

WCFIA Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality & Inclusion

Annual Activity Report AY 2020-2021

The 2020-21 academic year began with the [COVID-19 pandemic](#) still in full swing and all engagement over the academic year occurred online. The Cluster had 47 affiliates from 9 countries and 10 time zones participated in the Cluster activities over the year. In addition, since all events were online several Cluster alums who were no longer in the Cambridge/Boston area were able to regularly join and even share their current work at the monthly seminars.

The Cluster did not distribute graduate student grants for AY 2021-22.

The Cluster organized 22 events between September and May. In addition to the various events, we introduced some new ways to stay connected - launching a Slack workspace, started a [Twitter account](#) (more than 200 followers as of June) and produced 7 issues of the monthly [Comparative Inequality & Inclusion Research Cluster Newsletter](#).

Details about the various cluster activities are listed below:

[Public Events](#)

[Workshop & Symposium](#)

[Monthly Seminars](#)

[Social Events](#)

[AY 2020-2021 Cluster Affiliates Directory](#)

Public Events

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 [Weatherhead Forum, co-organized by the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion](#)
[Rethinking Resistance Politics in Troubling Times: Transnational Queer Solidarity during COVID-19](#)

Panelists:

- Sa'ed Atshan, Assistant Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies, Swarthmore College.
- Nicole Doerr, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Copenhagen.
- George Paul Meiu, John and Ruth Hazel Associate Professor of the Social Sciences, Department of Anthropology and Department of African and African American Studies, Harvard University.
- Jason Ferguson, Acting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles.
- Tunay Altay, PhD Candidate, Department of Diversity and Social Conflict, Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University of Berlin.

Chairs:

- [Michèle Lamont](#), Robert I. Goldman Professor of European Studies; Professor of Sociology and of African and African American Studies, Harvard University.
- [Gökçe Yurdakul](#), Professor of Sociology, Department of Diversity & Social Conflict, Humboldt University.



Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:00–2:00pm

[Special Seminar: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Studying Social Change](#)

- This public Cluster Seminar was a conversation between four members of the Cluster steering committee and Michele Lamont.
- 195 people registered - approximately 117 people attended the webinar

Panelists:

- [Daniel Carpenter](#), Allie S. Freed Professor of Government, Department of Government, Harvard University.
- [Diane Davis](#), Charles Dyer Norton Professor of Regional Planning & Urbanism, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University.
- [Alisha Holland](#), Associate Professor, Department of Government, Harvard University.
- [David Kennedy](#), Manley O. Hudson Professor of Law, Harvard Law School.

Chair:

- [Michèle Lamont](#), Robert I. Goldman Professor of European Studies; Professor of Sociology and of African and African American Studies, Harvard University.



Monday, February 22, 2021 12:00–2:00pm

Canada Program Seminar, co-organized by the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion and Canada Program

[When States Take Rights Back: Citizenship Revocation and its Discontents](#)

Panelists:

- Emilien Fargues, European University Institute
- Asad Asad, Stanford University
- Audrey Macklin, University of Toronto
- Rainer Bauböck, European University Institute

Chair:

- [Elke Winter](#), William Lyon Mackenzie King Visiting Professor of Canadian Studies, Canada Program; Professor of Sociology, School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies, University of Ottawa.



Affiliate Organized Workshop & Symposium

Thursday, March 4, 2021 11:00am-4:15pm

[What We Owe to Each Other: Rethinking Boundaries, Borders and Citizenship](#)

- Cluster postdoctoral scholars [Talia Shiff](#) and [Anna Skapelis](#) organized a day-long workshop to explore the concept of citizenship.
- [Forty-four people registered](#) for the workshop - 28 people attended the morning session, 18 were present for the afternoon session and 15 joined for the social hour.
- Workshop agenda - <https://tinyurl.com/fraf86tf>

Thursday, April 29, 2021 10:00am-3:00pm

[Symposium on Unsettled Times](#)

- Cluster postdoctoral scholars [Ioana Sendroiu](#), [Thijs van Dooremalen](#), and [Yuval Feinstein](#) organized a day-long symposium which provided insights and perspectives on the concept of "unsettled times."
- [Eighty-six people registered](#) for the workshop - 45 people attended the morning session, 43 were present for the afternoon session and 38 joined for concluding remarks by Ann Swidler and Michele Lamont
- Symposium agenda - <https://tinyurl.com/2u2burja>
- Folder with extended abstracts - <https://tinyurl.com/545jeprt>

Monthly Seminars

Nine seminars with 24 affiliates presenting their work. Seminars averaged 20-25 attendees. Yuval Feinstein served as the Seminar coordinator for the year.

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 12:00-1:30pm

- [Ben Bradlow](#) "Urban Origins of Democracy and Inequality: Governing São Paulo and Johannesburg, 1985-2016"
- [Cary Aileen Garcia Yero](#) "Colors of Dissent: Race, Nation, and the Arts in Cuba, 1938-1963"
- [Bo Yun Park](#), [Adrien Abecassis](#) and Manon Revel "Resonance Heterogeneity: The Subjective Interpretations and Utilizations of Mediatic Frames in France"

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 12:00-1:30pm

- [Morten Frederiksen](#) "Cultural Responses to Policy Change: Welfare Privatization and the Moral Economy of Welfare"
- [Miriam Kullmann](#) "Rethinking the Value of Work in Work Regulations"
- [Elke Winter](#) "Defining Middle Class Nation-Building Through Immigration"

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 12:00-1:30pm

- [Shelby Carvalho](#), [Reva Dhingra](#), and [Olivia Woldemikael](#) "Service Protectiveness: How Access to Public Goods Shapes Relations Between Refugees and Host Communities in Developing States"
- [Yossi Harpaz](#) "Rites of Citizenship: Measuring the Effect of the U.S. Naturalization Ceremony"
- [Alyssa Huberts](#) "When Do Urban Public Services Become Salient?"

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:00-1:30pm

- [Gbemisola Abiola](#) "Rethinking Displacement: Centering Emplacement in the Study of African Mobilities"
- [Anna Skarpelis](#) "Sociology in Translation"
- [Rachel Wetts](#) and Robb Willer "White Backlash Against Anti-Racist Activism"

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:00-1:30pm

- [Michele Lamont](#), Mari Sanchez, and Shira Zilberstein "Enabling Hope in a Better Future: Braiding Cultural Repertoires when Facing Uncertainty"
- [Cresa Pugh](#) "Colonial Reparations in European Context"
- [Ioana Sendroiu](#) "Utopia shut up shop": Hopeless Futures, Populism, and the American Dream"

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 12:00-1:30pm

- [Gözde Güran](#) "Pricing Relations: Discretion and Discrimination in an Informal Market"
- [Angel Gabriel Cabrera Silva](#) "From Social Movements to Institutions (and back?): Exploring the Direct Indigenous Budgeting in Mexico"

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 12:00-1:30pm

- [Poulomi Chakrabarti](#) "Status Inequality and Development"
- [Matias López](#) "The Recognition Gap Between Affluent and Poor Whites in Brazil"
- [Sandra Portocarrero](#) "Racialized Expertise and the Enabling and Constraining Character of Organizations: The Case of University DEI Personnel"

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 12:00-1:30pm

- [Thijs van Dooremalen](#) "The Political (In)Significance of Extreme Weather Events in the American, Dutch, and Austrian Public Spheres"
- [Elena Ayala-Hurtado](#) "This Isn't Quite What I Expected:" Insecure College Graduates in the United States and Spain
- [Caleb Scoville](#) "How Did Face Masks Become Politically Divisive During the COVID-19 Pandemic? Evidence from a Large-Scale Media Analysis"

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 12:00-1:30pm

- [Yuval Feinstein](#) “Comparative National-Self Theory: An Outline and Preliminary Evidence”
- [Tiffany Joseph](#) “Not All In: Race, Immigration, and Healthcare Exclusion in America’s City on a Hill”
- [Arturo Rodríguez Morató](#) “Cultural Diversity and Cultural Policy in Europe from the Perspective of Cultural Value”

Social Events

September 4, 2020 [Welcome Workshop](#)

Affiliates introduced themselves, talked about plans for AY 2020-21 and the Cluster team shared events for the year.. Thirty eight affiliates attended.



October 15, 2020 [Virtual Coffee Hour](#)

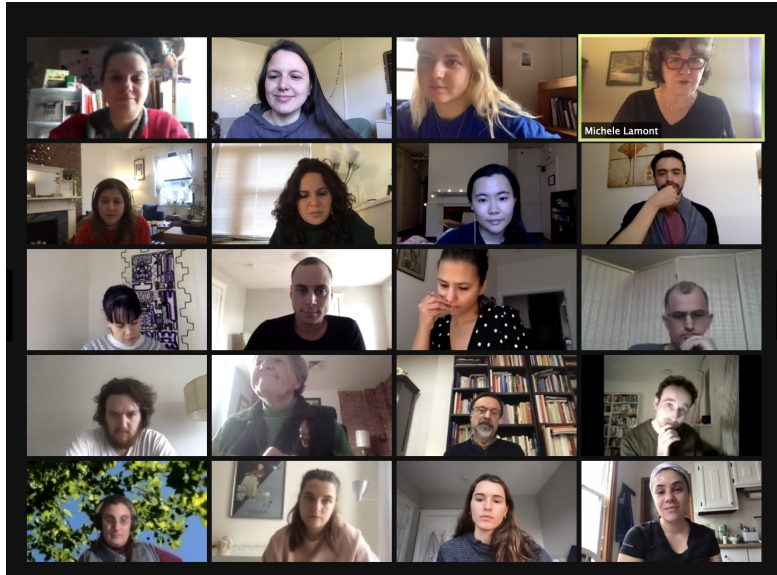
October 29, 2020 [Virtual Coffee Hour](#)

November 12, 2020 [Virtual Coffee Hour](#)

December 3, 2020 [Virtual Coffee Hour](#)

January 26, 2021 [Start of Semester Meeting](#)

A meeting of affiliates to share work thus far and plan for the AY 2020-2021. 38 affiliates attended.



March 30, 2021 [Virtual Coffee Hour](#)

April 20, 2021 [Virtual Coffee Hour](#)

May 13, 2021 [Comparative Inequality & Inclusion Cluster Farewell](#)

Affiliates shared what their future plans are and what they accomplished AY 2020-21 ([CII Cluster Farewell Meeting slide show](#)). Twenty-seven affiliates attended.

