



ACLS Digital Justice Development Grants

Deadline: 12/3/2024

PROJECT

Project Proposal Title

UC Irvine's PrisonPandemic: Inspiring Community Dialogues with Incarcerated Voices

Project Proposal Abstract

UC Irvine's PrisonPandemic collection consists of almost 5,000 letters and phone calls from incarcerated people describing their experiences while incarcerated during the COVID-19 pandemic (2020-2023). The collection, and its details of carceral life, provides rare insight into one of our society's greatest modern tragedies and how people caught in this tragedy made meaning of their experiences. One-sixth of the collection is currently available on a full-text searchable website. We propose to substantially expand the number of stories available on our website, increase accessibility of the stories, and expand outreach and awareness of the website – through an art installation of refurbished prison phones playing archived stories, a webinar, and an increased social media presence.

If there is a web page associated with your project, please provide the URL here:

<https://prisonpandemic.uci.edu>

Please identify up to THREE digital tools and/or methods, in order of relevance, that are most significantly engaged within your project. Do not choose "other" unless none of the options is close to your tool or method. For your first selection, please choose the primary digital tool or method that is most utilized within your project.

- 1. **Digitization** Other
- 2. **Website Design** Other
- 3. **Oral Histories** Other

Please identify up to THREE disciplinary areas, in order of relevance, that best describe your research project.

- 1. **Digital Humanities** Other
- 2. **Law and Society** Other
- 3. Other

EDUCATION

Degree received from **University of Pennsylvania**
 Country of PhD Institution **United States**
 PhD department **Sociology**
 PhD major discipline **Sociology**
 Date conferred by university **8/1/2009**
 Dissertation title **Growing Up with Depressed Parents: Social Pathways to Disadvantaged Outcomes in Early Childhood**
 Name of dissertation supervisor **Dr. Frank Furstenberg**

Master's degree received from **University of Pennsylvania**
 Degree **MA**
 Date master's degree received **5/2006**
 Master's degree major discipline **Sociology**

BA/BS received from **Northwestern University**
 Date BA/BS received **6/2003**
 BA/BS major discipline **Journalism**

List any additional degrees

List up to six non-English languages you can use, indicating proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing. (Use E=Excellent, G=Good, F=Fair or less, N/A=Not applicable.) If you are either a Native Speaker or Heritage Speaker of a language, please indicate by checking the appropriate box.

<i>Language</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Speaking</i>	<i>Writing</i>	<i>Native Speaker</i>	<i>Heritage Speaker</i>
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CURRENT POSITION

Rank / Title	Professor
If you do not hold a faculty appointment, what is the exact title of your current position?	
Discipline	Sociology; Criminology, Law and Society
Specialization	Qualitative Methods, Criminology, Inequality
Department	Sociology
Institution	University of California, Irvine
Country of Institution	United States
Date you began this position	7/2011
Second Institution (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Date you began this position	

POSITIONS HELD

List positions held (professional, teaching, administrative, curatorial), beginning with the position immediately preceding the one you currently hold. Give the name of the institution, title, and approximate dates of employment for each.

Institution/Employer	University of California, Irvine		
Title	Dean's Professor		
From	7/2022	To	
Institution/Employer	University of California, Irvine		
Title	Professor		
From	7/2020	To	6/2022
Institution/Employer	University of California, Irvine		
Title	Associate Professor		
From	7/2015	To	6/2020
Institution/Employer	University of California, Irvine		
Title	Assistant Professor		
From	7/2011	To	6/2015
Institution/Employer	University of Michigan		
Title	Postdoctoral Fellow		
From	7/2009	To	6/2011

For Collaborator Projects

Co-Principal Investigator

First Name	Keramet
Last Name	Reiter
Work/Organizational Affiliation	University of California, Irvine
Rank/Title	Professor
Email	reiterk@uci.edu
ORCID iD	0000-0003-1570-8231
Highest Level of Education	PhD

Identify gender as

Prefer not to answer this question.

With which group or groups does collaborator most identify?

Non-Hispanic White

Black or African American

Latina/o/x or Hispanic

American Indian or Alaskan Native

East Asian American

South Asian American

Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Middle Eastern or Arab American

Other:

Prefer not to answer this question.

Does the collaborator identify as a first-generation college graduate?

Prefer not to answer

Has the collaborator ever served on active duty in the US Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard?

Prefer not to answer

Does the collaborator have a disability, including but not limited to a sensory, mobility, developmental, psychological, or other impairment?

Prefer not to answer

Co-Principal Investigator

First Name	Naomi
Last Name	Sugie
Work/Organizational Affiliation	University of California, Los Angeles
Rank/Title	Associate Professor
Email	nsugie@soc.ucla.edu
ORCID iD	0000-0002-2346-4786
Highest Level of Education	PhD

Identify gender as

Prefer not to answer this question.

With which group or groups does collaborator most identify?

Non-Hispanic White

Black or African American

Latina/o/x or Hispanic

American Indian or Alaskan Native

East Asian American

South Asian American

Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Middle Eastern or Arab American

Other:

Prefer not to answer this question.

Does the collaborator identify as a first-generation college graduate?

Prefer not to answer

Has the collaborator ever served on active duty in the US Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard?

Prefer not to answer

Does the collaborator have a disability, including but not limited to a sensory, mobility, developmental, psychological, or other impairment?

Prefer not to answer

APPLICATION PROMPTS

1. Please provide an overview and brief history of the project to date that explains how the project's primary lines of humanistic and social inquiry have ethically engaged and centered the interests and histories of people of color and/or other historically marginalized communities.

UC Irvine's PrisonPandemic collection received thousands of letters and hundreds of phone calls from incarcerated people describing their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic (2020-2023). PrisonPandemic established a hotline and a post office box to accept the stories of incarcerated people, their families, and prison and jail employees. We solicited contributions by writing to incarcerated people, advertising in prison publications, and utilizing our team's deep ties to community organizations (including extensive consultation with our Community Advisory Board and UC Irvine legal counsel). Between the summer of 2020 and the spring of 2023, we collected nearly 5,000 stories (approximately 4,000 letters and almost 900 phone calls) from 140 California carceral facilities: all 34 state prisons, jails in most of the state's 58 counties, federal prisons, and immigration detention facilities. Stories range in length from one- to 10-page letters and five- to 60-minute phone calls. The contributions from incarcerated people detail how they are forced to work despite feeling unsafe, how the infected and sick are housed in large gymnasiums without access to medical professionals, and how correctional officers resist compliance with policies and safety protocols. The details of prison life – expressed through the testimony, prose, poetry, drawings, recorded audio, and written song lyrics – provide rare insight into one of our society's greatest modern tragedies and how the vulnerable people caught in this tragedy made meaning of their lives and experiences. About one-sixth of the collection is currently available on a full-text searchable digital interface (prisonpandemic.uci.edu).

2. Please describe the proposed new activities for this stage of the project's development.

Support from ACLS will facilitate three main activities to increase and deepen community dialogues with incarcerated voices. First, we propose a set of activities that build on our revised PrisonPandemic website (planned for relaunch in spring 2025). Following the website's relaunch – which will include additional digitized stories across more carceral facilities, easier search navigation, and a resources section (including pedagogical, archival, and other publications) – we propose new activities to build on this work and increase engagement with the website. We plan to bring new archival content (digitized images of letters) into the website by including thumbnail images for each story and linking the thumbnails to the Calisphere portal (which will introduce new audiences to the permanently archived content, see below), to edit stories to create more digestible shorter story “segments,” to tag segments to create new thematic collections, to create more “voiced-over” letters to increase stories with audio versions for accessibility, and to add more stories to the site. These activities will build and broaden the collection of stories currently on the website, as there are now only 743 stories (and an additional 1037 shorter segments) of a possible collection of nearly 5,000 stories. Second, we propose to create a portable art installation featuring old prison phones that play PrisonPandemic stories to be hosted at UC Irvine, UCLA, and another UC campus (facilitated by our UC-wide advisory board). Our team created a version of this installation for the American Society of Criminology (ASC) conference (November 2024 in San Francisco, CA). We will build on this work by hiring a professional technician to create a permanent version of the phones, to link audio to the phones, and to create an infographic with information about the collection, the COVID-19 crisis in prisons and jails, and a QR code to the PrisonPandemic website. Third, across these activities (expanding website content and creating a portable phone-based art exhibit for UC campuses), we will outreach about these activities by hosting (and recording) a webinar with members of our community board, consistently creating social media content highlighting these activities, and presenting at professional meetings.

3. What digital tools and methods are at the center of the project? Please detail how those tools and methods inform the project's intellectual contributions as well as its overall advancement of equity and justice.

PrisonPandemic consistently prioritizes using multiple digital tools to engage with relevant communities, including incarcerated, formerly incarcerated, and system-impacted communities. First, the website (hosted by UC Irvine, but separate from the archived collection in Calisphere) has been a critical vehicle for community engagement, providing user-friendly access to stories, shorter story segments, thematic story collections, and multiple accessibility options (transcripts and audio recordings). We have conducted user accessibility surveys of our Community Advisory Board, other system-impacted people, and diverse user groups (including journalists, students, and researchers) and incorporated their feedback into website revisions, informing our focus on search functionality, story segments, and thematic collections. Although these multiple accessibility tools distinguish the website from the archival collection hosted by the UCI Libraries and accessible via Calisphere, the archival collection is critical to long-term preservation and ongoing use of the collection. By integrating new archival content and providing links to Calisphere on the PrisonPandemic website, we will both build the website's user base and introduce website users to the Calisphere site. Second, the phones exemplify our project's long-standing commitment to providing multiple community engagement avenues. The phones physically convey the digitized stories to communities, by encouraging users to engage the first-hand, audio-recorded phone contributions. Our team previously created prototype phone installations for UC Irvine and ASC conference exhibits; we are excited to develop these structures with the design and technical skills of a professional. Importantly, PrisonPandemic recognizes that the main audience for the collection – currently incarcerated people – cannot access and engage with these tools, as technology within carceral facilities is extremely limited and surveilled. Therefore, we complement these digital tools with physical compilations of the collection; most recently, we self-published a subset of stories and artwork from the collection and, with help from our Community Advisory Board, mailed these books directly to incarcerated people (PrisonPandemic 2023). We will continue to work with our Community Advisory Board and prison education networks to ensure that new content we create (e.g., webinars and additional stories added to the website) are shared with incarcerated people, centering our commitment to engaging and amplifying marginalized voices.

4. Please detail the project's digital deliverables/outcomes as well its anticipated intellectual contributions.

The key deliverables of this project will be (1) increasing the number and accessibility of stories available on the PrisonPandemic website and (2) increasing awareness of and engagement with this website. First, we will make an additional 1,000 stories available on the PrisonPandemic website and increase the accessibility of these stories with audio recordings, thematic labels, and images linked to the Calisphere portal. Second, we will increase outreach and awareness of the website through a portable art exhibit of refurbished prison phones highlighting site content and directing people to the website, hosting and recording a webinar, and increasing social media outreach and engagement. We will evaluate the effectiveness of these strategies by tracking website analytics. Increasing content and accessibility of the site will raise awareness of incarceration experiences, bringing a voice to people who are too often silenced. Though journalists and policymakers have referenced our stories in the immediate aftermath of the pandemic (see below), we expect that expanding the number and accessibility of stories, in conjunction with raising awareness of the website and new resources, will increase the number of students, researchers, and policymakers engaging and analyzing the content. This will increase knowledge of the health vulnerabilities and other challenges people experience in state and federal prisons, immigration detention, and local jails. Indeed, the breadth and depth of our jail-based content (beyond state prison-focused content) is a unique feature of our collection (Rowland et al. forthcoming).

5. Who are the primary audiences and/or beneficiaries of this project? How are they engaged and why? Will the project engage any new communities or audiences in this next phase of development? Why or why not?

The PrisonPandemic collection has consistently reached diverse audiences, including current and formerly incarcerated and system-impacted communities, students, researchers, journalists, and policymakers. A more comprehensive PrisonPandemic website – with more stories, increased accessibility and additional functionality, and materials for teachers, researchers, and archivists – will deepen engagement with existing groups and draw in new users. First, we will leverage our team’s deep community ties to renew outreach to those who initially engaged with the project, including system-impacted individuals, faculty across UC campuses, journalists, and advocates. Second, we will continue to engage in outreach via conferences with librarians and social science and humanities researchers. This will grow the network of people using the site, including: scholars across academic disciplines (e.g., humanities, law, social sciences, criminology), the media (e.g., journalists, documentary filmmakers), advocates (e.g., lawyers investigating constitutional violations in prison), undergraduate students (as both a pedagogical tool and research resource), library and archives professionals (for processing best practices, instruction, and outreach), and the broader public. Third, support from ACLS will allow us to engage with new communities, especially the undergraduate population across UC campuses (through our portable art exhibit, pedagogical resources, digestible stories, and outreach about these materials) and the broader public (engaged through our proposed increased social media presence on Instagram, BlueSky, TikTok, etc.). Fourth, as we broaden the website and engage existing and new community networks, we will pay special attention to generating and sharing resources that allow others to replicate the project (like our Sociological Methodology article [Rowland et al. forthcoming] and a Council on Library and Information Resources Pocket Burgundy Essay [Arroyo-Ramirez et al. forthcoming]; a published archiving workflow document [Arroyo-Ramirez et al. 2023]; and an under review article about the ethical challenges of collecting, centering, and archiving marginalized voices [Rowland et al. 2024]. Sustained attention to generating accessible tools and resources, in combination with community outreach, will provide both critical awareness to the trauma endured by incarcerated people during the pandemic and replicable frameworks for others to deepen and extend our participatory archival model.

6. Has the project engaged with any extramural community partners? If so, please describe the prior development and current status of those partnerships.

Currently and formerly incarcerated communities have been critical partners in every step of PrisonPandemic. One of our core team members (and co-founder), Gabe Rosales, is formerly incarcerated and a founder of VNON, a community organization focused on educational and rehabilitative opportunities and a key partner in our outreach efforts. Rosales regularly convenes our PrisonPandemic Community Advisory Board to consult on data management and archiving processes – including redaction and sensitivity protocols – and data stewardship. The board also assists with community outreach and engagement; most recently two board members moderated a PrisonPandemic panel at a national criminology meeting. The justice-impacted advocate members of our Community Advisory Board exemplify the depth and breadth of our community partnerships.



7. What, if any, software, hardware, and staff support is available for the project at the team’s affiliated institution(s)? If applicable, please describe any significant resource constraints that might limit the project.

From its inception, PrisonPandemic has benefitted from deep and sustained institutional support from UC Irvine, including administrative staff support, website and technology support, and critically, support from the UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives. The PrisonPandemic team initially included an interdisciplinary group of faculty (Keramet Reiter, Naomi Sugie, and Kristin Turney) and two graduate students (Joanne DeCaro and Gabe Rosales) across the Schools of Social Ecology and Social Sciences at UC Irvine. The UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives (especially Elvia Arroyo-Ramirez, digital archivist) was an early partner and is committed to providing long-term preservation and sustainable access to the materials through Calisphere. The School of Social Sciences computing team has worked with PrisonPandemic to create a long-term and secure storage server (Nexus) for website files (e.g., audio files, transcripts, other materials). We transitioned to this space after previously encountering issues with off-the-shelf data storage platforms, such as Dropbox and Google Drive. The UC Irvine Office of Information Technology (OIT) additionally supports PrisonPandemic with website hosting on UC Irvine's domain. More generally, PrisonPandemic has broad support and connections across campus, having collaborated with UC Irvine faculty and students from the Schools of Social Ecology, Social Sciences, Nursing, Arts, and Humanities. UC Irvine is an ideal home to house PrisonPandemic. It is a public university, a leading minority-serving institution, and one that is centering incarcerated voices in multiple ways (e.g., through the first UC-initiated in-prison BA program and the Underground Scholars Initiative that supports formerly incarcerated students).

8. How might grant funds support the project's potential to bolster the ecosystem of digital scholarship within and/or outside the project's affiliated institution(s), e.g. through its intellectual contributions, innovative use of existing technology, and/or networks of skill-building and sharing?

A comprehensive PrisonPandemic website – including thousands of first-hand accounts of incarceration during the pandemic, connections of story themes with historical and contemporary research on incarceration, and high-quality resources for teachers, researchers, and archivists – will contribute to broader ecosystems in several ways. First, broadened access to a greater number of stories (across different prisons, jails, and immigrant detention facilities) contributes one of the few sources of information about conditions of confinement during the pandemic. The website has already been highlighted in the Marshall Project's weekend digest (also see Sugie et al. 2023), referenced in the Los Angeles Times (Blakinger 2023), and cited in academic work (Aviram 2022; Aviram and Goerzen 2024) and public policy reports (Lacoste et al. 2021; Prison Accountability Project 2023; Vera Institute of Justice 2022). Our additional materials, and our outreach about these materials, will further draw scholars, journalists, and policymakers to the website and to the stories. Second, increased accessibility to the stories (through story segments, thematic collections, search functionality, and options for audio and transcripts) paired with the availability of (already-in-development) pedagogical resources on the site will support teachers as they incorporate PrisonPandemic stories into lessons about mass incarceration, health and incarceration, race and racism, ethics of reaching out to incarcerated people, and other related topics. Through increasing visibility of these resources, PrisonPandemic will introduce teachers and students to the stories and the power of first-hand accounts (and by extension ecosystems of digital scholarship) for understanding contemporary and historical social problems. Third, PrisonPandemic's approach to data collection, management, and stewardship provides a model for prioritizing incarcerated voices; creating, sharing, and outreaching to communities about the availability of these materials for understanding the collection, for replicating the approach, and promoting deep engagement with the materials will further this contribution (see below). Fourth, the integration of the PrisonPandemic website with the archival collection, through Calisphere, will bring new audiences to the long-term archival home of the collection and will bolster the ongoing efforts of the UCI Special Collections and Archives to focus on "prisons and society" as one of their priority areas for collection development.

9. Please describe the project's approach to data ethics, including data management, security, and stewardship.

PrisonPandemic provides a model of how incarcerated voices can be ethically collected: collaboratively, anonymously, open-endedly with no researcher-imposed requirements about what is asked or said. In planning a method of story-collection, PrisonPandemic worked with UC Irvine counsel to design a process that (1) clearly communicated to contributors how their stories would be made publicly available (e.g., through oral consent statements and informational flyers), (2) promoted anonymity (e.g., using voice actors for narrating letters, redacting identifying information from contributions), and (3) protected the collection from legal threats (e.g., subpoenas requesting identifiable information, retaliation against story contributors, or objections to the published content). We developed language – about the project and how people’s stories will be anonymously but publicly posted – that we read to people who called our hotline, sent to people we wrote to inside prison, and posted on our project website. We acknowledged receipt of letters, returned any materials people request be returned, and clarified any apparent misconceptions about the project. We rejected material if people did not understand, acknowledge, or agree to the consent process. We are grateful to the people who shared their stories, and we take care to communicate this. In the processing of collected stories, we ensure anonymity by redacting identifying information from stories, permanently archive only excised versions of letters and edited recordings, and publicly share stories only after a critical mass is received from any given institution. For data stewardship, we prioritize two interconnected goals: (1) to ensure the long-term preservation of and access to archival materials through the Calisphere site, managed by UCI Libraries’ Special Collections and Archives (NEH Implementation grant) and (2) to facilitate the immediate accessibility to diverse audiences (formerly incarcerated people and their loved ones, community members, students, etc.) through our project website. We connect the specifics of our data ethics approach to broader interdisciplinary conversations about the ethics of collecting, archiving, and disseminating stories contributed by incarcerated individuals during moments of extreme crisis in our academic publications (Rowland, DeCaro, and Reiter 2024; Rowland, Sugie, and Turney forthcoming; Arroyo-Ramirez, DeCaro, Reiter, Rowland, and Wood forthcoming).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Arroyo-Ramirez, Elvia, Laura Castillo, Joanne DeCaro, Keramet Reiter, Gabe Rosales, Alexis Rowland, Naomi F. Sugie, Kristin Turney, Mariela Villalba Madrid, and Lacey Wood. 2023. "UC Irvine PrisonPandemic Levels of Sensitivity and Redaction." *University of California, Irvine: Libraries*. Retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6bq9g542>.

Arroyo-Ramirez, Elvia, Joanne DeCaro, Keramet Reiter, Alexis Rowland, and Lacey Wood. Forthcoming. "PrisonPandemic Procedures of Care: Case Study of Letter 154." *Archivist Actions, Abolitionist Futures: Reimagining Archival Practice Against Incarceration*, Council on Library and Information Resources.

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Aviram, Hadar, and Chad Goerzen. 2024. *Fester*. University of California Press.

Blakinger, Keri. 2023. "Report: Four of California's Prisons Ranked Worst at Handling COVID, Care for Inmates," *Los Angeles Times*.

Lacoste, Alix, Sae Paliwal, Erika Tyagi, and Hope Johnson. 2021. "'Horrible Here': How Systemic Failures of Transparency Have Hidden the Impacts of COVID-19 on Incarcerated Women." *UCLA Law COVID Behind Bars Data Project*.

Prison Accountability Project at UCLA School of Law. 2023. "Systemic Failures: Conditions in California State Prisons During the COVID-19 Pandemic."

PrisonPandemic (including Keramet Reiter, Naomi Sugie, Kristin Turney, Joanne DeCaro, Gabe Rosales, Elvia Arroyo-Ramirez, Alexis Rowland, and Mariela Villalba Madrid). 2023. *Locked Down and Locked Up: Stories from the Inside*. University of California Regents.

Rowland, Alexis, Joanne DeCaro, and Keramet Reiter. 2024. "The Securitization of Research Ethics: Navigating the Ethics of Engaging Criminalized Voices." Under review.

Rowland, Alexis, Naomi Sugie, Kristin Turney. Forthcoming. "Reaching Incarcerated People in Jail: The Case of PrisonPandemic." *Sociological Methodology*.

Sugie, Naomi F., Kristin Turney, Keramet Reiter, Rebecca Tublitz, Daniela Kaiser, Rebecca Goodsell, Erin Secrist, Ankita Patil, and Monik Jiménez. 2023. "Excess Mortality in U.S. Prisons During the COVID-19 Pandemic." *Science Advances* 9(48):eadj8104.

Vera Institute of Justice. 2022. "People in Prison in Winter 2021-22."

PROJECT TIMELINE

	Summer 2025	Fall 2025	Winter 2026	Spring 2026	Summer 2026	Fall 2026	
Goal 1: Broaden website content Inclusion of thumbnail images (linked to Calisphere) Edit stories into segments Tag segments to create new thematic collections Create audio versions of letters to increase accessibility Add additional stories to website							
Goal 2: Create and showcase portable art exhibit Create portable art exhibit with professional technician Install art exhibit at UCLA Install art exhibit at another UC campus Install art exhibit at UC Irvine							
Goal 3: Outreach activities Host webinar with Community Advisory Board members Create social media content Present at professional meetings							

BUDGET

Description	Time Period	Rate	Cost
Personnel Salary, Wages, Benefits			
[REDACTED], [REDACTED] University of California, Irvine: Sociology:	July 1, 2025 - December 31, 2026	[REDACTED] in benefits	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], [REDACTED] University of California, Irvine: Criminology, Law and Society:	July 1, 2025 - December 31, 2026	[REDACTED] in benefits	[REDACTED]
University of California, Los Angeles: Criminology, Law and Society:	July 1, 2025 - December 31, 2026	1 day of 1 month summer salary @ Year 1: [REDACTED] in benefits and Year 2: \$ [REDACTED] benefits	[REDACTED]
TBN, Graduate Student Researcher (GSR) Step VI (1 GSR at 68.25% during the summer in Years 1 and 2; 1 GSR at 25% during the academic year in Year 1	July 1, 2025 - December 31, 2026	\$28.09/hr \$36,617 plus \$1,556 in benefits in Year 1: \$17,731 plus \$766 in benefits in Year 2:	\$56,670
Total: Personnel Salary, Wages, Benefits			\$64,000
Software Licensing & Fees			
PrisonPandemic website hosting fees		\$600 in Year 1 and \$5,400 in Year 2	\$6,000
Administrative Support for UC Libraries		\$1,500/year in Year 1 and Year 2	\$3,000
Total: Software Licensing & Fees			\$9,000
Other Direct Costs			
PrisonPandemic exhibit		\$5,000 in Years 1 and 2	\$5,000
Community Advisory Board (stipends) [REDACTED], \$15,000 in Year 1 and \$5,000 in Year 2	~3 hours/week for 66 weeks	\$100/hour	\$20,000
Total: Direct Costs			\$27,000
Base Project Costs			\$100,000
Total Budget Request to ACLS			\$100,000

PROJECT STAFFING

- **Dr. Kristin Turney** (Dean's Professor, University of California, Irvine). Turney is a co-founder of PrisonPandemic and coordinates all aspects of the project. She also leads the team's pedagogical efforts.
- **Dr. Keramet Reiter** (Professor, University of California, Irvine). Reiter is a co-founder of PrisonPandemic and coordinates all aspects of the project. She also leads the team's outreach efforts and supervises graduate and undergraduate students engaged with the project.
- **Dr. Naomi Sugie** (Associate Professor, University of California, Los Angeles; formerly Associate Professor at University of California, Irvine). Sugie is a co-founder of PrisonPandemic and coordinates all aspects of the project. She also leads the team's website content and redesign.
- **Elvia Arroyo-Ramirez** (Digital Archivist for University Archives, University of California, Irvine Libraries). She leads the team's efforts to preserve and digitize the collection for long-term sustainability with the UCI Libraries.
- **Joanne DeCaro** (graduate student, University of California, Irvine). DeCaro is a co-founder of PrisonPandemic and supports the website content and redesign.
- **Gabe Rosales** (graduate student, University of California, Irvine). Rosales is a co-founder of PrisonPandemic and supports coordination with the Community Advisory Board.
- **Alexis Rowland** (graduate student, University of California, Irvine). Rowland provides primary support for the art installation of refurbished prison phones.
- **Elena Brewster** (freelance consultant). Brewster, who has worked with PrisonPandemic since its inception, is responsible for website redesign, development, and content.

● [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]



ACLS Digital Justice Development Grants

Institutional Verification

Applicant Name: **Kristin Turney**
Referee's Name **Bill Maurer**
Institution: **UC Irvine**
Department: **Anthropology**
Title: **Dean of Social Sciences**
Phone Number: **949-824-6802**

INSTITUTIONAL VERIFICATION

- I confirm that the institution's existing infrastructure—its enabling framework of hardware and software, communications, organizational units, rules, and personnel—will be available for the applicant(s)' use in the development of any technologies for the specified project.
- I confirm that the budget plan outlined by the applicant is acceptable to our institution and that the proposed grant funds will be administered by our institution in accordance with the project timeline.
- I confirm that the activities supported by this grant will be counted for purposes of promotion and tenure at our institution.

The School of Social Sciences at UC Irvine has supported Prof. Turney's project, PrisonPandemic, through course releases, additional research funding, and coordination of undergraduate student assistants. It has and will continue this support, as well as promoting and disseminating the project through its media channels. In addition, PrisonPandemic is a key leg of UC Irvine's commitment to serving incarcerated individuals by bringing their stories to light as well as through our innovative and first in-prison BA-degree completion program, LIFTED, which we help staff and which our undergraduate advising team manages. The project also has the support of the UC Irvine Libraries, which is assisting Professor Turney in porting the material collected through Calisphere, the University of California system's digital collections platform. As Dean I am thrilled to support this project and to continue to assist Prof. Turney in expanding access to the remarkable collection of material on incarcerated life she has assembled.