



WAYNE STATE HUMANITIES CLINIC ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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ABOUT

The Humanities Clinic is an innovative internship program that enhances graduate teaching in the humanities and humanistic social sciences at Wayne State University by hiring graduate students to work as paid, semester-long interns with Detroit non-profits and small businesses. The mission of the Humanities Clinic is to bring humanities and social science expertise to communities throughout Detroit and to prepare graduate students for meaningful and diverse careers while supporting local businesses and non-profits.

The Clinic is based in the Department of History and hires graduate students from all humanities and social science departments. Professor Elizabeth Faue the Clinic director, and history PhD candidate Lillian Wilson is the Clinic coordinator.

OUR SPONSORS

American Historical Association Career Diversity Initiative
Wayne State Graduate School
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Wayne State Department of History
The Office of the Vice President for Research
The Office of the Provost
Private Donors

2020 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Henry Ford Health System
Wayne State School of Medicine
Karmanos Cancer Institute
Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Law
Clinic (LAPC), Wayne State Law School
Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic, Wayne
State Law School
Detroit Public Schools Foundation
Food Rescue US
Detroit Artists Market
Wayne County Council for the Arts
CLEARCorp Detroit/Southeast Michigan
Health Association
InsideOut Literary Arts Project
Stand with Trans

Wayne State College of Nursing
Wayne State Department of
Communications
Wayne State Department of Sociology
Wayne State School of Social Work
Wayne State Campus Health Center
OurHealth Media Network
Urban Aging News
Mercy Education Project
Scarab Club
Italian Film Festival and Museum
WakeUPP Detroit
A Host of People
Eldercare & Caregiver Solutions

2020 INTERNS

Karine Ibrahim, Political Science: Wayne County Council for the Arts; River Raisin Institute

Alexandra Penn, History: Wayne County Council for the Arts and Humanities; Detroit Artist Market

Andrés Romero, Anthropology: Wayne County Council for the Arts; Henry Ford Health System

Maria Clara Martucci, Communications: Henry Ford Health System

Haley Scott, Anthropology, Social Work: Henry Ford Health System

Alex Fleet, History: Henry Ford Health System; Detroit Public Schools Foundation

Fatima Al-Brehi, Communications: Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic

Colleen Linn, Anthropology: Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic

Amber Harrison, Public History, Library & Information Science: Detroit Historical Museum; Mercy Education Project

Katie Parks, History: Karmanos Cancer Institute

Sydney Santoviz, Industrial Organizational Psychology: Karmanos Cancer Institute; Eldercare & Caregiver Solutions

Todd Hartley, Anthropology, Social Work: Karmanos Cancer Institute

Christina Carney, Sociology: Karmanos Cancer Institute; Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic

Kristanti Penrose, Political Science: Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic; Detroit Historical Museum

James McQuaid, History: Institute of Gerontology and Wayne State School of Social Work

AeYanna Yett, Social Work: Institute of Gerontology and Wayne State School of Social Work

Sandra Rodriguez-Bontemps, Classical and Modern Languages: Detroit Water Stories; Our Health Media Network

Sarah Chapman, English: Detroit Water Stories; "The Ferrania Film Museum" Research Project

Lindsay Toman, Sociology: Stand with Trans

Dorothy Feltner, Communications: Wayne State College of Nursing; Urban Aging News

Kathryn Gstalder, Library Science: Wayne State College of Nursing; WakeUPP Detroit

Angela Kemp, Urban Planning: Food Rescue US-Detroit

Aimee Schulman, History: InsideOut Literary Arts Project; The Scarab Club

Amanda Horn, Sociology: CLEARCorp Detroit and the Southeast Michigan Health Association

Dovie Jenkins, Philosophy: Department of Communication "Racism and Resilience of Pandemic Proportions: Documenting Awareness, Effects, and Reactions to Online and Offline Harassment During the COVID-19 Outbreak" Research Project; A Host of People

Melissa McCabe, Industrial Organizational Psychology: Wayne State Campus Health Center; Department of Sociology "Work, Family, Social Well-being, and Relationships among Dual-Income Couples During COVID-19" Research Project

HOW CAN THE HUMANITIES SUPPORT COMMUNITIES IN CRISIS?

This year, in response to COVID-19, the Wayne State Humanities Clinic deepened its commitment to Detroit communities. We hired 26 interns—double the number we hired in 2019—increased our number of community partnerships, and expanded from a summer-only, to a year-round internship program. In an effort to support healthcare workers and researchers during the pandemic, we also initiated partnerships with 10 hospitals and health-focused businesses and non-profits including Henry Ford Health System, Karmanos Cancer Institute, the Southeast Michigan Health Association, the Wayne State School of Medicine, the Wayne State College of Nursing, and the Wayne Law School Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic. The Humanities Clinic also strengthened its partnerships with local art, education, and cultural organizations and helped them adapt to new challenges brought on by the pandemic. Interns applied skills like compiling and analyzing data, implementing community outreach and education programs, publishing articles, and managing social media and web content for our community partners. Through this work, the Humanities Clinic has demonstrated how the humanities and social sciences are central to solving widespread problems from the pandemic to racial injustice to the economic crisis.

In addition to supporting Detroit communities, the Clinic also has had a measurable impact on Wayne State graduate students. In July, the Humanities Clinic partnered with the National Humanities Alliance to assess the impact of Humanities Clinic internships on job preparedness and community engagement among interns. The survey concluded that most Humanities Clinic interns feel better prepared to pursue careers within and beyond the academy and feel more connected to their communities after completing a Humanities Clinic internship.

The recent growth and success of the Humanities Clinic would not be possible without support from our sponsors including the American Historical Association Career Diversity Initiative, the Wayne State University Graduate School, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Department of History, Office of the Vice President for Research, the Office of the Provost, and private donors. We are grateful to our sponsors, as well as our community partners and Wayne State faculty who have remained committed to the Clinic's mission of bringing humanities expertise to Detroit communities, especially during these trying times.



Professor Elizabeth Faue
Director



Lillian Wilson
Coordinator

CLASSROOM TO COMMUNITY: SKILLS

The 2020 Humanities Clinic employed 26 interns from 14 academic departments to work with 25 community partners, including 10 healthcare organizations and businesses. These are the top skills that community partners requested in 2020:

- compiling data
- data analysis
- project development
- social media/web development
- community outreach
- copy editing
- archival research

COMMUNITY TO CAREER: OUTCOMES

This year, the Humanities Clinic partnered with the National Humanities Alliance to design and implement a survey to measure the impact of Humanities Clinic internships on graduate students; of the interns surveyed:

- 95% feel more connected to their community
- 85% feel better prepared for the non-academic job market
- 85% better understand how they can apply their academic training to a range of jobs
- 76% are more likely to consider careers other than tenure-track teaching
- 72% feel better prepared for the academic job market.

Graduate students also gave the following feedback on their Humanities Clinic internships:

“I understand how an education in the humanities can be put to use in the community. Prior to this internship I viewed my skills as purely academic.”

“The clinic gave me more confidence in my ability to adapt my work to a wide variety of settings.”

“I found the internship to be a cross-disciplinary experience, giving me the opportunity to work with groups of people who I would likely not have encountered in my academic program or in other internships.”

“I was offered the opportunity to do work outside of academia, yet incorporate my knowledge in qualitative research methodologies to help create change in the healthcare system. This applied focus helped me consider my potential outside of academia and how I might be able to utilize my skills to work directly with(in) large systems.”

THE IMPACT OF A HUMANITIES CLINIC INTERNSHIP: FIVE EXAMPLES

In 2020, Humanities Clinic Interns collaborated with one another and our community partners to address challenges brought on by COVID-19. Five examples of these collaborations are highlighted below.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS GAINED	ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES REPRESENTED	COMMUNITY PARTNER	PROJECT OUTCOMES/ IMPACT
Historical analysis, historical documentation and digitization, data analysis, community outreach, curriculum design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History Communications Anthropology Social Work 	<p>Henry Ford Health System</p> <p>One of the country's largest medical groups with six regional hospitals, HFHS employs 30,000 metro-Detroiters, conducts 2,000 ongoing clinical trials and admits more than 113,000 patients each year.</p>	Interns work with doctors to create educational materials and assessments on disease (especially COVID-19) prevention and health disparities for low-income and other at-risk populations in Detroit.
Oral history, data collection and analysis, community outreach, foreign language skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History Anthropology Social Work Psychology 	<p>Karmanos Cancer Institute</p> <p>Metro-Detroit's only National Cancer Institute-affiliated hospital and research center; Karmanos employs 1,000 metro-Detroiters, treats 13,000 patients, and conducts 800 cancer-specific scientific investigations programs and clinical trials each year.</p>	Interns conduct phone interviews with cancer patients to collect data on how social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their cancer treatment and preventative healthcare measures like diet, exercise, and alcohol/tobacco use.
Oral history, data collection and analysis, historical documentation and digitization, community outreach, media development, foreign language skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Communications Classical and Modern Languages 	<p>Detroit Water Stories</p> <p>DWS is an open-access, multi-media oral history project that gathers stories from Detroit residents who have experienced water shut-offs in their homes or schools since 2014.</p>	Interns collect oral histories from Detroit residents who have experienced a lack of access to clean water; interns also research how clean water access has impacted underserved and at-risk populations especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<p>Data collection and analysis, community outreach, project development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthropology • Communications 	<p>Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic</p>	<p>Interns work with law students, faculty, and social workers at Wayne State University Law School's Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic to implement safe and effective ways for cancer patients to receive legal counseling during the COVID-19 pandemic. They compiled their findings into a presentation and printable pdf for clients and other legal clinics to use.</p>
<p>Historical analysis, data analysis, community outreach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Social Work 	<p>Wayne State Institute of Gerontology and School of Social Work</p>	<p>Interns worked with faculty to research the impact of COVID-19 on widespread problems like food insecurity and systemic racism on senior citizens and their health care. Interns published their findings on Authority Health's <i>Community Health Blog</i>: see James McQuaid, "Health and the Right to Healthy Food in a Global Pandemic," Authority Health, July 23, 2020 and AeYanna Yett, "WSU Social Work Student Observes the Impact of COVID-19 on Seniors of Color from the Lens of Systemic Oppression," Authority Health, June 23, 2020</p>

COMMUNITY PARTNER TESTIMONIALS

“Our interns were extremely engaged, flexible, and hard working. Excellent program.” *Dr. Denise White-Perkins, Henry Ford Health System*

“This is a well-run program and is very valuable to the nonprofit world of Detroit.” *Janette Phillips, Mercy Education Project*

“As a small non-profit based on WSU's campus, the Humanities Clinic has been one of our most valued connections to the university.” *Alise Alousi, InsideOut Literary Arts*

“Our intern allowed us to see a visual representation of the work we've been doing, but also the work we need to do next. She actively engaged in our mission and brought great ideas to the table and acted on them.” *Darraugh Collins, Food Rescue US-Detroit*

“I was delighted to have someone from the Humanities Clinic work on a problem that is so important to the history of our organization. We do not have the expertise on our staff to do the research and writing that was done so ably by the intern.” *MaryAnn Wilkinson, The Scarab Club*

“We love the way the Humanities Clinic supports its interns to do good work in the community.” *Roz Keith, Stand with Trans*

“Our intern was a great asset and helped us to moved forward in several key areas and with several key initiatives.” *Amy DeWys, Detroit Public Schools Foundation*

“As a non-profit during these difficult times this work would not have been done without support from the Humanities Clinic.” *Diane McCloskey, CLEARCorp Detroit*

“The humanities have a lot to offer in terms of providing valuable resources to society. My intern was excellent! She was knowledgeable, professional and great to work with. She added value to our project and helped us move forward.” *Lillian Preston, OurHealth Media Network*

“Our Humanities Clinic interns were responsive, wise and provided an excellent work product. I was entirely, absolutely thrilled with the work that the two fellows did for LAPC. It was truly a rewarding experience.” *Kathryn Smolinski, Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic*

“Our intern was competent, took initiative, drew upon her skill/knowledge of geography and Excel, and had excellent writing skills. Extremely pleasant and easy to work with. Excellent program!” *Patricia Rencher, Urban Aging Inc.*

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Lillian Wilson, Stephanie Narrow, Matt Reeves, and Ramya Swayamprakash, "Building Career Diversity into the Graduate Curriculum," presented at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, January 2020

Jessica Archer, "2020 Humanities Clinic supports community partners battling COVID-19," Wayne State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. May 19, 2020

Lillian Wilson, Alejandra Garza, Stephanie Narrow, Matt Reeves, and Shuko Tamao, "Creating Connections to Your University and Community," *Perspectives*, July 17, 2020

Lillian Wilson, "Wayne State Humanities Clinic," Humanities for All, September 8, 2020

Younger Oliver, "Assessing Impact: Wayne State Humanities Clinic," National Humanities Alliance, September 8, 2020

Lillian Wilson, "Navigating and Strengthening Internships in the Age of Pandemic," presented at the National Humanities Virtual Conference, November, 2020