

WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY



# Humanities Center

## Annual Report 2018-2019



*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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*Special Thanks to Design Core Detroit for providing the pictures and captions that appear throughout this report. These provide beautiful glimpses of the commercial sites and entertainment venues in the great city of Detroit.*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR 2018 - 2019 OVERVIEW

I am pleased to report that 2018-19 was another successful year for the Humanities Center. Our achievements include inaugurating a bi-annual newsletter, implementing new strategies to involve more students in our programs, increasing our fund-raising activities, and joining other global humanities centers in promoting public humanities, and global humanities. In spite of fiscal challenges, our programs have all flourished.

At the beginning of the winter semester 2019, the Center launched a new bi-annual on-line newsletter, entitled [THE HUMANIST](#) aimed at faculty, students, administrators, the public, and social media participants.



Dr. Walter Edwards



Our former administrative assistant Tiffany Baldrige created the newsletter. The Center's vision for the publication was to bring snippets of the Center's work and news to the attention of a wider range of our constituents in an informal, pictorial way that is fresh and inviting. The initial edition included the Center's mission statement, pictures from our fall Brown Bag talks, deadlines for winter semester 2019 programs and stories about significant donations to the Center. We distributed the newsletter widely and received positive feedback.

The publication of HUMANIST was one of several strategies the Center used in 2018-19 to dissemination information about the Center's programs and to encourage increased participation in our activities. Another strategy was to create a prominent social media presence. Through our presence in social media, the Center has developed a good following, particularly from students. We recently surveyed our Brown Bag audiences and found that about ten percent of the attendees learned of the talks through our social media.

This year, the Center also made deliberate efforts to attract more students to its conferences and Brown Bag talks to widen the circle of scholars that benefit from its programs. To that end, we have encouraged faculty to collaborate with graduate students in brown-bag presentations and to sponsor solo brown bag talks by their mentees, if the faculty mentors are present at the talks and participate in the Q&A sessions. We have also had success in getting faculty to assign our brown



## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR 2018 - 2019 OVERVIEW

bag talks and conferences to their students for course credit.

In 2018-19, the Center joined with other WSU units in accelerating efforts to raise funds to supplement our budget. For example, on April 11, 2019, the Center joined the University community in participating in "Giving Day". We encouraged donors to donate both to the university in general and to the Humanities Center. That effort yielded at least \$2000 for the Center. We also received gifts of \$1000 each from a current and a former resident scholar. This year, in addition to its year-end mailings, the Development Office will send mid-year letters to our alumni and friends requesting donations. The Center is grateful to Provost Whitfield for a grant of \$30,000 to help to supplement the Center's budget. We welcome these contributions since budget cuts and increased operational costs have challenged the Center's fiscal health.

As mentioned above, the Center joined other centers in promoting Global Humanities. The thrust towards Global Humanities is an effort by the CHCI, the NEH and other national and international foundations to facilitate a rapprochement between the humanities and societies worldwide. The following is part of an announcement of its global humanities program, taken from the [CHCI home page](#):

*"Since 2012, the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI), supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, has advanced multiple forms of international, collaborative research designed to foster new knowledge and new networks. Building upon the first phase of this project (2012-2017), in which 26 member centers and institutes contributed to four distinct projects, and with the support of a new grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, CHCI launched, in 2017, the Global Humanities Institutes, a new program for a second generation of international collaboration".*

A variant of this Global Humanities project is a collaboration between the CHCI and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation (CCKF) in China that invited proposals for summer institutes that examine the relationships between China and other societies through the lens of the humanities. I learned about this program at the 2018 CHCI meeting in Virginia and encouraged Chinese faculty at WSU to apply for funding to hold a 2019 summer institute at WSU. Within a few months, WSU professors Haiyong Liu, Min Yu and Yunshuang Zhang developed and submitted a successful proposal for a 2019 summer institute on "Space in two cities: Detroit and Shenyang," through the Humanities Center.

The following is part of the announcement on the CHCI website:

*The Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI) and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange (CCKF) collaborated to support an annual summer institute on the topic of "Chinese Studies and Global Humanities." More than simply a traditional conference, the summer institutes are opportunities to foster unique collective projects, international collaboration, and interdisciplinary work centered on humanistic approaches to scholarship. This year, the CHCI-CCKF committee selected a proposal by Prof. Haiyong Liu and the Wayne State University's Humanities Center on the theme of "space in two cities" that captures the opportunities the Summer Institutes grant seeks to support.*

The following link provided the details of WSU summer institute on "Space in two cities: Detroit and Shenyang" <https://research2.wayne.edu/hum/CHCI-CCKF.html> .

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

# 2018 - 2019 OVERVIEW

The success of the 2019 summer institute on space in Detroit and Shenyang will serve as a model for the Center's thrust into promoting Global Humanities. In 2019-20, we will encourage other networks of international faculty (Arabic, Jewish, Polish, Indian etc.) to consider applying for other Global Humanities grants offered through the CHCI.

In 2018-19, the Humanities Center also overtly supported and encouraged Public Humanities projects. The NEH and CHCI both encourage universities to implement public humanities projects as additional approaches to involving universities in ordinary civic life. The public humanities projects conducted in universities supplement the activities of the NEH sponsored humanities councils in states across the country.

The NEH website carries the following message:

### **"Division of Public Programs"**

*The Public Humanities Projects program supports projects that bring the ideas and insights of the humanities to life for general audiences through in-person programming. Projects must engage humanities scholarship to analyze significant themes in disciplines such as history, literature, ethics, and art history. This program supports projects in three categories: **Exhibitions** (permanent, temporary, or traveling); interpretive programs at **Historic Places**; and **Humanities Discussions** related to the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding.*

Over the years, the Humanities Center has hosted Brown Bag talks and conferences which seek to connect scholarship and art to the Detroit public and other publics. An example was our "Detroit 300" conference in 2001 that marked Detroit's 300th anniversary. The conference theme was "Fueling the Spirit of Detroit: Humanists and the Humanities in Detroit's History". It had a multidisciplinary focus, with presentations from various fields including art, drama, literature, history and archiving. Participants in the event were experts from our own faculty as well as neighboring universities and civic institutions. More recently, in 2015, the Center held a fall symposium on "Re: the City". It was our most successful symposium to date, attracting two dozen speakers who discussed Detroit and other cities from a variety of humanities, arts and social sciences perspectives. Papers addressed "re-inventing", "renewing," "re-telling", "re-pairing", "re-imagining", "re-building", and "re-envisioning" the city.

In 2018-19, the deans of CLAS and CFPCA in partnership with the Humanities Center funded a Working Group in Public Humanities that will provide a focused and enduring public humanities project at Wayne, generate faculty and student research, and provide additional connections between the university and Detroit. Below is an excerpt from the group's 2018-19 annual report submitted recently to the Humanities Center:

*Wayne Stories is a public humanities project coordinated by members of the Public Humanities Working Group, funded jointly by the Wayne State Humanities Center, the College of Liberal Arts, and Sciences, and the College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts. This working group is comprised of faculty from English, History, Anthropology, Urban Studies and Planning, and CMLLC, as well as colleagues from the Library. We seek to highlight the unique culture and history of our campus and community. In the process, it seeks to provide an outlet for faculty and student work and raise awareness about Wayne State's role*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR 2018 - 2019 OVERVIEW

*in the broader community."*

The full report and membership of this group appear in the body of this report. (p.35)

Another Public Humanities project the Center is supporting this year is the Working Group on "Flint Stories: An Archive of Citizen Expression". The members of this group include Richard Marback, English; Mary Anderson, Theatre and Dance; Holly Feen-Calligan, Art Therapy; Marc Kruman, History; and Siobhan Gregory, Art. The group is documenting the stories of citizens affected negatively by the Flint water crisis so that the public can hear the voices of ordinary citizens. The group hopes that the experiences of these citizens would guide future urban planning and ensure that such a crisis will not occur again.

In addition to the above general trends in its 2018-19 program, the Center continued to manage its regular programs all of which did well. Our most visible program continues to be our Brown Bag colloquium series. In 2018-19, the Center hosted 51 Brown Bag talks that involved 78 speakers from six different colleges and 18 departments. This series continues to be a powerful catalyst for bringing together faculty, students and community members from a wide variety of disciplinary and professional backgrounds for scholarly presentations and conversation. I am pleased to report that the Center has a full schedule of about 59 Brown Bag talks for 2019-20 program.

The theme of this year's Faculty Fellows' conference "Design", was inspired by the fact that in 2015, Detroit became the first U.S. city to be designated a UNESCO "City of Design," a testament to the region's outsized influence in shaping the cultural and creative forces of the 21st century. We were fortunate to have Ms. Ellie Schneider, Director of Advocacy and Operations at Design Core as our keynoter since she and her group presented the designs that won the award for the city. Design Core also donated the graphic images of Detroit sites that embellish parts of this annual report.

Above, I have highlighted the new emphases and ideas the Center pursued this year, but I hope you have time to read the entire report. When you have done so, I hope you will conclude that the Center has had a successful 2018-19. Inevitably, there were some setbacks during the year, one being that we lost Ms. Baldrige as our Administrative Assistant. Thankfully, we have since hired a new Administrative Assistant in the person of Ms. Angela Gabriel who assumed duties on June 24, 2019. We expect that she will serve us well. Happily, the Center continues to have the invaluable service of Ms. Shamira Tellis who has served the Center continuously for six years as a student research assistant and Brown Bag coordinator.

I look forward to the 2019-20 academic year and to the challenges and rewards that lie ahead for the Center and Wayne State University.

It is a pleasure to serve you. Thanks for your support.

Respectfully,  
Walter F. Edwards, D.Phil,  
Director, Humanities Center



# SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

## 2018-2019

**BROWN BAG TALKS:** Since the inception of the weekly Brown Bag Colloquium Series in 1997, 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 2018-19 academic year, the talks were held mainly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This year, 51 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 2018-2019 fellow was Adrion Dula from CMLLC. Awards of \$500 each were made to Theodore Prassinis from English and Michael Sabbagh from Sociology.

**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 Democracy. The 2020 theme will be The Future of Failure.

**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 2019 conference theme was Design; the 2020 conference theme will be Democracy.

**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 2018 recipients was Marsha Richmond, Professor of History. The 2019 recipient is Sarika Chandra, Associate Professor of English.

**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 nine Resident Scholars from six disciplines during the 2018 -19 year. (See pages 10-15)

# SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

## 2018-2019

**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, 2018 and August 16, 2019. This year, the Center funded seven students from five 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 seven groups.



Above: A photo of the registration stand at the Humanities Center 2019 *Design* Faculty Fellowship Conference giving an overview of our programs.

## 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: History, Irvin D. Reid Honors College, Latin/ Latino American Studies, Law, Political Science, Sociology, and Theatre and Dance. Below, each resident scholar provides a summary of his/her experience in the Center this year. Some scholars submitted first person reports, others preferred third person reports.*



Jose Cuello  
Associate Professor  
History and Latin/Latino  
American Studies

“Sacred Fire: The Ideology of Independent Native Identity in the North of Colonial Mexico. 1550-1750”

Appointment as a resident scholar in the Humanities Center is an invitation to acquire an altered state of mind. There are the material supports. It is another world to have an office where I can concentrate my thinking without distractions, and a big desk that I do not have to clear for other projects. The appointment comes with a modest research fund, electronic support, and free coffee.

The intellectual mission of the Humanities Center is the core driver of the altered experience. The Center nurtures our understanding of our humanity in its deepest and broadest sense. Its programs are multi-disciplinary and invite all points of view. They are inter-disciplinary and invite the creative interaction of different scholarly perspectives.

I experienced interdisciplinarity in action at our research presentations. My cohorts and I found that we could actually talk to each other across the disciplinary boundaries of law, sociology, dance and the histories of science, civilization, modern American music and the African Diaspora. We shared different angles of thought that validated and enriched our research themes and methods. Imagine a souped-up Humanities Center Brown Bag discussion.

Every faculty member and graduate student would benefit intellectually and emotionally from a tour of duty as a resident scholar. I myself will be working intensely during the summer months on two books in progress. One is on the ideological conflict between Western Civilization and the nomadic First Nations of Colonial Mexico. The other one is on the universal forces that create and destroy civilizations.

Thank you, Walter Edwards, for the vision of creating

an altered space and for the dedication to actualize it over twenty-six years. From its origins as a splinter, it has become Wayne State University's axis mundi marketplace of ideas.



Anthony Dillof  
Professor  
Law School

“What's It to You?: The Place of Subjective Valuation in Tort Law”

I was on sabbatical for the first half of the period of my residency. During this time, the Humanities Center provided an ideal base for my research. I was able to complete a rough draft of my article, “Objective Punishment,” which considered whether criminal punishments, to be proportionate, must take into account idiosyncratic features of the offender. In the second half of my residence, I was able to polish the draft with the aid of feedback from other members of the Resident Scholars Program.



Paul Dubinsky  
Professor, Law School

“International Law and Undergraduate Education”

Professor Paul R. Dubinsky has been a member of the Law Faculty since 2005. For over a dozen years, he has directed his scholarly writing to law students, legal scholars, and courts. During that period, he has taught solely graduate students. During his tenure as a scholar at the Humanities Center, Professor Dubinsky focused on how to communicate legal concepts and how to use legal materials, specifically in international law and procedural law, in introducing undergraduate students to law.

There were several stages to Professor Dubinsky's



# RESIDENT SCHOLARS

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



Above: The Commons, located in Detroit's Eastside, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

work at the Center: researching the prevalence of undergraduate law courses in colleges and universities in the United States; examining a sample of the syllabi and assignments in such courses; and considering the materials and approaches employed in undergraduate legal education in other common law countries. His preparatory work at the Center also involved understanding what leads some college students to study law while in college, what background such students bring to such a course, and the current pedagogical thinking on the most effective use of teaching materials for undergraduates.

The culmination of Professor Dubinsky's work at the Center was the presentation of a draft proposal for a book to be introduced into this field, a field in which no widely-adopted, authoritative text exists. At this presentation and throughout the year, the other scholars contributed invaluable comments on such matters as: the best use of technology in undergraduate teaching, the appropriate mix of written materials and audio-visual ones, factors to consider in formulating assignments and examinations, and ways to make undergraduate classes in law participatory.

Professor Dubinsky is grateful to Professor Edwards, the Humanities Center staff, and the other scholars for their ideas, advice, and good-natured support throughout his scholarship year.



Kamahra Ewing  
Literary Scholar, Irvin D. Reid  
Honors College

“Voices from the Global South: Transnational Media Reception and Consumption of Nollywood in the Black Atlantic”

Throughout the year, I worked on my current book project, *Voices from the Global South: Transnational Cultural Productions, Distribution, Reception and Consumption of Nollywood in the Black Atlantic*, examines global Nigerian communities cultural diaspora – producers, productions, distributors, consumers, and industries / networks – in Brazil, Jamaica, and the United Kingdom. I engage local and global knowledge about diverse African identities and communities in Black Diasporic spaces. The investigation primarily concentrates on Brazil under nascent Brazilian affirmative action legislation. My research captures new African immigrants and older African Diaspora communities as case studies. The book's mixed-method approach includes the creation of datasets – in-depth interviews / participant observations / discussion groups/ structured and semi-structured and questionnaires – brings together an ethnography of African Diaspora peoples who narrate the function of popular culture media to both counter and reinforce negative representations of subaltern groups, in terms of nationality, race, gender, religion, and class. Audiences reveal how Nigerian productions humanize Africans by Nigerians telling their own stories, thereby, unintentionally promoting cultural diversity, appreciation, and tolerance. African Diaspora audiences elucidate how Nollywood serves as a cultural educational tool to democratize African and Black identity in a time of modern globalization. Interviews were collected from 2012-2014 where the producers, distributors, consumers, and reception audiences reside: São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador da Bahia, Montego Bay, and London. My research contributes to Afro-American Studies, Gender Studies, Film Studies, Popular Culture Studies, Religious Studies, and Social Justice Studies, through the contestation of Global South voices that counter the notion of Black essentialism. Both neo and older African Diaspora communities vibrantly narrate their accounts of identity, by interrogating visual cultural productions and via audience reception.

# RESIDENT SCHOLARS



Above: Folk, located in Corktown, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

*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.*

Moreover, audiences reveal the self determined expressions of contemporary Diaspora's developing consciousness, as its members simultaneously learn and negotiate who they are by using cultural productions to create new notions of their Africinity and Blackness. As a Humanities Center Resident scholar, I am revising a book proposal on Nollywood in the Black Atlantic. I plan to submit my work to Indiana Press who previously published *Global Nollywood The Transnational Dimensions of African Video Film Industry* (2013), *Nollywood The Video Phenomenon in Nigeria* (2009), and *Nollywood Stars Media Migration in West Africa and the Diaspora* (2015). I continue to work on this project and will submit a proposal to three different academic presses by the end of my tenure at the Humanities Center in August.



Beth Fowler  
Senior Lecturer, Irvin D. Reed  
Honors College

"An Integrated Effort: Rock and Roll, Desegregation Movements, and Post-Civil Rights Racism"

During the 2018-2019 academic year, I held office hours twice a week at the Humanities Center. This time devoted to research and writing allowed me to complete two articles, "An 'Integrated Effort': Desegregation Movements and Billboard Crossover Records, 1954-58" and "A Teen Ager in



Left: Folk, located in Corktown, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

Love': How Black Adolescents Became 'Teenagers' in Rock and Roll Songs, 1956-1960." Having a specialized space devoted to research was indispensable, and really forced me to focus on my work outside of teaching and service responsibilities. I was also able to have helpful discussions with colleagues across academic disciplines, which encouraged me to refine my argument, and to clearly identify my oral history sources. After substantial revisions to both pieces, both are currently under review at prominent academic journals. I have also been able to revise the introduction to my book project, and to submit panel and paper proposals to the 2019 American Studies Association Annual Meeting and the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians.



Mary Herring  
Associate Professor, Political Science

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

I used my second year as a Humanities Center Resident Scholar to finish my work on the first project and continue my work on the second. Both are premised on past research that finds that women engage in talk about political matters at considerably lower rates than men. To the extent that women have different political priorities, the perspective of over half the citizenry is not as clearly heard. Moreover, the free exchange of political opinion is considered a necessary element of democratic government, promoting compromise, respect for opponents, and expansion of one's political perspective beyond the personal to the public.

The first project is a study of the way characteristics of the setting affect discussion of political topics. We examined two dimensions: degree of participation, measured as length of speaking turns, and style of participation, assessed by the conciliatory or argumentative nature of

# 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: Folk, located in Corktown, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

the turn. On both measures, we find it is important to consider the conversational context, but male and female participants often respond differently to the same setting characteristics. This is most notable with regard to the characteristics of the group itself. Growth in the female proportion of the group induces women to become more verbose and somewhat more antagonistic but leads men to become more taciturn. On the other hand, as the size of the group grows, women's turns are shortened and men's are lengthened. Our findings suggest that instructors can improve women's participation by structuring discussion into groups that are smaller and include more women. Results were presented at the Sixteenth Annual Conference in Citizenship Studies: Technology and Citizenship, March 2019. We plan to submit the manuscript for peer review by mid-summer. The second study examines the effect of gender on adolescents' discourse strategies within the setting of an annual mock legislature for high school students. Data consist of observations and video recordings made at the 2017 and 2018 spring conference of Michigan Youth in Government, as well as the bills students introduced at these conferences. Coding and data analysis continues through the summer but our analysis of the project's implications for teaching civic literacy will be presented at the Joint International Teaching and Learning Conference in June. I appreciate the support the Center has provided for travel to this conference.

A benefit (and a requirement) of resident scholars is participation in the Scholars' Round Table. Four of the graduate students working on this project joined me in presenting preliminary results of the bill data to the round table in April. The workshop experience is particularly valuable as a model to these new scholars for how cross-disciplinary perspectives can improve research processes and outcomes.

The community space offered by the Humanities Center has facilitated planning and data analysis for these

projects. I am thankful for that, as well as for the quiet space of my Humanities Center office.



Billicia Charnelle Hines  
Assistant Professor, Theatre & Dance  
"August Wilson: A Way Towards Two-Way Integration in Theatre Programs"

The Humanities Resident Scholars afforded an opportunity to focus on my writing. I have been able to submit more drafts to various journals. Below are the accomplishments from this school year.

1. "Detroit 67: Bodies, Space, and Time," (Chapter draft submission 2019) Sorbonne University Press (Paris) Co-authors Mary Anderson, Billicia Hines
2. "Detroit '67: Temporalities of Theatrical Representation in the Context of Memorialization," Co-authored with lead author Mary Anderson Body, Space, and Technology Journal, published 2018
3. "Nambi Kelley: My Place in the World, Theatre Topics" (submitted draft April 2019)
4. "Nikkole Salter: You are the Artist of Your Life," HowlRound(submitted draft April 2019)
5. "Dominique Morisseau's Detroit Project: Excavating Humanity" (submitted draft May 2019) Texas Theatre Journal CFP



# RESIDENT SCHOLARS



Above: Kuzzo's Chicken and Waffles, located on Livernois on Detroit's Avenue of Fashion, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



Marsha Richmond  
Professor, History

"A scientific biography of the renowned wildlife biologist, Dr. Theo Colborn"

Marsha Richmond significantly benefitted from (as well as personally enjoyed) her experience as a 2018-19 Humanities Center Resident Scholar. Having a quiet and well outfitted office, as well as the use of the Center's printer and photocopier, greatly facilitated the work on my research project. But I also profited from my interactions with other resident scholars, especially the vibrant intellectual exchange prompted by their research presentations. This program, as well as the other activities of the Humanities Center, significantly enriches the faculty experience at Wayne State University.



Nicole Trujillo-Pagan  
Associate Professor, Sociology

"American Dreams, Latino Realities"

I was awarded a Humanities Center Resident Scholarship for 2018-2019 in order to further my project, "American Dreams, Latino Realities." I'm happy to report significant development that I owe, in part, to the support of the Humanities Center. The developments of the year include:

1. Publication of a paper I wrote for presenting to other HC fellows in January 2019. The feedback of the fellows supported my development of its main arguments and, ultimately, its publication. (forthcoming. "Marking Walls and Borders: Latina/o/x Youth, Graffiti and Competing Visions of Community Development," International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy.)
2. With the funds, I purchased flyers to support recruitment of interviewees into the study.

I successfully completed 11 interviews. Four are incomplete. I plan to continue data collection over the summer.



The Humanities Center's 2018-2019 Resident Scholar's Round table discussion. Resident Scholars from L to R - Kamahra Ewing (Irvin D. Reid Honors College), Anthony Dillof (Law), Paul Dubinsky (Law), Nicole Trujillo-Pagan (Sociology), José Cuello (History & Latin/Latino American Studies), Walter Edwards (Director), Guest, Marsha Richmond (History) and Billicia Hines Theatre & Dance).

Not Pictured: Beth Fowler (Irvin D. Reid Honors College) and Mary Herring (Political Science).



Professor Jose Cuello generously contributed art to embellish the Humanities Center during his residency.

# RESIDENT SCHOLARS



The Humanities Center's 2018-2019 Resident Scholars' Round table discussion. Resident Scholars from L to R - Billicia Hines (Theatre & Dance), Kamahra Ewing (Irvin D. Reed Honors College), Beth Fowler (Irvin D. Reed Honors College), Mary Herring (Political Science), Anthony Dillof (Law), José Cuello (History), Walter Edwards (Director), Paul Dubinsky (Law) and Marsha Richmond (History).

Not pictured: Nicole Trujillo-Pagan (Sociology).



L to R: Literary Scholar Kamahra Ewing, Professor Steven Winter, Lecturer Beth Fowler, Professor Nicole Trujillo-Pagan, Professor Marsha Richmond, Walter Edwards (Director), and Professor Jose Cuello enjoying a conversation at the Humanities Center 2018 Holiday Party December 2018.



Resident Scholar Jose Cuello working on his research in his office inside the Humanities Center.



# MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP LECTURE

*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.*

## 2018 Fellow



Marsha Richmond, Professor, History

*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.



Above: Professor Marsha Richmond giving her lecture on *Sentinel of Science: Theo Colborn and the Discovery of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals* at the Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship Lecture.



# 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.*



Sarika Chandra, Associate Professor, English

## The 2019 Fellow

### Abstract

#### *Race After Representation*

The question of how racial groups are represented has historically dominated scholarship in a variety of disciplines. In literary/cultural studies, critics have sought to demonstrate how literature, film, and other media depict racial groups. This body of scholarship is developed in conversation with sociological, historical and political work that has understood racial representation in the national political and public sphere as a measure of redress and recognition for historical injustice. More recent work across the disciplines is beginning to move beyond questions of representation to explain racial retrenchment and resentment at a moment when the promise of racial integration through affirmative action or color-blind policies appears to be in crisis. This book project investigates how literature/culture of the latter twentieth and twenty-first century responds to this crisis. Informed by critical work on globalization, state-formation, and social movements, my reading of literary/cultural production explores the contemporary global and historical dimensions of race in the United States.

### Bio

Sarika Chandra is an Associate Professor in the Department of English at Wayne State University. Sarika received her BA in English from Bentley College, as well as her MBA in Management. Her MA was in English from Northeastern University, and her PhD in English from the University of Florida. She came to Wayne State University as an Assistant Professor in 2004, and was later promoted to Associate Professor in 2011.

Some of her most recent honors/awards are receiving the Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship in 2017-2018, the Josephine Nevins Keal Faculty Fellowship in 2015, and the Career Development Chair in 2014. Professor Chandra has taught numerous classes undergraduate and graduate including, Introduction to Film and Native American Literature as undergraduate courses, and Theoretical Issues in Cultural Studies and Imperialism/Anti-Imperialism as graduate courses just to name a few of each.

Sarika's most recent publications include journal article "Urban-Rural Imagination." Special Issue on In/Security Eds. Janice Ho and Nadine Attwell. *English Language Notes*. Volume 54, Number 2. Fall/Winter 2016. Another publication was in November 2011 where she authored the scholarly book *Dislocalism: The Crisis of Globalization and the Remobilizing of Americanism*. (The Ohio State University Press).

## 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 2019 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, Adrion Dula (CMLLC), and two awardees: Theodore Prassinos (English), and Michael Sabbagh (Sociology). Below are the abstracts of their dissertations.*



Adrion Dula, Department of CMLLC- Fellow

“Someday My Beast Will Come: Death, Desire, and Deformity of Early Modern to Postmodern Literary Fairy Tales”

This dissertation is a diachronic analysis of the European literary tradition of animal or beastly bridegroom fairy tales, with emphasis on the early modern French tales “Bluebeard” and “Beauty and the Beast.” The social significations of the themes of the curious woman and the beastly man are examined from Biblical and mythological stories, through medieval Latin and early modern Italian and French literary fairy tales, and ultimately to contemporary French and Francophone adaptations. Drawing on Laura Mulvey’s (1989) notion of the “male gaze,” which is a dominant gaze that subjugates and objectifies women, and Rosemarie Garland-Thompson’s (1997) discussion of “staring” at a disabled body as “illicit looking,” I assert that both tale types hinge on the interpretation of the gaze of the heroine as either an appropriation of the male gaze and transgressive, and thus associated with evil, punishment, and death in “Bluebeard,” or as a transformative gaze, and therefore connected with good, reward, and rebirth in “Beauty and the Beast.” I examine how these early modern French tales and their precursors maintain oppressive gender and able-bodied ideology, which position woman, on the one hand, as dangerously curious or as an impetus for civilizing beastly men; and men, on the other, as monstrous, deformed, or deadly; in order to expose the diverse ways in which postmodern adaptations in French and Francophone literature and film complicate or reject these oppressive cultural scripts. I argue that adaptations by the writers Amélie Nothomb and Dominique Demers and director Catherine Breillat, unlike the “compact” fairy tales of Charles Perrault, follow the “complex” narrative structure popularized by French early modern women writers. I demonstrate how this “complex” narrative form in revisions contributes to multifaceted representations of female curiosity and alters the theme of monstrous man to align with the contemporary social model of disability.



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,

## HUMANITIES CENTER'S DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

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?



Michael Sabbagh, Department of Sociology - Awardee

“Tax Foreclosure, Racialized Dispossession, and Belonging in Post-2008 Detroit”

Since 2008, Wayne County, MI has issued more than 255,000 foreclosure notices to Detroit homeowners for falling three years behind on property taxes, resulting in the yearly January bloom of yellow-bagged notices stapled to wooden stakes pounded into the frozen ground. Detroit's sizable Black population living near poverty has felt the greatest impact of the resulting yearly auction. The purpose of this dissertation is to situate the state of Michigan's tax foreclosure regime, as administered by Wayne County, into the broader matrix of structural inequality for people of color, particularly African Americans. This research proposes that the Wayne County tax foreclosures should not be considered as a mundane state process, but rather as a continuation of the struggle for black land ownership and belonging in the city. By combining, geocoding, and mapping tax foreclosure, census, school closing and demolition data from 2008-2017, this dissertation research demonstrates a novel way to visualize the full impact of Wayne County's tax foreclosure regime on the city of Detroit. The constellation of issues under consideration include racialized dispossession, the draining of wealth from black communities, and the vanishing of neighborhoods. These issues will be investigated as a dual form of racialized dispossession: individually by state-initiated property dispossession, and collectively by destroying neighborhoods through dereliction and the ensuing demolition program. By drawing on the fields of sociology, history, law, and critical geography, this dissertation will contribute to understandings of wealth extraction from communities of color, the legacy housing discrimination, and community belonging. The findings will have particular relevance for policy makers, housing advocates, and urban planners that wish to make Detroit's much heralded revitalization more equitable for long-time city residents.



## FALL 2018

# 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 51 talks given mainly by Wayne State University faculty members.*



Above: Professor of Chemistry and CLAS Associate Dean for Research as the opening speaker for the 2018-19 Brown Bag Series.

**September 11<sup>th</sup> Cláudio Verani, Professor of Chemistry, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Associate Dean for Research**  
Science, Society, and Sustainability

**September 12<sup>th</sup> Eun-Jung Katherine Kim, Philosophy, Associate Professor**  
The #MeToo Movement: A Solution to an Assurance Problem

**September 18<sup>th</sup> Donovan Hohn, English, Associate Professor**  
Watermarks: An Attempt at Literary Hydrography

**September 19<sup>th</sup> Rahul Mitra, Communication, Assistant Professor; Mostafa Aniss, 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

**September 25<sup>th</sup> 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

**September 26<sup>th</sup> David Fasenfest, Associate Professor, Sociology**  
Marx at 200: Is he still relevant?

**September 27<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Faue, History, Professor and Chair; Samuel Hogsette, History, Doctoral Student; Joshua Morris, History, Doctoral Student; Georgina Adlam, English, Doctoral Student; Rochelle Danquah, History, Doctoral Student**  
Internship Experience and the Next Gen Humanities PhD: The Humanities Clinic and the Future of Doctoral Education

**October 2<sup>nd</sup> Alina Cherry, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor; Sandra Rodriguez Bontemps, CMLLC, Ph.D. Candidate**  
(Re)Defining Space and Place: Spatial Configurations in Contemporary French and Francophone Fiction

**October 3<sup>rd</sup> Ruth Boeder, English, Lecturer**  
The Complexity of the Research Paper: Aligning Writing Studies Pedagogy, Information Literacy Instruction, and Student Needs

**October 9<sup>th</sup> Paul Kershaw, History, Visiting Assistant Professor**  
What is Capitalism, and How Do We Know We Are Studying Its History?

**October 10<sup>th</sup> José Rico-Ferrer, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor**  
Unusual Conduct: Novel Narrative Strategies, and Readership in *The Fortunate Fool*

**October 11<sup>th</sup> Brian Taylor, Independent Scholar**  
Sins of The Parents: severity of simple neglect

**October 16<sup>th</sup> 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



Above: The Brown Bag audience listens closely while Professor David Fasenfest from Sociology discusses *Marx at 200: Is he still relevant?*.

FALL 2018

# 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: History Professor Tracy Neumann closes out the Fall 2018 Brown Bag series with a talk on *Global Urban History: Notes on an Emerging Subfield*.

**October 17<sup>th</sup> Jeanine Pfahlert, Independent Scholar**  
Themes in Omani Folktales

**October 23<sup>rd</sup> Victor Figueroa, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor**  
Between Nature and History: An Ecocritical Approach to the Poetry of Juan Antonio Corretjer

**October 24<sup>th</sup> Liette Gidlow, History, Associate Professor**  
Pairing the Fifteenth and Nineteenth Amendments: Southern African Americans' Voting Rights Struggles, 1870-1930

**October 25<sup>th</sup> Anne E. Duggan, CMLLC\*, Professor**  
Remediation and Recoding of the Nights: Florence Mialhe's *Shéhérazade*

**October 30<sup>th</sup> Christine D'Arpa, School of Information Sciences, Assistant Professor**  
Bibles, Cow Bells, and The Fountainhead: The Peoples Book Club of the Sears Roebuck Mail Order Catalog, 1943-1959

**October 31<sup>st</sup> 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

**November 6<sup>th</sup> Alison Stankrauff, Archives, University Archivist**  
Celebrating 150 Years of Wayne State

**November 7<sup>th</sup> Todd Duncan, English, Senior Lecturer; Matthew Wisotsky, Associate Director for Library User Services**  
An Emerging Poet: Remembering David Blair

**November 8<sup>th</sup> Eldonna May, Music, Lecturer**  
The Role of Information and Communications Technology in Music Education in Ghana

**November 13<sup>th</sup> Dominic P. Nanni, English, Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
The Promise of Conservatism

**November 14<sup>th</sup> Robert Sedler, Law School, Distinguished Professor**  
Our 18th Century Constitution, Congress, the President, and the Two-Party Political System

**November 27<sup>th</sup> Walter Lucken IV, English, Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
Trauma, Pedagogy, and Austerity in the Public University

**November 28<sup>th</sup> Brad Roth, Professor of Political Science and Law; Dalia Ibrahim, Undergraduate, Political Science; Sheham Saif, Undergraduate, Political Science; John Sedarous, Undergraduate, Political Science**  
Lessons from the Break-Up of Yugoslavia

**December 4<sup>th</sup> Leonidas Pittos, CMLLC\*, Senior Lecturer**  
Genos, Ethnos, and the Nation-State in Konstantinos Paparrigopoulos' History of the Greek Nation

**December 5<sup>th</sup> Tracy Neumann, History, Associate Professor**  
Global Urban History: Notes on an Emerging Subfield



Above: Detroit Foundation Hotel, located in Downtown Detroit, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

\*Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures



# THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



Staff L to R: Shamira Tellis, Keiaira Pulliam, Abeer Alezzani, and Chencheng Zhang at the Humanities Center 2019 Faculty Fellows Conference on the theme *Design*.



Keynote Speaker Ellie Schneider gives a talk on "Detroit City of Design: Using Inclusive Design to Generate Inclusive Growth" at the 2019 *Design* Faculty Fellowship Conference.



Professor Marsha Richmond and guest having a discussion after Professor Richmond's lecture at the Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship.



College of Liberal Arts and Science Dean Stephanie Hartwell giving a Brown Bag talk on, "Education as an Intervention for Trauma."



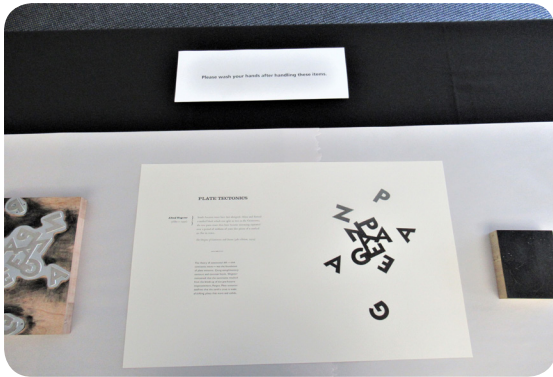
Assistant Professor of Communication Rahul Mitra gives his talk on, "The purpose of this project is to design diverse, inclusive, and viable," at the Faculty Fellows Conference on *Design*.



Professor Eric Ash of History served as a moderator at the 2019 Faculty Fellowship Conference *Design*.



# THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



Artwork from Professor Judith A. Moldenhauer on her topic "Letterpress Now: Typographic Design and the Visual Interpretation of Scientific Concepts" for the 2019 Faculty Fellows Conference on the theme *Design*.



The 2018 Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellows Professor Marsha Richmond (History Department) giving her lecture on her funded project, "Sentinel of Science: Theo Colborn and the Discovery of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals."



2018-2019 Some of the Advisory Board members L to R: Nadejda Marinova, Millee Tibbs, Tam Perry, Carolyn Shields, Walter Edwards (Director), Chera Kee and Steven Winter. Departing Advisory Board member Chera Kee is holding her certificate of service presented to her by the Center.  
Not pictured: Eric Ash, Danielle Aubert, KatherineKim, Cynthia Krolikowski, Janine Lanza, and Andrew Newman.



Professor Nicole Trujillo-Pagan answering questions during Q &A at the 2019 Faculty Fellowship Conference on the theme *Design*.



Tiffany Baldrige worked for the Center as our Administrative Assistant from June 2018-May 2019.



Angela Gabriel joined our staff on June 24, 2019 as our new Administrative Assistant.

## WINTER 2019

# 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.*



Associate Professor Lisa Alexander giving a lecture on "Shut Up and Dribble: Contemporary Black Athletic Activism," during Black History Month in our Brown Bag Series.

**January 15<sup>th</sup> Steven L. Winter, Law School, Walter S. Gibbs Distinguished Professor**  
Peoples and Publics

**January 16<sup>th</sup> Shanhe Jiang, Criminal Justice, Professor and Chair**  
Community Corrections and Supervision Strategies in China

**January 22<sup>nd</sup> Susan L. Gabel, Education - Teacher Education Division, Professor**  
Shatter not the branches of the tree of anger: Mothering, affect, and disability

**February 5<sup>th</sup> Lisa Alexander, African American Studies, Associate Professor**  
Shut Up and Dribble: Contemporary Black Athletic Activism

**February 7<sup>th</sup> 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

**February 12<sup>th</sup> 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)

**February 13<sup>th</sup> Janet Hankin, Sociology, Professor; Sandra L. King, Sociology, PhD Candidate**  
Deciphering Infant Mortality in Detroit: Vital Statistics and Beyond

**February 20<sup>th</sup> Alisa Moldavanova, Political Science, Assistant Professor**

The Nonprofit Sector in Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia: Civil Society Advances and Challenges

**February 21<sup>st</sup> John Gruda, Independent Scholar**  
Edward Granville Browne & The Bahá'í Faith

**February 26<sup>th</sup> David Merolla, Sociology, Associate Professor; Erin Baker, Sociology, PhD Student and Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
University Racial Composition and Self-Esteem: Commitment, Self Views and Reflected Appraisals

**February 27<sup>th</sup> Joanne Sobek, Social Work, Associate Dean for Research**  
Perspectives of Trust, Resilience, and Coping with the Flint Water Crisis

**March 5<sup>th</sup> Stella Resko, Social Work and Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute, Associate Professor**  
Understanding Experiences of Families Affected by Opioid Misuse

**March 6<sup>th</sup> Steven Shaviro, English, DeRoy Professor of English**  
Speculative Time

**March 19<sup>th</sup> Lisabeth Hock, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor**  
Learned Language and Metaphorical Motherhood in Yoko Tawada's *Memoirs of a Polar Bear* (2014)

**March 20<sup>th</sup> Lance Gable, Law School, Associate Professor**  
Criticized, Fired, Sued, or Prosecuted: Hindsight and Public Health Accountability

**March 26<sup>th</sup> Holly Feen-Calligan, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Art Therapy, College of Education;**  
**Elsie Aquino-Gonzalez, PhD, Curriculum & Instruction K-12, College of Education; Jill Galsterer, College of Education Student ; David Sniderman, College of Education Student**  
Saturday Art Therapy



WINTER 2019

# BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

See page 44 for the preliminary 2019-2020 Brown Bag Colloquium schedule. Abstracts for talks will be posted on the Center's Web site and can be accessed at <https://research2.wayne.edu/hum/Programs/brownbag/18-19.html>.



Above: L to R -Joan Beaudoin, Kim Schroeder, Julie Koehler, Sangeetha Gopalakrishnan and Alina Klin pose with Walter Edwards (Director) for a group photo after their Brown Bag talk on "Digital Humanities: Leveraging Technology To Do What Humanists Do."

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> Joan Beaudoin, School of Information Sciences, Associate Professor; Sangeetha Gopalakrishnan, Foreign Language Technology Center (FLTC), Director; Alina Klin, CMLLC, Senior Lecturer; Julie Koehler, CMLLC, Lecturer, Kimberly Schroeder, School of Information Sciences, Lecturer**

Digital Humanities: Leveraging Technology To Do What Humanists Do

**April 9<sup>th</sup> Peter Staroverov, English and Linguistics Program, Assistant Professor**

From the field to the lab: a pipeline for linguistic fieldwork

**April 10<sup>th</sup> Joan E. Beaudoin, School of Information Sciences, Associate Professor**

Online art museum collections in the United States: Assessing their public face

**April 16<sup>th</sup> Caroline Maun, English, Interim Chair and Associate Professor**

Charlotte Wilder's Uncollected Poems c. 1940-1945

**April 17<sup>th</sup> José Cuello, History, Associate Professor**

Sacred Fire Dance

**April 18<sup>th</sup> Stephanie Hartwell, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Dean**

Education as an Intervention for Trauma

**April 23<sup>rd</sup> M.L. Liebler, English, Lecturer**

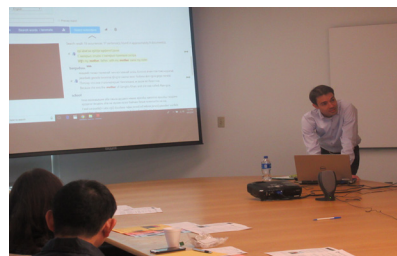
RESPECT: An Anthology of Poems on Detroit Music



Above: Advance Plumbing located in Midtown Detroit, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



Above: Detroit Foundation Hotel, located in Downtown Detroit, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



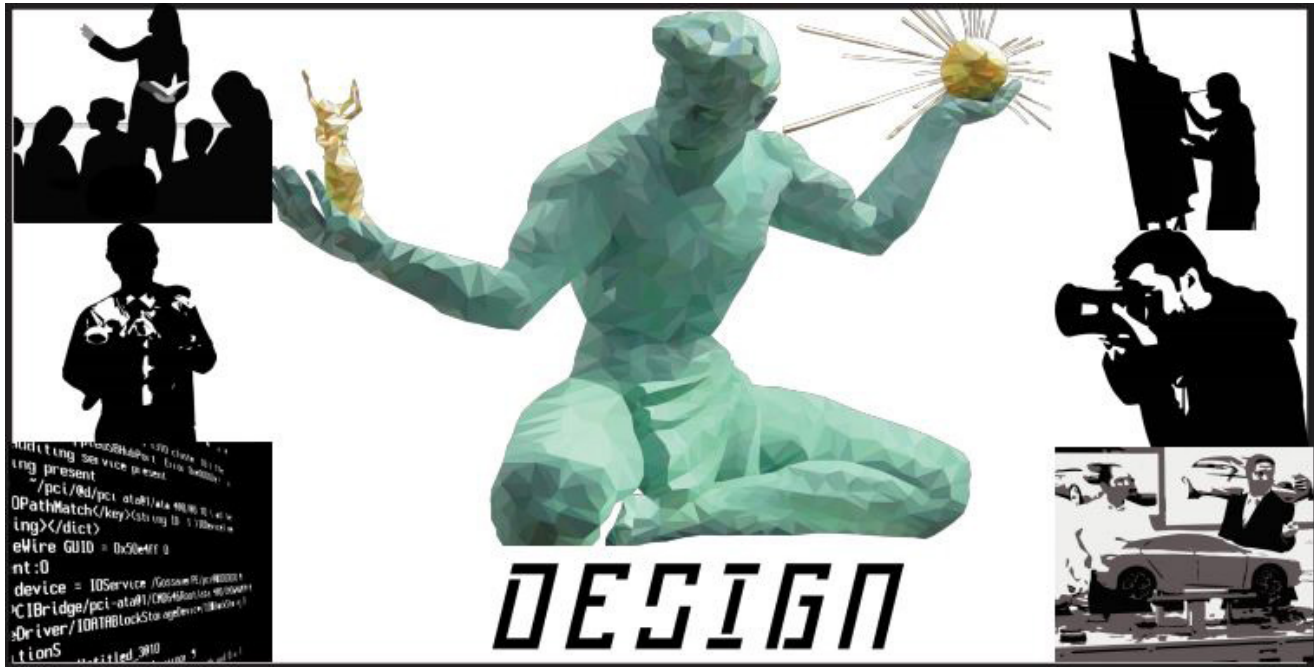
Assistant Professor Peter Staroverov presenting on "From the field to the lab: a pipeline for linguistic fieldwork" at the Brown Bag series in April 2019.



## DESIGN

## 2019 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 2019 conference was on "Design". 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

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.

# DESIGN

## 2019 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

The conference was held at the McGregor Conference Center on campus on April 5, 2019. Six scholars presented papers. The abstracts of the keynoter's lecture and the other presentations are given below:

Right: Sfumato, a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award winner. Photo by Three Lyons Creative. Courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



**Ellie Schneider, Keynote Speaker**  
**Director, Advocacy and Operations, Design Core**  
**Detroit City of Design: Using Inclusive Design to Generate Inclusive Growth**

### KEYNOTER'S BIO

Ellie Schneider works for Design Core, an organization that champions Detroit design, offering business programs for designers, events that highlight local talent, and advocacy for Detroit as a global center of design. Ellie represents Detroit as a City of Design in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, serving as coordinator for the Cities of Design subnetwork. Ellie received her undergraduate degree from DePaul University in Chicago, majoring in International Studies with minors in African and Black Diaspora Studies and Community Development. She attended law school at Wayne State University and is a licensed attorney under the Michigan and Federal Bar.

### ABSTRACT

In 2015, Detroit became the first and only city in the United States to receive the UNESCO City of Design designation, joining a network of 30 design cities and 180 cities focused on using creativity as a driver for sustainable and equitable development around the world. From automobiles to architecture to advertising, Detroit has a rich design legacy, but what role does design play in Detroit's economy today and, more important, in the city's future? As stewards of Detroit's UNESCO designation, Design Core and its 50 local partners envision a brighter future through inclusive design that includes a larger, more diverse design workforce, increased investment in design businesses and design infrastructure in neighborhoods, and more progressive policies that help Detroiters experience the good life. This talk will explore what inclusive design is and provide examples of how local partners of all shapes and sizes are using it to make Detroit a model for driving more sustainable, equitable, and inclusive development over the next ten years.

### ABSTRACTS OF OTHER PRESENTERS



**Heidi Gottfried, Associate Professor, Sociology, Wayne State University**  
**"Olympian Aspirations: The Nation's Global Designs in Tokyo"**

An investigation of the 1964 and 2020 Tokyo Olympics seeks to understand the art of creating and shaping the urban grid as a nation-building project. Theorizing urban design for the Olympics joins aesthetics of the built environment to political economy. Japan's Olympian aspirations focuses attention on the nation's global designs in Tokyo unfolding in three main historical conjunctures; each period demarcated by the bid to the Olympic games. Japan's winning bid for the 1964 Olympics occurred at an early critical turning point for the city and for the war-torn nation. Massive infrastructural construction jumpstarted the economy on the cusp of the 1960s, showcasing modern Japan on the move joining the new liberal world order. In the interregnum between the two Olympiads, neoliberal planning underwrote the curatorship of new themed districts in the process of urban renewal. Half a century later, designing the 2020 Olympics recall the triumphal first Olympiad, tapping into current nostalgic yearning for a more optimistic time, repurposed to rescue Tokyo's global stature battered and buffeted during the economic crisis. Contextual urban theory applied to the Olympics provides us with a greater understanding of how

## DESIGN

# 2019 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

global cities are dependent both on policies and practices locally initiated, and on the shifting geopolitical terrains of regional and global challenges.



**Nicole Trujillo-Pagan, Associate Professor, Sociology, Wayne State University**  
“Home is Where the Metropoliz Is: Global Movements and Local Commoning in a Roman Squat/Occupation”

Cities manage refugees, but can refugees politicize cities? Conventional understandings of globalization assert the state operates through cities to regulate mobility and align migrant refugees with the state. This paradigm obscures how urban space can magnify the unstable restlessness, the creative force, of migration. I draw upon an autonomy of migration approach and use a case study of an occupied factory to illustrate two interrelated phenomena. First, migrant refugees’ demand for housing expanded “right to the city” claims in Rome. Second, migrant action redeveloped a post-industrial suburban neighborhood. In particular, squatters turned the Roman “Metropoliz” into an “occupied museum,” engaging local and an international communities in reclaiming urban space and transforming it from a “non-place” to a “super place.” The case illustrates not only that global migration is reflected at the local level, but also that migrant refugees can act upon the local, transforming it and rearticulating it as provocation for the global.



**Tracy Neumann, Associate Professor, History, Wayne State University**  
“The Ford Foundation’s American-Yugoslav Project”

The American-Yugoslav Project was a binational regional planning program intended to transfer American urban planning expertise to Yugoslavia as part of a Cold War democracy-building project. Funded by the US State Department, the Yugoslavian government, and the Ford Foundation, it was initially intended to be a small and shortterm; instead, it turned into a fourteen-year program and was ultimately the Ford Foundation’s largest project in Eastern Europe before the fall of the Berlin Wall. The American-Yugoslav Project is an instructive case of how urban design was politically instrumentalized for several reasons: first, it was the Ford Foundation’s major Cold War-era project in Eastern Europe and involved a range of state and non-state actors. Second, it drew into its orbit academic and professional planners from host of other countries. Third, it was clearly intended to serve as a demonstration project: Foundation officials anticipated that if the program succeeded in Ljubljana (which it did not, or at least not on the terms the Foundation intended), the model would be exported to other communist countries. Fourth, it exposed Foundation officials’ assumptions that the “scientific” knowledge embodied in technical expertise in general and urban planning in particular was somehow politically and morally neutral; it also showed how quickly those officials learned that urban design is hardly apolitical.



**Rahul Mitra, Assistant Professor, Communication, Wayne State University**  
“Designing Entrepreneurial Ecosystems for Urban Sustainability: A Communication-as-Design Approach”

The purpose of this project is to design diverse, inclusive, and viable entrepreneurial ecosystems for long-term urban sustainability. I draw on the communication-as-design (CAD) approach both to gather data and create strategic interventions on the ground, driven by grassroots stakeholder concerns and ideas. Detroit, MI, is an ideal site for study, as evidenced by the emergence of a fairly robust entrepreneurial ecosystem, led by a consortium of philanthropies after the city’s recent emergence from bankruptcy. I have been ethnographically immersed in the Detroit ecosystem since August 2017, attending panels, workshops, and informal meetings with ecosystem organizations.



# DESIGN

## 2019 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE



Left: New Order Coffee, located in Midtown Detroit, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



### **Jonathan Flatley, Professor, English, Wayne State University** “Communist Headphones”

This paper returns to that moment in the 1920s and 1930s when the Soviet Union was a beacon for all manner of utopian thinking about alternatives to capitalism and when a range of astoundingly energized and talented artists set to the task of imagining and designing a communist way of life. Centering on an analysis of the opening of Dziga Vertov’s 1930 film *Enthusiasm* (which features a young woman listening to the radio with headphones), this paper examines the role of the radio in the early Soviet efforts to imagine and create new modes of communist sensation and feeling. It argues that the radio was central to this project because listening to the radio could change what Sergei Tretyakov called one’s “world-sense,” the overall emotional atmosphere that creates a system of habits, inclinations, likes and dislikes. Although headphones are commonly understood today to create a kind of private bubble, I argue here that in the early Soviet period, their capacity to bring the distant (and even the dead) right to one’s ears meant that they were understood to have the capacity to change one’s sense of both space and time in a way that recharged the near with a new sense of collective, internationalist potential.



### **Judith Moldenhauer, Professor, Art and Art History, Wayne State University** “Letterpress Now: Typographic Design and the Visual Interpretation of Scientific Concepts”

Gutenberg’s invention in the mid-1400s of the type mold to cast bits of metal into movable and reusable letterforms and his development of letterpress printing provided the platform for “the immense potential for human dialogue and the new horizons for graphic design” (Meggs and Purvis 73). As the WSU 2018-19 Murray Jackson Creative Scholar in the Arts, Professor Moldenhauer is continuing the letterpress legacy by restoring a Vandercook 325 flatbed letterpress in the Department of Art and Art History and printing a series of folios, posters, and wood engravings for the project, *Letterpress Now: Typographic Design and the Visual Interpretation of Scientific Concepts*. The project’s designs typographically explore seven scientific concepts that profoundly affect our lives and our interaction with the world – genetic inheritance, plate tectonics, the special theory of relativity, germs, evolution, electromagnetism, and atomic theory. This presentation will discuss the use of typography as “an essential act of interpretation” (Bringhurst 19) and the tactile user-centered qualities of letterpress that enable people to understand information in new ways through highlighting the materials, methods, and printing of the project’s work to date.

1. Bringhurst, R. *The Elements of Typographic Style*. (Vancouver: Hartley & Marks, 1992)
2. Meggs, P. and Purvis, A. *Meggs’ History of Graphic Design*, 6th ed. (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2016)

# DESIGN

## 2019 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE



Right: Lumen, located in Beacon Park, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



### Humanities Center Faculty Fellows Conference 2019



Friday April 5, 2019  
McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Room BC  
10:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Keynote:  
**Ellie Schneider** — Director of advocacy and operations, Detroit Creative Corridor Center

Left: The *Design* Faculty Fellowship Conference brochure cover.



Left: A photo of the set up for the Humanities Center 2019 *Design* Faculty Fellowship Conference. Staff member Abeer Alezzani is waiting to greet and direct guests.

## GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

Right: The Commons, located in Detroit's Eastside, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



*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, seven students were funded through the program.*

### Fall Awardees

Idrissa N. Snider – Communication

**Conference:** 2018 Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender

Rochelle E. Danquah – History

**Conference:** Association for the Study of African American Life and History

Kelly Plante – English

**Conference:** Loyola University's Midwest Modern Language Association Conference

### Winter Awardees

Scott DeGregoris – English

**Conference:** The 47th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1990

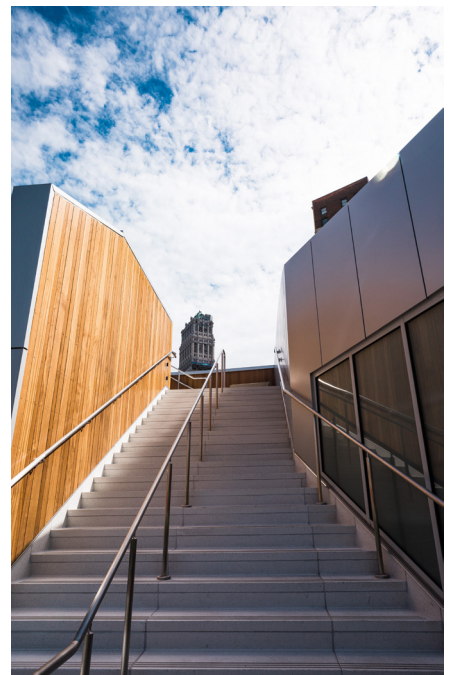
Georgia LaMarre – Psychology

**Conference:** The 56th Academy of Criminal Justice Science Conference

Ariel Seay – Communication

**Conference:** College Composition and Communication

Right: Lumen, located in Beacon Park, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.







Above: The Commons, located in Detroit's East-side, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

## 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 their reports.*

### **Embodying Liberation: An exploration of political resistance through the performing arts**

Core Members include:

Billicia Charnelle Hines, Theatre

Adrion Dula, Ph.D. Student, CMLLC

Karen Prall, Theatre and Dance

Ras Mikey Courtney, Theatre and Dance

Akeem J. Williams, Communication

The Working Group used the Freedom Players - one of the two ensembles within the Black Theatre and Dance Program - to use as a template to explore the embodiment of liberation. Throughout this year we have explored various ways to see how performance can express the need for liberation in this oppressive world. There are many scholars that delve into the need for liberation. However, we quickly discovered that the show itself could not be based on these scholars' perspectives. They became inspiration for delving into sensitive subjects. It needed to come from the lives of the current young people we are teaching. Because we were using this research to develop a play, we created some parameters for the students to work within during rehearsal. To be able to gain a stronger understanding of how the students saw liberation, we required everyone who auditioned for the ensemble to create an original piece answering the question, "What does Liberation Mean to Me"? Through that we observed the students had varying and limited ideas of how they saw liberation. So once cast, we delved deeper into the rehearsal process. Through various readings, group conversations, free verse writing exercises, and improvisation exercises we discovered the main area to focus on within the realm of liberation is through identity. We further broke down Identity into the following categories; gender, sexuality, and race. Through those main areas stories began to unfold that led to issues of sexism, racism, white privilege, homophobia, and how they intersect.

After a few months, a play was developed called "I AM: A Journey Towards Liberation" It is about the continual challenge of seeking liberation. As a group of young Detroit-based artists meet and interact, challenges arise as they realize their birth was political. These artists explore how they can survive and thrive in a place where everything seems to be set up against them? As clashes build, their journey leads them on a path of discovery and renewal. This play illuminates and engages audiences in current socio-political challenges, utilizing teaching artists through performance and conversation on race, gender, sexuality, and privilege as a means of bridging communities.

The first step to change is to bring up the issue. Communication is the key to change. Creating this show garnered more dialogue among the student performers. The performers began to discover their own liberation within themselves. They had gained more confidence and pride for themselves. Throughout the students' daily life, they were able to be more confident within themselves and felt stronger to stand up for others who were oppressed. They discovered how they have oppressed others while they were oppressed. The way they talked and moved through space changed because they were more confident in who they were. Once we began performing it, it expanded to engaging the dialogue throughout the community. We performed in high schools, at the universities, and galleries. It allowed for wholesome discussions and a wonderful exchange of ideas and discoveries. We had a post discussion following the show where the audience members were able to ask questions and express how effective the show was for them. It allowed us to see how this form of work is so transformative and so important to making a difference in the community. Currently, we have submitted our first draft of a paper about our process and the script to the Pedagogy of the Oppressed Journal. We will be re-submitting another draft by the end of June. By the end of July we will be leaving to perform the show at the

# 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: The Commons, located in Detroit's Eastside, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

Edinburgh Fringe Fest in Scotland. From there we we will see how this message resonates on an international stage. We will be continuing to take notes of this process.

## **Flint Stories: An Archive of Citizen Expression**

Core Members include:

Richard Marback, Professor, English

Mary Anderson, Associate Chair, Theatre and Dance

Holly Feen-Calligan, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Art Therapy, Education

Marc Kruman, Professor, History

Siobhan Gregory, Senior Lecturer, Art & Art History

The “Flint Stories” working group identified external funding resources to support creation of a digital archive of stories told by Flint residents about the Flint Water Crisis. To prepare proposals to funding agencies, the working group members refined the scope of the project by describing what stories would be collected and how. We also presented our proposed project to the Citizens Ethics Review Board (CERB) of Flint, which supports the proposed project. Faculty at another university who were affiliated with the working group created a web page to serve as a portal for the archived stories. The research was presented at the annual conference of the Center for the Study of Citizenship.

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

Core Members include:

Jonathan Cottrell, Assistant Professor, Philosophy

Jaime Goodrich, Associate Professor, English

Eric Ash, Professor, History

Simone Chess, Associate Professor, English

Adrion Dula, Graduate Student, CMLLC

This year, the Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS) met monthly to explore a variety of topics in the early modern period (c. 1400-1800). A rotating slate of facilitators led meetings centered on their current research. Some of the highlights included the following session: Professor Jaime Goodrich (English) shared a draft of an article about the neo-Latin poetry of an English Benedictine; Sean Renkert (English) circulated a draft of an essay about the handkerchief in Othello; and Emily Spunaugle (English) shared a paper that she is writing about a previously-undiscussed 18th-century poem.

The highlight of our year was an invited talk in April, featuring Andie Silva (CUNY). A former GEMS member and an innovative scholar of early modern print history, Professor Silva presented a stimulating paper on “The Ties That Bind Us: Early Modern Studies and Book History in the Digital Age” as well as a workshop on “Book History Pedagogy and Scalar.”



# WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

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

Left: Colloquy of Mobiles, an Interactive Design installation at the College for Creative Studies that was on view during the 2018 Detroit Month of Design. Photo Courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

## Popular Culture Studies

Core Members include:

Dr. Chera Kee, Associate Professor of Film and Media Studies, English

Dr. Lisa Alexander, Associate Professor, African American Studies

Dr. Elena Past, Associate Professor of Italian; Associate Chair, CMLLC

Shelby Cadwell, Ph.D Candidate, Film Studies/English

Matt Linton, Ph.D student, Film Studies/English

Kevin Ball, Ph.D Candidate, Film Studies/English

Georgina Adlam, Ph.D student, Literary & Cultural Studies/English

Tabitha Cassidy, Ph.D Candidate, Communications

This year, the Popular Culture Studies Working Group focused primarily on assisting with the organization and running of the fifth annual Kino Club Pop Culture conference (March 1-3, 2019). Meeting monthly with the conference organizers, working group members brainstormed ideas for the conference as well as helped plan and run specific conference events. Besides attending panels, talks, and workshops, Working Group members also served as moderators and facilitators.

The conference theme was “Telling and Re-telling Stories: (Re)imagining Popular Culture,” and events focused on a wide range of pop culture texts, including comic books, video games, film, and television, tackling concepts such as representations of gender and race, pop culture pedagogy, the spaces of pop culture, as well as how we can use popular texts to make meaningful interventions in our local communities. The conference spanned three days with 12 academic panels, a roundtable, an art exhibit, a film screening, a plenary and a keynote talk. Conference presenters and facilitators included over 25 Wayne State students and faculty, as well as 39 students and faculty representing 30 other universities. Participants came from as far away as Germany and the UK, as well as ten U.S. states besides Michigan, and Skype presenters connected to the conference from India, Canada, Ireland, and Poland.

All of this, which was due in part to funds made available from the Humanities Center, was free and open to the public, and individual events saw as many as 35 to 40 audience members present at any given time. We were pleased to see Wayne State students and faculty from across the university, as well as members of the general public, in attendance during the conference.

During our final meeting of the 2018-19 AY, the Working Group held a post-mortem of sorts, analyzing the conference to brainstorm ideas for helping it run better in the future. We also discussed ways of getting more faculty and students from across the university involved in the planning of the conference, as well as ways to reach out to community leaders in the greater Detroit area. The group will continue meeting next year, with an eye toward exploring the ways in which we can facilitate more cross-disciplinary and extra-university alliances around the theme of pop culture.



# WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

Right: Detroit Foundation Hotel, located in Downtown Detroit, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



## Public Humanities

Core Members include:

Jeffrey Horner, Senior Lecturer, Director, Urban Studies Program

Jennifer Hart, Associate Professor, History

renée hoogland, Ph.D, Professor, English

Wayne Stories is a public humanities project coordinated by members of the Public Humanities Working Group, funded jointly by the Wayne State Humanities Center, the College of Liberal Arts, and Sciences, and the College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts. This working group is comprised of faculty from English, History, Anthropology, Urban Studies and Planning, and CMLLC, as well as colleagues from the Library. We seek to highlight the unique culture and history of our campus and community. In the process, it seeks to provide an outlet for faculty and student work and raise awareness about Wayne State's role in the broader community. In particular, we are using the Curatescape platform to create a curated, interactive map of place-based stories and tours, made publicly accessible through a custom website and an app.

In doing so, we seek to bring together institutional resources (archives, museums, buildings, public art, etc.), faculty research, and student projects to represent the diversity of research and knowledge on the Wayne State campus. Importantly, however, this site will also highlight the connections between the campus and our broader community. Working with community partners like the Detroit Historical Society and the MOCAD Museum, this project brings together otherwise disparate projects and organizations and creates the infrastructure to support additional community projects and campus-community partnerships.

We are hiring Curatescape (<https://curatescape.org/>) to design and build the site. In this first phase of the project, this site will serve as a platform where faculty, students, and community organizations can submit stories and media that will help tell place-based stories about the Wayne State community and its connection to the city of Detroit. We plan to work with existing university collections, students enrolled in Detroit or Digital Humanities-focused courses, and faculty doing research on Detroit-based topics to complete this first phase of the project. We plan to use this Wayne State-focused project as a prototype in order to apply for grant funding to expand the project throughout the city of Detroit, in partnership with community organizations and museums.

## Space in Detroit and Shenyang

Core Members include:

Bo Shen, Professor, Kinesiology

Haiyong Liu, Associate Professor, CMLLC

Yunshuang Zhang, Assistant Professor, Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

With the generous support of the Humanities Center for our working group on Space in Detroit and Shenyang, we were able to organize two major events, plus many other related activities. On Feb 28th, 2019 Prof. Yunshuang Zhang from CMLLC, one of our group members, gave a talk on "The Literary Life of the Four Treasures in the Studio," followed by a reception. Prof. Zhang studies how literary scholars of the Song Dynasty personified the stationaries so as to define the space for their intellectual creativity. The faculty and students from CMLLC, Philosophy, English, and Art and Art History benefited from the discussions regarding the evolution of the idea of scholarship in Chinese history and the comparison between the studio setting in the East and in the West. On March 25th, Mr. Mike Boettchel of



Left: Detroit Foundation Hotel, located in Downtown Detroit, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

## WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

Pure Detroit offered us a guided tour of the Old Chinatown in Detroit. Mr. Boettchel introduced the ups and downs of the Cass Corridor area in recent history and consequently the migration trend of the Chinese immigrants. We met at the Detroit Shipping Company and the Peterboro Restaurant as well, so the attendees would be able to appreciate the rebirth and of the bustling Mid-town area by situating it against the past of our city. Some of the group members also took advantage of the group meetings to start organizing for the Summer Institute on Space in Detroit and Shenyang that will take place in June.

### **The Potential of Boundaries and Violence of Borders**

Core Members include:

Nicole Trujillo-Pagan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Sociology and Latino/a and Latin American Studies

Stein Eckert, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Communication

renee hoogland, Ph.D., Professor, English Department

Eun-Jung Katherine Kim, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy

Anita Mixon, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication

Our group met five (5) times over the course of the 2018-2019 academic year to discuss sexual/gender violence and the #MeToo movement. We submitted meeting reports after each meeting.

1. ...centered on outlining several phenomena to frame our collective work, including: sexual harassment (in the 1970s and now), increased criticism of intersectionality as politics and analytic frame and the difference between public and academic debates about sexual coercion/violation.
2. ... focused on “publics” as a platform of communication that shapes public opinion. We discussed that who participates, and on what terms, matters politically. Counterpublic(s) are always against the institution. We used this frame to consider the cases of Cavanaugh and Lessenberry, WSU’s anti-bullying workshops, and what happens when Judith Butler versus students say what institutions should do. We returned to the question of the victim, the predator, the university and the academic’s responsibility at our sixth meeting, after reading Linda Alcoff’s Rape and Resistance.
3. ...centered on building the commons and shared spaces. We talked about capitalism as violence because it determines the social, mental, and environmental/physical dimensions of experience. The end is profit and integrated world capitalism.
4. ...considered that our current definitions of sexual violence are unnecessarily limited, overly-focused on penetration and a product of patriarchal norms (inheritance). In contrast, campus culture normalizes coercion and harassment. We shared a critique of scholarship that the affective and the rational pull in opposite directions, because we can experience both emotional and cognitive responses to the same event.
5. ...we returned to the distinction of academic and public debate about sexual harassment/coercion by discussing Linda Alcoff’s Rape and Resistance. We will return to this discussion at our next meeting.

Our work will continue in light of recent legislation passed that effectively bans abortions, even in cases of rape, in Georgia and Alabama.

We continue to work on developing a co-authored, peer reviewed article. We have identified our question to be redefining professional norms and academic accountability amidst growing impact of #MeToo on academia and our

# WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

Right: Advance Plumbing located in Midtown Detroit, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



colleagues. We look forward to presenting our work in the Fall 2019 semester in a Humanities Center Brown Bag to maximize the utility and reach of our work.



Right: This photo shows Haiyong Liu on March 25th with the Pure Detroit staff. Haiyong Liu is a member of the Space in Detroit and Shenyang Working Group.



Right: A picture of the *Telling and Re-telling Stories: (Re)imagining Popular Culture* conference sponsored by the Popular Culture Working Group showing the keynote speaker Matt Yockey giving his presentation.





# DEMOCRACY 2019 - 2020 FACULTY FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

*Each year the Humanities Center sponsors a Faculty Fellowship Competition on a specific theme. This year's theme was "Democracy". 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 five faculty who were awarded 2019 Faculty Fellowships. They will present their findings at the Faculty Fellowship Conference in April 2020.*

## 2019 Faculty Fellowships Competition Explication of Theme

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?

## 2019 Recipients

Dora Apel, Professor, Art & Art History  
Calling Memory into Place

Beth Fowler, Senior Lecturer, Irvin D. Reid Honor's College  
An 'Integrated Effort': Rock and Roll, Desegregation Movements, and Racism in the Civil Rights Era

Liette Gidlow, Associate Professor, History  
The Nineteenth Amendment: The Political Race, 1920-1970

Kyu-Nahm Jun, Associate Professor, Political Science  
Fiscal Crisis, Austerity, and the Prospects of Democratic Governance and Public Participation: Evidence from U.S. Municipalities

Elizabeth Stoycheff, Assistant Professor, Communication  
Deterring Democracy: How government mass surveillance chills freedom of expression

# A LOOK AHEAD: 2019 - 2020 PROGRAMS

## GRADUATE TRAVEL COMPETITION

**WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

THE HUMANITIES CENTER  
**Travel Support for Graduate Students**  
 Application Guidelines 2019-2020



### 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 2019-2020 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 6, 2019 and August 14, 2020.

### 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 13, 2019 for Fall 2019**  
**December 06, 2019 for Winter 2020**  
**April 10, 2020 for Spring/Summer 2020**

### 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>



*Bringing Humanists  
 Together for  
 Collaborative Research*

# A LOOK AHEAD: 2019 - 2020 PROGRAMS WORKING GROUP COMPETITION

2018-2019 program description and application guidelines

## WORKING GROUPS



Application Deadline: September 13, 2019

### 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 2019-2020 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 13, 2019 for consideration for the 2019-2020 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



*Bringing Humanists  
Together for  
Collaborative Research*

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

Working Groups  
currently  
supported by  
the Humanities  
Center

#### CLAS and CFPCA

**Embodying Liberation: An exploration of political resistance through the performing arts**

**Flint Stories: An Archive of Citizen Expression**

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

**Popular Culture Studies**

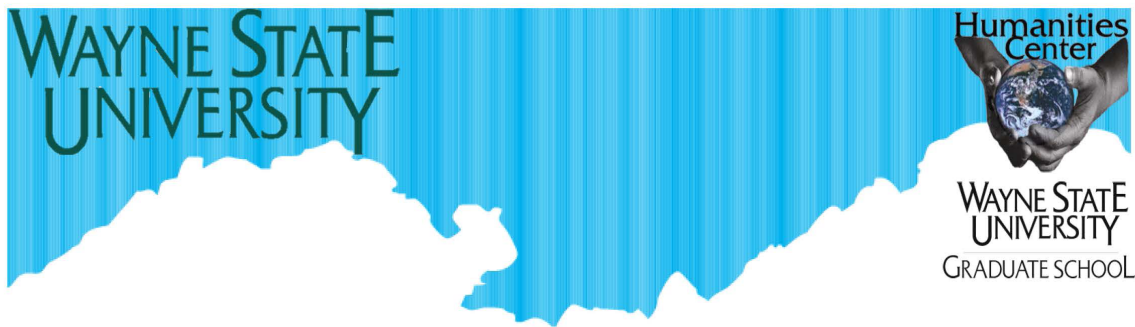
**Space in Detroit and Shenyang**

**The Potential of Boundaries and Violence of Borders**



# A LOOK AHEAD: 2019 - 2020 PROGRAMS

## 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 2019-2020 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 format 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: 2019 - 2020 PROGRAMS

## MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP



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 21, 2020**. Each application must have an application coversheet. The application cover sheet is available online: <https://research2.wayne.edu/hum/>

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



# A LOOK AHEAD: 2019 - 2020 PROGRAMS

## FACULTY FELLOWSHIP COMPETITION

# THE FUTURE OF FAILURE

Photo: a bridge failure.  
Image and flyer  
designed by  
Professor Danielle  
Aubert

The Future of Failure  
Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship Competition 2019-2020  
Deadline: Friday, March 27, 2020

### Explication

At first glance, it might be tempting to think of “Failure” in purely negative terms—it does typically connote a lack or defeat of some kind—but failure can also be the first step to success. From Oprah Winfrey to Henry Ford, many leaders and innovators note the necessity of failure in their own trajectories moving forward. But what does it mean to fail?

For the 2019-2020 Faculty Fellowships Competition, the Humanities Center solicits research proposals that explore the full spectrum of failure, understood in the broadest sense. From the failure of political, economic, or religious groups to how “failure” has been utilized as a buzzword of 21st-century trendsetters, how might we begin to conceptualize and theorize failure? Research questions might center on the historical legacies of failure, personal failures versus public ones, the subjectivity of failure, or failure as a strategic choice as a source of opportunity. We also encourage proposals that center on ideas related to academic failure: what are the gaps, problems, or dead-ends of particular disciplinary methods or academia more generally? How do we learn from failure, and how is it incorporated into our classrooms and our research? Finally, what are the creative possibilities of failure? How is failure a routine part of scientific, humanistic, and artistic practice?

We welcome proposals that examine failure from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives.

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 are available on our website at <http://research2.wayne.edu/hum/>. The Center will fund about eight proposals with up to \$6,000 each. Results of the competition will be announced within a month of the closing date. Recipients will be expected to present their findings to date at a Faculty Fellows Conference to be scheduled in April 2021.

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: 2019 - 2020 PROGRAMS BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY



[www.wayne.edu/hum](http://www.wayne.edu/hum)

All talks will be held in 2339 Faculty Administration Bldg unless otherwise advertised

SEPTEMBER

- 10 **Jon E. Cawthorne**, University Libraries & School of Information Sciences, Dean, *For Everyone: A 21st Century Academic Library*
- 11 **Bill Harris**, English, Professor-retired, *I Got To Keep Moving - reading from short stories*
- 17 **Mark Lumley**, Psychology, Distinguished Professor and Director of Clinical Psychology Doctoral Training, *Emotional awareness and expression therapy for chronic pain conditions*
- 18 **Carolyn Shields**, Education, Professor, *A case for a normative leadership theory*
- 24 **Daphne Mirit**, African American Studies, Professor, *What do you mean by feminism when there is African womanism?: 21st century perspectives on gender and race\**
- 25 **Elizabeth Faue**, History, Professor and Chair, *Work and the Body Politics: Gender, Occupational Risk, and the Health of Democracy*
- 26 **Nadejda Marinova**, Associate Professor, Political Science; **Raed Ahmed**, Political Science, PhD Candidate, *Mobilization of Diaspora Communities in Metro Detroit against Trump's Muslim Ban*

OCTOBER

- 01 **Julie Hanna**, Social Work, Associate Director, Center for Behavioral Health and Justice, *Center for Behavioral Health and Justice: Smart Decarceration for Individuals with Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders*
- 02 **Jarline Lanza**, History, Associate Professor, *Justice, equality and punishment during the French Revolution*
- 08 **Walter Lucken IV**, English, Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Valerio's Wall: Visual Rhetoric, Vulnerability, and Basic Writing*
- 09 **Mary Hering**, Political Science, Associate Professor; **Kevin G. Lorentz II**, Political Science, PhD Candidate at WSU and Lecturer at University of Michigan—Flint; **Teresa Patton**, Political Science, Graduate Teaching Assistant; **Stephanie Zarb**, Political Science, Graduate Research Assistant, *Political Discourse Among Adolescents: Is it Still Gendered?*
- 10 **Rayan al-Mohamed**, Urban Studies & Planning, Chair and Associate Professor, TBA
- 15 **Lisabeth Hock**, CMLLC\* Associate Professor, *German Women Write Black Masculinity*
- 16 **Frederic Pearson**, Political Science/Peace and Conflict Studies, Professor and Director; **Baheer Elsaid**, Student, *The Effect of International Interventions on Ethno-Political Conflicts and Prospects of State Failure*
- 22 **Fran Shor**, History, Professor Emeritus, *Weaponized Whiteness: Racist Currents in American Gun Violence*
- 23 **Indrani Pal-Choudhuri**, Indian-Canadian multidisciplinary artist; **Eric Montgomery**, Cultural Anthropologist, *Peace and Conflict Studies, Social Justice and Film: Framing Miami Water*
- 24 **Kevin D. Ball**, English, Doctoral Candidate and Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Sonic Motion and Heaviness in Afrofuturist Media*
- 29 **Chera Kee**, English, Associate Professor of Film & Media Studies, *Beware the Zumbies: Circumventing Comics Censorship with the Not-Quite Undead*
- 30 **Bilicia Hines**, Theatre & Dance, Assistant Professor; **Karen Prall**, Dance Lecturer, Theatre & Dance; **Ras Mikey Courtney**, Theatre & Dance, Lecturer, *De-Colonizing the Art*

NOVEMBER

- 05 **Jack Blaszkiewicz**, Music, Assistant Professor, *Splintered Urbanism: Music, Popular Theater, and the Cultural Geographies of Nineteenth-Century Paris*
- 06 **Jasmine Ulmer**, Education, Assistant Professor, *Critical Qualitative Inquiry Is/As Love*
- 07 **reneé hogland**, English, Professor, TBA
- 12 **Jule Thomas**, English, Senior Lecturer, *Wayne State University Writers: Who uses the WRT Zone and who doesn't*
- 13 **Robert Sedler**, Law, Distinguished Professor, *The Trump Presidency and the Constitution*
- 19 **Krista Brunley**, Sociology, Associate Professor, *beyond drop-off and pick-up: gendered configurations of caregiving*
- 20 **Leonidas Pitos**, CMLLC\*, Senior Lecturer, *Romaic History: The Practice of Greek History under the Sultan and the Doge*
- 21 **Karen Prall**, Theatre & Dance, Dance Lecturer, *Central African dance and the emergence of Afro-Beat dance*

DECEMBER

- 03 **Dominic Nanni**, English, Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Michael Oakeshott's Conservatism*
- 04 **Patrick Cooper-McCan**, Urban Studies & Planning, Assistant Professor, *Rescaling Urban Parks: Lessons from Detroit and Cleveland*
- 05 **Hyesook Kim**, Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Adjunct Professor, *Health disparity: High BPA-containing diets consumed by urban residents and Asian-Americans*

JANUARY

- 14 **Jerry Herron**, Ivin D. Reid Honors College, Dean Emeritus, *Living With Detroit: An All-Purpose History of America*
- 15 **Michael Scrivener**, English, Distinguished Professor, TBA
- 22 **Aiso Moldavanova**, Political Science, Associate Professor, *Arts at Work: Investigating the Impact of the Arts on Self-Reported Health in U.S. Counties*
- 23 **Natasha Rakhin**, English/Linguistics, Associate Professor, *What makes us smart: acquisition of clausal structure as a cognitive augmenter*
- 28 **Adrienne Jankens**, English, Assistant Professor, *Using an Ecologic Pedagogy to Frame a Classroom Study of Rhetorical Awareness*
- 29 **Anash Javanbakht**, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience, Assistant Professor and Director of Stress, Trauma and Anxiety Research Clinic, *Trauma and Stress in Syrian and Iraqi Refugees Resettling in Michigan: Epidemiological Findings, Biomarkers, Interventions, and Current Directions*

FEBRUARY

- 04 **Juanita Anderson**, Communication, Senior Lecturer and 2019-20 Murray E. Jackson University Creative Scholar in the Arts, *Hastings Street Blues Project*
- 05 **Lance Gable**, Law, Associate Professor, *Litigation and the Opioid Crisis*
- 11 **Richard Smith**, Social Work, Associate Professor; **Shawn P. McElmurry**, Engineering, Associate Professor; **Sydney O'Shay-Wallace**, Communication, Ph.D Candidate, *Water and Health Infrastructure Resilience and Learning (WHIRL)*
- 12 **Jessica Robbins**, Anthropology/Gerontology, Assistant Professor, *Gardening, Memory & Wellbeing among Older African Americans in Detroit*
- 13 **Veronica Bielat**, University Libraries, Librarian IV, *Detroit Bronze to Hot Cast: 20 + 1 Years of Cast Metal Sculpture in Detroit*
- 18 **Hilary Fox**, English, Assistant Professor, *Angry Birds: Feminine Anger and Debate in The Owl and the Nightingale*
- 19 **Barbara L. Jones**, Peace and Conflict Studies, Community Dispute Resolution Specialist & Faculty Instructor, *Social Justice Activism Conflicts and Frameworks*
- 25 **Marc Kruman**, History, Professor, *Citizenship for Health*
- 26 **Ronald Brown**, Political Science, Associate Professor; **R. Khari Brown**, Sociology, Associate Professor, TBA

MARCH

- 03 **Mollie Spalter**, English, PhD Student, *Feminist Encounters with talking things in Hannah Weiner's Clairvoyant Journal*
- 04 **Thomas Kilian**, Anthropology, Associate Professor, *Questioning Abandonment: An Ethnoarchaeological Perspective on 20th Century Rural to Urban Migration in the Western Highlands of Valencia, Spain*
- 05 **Kim Schroeder**, School of Information Sciences, Lecturer, *Adaptation in the Gay Community: Exploration Through Oral Histories*
- 17 **Melba Boyd**, African American Studies, Distinguished Professor, *Sound and Sensibility: Composing Poetry for Music and Musicians*
- 18 **Marsha Richmond**, History, Professor, *Theo Colborn and the Discovery of Environmental Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals*
- 24 **Leisa Kauffmann**, CMLLC\*, Associate Professor, *Acolhua ancestry in New Spain: Understanding Alva Ixtlilcochitl's chichimeca*
- 25 **Russe B. Miller**, Music, Associate Professor, *The Music of Matt Michaels: A Guided Tour Through the Archival Process and Presentation*

APRIL

- 01 **Suzette Bristol**, English, Graduate Lecturer, *Reflecting on Student Reflection: Self-Assessment of Instruction Through Teacher-Researcher Reflection*
- 07 **Nicole Tujillo-Pagan**, Sociology, Associate Professor, *Case Studies in DIY Urbanism*
- 08 **Soraya (Layla) Saatchi**, Philosophy, Part-time faculty, *Intra-Religious Reasonable Peer Disagreement: Debunking "The True Islam"*
- 09 **Jose Cuello**, History, Associate Professor, *Why Donald Trump is the Most Dangerous Individual in the History of the World*
- 14 **Vincent Arman**, Peace & Conflict Studies, Lecturer, *Islamophobic Geopolitics*
- 15 **Beth Fowler**, Ivin D. Reid Honors College, Senior Lecturer, TBA

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

\* Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures

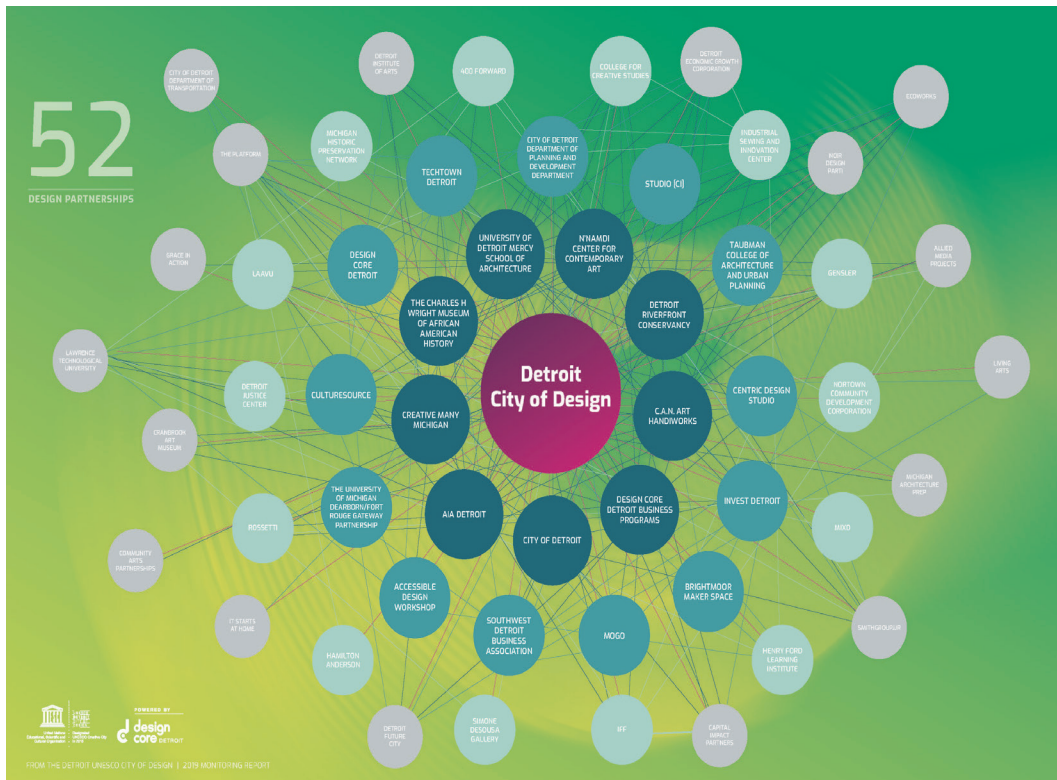
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Above: The Commons, located in Detroit's Eastside, was a 2018 Commerce Design: Detroit Award winner. Photo courtesy of Design Core Detroit.



Above: Infographic featuring the 50+ Detroit City of Design partners working on inclusive design projects across Detroit. Courtesy of Design Core Detroit.

# NOTES



# NOTES



Above: The 2017 Detroit Design 139 Exhibition. Photo Courtesy of Bedrock Detroit.

# Humanities Center



Bringing Humanists Together for Collaborative Research

The Humanities Center 2018-2019 Annual Report

Designed by Shamira Tellis

Formatted by Shamira Tellis

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