



August 12, 2024

Dear UNCSA faculty, WSSU faculty and Interested Community Members,

I am happy to announce that the Spatial Justice Studio at the Center for Design Innovation (SJS@CDI) will be accepting Faculty/Community Fellows applications for the 2024-2025 academic year. The Faculty/Community Fellows program is open to all faculty at UNCSA and WSSU, as well as interested community members who would like to *engage* with the **Mapping Prejudice in Forsyth County Project**. You can learn more about the Mapping Prejudice Project by visiting the following website - <u>https://sites.google.com/wfu.edu/mpfc/home?authuser=0</u>.

The Spatial Justice Studio seeks to establish and sustain interinstitutional, interdisciplinary, and inter-sectoral programs that bring faculty, students and the community together across disciplines into diverse experiences to develop meaningful solutions to issues related to *spatial (in)justice*. The SJS will explore alternative possibilities for urban areas and ways of achieving more equitable urban futures through active research agendas, engaged teaching practices and community based participatory research which will lead to the creation/regeneration of equitable, functional and sustainable communities for all.

This letter explains a significant opportunity *for two (2) selected Spatial Justice Faculty/Community Fellows*, whom we will sponsor with an up to \$4,000 stipend this year on top of your salary (Details to follow at the end of this letter).

"Spatial justice refers to general access to public goods, basic services, cultural goods, economic opportunity and healthy environments through fair, inclusive and efficient spatial planning, design and management of urban and rural spaces and resources" (Rocco 2014, 14).

The SJS@CDI has been established to explore a myriad of topics related to spatial justice including: What is spatial (in)justice? What does spatial (in)justice look like? What are the challenges to achieving spatial justice in our cities? How do we create more spatially just places? These are big, complex questions without easy answers.

Faculty from any department at UNCSA or WSSU or local community members who have a background in data analysis, survey research and have a special interest in better understanding spatial justice are encouraged to apply for a SJS Faculty/Community Fellow position for this year. We are looking for creative, open-minded and engaged faculty/community members who display an interest in working on research/community engagement related to deed restrictions and racial covenants--previous experience with this type of question is not a requirement.

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The timetable:

• **Submit by September 30, 2024**. Interested Faculty and Community Members may submit fellowship proposals care of Dr. Russell M. Smith (<u>smithrm@wssu.edu</u>), following the submission guidelines below. The Spatial Justice Studio Lead will finalize all fellowship appointments.

• **October 1 - October 15, 2024.** SJS Faculty/Community Fellows Review Committee will meet and rank the proposals.

• **October 16, 2024**. Up to two (2) selected SJS Faculty/Community Fellows are announced.

• **December 16, 2024.** SJS Fellows file first preliminary report to the SJS Faculty Lead that outlines progress/activity made on their research/project to date, and plans for next semester.

• **April 30, 2025:** SJS Fellows file second preliminary report to the SJS Faculty Lead that shows the progress/activity made on their research/project to date.

• **September 2025.** SJS Fellows will present their results in a symposium where the public is invited to hear and comment on the results. Date to be determined.

Fellowship Application Guidelines:

In your proposal, please include these components:

1) How you would like to engage with the Mapping Prejudice Project,

2) Background and Motivation for engaging with the Mapping Prejudice Project,

4) Proposed use of students, benefits to students,

5) Expected output or products (local op-eds, conference presentations, local talks to community groups, peer reviewed journal articles, policy pieces, community meeting, grant submissions, etc.)

Any additional material is welcomed. Proposals need not include lengthy literature reviews and should be limited to 3 pages or less.

Proposals are due, emailed to me, at **smithrm@wssu.edu** by COB, September 30th. Late submissions will not be accepted. Please include in the subject line: **SJS Fellow Proposal**.

Best,

Russell M. SA

Russell M. Smith, Ph.D. Faculty Lead for the Spatial Justice Studio @ CDI, Professor of Geography, Department of History, Politics & Social Justice Winston-Salem State University