### The University of San Francisco

### USF Scholarship: a digital repository @ Gleeson Library | Geschke Center

Gleeson Library Faculty and Staff Research and Scholarship

Gleeson Library | Geschke Center

Summer 7-21-2021

### San Francisco Changemakers: A PCC Wikidata Pilot Project

Elisa J. Rodrigues University of San Francisco

Annie Reid University of San Francisco, areid1@usfca.edu

Deborah S. Benrubi University of San Francisco

Gina Solares University of San Francisco

Justine Withers University of San Francisco

Follow this and additional works at: https://repository.usfca.edu/librarian

Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

### **Recommended Citation**

Rodrigues, Elisa J.; Reid, Annie; Benrubi, Deborah S.; Solares, Gina; and Withers, Justine, "San Francisco Changemakers: A PCC Wikidata Pilot Project" (2021). Gleeson Library Faculty and Staff Research and Scholarship. 39.

https://repository.usfca.edu/librarian/39

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by the Gleeson Library | Geschke Center at USF Scholarship: a digital repository @ Gleeson Library | Geschke Center. It has been accepted for inclusion in Gleeson Library Faculty and Staff Research and Scholarship by an authorized administrator of USF Scholarship: a digital repository @ Gleeson Library | Geschke Center. For more information, please contact repository@usfca.edu.



### UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO Gleeson Library |

Inspired by the 96 people whose images appear on San Francisco's Ella Hill Hutch Community Center murals, students in the University of San Francisco Martín-Baró Scholars and Esther Madríz Diversity Scholars programs (2015-2019) wrote and edited Changemakers: Biographies of African Americans in San Francisco Who Made a Difference. The biographies within celebrate Black excellence and honor the legacies of African American educators, community activists, politicians, sports figures, pastors, doctors, entertainers, artists, and parents in San Francisco.

In 2020, the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) issued a call for participation in a pilot project to explore Wikidata community practices and establish relationships between Wikidata and library authority files. We chose to create or enhance Wikidata items for the 96 persons listed in the Changemakers book and created a project webpage. The list gave us a discrete set of identities and offered the potential to tie into existing Wikimedia/Wikipedia projects/articles and collaborate with campus centers and students.



Changemakers Book Cover: Portrait of Ella Hill Hutch, painted by Eugene E. White, 1992.

Photograph of Southeast corner of the Inspiration murals by Brian Brooks @underdogfilmlab

## Goals

- Create and enhance Wikidata items and related entries in authority repositories representing local people, places, and events of significance to USF, with an emphasis on underrepresented communities
- Increase staff capacity and understanding of linked open data models and practices
- Explore the opportunities that Wikidata offers for creating new and more flexible workflows for authority control

# San Francisco Changemakers: A PCC Wikidata Pilot Project

Geschke Resource Center

## Linked Data Working Group: Elisa Rodrigues, Gina Solares, Annie Reid, Debbie Benrubi, Justine Withers



# Workflows

Deliberately and thoughtfully matched biography characteristics to entity schema:

- Developed a list of "required" properties, adapted from Wikidata:WikiProject Archives Linked Data Interest Group/Describing People
- □ As resources allowed, we added further "optional" properties such as occupation (P106), educated at (P69), notable work (P800), field of work (P101), or residence (P551) for example
- Created additional Wikidata items for references and related entities as needed

# Challenges

- Collating from multiple sources Wikidata community norms for property usage
- Inconsistency in community standards, definitions, and use of similar properties
- Conflicting information found in varying reference sources
- □ Representing the unique, notable biographical aspects of each person using the available Wikidata properties
- No direct way to represent a person in Changemakers "first in their field" status. Wikidata editors discussed a <u>"historic first"</u> property proposal in 2019, but it was not adopted by Wikidata editors

|  | Item Discussion   |                       | Read  | View history Search Wi |  |
|--|---|-----------------------|---|------------------------|--|
| WIKIDATA   | Naomi Gra   | <b>y</b> (Q106171670) |   |                        |  |
| Vain page<br>Community portal<br>Project chat<br>Create a new Item | Activist for public health in San Francisco and the first black female Vice President of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America<br>Naomi Jean Thomas Gray<br>• In more languages<br>Configure |                       |   |                        |  |
| Recent changes   | Language  | Label                 | Description   | Also known as          |  |
| Random Item<br>Query Service<br>Nearby<br>Help                     | English   | Naomi Gray            | Activist for public health in San Francisco and<br>the first black female Vice President of the<br>Planned Parenthood Federation of America | Naomi Jean Thomas G    |  |
| Donate   | Spanish   | No label defined      | No description defined  |                        |  |
| exicographical data  | Traditional Chinese   | No label defined      | No description defined  |                        |  |
| Create a new Lexeme<br>Recent changes                              | Chinese   | No label defined      | No description defined  |                        |  |
| Random Lexeme  | All entered languages   |                       |   |                        |  |
| What links here<br>Related changes                                 | Statements  |                       |   |                        |  |
| pecial pages<br>ermanent link                                      | instance of   | 🔋 human               |   | sedit                  |  |

## Reflections

- Data and description are not neutral and we need to consider our positionality and biases in the language and properties we choose to use in Wikidata items
- Property:P21 sex or gender posed issues for our working group around preference and authority and we created a statement on why it was not used to describe the people in Changemakers
- □ The need to consider carefully the purpose and potential outcomes when creating open, linked data about people

### urg, Mississippi, on May 1 four other siblings. In 1945 sh V. DR. AMOS C. BROWN e vice president (Knight). After a vorce, Gray decided to move to San BILL CHESTER

# **Perceived Impact**

- Changemakers

| Projects in progress or planning at Gleeson Library |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| Project name  | Description   | Status<br>in progress   | Related queries   Changemakers query @   Listeria list @ |  |  |
| SF Changemakers                                     | Creating or enhancing items representing the people<br>described in Changemakers: African American<br>Leaders in San Francisco Who Made a Difference<br>(Q99756434) |   |  |  |  |
| Wasmann Journal of<br>Biology                       | Creating wikidata items for the articles and authors<br>represented in the Wasmann Journal of Biology<br>(1950-1996)  | 1950-1977 complete  | Scholia display ଢ<br>Listeria listଢ                      |  |  |
| USF Archival<br>Collections<br>Enhancement          | Adding "archives at" property to items for people and<br>organizations for which USF holds an archival<br>collection  | planning  | Archived at USF  |  |  |
| USF Employees<br>LCNAF<br>Enhancement               | Adding Library of Congress authority ID (P244)<br>identifiers to people currently or formerly employed at<br>USF  | Status April 2021: 298 items in<br>wikidata; 56% (166) LCNAF ID<br>added; 44% (132) no LCNAF ID | People employed by<br>USF at any time with<br>no LCNAF & |  |  |
| USF Faculty<br>Enhancement                          | Adding or enhancing Wikidata items for USF Faculty  | planning  | Employed at USF @  |  |  |

- Scholars programs
- Service and Common Good at USF
- <u>PCC Wikidata Pilot</u> organizers and participants

University of San Francisco Martín-Baró Scholars and Esther Madríz Diversity Scholars (Eds.). (2019). Changemakers: African Americans in San Francisco Who Made a Difference. University of San Francisco. Retrieved from <a href="https://repository.usfca.edu/mccarthy\_stu/4/">https://repository.usfca.edu/mccarthy\_stu/4/</a> Ibid. (n.d.) Changemakers: African Americans in San Francisco Who Made a Difference. Retrieved from https://usfblogs.usfca.edu/sfchangemakers/ Reid, A., Benrubi, D., Rodrigues, E., Solares, G., and Withers, J. (2021) Wikidata: WikiProject PCC Wikidata Pilot/University of San Francisco. Retrieved from https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikiProject PCC Wikidata Pilot/University of San Francisco



Description Potential for exploitation and harm when adding data representing historically marginalized communities. Who does the data represent and who will be using that data?

□ Since most people in Changemakers would be considered 'out of scope' for LCNAF, and might not meet Wikipedia "notability" criteria, adding them to Wikidata might provide more visibility Potential for increased interest and visibility of USF scholarship

## Future Steps

Community review process for creating new Wikidata properties that could better capture the work and lives of the people in

Repurpose Wikidata items as "lite" authority records □ Add Inspiration mural images to Wikimedia Commons Test our workflow on a similar project, like student work for the Fillmore Activist Project and other USF collections

### Acknowledgements

□ USF students in the <u>Martín-Baró Scholars</u> and <u>Esther Madríz Diversity</u>

□ <u>Engage San Francisco</u>, part of the <u>Leo T. McCarthy Center for Public</u>

