

Upcoming Events

Urban Studies' 25th Annual Student Research Forum

UWM Alumni Fireside Lounge

Friday, May 5, 2023, 12 - 5 pm

Poster Session & Roundtables

Keynote: Claire Dunning, Assistant Professor

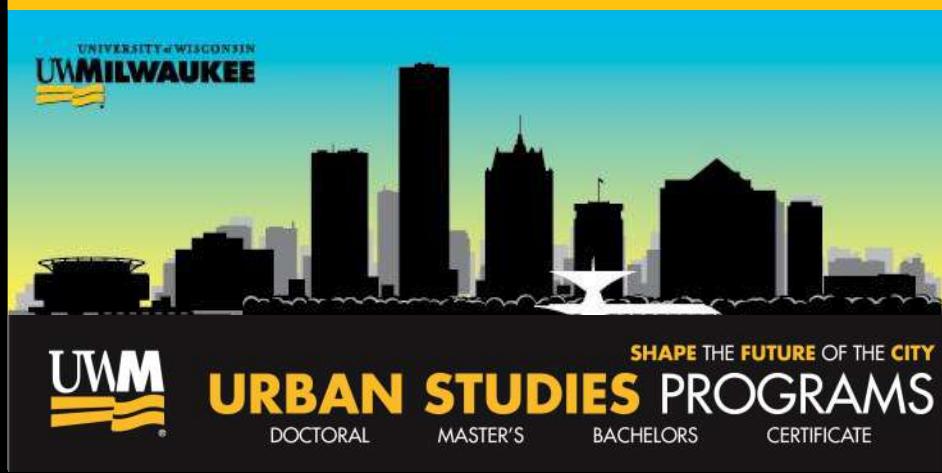
Public Policy and History - University of Maryland, College Park

Author: *Nonprofit Neighborhoods: An Urban History of Inequality and the American State* (University of Chicago Press, 2022)

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<https://uwm.edu/urban-studies/research/e-polis/>



13th Annual Urban Studies' State of Milwaukee Summit Presents

COVID-19 and Racial Equity in Milwaukee: *What have we learned and where do we go from here?*



**Thursday, November 17, 2022
7:00 – 8:30 PM**

**UWM Golda Meir Library Conference Center
2311 East Hartford Avenue**

Free and Open to the Public

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE CITY
URBAN STUDIES PROGRAMS
DOCTORAL MASTER'S BACHELORS CERTIFICATE

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MILWAUKEE
College of Letters & Science

Summit Schedule

7:00 pm - Welcome and Introductions

Welcome & Introductions

Joel Rast, Professor & Director, Urban Studies Programs

Introductory Remarks

Mark A. Mone UWM Chancellor

7:15 pm - Panel Discussion

Panelists

Cavalier Johnson

Mayor of Milwaukee

David Crowley

County Executive of Milwaukee County

Ellen M. Gilligan

President & CEO, Greater Milwaukee Foundation

Joel Brennan

President, Greater Milwaukee Committee

8:15 pm - Question and Answer Session

Thank You

Sponsored by: UWM Urban Studies Programs, the Maier Fund, The Center for Economic Development, Department of Urban Planning, Department of Geography, Buildings-Landscapes-Cultures, Joseph J. Zilber School of Public Health, and College of Letters and Science.

About the Summit

Each year the Urban Studies State of Milwaukee Summit brings together the public, university researchers, and community leaders to report on and discuss important issues facing the city of Milwaukee and Southeastern Wisconsin.

This year's focus is Covid-19 and Racial Equity in Milwaukee. One of the Covid-19 pandemic's many impacts on society has been to shine a light on longstanding racial disparities and other social inequalities and make them impossible to ignore. Our distinguished panel of political and civic leaders will offer their thoughts on this important topic and how best to chart a path forward.

Introductory Remarks

Mark A. Mone

Mark A. Mone is chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) – the only public research and access mission institution in Wisconsin. With an operating budget of \$674 million, UWM serves 24,000 students on three campuses and has the largest population of diverse students of any four-year campus in the state. He has served as the ninth chancellor of UWM since being appointed by the UW System Board of Regents in 2014.

Dr. Mone has positioned UWM as a leader in transforming the region and state by advancing equity through education and addressing societal issues through research, strategic re-invention and partnerships. Under his leadership, the university has been named a top-tier research institute by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education three times since attaining Research 1 status in 2016. UWM is one of the nation's top universities for community engagement as classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Panelist Profile

Cavalier Johnson

Mayor Cavalier Johnson took office as Acting Mayor of the City of Milwaukee in late 2021, and he set out immediately to build a safer city. He has prioritized violence reduction, economic development, and roadway safety. Before taking on his role as Acting Mayor, Johnson served as Common Council President while representing the city's 2nd Aldermanic District.

In April of 2022, Mayor Johnson was elected as the forty-fifth chief executive of the City of Milwaukee winning with more than seventy percent of the vote. He is the first Black Mayor elected in the city, and only the fourth elected mayor in the past sixty-two years.

Mayor Johnson's commitment to public service began at an early age when he was selected by the YMCA to participate in a pre-college program for low-income Milwaukee Public School students. That program, Sponsor-A-Scholar, instilled in him a passion to make Milwaukee better for future generations.

Growing up, his family moved frequently, and until middle school Mayor Johnson attended a different Milwaukee Public School almost every year. He has seen violence, evictions, food insecurity - challenges common in urban poverty. He brings that lived experience to his work as Mayor. After graduating Bay View High School, Mayor Johnson earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and returned home to work for the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board (MAWIB), now Employ Milwaukee. His focus included working with at-risk youth, youth entering the workforce for the first time, and adults retooling to enter the workforce.

Before his election as Alderman, he served as a staff assistant in the Mayor's Office, where he worked with community and faith leaders to find creative solutions to pressing issues facing families. Mayor Johnson remains deeply committed to the community, having served on the boards of the Milwaukee YMCA, ACLU-Wisconsin and Milwaukee Community Brainstorming Conference. He and his wife, Dominique, have one son and twin daughters and live on Milwaukee's north side.

Panelist Profile

David Crowley

Sworn into office in May of 2020, David became the youngest County Executive in the history of Milwaukee County and the first Black leader elected to serve in the role. Since being sworn in, County Executive David Crowley led the implementation of the first County-wide strategic plan in 20 years, focusing the County on a vision of achieving racial equity and by doing so becoming the healthiest county in the state. Under his leadership, Milwaukee County has diversified positions at the cabinet department level as well as boards and commissions. In addition, he has also streamlined government to improve access and quality of services for residents.

As a lifelong Milwaukee resident, County Executive David Crowley knows as well as anyone that Milwaukee County is truly a tale of two counties. He has lived the pain and struggles that many in our communities face every day, and he knows the joy of bringing people together to conquer those struggles. The fundamental tenet of Executive Crowley's administration is to build bridges to bring people together, not walls that keep them apart.

David is a member of numerous community organizations including the ACLU, Milwaukee Urban League Young Professionals and the Milwaukee NAACP. He attended Bay View High School, UW-Milwaukee, and currently lives in Milwaukee with his wife, Ericka, and his three young daughters.

Panelist Profile

Ellen M. Gilligan

Ellen M. Gilligan is President and CEO of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation. Serving Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha counties, the Foundation is Wisconsin's largest community foundation – managing more than \$1 billion in assets – and was among the first in the world. Since being established in 1915, the Foundation has awarded more than \$1 billion in grants supporting a wide variety of nonprofits and initiatives that enhance the quality of life in greater Milwaukee and beyond.

Since 2010, Ellen has amplified the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's role as a leader, convener and catalyst, bringing community together around a shared vision for a vibrant region. She has advanced a new era at the Foundation where racial equity and inclusion is the North Star that guides decision-making, investment and action across the organization. The Foundation's generational commitment to racial equity and inclusion reflects Ellen's values, as do the innovative programs, practices and partnerships brought to life under her leadership. Her tenure has been marked by growth, collaboration and a deep commitment to strategies that foster access to opportunity, strengthen the community and improve lives.

In 2020, Ellen led the launch of the Foundation's new strategic vision of A Milwaukee for All to focus philanthropy on mending the fault line of systemic racism that prevents individuals, families and the region from reaching their full potential. Upon COVID-19's emergence in the community in 2020, Ellen's leadership prompted the formation of the MKE Civic Response Team, a cross-sector coalition with a multitude of partners who have coordinated both immediate relief and long-term recovery efforts in response to the pandemic and its effects in Milwaukee. The Foundation's total funding commitment to COVID-19 relief and recovery exceeds \$11.3 million. Much of Ellen's career has been dedicated to the community foundation field. Before coming to Milwaukee, she spent 12 years at the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, most recently as its vice president of community investment and president of the HealthPath Foundation. She is a graduate of the University of Colorado. Ellen and her husband, Charlie DeSando, have two adult sons.

Panelist Profile

Joel Brennan

Joel Brennan was selected as president of the Greater Milwaukee Committee in December 2021. Prior to accepting this position, he served as the Secretary of the Department of Administration in Governor Tony Evers' administration, beginning in January 2019. He was confirmed for that position by a unanimous vote of the Wisconsin State Senate in October 2019. Brennan brings more than 25 years of experience working in the public and private sectors in Wisconsin.

As Secretary of the Department of Administration, Brennan led a State Agency of nearly 1,500 employees that has broad enterprise-wide responsibilities affecting more than 35,000 state employees. In addition to developing the State of Wisconsin's biennial budget, the Department also manages the relationships with the 11 federally recognized Native American Tribes in Wisconsin and regulates tribal gaming across the state.

Brennan and the Department provided strategic direction and management for major aspects of federal funding to support both the public health and economic response to COVID-19. This included the direction and execution of nearly \$2 billion in support under the 2020 Federal CARES Act and more than \$2.5 billion in federal support received from the 2021 America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Working with the Governor and other stakeholders, Brennan and his team helped direct hundreds of millions of dollars to support small businesses and industries most negatively affected by the economic hardships created by COVID-19, particularly in the areas of dining, hospitality, lodging and tourism.

Joel Brennan grew up in the Milwaukee area and worked his way through Marquette University, graduating magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in English. He was selected as a Harris Fellow at the University of Chicago and earned a master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy. Brennan lives with his wife Audra and their two teenage children, Allison and Conor, in Milwaukee.