Darien Alexander Williams, Ph.D.

darien@bu.edu

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Boston University, School of Social Work (Boston, MA)

Assistant Professor of Climate & Environmental Justice July 2023 – Present

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge, MA)

- Doctor of Philosophy, Urban Studies & Planning
 - Dissertation: Locating a Black Planning Tradition and Spatializing Black
 Nationalism
 - *Awards:* Bill Anderson Fund Fellow, OGE Service Award in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - Committee Chair: Erica Caple James

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill, NC)

- Master of City & Regional Planning,
 - Economic Development Specialization
 - Certificate in Natural Hazards Resilience
 - *Awards*: Dept. of Homeland Security Science & Engineering Workforce Development Grant
 - *Master's Project:* For the Long Haul: Public-Private Partnerships for Long-Term Disaster Recovery
 - Advisor: Gavin P. Smith

University of Florida (Gainesville, FL)

 Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, May 2014
 Minors: International Development & Humanitarian Assistance, East Asian Languages & Literatures - Japanese

University of Pretoria, study abroad (Pretoria, South Africa)Summer 2013Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, study abroad (Mérida, México)Summer 2010

 Awards: John V. Lombardi Scholar, Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. Educational Achievement Scholar, Florida Academic Scholar, Presidential Gold Scholar

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Williams, D.A. (2023). Let's Build Our Own House: Political Art and the Making of Black and Muslim Worlds. *Southern Cultures 29*(2), 48-67. doi:10.1353/scu.2023.a899709.

Williams, D. A., Delgado, L. H., Cameron, N., & Steil, J. (2023) The Properties of Whiteness, *Journal of the American Planning Association*. 10.1080/01944363.2022.2144930

Williams, D. A., & Glasmeier, A. K. (2023). Evaluation of error across natural gas pipeline incidents. *Risk Analysis*, 43, 1079–1091. https://doi.org/10.1111/risa.13981

June 2023

May 2018

Chmutina, K., von Meding, J., Williams, D. A., Vickery, J., & Purdum, C. (2022). From pity to fear: security as a mechanism for (re) production of vulnerability. *Disasters*. https://doi.org/10.1111/disa.12568

Glasmeier, A. K., & Williams, D. A. (2022). Toward a theory of high reliability for natural gas distribution utilities. *Utilities Policy*, *75*, 101353. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jup.2022.101353

Chmutina, K., von Meding, J., Sandoval, V., Boyland, M., Forino, G., Cheek, W., Williams, D. A., Gonzalez-Muzzio, C., Tomassi, I., Páez, H., & Marchezini, V. (2021). What We Measure Matters: The Case of the Missing Development Data in Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Monitoring. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Science*, 1-11. https://doi.org/10.1007/s13753-021-00382-2

Purdum, C., Henry, F., Rucker, S., Williams, D. A., Thomas, R., Dixon, B., & Jacobs, F. (2021). No Justice, No Resilience: Prison Abolition as Disaster Mitigation in an Era of Climate Change. *Environmental Justice*. https://doi.org/10.1089/env.2021.0020

Williams, D.A., (2021). White Magic, Black Magic: Design Education as a Site of Racial Justice Contestation. *Carolina Planning Journal, Vol.* 46, 72-78. https://issuu.com/carolinaplanningjournal/docs/vol_46_whiteproblem_in_planning/s/14595932

Williams, D. A., & Jacobs, F. (2020). Landscapes of Trust: An Investigation of Posthurricane Engagement and Recovery. *Environmental Justice*. https://doi.org/10.1089/env.2020.0043

CHAPTERS & ENTRIES

Sandoval, V., Williams, D. A., Cheek, W., von Meding, J., Chmutina, K., González-Muzzio, C., Forino, G., Isabella, T., Marchezini, V., Vahanvati, M., Paez, H., Boyland, M. (2022). The Role of Public and Private Sectors in Disaster Capitalism: An International Overview. In UNDRR 2022 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/role-public-and-private-sectors-disastercapitalism-international-overview

Williams, D. A., & Martin, A. W. (2019). Public-private partnerships: Training and coordination in disasters. In L. R. Shapiro & M. Maras (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Security and Emergency Management*. Springer Nature. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-69891-5_229-1

Hall, E.D., Barau, A. S., Williams, D. A., (202X). City-Level Climate Action Planning in Kano, Nigeria. In Third Assessment Report on Climate Change and Cities (ARC3.3). (Forthcoming)

BOOK REVIEWS

Williams, D. (2019). [Review of Designs for the Pluriverse, by A. Escobar]. *Carolina Planning Journal, Vol 44,* 74-75.

Williams, D. (2017). [Review of Precarious Claims, by S. Gleeson]. *Carolina Planning Journal, Vol* 42, 118-119.

REPORTS & PLANS

Williams, D. A. (2020). Relationships Between Affiliated and Unaffiliated Disaster Response Volunteers: Challenges and Opportunities. [Natural Hazards Center Quick Response Report] https://hazards.colorado.edu/quick-response-report/relationships-between-affiliated-and-unaffiliated-disaster-response-volunteers

Planning Ideas That Matter: Blackness, Indigeneity, Redistribution, and Reparative Practice by K. Agbalajobi, T. Allen, B. Bridgers, S. Diby, S. Gulaid, E. Hall, R. Hoyle, R. James, A. Josiah-Faeduwor, S. Lakew, J. Martin, K. McLean, S. Rege, R. Saint-Hilare, D. Williams (aka Black DUSP Magic) + K. Manymules, in solidarity with *Black DUSP Magic*, July 2020.

Smith, G., Nguyen, M., Durfee, C., Williams, D. A., Rohmer, A., Schwaller, N., (2018). Resilient Design Education in the United States: Current and Emerging Curricula in Colleges and Universities. [DHS Coastal Resilience Center] https://www.publicgardens.org/resources/resilient-design-education-united-states

Bill Anderson Fund Report. 2018. "The South Bridge Community Assessment." Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware.

Martin, A., Williams, D., (2018). For the Long Haul: Public-Private Partnerships for Long-Term Disaster Recovery. [NOAA-published white paper] http://secoora.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Partnerships_for_Disaster_Recovery.pdf

Hurricane Matthew Disaster Recovery & Resilience Initiative. (2018). 2018 Princeville, NC Disaster Recovery Plan. November 2018. Retrieved from https://coastalresiliencecenter.unc.edu/files/2018/12/Princeville-Recovery-Plan.pdf

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Williams, D. (2019). Beyond Diversity, Beyond Equity, and Beyond Inclusion. Legacy: A William Averette Anderson Magazine, Vol 1, Issue 1, 14.

Williams, D. A. (2019, May 26). Nonprofits and foundations aren't going to save us from climate change. Here's why. Retrieved from Mother Jones at https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2019/05/nonprofits-and-foundations-arent-going-to-save-us-from-climate-change-heres-why/?fbclid=IwAR28uniEDEELIj-MUIMM2i7FsnQHKyBpkyPsYsmZ_BKaTgfvygQ2WpVvomY

Williams, D. A. (2018, October 25). A Lesson of Hurricane Michael: Our Policymakers are Failing Us. Retrieved from https://undark.org/2018/10/25/hurricane-michael-climate-policy/

Durfee, C., Rohmer, A., & Williams, D. (2016, October 14). The Future of Floods: Lessons from Charlotte-Mecklenburg County. *Carolina ANGLES*. Retrieved from https://carolinaangles.com/2016/10/14/the-future-of-floods-lessons-from-charlotte-mecklenburg-county/

GRANTS

Florida Sea Grant 2022-2024 OMNIBUS Award (Co-PI)	\$300,000
Ford Predoctoral Fellowship Honorable Mention, 2021	N/A
Point Foundation Opportunity Grant, 2021	\$1000

MIT Department of Urban Studies & Planning Emerson Research Grant	\$500
Natural Hazards Center CONVERGE Grant - COVID-19 & Black Communities	\$1,000
Natural Hazards Center CONVERGE Grant – Disaster Capitalism	\$1,000
MIT MindHandHeart Innovation Fund	\$1,805
Natural Hazards Center Quick Response Grant Program, Hurricane Michael	\$1,850
DHS Science & Technology Workforce Development Grant	\$48,000

TEACHING

- 11.S946 Black Planning (Spring 2022 Co-Instructor/Syllabus Development)
- 11.201 Gateway: Urban Studies and Planning 2 (Spring 2022 Teaching Assistant)
- 11.002 Making Public Policy (Fall 2021 Teaching Assistant)
- 11.401 Intro to Housing, Community, and Economic Development (Fall 2021 Teaching Assistant)
- 11.244 Race, History, and the Built Environment (Spring 2021 Teaching Assistant)
- 11.407 Inclusive Economic Development Tools (Fall 2020 Teaching Assistant/Syllabus Development)
- 11.407 Economic Development Tools (Spring 2020 Teaching Assistant)

RESEARCH & PLANNING EXPERIENCE

Lab on Regional Innovation and Spatial Analysis, Research Assistant (Cambridge, MA) Aug 2018 – Aug 2021

- Worked on NSF-funded study on electric-gas-communication infrastructure disaster under Amy Glasmeier.
- Mentored undergraduate research assistants

CONVERGE, COVID-19 & Black Communities, Working Group Co-Lead (Cambridge, MA)

May 2020 – May 2021

- Convened an interdisciplinary group of Black researchers to share information on the impacts of U.S. and Caribbean COVID-19 Response on Black communities
- MIT Office of Graduate Education GradDiversity, Graduate Community Fellow (Cambridge, MA) December 2018 – November 2020
 - Organized and facilitated MIT Graduate Students of Color Advisory Council, a body of student leaders meeting with senior administration on issues of equity and justice
 - Programmed for MIT Office of Graduate Education Diversity Initiatives calendar
- Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Research Assistant (Cambridge, MA) May 2019 – October 2019
 - Provided qualitative research direction to the Resilience in Survivors of Katrina (RISK) Project under Mary C. Waters and Mariana Arcaya
 - Trained a team of undergraduate- and master's-level research assistants in coding and qualitative analysis

Coastal Resilience Center of Excellence, Research Fellow (Chapel Hill, NC)

Aug 2016 – June 2018

• Collaborated on Department of Homeland Security and White House Initiative project focusing on hazard resilience in design education, under Gavin Smith and Mai Thi Nguyen

Hurricane Matthew Disaster Recovery & Resilience Initiative, Planning Assistant (Durham, NC)

April 2017 – May 2018

- Planned and executed disaster recovery visioning processes in six rural Eastern North Carolina towns
- Organized five-day long community recovery design workshop for Princeville, NC
- Created new recovery committee structure for Fair Bluff, NC town council involvement in recovery process

Southeast & Caribbean Disaster Resilience Partnership, Research & Program Assistant (Chapel Hill, NC)

March 2017 – July 2018

- Drafted white papers on economic recovery for a NOAA-funded coalition of public and private entities across the American Southeast
- Coordinated annual meeting logistics and regular state partner project check-ins

In the Shadows of Ferguson, Research Assistant, Performer (St. Louis, MO/Chapel Hill, NC) Feb 2017 – May 2018

- Conducted field, interview, and archival research in historic housing and municipal policy in St. Louis County, MO alongside Dr. Mai Thi Nguyen
- Workshopped 50 min-length interactive stage production detailing housing policy's intersection with systemic police brutality

Orange County Outreach Court, Consulting Program Evaluator (Orange County, NC)

Sep 2016 – Dec 2016

- Assessed internal operations of county homeless outreach court program
- Conducted interviews, literature review, as well as analyses of homeless decriminalization
- Produced report of key findings to program staff and graduate course

Japan Exchange & Teaching Program, Assistant Language Teacher (Tokyo, Japan)

Aug 2014 – Aug 2016

- Co-taught 16 weekly English classes for Nerima Technical High School students
- Extended English to extracurricular activities to further student out-of-class learning
- Participated in grassroots internationalization for city-wide 2020 Olympic preparation

University of Florida Department of Sociology & Criminology, Undergraduate Research Assistant (Gainesville, FL)

Aug 2011 - Aug 2014

- Digitized quantitative survey data on subjects involving wisdom, aging, and death
- Guided new research assistants and analyzed qualitative data for theme patterns

ADVISEES

Master of City Planning Thesis, 2022 – Mel Isidor (Committee Member, Reader) Master of City Planning Thesis, 2022 – Aiyah Josiah-Faeduwor (Committee Member, Reader)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Natural Hazards Workshop: Prioritizing Spatial Justice in Neighborhood Revitalization: an era of Climate Change Adaptation in Jacksonville. (July, 2022)
- Muslim Justice League-Kavod Solidarity Storytelling (February, 2022)
- Urban Institute at The University of Sheffield Maneuvers, Propositions, Struggles, Deceptions (Invited Speaker) (3 Sessions, Summer 2021)
- Cornell University Summer School on Technology & Social Impact Research and Equity Panel (Invited Speaker) (Summer 2021)
- Natural Hazards Workshop Track 6: COVID-19 and Everyday Life (Moderator) (July, 2021)
- MIT Energy Initiative Energy, Climate, and Social Justice Speaker Series The Afterlife of the Merrimack Valley Gas Explosions (May, 2021)
- Coastal Resilience Center Speaker Series Abolition as Hazard Mitigation (Invited Speaker) (April, 2021)

- UNC Plan For All Planning for What's Next (Invited Speaker) (April, 2021)
- ACSP Multiple Policy Streams and Levers of Change: The Afterlife of the Merrimack Valley Gas Explosions - Amy K. Glasmeier (jointly-authored with Darien Alexander Williams) (November 2020)
- ACSP 13.6 Radical Departures in Space, Power and Justice (Discussant) (November, 2020)
- Natural Hazards Workshop No Justice, No Resilience: Abolition of Police and Prisons as Hazard Mitigation, with J. Carlee Purdum, Sloan Rucker, Richard Thomas, Darien Alexander Williams, Benika Dixon, Fayola Jacobs (July, 2020)
- ACSP Difficulties in disaster recovery planning for small and rural communities -Impacts from Hurricane Michael (October, 2019)
- Natural Hazards Workshop: Resilient Design Education: Current Status and Future Directions (July, 2018)
- South Carolina Emergency Management Disaster Recovery Workshop (January, 2018)
- UNC DCRP Racial Equity Follow-Up Community Conversation (September, 2017)

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Wang, A., Williams, D. A., Glasmeier, A., (2019, November). Vulnerabilities of SCADA Technology in U.S. Natural Gas Pipelines. Poster session presented at the MIT Energy Initiative Annual Research Conference & Related Low-Carbon Energy Center, Cambridge, MA. (support)

Prince, J., Williams, D. A., Glasmeier, A., (2019, November). Failures of Human Agents in U.S. Natural Gas Pipeline Systems. Poster session presented at the MIT Energy Initiative Annual Research Conference & Related Low-Carbon Energy Center, Cambridge, MA. (support)

Williams, T., Williams, D. A., Glasmeier, A., (2018, November). Protocol for Infrastructure Disturbance Case Study. Poster session presented at the MIT Energy Initiative Annual Research Conference & Related Low-Carbon Energy Center, Cambridge, MA. (support)

Durfee, C., Williams, D.A., (2018, July). Hurricane Matthew Disaster Recovery & Resilience Initiative. Poster session presented at the Natural Hazards Workshop and the Coastal Resilience Center of Excellence Annual Meeting, Broomfield, CO & Chapel Hill, NC.

MULTIMEDIA

Clyde Woods & Development Drowned and Reborn. (2021), Disasters: Deconstructed Podcast.

Black Urbanism Mixtape Vol. 1-5: Lineage, Radical self-love, and Migration; Blood, Borders, and Banishment; Black Ruralism; Climate Dread (October 2020 - October 2021). https://linktr.ee/blackurbanismmixtape

COVIDCalls with Scott Knowles: Election Preview. (November 2, 2020). https://covidcalls.podbean.com/e/ep-161-11022020-election-preview/

Disaster Facts Live!. (2020), Disasters: Deconstructed Podcast.

Prisons and Disaster / The New Jim Crow & Abolition. (2020), Disasters: Deconstructed Podcast.

COVIDCalls with Scott Knowles: Researchers Roundtable & Black Communities. (May12, 2020). https://covidcalls.podbean.com/e/ep-42-chiquoine-trivedi-williams-disaster-researchers-roundtable/

S2 E3 – LGBTQI Experiences of Risk. (2020), Disasters: Deconstructed Podcast.

S2 E6 Can You Imagine - The role of Imagination in (Black) Self-Determination and Planning [Radio series episode]. (2018). In M. Augillard (Producer), *CoLab Radio*. WNBR 88.1FM.

In The Shadow of Ferguson (film & stage play). https://vimeo.com/247598465. Screened at 2018 Urban Affairs Conference.

SERVICE LEADERSHIP

Queer Muslims of Boston, Lead Organizer (Boston, MA)

• Organized and executed weekly, monthly, and annual social and spiritual programming for local LGBTQ Muslim community

Charles River Mutual Aid Program, Co-founder (Boston, MA)

Feb 2020 – June 2020

- Organized fundraiser for local paycheck replacement program, COVID-19-related displacement moving, food, and miscellaneous expenses.
- Launched popular political education program supporting eviction moratorium.

Bill Anderson Fund Executive Committee, Secretary, Social Media Lead

October 2018 – October 2019

- Strategized, developed, branded, and launched social media campaigns for funded underrepresented minority PhD fellowship program
- Collaborated with executive committee body to lead Bill Anderson Fund Fellowship organization

Plan for All, Co-facilitator (Chapel Hill, NC)

January 2017 – April 2018

- Facilitated regular programs focused on diversity, equity, representation, and inclusion as part of departmental admissions, operations, and syllabi
- Created & advocated new funding opportunities for students of marginalized identities

UNC – CH Queer Grads Advisory Board, Board member (Chapel Hill, NC)

January 2017 – August 2018

• Regularly met with students and administration to plan for the needs of university trans and queer graduate student population

Southern Fried Queer Pride, Merchandise Vendor/Fundraiser (Durham, NC) Summer & Fall 2017

• Raised funds for arts advocacy organization dedicated to showcasing the achievements of Southern queer people of color.

Marsha P. Johnson Threw the First Glass At Stonewall JAPAN, Founder, Facilitator (Tokyo, Japan)

2016 - 2020

- Founded an organization serving the needs of queer and trans people of color across urban and rural Japan
- Organized meetups and group dialogues centering diasporic LGBTQ identities in Japan.

AKTA Community Center, Health Delivery Project Volunteer (Tokyo, Japan)

July 2015 – July 2016

• Distributed HIV prevention supplies, community newsletters and information to over 160 businesses in the Shinjuku Ni-chōme area on a weekly basis

OTHER SERVICE

- MIT Sustainability Anti-Racism Workshop Participant (2022)
- Emergency Management at Public Safety Canada Subject Matter Expert (2020)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency FloodedHomes Program Subject Matter Expert (2019)
- University of Pennsylvania Green New Deal Design Studio Invited Juror (2020)
- MIT DUSP Racial Justice Teach-In, Black DUSP Magic (2020)
- Consul General of Japan, Minority Life in Japan Panelist (2019)
- MIT Graduate Students of Color Advisory Council Facilitator, Member (2018-Present)
- MIT OGE Graduate Diversity Ambassador (2018-Present)
- Rethinking Flood Analytics Colloquium Recorder (2017)
- MIT Students of Color Committee Recruitment Board
- Carolina Hazards Resilience Planners Member
- Appointed Kizuna Ambassador under Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications
- 36th Keizai Koho Center Fellowship Program Symposium Participant
- Maritime Risk Symposium Volunteer Dept. of Homeland Security Coastal Resilience Center
- Rethinking Flood Analytics Volunteer Dept. of Homeland Security Coastal Resilience Center
- Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education JET Program Professional Development Presenter
- WUFT Radio Reading Service Broadcaster
- Journal Peer Review: Disasters (2020), Projections (2019)
- UF English Language Institute Volunteer
- UF Honey Bee Research Extension Laboratory Volunteer
- ProWorld Peru Volunteer

ADDITIONAL INVOLVEMENT

Disasters: Deconstructed Podcast, Season 4 Co-Host

2020 - 2021

• Co-Hosted 8-episode contribution covering Black Feminism, Death & Dying, Radio Journalism, Vicarious Trauma, Infrastructure Justice, Mass Extinction, and K-12 Education

MIT Department of Urban Studies & Planning Research Workshop, Organizer

Aug 2018 – May 2019

• Planned, coordinated, and advertised monthly planning research seminar, involving presenters from planning, political science, and environmental departments

Cornell Summer School on Designing Technology for Social Impact, Invited Participant Summer 2018

• Engaged researchers in design technologies towards restorative, reparative, justiceoriented practice

NOAA Sea Grant Weather and Climate Enterprise 10-Year Visioning Workshop,

Participant (Raleigh, NC) Mar 2018

- Reviewed the current capacity of Sea Grant to assist coastal communities and businesses with using weather and climate information to improve resilience
- Drafted a set of goals and objectives that align existing and needed Sea Grant weather and climate resilience capacity with needs and gaps in the weather and climate resilience enterprise.

Town of Chapel Hill Street Audit, Researcher (Chapel Hill, NC)

Spring 2018

• Participated in ground-level road study for greenway expansion project.

Durham Peer Cities Team, Researcher (Workshop Course - Chapel Hill, NC)

Fall 2017

- Compiled report of women & minority-owned business supports provided by Durham, NC's peer cities
- Presented findings to Downtown Durham Inc., in report to be used in city council decisions

Princeville Recovery Design Workshop, Organizer/Design Team Member (Princeville, NC) August 2017

- Participated in five-day design charrette envisioning Princeville's development through recovery from Hurricane Matthew
- Drafted orienting guidebook and GIS data for use and reference by all design teams

NC State Design Week, Participant (Raleigh, NC)

January 2017

• Brainstormed and created interdisciplinary design solution to buyout open space reuse for the municipality of Kinston, NC.

Environmental Justice Policy Lab, Student Researcher (Chapel Hill, NC)

Aug 2016 – January 2017

• Collaborated with students to bring technical assistance to locally-organized groups with environmental justice concerns

Tokyo Metro Board of Education Youth Exchange Program, Participant (Tokyo, Japan) Jul 2015 – July 2016

• Facilitated five-part series of cross-cultural events at an agricultural elementary school

Weiveld Organic Dairy Work Exchange, Farm Worker (Pretoria, South Africa) Jun 2013 - Jul 2013

• Joined local Pretoria North organic dairy daily operation, distribution, and marketing

InternationalStudent.com, Writer (Neptune Beach, FL)

Jan 2011 – May 2011

• Gathered and published resources for foreign nationals to navigate American higher education

SKILLS

• Qualitative methods focus (coding, archives, interviews, and community engagement)

- Ability with IMPLAN economic impact analysis, GIS, SPSS, R (intro), inDesign
- Video & audio editing & multimedia production
- Knowledge and experience with coordination and executing multicultural events
- Conversational Japanese (3 years instruction, 2 years immersion)
- Microsoft Office Suite proficiency
- Public speaking & group coordination proficiency

TRAINING

- Racial Equity and Justice (Training and Curricula Development)
- PIE Seminar Post-Disaster Temporary Housing: Urban Planning Considerations (2017)

AFFILIATIONS

- Bill Anderson Fund Fellowship
- Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP)
- Black DUSP Magic
- Muslim Justice League
- Jacksonville Community Action Committee
- MIT DUSP Students of Color Committee
- CONVERGE Working Group: COVID-19 Disaster Capitalism
- CONVERGE Working Group: Black Communities