How Our SELI2019 Fellows are Making Positive Impact at Their Placement Sites

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Alexis Astrop**, a grad student at Clark Atlanta studying Educational Leadership. She’s placed this summer with Gwinnett Schools’ Office of Recruitment & Retention in Suwanee, GA. She’s supporting the district’s efforts to recruit teachers in the district by helping career-changers receive their teaching certification & supporting Gwinnett’s Georgia Grown program, which helps high school students with interest in teaching receive teaching experience before leaving high school. Read more about Alexis & the other SELI fellows here: [https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/](https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/)

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Kanesha Adams**, a University of Alabama Ph.D. student studying Instructional Leadership with an emphasis on Social and Cultural studies. She’s placed this summer with the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education in the Student Services division working on college access & opportunities for South Carolina students. Kanesha will also be planning the 10th Anniversary College Application Month Kick-Off event and working on the 2019-2020 College Access and Opportunities Program AmeriCorps grant in partnership with 9 school districts in the state. This project seeks to increase the number of students in these districts who enroll in post-secondary education or training. Read more about Kanesha & the other SELI fellows here: [https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/](https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/)

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Rachel Boggs**, a doctoral student in the Education Policy & Planning Program at The University of Texas at Austin. Rachel’s working this summer at The Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP) in Austin, TX taking a critical look at the new school finance, bilingual education, and early childhood education bills. Read more about Rachel & the other SELI fellows here: [https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/](https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/)
Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Kimberly Clarida, a graduate student at the University of Georgia studying Education Administration and Policy. This summer, Kimberly is placed with the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) at the Atlanta Civic Site. While at AECF, she will help research the landscape of adequate funding for equitable educational outcomes and support the mission of AECF in creating a brighter future for all children. Read more about Kimberly & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Bailey Deavers, a rising junior at Samford University studying Political Science. This summer, Bailey is placed with Alabama Possible in Birmingham, AL working on issues of educational equity and college accessibility within communities experiencing poverty. Bailey will specifically be working on a need-based scholarship program to be implemented in two-year community colleges in the Birmingham area. He is also helping to facilitate Alabama Possible’s Cash for College Celebration, assisting with policy research, attending to blog posts, and supporting the Summer Drop-In Program. Read more about Bailey & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Matthew Farley, a doc student at the University of New Orleans studying Educational Administration. This summer, Matthew is placed with the Georgia Department of Education in Atlanta working on issues of school-community engagement and strategic partnerships. He will be assisting with development of unique School Community Partnership criterion & process manuals so schools can use their existing services to support the whole child. Read more about Matthew and the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/
Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Jasmine Harris**, a Spelman College senior studying Mathematics. She’s placed with the Bibb County School District this summer in Macon, GA supporting the development of an equity dashboard and helping to create policies that foster equitable outcomes for students of color. Jasmine will also participate in strategic planning sessions, disaggregate and analyze data, conduct a needs assessment of the district’s existing policies and regulations, and collaborate with various non-profits that offer services aligned with the needs of identified schools within the district. Read more about Jasmine & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Carlos Jamieson**, a grad student at Howard University studying Ed Leadership & Policy. This summer, Carlos is placed with the Public School Forum of North Carolina in Raleigh where he will assist in planning and organizing the Public School Forum of North Carolina’s annual Color of Education equity summit. Carlos is also researching various educational equity issues within the state of North Carolina with a primary focus on mapping and highlighting organizations that engage in work on racial equity in education. Read more about Carlos & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Aja Johnson**, a Howard University Master of Ed grad with an emphasis in Ed Leadership & Policy Studies. Aja is placed with DeSoto Independent School District supporting the district’s work to restructure the Student Code of Conduct and develop social-emotional, math, and science curricula for Pre-K programs. Aja is also helping analyze data to create a teacher-based assessment for the district’s Student Services Department that will measure equitable practices among instructional staff. Read more about Aja & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/
Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Philemon King, a junior at Mississippi Valley State University studying Computer Science. This summer, he’s placed with the Foundation for the MidSouth in Jackson, Mississippi, supporting the organization’s efforts to increase graduation rates and improve male students of color’s success throughout Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Read more about Christopher & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Christopher Mathis, a doc student University of Virginia studying Education Administration. This summer, Christopher is placed with the Southern Education Foundation helping to develop a Higher Education fellowship program for university executive officers to better hone their skills surrounding equity and access. Read more about Christopher & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, D’Andre McIntyre, a recent grad of University of Miami where he majored in Journalism with minors in Political Science & Africana Studies. He’s placed this summer with Achieve Escambia in Pensacola, Florida working on issues of equity in relation to kindergarten readiness, grade-level reading, high school graduation, and career readiness. D’Andre is also contributing to the Escambia Reads! and Enroll Escambia initiatives, and will work on the organization’s annual Community Report. Read more about D’Andre & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/
Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Terrance McQueen. He is a 2019 grad of Morehouse College with a Bachelors in sociology. He’s placed with Virginia Union University (VUU) supporting the reaffirmation of accreditation through the Southern Assoc. of Colleges & Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Using the 14 sections of SACSCOC and their core requirements, Terrance is conducting a cross-sectional study to aid VUU with re-accreditation. Read more about Terrance & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Janai Raphael. She's a University of Maryland, College Park grad student studying higher education. This summer, Janai is placed with United Negro College Fund’s Institute for Capacity Building (ICB) working on issues of admission, retention, and graduation rates at UNCF’s 37 member institutions. Janai is supporting ICB's Career Pathways Initiative which seeks to strengthen institutional career placement outcomes at HBCUs and Predominantly Black Institutions across the Southeast. Read more about Janai & the other SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Megan Ruby, a grad student at Oklahoma State University working towards her PhD. She’s placed with Oklahoma City Public Schools this summer researching & reporting data, engaging the community, and supporting an equity-based process for OKCPS’ next strategic plan. https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/
Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Wesley Smith**, a University of Tennessee Knoxville junior studying Ed Policy. He’s placed with UnifiEd in Chattanooga, Tennessee, working to advance equity by helping to revitalize the Building Power for Change Workshop, which gives parents the historical perspective of public education and tools necessary to be effective advocates in their schools and communities. Read more about Wesley & the other SELI fellows here: [https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/](https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/)

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Hannah Snow**. She’s a University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill senior majoring in Public Policy with minors in Entrepreneurship and Spanish. She’s placed this summer with VOX ATL planning workshops to be hosted at VOX's Media Cafe program, where local teens have the opportunity to learn journalism skills and receive leadership development training and resources to publish their own creative or written content. Hannah’s also assisting in identifying key schools, stakeholders, agenda items, and grant opportunities to contribute to the strategic planning of VOX’s first teen conference to focus on education, its inequities, and where its future should lead. Read more about Hannah & the other SELI fellows here: [https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/](https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/)

Meet #SELI2019 fellow, **Clarence Sutton**, a graduate student at Louisiana State University studying Education. He is placed with Stand for Children Tennessee, an education advocacy organization in Memphis, TN. Through his placement, Clarence will be working with various organizations within SEF’s Southern Policy and Practice Network to assist in developing a strategic plan and organizing state and local coalitions to combat the school-to-prison pipeline. He will also provide support for the Momentum Memphis initiative to create a community pledge to support the children of Memphis. Read more about Clarence and the other 2019 SELI fellows here: [https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/](https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/)
Meet #SELI2019 fellow, Alexa Yanar, a senior at Emory University studying Quantitative Social Sciences with concentrations in Political Science and Sociology. She is placed with the Intercultural Development Research Association in San Antonio, TX, where she will be working on literature reviews for IDRA policy priorities, the racial and class implications of the changing Texas high school graduation requirements, and establishing research for IDRA's debut into unjust discipline structures/the school-to-prison pipeline. Read more about Alexa and the rest of the SELI fellows here: https://www.southerneducation.org/who-we-are/our-team/selithroughtheyears/