



## MELLON EMERGING FACULTY LEADERS FOR 2021 NAMED

### **SUPPORT FOR EXCELLENT, EARLY-CAREER PROFESSORS COMMITTED TO CAMPUS SERVICE, INCLUSIVITY**

PRINCETON, NJ (April 27, 2021)—The Institute for Citizens & Scholars has named 11 scholars as 2021 Mellon Emerging Faculty Leaders (MEFL). Funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the MEFL Awards support junior faculty whose research focuses on contemporary American history, politics, culture, and society, and who are committed to the creation of an inclusive campus community for underrepresented students and scholars.

The exceptional early-career professors making up this year's class work in such fields as history, sociology, communications, and women's and gender studies. Awardees' scholarship focuses on critical issues such as human trafficking, violence in policing, and the impact of racial and ethnic disparities on cognitive function in older adults. They also work to mentor first-generation college students and those from underrepresented groups, and to ensure inclusion on campus and within their communities through service to their institutions and disciplines and through partnerships with local organizations. *(See the full list of Fellows, their institutions, and research interests below.)*

The MEFL Award seeks to free the time of junior faculty working toward tenure—including those from underrepresented groups and others committed to eradicating disparities in their fields—so that they can both engage in and build support for systems, networks, and affinity groups that make their fields and campuses more inclusive. Each recipient receives a 12-month stipend of \$17,500 while working toward tenure.

The 2021 class comes from a diverse and competitive applicant pool. The final MEFL awardees were selected through a competitive interview process by a selection committee of four former and current university leaders with various academic and research backgrounds.

Established in 2015, the program has now supported more than 50 junior faculty who represent the next generation of leaders and scholars in the humanities and social sciences and who are poised to play a significant role in shaping American higher education. Through their own work to make their fields and institutions more inclusive, they are expanding civic discourse and preparing tomorrow's citizens and scholars.

For more information on the Mellon Emerging Faculty Leaders Awards program, visit <https://woodrow.org/fellowships/facultyleaders/>.

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#### **About the Institute for Citizens & Scholars**

The Institute for Citizens & Scholars ([citizensandscholars.org](https://citizensandscholars.org)) is a 75-year-old organization that has played a significant role in shaping higher education. Now, with an expanded mission Citizens & Scholars prepares leaders and engages networks of people and organizations to meet urgent education challenges. The overarching goal is to shape an informed, productively engaged, and hopeful citizenry.



INSTITUTE FOR  
**CITIZENS &  
SCHOLARS™**

Advancing Fellowship Since 1945

## 2021 Mellon Emerging Faculty Leaders

**Mike Amezcua** • Georgetown University, history  
*Making Mexican Chicago: From Postwar Settlement to the Age of Gentrification*

**Philis M. Barragán Goetz** • Texas A&M University–San Antonio, history  
*The Borderlands of Inclusivity: Jovita González and the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement*

**Andrés Castro Samayoa** • Boston College, educational leadership & higher education  
*Minority Serving Institutions: Administering Ethnoracial Identities and Education's Common Good*

**Charity Clay** • Xavier University of Louisiana, sociology and African American and diaspora studies  
*Le Triangle Noir: Lasting Impact of the French Colonial Empire on Port Cities of the African Diaspora*

**Amira Rose Davis** • Pennsylvania State University, history  
*Can't Eat a Medal: The Lives and Labors of Black Women Athletes in the Age of Jim Crow*

**Vivian L. Huang** • Williams College, women's, gender, and sexuality studies  
*Surface Relations: Queer Forms of Asian American Inscrutability*

**Gema Kloppe-Santamaria** • Loyola University Chicago, history  
*In the Vortex of Violence: Lynching, Extralegal Justice and the State in Post-Revolutionary Mexico*

**Ana Muniz** • University of California-Irvine criminology, law & society  
*Borderland Circuitry: Immigration Surveillance in the United States and Beyond*

**Allison Page** • Old Dominion University, communication and theatre arts; Institute for the Humanities  
*The Affective Life of Slavery: Race, Media, and Governance*

**Kyler Sherman-Wilkins** • Missouri State University, sociology  
*Social Determinants of Cognitive Functioning Among Diverse Older Adults in the United States*

**Elena Shih** • Brown University, American studies  
*Manufacturing Freedom: Trafficking Rescue, Rehabilitation, and the Slave Free Good*