

THE AMERICAN CULTURES CENTER

Looking Forward

2013 has been a busy year for the AC Center, and as I imagine for many of you, one of challenges and possibilities. A busy year indeed, but we are looking forward to an even busier year with the 25th anniversary celebrations of the AC requirement in 2014. It's a time to reflect, celebrate and plan the next chapter of the requirement's life. I hope that you will join us in that long-term effort and the more immediate exciting April 21-25 week of anniversary events.

Great opportunities have come with the new staff working in the Center. Last month we welcomed Peno McLean-Riggs, a freshman in Latin American Studies and Literature, who has been diligently working on the center's archives. And it has been a sad farewell to Melanie Green, who although only working with the center for eleven months has brought great professionalism and humor to her work with us. Fortunately, we will continue to work with her as a colleague in the Center for Teaching and Learning. And then just last week, Doug Parada became the new Program Associate to the AC Center. Doug comes from the TRIO program, and we couldn't be happier that the excellent work of TRIO and Doug's contributions to them will now extend to the AC Center.

All of the staff at the AC Center wish you a peaceful winter break.

With warm regards,

Victoria Robinson
Program Director, The AC Center

Upcoming Events and Announcements

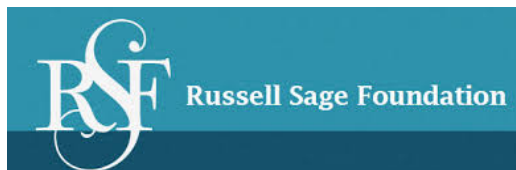
SAVE THE DATE: 25th Anniversary for American Cultures Center **April 21-25, 2014**

Please join us in celebrating the American Cultures Center as it turns 25! We will be hosting a week long celebration recognizing the past, present and future of the American Cultures Center. Please save the date on your calendars to attend this series of events, which will take place on the UC Berkeley campus from Monday, April 21 through Friday, the 25th. For more information, please contact Doug Parada at dparada@berkeley.edu.

Russell Sage Foundation Program on Social Equality **Application deadline: January 31, 2014**

There are several funding opportunities to support the research of AC faculty, which we hope to bring

to your attention. Recently, the Russell Sage Foundation announced a new funding initiative. It is interested in research that is broadly related to analyzing the causes and consequences of increased economic inequality.



[Program Link](#)

AC Course Approval Subcommittee Meeting January 31, 2014

The next Subcommittee meeting date for American Cultures course approvals is Friday, January 31st. In the event that a new instructor is assigned an AC course or a new AC course will be offered in your department, we encourage you to review the responsibilities of departments and of the Center itself in the administration of the American Cultures (AC) Breadth Requirement. Submissions must be received by 4pm on the Monday before the meeting.

[Review website](#)

Innovation in Teaching Award and the American Cultures Student Prize Applications will be made available in January

The **Innovation in Teaching Award** recognizes faculty who have created original, cutting-edge teaching plans that enhance both the goals of the American Cultures requirement and students' learning in the classroom. One award will be given in the amount of \$2,500

The **American Cultures Student Prize** provides students the opportunity to highlight work undertaken in an American Cultures course which promotes understanding of race, ethnicity, and culture. The prize also recognizes student's work as a standard of excellence in scholarship. Please encourage your students to apply. One lower-division and one upper-division will be selected and awarded \$1,000, and with permission, recipients will have their work published on the American Cultures web site.

The ceremony for both awards will be celebrated alongside the Charlene Conrad Liebau Library Prizes on May 8, 2014, 4-6pm in the Morrison Library.

In the News

Special Recognition of ACES Chancellor's Public Scholar, Brian Powers



One example of the impact that ACES has on our community partner organizations is the recognition of the program and its faculty like Professor Brian Powers in Sociology. In their latest newsletter, Oakland International High School (OIHS) recognized Brian's work in the ACES program and his steady high-quality student volunteers that have mentored their high school youth over the last two years. Congratulations to Brian!

AC Faculty Spotlight

William Satariano & Lisa Garcia Bedolla Discuss Community Engaged Scholarship in the Professional Schools

On December 9, Professor William Satariano, School of Public Health, and Professor Lisa Garcia Bedolla, School of Education, led a discussion on current research being conducted at their professional schools in the first of an ongoing series exploring unique perspectives on community engaged scholarship from different spaces on-campus. Future listings will be posted on the Berkeley events page and the AC website.

[Watch the video](#)

AC Community Partner Spotlight

Wiki Education Foundation

For the past two years, UC Berkeley student and Wikimedia Foundation member, Kevin Gorman, has supported the ACES program. Kevin has helped faculty and students in the program develop Wikipedia pages based on the interests of the community partners they are working with. This Spring that relationship reaches a new level, with Kevin now the 'Wikipedian-In-Residence' for the ACES program. This is a development for both the ACES program and also the Wikimedia Foundation who last month announced the development of the Wiki Education Program. The Wiki Education Foundation recently opened the search for an Executive Director,

<https://wikiedfoundationusca.atlassian.net/wiki/display/WBOD/Job+opening>. The AC Center hopes to build this successful partnership even further. Anyone interested in working with the Wikipedian-in-Residence should contact the AC Center.



ACES Visits Community Partners

This fall, we had the opportunity to visit community partner organizations with a film crew to capture the essence of the collaborative efforts that make up the ACES program. In four corners of the Bay area, which included the Building Block for Kids Collaborative in Richmond, the East Oakland Youth Development Center (EOYDC), the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), and Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, we conducted interviews that explored the ways in which the community and campus connect and produce responsive research that benefits all.

[Watch the video](#)

New ACES 2014 Spring Courses

We would like to congratulate all of the Chancellor's Public Scholars who will be teaching the following new ACES courses this Spring 2014:

Chicano Studies, 180AC: Chicana/o Art Politics, Methods and Practice

Celia Rodriguez

This course will introduce students to specific Chicana/o & Latina/o, Native, Asian, and African American art history and cultural practices developed as an essential aesthetic of art made by Artists of Color in the Bay Area. Focus is placed on the ideas and methods for working in community that are still viable and integral to current art practice with a commitment to social justice. This course is intended for those who are interested in working in community in non-traditional and/or already established public and community spaces and programs.



Engineering, 105: Global Poverty & Practice/Engineering

Khalid Kadir

The course will engage students at the intersection of environmental justice, social justice, and engineering. This course will specifically target engineering students and the goal is to help students look beyond the technical orientation of engineering approaches and learn to recognize the ways in which problems that may appear technical are at their roots deeply socially embedded.

Environmental Science, Policy Management/Sociology, 163AC/SOC 137AC: Environmental Justice: Race, Class, Equity, and the Environment

Dara O'Rourke

This course engages environmental problems, community responses, and policy debates regarding environmental justice issues, preparing students to critically analyze environmental outcomes and

processes. It involves a group service-learning project with local non-profit organizations, where teams of students work with local nonprofits to produce a research project that is both academically rigorous and meets real needs of the organizations.

International and Area Studies/Peace and Conflict Studies, 158AC/148AC: Global Poverty & Practice: Social Movements, Urban Histories, and the Politics of Memory

Sean Burns

This course examines a number of national and transnational, progressive social movements which have had prominent and influential expression in the San Francisco Bay Area. Specifically, the course will examine: the disability rights and independent living movement; the efforts of Native-Americans to protect sacred sites, reclaim land, and build community health; and cross-racial coalition building in working-class communities of color to build movements around housing and workers' rights. This course will not only analyze what others have written and said of these movements, it will also organize collaborative, community-based documentation projects which seek to expand public understanding of these histories, their legacies, and the contemporary experience of these struggles.

Peace and Conflict Studies, 128AC: Human Rights and American Cultures

Julie Shackford-Bradley

The course will focus on the history and current circumstances of Human Rights in the United States. The course is aligned with a growing interest across the country in utilizing human rights discourse and advocacy strategies in social justice efforts. Students will analyze issues through the human rights lens, and develop tools for utilizing international law in such a way as to require the US to live up to its obligations under both international and national legal systems.

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