



Kimberly Nettles-Barcelon, Associate Professor, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Program

Food for Thought

Even as a graduate student in sociology at UCLA, Kimberly Nettles-Barcelon always dreamed of going to culinary school. But her father had been a cook in the military and had a very different view of kitchen work. To him, it was dirty, grungy work, often left to people of color.

Nettles-Barcelon has spent most of her academic career exploring how different cultural narratives often lead to discrimination. After joining the UC Davis faculty, she began applying that thinking to narratives around food. "I started thinking critically about food, both from my perspective of loving to cook and that of my father's perspective," says Nettles-Barcelon. "Some people get to cook, and other people have to cook." The degree to which that continues to be true is at the center of her research and teaching.

Her newly restructured humanities course, "Whose Farm? Which Fork?", explores the discourse and media representations around the farm-to-fork movement. Her class explores the current gentrification of Oak Park, a neighborhood in Sacramento, California, and how it has led to food as being both a hope and a problem. She hopes to grow her course to include a summer session that brings undergraduate students out of the classroom and into the communities they study. "I'd love to bring undergraduates into the research process," says Nettles-Barcelon. "I also want to be mindful of the communities and their needs. Hopefully, together, we can produce research that will be useful for all."



A Place to See the Stars

When UC Davis alumnus Ty Bledsoe '02 chose UC Davis, he was looking for a university that would prepare him for the real world and challenge him intellectually. UC Davis was the perfect place. He was impressed with its high rankings and quality academics.

He took advantage of the diverse opportunities UC Davis offered, and as the vice president of external and legislative affairs for AT&T, he utilizes the skills he learned on a daily basis. He took a gospel choir course and, as a result, became a better public speaker. He learned to work with people from different backgrounds and became a leader as part of the campus's Progressive Student Coalition. As the first Black student body president in over 50 years, he helped UC Davis become the diverse, inclusive and equitable campus it is today.

Bledsoe looks back on his UC Davis experience as one that helped shape him. "The culture is unique at UC Davis," says Bledsoe. "I grew up around the hustle and bustle of a metropolis in California's Bay Area, so moving to Davis was a big culture shock. The prevalence of hip-hop and the small-town feel—I loved it. Even today, I work in a metropolis in Dallas, Texas, but I return home to the suburbs where I can see the stars. That part of me came from UC Davis."



Photo courtesy of The Sacramento Observer.

2017 Black Convocation

On Friday, April 14, nearly 150 people gathered for the seventh-annual Black Convocation, presented by the UC Davis African Continuum. The inspirational evening brought together students, faculty, staff and alumni to encourage and uplift our students of African and African American descent. Highlights from the evening included an uplifting personal story shared by Chancellor-designate Gary May, a thought-provoking message from keynote speaker and UC Davis alumnus Michael Broughton and presentations of the Michele Dyke Humanitarian Award.

This year's Michele Dyke Humanitarian Awards were presented to Annette Bates, director of Advising and Retention Services and the Educational Opportunity Program, for her dedication and commitment to student support, and to Karim Nkanga, a UC Davis student, for her advocacy and volunteer efforts on campus.

For additional information about Black Convocation and the African Continuum, contact Lori Fuller at lfuller@ucdavis.edu or Reynell Hamilton at rhamilton@ucdavis.edu.



Having Faith in Community Care

Impact Clinic in Sacramento, California—one of UC Davis' seven student-run medical clinics—provides medical care to underserved communities regardless of race, immigration status, economic status, religion or language. The clinic serves a diverse population: 57 percent of their clients belong to minority groups, 80 percent are classified as working poor or unemployed and at least 50 percent speak Spanish.

The clinic was founded in 1984 by UC Davis medical students who saw an immediate need for support in African American communities, where hypertension, heart disease, cancer and inadequate prenatal treatment were predominant. Most of the patients do not have health insurance, making the clinic a necessary community resource.

UC Davis students who volunteer in the clinic are trained to deliver primary care services, while simultaneously improving access to care in underserved communities. This hands-on opportunity not only provides course credit, but it is invaluable preparation for a career in the medical field.



Meet Tius Garret
Civil and Environmental Engineering '17
Fresno, California

Garret has done it all. He competed on the track and football teams, studied abroad in Tokyo and is on the board of the Black Engineers Association. His ultimate goal is to join California's water resource industry. Through a plethora of research opportunities and internships, UC Davis has given him the strong background he'll need to launch his career.

"The beautiful thing about UC Davis is that it is structured around growth. It's impossible to spend time here without developing and changing and figuring out more about who you are."



UC Davis is a Best Value College for 2017 (Forbes)



Welcoming Gary May
UC Davis has a new chancellor! Chancellor-designate Gary May will begin his new position at UC Davis on August 1. May comes to UC Davis from the College of Engineering at Georgia Tech, which he joined in 1991 and has led since July 2011. He will be UC Davis' seventh chancellor. We are excited to welcome Gary May, his wife LeChelle and their two children to Davis later this summer.



- #### Important Dates
- June 1** Deadline to submit Statement of Intent to Register (transfer)
 - June 15** Spring quarter ends
 - June 18** Black Graduation Celebration
 - August 1** UC application opens

McNair Scholars Program

The McNair Scholars Program at UC Davis is a two-year program preparing underrepresented students for doctoral studies through research and other scholarly activities. About 20 UC Davis undergraduates and incoming transfer students are selected each year to participate in academic-year and summer activities.

- #### UC Davis Resources
- African American and African Living-Learning Community
 - African American and African Studies
 - African Diaspora Cultivating Education
 - Center for African Diaspora Student Success
 - Community Advising Network
 - Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP)
 - Educational Opportunity Program
 - Kinga Hall Outreach Program
 - Linda Frances Alexander Scholars Program
 - Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement (MESA)
 - McNair Scholars Program
 - Sacramento Area Youth Speaks (SAYS)
 - Strategic African American Retention Initiatives
 - Student Retention and Recruitment Center
 - Summer Math and Science Honors (SMASH) Pathways Program
 - Umoja Community

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