

Ethnic Geography Specialty Group Newsletter, Fall 2021

Editor: Paul N. McDaniel (Kennesaw State University)

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ethnicgeography.com**

Greetings from the EGSG Chair



Dear EGSG members,

I hope you and your loved ones are staying well and safe as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. Most of us returned to in-person classes this fall and had

to adjust to yet another new normal after a year of conducting classes, research and meetings online. As I write this, the Omicron variant threatens to curtail our mobility and our ability to gather safely in groups in physical space to celebrate the holidays. I know that several of us have been working on research about the effects of the pandemic on the lives of those less privileged

than us as well as particular ethnic and racial minorities and I urge all of us to share the findings of our research in formal and informal forums.

I am happy to report that many members of the EGSG participated virtually and in-person in the Race, Ethnicity, and Place (REP) Conference which took place in Baltimore from October 20-23, 2021. The conference's theme was "Justice and the City in an Age of Social Division" and it was the outcome of collaboration between the Middle Atlantic Division of the American Association of Geographers (MAD-AAG) and REP conference organizers from several universities. I want to congratulate members of the REP Planning Committee who worked tirelessly for months to organize this wonderful conference – Conference Director Professor Sarah Blue of Texas State University, Dr. Joe Wood, Professor Emeritus from the University of Baltimore, Professor Mark Barnes of Morgan State University, and Professor Jeremy Tasch of Towson University. With a pre-conference workshop on positioning geography in HBCUs and minority-serving institutions, over 160 in-person and virtual paper and panel presentations, a plenary session that included a fantastic keynote by author and professor D. Watkins and a spoken word performance by Ron Williams, also a professor, the conference gave participants an opportunity to re-connect professionally and personally. You can read about the REP conference in greater detail in Prof. Sarah Blue's report in this newsletter.

Another tradition that holds an important place in our academic calendars is the annual AAG meeting. Many of us are looking forward to the 2022 AAG conference in New York City, which one may attend in physical or virtual format. Our EGSG Business Meeting has been scheduled for February 26, 2022, at 8:00 p.m. Please mark your

calendars! The EGSG business meeting will use a hybrid format. I am enthused that several members of the EGSG plan to go to New York City while others are planning to attend virtually.

After a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the EGSG is planning to once again issue awards for Distinguished Ethnic Geography Scholarship, Outstanding Ethnic Geography Service, Outstanding Ethnic Geography Career and a newly instituted award to a scholar of ethnic geography who is in early or mid-career. We will also be giving awards for an outstanding student paper and for an outstanding dissertation proposal. EGSG Board members in charge of these awards will be sending out information on how to nominate persons for and apply for these awards very soon.

Finally, on behalf of the EGSG, I wish each of you joy, good health and safety this holiday season.

Elizabeth Chacko
George Washington University

XIth Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference

Justice and the City in an Age of Social Division
Baltimore, Maryland
October 20-23, 2021

The XIth Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, held in collaboration with the Mid-Atlantic Division (MAD) of the American Association of Geographers, took place at the Hotel Indigo Downtown and the Maryland Center for History and Culture (MCHC) in the historic downtown Mt. Vernon District of Baltimore City. The conference was a collaboration of faculty organizers from the University of Baltimore, Morgan State University, and Towson University with administrative support from the Department of Geography at Texas State University and significant financial support from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The conference, with focus on engaging the local community, brought together 282 participants, a significant portion of whom were from populations historically underrepresented in geography and academia. Of the total registered participants, 162 were faculty members or professional staff members, and 120 were students. The hybrid format, with paper and panel sessions including both in-person and virtual presenters and audiences, drew 156 participants in-person and another 136 virtually.

The conference kicked off with an NSF-sponsored pre-conference workshop at Morgan State University focusing on promoting geography at HBCUs, PBIs, HSIs, Tribal Colleges, and other MSIs. The 30 participants included 20 people presently teaching at or intending to teach at an HBCU or other MSI; 10 partners with experience in building and sustaining degree programs and generating research; interdisciplinary faculty and staff from Morgan State University; and representatives of the American Association of Geographers and NSF. Participants engaged in robust discussion, shared ideas, addressed opportunities and challenges to build diversity into the career pipeline from undergraduate programs to

professional geographers, and came away committed to developing and sustaining a professional network committed to promoting geography in HBCUs and other MSIs.

The two and a half days of the conference started off with a Wednesday evening welcome session on October 20, with poet Unique Robinson welcoming attendees to Baltimore with a spoken word performance inviting the attendees to learn from the struggles and successes of Baltimore's citizens. Thursday and Friday, the 21st and 22nd, were devoted to 32 separate and diverse paper and panel sessions on topics that included both American and international academic perspectives on place and refuge, asylum, borders, immigrant communities and diasporas along with issues of environmental justice, food justice, healthcare justice, social and socio-spatial justice, workforce justice, and housing and gentrification. Diversity in Covid-19 impacts, the experience of being Black in America, community engagement, and making sense of the 2020 US Census rounded out the topics.



REP attendees including Prof. Mark Barnes (Morgan State University), who was one of the organizers of the REP conference and EGSG Board Members Elizabeth Chacko (George Washington University) and José R. Díaz-Garayúa (California State University, Stanislaus), among others.
Photo from Elizabeth Chacko.

Featured panels inspired by the pre-conference workshop theme of promoting geography in HBCUs and MSIs allowed for in-depth discussion on topics that included researching race, racialization, and anti-racism; promoting geography at HBCUs and other MSIs;

departmental and interdisciplinary program inclusion and diversity initiatives; recruiting, sustaining, and retaining diverse faculty and students; mentoring and professional development for underrepresented faculty and students; teaching to diverse intersectionalities; opportunities for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI)-related research at the National Science Foundation; and integrating JEDI into the AAG.



Dave Kaplan (Kent State University) and Emily Skop (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs) during lunch break at the REP conference outside the Maryland Center for History and Culture.
Photo from Elizabeth Chacko.

Several book talks provided a new feature for REP and MAD. University of Baltimore law professor Gilda Daniels discussed her new edition of *Uncounted: The Crisis in Voter Suppression in the United States* (NYU, 2021) at Red Emma's Bookstore and Coffeeshop on Thursday evening. Saturday morning, author Lawrence Lanahan and three community members he had interviewed for his book discussed *The Lines Between Us: Two Families and a Quest to Cross Baltimore's Racial Divide* (The New Press, 2019).

A highlight for many was the Friday plenary with a focus on community engagement and Baltimore. Among the speakers was Kurt Schmoke, the first elected Black mayor of Baltimore and now president of the University of

Baltimore, reflecting on the strengths of the city in the present moment; Roger Hartley, dean of the University of Baltimore's College of Public Affairs addressing the university's role in public service; and Ron Williams, University of Baltimore adjunct lecturer in ethics who read his own poetry about living in Baltimore. All of this was prelude to an address by writer and University of Baltimore lecturer D Watkins, whose story of rising from crack dealer to a voice from forgotten Black America was inspiring. Conference attendees each received a copy of Watkins's most recent book. A catered reception in the lobby of the Maryland Center for History and Culture followed.

On Saturday, a number of conference attendees walked the Pennsylvania Avenue Main Street area, once the center of Black economic and cultural life in Baltimore, to engage directly with community members and assess the impact of structural racism and the Covid-19 pandemic on the avenue and its adjacent neighborhoods.

The conference would not have been possible without the generous support of many institutions, academic departments, the American Association of Geographers, the National Science Foundation, and the T. Rowe Price Foundation. We are extremely grateful for all of this support.

We look forward to seeing you at the next REP XII, October 2023 at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville! You can keep an eye on developments at www.repconference.org.

Mark Barnes, Morgan State University
Sarah Blue, Texas State University
Jeremy Tasch, Towson University/MAD-AAG
Joseph Wood, University of Baltimore

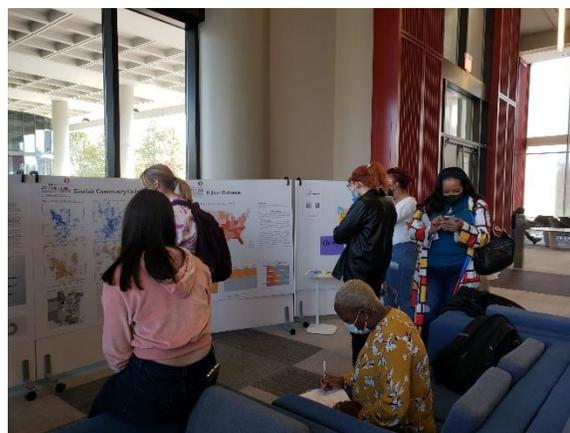
**Like EGSG on Facebook at:
facebook.com/EthnicSpecialtyGroup/**

Vestiges of Redlining: Mapping Equity in Dayton, Ohio

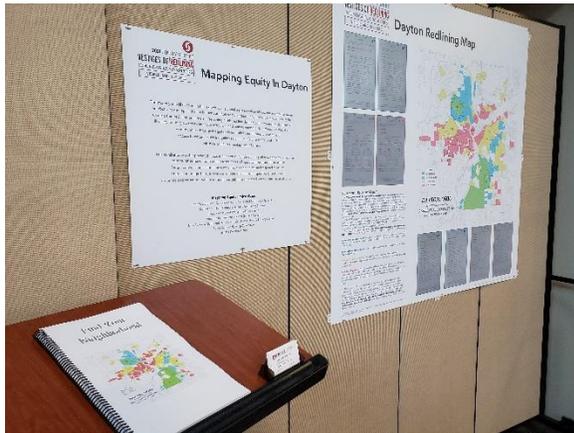
“When you know it's an issue going on in your community, but see it blown up a map... it really makes you see the scope of the issue.” - student visitor



Students at Sinclair Community College have been exploring local geography through a new exhibit called *Vestiges of Redlining: Mapping Equity in Dayton*. The exhibit was created to support Sinclair's fourth annual Equity Summit which focused on redlining this year. The geography department was asked by the college to create maps that explore the ways that redlining continues to impact access to opportunity along racial lines in Dayton today.



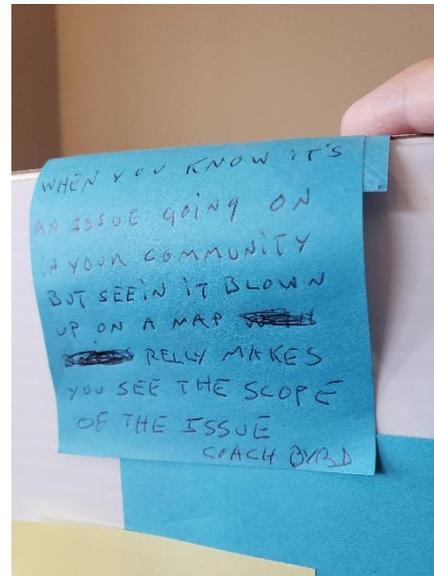
This exhibit was the center of the day long Equity Summit which was attended by over 500 Sinclair faculty and staff. This was truly a collaborative effort as the geography department worked with the Equity Planning Committee to identify themes (redlining, health, education, green space, and police violence) and what was to be mapped. We worked with graphic design faculty to create the overall layout and look of the exhibit. All the cartography was completed over a six month period by Sinclair students -- Katie Wosyk and Danielle Lainhart.



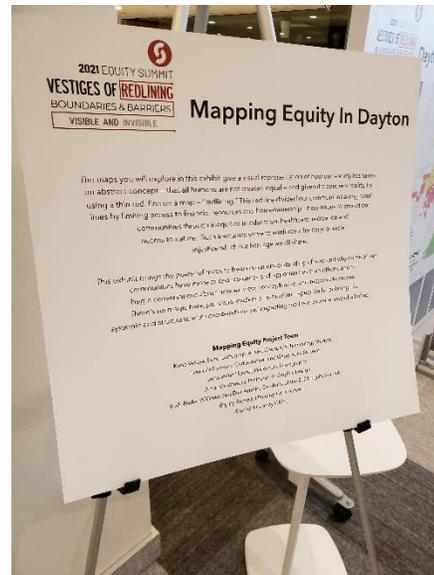
Following the Fall Equity Summit, faculty used the exhibit to facilitate conversations with their students about redlining in Dayton and key community members were invited to visit. Now it has evolved into a standalone travelling exhibit with requests to exhibit the work at libraries, universities, high schools, and museums. Our geography students are developing additional maps and posters to expand on the themes as we go forward.



We are excited about the opportunity to facilitate critical discussions about redlining in our community and also introduce geography as a lens for these conversations.



Introduction to *Vestiges of Redlining: Mapping Equity in Dayton, Ohio* museum exhibit:



“The maps you will explore in this exhibit give a visual representation of how our society has taken an abstract concept—that all humans are not created equal—and given it a concrete reality, by using a thin red line on a map—‘redlining.’ This red line divided our communities along racial lines by limiting access to financial resources and

homeownership. It continues to impact our communities through inequities in education, healthcare, recreation and access to nature. Such inequities serve to reinforce a heritage of racial injustice which is a heritage we all share. This exhibit brings the power of maps to bear on our understanding of how and why some of our communities have more or less resources and opportunities than others, and to begin conversations about how we view, conceptualize, and respond to racism. There's no magic here, just visual evidence that racism—specifically redlining—is systemic and structural, with reverberations still impacting the lived experiences of all of us.”

*Jacqueline Housel
Sinclair Community College*

EGSG Member News

Editor's Note: These are the news items of note that were submitted to the EGSG Newsletter or that we are aware of. We rely on our members to keep us informed about their exciting activities so we can list them here. We know there are many members engaged in a wide variety of ethnic geography activities. Please send your news items for the newsletter to Paul McDaniel (paul.mcdaniel@kennesaw.edu) because such news reflects well on you and the EGSG as a vibrant academic organization.

José R. Díaz-Garayúa (California State University, Stanislaus) noted that the Center for Applied Spatial Analysis at California State University, Stanislaus, partnered with Stanislaus County Health Service Agency to work on a Park Use study. This report will help with the management and services provided to different areas, including communities of color and underserved communities. This project will include ten paid Research Assistants from different majors including geography. The project is led by Dr. Díaz-Garayúa (Geography) and Dr. Logan (Anthropology). Díaz-Garayúa will also be teaching a course on ethnic geography in spring 2022.

Rafael Harun (Tennessee State University) has joined the Department of Social Work and Urban Studies at Tennessee State University (TSU), in Nashville, Tennessee, as an Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) in August 2021.

Paul N. McDaniel (Kennesaw State University) along with several colleagues at Kennesaw State University (Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez), Georgia Institute of Technology (Allen Hyde), and Georgia State University (Cathy Yang Liu), continue work on their project through a “Connecting Globally While Grounded at Home” grant from the Atlanta Global Research and Education Collaborative (AGREC), housed in the Atlanta Global Studies Center at the Georgia Institute of Technology, for the project “Advancing a Community-Based Participatory Research Model for Metropolitan Regional Immigrant Integration and Receptivity Through the One Region Initiative.” Paul also organized and moderated an AAG state redistricting panel discussion session for the state of Georgia, which was held October 1. Follow Paul on Twitter at @pnmcdaniel.

Edris J. Montalvo (Cameron University) earned promotion to full professor effective August 2021 and has also been granted a sabbatical for Fall 2021.

Madhuri Sharma (University of Tennessee) had two graduate students recently complete milestones in their programs. MS student Faisal Islam completed his MS Thesis in Summer 2021. His thesis is titled “Impact of Economic Shocks on Gendered Household Time Allocation within the Context of Rural Agricultural Bangladesh.” PhD Student Mikhail Samarin became ABD this Fall 2021. He passed his written PhD comprehensive exams in both fields of specialty—Urban Geography and Livability, and Methods—and he also successfully defended his dissertation proposal titled “Analyzing Rent Burden from the Geographical Perspective: Determinants and Their Variation in the United States.” Now he is all set out to get into big data analyses and publish several manuscripts in the next 4 to 5 semesters.

Selima Sultana (University of North Carolina, Greensboro) is currently serving as co-editor of the journal *Southeastern Geographer*.

EGSG Member Recent Publications

Members of the EGSG are busy publishing a variety of work. We highlight a few of these works here. **Editor's Note:** These are the only publications that were submitted to the EGSG Newsletter. We rely on our members to keep us informed about their publications, so we can list them here. We know there are far more publications from the EGSG membership than shown in this list. If you would like for us to include your recent publications in the next EGSG newsletter, please send your publication citations to Paul McDaniel (paul.mcdaniel@kennesaw.edu) as soon as they are published as this reflects well on you as a scholar and EGSG as a vibrant academic organization.

Alderman, Derek, and Joshua Inwood. 2021. "[Memory-Work in Montgomery, Alabama.](#)" *FOCUS on Geography*, 64. DOI: 10.21690/foge/2021.64.4p.

Bowen, John, and Heike Alberts. 2021. "[Pagodas and PowerPoint – Teaching Geography in Mandalay, Myanmar.](#)" *FOCUS on Geography*, 64. DOI:10.21690/foge/2021.64.3p.

Burciaga, Edeline and Aaron Malone. 2021. "[Intensified Liminal Legality: The impact of the DACA rescission for undocumented young adults in Colorado.](#)" *Law & Social Inquiry*, 46 (4): 1092-1114. DOI: 10.1017/lsi.2021.8.

Chen, Angela Chia-Chen, SeungYoung Han, Wei Li, Karen Leong, and Lihong Ou. 2021. "[COVID-19 and Asian American College Students: Discrimination, Vulnerability and Resiliency.](#)" *Journal of Emergency Management*, 19, 9: 121-131.

Hill, Jessica, Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez, and Paul N. McDaniel. 2021. "[Immigration Status as a Social Determinant of Health During Covid-19.](#)" *Public Health Post*. Boston: Boston University School of Public Health. October 29, 2021.

Islam, Faisal B., and Madhuri Sharma. 2021. "[Gendered Dimensions of Unpaid Activities: An Empirical Insight into Rural Bangladesh Households.](#)" *Sustainability, Special focus: Frontiers in Economic Geography*, 13, 12, 6670.

Lo, Lucia, Yixi Lu, Wei Li, Yining Tan, and Zheng Lu. 2021. "[Youth Educational Mobility: the Start of Intellectual Migration.](#)" pp.83-96 in David Cairns ed. *The Palgrave Handbook of Youth Mobility and Educational Migration* Palgrave Macmillan.

McDaniel, Paul N. 2021. "[Twenty-First Century Migration, Integration, and Receptivity: Prospects and Pathways in Metropolitan Areas of the Southeastern United States.](#)" Special Issue: Observations on the Future Geographies of the American South. *Southeastern Geographer*, 61, 4: 381-404.

McDaniel, Paul N., Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez, and Lara Smith-Sitton. 2021. "[Inclusive Storytelling: Community Reaction to Immigrant Youth Experiences in Atlanta.](#)" *Atlanta Studies*. September 16, 2021.

Ou, Lihong, Angela Chen, Wei Li, and Karen Leong. 2021. "[Quality of Life, Discrimination Experience and Associated Factors among Asian American Nursing Staff in the US during the COVID-19 Crisis.](#)" *Asian Journal of Research in Nursing and Health*, 4, 4: 141-153.

Samarin, Mikhail, and Madhuri Sharma. 2021. "[Rent burden determinants in hot and cold housing markets of Davidson and Shelby Counties, Tennessee.](#)" *Growth and Change*, 52, 3: 1608-1632.

Sharma, Madhuri. 2021. "[Multiple Dimensions of Gender \(Dis\)Parity: A County-Scale Analysis of Occupational Attainment in the USA, 2019.](#)" *Sustainability*, 13, 16, 8915. DOI:

10.1007/s10708-021-10417-2.

Tan, Yining, and Wei Li. 2021. “全球化背景下的女性移民—以东莞为例”谭艺凝、李唯
“Gendered migration in the era of globalization: the case of Dongguan.” pp.136-153 in CCG ed. *International Migration Report China 2020*. (in Chinese).

EGSG Mission Statement

To promote the common interests of persons working in ethnic geography, to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas within the AAG, and to encourage members in their research and teaching of ethnic experiences from comparative, national/transnational and global perspectives.

EGSG Officers and Standing Committees

Past Chair:

Edris Montalvo, Cameron University, 2021-2023

Current Chair:

Elizabeth Chacko, George Washington University, 2021-2023

Vice Chair:

Wan Yu, Binghamton University, 2021-2023

Secretary-Treasurer:

Paul McDaniel, Kennesaw State University, 2021-2023

Newsletter Editor

Paul McDaniel, Kennesaw State University, 2021-2023

Board of Directors:

(8 members, including 1 student member, provide advice to and assist EGSG officers in carrying out their duties, serve on committees, and undertake other duties that may arise. The student Board Member represents student interests.)

Heike Alberts, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, 2021-2024

Sean Crotty, Texas Christian University, 2021-2024

José Diaz Garayua, California State University-Stanislaus, 2021-2024

Weronika Kusek, Northern Michigan University, 2021-2024

Edris Montalvo, Cameron University, 2021-2024

Madhuri Sharma, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, 2021-2024

EGSG Awards Committee

(5 members, Responsible for Distinguished Ethnic Geography Scholar, Outstanding Ethnic Geography Service, and Outstanding Ethnic Geography Career Awards)

Edris Montalvo, Cameron University, 2021-2024

Madhuri Sharma, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, 2021-2024

Elizabeth Chacko, The George Washington University, 2021-2024

Outstanding Ethnic Geography Dissertation Proposal Committee

(3 members)

Edris Montalvo, Cameron University, 2021-2024

Sean Crotty, Texas Christian University, 2021-2024

Outstanding Ethnic Geography Student Paper Committee

(3 members)

Michael Webb, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, 2018-2020

AAG Program Committee

(3 members)

Elizabeth Chacko, George Washington University, 2021-2023

Wan Yu, Binghamton University, 2021-2023

Website Committee

(3 members)

José Diaz Garayua, California State University-Stanislaus, 2021-2024

Michael Webb, University of North Carolina-
Chapel Hill, 2021-2024

Student Committee

(5 members)

Newsletter Committee

(2 members)

Paul McDaniel, Kennesaw State University,
2021-2022

EGSG Website

EGSG activities and latest news, achievements, memberships, etc. are available on its website: ethnicgeography.com. In the 2016 business meeting of the EGSG at AAG in San Francisco, the members and committees approved the development of a new and improved website that is hosted by an independent link. Our website is being managed by co-webmasters Matt Cook (Eastern Michigan University) and Michael Webb (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill). Feel free to connect with them if you need any assistance with posting jobs or other updates that need EGSG focus. Also visit EGSG on Facebook at [@EthnicSpecialtyGroup](https://www.facebook.com/EthnicSpecialtyGroup/) (www.facebook.com/EthnicSpecialtyGroup/).

Submissions to the EGSG Newsletter

If you would like to submit an item for the next EGSG Newsletter, please email your story to Paul McDaniel at paul.mcdaniel@kennesaw.edu. Examples of contributions for inclusion in the newsletter include:

- Professional updates
- News from the field
- New jobs, tenure and promotion announcements
- Appointments to notable committees
- Recent publications
- Research grants
- Highlights/photos from EGSG events this year (such as AAG and REP)
- Information about upcoming EGSG events
- “Who’s teaching ethnic geography?”
- Op-ed or book review
- Other relevant updates

***Hope to see you at the 2022
American Association of
Geographers hybrid
conference!***