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From the Director

Welcome to the 2015-16 Annual Report of the Center for Ideas and Society. As the humanities center on the UCR campus, the Center for Ideas and Society is committed to supporting the humanities and to strengthening their connections to the arts, social sciences and STEM fields. Displayed on these pages, you will find humanities scholars collaborating with those in other fields to investigate history and historical eras, to marvel at and dissect works of art, to think about technological innovation and to explore social issues, global challenges and economic trends. In an increasingly complex world that is both interconnected and profoundly divided, the humanities are crucial to sustaining our abilities to think outside ourselves - to understand and reflect on lives, views and positions very different from our own.

In 2015-16, a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation allowed us to look at forms of democratic participation and at the arts of migration. Through our Humanities Interdisciplinary Project (HIP) Awards, we engaged with the Global 19th Century, with Political Economy and with African Studies, Science Studies and Global British and Anglophone Studies. We hosted conferences and symposia on Hip Hop, undocumented students, globally displaced populations and diversity in higher education, religion, civic engagement and the arts. We heard from the poet, Simon Armitage, watched the development of a new play and listened to UCR faculty talk about their just published books. We wondered about the nature of nature, and, in our Palm Desert Series, we tried to absorb lessons on living well. At the start of the academic year, we celebrated with Conrad Rudolph who won the Emory Elliott book award and at the end of the year we celebrated with College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences faculty on another successful book publishing season. Graduate students told us about their dissertation research and we welcomed Mikko Immanen from Finland and Yan Ma from China as visiting pre-doctoral scholars.

Please enjoy our report on these and other activities. And do join us during the upcoming year for talks, conferences, festivities and more.

Georgia Warnke
Emory Elliott Award

Made possible by gifts from Emory's family and friends, the annual Emory Elliott Book Award honors the life and legacy of Professor Emory Elliott, Professor of English at UCR from 1989-2009, internationally renowned scholar and beloved mentor. Dr. Elliott was appointed as a University Professor in 2001 and served as Center Director from 1996 until his untimely death in 2009.

The award recognizes a book published by a CHASS faculty member during the previous academic year that, in the judgment of the selection committee, best exemplifies the values that characterized Professor Elliott and his contributions to life and letters. Among these many contributions are the capacity to recognize complexity together with the passion to clarify, the ability to contribute to a conversation rather than to summarize agreements already established and the intent to further a tradition of creative and scholarly munificence.

2015 Winner: Conrad Rudolph (Art History)

Cosmic Politics: Hugh of St Victor’s The Mystic Ark and the Struggle over Elite Education in the Twelfth Century

Award Reception & Lecture: January 7, 2016

Because of the absolute fundamentality of the concept of creation (both the cause of existence and material creation in general), any given culture’s view of creation is crucial to that culture’s intellectual self-identity. This was never more the case than in the twelfth century, a time when the Church’s monopoly on learning was being seriously threatened by an ever widening interest in platonic creation theory. In The Mystic Ark (c. 1125)—an image of all space, all time, all matter, all human history, and all spiritual striving, and perhaps the most complex single work of art from the entire Middle Ages—the great Parisian scholar Hugh of Saint Victor addressed creation theory in a way that had never been done before, a way as complex as the painting itself. In so doing, The Mystic Ark rose above its immediate character as a pedagogical image and—as a visualization of the politics of theology—became an active agent both in the shaping of the new intellectual elite and in the polemical discourses of one of the great “transitional” periods of Western history.
Mellon Advancing Intercultural Studies

In 2015, the Center launched the Advancing Intercultural Studies project, funded by a generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. This 2-year series of four quarterly seminars examined the benefits of and issues surrounding identities and practices formed in the multi-ethnic, multicultural, and transnational spaces of UCR and Southern California.

The series began in Winter 2015 with “Beyond Diversity: Are We There Yet?” and continued in Spring 2015 with “The Public Practice of Immigrant and Minority Religions in Southern California.” Two additional seminars took place during the 2015-16 academic year.

Fall 2015: Civic & Political Engagement

Faculty: Megan Asaka (History); Erica Edwards (English); Mariam Lam (Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages); Karthick Ramakrishnan (Political Science; School of Public Policy)

Graduate Students: Rudy Alamillo (Political Science); Kristen Hayashi (History); Jasmine Riley (English); Minh Nguyen (Comparative Literature)

Undergraduate Students: Gorlia Xiong; Bradford Choung; Tye Rush; Daisy Mercado

The Civic and Political Engagement seminar examined the question of “American-ness” in terms of the civic and political participation of immigrant communities and minority citizens. Topics the seminar studied reflected the diverse make-up of its members and ranged from theoretically interdisciplinary and methodologically complex work to very specific and concrete case studies and data sets. Among these topics were: factors influencing voting patterns among Latinos, Asian Americans, and African Americans; Vietnamese American arts protest politics and anti-communism, questions about the meaning of citizenship in connection with the WWII incarceration of Japanese Americans; issues surrounding black women as threat to and guarantor to U.S. security after 9/11; explorations of the black maternal figure in three generations of struggle over black life and citizenship; and transnational and diasporic Vietnamese music and the effect of sadness.
**Winter 2016: Migration, Displacement and Movement**

**Faculty:** Erith Jaffe-Berg (Theatre, Film and Digital Production); Juliette Levy (History); Susan Ossman (Anthropology; Global Studies); Jeffrey Sacks (Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages)

**Graduate Students:** Stephen James (Anthropology); Shabnam Piryaei (Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages); Trangdài Glassey-Trząnguyễn (Anthropology); Lisa Umhoefer (Creative Writing)

**Undergraduate Students:** Racheal Adair; Natalia Zufferey; Alondra Clemente

The Migration, Displacement and Movement seminar drew together scholars and students at UCR in the fields of theater, history, anthropology, comparative literature, global studies and other disciplines to explore conceptions of migration, immigration and our local-global world. Key questions to which the group repeatedly returned included: Who is permitted movement? What limits and possible rights are open to immigrants? What is the role of the arts in expressing these themes? How can art forms such as performance, science fiction, poetry, and the visual arts help us and other migrants to explore the limits and possibilities of the migration experience? What commonalities in the migration experience are shared, no matter which countries have been traversed? What are the limits to the shared experience that reflect on the singularity of displacement and movement for certain places and individuals? In keeping with its arts-focus, the group participated in creating a play, *Sea Seed*, involving a family with local and transnational members. The group also held a conference on the arts of migration, “Moving Matters: The Arts of Migration.”
Advancing Intercultural Studies Conference

Hosted on May 5-6, 2016, at the Culver Center for the Arts in downtown Riverside, the conference included presentations from the seminar groups, panel discussions, two keynote lectures, a play reading and a student reception.

The themes of the conference followed those of the four seminars. V. P Franklin (Professor Emeritus, History) representing the “Beyond Diversity” seminar, traced the contributions of student activism from the student sit-ins of the 1960’s through the establishment of Black Studies and Ethnic Studies programs at colleges and universities. Ashon Crawley (Assistant Professor, Ethnic Studies) representing the “Immigrant and Minority Religions” seminar, examined Black Pentecostalism to explore the ethical force of sound. Megan Asaka (Assistant Professor, History) representing the “Political and Civic Engagement” seminar discussed the Manzanar National Historic Site and the “Migration, Displacement, Movement” seminar presented a staged reading of a play by Creative Writing graduate student participant, Lisa Umhoefer, about a group of migrants on Mars.

The two keynote speakers, John L. Jackson (Dean, School of Social Policy & Practice, University of Pennsylvania) and Gaye Johnson (Associate Professor, African American and Chicana/o Studies, UCLA), brought fresh perspectives to the Advancing Intercultural Studies themes. Jackson’s talk, “Dissertations, Digitality, and Diversity: What Multi-Modal Scholarship Means for Academic Inclusivity”, probed the significance of film and digital media for the theory and practice of ethnography. What can images and sound tell us about a person or group of people that written description cannot? What can they tell us about the ethnographers themselves? What is revealed in a presentations are about?

In her talk, “From Shared Pasts to Radical Futures: the Perils and the Promise of Coalitional Politics,” Gaye Johnson described her participatory research, which centers on housing rights and displacement and explores coalitions between ethnic groups defending communities against eviction. Continuing the questions about diverse forms of academic research, Professor Johnson examined what it means to do
participatory research in which one both researches and actively engages in anti-racist struggles.

**Conference Schedule**

**Session A: Beyond Diversity**
- Speaker: VP Franklin (History, Emeritus)
- Respondents: Jeffrey Sacks (Comparative Literature); Jennifer Hughes (History); Karthick Ramakrishnan (Political Science)

**Session B: Sounding Otherwise**
- Speaker: Ashon Crawley (Ethnic Studies)
- Respondents: Stephen James (Anthropology); Erica Edwards (English)

**Session C: “Where Do We Go From Here,” a play by Lisa Umhoefer**
- Moderator: Juliette Levy (History)
- Respondents: Amanda Lucia (Religious Studies); Mariam Lam (Comparative Literature); Yolanda Moses (Anthropology)

**Session D: Remembering Manzanar**
- Speaker: Megan Asaka (History)
- Respondents: Matthew King (Religious Studies); Susan Ossman (Anthropology)
HIP Workgroups: Developing African Studies

Organizers/Participants:

Ademide Adelusi-Adeluyi (History); Jody Benjamin (History); Derick Fay (Anthropology); Anthonia Kalu (Comparative Languages and Literature; Gender and Sexuality Studies); Kara Miller (PhD Candidate, Anthropology); Yolanda Moses (Anthropology); Makeda Parker (Lecturer, Dance); Jade Sasser (Gender and Sexuality Studies); Alison Scott (Associate University Librarian for Collections and Scholarly Communication); Kenneth Simons (Director, African Student Programs); Patricia Smith-Hunt (Librarian and Subject Specialist for African and African-American Studies)

Through its invited speaker series and events, this workgroup seeks to build a foundation for institutional development in African Studies. This is an opportune moment to focus on sub-Saharan Africa and its shifting global connections. Accelerated urbanization, new mineral discoveries, and land grabs for agriculture and conservation are reshaping African cities and rural areas. New investment from China, Brazil and India and the continued privatization of state resources are bringing capital and development, but also concerns about neocolonialism and the limits of democratization. The explosion of mobile internet access has created a generation with unprecedented connections to global media and African diasporic communities in Europe and the USA, as well as forms of political and economic organization that bypass state-controlled institutions. These transformations are reflected in movements in music, art, literature and religion that are producing hybrids of global and distinctively African elements.

The workgroup made significant progress toward its goals over the last year. In Winter 2016, UCR offered six upper-level undergraduate courses in the area, serving 180 students. During the 2015-16 academic year as a whole, the workgroup took some impressive further steps. Lectures (listed below) engaged faculty and students from CHASS and beyond, drawing co-sponsorships from Anthropology, History, Plant Sciences, Political Science, and the Water Sense Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT). The group worked with UCLA to publicize the latter’s new on-line course in Swahili, open to all UC undergraduate and graduate students, while a meeting with Jim McCann, former Director of Boston University’s Title VI-funded African Studies Center, led to a valuable ideas for developing language instruction in Amharic and Igbo and/or Yoruba to meet the needs of UCR’s African heritage students. The workgroup also launched a website...
(http://africanstudies.ucr.edu), conducted a survey to gather contacts and areas of interest from faculty and graduate students and collected materials for a new Subject Guide in African Studies for the Rivera Library website.

Additionally, several group members secured grants which continue the development of African Studies at UCR. Professor Anthonia Kalu (Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages; Gender and Sexuality Studies) received two awards from the UC Office of the President to develop, design and teach two online courses, “Introduction to African Literature” and “Women in African Literature.” Jade Sasser (Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies) received a Hellman Faculty Fellowship for fieldwork on a new project about cook-stove technologies in Ethiopia in 2016-17.

Events:

11/10/15 Beyond Negritude
Andrew Apter (University of California, Los Angeles)

11/23/15 Climate Change, Drought and Water Wars: What can be learned from South Africa?
Mary Galvin (University of Johannesburg)

12/3/15 The Historical Ecology of Malaria in Ethiopia
James McCann (Boston University)

1/19/16 Slave to Wife
Trevor R. Getz (San Francisco State University)

4/4/16 New Modes of Inquiry in Astronomy, Humanities and the Social Sciences (Co-Sponsored)
Panel: Sharon Traweek (University of California, Los Angeles); Diane Gu (University of California, Los Angeles); Reynal Guillen (post-doctoral scholar, UCR); Luis Felipe Murillo (post-doctoral scholar, Harvard University); Jarita Holbrook (University of Western Cape; South Africa)

4/13/16 Resource Extraction and Racial Orders in Post/Colonial Ghana
Jemima Pierre (University of California, Los Angeles)

5/17/16 Chibok Syndrome and Beyond
Peyi Soyinka-Airewele (Ithaca College)
Science Studies Hour

Organizers/Participants:

Dana Simmons (History); Chikako Takeshita (Gender and Sexuality Studies); Sherryl Vint (English); Norm Ellstrand (Botany); David Lo (School of Medicine); Maile Arvin (Ethnic Studies); Susan Zieger (English); Kyle Harp-Rushing (PhD candidate, Anthropology); Stina Attebury (PhD candidate, English); Drew Story (PhD candidate, BCOE); Reynal Guillen (postdoctoral scholar, Astrophysics and Astronomy); Cristina Bejarano (postdoctoral scholar, Anthropology); Antoine Lentacker (visiting scholar, History); Ryan Moran (visiting scholar, History and Global Studies)

The Science Studies Hour workshop is an experimental forum for faculty, researchers and graduate students to develop new ideas and collaborate across disciplines and colleges on issues of concern around science, technology and society. The workshop alternates between four modes of operation: informal discussion of common issues of concern; formal discussion of members’ work in progress; conversations and workshops around work by invited guests; and field trips to laboratories across campus. Workshop participants include faculty, graduate students and visiting scholars across the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, including the Medical School, Anthropology, History, Gender and Sexuality Studies, English, Botany and Engineering. This constituency of scholars is working to build bridges across the sciences and humanities, with a public-facing orientation.

In 2015-2016 the workshop focused on the following themes: 1) Scientific ecologies (science and sustainability; ecologies of scientific knowledge production); 2) Science communication and visualization; and 3) Feminist and indigenous studies of knowledge.

Group members benefited from the bi-weekly cross-disciplinary collaboration in various ways. Norm Ellstrand (Botany) contributed to the work of Chikako Takeshita (Gender Studies) on the mother-fetus relationship; David Lo (School of Medicine), Cristina Bejarano (Anthropology) and Michael Wade (Science Studies associate) entered into a productive discussion on the temporality of the laboratory and figures of scientific progress in Mexico; Drew Story (BCOE) began collaborating with Todd Luce (History) and Kyle Harp Rushing (Anthropology) on the history and biology of the Salton Sea; new inspiration for Dana Simmons’s current book project came from contact with research by Nick DiPatrizio (School of Medicine) on the neurology of hunger.
Two of the current year’s events see below) involved workshops on work-in-progress by graduate students: Stina Atteberry (English) and Kyle Harp-Rushing (Anthropology.) One of those workshops resulted in a publication; the other in a successful dissertation prospectus defense!

Additional outcomes include a writing group, established by four Science Studies members to review drafts of work in progress on a monthly basis. Susan Zieger (English) workshopped a chapter of her book manuscript with the group, the completion of which later led to a successful conference seminar at Harvard and a successful proposal for a special issue of the journal *Amodern.* Throughout the year, members of the Science Studies group collaborated closely with the Science Fiction and Technoculture Studies program and the Medical Humanities group. In 2016-2017, the groups plan to formalize this collaboration by establishing a common calendar to be published on all three groups’ websites.

**Events:**

10/22/15  **Technological Obsolescence and Extinction in The Lifecycle of Software Objects**  
Stina Atteberry (PhD Candidate, English)

11/5/15  **Laboratory tour**  
Jocelyn Millar, (Entomology)

11/19/15  **Green Debris: The Byproducts of Sustainable Urbanism**  
Lindsey Dillon (University of California, Santa Cruz)

12/3/15  **First Light: Kanaka ʻŌiwi Resistance and Astronomy on Mauna a Wākea**  
Iokepa Cazumbal-Salazar (University of California, Los Angeles)

12/3/15  **The Historical Ecology of Malaria in Ethiopia**  
(co-sponsored)  
James C. McCann

1/27/16  **Population Politics and the Crossroads of Gender, Environment, Migration and Security**  
Betsy Hartmann (Hampshire College)
1/28/16  **Waste Landing Book Talk**  
Traci Brynne Voyles (Loyola Marymount)

2/25/16  **Beyond Hispanic, Chican@ and Latin@ Astronomer Demographics: Sociocultural Factors for Outreach and Recruitment**  
Reynal Guillen (PhD Candidate, UCR)

4/4/16  **New Modes of Inquiry in Astronomy, Humanities and the Social Sciences: Why Minorities/Women/Migrants are Now Central to New Kinds of Research with Big Data** (cosponsored)  
Panel: Sharon Traweeek (University of California, Los Angeles); Diane Yu Gu (University of California, Los Angeles); Reynal Guillen (post-doc, UCR); Luis Felipe R. Murillo (post-doc, Harvard); Jarita Holbrook (University of Western Cape, South Africa)

4/14/16  **Paper Democracy**  
Miyako Inoue (Stanford University)

Cristina T. Bejarano

5/5/2016  **Desertified Futures**  
Jerry Zee (University of California, Davis)

5/19/16  **Modular Data, Modulated Selves: Designing and Replicating Infrastructures of Open Data in Late Industrial North America**  
Kyle Harp-Rushing

6/9/16  **Permaculture Tour with Permaculturist Daniel Francis**
Global 19th Century Workshop

Organizers/Participants:

Joseph Childers (English); Heidi Brevik-Zender (Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages); Jonathan Eacott (History); Fariba Zarinebaf (History); Susan Zieger (English); Aleca Le Blanc (Art History); Alessandro Fornazzari (Hispanic Studies)

The UCR Global 19th Century Workshop has achieved international standing for collaborative, multi-disciplinary research on all aspects of the material, cultural, intellectual, and scientific intersections of practices and formations of knowledge in the long nineteenth century. Working across disciplinary and national boundaries and reflecting on the connections to our own, 21st-century intellectual and political endeavors, the workshop has also established strong ties to similar intellectual endeavors in the UK, Singapore, and Asia.

Throughout the 2015-16 program, participants reflected on the importance of the visibility of politics in various forms. For Nile Green and Brian Lewis, the visibility in question was that of minorities, and in both cases, despite common assumptions today (not least in American national politics) of the visibility of Muslim and gay people, in the nineteenth century such groups went, willfully or not, unnoticed, despite being visible in potentially obvious ways. Book-ending the series, Ann Garascia and Amy Buono considered the powerful visibility of myths about Central and South America. This issue of visibility promises to open up new avenues of research for participants working on related questions, including Jonathan Eacott who is applying it to his work on elephants, Heidi Brevik-Zender to her current book project on the visibility of women architects in 19th-century France, and Carlotta Falzone Robinson to her dissertation merging historical and art-historical approaches to the rise of modern Celtic ornament.

During the year, the workgroup also continued its efforts to create an Internet portal that will allow for “virtual” connections between and among scholars who are working across disciplines on long nineteenth-century studies. The intention is to use this portal, being built on a very modest scale in collaboration with the University Library, as a basis for a large NEH grant that will enable the development of a fully operative, digitized, “intellectual commons” to accommodate interaction and collaboration in all disciplines.

Events:

11/23/15 Unearthing the 'Aztec': Central America, Freakery, and Archiving Prehistory
Ann Garascia (PhD candidate, English)
1/20/16  Arthur Conan Doyle and the Imperial Armamentarium
Lorenzo Servitje (PhD candidate, English)

2/4/16  Works-in-Progress Discussion & lunch with graduate students (co-sponsored with Global British and Anglophone Studies)
Lauren Goodlad (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

4/14/16  Axes of Otherness: Jews, Imperial Capitalism, and the Politics of Scale
Dorian Bell (University of California, Santa Cruz)

4/25/16  Europe’s First Muslim Students: Six Iranians in the Scientific Revolution (co-sponsored with the Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Program)
Nile Green (University of California, Los Angeles)

5/5/16  The Making of the Modern Homosexual: The Queer Life of George Ives
Brian Lewis (McGill University)

5/26/16  Myths of extinction: the romance of Tupi death in 19th c. Brazil
Amy Buono (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro)
Political Economy Seminar

Organizers/Participants:

Jana Grittersova (Political Science); Matthew Mahutga (Sociology); Marissa Brookes (Political Science); John Cioffi (Political Science)

Born of the economic crises of the 1970s, three trends have combined to redefine the political economic order and social contract at the national and international levels: the re-ascendance of liberal economic thought as the ideational foundation of economic governance and the justification for curbing state intervention in markets and other economic relations; a transformation in the spatial distribution and organizational character of the information, manufacturing, and service sectors; and the rise of finance as a dominant driver of economic activity, public policy, and rising inequality. The dilemmas of and struggles over the governance and reform of what has proven to be an increasingly fragile crisis-ridden order will define the social, economic and political terrain of the twenty first century.

With that prognosis in mind, the 2015-16, Political Economy Seminar goal brought UCR’s collective expertise together with the expertise of invited outside speakers to bear on a series of specific issues: currency politics; the evolution of the concept of capitalism after the fall of the Soviet Union and the rise Institutionalist understandings of economic organization in the post-war period; emergent contradictions in the Chinese economy that threaten its decades long ascendancy; and a fresh comparison of patterns of the organization of economic-regulatory bodies between the United States and other countries.

For both UCR and non-UCR participants the 2015-16 seminar provided valuable insights and ideas for future work and collaborations. Indeed, it became increasingly clear to all involved that the seminar is helping to put UCR “on the map” the interdisciplinary field of Political Economy.

Events:

2/11/16 Does Capitalism Have Its Own DNA?
Fred Block (University of California, Davis)
3/03/16  **The China boom: Where did it come from? How is it ending?**  
Ho-Fung Hung (Johns Hopkins University)

3/10/16  **Currency Politics: The Political Economy of Exchange Rate Policy**  
Jeffry Frieden (Harvard University)

5/19/16  **A Second Regulatory Divide? Workplace Regulation in Europe and the Americas**  
Andrew Schrank (Brown University)
Global British and Anglophone Studies

Organizers/Participants:

Malcolm Baker (Art History); Thomas Cogswell (History); Adriana Craciun (English); Jonathan Eacott (History); George Haggerty (English); Emma Stapely (English); Susan Zieger (English)

The Global British and Anglophone Studies group is committed to the interdisciplinary studies of British and Global Anglophone Studies from the late seventeenth to the twenty-first centuries. Topics during the 2015-16 year included 18th and 19th century sculpture and painting; memorials and the culture of remembrance in 19th century England, fascination with volcanoes in 19th century British culture, Horace Walpole; and the India Exhibitions in London on that produced the concept of the double body. Invited speakers (see below) inspired the workgroup with new ideas and directions in their own work.

Events:

2/4/16 Works-in-Progress Discussion & lunch with graduate students (co-sponsored with Global British and Anglophone Studies)
Lauren Goodlad (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

3/10/16 “Playing with Fire”
Anne Sullivan (PhD candidate, English)

4/7/16 “The Putti in the 18th century”
Cora Gilroy-Ware (research fellow, Huntington Library)

4/21/16 Speaking with the Dead 18th Century Britain
Amanda Herbert (Christopher Newport University)

5/5/16 Horace Walpole at Eton
George Haggerty (English)

5/19/16 Designing the Double-Bodied Archive through India Exhibitions.
Ann Garascia (PhD candidate, English)
Conferences: Show & Prove Hip Hop Studies

Organizer:

Imani Johnson (Critical Dance Studies)

The Show & Prove 2016 Hip Hop Studies Conference, hosted by conference organizer and Show and Prove founder, Imani Johnson took place at UC Riverside on April 8-10, 2016. The 3-day event was free and open to the public with over 150 attendees from around the world and across the US. The developing reputation of this conference is buttressed by a new website dedicated to its documentation and facilitating connections to interested parties (www.showandproveconference.com).

The conference kicked off with the Dance Department’s Christena Lindborg Schlundt Lecture, an annual talk on research in dance history and theory, named after a founding member of the department. This year’s lecture was presented by Trans scholar, activist, poet, journalist, and former performer Cleis Abeni (aka Tree Turtle, née Jonathan David Jackson) titled, “Excavating the Social in Black Vernacular & Hip Hop Era Dancing.” Abeni discussed her history in and research about dances ranging from tap to voguing, and about the relevance of that history to Hip Hop’s history. The opening evening also included the film Dope, shown off campus at the Culver Center and followed by a short panel discussion.

The second day of the conference consisted of 9 paper panels, 4 dance and writing workshops, 2 plenary panels, 1 master class, and a full-length film screening. The day ended with 3 evening Hip Hop theater performances held at the Barbara & Art Culver Center for the Arts in downtown Riverside, and featuring UCR’s Rickerby Hinds and dancer/choreographer and Guggenheim Fellow Raphael Xavier. The third day featured consecutive events beginning with a master class by the iconic b-boy Ken Swift, a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Dance Department. Following Swift’s class was a paper panel, another plenary, and closing comments. Conference participants continued the conversation at ProAbition, an after hours club in downtown Riverside.
Show & Prove was international in scope and interdisciplinary in practice. Scholars traveled to Riverside from Greece, Finland, Germany, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, and Canada. One panel featured undergraduate scholars from schools across the country including UC Davis. The events featured members of the UC community in multiple capacities, including plenary panelists and respondents (Desha Dauchan [UCI], Charis Kubrin [UCI]), paper presenters (David Hur [UCSB], Matthew Harris [UCSB]), and a workshop leader (Shamell Bell [UCLA]). The conference also included several faculty and students participants from UC Riverside including Rickerby Hinds, Lindsay Rapport, Maiko LeLay, Liz Przybyslki, Ken Swift, Nalo Hopkinson, Brandon Aiken and Fred Moten. Faculty from the CSU system participated as well (DJ Lynnée Denise, Steven Osuna).

The conference featured artists (both local and internationally recognized), community members, scholars (institutionally affiliated and independent), and students across levels.

In addition to the Center for Ideas & Society, co-hosts included the UC Humanities Research Institute, UCR’s African Student Programs and the departments of Theater, History, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Ethnic Studies, and Dance.
The Art of Migration Conference

Organizers/Participants:

Susan Ossman (Anthropology; Global Studies); Racheal Adair (UCR); Kayde Anobile (artist); Alexandru Balasescu (writer & artist); Adam Berg (artist and philosopher, Otis College, Cal Arts); Andreea Campeanu (photojournalist); Blanca Casas-Brullet (artist); Paulo Chagas (Music); Alondra Clemente (UCR); Ariane Dalla Dia (PhD candidate, University of California, Irvine); Stephen William Foster (anthropologist); Trangdai Glassey-Trảnguyễn (PhD candidate, Anthropology); Catherine Gudis (History); Maj Hasager (artist); Rickerby Hinds (Theatre, Film and Digital Production); Erith Jaffe-Berg (Theatre, Film and Digital Production); Stephen James (PhD candidate, Anthropology); Rayed Khader (UCLA); Guillaume Lasserre (art historian, curator); Peter Leese (University of Copenhagen); Juliette Levy (History); Felip Marti-Jufresa (philosopher, Institut Supérieur des Arts de Toulouse); Matthew McCray (Theater Director, SOSE Los Angeles); Beatriz Mejia-Krumbein (artist); Hyejin Nah (Anthropology); Lydia Nakashima Degarrod (artist and anthropology, CCA); Sally Ann Ness (Anthropology); Ioana Paun (theater director); Shabnam Piryaei (PhD candidate, Comparative Literature); Jeffrey Sacks (Comparative Literature); Hannah Schwadron (Dance, Florida State University); Christina Schwenkel (Anthropology); Priya Srinivasan (choreographer and independent scholar); Olga Sezneva (sociologist, University of Amsterdam and European University, St. Petersburg); Aurelie Slonina (artist); Ela Wojcik-Leese (translator, writer, University of Copenhagen); Fariba Zarinebaf (History); Natalie Zervou (dance, University of Wisconsin).

“The Moving Matters Traveling Workshop” (MMTW) is a mobile international platform for generating art and scholarship about migration. The MMTW artists are all serial migrants. The workshop explores their common migratory experience in an evolving arena shaped by traveling meetings to develop exhibitions, performances and public interventions. To date they have met in the US, France, the Netherlands and Romania. Inspired by ethnographic research, the art and interactions of the workshop are also sites for humanistic and social scientific research.

The 2-day “Art of Migration” conference examined this unique process of generating art. Conference papers, performative lectures and dialogues were accompanied by an art exhibition at the CIS and a performance and a presentation of the “memory books” of previous MMTW gatherings at the Culver Center for the Arts.
Participants discussed the possibility of developing work on topics such as the “sea” or “mastery as home” that draw on the serial migrant experience to develop critical approaches to “static” ways of thinking about social life and culture. Several participants implemented new formats for creative presentations of concepts that bridged the art/scholarship divide. Tangible products of this year’s collaboration include two exhibitions, the new MMTW website and a Medium.com “magazine” called “Moving Matters.” Current projects include a short film and new “memory book,” both produced based on the archive of photos and films and notes from this year’s conference and performance. The next workshop/exhibition/performance will be in Barcelona in spring 2017.
Challenging Borders Symposium

Organizers/Participants:

Jennifer Nájera (Ethnic Studies); Ana Coria (Program Coordinator, UCR Undocumented Student Programs); Edwin Elias (PhD candidate, Sociology); Steven Moreno-Terrill (PhD candidate, Graduate School of Education); Frank Perez (PhD candidate, Ethnic Studies); Dalila Valdez (UCR undergraduate; Vice President, Providing Opportunities, Dreams, and Education in Riverside [PODER]); Leisy Abrego (University of California, Los Angeles); Marisol Clark-Ibáñez (California State University, San Marcos); Susana Muñoz (Colorado State University); Genevieve Negron-Gonzales (University of San Francisco); William Perez (Claremont Graduate University); Lindsay Perez Huber (California State University, Long Beach); Tom Wong (University of California, San Diego); Laura Soltis (Freedom University)

In October 2015, the Challenging Borders symposium brought together scholars and scholar activists to present new research about undocumented students in higher education. Undocumented students in colleges and universities across the United States face obstacles to attaining their degrees that are distinct from other immigrant or racial groups. In addition to financial hardships, many undocumented students contend with levels of anxiety and stress that greatly exceed their citizen counterparts. At the same time, many of these “undocuscholars” are committed to civic and political engagement, often with the goal of enacting comprehensive immigration reform and more equal access to higher education.

The symposium provided an interdisciplinary exchange that developed more nuanced understandings of the situations of undocumented students in higher education than are often possible in traditional disciplinary vocabularies and categories. Scholars’ presentations also pointed to the need for critical academic reflection about the research ethics, methodologies, and implications of researching communities of undocumented people. Policy implications of the presentations highlighted the need for continued financial support and looked at the effectiveness of DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals).

In addition to the presentation of research, undocumented students offered personal narratives of their educational trajectories, and the symposium space was flanked by a photography exhibit that chronicled some key moment of undocumented student
activism in Georgia. The symposium also created a space where the campus community and the greater community of Southern California, including several students and student affairs professionals, could engage in conversations that helped them better serve undocumented students.

Both undergraduate and graduate students were deeply involved in the planning and execution of the symposium, serving on a planning committee, chairing panels, facilitating discussion and, in one case, presenting research.

Panels included: “Undocumented Youth Political Identities,” “Undocumented youth: Work, organizing, and education in the DACA era,” and “Navigating Diverging Educational Pipelines.” The symposium also boasted a keynote speech by the director of Freedom University in Atlanta, Georgia and resulted in new collaborations. Two presenters began planning for a proposed special issue of a journal on the research ethics of conducting research in the undocumented student community. Two additional participants collaborated and presented their research on a panel at the American Educational Research Association conference in Washington D.C. in April. Yet another participant of the symposium and a graduate student joined a project about undocumented youth that has recently been funded by the UC Consortium on Social Science and Law.
Towards a Critical Refugee Studies

Organizers/Participants:

Lan Duong (Media and Cultural Studies); Mohamed Abumaye (University of California, San Diego); Victor Bascara (University of California, Los Angeles); Yến Lê Espiritu (University of California, San Diego); praCh (rapper); Viet Thanh Nguyen (University of Southern California); Ova Saopeng (performer); Lila Sharif (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign); Khatharya Um (University of California, Berkeley); Mai Der Vang (poet); Ma Vang (University of California, Merced)

In the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, reporters, politicians and media commentators used the term “refugee” to describe storm victims, many of them African Americans uprooted from their homes along the Gulf Coast. Almost immediately, prominent African American leaders objected that the use of this term was “racially biased” and reduced the “refugees” to second-class citizens – or even to non-Americans. For these critics, “refugeeness” connoted “otherness,” summoning the image of “people in a Third World country who “carried the scraps of their lives in plastic trash bags,” wore “donated clothes,” and slept “on the floor of overpopulated shelters.”

This construction of refugees served as a point of departure for the “Critical Refugee Studies Conference,” which focused on globally displaced populations and their histories and brought together panelists exploring refugees originating from Africa, Central America, the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

The conference led to a joint application for a UCOP Multi-campus Research Grant and a proposed anthology on Critical Refugee Studies edited by Yen Le Espiritu (UCSD) and Lan Duong (UCR). Featuring the work of innovative scholars in the field it will use the Scalar platform to synchronize with the kinds of multimedia art and music that discussed in the book’s chapters. Other grant applications in the works comprise a Digital Humanities Grant through UCHRI for a website dedicated to the critical study of refugees across the disciplines and the NEH Collaborative Research Grant and the ACLS Collaborative Research Grant both to organize symposia across the UCs and to foster collaboration with those outside of the humanities and social sciences including scientists, doctors, public policy analysts and educators at the K-12 levels.

Two additional outcomes of the conference are a collaboration on an article on feminist refugee epistemologies and presentations at the Asian American Studies conference, to be held in Portland, Oregon.
HIP Events: *Sea Seed Production*

**Organizers/Artists:**

*Erith Jaffe-Berg (Theater, Film & Digital Production) ; Son of Semele Ensemble: Beatriz Mejia-Krumbein, Hilletje Bashew, Melina Bielefelt, Don Boughton, Matthew McCray and Paula Rebelo*

*Paths to Migration II: Sea Seed* is the second part of an ongoing collaboration between a leading experimental theatre company in Los Angeles, Son of Semele Ensemble (SoSE), and UC Riverside to create a full-length play through a series of staged readings. In this two-part project, SoSE director Matt McCray, Erith Jaffe-Berg and SoSE ensemble members explored the repeated migration (serial migration) experiences of people who have lived in several countries throughout their lives. During readings of the developing work, audiences were encouraged to intervene and react to the performance, thus playing a role in shaping the final product. The result, *Sea Seed*, was presented as a concert reading in October 2015 and as a staged performance in February 2016.

This collaborative project continues to produce new work: Erith Jaffe-Berg intends to write an academic article about the way in which this work evolved, another iteration of the play will be presented in Barcelona in 2018, and UCR and the Son of Semele Ensemble plan to collaborate on an undergraduate summer internship program.
Provocative 15th Century: Simon Armitage

Organizer:

Andrea Denny-Brown (English)

In October, 2015, award-winning British poet and translator Simon Armitage visited UCR for a reading and public discussion in conjunction with the Huntington Library Conference, The Provocative 15th Century. Currently Oxford Professor of Poetry, Armitage’s recent work—he has translated not only the Death of Arthur, but also the Middle English poem Sir Gawain and the Green Knight and Pearl—bridges the worlds of modern and medieval poetry as well as popular and scholarly interests. His prolific poetic output of nearly twenty volumes of poetry over twenty-five years offers a series of overlapping themes that connect age-old literary themes with contemporary life: television violence and youth culture, street slang, and the geography of Northern England speak across time to verbal archaisms, lonely medieval quests, and the medieval rhythms of the chivalric life and line. He has written across many genres, including poetry, fiction, drama, television, radio, news media, and even “stanza stones,” poems carved into stones across the English landscape

His visit to UCR fostered collaboration between professors of different fields in English—translation and media studies, medieval and modern poetics—as well as faculty and students from Creative Writing. For graduate students in particular, his readings and discussion opened up a way of thinking about scholarship that extends into public awareness and engagement.
CIS Programs: Hot off the Presses

The Hot off the Presses program features an informal talk and reception to celebrate newly published work by CHASS faculty. Books published within the current academic year are eligible for the series.

2015-16 Series:

11/18/15 **Commedia Dell'Arte and the Mediterranean**  
Erith Jaffe-Berg (Theatre, Film and Digital Production)

12/1/15 **The Murder of King James I**  
Thomas Cogswell (History)

1/21/16 **Virtuosi Abroad**  
Kiril Tomoff (History)

2/25/16 **The Text and the World**  
Piotr S Gorecki (History)

3/2/16 **The Colonial Origins of Ethnic Violence in India**  
Ajay Verghese (Political Science)

4/14/16 **Contemporary Sino-French Cinemas**  
Michelle E Bloom (Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages)

5/4/16 **Choreographing Copyright**  
Anthea Kraut (Dance)
Dueling Disciplines

The Dueling Disciplines series offers differing disciplinary perspectives on a subject, theme or issue. Faculty members and/or graduate students from ‘opposing’ theoretical viewpoints present alternate ways to think about topics such as God, a university education, yoga, Shakespeare and water. The resulting ‘duel’ is lighthearted but academically rigorous and respectful.

2015-16 Series:

11/14/2015  The Ethics of Water?
David Biggs (History) & T.S. Harvey (Anthropology)

Harvey and Biggs discuss the political implications of water use and the complicated construction of ‘causes’ in drought and water-use policies.

2/17/2016  Who is God and what is He/She up to?
Muhamad Ali (Religious Studies) & Howard Wettstein (Philosophy)

Wettstein and Ali compare descriptions of gendered, anthropomorphic versions of God’s character and behavior.

4/13/2106  What is College For?
Steven Brint (Sociology; School of Public Policy) & Eddie Comeaux (Graduate School of Education)

Comeaux and Brint contrast the historical development of liberal arts education with current trends that emphasize student experience and scholar-activism.
Nature of ‘Nature’

“The Nature of Nature” series focuses on the shifting, blurred and contested lines between what is natural and what is not. On the one hand, we worry about invasive species, genetically modified food and so on. On the other hand, we are increasingly aware of living in what some call the Anthropocene: there is no land, place or living organism that is unaffected by human beings. From climate change to DNA, the effects of human life are obvious.

What, then, is nature? Can we justify the normative force that the idea of the natural still has for us? Should we be any more concerned about our “natural” environment than our built one – about our natural parks than our shopping malls? Does our concern about invasive species reflect as much – or more – concern about our national, cultural and political borders as it does about our environmental ones? What sort of line, if any, can we still draw between the natural and the artificial? Is even death unnatural now?

2015-16 Series:

9/29/2015  Racial Degeneration and the Perfect Society
Ewa Łuczak (University of Warsaw)

Envisioned as a science of better human breeding in the interest of racial purity, eugenics, in the 1920s and 1930s celebrated its triumph in the U.S. With the 1924 Johnson law for the control of immigration and 1927 Supreme Court decision that upheld the constitutionality of a eugenic sterilization law in Virginia, eugenics ceased to be a speculative science and became an agent of social change in the United States.

4/28/2016  Hope in a Time of Extinction
Ashley Dawson (CUNY Graduate Center)

Some thousands of years ago, the world was home to an immense variety of large mammals. From wooly mammoths and saber-toothed tigers to giant ground sloths and armadillos the size of automobiles, these spectacular creatures roamed freely. Then human beings arrived. Devouring their way down the food chain as they spread across the planet, they began a process of voracious extinction.
Collaborations: Palm Desert Lecture Series

The Center for Ideas and Society is pleased to support the Palm Desert Lecture Series, an annual set of talks hosted from January through April at the UCR Palm Desert Center. Each year, UCR faculty are invited to present their research to the Palm Desert community. The series, organized and promoted in cooperation with the Palm Desert event team, provides a unique opportunity for faculty to translate their work for a public audience.


1/13/2016  Aging and Immune System  Ilhem Messaoudi (Biomedical Sciences)
Aging is accompanied by a decline in immune fitness. Professor Messaoudi talked about the way our immune system ages and the interventions we can make to delay or reverse these changes, thereby improving our health span.

2/10/2016  How the Humanities Can Make Better Doctors  Goldberry Long (Creative Writing)
A desire for fostering more empathy in doctors has led to an integration of the humanities in medical school. UCR’s new School of Medicine has taken this idea further than any school in the country by including a three-year, mandatory writing program into their curriculum. The novelist Goldberry Long, who has spent almost two years developing and implementing this unprecedented program, described the adventures of crossing the divide between the humanities and the sciences, and everything she discovered in that new country.

3/9/2016  7 Minutes With Your Doctor: How to Make the Most of It  Leslie Martin (Psychology)
A large body of literature attempts to guide physicians and other healthcare providers toward more effective communication with their patients—but the literature is almost never directed at patients! Professor Martin’s lecture focused on what patients need to know in order to maximize the productivity of their doctor-patient visits, and on specific things patients can do to improve their health care partnerships.
Walking Through Fire: Why Memoir Isn’t Therapy

Emily Rapp Black (Creative Writing)

How do the best writers convey grief, a fundamental and unavoidable experience of human life, without alienating the reader or lapsing into melodrama? How is this experience complicated by writers working to tell a story in the midst of grief? Professor Emily Rapp Black engaged these questions and discussed her own work.

2015-16 LGBT Series:

Not Gay

Jane Ward (Gender & Sexuality Studies)

In this talk, Ward traced narratives about straight white men’s homosexual encounters across four sites—the United States military, online personal ads, popular culture, and the psychotherapeutic industry—illustrating the unique ways that whiteness and masculinity converge to circumvent the pathologizing gaze of popular science, the gaze applied to men of color.

What is Queer about Frankenstein?

George Haggerty (English)

Haggerty’s nuanced analysis and historical insights enlivened his queer reading of Mary Shelley’s classic story of creation, madness, love and isolation.
Comics & Medicine Conference: Spaces of Care

With local PI, Juliet McMullin (School of Medicine) the Center for Ideas and Society provided administrative support for the International Comics and Medicine conference, organized and promoted by graphic medicine, a collective of artists, medical professionals, academics and other explorers of the intersection between visual storytelling and the medical arts. The three-day event in July 2015 at UCR's Culver Center for the Arts featured 4 keynote speakers, 13 panel presentations, 3 workshops and 2 “lightning” presentation panels. Over 170 participants traveled to Riverside, from across the US, the UK, Canada, Australia, Korea, Belgium, and Germany. The event was also funded by grants from the Society for Psychological Anthropology and the Arthur P. Gold Foundation. Other generous sponsors included the UCR School of Medicine’s Center for Healthy Communities, Penn State University Press, the Vesalius Trust, California State University- San Marcos, UCR Graduate Division, Graphic Medicine, UCR Tomás Rivera Endowed Chair, UCR Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies, Sphinx Comics and the UCR California Center for Native Nations, Rupert Costo Endowment.

The conference created an opportunity for medical professionals, artists, doctors, anthropologists and others to engage in a growing conversation about the issues surrounding health and illness as embodied ‘stories’ and the ways these experiences are conveyed in the medium of graphic illness narratives. For example, Carol Tyler’s keynote presentation showed how comics can be a productive form for expressing the human side of illness and medical encounters. Tyler shared both her process for creating the art in her comics and the painful suffering and loss of loved ones that motivates much of her work. Another keynote speaker, Justin Green offered an engaging insight into OCD and the artistic process. Attendees were treated to the breadth of his work centering on iconography, design, and storytelling. Two additional keynotes, Steven Keewatin Sanderson and conference veteran, Jared Gardner, reflected on their own complicated histories and the development of graphic storytelling as a medium in their work and teaching.
Conference sessions incorporated panel discussions topics such as on Narrating Care and Healing; Comics as Intervention; Comics and Ethnography; Women's Bodies and Political Frames, Complicating Caring Spaces and Comics as Performance. Workshops offered included: The Gag Reflex: How New Yorker Cartoons Represent Medicine (Benjamin Schwartz); Integrating Comics: An Expansive Approach to Teaching Graphic Medicine (Nancy Miller and Tahnee Oksman); and Techniques and Tools of Storytelling (Brian Fies).
Mellon Sawyer Seminars

The Center for Ideas and Society was honored to support the 2015-16 Andrew W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar Series, “Alternative Futurisms,” organized by Nalo Hopkinson (Creative Writing) and Sheryl Vint (English).

The “Alternative Futurisms” project was conceived to create a dialogue about diverse ethnic futures and to explore the power of speculative fiction as a tool for social change. Afrofuturism, Latino futurism, Indigenous futurism, and Asian-American futurism share a similar status of marginalization compared to hegemonic science fiction (SF), which has historically been dominated by white writers and thus has tended to elide questions of ethnic diversity through visions of a color-blind, post-racial future; this hegemonic SF at times rests on colonialist and imperialist ideologies that have been central to the genre’s history. The various traditions of ethnic futurism have emerged from and been shaped by their cultural specificity and historical relationship to technology, yet to date there has been comparatively little communication among them and almost no effort to articulate their areas of shared focus or ongoing opportunities for collaboration. This is precisely the scholarly and cultural gap that “Alternative Futurisms” sought to fill, by enabling these various sites of speculative intervention to exchange ideas and perspectives, to investigate commonalities and differences in their experiences of technologized modernity and to deepen the knowledge within each tradition about these other sites of engagement and about the core of mainstream, Western SF that provides a common starting point for their shared goals of cultural resistance and ideological transformation. The project succeeded in bringing together scholars and artists working on similar projects concerning social justice, imagining the future, and questions of race and belonging.

Events:

10/6/15 **Panel on Asian American Speculative Fiction**
Christopher Fan (University of California, Berkeley); Stephen Sohn (English); Traise Yamamoto (English); Rachel Lee (University of California, Los Angeles)

10/15/15 **Science Fiction Studies Symposium**
Arthur Evans (DePauw University); Pawel Frelik (Marie Curie-Sklodowska University); Rachel Haywood-Ferreira (Iowa State University)

10/16/15 **Revisiting the Past Remaking the Future**
Barry Keith Grant (Brock University)
10/19/15 **Settler Colonial Theory**
David Lloyd (English); John Rieder (University of Hawaii-Manoa);
Grace Dillon (Portland State University); Michelle Raheja (English); Brian
Hudson (PhD candidate, UCR)

10/27/15 **Public Reading**
Stephen Graham Jones (University of Colorado, Boulder)

11/2/15 **Generation Last**
Film Screening with Joel Juarez

11/3/15 **El Incidente**
Film Screening with Isaac Ezban

11/10/15 **African Diasporic**
Erica Edwards (English); Fred Moten (English); Adilifu Nama (Loyola
Marymount University) Vorris Nunley (English)

12/2/15 **Film Screening**
Nanobah Becker

1/21/16 **Editing Science Fiction and Fantasy Panel**
Rachelle Cruz (Creative Writing); Jaymee Goh (PhD candidate, Comparative Literature); Nalo Hopkinson (Creative Writing)

1/28/16 **Destination: Planet Negro**
Film Screening with Kevin Willmott

3/3/16 **Caribbean Science Fiction & Fantasy**
Karen Lord; Karin Lowachee; Nalo Hopkinson (Creative Writing); Tobias
Buckell

4/6/16 **Speculative Futures: Imminence and Immanence**
Olalekan Jeyifous

4/11/16 **Ted Chiang and Charles Yu**

4/21/16 **The Novel Ecologies of Chicano 1990s Cyberpunk**
Lysa Rivera (Western Washington University)
5/25/16  **You can see the future from here: Experiential futures at the border**  
Pepe Rojo

6/2/16  **Indigenous Cyberpunk**  
Misha Nogha, Brian Hudson (post-doc, UCR)

6/9/16  **Narrating the Future: One Day Conference**  
Stina Attebery (PhD candidate, English); Taylor Evans (PhD candidate, English); Kai Cheang (PhD candidate, English); Mel Y. Chen (University of California, Berkeley); Brian Hudson (post-doc, UCR); Alex Rivera
Other Events and Collaborations

UC Humanities Center Collaborative Projects:

Funded by the Office of the President through UCHRI, these projects allow cooperative work across multiple campuses through the local humanities centers. The Center for Ideas and Society provided supplemental funding and administrative support for the following programs.

Op/Ed: Write to Change the World Project

The Write to Change the World workshops help develop faculty to translate their work for a broader audience, contributing to a public conversation.

2015-16 Participants: Brandon Brown (School of Medicine); Jade Sasser (Gender & Sexuality); Erica Edwards (English); Jennifer Nájera (Ethnic Studies); Ilhem Messaoudi (Biomedical Sciences); Ashaunta Anderson (School of Medicine)

UC Public Scholars Program

This initiative allows one graduate student from each participating campus to join the 2016 UC Davis Public Scholars program. The program provides guidance and support for community-engaged scholarship and professional development.

Public Scholar Jared Katz (PhD candidate, Anthropology) created the Maya Music Program, a summer learning program for grade school students. The students learned about ancient Mayan culture and anthropological methods through music and cutting-edge technology.

UC Metadata Project

The Metadata project provides training, resources and design support for graduate students whose research can leverage UCLA’s new digital platform. This platform connects disparate data types to three-dimensional models of objects, architecture or concepts and allows analysis through a combination and integration of different information (e.g. quantitative, qualitative, visual, aural).

In her project “Hypermaterializing Posthuman Poetics,” 2015-16 award recipient Sarah Lozier (PhD candidate, English) will work with the Metadata team to build a dynamic, digital database that will function as an interactive, multidimensional model of selected poems by Harryette Mullen and Susan Howe.

CHASS Mid-Career Research Initiative:
The CHASS Mid-Career Research Initiative (CMCRI) focuses on fostering research productivity, leadership skills, and professional balance for associate-level faculty in the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. A multi-unit collaboration hosted by the Center for Ideas and Society, CMCRI hosts working groups, online support forums, a lecture series, and retreats—often geared towards women faculty, who are underrepresented in the full professor ranks—that are designed to support productivity in research, teaching, and service for mid-career faculty.

**CHASS Annual Book Celebration: May 19, 2016**

Hosted in May 2016 in the Director's Garden at the Center, the CHASS Annual Book Celebration once again honored the publication of new faculty research throughout the 2015-15 academic year. Over 30 faculty members submitted titles for consideration at this year’s event.

**CIS Annual Lecture: September 30, 2016**

Milagros Peña (Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences and Professor of Sociology): U.S. Latin@/Hispanic Ministries: Lessons in Community Leadership and Identity Formations

The incoming Dean shared her recent work on the role of Latino/a churches, congregations and religious leaders in leading civic engagement and in fostering identity formations as tools for community empowerment.

**Graduate Student Collaborative Awards:**

Articul@s Autonm@s (Autonomous Articles/Articulations) is a group of scholars interested in promoting interdisciplinary, transnational, and critical theoretical interventions in the study of history. Though the core participants of this group belong to the department of History, our respective scholarly work engages with multidisciplinary topics and methodological approaches. Our name represents our engagement as a critical historical reading group, as well as our commitment to build and create interdisciplinary and intersectional historical scholarship.

Latin@ Limnalities explores the liminal spaces of US Hispanic experiences. Hispanic born in the United States are often stuck in a linguistic and cultural liminality. When they are in the US, they are labeled as Mexican, regardless of their nationality/immigration status or ability to speak Spanish. Due to differences in

**Other Co-Sponsored Events:**

...
10/2/15  **RIDAGA Symposium**  
Mariam Lam (Comparative Literature)

10/21/15  **Selling Sex in the City: Havana**  
Amalia Cabezas (Media and Cultural studies)

10/23/15  **Noche de Altarés/Night of Altars**  
James Ault (filmmaker); Jennifer Hughes (History)

11/2-3/15  **(dis)junctions 2015: Graduate Student Conference**

11/19/15  **Raising Fences: Embracing Black Bodies in Space**  
Michael Datcher (PhD candidate, English)

11/19/15  **Green Debris: The Byproducts of Sustainable Urbanism**  
Lindsey Dillon (PhD candidate, UC Davis)

11/19/15  **Caged Birds: Immigration Control and the Rise of Mexican Incarceration**  
Kelly Lytle Hernandez (UC Los Angeles)

1/21/16  **Indian Eating in Vietnam: Vietnamese Nationalism and Colonial Discourses of Civilization**  
Chi P. Pham (PhD candidate, Comparative Literature)

1/22/16  **BOOM: A Journal of California Winter Party**  
Jennifer Hughes

1/25/16  **Gendering Blackness(es): Roma and African American Women**  
Michaela Mudure (Babes-Bolyai University)

2/12/16  **Bernd Magnus Memorial Conference** (Philosophy)

2/13/16  **Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference**

2/25/16  **The University of California Press and the Open Access Movement**  
Allison Mudditt

2/29/16  **Machettes, fundamentalism and rationalism: What does history**
tell us?
Rafida Ahmed

3/17/16 Making Baptist Connections: American Indian Women at the University of Redlands in the 1930s
Jennifer Talerico-Brown (PhD candidate, School of Education)

4/12/16 A Ballerina’s Spine Always Stretches Upward
Lee Singh (PhD candidate, History)

4/15/16 Bodies in Fugue: Migration (Hispanic Studies Graduate Student Conference)

4/25/16 The Cut of the Shibboleth: Tarantino’s Inglourious Basterds and the Globalization of English
Marc Redfield (Brown University)

5/4/16 Caminando Hacia La Autonomia/ Walking Towards Autonomy Film Screening

5/18/16 Cece McDonald and Reina Gossett Lecture

05/21/16 Material Experience: Thinking with Objects (5th Annual Art History Graduate Student Conference)

5/21/16 On the Line (Performance: Moving Matters)

5/26/16 Inland Barrio: Chicano Histories in San Bernardino
Mark Ocegueda, resident scholar (UC Mexus)

6/24/16 China: Remembering the Cultural Revolution Conference
Perry Link (Comparative Literature)

2015-16 Ongoing Center support for play development and theatre work
Rickerby Hinds (Theatre)

CIS Administrative Support: In addition to providing funding, the Center also provides administrative & logistical support, including meeting spaces, for select college and campus projects. In 2015-16, administrative and event support were provided for the NEH Narratives in Tandem grant (PI: Juliet McMullin), two Luce Religions in Diaspora and Global Affairs (RiDAGA) grants (PI: Jennifer Hughes; PI: Mariam Lam) and the UCR Philosophy department. Facilities were shared with Perry Link’s Interdisciplinary Faculty Dinner/Seminar series, the Gender & Sexuality Studies departmental retreat, and the Chancellor’s Research Fellowship Spring Reception.
Mission Statement

Established in 1988, the Center for Ideas and Society is an interdisciplinary research center dedicated to advancing humanistic studies and creativity at UC Riverside. The Center’s fellowships, research workshops and public events strengthen the intellectual and creative life of the university. The Center is committed to disseminating the results of its programs to the Riverside community and beyond. The Center also houses the Institute for the Study of Immigrant Religions and the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship program.

At the Center for Ideas and Society our goal is to bring the humanities disciplines into dialogue with one another, with the sciences, engineering and medicine, and with the surrounding community.

We do this by

- funding interdisciplinary research through research teams, faculty fellowships, graduate student research grants and co-sponsorship of campus events
- promoting public humanities events such as conferences, lectures, round-table discussions and performances
- hosting visiting scholars, writing groups and departmental retreats

We welcome you to join us at an upcoming event! We’d love to hear your feedback or ideas for a program or research initiative.

Please Give

We ask that you consider a gift in support of academic excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration! Your generosity ensures that the Center can continue to fund humanities research and create quality programming for the Riverside and southern California communities. To learn more about tax-deductible donations and endowments, contact UCR’s Office of Development at (951) 827-5611.
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