



2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT

*studying change to
make change*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 Letter from the Director

2 About LCHP

3 Research

8 Public Outreach

11 Education/Training

12 LCHP In Action

13 LCHP Community

15 Social Media

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear LCHP Community,

I hope this note finds you well.

This past June marked the end of LCHP's fifth year of existence. In that relatively short span of time, the Center has managed to carve out a distinctive identity and mission for itself by producing a unique brand of work that stands at the juncture of history and policy. In the recently concluded 2021-22 academic year, we focused a good deal of our efforts on this intersection as it relates to UCLA and the wider University of California. In particular, LCHP research teams explored the history of race relations and racism at UCLA; concurrently, another team explored the history of UCLA's responses to major crises. Both teams devoted a good deal of attention to the turbulent age of political-and especially student-protest in the late 1960s and early 1970s, out of which emerged the commitment to create ethnic studies centers at UCLA. A third LCHP report explored the dramatic increase in the number of non-tenured contingent faculty members in the University of California system.

In all of these reports, the teams undertook careful historical work and uncovered important new perspectives on the past. At the same time, their historical work is intended to inform us about the present by offering lessons learned from the past. In the case of the first two reports, the COVID-19 pandemic and the murder of George Floyd were the catalysts that prompted the research undertakings. I invite you to take a look at these reports to find out more about the history of our institution but also to learn about ways in which we can make UCLA a better and more equitable place to be.

To the extent that the Luskin Center has achieved success in recent years, much of it is due to Maia Ferdman, our assistant director. Maia is a very rare combination of bold thinker and administrator wizard. She is able to conceptualize big historical problems, help refine key takeaways, and keep 3-4 research teams running efficiently. It has been an extraordinary pleasure to work with Maia, who is a Double Bruin (and whom I had the great pleasure to work with when she was an undergraduate). Maia will be leaving her position at LCHP in September to pursue new personal and professional interests in Buenos Aires. The entire LCHP community joins in thanking her for her remarkable service and wishing her the very best in her exciting new life phase.

Wishing you all a wonderful remainder of the summer. Please do stay tuned for our opening newsletter in September, when we will announce a number of new initiatives, as well as introduce our inaugural LCHP post-doctoral fellow, Dr. Ben Zdenkanovic.

Sincerely,



David N. Myers, Director



ABOUT LCHP

Vision: The UCLA Luskin Center for History and Policy (LCHP) imagines a world in which leaders, policymakers, and citizens regularly use history as a guide to civic engagement, policy formation, and an alternative and better future.

Mission: The UCLA Luskin Center for History and Policy (LCHP) aims to bring vital historical knowledge, perspective, and analysis to bear on key contemporary issues and policy deliberations.

Approach: We approach our work in the following ways:

Research:

Conducting influential research that models a new form of historically grounded policy analysis.

Education & Training:

Training students and scholars to apply historical research to key present-day questions.

Public Outreach:

Promoting history as a central tool of informed public debate.

Studying Change to Make Change



Research

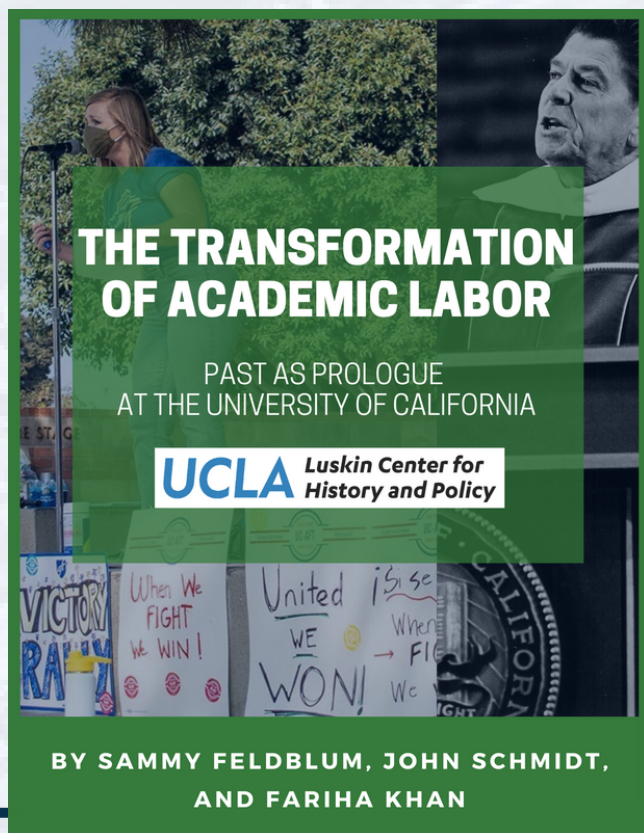
LCHP conducts historical research in order to understand and inform present-day policy. Collaborative teams of in-house researchers, including undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty, work together to research and compile our reports. Each report includes historically based policy recommendations.

LCHP's research during the 2021-22 academic year took a close and introspective look at university history. We released three major reports during the year on this theme: the first examined the history of contingent labor at the UC, the second the history of racism and racial justice at UCLA, and the third examined UCLA administrators' responses to crises of major scale.

LCHP also awards grants to teams who conduct collaborative research or hold public programming that bring historical analysis to bear on key issues of contemporary relevance.

Read on to learn more about LCHP research.

LCHP Reports



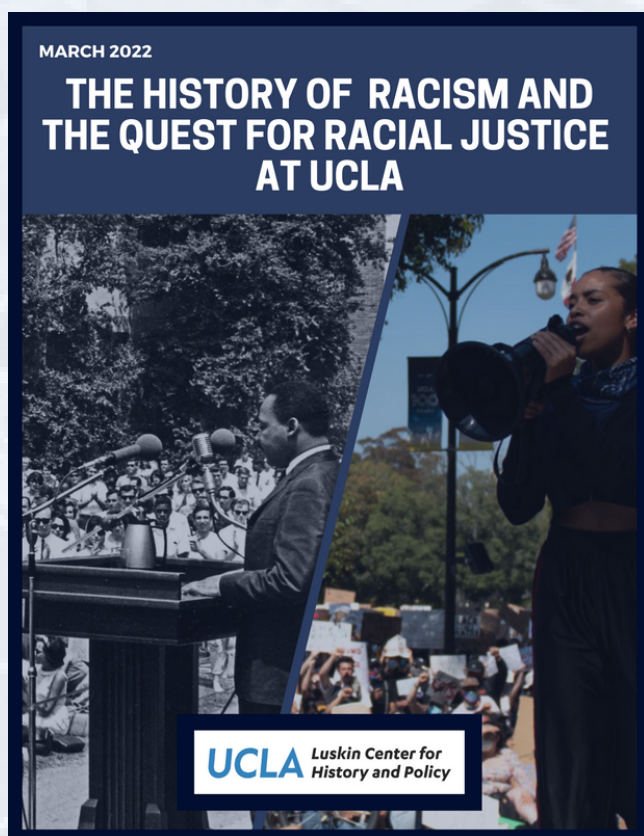
The Transformation of Academic Labor: Past as Prologue at the UC

Released: February 2022

Researchers: Sammy Feldblum, John Schmidt, and Fariha Khan

This report details the numerous factors that led the University of California to increase reliance on adjunct faculty and lecturers over the past 60 years--and examines the implications of this reliance.

[Read it here.](#)



The History of Racism and the Quest for Racial Justice at UCLA

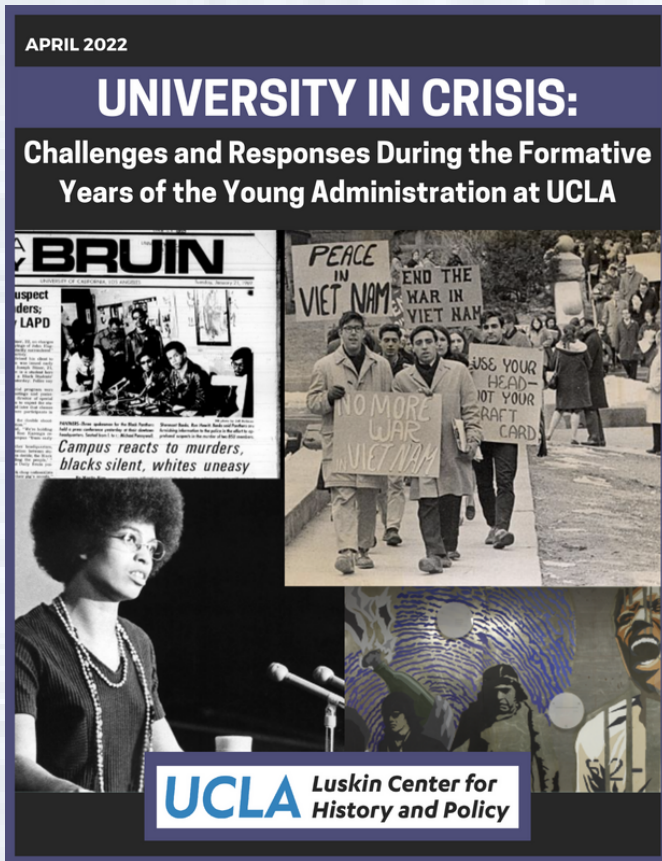
Released: March 2022

Researchers: Desmond Fonseca, Mariana Gonzalez, Ariel Nicole Hart, Nadeeka Karunaratne, Armond Lee, Gabriela Legaspi, Kosi Ogbuli, Héctor Osorio, Abdullah Puckett, Debanjan Roychoudhury, Marisol Sánchez Castillo, Alexa Sass, Kateri Son, Skylar Weatherford

This report investigates the long history of race and racism at UCLA. It examines the experiences and treatment of students of color throughout the university's history--and highlights key individuals and movements that led the fight for racial justice at UCLA.

[Read it here.](#)

LCHP Reports



University in Crisis: Challenges and Responses During the Formative Years of the Young Administration at UCLA

Released: June 2022

Researchers: Jazz Kiang, Grace Hae Rim Shin, Nayiri Artounians, Jannelle Dang, Victoria Pfau, and Sarah Son
Prior researchers who worked on this topic: Jessica Guzmán, Kayleah Kellybrew, Matt Philips, Mariam Zahran, and Nicole Zhang

This report investigates the university's response to crises of major scale. It examines administrators' approaches to two events in the late 1960s: 1) the student movement for ethnic studies, and 2) the on-campus killings of students Bunchy Carter and John Huggins. [Read it here.](#)



Forthcoming Report

Release: Fall 2022

Researchers: Alisa Belinkoff Katz, Zev Yaroslavsky, Izul de la Vega, Sabrina Huang, Summer Lopez Colorado

In Fall 2022 LCHP will release a report that examines the history of Los Angeles' unique system of dispersed governance.

Research Grantee Publications



THIRD WORLD APPROACHES
to INTERNATIONAL LAW Review

Professor E. Tendayi Achiume and Dr. Tamara Last recently published their peer-reviewed article “Decolonial Regionalism: Reorienting Southern African Migration Policy” in the journal *Third World Approaches to International Law Review*, based on research they conducted with an LCHP Research Grant. The authors analyze southern African migration governance – in the context of colonial history of migration – and its effects on the lived experiences of migrants in the region.



UCLA graduate student Hao Ding and Professor Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris recently published a peer-reviewed article “Racism by Design? Asian Immigration and the Adoption of Planning and Design Regulations in Three Los Angeles Suburbs” in the *Journal of the American Planning Association*. Based on their research supported by LCHP, Ding and Loukaitou-Sideris examine the exclusionary effects of land use and design controls in three Los Angeles County cities. [Read their published article here.](#)


Professors Tobias Higbie and Gaspar Rivera-Salgado will soon be publishing “The Border at Work: Undocumented Workers, the ILGWU in Los Angeles, and the Limits of Labor Citizenship,” in the Fall 2022 volume of *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History*. Based on research they conducted with LCHP support, Higbie and Rivera-Salgado examine the way International Ladies Garment Workers Union workers in Los Angeles confronted new demographic and organizing realities and recognized the demand for unionization among new immigrants.



Upcoming Research: 2022-23

Throughout the coming academic year, LCHP will support four research teams examining different policy questions through historical lenses:

- Prof. Tawny Paul will lead a team examining the history of **Los Angeles street naming policies and practices**.
- Prof. Jon Christensen will lead a team examining the history of the **environmental justice movement in California**.
- Our new post-doctoral fellow, Dr. Ben Zdencanovic, will lead a team examining the history of **California state welfare policies**.
- Graduate students Sammy Feldblum, John Schmidt, and Abbie Cohen will examine the concurrent **increase in student debt and university endowment income over time**.




We are excited to introduce our upcoming research grantees for the coming year. They include:

The Policy and Politics of Amazon Highway BR364 : From Socio-Environmentalism to Eco-Plunder Economies

Researchers: Gabriel Suchodolski, Professor Susanna Hecht


This project follows the controversial road development of the major connecting highway of the Amazon Rainforest and the fraught politics from the 1980s to the current day.



Aspiring Towards a Better Future in STEM: An Examination and Reflection of Pedagogical Shifts Among Life Sciences Faculty

Researchers: Ngoc Tran, London Williams, Professor Kevin Eagan

This project will examine the connections between pedagogical practices and support for students from backgrounds and communities that have been historically and systemically excluded in STEM.



Historical Framings for the Right to Food in Los Angeles County

Researchers: Kyle Winterboer, Professor Michael Roberts, with support from Professor Soraya Chadarevian and Professor Robin Derby

This project will examine how the history of the internationally recognized right to food can be applied to support local community gardens and urban agriculture initiatives throughout Los Angeles.



Public Outreach

Promoting history as a central tool of informed public debate is core to LCHP's mission. When in-person programming came to a halt in March 2020, we asked: how can LCHP continue to curate important and timely conversations about present-day issues through a historical lens?

Since April 2020 LCHP has hosted *Then & Now*, a bi-weekly podcast that connects past to present. Each episode features distinguished activists, scholars, and thinkers who provide deep historical perspective on a timely current event.

LCHP also hosted a three-part program in partnership with USC and the Y&S Nazarian Center about the ongoing impasse in political thinking in Israel-Palestine. Our researchers continue to advance their work through public engagement, op-eds, and media interviews.

Then & Now Season 2

Then & Now, LCHP's podcast, connects past to present, using historical analysis and context to help guide us through modern issues and policy decisions. Every other week LCHP interviews historians, policymakers, and thought leaders about what happened then, and what that means for us now.

By the numbers:

25,300

lifetime
downloads

12,700

Season 2
downloads

"Ghosts of the
Past in the
Russian Invasion
of Ukraine"
most popular
episode

21

Season 2
episodes

69

lifetime
episodes

27

Season 2
guests

89

lifetime
guests



Listen to Then & Now wherever you listen to your podcasts!



Then & Now Season 2

Notable Episodes



Then & Now hosted a special three-part series to situate Russia's invasion of Ukraine in historical context. We invited several exceptional scholars of Russian, Ukrainian, and legal history to explain the roots of this invasion, its implications, and what might happen next.



Then & Now hosted Professor Cary Franklin of the UCLA Law School to discuss the past, present, and future of abortion rights in the United States. This two-part series was co-hosted by the UCLA Williams Institute, The Promise Institute for Human Rights, and the Center on Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy at the UCLA School of Law.



Other episodes of Season 2 examined both California and Los Angeles political history. They included conversations with former California governor Gray Davis and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, a discussion about the history of local approaches to public health, and a retrospective on the 30th anniversary of the 1992 LA Uprisings.

Programming



The First Draft of History: Using Historical Analysis in Journalism

November 9, 2021

CalMatter's CEO Neil Chase led a conversation with students about journalism as the "first draft of history." ([Watch](#))



Equity at the Polls: Voter Access in California Elections

April 28, 2022

Alisa Belinkoff Katz, LCHP Senior Research Fellow, moderated a conversation with California Humanities about the paradox between California's voter-friendly registration programs and its unequal voter participation. ([Watch](#))



Deadlock in Israel-Palestine: How to Imagine a Better Future? (three-part series)

October 3, 2021, December 5, 2021, March 6, 2022

In partnership with the USC Casden Institute for the Study of the Jewish Role in American Life and the UCLA Y&S Nazarian Center for Israel Studies, LCHP hosted this multi-part series to bring together leading scholars, thinkers, and policy-makers of decidedly different visions to sit down and talk concretely and respectfully about the current state of impasse in Israel-Palestine and their proposals for the future.

Part 1 featured Omar Rahman, Dahlia Scheindlin, Yuli Tamir, and Shibley Telhami ([WATCH](#)).

Part 2 featured Julie Cooper, Micah Goodman, Hussein Ibish, and Areej Sabbagh-Khoury ([WATCH](#)).

Part 3 featured Yossi Beilin and Hiba Hussein ([WATCH](#))



Education/Training

In addition to producing valuable research and promoting the use of history to inform policy-making, LCHP is also dedicated to inculcating a “habit of mind” in undergraduate and graduate students alike. LCHP trains students in historical and policy-based research methods and provides them with research experience and mentorship.

Summer Research Institute



The second LCHP Summer Research Institute attracted 53 outstanding UCLA undergraduate and graduate students who immersed themselves in historical research methods. On June 16 and 17, 2022, students were exposed to the myriad ways in which historical research and knowledge can make a difference in the world. They learned about archival and data-driven research methods and examined different modes of applying historical knowledge to present-day problems and issues. SRI featured outstanding UCLA presenters who offered a wide range of expertise. They included: Eddie Cole, Lizeth Ramirez, Jimmy Zavala, Tawny Paul, Tyree Boyd-Pates, Marques Vestal, Sonja Diaz, and Jon Christensen.



LCHP In Action

Media Citations and Interviews

- [Understanding LA's Homelessness Issues - LAist](#)
- [Confused about what the LA Homeless Services Authority \(LAHSA\) Does? We Have Answers. - LAist](#)
- ["A Sea of Black Mens' Faces": LA's Black Homelessness Crisis - LAist](#)
- [California's voters still do not reflect the diversity of its people, report says - ABC7](#)

Op-Eds

- [Ronald Reagan's Ghost Runs the UC System. Expect Strikes until that Changes - San Francisco Chronicle](#)

UCLA News

- [Podcast examines Ukraine-Russia conflict through the lens of history - UCLA Newsroom](#)

Our Community: Faces of LCHP

LCHP is comprised of a community of passionate students, faculty members, and partners who make our work possible. See below to meet just a few of our dedicated community members.



Professor Eddie Cole, a historian of higher education, has been involved in the work of LCHP since his arrival at UCLA in 2020. He was deeply engaged as faculty advisor with two LCHP research groups throughout 2020-22, and has been a presenter at the LCHP Summer Research Institute.

Izul de la Vega is a Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science. She was a graduate student research fellow for LCHP's report on voting rights in California, and is currently a fellow for LCHP's ongoing research on Los Angeles' governance challenges throughout history.



Jazz Kiang is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies. He has been an LCHP graduate student research fellow since summer 2020, and was a major contributor to the LCHP report examining the university's response to crises.

Rosalind Remer is the Senior Vice Provost, University Collections and Exhibitions and Executive Director, Lenfest Center for Cultural Partnerships at Drexel University. She is an essential member of the LCHP Board of Advisors who supports the development of LCHP's operational structure and programmatic strategy.



Thank you to our LCHP Community

Staff

Prof. David N. Myers, Director
Maia Ferdman, Assistant Director
Ann Major
Asiroh Cham

Board of Advisors

Prof. Stephen Aron
Secretary Lonnie G. Bunch III
Janet Clayton
The Honorable Michael Dukakis
Prof. Carole Goldberg
The Honorable Jane Harman
Meyer Luskin
Prof. Carla Pestana
Dr. Rosalind Remer
Prof. Angela R. Riley
Dean Gary M. Segura
Prof. Brenda Stevenson
Prof. Raphael Sonenshein
The Honorable Zev Yaroslavsky

Faculty Advisory Committee

Prof. Aomar Boum
Prof. Soraya de Chadarevian
Prof. Tobias Higbie
Prof. Katsuya Hirano
Prof. Kevin Y. Kim
Prof. Minayo Nasiali

Student Interns

Hodari Yusuf Harris
Emily Mei
Evan Posner

Senior Research Fellows

Prof. Eddie Cole
Prof. Aomar Boum
Alisa Belinkoff Katz
The Honorable Zev Yaroslavsky

Graduate Student and Post-Graduate Research Fellows

Marisol Sanchez Castillo,
Summer Lopez Colorado,
Sammy Feldblum, Debanjan
Roychoudhury, John Schmidt,
Grace Hae Rim Shin, Izul de la
Vega

Undergraduate Student Research Fellows

Nayiri Artounians, Jannelle Dang,
Sabrina Huang, Fariha Khan,
Gabriela Legaspi, Victoria Pfau,
Alexa Sass, Kateri Son, Skylar
Weatherford



Stay in touch!

Follow us to hear about LCHP activities in the coming year



@ucla.lchp



@ucla.lchp



@luskinhistory



Luskin Center for
History and Policy



luskincenter@
history.ucla.edu