



“Insider / Outsider”

Saturday, March 8, 2025

8:00 AM – 5:30 PM (all times Eastern)

Healthy Kentucky Research Building, Room 150

760 Press Avenue, Lexington, Kentucky, 40508

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:00 AM to 9:00 AM

Registration, Breakfast, and Poster Set-Up

8:45 AM to 9:00 AM

Welcome and Introductions

- Shelby Roberts, President, UK Graduate Appalachian Research Community (GARC)
- Kathryn Engle, Director, UK Appalachian Center
- Ann Kingsolver, Director, UK Appalachian Studies Program

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Presentation Session 1 – Historical Perspectives

- “‘Here Comes the Pictureman’: Risks of Photographic Overexposure and the Images of William R. Mullins,” Sharayah Cochran, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- “Coalfield Care Crisis: The UMWA's Welfare and Retirement Fund,” Christian Rowe, West Virginia University

- “The Corbin Expulsion: A Story of Displacement and Resilience,” Madison Thacker, University of Kentucky

10:15 AM to 11:15 AM

Presentation Session 2 – Environment and Sustainability

- “(Re)Awakening the Botanicals: Finding Healing and Perspective through Central Appalachian Practices and Oral Histories,” Stacey Horton, East Tennessee State University
- “White Paper and Black Water: Environmental Control of Labor in Appalachian Paper Mill Communities,” Matthew Powell, West Virginia University
- “Daily Light Integral Fluctuations in Eastern Kentucky Controlled Environment Agriculture,” Casey Byrd, University of Kentucky

11:30 AM to 12:15 PM

Presentation Session 3 – Health and Well-Being

- “Genetic Counseling in Appalachia - Accessibility and Importance,” Riley Wright, University of Kentucky
- “Exploring Medical Cannabis Use, Benefits, and Quality of Life Among Adults in the Appalachian Region,” Daisy Edwards, Old Dominion University
- “Reimagining SSDI Advocacy in Appalachia: Navigating Insider/Outsider Dynamics and Proposing Solutions,” Becky Barnes, Eastern Kentucky University/ University of Kentucky

12:00 PM to 12:45 PM

Lunch and Networking; Poster Viewing

Poster Session

- “Race & the Railroad: Estill County Expulsions and Black Industry,” Ren Kelley, University of Kentucky; Kathryn Engle, University of Kentucky; Mariel Gardner, and Jess Stevens, RUX

12:45 PM to 2:00 PM

Keynote Address

Sarah Craycraft, PhD



Dr. Craycraft’s work explores rurality and the role of young people in cultural transmission in contemporary Bulgaria and Appalachia, through a folkloristic lens. Her book in progress, *The Village Project: Reimagining, Rebuilding, and Reconnecting in Contemporary Bulgaria* (under contract with University of Wisconsin Press),

investigates the role of young Bulgarians in village revitalization. She looks to their engagements in personal life projects, civic projects, and arts projects to better understand intergenerational meanings attached to the Bulgarian village. Craycraft's broader interests include space, place, and commemoration; critical heritage studies; and generations. She is committed to community engaged, public facing scholarship.

Craycraft received her PhD in Comparative Cultural Studies and Folklore from Ohio State University. Prior to joining Harvard's Folklore & Mythology program, she was Visiting Assistant Professor of Folklore at Indiana University. A first-generation college graduate, she grew up in southwestern Ohio, at the border of the Midwest and the Appalachian foothills. Outside of class and advising, she is an avid embroiderer and ultimate frisbee player, and a novice of Bulgarian *horo* (folk dance). Craycraft serves on the International Connections Committee of the Appalachian Studies Association, the Steering Committee of the Midwest Folklorists and Cultural Workers Alliance, and the Editorial Board of The Journal of American Folklore. She also co-organizes the Folklorists of Appalachia working group alongside Dr. Jordan Lovejoy of UNC Chapel Hill and serves as Vice President of the Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Folklore Association.

2:15 PM to 3:00 PM

Presentation Session 4 – Education

- "Cyber Possibilities: Making Higher Education Accessible for Rural Appalachian Students," Kristen LeFevers, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- "From Oasis to Other: U.S. History Textbooks and the Complex Causes of Poverty in Appalachia," Kelli Lemaster, University of Kentucky

3:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Artistic Presentations

- "Still Here," Adam Thornbury, University of Kentucky
- "Love Notes," Emily Warren, University of Kentucky

3:35 PM to 4:20 PM

Panel Presentation by Nicole Marks and Megan Hall – Disaster Perspectives in Appalachia

Additional details forthcoming.

4:30 PM to 5:15 PM

Presentation Session 5 – Responsibility, Resistance, and Reimagining

- "Envisioning a Charitable Food System Rooted in Food Sovereignty for the Appalachian Region: A Theoretical Framework," Kathryn Williams, University of Louisville

- “A Memoir of Movement: Diasporic Frictions and Responsible Encounter in Appalachia,” Taylor Gilliam, University of Virginia
- “Resistance in the Age of Surveillance: bell hooks, Ecological Intelligence, and Resisting Oppression” Samantha Ratcliffe, University of Kentucky

5:15 PM to 5:30 PM**Closing Remarks**

- Dane Ritter, Vice President, UK Graduate Appalachian Research Community (GARC)

Policies, Procedures, Sponsors, and Organizational Details

University of Kentucky Mask Policy

As of June 3, 2022, masks are optional on the campus of the University of Kentucky, as well as the use of plexiglass. This move does not apply to UK HealthCare facilities. We also have ample masks, cleaning equipment and other supplies for our community to utilize as necessary. While masks will now be optional, we want to strongly encourage members of our community who want to do so to wear them as an added layer of protection. Just as we will respect those who no longer want to wear masks, we should — and we will — respect the decisions of those who choose to do so.

Location, Parking, and Logistics

The Symposium will be held in the University of Kentucky's Healthy Kentucky Research Building (HKRB), located at 760 Press Avenue in Lexington. There is free parking available on the weekend in the Press Avenue Lot. The entrance to the Press Avenue Lot is on Press Avenue (not Virginia Avenue, as indicated by many navigation systems). Below is a campus map indicating the Press Avenue Lot and main entrance to HKRB. Registration, breakfast, and set-up will take place immediately inside the first-floor lobby. Single toilet lockable bathrooms are available on each floor of HKRB.



Things To Do Around Lexington

Come a day early or stay a day late! Kentucky has amazing art, cultural, historical, and environmental recreation opportunities! Here are just a few in Lexington and surrounding areas:

- Did you know that 95% of the world's bourbon is made in Kentucky? Make a stop at a distillery on the [Kentucky Bourbon Trail](#)! The [Barrel House Distillery](#) is also conveniently located in Lexington.
- There are over 450 champion horse farms in Kentucky. Visit over 1,000 horses at the [Kentucky Horse Park](#), a 20-minute drive from UK's campus.
- As Kentucky's oldest garden cemetery and home to Henry Clay's mausoleum, the [Lexington Cemetery](#) is an excellent place to walk, jog, reflect, and watch nature. The cemetery also hosts the second-largest basswood tree in North America!
- Famous for its world-class rock climbing, hiking, archaeological sites, natural rock bridges ([Natural Bridge](#)) and breathtaking scenery the Red River Gorge in the [Daniel Boone National Forest](#) is a 1.25-hour drive south from Lexington.
- The [Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill](#), the largest surviving historic collection of dwellings built by this utopian sect and only a 35-minute drive from Lexington!
- The [Mary Todd Lincoln House Museum](#), the family home of the wife of our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln is a great place to learn more about this famous American family!
- Visit the [UK Art Museum](#) located in the heart of campus with FREE admission to all!

Dining

- Breakfast & lunch will be provided at the Symposium.
- Please note any specific dietary needs and restrictions (allergies, vegetarian, vegan, etc.) in your registration.
- Dinner will **NOT** be provided.
- Please consult our [local restaurant guide](#) or ask a local attendee for restaurant recommendations!



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Thank You to Our Sponsors

The Graduate Appalachian Research Community would like to thank the UK Appalachian Center & Appalachian Studies Program, UK Student Government, UK Student Sustainability Council, Hazard Coffee Company, and Campus Kitchens for their generous support of the 2024 Research Symposium and Art Showcase.



Land & Labor Acknowledgement and Commitment

The University of Kentucky Appalachian Center and Appalachian Studies Program acknowledge that we are on the lands inhabited for millennia by the ancestors of the Shawnee, Cherokee, Chickasaw, and other Nations, and that these traditional territories were taken by force through settler colonial and white-centered institutions. In Appalachian Studies, we have a particular responsibility in our scholarship to counter historical narratives that marginalize or erase indigenous and minoritized voices in the region's past and present. As a land-grant institution, the University of Kentucky must actively attend to the historical narratives and well-being of the descendants of those who were displaced from these lands, which enabled this institution to grow in this place for the past 150 years. We commit to this acknowledgement being more than a token statement, and to center Indigenous and minoritized perspectives and experiences going forward. We join with others across this university community in actively pursuing those conversations and collaborations, including advocating for increasing the presence of, and support for, those who identify as minoritized in student, staff, faculty, and administrative positions. We also acknowledge the reliance on the labor of those who have been enslaved, displaced, and minoritized in the building of the spaces and institutions which constitute the University of Kentucky, and we join in the efforts to recognize, and value with a living wage, the work of all of those who make everyday life on and beyond the campus of the University of Kentucky possible.

Presentation Notes

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