

Monday, December 17, 2018

Hello SHARP Pioneers,

I hope everyone is enjoying the holiday season as we move closer toward the new year! We have some exciting SHARP updates and a few expansion opportunities that will lift your spirits.

## Spreading the word (Conferences)

### - Oregon Public Health Association

o Our newest Research Assistant, Patrice Fuller, BS, gave an amazing oral presentation at the Oregon Public Health Association Conference in October. She discussed how the social identity theory has similar properties to the framework of SHARP to provide a view of the SHARP methodology within a psychological lens.

### - St. Louis Workshop

o The SHARP principal investigator, Dr. Raina Croff, was invited to speak at a workshop at Washington University's Alzheimer's Disease Center (ADC) in St. Louis in October about increasing African American participation in cognitive health research. She gave an outstanding talk about how SHARP creates a culture of belonging in African American brain health research and gained a powerful future opportunity connection.

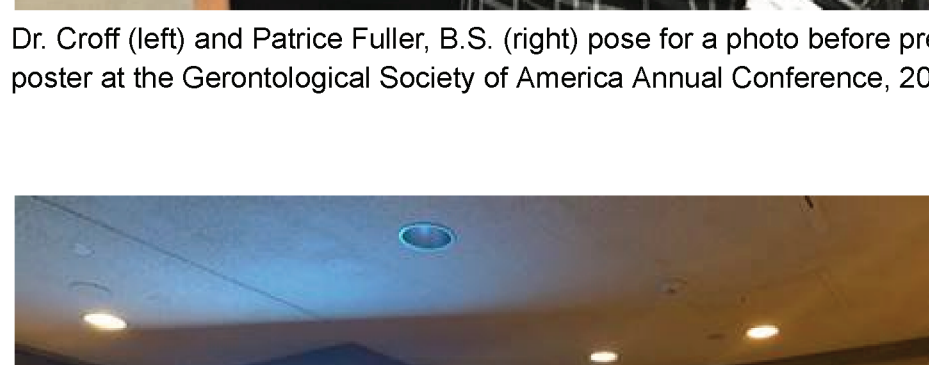
### - Lewis and Clark Ray Warren Symposium on Race and Ethnic Studies

o Dr. Croff was also invited to speak at the Lewis & Clark College Ray Warren Symposium on Race and Ethnic Studies this past November. One of the main objectives of the symposium was exploring the intersectionality between health and culture. Croff and a few of her interns (Patrice Fuller, Zoe Rothberg, and Caroline Lawrence), they helped initiate the conversation by presenting SHARP as an innovative way to heal from the wounds from different forms of racism and oppression.

o View photos : [https://college.lclark.edu/programs/ethnic\\_studies/symposium/2018/](https://college.lclark.edu/programs/ethnic_studies/symposium/2018/)

### - The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific Meeting 2018.

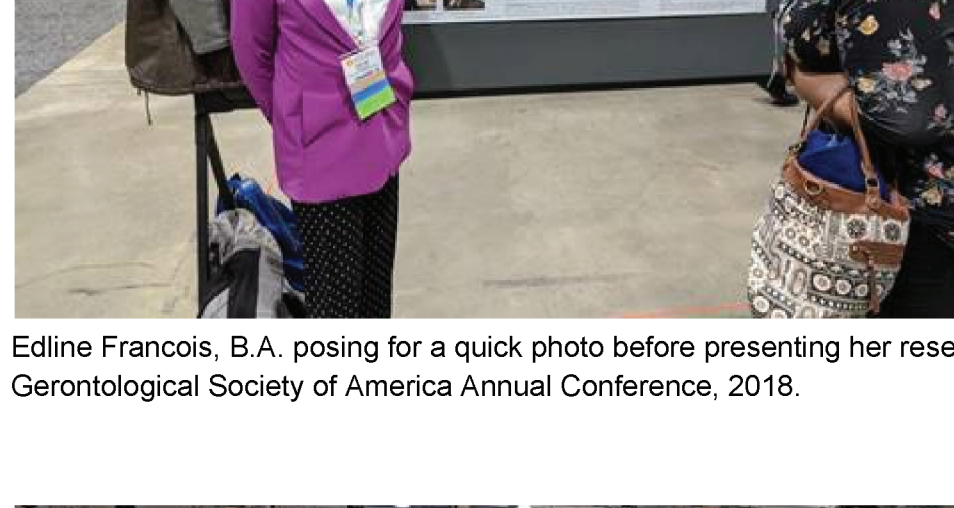
o Through funding from the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, Edline Francois and Patrice Fuller were able to accompany Dr. Raina Croff and Juell Towns to Boston, Massachusetts in mid-November, where they presented at the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Scientific Meeting. Raina and Patrice, Edline, and Juell gave excellent poster presentations on the SHARP research. Raina also gave an amazing oral presentation on SHARP's neighborhood approach to African American brain health. Attached are the PDFs of the posters that were presented.



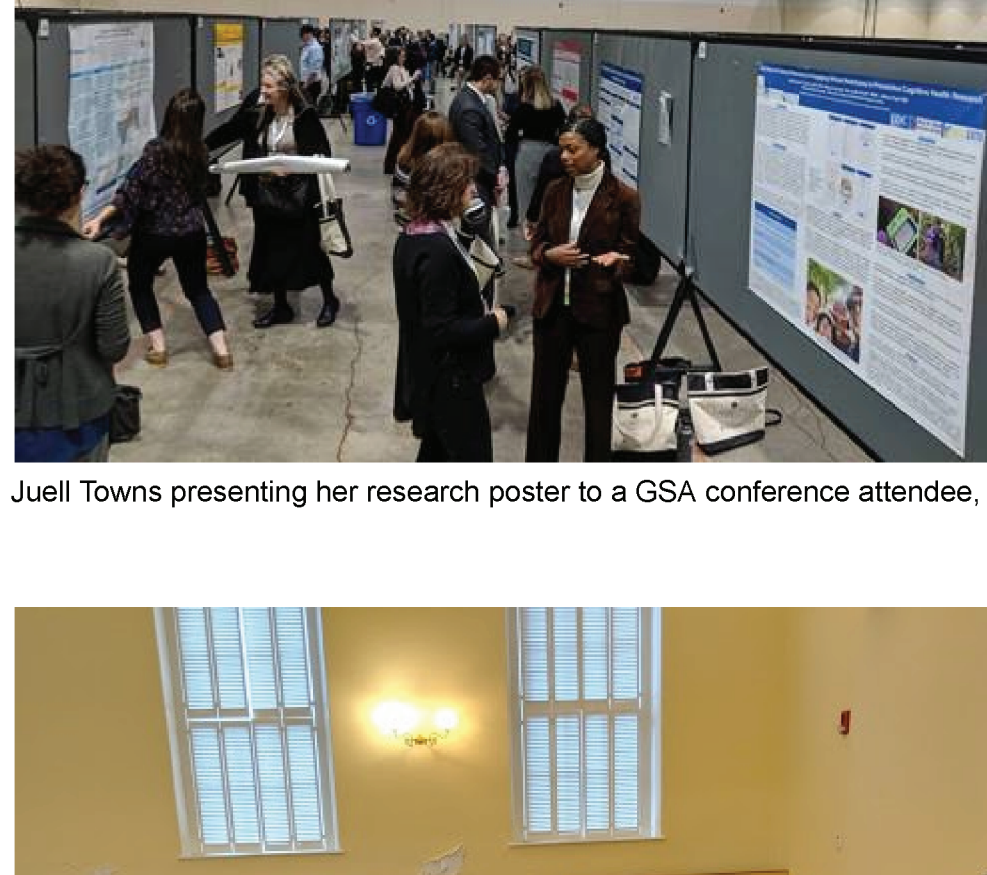
Dr. Croff (left) and Patrice Fuller, B.S. (right) pose for a photo before presenting their research poster at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference, 2018.



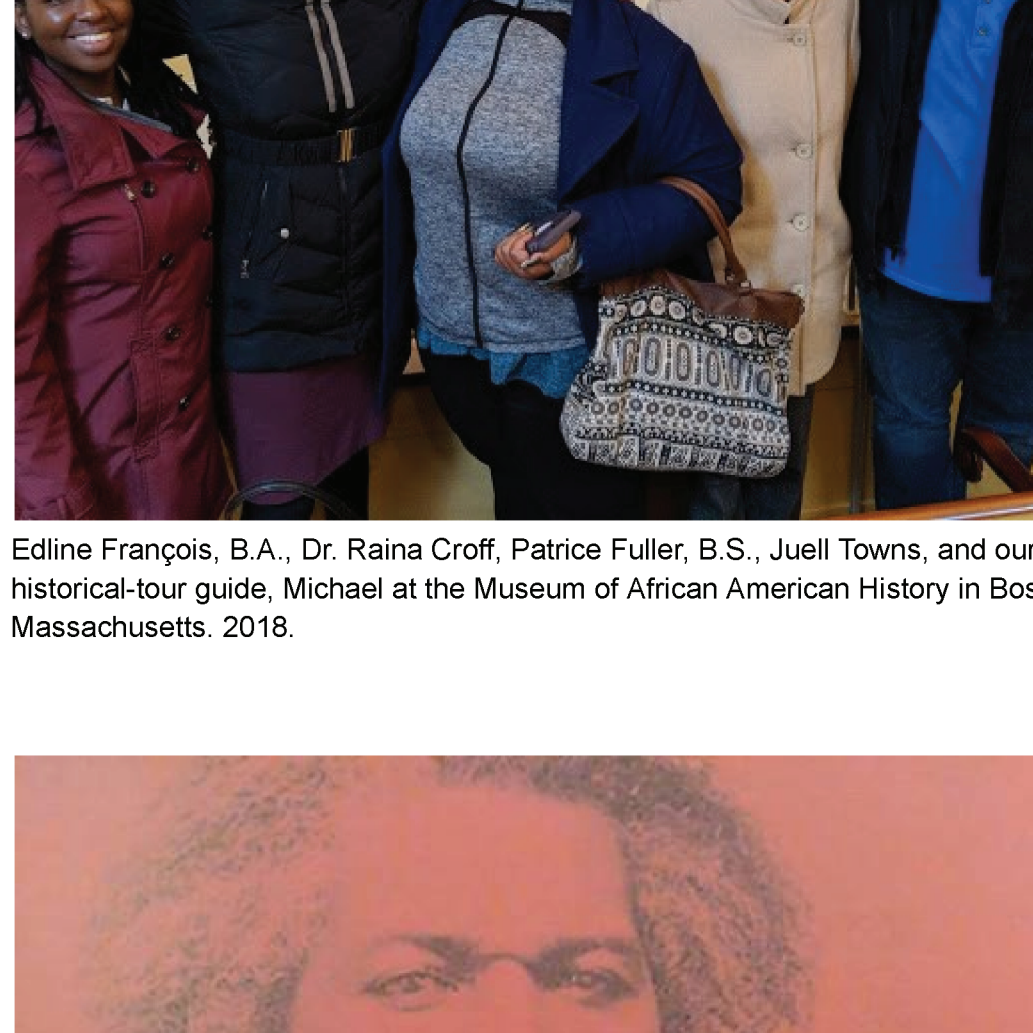
Dr. Croff during her amazing oral presentation at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference, 2018.



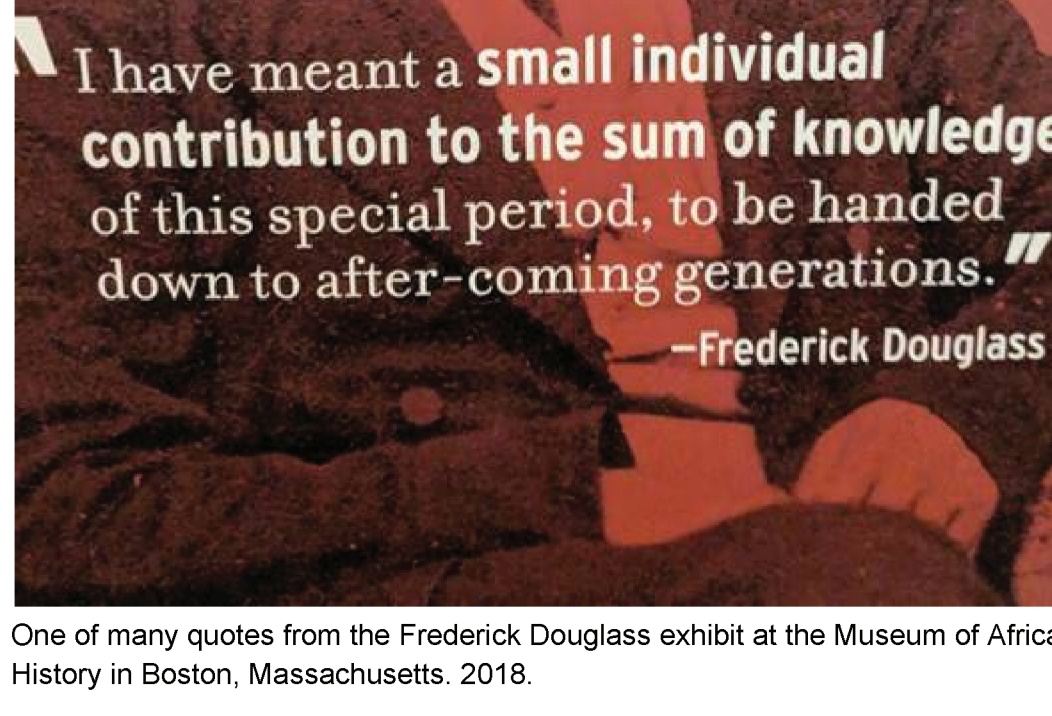
Edline Francois, B.A. posing for a quick photo before presenting her research poster at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference, 2018.



Juell Towns presenting her research poster to a GSA conference attendee, 2018.



Edline Francois, B.A., Dr. Raina Croff, Patrice Fuller, B.S., Juell Towns, and our wonderful historical-tour guide, Michael at the Museum of African American History in Boston, Massachusetts. 2018.



One of many quotes from the Frederick Douglass exhibit at the Museum of African American History in Boston, Massachusetts. 2018.

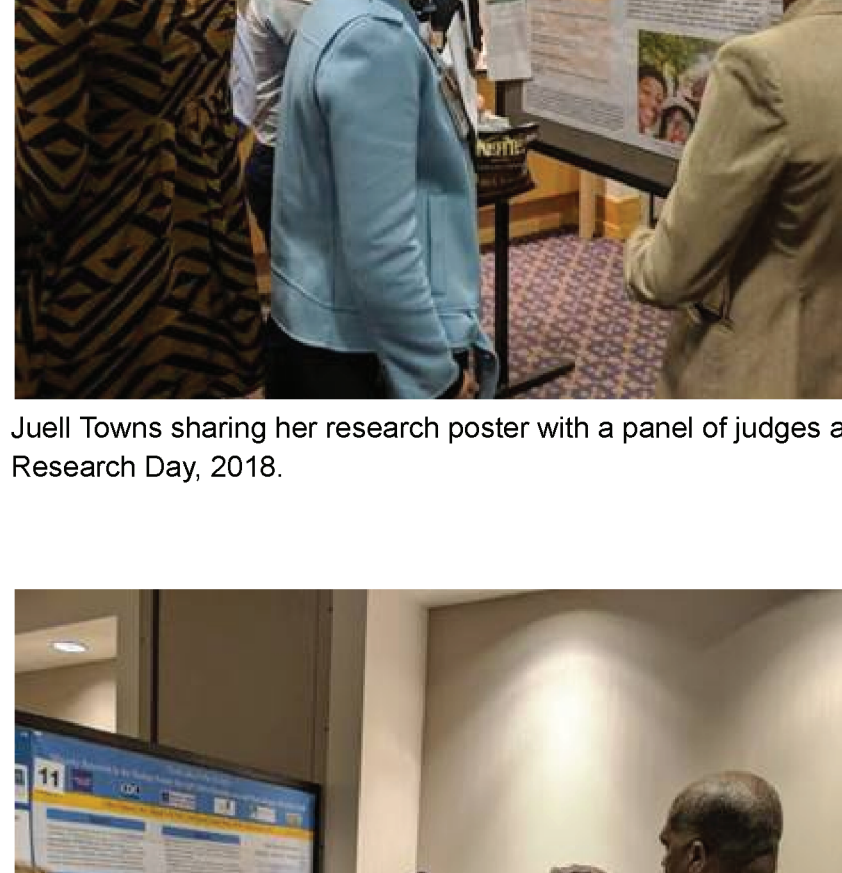
## Neurology Research Day Awards

### - 2nd place Best Poster award

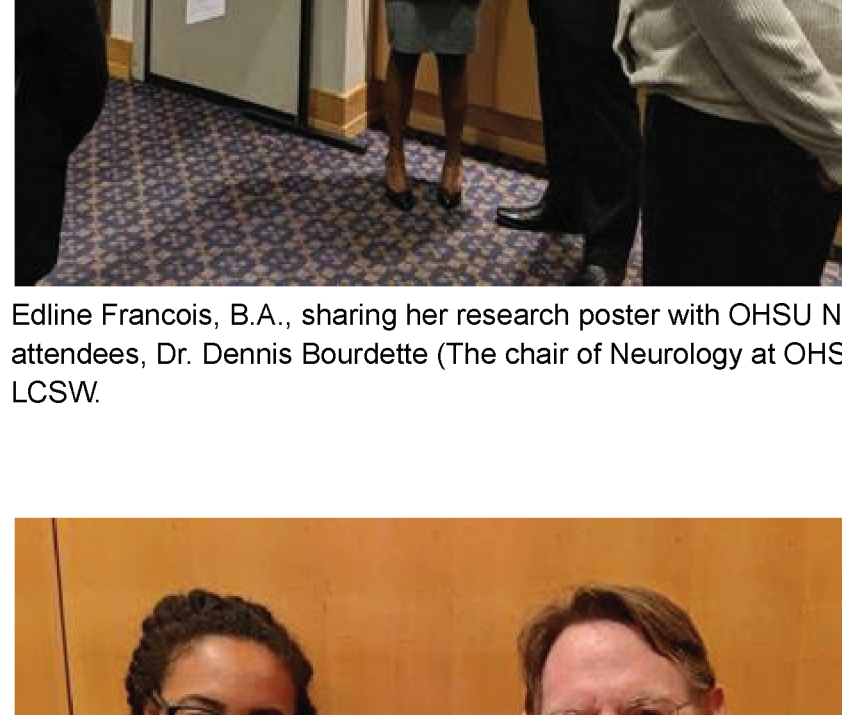
o Edline Francois and Juell Towns tied for 2nd place at the OHSU Neurology Research Day where they each gave poster presentations on the value of mentoring emerging African American researchers in SHARP and the power of cultural relevancy in brain health programs.

### - 1st place Best Oral Presentation award

o Raina Croff won 1st place for her oral presentation at the OHSU Neurology Research Day 2018! These awards won us \$1,500 which will be used toward developing SHARP.



Juell Towns sharing her research poster with a panel of judges at the OHSU Neurology Research Day, 2018.



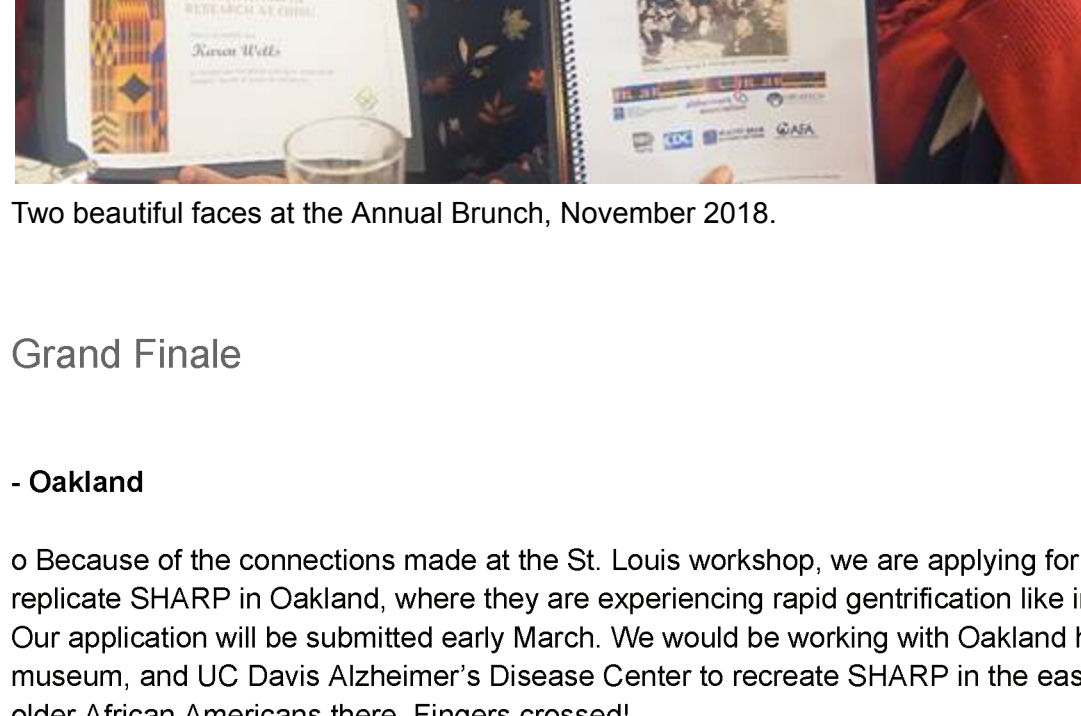
Edline Francois, B.A., sharing her research poster with OHSU Neurology Research Day attendees, Dr. Dennis Bourdette (The chair of Neurology at OHSU) and Andre Pruitt, MSW, LCSW.



Dr. Raina Croff and OHSU chair of neurology, Dr. Dennis Bourdette pose for a quick photo with our OHSU Neurology Research Day awards, 2018.



A few beautiful ladies pose for a photo at the Annual brunch, November 2018.



Two beautiful faces at the Annual Brunch, November 2018.

## Grand Finale

### - Oakland

o Because of the connections made at the St. Louis workshop, we are applying for funding to replicate SHARP in Oakland, where they are experiencing rapid gentrification like in Portland. Our application will be submitted early March. We would be working with Oakland historical museum, and UC Davis Alzheimer's Disease Center to recreate SHARP in the east bay for older African Americans there. Fingers crossed!

### - Chicago

o While attending GSA, researchers from Northwestern University in Chicago as well as researchers from Puerto Rico expressed their interest in collaborating to reproduce SHARP in their areas! Hopefully, collaborative discussions start in 2019.

## Well Needed Vacation

- The SHARP principal investigator, Raina Croff, is finally taking her baby boys to meet family in Africa. She will be back in January. We will miss her, but we are so excited for her family!

Again, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for everyone's role in SHARP. This project has become a national sensation that can help other African American communities mitigate cognitive decline and empower them to take action within their neighborhoods. For that, we are forever grateful. We wish you all a Happy Holidays and see you in the upcoming year!

Sincerely,

Patrice Fuller, BS  
Research Assistant II