THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

2022 VIRTUAL EQUITY IN GRADUATE EDUCATION SUMMIT

THIS SUMMIT CAME TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
The Graduate School’s Offices of Equity & Justice, Graduate Student Equity & Excellence (GSEE), and Graduate Student Affairs—Core Programs, as well as tri-campus partners including the Center for International Relations & Cultural Leadership Exchange, The Disability and d/Deaf Cultural Center (D Center), HR/POD, Leadership Without Borders, and UW-Tacoma’s School of Education.

PROGRAM & SCHEDULE >
TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022 > 9 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Welcome

9–9:15 A.M. > OPENING
Dr. Joy Williamson-Lott & Dr. Ralina L. Joseph

Join us for our second annual summit opening remarks with Graduate School Dean Joy Williamson-Lott and Associate Dean for Equity & Justice Ralina Joseph. Stick around for our first summit session!
> Find bios on all of the summit’s speakers on pages 4-9.

9:15–10:15 A.M. > SESSION 1
Accountability & Land Acknowledgments: Beyond Performativity

Panelists: Dr. Joshua L Reid & Dr. V. Kalei Kanuha / Introduction: Monea Kerr
Moderator: Scott Pinkham

This panel conversation will address the scripting of land acknowledgments. In particular, panelists will discuss ways to create accountability (and not simply performativity) in tandem.
REGISTER: bit.ly/EquitySummitSession1

10:15 – 11 A.M. > BREAK

11 A.M.–NOON > SESSION 2
Accountability & Holistic Support: On Grad Student Access and Retention

Panelists: Ziyan Bai, Lesley Ellis, Magdalena Fonseca & Lupita Tovar Mendoza
Moderator: Jaye Sablan

This panel session builds upon the Graduate School’s Holistic Support Series, a partnership between the Office of Equity & Justice and Graduate Student Affairs—Core Programs. In this conversation and Q&A, staff and graduate students from the Center for International Relations & Cultural Leadership Exchange (CIRCLE), the D Center, Graduate Student Equity & Excellence (GSEE), and Leadership Without Borders discuss challenges of access and retention particular to students of color, undocumented students, disabled students, and international students seeking graduate and professional degrees.
REGISTER: bit.ly/EquitySummitSession2
In this interactive session, participants will learn about three different approaches and ongoing practices of accountability and structural changemaking across the tri-campus. After learning steps to create structural change and hearing about the processes of developing equity audits, an equity map, and a DEI rubric from the Graduate School’s Office of Equity & Justice, UW-Tacoma’s School of Education, and HR/POD, participants will join working break out groups to begin their own processes of structural change. Please come prepared to work together in session.

**Panelists:** Virginia Frausto, Dr. Robin Minthorn & Maxine Wright  
**Moderator:** Dr. Ralina L. Joseph

In this interactive session, the Office of Graduate Student Equity & Excellence (GSEE) team, including GSEE Director Dr. Carolyn Jackson, and team members Kayla Newcomer, Monea Kerr, and Chinazom Oleru, will present examples of moving towards action in administrative systems and community building. Participants will leave with strategies for developing an accountability framework for their sphere of influence. Please come prepared for reflection, brainstorming, and an interactive activity.

**Panelists:** Dr. Carolyn W. Jackson, Kayla Newcomer, Monea Kerr & Chinazom Oleru  
**Moderator:** Patrycja Humienik

Thank you for attending and engaging with us on these important topics.
Dr. Joshua L Reid

Born and raised in Washington State, Dr. Joshua L Reid (registered member of the Snohomish Indian Nation) is an associate professor of American Indian Studies and the John Calhoun Smith Memorial Endowed Associate Professor of History at the University of Washington. He holds degrees from Yale University and the University of California, Davis, and is a three-time Ford Foundation Fellow. Yale University Press published his first book, "The Sea Is My Country: The Maritime World of the Makahs" (2015) in the Henry Roe Cloud Series on American Indians and Modernity. It has received awards and acknowledgments from the Organization for American Historians, American Society for Ethnohistory, the Western History Association, and the North American Society for Oceanic History. Reid currently directs the university’s Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest and edits the Emil and Kathleen Sick Series on Western History and Biography with UW Press and the Roe Cloud Series on American Indians and Modernity.

Dr. V. Kalei Kanuha

V. Kalei Kanuha was born and raised in a rural town in Hawai‘i in the 1950s. She is the daughter of a Native Hawaiian father and Nisei mother. Dr. Kanuha considers herself a critical, indigenous, feminist, activist-practitioner scholar with a focus on gender violence against women and children, and the intersection of race/ethnicity and gender and sexual identity. For the past 45 years, she has worked as a community-based researcher and consultant with organizations in Hawai‘i and the continental U.S., and lectures widely on violence against women and social justice issues. Kalei has taught 30 different courses in community health, social work, sociology and women's studies over her teaching career. Professor Kanuha received the NASW Presidential Award for Excellence in Research and the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents Excellence in Teaching Award. She is a founding member of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Women's Center, Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS in New York, and INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence. Kalei received her B.A. in social work from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, M.S.W. from the University of Minnesota and Ph.D. in social welfare from the University of Washington.
> SESSION 1

Monea Kerr / INTRODUCTION

Monea Kerr (she/they) is a second year Masters of Public Administration student who is studying environmental policy and has been a graduate staff assistant for GSEE for the entirety of their graduate student experience. Prior to beginning their studies at UW in fall 2020, Monea worked at the City of Bellingham as a legislative assistant to the Bellingham City Council where they found their passion for public policy and governance. Monea is a member of the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe and that fact feeds their interest in Indigenous rights, ocean conservation, and environmental justice.

Scott Pinkham / MODERATOR

Scott Pinkham (Nez Perce) has been a Lecturer in AIS since 2000. Mr. Pinkham earned a B. A. in Mathematics from the University of Washington in 1987 and an M.Ed. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in 2019. Prior to coming to the UW in 1995, Scott worked for the American Indian Science & Engineering Society national office, the Nez Perce Tribe's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Program, Yakima Valley College, and Washington State's Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Pinkham served as the University of Washington's Native American Recruiter until 1999. Currently, he works for the College of Engineering as a full-time Assistant Director of Academic Inclusion and Community Relations in the College of Engineering's Office of Inclusive Excellence. Mr. Pinkham is the lead for the Minority Scholars Engineering Program and Engineering Dean's Scholars programs. Mr. Pinkham also serves as the advisor to the UW's American Indian Science & Engineering Society student chapter.

> SESSION 2

Ziyan Bai (CIRCLE)

Ziyan Bai, Ph.D., is a higher education researcher, student affairs practitioner, and UW alumna. Ziyan is the Student Programs Project Manager for the UW Center for International Relations and Cultural Leadership Exchange (CIRCLE) — where she leads efforts to support the holistic success of international graduate students. Prior to joining CIRCLE, she worked for the Offices of Graduate Student and Postdoc Affairs in The Graduate School for over 6 years, focusing on the professional development and community building needs of graduate students and postdocs.
Lesley Ellis (D Center)
Lesley Ellis has a Master of Sociology and Social Policy in disability Studies and has been in the field of Disability Advocacy since 2009. Lesley identifies as a disabled person and is committed to fostering a community of inclusion, access and a celebration of disability pride at the UW. Lesley brings experience in supporting and working with students and a commitment to disability activism and liberation.

Magdalena Fonseca (LWB)
Magdalena Fonseca is the Director for the Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center within the Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity at the University of Washington, Seattle campus. Born in Mexico, she immigrated to the U.S. where her family spent many years undocumented. From her own personal experience grew her passion for supporting and advocating for undocumented students, which has been doing for 20 years. In 2014, she co-founded the Leadership Without Borders Center, the first center dedicated to serve undocumented students in institutions of higher education in the Pacific Northwest. In 2016, she was awarded the UW Distinguished Staff Award for her efforts in supporting and advocating for undocumented students on campus. Magdalena holds a Master's degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies and a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of Washington.

Lupita Tovar Mendoza (GSEE/OG)
Guadalupe (Lupita) Tovar Mendoza is a National Science Foundation graduate student fellow in the Astronomy & Astrobiology dual-title Ph.D. program. She studies how stellar activity influences our ability to detect and characterize planets that are outside of our solar system. Lupita is a first-generation college student who earned her Bachelor's of Science degree in Astronomy with a minor in Physics from the UW in 2017, followed by a Master’s of Science degree in Astronomy in 2019. In her free time, Lupita enjoys reading and spending time in nature.
Jaye Sablan is assistant director of Graduate Student Affairs in the Graduate School, University of Washington. She centers equity in her work to develop holistic graduate student support on themes related to wellness, community building, and professional development. Jaye is co-editor with Jane Van Galen, of "Amplified Voices, Intersecting Identities: First-Gen PhDs Navigating Institutional Power" (Brill Sense, 2021). With Bill Mahoney and Ziyan Bai, she has co-authored pieces on equitable access to graduate student services — focusing on first-gen, international, and minoritized graduate student populations. These writings appear in Inside Higher Ed and "A Practitioner's Guide to Supporting Graduate and Professional Students," edited by Valerie A.Shepard and April Perry (Routledge, 2022).

Virginia Frausto brings her deep commitment to diversity, access, and social justice to her role as POD's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist and to UWHR's Diversity Committee. Virginia is a first-generation daughter of immigrant parents. She worked alongside her parents in farm work in the Yakima valley. Her upbringings have been the foundation of her continuous advocacy work. The adversities endured as a woman of color have turned into a passion for community organizing and engagement in the Yakima Valley and now Seattle. Her work focuses on improving organizational practices, promoting equity, ensuring our work is inclusive, and creating a safer working environment for BIPOC staff. Virginia received her Master’s in Public Administration from Seattle University and obtained double Bachelor’s from UW in Political Science, American Ethnic Studies, and a minor in Diversity.
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> SESSION 3

Dr. Robin Minthorn

Dr. Robin Minthorn comes to UW Tacoma from the University of New Mexico, where she was an Associate Professor. Dr. Robin Starr Zape-tah-hol-ah Minthorn (Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Apache, Nez Perce, Umatilla and Assiniboine) joined the School of Education as Director of the Ed.D. Program and Associate Professor of Educational Leadership. Prior to becoming a faculty member, Dr. Minthorn served as Coordinator of Native American Affairs at Oklahoma State University and an adjunct faculty at Pawnee Nation College. Dr. Minthorn’s primary research interests include Indigenous leadership in higher education, inter-generational leadership perspectives in tribal communities, supporting Native American college students and campus climate for Native American college students. Dr. Minthorn earned her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from Oklahoma State University.

Maxine Wright

Maxine is a doctoral student in the Department of Sociology. Her current work explores race/ethnicity, health, and neighborhood change as well as Black feminist theory, intersectional identities, and gender using qualitative methods, and her larger research agenda includes complicating the study of place and wellbeing through incorporation of critical geographic and racial capitalist lenses. She also works at the Office of Equity & Justice in Graduate Programs. In addition to her research, she designs and facilitates trainings on interrupting microaggressions, building equitable spaces, and leveraging the power of diversity in the classroom.

Dr. Ralina L. Joseph / MODERATOR

Dr. Ralina L. Joseph is the Presidential Term Professor of Communication, founding director of the Center for Communication, Difference, and Equity, and associate dean of Equity & Justice in Graduate Programs at the University of Washington. Ralina is the author of three books, and is currently writing "Interrupting Privilege: Talking Race and Fighting Racism," a book of essays based on her public scholarship.
Dr. Carolyn W. Jackson

Carolyn W. Jackson, Ph.D., is the director of the Office of Graduate Student Equity & Excellence (GSEE), formerly GO-MAP, at UW. She has been with the Graduate School for over six years, first, as a lead researcher for the First-Gen Graduate Student Initiative and then as the GO-MAP Outreach and Recruitment Officer where she revised, managed and facilitated programs like the Outreaching Grads (OGs). Previously, Dr. Jackson taught courses at the UW and other institutions and facilitated professional development and consulting workshops featuring themes of culturally responsive teaching and diversity, inclusion and equity.

Kayla Newcomer

Kayla Newcomer, MSW, (she/her), is program manager of the Office of Graduate Student Equity & Excellence (GSEE) at UW. She is a mixed-race Filipina cisgender woman and a recent graduate of UW's School of Social Work where she concentrated in Administration and Policy Practice. Kayla is passionate about racial and educational equity and justice in K-12 and higher education institutions, and a champion of culturally inclusive pedagogy. Her central goal throughout her work is amplifying power in BIPOC communities.

Chinazom Oleru

Chinazom Oleru is a Master's student in the Cultural Studies department at the University of Washington Bothell. She also serves as a Graduate Staff Assistant (GSA) for the Office of Graduate Student Equity and Excellence (GSEE).

Patrycja Humienik / MODERATOR

Patrycja is a Polish-American writer, dancer, and equity-focused facilitator. She is the Equity & Inclusion specialist for the Office of Equity & Justice in Graduate Programs at UW, and events director for The Seventh Wave, a non-profit at the intersection of art and social issues. Patrycja holds a B.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Colorado-Boulder and an M.A. in Communication from the University of Colorado-Denver.