Graduate Student Workshops
Facilitators Directory

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 | 8:00am to 4:00pm
Luskin Conference Center (Room TBD)
49th Conference of the Urban Affairs Association, April 24 – 27, 2019

Los Angeles, California, USA
Jocelyn DeVance Taliaferro, Ph.D.
North Carolina State University

Jocelyn DeVance Taliaferro, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the North Carolina State University Department of Social Work. Dr. Taliaferro’s current research interests include nonprofit lobbying and teaching using contemporary television. Her work appears in the Journal of Child and Family Social Work, Journal of Policy Practice, Administration in Social Work and Education and Urban Society. She recently completed a book on teaching social policy using the HBO special The Wire. Prior to her life in academia, she spent more than 15 years in the field of social work and nonprofit administration, which included Middle and Senior Management positions. She served as Secretary and later Chair of the Baltimore City Mayor’s Mental Health Advisory Committee. Dr. Taliaferro has been an active member on several nonprofit boards of directors in Washington DC, Maryland, Delaware, and North Carolina. She serves as Vice Chair of the board of Youth Thrive in Raleigh, NC, and was Vice Chair of the Urban Affairs Association.
Facilitators

Martine August, Ph.D.
University of Waterloo

Martine August, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the School of Planning at the University of Waterloo. Her research focuses on the political economy of housing and the pursuit of urban social justice, exploring themes related to gentrification, displacement, community organizing, public housing redevelopment, and the politics of social mix. She is an alumnus of the University of Winnipeg and the University of Toronto, holding degrees in Physics (BSc), Urban Studies (BA), and Urban Planning (M.Sc.Pl., PhD). Prior to her current post, she held a postdoctoral fellowship at Rutgers University, exploring community organizing against displacement in New York. Her current research examines the financialization of rental housing. At Waterloo she teaches “Planning for Social Justice in the Capitalist City.” Martine is a former Trudeau Foundation Scholar, and past recipient of the Urban Affairs Association Alma H. Young Emerging Scholar Award. She has worked as a housing policy advisor at the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, in the Housing Policy Branch and Homelessness Secretariat.

Susan E. Clarke, Ph.D.
University of Colorado

Susan E. Clarke, Ph.D., (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1979). Before coming to Boulder in 1984, Dr. Clarke was on the faculty at Northwestern University and also served as a Visiting Scholar with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The American Political Science Association’s Women’s Caucus recognized her as a “Mentor of Distinction” for her work with women graduate students. In 2010, Clarke received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the APSA Urban Politics Section; this Section also designated the Susan E. Clarke Young Scholars Award in her honor. In 2017 UAA honored Clarke with its Contribution to the Field of Urban Affairs Award. Clarke served in several university level administrative positions, is the Founding Director of CU’s Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences, a campus-wide interdisciplinary center, and also Founding Director of the Sustainability and Social Innovation (SSI) Residential Academic Program, honored with a national Cordes Innovation award. Her publications include The Work of Cities (with Gary Gaile: Minnesota, 1998) on local economic development strategies, a co-authored book on Multiethnic Moments: The Politics of Urban Education Reform (Temple University Press, 2006), co-editor of The Oxford
Handbook on Urban Politics (2012) and numerous journal articles. Her research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, the Carnegie Foundation, the Fulbright Foundation, the Canadian government, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the National League of Cities, and others. She is Editor of the “Globalization and Community Series” at the University of Minnesota Press, and recent (2001-2014) Editor (with Michael Pagano) of Urban Affairs Review and recent Editorial Board member of the American Political Science Review. Now Professor Emeritus, Clarke works on social innovation programs at CU and is also completing a book on Denver politics.

Prentiss Dantzler, Ph.D.
Colorado College

Prentiss Dantzler, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Mellon Faculty Fellow at Colorado College. He also is the Co-Chair of the Urban Studies Minor. His research sits at the nexus of urban poverty, race, housing policy and community development practice. His work has appeared in multiple journals including The Journal of Urban History, Research in Social Movements, Conflict, and Change, and Urban Affairs Review. His current research centers on residential mobility intentions among housing assistance recipients as well as the implications of race within community development, urban planning and public policymaking. In addition to research, Dantzler teaches courses in social inequality, urban sociology, housing policy, community development, and social theory. Dr. Dantzl er received his Ph.D. in Public Affairs from Rutgers University – Camden.

William Holt, Ph.D./J.D.
Birmingham-Southern College

William Holt, Ph.D./J.D., Associate Professor, is coordinator of the Urban Environmental Studies (UES) Program and Co-Chair of Architectural Studies at Birmingham-Southern College. Holt earned his BA in Geography from the University of Georgia. While completing his MCP at Georgia Tech, Holt worked on the 1996 Summer Olympics planning programs. He served as a long range planner with the National Capital Planning Commission on the 2050 Monumental Core Plan for Washington, D.C. Holt earned a Ph.D from Yale in sociology and a J.D. from Vermont Law School with a focus on energy law. He edited two books on urban regions and sustainability. Holt’s research focuses on debates over cultural history in the built environment, the back to the land movement as well as work on EPA Superfund redevelopment sites. He conducts applied student-faculty consulting work through the US EPA’s College/Underserved Community Partner Program (CUPP).
Jesseca E. Lightbourne, Ph.D.
Georgia State University

Jesseca E. Lightbourne, Ph.D., is a senior research associate with the Center for State and Local Finance and the Fiscal Research Center. Her research interests include the effect natural disasters have on state and local economies, tax reform, and state and local fiscal policy. Prior to joining the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Lightbourne wrote articles for journals such as Public Administration Review and technical reports for the Kinder Institute for Urban Research at Rice University. She also has taught financial aspects of government, intergovernmental relations, and public policy analysis at the University of North Texas. She has earned a Ph.D. in public administration and management from the University of North Texas.

Ali Modarres, Ph.D.
University of Washington Tacoma

Ali Modarres, Ph.D., is Professor and Director of Urban Studies at University of Washington Tacoma. He specializes in urban planning and public policy and his primary research and publication interests are socio-spatial urban dynamics and the political economy of urban design. He has published in the areas of immigration, race and ethnicity in American cities, social geography, transportation planning, environmental equity, and urban development and public policy. He served as the Editor-in-Chief of Cities: The International Journal of Urban Policy and Planning for eight years until 2017.

Michael Leo Owens, Ph.D.
Emory University

Michael Leo Owens, Ph.D., a former chair of the governing board of UAA (2013-2015), is associate professor of political science at Emory University. He specializes in urban and local politics, political penology, and social welfare politics. Author of God and Government in the Ghetto: The Politics of Church-State Collaboration in Black America (University of Chicago Press, 2007), his current projects include a book on community organizing by, with, and for formerly incarcerated persons to restore their full rights as citizens in the United States. His research appears in Journal of Urban Affairs, Urban Affairs Review, Political Research Quarterly, Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race, Nonprofit & Voluntary Sector Quarterly, and other journals. He serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Urban Affairs, Political Research Quarterly, and Politics, Groups & Identities. He also is an active member of the Scholars Strategy Network.
Corianne Payton Scally, Ph.D.
Urban Institute

Corianne Payton Scally is a senior research associate in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where she explores the complexities of interagency and cross-sector state and local implementation of affordable rental housing policy, finance, and development. Her areas of expertise include federal, state, and local affordable housing programs and partners, covering topics from policy development and advocacy to program funding and implementation to on-the-ground development and operations. Through extensive case study research, interviews, and surveys, Scally evaluates how well the affordable rental housing system works to serve vulnerable populations, including low-income households, people with disabilities, and the elderly.

Scally has both breadth and depth of experience in affordable housing research and practice. She is a former associate professor in urban planning at the State University of New York at Albany, as well as a former affordable housing developer. From 2015 to 2016, she led data and research initiatives at US Department of Agriculture Rural Housing Services. Recent research includes providing housing and services for people with disabilities and grandparents raising grandchildren, how housing instability affects the outcomes of housing mobility programs and addressing community opposition to affordable rental housing development. Scally has also written on rural housing programs and comparative international housing policy.

Scally received her BA in international affairs and MS in urban planning from Florida State University, and her PhD in urban planning and policy development from Rutgers University.

(from Urban Institute Website)

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Mayor’s Mental Health Advisory Committee. Dr. Taliaferro has been an active member on several nonprofit boards of directors in Washington DC, Maryland, Delaware, and North Carolina. She serves as Vice Chair of the board of Youth Thrive in Raleigh, NC, and was Vice Chair of the Urban Affairs Association.

Igor Vojnovic, Ph.D.
Michigan State University
Igor Vojnovic, Ph.D., is Professor in the Department of Geography, Environment, and Spatial Sciences at Michigan State University, where he also holds appointments in the School of Planning, Design, and Construction and the Global Urban Studies Program. His main area of research focuses on urban (re)development processes, involving a range of issues, including infrastructure investment, urban design, and the economic and environmental impacts of urban form. His work has been published in journals such as Environment and Planning A, Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design, Transportation Research Part D, Journal of Urban Design, Urban Geography, Journal of Urban Affairs, Cities, Ecological Economics, Applied Geography, Health & Place, GIScience and Remote Sensing, and Environmental Conservation. He is the Editor in-Chief of the Journal of Urban Affairs.

Bethany J. Welch, Ph.D.
Aquinas Center
Bethany J. Welch, Ph.D., is the founding director of Aquinas Center and a nonprofit management consultant. Her research on the Catholic Church and urban revitalization prompted a diverse, intercultural Philadelphia parish to invite her to help them repurpose a former convent to create a space that builds unity in diversity, supports learning, and inspires thoughtful action. Dr. Welch recently co-authored a book on participatory action research by the Aquinas community and the University of Pennsylvania. Partnering with Immigrant Communities was published in 2016 by Teachers College Press. In 2014, Dr. Welch was recognized by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops with the Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award for how her work addresses poverty and injustice. Welch, a VISTA volunteer from 2003-2004, also received a Spirit of Service Award in 2006 from the Corporation for National and Community Service for advancing transformational change in urban communities through research, planning, and capacity building. She has a PhD from the University of Delaware, MS from the University of Rochester, and BS from Roberts Wesleyan College.
Margaret Wilder, Ph.D.
Urban Affairs Association

Margaret Wilder, Ph.D., became Executive Director of the Urban Affairs Association (UAA) in 2005, after having served in various capacities on UAA committees and completing two terms as Board Chair. In 2011, she coordinated the move of the UAA Executive Office to the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee (UWM). Before moving to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Dr. Wilder served as Professor/Senior Policy Fellow and Director of the Urban Affairs Graduate Program in the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Delaware. Prior to going to Delaware, she was a faculty member at Indiana University and Cornell (where she received tenure), and chair of the Department of Geography and Planning at the State University of New York-Albany. Her PhD studies at the University of Michigan laid the foundation for subsequent research on the effects of urban policy on neighborhood development in disadvantaged urban areas in the U.S. and Western Europe. Her research projects have been supported by major foundations (e.g. Ford, Annie Casey, and Lilly). She has served as an editor for Sage Publications, Cities and Planning Book Series, and as a member of the editorial boards of the University of Minnesota Book Series: Globalization and Community, the Journal of Urban Affairs, the Journal of the American Planning Association, the Journal of Planning Education and Research, and the California Politics and Policy Journal. Her publications have appeared in major urban affairs, planning and geography journals. She has received competitive “Best Paper” awards from two national associations—The American Planning Association and the Urban Affairs Association. UAA has launched a major initiative to develop new international linkages and professional development services for scholars engaged in scholarship on urban areas. Dr. Wilder is leading this new period of innovation for UAA.