research that rethinks
AS I COMPLETE my second year as Director, I am proud of CSW’s role in enhancing UCLA’s reputation as an intellectual hub for researchers working in the fields of gender and sexuality. CSW continues to impact gender studies through original scholarly projects, event programming, publications, direct funding to faculty and student researchers, and consultations on campus climate. To further broaden our networks, we have established essential and robust relationships with academic partners, community activists, and donors.

This year, CSW advanced three key research initiatives:

1. Chemical Entanglements: Gender and Exposure – a project that investigates how people of all genders are exposed to toxic chemicals everyday, with stark consequences for our health

2. Food | Water | Shelter – an investigation of how gender shapes people’s relationships to these basic necessities

3. Feminism and the Senses – a series of public talks highlighting how the senses are key sources of information about gender inequality in everyday life.

Despite limited funding, CSW continues to offer our events and programs at no cost to the general public, which allows us to engage and involve the community in these research projects.

As we build on our accomplishments and initiate innovative and timely research on gender, I urge you to consider supporting CSW through a financial contribution, large or small. By asking and answering key questions about gender and inequality, we aim to improve lives and educate the next generation.

Thank you for supporting CSW!
Rachel C. Lee, Director
UCLA Center for the Study of Women
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## ABOUT THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN

The UCLA Center for the Study of Women is an internationally recognized center for research on gender, sexuality, and women’s issues and the first organized research unit of its kind in the University of California system.

Established in 1984, CSW administers research grants for faculty and students; organizes research projects, conferences, seminars, and public lectures; and publishes policy briefs, blogs, and reports.
CHMICAL ENTANGLEMENTS is a multi-year research initiative that explores the gendered dynamics of chemical exposure and seeks new ways of protecting public health.

In the mid-20th Century, the mantra “better living through chemistry” emerged as a guiding principle for American industrial production and consumer culture. Decades on, alarming questions about the results of such approaches have emerged. We are exposed to many powerful substances on a daily basis – from flame-retardant chemicals found in sofas to hidden synthetic chemicals in fragranced cosmetic products.

Experiences and consequences of chemical exposure are shaped by gender. The products used in female-dominated industries – including cleaning and beauty industries – are poorly regulated, and the women who work in such environments are exposed to skin, eye, and respiratory irritants and experience high rates of related illness. Men, too, are affected in specific ways: for instance, predominantly male populations of veterans suffer from Gulf War Syndrome, an illness with links to military chemical usage. Transgender people are discovering and sharing stories of linkages between chemical exposures (in utero) and their gender alignment (or not) with the sex to which they were assigned at birth.

I appreciated the diversity of perspectives that the workshop brought together. I met a number of people from different academic disciplines or social positions that I will follow up with for research collaboration and environmental activism.

- Anonymous

Chemical Entanglements Keywords: The Chemical Entanglements Symposium speakers provided these terms when asked what motivates their research.

Perfume, cooking, communities, practices, chemistry, gender, health, stories, non-profit, quality, non-profit, impact, policy, exposure, action, health, women, toxic, green, burden, campus, waste, especially, ethical, labor, justice, science, community, among, choice, people, toxics, soy, harm, safety, discard, impact, resurgence, public, quality, non-profit, impact, policy, exposure, action, health, women, toxic, green, burden, campus, waste, especially, ethical, labor, justice, science, community, among, choice, people, toxics, soy, harm, safety, discard, impact, resurgence, public, quality, non-profit, impact, policy, exposure, action, health, women, toxic, green, burden, campus, waste, especially, ethical, labor, justice, science, community, among, choice, people, toxics, soy, harm, safety, discard, impact, resurgence, public, quality, non-profit, impact, policy, exposure, action, health, women, toxic, green, burden, campus, waste, especially, ethical, labor, justice, science, 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SYMPOSIUM

On May 4-5, 2017, CSW gathered an interdisciplinary group of scholars, writers, artists, and activists to inaugurate a series of conversations on the gendered impacts of chemical exposure. Speakers included award-winning environmental journalist Florence Williams, noted endocrinologist Andrea Gore (Pharmacology and Toxicology, UT Austin), biologist and activist Tyrone Hayes (Integrative Biology, UC Berkeley), Native American Studies scholars Teresa Montoya (NYU) and Liza Grandia (UC Davis), artists Jesse Cohen and Peggy Munson, and community organizers Nourbese Flint (Black Women for Wellness) and Mark! Lopez (recent winner of the Goldman Environmental Prize). All of their presentations are available on the CSW YouTube channel.

Congratulations on creating a fantastic symposium. The mix of speakers and panelists, from different backgrounds and with very different stories to tell, worked very well. It was inspiring and educational.

- Nancy Wayne, Professor of Physiology, UCLA

I loved the collective conversations forged between thinkers from very different fields. I also liked that everything was so close together, the panels were permeable and you could leave/return when tired or in need of a break. I learned a lot and found a lot of interesting directions in which to push my project thinking.

- Anonymous

Panelist Teresa Montoya (R) and a symposium guest

Keynote speaker Florence Williams, panelist Liza Grandia, and CSW Director Rachel Lee

A packed house at the symposium keynote
UNDERGRADUATE MENTORSHIP

CSW convened an Undergraduate Research Group who produced an original video called “A Day in the Life,” which revealed the plethora of chemicals that a typical UCLA undergraduate might encounter throughout the day. Participating students learned research and filmmaking techniques and came from the departments of Gender Studies, Human Biology and Society, and others. The video premiered at the Chemical Entanglements Symposium to rave reviews and was later featured in the Toxics in Everyday Life Symposium hosted by the UCLA Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, one of the co-sponsors of the Chemical Entanglements Symposium. The video is available on the CSW YouTube Channel.

GRADUATE TRAVEL GRANTS

Thanks to our successful fundraising efforts, CSW ensured that the Chemical Entanglements Symposium included scholars and students from diverse disciplines external to UCLA by providing financial assistance to non-UCLA students and independent scholars in financial need. CSW awarded travel grants to eight graduate students from within the UC system, across the country, and as far away as Canada.

I just want to thank you so much for the incredible opportunity you provided me to attend Chemical Entanglements. I learned an unbelievable amount, met incredible people, and have so many new scientific and political lenses with which to look at the world. What an incredible conference and thank you for all of your hard work to make it happen.

- Sophie Duncan, Travel Grant Recipient

Chemical Entanglements Travel Grant Recipients:

Salvador Chava Contreras
Anthropology, UC Santa Cruz

Sophie Duncan
Geography, University of British Columbia

Natalia Duong
Performance Studies, UC Berkeley

Ingrid Elisabet Feeney
Anthropology, UC Santa Barbara

Andrea Ford
Anthropology, University of Chicago

Zachary Levine
Anthropology and Feminist Studies, Duke University

Sindhu Thirumalaisamy
Visual Arts, UC San Diego

Alexa Woodward
Bioethics, Columbia University
Chemical Entanglements artwork by Peggy Munson

**JUST SO YOU KNOW...**

- Your hair dye is the wrong battle cry
- Your aftershave post-stubble makes me live in a bubble
- Your perfume is a toxic plume
- Modern people have “the vapors” from chemical capers
- That battle-ax spray took my access away

**JUST SO YOU KNOW...**

- You’re wearing a toxic dump from a pump
- Reduce your emissions; ask for permission
- Your aftershave post-stubble makes me live in a bubble
- You might re-think your de-stink
- That battle-ax spray took my access away

**PUBLICATIONS AND ART**

As part of Chemical Entanglements, CSW published a series of four Policy Briefs. 300 copies of these briefs were distributed to research centers, community organizations, and legislators. In addition, we curated and published a blog featuring student, activist, and researcher work related to Chemical Entanglements.

We also commissioned original artwork. Through a collaboration with activist and artist Peggy Munson, who herself experiences environmental illness, we created original artwork drawing attention to Multiple Chemical Sensitivity. We distribute and display prints of this work at our events.

Chemical Entanglements artwork by Peggy Munson
The talks in this pioneering food-themed lecture series explored how the way we eat is fundamentally tied to the way we think about gender. Long-held stereotypes about food – from the notion that the kitchen is the domain of women to the idea that eating red meat is masculine – impact the food choices that people make and determine the way families and organizations divide food-related labor. These assumptions about food and gender also shape the social interactions we engage in at dining tables, in markets, in kitchens, at restaurants, on farms, in factories, and anywhere that food is produced or consumed.
Talking Trash: Oral Histories of Food In/Security from the Margins of a Dumpster

On October 26, 2016, Rachel Vaughn, Adjunct Assistant Professor in CSW and Gender Studies, shared her oral history research with scavengers, foragers, and dumpster divers of varying food security levels and socioeconomic backgrounds. She explored how the space of the dumpster and the act of diving work as alternative forms of cultural knowledge about food. The event was held in conjunction with UCLA's Healthy Campus Initiative Food Week and included a “Fighting Hunger Fair” tabling event comprised of UCLA and LA food organizations.

Delicious: A History of Monosodium Glutamate and the Fifth Taste Sensation, Umami

On November 29, 2016, Sarah Tracy, Adjunct Assistant Professor in CSW and Institute for Society and Genetics, discussed how her work uses approaches from feminist science and technology studies to examine the cultural and social history of the way that people eat. Her talk drew upon her current book project, which will explore the gendered, racial, and chemical history of MSG, the concept and flavor known as umami, and the gendered moral economies of food provision and preparation. The event incorporated an umami tasting buffet, which invited attendees to taste different foods that were rich in umami flavor. Tracy also guided attendees through a tasting of one of the most umami-rich foods available: Doritos.

Black Milk: Colonial Foodways and Intimate Imperialism

On April 6, 2017, Diana Garvin, Assistant Professor of Italian at the University of Oregon, delivered a talk that used original Italian and Ethiopian sources to examine breastfeeding in the colonial marketplace as a key plank in the social construction of race and racism in the colonies. Specifically, she examined the Italian Fascist regime’s propagandistic newsreels and unpublished photographs of Ethiopian markets in Addis Ababa, Harrar, Quorum, and Asmara in relation with postcolonial oral histories and architectural studies of these spaces.
Feminism and the Senses: Sense Data and Sensitivity in an Age of Precarity is a lecture series that addresses how social movements around gender, sexuality, and race have a crucial relationship to sentimentality and sensitivity, and how our senses can teach us about gender inequality in everyday life.

Women who speak out against injustices are often dismissed as “too sensitive.” However, the research presented in this lecture series demonstrates that the senses and perceptions of women reveal how sexism and inequality affect individuals on a daily basis, and therefore need to be taken seriously. In a world where reports of everyday gender-based discrimination and harassment are often ignored, the way that such circumstances make individuals feel is a powerful indicator of how inequality is perpetuated. Moreover, our physical senses also tell us when something is awry. Our bodies respond to discrimination through illness or physical manifestations of stress. And when individuals lack access to basic needs due to discrimination, they often experience negative health effects.

Feminism and the Senses explores these dynamics from a wide range of perspectives. During 2015-2016, the inaugural year of the lecture series, speakers addressed topics ranging from gender and hunger strikes in prisons, to black feminist uses of sound and music, to the way feminist approaches can change perceptions of the environment. In 2016-2017, our Feminism and the Senses speaker Sharra Vostral tied this ongoing conversation to the ways that women’s senses and perceptions of their bodies have played a role in feminist health advocacy.

On February 23, 2017, we welcomed our 2017 Feminism and the Senses speaker Sharra Vostral, Associate Professor of History at Purdue University. Vostral is the author of Under Wraps: A History of Menstrual Hygiene Technology, which examines the social and technological history of sanitary napkins and tampons. Her Feminism and the Senses talk drew on her newest research project and examined the establishment of the Tampon Task Force, the development of the contested “syngina” synthetic vagina lab apparatus to test tampon absorbency, and the regulation of female-specific tampon technologies. The legacy of these efforts is the standardization of absorbency ratings and product labeling, and is evidence of the importance of feminist health activists’ involvement within policy negotiations.
2017 marked the 27th year of CSW’s Thinking Gender Graduate Student Research Conference, an annual event that showcases the best research by emerging scholars of gender and sexuality. The 2017 conference took place on February 9-10 and focused on the theme “Imagining Reparations.” Each year, the Thinking Gender Conference is coordinated by a UCLA graduate student. Our 2017 Thinking Gender Coordinator was Winter Rae Schneider, a PhD Candidate in the Department of History.

Highlights of the 2017 Thinking Gender conference included:

**Plenary Session with Omise’eke Natasha Tinsley**
For the opening session of the conference, CSW hosted Omise’eke Natasha Tinsley, Professor of African and African Diaspora Studies at University of Texas at Austin, who gave a talk titled “For the Texas Bama Femme: a Black Fem(me)inist Reading of Beyoncé’s ‘Sorry,’” which examined the politics of Beyoncé’s performances of gender and race. Shana Redmond, UCLA Associate Professor of Musicology, served as respondent.

**Multimedia Salon**
The Multimedia Salon was a first for Thinking Gender, and it incorporated film screenings, performances, visual art, and poster presentations by graduate and undergraduate students. Sean Metzger, UCLA Associate Professor of Theater, Film, and Television, was the emcee for this event, and members of the UCLA Social Justice Advocates, a UCLA group that teaches and engages peers about issues of diversity and social justice, assisted as moderators.

**Plenary Workshop with Nalo Hopkinson**
Departing from the traditional lecture format, the second conference plenary was an interactive workshop led by noted novelist and UC Riverside Professor of Creative Writing Nalo Hopkinson. The workshop, “Re-Writing the World,” led participants through the process of creating their own feminist science fiction stories.

**Workshop with the Undercommons**
The Undercommons, a graduate student activist collective, led a session that drew on the spirit of the plenary workshop and conference theme by inviting participants to imagine and create their own “Freedom Manifestos.”
CSW cultivates connections with Departments and Centers across campus. Our faculty and staff affiliates, student awardees and staff members, working group members, event co-sponsors, and other partners come from the units illustrated below and beyond!
CSW partners with Departments and Centers across campus by co-sponsoring programs and events through financial support, publicity and promotion, and other forms of support. We also pursue such partnerships in support of our own events and programs. Our co-sponsorships have led to collaborations across all divisions of the university.

### Co-Sponsorship funds distributed by CSW, by UCLA Division

- **School of Theater, Film, and Television**: 6.60%
- **Division of Humanities**: 24.53%
- **Division of Social Sciences**: 23.58%
- **Division of Life Sciences**: 1.99%
- **International Institute**: 1.62%
- **School of Law**: 1.24%
- **School of Nursing**: 1.24%
- **School of Public Health**: 0.62%
- **School of Medicine**: 0.50%
- **School of Public Affairs**: 0.50%
- **Institute of American Cultures**: 8.70%
- **Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**: 14.92%
- **Other units**
  - Estrin Family Lecture Series Fund, Iris Cantor - UCLA Women’s Health Center, Laboratory for Environmental Narrative Strategies, Environmental Health Sciences, Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, Disability Studies Program

### Co-Sponsorship funds received by CSW, by UCLA Division

- **Healthy Campus Initiative Fund**: 49.72%
- **Division of Social Sciences**: 4.32%
- **Division of Humanities**: 4.10%
- **Division of Life Sciences**: 1.99%
- **International Institute**: 1.62%
- **School of Law**: 1.24%
- **School of Nursing**: 1.24%
- **School of Public Health**: 0.62%
- **School of Medicine**: 0.50%
- **School of Public Affairs**: 0.50%
- **Institute of American Cultures**: 8.70%
- **Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**: 14.92%
- **Other units**

*Estrin Family Lecture Series Fund, Iris Cantor - UCLA Women’s Health Center, Laboratory for Environmental Narrative Strategies, Environmental Health Sciences, Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, Disability Studies Program*
Every year, CSW offers grants to UCLA faculty for research development. In 2016-2017, three faculty recipients made significant strides on their research projects with the use of these grants:

Jessica Gipson, Associate Professor of Community Health Sciences, received the Faculty Seed Research Grant for her project, *Examining Health and Well-Being among Nomadic Tibetan Women in Rural China.*

Gipson writes: “Thanks to the Center for the Study of Women grant and contributions from other sources, a team of us from the UCLA School of Public Health traveled to the Tso-ngon Tibetan Medical College (TTMC) in Siling, Tibet (Xining, China) in September 2016. We are currently analyzing the [collected] data, [which] will be used by our colleagues to identify the most pressing health issues and to develop health interventions among this hard-to-reach, nomadic population.”

Kristy Guevara-Flanagan, Associate Professor of Theater, Film, and Television, received the Junior Faculty Research Grant for the research and development of a short documentary titled *The Birth Control Handbook.*

The film explores a little-known moment in time that marked the birth of a student-fueled reproductive health advocacy project: a self-published zine with accurate and practical information about sex, birth control, and abortion that was circulated to colleges throughout Canada and the United States. Though few people know of it today, *The Birth Control Handbook* became a blueprint for the more famous and influential *Our Bodies Ourselves.* Using the grant, Guevara-Flanagan began collaborating with an animator, and together they have developed strategies for visual approaches and for incorporating archival source materials.

Saloni Mathur, Professor of Art History, received the Faculty Research Completion Grant for her project, *Reading Geeta Kapur: Art Criticism in India.*

Mathur writes: “I received a grant from CSW in 2016-2017 to support my forthcoming manuscript, *A Fragile Inheritance: Radical Stakes in Contemporary Indian Art.* A Fragile Inheritance is the first book-length examination of two seminal figures in contemporary Indian art: Vivan Sundaram, the veteran Delhi-based artist, and Geeta Kapur, the pre-eminent theorist, critic, and curator, and most significant interlocutor of the post-1968 avant-garde generation to which Sundaram belongs. It promises to advance the conceptual and theoretical paradigms of the emergent field of global contemporary art.”

Help CSW Support Students and Researchers!
Our fellowships, awards, and grants are generously supported by friends of CSW. Visit csw.ucla.edu to learn how you can donate and support groundbreaking research on women, gender, and sexuality.
The new Research Excellence Award for Associate Professors offers awardees a unique opportunity: the chance to have a book manuscript-in-progress read and responded to by peers and distinguished researchers.

Developed by CSW and the UCLA Institute for American Cultures (IAC), this award recognizes UCLA associate professors whose work addresses questions important to the fields of critical race and postcolonial studies and/or gender, sexuality, and ethnic studies.

In 2016-2017, an inaugural pilot workshop took place on May 26, 2017, featuring Associate Professor of Chicano/a Studies Maylei Blackwell’s manuscript tentatively entitled Scales of Resistance: The Practice of Indigenous Autonomy in the Age of Neoliberalism.

For 2017-2018, IAC and CSW originally planned to fund two workshops via an application process. However, after receiving seven impressive and deserving applications, CSWAC Chair and Selection Committee Chair Grace Hong raised the funds for five additional workshops, three from the Division of Social Sciences and two from the Division of Humanities. The seven recipients are:

- **Namhee Lee**, Asian Languages & Cultures
  *Afterlives of the 1980s: The Culture Wars and the Triumphal Discourse in South Korea*

- **Elizabeth Marchant**, Gender Studies
  *Consuming Blackness in Brazil: Memories of Slavery and the Emergence of Neoliberal Repression*

- **Thu-huong Nguyen-vo**, Asian Languages & Cultures
  *States of Disturbance: Responses to the Economics and Politics of Death*

- **Shana Redmond**, Musicology
  *Everything Man: The Form and Function of Paul Robeson*

- **Shannon Speed**, Gender Studies
  *States of Violence: Indigenous Women Migrants in the Era of Neoliberal Multicriminalism*

CSW looks forward to future collaborations with IAC!
Independent scholars make crucial contributions to research, and yet are undersupported and often lack access to key research resources. Through the Research Affiliate program, CSW assists independent scholars in the Los Angeles region by providing access to selected research resources and the opportunity to apply for funding.

Funded by Dr. Pat Zukow, the Tillie Olsen Grants honor the memory of a writer who documented the silences imposed on women by family and work responsibilities and financial need. They support exceptional research and projects by CSW Research Affiliates.

In 2016-2017, CSW awarded three Tillie Olsen Grants:

**Kristine Gunnell** studies the history of the United States, and, in particular, the role of religious women in public and private life. The grant provided support for her project *Fighting Poverty One by One: The Daughters of Charity Foundation and Systemic Change, 1984-2015.* This study will reveal how the sisters of the Daughters of Charity have sought to ameliorate the effects of poverty. This interdisciplinary project will examine how women’s religious organizations have negotiated the complex systems that prevent economic betterment.

**Becky Nicolaides** received a grant in support of *On the Ground in Suburbia: A Chronicle of Social and Civic Transformation in Los Angeles since 1945.* This book project explores how patterns of social and civic engagement have changed in suburban communities since 1945, with a particular focus on the Los Angeles communities of Lakewood, Panorama City, Lancaster, South Gate, and others. Nicolaides has chosen case studies that reveal the myriad of ways in which race, immigration, gender, and other demographic factors shape social and civic culture in the suburbs.

In 2016, **Kathleen Sheldon** published her landmark book *African Women: From Early History to the 21st Century,* the first comprehensive textbook on the topic of African women’s history. She completed this project as an independent scholar without formal institutional support. CSW awarded her a grant to travel to the Berkshire Conference on Women in History, where she spoke of both the challenge of researching women’s often-undocumented histories and of the challenges of being a woman historian and independent scholar.

**Tillie Lerner Olsen, 1912-2007**

Tillie Olsen was the author of short stories such as “I Stand Here Ironing” and “Tell Me a Riddle.” She also served as an advisor to The Feminist Press.
CSW offers fellowships and awards to exceptional UCLA Graduate and Undergraduate students. We see this as an investment in the next generation of researchers. We honored our student awardees at a luncheon on May 31, 2017.

Katherine Spillar, Executive Director of the Feminist Majority Foundation and Executive Editor of Ms. Magazine, delivered a keynote address entitled “Rise Up! Feminism in the Age of Trump,” where she shared lessons and strategies from the field to inform and inspire the community in the current political climate. CSW bestowed Spillar with the inaugural CSW Leaders Award for her commitment, leadership, and contributions to the feminist community.

Congratulations to our 2016-2017 cohort of CSW Award Winners:

Constance Coiner Awards
These awards honor the life and help continue the work of Constance Coiner, Ph.D. 1987, who died, along with her daughter Ana Duarte-Coiner, on TWA Flight 800, June 1996.

Kimberly Welch (Graduate Award)
Linda Esquivel (Undergraduate Award)
Kelly Gluckman (Undergraduate Award)

Renaissance Awards
This scholarship, made possible through the generous donation of Dr. Myrna Hant, rewards the rebirth of academic aspirations among women whose college careers were interrupted or delayed by family and/or career obligations.

Denise Phelps
Paula Rodriguez-Diaz

Elizabeth Blackwell, MD, Graduate Award
This award recognizes research related to women and health. It was made possible by the generosity of Dr. Barbara “Penny” Kanner.

Eleni Skaperdas

Penny Kanner Dissertation Research Fellowship
Made possible through the generosity of Dr. Barbara “Penny” Kanner, this fellowship funds an exceptional dissertation research project that uses historical materials and methods.

Savannah J. Kilner

Jean Stone Dissertation Research Fellowship
Made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Jean Stone, this fellowship funds an extraordinary graduate student dissertation research project focusing on women and gender.

Jacqueline (Jackie) Caraves

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

Elle Harvell

Policy Brief Prizes
The CSW Policy Brief Prize supports applied feminist scholarship by graduate students at UCLA.

Teniope Adewumi-Gunn
Melissa Kelley
Theresa Arriola (Honorable Mention)

Travel Grants
Travel Grants assist UCLA students with travel expenses related to academic or professional conference presentations and field research on women, gender, and sexuality.

Megan Baker
Jennifer Blaney
Elizabeth Dayton
Rocio Garcia
Bianca Haro
Carla Kekejian
Domale Keys
Natalia Konstantinovskaia
Stephanie Lumsden
Monique Magdaleno
Sayantan Mukhopadhyay
Tiffany Naiman
Diana Porras
Shena Sanchez
Wakako Suzuki
Emily Taing
The “Gender and Everyday Water Use in Los Angeles Households” study was awarded a UCLA Sustainable Los Angeles Grand Challenge Grant in February 2016. This groundbreaking study investigates the important but understudied role of gender – as it intersects with race and class – in residential water use in LA.

Many much-needed LA water conservation efforts take place within households, where research has shown that divisions of labor and decision-making often are gendered. This research incorporates mixed methods, with emphasis on ethnography, to identify patterns in water perceptions and practices that are vital to efforts at change. The primary research question of this study is: Is household water use gendered in LA and, if so, how? Secondary questions include: To what extent and how are gendered water use and valuation diversified by class and race? How do households make day-to-day decisions about water conservation? How are parents guiding the current generation of “drought children” to think about and use water? Do accepted methods for targeting reduction in household water use produce uneven or unjust effects for different groups?

Over the last year, CSW Associate Director and Principal Investigator Jessica Cattelino has worked with a team of graduate students – and, over the summer, undergraduate researchers – to complete a review of the scholarly literature, design the research methods and plan, select target neighborhoods (Koreatown, MacArthur Park, Inglewood, and Beverly Hills), and complete the UCLA approval process for research with human subjects.

Finally, in Summer 2017, the fieldwork began! Research teams are recruiting participants and visiting their homes for a combination of interviews, observations, and water use assessments that incorporate water diaries. Findings are expected to yield recommendations for reductions in residential water use as well as scholarly articles.
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