

DANIA V. FRANCIS

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University of Massachusetts Boston
Economics Department, 100 Morrissey Blvd. • Boston, MA 02125

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Public Policy, Duke University

- Economics Concentration

A.M. in Public Policy, Duke University

M.A. in Economics, Harvard University

B.A. in Economics, *cum laude*, Smith College

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Sept 2019 – Present Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Boston

Sept 2013 – Aug 2019 Assistant Professor of Economics and Afro-American Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

May 2021 – Present Associate Editor, *Contemporary Economic Policy*

May 2021 – Present Invited Researcher, J-PAL North America's Social Policy Research Initiative

July 2020 – Present Associate Editor, *Review of Social Economy*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economics of Education, Labor Economics, Racial and Ethnic Disparities, Wealth Inequality, Stratification Economics

PUBLISHED WORK

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Francis, Dania V., Bradley Hardy, and Damon Jones. "Black Economists on Race and Policy: Contributions to Education, Poverty and Mobility, and Public Finance." *Journal of Economic Literature*, forthcoming (2022).

Francis, Dania V., and Keren Horn. "Stable School Integration?" *Race and Social Problems*, forthcoming (2022). Online first version published October 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12552-021-09349-w>

Francis, Dania V., and Christian E. Weller. "Retirement Inequality by Race and Ethnicity." *Public Policy & Aging Report*, 31, no. 3 (2021) 83-88. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ppar/prab009>

Francis, Dania V., and Christian E. Weller. "Economic Inequality, The Digital Divide and Remote Learning During COVID-19." *Review of Black Political Economy*, Forthcoming Fall 2021. Online first version published May 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00346446211017797>

Francis, Dania V., and William A. Darity, Jr. "Separate and Unequal under One Roof: How the Legacy of Racialized Tracking Perpetuates Within-School Segregation." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*, 7, no. 1 (2021) 187-202. <https://doi.org/10.7758/RSF.2021.7.1.11>

Francis, Dania V., and William A. Darity, Jr. "Isolation: An Alternative to the 'Acting White' Hypothesis in Explaining Black Under-Enrollment in Advanced Courses" *Journal of Race, Economics, and Policy*, 3, (2020) 117-122. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41996-020-00051-4>

Francis, Dania V., Angela C. M. de Oliveira, and Carey Dimmitt. "Do School Counselors Exhibit Bias in Recommending Students for Advanced Coursework?" *The B. E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*, 19, no. 4 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1515/bejeap-2018-0189>

Ananat, Elizabeth O., Anna Gassman-Pines, **Dania V. Francis**, and Christina Gibson-Davis. "Linking job loss, inequality, mental health, and education." *Science*, 356, no. 6343 (2017) 1127-28. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aam5347>

Francis, Dania V. "Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice? Teacher Perceptions of Black Girls in the Classroom." *The Review of Black Political Economy*, 39, no. 3 (2012) 311-20. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12114-011-9098-y>

Darity Jr., William A., Bidisha Lahiri, and **Dania V. Frank**. "Reparations for African-Americans as a Transfer Problem: A Cautionary Tale." *Review of Development Economics* 14, no. 2 (2010) 248-61. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9361.2010.00550.x>

Darity Jr., William and **Dania Frank**. "The Economics of Reparations." *The American Economic Review* 92, no. 2 (P&P) (2003) 326-29. <https://doi.org/10.1257/000282803321947281>

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

Francis, Dania V., and Christian E. Weller. "Race, Ethnicity, and Retirement Security in the United States." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press. Forthcoming Fall 2021.

Francis, Dania V. "The logistics of a reparations program in the United States." In *Vision 2020: Evidence for a Stronger Economy*. Washington D.C.: Washington Center for Equitable Growth, 2020.

Francis, Dania V. "Education (1700-1900)." In *African American Culture (Volume 1)*, edited by Dyson, Omari L., Judson L. Jeffries, and Kevin L. Brooks, 306-309. Cultures of the American Mosaic Series. Greenwood: Santa Barbara, CA, 2020

Francis, Dania V. and Carlyn Ferrari. "Education (1975 -)." In *African American Culture (Volume 1)*, edited by Dyson, Omari L., Judson L. Jeffries, and Kevin L. Brooks, 318-320. Cultures of the American Mosaic Series. Greenwood: Santa Barbara, CA, 2020

Francis, Dania V. "Economic Growth." In *The Encyclopedia of Race and Racism (2 ed.)*, edited by Mason, Patrick L. Mason. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, an imprint of Gale/Cengage Learning, 2013.

Darity Jr., William A. and **Dania Frank**. "The Political Economy of Ending Racism and the World Conference against Racism: The Economics of Reparations," in *Redress for Historical Injustices in the United States*, edited by Martin, Michael T., and Marilyn Yaquinto, 249-254. Duke University Press: Durham, NC, 2007. (Reprint)

Darity Jr., William A. and **Dania Frank**. "The Economics of Reparations," in *African Americans in the US economy*, edited by Conrad, Cecilia A., John Whitehead, Patrick L. Mason, and James Stewart, 38. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2005. (Reprint)

RESEARCH REPORTS

Francis, Dania and Christian E. Weller. "The Black-White Wealth Gap Will Widen Educational Disparities During the Coronavirus Pandemic." *Center for American Progress* August 12, 2020.

<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/race/news/2020/08/12/489260/black-white-wealth-gap-will-widen-educational-disparities-coronavirus-pandemic/>

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Francis, Dania V. and Christian E. Weller. "Necessary Family Financial Support Perpetuates Racial Wealth Inequality Across Generations – Evidence from the Coronavirus Pandemic", in Society of Actuaries. *Aging and Retirement Issues for People of Different Races and Ethnicity—Essay Collection*. Washington, DC: Society of Actuaries (August 2021) [Second Place Award]

Francis, Dania V. "Strategies to Stem the Disparate Impact of COVID-19 on Faculty of Color." *CSWEP News*, 2020, no. IV (2020) 9.

Francis, Dania V., and Anna Gifty Opoku-Agyeman. "Economists Silence on Racism is 100 Years in the Making." *Newsweek*, June 11, 2020. <https://www.newsweek.com/economists-silence-racism-100-years-making-opinion-1509790>

Cox, Robynn, and **Dania Francis**. "Improved public school teaching of racial oppression could enable U.S. society to grasp the roots and effects of racial and economic inequality." *Washington Center for Equitable Growth*, February 27, 2020. <https://equitablegrowth.org/improved-public-school-teaching-of-racial-oppression-could-enable-u-s-society-to-grasp-the-roots-and-effects-of-racial-and-economic-inequality/>

Francis, Dania V. "Are cash reparations the best way to make amends for slavery?" *CQ Researcher*, August 2019.

WORKING PAPERS

"Children Left Behind: The Effects of Statewide Job Loss on Student Achievement." (with E.O. Ananat, A. Gassman-Pines and C. Gibson-Davis). NBER Working Paper 17104. (Published in part in *Science* (2017))

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

"Statistical Discrimination vs. Implicit Bias: Disentangling the Sources of Gender and Racial Bias in an Educational Setting" (with A. C. M. de Oliveira, C. Dimmitt, and D. Horton)

"Estimating the Value of Black Land Loss 1910 - 1990" (with B. Stucki, N. Rosenberg, T. Mitchell, and D. Hamilton)

"Hurricanes, Floods and Fires: What are the Employment Impacts of Climate Change?" (with Keren Horn)

"Impact of Changing Restaurant Advertising on Weight Gain and Disparities." (with Sara N. Bleich and Keren Horn)

"Feedback for the Future" (with S. Whitcomb)

"Redlining and Racial Wealth Disparities"

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Fellowships

- 2018 – 2019 NAEd/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellow
Lilly Fellow for Teaching Excellence, Institute for Teaching Excellence and Faculty Development, UMass Amherst
- 2014 – 2015 DITE Fellow, Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics, National Science Foundation
- 2014 – 2015 CISA Fellow, Five College Program for Crossroads in the Study of the Americas
- 2008 – 2012 Dean's Graduate Fellowship (Formerly Duke Endowment Fellowship), Duke University
- 2001 – 2003 Graduate Prize Fellowship, Harvard University

Awards

- 2021-2023 Research Grant, \$150,000, NIH, University of Massachusetts Boston & Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Comprehensive Partnership to Advance Cancer Health Equity, with Keren Horn (UMass Boston) and Sara Bleich (Harvard)
- 2021 Second Prize Essay Award, \$3,000, Society of Actuaries, shared with Christian E. Weller
Climate Justice Seed Grant, \$7,500, Co-PI, UMass Boston Sustainable Solutions Lab
Dean's Research Grant, \$1,500, Co-PI, UMass Boston College of Liberal Arts
- 2018 – 2019 Research Grant, \$6,718, PI, UMass Amherst Institute of Diversity Sciences
- 2016 Research Grant, \$7,000, PI, UMass Amherst College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- 2014 – 2015 ISSR Scholars Program, Course Release, UMass Amherst
- 2013 Center for Teaching and Faculty Development Flex Grant, \$300, UMass Amherst
- 2012 – 2013 Spencer Foundation Research Grant \$25,000, PI: Robert Paul Wolff
- 2011 – 2013 W.T. Grant Scholars Mentoring Grant \$60,000, PI: Elizabeth O. Ananat
Fully supported my final two years of graduate study
- 2013 Ph.D. Small Grant, \$500, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University
- 2011 Fourth Annual Lindau Meetings of Economic Sciences Travel Award, \$600, Council for the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings
- 2011 ECLS-K Training Seminar, Travel Award, National Center for Education Statistics
- 2011 Ph.D. Small Grant, \$500, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University
- 2011 Rethinking Regulation Grant, \$1500, Kenan Institute for Ethics, Duke University
- 2011 Economic Modeling in Education Research Workshop, Travel Award, University of Chicago

TEACHING

- Contemporary Issues in the Education of Blacks in the U.S., undergraduate seminar - Fall 2014
- Economics Dissertation Workshop, graduate seminar – Spring 2017
- Economics of Education, graduate seminar – Fall 2017
- Economics of Education, undergraduate seminar – Fall: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2019, 2020, 2021
- Introduction to Microeconomics, undergraduate lecture – Spring: 2017, 2021, Fall 2020, 2021
- Foundations of the Education of Blacks in the U.S., undergraduate seminar - Spring 2014, Fall: 2015, 2016, 2017
- Political Economy of Black America, undergraduate seminar – Spring: 2020, 2021

INVITED TALKS

- 2021: CEPA Seminar Series, Stanford University Center for Education Policy Analysis, Palo Alto, CA (Virtual)
- Applied Micro Seminar Series, RAND Corporation, Santa Barbara, CA (Virtual)
- San Jose State University Economics Department Workshop Series, San Jose State University, CA (Virtual)

- Breaking the Chain of Oppression – Comprehensive Reparations Part 2: The Economics and Implementation of Reparations, Black Law Student Association, Penn Law (Virtual)
- Colorado State Economics Department Seminar Series, Fort Collins, CO (Virtual)
- Spelman-Sloan Speaker Series, Spelman College (Virtual)
- #BlackEconomistsMatter: Economic Justice Recommendations for the Biden Administration, American Bar Association Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice (Virtual)
- Rethinking Economics, Symposium on Stratification Economics (Virtual)
- 2020: Genevieve Perry Endowed Lecture in Economics, Whitman College (Virtual)
- Brown Bag Research Series, Urban Institute, (Virtual)
- Penn-Wharton Conference on Race and Economics, Panelist, University of Pennsylvania (Virtual)
- Economics Department Seminar Series, American University, (Virtual)
- Research Seminar Series, FHI 360 (Virtual)
- Economics of Racism Seminar Speaker, Ohio State University, (Virtual)
- 2019: Lynch School Speaker Series, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA
- Vision 2020: Evidence for a Stronger Economy, Washington Center for Equitable Growth, Washington, DC
- University of New Hampshire Economics Department Seminar Series, Durham, NH
- Land Loss, Wealth, and Reparations, Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- The Legacy of “Separate but Equal:” Policy Implications for the 21st Century - The 125th Anniversary of Plessy v. Ferguson, Russell Sage Foundation, New York, NY
- Land Loss, Wealth Inequality & Reparations, The Kirwan Institute, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
- 2018: Economics Department Seminar, Smith College, Northampton, MA
- Economics Department Seminar, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
- AEA Summer Program Speaker Series, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- Oscar E. Kiessling Seminar Series, Brookings Institute, Washington, DC
- Guest Lecturer, Amherst College, Amherst, MA
- 2017: Economics & Education Seminar, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

- University of Connecticut Center for Education Policy Analysis Spring Speaker Series, Storrs, CT
- 2016: UMass Boston Economics Spring Seminar Series, Boston, MA
- James Weldon Johnson Colloquium Series, Emory University, Atlanta
- 2015: Center for Public Policy & Administration Colloquium, Amherst, MA
- 2014: Five College Crossroads in the Study of The Americas Colloquium, Amherst, MA
- University of Connecticut Department of Public Policy's Speaker Series, West Hartford, CT
- Faculty Research Forum, UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA
- First Annual Andrew Brimmer Forum, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL
- Carter G. Woodson Lecture Series, Central Connecticut State University, Hartford, CT

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2021: RILE Conference, Panelist, "Beyond a Variable: Addressing Racial Inequality in Access and Opportunity," Stanford University (Virtual)
- DITE Annual Conference, Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics, Washington D.C.
- 2020: AERA Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA (paper accepted, cancelled due to COVID-19)
- Eastern Economic Association Meetings, Boston, MA
- Allied Social Science Association Meetings, San Diego, CA
- 2019: Southern Economic Association Meetings, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Meetings, Washington DC
- 2018: APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC
- Pathways to Gender Equity Conference, American University, Washington, DC
- International Conference on Caste and Race, UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA
- 2016: APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC
- 2015: APPAM Fall Research Conference, Miami, FL
- Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics Conference, Durham, NC
- 2014: ASSA Conference, Philadelphia, PA (paper accepted)
- 2013: Association for Education Finance and Policy Conference, New Orleans, LA

2012: Association for Education Finance and Policy Conference, Boston, MA

2011: APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC

The Invisible Woman Conference, Bennett College

2010: Beyond Test Scores: Schooling and Life-Course Outcomes in Early Adulthood, Duke University

PAST POSITIONS

July 2012 – July 2013 Research Consultant, Willa B. Player Scholars Program, Bennett College

May 2009 – Dec 2011 Research Assistant, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University

Sept 2000 – Dec 2000 Research Assistant, Smith College

Sept 1999 – Dec 1999 Research Intern, The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Economic Association, 2009 – present

American Educational Research Association, 2019 - present

Association of Public Policy and Management, 2011 – present

Association for Social Economy, 2020 – present

National Economic Association, 2009 – present

Southern Economic Association, 2019 – present

Association for Education Finance and Policy, 2012 – 2014

REFEREE SERVICE

Agricultural and Resource Economics Review, The Berkeley Electronic Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy, Cambridge Journal of Economics, Du Bois Review, Economics of Education Review, Educational Researcher, Education Finance and Policy, Education Sciences, Feminist Economics, Journal of Economics, Race and Policy, Journal of Human Capital, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, The Review of Black Political Economy, Social Forces

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2021 – Present: Associate Editor, Contemporary Economic Policy

2020 – Present: Associate Editor, Review of Social Economy

2017 – Present: Board Member, National Economics Association

Chair, Social Media and Website Committee (2017 – present)

2021: Moderator, “Fireside Chat with CSWEP: Demystifying the publication process at *Science* with Tague Rai.” AEA Committee for the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (Virtual)

Mentor, Boston University Women in Economics Mentoring Group

2020: Panelist, “How Should Universities Respond to the Disparate Impacts of Covid-19 on Faculty?” AEA Committee for the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (Virtual)

Mentor, Boston University Women in Economics Mentoring Group

2019: National Science Foundation Review Panel

Participant, “Emerging Initiative on Innovative Research Methods,” Spencer Foundation

2018: National Science Foundation Review Panel

PUBLIC SERVICE

2021: Article Interview, Katie Johnston, *Boston Globe*, October 29, 2021

Public Testimony, Boston City Council hearing on Reparations, October 26, 2021

- Podcast Guest, "The Black Farmer Movement Battling History to Return to the Land," *The Mother Jones Podcast*, April 2021
- Article Interview, Seth Bodine, "After Decades of Discrimination Lawmakers Propose Justice for Black Farmers." *Harvest Public Media*, February 12, 2021
- Article Interview, Jon Gorey, "How is it that the average Boston-area house 'made' more than a minimum wage worker last year?" *The Boston Globe*, February 3, 2021
- 2020: Article Interview, Katie Johnston, "The lawyers she cleans for are still working from home, which means she's still out of a job." *The Boston Globe*, October 9, 2020
- Podcast Guest, "Episode 7: Improving Education for Everyone," *Reimagine with Eric Schmidt*, October 2020
- Closing the Racial Wealth Gap Panelist, Business Insider, September 2020 (Virtual)
- Article Interview, Shirley Leung and Larry Edelman, "Coronavirus made the wealth gap worse. How long can a divided economy stand?" *The Boston Globe*, September 5, 2020
- Radio Guest, multiple appearances, *The Critical Hour*, Radio Sputnik, Fall 2020
- Podcast Guest, "Saving Money is Really Hard to Do," *Million Bazillion*, Marketplace, Season 1: Episode 5, August 2020
- Article Profile, Alison Buckholtz, "For Black Women Economists, A Rallying Cry." *IFC Insights*, July 2020
- TV Guest, Squawk Box Europe, *CNBC International*, July 2020
- TV Guest, "Black Lives Matter: Is Black Business the Answer?" *TRT World*, June 2020
- Article Interview, Callum Williams. "Forty acres and a mule: The economics of reparations." *The Economist*, June 18, 2020
- Article Interview, Erica Thompson. "Renewed debate on reparations for slavery descendants inspires central Ohio activists," *The Columbus Dispatch*, March 14, 2020
- Article Profile, Amara Omeokwe, "Economics Profession Turns Attention to its 'Race Problem'." *The Wall Street Journal*, January 2020
- 2019: Podcast Guest, "Dr. Dania Francis: The Economics of Reparations for #ADOS," *The Question Lane*, October 2019

Last updated: November 2021