



Xavier University of Louisiana

Experts Bureau

This Experts Bureau is a list of experts in various fields who are available to provide authoritative knowledge, insight and commentary to help inform reporting by members of the news media.

CONTACT:

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Arts

Name: Bart Everson

Title: Media Artist

Areas of Expertise:

- Lafitte Greenway
- Green Party of Louisiana
- Contemporary Paganism
- Seasonal celebrations (especially solstices and equinoxes)
- Contemplative practices (mindfulness meditation)
- Faculty development covering topics such as time management and work-life balance
- Social media (particularly social justice activism)
- Technopathology
- Early history of web video

Short Bio: Bart Everson is award-winning videographer and co-creator of ROX, the first TV show on the internet. As a media artist and an advocate for faculty development in higher education, he is interested in current and emerging trends in social media, blogging, podcasting, et cetera, as well as contemplative pedagogy and integrative learning. He is a founding member of the Green Party of Louisiana, past president of Friends of Lafitte Corridor, a columnist for Mid-City Messenger and Humanistic Paganism, and a participant in New Orleans Lamplight Circle. More at BartEverson.com

Business

Name: Richard Peters, Ph.D.

Title: Assistant Professor of Management, Division of Business

Areas of Expertise:

- Social Responsibility
- Sustainability, Business Strategy
- Business Education
- Social Innovation

Short Bio: Dr. Richard Peters is a tenured professor and has been an Assistant Professor of Business Administration at Xavier University of Louisiana since 2011. He currently serves as the CSRS Integration Faculty Coordinator and the Professional Ready Reading Program Coordinator for the department. His concentrations are organizational behavior, business communication and corporate social responsibility.

Name: Mark L. Quinn

Title: Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship, Division of Business
Conrad N. Hilton Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship

Areas of Expertise:

- Community development finance
- Economic development
- Microenterprise development and finance

Short Bio: Mr. Quinn is the Conrad N. Hilton Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship at Xavier University and teaches entrepreneurship, directs the Xavier University Entrepreneurship Institute and founded the X-ncubator, Xavier's student business incubator. His career in small business development and community development finance spans more than 30 years and includes expertise in public sector loan funds, commercial real estate and community development.

Name: Joe M. Ricks, Ph.D.

Title: Chair, Division of Business
J.P. Morgan Chase Professor of Sales & Marketing

Areas of Expertise:

- Sales and Marketing
- Sales training and leadership
- Strategic philanthropy
- Strategic Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability

Short Bio: Dr. Joe Ricks serves as the Chair for the Division of Business at Xavier University of Louisiana and provides strategic direction for the Division, including its four degree programs, five minors and the Entrepreneurship Institute. Among his notable accomplishments, Ricks developed the Sales & Marketing curriculum and program, secured \$400,000 in funding to execute the Sales & Marketing program and secured \$100,000 for the Division's library computer lab.

Name: Carmen Sunda

Title: Director, Louisiana Small Business Development Center, Greater New Orleans & Bayou Region

Areas of Expertise:

- Small business operations and management
- Building sustainable small businesses
- Starting a business
- Small Business Preparedness and Disaster Response
- Funding a small business
- Strategic small business growth
- Obtaining customer satisfaction
- Marketing a small business
- Building a socially responsible and sustainable business

Short Bio: Carmen Sunda develops SBDC partnerships and manages the resources of collaborative partners to foster economic development for small businesses in the Greater New Orleans Region. Sunda has more than 25 years experience working with small businesses, including owning her own business.

Education/Educational Administration/Financial Aid

Name: Marcus S. Cox, MBA, Ph.D.

Title: Associate Dean, Graduate Programs and Summer School
Director of the Center for Continuing Studies and Distance Learning

Areas of Expertise:

- African American history
- Civil Rights Movement
- Race and Crime in America
- African American military history
- Race relations in America

Short Bio: Dr. Marcus Cox serves as Associate Dean, Graduate Programs and Summer School and Director of the Center for Continuing Studies and Distance Education in the College of Arts & Sciences at Xavier University of Louisiana. . Throughout his professional career, he has held leadership positions as Founding Director of the African American Studies, Assistant Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and Associate Dean of The Citadel Graduate College with leadership responsibility of Evening Undergraduate Studies. He is the author of over a dozen articles and reviews on the history of African American military personnel, black higher education and military training programs at black colleges and universities. Dr. Cox's current book project uses the U.S. military's landmark studies on race relations in the armed forces, *Freedom to Serve (1950)*, *The President's Committee Equal Opportunity in the Armed Forces (1964)* and *From Representation to Inclusion (2011)*, to assess racial progress in the armed forces today and explain why the U.S. military continues to be a societal barometer for social progress in America.

Name: Emily London-Jones

Title: Director, Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships

Areas of Expertise:

- Student Financial Aid

Short Bio: Emily London-Jones has been with the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships at Xavier University of Louisiana for over 30 years. She currently serves as Director, where she provides support and supervision to staff in the Financial Aid office to execute the University financial aid plan and administers Federal funds totaling approximately

\$48 million to a student body of approximately 2,900 in accordance with federal, state and institutional policy and procedures.

Name: Karen Nichols, Ph.D.

Title: Distance Education Coordinator, Center for Continuing Studies and Distance Education

Areas of Expertise:

- Distance Education
- French in Louisiana

Short Bio: Dr. Karen Nichols provides support and guidance for the Center for continuing Studies and Distance Education at Xavier University of Louisiana. She has led countless campus workshops and professional presentations concerning distance-based and online learning, as well as in professional and organization development in higher education.

Name: Larkin Page, Ph.D.

Title: Associate Professor, Division of Education and Counseling

Areas of Expertise:

- Literacy and/or Literacy Education
- Reading/Reading Education
- Early Childhood Aged Children
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- Adolescent Aged Students
- Adolescent Literacy/Reading Education
- Adult Literacy/Reading
- English Language Learners
- English Language Learners Literacy/Reading
- 21st Century Literacy/Literacies
- Viewing Literacy from a Global Perspective
- Technology-based Literacy/Literacies
- Reading/Literacy Assessments
- Common Core State Standards
- Children's Literature
- Teacher Preparation
- Methods and Materials in Teaching Reading

Short Bio: Dr. Larkin Page is an Associate Professor for the Division of Education & Counseling at Xavier University of Louisiana. In his current position with the University, he is responsible for enhancing the knowledge of undergraduate and graduate level educators in multiple areas of literacy. He also holds several teaching designations including Master Reading Teacher, Reading Specialist, English as a Second Language, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Talented and Gifted, and Dyslexia.

Language/Liberal Arts/Social Sciences

Name: Kimberly J. Chandler, Ph.D.

Title: Assistant Professor of Communication Studies

Affiliate Faculty Member, Women's Studies Program

Areas of Expertise:

- Race
- Gender
- Sexuality
- Communication (Interpersonal, Intercultural, Group, Political, Gender)
- Popular Culture
- The Arts
- Culture
- African Americans
- Black Women
- Black Men
- Religion

Short Bio: Dr. Chandler is a tenured Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana and an affiliate faculty member of the University's Women's Studies Program. Her work focuses on how gendered communication informs and influences other parts of society. Her research focuses on Gender and Communication, specifically African American masculinities as well as Black women and identity negotiation.

Name: Wendy A. Gaudin, Ph.D.

Title: Director, Freshman Seminar Program

Areas of Expertise:

- Creole culture and history
- New Orleans and Louisiana culture and history
- Modern Vietnamese culture and history
- Vietnamese diaspora
- African diaspora
- Critical race theory
- Best practices in working with First Year students.

Short Bio: Dr. Wendy Gaudin joined Xavier University of Louisiana as a History professor in 2005 and has transitioned into the role of Director of the Freshman Seminar Program. In this role, she supports and coordinates the program, which provides first-year students with a unique learning experience through close and early interaction with members of the faculty and fellow first-year students.

Name: Matthew G. LeBlanc, Ph.D.

Title: Lecturer, Sociology

Areas of Expertise:

- Ethnography
- Video Ethnography
- Actor-Network Theory
- Online Community Development
- Online Identity Formation
- Information Communication Technology
- Internet and Mobile Phone Use In Ghana, Africa

Short Bio: Dr. Matthew LeBlanc is a New Orleans Native who received his Bachelors and Masters in Sociology from The University of New Orleans and His Doctorate in Sociology from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. His research focuses on using qualitative methods,

specifically Video Ethnography, to study Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) and their interactions within society.

Name: Elizabeth S. Manley, Ph.D.

Title: Associate Professor, History

Areas of Expertise:

- Latin American history
- Modern Caribbean history (specifically the Dominican Republic)
- Gender and women's history
- History of women in politics

Short Bio: Dr. Elizabeth Manley has been with the Department of History at Xavier University of Louisiana since 2008, where she concentrates on women's history, women's rights, human rights and Caribbean history. She has several recent and forthcoming publications focused on gender relations in developing countries and the Caribbean, including *The Paradox of Paternalism: Women, Transnational Activism, and the Politics of Authoritarianism in the Dominican Republic*.

***Recently completed an article that is under review with the *Journal of Women's History* and several publications forthcoming in 2017**

Name: Biljana D. Obradović, Ph.D.

Title: Professor of English, Department of English Head

Areas of Expertise:

- Contemporary American poetry
- Contemporary Serbian poetry
- Serbia
- Ex-Yugoslavia
- Translation of Poetry
- Serbian language
- Serbian Cyrillic alphabet

Short Bio: Biljana D. Obradović is a Serbian-American poet and translator. She is the recipient of the NCF Award for Excellence in Research for 2015 at Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans where she is Professor of English. Her collections of poems include: *Le Riche Monde* (1999), *Frozen Embraces* (2001), *Little Disruptions* (2012), and the forthcoming *Incognito* (2017).

Name: Shearon Roberts, Ph.D.

Title: Assistant Professor, Mass Communication

Areas of Expertise:

- Haitian media
- Haitian development
- Haiti's post-disaster recovery
- Haiti international affairs
- Haiti-U.S. relations, Haitian migrants
- U.S. relations with the Caribbean
- Caribbean culture, history and politics
- Caribbean immigrants

- Latin American history, culture, politics, current affairs and its media
- Post-Katrina media
- Post-Katrina representations
- BP Oil Spill news
- Hollywood South
- Black New Orleans representations in the media.

Name: Steven J. Salm, Ph.D.

Title: Chair, Division of Fine Arts and Humanities
 Head, Department of History
 Class of 1958 Endowed Professor of History

Areas of Expertise:

- African History, Culture, and Politics
- African Popular Culture
- African Urban History
- Globalization in Africa

Short Bio: Steven J. Salm is Chair of the Division of Fine Arts and Humanities, the Head of the Department of History and the Class of 1958 Endowed Professor in History at Xavier University of Louisiana. He has conducted fieldwork throughout West Africa and has received a number of awards and fellowships for his work, including a William S. Livingston Fellowship, an NEH grant, and four Mellon grants for collaborative research. He has published several books on urbanization in Africa, numerous chapters and articles on topics as diverse as gender, youth, music, literature, religion, urbanization and popular culture that have appeared in a variety of academic journals and edited books.

Name: Tia Smith, Ph.D.

Title: Department Head, Mass Communication

Areas of Expertise:

- Gender, race, class, sexuality and representations in media (television, film, internet)
- Framing of child sexual abuse
- Representations of the Caribbean
- Women and media
- Girls and the media

Short Bio: Dr. Tia L. Smith joined the Mass Communication Department at Xavier University of Louisiana in 2015 as Department Head. Previously, she worked as a freelance journalist, travel writer and corporate communications consultant. Dr. Smith recently published her first book, in a Hip-Hope World: An Auto-ethnography of Black Women’s Lived Experiences.

Mathematics

Name: David Anderson, Ph.D.

Title: Associate Professor, Mathematics

Areas of Expertise:

- Applied Statistics

Short Bio: Dr. David Anderson joined the Department of Mathematics at Xavier University of Louisiana in 2008 and currently serves as an Associate Professor, focusing on applied

statistics. He received the I.W. Burr Award for excellence in statistical consulting, research and teaching in 2009 and has expert experience in R/S+, SAS, Matlab, SPS and Fortran.

Medicine & Health

Name: William R. Kirchain, PharmD, CDE

Title: Clinical Associate Professor, College of Pharmacy
Mildred & Wilbur Robichaux Endowed Professor, Division of Clinical and Administrative Sciences
Director, Xavier University Health and Wellness Center

Areas of Expertise:

- Health Policy and Pharmacy Law
- Preventive medicine

Short Bio: Dr. William Kirchain joined the Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy in 2004 and serves as a Clinical Associate Professor. He is also the Director of the Xavier University Health and Wellness Center in Harahan, LA, a service of the Xavier University College of Pharmacy, which serves as a training site for pharmacy students at the University. He has received countless fellowships, awards and honors over the course of his career, including the Generation Rx Award in 2015. He currently holds the position of President of the Louisiana Pharmacy Association Board of Directors.

Name: KiTani Parker Lemieux, Ph.D.

Title: Associate Professor, Division of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy

Areas of Expertise:

- Consumer Genomics (Ancestry.com, 23andme.com and related sites)
- Personalized medicine
- Precision medicine
- Pharmacogenomics

Short Bio: Dr. KiTani Parker Lemieux joined the Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy in 2008 and now serves as an Associate Professor and the Director of the Center of Excellence Scholars Program. Her research focuses on pharmacogenomics and biotechnology, especially related to hormone refractory breast cancer. She has received numerous awards and fellowships throughout her career, particularly as a College of Pharmacy faculty member.

Name: Ariel Encalade Mitchell, Ph.D.

Title: Assistant Professor, Counseling

Areas of Expertise:

- Psychological distress in children and adolescents (i.e. bullying, social media, Substance abuse, family stress, abuse, etc.)
- Child Play Therapy
- School Counseling
- Mental Health Disorders
- Marriage and Family Stressors
- Media Influence as an impacting stressor on emotional/mental development

Short Bio: Dr. Ariel Encalade Mitchell is a licensed professional counselor supervisor, licensed marriage and family therapist, registered play therapist supervisor, nationally certified counselor,

and certified school counselor. Her research interests include play therapy and social phenomenon impacts on child and family development. She has presented at state, national, and international conferences addressing counseling related issues such as leadership, ethics, advocacy, career development, and the development of school counseling.

Name: Daniel F. Sarpong

Title: Director of CMHDRE and Endowed Chair of Health Disparities, DCAS/College of Pharmacy

Areas of Expertise:

- Application of biostatistical techniques to biomedical and health data, with particular emphasis in the areas of: cardiovascular disease, cancers, and Substance Abuse and HIV/AIDS,
- Cardiovascular epidemiology and research
- Coordination of large epidemiological studies and clinical trials
- Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research
- Program Evaluation
- Health Disparities Research

Short Bio: Dr. Daniel Sarpong is a researcher, consultant, public health professional and educator and with strong quantitative background and verbal skills. He is currently a Director of the Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and Education, Endowed Chair of Health Disparities and Associate Professor of Biostatistics. Prior to returning to Xavier University of Louisiana he was Research Professor with the School of Health Sciences, Senior Biostatistician with RCMI Translational Research Network Data Coordinating Center, and Associate Director with the Center of Environmental Health at Jackson State University. Dr. Sarpong, in 2000-2010, served in various capacities/positions at the Jackson Heart Study (JHS), the largest single site epidemiological investigating the etiology and progression of cardiovascular disease in African Americans.

Politics

Name: Silas H. Lee, III, Ph.D.

Title: Ernest N. Morial Professor in Public Policy
Assistant Professor of Sociology

Areas of Expertise:

- Analysis of Social Change
- African American Urban History
- Public Opinion Research

Short Bio: Dr. Silas Lee has served as a pollster and strategist for a host of corporate, non-profit, public sector, political, and legal clients for nearly thirty years. His company, Dr. Silas Lee and Associates, specializes in public opinion research and strategy development and has worked on behalf of clients including Columbia University in New York City, National Urban League, NAACP, Nike Shoes/Michael Jordan Fundamentals, The Tom Joyner Foundation, Gaming in the Public Interest of South Africa, Harrah's and Bally's Casinos, and the Institute for International Affairs in Haiti. The analyses and polls of Dr. Lee have been cited by various publications such as the NBC Nightly News, Today Show, NPR and Wall Street Journal, among others. He has also assisted attorneys in measuring the perceptions of potential jurors for multi-

million dollar civil cases and defining the social and cultural perspectives of citizens in criminal litigation.

Music

Name: Givonna Joseph

Title: Communications Coordinator, Music

Areas of Expertise:

- New Orleans history (19th Century)
- Free people of color
- History of people of color in opera and classical music (including Xavier's legacy)
- Music therapy (Music and the brain, Physiological responses to music, etc.)
- Presenting historical musical events
- Music business (Marketing and crowd funding)

Short Bio: An award winning arts educator, mezzo-soprano performer and music therapist, Givonna Joseph currently serves as the communications coordinator for the music department at Xavier University of Louisiana. Ms. Joseph a Master Teaching Artist with Young Audiences of New Orleans, and is performer with New Orleans Opera's MetroPelican program. Prior to Katrina she served five years as Director of Education for the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra.

Sports

Name: Ashley R. Baker, Ph.D.

Title: Assistant Athletic Director, Recreation and Athletics

Areas of Expertise:

- Race and sport
- Black athletes
- Intercollegiate athletics (governance and policy)
- Motherhood
- Mothers in sports
- Youth sport culture
- Sport and activism
- Women in sports

Short Bio: Dr. Ashley Baker has recently joined the Division of Recreation and Athletics as Assistant Athletic Director. Her recent research and presentations include Who's you dad? Black mothers, athletic recruitment, and college coaches (2015), Black Mothers' Experiences Throughout the College Recruitment Process (2015), The college Recruitment process: Challenges and Opportunities for Black student-athletes and their parents (2015). In 2015, Baker founded Ash B. Consulting LLC, which provides athletes and young professionals with relevant, relatable and accessible information to educate and empower them to confidently pursue their personal and professional goals.

Name: Cary A. Caro, Ph.D.

Title: Assistant Professor of Management, Division of Business

Areas of Expertise:

- Sports economics

- Sports management
- Sports marketing
- College football
- College football recruiting
- **Short Bio:** Dr. Cary Caro serves as an Assistant Professor in the Xavier University of Louisiana Division of Business, and focuses on sports management and marketing. Dr. Caro was awarded the 2016 Excellence in Research Award from the Clute Institute for his research, “Testing The Utility Of The Pythagorean Expectation Formula On Division One College Football: An Examination And Comparison To The Morey Model” and “Quantifying The Chasm: Exploring The Impact Of The BCS On Total Football Revenues For Division One Football Programs From 2002-2012.” In addition, he was awarded the Mellon Foundation Fellowship for 2016-2017. He serves on numerous committees at the University, including the Admissions Committee, the Research Committee and the Faculty Search Committee.