

WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY



# Humanities Center

## Annual Report 2017-2018



*Bringing Humanists Together for Collaborative Research*

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**OUR MISSION**

The mission of the Humanities Center is to nurture interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary, and intradisciplinary work in the humanities and arts through competitions, conferences, discussion groups, and other programs for Wayne State's humanities and arts faculty and students, and for visiting scholars and artists.

The Center promotes excellence in research and creative endeavors through rigorous peer review of proposals submitted to it for funding. By sponsoring programs that involve community participants, the Center supports the university's urban mission. Through its various programs, the Center brings humanists of diverse talents and interests together for conversation and collaboration, and fosters innovation and creativity across humanistic disciplines.

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR 2017 - 2018 OVERVIEW

I am pleased to be reporting to you about the center's activities in its 25th year of continuous service to the WSU community of scholars. It has been a privilege for me to be the Center's founding director and to experience the Center's journey from a marginal funding source in 1993, administered from my desk in the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School, to its current visibility on this campus. In 1993-94, the Center's programming was limited to the Faculty Fellowships Competition that funded 10 faculty; in 2017-18 the Center administered 11 programs that served scores of faculty and students. We now have a suite of 14 offices and cubicles and a small staff; and the Center is undoubtedly a highly valued resource for faculty and students in the humanities, and a catalyst for cross-disciplinary collaborations.



*Associate Dean for the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Claudio Verani (left) and Dr. Edwards (right) at the 2018 Faculty Fellows Conference on Revolution.*

2017-18 has been a vicissitudinous year for us. On the positive side, the Center had outstanding success with all its programs and took positive steps toward expanding the scope of the humanities at Wayne State. On the negative side, we have had two debilitating fiscal setbacks, and lost a very valuable member of our staff.

Both our conferences this year have been successful. Our fall symposium on the theme "Civility and Incivility" was held on October 13, 2017; and our Faculty Fellows Conference on "Revolution" was held on March 23, 2018. The selection of the symposium theme was the Center's response to the uncivil character of the 2016 presidential elections and the sometimes angry clashes between groups supporting and opposing such movements as "Occupy Wall Street" and "Black Lives Matter". Thus, the call for abstracts invited proposals for talks that discuss the line between disagreement and slander, and considered such questions as whether or not it is appropriate to take "uncivil" actions to achieve social justice. The COP attracted abstracts and ultimately presentations that examined the theme from a variety of perspectives through such topics as:

- "The Incivility of Student Protest and the Expansion of the Intellectual Purview of the Academy" (Melba J. Boyd, Distinguished Professor, African American Studies and Ollie Johnson III, Chair, African American Studies);
- "Political Deliberation, The Black Panther Party, and the House of Representative Internal Security Committee; Civility or Negative Framing" (Ronald Brown, Associate Professor, Political Science);
- "Tolerating Purveyors of Hate Speech: Civility or Complicity?" (Brad Roth Professor, Political Science & Law);
- "I Don't Think 'Civility' Means What We Think It Means': Norbert Elias, The Civilizing Process, and American resistance to a court of manners" (Kenneth Jackson Chair, English);
- "Civility and Creativity Constellating Communities: Discovering our Collective Humanity Through the Arts and Design"(Marilyn Zimmerwoman, Associate Professor, Art & Art History, Margi Weir, Associate Professor, Art & Art History, Holly Feen-Calligan, Associate Professor & Coordinator of Art Therapy, Education).

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR 2017 - 2018 OVERVIEW

The keynote address, presented by Susan Herbst, President of the University of Connecticut and author of the important book *Rude Democracy: Civility and Incivility in American Politics* (2010), pointed to the historical ubiquity of incivility in American politics, but advocated for reasonable limitations on rude behavior. The symposium presentations elicited lively but civil discussions and conversations during the Q&A sessions.

By selecting the theme "Revolution" for its 2016 Faculty Fellowships Competition and concomitantly for the ensuing 2017 Faculty Fellows conference, the Center was challenging the WSU humanities scholars to address two momentous political/social/economic movements: the 50th anniversary of 1967 Detroit revolution (often referred to as an "uprising" or a "riot"), and the 100th anniversary of the Russian revolution. More generally, the Center wanted to invite humanities scholars to unpack the notion of "revolution" and consider its various manifestations. Accordingly, the Center chose to fund scholarly proposals that provided diverse interpretations of the concept of revolution. These proposals matured into papers that were presented at our 2017 Faculty Fellows conference. They included:

- "21 Century Technological Revolution and its discontents: Work-Family Conflict in Long Distance Commuter Relationships" (Krista Brumley, Associate Professor, Sociology & Shirin Montazer, Assistant Professor, Sociology);
- "Revolutionary Imagination" (Sarika Chandra, Associate Professor, English);
- "Pro Quote - A radical women journalists' initiative to revolutionize German news room" (Stine Eckert, Assistant Professor, Communication);
- "Revolution as Love as Methodology" (Jasmine Ulmer-Assistant Professor, Education);
- "Putting the World on Wheels: classical Elements in the Creation of Michelin's Bibendum and the Marketing of the Pneumatic Tire" (Michele Ronnick-Professor, CMLLC).

Detroit's revolutionary experience was addressed by the conference keynoter Frank Joyce, a lifelong Detroit-based activist and writer, who discussed new directions in entrepreneurship, neighborhood development and social organizing that socially engaged Detroiters are now embracing. His topic was "Look Closely—The Next Detroit Is Already Happening—And It's Definitely Not Downtown."

The symposium and conference epitomized the Center's programming success by providing clear examples of the way the Center serves as a catalyst for bringing together humanists from all fields for scholarly interactions on research and art. Other programs provided additional examples of how the Center fulfilled its mission to facilitate interdisciplinary interactions in 2017-18.

Specifically:

1. The 57 Brown Bag talks the Center hosted provided some 65 WSU faculty from across the university with forums for the presentation of their research and art and to elicit comments and analyses from colleagues within and outside their disciplines. These talks are posted on the Center's Website (as are the conference and symposia lectures) to provide additional opportunities for healthy, intra-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary scholarly interactions.
2. Our Resident Scholars Program, which this year involved 7 scholars respectively affiliated with Sociology, Political Science (2), Theatre, Communication, History, and Urban Studies and Planning. These scholars all report spending their time in the Center fruitfully, both in terms of

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

### 2017 - 2018 OVERVIEW

completing their funded research and art projects, and learning from each other's disciplinary methods, theories and expectations and thus enriching themselves and their projects with new perspectives and academic friendships.

3. The Working Groups Program funded 6 groups each comprising faculty and students, typically from different disciplines or sub-disciplines all engaged in a research enterprise. The topics of research included "Democracy and Difference", "Digital Humanities", "Early Modern Studies", "Science and Society" and "Teaching Fairy Tales and Folktales across the Curriculum". Each of these groups reports having rich and fruitful conversations, presentations, and other scholarly activities which give evidence of interdisciplinary growth. The outcomes of these meetings include publication of articles, conference presentations and book chapters, in addition to scholarly fellowship.

In addition to the programs highlighted above, the Center funded other scholarly projects at Wayne and continued to attract requests for our support from WSU's most outstanding humanities faculty and students. Specifically, the Center made the following additional awards:

- The Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship to Professor Marsha Richmond of the History Department for outstanding work on the history of science.
- The Humanities Center's Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (in collaboration with the Graduate School) to Joseph Dunne of the Philosophy Department for his dissertation on religious conscience and legal exemptions.
- Graduate Travel awards to 6 doctoral students from three different departments to support their travel to national and international conferences.

But, alas, the Center was not without its disappointments this year. Most significant are the following setbacks:

- a) The part-time grant writer hired in February 2017 with funds provided by the Provost's Office was unsuccessful in attracting any grants to the Center, despite strenuous efforts on her part. This followed on the similar failure by the previous part-time grant writer hired in February 2016. Understandably, the funding for this position was not renewed by the Provost; and thus the opportunity to enhance the Center's annual budget through external grants was lost.
- b) The Center experienced an additional financial setback when the Board of Governors voted to cut the annual spending budgets of WSU Centers and Institutes. The Center's annual spending budget was cut by approximately 10 percent. To accommodate the budget cut, the Center was forced to make significant reductions to its expenditure on programs, including the cancellation of its 2018 fall symposium and the 2019 visiting scholars program.
- c) In May of this year, the Center lost the services of Jennifer Leonard, who had served the Center with distinction for 14 years as its Administrative Assistant and who had become an iconic figure to the Center's constituents. Jennifer moved on to a position with an automotive company that allows her to use her Web-designing and other advanced computer skills. We will miss her exemplary service.

Nonetheless, the Center is looking forward to an exciting 2018-19 academic year. We have already made plans to aggressively attempt to raise funds through requesting donations from the Center's alumni. To that end, a member of the Center's Advisory Board has volunteered to work with me and the Development Office staff on developing fund-raising letters and organizing a

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR 2017 - 2018 OVERVIEW

phone campaigns to invite donations. With the assistance of members of the Advisory Board, I will attempt to recruit three new Steering Committee members who are prominent members of the Detroit cultural community in an effort to articulate the Center more closely with the revitalizing Detroit ethos. We have also hired a new Administrative Assistant who assumed duties on June 26, 2018.

More importantly, I look forward to playing an important part in moving the humanities community at WSU towards new directions in our fields. I was energized by the exciting developments in the humanities that I experienced while attending the 2018 annual conference of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI) held in Charlottesville, Virginia from June 13-17 on the theme "Humanities Informatics". The purpose of the conference was "exploring how data structures and algorithms inform political economy, cultural production, scientific endeavor and studies of human society itself" (CHCI poster). The presentations explored and explicated such innovative humanities areas such as Public Humanities, Digital Humanities, Medical Humanities, Environmental Humanities and Informatics in Library Science. Attending the conference with me were four WSU faculty members whose areas of research involve big data, digital humanities and informatics. I plan to work with these faculty to spread awareness about the new areas in the humanities writ large, and to encourage our faculty to take advantage of the grant opportunities being offered by the Mellon Foundation and other funding agencies for work in these new fields. The Center is proud that it has funded for three years a Working Group on Digital Humanities that has now grown to the extent of sponsoring a conference on the topic at Wayne in September 2018. I plan to help that effort as much as possible. I also look forward to engaging myself in the exciting work Provost Whitfield is leading on STEM and its relationship to the extended humanities. The future is bright for the Center, and I am excited to lead it towards those lights.

I wish to thank Provost Whitfield for his support and friendship to the Center, including a grant this year to help us cope with the budget cut. I thank the Center's amazing Advisory Board whose members are diligent, thoughtful and industrious champions of the humanities; I thank my devoted and talented staff; and, of course, the faculty, students and administrators who support and encourage the work of the Center. I look forward to working with you all in the 2018-19 academic year and beyond.

Respectfully,  
Walter F. Edwards, DPhil  
Professor, English  
Director, Humanities Center  
June 2018



*L to R: Joan Beaudoin (School of Information Sciences), Jennifer Hart (History), Dr. Edwards (Director), Christine D'Arpa (School of Information Sciences), and Sangeetha Gopalakrishnan (Foreign Language Technology Center) at the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes Conference in Charlottesville, Virginia in June 2018.*



# SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

## 2017-2018

**BROWN BAG TALKS:** Since the inception of the weekly Brown Bag Colloquium Series, hundreds of Wayne State faculty and students in the humanities and arts have participated either as speakers or as members of the audience. Each new year brings an increase in the number of faculty volunteering to present talks. As a result, the Center now regularly hosts between 50 and 60 talks each academic year. During the 2017-18 academic year, the talks were held mainly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This year, 57 talks were held. Brown Bag Talks are free and open to the public.

**HUMANITIES CENTER DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP:** The Humanities Center and the Graduate School continued their collaboration on funding a Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship. This annual fellowship awards \$15,000 to a humanities or arts doctoral candidate in the final stages of writing his/her dissertation. The applicant must already be in the process of writing the dissertation and must complete all requirements, including the final defense, by the end of the Spring/Summer Semester or shortly thereafter. Up to three smaller awards of \$500 each can be made at the discretion of the Center. The fellowship award is dispensed as monthly stipends between January and August. The 2017-2018 fellow was Joseph M. Dunne from Philosophy. Awards of \$500 each were made to Theodore Prassinis from English and Kevin Ball from English.

**FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS:** The Faculty fellowship competition is based on an annual theme. The Humanities Center's Advisory Board selects the theme and prepares an explication for our Faculty Fellowship Competition. Awarded Fellowships now average \$6,000 and recipients are expected to participate in the annual Faculty Fellows Conference held in the spring of the following year. This year's theme was *Revolution*. The 2019 theme will be *Democracy*.

**FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE:** The Faculty Fellows Conference is held in the winter semester. Internal Faculty Fellows Conference speakers are the recipients of fellowships in the previous year. The conference allows the fellowship recipients to present the results of their funded work and to receive feedback from the audience. In addition to fellowship recipients from WSU, the Center invites a distinguished keynoter who is an expert in the area addressed by the theme. The 2018 conference theme was *Revolution*; the 2019 conference theme will be *Design*.

**FALL SYMPOSIUM:** The Fall Symposium is held once a year in the fall. It focuses on a topic of contemporary significance in the humanities and arts. Internal and external speakers are chosen from abstracts submitted to the Center's Advisory Board. In addition, the Center invites distinguished keynoters who are experts in the area addressed by the theme. The 2017 theme was *Civility and Incivility*.

**MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP:** Thanks to a generous endowment provided by former WSU Provost Marilyn L. Williamson, the Humanities Center offers an annual Distinguished Faculty Fellowship to tenured faculty (associate and full professors) in the humanities, social issues and arts. The award of this single \$20,000 fellowship is based on the merits of the research project proposed; on the exceptional contribution the proposed project will make to the humanities and its potential for scholarly publication, exhibition or performance; and on two external recommendations in support of the project. The endowment provides funds to offer two fellowships every third year. Consistent with the mission of the Humanities Center, interdisciplinary proposals are particularly encouraged, although all projects in the humanities are fully considered. The fellowship recipient is asked to share results of the funded research in a public lecture organized during the year of (or following) the fellowship term. The 2017 recipients were Jaime Goodrich, Associate Professor of English and Jonathan Flatley, Associate Professor of English. The 2018 recipient is Marsha Richmond, Professor of History.



## SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

2017-2018

**RESIDENT SCHOLARS PROGRAM:** One of the Center's oldest programs, the Resident Scholars Program is open to all full-time faculty in the humanities, arts, and related disciplines. This program provides office space, basic office equipment, and administrative support from the Center's staff. Additionally, monthly "roundtable" meetings allow our residents to discuss their current research or creative projects in an engaging interdisciplinary environment. Resident Scholars are also eligible for up to \$800 in support for travel and equipment expenses, or to pay for research assistance. The Humanities Center hosted seven Resident Scholars from six disciplines during the 2017 -18 year. (See pages 10-14)

**TRAVEL AWARD PROGRAM FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS:** The Center budgets up to \$3,000 a year to support this program. In an effort to spread this funding across the full academic year, the Center budgets \$1,200 for the Fall Semester, \$1,200 for the Winter Semester and \$600 for the Spring/Summer Semester. Each award recipient was funded up to \$300 for travel to conferences or exhibitions held nationally or internationally between September 1, 2017 and August 17, 2018. This year, the Center funded six students from three different departments.

**WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES AND ARTS:** The Working Groups program is designed to promote collaborative and innovative research among WSU humanities and arts faculty and students. Groups typically include faculty from different fields as well as graduate students. Working Groups meet regularly for discussion, exchange, and planning for events such as guest lectures and colloquia. Each group is provided with up to \$800 for speakers, supplies, and other needs. This year the Center supported six groups.

**HUMANITIES CENTER DISSERTATION WRITING SERIES:** Beginning in the Summer of 2014, the Humanities Center has provided a quiet workspace for graduate students in the humanities and social sciences who are ready to make serious progress on their thesis, dissertations or other major writing projects. Faculty volunteers from the Humanities and Social Sciences are on hand to provide advice and encouragement. The series is held during the summer months from mid-May until mid-August. Last year, 15 students and five faculty participated in the program. During this 2017-18 academic year, the Office for Teaching & Learning adopted this program and hosted a writing retreat once per week in their facility. The Center is pleased to have introduced this program to the University.

## RESIDENT SCHOLARS

The Humanities Center's annual competition for Resident Scholars attracted applications from across the University. Residents this year were affiliated with the following disciplines: Communication, History, Political Science, Sociology, Theatre and Dance, and Urban Studies and Planning. Below, each resident scholar provides a summary of his/her experience in the Center this year.



**Zachary Brewster**  
Associate Professor  
Sociology

*"Waiting Tables While Black"*

As a resident scholar in the Humanities Center I had a very productive year. I spent most of the fall term writing a paper titled, "Racial Prejudices, Racialized Workplaces, and Restaurant Servers' Hyperbolic Perceptions of Black-White Tipping Differences." In this paper, my graduate student and I reviewed all of the published evidence of Black-White tipping differences and based on this evidence we present a meta-estimate of the differential. We then contrast this meta-estimate with results from a survey experiment that was designed to assess the effects of customers' race on restaurant servers' predictions of customers' tipping intentions. In doing so we were able to gauge the degree to which servers cognitively inflate interracial differences in tipping practices. We show in this study that servers who harbor anti-Black attitudes and/or work in a racialized workplace are likely to exaggerate the magnitude of the Black-White tipping differential. This paper was submitted for review to Cornell Hospitality Quarterly in December (2017) and was subsequently accepted for publication. In April my graduate student and I presented this paper at the annual meetings of the North Central Sociological Association in Pittsburgh, PA.

During the winter term I worked on a paper titled, "Racialized Workplaces, Contemporary Racial Attitudes, and Stereotype Endorsement: A Recipe for Consumer Racial Profiling." In this paper, my graduate student and I test a causal model predicting consumer racial profiling within the context of full-service restaurants. We show in this research that restaurant servers discriminate against Black diners because they endorse stereotypes depicting these customers as not only bad tippers but also demanding,

discourteous, and dishonest consumers. Further, this process was found to be conditioned by animus towards Blacks and/or working in a racialized workplace such that the indirect effects of customers' race on service discrimination through stereotype endorsement were strengthened as a function of racial prejudice and racialized environments. This paper was just recently submitted for review at Social Forces—one of my disciplines premier journals. I will be presenting this work this August at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. In sum, during my residency in the HC, I was able to write two papers from scratch. I am grateful for the support that I received from the Humanities Center to advance these projects!



**Ewa A. Golebiowska**  
Professor  
Political Science

*"Nationalism and tolerance in the United States"*

I worked on one big project during my year as a Humanities Center Resident Scholar. In this project, I was examining two questions. First, building on the literatures on nationalism and political and social tolerance, I was interested in investigating the links between nationalism and tolerance in the U.S. empirically. Second, I set out to address a major unanswered question on political and social tolerance in the U.S. Specifically, research to date does not definitively establish whether political and social tolerance are linked and whether their sources are the same or different. To answer these questions, I used data from an experimental survey I had conducted last August.

This project proceeded in several stages and culminated in a conference paper I presented at the 2018 Western Political Science Association's Annual Meeting. Ultimately, I plan to publish at least one part of the findings that resulted from this project. During the first stage of my work on

# RESIDENT SCHOLARS

*Resident scholars kept office hours in the Humanities Center and interacted with one another for feedback and professional growth.*



*Above: Professor Eric Montgomery and his co-presenter Christian Vannier gave a Brown Bag talk in February on their book titled "An Ethnography of a Vodun Shrine in Southern Togo: Of Spirit, Slave, and Sea."*

this project, I had to familiarize myself with the literature on nationalism and refresh and update my familiarity with the literatures on political and social tolerance. In addition, I had to prepare the data I had collected for further analysis. This was no small feat because the design of the experiment I had conducted was extremely complicated to begin with and I then spent countless hours preparing it for analysis. Once the data set I had re-created was amenable to analysis, I spent a good deal of time as a Resident Scholar testing the hypotheses I had set out to test. These tasks took up my Fall 2017 semester at the Humanities Center. Finally, I spent most of the Winter 2018 semester writing up the results to present at the Humanities Center's roundtable and the conference to which I allude above.



## **Mary Herring**

Associate Professor, Political Science

Multiple Projects: "Let's (NOT) Meet Face to Face: Gender Differences in Online versus In-Person Political Discussions," and

"Political Discourse Among Adolescents: Is it Still Gendered?"

Both of the studies I worked on as a Humanities Center Resident Scholar address questions about the relevance of gender when people talk about politics. The first is a comparison of the gender dynamics of discussion that takes place in an online environment to those that occur in a face-to-face format. I presented the preliminary results at a Humanities Center Brown Bag in September, with additional data analysis scheduled for the summer months.

The second study examines the effect of gender on adolescents' discourse strategies within the setting of an annual legislative simulation (the YMCA-Michigan Youth in Government conference). With a team of eight volunteer graduate and undergraduate students, we observed and video-recorded deliberations at their March 2017 legislature. Preliminary results were delivered at two professional conferences this academic year, with two grad students and one undergraduate student participating as co-authors.

My two graduate student collaborators and I further workshopped the study at the Resident Scholars Round Table in January, an event that proved to be particularly valuable. As a result of the thoughtful contributions of resident scholars, in our second wave of data collection, we made substantive changes to our survey instrument and added a "real-time coding" element to our observations. The roundtable also provided a model for my grad student collaborators for how cross-disciplinary perspectives can improve research processes and outcomes.

I was fortunate to recruit fourteen graduate and undergraduate volunteers for this year's data collection phase, and eight of them are continuing to participate in the data analysis portion of the study. The community space offered by the Humanities Center has facilitated both the planning and data analysis portions of this project. The quiet space of my Humanities Center office is also greatly appreciated.

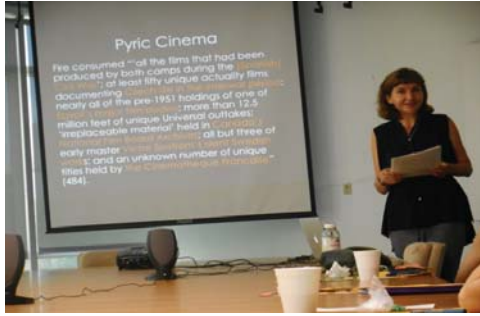


## **Billicia Charnelle Hines**

Assistant Professor, Theatre and Dance

"Theatre of the African Diaspora and Social Change"

# RESIDENT SCHOLARS



Above: Professor Elena Past giving a Brown Bag presentation on "Fire and Ice: Northern Nature, Southern Neighbors, and the Environmental Humanities in Paolo Sorrentino's Youth."

The Resident Scholars held monthly "roundtable" meetings at the Humanities Center. Each scholar volunteered to give a preview of a conference presentation or to informally discuss his/her research with colleagues. Each scholar was allowed to invite an outside guest to the meetings to provide extra feedback.

The Humanities Resident Scholars afforded an opportunity to focus on my writing. Below are the accomplishments this school year.

I presented at the Humanities Center Brown Bag Colloquium with my students. The title of the presentation is as follows:

"August Wilson : The Power of Language, Characters and Storytelling"

I also presented my paper "New Ground on Old Land": Staging Rebellion in Dominique Morisseau's Detroit '67" that I co-authored with Mary Anderson and Richard Haley at the following conference:

American Dramaturgies for the 21st Century: Engaging with the new millennium on stage  
 Université Paris-Sorbonne – March 14-16, 2018

In addition, two papers are published in theatre journals:

**Harriet Jacobs: Helping Actors Embody the Slave Narrative Beyond Yet Another Slave Play**  
 Continuum Journal  
 Projected publication July 2018

## **Detroit '67: Temporalities of Theatrical Representation in the Context of Memorialization**



Left: Dr. Hines and her students giving a Brown Bag presentation in the form of a play in 2017 in Old Main on "August Wilson: The Power of Language, Characters and Storytelling."

Co-authored with Mary Anderson  
 Body, Space, and Technology Journal  
 Published February 2018

The Mid-America Theatre Conference accepted our first draft of our paper. We are re-submitting our 2nd draft. It will then go for peer-review. The title of the paper is as follows:

**Detroit'67: Audiencing in Parallax**  
 Co-Authored with Mary Anderson



**Kelly Jakes**  
 Assistant Professor,  
 Communication

"Finish first monograph "Strains of dissent" Popular Music & Everyday Resistance in WWII France 1940-1945"

The Humanities Center Resident Scholar program was just what I needed to complete my book revisions and kickstart a few, smaller projects that had stalled due to teaching and research demands. I found working in an office with other humanities scholars to be very motivating and far less distracting than working in my departmental office, where students and colleagues frequently drop by with teaching or service related questions. If you are someone who appreciates the structure of set research hours but finds it difficult to concentrate in your home or departmental office, I highly recommend the Resident Scholars Program. Not only did the program help me to focus on my research, it introduced me to colleagues from other disciplines whose support and friendship made the writing process less lonely and more convivial.



# RESIDENT SCHOLARS

The Resident Scholars Program is designed to attract WSU faculty on sabbatical to provide a workspace away from their department. However, other faculty have found the program useful as a way to separate their research from their teaching.



Above: Dean Wayne Raskind making opening remarks at our 2017 Fall Symposium on Civility & Incivility.



**Aaron B. Retish**  
Associate Professor, History

*"Complete "At Court in the USSR" and work on "Gender in Modern Russia" "*

My residency in the Humanities Center during the 2017-18

academic year has been wonderfully productive and intellectually fulfilling. I have spent the bulk of my time working on two major projects. The first is the completion of my manuscript "At Court in the USSR," a work that has been generously supported by a Humanities Center fellowship along with research support by the Harry Frank Guggenheim, American Philosophical Society, and the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research. The second is a wide-ranging study on the history of gender in modern Russia.

I have spent most of my time working on my book manuscript on the local Soviet courts. It is a study of how peasants in the Soviet Union used local courts from the Communist revolution in 1917 until the eve of the Second World War in 1939 that focuses on people's courts, the most widely used courts and an important entry into what peasants and state expected from the Soviet legal world. In the spring I workshopped one of the chapters to my fellow residents and received important insights into how non-Russian history specialists understood my argument. I have made significant revisions based on their suggestions. My aim is to complete the manuscript either later this summer or while on fellowship at Imre Kertész Kolleg, Friedrich-Schiller University this fall. I also moved another long chapter on the early Soviet court system in an edited volume to completion.

Secondly, I have made significant progress on

my book manuscript on the history of women and gender in modern Russia. For this, I have used the residency to collect materials and images that form the basis of my study. Finally, materials that I discovered while working on the above projects have led me in new directions. During the winter, I became interested in Mikhael Nikolaevich Gernet, a criminologist who worked under the tsarist and Soviet governments reforming criminal law and penology. I developed my findings into an article-length paper that I presented at an invited talk in Israel, which should be published next year.

Most importantly, I want to thank the Wayne State Humanities Center for providing such a wonderful, intellectually stimulating space that fosters interdisciplinary discussions. My discussions in office doorways with experts from communication to political science have led me to ask new questions about my own project. These informal conversations and our brownbag discussions also taught me about new avenues and methodologies of research. For example, I had no idea that Amazon administered surveys! Interactions with my great colleagues across the disciplines have made me approach my topics of research in new ways. I hope that these conversations will develop into new opportunities for collaboration. It is a credit to Wayne State University that it continues to fund and support the gem that is the Humanities Center.



**Avis Vidal**  
Professor, Urban Studies and Planning

*"Research on the revitalization of Midtown and Downtown"*

I have been fortunate to be granted several periods as a Resident Scholar during my years at Wayne, and have always found



Above: Professor Barry Lyons (standing) presenting a Brown Bag talk on "Using Film to Communicate Climate Change."

them both enjoyably collegial and intellectually productive. This year has been no exception. I spent the bulk of the year re-thinking a multi-year project on what ultimately became the apparent revival of greater Downtown in Detroit. This project started as a simple effort to assess a small program in Midtown (Live Midtown, now concluded), and gradually expanded in several directions. Each of these new directions – including the efforts to mount a concerted "anchor strategy" in Midtown; the role (or lack of role) of community based organizations in Midtown's growing strength; the addition of Live Downtown as a comparative case, and the major stimulus to Downtown provided by Dan Gilbert's decision to move his numerous firms and his entrepreneurial efforts to focus on Detroit -- proved interesting, and led to a book chapter and a series of well-received conference papers. But they also left my project intellectually scattered, and its "big picture" conclusions unclear. My time as a Resident Scholar enabled me to gather some additional contextual data, and explore some alternative analytical frameworks that might accommodate the research I had completed (perhaps with some reframing). The most valuable portion of the experience, toward the end of the year, was the opportunity to use my in-house seminar with my colleagues to test whether my preliminary synthesis of the projects several elements, and the overall conclusions, were persuasive to colleagues from a variety of disciplines – the kind of audience to whom my final project product will be targeted.

## RESIDENT SCHOLARS



The Humanities Center's Resident Scholars' Round table discussion. Resident Scholars from L to R - Billicia Hines, Assistant Professor, Theatre and Dance; Aaron Retish, Associate Professor, History, Director, Walter F. Edwards; Zachary Brewster, Associate Professor, Sociology; Avis Vidal, Professor, Urban Studies & Planning; Guest; Mary Herring, Associate Professor, Political Science; Guest.



Resident Scholar Mary Herring working on her research in her office inside the Humanities Center.

## 2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM CIVILITY & INCIVILITY

The Humanities Center's Fall Symposium, centered on the theme "Civility & Incivility," took place on October 13, 2017. Fifteen scholars presented papers at the symposium, which was moderated by WSU scholars. The theme was discussed from a variety of perspectives across many disciplines. Below is the explication of the general theme, followed by the abstracts of the talks presented. The symposium was organized into sessions according to common sub-themes. The keynoter was Susan Herbst, President of the University of Connecticut.



### Explication of Civility and Incivility

The word civility summons images of manners and polite discourse but in both public and private spaces, the concept of "civility" is challenged through incidents of name calling, shadowy dealings, sexual harassment, or physical confrontations. Where is the line drawn between heated disagreement and slander? Between calling attention to an injustice and inciting violence? Even as notions of civility are enshrined in Western liberal democracies, critical theorists and indigenous activists (among others) point out that such notions often serve to privilege elite constituents, and further marginalize or disenfranchise subaltern actors. Accordingly, we have seen how a number of contemporary social movements focused on diversity, social justice, and inclusion harness what is seemingly "incivility" to advocate for social change (e.g., Black Lives Matter, WTO protests, Occupy Wall Street). Research on civility is thus incredibly nuanced, reaches many disciplines, and inspires some intriguing pairings such as civility and democracy, civility in the workplace, civility and gender/sex, civility and social movements, civility and violence and civility and design.

### BIOGRAPHY



**Susan Herbst – Keynote Speaker  
President, University of Connecticut**

Susan Herbst was appointed as the 15th President of the University of Connecticut by its Board of Trustees in December of 2010. She is the first female president of the University, which was founded in 1881. Since her appointment, she has led multiple initiatives to strengthen teaching, research and service at the University.

She is a scholar of public opinion, media, and American politics, and is the author of four books and many articles in these areas, most recently, Rude Democracy:

Civility and Incivility in American Politics (2010). Along with Benjamin Page, Lawrence Jacobs, and Adam Berinsky, she edits the University of Chicago Press series in American Politics. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU).

# 2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM CIVILITY & INCIVILITY

## **KEYNOTER'S 2017 ABSTRACT**

### **Rude Democracy: Civility & Incivility in American Politics**

Incivility has a long history in American politics. Harsh language, personal attack, and even physical altercation were sewn into the fabric of our political culture from the earliest days of our founding. The years leading up to the Civil War were among the most brutal, and led to a conflict more horrendous than any 18th century founder could have possibly imagined. Citizen against citizen; state against state.

Not all incivility is a precursor to war of course, but we need to understand the forms that incivility takes, here in 2017. Is some incivility inherent in American politics? Has the nation changed in a fundamental way these past few years? What is to be done? These are the questions of our historical moment, and those that students, scholars, and indeed every citizen must ponder, if we are to build the kind of democratic nation we wish to inhabit.

## **ABSTRACTS OF OTHER PRESENTERS**

**Melba J. Boyd, Distinguished Professor, African American Studies**

**Ollie Johnson III, Chair and Associate Professor, African American Studies**

*"The Incivility of Student Protest and the Expansion of the Intellectual Purview of the Academy"*

Before African American Studies became a discipline in the academy, it existed within the intellectual institutions in the African American community and was taught in some racially segregated schools and Black churches. As African American scholars acquired terminal degrees and entered some facets of higher education by adhering to traditional disciplines and paradigms, many of them simultaneously contributed to the development of the nascent discipline as members of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, founded by Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Books and journals advanced and supported the discourse and scholarship that was, for the most part, ignored by mainstream universities and scholarly organizations. As an extension of the Civil Rights Movement, the Black Student Movement committed acts of incivility, protesting, demonstrating, and making demands on American campuses. Subsequently, Black Studies programs, departments, and centers were created to accommodate a discipline that expanded the canon and advanced principles of academic diversity.

This discussion about the incivility of protest on campuses is critical to understanding how white racial domination has misguided American thought and culture for centuries. The miseducation within higher education has misrepresented the contributions and complexities of people of color. Our presentation will also consider how the opening of the academy promoted other student protests, e.g., the Chicano Student Movement, which resulted in further expansion of the curriculum and promoted the admittance of a multicultural student population. Conversely, university curriculums incorporated, to a limited extent, a more egalitarian representation of people of the United States as well as throughout the rest of the planet.

**Ronald Brown**

**Associate Professor, Political Science, Wayne State University**

*"Political Deliberation, The Black Panther Party, and the House of Representative Internal Security Committee; Civility or Negative Framing"*

On April 2, 1969, the House of Representatives voted 305 to 51 replace the Un-American Activities



## 2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM CIVILITY & INCIVILITY

*Dr. Edwards (left) and Keynote speaker Susan Herbst (right) at the "Civility & Incivility" Fall Symposium. He is holding a copy of Dr. Herbst's book "Rude Democracy: Civility & Incivility in American Politics."*



Committee and authorize the House Committee on Internal Security to spend \$400,000 to "investigate Communist and other subversive activities affecting the internal security of the United States" (New York Times, April 2, 1969, CRS-1970-GGX-0018). Members of Congress often conduct fire alarm investigative oversight to take highly visible public stands on issues (Mayhew 2005). The fire alarm investigation, 1969-1970 resulted in the framing of the Black Panther Party as a threat to American liberalism, as criminals, and a threat to the internal security of the property rights of law abiding Americans. In contrast, local as well as state police officials were framed as protectors of American liberalism.

In this paper, the focus is a series of subcommittee and full committee hearings held by the House Committee on Internal Security, September 1969 to October 6, 1970. The testimony of newly elected black congressional members, local police officials, and federal undercover agents are closely scrutinized. Indeed, the conclusion drawn is that careful framing of black dissent as un-American led to subsequent proposed legislation to justify the suppression of black militancy. The racialization and demonization of the Black Panther Party has chilling implications for contemporary political groups whose flammable rhetoric Congress wishes to silence.

### **Elizabeth Dungee-Anderson**

#### **Associate Professor, Social Work, Wayne State University**

"Urban Disadvantaged African American Males, Aggression and Civility in American Society"

According to Lane (YEAR); McCourt ( YEAR) civil behavior requires that people communicate with respect, restraint, and responsibility. Uncivil communication occurs when people fail to do so. Habermas (1975) argues that human conflict occurs when there is miscommunication, so it may be further argued that communication competence is required for the reduction of miscommunication. What then is communication competence in the context of civility? Herrick (2005) suggests that communication competence involves the ability to communicate so that (1) the claim of truth by the communicator is shared by both speaker and receiver; (2) the receiver is directed to understand and accept the speaker's intention; and (3), the communicator adapts to the listener's world view (Herrick). Arguably then, If there is disagreement about the truth claim or appropriateness of the content of the communication, conflict will ensue. Does this perspective of civility/incivility ring true across most human interactions? Or, is civility equally or better defined as contextual?

In a closer examination of civility from the perspective of social justice and a review of the identified requirements for acceptability of civility in societal discourse, it becomes less clear to this writer that the accepted or standard definition of civility rings true. For example, Webster defines social justice as a state or doctrine of egalitarianism or a fair and just relation between the individual and society, measured by the explicit and tacit terms for the distribution of wealth, opportunities for personal activity and social privileges. Therefore, though the concepts of "just" and "equal" appear to be accepted by society at-large as inherent philosophical principles that define democracy, equitability does not appear to have a claim of truth when the variables of difference and social justice are introduced in "civil" societal discourse. The central thesis of this argument, then, is that civility is contextual and inclusive of individual and group truth claims despite the fact that such claims of societal truth may indeed be false in our American democratic society.

## 2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM CIVILITY & INCIVILITY



*Professor Elizabeth Dungee-Anderson (left) and Professor Ronald Brown at the Civility & Incivility Fall Symposium.*

In general, African American males and, most decidedly, those from urban and socio-economically disadvantaged circumstances are viewed globally in society as suspect, aggressive, menacing, violent and ultimately “uncivil”. Overall, societal communication and subsequent societal interactions, behaviors, and discourse, emanate from this widely held perspective. For the purpose of this discussion, a related argument then would be that in circumstances of societal incivility against an entire population group in an original societal context not of their making, would aggression as a variable to promote, and capture some measure of egalitarianism seem an appropriate fair response to global societal communicated disrespect, dishonor, mistrust? The argument here is not that aggression in general is a respected intervention in civil discourse, but when societal interactions against an entire population group are uncivil and communication is incompetent, is the use of aggression a fair measure to begin to identify and address social injustice and provide a lens of awareness for those who believe societal discourse is indeed civil?

This paper will explore the use of aggression, deliberate or otherwise, as a respected measure for safety and preservation of civil liberties in a democracy beginning with World War I and II and other types of more recent conflicts that seem to support aggression as a necessary measure in a democracy when circumstances are extraordinary. It is clear that the place of African American males in American society is extraordinary. Can such principles of the use of aggression be applied here?

### **Kenneth Jackson**

#### **Chair, English, Wayne State University**

*“I Don’t Think ‘Civility’ Means What We Think It Means’: Norbert Elias, The Civilizing Process, and American resistance to a court of manners”*

The idea of human rights has been used to invade foreign countries, oppress women, and maintain economic inequality. A state claims to protect the universal right to democracy when using military force against another state to secure a natural resource. A religious leader appeals to the right to religious liberty to justify gender inequality in the community. A political official objects to re-distributive taxation on grounds that it violates the right to property. What goes wrong in these appeals to human rights? They reflect an ideology – rather than an ideal – that justifies a structure of power that generates unjust laws, policy, and institutions. An ideology provides self-serving justifications for a status quo distribution of political or economic goods between states, between states and their own members or between members of the same state. The ideology of human rights uses the idea of human rights to promote the interests of duty-bearers (who are generally persons in power or have resources) rather than the rights-holders, who are vulnerable to the abuse of power. On the other hand, the ideal of human rights is a moral aim to correct the imbalance of power that leads to unjust distribution of goods. The ideal provides justifications that serve the interests of the right-holders rather than the duty-bearers. The following are examples of using the idea of human rights to defend the ideal: (1) an appeal to the right against genocide to justify a foreign intervention where it does not promote the self-serving interests of the invaders, (2) an appeal to the right to religious liberty for the protection of a minority religious group from the persecution of a dominant religious group, and (3) an appeal to the right to property against a powerful state that tries to confiscate land within a residential area for re-development. My paper does not provide a set of necessary and sufficient conditions that can distinguish an ideology from the ideal of human rights, but I explore some questions that can identify their differences.

# 2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM

## CIVILITY & INCIVILITY

Right: English Chair Kenneth Jackson presenting at the Civility & Incivility Fall Symposium.



### **Brad Roth**

**Professor, Political Science & Law, Wayne State University**

*"Tolerating Purveyors of Hate Speech: Civility or Complicity?"*

When does civility become complicity? A participant in a public conversation has duties not only to one's interlocutor, but to other stakeholders, including the targets of the interlocutor's assertions, characterizations, and proposed policies. Civility communicates the message that the interlocutor belongs in the conversation, but some interlocutors – e.g., white supremacists, Holocaust deniers – do not belong in the conversation; their inclusion may tend to normalize what needs to be identified as a social pathology. The problem is not that the speech at issue offends sensibilities, but that it plausibly exposes vulnerable members of society to enhanced risks of discrimination, harassment, or even violence.

Yet disruption of such speech – exercises of power "from below" – raises questions partially analogous to those arising from governmental regulation. Prevalent free speech doctrine establishes a standard of viewpoint neutrality: "under the First Amendment, there is no such thing as a false idea." Even if this standard (which does not prevail in many other democracies) is repudiated, considerations of both principle and pragmatism properly constrain the range of uncivil responses that can be countenanced in a democratic political community.

**Elizabeth Stoycheff, Assistant Professor, Communication, Wayne State University**

**Kunto A. Wibowo, Doctoral Candidate, Communication, Wayne State University**

**Juan Liu, Doctoral Candidate, Communication, Wayne State University**

**Kai Xu, Doctoral Candidate, Communication, Wayne State University**

*"Online Mass Surveillance and Political Incivility"*

The U.S. National Security Agency argues that its online mass surveillance has played a pivotal role in preventing acts of terrorism on U.S. soil since 9/11. But journalists and academics have decried the practice, arguing that it has the potential to chill online expression and cultivate a sense of societal mistrust and incivility. As the first study to investigate empirically the relationship between online surveillance and political incivility, we find that perceptions of government monitoring reduce individuals' commitment to protect others' basic civil liberties, including rights to free speech and a fair trial. This incivility is subsequently associated with greater support for hawkish foreign policy to prevent terrorism. Implications for the privacy-security debate are discussed.

### **Steven L. Winter**

**Walter S. Gibbs Distinguished Professor of Constitutional Law, Law, Wayne State University**

*"The Ideology of Ideology"*

In contemporary usage, civility and politics are semantic and practical opposites. Civility connotes courtesy, politeness, and respect. Politics, on the other hand, is the competitive enterprise of getting and keeping power. Civility in the public sphere is vanishing as politicians increasingly demonize opponents



## 2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM CIVILITY & INCIVILITY

*Left: Professor Brad Roth presents his work at the Fall Symposium on "Tolerating Purveyors of Hate Speech: Civility or Complicity?," held in the Community Room in the David Adamany Undergraduate Library.*

(or scapegoat outsiders) in order to mobilize their supporters who, in turn, organize themselves as warring tribes.

Our language has not always been so gauche. Semantically, "civility" and "politics" share a common origin in notions of communal membership. "Civility" is from the Latin *civitas* "the art of governing" or "citizenship" while "politics" is from the Greek *polis* (πολιτης) for "citizen" and *politeia* (πολιτεία) or "the art of citizenship." As Guillaume de La Perrière observes in his sixteenth century work, *Le Miroir Politique*: "Policy is derived from the Greek word *πολιτεία* which in our tongue we may term civility. And that which the Greeks called political government, the Latins called the government of a Republic or civil society."

The modern sense of civility as politeness derives from the understanding that some level of restraint in civil interactions is necessary to public peace. This modern sense, however, is doubly degraded. On one hand, it connotes the minimal level of courtesy necessary for social life as in the phrases "mere civility" or "please be civil." On the other hand, this narrow sense—shorn, as it is, of its original connotation of citizenship and the equality of respect that entails—often operates to preserve privilege: Under conditions of hierarchy, the demand of decorum is likely to mean that the subordinate are expected to defer to their "betters."

The semantic shift in the meaning of civility reflects profound social and epistemic changes. Modern, western societies are pluralist and individualist. We are not only diverse in values, beliefs, backgrounds, and ethnicities, but we are deeply skeptical of people's capacity to persuade one another on matters of profound normative commitments. In our modern context, as Frank Michelman observes, "good politics does not essentially involve the direction of reason and argument towards any common, ideal, or self-transcendent end. For true pluralists, good politics can only be a market-like medium through which variously interested and motivated individuals and groups seek to maximize their own particular preferences."

But the pluralist's "good politics" is self-defeating. Power is not self-executing; it can only "open or close hidden fissures in the block of general consent." Politics is not the realization of power, but the construction of it. As La Perrière continues: "All cities and civil societies are constituted for the purpose and refinement of some good." Politics is a necessary condition of the intersubjective relation between socially situated individuals who need each other to succeed and, inevitably, are not of a single mind. It requires tolerance, pragmatism, negotiation, compromise, cooperation, and the capacity to seek common ground. When politics is instead played as a zero-sum game, the inevitable results are polarization, stalemate, and oppression. Once people are oriented to politics as just another competitive market for maximizing preferences, the necessary conditions for success—that is, civility—are destroyed.

This, too, is the epistemic condition that underwrites the phenomenon of "fake news." When politics becomes about preferences rather than ends, reason, fact and argument are beside the point. Everybody is entitled to their opinion, one opinion is as good as another, and pretty soon every opinion is impervious to rational refutation: Evolution is just a theory; the jury is still out on climate change; Obamacare is Socialism. Compromise and consensus become impossible; politics degenerates into a blood sport.



# 2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM

## CIVILITY & INCIVILITY

*Right: Distinguished Professor Steven Winter from the Law School presenting his work at the Fall Symposium.*



Which is not to suggest that civility requires harmony or the suppression of difference. Where there is already agreement there is—by definition—no need for politics. It is to suggest that civility in its commodious sense requires agonism without antagonism. For politics to succeed, we must engage with one another as protagonists in a common project of collective self-governance. And that is only possible when we can come together to exercise influence over our fate under conditions of mutual recognition and respect.

### **Kelly M. Young**

**Associate Professor of Communication & Director of Forensics, Wayne State University**

*"A Basket Full of Deplorables: Civility as the Policing of Public Affect and Dissensus"*

Debate within a liberal public sphere is considered by many to be the foundation of democracy. For instance, normative democratic theorists contend that citizens having equal access to reasoned civil debate with a public sphere provides legitimacy to democratic institutions and their laws and policies. Further, argumentation and communication studies theory was founded on a consensus model of debate, where decision-making occurs based on considering several opinions and options and majority vote, based on shared agreement after civil discussion. Although our government is not structured on a consensus model, we tend to believe that a civil and well-reasoned debate that considers all perspectives about important matters is the best mode of public deliberation.

However, the rise of various protest groups like Occupy Wall Street and Black Lives Matters and the uncivil nature of the 2016 presidential election call into question some, if not most, of these underlying assumptions. Rather than listen to the concerns and demands of protest groups, we immediately dismiss them after branding the groups as uncivil and violent. During the election, harsh rhetoric, emotional appeals, false news, and inconsistent advocacy dominated the news cycle. Within this political context, what role does evidence, logic, and political passions play within public sphere debate? Has the public sphere transformed or has it always had a certain policing function that produces the very exclusions that led to the rise of uncivil forces?

My presentation will contend that there remains great value in public argument, but it requires critical attention to the forces that are challenging the public sphere in ways that are often considered antithetical to good governance and civil public debate: affective reasoning and dissensus. Drawing from recent work on affect theory, emotional reasoning, and Jacques Rancière's critique of civility, consensus, and politics. Rather than seeking to restore the legitimacy of various institutions of shared truth (e.g., government agencies, news media, the university) or call for an exclusionary mode of public civility, we should better understand how affect and exclusions constantly disrupt our models of civility and consensus. Instead, we should embrace Rancière's demand for a politics that calls into question communication and political norms as givens. Recent examples drawn from Black Lives Matters, Occupy Wall Street, the Women's March, and the 2016 presidential election, particularly disputes within the Democratic Party and criticisms of Trump supporters, will be used to illustrate many of these ideas.

## 2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM CIVILITY & INCIVILITY



Holly Feen-Calligan (left) from Education, and Margi Weir (right) from Art & Art History presenting at the Fall Symposium.

**Marilyn Zimmerwoman, Associate Professor, Art & Art History**

**Margi Weir, Associate Professor, Art & Art History**

**Holly Feen-Calligan, Associate Professor & Coordinator of Art Therapy, Education, Wayne State University**

*"Civility and Creativity Constellating Communities: Discovering our Collective Humanity Through the Arts and Design"*

Colloquially, ideology is a set of beliefs or value system such as free-market capitalism or Marxism that an autonomous subject subscribes to. In critical theory, ideology is a system of values and beliefs that some subjects promulgate in their self-interest to mystify and mislead other, otherwise autonomous subjects to their detriment. On this view, ideology shapes the perceptions and preferences of the subordinated so they accede to the claims of power. As Foucault observes, theories of power that depend upon notions of hegemony and ideology presuppose problematically strong notions of both truth and subjectivity. Worse, they are self-contradictory and internally incoherent. They assume, on one hand, that the subordinated are so acculturated to the demands of the system that they see it as natural. Yet, they simultaneously presume that those "in power" stand outside and manipulate those very same processes of social construction. This cannot be. The "powerful" too must have been socialized to see their interests and privilege as natural. Once power is recognized in the very formation of the individual subject, it is not possible to skirt the fact that the powerful, too, are subjects produced by the operations of power. Ideology is, rather, a reflexive element whose function is to rationalize complicity in an ongoing social system. In *The Power of the Powerless*, Václav Havel provides a sophisticated understanding of power as residing in a system of practices and expectations in which everyone participates. Ideology is to a social system what rationalization is to neurosis in psychoanalytic theory: its manifest content serves as form of misdirection that conceals from the participants the performative content of their actions; its latent psychological function is to allow the participants to comply with the expectations of the system and yet maintain a sense of dignity, integrity, or authenticity. In a consumer society, for example, the neoliberal ideology of freedom, individualism, and choice provide the link that binds the individual to the system. Consumerism understood as a system of power reproduces and maintain itself not by misleading or "brainwashing" consumers, but by providing them with already rationalized excuses for action.

# MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP LECTURES

*The Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship recipients are asked to share results of their funded research in a lecture organized during the year following the fellowship term.*

## 2017 Fellows



### **Jonathan Flatley, Associate Professor, English**

*Black Leninism: How Revolutionary Counter-Moods Are Made*

It can be easy to forget that from time to time variously depressed, stunned, and abused persons come together in solidarity to form newly energetic, hopeful, and demanding collectives, which then engage in transformative political action. Black Leninism turns to the formidable resources of the black radical tradition in order to understand how such revolutionary counter-moods arise. From W.E.B. Du Bois to the Black Lives Matter movement, it examines the representation and creation of those moments when black people come together as a group for whom collective political action seems urgent, obvious, and vital, and when victory over the forces of white supremacy seems possible. I understand these ways of feeling and knowing the world as “counter-moods,” because the oppositional “we” they create must be awakened out of what Gwendolyn Brooks calls the “dry hours and the involuntary plan,” the “grayed in” humdrum of everyday life. For Brooks (who sought, following Amiri Baraka, to write poetry that would “call all black people”), as for the black radical tradition more generally, the key to producing such counter-moods is the representation of black people as a group to black people as a group. Black Leninism argues that this project of collective self-representation has been a central organizing principle of modern black intellectual and aesthetic production. It shows how the pursuit of this project entailed a surprisingly robust engagement with the work and example of Vladimir Lenin, revolutionary figure par excellence, whose ideas about the revolutionary party and revolutionary leadership, colonial self-determination, capitalist imperialism, and communist internationalism were all taken up by the black radical tradition.

### **Jaime Goodrich, Associate Professor, English**

*Writing Habits: God, Text, and Community in English Benedictine Convents, 1600-1800*

Writing Habits: God, Text, and Community in English Benedictine Convents, 1600-1800 explores a significant, but marginalized, body of literature: the texts produced in English Benedictine convents on the Continent. After Catholicism became illegal in England during the 16th century, Englishwomen established over twenty cloisters on the Continent that served as vital centers of Catholic piety until 1800. As the first book to examine writing practices in these convents, Writing Habits recovers little-known texts by Benedictine nuns and establishes their relevance to literary history and critical theory. Intervening in the scholarly debate over historicism and presentism, this monograph argues that the material text is an essential starting point for philosophical inquiry. Writing Habits draws on Martin Buber’s theory of God-centered community to demonstrate that cloistered textual production constructed a fourfold set of affiliations: between the nuns themselves, between the individual nun and God, between the convent and God, and between the convent and the public sphere. Ideally, convent writing functioned as a tool for approaching God, who is unknowable and therefore the ultimate Other. Combining rigorous archival research with philosophical inquiry, Writing Habits reveals the value of basing existential speculation on the gritty historical details of lived experience.



# MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

Thanks to a generous endowment provided by the former Provost Marilyn L. Williamson, the Humanities Center offers an annual Distinguished Faculty Fellowship to tenured faculty in the humanities. The fellow is requested to present the results of their funded work at a special lecture the following year.

## The 2018 Fellow



**Marsha Richmond, Professor, History**

### **Abstract**

*Sentinel of Science: Theo Colborn and the Discovery of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals*

In the late 1980s, Dr. Theo Colborn (1927-2014), a World Wildlife Fund (WWF) biologist studying Great Lakes fauna, identified a disturbing pattern that previously eluded scientists: perplexing cases of developmental abnormalities in wildlife that interfered with their viability. Alarmed by this apparently new environmental threat, Colborn, with the support of the WWF, convened a meeting of almost two dozen leading biologists and medical researchers in 1991. The outcome was the Wingspread Consensus Statement of 1992 announcing chemically induced endocrine disruption. This was the first realization that manmade industrial chemicals were entering the food chain and had the potential to alter developmental pathways by interfering with normal hormone expression. In 1996, Colborn and two co-authors published the popular book ***Our Stolen Future: Are We Threatening Our Fertility, Intelligence, and Survival? A Scientific Detective Story. Like Rachel Carson's Silent Spring (1962)***. *Our Stolen Future* warn the public about the danger of industrial chemicals, but ultimately did not have a comparable impact owing to the chemical industry's savvy strategies that undercut the federal government's regulatory process. Until her death in 2014, Colborn served as a tireless sentinel of science, working to advance scientific research on environmental disrupting chemicals (EDCs), restrict their release into the environment, and educate the public about their harm. This project is the first full-scale historical examination of Colborn's scientific career and the science of endocrine disruption, contributing both to scholarship on women in the life sciences and to environmental history.





# HUMANITIES CENTER'S DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

The Humanities Center and the Graduate School continued their collaboration on funding the Humanities Center's Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship. This annual fellowship awards \$15,000 to a humanities or arts doctoral candidate in the final stages of writing his/her dissertation.

## About the Award

The applicant must already be in the process of writing the dissertation and must complete the dissertation, including the final defense, by the end of the Spring/Summer Semester 2018 or shortly thereafter. Up to three smaller awards of \$500 each could be made at the discretion of the Center.

This year the Center selected one recipient, Joseph M. Dunne (Philosophy), and two awardees: Kevin Ball (English), and Theodore (Sociology). Below are the abstracts of their dissertations.



### Joseph M. Dunne, Department of Philosophy - Fellow

*"Here I Stand: Religious Conscience and Legal Exemptions"*

Religious conscience beliefs are often singled out for special legal treatment – which raises an important question: What, if anything, is special about religious conscience beliefs that warrant their special legal treatment? In my dissertation, I argue that we should not legally privilege religious conscience beliefs over their nonreligious counterparts, contending that both forms of conscience should just be treated equally before the law. In the first chapter, I offer a historical overview of this “specialness question” as found in US jurisprudence – e.g., in the US Constitution, the Seeger, Welsh, and Yoder cases, and so on. In the second chapter, I develop and defend a broad account of ‘conscience’ against competing notions in order to navigate questions concerning the comparative features of religious and nonreligious conscience more effectively. In the third and fourth chapters, I navigate through a host of potential features that, when possessed by the religious conscience, may warrant special legal treatment. In these chapters, I conclude that, when compared to the nonreligious conscience, the religious conscience fails to possess a sufficiently differentiating feature such that comparatively special legal treatment is warranted. Some of the features I investigate include: categoricity, insulation from evidence, centrality to identity, the lack of choice, and unique source of intolerance. In the fifth and final chapter, I answer some possible objections to my thesis once it is established – e.g., the problem of underinclusivity, the problem of overinclusivity, the feasibility objection, and the objection from religious liberty.



### Kevin Ball, Department of English - Awardee

*"Social Gravity and Sonic Flight: Heaviness, Motion, and Sound in Afrofuturist Media"*

While much of the discourse on Afrofuturism centers on the technological, my thesis emphasizes the clairvoyance of the encounter between black bodies and music and the antiracist imagination that this encounter conjures in the here and now. “Social Gravity and Sonic Uplift” explores a selection of music videos and films that visualize sound as an embodied expression, in forms that range from fantastical images of levitation and flight to dance practices.

Some examples of this “sonic motion” can be found in the flight-imagery of Kendrick Lamar’s

## HUMANITIES CENTER'S DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

"Alright," the themes of suspension in Vince Staples's "Alright," and jazz musician Sun Ra's *Space is the Place*, which imagines music as a vital pathway into an otherworldly black space. It is my position that these media texts visualize several critical and spatial capacities of sound, such as its diffuseness, omnidirectionality, and its rhythmic pulse, and they do so in a way that addresses what I have termed "heaviness": the encumbrance of black experience under the weight of anti-black discrimination and violence. By theorizing the tension between the heaviness of black experience and the "lightness of being" imagined through sound, I seek to craft a new conceptual framework of Afrofuturism in which the irreconcilable burdens of black struggle are shot through with a notion of the future that can be heard and performed in the present, as opposed to the linear modes of temporality that distance the future as that which lies beyond the now.



### **Theodore Prassinos, Department of English - Awardee**

#### *"Under the Sign of Suicide"*

My dissertation, "Under the Sign of Suicide," examines modernist writers' intense and sustained preoccupation with and representations of suicide. Beyond numerous essays on the topic, we also find many fictional characters such as Fyodor Dostoevsky's Svidrigailov and Kirilov both taken by gunshot, Stavrogin and Smerdyakov both by hanging. We also find Franz Kafka's George Bendemann who takes his life by drowning, and Virginia Woolf's Septimus Smith by impaling, Rhoda, off a cliff. In American literature, we find Edna Pontellier, Quentin Compson, Clare Kendry, Semour Glass, Teddy McArdle, Willy Loman, Tod Clifton, and on and on. This list is surely not exhaustive. And yet while at first glance modernism's preoccupation with suicide may appear disturbing, distasteful, or at worst, morbid, my dissertation wagers a surprisingly counter-intuitive gesture. I argue that representations of suicide in modernist literature (specifically works by Walter Benjamin, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Virginia Woolf, and James Baldwin) function not in terms of some pathological exhibitionism, or perhaps worse, as some stigma-prone practice about which we must remain silent. Rather, I argue that by reading a little more closely and by paying attention to the varied yet subtle conditions of suicide's possibility that we may understand that suicide functions in modernist writing in two related ways: first, as a critique of our modern world, and secondly, as a way to imagine how we could begin to repair our broken relation to this world. Which is to say, modernist representations of suicide invite readers to imagine how our world needs to change. In short, rather than perpetuate various stigmas of silence surrounding suicide and suicidal behavior, my dissertation addresses the question, what happens when we listen to suicidal voices?

FALL 2017

# BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

The Brown Bag Colloquium Series is one of the Humanities Center's most successful and visible programs. This year the series comprised 57 talks given mainly by Wayne State University faculty members.



Above: Vice President for Research, Stephen M. Lanier the opening speaker for the 2017-18 Brown Bag Series.

**September 12<sup>th</sup> Stephen M. Lanier, Professor of Pharmacology and Vice President for Research Integrative Sciences and Engagement**

**September 13<sup>th</sup> Ollie Johnson, Chair and Associate Professor, African American Studies**  
New Perspectives on Afro-Latin American Politics

**September 19<sup>th</sup> Mary Herring, Associate Professor, Political Science**  
Gender Dynamics of Political Conversation: A Comparison of Face-to-Face and Online Discussion

**September 20<sup>th</sup> Elena Past, Associate Professor and Associate Chair, CMLLC\***  
Fire and Ice: Northern Nature, Southern Neighbors, and the Environmental Humanities in Paolo Sorrentino's Youth

**September 26<sup>th</sup> Jaime Goodrich, Associate Professor, English; Graham Hukill, Digital Publishing Librarian, University Libraries; Cynthia Krolikowski, Librarian IV and Special Collections Librarian, University Libraries**  
Dividing the Kingdoms: Interdisciplinary Methods for Teaching King Lear to Undergraduates

**September 27<sup>th</sup> Barry Lyons, Associate Professor, Anthropology**  
Using Film to Communicate Climate Change

**September 28<sup>th</sup> Brandon Hensley, Lecturer, Communication, Nicholas D. Hartlep, Assistant Professor of Urban Education, Early Childhood/Elementary Coordinator, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN**  
Book Launch: The Neoliberal Agenda and the Student

Debt Crisis in U.S. Higher Education

**October 3<sup>rd</sup> Bruce Russell, Professor, Philosophy**  
Solving the Abortion Problem

**October 4<sup>th</sup> Kenneth Jackson, Professor and Chair, English**  
Teaching Shakespeare in the Age of STEM

**October 10<sup>th</sup> Joseph Fitzgerald, Professor, Psychology**  
The Well-Being of Gen X: A Developmental Examination

**October 11<sup>th</sup> Steven L. Winter, Walter S. Gibbs Distinguished Professor, Law School**  
The Liturgy of Dissent

**October 12<sup>th</sup> Mohamed El-Sharkawi, Associate Professor, CMLLC\***  
The Ecology of Case in Modern Arabic

**October 17<sup>th</sup> Marc W. Kruman, Director and Professor, Center for the Study of Citizenship & History**  
Confederate Monuments

**October 18<sup>th</sup> Alisa Moldavanova, Assistant Professor, Political Science, Nathaniel Wright, Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University**  
Arts and Culture Nonprofits and Community Sustainability: Examining the Role of Organizational Strategy

**October 24<sup>th</sup> Billicia Hines, Assistant Professor and Director of the Black Theatre Program, Theatre August Wilson : The Power of Language, Characters and Storytelling**



Above: The Brown Bag audience listens closely while Professor Donyale Padgett and her co-presenters talk about the water crisis in Flint, MI.

# BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

The talks covered a wide variety of topics in the humanities, social sciences, and arts. Abstracts of the talks are posted on the Center's website. Presenters benefit from feedback received from the faculty and students who attend the talks, especially from scholars in other disciplines.



Above: Music Professor Joshua Duchan gives a Brown Bag talk on "Billy Joel and The Beatles."

**October 25<sup>th</sup> Clay Walker, Senior Lecturer, English; Adrienne Jankens, Senior Lecturer, English; Nicole Varty, Senior Lecturer, English**

Leveraging Personal Relationships with At-Risk Students

**October 26<sup>th</sup> Fran Shor, Professor Emeritus, History**  
Trumpism, Culture War, and the White Working Class.  
(Co-sponsored by the Emeritus Academy)

**October 30<sup>th</sup> Kypros Markou, Professor and Director of University Orchestra, Music; Glenn Burdette, Harpsichord, Adjunct Professor**  
Performing Baroque music on modern instruments: Challenges and Possibilities

**November 1<sup>st</sup> Dominic P. Nanni, Graduate Teaching Assistant, English**  
Students as Citizens: neoliberal university and agonistic education

**November 2<sup>nd</sup> Zachary W. Brewster, Associate Professor, Sociology, Gerald Roman Nowak III, Graduate Student, Sociology**  
Racialized Workplaces, Modern Racist Attitudes, and Racial Stereotypes: A Recipe for Race-Based Restaurant Service

**November 8<sup>th</sup> Natalia Rakhlin, Associate Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders; Feng Tao, Ph.D. candidate, Biological Sciences; Chuanzhu Fan, Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences, and the members of the WSU interdisciplinary working group "Languages and Genes"** Can typological differences between languages be related to genetic differences between their speakers?

**November 9<sup>th</sup> Joshua Duchan, Music, Associate Professor**

Billy Joel and the Beatles

**November 15<sup>th</sup> Leonidas Pittos, Senior Lecturer, CMLLC\***

Mythology, Typology, and History in the Fiction of Alexandros Papadiamantis (1851-1911)

**November 16<sup>th</sup> John Gruda, Independent Scholar**

Tahirih: 19th Century Iranian Women's Activist and Poet

**November 28<sup>th</sup> Richard Raspa, Professor and Adjunct Professor in WSU School of Medicine, English**

Shakespeare's King Lear and the Narrative of Death and Dying

**November 29<sup>th</sup> Nicole Guinot Varty, Senior Lecturer, English**

What is an Ecological Model of Writing and How Can it Help Students Make Use of Their Knowledge?

**November 30<sup>th</sup> Beth Fowler, Senior Lecturer, Irvin D. Reid Honors College**

An "Integrated Effort": Racial Desegregation of the Billboard Charts, 1953-1958, and Post-Civil Rights Color Blindness

**December 5<sup>th</sup> Donyale Padgett, Associate Professor, Communication; Kevin Hardges, Graduate, Organizational Communication; and Tanea Meniffee, Graduate, Organizational Communication**

Left behind: Structural racialization and the Flint Water Crisis

**December 7<sup>th</sup> Daphne Ntiri, Professor, African American Studies**

Literacy, gender and race: The growing presence of African immigrant women in Sweden's transforming landscape

\*Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures



# THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



Staff L to R: Jennifer Leonard, Sharaya Solomon, Cheryl Courage, Shamira Tellis, Shu Wang, Dr. Walter Edwards, and Gloria Shakory.



Honor's College Senior Lecturer Beth Fowler (far right) presents a Brown Bag on "An "Integrated Effort": Racial Desegregation of the Billboard Charts, 1953-1958, and Post-Civil Rights Color Blindness."



The Humanities Center's farewell party for Jennifer Leonard who served as the Administrative Assistant for 14 years.



L to R: Professor Natalia Rakhlin, PhD Candidate Feng Tao, Professor Chuanzhu Fan, and an audience member during their Brown Bag presentation which discussed "'Languages and Genes" Can typological differences between languages be related to genetic differences between their speakers?"



The audience listens as Professor Michele Ronnick presents her work on "Putting the World on Wheels: Classical Elements in the Creation of Michelin's Bibendum and the Marketing of the Pneumatic Tire" at the Faculty Fellows Conference on Revolution.



Lee Wilkins Chair and Professor of Communication served as a moderator at the 2017 Civility & Incivility Fall Symposium.

# THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



*In August 2017, the Guyana Folk Culture Association awarded Dr. Edwards (left) a cacique crown for his exemplary research on "Amerindian Language in Guyana."*



*One of the 2017 Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellows Professor Jaime Goodrich (English Department) doing Q & A after her lecture on her work.*



*Departing Advisory Board 2016-2018 members Tam Perry (left) and Holly Feen-Calligan (right) along with the Director. The board members are holding their certificates of service presented to them by the Center.*



*One of the 2017 Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellows Jonathan Flatley (English Department) giving his lecture on his work.*



*Tiffany Baldrige joined our staff on June 26, 2018 as our new Administrative Assistant.*



*Dr. Edwards (left) and Jennifer Leonard (right) pose for a picture during Jennifer's farewell party on her last day, May 11, 2018 as our Administrative Assistant.*

WINTER 2018

# BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

The Brown Bag Colloquium Series provides speakers with feedback from scholars within and outside of the speakers' disciplines. This interdisciplinary interaction is a valued feature of this series.



Lecturer and Coordinator of the Archival Administration Program Kim Schroeder presents her lecture on "Detroit Music Oral Histories- Why Musicians Feel Detroit is a Hotbed of Talent."

**January 16<sup>th</sup> Janet Hankin, Professor, Sociology**

Donald Trump's Health Care Reform

**January 17<sup>th</sup> Simone Chess, Associate Professor, English**

Anorexia and Opting Out: Disability and Asexuality in Early Modern Texts

**January 18<sup>th</sup> Adrienne Jankens, Senior Lecturer, English; Nicole Guinot Varty, Senior Lecturer, English; Jule Wallis Thomas, Senior Lecturer, English; Amy Ann Latawec, Senior Lecturer, English; joined by Raeanne Payne, Student and CLC peer mentor; Haley Sharrow, Student and CLC peer mentor; Dai'Sha Davis, Student and CLC peer mentor**

A Composition Learning Community in Action: Perspectives from Students, Peer Mentors, and Instructors

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> Erik Mortenson, Senior Lecturer, Irvin D. Reid Honors College**

Translating the Counterculture: The Reception of the Beats in Turkey

**January 24<sup>th</sup> Rahul Mitra, Assistant Professor, Communication**

Communicative Enactments of Sustainability for Global Food System Resilience

**January 25<sup>th</sup> Ronald Aronson, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, History**

Social Hope Under Trump

**January 30<sup>th</sup> Haiyong Liu, Director of Linguistics Program, CMLLC\***

How to drop your object

**January 31<sup>st</sup> Robin West Smith, Adjunct Professor, Sociology**

The Frame Game: An Examination of How the Local Print Media Framed the Issue of Pension and Health Care Costs in Detroit's Municipal Bankruptcy

**February 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Faue, Professor and Chair, History**

The Endangered Classroom: School Violence, Public Education, and Personal Safety in an Age of Privatization

**February 6<sup>th</sup> Eric Montgomery, Adjunct Professor, Peace and Conflict Studies, Christian Vannier, African American Studies, Lecturer, University of Michigan-Flint**

An Ethnography of a Vodun Shrine in Southern Togo: Of Spirit, Slave, and Sea

**February 7<sup>th</sup> Tamara Bray, Professor, Anthropology**

Partnering with Pots: The Work of Objects in the Imperial Inca Project

**February 13<sup>th</sup> Jessica Robbins, Assistant Professor, Anthropology; Tam Perry, Assistant Professor, Social Work**

Older Adults Understandings of the Flint Water Crisis

**February 14<sup>th</sup> Holly Feen-Calligan, Associate Professor of Art Therapy, Education; Siobhan Gregory, Senior Lecturer, Art and Art History; Wendy Matthews, Assistant Professor, Music; Marilyn Zimmerwoman, Associate Professor, Art and Art History**

Creating Connections through Arts Based Service-Learning

**February 20<sup>th</sup> Charles Klahm, Associate Professor, Criminal Justice; Matthew Larson, Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice**

Razing Detroit: An exploratory analysis of the impact of concentrated demolitions on neighborhood- Level crime and social disorder

**February 27<sup>th</sup> Kim Schroeder, Lecturer and Coordinator of the Archival Administration Program, Library and Information Science**

Detroit Music Oral Histories- Why Musicians Feel Detroit is a Hotbed of Talent



# BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

See page 51 for the preliminary 2018-2019 Brown Bag Colloquium schedule. Abstracts for talks will be posted on the Center's Web site and can be accessed at <http://research2.wayne.edu/hum/Programs/brownbag/17-18.html>.



*Dr. Edwards, Humanities Center Director, poses with English faculty/ presenters Amy Latawiec, Nicole Varty, Jule Thomas, Adrienne Jankens and their students/ peer mentors and an English associate, after their Brown Bag presentation.*

**February 28<sup>th</sup> Leslie Tom, Chief Sustainability Officer  
Charles H. Wright Museum of African American  
History; Samantha Fernandez Keys, Director of  
Catalytic Opportunities at the Michigan Science  
Center**

Creating a Multidisciplinary Museum Collaboration  
through a Green Sustainable Lens

**March 6<sup>th</sup> Richard Smith, Associate Professor, Social  
Work**

Neoliberalism and Residential Isolation: Implications for  
Social Work

**March 7<sup>th</sup> Stephen Chrisomalis, Associate Professor,  
Anthropology; Allison Delaney, Master's Student,  
Anthropology**

Transformations in English numerals: the case of dozen  
and score

**March 20<sup>th</sup> Yuning (Bonnie) Wu, Associate Professor,  
Criminal Justice**

From supervisory procedural justice to officer  
procedural justice: An empirical study of Chinese police  
officers

**March 22<sup>nd</sup> Jun Sung Hong, Assistant Professor, Social  
Work**

Would Adopting the Code of the Street Behavior Lower  
Peer Victimization Risk among African American Youth in  
Chicago's Southside?

**March 27<sup>th</sup> José Cuello, Associate Professor, Latino/  
Latina Studies**

The Tribal Origins of Racism

**March 28<sup>th</sup> Robert Sedler, Distinguished Professor, Law  
School**

Our 18<sup>th</sup> century Constitution, Congress, the President,  
and the Two-Party Political System

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> Deanna Laurette, Graduate Teaching  
Assistant, English**

Representation, Communication, and Curated  
Identities: An Examination of Online Support Groups for  
People with Disabilities

**April 4<sup>th</sup> Barrett Watten, Professor, English**

Poetics as Value Thinking: The Example of 'Plan B'

**April 10<sup>th</sup> Michael Kral, Associate Professor, Social  
Work**

Indigenizing Suicide Prevention: The Story of Inuit in  
Arctic Canada

**April 11<sup>th</sup> Amy Ann Latawiec, Senior Lecturer, English**

Piloting a "Stretch" Curriculum: A Longitudinal Study of  
Basic Writing, Student Dispositions, and the Definition of  
Success

**April 17<sup>th</sup> renee c. hoogland, Professor, English**

Nancy Mitchnick's Uncalibrated Figuration

**April 18<sup>th</sup> R. Khari Brown, Associate Professor,  
Sociology; Ronald E. Brown, Associate Professor,  
Political Science**

Race, Religion, and Politics in America



*Social Work Professor Michael Kral presents a Brown Bag talk on "Indigenizing Suicide Prevention: The Story of Inuit in Arctic Canada."*

*\*Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures*



# REVOLUTION

## 2018 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

Each spring the recipients of the previous year's Faculty Fellowships present their research findings in a conference based on the previous year's theme. The 2018 conference was on "Revolution" Below is the explication of the theme that was published by the Center to invite proposals, followed by the abstracts of the lectures presented.



### Explication of Theme

2017 marks the centennial of the Russian Revolution and the fifty-year anniversary of the Detroit Revolution. It is a time to reflect on the causes and lasting impacts of these events locally and worldwide. But what makes a revolution? A revolution can be a dramatic political upturning—the French Revolution, the Chinese Revolution, and the global revolutions of 1968 and 1989 are but a few. It can be a change of a scientific paradigm (the Scientific Revolution), an intellectual breakthrough (advances in quantum physics and genetic biology), a literary or cultural explosion (the Reformation, new art forms), a musical landmark (a signature Beatles album), or an economic change (the Industrial Revolution). Revolution describes everyday changes in how we relate to each other, from the Sexual Revolution to the development of the Internet and wearable technology. Revolution is also a mathematical and physical concept of movement (turning around), whether performed by a wheel, a planet, or a dancer. Who makes a revolution? Is it people against authority, or authority against its people? Is it a new philosophy? What constitutes a revolution? What are its lasting impacts?

# REVOLUTION

## 2018 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

The conference was held in the Community Room in the David Adamany Undergraduate Library on campus on March 23rd, 2018. Nine scholars presented papers. The abstracts of the keynoter's lecture and the other presentations are given below



Right: Frank Joyce, Faculty Fellows Conference 2018 keynote speaker giving his talk on Detroit.



**Frank Joyce, Keynote Speaker**  
**Lifelong Detroit-based activist and writer**  
**Look Closely—The Next Detroit Is Already Happening—And It's Definitely Not Downtown**

### KEYNOTER'S ABSTRACT

The political activism of life long Detroitier Frank Joyce began with the civil rights movement. He joined the Northern Student Movement (NSM) in the early 1960's and later helped found People Against Racism (PAR). He has been involved in labor, anti-racist, human rights and peace campaigns ever since.

Joyce has chaired the board of The Working Group (TWG), a non-profit media production company that supports the anti-hate movement Not In Our Town (NIOT). He has worked in factories, retail and media. He has won awards in print, radio and television journalism. He is a former News Director of WDET and was Communications Director of the United Auto Workers union for many years.

He is a member of the Leadership Team of the National Council Of Elders and the Vietnam Peace Commemoration Committee.

His writing is published at AlterNet ([www.alternet.org](http://www.alternet.org)) and elsewhere. He is co-editor with Karin Aguilar-San Juan, of *The People Make The Peace, Lessons From The Vietnam Anti-War Movement*.

### ABSTRACTS OF OTHER PRESENTERS



Above: Krista Brumley

**Krista Brumley, Associate Professor, Sociology, Wayne State University**  
**Shirin Montazer, Assistant Professor, Sociology, Wayne State University**

*"21 Century Technological Revolution and its discontents: Work-Family Conflict in Long Distance Commuter Relationships"*

The purpose of this project is to examine Work Family Conflict (WFC) on relational, health, and work outcomes on employees in long distance commuter and proximal partnerships.

We include proximal relationships to determine how distance may constrain, or perhaps facilitate managing work-family conflict. Through a mixed methods approach (i.e., online survey, interviews), we seek to identify (a) sources of stress that couples experience (workplace conditions); (b) social and personal coping mechanisms, as well as resources (from employers, family, neighbors, friends) from which they draw, to handle stress related to WFC that are associated with © increased or decreased relational well-being and mental health problems; and (d) how these impact workplace outcomes (WFC; career advancement; wages). Qualitative data collection is ongoing; quantitative data collection starts this summer. By examining partners in long distance commuter and proximal relationships, this project extends our theorizing on how work and family demands shape women's and men's experiences, within a context of increasing mobility of individuals in the U.S. and across the U.S./Canada and U.S./Mexico borders.

# REVOLUTION

## 2018 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE



**Sarika Chandra, Associate Professor, English, Wayne State University**  
*"Revolutionary Imagination"*

My project examines the concept of revolutionary imagination by tracing ecological thought in a variety of theoretical, political and cultural/literary works related to the topics of land and agriculture that have emerged in the contexts of a variety of anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist movements throughout the twentieth and twentieth century. I am interested in tracing this ecological imagination in relationship to the question of food and agriculture for two broad reasons: 1)

I examine the extent to such thinking helps to critique conventional notions of nature and the human found mainstream environmental narrative; 2) I analyze how they develop a revolutionary vision and imagination of the future.



**Stine Eckert, Assistant Professor, Communication, Wayne State University**  
*"ProQuote - A radical women journalists' initiative to revolutionize German newsroom"*

At a time when journalists battle economic challenges, due to evolving internet technologies, and attacks on their reporting, due to claims of "fake news," a radical initiative in Germany is revolutionizing newsroom culture by eradicating a long lingering sore within journalism: the highly skewed make up of leadership positions in newsrooms favoring men. The ProQuote initiative boldly demands that German newsrooms implement a 30 percent quota for women in leadership. Hence, this study examines:

- A) If changes in work culture occurred due to women journalists promoted to leadership positions since ProQuote's start,
- B) Which experiences promoted women journalists and their men counterparts have made since the promotions, and
- C) If journalistic content decision-making has been impacted by promotion of women journalists.



**Jessica Robbins, Assistant Professor, Institute of Gerontology and Anthropology, Wayne State University**

**Tam Perry, Assistant Professor, Social Work, Wayne State University**  
*"Care and Abandonment in Neoliberal Times: Older Adults Experiences and Understandings of the Flint Water Crisis"*

*Above: Jessica Robbins*

Since April 2014, residents of Flint, Michigan have been exposed to lead-contaminated drinking water. Across the life course, exposure to drinking water contaminants can differently impact physical, mental, and social well-being. Challenges that older adults may confront, such as social isolation, frailty, and comorbidities (e.g., mobility impairments, COPD, dementia/Alzheimer's disease), may exacerbate the harmful effects of lead exposure in late life. Moreover, lead exposure in late life may be one among many environmental and social harms that cumulatively affect older adults. Together with our research team, we document the oldest generations' perspectives of their experiences of belonging in a nationally recognized crisis. Despite growing scientific evidence of the vulnerability of urban dwellers, particularly older adults, to harms from natural and environmental crises, we lack adequate knowledge of how older persons understand and act upon these risks. This research investigates the lived experiences of the oldest generations amidst enduring legacies of racial segregation and health disparities. This study of concurrent micro and macro vulnerabilities can advance deeper understanding of experiences of belonging for

# REVOLUTION

## 2018 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE



Left: Professor Michele Ronnick presenting her work at the 2018 Faculty Fellows on the theme Revolution.

older adults, and how belonging impacts health and wellbeing. In the contemporary political moment, in which neoliberal policies are radically transforming urban landscapes, it is essential to understand these policies' effects on forms of care and abandonment among older adults.

This project has two specific aims:

- 1) To identify and characterize the perceived individual, social, and political effects (including harms) of the Flint water crisis on older adults, in both the short- and long-term. This includes investigations into access to resources, caregiving and kin relationships, and comorbidities commonly experienced in older adulthood.
- 2) To identify how the Flint water crisis may shape a) how older adults navigate everyday activities and larger life changes/decisions (e.g., relocating within or out of the area) and b) how older adults imagine a future for themselves and their families.



**Michele Ronnick, Professor, CMLLC, Wayne State University**

*"Putting the World on Wheels: classical Elements in the Creation of Michelin's Bibendum and the Marketing of the Pneumatic Tire"*

Bibendum has been the mascot of the Michelin Tire Company since 1898 when the classically educated artist and Michelin advertising designer Marius Rosillon, a.k.a. O'Galop, (1867-1946) took the first line of Ode I. XXX, nunc est bibendum "now is the time for drinking," written by the Roman poet Horace (65 B.C.-8 B.C.) as the Romans rejoiced over the death of Cleopatra VII (69 B.C.-30 B.C.) to be the caption for a humanoid figure formed by a stack of Michelin's new product, the removable pneumatic tire which could "drink up" obstacles. The gerundive soon became a proper noun when race car driver, Léon Théry (1879-1909), exclaimed to André (1853- 1931) and Édouard Michelin (1859-1940), after seeing the figure in Rosillon's poster at the Paris-Amsterdam road rally: "Voilà Bibendum, vive Bibendum!" From then on Bibendum was inseparable from the tires which formed his actual body and the tires that his "parent," the Michelin company sold. He was not only the physical manifestation of this revolutionary new product, he was part of the nascent industry of commercial advertising and more importantly the concomitant rise of the gastronomad who was directed by Michelin guides to the fine dining at Michelin starred restaurants made accessible by automobile. With Michelin products as roadmasters par excellence and Bibendum as the company's toastmaster, the culinary history of France, and the world as well was radically changed, and in fact democratized. Horace's ancient words became modern and the Michelin tire became a classic.



# REVOLUTION

## 2018 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

*Right: Professor Barrett Watten presenting at the 2018 Faculty Fellows on the theme Revolution.*



**Jasmine Ulmer, Assistant Professor, Education, Wayne State University**  
*"Revolution as Love as Methodology"*

At a time when European countries are reinstating border controls within the Schengen zone and reinforcing the confines of the European Union, mobility across borders has come to a halt. My article engages with this very current political context through an examination of two novels that address the urgent questions of borders and migration from different perspectives: *The Village Indian* (Der falsche Inder 2008) by contemporary Iraqi-German writer Abbas Khider and *The Noise of Becoming* (Das Geräusch des Werdens 2012) by Romanian-German author Aléa Torik. I develop a concept of "border blindness" that shines a light on the differentiation between realist and idealist transnational literature, positing that this difference lies precisely in the ways the two literary tendencies represented by Khider and Torik differentiate movement across political boundaries. Idealist transnational literature, as I define it in relation to Torik's work, does not thematize borders and assumes free movement across national boundaries whereas realist transnational literature in the vein of Khider's novel focuses on precisely the difficulty of surmounting such borders and the potential stasis that results. With her physically blind protagonist, Torik creates a literary space for border blindness where visual markers of boundaries and exclusion cease to exist. Khider on the other hand presents the precarious mobility of refugees. He explicitly criticizes the existence of borders that keep those in need out (of Europe). Within the tension between these two approaches, border blindness emerges as a privilege that only literature can achieve, while the realities of migration and exile, particularly in today's charged political situation, expose visible borders that cannot be crossed. With this, I illustrate in what ways literature can critique today's border policies but also create empathy for the humans who are not permitted to enter a realm of safety.



**Barrett Watten, Professor, English, Wayne State University**  
*"Reading Occupy: The Poetics of Radical Democracy"*

My project is to chart the literary, historical, and theoretical roles that poets—particularly poets using avant-garde or experimental method—took as they engaged, documented, and provided theoretical justification for the Occupy moment as a new form of revolutionary politics. The Occupy movement, as an exemplary upsurge of popular protest to neoliberal state politics and economic disposition after the 2008 economic collapse and bailout of financial institutions that caused it, created a new vocabulary of resistance and a range of strategies, in organization, time, and space.

# GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

*Right: A session of the 2017 Doctoral Dissertation Writing Series being held in the Humanities Center Office in 2226 Faculty Administration Building. This picture includes Professors and graduate students.*



*The Humanities Center budgets funds each year to help graduate students in the humanities and arts present their research or artistic work at national and international conferences and exhibitions. To receive these funds, graduate students must submit application letters with personal statements indicating how these presentations will help their academic and professional careers. Graduate students outside the humanities are also encouraged to apply if their presentations are of particular interest to scholars in the humanities and the arts. The Center offers up to \$300 in travel assistance to each approved applicant. This year, six students were funded through the program.*

## **Fall Awardees**

Raed Ahmed - Political Science

Conference: International Studies Association conference

Molli Spalter - English

Conference: Reception Study Society conference

## **Winter Awardees**

Ahsan Yousaf Chaudhary - Political Science

Conference: International Studies Association conference

Mark Lane - English

Conference: CCCC Annual Convention

## **Spring/Summer Awardees**

Ashleigh M. Day - Communications

Conference: The International Communication Association's Conference

Clare Russell - English

Conference: The Council of Writing Program Administrators



Above: Humanities Center staff member Shamira Tellis (standing, right) providing information to students attending the Fall Symposium.

## WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

*The Working Groups program is designed to promote collaborative and innovative research among WSU humanities and arts faculty and students. This year the Center funded six groups. The following are reports from working groups that submitted their summaries before the deadline.*

### **Democracy and Difference: An exploration of voting rights, race and gender**

Core Members include:

Janine Lanza, Director, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Program

Elizabeth Faue, Chair, History

Liette Gidlow, Associate Professor, History

The group focused our attention this year on planning for how we will help to celebrate the centennial of women's suffrage which will be marked next August, 2020. We had four planning meetings this year in which we intend and need to continue doing next year. Our first two meetings (in Fall semester) revolved around reading works around the question of suffrage for marginalized groups, including women and people of color. Our readings were drawn from several disciplines including history, sociology and political science. Our last two meetings (in Winter semester) revolved around making plans for our own campus, drawing upon the readings we had done as well as communication with colleagues at other institutions. As the leader of the initiative, I also reached out to scholars of Public History, on campus and elsewhere, asking for ideas and supporting materials to help us think about what Wayne State in particular has to say about the ongoing struggle for all citizens to vote.

We sincerely thank the Humanities Center for supporting our group. We would not have had the opportunity or support to work on this project and to discuss these broad questions without the Working Group framework.

### **Digital Humanities Working Group (DHatWayne)**

Core Members include:

Joan Beaudoin, Associate Professor, School of Information Sciences

Alina Klin, Senior Lecturer in Polish, CMLLC

Julie Koehler, Lecturer of German, CMLLC

Sangeetha Gopalakrishnan, Director, Foreign Language Technology Center

Kim Schroeder, Lecturer, School of Information Sciences

Digital Humanities at Wayne (DHatWayne) is a Humanities Center Working Group facilitating discussion and collaboration amongst digital humanities scholars, teachers, and students across campus, and also with other institutions in the region and greater Detroit area.

**Definition of DH** - As a group we decided to embrace the Wikipedia [definition of digital humanities \(DH\)](#) as "an area of scholarly activity at the intersection of computing or digital technologies and the disciplines of the humanities. It includes the systematic use of digital resources in the humanities, as well as the reflection on their application." We believe in a big-tent version of DH in which projects and pedagogy need not be large, complex, or grant-funded to come under this umbrella. We believe that if an educator or student uses digital tools and resources in their classes to study an aspect of human society and culture, they are participating in the digital humanities.

# WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

*Groups typically include faculty from different fields or sub-fields as well as graduate students. Working Groups meet regularly for discussion, exchange, and planning for events such as guest lectures and colloquia..*



Above: Professor Raspa giving a Brown Bag talk on "Shakespeare's King Lear and the Rhetoric of Death and Dying."

The DHatWayne working group for the 2017-2018 academic year envisioned its activities for 2017-2018 around some of the hallmarks of Digital Humanities endeavors:

## Faculty Involvement

- DHatWayne Node (Informal meet-and-greet events over lunch)
- Wayne State Digital Humanities Showcase
- DHatWayne Listserv
- Network Detroit Conference

## Student Involvement

- NSDA workshop
- Oral History Gathering
- Network Detroit Conference
- Digital humanities tracks at the Rushton and the Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Conference

## Community Involvement

- Digital Storytelling Workshop
- Scan-a-thon

## Regional Involvement

- Guest Speakers from the Michigan Research Corridor
- Network Detroit Conference

The group's activities since being awarded the working group grant on Oct. 25th, 2017, have addressed several of our goals as described in the following sections.

## DH Showcase

An event showcasing DH research, scholarship, teaching, and tools on campus was held April 24th, 2018. Four presenters shared their work in different facets of DH at the DH Showcase including digital tools for archives, new digital publishing platforms, student digital projects, and digital tools that are specifically useful for Humanities teaching goals. Around 20 attendees came to the event including undergraduate and graduate students, staff, and instructors from the departments of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures (CMLLC), History, and English, and the Library and Information Science program.

## DHatWayne Survey

To bring together individuals engaging in digital humanities (DH) across campus with those who want to learn more, and to create a stronger network for research, teaching, and community outreach, we created and disseminated a survey assessing DH activities and needs on campus. We encouraged all those engaging in DH research and scholarship and with DH tools and teaching to complete the survey. The link to the survey is: <https://tinyurl.com/DHatWayne2018>

## Network Detroit planning

Members of the DHatWayne group had participated previously in planning the annual Network Detroit Conference on DH each Fall. Some of the facilitators of the DHatWayne working group along with some of the members formed a conference planning subcommittee and have been actively planning this year's conference. The Network Detroit 2018 conference, **Digital Humanities and Activism: Communities in**





## WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

*The Center offers up to \$800 annually to new groups and \$600 to continuing groups.*

*Left: Professor Emeritus Fran Shor (History) center, and some of the audience members after his Brown Bag lecture on "Trumpism, Culture War, and the White Working Class."*

**Motion**, is slated to take place on Friday, September 21, 2018 at Wayne State University. Network Detroit 2018 will be a one day conference dedicated to bringing together DH scholars and practitioners, coders, humanists, activists, students, and community members. This year's conference theme is **DH and activism with a focus on communities**. The call for proposals has been disseminated and we have invited proposals exploring ideas of activism, from a wide variety of disciplines on topics including but not limited to digital pedagogy, DH technologies (e.g., mapping, text mining), DH project design/management, data collection and resources, institutional DH partnerships and project-based collaborations, community-based online media practices, online organizing, digital representation, digital and print collections, preservation of community archives, documenting online social activism and social justice work. The call for proposals is attached. We are also discussing potential conference keynote speakers.

### Scan-a-thon

Facilitators of the DHatWayne group and members of the Ethnic Layers of Detroit team members volunteered at the Corktown Scan-a-thon organized by [Preservation Detroit](#) and Wayne State University's Anthropology department on May 6th, 2018. Attending this event will also help us in planning a similar event under the auspices of DHatWayne.

### Digital Storytelling Workshop

Facilitators of the DHatWayne group and members of the Ethnic Layers of Detroit (ELD) team members organized the 5th digital storytelling workshop on January 30th 2018. This particular workshop was tailored specifically to the needs of the students attending the Urban Studies Senior Capstone Research course (US 4620). This was the first time that students in this course were offered an opportunity to create a digital story as a final project for the course. Approximately 20 participants took part in the workshop (only about half of these were students from US 4620, as the workshop was open to anyone who registered). Participants watched five of the team-created digital stories at the end of the program.

### DH Teaching Initiatives

A DH minor is being discussed by several departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Facilitators of DHatWayne have been in contact with different individuals working on the creation of this minor to ensure DH goals are well-represented in the minor. In addition, several of the DHatWayne members who are also affiliated with ELD have been working on a Digital Storytelling course. The course is cross-listed with Anthropology, Information Science, Global Studies, and several CMLLC areas. It is under review at the departmental levels and is expected to move forward to the college levels.

### Regional Involvement

DHatWayne coordinators have actively supported DH events during the 2017-2018 academic year with a number of its members attending the 2017 Network Detroit Conference (October 2017), the [Global DH Symposium](#) at Michigan State University (March 2018), and the ProQuest text and data mining tool demonstration (May 2018).

### DH-related Communications

The DHatWayne members have actively communicated DH events and opportunities through the

# WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



*Right: Professor Elizabeth Stoycheff (right) and Doctoral Candidate Kai Xu (left) speaking at the Fall Symposium.*

DHatWayne, departmental, and School Listservs, the group's Twitter account, event flyer postings, and informal ad hoc emails to potentially interested individuals on campus. These communications have been instrumental in increasing knowledge of, and participation in, DH activities.

**Meetings held thus far (dates and discussions; themes):** We held several meetings in the fall and winter semesters. With our meetings we brought together those who are engaged in digital humanities scholarship, teaching, and practice, and encouraged them to share scholarly sources, methodologies, technological tools, pedagogical strategies, and funding opportunities. Attendees at the meetings included our regular members and some newly interested students and instructors. Numbers of attendees at our meetings grew as the academic year went on and more people became interested in working with our group. We held the meetings on: December 8, January 19, February 2, February 23, March 28, April 6, April 17 and May 4. The dates reflect both the DHatWayne group meetings and the Network Detroit Conference planning meetings.

## **Upcoming plans:**

- At present our main focus is on organizing the fall Network Detroit conference. Additional meetings are planned to address conference logistics;
- Another planned initiative is a Scan-a-thon/Oral History event like the one we volunteered with Preservation Detroit for. We plan to include archive and oral history experts, as well as foreign language reading assistance from the CMLLC;
- A new minor in DH is being created and discussions are being held across different departments including CMLLC, History and English.
- We will continue disseminating information about DH events and opportunities through the DHatWayne listserv and @DHatWayne Twitter account.

## **Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS)**

Core Members include:

Jonathan Cottrell, Philosophy

Jaime Goodrich, English

Eric Ash, Professor, History

Simone Chess, Associate Professor, English

Todd Breijak, Graduate Student, English

Adriana Duola, Graduate Student, CMLLC

This year, the Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS) explored **the theme of "Will"** in the early modern period (c. 1400-1800). A rotating slate of facilitators led **monthly meetings** centered on their current research. Professor Simone Chess gave a behind-the-brown-bag presentation based on her Humanities Center Brown Bag, Professor Jaime Goodrich (English) shared portions of a collaborative scholarly edition of nuns' writings, and Professor Eric Ash (History) circulated a talk that he gave on anachronism and historical methodology. Meanwhile, several graduate students led sessions on conference presentations and dissertation research, receiving valuable feedback on their projects. At GEMS's annual holiday potluck in December, the group discussed how best to defend the value of the humanities, and shared

# WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



*Left: Part of the audience at our Fall Symposium listening to Keynote Speaker Susan Herbst give her lecture on "Rude Democracy: Civility & Incivility in American Politics."*

recommendations for further reading on this important issue.

The highlight of our year was an **invited talk** in April, featuring Jyotsna Singh (Michigan State University). An innovative and pioneering scholar who has produced seminal work on post-colonial and global Shakespeare, Professor Singh presented a stimulating paper on "Global Shakespeares: Case Studies from India and the Arab World."

## Science and Society

Core Members include:

Marsha Richmond (Coordinator), Professor, History

Barry Lyons, Associate Professor, Anthropology

William Lynch, Associate Professor, History

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the Working Group on Science and Society was effectively dormant during the 2017-2018 academic year. We held only one event, partnering with the WSU BEST program to host Dr. Elizabeth Watkins (University of California-San Francisco), on 27 September. She spoke on "Reconceiving the Pill: From Revolutionary Therapeutic to Lifestyle Drug" in Bernath Auditorium.

Owing to Dr. Richmond's additional administrative work this year, serving as President of the International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology and having assumed the role of Co-Editor in Chief of the Journal of the History of Biology on 1 January 2018, she was unable to find the time to organize events for WGSS. Drs. Lynch and Lyons were too busy to take over the administrative duties of the Working Group.

## Teaching Fairy Tales and Folktales Across the Curriculum

Core Members include:

Anne E. Duggan, Professor and Chair, CMLLC

Adrian Dula, Ph.D. Student, CMLLC

Silvia Giorgini-Althoen, Lecturer, CMLLC

Laura Kline, Senior Lecturer, CMLLC

We had several meetings and events from December 2017 to May 2018. We are hoping to continue the group AY18-19. Through our readings and discussions, we have spoken about the possibility of putting together an anthology of tales from around the world that have shared themes, a topic we will continue to discuss AY18-19. We were fortunate to have one undergraduate participant, one PhD student from French, one MA student from Near East studies, and as we hope to continue next year, we are hoping to recruit an MA students from English and from German.

December 18th

The working group met for a working lunch to organize the semester.

# WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



*Right: A member of the audience at the Fall Symposium reading the brochure before the Symposium started.*

January 5th

Anne Duggan and Adrion Dula presented on disability in French fairy tales.

January 19th

Professor Jose Antonio Rico-Ferrer presented on Spanish tales

February 2nd

Dr. Laura Kline presented on Russian tales

March 9th

Maha Saker, lecturer Near East Studies, presented on Middle Eastern epics

Dr. Julie Koehler, lecturer in German Studies, presented on German tales

April 13th

Undergraduate student Mary Grahame Hunter presented on Scottish folklore and French fairy tales.

April 23rd

Members of Working Group attended Dr. Julie Koehler's poster session for her 50000-level fairy tale course.

May 14th

Silvia Georgini-Althoen, lecturer in Italian, presented on Italian tales and discusses her online fairy-tale course being offered Fall 2018.

May 21st

Discussion of articles concerning oral vs. literary origins of tales





# DESIGN: INTENTION, CREATIVITY, AGENCY, SOCIETY 2017 - 2018 FACULTY FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Each year the Humanities Center sponsors a Faculty Fellowship Competition on a specific theme. This year's theme was "Design: Intention, Creativity, Agency, Society". Fellowships provide Wayne State University faculty with funding to help pay for expenses related to their proposed research projects. Fellowship recipients are expected to participate in the annual Faculty Fellows' Conference held the following spring. Below is the explication of the theme and a list of the six faculty who were awarded 2018 Faculty Fellowships. They will present their findings at the Faculty Fellowship Conference in April 2019.

## 2018 Faculty Fellowships Competition Explication of Theme

In 2015, Detroit became the first U.S. city to be designated UNESCO "City of Design," a testament to the region's outsized influence in shaping the cultural and creative forces of the 21st century. By selecting "design" as the theme for the 2018 Faculty Fellowship conference, the Humanities Center solicits research proposals that emphasize the creative potential of humanity, both in terms of aesthetics and social utility. We encourage "design thinking" in every sense of the word—from its traditional bastions of art, architecture, and cultural studies to more contemporary interpretations in the hallways of science, engineering, and information technologies (among others). For instance, how do policymakers, scientists, artists, and everyday citizens design spaces and forums that enable the free flow of ideas? How might interdisciplinary teams engage in design thinking to create models, prototypes, and final products that move society forward? What are the complex forces of individualism and collectivism, intention and unforeseen circumstances, and agency and passivity, which go into designing sustainable solutions and structures? Even as we strive to design better systems of human existence, what are the ethical issues and questions that we should be considering? Finally, what are the potential limitations or even dangers of design thinking, and the values it inspires? The Humanities Center welcomes interdisciplinary contributions that speak to these and other aspects of design.

## 2018 Recipients

Jonathan Flatley, Professor  
*What is Communist Design?*

Heidi Gottfried, Associate Professor, Sociology  
*Olympian Aspirations: The Nation's Global Designs*

Rahul Mitra, Assistant Professor, Communication  
*Designing Entrepreneurial Ecosystems for Urban Sustainability: A Communication-as-Design Approach*

Judith A. Moldenhauer, Associate Professor, Art and Art History  
*Letterpress Now: Typographic Design and the Visual Interpretation of Scientific Concepts*

Tracy Neumann, Associate Professor, History  
*The Ford Foundation's American-Yugoslav Project*

Nicole Trujillo-Pagan, Associate Professor, Sociology  
*Reclaimed, "Forgotten" Urban Space: New Migrant Squatting in an Old World City*

# A LOOK AHEAD: 2018 - 2019 ACTIVITIES

## GRADUATE TRAVEL COMPETITION

**WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

THE HUMANITIES CENTER  
**Travel Support for Graduate Students**  
Application Guidelines 2018-2019



### PURPOSE

The Humanities Center wishes to encourage graduate students in the Humanities and the Arts to present their research or artistic work at national conferences and exhibitions.

### ELIGIBILITY

All graduate students in the humanities, arts, or related disciplines. Students outside of the traditional humanities should demonstrate that their proposed presentations have significant humanistic or artistic content. The applicant must be the sole presenter, or the principal presenter in a group presentation. In the latter case, only one student will be funded from the group. Only one student per department will be funded to go to a particular conference. We do not fund students participating in graduate student conferences. Graduate students can only receive one award per year.

### FUNDING

The Center will budget up to \$3,000 in the 2018-2019 academic year to support this program. **In an effort to spread this funding across the full academic year, the Center will now budget \$1,200 for the Fall Semester, \$1,200 for the Winter Semester and \$600 for the Spring/Summer Semester.** Each award recipient will be funded up to \$300 for travel to conferences or exhibitions held **nationally** or **internationally** between September 7, 2018 and August 16, 2019.

### GUIDELINES

There is no application form. Each applicant must submit the following before attending the conference:

1. A cover letter including the student's department affiliation, a mailing address and e-mail address, the name and location of the conference to be attended and the dates on which he/she will travel.
2. Evidence that his or her paper/artwork has been accepted by the conference or exhibition. This should take the form of a letter or e-mail to the student from the conference/organizers.
3. An abstract of the paper to be presented or description of the work to be exhibited.
4. A short personal statement indicating the significance of this presentation to the student's future professional career.
5. An itemized estimated budget including, if applicable, financial support from other units.
6. A letter from the student's advisor in support of his/her application

**DEADLINES: September 14, 2018 for Fall 2018**  
**December 07, 2018 for Winter 2019**  
**April 12, 2019 for Spring/Summer 2019**

### REVIEW

Applications will be reviewed by a committee from the Humanities Center. Decisions will be communicated promptly to applicants.

Applications should be sent to:

The Humanities Center  
Attn: Walter F. Edwards, Director  
2226 Faculty/Administration Bldg.

The Humanities Center  
2226 Faculty/Administration Bldg  
Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI 48202

(313) 577-5471  
Fax (313) 577-2843  
<http://www.research2.wayne.edu/hum>



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Collaborative Research*

# A LOOK AHEAD: 2018 - 2019 ACTIVITIES WORKING GROUP COMPETITION FELLOWSHIP

## WORKING GROUPS

WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Application Deadline: September 14, 2018

2018-2019 program description and application guidelines

### DESCRIPTION

The Humanities Center announces the continuation of its program for working groups in the arts and humanities. The purpose of the program is to bring together faculty and advanced graduate students to explore shared scholarly or creative interests. Groups will meet regularly to share work in progress, to read and discuss texts, and otherwise address issues that arise in their own work or in the increasingly interdisciplinary humanistic and creative fields. Group members must be drawn from at least two humanities or arts departments. To participate in this program, three or more core faculty members should submit a proposal following the guidelines below.

A typical working group would consist of several faculty, or faculty and graduate students, organized around a topic or theme chosen by the core members. Topics or themes could reflect any humanities or artistic interest, but those that have an interdisciplinary scope are particularly encouraged. **Each funded working group would be expected to submit a brief year-end report and give a public Brown Bag presentation sponsored by the Humanities Center.**



### ELIGIBILITY

Groups of three or more Wayne State University faculty, or faculty and advanced graduate students, in the humanities, arts, and related disciplines willing to commit to regular meetings throughout the academic year are encouraged to submit proposals. The Center will give favorable consideration to newly formed working groups.

### FUNDING

In 2018-2019 the Humanities Center will fund up to five working groups by making available a maximum of \$800.00 each for three new groups and \$600.00 each for two continuing groups. Funded working groups will be able to use their grants for photocopying, inviting speakers, and other organizational expenses. The Center will give preference to new working groups. The Center is willing to help groups find meeting places in the Faculty/Administration Building.

### GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals for new working groups should consist of:

1. A brief (1-2 page) summary of the issues or theme the group proposes to address, the relevance of that theme to the humanistic and/or artistic fields, and ways in which the group intends to address that issue or theme;
2. The names, departmental affiliations, and contact information for core members of the proposed group and names of potential participants;
3. An estimated budget, listing any planned projects and expenses.

Proposals for continuing groups should consist of a 1-2 page summary of the group's progress in the previous year and the direction in which the group wishes to proceed; as well as items (2) and (3) listed above. Preference will be given to proposals for new groups.

**Proposals should be submitted no later than September 14, 2018 for consideration for the 2018-2019 academic year. Proposals should be sent to:**

The Humanities Center,  
Attn: Walter F. Edwards, Director  
2226 Faculty/Administration Bldg., Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI 48202



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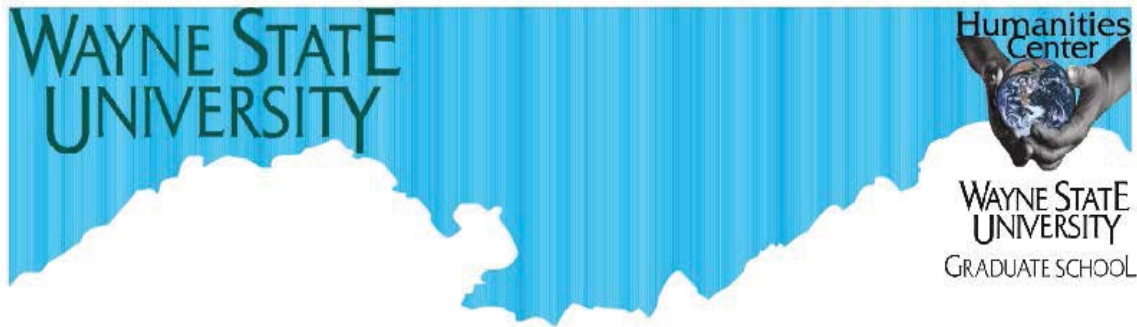
656 Reuther Mall #2226  
Phone: 313-577-5471  
Fax: 313-577-2843

Working Groups  
currently  
supported by  
the Humanities  
Center

**Democracy and Difference: An exploration of voting rights, race and gender**  
**Digital Humanities at Wayne (DhatWayne)**  
**Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS)**  
**Space & Places Working Group**  
**Science & Society**  
**Teaching Fairy Tales and Folktales Across the Curriculum**



# A LOOK AHEAD: 2018 - 2019 ACTIVITIES DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP



## The Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship

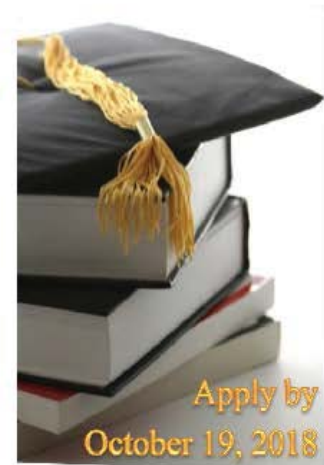
The Humanities Center and the Graduate School are happy to announce the continuation of their collaboration on funding the **Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for the 2018-2019 Academic Year**. This annual fellowship will award **\$15,000** to a humanities or arts doctoral candidate in the final stages of writing his/her dissertation. The applicant must already be in the process of writing the dissertation and must complete all requirements, including the final defense, by the end of the **Spring/Summer semester** or shortly thereafter. The fellowship award will be dispensed as biweekly stipends between January and August.

Up to **three smaller awards of \$500** each could be made to other applicants at the discretion of the sponsors.

Applicants for this fellowship must be doctoral candidates preparing dissertations in the humanities, arts, or related disciplines. These disciplines include philosophy, languages, linguistics, literature, history, jurisprudence, archaeology, comparative religion, ethics, the arts, those aspects of social sciences that have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods, and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment.

To be eligible for the Humanities Center dissertation fellowship, an applicant must be enrolled in good standing as a PhD candidate in a humanities, social science or arts discipline at WSU; must have the dissertation topic, outline, and prospectus approved by his/her dissertation committee, and by the Graduate School by the application deadline; and must have completed all requirements for the PhD, except the dissertation. The recipient of the fellowship cannot hold a teaching position or have other major employment during the tenure of the fellowship.

Applications may be downloaded in PDF form at from the Humanities Center Website at [www.research2.wayne.edu/hum](http://www.research2.wayne.edu/hum), or picked up from the Humanities Center at 2226 Faculty/Administration Building. For more information, contact the Humanities Center at (313)577-5471.



*Jointly sponsored by the  
Humanities Center and the  
Graduate School*

Humanities Center  
2226 Faculty Administration Bldg.  
Detroit, MI 48202  
Phone (313) 577-5471  
Fax (313) 577-2843





# A LOOK AHEAD: 2018 - 2019 ACTIVITIES

## MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY



### Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship

**Deadline: February 22nd, 2019**

Thanks to a generous endowment provided by former Provost Marilyn L. Williamson, the Humanities Center offers an annual Distinguished Faculty Fellowship to tenured faculty (associate and full professors) in the humanities as defined by the NEH, the arts and related disciplines. The award of this single \$20,000 fellowship is based on the merit of the individual research project proposed for the fellowship term; on the exceptional contribution the proposed project will make to the humanities and its potential for scholarly recognition and publication, exhibition or performance; and on two external recommendations in support of the project. The endowment provides funds to offer two fellowships every third year. Consistent with the mission of the Humanities Center, interdisciplinary proposals are particularly encouraged, although all distinguished projects in the humanities will be fully considered. The fellowship recipient will be asked to share results of the funded research in an award lecture to be organized during the year of (or following) the fellowship term.

#### Funding

The Center will fund one proposal annually, but with the intention every third year to open the competition to two such awards. Applicants should limit their total budgets to \$20,000, and should prepare a budget statement which includes expenses related to a specific research project, e.g. travel, research assistance, salary and fringe benefits.

#### Conditions

1. All tenured WSU full-time faculty in the humanities as defined by the NEH, the arts and related disciplines are eligible to submit proposals, except faculty who received a research award, whether external or internal, of \$20,000 or more in the previous two years.
2. A faculty member may submit one proposal for which he or she is the sole applicant.
3. Approved projects must be completed within three years, and a complimentary copy of the final product (book, article, exhibition catalog, video, etc.) must be submitted to the Humanities Center.
4. Requests for course buyouts and summer salary supplements must be approved by the recipient's college and follow college guidelines.
5. The fellowship recipient will be asked to share results of the funded research in an award lecture to be organized during the year of (or following) the fellowship term.
6. Recipients must submit bi-annual interim reports on their approved projects to the Humanities Center through the project's completion.
7. Recipients are encouraged to participate in activities sponsored by the Humanities Center.

#### Guidelines for proposals

Each proposal must consist of a narrative of not more than twelve double-spaced pages (excluding the application cover page), a detailed budget (explaining the budget information requested on the application cover page), and the professional record of the applicant.

The body of the proposal must include the following elements:

1. A completed application cover page with all required signatures (not part of the twelve-page limit).  
*Note: in the case that a department head is applying for a fellowship, he or she should obtain the signature of his or her dean.*
2. The applicant's name, and his or her discipline corresponding to the project.
3. A project narrative of no more than twelve pages, which includes:
  - statement of purpose
  - description of the preliminary hypotheses
  - theoretical framework
  - research methodology
  - possible outcomes of the project, with publication and future research plans, if follow-up studies are anticipated
  - contribution that the project will make to the profession and to the applicant's career
4. A bibliography or list of relevant sources, not to exceed one page (included in the twelve-page limit).
5. A detailed budget and justification by category (in addition to the budget summary on the application cover page). Summer salary, if requested, and fringe benefits costs for all relevant employees must also be included in the total budget request.
6. A list of awards and fellowships received over the last five years
7. The professional record and contact information of the applicant.
8. Two external letters of recommendation in support of the project proposed for the fellowship. The letters must arrive by the deadline.

Fourteen (14) copies of the application and professional record should be submitted to the Director, Humanities Center, by 5:00 PM on **February 22, 2019**. Each application must have an application coversheet. The application cover sheet is available online: [www.research2.wayne.edu/hum](http://www.research2.wayne.edu/hum)

The Humanities Center  
Attn: Walter F. Edwards, Director  
2226 Faculty/Administration  
Building

# A LOOK AHEAD: 2018 - 2019 ACTIVITIES

## FACULTY FELLOWSHIP COMPETITION



### **Democracy**

**Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship Competition 2018-2019**

**Deadline: Friday, March 29, 2019**

### **Explication**

The rise of populism and authoritarianism around the globe seems to require an urgent rethinking of democracy. Was democracy a naive idealistic hope, or is it merely entering a new phase? Are societies around the world reverting to the historical norm of inward-looking autocratic elitism, or is a more expansive and inclusive kind of democracy possible? Is democracy too unstable to survive? Do the rights and freedoms of democracy necessarily afford authoritarians the means to undermine it? Will democracy always be trumped by racial, ethnic, and religious divisions? Are we better served as citizens by creating new laws bent on protecting democracy, or should we allow the free play of ideas to continue unabated, even when those ideas negate the principles of democracy? When faced with that possibility, which direction and what form should the protection of democracy take? Is journalistic integrity possible when lies are the new norm? Can artistic expression, including humor and sarcasm, help to defend democracy?

The Humanities Center at Wayne State University invites humanistically inclined scholars of all persuasions to discuss these and other questions about democracy and the possible future of humanity.

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All WSU full-time faculty in the humanities, arts, and related disciplines are eligible to submit proposals, except those who received a Faculty Fellowship Award from the Center within the last two years. The submission guidelines for this competition and the cover page will soon be available on our website at <http://research2.wayne.edu/hum/>

Please send all the applications to: The Humanities Center  
Walter F. Edwards, Director 2226  
Faculty Administration Bldg.  
Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI 48202





# A LOOK AHEAD: 2018 - 2019 ACTIVITIES

## BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY



# HUMANITIES CENTER

## Brown Bag Schedule

### 2018-2019

All lectures will be held in 2339 Faculty Administration Building from 12:30-1:30 pm unless indicated by an asterisk  
Visit the Center's website at [www.research2.wayne.edu/hum/](http://www.research2.wayne.edu/hum/)

656 W. Kirby 2226 Faculty Administration Building, Detroit MI 48202

"Bringing Humanists Together for Collaborative Research"

#### Fall

- 09/11 **Claudio Verani**, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Associate Dean, TBA  
09/12 **Eun-Jung Katherine Kim**, Philosophy, Associate Professor, *The #MeToo Movement: A Solution to an Assurance Problem*  
09/18 **Donovan Hohn**, English, Associate Professor, *Watermarks: An Attempt at Literary Hydrography*  
09/19 **Rahul Mitra**, Communication, Assistant Professor; **Mostafa Anis**, Communication, PhD student; **Kelsey Husnick**, Communication, PhD student; **Samantha Most**, Communication, MA Student, *Weaving personal/public narratives of water access in Metro Detroit: A collaborative (auto)ethnography*
- 09/25 **Joan Beaudoin**, School of Information Sciences, Associate Professor; **Christine D'Arpa**, School of Information Sciences, Assistant Professor; **Sangeetha Gopalakrishnan**, Foreign Language Technology Center (FLTC), Director; **Jennifer Hart**, History, Associate Professor; *New Research Areas in the Humanities: Ideas gleaned from the 2018 CHCI\*\* Conference*
- 09/26 **David Fasenfest**, Associate Professor, Sociology, *Marx at 200: Is he still relevant?*  
09/27 **Steering Committee**, NEH next generation humanities PhD, *Humanities Clinic presentation*  
10/02 **Alina Cherry**, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor; **Sandra Rodriguez**, CMLLC, Graduate Student, TBA  
10/03 **Ruth Boeder**, English, Lecturer, *The Complexity of the Research Paper: Aligning Writing Studies Pedagogy, Information Literacy Instruction, and Student Needs*
- 10/09 **Paul Kershaw**, History, Visiting Assistant Professor, *What is Capitalism, and How Do We Know We Are Studying Its History?*  
10/10 **José Rico-Ferrer**, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor, TBA  
10/11 **Brian Taylor**, Independent Scholar, *Sins of The Parents: severity of simple neglect*  
10/16 **Clay Walker**, English, Senior Lecturer, *Re-Thinking the Consequences of Literacy: Considering the Impact of the Federal Court Case between Detroit Public Schools students and the State of Michigan*
- 10/17 **Jeanine Pfahler**, Independent Scholar, *Themes in Omani Folktales*  
10/23 **Victor Figueroa**, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor, *Between Nature and History: An Ecocritical Approach to the Poetry of Juan Antonio Carreter*
- 10/24 **Liette Gidlow**, History, Associate Professor, *Pairing the Fifteenth and Nineteenth Amendments: Southern African Americans' Voting Rights Struggles, 1870-1930*
- 10/25 **Anne E. Duggan**, CMLLC\*, Professor, *Remediation and Recoding of the Nights: Florence Mialthe's Shéhérazade*  
10/30 **Christine D'Arpa**, School of Information Sciences, Assistant Professor, TBA  
10/31 **Chera Kee**, English/Film Media Studies, Associate Professor; **Shelby Cadwell**, English, PhD Candidate; **Joshua Neds-Fox**, University Libraries, Coordinator for Digital Publishing, *Screening Rights and the Right to Screen Films*
- 11/06 **Alison Stankrauff**, Archives, University Archivist, *Celebrating 150 Years of Wayne State*  
11/07 **Todd Duncan**, English, Senior Lecturer, TBA  
11/08 **Bionna May**, Music, Lecturer, *The Role of Information and Communications Technology in Music Education in Ghana*  
11/13 **Dominic P. Nanni**, English, Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Our Illiberal Universities*  
11/14 **Robert Sedler**, Law School, Distinguished Professor, *Our 18th Century Constitution, Congress, the President, and the Two-Party Political System*
- 11/27 **Walter Lucken IV**, English, Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Trauma, Pedagogy, and Austerity in the Public University*  
11/28 **Brad Roth**, Political Science, Professor, and Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program students, *Lessons from the Break-Up of Yugoslavia*
- 12/04 **Leonidas Pifos**, CMLLC\*, Senior Lecturer, *Genos, Ethnos, and the Nation-State in Konstantinos Paparrigopoulos' History of the Greek Nation*
- 12/05 **Tracy Neumann**, History, Associate Professor, *Global Urban History: Notes on an Emerging Subfield*  
12/11 **Deanna Laurette**, English, Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Reclaiming Identities: Representation and Disclosure Practices for People with Disabilities on Internet Support Boards*

#### Winter

- 01/15 **Steven L. Winter**, Law School, Walter S. Gibbs Distinguished Professor, *Peoples and Publics*  
01/16 **Shanhe Jiang**, Criminal Justice, Professor and Chair, *Community Corrections and Supervision Strategies in China*  
01/22 **Susan L. Gabel**, Education - Teacher Education Division, Professor, *Shatter not the branches of the tree of anger: Mothering, affect, and disability*
- 01/23 **Mary Herring**, Political Science, Associate Professor; **Kevin Lorentz**, Political Science, PhD Candidate, *Political Discourse Among Adolescents: Is it Still Gendered?*
- 01/29 **Tam Perry**, Social Work, Assistant Professor, TBA  
01/30 **Christopher Susak**, English, Lecturer, *Community Writing @WSU: Radical Geography, Complex Systems, and Community Action*  
01/31 **Chera Kee**, English/Film Media Studies, Associate Professor, *Beware the Zuvemlies: Circumventing Comics Censorship with the Not-Quite Undead*
- 02/05 **David Goldberg**, African American Studies, Associate Professor, *UHURU! Black Student Radicalism at WSU in the early 60s*  
02/06 **Kevin D. Ball**, English, Doctoral Candidate and Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Sonic Motion and Heaviness in Afrofuturist Media*  
02/07 **Andrea Sankar**, Anthropology, Professor and Chair, Director Medical Anthropology, and Co-Director SWAN;  
**Yuson Jung**, Anthropology, Associate Professor, *Training Anthropology Students for the 21st Century Workforce in Detroit: Tensions and Research Integrity Issues in a Collaboration with Corporate Partners*
- 02/12 **Janet Hankin**, Sociology, Professor; **Sandra L. King**, Sociology, PhD Candidate, *Deciphering Infant Mortality in Detroit: Vital Statistics and Beyond*
- 02/13 **Gerald Roman Nowak III**, Graduate Student, Sociology, *The Effect of Servers' Race on Customer Service Appraisals in Full Service Restaurants* (in collaboration with Zachary Brewster, Sociology, Associate Professor)
- 02/19 **Guerin Montilus**, Anthropology, Professor, *The Black Virgin, The Black Madonna, and The Siren in the Encounter with African Religions in the Americas*
- 02/20 **Alisa Moldavanova**, Political Science, Assistant Professor, *The Nonprofit Sector in Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia: Civil Society Advances and Challenges*
- 02/21 **John Gruda**, Independent Scholar, *Edward Granville Browne & The Bahá'í Faith*  
02/26 **David Merolla**, Sociology, Associate Professor, TBA  
02/27 **Joanne Sobeck**, Social Work, Associate Dean for Research, *Perspectives of Trust, Resilience, and Coping with the Flint Water Crisis*
- 03/05 **Stella Resko**, Social Work and Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute, Associate Professor, *Understanding Experiences of Families Affected by Opioid Misuse*
- 03/06 **Jonathan Flatley**, English, Professor, TBA  
03/19 **Lisabeth Hock**, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor, *Radical Allyship in Yoko Tawada's Etüden im Schnee (Memoirs of a Polar Bear)*  
03/20 **Lance Gable**, Law School, Associate Professor, *Criticized, Fired, Sued, or Prosecuted: Hindsight and Public Health Accountability*  
03/26 **Holly Feen-Calligan**, Education, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Art Therapy; **Sofia Aquino**, Education, PhD Candidate, *Saturday Art Therapy*
- 03/27 **Jule Thomas**, English, Senior Lecturer, *Wayne State University Writers: Who uses the WRT Zone and who doesn't*  
04/02 **Elizabeth Faue**, History, Professor, *Work and the Body Politic: Gender, Occupational Risk, and the Health of Democracy*  
04/03 **Sangeetha Gopalakrishnan**, Foreign Language Technology Center (FLTC), Director, and the DhatWayne facilitators, *Digital Humanities: Leveraging Technology to Do What Humanists Do*
- 04/09 **Peter Starverov**, English and Linguistics Program, Assistant Professor, TBA  
04/10 **Joan E. Beaudoin**, School of Information Sciences, Associate Professor, TBA  
04/16 **Caroline Maun**, English, Associate Professor, *Charlotte Wilder's Uncollected Poems c. 1940-1945*  
04/17 **José Cuello**, History, Associate Professor, TBA  
04/23 **M.L. Liebler**, English, Lecturer, *I Just Wanna Testify*

\* Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures

\*\* Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes





Wayne State University campus in mid-October 2017 captured by a student.

# Humanities Center

*Bringing Humanists Together for Collaborative Research*

The Humanities Center 2017-2018 Annual Report

Designed by Shamira Tellis

Formatted by Shamira Tellis

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