



Duke Human Rights Center

AT THE FRANKLIN HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

October 2017

Check Out Spring Classes in Human Rights

[click here](#)

Students attend the 2017 NC Environmental Justice Summit

Students and faculty members of our ongoing partnership with the Alabama Center for Rural Enterprise on environmental justice issues in Lowndes County, AL participated in the NC



Environmental Justice Summit this month. Gino Nuzzolillo, Class of 2020, reports on his experience.

I am a link in the chain, and the link in the chain will not break here.

Standing hand-in-hand, connected physically and spiritually, dozens of community activists, leaders, and scholars from across North Carolina breathed life into this creed. They did so for each other and communities throughout the state struggling for environmental justice. Brought together by a common desire to create an environment free from pollution, exploitation, and discrimination, the Franklinton Center in rural Edgecombe County, NC, became a site for solidarity, communication, and education.

I, other undergraduates, and a few graduate students and professors had the humbling privilege to witness this take

In This Issue...

[Students attend the 2017 North Carolina Environmental Justice Summit](#)

[DukeImmerse Report Back from Mexico](#)

[Meet Human Rights Certificate Student Julia Kaufman](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Currents of Change: Migration, Transit and Outcomes in the Mediterranean](#)

November 1 @ 12:00pm - 1:30pm

[Rights Watch: Voting Rights](#)

November 2 @ 12:00pm - 1:15pm

FEATURED VIDEO Pauli Murray's Durham Walking Tour



Pauli's Durham Tour is a 75min walk into Durham's history of racial segregation in the West End Neighborhood. Aya Shabu and friends share stories about the significance of Black Civil War soldiers, the Freedman Schools movement, unsung shero Pauli Murray - her multi-racial

shape at the 19th Annual North Carolina Environmental Justice Summit. This diverse group of attendees impressed upon me the immense capacity of people, especially those most acutely impacted like poor communities of color, to organize and respond to the violence of environmental neglect and deregulation.

[Read more →](#)

Student Reflection on Dukelmmerse Trip to Mexico

Students in the Dukelmmerse Rights and Identities in the Americas program traveled to Mexico for a 15-day trip to learn from a community of displaced Otomi people and others. Below, sophomore Tea Hughes reports on the experience.



On Friday, October 6th the Dukelmmerse: Rights and Identities group set out for another day in Mexico City. This day was unique in that despite how the sites we visited were, they were still incredibly unfamiliar to all of us. The day was split up into two parts, the first of which will be the focus of my post. We began the day by traveling (not more than a 20-minute ride from our hotel) to a community of displaced Otomi people. The Otomi are an indigenous group of Mexicans whose human rights, including right to a secure dwelling, equal and fair work, and education for themselves and their children, have been infringed upon for centuries.

Waking up that morning, I felt a wide range of emotions. I was both excited to continue my already emotionally-tumultuous experience in Mexico, and nervous about how the Otomi's would react to our presence/ "aid". The group of 10 students and two professors boarded the bus relatively early. We started the day by picking up boxed meals of quesadillas and other traditional breakfast foods to give out to those who wanted them...

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Meet Human Rights Certificate Student Julia Kaufman, '18

This Spring the first cohort of students will graduate with the Human Rights Certificate. Throughout the year we will interview these six students to see why they chose the Human Rights Certificate and how it's influenced their time at Duke and their goals for the future.

This interview was conducted over email with Julia Kaufman, a senior majoring in global health, by Kyra Josephson, senior undergraduate student working for the

ancestry and heritage, and Pauli's long history of relentless activism.

The next walking tour will take place on Nov. 11

[See more →](#)

Erika Weinthal Receives "Women Peacebuilders for Water" Award



On September 27, 2017 Erika Weinthal, Professor of Environmental Policy at the Nicholas School of the Environment and DHRC Faculty Executive Board member, received the Women Peacebuilders for Water Award. Professor Weinthal is being honored for her pioneering scholarship on global environmental politics and the role water resources play in post-conflict peace building.

[See more →](#)

Apply Now for DukeEngage 2018



DukeEngage empowers students to address critical human needs through service learning. The Summer programs in Serbia and Cape Town, South Africa specifically address human rights issues.

The round 1 deadline for applications is coming up on November 1!

[See more →](#)

RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT

Duke Human Rights Center at the Franklin Humanities Institute.

Kyra Josephson (KJ): How did you decide that you wanted to study human rights or pursue the human rights certificate?



Julia Kaufman (JK): I was drawn to studying human rights because of how self-evident and apparent they seemed to me. The idea of implicit rights we all have as humans made sense. Learning how the language and theory of human rights came to be, and how human rights are violated, defended and protected, has complicated my initial understanding in many ways, but reaffirmed it as well. I think what makes the study of human rights so important is that it is intuitive globally, yet requires dynamic dialogue, effort and activism.

[Read more](#) →



Towards the Environment and Water as Human Rights

Created by Alexis Wallace, Kyle Kamuta, and Adrien Comte, as part of a study on human rights and the environment advised by Dr. Erika Weinthal.

This visualization traces the evolution of the environment and water as human rights, through codification in national constitutions and recognition in international law.

[See more](#) →

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The Duke Human Rights Center @ the Franklin Humanities Institute brings together an interdisciplinary group of scholars, staff and students to promote new understandings about global human rights issues.