

A NEW ERA



Director's Report
2018–2019

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

My first year as director of the Lewis Center has been an exciting one. The Lewis Center aims to generate new knowledge and address pressing planning and policy issues in the Greater LA region.

As you will see in this report, we have made significant progress on these goals: We've sponsored student and faculty research, hosted numerous events both on and off the UCLA campus, and engaged with a growing number of diverse stakeholders.

This upcoming year is our 30th anniversary — a time both to celebrate the many accomplishments of the Lewis Center and to renew and strengthen our efforts. I invite you to stay engaged with us as we move forward into a new era.

— Evelyn Blumenberg, Director

Photo: David Sprague/Blueprint

BY THE NUMBERS

New reports and briefs

9



Students supported in research and capstone projects

31



Funding to students through fellowships, research grants, and center-supported projects

\$53,640



Community events

14



Growth in audience

15%



Additional support

\$317,000



OUR AREAS OF FOCUS

LOS ANGELES REGION

LIVE

- Housing Affordability
- Quality Communities
- Gentrification & Displacement

MOVE

- Transportation Equity
- Access to Opportunities
- Environmental Justice

WORK

- Regional Economy
- Employment Distribution
- Workforce Policies



COMMUNITY EVENTS

InterActionsLA – Inspiring Quality Transit Neighborhoods

With a focus on regional growth and equity, the Lewis Center launched its inaugural *InterActions LA* conference to discuss how sweeping, taxpayer-supported investments in Los Angeles' transportation systems can address decades-old inequities.

InterActions LA paired the latest academic thinking with real-world examples of positive and progressive change at the community level. With so many diverse objectives — affordable housing, environmental concerns, access to opportunities, safety and security issues around mobility — the solutions will prove to be equally diverse.

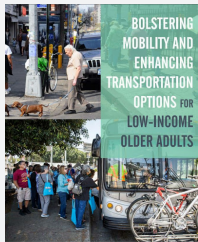
Starting strong – feedback from inaugural event

"I always enjoy participating in these types of events but oftentimes we are discussing abstract/theoretical ideas and concepts. Today was 100% real life topics + discussions."

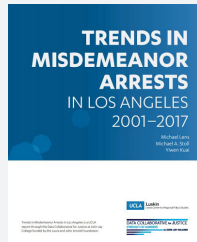
"All of the sessions were great. One of the best conferences I've attended in a while — thank you!"

"In this industry, a lot of the ideological rhetoric around collaboration and equity can feel regurgitated ... so I appreciate bringing in [a new perspective]!"

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



BOLSTERING MOBILITY & ENHANCING TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR LOWER-INCOME OLDER ADULTS



TRENDS IN MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS IN LOS ANGELES: 2001 - 2017



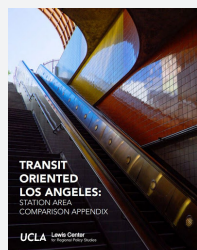
NOT NEARLY ENOUGH: CALIFORNIA LACKS CAPACITY TO MEET LOFTY HOUSING GOALS



A FLAWED LAW: REFORMING CALIFORNIA'S HOUSING ELEMENT



TRANSIT ORIENTED LOS ANGELES: ENVISIONING AN EQUITABLE AND THRIVING FUTURE



TRANSIT ORIENTED LOS ANGELES: STATION AREA COMPARISON APPENDIX



TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT IN LOS ANGELES: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



MAIN STREET PARKLET PILOT PROGRAM EVALUATION: CITY OF SANTA MONICA

STUDENT SUPERSTARS

This year, the Lewis Center supported eight student projects that tackled some of the most pressing concerns of how people live, move and work in Southern California. The students conducted research, analysis and developed policy recommendations for their clients — from government agencies to nonprofit advocacy groups and consulting firms.

Dustin Khuu MURP '19

Mode Choice and Perceptions of the Built Environment in Watts and Jordan Downs

Dustin surveyed Jordan Downs residents and developed a toolkit for LA Department of Transportation to improve their mobility access throughout redevelopment efforts.

Up Next: Dustin will move to New York to join the city's Department of Transportation.



Nichole Heil MURP '19

Increasing Equity in LA's New Street Vending Permit Program to Increase Quality of Life for Vendors

Nichole interviewed members of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Coalition and recommended the city take an education-first approach in the rollout of its new street vending program.

Up Next: Nichole will stay at UCLA and join the Luskin Center for Innovation team.



SOUGHT-AFTER EXPERTISE

CITYLAB

Lewis Center researchers: The political battle over California's suburban dream

Los Angeles Times

Paavo Monkkonen: California doesn't have enough land set aside to meet Gov. Gavin Newsom's housing goals, report says

WIRED

Evelyn Blumenberg: The Green New Deal's trains and EVs won't work for everyone

89.3 KPCC

Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris: How making public transit more hospitable for women could increase ridership

Los Angeles Daily News

Michael Lens: What is 'upzoning' and why do San Fernando Valley residents hate it so much?

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

Michael Lens: Could this new bill help solve California's housing crisis? New study suggests otherwise

BALTIMORE Post-Examiner

Evelyn Blumenberg: Car ownership is growing in the US: Here's why



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We're moving! Come visit us in our new home next year – suite 2381.

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