



Center for Women, Gender  
and Global Leadership

FALL 2022

# BI-ANNUAL REPORT

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**WHERE FUTURE LEADERS ARE  
PREPARED TO BE  
GENDER-CONSCIOUS AND AWARE  
OF THE GREAT INTELLECTUAL  
CONTRIBUTIONS OF BLACK WOMEN.**

# | WHO WE ARE



At Howard University's **Center for Women, Gender & Global Leadership** we focus on gender issues that women of color are facing in the U.S. and the African diaspora.



We are an interdisciplinary program with the goal to be a **Center of Excellence** for Black women and Black feminist consciousness, activism, and global leadership.



We promote **transformational leadership**, global engagement, research, service learning, and building impactful partnerships.



Dear Friends and Partners,

The year 2022 has been a roller coaster as the world continues to navigate through the fluidity introduced by the Covid-19 pandemic. In the United States, we experienced a momentous victory in the appointment of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson as the first Black woman on the Supreme Court of the United States.

We also witnessed the rolling back on women's reproductive rights through the Dobbs case that upended Roe v. Wade and set back years of activism for women's rights. The global pandemic has led to growing international awareness of the care economy and the gendered face of care work—especially the critical role women of color play in this cycle of labor production. These few examples of the rollback on women's rights strongly signal that advocacy and activism for women's rights is a constant struggle.

At the Center for Women, Gender, and Global Leadership (CWGGL), we have followed these national and global developments through our programming and public engagement, as captured in this report. As an interdisciplinary center of excellence, we bridge the divides between all disciplines through our research and programming by bringing different speakers into conversation with each other.

As a Center dedicated to academic excellence and research, we increased our research output through our first faculty summer research grant. We supported graduate students through the summer student research grants. We are also building a repository of oral history narratives through the launch of the first phase of the Women in Leadership at Howard University oral narrative project.

A major highlight for this second part of this year was celebrating our first anniversary and launching our first annual Global Leadership of Women (GLOW) Summit. A summit that brings Black women in leadership into conversation on topics of importance to Black women in the US and the African Diaspora.

The CWGGL continues to grow, and this year we expanded our team from one to three full-time staff. As we draw the curtain on this year, I am grateful to all my staff, colleagues, student workers and volunteers, and the university administration for their support of the CWGGL. We could not have achieved all we have without the support of the faculty and staff at Howard University, who share their time, talent, and skills in meeting our vision and mission.

Next year will bring us more gains as we sharpen our focus for year two. I encourage all our old partners to keep supporting us and invite new partners to join us in pushing forward the agenda for gender equality. Thank you for supporting us. In the ancestral wisdom of the people of Africa, ***"I am because we are."***

**J. Jarpa Dawuni, Esq., PhD**  
Founding Director | CWGGL

# | MEET OUR TEAM



**Anjerrika Bean, Ph.D. | Assistant Director**

Dr. Bean is a native of Beaumont, Texas, and a proud veteran of the United States Airforce. As a researcher, she is a Sociologist and Criminologist with a concentration in criminology and inequality.



**Anita Plummer, Ph.D | Associate Director  
Faculty Engagement & Research**

Dr. Plummer is an HU Assistant Professor of African Studies. Her research and teaching focus on African political economy, emerging markets, transnationalism, and Sino-African relations.



**Amy Quarkume, Ph.D. | Associate Director  
Student Engagement**

Dr. Quarkume, affectionally known as Dr. A, is a daughter of Africa, scholar, filmmaker, data scientist and Associate Professor of Africana Studies in the Department of Afro-American Studies at Howard University.

# | MEET OUR TEAM



**Fowzia Farah**  
**Administrative Coordinator**

Fowzia is from Columbus, OH by way of Somaliland. She is a forward thinking professional with experience in teaching, team management and project management. As the Center's administrative coordinator, she is responsible for managing the overall administrative operations.



**L.A. Carpenter**  
**Marketing & Communications Specialist**

L.A. is a passionate and committed brand and digital marketing strategist with more than a decade of experience across sectors, including entertainment, lifestyle, nonprofit, and government.



**Mouhamadou Hoyeck**  
**Graduate Outreach Coordinator**



**Kobii Spruill**  
**Undergrad Media Intern**



**Tiffanee Moore**  
**Undergrad Research Intern**



**Elizabeth Bolarinwa**  
**Undergrad Research Intern**



**Amen Haileselaisse**  
**Undergrad Volunteer**

# | IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

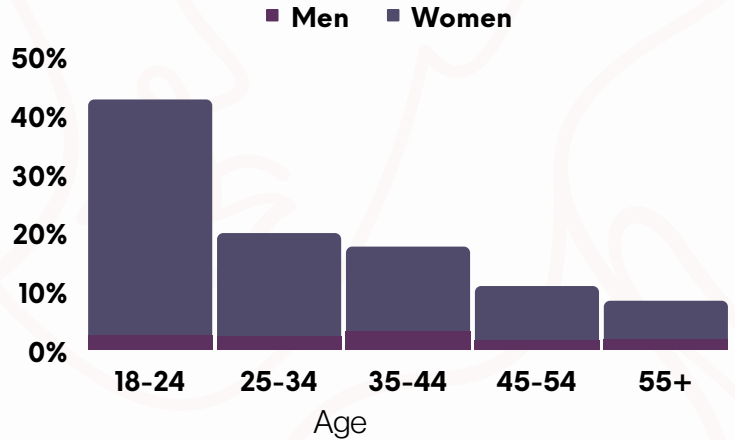
## Event Attendance | Aug-Dec 2022

Hosted 15 programs, with more than 2200 in attendance virtually and in-person.



## Demographics | Aug-Dec 2022

Our audience across social platforms and in-person events is diverse and reflects the Howard University community. 88% of our audience is women, with men representing 11% of our actively engaged community.



MORE THAN

**30 Students**

DECLARED A MINOR IN

**Women, Gender  
& Sexualities Studies**

## Social Media Engagement



435% INCREASE in new followers



Engagement rate INCREASED by 290%



254% INCREASE in overall reach



24k Impressions



# Student Engagement & Research

Collectively working to bring about positive social change on gender issues through scholarship, research, discussion, and service.





We joined **Howard University's Student Association | HUSA** for their annual **Open House**, where we engaged with students across disciplines.

Immediately after the open house, social media platforms saw an increase in followers and engagement across platforms, with Instagram seeing more than a **450% increase** in our overall reach.



We welcomed Grinnell College professor Tamara Beauboeuf-Lafontant to the Center, where she discussed her latest book, ***To Live More Abundantly: Black Collegiate Women, Howard University and the Audacity of Dean Lucy Diggs-Slowe***.

Throughout this lecture, professor Beauboeuf-Lafontant highlighted how the founding member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc.'s philosophy of '**living more abundantly**' envisioned educational access and institutionalized thriving for Black women across Howard's campus.

# | WOC INCUBATOR PITCH COMPETITION

We hosted the **Women of Color (WOC) Incubator Pitch Competition** alongside the **Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC)**, where 20 Howard University female students across disciplines had the opportunity to compete for capital - **up to \$5,000** - to support their businesses.

This incubator provides the next generation of **Black women entrepreneurs** with the **resources, community, and support** they need to strengthen their business idea and grow their early-stage ventures. The program culminated with a pitch competition awarding the 1st place winner with \$5,000, 2nd place with \$3,000, and 3rd place with \$1,000.



# | WOC INCUBATOR PITCH WINNERS



## FIRST PLACE

### Destiny Wesley, Measure Me App

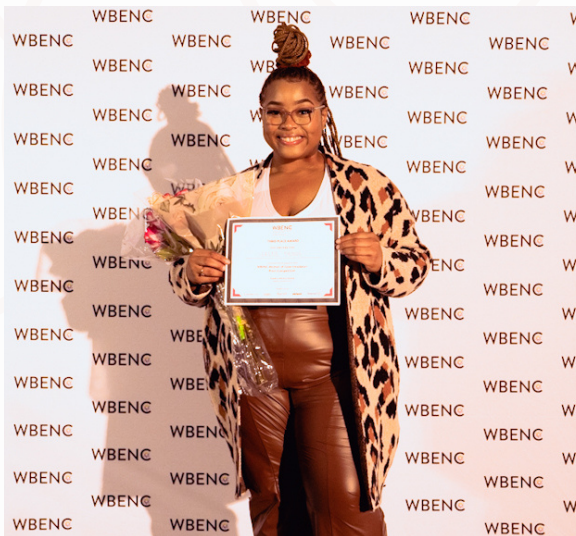
As a Master of Fine Arts student studying Fashion Design at Howard University, Destiny Wesley approaches design with a focused, innovative, sustainability-driven mindset. Using sustainability as the foundation of her design approach, Destiny creates tools, garments, and techniques that benefit the consumers of Billy Reid, eBay, Awesomeliyou, Anthropology, Free People, and more.



## SECOND PLACE

### Endora Guillaume, Endora's Organics

Endora Guillaume is a Junior Political Science and Afro-American Studies double major. The Haitian-born Floridian-raised founder of Endora's Organics, an all-organic, vegan, and sustainable body care company, believes nature provides us with all we need.



## THIRD PLACE

### Shiyaun Hunter, Serene Thingz

Shiyaun is a senior Community Development Major, Economics Minor. The Texas native's interest in high-end self-care and holistic healing began during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Shiyaun found solace in creating hand-spun body care products, and in 2021 she launched Serene Thingz, which aims to promote self-healing through mental maintenance, self-care, and self-love.

# Faculty Engagement & Research

Connecting with faculty across the university to engage in action-oriented research, new program development, and grant applications student-oriented programming.



## | FACULTY GRANT RECIPIENTS

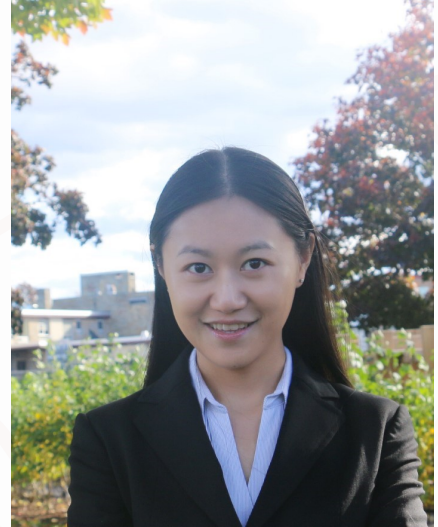
In the summer of 2022, we awarded **five grants to faculty members** committed to research as part of our mission to advance scholarships linked to women and gender studies.



**Carolyn Malachi**  
Assistant Professor  
School of Communications



**Jennifer Williams**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Arts and Sciences



**Tingting Xiong**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Arts and Sciences



**Padmamalini Baskaran**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Pharmacy



**Nicole Jenkins**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Arts and Sciences



**Tingting Xiong**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Arts and Sciences

# | FACULTY ROUNDTABLE

We hosted our first faculty roundtable for grantees to present their research focused on centering **Women's Experiences, Voices, Perspectives, and Bodies.**



Center for Women, Gender



# | C-RAGE RETREAT

We hosted the first **Race and Gender Equity Consortium (C-RAGE) Retreat** with The Policy Academies, the African-American Policy Fund, and the National Birth Equity Collaborative.

The purpose of C-RAGE is to create a strong network of women of color researchers and:

- o Advance women and girls of color research agendas.
- o Provide training, education, and advocacy in intersectional research, institutional design, policy, and advocacy.
- o Promote praxis rooted in data, evidence-based practices, and W/GoC lived experience.
- o Focus on investing where inequity has done the most harm to W/GoC and where they have the most potential for power and influence.



# Community Engagement & Co-sponsorships

Developing programs to meet the needs of the Howard University community.





The center co-sponsored, alongside the Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center and Color Farm Media, **“Finding Tamika: A Conversation about Missing Black Women,”** a panel discussion on the Audible podcast Finding Tamika with activist and actor Erica Alexander.

Panelists -- Rebykah Howard, Natalie and Derrica Wilson, and Tiffany Cross – discussed ways students can keep themselves safe from the dangers of domestic violence and human trafficking. The panel also discussed the barriers and challenges of negotiating with law enforcement and navigating the media when a loved one goes missing.

# | MOTHERS OF THE MECCA

The center hosted our first **Mothers of the Mecca** informational meeting, which allowed students to learn more about **M.O.M.**, a research initiative and student-led organization designed to support parents on campus. As recipients of the **Faculty Summer Research Grant**, this project aims to better understand the experiences and needs of student parents at Howard University.



## | DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS



In collaboration with the Center for African Studies, we discussed **Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention in the African Immigrant Community.**

**Dr. Anjerrika Bean**, the Center's Assistant Director, and **Lul Mohamud**, MPH, Executive Director of The Person Center, engaged in a robust conversation on the intersections of **violence, Black immigrant identities** and **experiences**, and **public health and safety priorities** on both a community and national level.

## | CETLA'S LET'S TALK FORUM

In partnership with the Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment (**CETLA**), the Women's Center co-sponsored a forum supporting LGBTQ+ students and allies.

The virtual conversation featured **Mr. Jose Cadiz** -the Founder and Director of the Intercultural Affairs and LGBTQ+ Resource Center, **Dr. Ravi K. Perry**, a professor in the Department of Political Science, and **Dr. Jennifer Williams**, an assistant professor in the Department of English. Co-facilitated by **Dr. Thomas Morris** of CETLA and Dr. Anita Plummer, the discussion covered topics such as resources across campus and the District, critical issues Black and Brown LGBTQ+ people face now, and ways to create a campus culture that cultivates true belonging instead of tolerance.

# Global Partnerships

**Building strategic alliances and partnerships with other bodies, including higher education institutions, businesses, corporate entities, and international organizations.**



# GLOBAL LEADERSHIP OF WOMEN SUMMIT

Intersectionality: The Future of Black Women's Leadership

Moderated by: Dean Danielle Holley, Howard Law School



Professor  
**Kimberlé Crenshaw**  
CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST & LEADING SCHOLAR OF  
CRITICAL RACE THEORY AND INTERSECTIONALITY



Her Excellency  
**Monica Geingos**  
FIRST LADY OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA  
ENTREPRENEUR AND LAWYER



The center hosted the inaugural **Global Leadership of Women Summit** with a fireside chat featuring **Her Excellency Monica Geingos**, the First Lady of the Republic of Namibia, and **Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw**, Distinguished Professor of Law at Columbia University, and moderated by Dean Danielle Holley, Howard Law School.



Scan the QR Code to Watch the Summit





# "A REVOLUTIONARY WOMAN PRIORITIZES OTHER BLACK WOMEN!"

**Kaia Phillips | Senior Health Science Major**

In addition to hosting the inaugural summit, students were invited to participate in our first student contest, where they had to answer the question: **How I imagine the future of Black women's leadership.**

Participants were able to answer the question through art, a written piece, a work of art, or other performances. With more than 100 submissions, winners Kaia Phillips -- a senior Health Science major from Brooklyn, New York -- and Leyha Williams - a Public Relations major, Sociology and Environmental Studies double minor - delivered spoken word pieces that reflected the times and met or exceeded all of the criteria.

Winners received a certificate, Barnes & Noble gift card, merchandise from the Center, and an exclusive invitation to the VIP room to meet with members of the Women's Centers advisory board, dignitaries, and HU Administration.

Scan the QR Code



to Watch the Winning Submissions

| Global Partnerships | G.L.O.W. Summit | 25



**THEY DID NOT WAIT FOR PERMISSION**  
**THEY TOOK IT**  
**AND STROKED IT**  
**AND POKED IT.**

**MADE SURE THAT THEIR TALENT**  
**EVOKED IT**

**MADE SURE THAT THEIR WORDS**  
**TOLD IT**

**MADE SURE THAT OUR PEOPLE WERE**  
**EXPOSED TO IT.**

**Leyha Williams** | Public Relations major, Sociology and Environmental Studies double minor  
Excerpt from her poem titled ***I'm Her***

# THE HONORABLE DEBORAH THOMAS-FELIX



Embassy of the Republic of  
Trinidad and Tobago

HOWARD  
UNIVERSITY Center for Women, Gender  
and Global Leadership

JOIN US AS WE HOST A  
**BOOK LAUNCH**  
FOR

Her Honor  
**Deborah Thomas-Felix**  
LLB, LL.M, EMBA  
President of the Industrial Court | Republic of Trinidad & Tobago

IN A DISCUSSION ON HER LATEST  
PUBLICATION

**Labour Law and Good Industrial Relations –  
Progressive Discipline and Maternity  
Protection in the Workplace**

A portrait of Deborah Thomas-Felix, a woman with dark hair, wearing a dark top with a decorative neckline, smiling.

The center celebrated **National Author's Day** with a book launch featuring the Honorable Deborah Thomas-Felix, from the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Her honor discussed her newest book, ***Labour Law and Good Industrial Relations – Progressive Discipline and Maternity Protection in the Workplace***, which focuses on the practice of good industrial relations and progressive discipline in the workplace. Her Honor also held a book signing following the discussion.

The evening event took place on the Cramton auditorium stage, with more than 100 guests from around the globe in attendance.



The center welcomed Ghanaian social entrepreneur and feminist **Yawa Hansen-Quao** for our speaker series with students from Dr. Msia Clark's **Black Women and Pop Culture** class. Topics ranged from everyday struggles women face across the globe to how social media and western pop culture affect adolescents.

Combining the curriculum surrounding representations of black women in media and culture with Hansen-Quao's advocacy for women's leadership in Africa, created space for an inspiring and illuminating discussion on the intersections.



Nearly a decade after her infamous speech on misogyny in the workplace during a parliamentary hearing, we welcomed former Prime Minister of Australia **Julia Gillard** for our final Global Dialogue Series speaker of the semester. She discussed her latest book, **Not Now, Not Ever - 10 Years on From the Misogyny Speech**, in a fireside chat with Dr. Dawuni.

Students, alum, and faculty engaged as Ms. Gillard shared her sentiments about the speech and responded to several questions centering on race and feminist policies internationally.

Following the conversation, the former Prime Minister gave **six signed copies** of her book to students in attendance. The book is currently only available in Australia.



Scan the QR Code to Watch

## | FEMINIST FOREIGN POLICY

Just a few weeks after the **Feminist Development Policy Conference** in Berlin - where Germany committed to a feminist foreign and development policy - the center hosted a group of women from across the globe during a study tour with **The Heinrich Boell Foundation**.

The rich dialogue focused on feminist foreign policy nationally and globally, with HU students sharing their views of feminism and participants of the study tour sharing their understanding of the topic and how they advocate for women's rights and equality in their daily work.







Center for Women, Gender  
and Global Leadership

STAY  
CONNECTED

