California State University, Stanislaus

Back from the Smoke (Act Two)

Monday, March 11, 2019 – 12:00-8:45pm

Schedule of Presentations:

- 12:00-1:00pm, Dr. Catherine Garoupa White, FDC 118
  - 1:00-2:00pm, Dr. Heidy Sarabia, FDC 118
  - 2:30-3:30pm, Elisa Oceguera, Mainstage Theatre
- 3:30-5:00pm, Farm Worker Family Panel with Oralia Maceda moderated by Dr. Dvera Saxton, Mainstage Theatre
- 5:00-6:00pm, Buffet-style reception/dinner, Mainstage Lobby

Keynote Program, Mainstage Theatre, 6:00-8:45pm

- 6:00-7:00pm, Dr. Dvera Saxton
- 7:00-7:30pm, Miguel Villegas (Hip Hop interlude)
  - 7:30-8:30pm, Dr. Sarah Horton
  - 8:30pm, Closing Q&A/Discussion
Social Justice in the Central Valley: Back from the Smoke (Act Two)
March 11, 2019 (Noon-2pm in FDC 118 and 2:30-8:45pm in Mainstage Theatre)

Dr. Catherine Garoupa White (12:00-1:00pm, in FDC 118)
"Reframing Air Pollution as a Public Health Problem and Environmental Injustice in California’s San Joaquin Valley: A Coalition Based Approach"

Catherine Garoupa White is a dynamic, collaborative activist scholar and non-profit leader advancing healthy, safe, just places and people through advocacy, education, and community engaged research. Dr. Garoupa White joined Californians Against Fracking as their Coalition Coordinator in August 2016. She holds a Master of Social Work degree from CSU Fresno, where she focused on community organizing and ethics. Upon completing her MSW, Garoupa White spent 7 months in northern India organizing for informed self-governance for women, and 5 years organizing with and ultimately directing the Central Valley Air Quality Coalition (CVAQ) in her home region of the San Joaquin Valley, one of our nation’s most polluted air basins. In 2016, Garoupa White obtained her Ph.D. in Geography from UC Davis, specializing in coalition building strategies within California’s environmental and environmental justice movements. Dr. Garoupa White has taught courses in community organizing, California geography, youth community development, and environmental justice at UC Davis, CSU Fresno and CSU Sacramento, and as an adjunct faculty at Stanislaus State and Columbia College.

Presentation Abstract
The San Joaquin Valley is one of the poorest and most polluted air basins in the United States, and while people’s health markedly suffers, efforts to clean the air are hard fought in the polarized political climate. While the dominant discourse around air pollution has narrowed to members of the public “making one change” in their lives such as riding their bike instead of driving, clean air advocates from a broad range of backgrounds merged efforts to advance a movement around the public health crisis caused by outdoor air pollution. Multi-scalar, collaborative work is required to navigate the complex regulatory structures governing outdoor air quality. As this research shows, advocates’ capacity is enhanced by tapping messengers from various backgrounds, from mothers with asthmatic children to the doctors who treat them to the lawyers familiar with the regulatory mandates. In addition to breadth of expertise, coordinating members with different organizing philosophies allowed for different groups to take on various roles while buffering negative backlash from authorities. This presentation documents how, against stacked sociopolitical odds, clean air advocates have leveraged coalition organizing to advance a public health frame around air pollution in the San Joaquin Valley and to shed some light on the environmental injustices occurring. This paper demonstrates that, within existing organizational constraints and capacities, advocates provided an important catalyst for movement building and contributed to constructing a public health frame around air pollution in the San Joaquin Valley.
Dr. Heidy Sarabia (1:00-2:00pm, in FDC 118)
“Detention, Incarceration, Deportation: The Fate of Undocumented Minors at the U.S.-Mexico Border”

Heidy Sarabia is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Sacramento State. Dr. Sarabia’s research has been shaped by her experiences as an immigrant from Mexico living in the U.S. Three themes summarize her research agenda. First, she is interested on globalization and transnationalism. Specifically, she studies global inequality and how visas and passports shape stratification, as well as how individuals and organizations mobilize collectively to create societal change to challenge inequality and demand justice across borders. Second, related to the issue of stratification, she is interested in particular in illegality as a regime, and how it shapes border crossing practices and settlement in the U.S. Finally, her research interests also include the process of immigrant adaptation and incorporation into the U.S. social fabric, access to legal and medical institutions, and the role legal status plays in these processes.

Presentation Abstract
The issue of unauthorized migration has been constructed as an issue of illegality through a socio-political process. This process has historically racialized Mexicans as the main targets of border enforcement and quintessential "illegal aliens." This presentation will explore how the decline of Mexican migration to the U.S. has shifted the U.S. attention to Central American migration, and reveal how this new focus effectively expands the boundaries of illegality. We argue that by framing children, families, and political refugees as the legitimate targets of deportation, by legally closing the doors to these immigrants for avenues to adjust their status, by actively raiding those deemed as deportable, and by re-framing the political grounds for asylum claims, the U.S. government continues to effectively expand and legitimize the boundaries of illegality. We then show how children at the border are affected by the expansion of illegality through specific detention, incarceration, and deportation tactics currently deployed at the U.S.-Mexico border. —Dr. Aida Rodriguez (New School) is a co-researcher and co-author.

Elisa Oceguera (2:30-3:30, in Mainstage Theatre)
“Sexualidades Campesinas: an LGBTQ Farm Worker Digital Stories Project”

Elisa Oceguera is a Ph.D. candidate in the Cultural Studies Program at UC Davis. She investigates the role of care labor in sustaining queer sociality in farmworker communities. Her research interests include community-based methodologies, critical ethnic studies, autonomous Marxism, queer and trans studies. She is a co-founder of Queer Qumbia, a queer and trans grassroots benefit dance party in the SF Bay Area. Elisa will discuss and screen some of her farmworker interviews from the Sexualidades Campesinas project, which aims to collect stories told by sexually
diverse (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) members of farm worker communities from rural California. Here’s a weblink to more information about her project: 
http://sexualidadescampesinas.ucdavis.edu/en/about-the-project/

Farmworker Family Panel, with Oralia Maceda (CBDIO); moderated by Dvera Saxton (3:30-5:00pm, in Mainstage Theatre)

This panel will feature a presentation (with translation) by five members of a Madera farmworker family associated with community-based research projects conducted by Dr. Dvera Saxton (Fresno State) and Dr. Seth Holmes (UC Berkeley).

Oralia Maceda represents the Binational Center for Indigenous Oaxacan Development (CBDIO), which implements projects on worker’s rights to provide orientation, education, training, counseling and referrals. CBDIO promotes intensive training of indigenous interpreters as a medium of communication between monolingual indigenous migrants and various government institutions. CBDIO also works to increase the participation of indigenous women in the life of the migrant community, providing training in and promotion of gender equality so they may exercise self-determination in their civic lives. CBDIO promotes health education on prevention and treatment of illnesses and facilitates access to health and social services, and helps indigenous migrants learn how to improve the living conditions of the communities in which they reside. Oralia will contribute to the panel presentation from the standpoint of CBDIO’s service efforts in support of farmworker families in the Fresno/Madera region.

Keynote Program (6:00-8:45pm, in Mainstage Theatre)

Opening Keynote Talk: Dr. Dvera Saxton (Fresno State) 6:00-7:00pm

Dvera Saxton is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at California State University – Fresno. She was a post-doctoral research associate in SSEHRI in 2013-2014. She completed her Ph.D. in Anthropology at American University with a dissertation entitled Layered Disparities, Layered Vulnerabilities: Farmworker Health and Agricultural Corporate Power On and Off the Farm, which draws from two years of ethnographic field research in the Pájaro and Salinas Valleys of California’s Central Coast. Through her engaged explorations of farmworker experiences with worker’s compensation systems, pesticide policies and practices, state and non-profit social services, and the development of agribusiness-sponsored corporate social responsibility and philanthropy programs, Dvera documents how many of the policies and practices proposed as solutions to farmworker health actually perpetuate vulnerabilities and social and environmental suffering. In conducting her research, she mobilized a combination of methodological approaches, developing strong rapport with farmworker families and actively participating in the campaign against the toxic soil fumigant pesticide methyl iodide. Her ongoing research and organizing activity incorporate farmworker knowledge of and
experiences with toxic pesticides and work-related injuries within the context of transnational agricultural migration. Her advocacy work fosters trans-worker solidarity as well as alternative, non-capitalist strategies to redress shared social and environmental harms in underrepresented communities.

**Miguel Villegas (Hip Hop interlude) 7:00-7:30pm**

Miguel Villegas is a trilingual Ñuu Savi (Mixteco) rapper. His artistic name, Una Isu, means Eight Deer in Mixtec and is a tribute to the legendary Mixtec leader Eight Deer Jaguar Claw. He was born in San Miguel Cuevas—Nùù Yúku, a Mixtec community located in the Mixteca Baja of Oaxaca Mexico with strong migration to the United States, and immigrated to the US at the age of 7 with his mother and three older siblings. Miguel has performed social justice hip hop for audiences in Fresno, Los Angeles, Oxnard, Santa Cruz, Oakland, New York, and Mexico City, where he performed for the festival “Secretos De Socrates México: Los Grandes Debates” in 2016. Miguel has worked as a community organizer, interpreter, coordinator of cultural projects with the Binational Center for Indigenous Development Oaxaqueño (CBDIO). For a recording of a Soundcloud interview conducted at Stanford in 2017: [https://soundcloud.com/stanfordsoundings/jackie](https://soundcloud.com/stanfordsoundings/jackie)

**Featured Keynote Talk: Dr. Sarah Horton (University of Colorado, Denver) 7:30-8:30pm**

Sarah Horton is Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Colorado, Denver. Her areas of expertise include Latino health disparities, migration and transnational-ism, migrant access to care, cross-border health, and the occupational health of farmworkers. She earned her PhD in Anthropology with Distinction from the University of New Mexico in 2003 and completed a 2-year postdoctoral fellowship in Harvard University’s Department of Social Medicine (2003-2005). Dr. Horton served on the UCSF research faculty from 2005 to 2007, where she was lead ethnographer on an NIH-funded study of oral health disparities among Mexican American farmworker children. Dr. Horton has published over 20 peer-reviewed articles in journals such as Social Science & Medicine, Journal of Immigrant & Minority Health, Medical Anthropology Quarterly, American Anthropologist, and American Ethnologist, and was awarded the Steven J. Polgar Prize for best article published in Medical Anthropology Quarterly by the Society for Medical Anthropology in 2011. Her research has been funded by the Wenner Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research and the University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States.

Dr. Horton’s book, *They Leave Their Kidneys in the Fields: Illness, Injury, and Illegality in California’s Central Valley*, was published in 2016 (U. of California Press) and earned the 2017 Robert B. Textor and family Prize for Excellence in Anticipatory Anthropology. The book draws on a decade of ethnographic fieldwork in the Central Valley to examine causes for the high rate of heat-related deaths among immigrant farmworkers. Horton shows that even as growers, the media, and state occupational safety officials tend to naturalize farmworker deaths from heart stroke, U.S. labor, immigration health care and food safety
policies all play a role in this tragedy. The book challenges official accounts of the causes and prevalence of heatstroke and outlines concrete policy solutions to remedy the problem. She has written reports for Cal-OSHA on how company food safety policies compromise workers’ health in the fields, and is working with several California labor advocacy organizations and nonprofits to encourage companies to change their policies. The book also challenges the common portrayal of undocumented immigrants as “identity thieves” and questions the validity of document-related criminal charges often levied against immigrants.
Upcoming Social Justice Event

March 26, 2019, Snider Recital Hall, 7pm.

An Evening with Jenny Brown (National Women’s Liberation organizer and author of Birth Strike: The Hidden Fight over Women’s Work)

Join us for an evening with National Women’s Liberation organizer Jenny Brown for a discussion of her new book, Birth Strike: The Hidden Fight over Women’s Work (PM Press, 2019). Following her presentation, Jenny Brown will engage in discussion with Dr. Meggan Jordan (faculty in Sociology) and respond to questions from the audience.

About the book: When House Speaker Paul Ryan urged U.S. women to have more children, and Ross Douthat requested “More babies, please,” they openly expressed what U.S. policy makers have been discussing for decades with greater discretion. Using technical language like “age structure,” “dependency ratio,” and “entitlement crisis,” establishment think tanks are raising the alarm: if U.S. women don’t have more children, we’ll face an aging workforce, slack consumer demand, and a stagnant economy. Feminists generally believe that a prudish religious bloc is responsible for the fight over reproductive freedom in the U.S., but hidden behind this conventional explanation is a dramatic fight over women’s reproductive labor. On one side, elite policy makers want an expanding workforce reared with a minimum of employer spending and a maximum of unpaid women’s work. On the other side, women are refusing to produce children at levels desired by economic planners. With little access to childcare, family leave or health care, and with insufficient male participation, U.S. women are conducting a spontaneous birth strike. In other countries, panic over low birth rates has led governments to underwrite childbearing with generous universal programs, but in the U.S., women have not yet realized the potential of their bargaining position. When they do, it will lead to new strategies for winning full access to abortion and birth control, and for improving the difficult working conditions U.S. parents now face when raising children.
**Jenny Brown** first studied the radical history of the Women’s Liberation Movement with Gainesville (Florida) Women’s Liberation and then with Redstockings, where she developed materials for the Redstockings Women’s Liberation Archives for Action. She was a leader in the grassroots campaign to win morning-after pill contraception over-the-counter in the United States, and a plaintiff in the winning lawsuit. For ten years she co-chaired the Alachua County Labor Party, organizing for national health insurance, the right to a job at a living wage, free higher education and a working person’s political party under the Labor Party slogan, “The corporations have two parties, we need one of our own.” More recently Ms. Brown worked as a staff writer and editor for *Labor Notes*, a magazine covering labor struggles in hotels, restaurants, retail, farm work, airlines, telecommunications and the building trades. She is a co-author of *How to Jump-Start Your Union: Lessons from the Chicago Teachers* (2014). Ms. Brown writes, teaches, and organizes with the feminist group National Women’s Liberation (womensliberation.org).

**April 26, 2019—Dialogue on Racism and Intolerance**

**Campus Dialogue: C-102 (2-3:45pm) – Keynote Talk: Snider Hall 7:30pm**

With co-sponsorship from Phi Kappa Phi and a generous Campus Climate grant, the College of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences is pleased to host a special campus dialogue on racism and intolerance. This event will take place on April 26, 2019 and features **Tendayi Achiume** (*UCLA School of Law and United Nations Special Rapporteur*). Professor Achiume was appointed by the Human Rights Council of the United Nations in November 2017 to serve as their fifth "Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance," which is a distinguished position she continues to serve in. The special rapporteur operates as an independent human rights expert appointed to call attention to the most pressing problems of racial, ethnic and xenophobic discrimination and systemic intolerance around the world. The special rapporteur conducts fact-finding visits, works directly with nations to effect change, and submits periodic reports to the Human Rights Council. The appointment also serves as a platform for interdisciplinary research and the exchange of knowledge on how to best implement global anti-racism standards. The main component of this event will be an evening plenary talk (7:30pm) in Snider Hall (300 seats), immediately following the PKP induction ceremony and open to all members of our campus and local community who share an interest in social justice and human rights issues at the cutting edge of national and global conversations. The campus visit will also include special opportunities for groups of students and faculty to meet in a more intimate setting with Professor Achiume to discuss her experiences and observations while serving as special rapporteur, and to probe elements emphasized in her distinguished research and scholarship.