



## Mike Booth Predoctoral Trainee

**PSC Faculty Mentor:** Mary Janevic

**Field:** Health Behavior & Health Education

**Dissertation Title:** Cognitive Impairments in Immune-Mediated Inflammatory Diseases: Findings from the Health and Retirement Study



**Research Interests:** Mike's research focuses on immune-mediated inflammatory diseases and cognitive impairments using data from the Health and Retirement Study and linked Medicare claims. Mike's interests also include the management and analysis of national public health datasets, the strengths and limitations of using administrative claims for health analyses, and the validity of self-reported health in health surveys.

**What's next:** Senior Healthcare Consultant, C Space Health

**Advice for incoming trainees:** Begin your doctoral journey with the end in mind. What knowledge and skills will you need to complete your thesis? Now, look around you, there are people, classes, training opportunities, research grants, and an entire campus of resources ready to help you obtain what you need to complete the journey. Its up to you to network, to plan, to put in the thought, consideration, and work to get to the end, but you are lucky; The University of Michigan, the Institute for Social Research, and the Population Studies Center are world-class research institutions. Everything you need is right here. It does not get better than this!

**Best Ann Arbor experience:** Summer days working at the Institute for Social Research on my thesis using data from the Health and Retirement Study and taking breaks for walks around town or lunch at Chela's or NeoPapalis





## Alexa Eisenberg

### Predoctoral Trainee

**PSC Faculty Mentor:** Arline Geronimus

**Field:** Health Behavior & Health Education

**Dissertation Title:** Race, property, and population health: Examining policy-driven patterns of Whiteness, anti-Blackness, and health inequity in metropolitan Detroit



**Research Interests:** Housing policy and urban governance in reproducing racialized inequities in mortality and disability in segregated and politically fragmented US metropolitan areas. Other aspects of their research seeks to monitor, evaluate, and inform policies and programs that can promote housing stability and health justice in Detroit.

**What's next:** Postdoctoral appointment with Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan, at the School of Public Health.

**Advice for incoming trainees:** The interdisciplinary expertise, support, and funding offered through PSC can transform your academic experience. Embrace this opportunity with curiosity and openness!

**Best Ann Arbor Experience:** I live in Detroit, but will always hold a special place in my heart for Ann Arbor! I will always remember the GEO re-opening strike of Fall 2020, which was an inspiring demonstration of resistance, solidarity, and labor organizing





**Connor Cole**  
**Predoctoral Trainee**

**PSC Faculty Mentor:** Martha Bailey

**Field:** Economics

**Dissertation Title:** Three Essays in Labor and Public Economics

**Research Interests:** Connor’s research is primarily in labor economics, public economics, economic demography and applied econometrics.

**What’s next:** Public and Labor Economist, U.S Treasury Department, Office of Tax Analysis



**George Fenton**  
**Predoctoral Trainee**

**PSC Faculty Mentor:** Justin Wolfers

**Field:** Economics

**Dissertation Title:** Essays on Public and Labor Economics

**Research Interests:** George’s interests include public and labor economics, with a particular interest in political economy topics relating to the media industry and polarization.

**What’s next:** Senior Policy Analyst, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities





**Heejung Jang**  
**NIA Postdoctoral Fellow**



**PSC Preceptor:** Natasha Pilkauskas

**Field:** Social Work

**PhD:** University of Pittsburg

**Research Interests:**

Dr. Jang's research interest revolves around the effects of social engagement on health and well-being in later life. She is interested in how various family structures, cultural characteristics, and neighborhood effects influence older adults' well-being. Her current work investigates how potential individual mechanism and neighborhood integration would affect older adults' health, particularly among older immigrant grandparent caregivers.

**What's next:** Dr. Jang will teach statistics courses this fall at a local university.

**Advice for incoming trainees:** Working at PSC was a great, rewarding experience for me. The program provides abundant support and resources - I especially recommend engaging with the community and taking advantage of opportunities to connect with senior researchers.

**Best Ann Arbor experience:** I enjoy the city's beautiful scenery - the sky landscape is impressive, anywhere in Ann Arbor. I have visited various parks around the city, and frequently enjoy taking walks around different parts of the town.





**Nicardo McInnis**  
**NIA Postdoctoral Fellow**



**PSC Preceptor:** John Bound

**Field:** Economics

**PhD:** Georgia State University

**Research Interests:** Dr. McInnis' research centers on the low-income population. He utilizes quasi-experimental methods to study the effects of income disparities and how safety net programs can be used to close those gaps. His current research mainly considers health outcomes, but his goal is to focus more broadly on child and human capital development and how they influence later life outcomes in the labor market such as employment and earnings. He is also interested in research on missing data techniques, especially in the context of conducting life course analyses.

**What's next:** Assistant Professor, California State University, Northridge

**Advice for incoming trainees:** Do not be afraid to reach out to faculty members with whom you want to collaborate. In my experience, faculty members were very open to collaboration.

**Best University of Michigan experience:** Unfortunately, I did not have any in person interactions. But I cherish the periodic meetings I had with my fellow postdoc trainees, program organizers and co-authors.





**Sarah Patterson**  
**NIA Postdoctoral Fellow**

**PSC Preceptors:** Vicki Freedman and Robert Schoeni

**Field:** Sociology & Demography

**PhD:** Pennsylvania State University



**Research Interests:** Dr. Patterson's research is concerned with how, in this changing demographic environment, enduring norms and expectations around families and for individual family members function across three domains. First, she explores the demography of aging, or how population aging in tandem with changing family forms contribute to social inequality across the life course. Second, she explores family demography and intergenerational inequality, or how family structure changes and norms around family roles contribute to inequality across and between generations. And third, Dr. Patterson explores gender inequality at the work and family nexus, or how work and family individually and interactively contribute to trends in gender inequality. Her projects cover a range of topics including caregiving, work, education, and mortality.

**What's next:** Research Investigator, Survey Research Center, ISR

**Advice for incoming trainees:** I highly recommend checking out the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity website for many resources, but especially the video on semester plans <https://www.facultydiversity.org/webinars/semesterplan18>. I created a two-year plan and individual semester plans as I went along and those really helped structure my time.

**Best Ann Arbor experience:** One of my favorite things about Ann Arbor is the availability of local produce! In addition to the farmer's market in Kerrytown, Ann Arbor has a lot of local farms open to the public, as well as nearby farms and shops that sell (and sometimes even deliver!) local produce.

