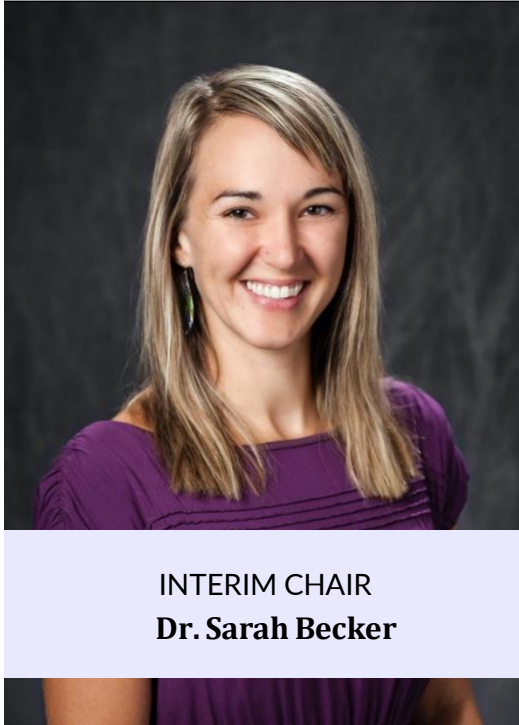


DIASPORA CALLING

SPRING 2023



INTERIM CHAIR
Dr. Sarah Becker

From the Interim Chair

Dear Friends of AAAS:

Welcome to the beginning of our second official year as a department! We made it through 2022 and accomplished so much in the process.

In Fall 2022 alone, AAAS faculty and students: welcomed a brand-new faculty member and brand-new staff member, recruited one new major and five new minors, nominated four faculty for university awards, did presentations in 39 classes reaching 3,322 students, added three new affiliate faculty, secured PSIF funding for promotional materials, scheduled two brand-new courses, added an honors section of AAAS 2000, a AAAS section of HIST 2061: African American History, scheduled a Spring 2023 section of the first-ever

dual enrollment course carrying LSU's official service-learning designation and first-ever UHIGH dual enrollment course taught by an LSU faculty member in person at the school, ran two new service-learning classes taught by Dr. Kelly, had a wonderful retreat, attended the SEC Black Studies Chairs and Directors meeting, secured new office space for our department, and more. I am in awe of our collective accomplishments.

One of the things I love about collaborating in AAAS is how frequently I get to see the joy on people's faces when they mention their connection to our department and hear the way(s) people feel held up by mutual support here. A giant thank you goes out to each of you, for the effort you put in to make AAAS the space that it is: one that is intellectually vibrant, productive, and efficient, conducive to good quality of life, and home to the very best celebrations of excellence.

Looking forward to working with you until our much-missed Inaugural Chair returns in August,

Dr. Sarah Becker

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN & AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

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INAUGURAL CHAIR

Stephen C. Finley

Associate Professor, AAAS

INTERIM CHAIR

Sarah Becker

Director, Center for Community Engagement,
Learning, & Leadership (CCELL)

Associate Professor, Sociology / Women's, Gender,
and Sexuality Studies (WGSS)

Lori Latrice Martin

Associate Dean, HSS
Professor, AAAS

CORE FACULTY

Rogers Orock

Assistant Professor, AAAS

Jas M. Sullivan

Professor, Political Science / Psychology / AAAS

PROFESSOR EMERITUS

Thomas Durant Jr.

AFFILIATE FACULTY

John Bardes, History

Eldon Birthwright, AAAS

Michael Bibler, English

Cassandra Chaney, Social Work

Brittany Cook, Geography & Anthropology

Bastian Craipain, French

Melissa Crawford, LA-STEM/LS-LAMP

Jonathan Earle, Dean, Honors College

Serap Erincin, Performance Studies

Sarah Franzen, Geography & Anthropology

Tina Harris, Endowed Chair, Race, Media & Cultural Literacy

Narcissa Haskins, LSU Libraries

Joyce Jackson, Chair, Geography & Anthropology

Catherine Jacquet, History / WGSS

Benjamin Kahan, English and Director of WGSS

Touria Khannous, English

Herman Kelly, AAAS

Ashley Mack, Rhetoric & Culture

Ruth Moon, Media & Public Affairs

Bryan McCann, Rhetoric & Culture

Roland Mitchell, Dean, College of Human Sciences &
Education

LaKeitha Poole, LSU Athletics

Helen Regis, Geography & Anthropology

Raquel Robvais, Communication Studies

Mark Schafer, Sociology

Jonathan Snow, Geology

Sonja Wiley, Business

Asha Winfield, Mass Communication

Allison Young, Contemporary Art History

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Catherine Jacquet

Cat Jacquet is an Associate Professor of History and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at LSU. She is also a proud affiliate faculty member of AAAS! She has been at LSU since 2014 and some of her favorite courses to teach include: the US history survey, US women's history, the history of sexuality, LGBTQ activism and social movements, Black feminist theory and activism, and the history of prisons and policing. Her book *The Injustices of Rape: How Activists Responded to Sexual Violence, 1950-1980* was published by the University of North Carolina Press in 2019. Her research has been published in the *Journal of Women's History* and the *Radical History Review*. She is currently researching the history of antirape activism and organizing in men's and women's carceral institutions in the late 20th century.



Alumni Spotlight

Dr. Maretta Mc Donald

Maretta McDonald is a 2021-2022 American Sociological Association Minority Fellow and 1st-generation Ph.D. candidate from Oakland, California, by way of Chicago. She earned her BA in criminal justice with a minor in sociology and her MS in applied sociology from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana. She just completed her Ph.D. in sociology with graduate minors in African & African American Studies and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. She is a National Poverty Fellow for 2022-2023 and has accepted a tenure track position at Virginia Tech. Her forthcoming book is titled *The Sociology of Cardi B*.



New Staff

Leslie Guillory Jackson



Leslie Guillory Jackson was born in Baton Rouge, LA., but only spent her first 18 months here. Her family soon moved to Lake Charles, LA where she was raised with a large and very close extended family. After high school graduation from Barbe High, Leslie moved to Lafayette, LA for college where she attended and graduated from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette with a bachelor's in Psychology. Leslie met her now husband, BJ, at ULL in 2004. They moved to his hometown of Brusly, LA, in West Baton Rouge and married in 2011. Her only child, Brooklynn, was born in 2013 and their spoiled pup Bella joined the family in 2018! Leslie has worked with the State Office of Family Support, and LSU's Pennington Biomedical Research Center where she spent the last 13 years of her career in Dementia and Alzheimer's research. She has always had a passion for helping others and African American history. She is excited to merge the two in her position as Academic Coordinator for African and African American Studies (AAAS) & Interdisciplinary Studies. All of Leslie's family vacations growing up were centered around places rich in African American and Civil Rights History. One of Leslie's biggest passions is travel, which she still integrates visiting places and monuments that are educational and rich in history. She also enjoys spending time with her daughter and family. Leslie is a Girl Scout troop leader as well as a dedicated volunteer in her daughter's classroom and school. She looks forward to meeting new students, staff, and faculty and contributing to our growth.

Did You Know?

Did you know that AAAS is approaching its 30th anniversary? Please look out for upcoming fundraising and other opportunities to celebrate this historic time!



HOW TO MAJOR IN AAAS

A concentration in AAAS requires a total of 33 credit hours including:

- A required core of nine (9) hours: Introduction to AAAS 2000; AAAS 3024 or 3044; & AAAS 4020.
- A minimum of 6 hours must focus on a geographical area outside of the U.S.

Sign up today to get started! Contact AAAS at aaas@lsu.edu



Did You Know?

The Department of African & African American Studies (AAAS) at LSU is an interdisciplinary unit that promotes critical thinking and challenges students to attain the highest levels of intellectual achievement and personal development through the study of ideas, practices, theories, and experiences of Africans, African Americans, and other diasporic communities.

Follow the Society of African & African, American Students [@lusaaas](https://twitter.com/lusaaas) on Twitter.

Spring 2023 Course Offerings

Course Number	Schedule	Course Title	Instructor
AAAS 2000	Tue. & Thur. 7:30 am – 8:50 am	Introduction to African & African Studies	Dr. Herman Kelly
AAAS 2000	Tue, & Thur. 3:00 pm – 4:40 am	Introduction to African & African Studies	Dr. Rogers Orock
AAAS 2000	100% Web Based	Introduction to African & African Studies	Dr. Eldon Birthwright
AAAS 2050	Tue, & Thur. 9:00 am – 10:20 am	Contemporary Africa	Dr. Rogers Orock
AAAS 2410	100% Web Based	Black Pop Culture	Dr. Eldon Birthwright
AAAS 2511	Tue. & Thur. 1:30 pm – 2:50 pm	Race Relations	In. Dominique Dillard
AAAS 3044	Tue. & Thur. 10:30 am – 11:50 am	Black Rhetorical Traditions	Dr. Raquel Robvais
AAAS 3902	Mon. Wed & Fri. 9:30 am – 10:20 am	Modern African Art	Dr. Allison Young
AAAS 3902	100% Web Based	Black Paris	Dr. Pamela Gay
AAAS 4020	100% Web Based	Senior Seminar	Dr. Jas Sullivan
AAAS 4900	Tue. & Thur. 1:30 pm – 2:50 pm	History of the Civil Rights Movement	Dr. Herman Kelly

Student Spotlight

Jordan Williams

My name is Jordan Williams, I am a senior majoring in Psychology with AAAS as my minor. My initial decision to minor in AAAS came from needing a simple, "easy" minor. Little did I know, nothing is easy when it comes to the lives of Africans and African-Americans. Minorng in AAAS has allowed me to expand my perspective as a Black woman in America. I really enjoy the fact that the courses in AAAS are specifically designed to make students think deeper and broader on issues that they normally wouldn't. I believe every student should take at least one AAAS course during their time in college. The information I've learned in my AAAS courses is information I will take with me well into the future.



Student Spotlight

Service-Learning by Justin Martin

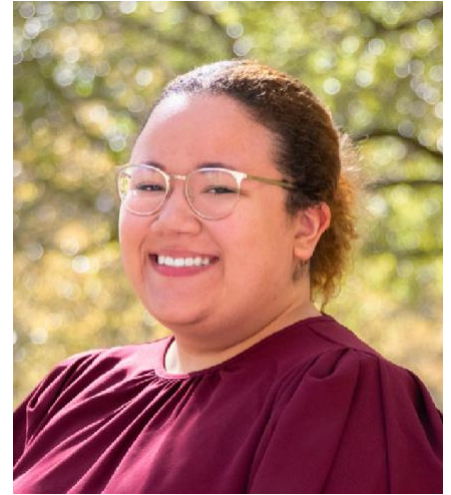
My name is Justin Martin, and I am a graduate student in the Department of History and serve as President of the Society for African and African American Studies (SAAAS) at LSU. During the summer, I participated in the LSU Center for Community Engagement, Learning, and Leadership's Graduate Scholars Program which allows graduate students to add service-learning opportunities to courses at LSU. The course I worked on was AAAS 4900 with Dr. Herman Kelly which focuses on the Civil Rights Movement. Future students in the course will benefit from a new opportunity to learn from civil rights organizations that carry out the living legacy of the Movement here in Baton Rouge. However, what excites me most is the opportunity for reflection that service learning can offer all AAAS students. Service opportunities are critical to the intellectual and social mission of AAAS. Yet being in community affords us another opportunity – to make something new of ourselves as we serve. Community often shapes us more than we realize.



Student Spotlight

Angel Puder

Hi, I'm Angel Puder, a senior from Houston, Texas studying Political Science and African and African American Studies with a minor in Political Communication. I first became a AAAS minor during my sophomore year after taking 2 classes and loving how caring the professors were in the classroom and outside the classroom. I shifted to a AAAS major in my junior year because I wanted to keep learning from the newly founded department. I have had an amazing time learning and connecting with fellow classmates in the department since the class sizes are smaller than my other lectures. Professors have helped me look at new opportunities after LSU and even written letters of recommendation for me. Any chance I get I advise people to at least try a AAAS course and learn more about the Society for African and African American Studies!



About AAAS

10-Point Profile Plan Program

1. Develop The Center for Race, Community, and Culture in Louisiana
2. Offer a Masters Degree Program
3. Offer a Doctoral Degree Program
4. Recruit ten new concentrators and ten new minors every academic year
5. Raise \$5 million for the new department
6. Expand course offerings to include additional cross-listed courses and non-U.S. courses
7. Provide professional development opportunities for faculty and students
8. Increase the profile of the department within the university, city, region, state, and nation
9. Enhance AAAS's office space on campus
10. Increase community engagement efforts

AAAS Core Values

1. **Equity:** AAAS practices and advocates fair distribution of resources, opportunities, labor, and reward and advocates for the distribution of such, in accordance with the degree of past harm and present needs.
2. **Excellence:** AAAS strives for the highest distinction and outstanding achievement in scholarship, instruction, professional service, administration, and leadership.
3. **Justice:** AAAS works for the transformation of structures, practices, policies, and ideas that inhibit and curtail human flourishing by engaging in self-conscious and ethical treatment of individuals and communities.
4. **Respect:** AAAS shows regard for the humanity of others and honors human differences and sameness.
5. **Scholarship:** AAAS seeks the creation and dissemination of knowledge and socially transformative ideas at the highest level of intellectual attainment.

News & Notes

Recent Publications:

Publications of Dr. Allison Young include:

- "Art for Liberation's Sake: The Activist Art of Gavin Jantjes" in Post, the scholarly publication of the Museum of Modern Art's C-MAP (Contemporary and Modern Art Perspectives) initiative, October 2022
- Essays on artists Zandile Tshabalala, Derek Fordjour, Nathaniel Mary Quinn, Hurvin Anderson, Chris Ofili, and Michael Armitage for the exhibition catalog of In Our Time: Selections from the Singer Collection at Scottsdale Museum of Art, 2022
- Exhibition Review of "Indigo Waves & Other Stories: Navigating the Afrasian Sea" at Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, Artforum November 2022

In Other News

- Dr. Asha Winfield is the recipient of the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU)'s Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award for her creative project, "A Case for Interdisciplinary Collaborations to Improve Social Determinants of Health. Documenting the Impacts of COVID-19 on Black Communities."
- Dr. Rogers Orock was appointed to serve as a member of the Editorial Collective of one of the leading journals in area studies. Comparative Studies in South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.
- Dr. Herman Kelly was featured in an amazing Reveille article on October 31, 2022.
- Dr. Stephen C. Finley appeared in Louisiana Public Broadcasting (LPB)'s "Understanding Juneteenth" documentary.

Faculty Authored Books: 2022

