The Kirwan Institute works to create a just and inclusive society where all people and communities have opportunity to succeed.
Dear Friends:

The Kirwan Institute’s past year was marked by wide-ranging accomplishments which touched all three U.S. coastlines and many areas in between, with significant impact right here at Ohio State. Our research projects have reached from Portland, Oregon to the Mississippi Gulf Coast to Jacksonville, Florida and spanned topics ranging from housing to economic recovery, educational equity, relations between African Americans and immigrants, and more.

Here at Ohio State, the Institute’s multidisciplinary staff has partnered extensively with faculty, staff, and units across campus, through research, teaching, committee memberships and event sponsorships.

Several recent steps in-house have positioned Kirwan for the future. Our Race/Ethnicity journal has gone from two annual issues to three and continues to attract a wide range of voices including both practitioners and scholars. We launched a new web site, which better accommodates multimedia and enhanced graphics. We are gearing up for another large-scale national Transforming Race conference in spring, 2012.

The Kirwan Institute will move to new office space in the coming year, which will reunite our entire staff in a single building at 33 West 11th Avenue. We also are undergoing a strategic planning process, which will help us create a roadmap for moving our work to the next level during the next three to five years.

Meanwhile, an important part of our planning for the future includes a leadership transition, as Executive Director john powell moves on to head the new Haas Diversity Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley, in January, 2012.

The creation of this new center focused on disparities will lead to future partnership opportunities for Kirwan. We already are discussing opportunities for collaboration as we do our important shared work.

As the Kirwan Institute actively works to identify a new executive director, its efforts remain in the capable hands of a talented and experienced staff. We continue to accomplish amazing and meaningful work. As you review the past year’s highlights on the following pages, we invite you to connect with either of us, or with other members of the Kirwan Institute staff, if you have shared interests to explore. As always, we appreciate your continuing support and partnership.

Sincerely,

john a. powell
Executive Director
Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity
Gregory H. Williams Chair in Civil Rights & Civil Liberties
Moritz College of Law

Andrew Grant-Thomas
Deputy Director
Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity
AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Michelle Alexander Wins NAACP Image Award
Michelle Alexander, associate professor at the Moritz College of Law, won the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work in Non-Fiction on March 4, 2011, for her book *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, which was written during her joint appointment with the Kirwan Institute. The nationally-acclaimed NAACP Image Awards celebrate the outstanding achievements of people of color in the arts and those who promote social justice through creative endeavors.

Charisma Acey Wins OSU Faculty Award for Excellence
Charisma Acey, assistant professor of City and Regional Planning who holds a joint appointment with the Kirwan Institute, was recognized with the 2011 Faculty Award for Excellence in Community-Based Scholarship for her efforts with the Ghana Study Abroad Program. This university-wide award was presented by the Service-Learning Initiative at Ohio State.

UPDATES

Kirwan Gears up for Transforming Race 2012 Conference
Planning is underway for the third semiannual Transforming Race conference, *Transforming Race: Visions of Change*, scheduled for March 15-17, 2012 in downtown Columbus. Speakers and attendees will look ahead to envision the racial/ethnic landscape in the year 2042, then will be challenged to help forge the path to the desired future United States and world.

Journal Moves to Three Issues Annually
Three issues of the Institute’s interdisciplinary journal, *Race/Ethnicity: Multidisciplinary Global Contexts* were published, reaching 2,500 institutional subscribers and also being carried by several leading electronic subscription services.

In its fourth year of publication, the journal moved from two to three annual issues, beginning in autumn, 2010. Themes included:

- Volume 4 Number 1 Autumn 2010: The Intersection of Race and Gender
- Volume 4 Number 2 Winter 2011: Reworking Race and Labor
- Volume 4 Number 3 Spring 2011: Field Notes from the September 11 Moment

Two Books Accepted for Publication
Two books by Kirwan staff were accepted for publication, and will be released in upcoming months:

- *Where Credit is Due: Bringing Equity to Credit and Housing After the Market Meltdown*, by Christy Rogers and John Powell, has been accepted for publication by University Press of America/Hamilton Books.
- *Racing to Justice: Transforming Our Conceptions of Self and Other to Build an Inclusive Society*, by John a. powell, is contracted for publication by Indiana University Press.

FUNDERS

Our gratitude to the organizations that provided generous support during 2010-2011 to make the Kirwan Institute’s work possible:

GRANTS
- Ford Foundation
- Northwest Area Foundation
- Open Society Institute
- Public Interest Projects, Fulfilling the Dream Fund
- San Francisco Foundation
- W. K. Kellogg Foundation

FUNDED RESEARCH
- Columbus Community Development Collaborative
- Gulf Coast Regional Planning Commission
- HUD Sustainable Communities Program
- NY Stimulus Alliance
- PICO (National Network)
- Senior Service America
- The California Endowment
- The Jessie Ball DuPont Fund
- White Center Community Development Association
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation
In 2010-2011, the Kirwan Institute sponsored, co-sponsored and participated in a variety of campus presentations and events.

For campus-wide audiences, Kirwan sponsored a panel on *Corporate Power: the Legacy of Santa Clara*, a panel discussion on the 125th anniversary of the court case which established the doctrine of “corporate personhood”; a film screening of *H-2 Worker*, a Sundance Film Festival prize-winning film revealing the systemic exploitation of Caribbean laborers by the Florida sugar industry; and a panel discussion on *North Africa and Middle East Popular Revolutions*. In all, Kirwan sponsored or co-sponsored a total of 19 campus events, and one external event.

The Kirwan Institute Brownbag Lecture Series featured 10 lunchtime lectures on topics such as immigration, racial prejudice, environmental health, race and disability, Indian caste systems, sociology of agriculture, and several international topics.

Kirwan staff were also guest lecturers on campus. Executive Director John Powell was a featured speaker for the Hale Center’s *Authors, Conversation and Soul Food Luncheon Series*; Powell and Associate Professor Michelle Alexander were panelists for the OSU Humanities Institute on *Thinking About Race*; Deputy Director Andrew Grant-Thomas was a Literacy Studies @ OSU panelist on *Information Needs and Access*; Senior Research Associate Elsadig Elsheikh served as a panelist for the Sudan Studies Association Conference on *Politics of Blame vs. Politics of Possible*; and Senior Legal Research Associate Stephen Menendian participated in a Moritz College of Law Federalist Society debate on *Racism in Law School*.

At Ohio State, Kirwan staff members are part of the International Poverty Solutions Collaborative, the Africa Development Support Initiative, the Center for African Studies, the OSU Immigration Project, and the OSU Diversity and Identity Studies Collaborative.

In Columbus, Kirwan staff also are actively involved. Kirwan has been engaged in conducting a community development assessment and study for Franklin County in collaboration with the 2012 Community Development Celebration in Columbus. Kirwan staff serve on several working committees for Partners Achieving Community Transformation (PACT), a community partnership for redevelopment of the Columbus near east side which includes The Ohio State University, the City of Columbus, Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and the city’s near east side community.

Kirwan staff also serve on local community boards or advisory groups, including the OSU Extension Community Outreach Center – University District/Weinland Park, United Way of Central Ohio HOME Impact Council, Foundation for the African Diaspora, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and Center of Science and Industry (COSI).

See all Kirwan-sponsored events at: kirwaninstitute.org/about/annualreport
The Kirwan Institute took its message far and wide through presentations, publications, events, media and social media outreach, and its project work.

**by the numbers**

16

**Publications**
- 16 research reports published.
- 9 journal articles, 5 commentaries and 9 blog posts published by Kirwan staff.
- 2 books by Kirwan staff accepted for publication.
- 3 issues of *Race/Ethnicity: Multidisciplinary Global Contexts* journal were published, reaching 2,500 institutional subscribers.

19

**Event Sponsorships**
- 19 campus events
- 10 Brownbag presentations

**Co-Sponsorship**
- 1 external event

59

**Media Coverage**
- 59 news stories (TV, radio, newspaper) featured Kirwan Institute work or staff insights.
- 15 additional mentions in online media.

36,913

**Social Media**
- 36,913 visits to the Kirwan Institute Web site
- 92,782 visits to the Kirwan Institute’s Race-Talk blog
- 3,219 Facebook Followers
- 1,643 Twitter Followers

24

**Staff**
- 24 staff
- One year-round student intern
- 10 Graduate Research Associates
- Three Faculty with Joint Appointments

33

**Ohio State Affiliated Faculty/Staff**
This year, six Ohio State faculty and staff members joined the Affiliated Faculty and Staff Initiative, which encourages interdisciplinary collaboration among those who share common interests. Total participation now stands at 33.
Kirwan Institute's Work Reached 14 States

92 presentations by Kirwan Institute staff reached at least 35 cities across the country.

See a full list of Kirwan Institute publications, presentations, events, and media coverage at: kirwaninstitute.org/about/annualreport

Legend

Projects By State
1 project 1-3
2 projects 4-8
4 projects 9 or more

Geography of Kirwan Institute’s Work: July 2010 - June 2011

Note: Two nationwide projects are not included on this map.
Kirwan Institute research and work falls into four major areas:

**Opportunity Communities** - Identifies, builds understanding and eliminates racialized structural barriers to opportunity in critical domains including education, housing, employment, health and health care, and civic engagement to build opportunity-rich neighborhoods and communities.

**Structural Racialization and Systems Thinking** - Examines how systems and system components are arranged and structured to distribute social meaning, identity, benefits and burdens in particular situations and how these structures can be modified and transformed.

**Race in the Mind** - Examines the processes by which attitudes and ideas about race help shape the relationship between race and opportunity and how the harmful effects can be mitigated; examines how the form and content of communications influence the way in which racialized messages are received and processed; and works to create communication strategies that highlight our linked fate.

**Global Justice Program** - Examines how racialized structures contribute to enormous political, social and economic disparities that marginalize individuals and communities in our global society, and explores how these inequities can be alleviated.
ENHANCING HOUSING EQUITY

U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Visits Kirwan Institute

U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan paid a visit to the Kirwan Institute on October 22, 2010, to discuss housing policy, including a draft bill focused on Preserving, Enhancing and Transforming Rental Assistance (PETRA). He convened with a group of Kirwan Institute staff and Moritz College of Law faculty members. In an ongoing initiative focused on housing policy, Kirwan Institute Senior Research Associate Christy Rogers has subsequently met with Secretary Donovan and his staff in Washington D.C. and is involved with a group of partners studying reform of the government-sponsored enterprises Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Fair Housing and Fair Credit Policy Development

Continuing its growing focus on fair housing and fair credit, the Institute’s Future of Fair Housing and Fair Credit Initiative emphasized three main findings: regional contexts and local relationships matter; local efforts should be supported by a federal platform of consumer protections and a federal commitment to affirmatively promoting fair credit and fair housing for all citizens; and it is important to compellingly communicate what a fair and just 21st century economic system looks like and what kind of financial system can support it. Working around these principles, Kirwan is part of a national coalition which developed a list of civil rights principles for reforming the housing finance system, provided input to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of the Treasury, submitted a report to Congress, and discussed this topic in a week-long special edition of the Kirwan Institute’s Race-Talk blog.
BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The Kirwan Institute is deeply engaged in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI). The Institute has advised HUD on the program and is working with Sustainable Communities grantees in several regions.

Leadership in Equitable Development

The Institute, in collaboration with two other programs, was recently awarded a technical assistance grant to be one of the primary technical assistance providers for HUD on equitable development for the national sustainable communities program. This three-institution collaboration also includes PolicyLink and the Program for Environmental and Regional Equity at the University of Southern California.

Post-Katrina Mississippi Gulf Coast Redevelopment

Starting in February of 2011, the Institute joined forces in a multi-year collaborative planning effort to reinvigorate the Mississippi Gulf Coast area, following Hurricane Katrina and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Working with The Ohio State University Department of City and Regional Planning and the Gulf Coast Regional Planning Commission, the Institute is creating opportunity maps and regional food access maps which will guide regional plans, and also led trainings on civic engagement with disadvantaged communities. The collaborative three-year, $2-million planning effort is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Increasing Opportunity in Seattle

The Institute is working with the Puget Sound Regional Council in Seattle, WA to assist in leading an opportunity mapping initiative as part of their HUD SCI plan. The Institute also has held webinars designed to help several grantee regions in their activities, and it has released a report on community engagement to grantees: Growing Together for a Sustainable Future: Strategies and Best Practices for Engaging with Disadvantaged Communities on Issues of Sustainable Development and Regional Planning.
Mapping for Equity

Mapping Disparities for Jacksonville-Area Children
A groundbreaking study of child well-being in Duval County, Florida, was conducted by the Kirwan Institute for the Jacksonville Children’s Commission in late 2010. The study, funded by the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, looks at how two dozen different indicators affect children countywide, and then maps the results by neighborhood. The result is a graphic depiction of widely varying circumstances in which Duval County children live. The study found a “clear spatial division” within the county, with opportunities for children higher in the east and lower in the west, and a high concentration of opportunity-poor neighborhoods in the urban core. The report also maps changes over time, showing that between 1990 and 2009, circumstances improved for children in Southeastern Duval, remained poor for children in the urban core, and declined for children in Southwestern Duval. The report will help the Commission target its efforts to support families “to maximize their children’s potential to be healthy, safe, educated, and contributing members of the community,” in line with the organization’s mission.

Mapping Health Care Access in New Orleans and Kansas City
Health care access for underserved populations in both New Orleans and Kansas City are examined through a Kirwan Institute 2011 pilot mapping project for People Improving Communities through Organizing (PICO), a faith-based network working to solve community problems. The Kirwan Institute’s studies assess emergency room use in select area hospitals in each city to build a comprehensive picture of treatment needs and patient load, while also identifying areas of health care need, areas of high health care expenditure, areas underserved by health care infrastructure, and areas where preventable conditions result in hospitalizations. Community options for prevention and care are also being assessed. The Kansas City study includes an additional survey mapping component of other social determinants of health.

Mapping Opportunity and Understanding Neighborhood Revitalization in White Center, Washington and Elsewhere
In the summer of 2011, the Institute completed a community of opportunity neighborhood revitalization assessment for the White Center Community Development Association in King County, Washington. This community-based research and mapping identifies challenges and opportunities for the community, in an effort to eliminate structural barriers to opportunity and revitalization in White Center. This year, the Kirwan Institute also is completing opportunity mapping projects for Portland, OR; Merced County, CA; Galveston, TX; and the San Francisco Bay area.

Neighborhood Opportunity Maps, Jacksonville
Children’s Commission, Jacksonville, Florida
“We have program outcome data on every program we fund, but we have never had a way to show impact upon a population or neighborhood. This (opportunity mapping) is a powerful tool that demonstrates the value of our work in a graphic and easy to understand way... Our city budget continues to shrink but as we go forward we’ll be working on ways to refocus some of our investments.”

- Linda Lanier, Executive Director/CEO, Jacksonville Children’s Commission

Opportunity Maps, Washington County, Oregon
The story of how our maps were created resembles the children’s story Stone Soup, in which a hungry community started out with nothing but a pot of water with stones and ended up with a rich soup that fed everyone because each person contributed something. Creating these maps was a community-building experience that promises to have benefits that go beyond the maps themselves.”

- Andree Tremoulet, Ph.D., Housing Services Specialist, Washington County, Oregon
BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

Diminishing Structural Barriers in Minnesota
Partnering with ISAIAH, a faith-based organization in Minnesota, the Kirwan Institute developed a unique new field guide, *Shining the Light: a Practical Guide to Co-Creating Healthy Communities*, designed to help organizers and policymakers bring racial equity into their work.

Two additional publications developed in partnership with ISAIAH, *Shining the Light: Revealing Our Choice*, and *Shining the Light: Revealing Our Choice in the St. Cloud Region*, spotlight the impact of structural racism within Minnesota overall, and within the St. Cloud area, and highlight the need for an organized course of action to break down structural barriers.

In the next step, Church congregations affiliated with ISAIAH are working to conduct 1,000 home-based meetings, training 10,000 people to implement the field guide’s framework, in a “10,000 Voices for One Minnesota Campaign” to foster racial justice.

Exploring Broadband Availability By Race and Income
In collaboration with the Joint Center on Political and Economic Studies in Washington D.C., the Institute conducted research to determine the relationship between broadband availability, income and race in Los Angeles, Chicago and South Carolina. The findings of this research were released in a March 2011 report, *Does Place Really Matter? Broadband Availability, Race and Income*. Results showed a significant racial divide in broadband availability in the heavily African-American areas of Los Angeles, but not among low-income populations in South Carolina. The findings were also presented at TechNet, a national meeting of government officials and leading broadband scholars in Washington D.C.
Expanding Job-Training Services for Disadvantaged Seniors

In conjunction with The Ohio State University College of Social Work, Kirwan Institute staff have developed a series of maps and analysis, which measure access to economic opportunity for low-income seniors in the Baltimore, Maryland area for Senior Service America, Inc. (SSAI). This work has helped SSAI to better understand the challenges and barriers faced by the seniors they serve so they can improve job training services to the most disadvantaged seniors. The information will continue to guide SSAI’s future investments in senior economic opportunity in the Baltimore region and beyond.

Working to Improve Quality of Life

The Kirwan Institute is working with the Northwest Area Foundation to create a blueprint for improving the economic and social conditions of low-income African Americans in four major cities: the Twin Cities, Portland, Seattle, and Des Moines. In each city, African American leadership forums were convened and teams were put in place to assess major challenges faced by African American communities and to compile possible strategies to improve quality of life. The final action plan, targeted for summer 2012, will be built around a common agenda, utilizing Kirwan’s Opportunity Communities and Targeted Universalism frameworks while drawing upon national best practices and local expertise.

Upholding Equity in Detroit’s “Shrinking City” Initiative

The Kirwan Institute is working with MOSES, a Detroit-based, community organizing group, and other key partners including the NAACP, to assure that community input and equity are at the forefront of Detroit’s “shrinking city” planning activities. MOSES is taking the lead in organizing the community, while the Kirwan Institute offers technical assistance in areas such as interviews, research support, demographic assessments, business and economic data and trends summaries, and meetings with key area stakeholders.

Tracking Recovery Funding Impact

In October of 2010, the New York Stimulus Alliance released a report prepared by the Kirwan Institute which showed the allocation of federal Recovery Act investments across the state of New York and the resulting impact on job creation. Where’s The Stimulus?—State and Regional Profiles of the Recovery Act Investment in New York State, outlines the geographic distribution of funds, specific populations that have benefited, and a range of future recommendations.

Racial Equity Field Guide, ISAIAH,
St. Paul/St. Cloud, Minnesota Regions

“We have actually translated Kirwan’s thinking and framework into a concrete set of tools for grassroots leaders, organizers, elected officials and advocates who want to leverage real outcomes for racial equity.”

- Doran Schrantz, Executive Director, ISAIAH, a collective of religious congregations

Equitable Community Development Report

King County, Washington

“A brand-new and extraordinarily relevant study, The Geography of Opportunity: Mapping to Promote Equitable Community Development and Fair Housing in King County, Washington, was produced by the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. My hope is that officials will be encouraged to promote the concepts and techniques of such mapping as a standard usage of Census 2010 data.”

- Alan Rabinowitz, Ph.D., author and former chair of the Urban Design and Planning Department at University of Washington
FOSTERING SCHOOL DIVERSITY

Developing Diversity Recommendations for Ohio’s State Board of Education
The Kirwan Institute’s 12 recommendations for promoting diversity and reducing racial isolation in Ohio schools, developed in fall 2010, were approved by the State Board of Education of Ohio in September, 2011. The recommendations, for use in schools statewide, cover student assignment policy, curricula, disciplinary policy, and teacher training and preparedness programs.

Preserving School Equity in Montclair, New Jersey
A student assignment policy devised for the Montclair, New Jersey school district by The Kirwan Institute was implemented in the 2010-2011 school year. That policy preserves hard won integration efforts following the 2007 Supreme Court decisions in the Parents Involved case. The Institute is now working closely with the district to devise entirely new student assignment zones to better reflect the changing demographics of the district.

Promoting School Diversity in Pitt County, North Carolina
Data and insight from the Kirwan Institute are helping the University of North Carolina (UNC) Center for Civil Rights advocate for diversity in Pitt County, North Carolina schools.

In July 2010, Kirwan shared insight with the Pitt County community about the importance of a student assignment plan that promoted diversity, student achievement and integration; but the school board subsequently approved a student reassignment plan which would resegregate the district’s elementary and middle schools, opening a new school with 88 percent minority students and less than 50 percent reading proficiency, while making several other schools racially isolated and low performing.

The UNC Center for Civil Rights filed a legal motion which challenged the board’s decision, using Kirwan Institute maps, data analysis, and focus group results as exhibits to show the devastating impacts the approved plan would have on school diversity and student achievement. The board’s decision was upheld by the court, with a subsequent appeal pending.
ADVANCING GLOBAL JUSTICE

Advocating for Food Sovereignty
In the face of the ongoing food crisis facing communities and countries in the Global South, the Kirwan Institute has developed a multifaceted project on this urgent topic. The project was launched with the development of a white paper on Structural Racialization of the Global Food System Crisis, and will include research reports on the social impacts of land grabs on the African continent, a feature-length documentary film, and an interactive map of land grabs. The Institute is also developing an interactive transmedia website to provide resource information about foreign direct investment in African land and related social movements. Collaborators include Fahamu Networks for Social Justice (Nairobi, Kenya), the Oakland Institute (Oakland, CA), We Are The Solution (West Africa), and documentary filmmaker Stephanie Black (H2 Worker and Life and Debt).

Contesting Development: The BRICS Economies
Under publication is a report on the Brazilian, Russian, Indian, Chinese, and South African (BRICS) economies, which investigates the inclusion and exclusion of minority groups in the developmental process, including the barriers that constrain their participation. The report identifies the best national practices that address disparity, impediments to greater opportunity, and discrimination in the BRICS countries.

Developing Collaborations
Kirwan is actively involved in the work of Ohio State’s International Poverty Solutions Collaborative to articulate poverty metrics. Working with the African Development Support Initiative at Ohio State, the Institute helped to establish a pilot community development project through which students from the department of City and Regional Planning conducted research in Offinso, Ghana. Kirwan also collaborates with the Somali Documentary Project to examine the routes taken by Somali refugees and forced migrants as they flee violence and famine in their homeland.

PROMOTING RACIAL EQUITY

Building Cross-Cultural Relationships
Working with groups across the country that strive to build relationships between immigrants and native-born communities of color, the Kirwan Institute “mapped” existing curricula, facilitation guides, and other materials used for cross-racial relationship building. Interviews were also conducted with representatives from community organizations, worker centers, and unions involved in such work. In March of 2011, the Institute hosted a small convening in Maryland for project partners and advisory committee members.

Exploring African American Girls’ Success
In July 2011 the Institute released a research report outlining the factors that lead to success as well as barriers to opportunity for African American girls in Franklin County, Ohio. Black Girls in Franklin County, Ohio: Progress, Power and Possibility included a literature review, maps showing Black girls’ proximity to “opportunity structures” and interviews with area service providers.

Student Assignment Plan, Montclair, New Jersey Public Schools

“Your work has contributed to the district’s focus of high quality, integrated public education. All of your efforts, including research, survey implementation, data analysis, and final recommendations were extraordinary, and as time passes, may even be viewed as historic. Montclair Public Schools are part of a great heritage of high-quality, integrated public education. We have built a foundation that values diversity as an inherent part of our mission, honors a tradition of excellence, and aims towards closing the achievement gap.”

- Frank Alvarez, Superintendent, Montclair Public Schools, Montclair, New Jersey