

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



UCLA Center for the Study of Women

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FROM THE DIRECTOR



WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN with unexpected and unprecedented changes that no one could have predicted. From a worldwide pandemic to a nationwide uprising against structural racism, I have been inspired by the resilience of our feminist community, fighting every day to promote a more just world. Over the past five years, it has been my pleasure and

honor to serve as the 12th director of the UCLA Center

for the Study of Women. While I plan to stay involved with the center's fundraising efforts in the coming years, I have completed my term as CSW's director as of July 1, 2020.

The 2019-2020 calendar year marked our center's 35th Anniversary Celebration and the 100th anniversary of US women's suffrage. Though our 35th Anniversary Celebration and annual Awards Reception featuring Supermajority co-lead and Black Lives Matter cofounder Alicia Garza were postponed until fall 2020, we continued to make tremendous progress on our research streams:

Chemical Entanglements – Investigating the impact of everyday chemical exposure on gendered and reproductive health, and proposing steps for change.

Sexual Violence and Intersectionality – Asking who our sexual violence policies serve and creating new and intersectional pathways to justice.

Black Feminism Initiative (BFI) – Honoring and encouraging Black feminist thought and visions for political transformation.

Feminist Anti-Carceral Studies – Imagining a feminist future without mass imprisonment and gendered violence.

Gender and Water – Exploring how gender roles shape the way families use water—and how feminist approaches can enrich conservation efforts.

I would like to express my gratitude to the wonderful staff, graduate and undergraduate student workers, and trio of faculty associate directors of the center—Jessica Cattelino (2015-2017), Sarah Haley (2017-2019), and Grace Hong (2019-2020), under whose leadership CSW has inaugurated four key research streams that demonstrate the importance of gender to questions we ask about environmental issues like water use and chemical pollutants, and that take an intersectional approach to urgent interventions in sexual violence and women's imprisonment. With the support of our constituents, stakeholders, and donors, we are looking forward to building a foundational endowment to ensure that groundbreaking scholarship on women, gender, and sexuality continues to be robustly supported at UCLA well past 2050.

Sincerely,

Rachel C. Lee
Director (2015-2020)
UCLA Center for the Study of Women

CHEMICAL ENTANGLEMENTS

Led by CSW Director Rachel C. Lee (2015-2020), the Chemical Entanglements research stream uses approaches from the social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities to better understand the gendered outcomes of exposure to endocrine-disrupting chemicals.

Endocrine disruptors are a very common type of chemical found in everything from personal care products to industry waste. They impact human metabolism and reproduction, and are tied to chronic illnesses such as Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS). CSW argues that an intersectional feminist approach to public health and environmental justice is necessary to fully understand and remedy the impact of toxic exposure on human health.



Oral Histories of Environmental Illness

In 2019-2020, CSW continued the Oral Histories of Environmental Illness (OHEI) initiative in partnership with the UCLA Library's Center for Oral History Research. The initiative preserves the stories of people with environmental illnesses so that researchers and activists can draw on them to advance future work. The interviews collected will become an archival resource housed at the UCLA Center for Oral History Research.

In an effort to diversify the archive, substantial outreach efforts have focused on recruiting people with chemical sensitivities and environmental illnesses among communities of color and low-wage workers. With that objective in mind, the OHEI project partnered with the California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative, as well as the California Domestic Workers Coalition and the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (in Florida). Interviews with members of these organizations took place during Summer 2020.

UCLA Undergraduate Research Week

During the Spring quarter, two students in the **Chemical Entanglements Undergraduate Student Group** collaborated and presented some of the OHEI findings during UCLA Undergraduate Research Week.

The presentation was titled "**Environmental Illness and Social Isolation: A Comparative Analysis of Lifestyles Restricted by Illness**" and was given by:

- **Miranda Le**, Human Biology and Society
- **Cheyenne Walker**, Anthropology



Screenshot of Chemical Entanglements Undergraduate Student Group members Miranda Le and Cheyenne Walker presenting research findings from the OHEI project during the virtual UCLA Undergraduate Research Week in May 2020.

Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience

Special Section on Chemical Entanglements: Gender and Exposure

In May 2020, the open-source journal *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience* published an issue (vol. 6, no. 1) with a special section titled “Chemical Entanglements: Gender and Exposure” edited by Rachel C. Lee. It grew out of a symposium, “Chemical Entanglements: Gender and Exposure,” hosted by CSW in May 2017.

The special section features multidisciplinary research from an array of fields, such as anthropology, public health, legal history, environmental health sciences, poetry, bio-art, waste studies, queer theory, disabilities studies, and decolonial science and technologies studies. The introduction by Lee provides a map of the special section’s scholarship by way of four clusters:

- “**Petro- and Agro-Wars by Chemical Proxy**” focuses on the foreclosure of reproductive futurity for Indigenous and Brown settler populations by undeclared but de facto colonial “wars” conducted by the petrochemical, oil, and agricultural industries.
- Interviews, short essays, and a longer research article probing “**Educational Entanglements**” highlight how educational institutions (from K-12 schools to labs at public research universities), in their current dimensions, need reforming so that they do not extend chemical and social injury.
- Three of the essays, identified as “**Vernaculars of Consumption**,” address the chemical entanglements of “feminine” purchasing and waste circuits, in relation to beauty creams, menstrual technology, and various body-care and food options scrutinized by pregnant women.
- A final grouping, “**Cognicizing Chemicals through Aesthetic Forms**,” comes together by way of critical reflexivity on art as a mode to materialize and represent lateral movements toward disability justice among intoxicated subjects.

Additionally, in “**A Lattice of Chemicalized Kinship: Toxicant Reckoning in a Depressive Reparative Mode**,” Lee provides background on the toxic chemical events underlying Eve Sedgwick’s humanist theorizing of affective moods (e.g., paranoia, shame, depression, and joy).



System II, 2018. Composite Resin, Glass, Melamin, Estradiol, Depo-Testosterone, Silicone, Wood. Image courtesy of the artist, Jes Fan.

Cover art by Jes Fan.

Download this issue of Catalyst at csw.ucla.edu/Catalyst-CE

SEXUAL VIOLENCE & INTERSECTIONALITY

Led by CSW Associate Director Grace Hong (2019-2020; CSW Director as of July 2020), this research stream seeks to bring insights from gender studies scholarship to bear on sexual assault policy on campus and beyond. A key intervention of CSW's work on this issue is advocacy for anticarceral approaches to sexual violence; that is, approaches that understand sexual violence as a feature of policing and the carceral state, and propose ways of achieving justice that look to non-punitive and anti-carceral alternatives. Doing so means understanding sexual violence as a function of race, nationalism, and empire, as well as gender and sexual inequity. Moreover, this stream seeks to harness the wealth of expertise on sexual power and politics generated by feminist scholars who are rarely consulted in the establishment and implementation of policies to address sexual misconduct on university campuses.

THINKING GENDER 2020

Sexual Violence as Structural Violence: Feminist Visions of Transformative Justice

The major initiative to emerge from the Sexual Violence and Intersectionality research stream this year was the 2020 Thinking Gender Graduate Student Research Conference, which explored the theme of “Sexual Violence as Structural Violence: Feminist Visions of Transformative Justice.” Now in its 30th year, Thinking Gender showcases the best research by emerging scholars of gender and sexuality. The event took place on March 6, 2020 at UCLA Carnesale Commons, with a pre-conference workshop the day before.

Bri-Ann Hernandez, master's student in public health, served as the Thinking Gender Coordinator, and collaborated closely with Grace Hong in refining the conference theme and planning the program.

Thinking Gender 2020 attracted the largest audience and received the most cosponsorships in the history of the conference. Graduate student paper presentations and roundtable discussions, moderated by distinguished faculty members, formed the core of the conference. Undergraduate students also presented their research during two poster sessions.

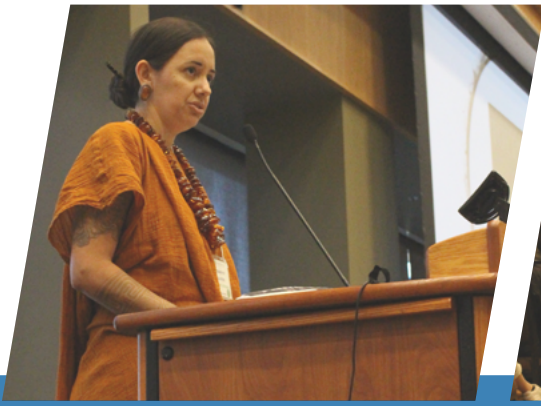


Grace Hong (left) with Thinking Gender 2020 Coordinator Bri-Ann Hernandez (right).



This was one of the most affirming and supportive conferences I've been to... It felt like a really constructive and affirming space to get new ideas, think critically about my work, and receive affirmation. I also loved the opportunity to meet new [people] and connect with former colleagues.

—TG20 Presenter



Left: Weshoyot Alvitre; Center: (L to R) Sarah Haley, Mimi Kim, Emily Thuma, Mariame Kaba (not pictured); Right: (L to R) Mimi Kim, Emily Thuma

Thinking Gender 2020 Keynote Opener and Panel

The keynote opening, “**Toypurina: Bloodlines of Resistance**,” was presented by:

- **Weshoyot Alvitre**, Tongva artist

It was followed by a keynote panel, “**Transformational Justice: Refusing Criminalization and Sexual Violence**,” with a main address by **Mariame Kaba**, Founder and Director of Project NIA and Cofounder of Survived & Punished, and a discussion between distinguished activist-scholars on their experiences of transformative-justice organizing in the past and present.

The keynote panelists were:

- **Mariame Kaba**, Project NIA, Barnard Center for Research on Women
- **Mimi Kim**, Social Work, California State University Long Beach
- **Emily Thuma**, American Politics and Public Law, University of Washington Tacoma
- Moderator: **Sarah Haley**, Gender Studies and African American Studies, University of California Los Angeles



I was blown away by the collection of radical, transformative thinkers who participated in the panels, roundtables, and the keynote session. I felt like I engaged more deeply and took more away from this conference than most other conferences I have attended.

—TG20 Attendee



Survived & Punished Exhibit

The conference featured an exhibit curated around the work of prison-abolitionist organization **Survived & Punished (S&P)**. Two of the keynote panelists, **Mariame Kaba** and **Emily Thuma**, are founding members of S&P, which challenges the punishment and incarceration of domestic-violence survivors who defend themselves against their abusers. The exhibit featured a letter-writing and petitioning station, educational videos, and a slideshow of photos and art from S&P release campaigns and rallies.

BLACK FEMINISM INITIATIVE



The CSW Black Feminism Initiative (BFI) was established in Fall 2019 to honor and encourage Black feminist thought and visions for political transformation. Led by BFI Director and 2019-2020 CSW Advisory Committee Chair **Sarah Haley** (Professor, gender studies and African American studies), BFI supports interdisciplinary research and social engagements that are grounded in Black feminist and Black queer frameworks of analysis. It highlights Black feminist work with a particular focus on projects that challenge state and interpersonal violence, consider intramural forms of relation and refusal, and engage Black feminist assembly and collective organizing practice. BFI is also invested in questions of social reproduction and reproductive justice, contemporary and historical regimes of captivity and carcerality, and Black feminist art and expressive culture.

BFI Graduate Research Fellowships

Open to UCLA graduate students, BFI established two fellowships to support intellectual work that centers Black feminist frameworks of analysis. In the tradition of abolitionist feminist activism and labor, BFI Graduate Fellowships seek to advance Black feminist scholarship that interrogates historical and ongoing regimes of violence, enclosure, and captivity, and offers original insights for conceiving of freedom, redress, abolition, and refusal. Each \$1000 fellowship is named for two Black feminist scholars and activists, **Alisa Bierria** and **Mariame Kaba**, who along with Ayanna Banks Harris, Sumayya Coleman, Colby Lenz, Hyejin Shim, and Stacy Suh, cofounded **Survived & Punished** (see p. 7).

The inaugural recipients of the 2019-2020 BFI Graduate Research Fellows are as follows:

Alisa Bierria Graduate Fellowship in Black Feminist Research

- **Jaimie Crumley**, Gender Studies
- **Brittnee Meitzenheimer**, African American Studies

Mariame Kaba Graduate Fellowship in Black Feminist Research

- **Bianca Beauchemin**, Gender Studies
- **Zama Dube**, Cinema and Media Studies
- **Ariel Hart**, Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program and UCLA Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP)



Alisa Bierria



Mariame Kaba



BFI fellowship recipients (L to R): Jaimie Crumley, Brittnee Meitzenheimer, Bianca Beauchemin, Zama Dube, Ariel Hart. Crumley, Meitzenheimer, Dube, and Hart are also core members of the Faculty/Graduate Student Working Group (see below).

Faculty/Graduate Student Working Group

BFI organizes a monthly workshop for faculty and graduate students to discuss Black feminism. Participants also workshop in-progress writing and related projects. The 2019-2020 Workshop Coordinator was **Jaimie Crumley** (pictured above, far left), a PhD student in gender studies and a recipient of CSW's Alisa Bierria Graduate Fellowships in Black Feminist Research.



“Black Feminism, Care, and Reproductive Justice in Urgent Times” with Kimberly Durdin

On February 10, 2020, BFI hosted a talk and dialogue with **Kimberly Durdin**, a birth worker and advocate for reproductive justice for women of color. She is the cofounder of Kindred Space LA, a hub for midwifery care, doula support, lactation consulting, education, support groups, enrichment, meditation, and movement. After her presentation, Durdin was in dialogue with PhD student Ariel Hart. The event was attended by approximately 60 students, faculty, and community members.

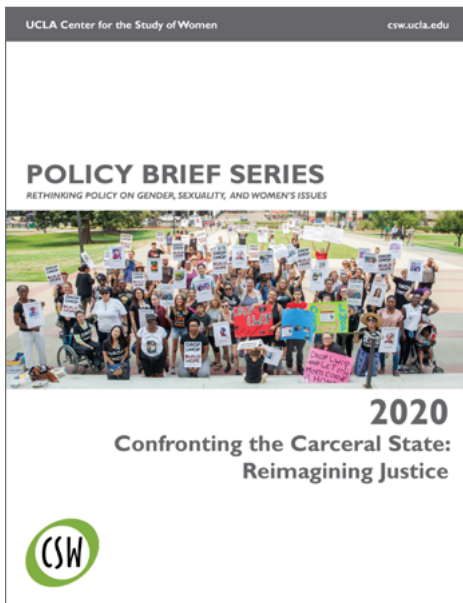
Letter to the UCLA Administration to Support Black Feminist Studies at UCLA

In light of the large-scale national protests against anti-Black racism and police violence in the spring and summer of 2020, Sarah Haley requested a long-term commitment from UCLA Chancellor Gene Block and Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Emily Carter to support Black feminist studies on campus, recognizing the unique and vital contribution Black feminists offer to the project of dismantling white supremacist patriarchal structures everywhere. The letter asked for divestment from campus policing and requested various forms of support for BFI and other units on campus that directly advocate for Black lives.

Learn more about the Black Feminism Initiative and the Faculty/Graduate Student Working Group at csw.ucla.edu/BFI.

FEMINIST ANTI-CARCERAL STUDIES

Led by Sarah Haley, Black Feminism Initiative Director (2019-present) and CSW Advisory Committee Chair (2019-2020), and Grace Hong, CSW Associate Director (2019-2020), this research stream combines research, dissemination of scholarship, engagement with feminist social justice organizations, and institution-building through an anti-carceral feminist framework. Anti-carceral feminism contests the use of gender as a justification for prison expansion and works against the increasing incarceration of women, queer, and transgender people. This is especially critical in California, where legislators have employed the language of gender-responsiveness to fund prison expansion. This project attends to specific forms of gendered and racial violence in prisons and jails, including sexual violence and retaliation, and to the disproportionate impact of incarceration on LGBTQ communities. The project also examines the relationship of incarceration to reproductive and economic justice, and highlights movements to oppose the carceral state as critical to social justice feminism.



Confronting the Carceral State, Reimagining Justice

CSW's 2019-2020 Policy Brief Prize competition, on the theme "Confronting the Carceral State, Reimagining Justice," invited submissions that boldly re-imagine justice in the United States, placing the needs of LGBTQ communities, communities of color, and survivors of violence at the fore. In addition to soliciting UC graduate student submissions, CSW collaborated with the **California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP)** for submissions from community activists and system-impacted individuals. The [policy brief series](#) was published in August 2020.

CSW awarded six prizes, three to UC graduate students and three to system-impacted authors (pictured below in the order listed).

UC Graduate Students

- **June Kuoch**, Asian American Studies, University of California Los Angeles
- **Boké Saisi**, Ethnic Studies and Gender Studies, University of California San Diego
- **Rosie Stockton**, Gender Studies, University of California Los Angeles; CCWP

System-Impacted Authors

- **Jane Dorotik**, CCWP; Compassionate Companions
- **Romarilyn Ralston**, Project Rebound at California State University Fullerton; CCWP
- **Joanne Scheer**, Felony Murder Elimination Project



Read the 2020 policy briefs at csw.ucla.edu/policy-briefs.

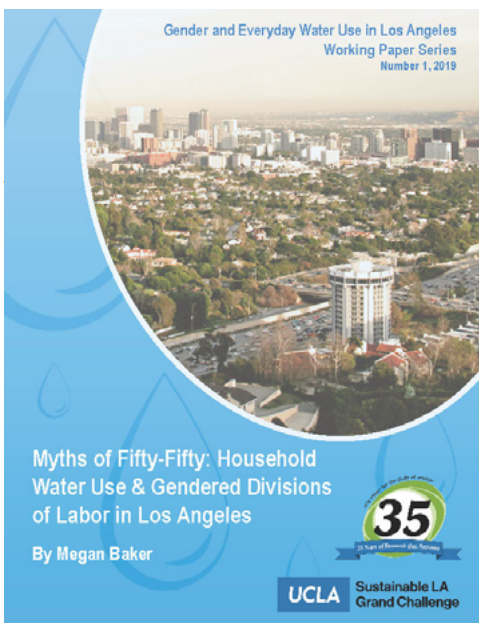


The “Gender and Everyday Water Use in Los Angeles Households” research stream (referred to as Gender and Water), led by Jessica Cattelino, Associate Professor of anthropology, CSW Senior Faculty Research Associate (2017-2020), and Associate Director (as of July 1, 2020), is now in its fourth year. Funded by a grant from UCLA’s Sustainable Los Angeles Grand Challenge Program in 2016, this research stream investigates the important but understudied role of gender—as it intersects with race and class—in residential water use in Los Angeles. Many much-needed Los Angeles water conservation efforts take place within households, where research has shown that divisions of labor and decision-making often are gendered. The Gender and Water research team incorporates mixed methods (e.g., ethnographic interviews and water-use diaries) to identify patterns in water perceptions and practices vital to efforts of change.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, Cattelino and a research team of PhD students, MA students, and undergraduates continued their work with 38 households in four Los Angeles neighborhoods: Inglewood, Koreatown, MacArthur Park, and Beverly Hills. In previous years, researchers had visited participants’ homes and conducted observations and interviews about home water use, and collected water-use diaries completed by participants. In 2018-2019, the research team analyzed interview transcripts and other data. In 2019-2020, the team reviewed literature, synthesized data analysis, and began writing articles for publication. Thus far, the team has published five working papers.



Jessica Cattelino



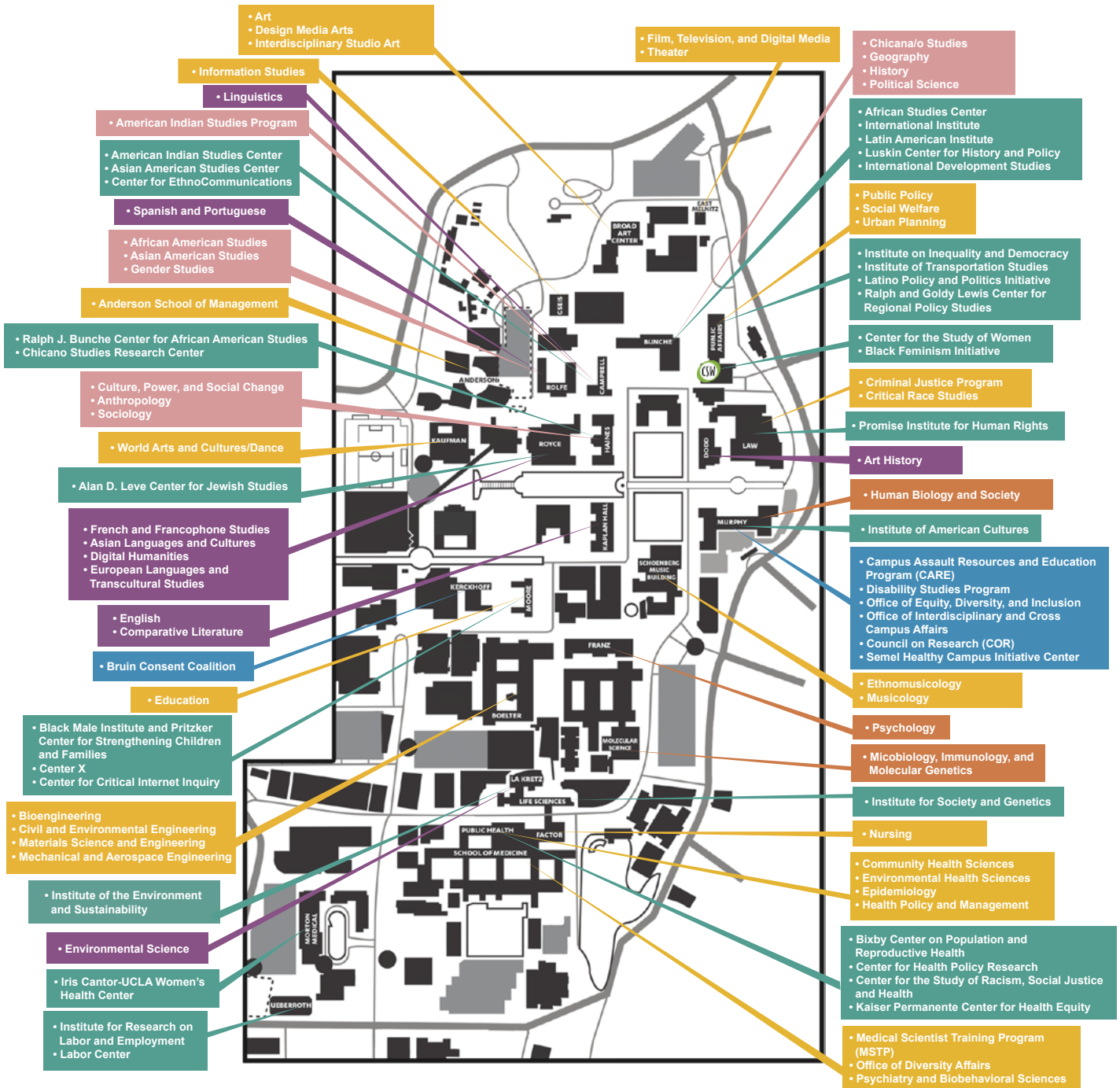
Gender and Water Working Papers

In fall 2019, Gender and Water student researchers published five working papers on CSW’s eScholarship online publishing site (hosted by the California Digital Library). The working papers present preliminary results from the Gender and Water study and address a variety of topics that center on the everyday lives of Angelenos. This work connects everyday life to the large-scale questions of water scarcity and management that face our world in the twenty-first century.

Read the working papers at escholarship.org/uc/ucla_genderandwater.

CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

CSW cultivates connections with departments and research centers across campus. Our faculty and staff affiliates, student awardees, event co-sponsors, and other partners come from all over UCLA, as well as from community organizations.



Off-Campus:

- Veterans Legal Clinic
- General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research
- The Williams Institute
- UC Global Health Institute and UC Speaks Up
- UC Humanities Research Institute
- Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program
- Choctaw Nation Historic Preservation

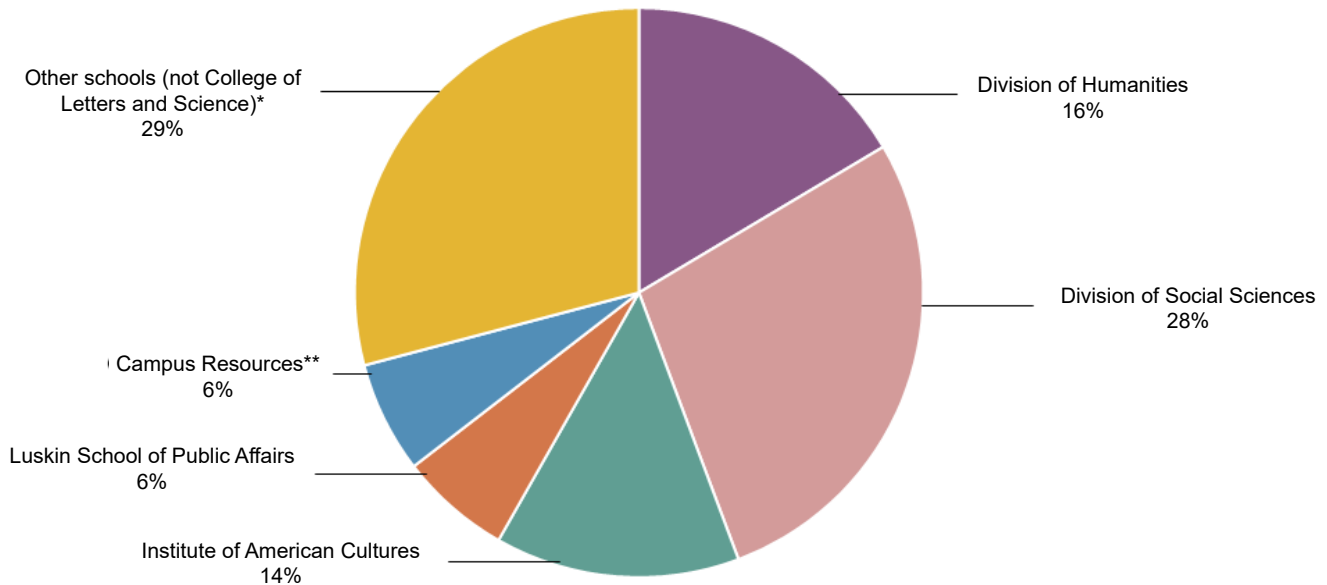
Legend

■ Campus Resources	■ Institutes and Research Centers	■ Non-UCLA
■ Division of Social Sciences	■ Life and Physical Sciences	
■ Division of Humanities	■ Other Schools (not College of Letters & Sciences)	

COSPONSORSHIPS

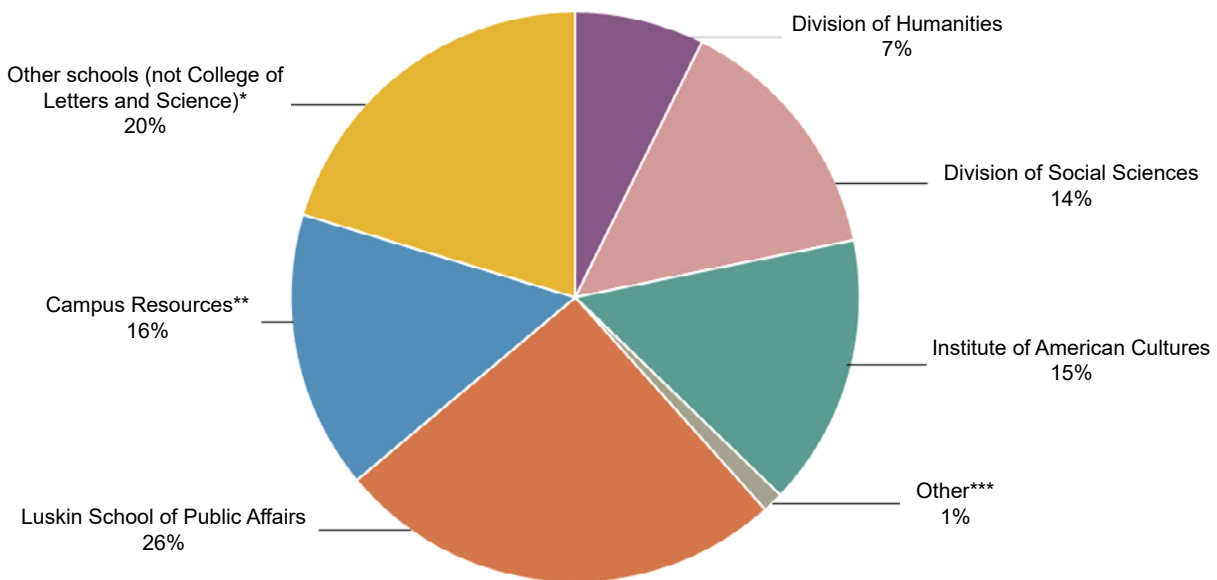
CSW partners with departments and research centers by cosponsoring programs and events through financial support, publicity and promotion, and other forms of contributions. We also pursue such partnerships in support of our own events and programs. Our cosponsorships have led to collaborations across all divisions of the university.

Funds Distributed by CSW (shown by UCLA division)



*Graduate School of Education and Information Studies; Herb Alpert School of Music; International Institute; School of the Arts and Architecture
 **UCLA Health

Funds Received by CSW (shown by UCLA division)



*David Geffen School of Medicine; Fielding School of Public Health; Graduate School of Education and Information Studies; Herb Alpert School of Music; International Institute; School of Law; School of Nursing; School of the Arts and Architecture; School of Theater, Film and Television
 **Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; Office of the Chancellor; Student Affairs; UCLA Health; Undergraduate Education Initiatives
 ***UC Humanities Research Institute

SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE THINKERS

Faculty Research Grants

Every year, CSW offers grants to UCLA faculty for research development, new project development that may lead to external funding opportunities, and project completion that could be considered for CSW publications (policy briefs, research reports). Four faculty members received grants in 2019-2020.



Lorrie Frasure

“Intersecting Identities Project (IIP)”

Lorrie Frasure is an Associate Professor of political science. She received her PhD and MA in political science from the University of Maryland-College Park, a master in public policy (MPP) from the University of Chicago, and a BA in political science from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining the faculty at UCLA, she was a postdoctoral associate and visiting assistant professor in the Department of Government at Cornell University.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following 2019-2020 Faculty Research Grant recipients were granted extensions on utilizing their grants to 2020-2021:



Kian Goh

“Resilience from Below: Community Visions of Just Urban Futures in Post-Hurricane Sandy New York City”

Kian Goh, RA, PhD, is Assistant Professor of urban planning at UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. She researches the relationships between urban ecological design, spatial politics, and social mobilization in the context of climate change and global urbanization. A licensed architect, Professor Goh cofounded design firm SUPER-INTERESTING!



Liz Koslov

“Retreat: Moving to Higher Ground in a Climate-Changed City”

Liz Koslov is Assistant Professor of urban planning and the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA, where she studies the social, cultural, and political dimensions of urban climate-change adaptation. Her book project is an ethnographic account of “managed retreat,” the process of relocating people and unbuilding land exposed to extreme weather and sea level rise. The book is based on fieldwork in the New York City borough of Staten Island, where residents organized in favor of home buyouts after Hurricane Sandy.



Norma Mendoza-Denton

“Norteñas: Developing a graphic ethnography format for stories of Latina girls involved in gangs”

Norma Mendoza-Denton is Professor of anthropology at UCLA and Associate Dean in the Graduate Division. Her research focuses on youth, language, migration, politics, and identity. Originally trained in sociophonetics, she has conducted research among Latina girls involved in gangs, politicians in town hall meetings, children in school settings, and young adults playing video games.

Tillie Olsen Grants

As part of CSW's commitment to feminist scholarship on and off campus, our Research Affiliates Program continues to support engaged independent scholars, local to the Los Angeles area, who conduct research on women, sexuality, or gender, and have limited access to a research community. Affiliates must have an active research project in progress and neither a tenure-track position, nor a permanent, full-time academic affiliation with a college or university. The goal of this program is to build an intimate community of independent researchers whose work may enrich and be enriched by congress with UCLA campus faculty.

Affiliates are eligible to apply for research funding through the **Tillie Olsen Grants**. In 2020, CSW awarded three Tillie Olsen Grants to support the work of these Research Affiliates:



Becky Nicolaides

"The New Suburbia: Stability, Upheaval, and Everyday Life in the Suburbs of LA since 1945"



Lara K. Schubert

"Retheorizing Women's Empowerment with Insights from Cambodian Women"



Kathleen Sheldon

"African Women's History"

Research Affiliates Brown Bags

CSW Research Affiliates gathered once during 2019-2020 for a Brown Bag research presentation. Research Affiliate **Kristine Gunnell** oversaw and organized the Brown Bag on behalf of CSW.

On October 29, 2019, Kathleen Sheldon presented "**Down with Bridewealth! The Organization of Mozambican Women Debates Women's Issues,**" engaging her research on African women's history and Mozambique.

A Brown Bag had been scheduled for May 8, 2020, but was canceled due to COVID-19.



(L to R) Research Affiliates Kristine Gunnell, Lara K. Schubert, and Elline Lipkin attend Sheldon's Brown Bag event.

Student Awards and Grants

CSW offers fellowships and awards to exceptional UCLA graduate and undergraduate students. We see this as an investment in the next generation of researchers. These student awardees were to be honored at our annual Awards Celebration in May 2020. Due to COVID-19, the event was postponed and the awardees were celebrated in a virtual event on October 16, 2020.

**Recipients marked with an asterisk are undergraduate students.*

Black Feminism Initiative (BFI) Graduate Fellowships

Named for Alisa Bierria and Mariame Kaba (see p. 8), these fellowships support intellectual work that centers Black feminist frameworks of analysis.

- Bianca Beauchemin
- Jaimie Crumley
- Zama Dube
- Ariel Hart
- Brittnee Meitzenheimer

Constance Coiner Awards

These awards honor the life and help continue the work of Dr. Constance Coiner (PhD 1987). Dr. Coiner and her daughter, Ana-Duarte Coiner, perished in a plane crash (TWA 800) in June of 1996.

- Samar Saif*
- Jenna Tamimi

Renaissance Award

Through the generous donation of Dr. Myrna Hant, this scholarship rewards the rebirth of academic aspirations among women whose college careers were interrupted or delayed by family and/or career obligations.

- Rebecca Redmond*

Elizabeth Blackwell, MD, Awards

This award recognizes outstanding research related to women and health. It is made possible by the generosity of Dr. Barbara “Penny” Kanner.

- Carrienne Leschak
- Jessica Shropshire
- Aneri Suthar*

Penny Kanner Dissertation Research Fellowship

Through the generosity of Dr. Barbara “Penny” Kanner, this fellowship funds an exceptional dissertation research project that uses historical materials and methods.

- Jessica Horvath Williams
- Kali Tambreé
- Madina Thiam



Renaissance Award benefactor Dr. Myrna Hant (middle) with past Renaissance Award recipients.

Jean Stone Dissertation Research Fellowship

Made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Jean Stone, this fellowship funds exceptional graduate student dissertation research projects focusing on women or gender.

- Amy Elizabeth Alterman
- Megan Baker (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma)
- Marta Bornstein
- Hannah Carlan

Paula Stone Legal Research Fellowship

This award funds research on women in the criminal/legal justice system. It is made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Jean Stone in honor of her daughter, Paula Stone.

- Estefania Castañeda Pérez
- Lucía León

Travel Grants

These grants assist UCLA students with travel expenses for academic or professional conference presentations and field research related to women, gender, and sexuality.

- Sarah Alkhaifi-Gonzalez
- Jennifer Cárcamo
- Esther Claudio
- Lia Cohen*
- Jaimie Crumley
- Jacqueline Davis
- Zama Dube
- Madison Felman-Panagotacos
- Zizi Li
- Mariam Rahmani
- Tyrell Shaffner
- Heidi West

Commemorating CSW's History



For 35 years, CSW has been UCLA's feminist nucleus, as the first gender studies research unit in the University of California system. To commemorate CSW's 35 years of accomplishments, CSW launched its 35th anniversary campaign in the 2019-2020 academic year. On December 3, 2019, CSW participated in #GivingTuesday, creating a call for donations to help support our foundational research and maintain free public programming. Members of the CSW community were encouraged to share the call using the hashtag #CSW35.

Other goals during the 2019-2020 academic year included creating a retrospective of CSW's history through spotlight interviews with CSW directors, a comprehensive visual timeline, and exhibits. As part of our 35th anniversary celebration, we invited powerhouse activist **Alicia Garza** (#BlackLivesMatter, Black Futures Lab) to be the keynote speaker at the 2020 Awards and Benefit Reception, and awarded her CSW's **Distinguished Leader in Feminism Award**. Due to the pandemic, we had to reschedule the the event to fall 2020.

Shifting priorities due to pressing social issues nationally, staff transitions, and moving CSW's operations to remote work delayed progress on the commemorative projects. We were, however, thrilled to honor Garza and the 2020 CSW award recipients at a rescheduled virtual event on October 16, 2020. After her keynote address, Garza took part in an engaging Q&A with Grace Hong and BFI Faculty/Student Working Group members Brittnee Meitzenheimer and Zama Dube.



(clockwise from top left) Alicia Garza, Brittnee Meitzenheimer, Grace Hong, and Zama Dube.

A CSW Retrospective

To highlight CSW's history, we conducted oral history interviews with **Founding Director Karen Rowe (1984-1988)** and **Director Sandra Harding (1996-1999)**. Interviews with other former directors, including Carrie Menkel-Meadow (1988-1990), Kathryn Norberg (1992-1995), and Kathleen McHugh (2005-2012, 2013-2014), were also planned but unfortunately delayed as a result of COVID-19. CSW plans to publish narrative histories of former directors to honor their legacies in the coming year. These histories will be incorporated into a visual timeline that commemorates major events and key figures in CSW's history.



CSW Founding Director Karen Rowe

Social Justice Feminism in Action

The call for an end to racial profiling and policy brutality that reverberated across the country and world in 2020 was also heard on the UCLA campus, with CSW supporting multiple social justice causes on these and other topics. On March 5, 2020, UCLA graduate students conducted a one-day strike in response to the firing of 82 graduate students who had organized a wildcat strike for higher wages at UC Santa Cruz in December 2019. Under the moniker “UCLA 4 COLA” (COLA is an acronym for “cost-of-living adjustment”), organizers advocated for wage increases adjusted to the cost of living and affordable housing for all graduate students in the UC system. CSW stood in solidarity with the cause by writing a letter of support of “UC 4 COLA” and giving our graduate student researchers the option to participate in the strike without sanction. Grace Hong, CSW Associate Director (2019-2020), Sarah Haley, CSW Advisory Committee (CSWAC) Chair (2019-2020), and CSWAC member Mishuana Goeman attended and spoke at the “UCLA 4 COLA” rally at Janss Steps.



(L to R) Grace Hong, Sarah Haley, and Mishuana Goeman at the March 5th rally.

Standing in Solidarity

As mentioned previously (p. 9), CSW supported the Black Feminism Initiative’s open letter to ask that the UCLA campus administration permanently support BFI through institutional resources. Along with other academic units, CSW also co-signed a “Statement for Justice,” to “affirm the solidarity among Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian and allied peoples in our research communities to abolish obvious examples of state violence.”

In July 2020, CSW Director (2015-2020) Rachel C. Lee, with colleagues from the English department, wrote an “Open Letter on Research Productivity and Childcare” to Chancellor Gene Block and Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Emily Carter, urging six concrete actions to proactively support faculty, staff, and student caretakers, and thereby protect recent gains toward gender equity from the gendered impact of the pandemic on research productivity. Inspired by women of color professor-organizers at other campuses (e.g., Michelle McKinley’s “Campaign for Caregivers” at the University of Oregon), CSW publicized quickly and garnered broad local support for these concrete steps. A taskforce has approved implementation of select action items. By sharing this letter at the UC-systemwide Committee on the Status of Women, CSW has inspired other UC campuses to propose similar solutions for their faculty.



Faculty signers of the Statement for Justice. Image from UCLA Newsroom.

Read these letters on our blog at csw.ucla.edu/publications/blog.

FACULTY



Grace Kyungwon Hong
Jessica Cattelino
Sarah Haley
Lieba Faier
Rachel Lee

Director (2020-present), Associate Director (2019-2020)
 Associate Director (2020-Present), Senior Faculty Research Associate (2017-2020)
 Director, BFI (2019-Present), CSWAC Chair (2019-2020)
 CSWAC Chair (2020-Present)
 Director (2015-2020)

STAFF



Rosa Chung
Katja Antoine
LaShae Robinson
Arielle Bagood
Kristina Magpayo Nyden
Melissa Jamero

Management Services Officer (2020-Present)
 Program and Research Developer (2020-Present)
 Administrative Specialist (2020-Present)
 Outreach and Media Coordinator (2019-Present)
 Management Services Officer (2015-2020)
 Administrative Specialist (2017-2020)

Graduate Student Researchers

Bri-Ann Hernandez
Nic Yiu
Kelsey Kim

2020 Thinking Gender Coordinator (2019-2020)
 Graduate Student Researcher (2019-2020)
 Graduate Student Researcher (2019-Present)

Undergraduate Assistants

Rachel Forrest
Joycelyn Liu
Aye Pyae

Office Assistant (2019-2020)
 Undergraduate Student Worker (2019-Present)
 Undergraduate Student Worker (2020-Present)

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eScholarship
University of California



YouTube



UCLA Center for the Study of Women
1500 Public Affairs Building • Box 957222
Los Angeles, CA 90095-7222
(310) 825-0590 • csw@csw.ucla.edu