



/ 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT





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/ A Message from the Director



With the arrival of my second academic year back at the University of Michigan, I've been reflecting on the past year and our goals for the year ahead. I am so grateful to be working with an incredible team in the Stone Center's collaborative environment, and I am excited to highlight some of the work we've done this year.

Reaffirming our Intellectual Goals and Values

In fall 2023, we held a team retreat to assess our individual and collective objectives and values. Together, we came up with a refined mission statement and goals that affirm our commitments to both research and mentorship. You can learn more about it on page 5.



Alexandra (Sasha) Killewald
Director
Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics

Strengthening and Supporting the Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics (CID) Community

Over the past year, I've had the pleasure of connecting with our current faculty and student affiliates in a variety of ways. Through early ideas workshops, coffee chats, speaker events, and more, I've heard firsthand why people remain engaged with our community and what they would like to see from us in the future. These conversations led to some of our new initiatives for 2024-25, which you can check out on page 25.


Since its founding, CID has benefited from the engagement of faculty members both appointed in CID and those whose academic appointments lie elsewhere. This year's faculty associates include scholars appointed across multiple schools and units at the University of Michigan and from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds. We're very happy to welcome three new associates to the team: Carson Byrd, Jeremy Levine, and Noura Insolera, who join long-time associates Robert Manduca and Davon Norris.

Our administrative assistant, Emily Weisenstein, has been a valued team member of the center for months now. This spring, we were thrilled to offer her a regular appointment at ISR. Emily helps CID in a variety of ways and provides important support to our community, particularly through financial and event activities.

If we haven't yet had a chance to connect, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can also drop by and spend time in our collaborative workspaces - check them out on pages 15-16. I look forward to learning more from our community in the year to come. The Stone Center continues to evolve, and I am grateful to have you with us on our journey.

Best,
Sasha

/ Getting to Know the Stone Center



Alexandra (Sasha) Killewald
Director



Chiara Affatigato
Research Associate




Nicole Bonomini
Engagement Manger




Melissa Bora
Program Manager




W. Carson Byrd
Associate Research Scientist
Center for the Study of Higher &
Postsecondary Education




Jake Hays
Postdoctoral Fellow




Noura Insolera
Assistant Research Scientist
Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)



Carrie Jankowski
Data Scientist




Joe LaBriola
Research Assistant Professor



Sun Kyoung Lee
Research Assistant Professor



Jeremy Levine
Associate Professor
Organizational Studies




Robert Manduca
Assistant Professor
Sociology




Pablo Mitnik
Assistant Research Scientist



Davon Norris
Assistant Professor
Organizational Studies



Sae Hyun (Grace) Oh
Postdoctoral Fellow



Emily Weisenstein
Administrative Assistant

Welcome to the team!

/ Getting to Know the Stone Center



Mission Statement

The Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics (CID) at the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research aims to:

- produce cutting-edge research on social inequality, especially wealth inequality
- train the next generation of inequality scholars
- build data infrastructure and increase data accessibility.

/ CID by the Numbers

52 Student Affiliates/Associates

9 CID Faculty

20 Faculty Affiliates

5 Staff

3 Postdocs

40 Alumni

35+ Events

\$1.3M+ Grant Funding



Team Outing, Spring 2024

/ Selected 2023-2024 Publications



The Stone Center intellectual community produced more than 30 publications over the past year, spanning multiple disciplines and including:

Dennis Hirsch, Timothy Bartley, Aravind Chandrasekaran, Davon Norris, Srinivasan Parthasarathy, Piers

Turner: Business Data Ethics: Emerging Models for Governing AI and Advanced Analytics

Published by Springer (Fall 2023)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Jasmine Simington: Displaced Trust: Disrupting Legal Estrangement During Disaster Recovery

Published in *Social Forces* (December 2023)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Sarah M. Ovink, W. Carson Byrd, Megan Nanney, and Abigail Wilson: “Figuring Out Your Place at a School Like This:” Intersectionality and Sense of Belonging among STEM and non-STEM College Students

Published in *PLOS ONE* (January 2024)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Pablo Mitnik, Victoria Bryant, and David Grusky:

A Very Uneven Playing Field: Economic Mobility in the United States

Published in *American Journal of Sociology* (January 2024)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Luis Flores: Zoning as a Labor Market Regulation

Published in *Theory and Society* (February 2024)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Robert Manduca: Measuring Absolute Income Mobility: Lessons from North America and Europe

Published in *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* (April 2024)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Asher Dvir-Djerassi: Closing the Racial Wealth Gap: A Counterfactual Historical Simulation of Universal Inheritance

Published in *The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* (June 2024)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Robert Manduca, Catalina Anampa Castro, and Analidis Ochoa: Social Transfer Programs as Non-Spatially-Targeted Methods of Reducing Interregional Geographic Inequality

Published in *Social Service Review* (July 2024)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Davon Norris and Kristina Vaccaro: Political and Systemic Racial Bias in Government Credit Ratings

Published in *Municipal Finance Journal* (Winter 2024)

[READ THE PUBLICATION](#)

Learn more and keep up with our latest publications and research updates at inequality.umich.edu.

/ Housing Market Appreciation Major Driver of Growth in White-Black Wealth Gap, New Study Finds



A new [study](#) by Stone Center Research Assistant Professor Joe LaBriola published in the journal *Social Problems* reveals that housing market appreciation has significantly contributed to the widening wealth gap between White and Black households over the past four decades.

LaBriola's research, utilizing data from the University of Michigan's Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), demonstrates that most of the growth in the median wealth gap between White and Black families can be attributed to housing market trends. Specifically, the study found that rising house prices have disproportionately benefited White families over Black families, due both to White-Black gaps in homeownership and to greater average house values among White homeowners compared to their Black counterparts.

"Real national house prices grew by 55% from 1984 to 2021, driving substantial wealth gains to homeowners," LaBriola explained. "However, White families saw more significant wealth benefits from house price growth than Black families. My research finds that housing market appreciation explains much of the growth in White-Black wealth inequality over this period."

Using data from the PSID, LaBriola created counterfactual trajectories to model how the White-Black wealth gap would have evolved without the effects of local housing market appreciation. The results are striking: under this counterfactual, the median White-Black wealth gap would have grown by only \$22,750 — approximately 30% of the actual observed increase — suggesting that housing market appreciation accounted for most of the growth in this disparity.

Key Findings:

- **Homeownership Rates:** Approximately 70% of White families own homes compared to just 40% of Black families. These homeownership disparities are the largest reason why White households have received greater wealth benefits from housing market appreciation than Black households.
- **Local Market Trends:** However, local deviations from national housing trends benefited Black homeowners more than White homeowners, suggesting that gentrification in Black neighborhoods boosted wealth for existing homeowners.
- **Relative Wealth Gains:** Additionally, Black households saw more significant relative wealth gains (as a percentage of their existing wealth) from housing market appreciation than did White households.

LaBriola said that historical policies that impeded Black homeownership have prevented Black households from fully benefiting from recent housing market appreciation. He underscored the need for policy changes to address these inequities.

Policy Recommendations:

- **Reforming Housing Regulations:** By easing restrictions to allow more housing development, cities can help alleviate supply constraints that drive up prices.
- **Implementing Land Value Taxes:** Current property tax regimes discourage landowners from residential development that would increase their tax base. By only taxing land instead of the buildings on the land, cities can incentivize landowners to build more housing.
- **Subsidizing Homeownership:** While subsidies have the downside of potentially inflating house prices, they could help more Black households benefit from housing market appreciation.

Joe said that living in the expensive Bay Area housing market in graduate school sparked his interest in the effects of rising house prices on various forms of inequality. In addition to affecting racial wealth inequality, rising house prices cause renters to spend more of their income on rent, and may also force renters to live in lower-quality housing.

As LaBriola continues his work, he emphasized the need to consider second-order effects of changes in housing wealth, including how housing wealth may affect consumption differently based on wealth and race, and how housing wealth may allow parents to facilitate their children's transition to homeownership in unaffordable housing markets.

For detailed insights and access to the full study, please visit <http://bit.ly/3zJX1pO>.



/ About Joe LaBriola

Joe is a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan's Survey Research Center, where he is also faculty at the Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics. Joe uses survey and administrative data to examine the roots of racial and socioeconomic inequalities in the contemporary United States. Currently, his research primarily focuses on racial inequalities in housing and wealth.

Joe has also published on the causes of class gaps in parental investments in children, and in exposure to precarious working conditions. Learn more about Joe by visiting his [website](#).

Disparity Dynamics: Geographic Impact of Social Transfer Programs on Income Inequality



Student Associates Catalina Anampa Castro and Analidis Ochoa Team up with Faculty Associate Robert Manduca

Social transfer programs have significant geographic differences in spending that help to reduce income gaps between rich and poor regions of the United States, according to new research by Stone Center scholars.

The [study](#), published in *Social Service Review*, shows that federal social insurance programs such as Social Security and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) reduced geographic inequality by 12% in 2019, equivalent to reversing more than 28% of the growth in inequality observed since the 1970s.

Despite being designed without an explicit goal of reducing regional disparities, these programs disproportionately benefit low-income areas. Retirement benefits caused the most significant total reduction in inequality. Spending-adjusted reductions were largest in veterans' benefits, the EITC and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

"Social transfer programs have long been heralded for their individual-level benefits, but their role in reducing regional inequalities has often been overlooked. Given ongoing debates about federal social transfer programs, such as the Child Tax Credit, our findings offer a new dimension for policymakers to consider," said co-author [Catalina Anampa Castro](#), U-M doctoral student in Sociology and Public Policy and Student Associate at the Stone Center.


Inequality has risen across the United States, with significant geographic disparities emerging over the past four decades. Early in the period under study, higher incomes were seen in metro areas in the upper Midwest and the rural interior West. However, these areas have experienced relative income declines compared to the rest of the country.

"High levels of inequality and the geographic income gap between areas like San Francisco and rural regions are pivotal challenges facing the U.S.," said co-author [Robert Manduca](#), U-M Assistant Professor of Sociology and Faculty Associate at the Stone Center.


"Examining social insurance programs that were not initially aimed at reducing regional disparities, we found they nonetheless contribute significantly to narrowing these gaps."



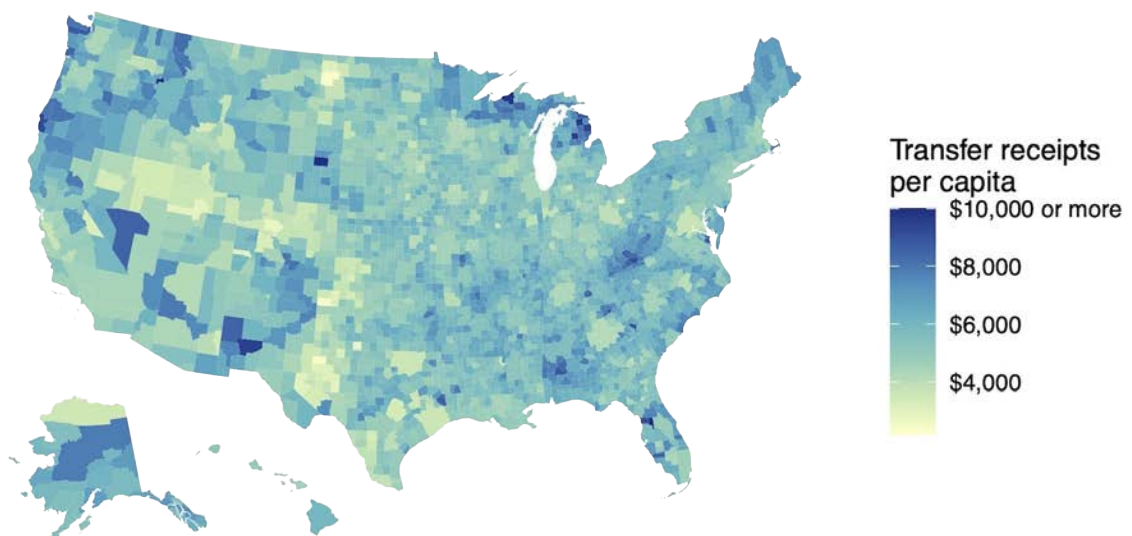
Catalina Anampa Castro
Student Associate
Sociology and Public Policy



Analidis Ochoa
Student Associate
Sociology and Social Work



Robert Manduca
Assistant Professor
Sociology



Geographic variation in income and transfer spending [Learn more](#)
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/ Inequality Scholar Spotlight: Jasmine Simington



Tackling the Nexus of Inequality, Housing, and Policy

Emerging Inequality Scholar Jasmine Simington Investigates Spatial Inequality and Heirs Property

How do spatial inequalities impact the socioeconomic well-being of people? Jasmine Simington, a Stone Center Student Associate and Emerging Inequality Scholar, has devoted her research career to answering that question. Jasmine is making significant strides in the study of spatial inequality, focusing on assisted housing policies, neighborhood quality and residential mobility, and the implications of heirs property.

From North Carolina to Yale University

Jasmine's pathway into the field of sociology and public policy began with her transition from living in Winston-Salem, North Carolina – a “very southern, medium-sized city” – to the bustling academic environment of Yale University in New Haven, Conn. Initially drawn to chemistry and medicine in high school, Jasmine said she found herself dissatisfied with psychology's focus on the brain over social structures. A transformative class with Professor Marcus Hunter, where she delved into the works of W.E.B. Du Bois, solidified her commitment to sociology.

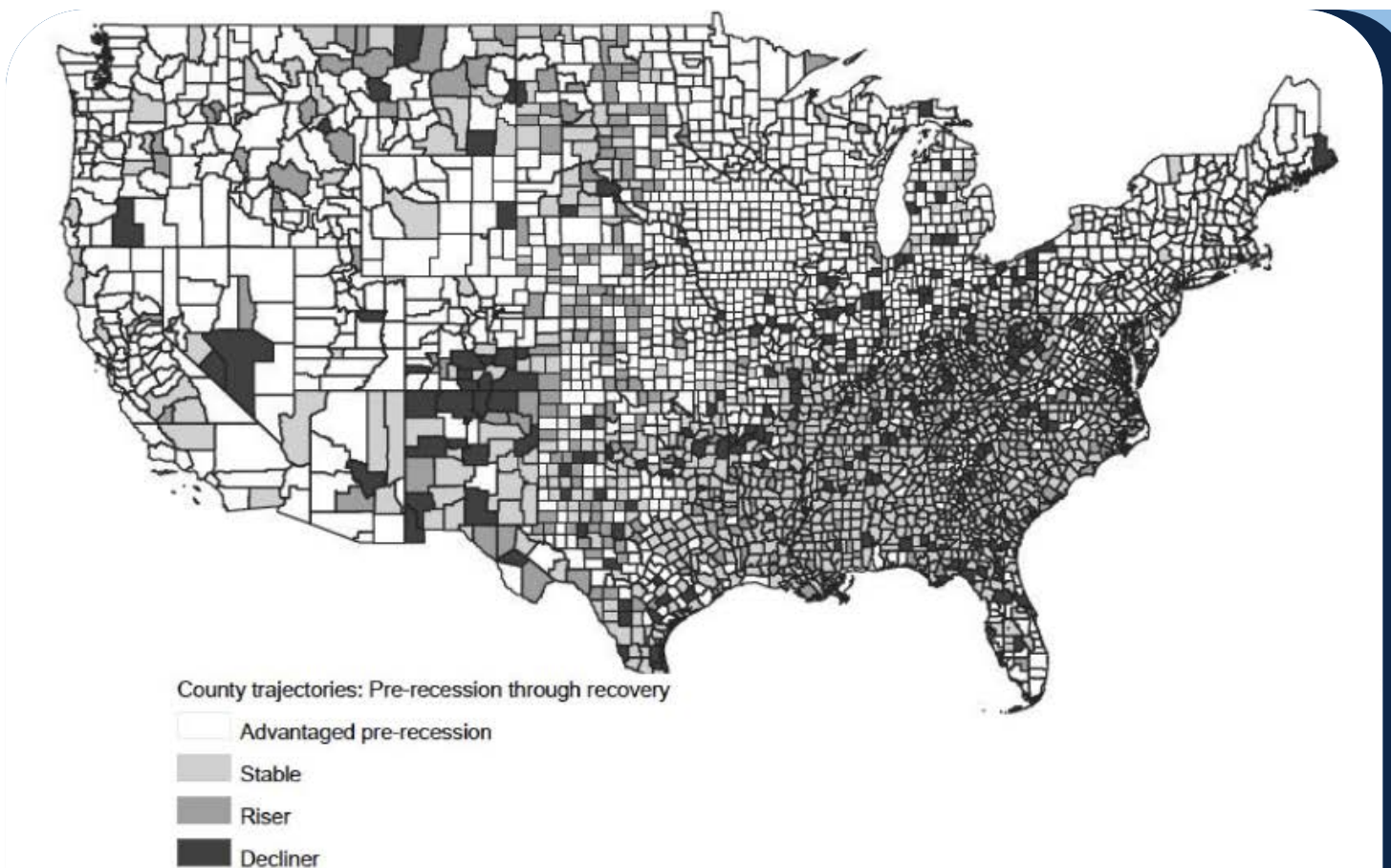
“It was a journey of trying to make sense of my new environment,” Jasmine recalled. “Sociology equipped me with the tools to understand and articulate the inequalities I observed, something that psychology alone couldn't offer.”

A Commitment to Housing Policy and Public Scholarship

After completing her bachelor's degree in sociology in 2014, Jasmine joined the Urban Institute's Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center. Her work there on assessing housing needs on tribal reservations and mortgage lending issues provided her with valuable insights into applied research and policy evaluation.

“Working at the Urban Institute helped me understand the practical applications of my research,” Jasmine said. “It was interdisciplinary in nature, blending urban planning, sociology, and policy analysis.”

This interdisciplinary approach led Jasmine to the University of Michigan, where she is pursuing a joint doctoral degree in Sociology and Public Policy. “U-M's program has allowed me to work alongside planners, historians, and economists, providing a truly holistic educational experience.”



Continued on next page...

/ Inequality Scholar Spotlight: Jasmine Simington



Tackling the Nexus of Inequality, Housing, and Policy - Continued

Exploring the Complexities of Heirs Property

Jasmine's dissertation takes a deep dive into the often-overlooked issue of heirs property, focusing on how this form of land ownership—typically passed down without a will—affects homeownership and wealth building, particularly in Black communities and other traditionally marginalized groups like those in Appalachia and Native American reservations.

"In Charleston, South Carolina, where I conducted my fieldwork, heirs property is intertwined with historical and emotional value," Jasmine said. "Rising property taxes and a rapidly growing housing market are putting immense pressure on these lands, challenging the owners' ability to retain them."

She explained that heirs property represents an estimated \$41 billion in untapped wealth across the southern United States. This form of ownership complicates disaster recovery efforts since heirs often cannot establish clear ownership, making them ineligible for federal aid.

Jasmine aims to expand her research to different contexts, such as Detroit, to understand how heirs property functions in varying economic and historical settings. "I want to understand how generational attachment to land and financial strains impact heirs property owners differently across the country."

In an article published in *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Jasmine and her co-authors analyzed the socioeconomic trajectories of counties prior to and after the Great Recession of 2008. "We developed an original index to measure community-level disadvantage and ranked counties based on their index score before and after the Great Recession. We explore the association between community-level disadvantage and other county characteristics," she said. "We show that counties with a larger Black population were hit the hardest and endured longer recovery periods, and counties whose economies were more reliant on manufacturing saw smaller gains in their level of disadvantage during the long recovery."

Supporting Policy Change to Uplift Communities

Beyond her research, Jasmine is dedicated to public scholarship, partnering with community organizations to improve service delivery through asset mapping and client interviews. "My goal is to translate my research into meaningful policy changes that can uplift communities," she says.

Jasmine presented her findings in the spring at the Heirs Property Conference at Boston College, organized by MacArthur Genius Grant winner Thomas Mitchell. The two-day event featured academic presentations and media coverage aimed at highlighting heirs property issues and proposing pathways to equity.



/ About Jasmine Simington

Jasmine Simington is a joint doctoral student in Sociology and Public Policy. Jasmine's research explores mechanisms and patterns of contemporary racial and socioeconomic inequality, building from interdisciplinary perspectives on race and stratification. Her dissertation investigates the relationship between legal ownership classifications and wealth accumulation through the case of heirs' property ownership. Jasmine's research has also explored attitudes towards reparations in Detroit, inequalities in disaster recovery in the rural South, and the socioeconomic trajectories of U.S. counties after the Great Recession. Before graduate school, Jasmine worked in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute.

[Learn more.](#)

/ Inequality Scholar Spotlight: Sasha Killewald



Understanding How Social Identities and Background Impact Salaries

Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics Director and Professor of Sociology Alexandra (Sasha) Killewald has dedicated her career to studying how social identities are related to time use, pay, and wealth.

“How does fatherhood change men’s wages? If a woman earns more money than her male partner, who does the housework?” she asks. “How has the gender pay gap changed over time?”

Using quantitative methods to study inequality in the United States, these are just some of the questions Sasha answers in her work.

The Impact of Parenthood on Wages, Time Use, and Jobs

A lot of literature in sociology has shown that women lost wages when they had babies – whether it was from taking time off, taking lower paying jobs, or working part-time in order to have more flexibility in their lives.

But how does fatherhood impact men’s wages? Sasha found that dads who are married, biological parents living with their kids – men who experience the most socially normative form of fatherhood – get a small increase in wages, “but nobody else does,” she explained.

Expanding this line of research, Sasha studied how couples’ wages, jobs, and time in paid and unpaid work changes after the birth of a first child.

A core finding of this research is that motherhood has, on average, much larger effects on women’s work lives than men’s. Women also vary substantially in how they shift time in paid and unpaid work after becoming moms. Most dads, by contrast, continue working full time. What’s more, it doesn’t appear that men’s greater contributions to housework reduce their wives’ housework burden or reduce their wives’ motherhood penalty. Once again, Sasha’s findings suggest that transferring housework from wives to husbands is a blocked option: “Moms have some autonomy in how they balance paid and unpaid work – but having their husband do more housework is generally not on the table,” she said.

Sasha argues that the fact that moms’ housework time doesn’t tend to fall when their husbands do more housework should make us question how we can reduce the wage penalty associated with motherhood. She noted that much of the language we use to talk about household labor and gender pay equality centers around getting men “to do more.” While still true, “it has to be about doing more in a way that specifically reduces the burden of women’s time in housework,” she said.

Why Does Wealth Inequality Persist Across Generations?

In another area of research, Sasha’s work has focused on wealth inequality, including the racial wealth gap and how wealth inequality persists across generations.

Most children tend to have similar wealth positions as their parents, and racial disparities in social origins contribute significantly to the racial wealth gap. In a paper [co-authored with founding CID Director Fabian Pfeffer](#), Sasha found that black children have less wealthy parents and are far more likely to be downwardly mobile in household wealth on average than white children.

In another project, Sasha explores patterns of wealth accumulation for White, Black, and Latino young adults. Her [results](#) reveal that almost half of the disparities in wealth accumulation can be explained by racial and ethnic differences in class background, whereas the rest can be explained by factors such as education, income, and homeownership.

“How wealth accumulates through adulthood and young adulthood varies a lot depending on class background,” Sasha said. “There is a legacy of inequality through differences of race and ethnicity. There is a danger in thinking that the past doesn’t matter, and there’s also a danger in thinking that this is all in the past. Half the gap comes from the past, and half the gap is created fresh in each generation.”

How Has the Gender Pay Gap Changed Over Time?

Now, she is starting to turn to the gender pay gap and how it has changed over time. The gender pay gap has narrowed since 1980 in part because “women exploded in college attainment,” Sasha explained. While the importance of changes in women’s education and work experience for narrowing the pay gap has been well studied, Sasha argues that changing family life may also play a role. “Fertility has changed a lot in this time, too. It’s not an accident that women are working more now than they used to. Women are having children later, and having fewer children.”

What Comes Next?

Now, Sasha is focusing on studying family and wealth together. “Fabian and I are working on a paper about how the wealth you end up with is related to your marital history, and how that differs by gender,” she said. In a future project, she hopes to more directly explore how wealth changes after a marital dissolution: When a marriage ends, who gets to keep the wealth?



/ Learn More

- [Wealth and Divorce](#). *Demography*, February 2023
- [LSA Sociology Page](#)
- [Follow Sasha on X](#)

/ The Wealth and Mobility Study Wraps Up Year 3, Announces New Board Members



Through direct access to individual-level and full population IRS tax records, the Wealth and Mobility (WAM) study creates proxy measures of the wealth holdings of all U.S. taxpayer units and links them across generations, extending pioneering work by Raj Chetty and collaborators as well as Emmanuel Saez and Gabriel Zucman.

WAM will also distribute geographic aggregates of these measures to the scientific research community and broader public. This new public data infrastructure will support a wide set of novel analyses of wealth inequality and mobility. WAM puts a particular focus on the user-friendly distribution and presentation of these estimates to make them easily accessible to a wide audience, including to local, state, and federal policymakers, community organizations, journalists, and the broader public.

WAM concluded year three of the project in September 2024 and presented project progress to the Scientific Advisory Board.

The 2024-2026 Advisory Board will serve through the end of the project (summer 2026). The Board advises the project team on central scientific and strategic questions. The Board consists of nine external board members, drawn from multiple disciplines across the country, and three members from the University of Michigan faculty. It's chaired by Prof. Alexandra Killewald, University of Michigan.

WAM is led by Fabian Pfeffer (Director) and Pablo Mitnik (Co-Director). It is housed at the Stone Center and supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Learn more about the study at inequality.umich.edu/wam.

/ 2024-2026 Board Members

- **Alexandra Killewald**, University of Michigan (Chair)
- **Margaret Levenstein**, University of Michigan
- **Jonathan Massey**, University of Michigan
- **Darrick Hamilton**, New School for Social Research
- **Kerwin Charles**, Yale School of Management
- **Stephanie Moulton**, The Ohio State University
- **John Sabelhaus**, Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center
- **Dorothy Brown**, Georgetown University
- **Deirdre Bloome**, Harvard University
- **Miles Corak**, City University of New York
- **Kevin Moore**, Federal Reserve Board
- **David Kamin**, New York University

Bringing together leading social scientists and thought leaders, WAM Scientific Advisory Board Members serve a two-year term. The Board advises the project team on central scientific and strategic questions.



/ Addressing Energy Inequality through Ocean Wave Energy in Beaver Island



About 600 people on Michigan's Beaver Island depend on unstable, unreliable power sources for electricity. Through a joint project from the Institute for Social Research (ISR) and College of Engineering, Research Assistant Professor Sun Kyoung Lee is part of the team that received a Pilot Project Grant for the Study of Rural Contexts to examine the effectiveness of marine renewable energy sources, piloting the sources on this small island in Lake Michigan.

/ Sun Kyoung Lee Receives Rural Contexts Pilot Grant

Research Assistant Professor **Sun Kyoung Lee** is part of the team awarded a grant from ISR and the College of Engineering for their project, "Addressing Energy Inequality in Rural Communities through Ocean Wave Energy: A Case Study in Beaver Island."

Project Team: PI Xiaofan Li (College of Engineering), Sun Kyoung Lee (ISR), and Lei Zuo (College of Engineering)

"Inequality can encompass many issues, from income and wealth disparity to varying access to infrastructure," Sun said. "Our team is excited to combine state-of-the-art marine renewable engineering with modern social science methods to address this energy disparity."

"This project not only addresses the energy vulnerability that rural areas systematically face, but also seeks sustainable solutions toward energy equity through innovative applications of marine renewable energy," she explained. "It's inspiring to know that when an identified problem is 'solvable' with sustainable solutions, we can make a real impact."

- **The grant will be used to cover technology development, including deploying prototypes of the energy infrastructure.**
- **The team will also conduct community surveys related to energy vulnerability.**

"The award will support data analysis to identify other potential areas facing similar energy challenges where marine renewable energy applications could mitigate current issues," Sun said.

After the 2-year pilot phase, Sun said the team's goal is to pioneer an innovative, sustainable renewable energy solution "that can be adapted and replicated across remote regions. This will contribute to achieving energy equity and clean growth. The implications could encompass approximately 19,000 islands and 95,471 miles of shoreline in the U.S. facing similar energy challenges."



The Institute for Social Research and College of Engineering created the joint grant program to improve rural life through rigorous research and interdisciplinary collaboration. The team was one of four projects selected to receive \$150,000 over a two-year period.

"By leveraging the expertise of both social and engineering sciences, this grant provides the foundation for researchers to tackle complex issues facing rural people and communities across the globe," explained ISR Grant Program Manager Paige Brann. "This collaborative award is intended to generate innovative, interdisciplinary research on rural contexts, and their project proposal was exemplary of these values."



/ Angelina Grigoryeva Inaugural Stone Center 2024-2025 Visiting Fellow



The Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics is pleased to announce that Angelina Grigoryeva, Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Toronto, is our inaugural Visiting Fellow for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Angelina joins the Stone Center's vibrant intellectual community as she works on her project, "New Money in The New Economy: The Shift to Stock-Based Compensation and Its Implications for Wealth, Gender, and Race Inequalities," which explores a novel explanation for growing economic inequality in the United States.

"Specifically, I focus on the shift to stock-based compensation and show how it has contributed to wealth, gender, and race inequalities," she explained.

Her project seeks to answer the following questions:

1. Does stock-based compensation promote greater wealth accumulation than regular wages, thus contributing to overall wealth inequality?
2. If so, are the wealth benefits of stock-based compensation greater for male and White workers, thus deepening wealth disparities by gender and race?
3. Did racial and gender differences in stock-based compensation increase over time, resulting in widening gaps in total pay over time (as opposed to narrowing gaps in wages alone)?

"The fellowship provides pre-tenure faculty with a unique opportunity to focus on research, and I am excited to work alongside leading scholars in the field of inequality," Angelina said.

Angelina joined the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto in 2018. She received her PhD in Sociology from Princeton University and her bachelor's degree in Sociology from the National University – Higher School of Economics in Moscow.

"The goal of this program is to give protected research time to early-stage faculty members who work on topics related to CID's mission," Sasha Killewald, Director of the Stone Center, explained. "Angelina is a great fit as our inaugural visiting fellow because she does work at the intersection of wealth inequality and economic sociology."

Angelina gave a talk on her work in early September. She presented "The Shift to Stock-Based Compensation and Gender Inequality in Wealth in the United States."

"This study identifies a novel explanation for gender inequality in wealth in the United States; namely, the important role of stock-based compensation. In the course of the financialization of the U.S. economy, American firms increasingly provided workers with compensation based in part on company stock, and 23% of private-sector employees now receive stock-based compensation," Angelina explained.

Learn more about the Stone Center's [visiting fellowship](#).



/ The Power of Space – Designed by the Community

The Stone Center feels a bit different from most of the other spaces around campus. The physical space was democratically designed by graduate students from Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, with faculty and graduate students from the social sciences collaboratively providing input and engaging in the process.



Jasmine Simington

Graduate Student Associate, Public Policy and Sociology

“The multi-purposeness of the space is like nowhere else on campus. There is really nowhere else on campus where you can so easily get a conference room, or small study space. Everywhere else you have to reserve it ahead of time.”



Spencer Allen

Graduate Student Affiliate, Sociology

“The collaborative space in CID is an amazing environment with the right combination of a productive atmosphere and social energy to break up otherwise monotonous stretches of working time.”



Abigail Kappelman

Graduate Student Associate, Public Health

“Since my primary workspace is at the School of Public Health across campus, having a physical space at CID is especially valuable. Access to the space outside of lab meetings means an opportunity to work alongside and brainstorm with other CID affiliates (like suggestions for new coding ideas or new papers to read!), a place to meet in person with collaborators from other disciplines, and a home base to attend broader ISR programming. Because I wouldn't otherwise interact organically with other CID students and faculty on campus, the physical space that CID occupies is exactly what makes CID a community for me and not just an affiliation.”

With the Community in Mind /



Through focus groups, brainstorming sessions, mock-ups, and thoughtful design, they created a space that can be reconfigured to flexibly support different kinds of work, group sizes, and formats of presentation.



Sasha Killewald
Stone Center Director

“You walk in, and you know right away that this space was designed to bring people together. The open workspaces, good natural light, and kitchen table make CID an inviting place to work or have lunch in community with other U-M scholars.”



Chalem Bolton
Graduate Student Associate, Sociology

“I use the space at the CID especially when I’m coding. Using the standing desk and second monitor improves my focus when I’m doing technical data management and analysis tasks. The big window and natural light help a lot as well. I don’t have access to both at home or anywhere else on campus.”



Janet Wang
Graduate Student Associate, Sociology

“The CID space is a great place to get work done. But beyond that, I enjoy attending talks held in the CID space and chatting with grad students and faculty and staff who work in the space. It’s a wonderful place to engage with the CID community -- especially since conducting research at the dissertation stage means a lot of time spent alone.”

/ Community Connections with SummerWorks



This summer, the Stone Center welcomed communications intern Angel Burns-Hargrove to the team as part of the SummerWorks program. SummerWorks provides career opportunities and mentorship to young adults through summer employment that strengthens the community and develops talent.

Angel is a senior at Huron High School in Ann Arbor and interested in the marketing and communications field. After graduation, she plans on going to college to major in marketing. Right now, Michigan State University is her top choice.

Angel worked closely with the CID team on social media, graphics, and event assistance. She created flyers and templates, and analyzed social media usage.

“I enjoy designing and really enjoyed being able to further my skills in graphic design this summer,” she explained.

SummerWorks is run in partnership between public and private organizations, including U-M Poverty Solutions, Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development, MichiganWorks!, and Michigan Rehabilitation Services.

Learn more about SummerWorks at www.summerworks.info.



/ Angel Burns-Hargrove



*ISR Schoeni Inauguration,
November 2023*

Visiting Scholar Sociologist Laila Schmitt



Studying Labor Markets and Inequality

This spring, the University of Michigan's Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics welcomed Postdoctoral Fellow Laila Schmitt from [Ludwig Maximilian University \(LMU\) of Munich](#).

Having completed her portfolio of studies at LMU – a BA in Sociology and Political Science, an MA in Sociology and Statistics, and a PhD in Sociology – Schmitt remained in Munich for her postdoc to further her research on gender inequality in the labor market. Her dedication to understanding the complexities of work-life balance, driven by personal and academic pursuits, has been the cornerstone of her work.

“I had a high awareness from childhood of how gender impacts career and family,” she explained. “A lot of my drive is on how to better combine work and family, not just with children and the elderly, but including lifelong learning and well-being.”

Having spent her educational career at LMU, Laila said she wanted to complete a fellowship abroad to increase her international network and connections.

“When [founding CID Director] Fabian Pfeffer came to Munich, I had the opportunity to work on his team and profit from his networks and I was really excited for that opportunity,” Laila said. With funding to travel from an early-career fellowship from the Work and Family Researcher's Network, Laila joined the Stone Center for two months.

The University of Michigan was Schmitt's destination of choice due to its reputation for both research excellence and a nurturing academic environment. “It was an easy decision. There's a combination of elite research and excellent people here,” she said.

During her time at the Stone Center, Schmitt delved into vital questions surrounding gender wage gaps, part-time employment, and perceptions of gender inequality. Laila participated in writing retreats at the Center and the U-M Research Development Conference.

Schmitt's research in how societal norms impact gender roles in the labor market includes a paper published in the *European Sociological Review* and named a finalist for the 2023 Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research.

[Learn more about Laila and her work.](#)



Visiting Scholar David Distelrath Returns to his Roots



Studying Labor Markets and Inequality

David Distelrath may have lived in France since 2013, but his hometown in the thumb of Michigan continues to shape his academic life as he pursues his PhD in Analysis and Policy in Economics from the Université de Paris-Cité.

David returned to Michigan in winter 2023 to conduct preliminary research and joined the Stone Center as a visiting doctoral student last fall. After studying economics and philosophy at St. Louis University, he accepted a position teaching English in France.

“A few years into teaching, I shifted gears and applied to economic policy master’s programs. I was planning on going to New York University, but that fell through because of COVID. I pursued a master’s in Paris which evolved naturally into a PhD,” he explained.

Early in his research, David shifted his focus from economics to sociology. “Sociology allows me to peer behind the curtain, and look at the more complex stories behind the numbers,” he said, “and that really appealed to me.” “I started to look at what people in the U.S., particularly migrants, do without credit scores... How does that impact their lives?”

That question has driven David’s research. Having grown up in Michigan, he decided to focus on rural communities like his own hometown. He noted that most socioeconomic research focuses on urban settings or other geographic settings outside of the Midwest.

In a recent project proposal, David wrote, “While the credit score provides a gateway towards traditional credit access for things like mortgages, vehicles, and everyday credit card purchases such as groceries, nearly 45 million U.S. residents go without one.”

People in the U.S. without credit scores are known as “credit invisibles” – those who have no credit records or unscorable credit records. “Rural credit invisibles are more prevalent in every income category when compared to their urban counterparts,” he said.

To better understand how people in these rural communities navigate their credit invisibility, David is conducting ethnographic research and interviews through his fieldwork in Michigan. He has found that most navigate financial access and credit practices through kinship networks. While oftentimes people without credit scores rely on a cottage industry of alternative financial services such as payday lenders and cash checkers, these are often unavailable in remote areas.

This fieldwork will allow David “to better understand how people are meeting their financial needs in a credit-driven economy.” His current research is in support of his dissertation, titled “Gatekeeping’s deafening silence: the slow violence of the credit score in marginal America.” David is looking at expanding rural narratives by focusing not just on finance, but its intersection with kin, gender, politics, and attachment.

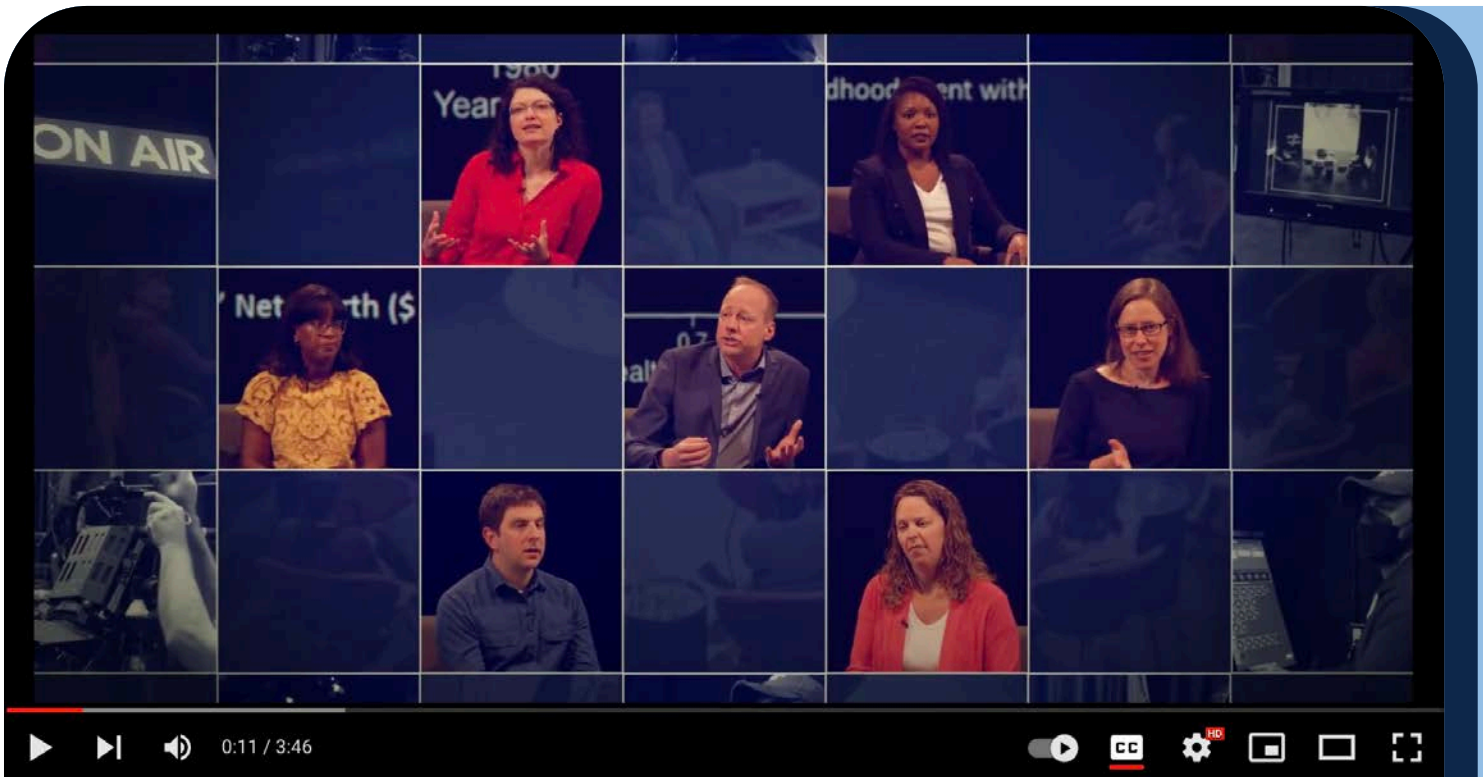
Learn more at inequality.umich.edu.



Presenting Pressing Issues of Social Inequality in a Short, Relatable Format



Stone Center Shares New Videos Through the Inequality Studio Sessions



Does your class background affect your wages? Does family structure affect Black and White children's outcomes equally? In a series of newly released videos, the Inequality Studio Sessions aim to make the answers to questions like these available in an accessible format.

Released by the Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics, each session presents a single finding on social inequality. Using a visual aid such as a table, graph, or single sentence, invited speakers present a unique, fundamental insight on inequality dynamics - with the goal of sharing information about the most pressing issues of social inequality in a way that everyone can understand.

"The Inequality Studio Sessions aim to use film to help break down barriers to understanding, facilitating an even broader collaboration and more egalitarian solutions to social inequality," explained founding director of the Center, Fabian Pfeffer. Pfeffer, now director of Munich International Stone Center for Inequality Research, is the series creator and filmed one of the pilot episodes.

The series highlights research from top inequality scholars, including:

- Student debt by Fenaba Addo, University of North Carolina
- Family structure and its impact on educational and economic outcomes by Christina Cross, Harvard University
- Wealth inequality by Fabian Pfeffer, Ludwig-Maximilians University of Munich
- Wealth mobility by Robert Manduca, University of Michigan
- The impact and efficiency of progressive spending by Emily Rauscher, Brown University
- Equal earnings for college graduates from unequal class backgrounds by Jessi Streib, Duke University
- Mortality and racial inequality by Elizabeth Wrigley-Field, University of Minnesota

"The Stone Center was glad to partner with such prominent inequality scholars to highlight their important work," said Sasha Killewald, Stone Center Director. "Collaborating on these videos is one way the Stone Center hopes to lift up cutting-edge scholarship on social inequality and make its insights accessible beyond the academy."

View the first episodes now on the Stone Center YouTube Channel: youtube.com/@umichStoneCID

/ 2023-2024 Emerging Inequality Scholar Awardees

The CID Emerging Inequality Scholar Awards provide early-career social scientists with dedicated time to pursue their research in an intellectual community with a culture of engagement and collaboration. The award is open to graduate students at the University of Michigan who have achieved candidacy and are doing research on topics of socioeconomic inequalities. The next round of awards will open in fall 2024.



/ Neil Christy Doctoral Candidate, Economics

Neil studies how changes to income taxes since 1980 affect long-run wealth inequality in the U.S. Here is how he describes his project: “Using a macroeconomic model of savings decisions across heterogeneous households, I focus on the effect income tax changes have had on the optimal allocation of household wealth, and how tax-induced changes in household portfolio allocations have contributed to increased wealth inequality.”

Neil said he applied for the award for the opportunity to join scholars with diverse intellectual backgrounds who share a common research interest, social inequality. “I look forward to sharing perspectives on wealth inequality and advocating together for a more just and equitable society.”



/ Jasmine Simington Doctoral Candidate, Sociology and Public Policy

Jasmine’s project examines the relationship between legal ownership status, wealth accumulation, and neighborhood racial composition using the case of heirs’ property (property inherited informally after the death of a loved one but not legally transferred to descendants using a will) in Charleston, South Carolina, through mixed-methods.

Jasmine joined CID as a student affiliate in winter 2019. “Heirs’ property owners cannot use their property for loan collateral, are restrained in making structural improvements, and oftentimes, are rejected from state benefits—like disaster recovery aid and home repair financial assistance—because of their ownership status,” Jasmine explained. “The experiences of heirs’ property owners have important insight for understanding wealth accumulation, more broadly. Inquiries into wealth inequality have not given sufficient attention to the ways that property laws define ownership and the impact of these definitions on the ability of owners to use their property to build wealth.”

/ 2024 ISR Next Generation Awardees



Congratulations to the 2024 CID Student Next Gen Awardees



The ISR Next Generation Awards are donor-funded awards that provide financial support to propel recipients forward in their careers and catalyze impactful research projects. Congratulations to our 8 CID student affiliates who received Next Generation Awards.

Robert Kahn Fellowship for the Scientific Study of Social Issues

Erin Ice
Doctoral Candidate, Sociology
“Becoming Mom’s Nurse: Making the American Family Caregiver”

Thomas Juster Economic Behavior Research Fund

Asher Dvir-Djerassi
Doctoral Candidate, Sociology and Public Policy
“The Wealth of Pensions: Full Population Estimates of US Retirement Assets”

Roy Pierce Scholars Fund

Jun Fang
Doctoral Candidate, Political Science
“Going Green while Decoupling from China: Fragmented Responses to Green Foreign Investments in the United States”

Sarri Family Fellowship for Research on Educational Attainment of Children in Low Income Families

Junchao Tang
Doctoral Candidate, Sociology
“Boarding, Schooling and Academic Achievement Gap”

Jerald and Virginia Bachman Research Fellowship on Change in American Youth

Janet Wang
Doctoral Candidate, Sociology
“Changing youth attitudes towards division of labor”

Marshall Weinberg Population, Development, and Climate Change Fellows Program

Emma Banchoff
Doctoral Candidate, Sociology
“Community and Environmental Change in Nepal: Implications for Livelihoods and Family Formation”

CID Emerging Inequality Scholars

SoPheila Morrow
Doctoral Candidate, Sociology and Social Work
“(In) Visible Violence: Exploring Black Women’s Lived Experiences of Hidden Abuse”

Chalem Bolton

Doctoral Candidate, Sociology
“How do American States Shape Economic Inequality?”

/ CID Awards & Accomplishments



Erykah Benson wins Rackham Research Grant, Anti-Racism Grant

Student Affiliate Erykah Benson received a Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant and was awarded \$1,500 to work on her project, “Black Creatives in the Digital Platform Economy.” Erykah was also awarded a grant from the Anti-Racism Collaborative, administered by the National Center for Institutional Diversity

Catalina Anampa Castro and Sasha Killewald Receive Inaugural PACE Fellowship

Student Associate Catalina Anampa Castro and Director Sasha Killewald have been selected as recipients of an inaugural PACE Fellowship for the 2024-2025 year from the Rackham Graduate School. The PACE Fellowship provides funding for Catalina’s dissertation, “Linked Lives: How Families Endure Student Debt,” and is awarded to graduate student and faculty pairs “for their commitment to promoting diversity and student success.”

Luis Flores Receives ASA and ProQuest Dissertation Awards

CID Student Associate Alum Luis Flores was awarded the 2024 American Sociological Association Dissertation Award for his dissertation, “The Regulatory Politics of Home-Based Moneymaking After the American Family Wage.” Learn more about this distinguished award on the [ASA website](#).

Luis also received a 2023 ProQuest Dissertation Award. Learn more about Luis’ work and the award in the [ceremony program](#).

Luis, a Stone Program Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard University, will join UC Berkeley as Assistant Professor of Sociology in 2025.

Abigail Kappelman Receives NIH Grant

Student Associate Abigail Kappelman was awarded a grant from the National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities for her project, “An Exploration of the Intergenerational Persistence of Health and Social Status Contributing to Racial Disparities in Birth Outcomes in South Carolina.” CID Faculty Pablo Mitnik is a Co-Sponsor on the grant.

The F30 fellowship is an NIH funding mechanism (Ruth L. Kirschstein Individual Predoctoral NRSA) that provides funding for the integrated research and clinical training of combined MD/PhD students who intend careers as physician-scientists. The fellowship will fund Abby’s remaining years of training at Michigan, with the research portion of the grant specifically focused on her dissertation work.

Continued on next page...

/ CID Awards & Accomplishments - Continued



Sasha Killewald Named Inaugural Robert F. Schoeni Research Professor

CID Director Sasha Killewald became the inaugural Robert F. Schoeni Research Professor at the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research on July 1, 2023. By serving as a tool to spark collaborative and mold-breaking scholarship, the Robert F. Schoeni Research Professorship will support research related to Schoeni's passions, such as economics, population studies, demography, health and aging, survey methodology and public policy.

Sasha Killewald Inducted Into American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Stone Center Director Sasha Killewald was selected to join the American Academy of Arts and Sciences for her significant contributions to sociology. She was one of four University of Michigan faculty members inducted into the academy this year.

"I am deeply honored to join such an incredible group of individuals and an association with a mission to advance knowledge in service to the public good – a goal I strive for in my own scholarship and teaching," she said. "I am grateful to the many mentors, colleagues, and students who have taught and supported me and my research from my earliest days as an undergraduate at the University of Michigan."

The academy, founded in 1780, is both an honorary society that recognizes and celebrates the excellence of its members and an independent research center convening leaders from across disciplines, professions and perspectives to address significant challenges.

For more information on the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, please visit www.amacad.org.



Sun Kyoung Lee Receives ISR Rural Contexts Pilot Grant

CID Faculty Sun Kyoung Lee is part of the team awarded a grant from ISR and the College of Engineering for their project, "Addressing Energy Inequality in Rural Communities through Ocean Wave Energy: A Case Study in Beaver Island." Learn more about her work on the team on page 13.

Janet Wang Received Poverty Solutions Award

CID Student Associate Janet Wang has been awarded a Graduate Research Assistant Award from Poverty Solutions, granted for "creative, action-based research that can inform existing policies, practices and interventions or inform future policy directions." She and CID Faculty Associate Robert Manduca are working to examine how population aging and changing age-earnings profiles have contributed to overall economic inequality over the past five decades.

/ What's Next at CID



As we head into fall 2024, we look forward to new events and programs on the horizon.

New Visiting Scholars, Welcoming Our First Visiting Fellow

Our first Visiting Fellow arrived in September 2024, and applications close for the second year of the program next month.

In 2024-2025, we'll also again welcome speakers and short-term visitors from a variety of disciplines.

SWIPE: The Stone Working Group on Inequality and Political Economy

Faculty Associate Jeremy Levine, Associate Professor of Organizational Studies, is leading a working group this year at the Center – the Stone Working Group on Inequality and Political Economy (SWIPE).

“Each semester, SWIPE members will decide on a theme related to the political or institutional dynamics of inequality,” Jeremy explained. The group will select a guest speaker to present on a panel with CID affiliates. To prepare for the event, SWIPE members will read and discuss a few articles related to the semester theme, followed by a conversation and panel event with the visiting scholar.

“This semester, our theme is theorizing and measuring historical structural racism,” Jeremy said. “Our inaugural event will be organized around Regina Baker’s weeklong visit to CID in November.” Dr. Baker is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

While visiting, Dr. Baker will also present “Measuring and Theorizing Structural Racism: Promises and Pitfalls.” Stay up to date on our latest events at inequality.umich.edu.

Joint Speaker Series with the Department of Economics

The Stone Center has partnered with the Department of Economics to host a seminar series in 2024-2025. Each semester, we will invite two external speakers to campus who study inequality through the disciplinary lens of economics.

CID Faculty Sun Kyoung Lee is co-leading the series with Sebastian Sotelo, Associate Professor in Economics. “Using new data and methods, economics explores inequalities like income, wealth, and mobility,” Sun explained. “Spatial economics offers fresh insights, and the joint seminar will bring together leading researchers to explore these issues in depth.”

Jessie Handbury, Associate Professor in Real Estate at University of Pennsylvania, will be our first seminar speaker on October 31, 2024.

“All inequality scholars are welcome at CID, no matter what their discipline or methodology,” Sasha Killewald, Center Director, said. “We’re excited to be moving forward with new programming and event opportunities that reflect our collaborations across disciplines.”

Keep up with our latest news and updates online at inequality.umich.edu.



CID Visits Boston



*Stone Center for
Inequality Dynamics*

Join us: ISR 2030, 426 Thompson St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Visit: inequality.umich.edu • Call: 734.763.8316 • Email: inequalitydynamics@umich.edu