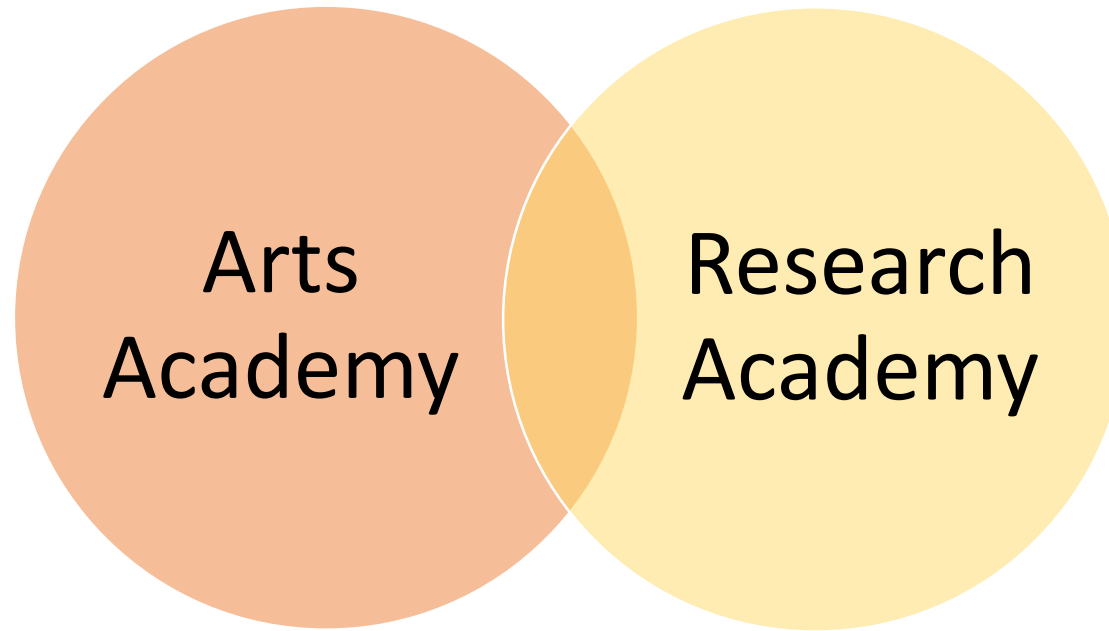# Research Academy Implementation Planning

Steering Committee:

Frederick Davis (History), Cherie Maestas (Political Science), Melissa Remis (Anthropology), Jen William (School of Languages and Cultures)

CLA Strategic Plan
Goal 1: Transformative Scholarship

Arts Academy

Research Academy

2020-2021 Research Academy Implementation Task Force

Co-Chairs: Cherie Maestas (Political Science), Jill Suitor (Sociology); Members: Jeffrey Brower (Philosophy), Frederick Davis (History), Daniel J. Olson (Linguistics – School of Languages and Culture), Torsten Reimer (Brian Lamb School of Communication). Additional Contributors: Zachary Goldsmith and Rabindra Mukerjea.

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Strategic Initiatives

The goal of the Research Academy is to function as a vehicle for outstanding and diverse faculty and those with successful grants to mentor and provide guidance to junior and newer faculty."

"The Research Academy should:

- **Facilitate high-impact research and creative activity** to improve the understanding of the human condition and address society's most important challenges; and

- Mentor faculty to nurture a **culture of stellar research and outcomes**, faculty **recognition at national and international levels** with inducted memberships, increased grant activity, and advanced national program rankings (for disciplines that are ranked nationally)."

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Some quick observations

- Grants activity occurs in all units but concentrated among highly active scholars

- CLA faculty with high impact research and publications create a "brain trust" to draw upon to elevate work of all faculty in college

- Growth in pre-tenure faculty is opportunity for growth in research

- **Some goals for the research academy:**
  - **Transfer knowledge concentrated among a few to others learning the ropes**
  - **Increase the efficiency of active grant seekers to increase their volume / capacity for proposals and management**
  - **Transfer knowledge about how to increase impact and visibility of research**

Methods

- **Strengthen Research Culture and Networks**
  - Recognize and reward research excellence in the college
  - Educate faculty using evidence-based high-impact programming

- **Direct Support to Researchers**
  - Support for grant proposals and research products
  - Seed and pilot grants for individual and team-based research
  - Active research mentoring with accountability for outcomes
  - Research concierge services, including pre and post award support

- **Marketing to build visibility and impact of CLA research**

- **Secure external funding for internal research projects to support the Academy**

UNC | ODUM INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

Over the years, we have also pursued a number of **internal projects**. On an annual basis, we serve more than **2,000** unique users in our computer labs, log more than **1100** individual consultations, and offer more than **3,600** seat hours of instruction through our over 60+ workshops.

We generate approximately **$350,000 in grant support every year to support our own operations, not including number of grants we assist others in securing.** In short, we are a key part of the core research and teaching infrastructure for social scientists at UNC. We seek to lead locally, nationally, and internationally UNC's continued effort to remain one of the world's best universities in social science research and education.

- **ImPACT** (Infrastructure for Privacy-Assured CompuTations) project to facilitate secure cooperative analysis of multi-institutional data. NSF funded collaborative grant

- **CoRe2** Confirmable Reproducible Research Environment – project assists researchers with reproducible data for publications; Funded by Alfred P. Sloan foundation.

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Project

Expanding Humanities Impact and Publics

Share f ✕

A $1.5 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has enabled a five-year project, Expanding Humanities Impact and Publics, at The Humanities Institute. The project is designed to spark new modes of public Humanities scholarship and provide support for doctoral student success.

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The Humanities Institute
UC SANTA CRUZ

PROGRAMMING THEMES

2020 – 2021 | **Memory**

As movements across the United States spark a national reckoning over how history is remembered through public monuments and our communities grieve the devastation wrought by unprecedented fires on the West Coast, a profound discussion about memory could not be more important. The Humanities – from literature to poetry to history and art – are vital spaces of memory and essential for examining what we remember and what we forget. In 2020-2021, The Humanities Institute is leading conversations at UC Santa Cruz and beyond on the many facets of Memory and its significance in our lives.

2019 – 2020 | **Futures**

What kind of futures can we imagine? And how does thinking about the future inform our present? In the face of major technological advances, ecological transformations, and radical political developments, the Humanities can provide insights into a range of possible futures and inspire new ways to navigate our complex world. During the 2019-2020 Academic Year, THI is investigating what lies ahead by leading conversations in Santa Cruz and beyond on the theme of Futures.

2018 – 2019 | **Data and Democracy**

As technology increasingly shapes our habits and defines our access to knowledge, it is more important than ever that we understand how we got here and work to imagine a more inclusive, open, and transparent future. The Humanities are essential in helping us make sense of this changing world. During the 2018-2019 Academic Year, THI investigated this theme, presenting a series of public events with luminaries such as Jaron Lanier on campus and community conversations in downtown Santa Cruz and Silicon Valley.

Clusters

The Humanities Institute's research clusters are experimental initiatives that can serve as incubators for larger projects in the future. Our institute offers faculty and graduate students seed funding, for up to three years, to explore innovative ideas and collaborations that can grow into self-sustaining programs. In particular, our clusters encourage scholars to engage in interdisciplinary research that breaks down silos and creates dynamic connections across disciplines.

CLUSTER
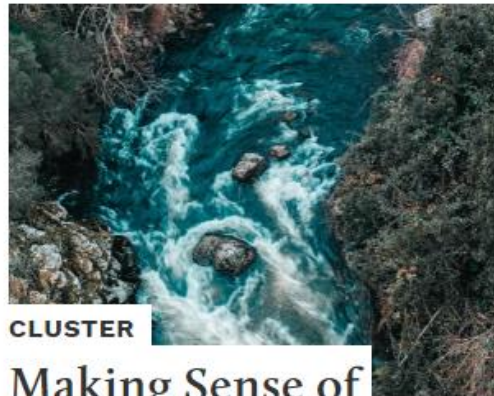
Speculatively Scientific Fictions of the Future

—MORE→

CLUSTER

Border Regimes and Resistance in Global Perspective

—MORE→
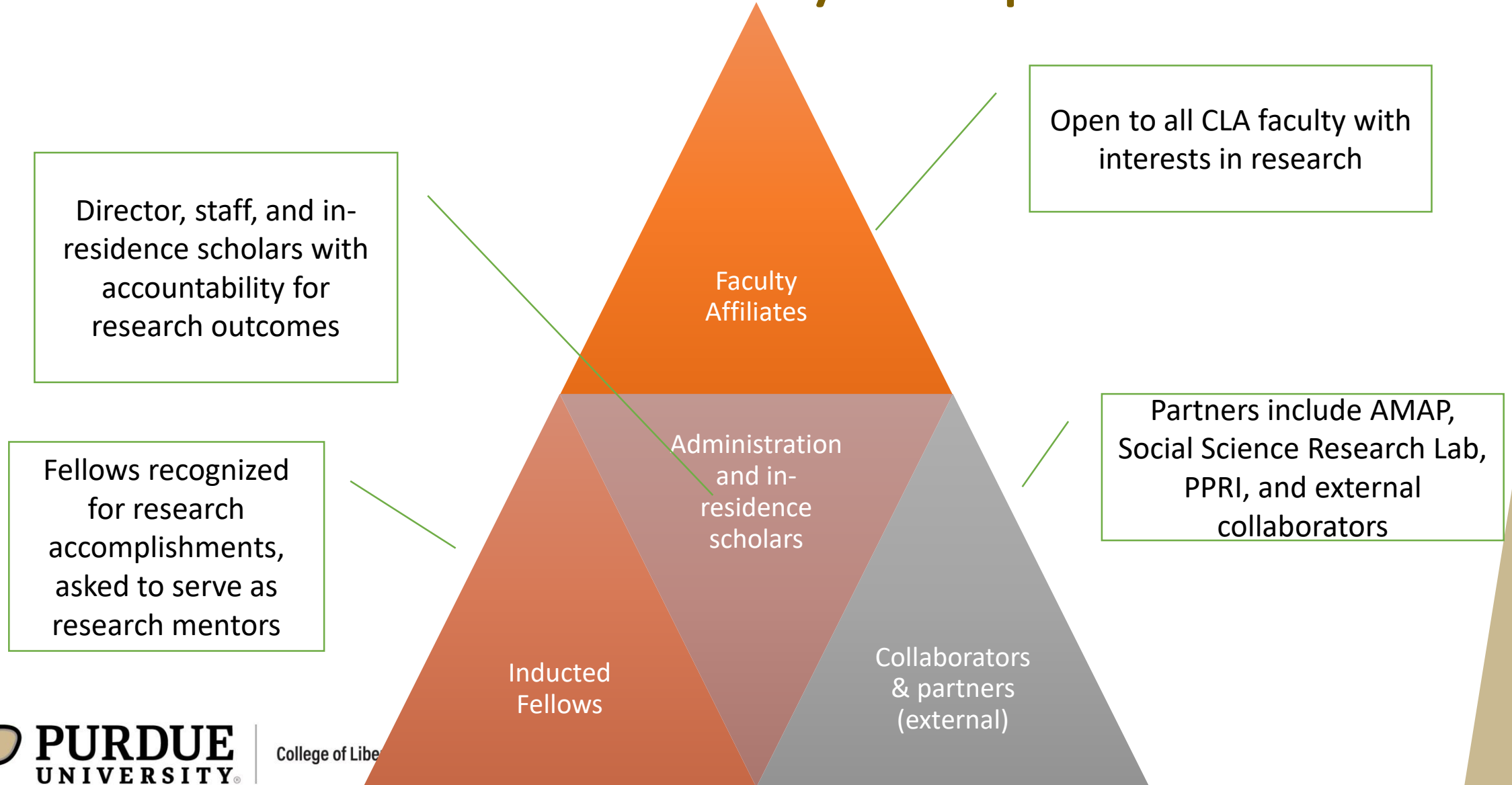
CLUSTER

Making Sense of Memory

—MORE→

CLUSTER

Memory of Forgotten Wars

—MORE→

Research Academy Components

Director, staff, and in-residence scholars with accountability for research outcomes

Open to all CLA faculty with interests in research

Fellows recognized for research accomplishments, asked to serve as research mentors

Partners include AMAP, Social Science Research Lab, PPRI, and external collaborators

Faculty Affiliates

Administration and in-residence scholars

Inducted Fellows

Collaborators & partners (external)

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Proposed Activities – Ideas Welcome!

Research Recognition and Networking	Research Mentoring and Training	Research Lifecycle Support	Internal research projects
• Awards and Annual induction of fellows • Speakers and visiting scholars • "Projects seeking partners" events • Academy governance and planning • Book Launches / Salons • Research Visibility & Award support	• In-residence mentors • In-residence cluster leaders • Workshops and one-on-one training • Consulting on research, grants, and awards • Support for external readers / consultants for grants	• Convergence Accelerator Cluster Grants • Proof of Concept Grants • Grant submission grants • Book/Article Workshops • Research Completion Grants • Research concierge services (pre/post award)	• Science of Team Science grants • Partnership grants with research institutes at peer universities • Data collection, archiving, and/or management grants • Research infrastructure grants

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Questions

- What resources and activities are most essential to make this a successful long term unit?

- What would make the RA valuable to you, personally, or to those in your units?

- How do you see yourself participating in the Research Academy?