In its 40th year as one of the few urban research institutes at a historically Black university, the Institute for Urban Research (IUR) continues to empower urban communities through Intervention, Understanding and Research.” The IUR’s mandate to address social issues within the Baltimore region and beyond is in tandem with the mission of Morgan State University (MSU) being Maryland’s designated public urban university.
The Institute for Urban Research at Morgan State University was established in 1978 under the provisions of the Maryland State Legislature to operate as a component of the School of Graduate Studies and Research. The Institute has a core staff that includes a director, researchers, research associates and an administrative assistant.

The researchers’ training, experience and expertise complement the projected focus of the Institute as well as the urban mission of the University. Present members of the Institute advanced degrees in psychology, anthropology, journalism, sociology, transportation, demographic analysis, geographic information systems, methodology and statistical techniques, city and regional planning, mapping and education. The staff also includes graduate assistants and doctoral fellows. They undertake research, compile statistical data, aid in the development of policy analysis, conduct surveys, hold workshops, make presentations to public and private agencies, as well as community groups.

The Institute engages in many forms of action research, academic, and community service activities. It provides technical assistance to Morgan State University, and the Baltimore urban community. It also allows research opportunities for faculty and students of Morgan State University. Funded grants provide opportunities for outside researchers to be hired on a contractual basis to assist in fulfilling the mandates stipulated in the grants.

The Institute continues to collaborate with numerous colleges and universities in holding conferences, seminars, and educational forums.
The following are accomplishments for the IUR during 2017 and 2017.

**GRANTS AND GRANTS UNDER REVIEW**

The IUR continues to receive outside money for the research it does. Here is a list of submitted grants for projects during the 2017-2018 school year:

**S. Gibson and Tracy Rone** “Pre- and In-Service Community Engagement (P.R.I.C.E.): Do They Know They Matter?” Proposal for funding submitted to the Corporation for National and Community Service, Community Conversations Research Competition. ($100,000) Grant proposal under review.


**Tracy Rone, R. Brock and Greater Baltimore Urban League.** “Curating Culture to Improve Health Behaviors in an Urban Communities.” Proposal submitted for funding to the AETNA Foundation, Cultivating Healthy Communities Grant Program. ($100,000) Unfunded

**Jeff Menzise** secured small internal (University of the District of Columbia) research grant in conjunction with UDC Neuropsychologist for equipment to study meditation and heart rate variability.

**Ray Winbush** submitted a $64,145 grant to the Monitoring Team in charge of assessing the Baltimore City Police Department compliance with the Department of Justice’s recommendations for better policing in Baltimore City. Proposal is pending.

**Clement Anyadike** received a grant of $76,947.49 from the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development for the period January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Under the grant funding, the CDRC in the IUR continues to provide research support and technical assistance to communities in Baltimore. In addition, the CDRC has also been awarded another rounding of grant funding ($42,930) under the Community Development Block Grant funding for the year 2018 to 2019.

**Jared Ball** was invited to submit an RFP for a $40,000 grant to Color Of Change for their Transforming Newsrooms research project. His proposal was accepted and is currently going through final stages of development within the IUR for work to be conducted over the summer and into early fall.
PRESENTATIONS

Ashraf Ahmed

- Paper submitted to American Statistical Conference, 2017, and presented the paper which has been published in the proceedings.
- Paper submitted to American Statistical Association Conference, 2018, and has been accepted for the presentation
- Paper submitted to American Statistical Conference, 2017, and presented the paper which has been published in the proceedings.
- Paper submitted to American Statistical Association Conference, 2018, and has been accepted for the presentation

Tracy Rone


Jeff Menzise

Presented paper at the National Association of Independent Schools People of Color Conference. Received high reviews and an invitation to present again at the 2018 conference.

Jeanetta Churchill

- Was an invited panelist at a daylong workshop for the State of Maryland Americans with Disabilities Coordinators Coalition called “Disabilities are not Inabilities” held on December 1, 2017. There were about 40 people in attendance. The purpose of the workshop was for panelists to discuss the impact of disability in the workplace and community.
- Has been selected to give an oral presentation, “Where are People Dying: A Hot Spot Analysis of Mortality Data in Baltimore City” at the Towson University gis Conference 2018 in Towson, MD on August 8, 2018. She will use GIS mapping to speak on the distribution of death rates across Baltimore City.

Ray Winbush

- Has been invited to give the George Peabody Lecture at Vanderbilt University on September 27, 2018. It will be about education, politics and racism/white supremacy are conflated in the American educational system.
- Hosted National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N’COBRA) at Morgan State, June 21-24. N’COBRA is the premiere organization for educating and seeking legislation for the reparations movement in the United States.
PUBLICATIONS

Jeff Menzise


Ray Winbush


Glenn Robinson


Jared Ball

Dr. Ball’s research into the “Myth of Black Buying Power” was incorporated in a recently published larger study from Duke University, “What We Get Wrong About Closing the Racial Wealth Gap,” by Drs. William Darity and Derrick Hamilton, Samuel DuBois Cook Center on Social Equity Insight Center for Community Economic Development, April 2018.

PROJECTS

The IUR’s community projects are numerous. They include, but are not limited to:

- Ashraf Ahmed computerized community survey of the Ashburton Community and prepared analytical tables.
- Undertake field work and data collection for the publication of community profiles for the Pen Lucy, Wrenlane and Wilson Park Communities in Northeast Baltimore and the Edgewood Community in West Baltimore.
- Collective work in passing and implementing Senate Bill 350 in the Maryland State Legislature. The bill was authored by Maryland State Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam and includes the IUR conducting a two-year state analysis of racism and gender discrimination at all levels of Maryland state government.
- Clement Anyadike Planned and implemented fundraising workshop that afforded representatives of community-based organizations the opportunity to identify funding sources for their programs.
- Jeff Menzise was appointed President of the DC Chapter of the Association of Black Psychologists.
- Jeanetta Churchill has created several maps for use by staff projects within the IUR. Mapping topics include: food deserts in Baltimore City; race/ethnicity distribution across Maryland; homicide, robbery, and burglary maps by neighborhood to support classroom teaching efforts by Dr. Clement Anyadike; redlining maps by community for Dr. Tracy Rone.
- All staff members of the IUR are not teaching at least one class per year in their respective disciplines.
- Several staff members serve on thesis and dissertation committees at Morgan State.
- Glenn Robinson processed J1 Visa for Dr. Adewole Simon Oladele as a 2-year visiting Professor position from April 2018 at Morgan State University. Dr. Adewole is attached to Professor Glenn Robinson and will work to implement the existing MoU proposed Tanzania Transportation Infrastructure Management Systems (TIMS) project as well as Prof. Anthony Saka for supervising research/teaching relevant courses where necessary in the
department of Transportation & Urban Infrastructure Studies.

- Jared Ball has initiated the creation of a Race and Media Research Center within the IUR and has multiple potentially fundable components of that project in early development with MSU’s Office of Technology Transfer, the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment of the Humanities.

- Clement Anyadike represents the School of Graduate Studies on the MSU’s Faculty Liaison & internationalization Steering Committee. The committee is working with the Division of International Affairs to identify opportunities that will broaden Morgan’s teaching and learning relationship with other academic institutions around the world. In doing so, Morgan faculty and students will be able to teach/study abroad and vice versa.

GOALS OF THE INSTITUTE FOR URBAN RESEARCH, 2018-2021

Goal 1: Increase Staff Size to 12 full time researchers by 2021

When the current Director of the Institute came to Morgan in 2002, he was promised four new slots for full-time researchers who were on hard money. Instead, the IUR has only experienced a net increase of one full-time staff member since 2002. This is in part due to the 2009 recession that limited staff growth throughout the university, but it remains a goal of the IUR of the IUR during the next ten years. As it stands now, there is far more demand for the technical support of the IUR than there is staff to supply it.

Goal 2: Increase sponsored research to 25% of the “hard money” budget by 2021

Given the state of the current national regime, this is the most ambitious goal for the next three years. This means that approximately $150-175,000 per year of the entire budget of the IUR would be sponsored research money. As it stands now, this figure is roughly $65-75,000. While this is an ambitious goal in light of continuing cutbacks for “urban research”, the IUR is seeking more creative ways of raising money for specific research projects it wishes to undertake.

Goal 3: Continue to expand the research efforts of the IUR to urban centers domestically and internationally

The IUR is increasingly called upon to help urban areas beyond the scope of its mission. This year, we have researchers who are working closely with organizations in Tanzania and Bangladesh. The reputation of the IUR’s research capabilities is international and continues to grow.
Goal 4: Increase the number of workshops for community-based organizations (CBOs) that need technical assistance

The IUR’s community-based workshops continue to attract the staff of CBOs in the Baltimore City area. The IUR plans to expand these workshops on a national basis during the next ten years.

FIGURE I: SWOT ANALYSIS OF THE INSTITUTE FOR URBAN RESEARCH

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<tr>
<th><strong>STRENGTHS</strong></th>
<th><strong>WEAKNESSES</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Diversity of staff areas of expertise&lt;br&gt;2. Direct contact with CBOs&lt;br&gt;3. Involved with domestic and international projects&lt;br&gt;4. Visionary staff&lt;br&gt;5. Well-published staff&lt;br&gt;6. High profile locally, nationally and internationally&lt;br&gt;7. Use of social media for publicizing IUR</td>
<td>1. Size of staff too small compared to competing institutions at traditionally white institutions; staff size needs to double over the next ten years&lt;br&gt;2. Time for grant writing is limited because of demands on small staff&lt;br&gt;3. Need full-time grant writer like competitors</td>
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<th><strong>OPPORTUNITIES</strong></th>
<th><strong>THREATS</strong></th>
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<td>1. Connections with private individuals who may sponsor IUR research projects&lt;br&gt;2. Collaboration with local and national institutions&lt;br&gt;3. Sponsored research from international sources</td>
<td>1. Recession and concomitant lack of research moneys for “urban research” implemented by Trump regime&lt;br&gt;2. Competition from larger local institutions for limited sponsored research funds</td>
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