

# October 2021 Newsletter



University of

CINCINNATI

ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

## Graduate Student Spotlight: Patrick Mwanjawala

Patrick is a first-year Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies MA student. He completed an MA in History at Miami University and a bachelor's degree in Education at University of Livingstonia. Patrick's interests include African women's history and achievements of women in Malawian politics.



### ***How did you hear about the WGSS MA program?***

I was reading articles and books about women and gender relations in Africa. Then I came across the works of Ashley Currier, a professor at UC, in the WGSS program. So, I checked online and became interested.

### ***What has been your experience as a graduate research assistant?***

It has been a great experience because my GA assignment directly relates to my research interests.

### ***Who are your favorite theorists?***

I am still exploring, but so far, I would say Sandra Harding.

### ***What excites you about the field of WGSS?***

It helps me understand social injustices of the society we live in and gives me opportunities to advocate for equality.

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# WGSS Affiliate Faculty: Dr. Jan Marie Fritz

Jan Marie Fritz, Ph.D., Certified Clinical Sociologist (C.C.S.), is a professor in the School of Planning as well as affiliated with WGSS and the Department of Sociology. She also is a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg and a Visiting Professor at Taylor's University (Malaysia). She currently is a Fulbright-National Science Foundation Arctic Scholar in Iceland.



Professor Fritz is a member of the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association (ISA), the lead ISA representative to the United Nations, and a member of the Steering Committee of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. She also is a member of the Mayor of Cincinnati's Gender Equality Task Force, editor of Springer's Clinical Sociology book series and a member of the Fulbright National Selection Committee for graduate and undergraduate students to Scandinavia. She has just been selected as a Fulbright Specialist (consultant) for a four-year term (2021-2025).

Professor Fritz has been a docent at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Cincinnati; a Distinguished Visiting Professor with the Honors College at the University of South Florida, and, for many years, a special education mediator for the state of Kentucky. She has been a Fulbright Senior Research Scholar at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in Washington, D.C., and a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar in Human Rights and International Studies at the Danish Institute for Human Rights. Her work has won a number of awards including the Ohio Mediation Association's Better World Award and the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology. Her research has been about the national action plans for women and girls that are based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, environmental justice, human rights, inclusion, conflict intervention, and the history of clinical sociology. Her most recent publications include: *International Clinical Sociology* (edited, second edition, 2021); *Community Intervention: Clinical Sociological Perspectives* (edited with Jacques Rheaume, second edition, 2022); "Environmental Injustice and Incarceration: Notes from the United States" (2021); "Nathaniel (Nate) Thurmond" for the National African American Biography (2021); and "Including Migration in Action Plans for women and Girls: The Micronesian Case" (In *Sicurezza e scienze sociali*, 2020).

Cincinnati City Council's City for CEDAW ordinances resulted from a community effort that began as a class project in one of her courses – Social Justice and the City. In April 2021, she got the International Sociological Association to issue a statement opposing discriminatory policies in countries that set mandatory retirement ages for older adults.

