Franklin Research Center Travel Grant Awards
The John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture has proudly awarded travel grants to scholars in academia, graduate students and independent scholars for a number of years. Through the grants, the scholars listed traveled to Durham to conduct research using the Franklin Research Center’s collections.

2016-2017
Beatrice Adams, Rutgers University - Why African Americans remained in the American South during the Second Great Migration.

Erik McDuffie, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign - Garveyism in the Diasporic Midwest: The American Heartland and Global Black Freedom, 1920-1980

Gretchen Henderson, Georgetown University - A narrative and libretto for an opera rooted in African American slavery and history entitled CRAFTING THE BONDS

Maria Montalvo, Rice University - All Could Be Sold: Making and Selling Enslaved People in the Antebellum South (1813-1865)

Nick Witham, University College London, Institute of the Americas - “The Popular Historians: American Historical Writing and the Politics of the Past, 1945-present”

2015-2016
Ms. Wangui Muigai, Princeton University Topic: An Awful Gladness: Infant Mortality and Race from Slavery to the Great Migration”


Ms. Whitney Stewart, Rice University, Topic: “Domestic Activism: The Politics of the Black Home in Nineteenth-Century America”

Dr. Brandon Winford, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Topic: "Building New South Prosperity: John Hervey Wheeler, Black Banking, and the Economic Struggle for Civil Rights"

2014-2015
Dr. Emilye Crosby, State University of New York-Genesco Topic: “Anything I Was Big Enough To Do: Women and Gender in SNCC”

Mr. Paul Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Topic: “Unimagining the Christian Nation: Alienation, Memory, and German-African Reciprocity in Akropong, Ghana 1835-1938”

Dr. Nicole Maurantonio, University of Richmond, Topic: “Ombudsman for Humanity: Chuck Stone, Mediation, and the Graterford Prison Hostage Crisis”
Ms. Gilet Rosenblith, University of Virginia, Topic: “Low Income African American Women in the South and the Carceral State”

Dr. Nicholas Syrett, University of Northern Colorado, Topic: “American Child Bride: A History of Minors and Marriage in the United States”

Mr. Adam Wolkoff, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, Topic: “Possession and Power: A comparative social and legal history of capitalist social relations in the late nineteenth-century United States”

2013-2014

Dr. Richard Bell, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Maryland, College Park; Project: “Slavery’s Market: A Microhistory.”

Dr. Shirley Thompson, Associate Professor of African and African Diaspora Studies, University of Texas at Austin; Project: “No More Auction Block for Me: African Americans and the Problem of Property.”


Dr. Frederick Carroll, Instructor, Department of History, Norfolk State University; Project: “Race News: How Black Reporters and Readers Shaped the Fight for Racial Injustice, 1910-1978.”

Mr. James Wall, PhD Candidate, Department of History, University of Georgia; Project: “Redefining Success: The Struggle for Freedom Rights in Southwest Georgia, 1945-1985”

Dr. Phillip Misevich, Assistant Professor of History, St. John’s University; Project: “On the Frontier of Freedom: Abolition and the Growth of Atlantic Commerce in Southern Sierra Leone, c1790s to 1880s.”

Ms. Marie Stango, PhD Candidate, Department of History, University of Michigan; Project: “Antislavery and Colonization: African American Women in Nineteenth Century West Africa.”

Ms. Mandy Jolly, Undergraduate, Department of History, Lenoir-Rhyne University; Project: “Journalistic Racism from Early Travel/Exploration Logs from the 19th and 20th Century.”

2012-2013

Kathryn Banks, History and Political Science Department, Andrews University, for an examination of African American employment in the Southern textile industry from 1895 to 1945.

Steffi Cerato, History Department, Johns Hopkins University, for dissertation research on the political and legal culture in Savannah, Georgia, as it concerns racial boundaries in public spaces.
Marcia Chatelain, History Department, Georgetown University, for an examination of the ways in which segregation shaped African American food culture in the South.

Mari Crabtree, Department of History, Cornell University, for dissertation research on the legacies of lynching from 1940 to 1970.

David Dangerfield, Department of History, University of South Carolina, for dissertation research on free black farm production in the antebellum South.

Max L. Grivno, Department of History, The University of Southern Mississippi, for an analysis of slavery in Mississippi, 1690-1865.

Alix Lerner, Department of History, Princeton University, for dissertation research on slavery, debility, and dependence in the antebellum South.

Brooke N. Newman, Department of History, Virginia Commonwealth University, for a study on gender, race, and power in the eighteenth-century British Caribbean.

Ava Purkiss, Department of History, The University of Texas at Austin, for dissertation research on black women’s health and physical culture from 1900 to 1930.

Ryan Tickle, Department of History, The University of Southern Mississippi, for dissertation research exploring African American participation at world’s fairs and smaller industrial expositions throughout the American South from the 1880s to the 1940s.

2011-2012

Andrew David Amron, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, University of Alabama, for his dissertation on black working class masculinity and identity during the World War I era.


Ira Dworkin, Assistant Professor, Department of English and Comparative Literature, The American University in Cairo, for research on African Americans in the Congo, particularly George Washington Williams.

Nina Ehrlich, master’s student, Department of History, Colorado State University, for a study of relationships between black and white women during the Civil Rights Movement.

Reginald K. Ellis, Visiting Professor, Department of History, Florida A&M University, for work on a manuscript concerning James Edward Shepard and black North Carolinians in the 20th century. Rebecca Wieters Moake, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, University of Maryland-College Park, for work on her dissertation concerning the working people of Charleston, S.C., in the late 19th century.

Tyler D. Parry, Ph.D. candidate and master’s student, Department of History, University of South Carolina, for dissertation and article exploring slave kinship in the Antebellum South.
Ibram H. Rogers, Assistant Professor, Department of History and Africana & Latino Studies, State University of New York College at Oneonta, for a book examining the struggle to diversify higher education, 1965-1972.

Daniel Royles, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, Temple University, for research exploring African American AIDS activism and advocacy in the United States.

2010-2011

Shanna G. Benjamin, Department of English, Grinnell College, for work on a biography of the late Nellie Y. McKay, Bascom Professor of English and Afro-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Derek Charles Catsam, Department of History, University of Texas of the Permian Basin, for a chronicle of the events of 1985 in South Africa, a tumultuous year in that country's history.

Jametta Davis, Department of History, Howard University, for research for her dissertation detailing the effects of New Deal policies and programs on African American women.

Jacob S. Dorman, Department of History, University of Kansas, for an examination of the formation and development of black Jewish religions in the past 45 years.

Elizabeth Herbin, Department of History, St. John's University, for an analysis of racial conflicts and segregation among small Southern farmers from 1900 to 1945.

Karen Kossie-Chernyshev, Department of History, Geography, and Economics, Texas Southern University, for an account of "boomerang migration": the return of African American Southerners from their new homes in the North to participate in social and political uplift activities during the Jim Crow era.

Deborah Lee, independent scholar, for a study tracing the networks of anti-slavery activists in the Potomac River basin from 1810 to 1870.

Joseph Moore, Department of History, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, for research on the 1850 trial of George Grier, an enslaved South Carolina man, for seditious speech, with emphasis on an exploration of the community of Abbeville County, South Carolina.

2009-2010

Andrew Kahrl, Department of History, Marquette University, for researching African American beaches and resorts in the American South from 1890 to the present.

Kristine McCuskey, Department of History, Middle Tennessee State University, for studying the management of death in the South.
Aaron Carico, Department of American Studies, Yale University, for research regarding finance, aesthetics, and the political reconstruction of the United States.

Michelle Fellows, Department of History, University of Utah, for a study of children, race, and memory in the Antebellum South.

Nicole Turner, Department of History, University of Pennsylvania, for studying Black Churches and Black Politics in Post-emancipation Virginia.

Jamie Warren, Department of History, Indiana University, for dissertation research about death, ideology, and community on Antebellum plantations.

Rory Golden, independent scholar and artist, for a project entitled "You Think I Can Eat All That Chicken Here?"

2008-2009

Erica Ann Bruchko, Emory University, for an analysis of the informal economy and social order of the South Carolina Cotton Country.

Daryl A. Carter, Department of History, University of Memphis, for researching President Clinton and African Americans from 1993 to 2001.

Brian Kelly, Department of History, Queen’s University Belfast, for studying grassroots African American political mobilization in Reconstruction and Post-Reconstruction South Carolina from 1862 to 1900.

C. Scott Nesbit, Jr., University of Virginia, for an examination of the politics of forgiveness following slavery and the American Civil War.

Tsutomu Numaoka, Niigata Sangyo University, for researching land for slaves’ own use.

Michael Thompson, Emory University, for studying labor and life along Charleston’s waterfront from 1783 to 1860.

Colin Woodward, independent scholar, for researching slavery, race, and the Confederate Army from 1861 to 1865.

2007-2008

Tameka Hobbs, Valentine Richmond History Center, for research on the interpretation of traditionally underrepresented population, including women and African Americans.
Yael Sternhell, Princeton University, for researching human mobility and the transformation of the South from 1861 to 1865.

Robert Gilpin, Yale University, for work tracing John Brown through American memory.

Sharon McCoy, University of Georgia, for research on intersections of black face minstrelsy with African American music, performers, and musical theatre from 1865 to 1920.

Brian Purnell, Fordham University, for research on John Hope Franklin's *From Slavery to Freedom* and 60 years of making African American history.

Shennette Garrett, University of Texas at Austin, for research regarding black women entrepreneurs and the National Negro Business League from 1900 to World War II.

Michael Smith

LaKisha Simmons

2006-2007

David Brighouse, Department of African and African American Studies, Harvard University, for a study of scholar activists during the Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1970.

Michelle Commander, Department of American Studies, University of South California, for an analysis of the role of Pan-Africans in African American diasporic community formation.

Kathryn St. Clair Ellis, College of Law, University of Tennessee, for research on African Americans' social and legal status from 1866 to 1930.

Yasuhiro Katagiri, Tokai University, for an examination of segregation and Anti-Communism in the Civil Rights South.

Paul Ortiz, Department of Community Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz, for studying segregation in the Jim Crow South.

Jennifer Roady-Lawson, Department of History, University of Georgia, for research about education in Leon Country, Florida from Brown v. Board of Education through the present day.

David Ryden, Department of History, University of Houston, for an examination of the London West India Interest from 1780 to 1807.

Jack Schermerhorn, Department of History, University of Virginia, for researching slavery and enslaved families in the making of the Antebellum Chesapeake.

Thomas Ward, Department of History, Rockhurst University, for an analysis of African American lawyers in the segregated South.
2005-2006

Dr. Leslie Brown, Washington University, for research on African American life in the Jim Crow South, 1890-1965.

Dr. Douglas Bristol, University of Southern Mississippi, for research on “outsider entrepreneurs,” 1880-1935.

Dr. Eric Gardner, Saginaw Valley State University, for research on the African American literary community in Reconstruction-era Washington, D.C.

Mary Rizzo, University of Minnesota, for research on African-American urban consumer cooperatives from the 1930s through the 1970s.

Kijua Sanders-McMurtry, for research on the Links, Inc., a black women’s service organization (1946-2004).

Brent Tarter and Dr. John Deal, Library of Virginia, for their research on African American political and community leaders in late nineteenth-century Virginia for volume 4 of the Dictionary of Virginia Biography.

Dr. Anne Valk, Southern Illinois University, for research on African American life in the Jim Crow South, 1890-1965.

Joshua Williams, Louisiana Tech University, for research on missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church to slaves in Arkansas, 1836-1860.

2004-2005

Lisa Cardyn, Yale University, for research on gendered violence, trauma and the body politics in the Reconstruction South.

Zoe Colley, University of St. Andrews, for researching the prison experience during the civil rights movement.

Adam Linker, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, for research regarding slavery in antebellum North Carolina from 1800 to 1860.

Niera Marshall, Indiana University, for research on women's resistance in the lowcountry from 1820 to 1860.

Danielle McGuire, Rutgers University, for dissertation work on sexual violence, 1940-1970.
Sowande Mustakeem, Michigan State University, for research on the trans-Atlantic slave trade from 1750 to 1800.

Pat Ryckman, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, for researching Jim Crow-era African American education in Mecklenburg County.

John White, College of Charleston, for research regarding white resistance to desegregation in South Carolina, 1950s.

2003-2004

Margaret Abruzzo, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, University of Notre Dame, for research regarding slavery, suffering, and sympathy in eighteenth and nineteenth-century moral debate.

Gregory P. Downs, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, Northwestern University, for researching the countryside in central and eastern North Carolina.

Jim Downs, Jr., Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, Columbia University, for research on the medical division of the Freedman's Bureau, 1863-1870.

Carole Emberton, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, Northwestern University, for research regarding violence during Reconstruction, 1865-1877.

Dr. Yasuhiro Katagiri, Associate Professor, Department of American Civilization, Tokai University, Japan, for research on the civil rights movement, the communist conspiracy, and the state sovereignty commission in Mississippi.

Priscilla Rhoades, Independent scholar, for researching two southern families--one white, one black--in Caldwell County, N.C.

Colleen A. Vasconcellos, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, Florida International University, for research on slavery, childhood, and the African cultural identity in Jamaica from 1750 to 1838.

2002-2003

Stephen Berrey, Ph.D. candidate, University of Texas at Austin, for researching crime, violence, and Black resistance in Jim Crow Mississippi from 1940 to 1963.

Claude Clegg, Associate Professor, Indiana University at Bloomington, for research regarding African Americans in North Carolina and the making of Liberia, 1825-1890.

Audra Diptee, Ph.D. candidate, University of Toronto, for researching Jamaican slave society from 1775 to 1838.
Christina Gibson, Ph.D. candidate, University of Maryland at College Park, for research on William Grant Still's Afro-American Symphony, 1931-1980.

Claudrena Harold, Ph.D. candidate, University of Notre Dame, for research regarding the rise and fall of Garveyism and the Universal Negro Improvement Association in the Jim Crow South, 1919-1940.

Mary Hoffschwelle, Associate Professor, Middle Tennessee State University, for research on the Rosenwald schools in the American South.

Anne Valk, Assistant Professor, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, for researching African American recollections of segregated communities, from 1900 to 1960s.

Kimberly Wallace-Sanders, Assistant Professor, Emory University, for research regarding the Black mammy figure and southern motherhood from slavery to 1920.

**2001-2002**

Dr. Beverly A. Bunch-Lyons, Virginia Tech University, for research on the African American juke joint culture in the segregated South from 1895 to 1967.

Brian J. Daugherity, College of William and Mary, for research regarding the role of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in the struggle over school desegregation in North Carolina in the 1950s and 1960s.

Matthew Pratt Guterl, Washington State University, for researching the comparative history of emancipation and immigration in the American South, Cuba, and southern Africa from 1840 to 1910.

Stephen Gilroy Hall, Ohio State University, for research on Earl Thrope, psychohistory and African American intellectual history.

Paul Harvey, University of Colorado, for analysis of religion, race, and culture in the South from 1860 to 2000.

Dr. Brian Kelly, Queen's University, for researching black workers and black elites in the Jim Crow south from 1877 to 1929.

Sarah Lawrence, Pennsylvania State University, for research on birth control and African Americans in 1930s rural Virginia.

Jennifer Meares, Emory University, for research regarding the everyday politics of respectability in Hancock County, Georgia from 1793 to 1861.

Jennifer Jo Sahrle, SUNY Geneseo, for researching the Albany, Georgia Civil Rights Movement, 1950s-1970s.
Melissa Walker, Converse College, for research on the stories in the oral narratives of Souther farm people between 1900 and 1950.