



Race, Inequality & Policy Initiative

Summer 2022 Newsletter

Letter from the Director



Dear RIPI Family,

I hope your summer is going well. I am proud to report that RIPI completed its second year with several accomplishments!

We published the [Housing and Inequality virtual library](#). We organized five speaker events on topics including housing, the ethics of collecting data on underprivileged communities, Black women and the coronavirus pandemic and women of color in American politics. Though most of our events were virtual, we had up to 131 individuals attend one event and averaged 50 attendees per event. We partnered with the Center for RECAAL to host our first in-person event this spring and co-sponsored three events with centers, programs and initiatives including the Program for Leadership and Character, Intercultural Center, and the Disabilities Studies Initiative. Our ten RIPI Undergraduate Research Fellows worked with three RIPI faculty on individual research projects and the development of our virtual libraries. Lastly, we welcomed three new members to the RIPI Steering Committee: Adam Hill (director of Forsyth Futures), Rowena Kirby-Straker (Assistant Teaching Professor of Communication, WFU) and Marianne Magjuka (Assistant Dean, Executive Director of the Office of Civic and Community Engagement at WFU).

As I look back on the accomplishments of the past year, I am thankful for the RIPI Steering Committee, Undergraduate Research Fellows, RIPI's WFU and non-WFU partners, and YOUR ongoing support in promoting and attending our events, sharing our virtual library resources with students and colleagues and following RIPI (@race_policy) on Twitter.

I look forward to this upcoming academic year as we center our speaker events and activities on raising awareness of and studying potential solutions to issues surrounding environmental racism and injustices. RIPI's presence at WFU along the important work spearheaded by numerous WFU institutes, centers and offices give me hope for the future of our university and the broader Winston-Salem community.

Below you will find some information that may be of interest. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you are interested in getting involved with RIPI initiatives or want to update us on your latest research on race, inequality and policy topics.

Onwards in gratitude, hope and solidarity,



Missed our 2021-2022 events? Check out the recordings below!

Fall 2021

“Research Methods and Practices in the Local and Global Community” event [here](#),

“Housing and Immigration” event [here](#), &

“Housing Loss and Discrimination: The Impact of Evictions on Communities of Color” event [here](#)

Spring 2022

“Black Women and de ‘Rona: A Conversation with Dr. Julia Jordan-Zachery” event [here](#)

“Women & the Race Gap in American Politics: A Presentation by Dr. Lorrie Frasure” event (in-person)

What We're Reading This Summer

[In Rural American, Covid Hits Black and Hispanic People Hardest](#)

[State officials approve next phase of Winston Weaver site cleanup plan](#)

[How Black Communities Become “Sacrifice Zones” for Industrial Air Pollution](#)

[There's a Reason We Can't Have Nice Things \(featuring work by RIPI Steering Committee Member Hana Brown\)](#)

[Black and Hispanic Americans continue to be more likely than White Americans to report air pollution, water pollution, limited access to drinking water, lack of green space and too much garbage as environmental problems in their communities](#)

[Most U.S. Latinos say global climate change and other environmental issues impact their local communities](#)

[About a third of Asian Americans say they have changed their daily routine due to concerns over threats, attacks](#)

[Second annual Freedom School Jubilee inspires love of reading for Winston-Salem students](#)

[Black women in the South have been bracing for Roe's fall for decades](#)

[Despite overwhelming community opposition, proposed Yadkin County mine clears first hurdle](#)

[Beyond Innocence: The Life Sentence of Darryl Hunt \(by RIPI Affiliated Faculty Phoebe Zerwick\)](#)

[The Color of Covid-19: The Racial Inequality of Marginalized Communities \(featuring a book chapter by RIPI director Betina Cutaia Wilkinson and RIPI Affiliated Faculty Dani Parker Moore\)](#)