



WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AT
HOWARD UNIVERSITY
A STORYTELLING PROJECT



CENTER FOR
**WOMEN,
GENDER
& GLOBAL
LEADERSHIP**

Fall 2023 Report



1867

HOWARD
UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR

WOMEN,
GENDER
& GLOBAL
LEADERSHIP



FOUNDING DIRECTOR'S NOTE: J. JARPA DAWUNI, PH.D.



*A good architect does not hold the keys to a building forever; they know when to hand it over to the homeowner. -
J. Jarpa Dawuni, Ph.D.*

My time has come to hand over the keys to the Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership (CWGGL). My vision for establishing this Center was simple—to provide a center of excellence for women and gender issues by building on the long and strong legacy of Black women who have come through Howard University. This vision was made a reality by the collective efforts of donors, supporters, allies and the Howard University community.

In the three years I dedicated to building the Center, we have achieved major milestones-- raised over \$ 2 million in gifts and grants, hosted national and global women leaders, co-developed an academic program for a Minor in Women, Gender and Sexualities Studies, published over 30 reports in our working paper series, produced a 13-part oral narrative history on women in leadership at Howard, organized over 40 public events and hosted the first Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence.

I could not have achieved all this without our donors, governance boards, colleagues, students and several well-wishers and supporters. I have learned so much from all these people. What I count today as my success story would not have been possible without the myriad of experiences and encounters that crystallized into what I call my leadership lessons. This process taught me to turn every opportunity, challenge, encounter and experience into a success story.

The saying “to whom much is given, much is desired” has always informed my actions. I am cognizant of the different levels of privilege and power I possess. I see my privilege and power as gifts to serve humanity, so I pour out my heart, soul, and energy in everything I do, because much is desired from me. As I hand over the keys of this architectural design to the new leadership, I am hopeful that they will take the Center to a new level. I have done my part, the legacy of what the Center will be, and where it will go now lies in the excellent hands of Howard University.

Gratitude in service,
J. Jarpa Dawuni, Ph.D.
Founding Director
Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership
November, 2023

THE NEXT CHAPTER: WELCOMING OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I am honored and privileged to assume the position of Executive Director of the Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership. As the inaugural Executive Director of the Center, I am following in the footsteps of the Founding Director Dr. J. Jarpa Dawuni. We owe so much to the vision, energy, dedication, and commitment that Dr. Dawuni demonstrated and carried out in her three years at the helm of the Center. She and her staff carried out the mission of Howard University and the Center by sponsoring seminars, summits, lectures, chats, symposia, exhibitions, roundtables, and much more. She, along with the Center's staff, Advisory Board, Global Council of Leaders, Executive Council, Student Ambassadors, internal and external supporters, worked to ensure that excellence was achieved in research, service, and teaching on the myriad of issues that affect Black women in the United States and throughout the African Diaspora.

Let us all give a generous thank you to Dr. Dawuni for the hard work that she put into establishing the Center, grounding it firmly in the tradition of Black feminist intellectual thought, activities, and service, along with providing interdisciplinarity.

I am delighted to join Howard University at this momentous time. I hope that my more than two decades of teaching at both public and private universities in small, medium-size, and large universities in traditional and interdisciplinary departments will allow me to mentor and work with students. In addition, I taught and served as department chair in Nairobi, Kenya for five and a half years. My teaching, research, service, and administrative experience will enable me to work with and collaborate with colleges, departments, centers, and units across Howard University. The work of the Center has not been just about Howard University. The Center remains committed to the original mission of the University—to serve the community.

The Center for Women, Gender, and Global Leadership will remain committed to Black women in the United States and throughout the African Diaspora. All who participate in the Center's activities and who encounter information on the Center's work will learn the importance of interdisciplinary research and teaching to ensure effective outreach on the local, national, and global levels. In sum, the Center will continue to sponsor and work with others to foster and develop skills and expertise that will allow Black women to be local, state, national, and global leaders. Our goal is to meet students, faculty, and staff where they are. Some may already recognize that they are leaders; others may know that they have the potential to become leaders. Others will have to be supported and encouraged to reach their leadership potential. Everyone will have a different and unique pathway to leadership.

I look forward to meeting and working with you to continue to build on the achievements and accomplishments of the Center.

Cassandra Veney, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership

MEET OUR TEAM



J. JARPA DAWUNI, ESQ., PH.D.

Founding Director



ANJERRIKA BEAN, PH.D.

Assistant Director



ANITA PLUMMER, PH.D.

Associate Director of Faculty
Engagement & Research



MOUHAMADOU HOYECK

Graduate Outreach Coordinator



AMY QUARKUME, PH.D.

Associate Director
Student Engagement



AKOFA BRUCE

Undergraduate
Community Outreach and
Social media intern



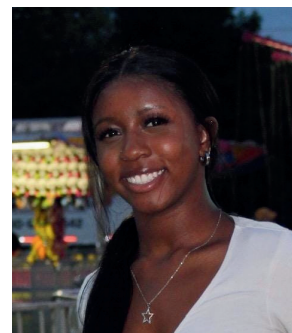
LOGAN FORD

Undergraduate
Research analyst intern



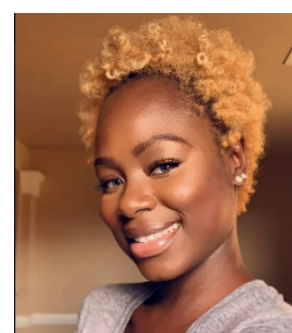
WESLYN HARMON

Undergraduate
Communications and Media intern



KOBII SPRUILL

Undergraduate
Media intern



LAKEIYAH DULCICIO

Graduate student
research analyst

Fall 2023

CENTER PROGRAMMING

Faculty | Student | Community | Global



ORGANIZATION FAIR

NATURAL HAIR
CONVERSATIONS WITH
PARENTS & CHILDREN

JUBILEE: A BLACK FEMINIST
HOMECOMING SCREENING

WBENC PITCH COMPETITION

MOTHERS OF THE MECCA
TEA TIME CHAT

CWGGL AMBASSADOR
INDUCTION

MOTHERS OF THE MECCA
PARENTING AND SELF CARE

END OF YEAR LUNCHEON



Scan the QR code Learn
more & to join us this month

Fall 2023 Event Schedule

Save the Date

AUGUST 2023

30 HU Organizations Fair

31 Mothers of the Mecca (MOM) Tea Time Chat

SEPTEMBER 2023

7 Natural Hair Conversations with Parents and Children

18 CWGGL Ambassador Induction

OCTOBER 2023

12 Jubilee: A Black Feminist Homecoming Film Screening

19 Mothers of the Mecca (MOM) Parenting and Self-Care

NOVEMBER 2023

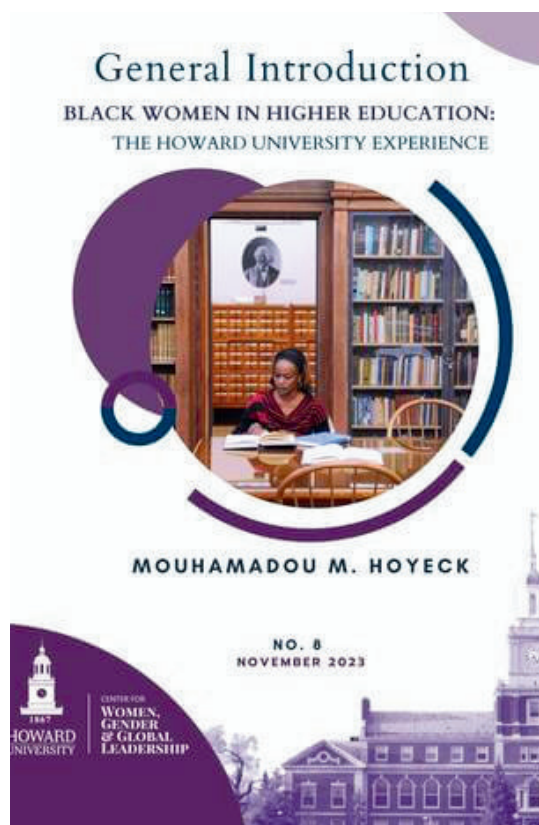
1 WBENC Pitch Competition

16 Mothers of the Mecca (MOM) Chat Series

16 Center for Women Luncheon

WOMEN AT HOWARD RESEARCH PROJECT

The Women at Howard University project is a special edition of the Working Paper Series of the Center. It is the culmination of a two-year research project designed by J. Jarpa Dawuni, Ph.D., and Anita Plummer, Ph.D., and carried out by graduate students and faculty. It documents the past and present status of women faculty, students, and administrators at Howard University.



Each working paper provides historical and contemporary data and case studies of women at the institution in areas ranging from their role in leadership positions, faculty rank, salary, retention, post-graduate work, exposure to violence and discrimination, and more. The data reveal a complex story of individuals and groups of women addressing gender inequity spanning the University's over 150-year history.

Visit the Working Paper Series on the Center's website:
<https://cwgggl.howard.edu/funding/working-paper-series>

“J. JARPA DAWUNI NAMED PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ON NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANT”

The Hilltop

J. Jarpa Dawuni, Ph.D., founding director of Howard University’s Center for Women, Gender, and Global Leadership and associate professor of political science, has been named the principal investigator on a \$700,000 research grant from the National Science Foundation.



“The judiciary is the third arm of government. Women’s representation in law and leadership is essential for democratic governance principles of equality and legitimacy,” Dawuni said. “Women’s representation promotes not only symbolic diversity, but also contributes to the enrichment of judicial decisions and the development of inclusive jurisprudence.”

Dawuni has authored four books on women judges and her pioneering research of women in African judiciaries has established her as an expert in the field. This research will expand upon Dawuni’s previous research on women’s representation in judiciaries across the African continent. Findings from the four books she has edited show that, while experiences vary between countries, African women are well-represented in international courts and tribunals. Africa leads the world in the number of female chief justices and constitutional court presidents. However, they still face gender-based stereotyping, balancing professional and personal responsibilities, etc.

A judiciary is when the composition of courts reflects that of the population for grounds of fairness, nondiscrimination, justice, and legitimacy. However, access to judgeships around the world is highly uneven for groups that stand at the intersection of multiple forms of oppression.

Read more here:

<https://thedig.howard.edu/all-stories/j-jarpa-dawuni-named-principal-investigator-national-science-foundation-research-grant>

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Women in Leadership at Howard University: A Storytelling Project, by the Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership to center the experiences and perspectives of women in leadership at Howard University. Designed by J. Jarpa Dawuni, Ph.D., directed by Idit Dvir, supervised by Mouhamadou Hoyeck and Fowzia Farah, with support from the Pivotal Ventures Centering Women and Girls of Color grant.

Visit the Center's Youtube page to view all 15 interviews:
<https://www.youtube.com/@HUWomensCenter/videos>



ORGANIZATION FAIR



On August 30, 2023, CWGGL participated in the HU Organizational Fair to share information about our research, programming, and student volunteer opportunities with incoming first-year students. At the Fair, the Women's Center shared a table with the WBENC (Women's Business Enterprise National Council), a women of color small business incubator program, and the student representatives shared information about registration for the Women of Color Incubator Competition, CWGGL ambassadorship program, and upcoming events at the center.

MOTHERS OF THE MECCA TEA TIME CHAT



On August 31, 2023, the Center for Women, Gender & Global Leadership collaborated with Mothers of the Mecca on “Teatime Chat: Parenting at HU.” This event was the first in the Mothers of the Mecca Parent Chat Series this fall. During this event, we had a fruitful conversation on the distinct perspectives of Parenting on our campus. The discussion covered topics on mental health awareness for children and ways this may go unnoticed by parents. During our conversation, we heard from Dr. Nicole Jenkins, who offered insight into the different emotions parents may experience as their child matures. Our conversation covered safety concerns, how much independence to give a child at a certain age, and the joy of learning who a child is growing up to be. The guests and audience shared their personal stories and spoke about how they related or how things were different for them

NATURAL HAIR CONVERSATIONS WITH PARENTS & CHILDREN

On September 7, 2023, the Mothers of the Mecca (MOM) hosted an event on "Natural Hair Conversations with Parents and Children" in the Seal Room of the Health Sciences Library. The event organizer, Dr. Jenkins, spoke about the importance of providing safe spaces for non-traditional students on our campus who may identify as young parents, step-parents, or individuals with familial responsibilities while completing their undergraduate or graduate degree. She elaborated on her experiences as a non-traditional student and how she established MOM to provide the community she wished she had.



Read more here:

<https://thehilltoponline.com/2023/09/11/students-reveal-challenges-associated-with-their-natural-hair-at-campus-book-event/>

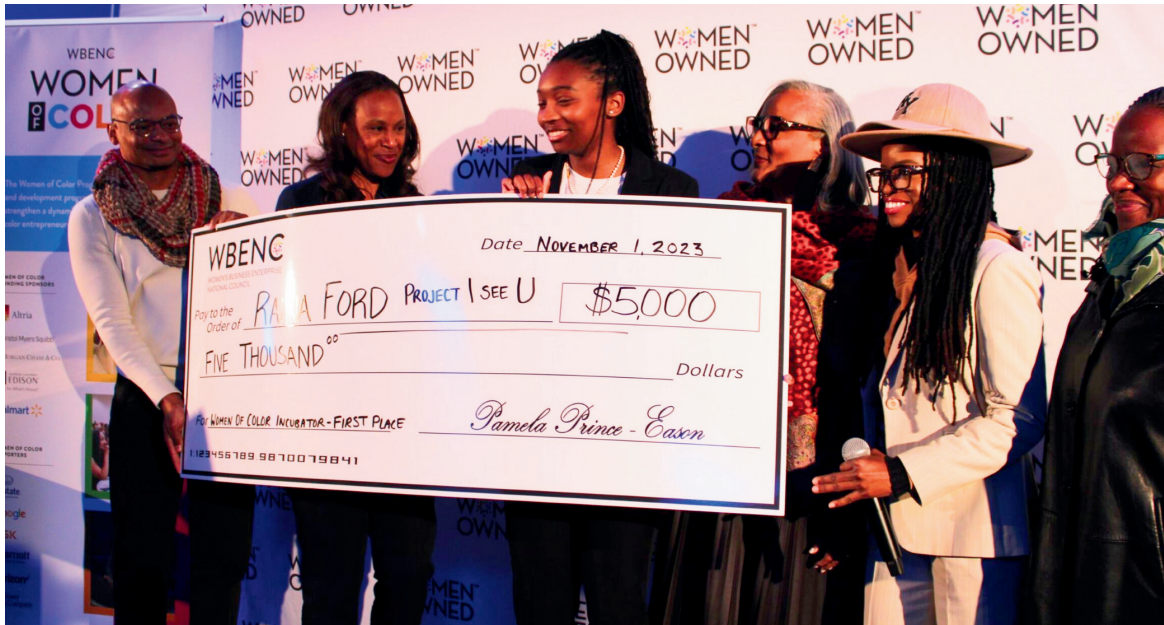
WBENC PITCH COMPETITION

On November 1, 2023, the Women's Center co-hosted the WBENC, the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, WOC Incubator Pitch Competition. By participating in the WOC incubator sessions, young female entrepreneurs at Howard had the opportunity to engage with successful women-owned businesses and America's largest Fortune 500 companies. These industry leaders taught them viable skills in entrepreneurship and business ideation. The Incubator ended with a Pitch Competition awarding thousands of dollars in seed capital and an all-expenses paid trip to the WBENC National Conference & Business Fair in Denver, CO, for the first-place winner.

The Pitch competition began with welcoming remarks from Jill Sasso, the Chief Operating Officer at WBENC. Shortly after, Audrey Awasom, the Senior Manager of Programs at WBENC, gave an overview of the WOC Incubator program and the other programs WBENC offers for female entrepreneurs. The organization certifies businesses as 'Woman-owned' and supports budding entrepreneurs to bring their ideas to fruition. Our Executive Director at the Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership, Dr. Jarpa J. Dawuni, also gave congratulatory remarks and words of encouragement to the pitch participants.

The Judges for the Pitch Competition included Sandra Eberhard, the President & CEO of WBEC Metro NY and WBEC Greater DMV; Porsche Pettiford, the VP of Hotel Openings and Transitions at Marriott International; Tarrance Frierson, the Director of Global Supplier Diversity at Bristol-Myers Squibb; Sharon Lewis, the Assistant Dean of Impact and Engagement at Howard University School of Business, and Destiny J. Wesley, the 2022 WBENC WOC Incubator 1st Place Winner.

The Pitch Competition included 22 Howard students, with both undergraduate and graduate female entrepreneurs represented. The students could pitch for Three minutes, and judges would ask questions for two more minutes. At the end of the event, the winners were announced. The first-place winner was Raina Ford, the owner of Project I See U, LLC, a nonprofit that produces a book on disability awareness. The second-place winner was Courtney Griffin, the owner of Tutor Connect, which connects students with affordable tutoring services administered by HBCU students. The third-place winner was Kemi Karim, with Roses from the Concrete, a program incorporating Art and Culture into Diversity and Inclusion training. Through WBENC, all participants gained invaluable business and product development skills.



WBENC
WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE
NATIONAL COUNCIL

**WOMEN
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JOIN FORCES. SUCCEED TOGETHER.



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END OF YEAR LUNCHEON



SEMESTER HIGHLIGHT: HEFORSHE SUMMIT

JOSHUA HUGHES, SENIOR MATHEMATICS MAJOR
TRAVELS TO REPRESENT HU FOR THE 2023 HEFORSHE SUMMIT

On Thursday, September 21st, 2023, I had both the honor and the privilege of participating in the UN Women's HeForShe Summit in New York, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly gathering, as a representative of the Howard University Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership.

This panel conversation with Christine Emba, Columnist from The Washington Post, Richard Reeves, President of the American Institute for Boys and Men, and Michelle Terry, CEO of Movember, occurred at the esteemed Gotham Hall in Times Square Manhattan. Through this dialogue, I was privileged to connect with several global industry and social advancement leaders.

During the Summit, there were three different panels centered around the topic of Gender Equality. This specific panel discussion aimed to bring together experts and leaders from various fields to explore dominant narratives that shape today's socially desirable models of masculinity.



The panel discussion demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of how society can work together to disrupt harmful narratives and advance gender equality for everyone. My goal was to inspire solutions by bringing personal perspectives through personal activism and engagement. I shared one quote: “You can go fast alone, but we can go further together.”



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17.7% New Followers

1,501 Accounts reached

1,198% Increase in Impressions



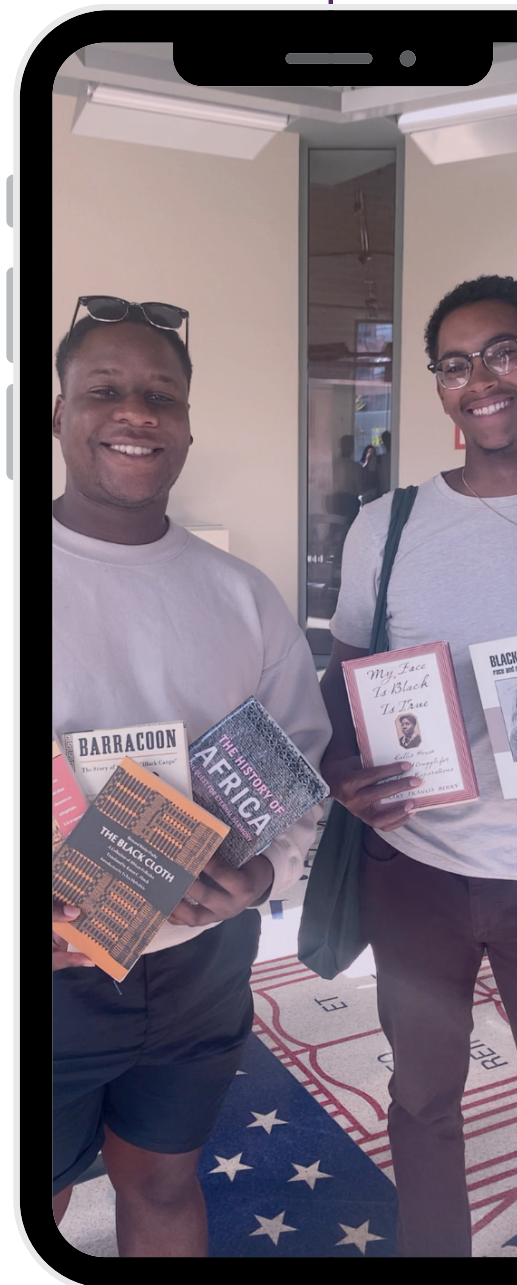
2,825 Impressions

5,012 Engagement Rate



1,178 Tweet Impressions

268% Engagement Rate



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& Gender
Global
Leadership**

