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MARY ANN SWETLAND
CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Swetland Scoop

September 2021

News & Announcements

A Note from the Director || Darcy Freedman, PhD, MPH



It's back-to-school time, but this year things feel a little different. As we welcome the new school year, the Swetland Center is returning to campus with the goal of safely working in the BioEnterprise Building by early October. While we are excited at the prospect of meeting in-person, I say this against the backdrop of the Delta Variant, which reminds us of the importance of being adaptive, continuing to connect virtually, and staying focused on what matters most – our health and the health of others. While we seek to create longer-term plans, we are responsive to university guidelines about remaining safe while working to stay connected. For now, this means everyone visiting us on campus must wear a mask and those not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are encouraged to join meetings virtually. University leaders continue to monitor pandemic developments and adjust health protocols further as circumstances warrant. Thank you for adapting with us as we prepare to be together in-person more frequently – the hugs that come with these in-person meetings are worth the wait!

foodNEST 2.0 Research Published in Special Issue of Nursing Research

Check out recent research from the foodNEST 2.0 team published in a special issue of *Nursing Research* focused racism, stress, and health. The team's paper entitled, [Racialized Experiences Differentiate Food Security among African American Adults](#), was a joint research endeavor between investigators from Nationwide Children's Hospital, University of Virginia School of Education and Human Development, and the Swetland Center. The paper moves beyond analyzing race as a biological variable and highlights how experiences of racism, such as how one is treated because of their race, structure food insecurity. This research provides evidence supporting intervention targets such as wages, education, home ownership, and employment that may be modulated to mitigate the effects of racism on food insecurity. The entire special issue can be accessed [here](#).

In Memory of Jacqueline Gillon

It is with great sadness that we recognize the loss of Sweetland Center Advisory Council member, Jacqueline Gillon. Jacquie was a tireless weaver of environmental justice knitting together threads from diverse community engagement strategies. Our city and community are better because of her profound commitment to building community power to advance environmental and racial equity. The Sweetland Center offers our deepest condolences to Jacquie's family, friends, and colleagues. May her memory be a reminder of the importance of organizing people for community change. You can find her memorial from Western Reserve Land Conservancy [here](#).



Be sure to keep up with Sweetland news through our online [News & Events](#) page!

Events & Opportunities

September Sweetland Seminar: Health Outcomes in Redlined Versus Non-Redlined Neighborhoods: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

September 28th 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM



Join presenters Eun Kyung Lee, PhD, MPH, Post-Doctoral Scholar; Gwendolyn Donley, MS, PhD Candidate; and India Gill, MPH, PhD Candidate to hear about their research assessing the link between living in a historically redlined neighborhood and health. Redlining is a zoning practice that racialized home loans in the 1930s and 40s that has links to modern-day health inequities. [Learn more about the event, presenters and register](#)

[here](#).

National Speakers Featured in October 2021 Seminar

Embracing an Ecosocial Worldview: Examples of Community Engaged Teaching, Practice, and Research for Environmental Health Equity

October 26th 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Join us on October 26th for the Swetland Seminar Series, featuring Dr. Shanondora Billiot, Assistant Professor at Arizona State University, and Dr. Meredith C.F. Powers, Assistant Professor at University of North Carolina, Greensboro. During their seminar, Dr. Billiot and Dr. Powers will be addressing the history of environmental, economic, and racial injustices, as well as highlighting community engaged research and practice examples of working towards environmental health equity, particularly in Indigenous and other marginalized populations.

Dr. Billiot and Dr. Powers will also be hosting a training consultation following their seminar, where they will help attendees explore current and historical environmental concerns and reflect on how to embrace and apply a more ecosocial worldview in the context of research, teaching, practice, and policy change. [Visit the event page](#) to learn more about the seminar, training consultation, and our speakers!

Swetland Spotlight

Welcome Keymah Durden to The Swetland Center Advisory Council

The Swetland Center is excited to announce our newest advisory council member, G. Keymah Durden III. Durden is a co-founder of the Rid-All Green Partnership and former co-owner of the internationally praised Soul Vegetarian Restaurant. The Swetland center is grateful for Keymah's interest in collaboration and sharing his

Welcome Maurice Lucious to The Swetland Center and foodNEST 2.0!



The Swetland Center is excited to welcome our newest intern Maurice Lucious who is finishing his Master of Public Health degree at Walden University. He will be assisting the Food Nest team this fall as they prepare for their 'Food Nest and Friends' research dissemination day. His efforts will contribute to the team's holistic understanding of the complexity of nutrition equity through the published work derived from the foodNEST data. [Visit our news page to learn more](#)

[about Maurice!](#)



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