

Junior Practicum Career Readiness & Skill-Building Summit

WINTER TERM 2020 | SEPTEMBER 8 – OCTOBER 2



Contents

General Information and Overview	2
Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems	3
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	10
Career Readiness and Skill-Building	13
Schedule at a Glance	20



Dear Students,

I write to introduce you to the Junior Practicum.

This is a program about seeking purpose in uncertain times.

Over the last two years, I have watched you put educational excellence into action and achieve incredible things. I saw you march on Tappan Square for climate action, engage the community to support immigrant justice, and help vulnerable communities obtain PPE. You've brought awareness and action to the systemic racism experienced by Black communities and communities of color across the nation.

Throughout, you have articulated with certainty your values and the future you envision.

Now, while your values remain the same, we've all had certainty stripped from us. I have been inspired by the certainty you have lent this campus over the past two years; now, let me lend you some. I don't know what the future holds, but I know that you can make it your own, and I will help you do so.

The Junior Practicum program was created with one objective in mind: to give you a meaningful educational experience during your time away from campus. It will challenge you to learn new skills that will prepare you for your internship or research opportunity in the fall; to engage critically with diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace; to be a better ally and agent of change; and to investigate how your professional industry of choice grapples with complex problems that affect each of us in unique ways.

The Junior Practicum begins with a summit, which has three dimensions—**Skill-Building and Career Readiness; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; and Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems**. Each dimension will prepare you in unique ways for your remote internship and research experiences. We will hear from industry and thought leaders about the challenges of our time and how to be tomorrow's leaders. You will participate in interactive workshops to learn how to be solution-oriented in the profession of your interest, so you are prepared to respond in the moment. You will gain industry-specific skills and competencies that you will need to have a competitive advantage now and when you seek employment opportunities in the future.

All of us—alumni, parents, staff, faculty, and friends of the college—want to equip you with the skills, knowledge, and ethics to pursue meaningful lives after Oberlin. This is how we will regain some of the certainty and purpose that is so hard to come by during these difficult days.

I look forward to working with you this fall.

Dana Hamdan
Executive Director
Career Development Center, Oberlin College

General Information

The **Career Readiness and Skill-Building Summit** will take place virtually, Monday–Friday, between September 8 and October 2. The Summit is part of Oberlin’s new **Junior Practicum program**, designed to support students during their fall semester away from campus as part of Oberlin’s three-semester academic calendar developed in response to COVID-19.

The summit comprises three programming dimensions, outlined below. Throughout the month, students will participate in a range of workshops, panels, and presentations designed to build the competencies and perspectives necessary to thrive in a rapidly-evolving 21st-century workplace.

- **Skill-Building and Career Readiness:** Tomorrow’s professional landscape demands versatility. This content area aims to help Oberlin students build competency with the tools of their future trades, whether that be a coding language, grant writing, public speaking, or anything in between.
- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** Oberlin students have long been known for and proud of their commitment to social justice. DEI programming throughout the month will give students the opportunity to apply these values in a professional setting and to consider the role that identity plays in the workplace.
- **Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems:** From climate change to public health to reproductive freedom, pressing global challenges will require multifaceted approaches. In this track, students will hear from experts on a range of complex problems who will discuss the skills needed to face tomorrow. Then, students work together in teams to craft a pitch for an idea that would address one of the complex problems, which they will present to a panel of experienced entrepreneurs.

Throughout the entire summit, students will be supported by their peers and Career Development Center staff in their Career Community of choice. Students will choose between one of seven Career Communities, depending on their areas of interest and career aspirations. Each Career Community is led by a professional staff member in the Career Development Center, who will help students tie all three programming dimensions together.

The seven Career Communities are:

1. **Arts and Creative Professions**
2. **Business, Finance, and Consulting**
3. **Education**
4. **Law and Public Policy**
5. **Medical, Public, and Global Health Professions**
6. **Nonprofit and the Public Sector**
7. **Science and Technology**

Within each community, students will debrief, strategize, and find connections between the various workshops, presentations, and panels and their own professional interests. They will build professional networks that will support them through the summit, the rest of their time at Oberlin, and beyond.

Upon successful completion of the summit, students will receive both Winter Term credit and the opportunity to launch into the Junior Practicum’s experiential component, which will run from October through December. Students will receive a stipend to pursue a remote micro-internship or research opportunity, giving them the opportunity to take the skills they built during the summit and apply them in a professional context.

More information about options for the experiential component will be shared with students during the summit. Students should also be sure to add the Summit Google Calendar and regularly monitor the Summit BlackBoard page for further information.



Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems

Between September 9–22, students will attend daily presentations by a series of experts who will each focus on one of a range of complex problems. The presentations will give students insight into the key ideas, challenges, and debates motivating both the existence of the complex problems as well as efforts to address them. Students will have the opportunity to debrief each complex problem presentation within their Career Communities of choice.

Following the final presentation, each student will select one complex problem to focus on for the remainder of the summit. Working in teams, students will use skills and tools discussed throughout the summit to collaboratively develop an idea that in some way would address their chosen complex problem. Complex problem programming will conclude with Pitch Day, taking place Wednesday, Sept. 30. Each team will have the opportunity to pitch their idea to the experienced entrepreneurs on Oberlin's LaunchU Advisory Board for feedback. The panel of judges will select the most outstanding project from each complex problem, and the students on that pitching team will receive an award.



Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems

The Complex Problems

Presentations will be offered on the following complex problems:

RACIAL BIAS & REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

Alexis McGill Johnson | *President and CEO, Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund*

CLIMATE CHANGE

Sara Menker | *Founder and CEO, Gro Intelligence*

TRANSFORMING THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

Fatima Ashraf | *Professor, Public Policy and Non-Profit Management, City College of New York*

TRUST IN MEDIA

April Ryan | *White House Correspondent, American Urban Radio Networks*

GENTRIFICATION & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Andrea Batista Schlesinger | *Partner, HR&A*

PUBLIC HEALTH

Tim Uyeki '81 | *Chief Medical Officer for the Influenza Division, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

WOMEN'S RIGHTS & GENDER EQUALITY

Jessica Horn | *Chair, Program Committee, Fund for Global Human Rights*

PUBLIC SPACE & MEMORY

Stephanie Jones-Rogers | *Associate Professor, Department of History, University of California-Berkeley*

MUSIC AS SOCIAL CHANGE

Rhiannon Giddens '00 | *Grammy-award winning musician and MacArthur Fellow*

IMMIGRATION

Gregory Maniatis | *Director, International Migration Initiative, Open Society Foundation*

POLITICAL POLARIZATION AND MEDIA

Tom Rosenstiel '78 | *Executive Director, American Press Institute*

ART AS SOCIAL CHANGE

Chris Bedford '00 | *Dorothy Wagner Wallis Director, Baltimore Museum of Art;*

Katy Siegel '84 | *Senior Curator for Research and Programming, Baltimore Museum of Art & Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Professor, Stony Brook University*

COMPLEX PROBLEM SPEAKERS

RACIAL BIAS & REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2020

Alexis McGill Johnson

President and CEO, Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund

Alexis McGill Johnson is the president and CEO of Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund. Planned Parenthood provides vital health services to 2.4 million people each year through its more than 600 health centers across the country.



McGill Johnson has served as acting president and CEO for the last year and has been part of the leadership of both organizations for more than a decade, including as a former PPFA board chair, former Planned Parenthood Action Fund board member, and former Planned Parenthood Federal PAC chair.

McGill Johnson brings a researcher's lens to the justice issues of our time. She is a renowned social and racial justice leader, lifelong political and cultural organizer, and a tireless advocate for reproductive rights and access to quality, affordable health care. She is the co-founder and former co-director of the Perception Institute, a consortium of researchers, advocates, and strategists who translate cutting-edge mind science research on race, gender, ethnic, and other identities into solutions that reduce bias and discrimination and promote belonging. She currently serves on the board of Color of Change, Revolutions Per Minute, and Narrative Initiative. She is a founder of the Culture Group as well as a frequent commentator on FOX News, CNN, MSNBC, and in the press. During the 2004 election cycle, she served as executive director of Citizen Change. She holds degrees from Princeton and Yale universities and has taught political science at both Yale and Wesleyan universities.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Thursday, Sept. 10, 2020

Sara Menker

Founder and CEO, Gro Intelligence



Sara Menker is founder and CEO of Gro Intelligence, a technology company that is bridging data gaps across the global agriculture sector, empowering decision makers, and creating a more informed, connected, efficient, and productive global agriculture industry.

Prior to founding Gro, Menker was a vice president in Morgan Stanley's commodities

group. She began her career in commodities risk management, where she covered all commodity markets, and she subsequently moved to trading, where she managed a trading portfolio.

Menker is a trustee of the Mandela Institute For Development Studies (MINDS) and a trustee of the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). She was named a Global Young Leader by the World Economic Forum and is a fellow of the African Leadership Initiative of the Aspen Institute.

Menker received a BA in economics and African studies at Mount Holyoke College and the London School of Economics and an MBA from Columbia University.

TRANSFORMING THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

Friday, Sept. 11, 2020

Fatima Ashraf

Professor, Public Policy and Non-Profit Management, City College of New York

Fatima Ashraf is an educator, policymaker, and consultant. She studied biology and medicine at the University of Wisconsin-



Madison and public health and public policy at the University of Michigan. Ashraf began her post graduate career as a social epidemiologist at the New York City Department of Health studying social determinants of intimate partner violence. Ashraf joined the New York City mayor's office in 2006, where she advised on policies related to health, immigration, the criminal legal system, and education. Ashraf also spent four years at

the Open Society Foundations as chief of staff to the president and chairman. She was responsible for coordinating funding to support nonprofit organizations during global crises and to boost U.S. political activism.

Currently, Ashraf is a professor of public policy and nonprofit management at the City College of New York. Her courses focus on U.S. domestic policies and their entrenchment in carceral and colonial politics and inequitable systems of governance. She brings a real-world, intensive, and hands-on approach to her teaching and is frequently referred to by students as a "truth teller." Ashraf lives in New York with her partner and three sons and is committed to raising her children with an anti-racist, anti-oppressive, anti-poverty, and pro-human world view.

Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems

TRUST IN MEDIA

Monday, Sept. 14, 2020

April Ryan

White House Correspondent, American Urban Radio Networks



White House Correspondent April Ryan has a unique vantage point as the only Black female reporter covering urban issues from the White House—a position she has held since the Clinton era. On behalf of AURN American Urban Radio Networks, and through her “Fabric of America” news blog, she delivers her readership and listeners (millions of African Americans and close to 300 radio affiliates) a “unique urban and minority perspective in news.” Her position as a White House correspondent has afforded her unusual insight into the racial sensitivities, issues, and attendant political struggles of our nation’s last presidents.

Ryan can be seen almost daily on television as a political analyst on such programs as *Outfront with Erin Burnett*, *CNN Tonight with Don Lemon*, *Hardball with Chris Matthews*, *The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer*, *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* and *Real Time with Bill Maher* (among others).

She has been featured in *Vogue*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Glamour*, and *Elle* magazines—to name a few.

Ryan has served on the board of the prestigious White House Correspondents Association. She is one of only three African Americans in the association’s over 100-year history to serve on its board. She is also an esteemed member of the National Press Club. In 2015, Ryan was nominated for an NAACP Image Award (Outstanding Literary Work—Debut Author) for her first book. Shortly after, she became the 2017 National Association of Black Journalists Journalist of the Year. She was recognized as the 2019 Freedom of the Press Award Winner by the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Ryan is a Baltimore native and Morgan State University graduate, and she gives back to this community by serving as a mentor to aspiring journalists and assisting with developing “up and coming” broadcasters. She received an honorary doctorate from her alma mater in 2017 and became an honorary member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated in July 2019. Ryan considers her greatest life’s work raising her two daughters, Ryan and Grace—who are phenomenal young women.

Ryan is the author of the award-winning book *The Presidency in Black and White* and *At Mama’s Knee: Mothers and Race in Black and White*, where she looks at race relations through the lessons and wisdom that mothers have given their children. Her newest release, *Under Fire: Reporting from the Front Lines of the Trump White House*, has taken America by storm with an in-depth look at her ludicrous journey as a reporter during the current Trump administration.

GENTRIFICATION & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020

Andrea Batista Schlesinger

Partner, HR&A Advisors



Andrea Batista Schlesinger leads the Inclusive Cities practice at HR&A Advisors, where she is a partner. As a former leader in government, think tanks, philanthropy, and political campaigns, Schlesinger uniquely understands the capacity and role of government, advocacy, and philanthropy in making cities just and dynamic places. Her current work focuses on supporting equitable economic development and removing barriers to opportunity for all communities in cities, by working to affect change in workforce development, education, criminal justice, racial equity, and other fields. Prior to joining HR&A, Schlesinger was deputy director of U.S. programs at the Open Society Foundation, George Soros’ global philanthropy. Previously, Schlesinger served as a special advisor to New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and as executive director of the Drum Major Institute for Public Policy, originally founded by an advisor to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Schlesinger began her career in public policy at age 16 as the student advisory member on the New York City Board of Education, for which she was the subject of an award-winning documentary, *Hear Us Now*. She is the author of the book *The Death of Why: The Decline of Questioning and the Future of Democracy* (Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2009). Schlesinger received her BA in public policy from the University of Chicago and holds master’s degrees in history from Columbia University and the London School of Economics, where she focused her studies on how global cities have constructed their responses to inequality during the latter half of the 20th century.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020

Tim Uyeki ’81

Chief Medical Officer for the Influenza Division, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Tim Uyeki is chief medical officer for the Influenza Division, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He received a BA in biology from Oberlin College, a medical degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, a master’s degree in public health (epidemiology), and a master’s degree in public policy, both from the University of California, Berkeley. He

Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems

completed residencies in pediatrics at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), and in preventive medicine and public health at UCSF-UC Berkeley, and the CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service applied epidemiology fellowship program.

Prior to joining the CDC, he worked as an attending physician at UCSF San Francisco General Hospital for five years, pediatric critical care transport for UCSF for one year, and as a pediatric hospitalist physician for 2.5 years. Uyeki has worked at CDC on the epidemiology, clinical aspects, prevention, and control of influenza in the U.S. and worldwide since 1998. He is also a clinical professor in the Department of Pediatrics, UCSF, and an adjunct associate professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University.

Uyeki has served as a consultant to the World Health Organization (WHO) on clinical and epidemiological issues related to seasonal, zoonotic, and pandemic influenza, as well as Ebola virus disease, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, and COVID-19. Uyeki has worked on different aspects of the CDC COVID-19 response, including serving as Clinical Team Lead.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS & GENDER EQUALITY

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020

Jessica Horn

Chair, Program Committee, Fund for Global Human Rights



Jessica Horn is a feminist analyst and strategic advisor on women's rights with 20 years of experience in civil society, donor, and multilateral spaces in the Africa region and globally. She has served as director of programmes for the African Women's Development Fund, Africa's first women's fund, and coordinator of Amanitare, the African Partnership for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. In a thought leadership role, Horn pioneered the AWDF Futures initiative, forecasting the future of women's rights in Africa, and led the creation of AIR a practice-based initiative to reconceptualize approaches to trauma and mental health and wellbeing from an African feminist perspective.

In social justice philanthropy, Horn has worked to design models for UHAI-EASHRI, the first African-led fund focusing on LGBTI rights, and early ideas for FRIDA, the first global fund for young feminists. A frequent contributor to both academic and popular platforms, Horn is lead author of the *Cutting Edge Pack on Gender and Social Movements* (BRIDGE/ Institute for Development Studies) and of two monographs on the growth and impact of Christian fundamentalism on women's rights in Africa and on HIV/AIDS policy (AWID). Horn is a founding member of the African Feminist Forum working group and chairs

the Program Committee of the Fund for Global Human Rights. She was recently appointed as a commissioner on the Lancet Commission on Gender and Global Health. Horn graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Smith College with a BA in anthropology, and holds an MSc (Distinction) in gender and development from the London School of Economics.

PUBLIC SPACE & MEMORY

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020

Stephanie Jones-Rogers

Associate Professor of History, University of California, Berkeley



Stephanie E. Jones-Rogers is an associate professor of history at the University of California, Berkeley where she specializes in African-American history, women's and gender history, and the history of American slavery. She is the author of *They Were Her Property: White Women as Slave Owners in the American South* (Yale University Press, 2019), which won the Society for Historians

of the Early American Republic's 2020 Best Book Prize and the Organization of American Historians' 2020 Merle Curti Prize for the best book in American social history. Jones-Rogers is also the first African-American and the third woman to win the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize in History since the award's inception in 1980.

They Were Her Property is based on Jones-Rogers' revised dissertation, which won the Organization of American Historians' Lerner-Scott Prize for the best doctoral dissertation in U.S. women's history in 2013. Her work has appeared in *Slavery and Abolition*, *Women's America: Refocusing the Past*, *Sexuality and Slavery: Reclaiming Intimate Histories in the Americas*, as well as online platforms.

She is working on three projects. Her first, *Women, American Slavery, and the Law* is a "legal sequel" to her first book. Her second, entitled "She had... a Womb Subjected to Bondage": The Afro-Atlantic Origins of British Colonial Descent Law, examines the ways that West African customs and laws influenced English thinking about matrilineal descent and may have influenced their decisions to implement matrilineal descent laws in British North America. Her third project, "A Country so dreadful for a White Woman" reconstructs the lives of nearly 300 British women who traveled to the West African coast on Royal African Company slave ships and settled in the company's forts and castles before 1750. Funds from the NEH, the Ford Foundation, and the Woodrow Wilson Foundation have supported this work.

Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems

MUSIC AS SOCIAL CHANGE

Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020

Rhiannon Giddens '00

Grammy award-winning musician and MacArthur Fellow



Rhiannon Giddens is a celebrated artist who excavates the past to reveal truths about our present. A MacArthur “Genius Grant” recipient, Giddens has been Grammy-nominated six times, and won once, for her work with the Carolina Chocolate Drops, a group she co-founded. She was nominated this year for her collaboration with multi-instrumentalist Francesco Turrisi, *there is no Other* (2019), an album that is at once a condemnation of “othering” and a celebration of the spread of ideas, connectivity, and shared experience. She has performed for the Obamas at the White House and acted in two seasons of the hit television series *Nashville*.

Giddens has been profiled by *CBS Sunday Morning*, *the New York Times*, and NPR’s *Fresh Air*, among other outlets. She is featured in Ken Burns’s Country Music series, which aired on PBS last fall. In 2019, Giddens also formed the band Our Native Daughters with three other black female banjo players and contributed to and produced their album *Songs of Our Native Daughters* (2019), which tells stories of historic black womanhood and survival. *Pitchfork* has said: “few artists are so fearless and so ravenous in their exploration,” and *Smithsonian Magazine* calls her “an electrifying artist who brings alive the memories of forgotten predecessors, white and black.”

IMMIGRATION

Friday, Sept. 18, 2020

Gregory Maniatis

Director, International Migration Initiative



Gregory A. Maniatis is the director of the International Migration Initiative. Previously, he served as senior advisor to Peter Sutherland, the United Nations Special Representative for Migration, from 2006 to 2017, and from 2003 to 2016 served as senior fellow at the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. Maniatis has worked closely with the European

Commission, the European Parliament, European Union member state governments, civil society groups, and international organizations on all aspects of migration and integration policy. His reportage and commentary have appeared in many publications, including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York Magazine*, and *The Washington Post*. Earlier in his career, he was the founder and publisher of *Odyssey*, an international magazine about Greece and the Greek diaspora. He is a graduate of

Princeton University, attended the Institut d’Etudes Politiques in Paris, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is based in New York.

POLITICAL POLARIZATION & MEDIA

Monday, Sept. 21, 2020

Tom Rosenstiel '78

Executive Director, American Press Institute

One of the most recognized thinkers in the country on the future of news, Tom Rosenstiel is the author of 10 books, including three novels. Before joining the American Press Institute in January 2013,



he was founder and for 16 years director of the Project for Excellence in Journalism, one of the five original projects of the Pew Research Center in Washington, D.C. He was co-founder and vice chair of the

Committee of Concerned Journalists. He is a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

His first novel, *Shining City* (2017), about a Supreme Court nomination, was an NPR Book of the Year. His second, *The Good Lie* (2019), about a terrorist incident, was a *Washington Post* best seller. His third, *Oppo*, about a presidential campaign, was published in December 2019.

Among his seven books on journalism, politics, and ethics is *The Elements of Journalism: What News People Should Know and the Public Should Expect*, co-authored with Bill Kovach, which has been translated into more than 25 languages and is used widely in journalism education worldwide. It has been called “a modern classic” (*New York Times*) and one of the five best books ever written on journalism (*Wall Street Journal*). Tom’s media criticism, his nonfiction books, and his research work at API and at PEJ have generated more than 60,000 academic citations.

He worked as media writer for the *Los Angeles Times* for a decade, chief congressional correspondent for *Newsweek*, press critic for MSNBC, business editor of the *Peninsula Times Tribune*, and a reporter for Jack Anderson’s *Washington Merry Go ’Round* column. He began his career at the Woodside Country Almanac in his native California. His awards include the Goldsmith book Award from Harvard, four medals for Journalism Research from the Society of Professional Journalists, and the Columbia Journalism School Distinguished Alumni Award.

Investigating Alternatives for Complex Problems

ART AS SOCIAL CHANGE

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2020

Chris Bedford '00

Dorothy Wagner Wallis Director, Baltimore Museum of Art



Christopher Bedford is the Dorothy Wagner Wallis Director of the Baltimore Museum of Art and the 10th director to lead the museum, which is renowned for its outstanding collections of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art. Recognized as an innovative and dynamic leader for building greater community engagement and creating programs of national and

international impact, Bedford served as director of the Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University for four years prior to joining the BMA and was appointed as commissioner for the U.S. Pavilion for the 2017 Venice Biennale, the world's most prestigious contemporary art fair, which presented an exhibition of new work by American artist Mark Bradford.

Previously, Bedford held the positions of chief curator and curator of exhibitions at the Wexner Center for the Arts at The Ohio State University (2008–2012), where he organized a nationally traveling exhibition of the work of Mark Bradford. He also served as assistant curator and curatorial assistant in the Department of Contemporary Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (2006–2008) and consulting curator in the Department of Sculpture and Decorative Arts for the J. Paul Getty Museum (2006–2008). Born in Scotland and raised in the United States and the UK, Bedford has a BA from Oberlin College, received a master's degree in art history through the joint program at Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Museum of Art, and has studied in the doctoral programs in art history at the University of Southern California and the Courtauld Institute of Art at the University of London. Bedford is also a noted author and contributor to publications including *Art in America*, *ArtForum*, and *Frieze*, among others. He is currently a trustee of Art + Practice, Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance, and Maryland Citizens for the Arts.

Katy Siegel '84

*Senior Curator for Research and Programming,
Baltimore Museum of Art*

Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Professor, Stony Brook University



Katy Siegel is senior curator for research and programming at the Baltimore Museum of Art and Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Professor at Stony Brook University, specializing in the relations between social and material histories. Her exhibitions have included *Generations: A History of Black Abstract Art* (2019), *Odyssey: Jack Whitten Sculpture, 1963–2017* (2018), co-organized

with the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and *Postwar: Art Between the Atlantic and the Pacific, 1945–1965* (2016), co-curated with Okwui Enwezor and Ulrich Wilmes at Haus der Kunst, Munich.

In 2017, she co-curated *Mark Bradford: Tomorrow is Another Day* with Christopher Bedford at the U.S. Pavilion at the Venice Biennale, presented at the Baltimore Museum of Art in 2018–2019. Siegel is the author of *Since '45: America and the Making of Contemporary Art* (2011), which details the collision of American social history with European modernist models. Her most recent publication is *Joan Mitchell* (Yale University Press & SFMOMA, November 2020), the catalog for a forthcoming exhibition.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

During the summit, students will attend workshops and panels to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace. These workshops and panels will explore the intersections between racial identity, systemic oppression, and workplace culture. We will discuss how Black, Indigenous, and people of color experience the workplace differently than their white peers, and examine how systems of racial injustice perpetuate white normativity and perceptions of “professionalism.” Students will reflect upon their own racial identit(ies) to envision more equitable and inclusive workplaces.

Identity-based workshop spaces will allow students to meet based on their racial identit(ies) with professional DEI facilitators. Students of color will develop and workshop strategies for navigating and thriving within predominantly white professional spaces, while white students will consider how to take an active role in dismantling racism and advancing racial equity.

Students will join the group that most closely aligns with their own racial identit(ies). The facilitators and staff of the Career Development Center acknowledge that the complicated history of race and ethnicity in the United States may choosing one identity-based workshop space over the other complex for some students, and are available to answer questions or concerns that may arise.



WORKSHOP FACILITATORS

J. Spenser Darden

Session Topic | Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace



J. Spenser Darden (He/They) has been a higher education practitioner for nearly a decade, focusing on diversity and inclusive excellence at a variety of institutional types. Educating from an equity lens, he advocates for courageous conversations that humanize and galvanize action, and prioritizes accountability and transparency.

As director for diversity initiatives and community engagement at West Virginia University, Darden is responsible for developing programs that educate campus about diversity issues; leading training and professional development for faculty and staff; and creating infrastructure and policy that promote inclusion and support community members who hold marginalized identities. He is the founder and chief consultant of Next Generation Inclusion, an organization committed to building a stronger foundation for diversity and inclusive excellence across industries. Through knowledge development, practical advice, and sustained hands-on coaching, Darden works with leaders and organizations to transform culture. Darden has worked with colleges and universities, NCAA athletic departments, multinational corporations, nonprofits, and NGOs to examine their inclusive practices, lead the development of strategic diversity plans, provide keynote addresses, and facilitate workshops and in-services. Darden has also served as a key consultant to political campaigns in their development of authentic social justice messaging. He received his master's degree from the University of Arizona and his bachelor's degree from West Virginia University.

Lindy Wagner

Session Topic | Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace



Lindy Wagner (she/her/hers) is director of the Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Previous to being at SIUE she served in the Office of Associate Chancellor for Diversity at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and provided a variety of equity and inclusion training opportunities for faculty, staff, and students. Additionally,

Wagner facilitates workshops across the country as an associate for the Sustained Dialogue Institute. Through facilitation, she aids colleges and universities with moderating dialogue; understanding and implementing inclusive leadership; diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives; and conflict resolution. She first became involved with dialogue initiatives while employed at Syracuse University in 2005 as a facilitator for Conversations about Race and Ethnicity (C.A.R.E.) Dialogue Circles. She continued her love for dialogue at Appalachian State University in 2015 where she served as the associate director for intercultural student affairs. While at Appalachian State, she provided training and development opportunities on a variety of topics for faculty, staff, and students.

Wagner has served in various roles in student affairs for the last 17 years and brings that experience to her current position. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in international studies from Graceland University, a Master of Science degree in counseling and student development from Kansas State University, and is currently working on a doctoral degree in communication studies with a focus on intercultural communication at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Alumni Panel Discussions

Throughout the summit, Oberlin alumni from a range of class years will take part in panel discussions to share personal experiences and perspectives on racial equity and inclusion in the workplace. Discussion topics will include mentorship, workplace culture and norms, and bringing your authentic self to work. The following panelists will join the discussion with additional alumni to be added in September:

Navigating the Workplace as a Person of Color

Dr. Edna Chun '68 | Chief Learning Officer, HigherEd Talent

Kameron Dunbar '19 | Communications Director, Samuel Vilchez Santiago for Florida House District 48

Dr. Alicia Smith-Tran '09 | Assistant Professor of Sociology, Texas Christian University

Monique Newton '17 | Doctoral Student, Northwestern University

Black Students & Alumni Affinity Space

Patty Powell '76 | Professional Development Consultant, Counsel for Counsel, LLC

Dr. Lillie Edwards '75 | Professor Emerita of History & African-American Studies, Drew University

Dr. Carolyn Ash '91 | Student Life Director, College Track, Aurora

Dr. Pamela Jennings '86 | Chief Executive Officer, CONSTRUKTS, Inc.

Andrea Bradford '70 | Organizational Consultant

Paul Bailey '17 | Jazz Trumpeter, Composer, & Educator

Bernice McIntyre '72 | Independent Consultant, The BKM Group

Allyship & Advocacy in the Workplace

Curtis Ferguson II '05 | Associate Director of Multicultural Recruitment, University of Southern California

Daniella Mostow '19 | Mergers and Acquisitions Consultant, CME Group

Sadie Keller '19 | Affiliate Services Associate, Family Promise

Victoria Albina '10 | Life Coach & Holistic Nurse Practitioner

Lilah Draft-Johnson '18 | Coordinator of Player Programs, Major League Baseball

Dr. Derrick Gay '97 | Diversity & Inclusion Strategist & Consultant

Christine Antonsen '15 | IT Manager, GEICO

LGBTQIA+ Inclusion in the Workplace

Dr. Diana Robins '96 | Professor & Director of A.J. Drexel Autism Institute, Drexel University

Dr. Margo Dichtelmiller '76 | Professor of Teacher Education, Eastern Michigan University

Amanda VanAllen '09 | Reporter, News 5 Cleveland

Kira Rivera '09 | Associate Attorney, Wilbraham Lawler & Buba



Career Readiness and Skill-Building

Within their Career Community of choice, students will build their professional toolkit by learning skills applicable to future careers. Students will be introduced to industry-specific skills, to ensure that you are ready for your fall internship or research opportunity, as well as future employment in the field of your choice. Sessions will offer insight into workplace culture, core competencies, and skills necessary to launch toward professional success.

Students wishing to develop or enhance technical skills may choose to attend office hours hosted by Oberlin alumni between 12:00–12:45 p.m. EDT on various days throughout the summit. The purpose of these optional office hours is for alumni to introduce students to the use of different skills and platforms in an informal setting. These sessions are not passive, but rather active opportunities for learning and often include pre-session materials or data sets to use during the session. Be sure to check Blackboard for the list of materials before each session.



SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS

Ambassador Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley

Session Topic | Interested in becoming a U.S. Diplomat? A Conversation with Ambassador Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley



A native of Cleveland, Ambassador Abercrombie-Winstanley (ret.) had a long career of 30 years in international diplomacy. President Obama nominated and confirmed her as U.S. ambassador in Malta in 2012. She served in the U.S. embassies in Iraq, Egypt, Tel Aviv, and Indonesia, and was the U.S. Consul General in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. In her role as the Secretary of

State's Special Assistant for the Middle East and Africa, she monitored the election in the Gaza Strip. She also served as the Deputy Coordinator for Counterterrorism. This session is part of the International Affairs Concentration "Diplomat in Residence" program.

Victoria Albina '01

Session Topic | Well-being in the Workplace



Victoria Albina is a certified life coach and breathwork meditation guide with a passion for helping women realize that they are their own best healers so they can break free from codependency, perfectionism, and people-pleasing and reclaim their joy. She is also a UCSF-trained family nurse practitioner, has a master's degree in public health from Boston University School of Public

Health, and a Bachelor of Arts in Latin American studies from Oberlin College. Albina has been working in health and wellness for over 20 years and lives on occupied Lenape territory/Brooklyn, New York City.

Missy Alpern '62

Session Topic | Human Resource Management

Missy Alpern is the director of the internship program for Mandalay Pictures, exposing students to many facets of an entertainment and sports business office. Mandalay Pictures is part of Peter Guber's Mandalay Entertainment, producing films including *Les Misérables*, *I Know What You Did Last Summer*, and *The Kids Are Alright*.

Samantha Anchia

Session Topic | Event & Program Planning

Samantha Anchia is a fundraising professional serving as director of development of Northwest Assistance Ministries—a nonprofit, community-based social service agency that provides assistance in areas such as food, shelter, health, education, and domestic vio-



lence awareness and intervention. Anchia is a graduate of the University of Houston and has over 10 years of fundraising experience with an expertise in special events, donor relations, and fundraising for those in need. During her career, Anchia has worked for prestigious organizations like the Houston Symphony, Society for the Performing Arts, and Northwest Assistance Ministries.

Sarah-Violet Bliss '06

Session Topic | Scriptwriting, Producing, & Entertainment Insights



Sarah-Violet Bliss is a co-creator, co-writer and co-director of *Search Party*, the critically acclaimed dark comedy series on HBO Max. Previously, Bliss co-wrote and co-directed the feature film *Fort Tilden*, which won the Grand Jury Prize for Narrative Feature at the 2014 SXSW Film Festival. She also wrote for Netflix's *Wet Hot American Summer: First Day Of Camp*, and *Wet Hot American*

Summer: Ten Years Later, as well as season two of Amazon's *Mozart In The Jungle*, which won a Golden Globe for Best Comedy Series. Bliss attended Oberlin College and NYU Tisch School's graduate film program and is originally from Brooklyn, New York.

Andrea Bradford '70

Session Topic | Human Resource Management



Andrea Bradford graduated from Oberlin Conservatory with a BM in vocal performance and earned an MMA from Boston University College of Fine Arts. After college, Bradford joined the Opera Company of Boston, touring with its founder and conductor, Sarah Caldwell, throughout New England and Europe. Between 1984 and 1988, Bradford worked as the manager of

college recruiting for Bain & Company, and in 1988, she became the vice president and executive recruiter for Isaacson, Miller.

Bradford has performed in numerous opera companies including the Opera Company of Boston's production of *The Balcony* by Robert Di Domenico, originating the role of Chantal for the world premiere; the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, Russia; and the Boston Lyric Opera production of *Lost in the Stars*. From 1992 to 1994, she was assistant director of admissions for Berklee College of Music in Boston, before serving as director of minority and multicultural affairs at Columbia Business School in New York City. She then worked as the national director of college recruiting for KPMG. Bradford was hired as the operations administrator for West Park Presbyterian Church in 1997, as well as vice president of organizational consulting and career management at Right Management Consultants, both in New York City. Bradford went

Career Readiness and Skill-Building

on to work for Career Central LLC, Partners in Human Resources, and Amnesty International USA, before becoming director of human resources for Ms. Foundation for Women in 2012.

Christine Braunstein P'23

Session Topic | Grant Writing



Christine Braunstein has worked in higher education and nonprofits for the past 20 years as a grant writer, institutional researcher, and project manager. She was most recently responsible for grant writing at Gilda's Club NYC. Braunstein has a master's in public health and a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing. She is the proud parent of an Oberlin sophomore, an avid knitter, post-punk fan, and dog lover. She lives in New York City with her husband, two children, and two dogs.

John Charles '87

**Session Topic | Creating Your Digital Identity/
Personal Branding**



John Charles is a career advisor at American University in Washington, DC, where he has advised students in the School of International Service since 2006. In addition to his duties supporting students in their career exploration and development, Charles serves on his office's diversity, equity, and inclusion committee. Previously in his career, Charles held multiple positions including: desk officer for northern and eastern Europe at the U.S. Peace Corps; English teacher in Hakodate, Japan; program manager for an educational nonprofit; and stay-at-home dad.

Charles majored in government (now politics) and French at Oberlin, where he was co-captain of the track and cross country teams. Soon after graduation, Charles began volunteering for Oberlin as an alumni admissions representative. Through the years, he has served the college in a few positions, including as a Career Services Advisory Committee member and on the former Alumni Executive Council. Currently he is a Heisman Club board member and an at-large member of the Alumni Leadership Council. Charles is the father of two young men and enjoys doing improv comedy with his team, Moonraker. He is a rabid Wisconsin Badgers fan.

Paul Cramer P'20

Session Topic | Negotiation & Mediation

Paul Cramer led Accenture's Negotiation Center of Excellence from 2006 until last July. Cramer trained at the Harvard Negotiation Project, and he has worked as a negotiation and dispute resolution specialist since 1984. As such, he has advised individuals, corporate executives, diplomats and government officials, NGO leaders, labor representatives, and others on the



most appropriate strategy for complex, multi-party negotiations. At CoE he negotiated Accenture's most complex transactions, worked to enhance the negotiation acumen of Accenture executives, built and disseminated tools, frameworks, and other thought leadership, and advised senior management. As a negotiation specialist, Cramer partnered with Professor Roger Fisher, author of *Getting to YES* and founder of the Harvard Negotiation Project and Conflict Management Inc., for 20 years. Prior to that he worked as a journalist for ABC News and *Newsday*. He graduated from Middlebury College and Harvard Law School.

Josh Davidson '12

Session Topic | Skill-Building Office Hour: Introduction to R programming



Joshua Davidson is a doctoral student in the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of Pennsylvania. Davidson's research focuses on transportation equity and geography. He is currently conducting a mixed-methods study of how public transit users learn about and ultimately change their route choices, in addition to developing a project that models the ways that residential displacement impacts commute time. Davidson has previously published work on the equity factors facing the reverse commuting population. He holds a BA in English from Oberlin College and a master of city planning from the University of Pennsylvania. At Oberlin, Davidson ate in Tank and Keep, was a mechanic at the Bike Coop, shelved books at Mudd, and had a regular show on WOBC. He was also sometimes the captain of the radio station's softball team. Davidson grew up in Cleveland.

Alessandra DiGiusto '83

Session Topic | Grant Writing



Alessandra DiGiusto is head of corporate social responsibility Americas and executive director of Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation. She oversees Deutsche Bank's philanthropic strategy and grantmaking programs in the region. DiGiusto received a BA from Oberlin College and an MBA in finance and marketing from the Stern School of Business at New York University. She received her executive coaching certification at Columbia University.

Before joining the Foundation as CAO in 2003, DiGiusto created and led the strategy, communications, events and marketing groups of Deutsche Bank Private Wealth Management in the U.S. She also co-developed the signature Wealth with Responsibility program, overseeing the philanthropic and family

Career Readiness and Skill-Building

advisory relationships of the Private Bank. Prior to this position, DiGiusto supervised the integrated marketing unit for DB Alex Brown Brokerage and Global Private Banking and was head of global business development at Bankers Trust Private Banking. Previously, she was a vice president at Citicorp Investment Services, where she managed national acquisitions marketing and was responsible for advertising, public relations, cross-sell programs, and third party partnerships.

DiGiusto is vice chairman of Americans for the Arts and prior vice chairman of the Arts and Business Council N.Y., executive board of NYC Workforce Funders, and advisory board of the Mosaic Fund of ALAANA organizations. She serves on Oberlin College's Alumni Trustee Search Committee and was a former member of Oberlin College's Executive Board and Nominations and Admissions Advisory committees. DiGiusto was one of the early founders of the Women on Wall Street conference. She is a former trustee of Greenhope Housing Services, the executive board of the Bronx Museum, the West Side YMCA, and the executive board of PS 199.

Kameron Dunbar '19

Session Topic | Skill-Building Office Hour: Professional Presentation Skills



Kameron Dunbar came to Oberlin from Detroit and graduated with a degree in politics. At Oberlin, he spent most of his time in Wilder and Mudd working with Student Senate and the Writing Center. After Oberlin, Dunbar went on to pursue his master's degree at the London School of Economics and Political Science, focusing on the intersection of policy, politics, and

the press. Dunbar's work in federal and local government, as well as the private sector, has allowed him to embrace the versatility of a liberal arts degree. In his downtime, he enjoys writing for his travel site and managing two young fur babies.

Chip Fleischer P '21

Session Topic | Proofreading



A native of Kansas City, Chip Fleischer attended Dartmouth College, earning a BA degree in 1986 (religion), and an MALS degree in 1992 (literature and creative writing). With three partners, he co-founded Steerforth Press in 1993 and in 2009 established Hanover Publisher Services, which provides sales and distribution services through Penguin Random House

for Steerforth and three other independent presses: Archipelago Books (Brooklyn), Pushkin Press (London) and Campfire Graphic Novels (New Delhi).

Amy Gittler '72

Session Topic | Policy Briefs



Amy J. Gittler is a principal in the Phoenix, Arizona office of Jackson Lewis P.C. She managed the Phoenix office from its opening in 2007 to 2012. Gittler advises, counsels, and defends corporations and business professionals in all aspects of employment, including wrongful termination, sexual harassment, wage and hour, and employment discrimination. Gittler is a frequent lecturer

in the area of employment law and regularly conducts harassment prevention training programs for businesses. In 1983, she argued and prevailed before the United States Supreme Court in *Arizona Governing Committee v. Norris*, a case which held it is unlawful for an employer to pay lower monthly benefits to women than men upon retirement. Gittler has successfully represented employers in state and federal court in the full range of employment matters including discrimination, sexual harassment, ADA, ERISA, whistle blowing, and wage and hour claims. She has obtained summary judgment in state and federal court in cases alleging wrongful termination, sexual harassment, and national origin discrimination. Prior to joining Jackson Lewis, Gittler was a member of the law firm of Frazer Ryan Goldberg Arnold & Gittler LLP. Early in her career, Gittler was executive director of the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, where her practice concentrated in the areas of employment discrimination and the rights of persons with mental and physical disabilities.

Liz Gregg '90 / P '21

Session Topic | Project Management



Liz Gregg graduated from Oberlin with a bachelor of arts in English literature, and in 1994 achieved a master's in social work from the Smith School for Social Work. She has provided clinical social work for a variety of vulnerable populations including chronically mentally ill, drug addicted adults experiencing homelessness, always meeting clients in their milieu, whether shelter, underpass or group home. Most recently, Gregg served as a co-founder and program services coordinator for a Washington, DC grant-funded project serving low income seniors and adults with disabilities who are homebound due to mobility issues. She recently completed her certificate in end of life social work, and is now certified as an end of life doula, enabling her to move into a new area of focus.

Career Readiness and Skill-Building

Courtney Guc

Session Topic | Skill-Building Office Hour:
Introduction to Tableau



Courtney Guc is a trainer for Tableau Software, a company that helps people see and understand their data. With experience as a Tableau customer, partner, and trainer, she loves to share in the analytics journey that every student brings to the classroom. Guc's background is in finance, but her passion is data visualization and turning spreadsheets into relevant and exciting

dashboards. Outside of teaching classes around the U.S., she lives in Chicago and loves yoga and cooking new recipes.

Tim Hurson '67

Session Topic | You've Delivered Your Pitch, Now What?



Tim Hurson is disruptor in residence at Courage Co-Lab, a social purpose innovation firm. His first public act of disruption was spreading pasted sheets of paper, sticky-side up, on his third-grade classroom floor—and watching the ensuing chaos. He now focuses on more productive activities as an innovation consultant and facilitator for businesses and start-ups. Hurson has

guest lectured on critical thinking and creative problem solving in business schools on six continents and has keynoted in over 40 countries. He is the founder of Mindcamp, a creative thinking forum with annual retreats in the U.S., Canada, and Chile.

His book on productive thinking, *Think Better*, is published in 12 languages and was recently included in McGraw-Hill's Business Classics series. His second book, *Never Be Closing*, on ethical selling, was selected by Oprah Winfrey as one of the 15 best self-improvement books of 2015. His new book, *The Accidental Salesperson: sales skills for people who hate selling*, will be released in early 2021. Hurson is a senior faculty member of the Creativity Europe Association, South African Creativity Association, and Creative Education Foundation (U.S.), where he is honored with its Distinguished Leader Award. Hurson serves on numerous boards in the United States, Canada, Chile, and Denmark, including the executive advisory board of LaunchU, Oberlin's business incubator. He is also a member of Oberlin's Alumni Leadership Council. Hurson thinks the phrase "out of the box" should be put back in the box and buried in a deep hole.

Wendy Japhet '82

Session Topic | Scriptwriting

Wendy Japhet is executive producer of the films *Descendants 1, 2, and 3*, the franchise that introduced audiences around the world to the teenage sons and daughters of Disney's most infamous villains. Japhet has executive produced multiple award-winning



films, including *An Education*, *The Brothers Bloom*, and *I'm Not There*, as well as action hits such as *The Italian Job* reboot and *Pain & Gain*. Her executive roles at various studios led to her producing Paramount Pictures' *Without A Paddle* and *Get Rich or Die Tryin'* as president of De Line Pictures; the Walt Disney Company's *The Christmas Tree*, which was Sally Field's directorial debut; *Beautiful* and *Mr. Holland's Opus* as head of Fogwood Films; and Fox's *Contact* as executive vice president of production for Lynda Obst Productions.

In addition to her studio roles, Japhet served as president of Gale Anne Hurd's Valhalla Motion Pictures. She also produced the independent feature film *Skating to New York*. Japhet graduated from Oberlin College with a Bachelor of Arts in English. She began her career in New York working on PBS/WNET's *The Dance In America* series, and later for Jim Henson's *The Muppets* and BBC's *Frontline*. Shortly thereafter she moved to Los Angeles, where she currently resides, to begin working on feature films.

Kate Kaplan '86

Session Topic | Fundraising and Philanthropy



Kate Kaplan is the director of development and alumni relations for the Heller School of Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. Kaplan joined Brandeis University with over 20 years of experience in institutional advancement, philanthropy, and fundraising strategy to this important role. Prior to joining Heller, she held chief advancement officer posts at

the Center for Disaster Philanthropy and at the Two Ten Footwear Foundation in Waltham. Her career has spanned the nonprofit, consulting and highereducation sectors, including positions at Tufts University, where she was president of the 100,000-member alumni association and where she continues to serve on the board of trustees.

Kenneth Kitahata '20

Session Topic | Skill-Building Office Hour: Introduction to Excel



Kenneth Kitahata is a May 2020 graduate of Oberlin College majoring in economics with a statistical modeling concentration. He completed his honors thesis exploring alumni giving to Oberlin College. At Oberlin, he was involved in Barefoot Dialogue, the Career Development Center, and Pyle Co-op. He currently resides in San Francisco and just finished a job as the

program coordinator for the Nikkei Community Internship in San Francisco's Japantown.

Career Readiness and Skill-Building

Lisa Mon'a Kpor '11

Session Topic | Proofreading



Lisa Mon'a Kpor is an attorney in Holland & Knight's Chicago office and a member of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice. Her litigation experience includes a broad range of legal issues, including shareholder oppression actions, financial services litigation, product liability disputes, complex breach of contract suits, and commercial landlord-tenant actions.

Kpor is also a member of the firm's legal profession team. In that regard, she represents law firms, corporate legal departments, and individuals on matters related to conflicts of interest, legal ethics consulting, attorney-client confidentiality, and other professional responsibility issues. In addition, Kpor represents individuals in proceedings before the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission through the Attorney Defense Initiative, the first privately sponsored pro bono initiative in the nation that focuses on assisting impaired lawyers facing disciplinary charges.

Kpor is involved in community, civic, and charitable activities in Illinois and beyond. She remains dedicated to today's youth and has mentored students through the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity and the Posse Foundation, where she serves on its Chicago Leadership Council. She is also co-chair for the Emerging Leaders group of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce. In addition, Kpor is a member of the Public and Charitable Services Committee and the Associates' Committee at Holland & Knight's Chicago office.

Tiffanie Luckett '99

Session Topic | Fundraising & Philanthropy



At the National Immigration Law Center, Tiffanie Luckett is responsible for developing and implementing strategies that garner and retain a fierce and growing network of grassroots and major-gift donors. Additionally, she helps lead NILC's fundraising team in developing annual plans that maximize the ability of every fundraiser to use their time and talents in the fight.

Her work focuses on building relationships to cultivate a sustainable donor base that is engaged in the immigration rights fight beyond making gifts—to taking action and joining the movement. Prior to joining NILC, she worked at NPR and various medical and health organizations, always in fundraising, both institutional and individual giving-focused. She has a bachelor's degree from Oberlin College and an AM from the University of Chicago.

Steven Mentzer '20

Session Topic | Skill-Building Office Hour: Introduction to Adobe Creative Cloud



Steven Mentzer is a contemporary artist and freelance designer. His interests lie in the interaction between art as process and art viewership, exploring the relationship between the "Self" and the physical/digital environments we inhabit. Currently working with the painted surface, digital software, semi-autonomous machinery, with adoration for hands-on craftsmanship,

Mentzer's work is an inter-disciplinary and multi-media approach to the creative process. He is currently providing pro bono design work for medical institutions nationwide as a team member of Covid-19 Creatives in response to the current global health crisis.

Melissa Regan P '22

Session Topic | Event & Program Planning



Melissa Regan is associate director of alumni relations at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Trinity College and her master's degree in education from the Higher Education/Student Affairs program at the University of Vermont. For over two decades, Regan has worked with alumni in a variety of roles ranging from

fundraising to career services to her current role in alumni relations. In her current position, Regan oversees Trinity's Women's Leadership Council and serves as the liaison to Trinity's Career Development Center. Most recently she co-chaired Women at the Summit, a college-wide celebration of 50 years of coeducation at Trinity. This 18-month celebration consisted of three semesters, each incorporating programming created to highlight Trinity's women while exploring the themes of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. With the current COVID-19 crisis, Regan's work has shifted to creating virtual programs to engage alumni.

Reid Schoffelen '09

Session Topic | Skill-Building Office Hour: Basic Office Skills



Reid Schoffelen is an engagement manager in the digital strategy group at Adobe, where she helps customers identify strategic opportunities and digitally mature. Based in San Francisco, Schoffelen takes full advantage of all the hiking and biking in the Bay Area. She graduated from Oberlin in 2009 with economics and sociology majors, and then moved to Cleveland where she worked

as a management consultant for several years before founding a boutique digital marketing agency. Before Adobe, she earned her MBA at Columbia Business School.

Career Readiness and Skill-Building

Patty Stubel '09

Session Topic | Skill-Building Office Hour: Introduction into Data Analytics



Patty Stubel works at the crossroads of product management and analytics—that is, she uses data to drive decision-making at scale; starting in September, she will be doing this at Facebook. She graduated from Oberlin with a double degree in economics and vocal performance, and before getting her master's in public policy at Carnegie Mellon, she worked in nonprofits and institutional investment in Boston. After running an affiliate marketing company with another Obie, Stubel moved to Seattle, where she thinks the weather is the best of any city she's lived, and has pursued careers in analytics and now product management within the tech industry at Expedia, eBay, and others. Outside of work, she actively volunteers for Tech For Campaigns, a group connecting tech workers with state-level progressive campaigns. In her copious free time, Stubel likes to take advantage of rentable bikes and extensive urban trails, drink wine (outside) with other Obies in the area, and continues to avidly advocate for Philadelphia sports teams.

Merle Sprinzen Tessier '76

Session Topic | Crafting Your Pitch



Merle Sprinzen Tessier is a private investor and managing director of Golden Seeds, an early-stage investment firm focused on women-led companies, with one of the largest and most active angel investor networks in the United States. She has served on the advisory board of Chromis Fiberoptics, the inventor of a new class of plastic optical fiber, Salsa Labs, a developer of management software for nonprofits, and Saladax, a diagnostics company developing dosage tests that enable personalized cancer and psychotherapeutic treatments.

Tessier has spent more than 30 years developing global business-to-business marketing and sales strategies for premier, global corporations and consulting firms as well as start-ups. While bringing special expertise in the business services sector (technology, e-commerce, and accounting/tax), she has also worked with media, publishing, and telecommunications companies seeking growth.

Tessier was an executive director at KPMG, where she revitalized its business development processes and more than doubled its

success rate. Prior to KPMG, Tessier was the first chief marketing officer of Sapient, an IT consulting firm. She also served in many global marketing roles at Accenture, including creating the business case and global marketing strategy for Accenture's entry into the e-commerce marketplace, a focus that now accounts for more than 80% of revenue. Earlier in her career, Tessier held marketing positions with Time Warner and Cap Cities/ABC, positioning and launching new publications and increasing advertising sales and circulation. Tessier also launched her own marketing strategy firm, with global clients in the publishing, media, and petroleum industries. She began her career as a management consultant with Bell Labs.

Tessier earned her PhD from Harvard University in sociology and social psychology while a National Science Foundation Fellow. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology/ anthropology, highest honors, from Oberlin College. She lives and works in New York City.

Tamara Wittes '91

Session Topic | Policy Briefs



Tamara Wittes served as deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs from 2009 to 2012, coordinating U.S. policy on democracy and human rights in the Middle East during the Arab uprisings. Wittes is a co-host of *Rational Security*, a weekly podcast on foreign policy and national security issues. She is currently writing a book, *Our SOBs*, on the tangled history of America's ties to autocratic allies. Wittes joined Brookings in December of 2003. Previously, she served as a Middle East specialist at the U.S. Institute of Peace and director of programs at the Middle East Institute in Washington. She has also taught courses in international relations and security studies at Georgetown University. She was one of the first recipients of the Rabin-Peres Peace Award, established by President Bill Clinton in 1997. Wittes is the author of *Freedom's Unsteady March: America's Role in Building Arab Democracy* (Brookings Institution Press, 2008) and the editor of *How Israelis and Palestinians Negotiate: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of the Oslo Peace Process* (USIP, 2005).

Wittes holds a bachelor's degree in Judaic and Near Eastern studies from Oberlin College and a master's and doctorate in government from Georgetown University. She is a founder of the Leadership Council for Women in National Security and serves on the board of the National Democratic Institute. She is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and Women in International Security.



Schedule at a Glance*

All sessions are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). To view the most updated schedule, login to the Junior Practicum Blackboard site (blackboard.oberlin.edu).

How to Access Zoom Sessions

All Zoom session links are embedded within each event description on the Summit Events Calendar located in Blackboard. Zoom sessions should be accessed using your Oberlin credentials, not a personal account.



**Complex
Problem**



**Skill-
Building**



**Diversity, Equity,
& Inclusion**

*Please note that this schedule is subject to change. Circumstances and events may require a modification to the schedule and may depend, in part, on the progress, needs, and experiences of students. Changes to the schedule will be made with advance notice and updated in Blackboard.

WEEK 1 | SEPTEMBER 8–11

SEPTEMBER 8

1:00–1:45 pm

THE PIVOT: KNOWING WHEN YOU NEED TO CHANGE COURSE

Presenter(s): President Carmen Twillie Ambar
Meeting Type: Full Group

1:45–3:00 pm

PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND LOGISTICS

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

3:00–4:00 pm

INTRODUCTION AND ORIENTATION TO JUNIOR PRACTICUM RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Presenter(s): Leslie Kwakye '06
Meeting Type: Research Track Only

SEPTEMBER 9

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: INTRODUCTION TO R PROGRAMMING

Presenter(s): Josh Davidson '12
Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

RACIAL BIAS & REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

Presenter(s): Alexis McGill Johnson
Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

3:00–4:30 pm

GOAL-SETTING AND CAREER READINESS

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Full Group

SEPTEMBER 10

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL

Presenter(s): Kenneth Kitahata '20
Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

CLIMATE CHANGE

Presenter(s): Sara Menker
Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

3:00–4:30 pm

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION IN THE WORKPLACE

Presenter(s): Lindy Wagner & Spenser Darden
Meeting Type: Full Group

SEPTEMBER 11

12:00–12:45 pm

RESEARCH PROJECTS MEETING

Presenter(s): Office of Undergraduate Research
Meeting Type: Research Track Only

1:00–2:00 pm

TRANSFORMING THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

Presenter(s): Fatima Ashraf
Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

3:00–4:30 pm

ARTICULATING YOUR VALUE: RESUME, COVER LETTER, & BIOS

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Full Group

WEEK 2 | SEPTEMBER 14–18

SEPTEMBER 14

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION SKILLS 🟡

Presenter(s): Kameron Dunbar '19
Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

TRUST IN MEDIA 🔍

Presenter(s): April Ryan
Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

3:00–4:30 pm

IDENTITY-BASED WORKSHOP SPACES 🗣️

Presenter(s): Lindy Wagner, Spenser Darden,
& the Multicultural Resource Center
Meeting Type: Self-identified

SEPTEMBER 15

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL 🟡

Presenter(s): Kenneth Kitahata '20
Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

GENTRIFICATION & URBAN DEVELOPMENT 🔍

Presenter(s): Andrea Batista Schlesinger
Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

September 15 | 3:00–4:00 pm

PUBLIC HEALTH 🔍

Presenter(s): Tim Uyeki '81
Meeting Type: Full Group

4:00–4:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

SEPTEMBER 16

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: BASIC OFFICE SKILLS 🟡

Presenter(s): Reid Schoffelen '09
Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

WOMEN'S RIGHTS & GENDER EQUALITY 🔍

Presenter(s): Jessica Horn
Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

2:45–3:30 pm

BREAK

3:30–4:30 pm

PUBLIC SPACE & MEMORY 🔍

Presenter(s): Stephanie Jones-Rogers
Meeting Type: Full Group

4:30–5:30 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

8:00–9:00 pm

TRIVIA NIGHT

Presenter(s): RemObies
Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

SEPTEMBER 17

1:00–2:00 pm

MUSIC AS SOCIAL CHANGE 🔍

Presenter(s): Rhiannon Giddens '00
Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center
Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

WEEK 2 | SEPTEMBER 14–18 CONTINUED

3:00–4:30 pm

IDENTITY-BASE WORKSHOP SPACES 

Students of Color: Mentorship & Support in the Workplace

White-Identified: White Allyship in the Workplace

Presenter(s): Lindy Wagner, Spenser Darden, & the Multicultural Resource Center

Meeting Type: Students will select the group that aligns best with their affirming self-identified race. The facilitators and staff of the Career Development Center acknowledge how the complicated history of race and ethnicity in the United States may make this selection more complex for some students, and are available to answer questions or concerns that may arise.

SEPTEMBER 18

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: INTRODUCTION INTO DATA ANALYTICS 

Presenter(s): Patty Stubel '09

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

IMMIGRATION 

Presenter(s): Gregory Maniatis

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center

Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

3:00–4:00 pm

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT 

Presenter(s): Andrea Bradford '70 & Missy Alpern '62

Meeting Type: Research Track Only

4:00–5:00 pm

RESEARCH PROJECTS MEETING

Presenter(s): Office of Undergraduate Research

Meeting Type: Research Track Only

WEEK 3 | SEPTEMBER 21–25

SEPTEMBER 21

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION SKILLS 🟡

Presenter(s): Kameron Dunbar '19

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

POLITICAL POLARIZATION & MEDIA 🔍

Presenter(s): Tom Rosenstiel '78

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center

Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

3:00–4:00 pm

CREATING YOUR PERSONAL BRAND 🟡

Presenter(s): John Charles '87

Meeting Type: Full Group

4:00–5:00 pm

BLACK STUDENTS & ALUMNI AFFINITY SPACE 🌐

Presenter(s): Oberlin Alumni Association of African Ancestry (OA4)

Meeting Type: This affinity space is reserved for students and alumni who self-identify as Black.

SEPTEMBER 22

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: INTRODUCTION TO TABLEAU 🟡

Presenter(s): Courtney Guc

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

ART AS SOCIAL CHANGE 🔍

Presenter(s): Chris Bedford '00 & Katy Siegel '84

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–2:45 pm

CAREER COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Presenter(s): Career Development Center

Meeting Type: Career Communities Breakout Groups

3:00–4:00 pm

FUNDRAISING & PHILANTHROPY 🟡

Presenter(s): Kate Kaplan '86 & Tiffanie Luckett '99

Meeting Type: Full Group

4:15–4:45 pm

PITCH COMPETITION OVERVIEW

Presenter(s): Dana Hamdan

Meeting Type: Full Group

SEPTEMBER 23

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: INTRODUCTION TO ADOBE CREATIVE CLOUD 🟡

Presenter(s): Steven Mentzer '20

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

BUILDING YOUR PROFESSIONAL NETWORK 🟡

Presenter(s): Career Development Center

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–3:15 pm

INTERVIEWING 101 🟡

Presenter(s): Career Development Center

Meeting Type: Full Group

3:30–4:45 pm

NEGOTIATION, MEDIATION, & PROJECT MANAGEMENT 🟡

Presenter(s): Paul Cramer P'20 & Liz Gregg '90

Meeting Type: Full Group

SEPTEMBER 24

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: INTRODUCTION TO R PROGRAMMING 🟡

Presenter(s): Josh Davidson '12

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:15 pm

CRAFTING YOUR PITCH: PART 1 🟡

Presenter(s): Merle Sprinzen Tessier '76

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:15–3:00 pm

PITCH COMPETITION TEAM TIME

Meeting Type: Self-Directed Breakout Groups

3:00–4:00 pm

POLICY BRIEFS 🟡

Presenter(s): Tamara Wittes '91 & Amy Gittler '72

Meeting Type: Full Group

Schedule

WEEK 3 | SEPTEMBER 21–25 CONTINUED

4:00–5:00 pm

ALUMNI PANEL DISCUSSION: LGBTQIA+ INCLUSION IN THE WORKPLACE 

Presenter(s): Oberlin Alumni

Meeting Type: Full Group

5:00–6:00 pm

DROP-IN OFFICE HOUR: PERFECTING YOUR PITCH 

Presenter(s): Merle Sprinzen Tessier '76

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

SEPTEMBER 25

12:00–1:00 pm

RESEARCH PROJECTS MEETING

Presenter(s): Office of Undergraduate Research

Meeting Type: Research Track Only

1:00–2:00 pm

GRANT WRITING 

Presenter(s): Christine Braunstein P'23 &

Alessandra DiGiusto '83

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:15–3:15 pm

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A U.S. DIPLOMAT? 

Presenter(s): Ambassador Gina Abercombie-Winstanley

Meeting Type: Non-Profit & Public Sector and Law & Public Policy Career Communities

2:15–3:15 pm

DROP-IN OFFICE HOUR: PERFECTING YOUR PITCH 

Presenter(s): Merle Sprinzen Tessier '76

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

3:30–4:30 pm

PROOFREADING 

Presenter(s): Chip Fleisher P'21 & Lisa Kpor '11

Meeting Type: Full Group

4:30–5:30 pm

DROP-IN OFFICE HOUR: PERFECTING YOUR PITCH 

Presenter(s): Merle Sprinzen Tessier '76

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

WEEK 4 | SEPTEMBER 28–OCTOBER 2

SEPTEMBER 28

NO SESSIONS TODAY IN RECOGNITION OF YOM KIPPUR.

SEPTEMBER 29

12:00–12:45 pm

SKILL-BUILDING OFFICE HOUR: INTRODUCTION TO ADOBE CREATIVE CLOUD 

Presenter(s): Steven Mentzer '20

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

1:00–2:00 pm

CRAFTING YOUR PITCH: PART 2 

Presenter(s): Merle Sprinzen Tessier '76

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–3:00 pm

SCRIPTWRITING, PRODUCING & ENTERTAINMENT INSIGHTS 

Presenter(s): Wendy Japhet '82 & Sarah-Violet Bliss '06

Meeting Type: Full Group

3:00–4:00 pm

ALUMNI PANEL DISCUSSION: ALLYSHIP & ADVOCACY IN THE WORKPLACE 

Presenter(s): Oberlin Alumni

Meeting Type: Full Group

4:00–5:00 pm

RESEARCH PROJECTS GROUP

Presenter(s): Office of Undergraduate Research

Meeting Type: Research Track Only

5:00–6:00 pm

DROP-IN OFFICE HOUR: PERFECTING YOUR PITCH 

Presenter(s): Merle Sprinzen Tessier '76

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

SEPTEMBER 30

1:00–5:00 pm

PITCH DAY!

Presenter(s): Pitch Teams will deliver their pitches to members of the LaunchU Advisory Board.

Meeting Type: Full Group

8:00–9:00 pm

TRIVIA NIGHT

Presenter(s): RemObies

Meeting Type: Optional Attendance

OCTOBER 1

12:45–1:45 pm

YOU'VE DELIVERED YOUR PITCH, NOW WHAT? 

Presenter(s): Tim Hurson '67

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–3:00 pm

EVENT & PROGRAM PLANNING 

Presenter(s): Melissa Regan P'22 & Samantha Anchia

Meeting Type: Full Group

3:00–4:15 pm

WELLNESS IN THE WORKPLACE 

Presenter(s): Victoria Albina '01

Meeting Type: Full Group

OCTOBER 2

1:00–2:00 pm

HOW TO MAKE YOUR INTERNSHIP WORK FOR YOU 

Presenter(s): Tim Hurson '67

Meeting Type: Full Group

2:00–3:30 pm

LAUNCHING YOUR PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE

Presenter(s): Career Development Center &

Office of Undergraduate Research

Meeting Type: Career Communities and Research Breakout Groups

3:30–4:30 pm

CLOSING AND SEND-OFF

Presenter(s): Career Development Center &

Office of Undergraduate Research

Meeting Type: Full Group