelphia to explore how they survive and the benefits they gain by being connected to one another. Half of the study participants are members of the Kensington Welfare Rights Union, a distinctive organization that brings poor people together in the struggle to survive. The mutually supportive relationships the members create, which last for years, even decades, contrast dramatically with the experiences of participants without such affiliation.

In interviews, participants discuss their struggles and hardships, and their respons-

es highlight the importance of cultivating relationships among people living in poverty. *Surviving Poverty* documents the ways in which social ties become beneficial and sustainable, allowing members to share their skills and resources and providing those living in similar situations a space to unite and speak collectively to the growing and deepening poverty in the United States. The study concludes that productive, sustainable ties between poor people have an enduring and valuable impact. Grounding her study in current debates about the importance of alleviating poverty, Mazelis proposes new modes of improving the lives of the poor. *Surviving Poverty* is invested in both structural and social change and demonstrates the power support services can have to foster relationships and build sustainable social ties for those living in poverty.



# “Paying the Price”

**Sara Goldrick-Rab, Ph.D.**

Professor  
Temple University  
Founder of the Wisconsin HOPE Lab



*Sara Goldrick-Rab, Professor of Higher Education Policy & Sociology at Temple University, is the founder of the Wisconsin HOPE Lab, the nation’s only translational research laboratory seeking ways to make college more affordable.*

*Dr. Goldrick-Rab is the recipient of the William T. Grant Foundation’s Faculty Scholars Award and the American Educational Research Association’s Early Career Award. In 2016 POLITICO magazine named her one of the top 50 people shaping American politics. Her latest book, Paying the Price: College Costs, Financial Aid, and the Betrayal of the American Dream, is an Amazon best-seller, and has been featured on The Daily Show with Trevor Noah, the New York Review of Books, and CSPAN’s Book TV, among other venues.*

One of the most sustained and vigorous public debates today is about the value—and, crucially, the price—of college. But an unspoken, outdated assumption underlies all sides of this debate: if a young person works hard enough, they’ll be able to get a college degree and be on the path to a good life. That’s simply not true anymore, says Sara Goldrick-Rab, and with *Paying the Price*, she shows in damning detail exactly why.



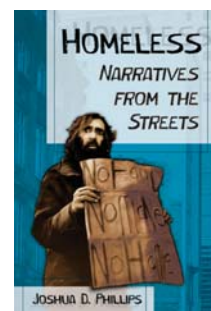
# “Listening to the Voices of the Homeless in Public Policy Debates”

**Joshua D. Phillips, Ph.D.**

Instructor

Department of Communication, Arts and Sciences

Pennsylvania State University, Brandywine



Joshua D. Phillips is an instructor in the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences at Pennsylvania State University, Brandywine. His scholarly interests are in rhetoric, narrative, and inter-cultural communication with specific focus on issues of homelessness, poverty, welfare, race, and sexual violence. His new

book, *Homeless: Narratives from the Streets*, recounts stories of homelessness in an effort to improve public policy.

In 2010, he published his first book *1,800 Miles: Striving to End Sexual Violence, One Step at a Time*. His recent publications include “*Trial by Social Media: How Misleading Media and Ideological Protests led to Disastrous Results in the State of Florida v. George Zimmerman*,” “*LeBron James as Cybercolonized Spectacle: A Critical Race Reading of Whiteness in Sport*,” “*Dancing as Voice: The Rise of Krumping and Clowning as Black Vernacular Rhetoric*,” “*Black Women and Gender Violence: Lil’ Wayne’s ‘How to Love’ as Progressive Hip Hop*,” and “*Crystal Mangum as Hypervisible Object and Invisible Subject: Black Feminist Thought, Sexual Violence, and the Pedagogical Repercussions of The Duke Lacrosse Rape Case*.”

A half-century after the “War on Poverty” of Lyndon Johnson, poverty rates remain unchanged. Scholars have advanced polarized theories about the causes of poverty, as politicians have debated how (or if) to fund welfare programs. Yet little research has been conducted where the poor are provided a platform to speak on their own behalf. While it is important to understand how economic systems affect the homeless, it is equally important to learn about the day-to-day realities faced by those who rely on public policies for survival. Over the course of 10 years, Dr. Phillips has worked with numerous homeless communities, including communities in Camden, New Jersey, central Michigan, and southern Illinois. Drawing on the author’s experience working in homeless communities, this research presents some of the stories of loss, abuse, addiction, and marginalization through interviews, observations, and ethnographic research.

# “Social Enterprise: Examining the Quest to Humanize Business”

**Rasheeda L. Weaver, Ph.D.**

Doctoral Graduate, Public Affairs

Rutgers University–Camden



Rasheda L. Weaver is a 2017 Ph.D. graduate in the public affairs program at Rutgers–Camden. Her research interests include social entrepreneurship, community development, and applied psychology.

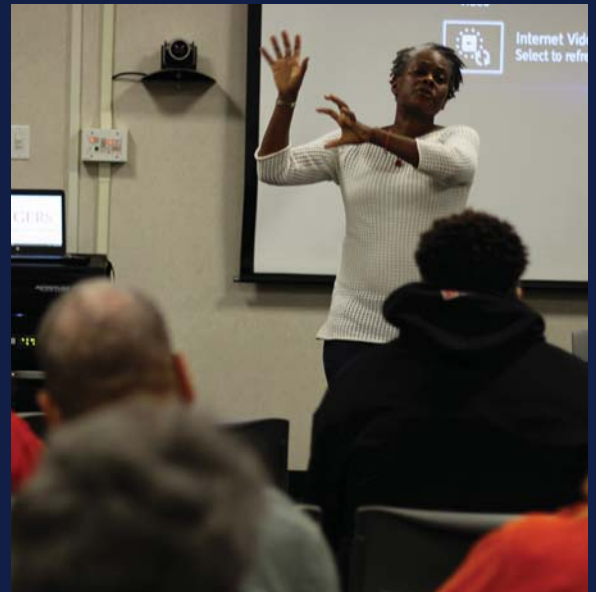
Social enterprises are businesses that utilize their revenue to combat social problems. Since the millennium, social enterprises have significantly grown throughout the United States. This talk focused on Dr. Weaver’s empirical research study of 115 social enterprises throughout the nation. The discussion described the social issues social enterprises target, how they generate revenue, the laws they incorporate under, and the contexts in which they develop.





# CURE Events & Activities

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## Film Screening of “*Changing Face of Harlem*” and Q&A with filmmaker Shawn Batey



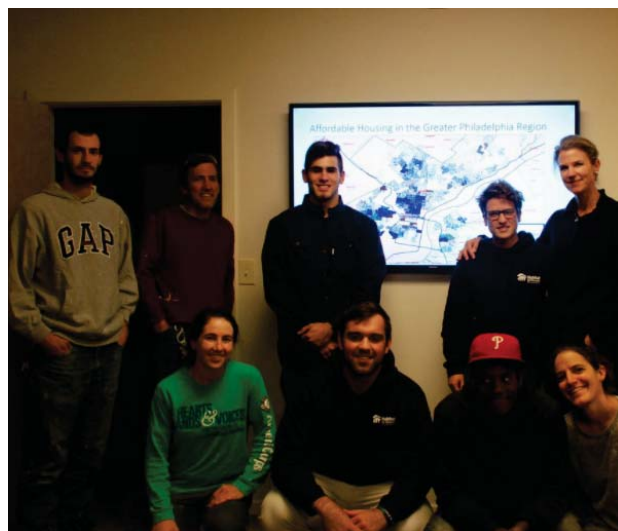
*Sponsored by CURE, the Department of Public Policy and Administration, and the Urban Studies Program*

“*Changing Face of Harlem*” is a one hour documentary that examines the revitalization of Harlem told through the deeply personal stories of its residents, small business owners, politicians, developers, and clergy. Identified as the birthplace of the Black Renaissance, “*Changing Face of Harlem*” takes a critical look at Harlem’s history, early development, and its present transformation.

The film highlights how a community deals with the challenge of maintaining identity while accepting change. The film began production in the year 2000 and was shot over a period of ten years.

## Habitat for Humanity in Philly

CURE acting director Natasha Fletcher gave a presentation on affordable housing at Habitat for Humanity in Philly to new Americorps cohort



## Forum: “Rio’s True Olympic Legacy: What have we learned? What next?”

Theresa Williamson

Executive Director, Catalytic Communities, Rio de Janeiro

*Sponsored by the Department of Public Policy and Administration, CURE, the Urban Studies Program, and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences—Office of the Dean.*

Rio de Janeiro’s citizens were promised that great things would happen as a result of hosting the 2016 Olympic Summer Games. In the end, what Rio experienced was a very public six year “boom and bust,” resulting in deep skepticism and anger over the failed legacies of the Games. Now, many months after the Games, Brazil is living through a deep economic recession, and crime rates and unemployment are rising in Rio while resources dry up, the police are downsizing, and the international media are swooping off to cover the next beat. The Olympics, which invested some \$15 billion in the city, feel like a distant memory. And recent mayoral election also brings an entirely new political agenda to the table.

With all these changes taking place, and taking Rio’s favelas--the city’s most chronically underserved communities--as the focal point, Williamson’s talk presented a deep introduction to Rio and its social struggles, including the city’s racial history, through the lens of Olympic legacy. What do Rio’s Olympic legacy promises tell us about Rio? About the Olympic Games? What were the true impacts of the Games and is there a silver lining? That is, were there impacts the city wouldn’t promote as legacies, that are, in practice, the true legacies? How have communities learned to act and resist thanks to the Games? And in this context, what will happen next to Rio de Janeiro? Is there hope?



December 2016

## Policy Forum on Race, Place, and Opportunity in New Jersey, Princeton University

This forum featured thoughtful conversation about New Jersey's racial segregation and its enduring effect on education, economic opportunity, and political polarization. Participants were comprised of local and regional leaders, scholars, and practitioners including elected officials and leaders from the labor, faith, and civil rights communities.

Mitchell Duneier, Princeton University professor and author of the new book *Ghetto: The Invention of a Place, the History of an Idea* offered a keynote address which was followed by a panel of leaders from across the state.



February 2017

## A Community of Healing: Rolling Out Trauma Informed Practices

This event was held in February to help raise awareness of how adversity, trauma and toxic stress impacts the Camden communities, individuals, and organizations. The half-day event focused on the implementation of Trauma informed practices in Camden and the surrounding area. This event included an introduction to Trauma and trauma informed practices, a presentation of the research of "Efficacy of a Trauma Informed Methodology for Hopeworks 'N Camden" by Natasha Fletcher. A panel discussion was held featuring Joe Pyle, Scattergood Foundation; Michael O'Bryan, The Village of Arts and Humanities; Rebecca Bryan, Urban Promise; Maggie Sorby, Camden School District; and Dan Rhoton, Hopeworks 'N Camden.



March 2017

## CURE Participated in the Urban Affairs Association annual conference

A number of Rutgers-Camden faculty and students presented at the annual Urban Affairs Association conference in Minneapolis in March 2017.



*Natasha Fletcher, Acting Director of CURE, presented her research on trauma-informed care in Camden at the Urban Affairs Association annual conference in Minneapolis.*



*Stephen Danley, Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Administration; Spencer Clayton, public affairs doctoral candidate; and public affairs doctoral graduate Prentiss Dantzler made presentations at the Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference in Minneapolis. Dantzler is now an Assistant Professor at Colorado College.*

## Gentrification, Social Movements, and the Arts in Germany

Each year Rutgers-Camden offers the course "Gentrification, Social Movements, and the Arts in Germany." This unique course is a Learning Abroad course where students in, addition to meeting in the classroom, take a trip to Germany during Spring break.

In Germany, students and faculty explored Berlin, Hamburg, and Köln with a keen eye on neighborhoods that have experienced physical and/or social change over the past several years. They also looked at street art and graffiti, particularly as expressions of social movements. The streets of these cities became a classroom, a live lab. The group meet with activists, university professors, professionals, and others to collect multiple perspectives on the topics of our study.



*Rutgers University-Camden students and faculty on the bank of the Spree River in Berlin, Germany, March 2017*

## Graduate Student Conference: State and Local Economic Development Policy Municipal Transformation and Economic Equality

The second annual State and Local Economic Development Policy Graduate Student Conference was held March 28, 2017 at The Neighborhood Center in Camden, NJ. The annual conference was organized by doctoral students in the public affairs-community development Ph.D. program at Rutgers University-Camden.

This year's theme was "*Municipal Transformation and Economic Equality*." In an age of fiscal austerity, what strategies are available to local municipalities to develop a strong economic base? How do municipal policymakers ensure that policies are equitable? How can municipalities make use of vacant land and deteriorating infrastructure to promote economic development?



### Graduate Student Conference Planning Committee:

Lorraine C. Minnite, *Faculty Advisor*  
Brandi Blessett, *Faculty Advisor*  
Curtis M. Williams II, *Chair*

Lew Bivona  
Brian J. Hammell  
Straso Jovanovski  
David Okereke  
Anetha Perry

## Students from the Netherlands visited CURE

CURE hosted the second annual meeting with group of students from the University of Groningen, the Netherlands.



Co-hosted by the Camden City Redevelopment Agency, Coopers Ferry Partnership, and the Rutgers University-Camden Civic Scholars, CURE welcomed a group of fifty students and two faculty members from the Department of Human Geography and Planning at Rijksuniversiteit Groningen in the Netherlands to campus. Recent Rutgers-Camden PhD graduate in Public Affairs Chris Wheeler presented research on poverty, segregation; and housing, Shahid Rana, VP of Business Development at Cooper's Ferry Partnership discussed recent and projected redevelopment projects in the City of Camden, land use, economic development strategies, waterfront development, wellbeing and safety, infrastructure projects, and more. The Civic Scholars talked about their involvement with the community and the role of civic engagement for the university and its host city. The presentations and discussion culminated in a one hour bus tour where students visited different locations in the city, including sites that have recently been developed and sites slated for future development.

## Film Screening of *Hope Works Here: A Camden Story*

Acting Director Natasha Fletcher and Hopeworks Director Dan Rhoton attended the film screening debut of *Hope Works Here: A Camden Story* at Villanova University on May 6, 2017. Both were interviewed and are featured in this film.

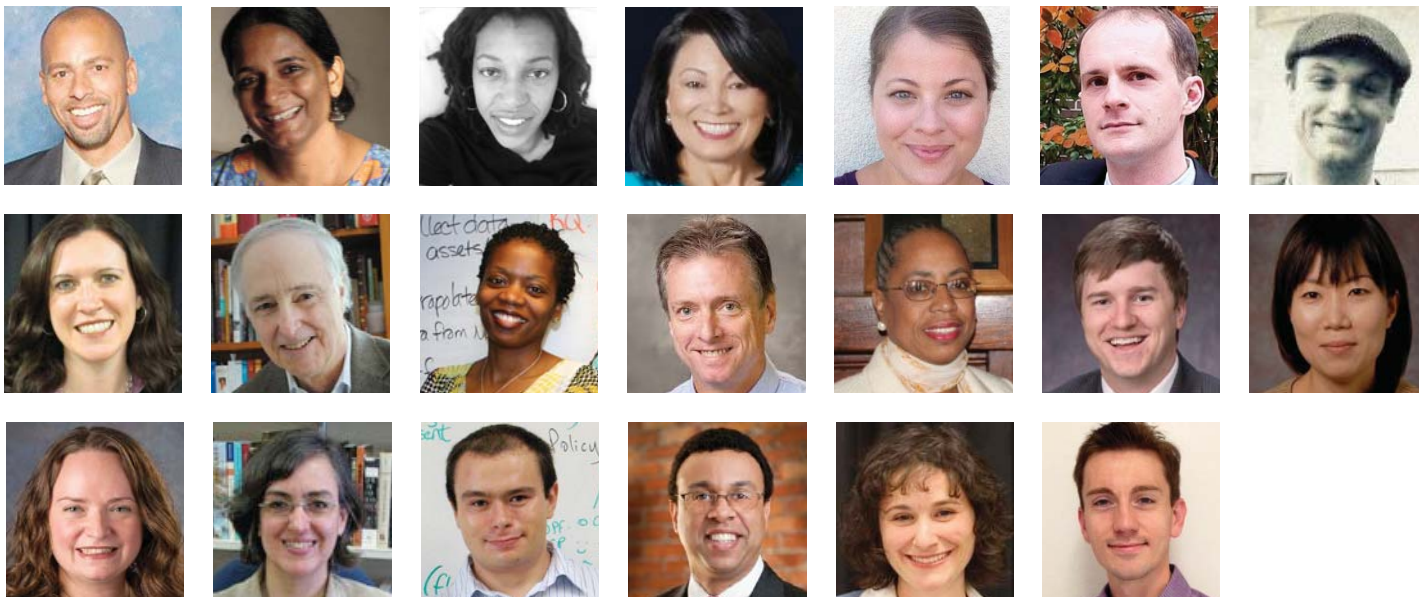
Student social justice documentaries from Villanova have screened across the globe –some advancing as far as finalists in the Student Academy Award competition. Villanova students have created over ten documentaries focusing on topics like homelessness, disabilities, poverty, and gun-violence in films such as "*Coming of the DL*," "*In Transition*" and "*No Greater Pain*." Each film aims to shed light on a people or local organizations contributing to communities in a positive way.

# CURE Affiliated Scholars

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**CURE affiliated scholars include faculty at Rutgers–Camden from various disciplines whose research interests involve urban issues. We have ongoing relationships with these scholars through round-table discussions, where we share our current research projects and possibilities for future collaborations, as well as through an active online presence. Our colleagues are always encouraged to participate in our events, provide feedback, and share their ideas for center activities.**





**Robert Atkins**, Associate Professor, Childhood Studies and Nursing; Program Director NJ Health Initiative  
**Sarada Balagopalan**, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Programs, Childhood Studies  
**Brandi Blessett**, Assistant Professor, Public Policy and Administration  
**Gloria Bonilla-Santiago**, Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor of Public Policy and Administration; Director, Center for Strategic Urban Community Leadership  
**Melanie Bowers**, Assistant Professor, Political Science  
**J.J. Cutuli**, Assistant Professor, Psychology  
**Stephen Danley**, Assistant Professor, Public Policy and Administration

**Maureen M. Donaghy**, Associate Professor, Political Science & Public Policy and Administration  
**Howard F. Gillette**, Professor Emeritus of History  
**Stacia Gilliard-Matthews**, Assistant Professor, Sociology  
**Daniel Hart**, Professor II, Psychology and Childhood Studies  
**Gwendolyn L. Harris**, Executive Director, The Walter Rand Institute of Public Affairs  
**Michael Hayes**, Assistant Professor, Public Policy and Administration  
**Jeounghye Kim**, Associate Professor at School of Social Work, Rutgers University in New Brunswick

**Joan Maya Mazelis**, Associate Professor, Sociology  
**Lorraine C. Minnite**, Associate Professor, Public Policy and Administration  
**Adam Okulicz-Kozaryn**, Assistant Professor, Public Policy and Administration  
**Wendell E. Pritchett**, Provost and Presidential Professor of Law and Education, Penn Law  
**Lauren Silver**, Associate Professor, Childhood Studies  
**Richard Stansfield**, Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice

Each semester, CURE hosts an affiliated scholar luncheon as an opportunity to network, exchange information about current research projects, explore possibilities for collaboration, and to generally connect with the affiliated scholars.



# CURE Research

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# CURE Received National Science Foundation Grant to Study Causes of Concentrated Poverty

By Tom McLaughlin

In summer 2013, a groundbreaking report by the Center for Urban Research and Education (CURE) at Rutgers University–Camden and The Century Foundation revealed that concentrated poverty has increased by 50 percent since 2000, and more than 11 million Americans now reside in neighborhoods where at least two in every five households live below the poverty line.

While “The Architecture of Segregation” alarmed scholars and policymakers alike, little research has attempted to determine the root causes of this concentrated poverty – that is, until now.

Thanks to a \$218,378 grant from the National Science Foundation’s Geography Spatial Sciences Program, scholars from the Rutgers research center and George Mason University will examine the determinants of the concentration of poverty – the extent to which the poor are isolated in high-poverty neighborhoods – with an emphasis on the role of public policies that shape metropolitan growth and development.

“Many researchers agree that low-income and minority groups have been excluded from newer, growing suburbs, which has led to the segregation of these populations. However, we’ve never had concrete evidence showing the contributing factors of this segregation,” says Paul Jargowsky, CURE director and a professor of public policy at Rutgers–Camden, who is conducting the study with Katrin Anacker, an associate professor of public policy at George Mason University, and Chris Wheeler, a Ph.D. candidate in public affairs at Rutgers–Camden. [Editors note: Chris Wheeler earned his Ph.D. in May 2017]

The researchers will use a longitudinal database of metropolitan areas in the United States – nearly 400 in all – to analyze changes in income distribution versus changes in spatial organization of households by race, ethnicity, and income.

Using cutting-edge geospatial analysis, they will investigate the resulting patterns of housing construction, driven by exclusionary housing and other land-use controls, and relate these patterns in space and time to the movements of populations, explains Jargowsky.

“In analyzing the differences between metropolitan areas, we hope to show that, depending on how segregated housing construction has been, it has resulted in more or less racial segregation and concentrated poverty,” says the Rutgers–Camden researcher, who has been named a fellow at the Center for Advanced Social and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Jargowsky notes that the study is a considerable undertaking due to the fact that the researchers are not looking at one single metric. Rather, they have to decide

what factors to look for in the housing stock, which are different for each metropolitan area, and determine ways to characterize the spatial arrangements of housing and how they have changed over time.

“It’s a difficult project, which is one of the reasons that no one has ever done this before,” he says. “However, if we can put a more concrete number on the extent to which public policies are actually creating the problems that we face, then it will help to change these counterproductive policies.

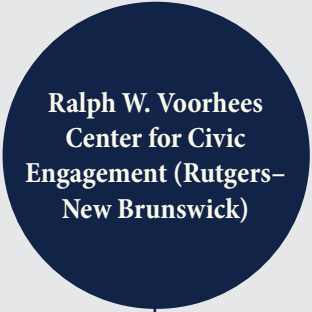
According to Jargowsky, the study is especially critical given the mounting evidence showing the dramatic, negative impacts of concentrated poverty on a number of socioeconomic factors, such as employment, healthcare, education, and crime. These factors then create a cyclical effect, contributing back to even more poverty.

“If you have a certain amount of poverty in the country, that is bad in itself,” he says. “But if you take that poverty and concentrate it, it makes all of the problems of poverty even worse.”



# Affiliated Research Centers

**In 2012, CURE established a network of urban research centers in the region and beyond with the aim of information exchange and potential future collaborations on regional initiatives. As such, it serves to link the urban research community in our region. CURE-affiliated research centers include centers at Rutgers–New Brunswick and Rutgers–Newark, as well as at the University of Pennsylvania. The three urban-focused Rutgers centers have begun to cooperate on an urban listserv for Rutgers urbanists and the annual Bloustein School doctoral student conference each spring.**

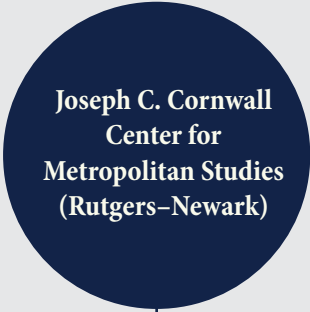


## Ralph W. Voorhees Center for Civic Engagement (Rutgers– New Brunswick)

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The Center for Civic Engagement is a collaborative effort of university faculty, students, and community development actors that seeks to enhance educational opportunities, facilitate innovative research, and build community development capacity. The center builds on the strength of existing relationships between faculty and students at the Bloustein School and community development networks and organizations in New Jersey and beyond. The Center hosts the Ralph W. Voorhees Public Service fellowship program for undergraduate and graduate students who work collaboratively with community organizations on group projects each fall.

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## Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies (Rutgers–Newark)

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Established in July 2000, the Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies is an important part of the Rutgers–Newark campus. The Cornwall Center facilitates research and learning exchanges among scholars and other stakeholders in the public, private, and non-profit sectors to address urban and metropolitan challenges. The Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies is a signature effort at Rutgers–Newark to focus the intellectual talent and resources of the institution in service to Newark and its surrounding region. The center is named after the late Joseph C. Cornwall, the founding chair of The Fund for New Jersey and a widely respected civic leader.

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## Penn Institute for Urban Research (University of Pennsylvania)

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The Penn Institute for Urban Research (Penn IUR) is dedicated to an increased understanding of cities through cross-disciplinary research, instruction, and civic engagement. As the global human population becomes increasingly urban, understanding cities is vital to informed decision-making and public policy at the local, national, and international levels. Penn IUR develops knowledge in three critical areas: innovative urban development strategies; building the sustainable and inclusive 21st-century city; and the role of anchor institutions in urban places. By providing a university-wide forum for collaborative scholarship and instruction, Penn IUR stimulates research and engages with the world of urban practitioners and policymakers.

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# Looking Ahead...

- *CURE Seminar Series*
- *CURE community-based research project*
- *CURE symposium in Spring 2018*
- *Special event: film screening and discussion with filmmakers*
- *Affiliated scholar roundtables*
- *CURE national research (NSF funded), Understanding the Determinants of Concentration of Poverty: The Spatial Dynamics of Urban and Suburban Housing Development*
- *APPAM conference Chicago, IL*
- *UAA conference Toronto, Canada*



We welcome comments and suggestions for future activities  
that would benefit the urban research community on the  
Rutgers–Camden campus.

*If you have any suggestions, please contact Natasha Fletcher:*

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