Once more, it is my pleasure to introduce this year’s edition of the CGAS Bulletin. In fall 2018 we were delighted to welcome Rachael Hutchinson to the CGAS Steering Committee as she began a three-year term as director of Asian Studies. Eve Buckley, Daniel Kinderman, Rudi Matthee, Colin Miller, and Polly Zavadivker continue to serve as directors of Latin American & Iberian Studies, European Studies, Islamic Studies, African Studies, and Jewish Studies, respectively.

Our directors have been busy over the past year organizing lectures and presentations that explore cultural manifestations and current issues from around the globe. I have attended practically all of these events and have been impressed by their quality and diversity. The Islamic Studies program brought in seasoned experts to present their analyses of driving forces beneath Middle Eastern geopolitics, while a Jewish Studies lecture explored Jewish feminist identity, and European Studies wrapped up its Global Populism series on a high note with outstanding lectures that examined the populist trend in various regions of the world, including in the U.S. An Asian Studies presentation offered a fascinating glimpse into the “Hermit Kingdom” of North Korea and a speaker sponsored by Latin American & Iberian Studies explained the distinguishing features of Rio de Janeiro’s informal communities known as favelas and showed us how her NGO is working to advocate for and empower residents. A visiting artist-in-residence, co-sponsored by LAIS, presented, through his film and photography, an intimate and touching vision of how a child’s life was shaped by the Soviet era in Cuba. Finally, an African Studies event captivated its audience with demonstrations of how musicians from Burkina Faso communicate via the “talking xylophone.”

ARSC300, our “Issues in Global Studies” lecture series and 1-credit course, once again focused on current matters of vital interest. Carla Guerrón-Montero coordinated the spring series, Sustainable Futures, and the fall series, 21st-Century Feminisms, was led by Lindsay Naylor. Both drew in many students and members of the university community as their speakers explored these critical and timely topics. The upcoming series for spring 2019, Mapping the Migration Net: Border Crossing, Technology and Human Rights in our Global Journeys, organized by Malasree Neepa Acharya, will examine one of the most pressing issues of our times. See the back cover of this bulletin for more information.

The Global Studies minor remains our most popular program of studies with over fifty students, and we continue our collaboration with POSC to develop a Global Studies major. We are also moving ahead in our joint effort with the English Language Institute to sponsor activities to bring together ELL and CGAS students. I am honored to serve on the Institute for Global Studies’ committee to design its strategic plan. I look forward to continuing to work with the IGS team to pursue our common goal of “strengthening interdisciplinary and global programs,” in accordance with one of President Assanis’s initiatives to advance the University.

A highlight of spring 2019 will be our co-sponsorship of Artist-in-Residence Silvina Frydlewsky. An Argentine photojournalist, Silvina will be returning to UD after her earlier participation in our project on the Argentine crisis of 2001 that featured her stunning photographs. For the upcoming visit, an exhibition of the many facets of her photodocumentary career is planned to be held on UD’s STAR Campus. Stay tuned for details.

Finally, I invite you to peruse this bulletin to read about the activities of our Area Studies programs and the accomplishments of our students and faculty, and to check out our expanded section on the research activities funded in whole or in part by the CGAS small grant program.
Notable Events

Spring 2018

- ARSC 300 “Sustainable Futures” (Global Studies)
- “The Little Grey Wolf Will Come,” Exposition by Cuban artist Dashel Hernández (Latin American & Iberian Studies)
- “Geopolitical Forces beneath the Surface in the Middle East” (Islamic Studies)
- “Rio’s Favelas as Models of Sustainability” (Latin American & Iberian Studies)
- “How Not to Think about Populism” (European and Global Studies)
- “Attention Deficits: Why Populism Should Not Be a Surprise” (European and Global Studies)
- “Trump, Nationalism and Populism in the U.S.” (European and Global Studies)
- “Languages of the People: A Romanian-Jewish Philologist on Yiddish, Romanian, and French” (Jewish Studies and European Studies)

Fall 2018

- ARSC300 “21st Century Feminisms” (Global Studies)
- “Iran and Israel: Intimate Enemies and US Role in the Paradox” (Islamic Studies)
- “The Talking Xylophone of the Sambla” (African Studies)
- “Cinema of the Crisis: Feminist and Queer Filmmaking in Puerto Rico” (Latin American & Iberian Studies)
- “Visiting the Hermit Kingdom: Five Days in North Korea” (Asian Studies)
- “Naming Atrocity: Postcolonial Violence and the Category of Genocide” (Jewish Studies)
- “The I in My Text: The Politics of Reclaiming a Critical Jewish Feminist Identity in the Present” (Jewish Studies)

Student Awards

Every year, Area Studies faculty selects top students to be honored for their scholarly excellence and dedication to the interdisciplinary study of world regions. At our spring Area Studies Convocation on May 26, 2018, the following graduates were recognized for their accomplishments:

Carly Deluca, Asian Studies Major, Area Studies Achievement Prize and David Pong Asian Studies Scholarship

Marcianna Green, Asian Studies Minor, Area Studies Enrichment Prize and David Pong Book Award

Evangelista Barylski, Asian Studies Minor (Rising Senior), David Pong Book Award

Erica Strauss, Jewish Studies Minor, Vivian Klaff Memorial Award in Jewish Studies

Emily Francisco, Latin American & Iberian Studies Minor, Latin American & Iberian Studies Award for Academic Excellence
2018 Global & Area Studies Grant Recipients

Malasree Neepa Acharya, Political Science & International Relations, Asian Studies, Mapping the Refugee Net: Border Crossing and Technology in the Mediterranean

Carla Guerrón-Montero, Anthropology, Latin American & Iberian Studies, Touring Quilombos: Memory, Citizenship, and Identity in Rio de Janeiro’s Quilombo Residual Communities (Brazil)

Julie McGee, Art History, Africana Studies, African Studies, Sam Middleton: An American Artist in Holland, a Transnational Experience

John Patrick Montano, History, European Studies, The Roots of English Colonialism in Ireland (Part 2)

Ramnarayan Rawat, History, Asian Studies, A Conceptual History of the Indian Political: Dalit Lexicons of Liberty and Equality

Meredith Ray, Languages, Literatures & Cultures, European Studies, East of Italy: Women and Scientific Community in Early Modern Italy, Poland, and Dalmatia

Chandra Reedy, Center for Historic Architecture & Design, Asian Studies, Emergence of Technological Innovation: Identifying a Highly Innovative Chinese Black Pottery Technology

Steven Sidebotham, History, European Studies, Archaeological Excavations at Berenike (Red Sea coast), Egypt

Research Spotlight

New Ports of Call in the Infrastructure of Islamic Identity in Sri Lanka

Patricia Sloane-White, Anthropology, Women & Gender Studies, Asian Studies, Islamic Studies. 2017 grant recipient

It was a great privilege to have received support from CGAS to conduct ethnographic field research in Sri Lanka. My research in January was focused on exploring how Muslim Malays in Sri Lanka are reimagining visions of entrepreneurial, cosmopolitan futures made tangible by new development paradigms that connect them to capital and power. The grant allowed me to investigate the way in which Muslim-Malay business and ethnic identities in Sri Lanka are being shaped and revitalized as a result of global economic engagement with Muslims elsewhere, and increasingly affected by Chinese investment. I conducted interviews with focus groups in Colombo, the capital city, and in the port city of Hambantota, gathering important preliminary research on the ethnic, religious, and national engagements of Muslim-Malay business owners.

But it was on a side trip to the former British colonial city of Kandy that I began to conceive of an expanded project that will study business formation by Sri Lankans spanned by two “imperial” moments: that is, when Sri Lanka (Ceylon) became the focus of one of the most remarkable instances of rapid development in the history of global trade as a result of the British rush to cultivate tea in the Victorian era to the immediate present, when Chinese capital investment in Sri Lanka seems primed to once again dramatically transform national commercial and economic life. My research question now is to consider how family businesses have maintained themselves over these periods of vast change. As the CGAS grant is meant to “seed” future research, I anticipate seeking major external funding to complete the project.

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World-renowned Sambla balafonist **Mamadou Diabate** visited the University of Delaware this fall. He ran a percussion workshop on the Sambla balafon, performed on the Graduate Students Recital stage, and co-presented with **Laura McPherson**, Linguistics Professor at Dartmouth College, on music-language connections of the Sambla people. The spoken language, in this case, *seenku*, can be mimicked in a balafon speech surrogate, and musicians can communicate this way with their audience, dancers, or each other without ever uttering a word. Diabate is part of the venerable lineage of xylophone masters in Burkina Faso. He has played concerts around the globe and has recently been knighted by the Burkinabe government for his role as a cultural ambassador and human rights activist. The Sambla are a small West African ethnic group living in southwestern Burkina Faso whose traditional music centers around the balafon, a kind of resonator xylophone.

**Chandra Pitts**, President and CEO of One Village Alliance (OVA), was selected to participate in the Mandela Washington Fellowship (MWF) Reciprocal Exchange. OVA is a Wilmington DE based social justice agency with a mission to uplift children and their families on a holistic journey toward economic development through education, entrepreneurship, and the arts. In September Pitts traveled to Ghana with four ambassadors from OVA’s “Girls Can Do Anything” project. Chandra Pitts is a presenter and community partner for the MWF program at UD. The Reciprocal Exchange program provides Americans with the opportunity to travel to Africa to build upon strategic partnerships and professional connections developed during the Mandela Washington Fellowship in the U.S.

**Faculty News**

**Gretchen Bauer** (Political Science & International Relations) has been named a (non-resident) Democracy and Development Fellow by the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD-Ghana) in Accra, Ghana. She continues her collaborative research with Dr. Akosua Darkwah from UG Legon on women's underrepresentation in Ghana and made presentations at the Pantheon Sorbonne University in Paris, the Nordic Africa Institute in Uppsala, and at the American Political Science Association, and African Studies Association annual meetings. During the summer she taught international relations in the MA program at Webster University Ghana in East Legon, Accra. In the summer she also co-directed a fifth cohort of Mandela Washington Fellows at UD, as part of the Young African Leaders Initiative. In January she will direct a UD micromester program in Ghana, based in Osu, Accra and traveling to Elmina, Cape Coast, Akosombo and Kumasi. She had publications in *The Palgrave Handbook of Women’s Rights* and *The Palgrave Handbook of African Women’s Studies.*

This summer **Oyenike Olabisi** (Biology) served as academic co-director of Mandela Washington Fellows alongside Prof. Bauer, who held this position for the past five years. Olabisi grew up to adulthood on the African continent, a motivating factor in her support of the fellows’ professional and personal development as they acquire various skills needed to broaden their social impact in their respective countries. Pending UD’s approval to host the program next year, Olabisi will serve as academic director of MWF in 2019.

At the time of her death, **Elaine R. Salo**, Associate Professor in the department of Political Science & International Relations, was working on her book *Respectable Mothers, Tough Men, and Good Daughters: Producing persons in Manenberg township South Africa.* Now two years later, with a dedicated commitment from family and ex-colleagues, her book has been published. The book examines how men and women in Manenberg township, on Cape Town’s inner periphery, manoeuvre to re-define themselves as gendered persons deserving of dignity, through the quotidian practices of ordentlikheid or respectability. Salo shows how reclamation of dignity is an intergenerational and gendered process that is messy and uneven, involving the expression of often-brutal physical and social exclusion of individuals through embodied and social violence. Theoretically, the narrative makes visible the careful, painstaking processes of place-making and claiming dignity by men and women in a place represented as a wasteland in the dominant discourse of grand apartheid and the contemporary neoliberal turn in Cape Town.

The book will officially be launched at UD in spring 2019.
In 2018 the Asian Studies program showcased art, music, and culture, plus lectures on international relations, archaeology, and religion. Director of the University of Maryland Korean Percussion Ensemble, Sebastian Wang, offered “Korean Traditional Percussion,” drawing on his studies under the Samul Nori master Kim Duk Soo. Professor Cheng-Chwee Kuik, from the National University of Malaysia, lectured on “Malaysia & East Asian International Relations: An Activist Lilliputian’s Journey.” Professor Julie Nelson Davis from the University of Pennsylvania talked about her new book, *Ukiyo-e in Context*, for the Distinguished Lecture in Japanese Studies, while Professor Inaba Minoru, of Kyoto University and the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies, spoke on “Buddhist Monuments to the West of Afghanistan.” In music, our new colleague Sunmin Yoon offered a course on “The Music of China, Korea and Japan.” Returning from their highly successful concert tour of major concert halls in China with the University of Delaware Symphony Orchestra, the UD Ensemble-In-Residence 6-Wire released a new CD, “6th Sense,” to glowing reviews. Asian Studies co-sponsored the China Town Hall with the Confucius Institute, working with the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations to host a live webcast panel with former National Security Adviser and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Dr. Maura Elizabeth Cunningham, historian of modern China. Vimalin Rujivacharakul co-organized a four-day symposium, “In Search of the Global Impact of Asian Aesthetics on American Art and Material Culture,” held on campus and at Winterthur Museum. Events included an international graduate student workshop, a research symposium of senior scholars and museum curators, and a living repository site featuring presentation recordings and research papers. Speakers came from institutions including the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Guggenheim, MIT, University of London, Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut, and Yale University. In November, Professor Guanghong Chen from Peking University spoke on “An International Metropolis: Shanghai in Perspective” for the UD-Peking University Distinguished Scholar Lecture Series.

**Faculty News**

**Malasree Acharya** (Political Science & International Relations) gave three presentations, at the Annual Conference on South Asia, the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration, and the Zeist-Stiftung Bucerius Foundation Meeting of History-Migration-Transformation. She carried out fieldwork in Greece concerning South Asian migrants crossing the Mediterranean region into Europe, funded by CGAS and the American Political Science Association.


**Xiang Gao** (Music) was honored by a review in *Gramophone*, the prestigious classical music recording magazine. The UD ensemble in residence, 6-WIRE, was hailed for its “unique sound and repertoire,” with Gao’s violin and Cathy Yang’s erhu creating “a fascinating game of contrasts.”

**Rachael Hutchinson** (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) published her “Replaying Japan” conference keynote address in the inaugural *Replaying Japan* journal issue, with contributions by Tom Kalinske, former CEO of Sega, Uemura Masayuki, creator of the NES (Nintendo Famicom) console, and Ken Kuturai, creator of the PlayStation. She was invited to serve on the World Video Game Hall of Fame International Selection Committee, and presented on Japanese videogames at Towson University, the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies conference, the British Association for Japanese Studies conference, Replaying Japan, and the Asian Studies Association of Australia conference.

**Melissa Melby** (Anthropology) presented on new work regarding complementary and alternative medicine in Japan, funded in part by CGAS, at the American Public Health Association conference.

**Ramarayan Rawat** (History) presented a paper at the Dalit Studies International Conference at the Center for the Study of Developing Societies in New Delhi. He co-organized the conference, with participants from India, US, Canada, UK, Europe, and Japan. He presented at the conference, “India’s Political Lexicon in Vernacular,” at the University of Cambridge, UK. He gave a lecture at the European Association of South Asian Studies conference, and co-organized three panels at IRIS/CNRS, EHESS, Paris, on “Caste and the Outcaste.” He presented papers at the Association of Asian Studies Conference and Annual South Asia Conference. A CGAS research grant enabled him to spend three weeks doing research in the British Library, London, and the University Library, Cambridge, for his second book.

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European Studies

Daniel Kinderman
Director
European Studies Program

2018 was another busy year for European Studies faculty and for the European Studies Program at UD. In February and March, Jan-Werner Müller (Princeton) and Mabel Berezin (Cornell) gave talks in the Global Populism lecture series. In November, the Ghanese-Italian film director Fred Kuwornu presented his prize-winning and acclaimed movie/documentary Blaxploitalian and answered questions. In the summer and early fall, we worked on revising the European Studies BA requirements, changing the number of required credits to put the program in line with other Area Studies majors. If approved, these changes will take effect in 2019-2020. European Studies faculty were very productive, so we do not have space for an exhaustive list of Euro Studies faculty accomplishments. Here are just a few highlights.

Faculty News

James Brophy (Francis H. Squire Professor of History) is currently president-elect of the Central European History Society; his term begins in 2019. He co-organized Marx at 200, a Symposium on Karl Marx’s Legacy at the German Historical Institute in Washington D.C. He also gave papers at the International UNESCO Congress held in Trier, Germany; at the Annual Conference of the Consortium for the Revolutionary Era in Philadelphia, and at the American Historical Association, Washington D.C.

Joan Brown (Elias Ahuja Chair of Spanish; Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) chaired a session and delivered a talk in Salamanca at the Nineteenth Century Convention of the Welcome to the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. The session explored depictions of Salamanca in the literature of its native daughter, Carmen Martín Gaite.

Perry Chapman (Art History) published three articles in collected volumes: “Rembrandt’s House and the Making of an Artist” in Künstlerhäuser im Mittelalter und der Frühen Neuzeit as well as “Curiosity and Desire: Rembrandt’s Collection as Historiographic Barometer” in Rembrandt and His Circle and “Rubens, Rembrandt, and the Spousal Model-Muse” in Ut pictura amor: The Reflexive Imagery of Love in Artistic Theory and Practice, 1400-1700. She also presented papers at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, the National Gallery of Art, the Fondazione Giorgio Cini in Venice, and the National Gallery of Ireland.

Daniel Kinderman (Political Science & International Relations) was a visiting professor at the University of Halle-Wittenberg in Germany from June to August. He presented papers at the American Political Science Association meeting, the Council for European Studies, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and the Fourth Annual Philadelphia Europeanists Workshop. He published a co-authored Discussion Paper for the Max-Planck-Institute for the Study of Societies.

John Montano (History, Head of Irish Studies) remarks that thanks to the generous support of CGAS he spent five weeks at archives in England – mostly London – working on a project about the use of violence as a means of communication during the English plantations in Ireland. He published two articles related to this project: “A Frank Exchange of Views: Communicating through Violence in Ireland, 1565-1610” in Études Irlandaises and “Cultural Conflict and the Landscape of Conquest in Early Modern Ireland” in the Canadian Journal of Irish Studies. Montano will be leading students to Dublin and a tour of southwestern Ireland next summer.

Lawrence Nees (H. Fletcher Brown Chair of Humanities, Art History) published four articles in collected volumes: “The ‘Foundation Reliquary’ of Hildesheim and Ornamental Art at the Court of Charlemagne” in A Reservoir of Ideas. Essays in Honour of Paul Williamson as well as “Ernst Kitzinger’s Scholarship and the art of early medieval Western Europe,” in Ernst Kitzinger and the Making of Medieval Art History, “Networks or Schools? Production of illuminated manuscripts and ivories during the reign of Charlemagne” in Charlemagne: les temps, les espaces, les hommes. Construction et déconstruction d’un régime, and “From ancient to medieval books: on reading and illuminating manuscripts in the seventh century,” in Books and Readers in the Pre-Modern World.

Essays in honor of Harry Gamble. He also presented papers at conferences at Princeton, at the CUNY Graduate Center, and at the Stadtbibliothek Trier.

Lauren H. Petersen (Art History and Interim Associate Dean for the Humanities) presented a paper at the Symposium Campanum: Women on the Bay of Naples: Recent Research, held at the Villa Vergiliana in Cuma, Italy. It was a robust conference, complete with a glass-bottom boat ride in Baia for viewing the ancient Roman underwater archaeological park.

Meredith Ray (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) was appointed the winter 2018 Charles Speroni Endowed Chair in Medieval and Renaissance Literature and Culture in the Department of Italian at UCLA.

Laura Salsini (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) co-edited Resistance, Heroism, Loss: World War II in Italian Literature and Film, a collection of essays that examines how the war has been re-envisioned in recent years in Italian cultural production.


Alexander Selimov (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) published a book entitled...
During the 2018 calendar year, Islamic Studies invited two former public officials and experts on Middle Eastern and Islamic affairs to address the community. The first speaker was Graham E. Fuller, former CIA operations officer and Vice Chair of the National Intelligence Council at CIA, as well as the author of a dozen books on the Middle East, regional geopolitics, and Islamic movements, and, more recently, two novels. Dr Fuller spoke on “Geopolitical Forces beneath the Surface in the Middle East.” In the fall the program hosted Mansour Farhang. Dr Farhang briefly served as Iran’s representative to the United Nations following the Islamic Revolution of 1979, was professor of International Relations and Middle Eastern politics at Bennington College until his retirement in 2014 and has long been an advisory board member of Human Rights Watch/Middle East. He presented “Iran and Israel: Intimate Enemies and US Role in the Paradox.” Both events attracted a large audience and stood out for the quality of the presentations and the liveliness of the discussion they sparked. In the spring Islamic Studies also helped organize an exhibit, “Perceived Impressions: Mosaics, Images and Nature,” featuring works by Fariba Amini and Esin Aykanat Avci.

Faculty News

Muqtedar Khan (Political Science). Prof. Muqtedar Khan’s book Islam and Good Governance: Political Philosophy of Ihsan will be published in January 2019 by Palgrave Macmillan and his monograph, Six Drivers of Geopolitics in the Middle East, will be published by the Center for Global Policy in December 2018. He has also published several commissioned essays in the widely-read foreign policy publication, The Navigator: “Memo to Crown Prince Muhammad Bin Salam: Moderate Islam Needs Democracy,” “Erdogan has all the Power: Does he have the answers?,” “Hedging may not help Turkey: Lessons from Pakistan,” and “Israel No Longer the Only Democracy in the Middle East.” Prof. Khan will serve as the Academic Director of the State Department’s National Security Institute, 2018-2019.

Ikram Masmoudi (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) published two articles, “Bare Life in the New Iraq” in the Edinburgh Companion to the Post-Colonial Middle East (Edinburgh University Press, 2018) and “Gender Violence and the Spirit of the Feminine: Two accounts of the Yazidi Tragedy” in the International Journal of Contemporary Iraqi Studies. She spoke at the World Congress of Middle East Studies in Seville on “Gender Violence and the Privatization of Yazidi Rape.” Prof. Masmoudi studied abroad in Granada, Spain, with the UD summer program, as part of her continuing education endeavor in learning Spanish.

Rudi Matthee (John and Dorothy Munro Distinguished Professor of History) published five essays in 2018: “Histroiographical Notes on the Eighteenth Century in Iranian History: Chaos and Decline, Imperial Dreams, or Regional Specificity?”, “Nadir Shah in Iranian Historiography: Warlord or National Hero?”, “The Dutch East India Company and Asian Raw Silk: From Iran to Bengal via China and Vietnam,” “Zar-o Zur: Gold and Force: Safavid Iran as a Tributary Empire,” and “Ancha qahti bar sar-e Safaviya avord” (What Caused Famine in the Safavid Period?). He wrote an introduction to a new edition of Judas T. Krusinski, The History of the Late Revolutions in Persia (1733). Two of his articles came out in Turkish translation and one of his articles was translated into Persian. In June he was invited to London, where he gave a two-hour interview on BBC-Persian. He presented conference papers at meetings in Tbilisi (Georgia), London, Paris, Hamburg, New York, Los Angeles, Irvine, CA, and San Antonio, TX. As President of the Persian Heritage Foundation, he presided over the $10-million donation to Columbia University that enabled the creation of the Ehsan Yarshater Center of Iranian Studies on the Columbia campus.

JEWISH STUDIES

Polly Zavadivker
Director
Chaiken Center for Jewish Studies

The Jewish Studies Program is pleased to share news of its programs and developments over the past year. In April, the Program hosted Holocaust survivor and Cantor David Wisnia, as well as his grandson, Avi Wisnia, for a special concert event for Holocaust Remembrance Week entitled “From Generation to Generation: Remembering the Holocaust Through Story and Song.” Also in April, the Program co-sponsored the Department of History’s Harrington Lecture by renowned historian Natalie Zemon Davis. This lecture, “Languages of the People: A Romanian-Jewish Philologist on Yiddish, Romanian, and French,” touched on Davis’s research on Lazar Ţâineanu (1859-1934), a pioneering philologist and folklorist. In October, the Jewish Studies Program co-sponsored a performance of The Merchant of Venice, Shakespeare’s multi-layered drama about the corrosive impact of anti-Semitism and xenophobia, by Delaware Shakespeare. In November, the Program co-sponsored a documentary screening of My Dear Children: The Untold Story of the Pogroms at the Siegel JCC in Wilmington. In late November, along with the Department of Women & Gender Studies, we hosted Dr. Laura Levitt, Professor of Religion, Jewish Studies, and Gender at Temple University, for a guest lecture. Levitt’s lecture, “The I in my Text: The Politics of Reclaiming a Critical Jewish Feminist Identity in the Present,” served as the official launch event for the new Women and Religion minor.

Jewish Studies Minor Rachel Bohny completed an internship for the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware under the supervision of Professor Roger Horowitz, during the summer. She compiled archival information on the synagogues of Delaware. Her final research essay details the history of Delaware’s oldest Jewish congregation Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth in Wilmington.

Faculty News

Leslie Reidel (Theatre) is continuing to offer his cross-listed course on “The influence of Jews in the development of popular American Culture.” The course began several years ago as an experimental program and is now a regular course offering. He will be on sabbatical leave during the spring term and will be researching new material for the course with a focus on the Holocaust and humor. This interest follows the release last year of the documentary film, The Last Laugh, which examines the question through the eyes of several prominent American humorists, as well as the fascinating responses of two women who were Holocaust survivors. Leslie finds the question of humor in the face of dire circumstances facing Jews particularly compelling, in the wake of the unprecedented rise in anti-Semitic acts in the U.S.

Yda Schreuder (Geography) has published a new book: Amsterdam’s Sephardic Merchants and the Atlantic Sugar Trade in the Seventeenth Century (Palgrave Macmillan 2019). Her book examines the role of Amsterdam’s Sephardic merchants in the westward expansion of sugar production and trade in the seventeenth century through a historical-geographic perspective.

Sarah Wasserman (English) is a regional faculty fellow this year at the Wolf Humanities Center at the University of Pennsylvania. She recently published two pieces of public writing: “My Problem with OOO or, Reflections on a McNugget” appeared on the Stanford Arcade Blog at https://arcade.stanford.edu/blogs/my-problem-ooo-or-reflections-mcnugget. A column on “Digital Intimacies” appeared in the September issue of the L.A.-based fashion magazine, Flaunt. Recent presentations include a talk “On Typography, On Transience” (Cornell) and “How We Write (Well)” at the Annual Conference for the Association for the Study of The Arts of the Present. She completed her book manuscript, The Death of Things: Ephemera in America, and has an article on Ralph Ellison and Chester Himes currently under review. She appears in the documentary film My Dear Children, about the life of Feiga Shamis, a mother of twelve, during the Russian Civil War pogroms, which is screening now at film festivals and on public television nationwide. Recent presentations include “Relics from the Rubble: The Rescue of Jewish Culture in Russia’s First World War” (Stockton University of New Jersey); and “The Witness and Document; Jewish War Writing in the Work of S. Dubnov and S. An-sky” (Yeshiva University). She recently received a planning grant from the Leonid Nevzlin Research Center at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, in support of the conference “Legacies of Pogroms” to be held in May 2019 in New York. Her public writing includes articles in the March, August, and December 2018 issues of J-VOICE magazine Templates.

Polly Zavadivker (History) continues to research Jewish social activism in First World War Russia and has an article currently under review. She appears in the documentary film My Dear Children, about the life of Feiga Shamis, a mother of twelve, during the Russian Civil War pogroms, which is screening now at film festivals and on public television nationwide. Recent presentations include “Relics from the Rubble: The Rescue of Jewish Culture in Russia’s First World War” (Stockton University of New Jersey); and “The Witness and Document; Jewish War Writing in the Work of S. Dubnov and S. An-sky” (Yeshiva University). She recently received a planning grant from the Leonid Nevzlin Research Center at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, in support of the conference “Legacies of Pogroms” to be held in May 2019 in New York. Her public writing includes articles in the March, August, and December 2018 issues of J-VOICE magazine Templates.

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At the start of spring semester, LAIS students and faculty enjoyed several events related to an exhibition by Cuban artist-in-residence Dashel Hernández. In April the Music Department hosted an Argentine choir, Vocal de Cámara; in addition to a performance, the group offered classes in vocal tango. Our faculty organized a mini-film series with screenings linked to several courses. We also hosted talks by Agustín Panizo Jansana, Director of Indigenous Languages and Interculturality of the Ministry of Culture of Peru (on “The building of the multilingual State: Linguistic rights of indigenous peoples in Peru”) and by Theresa Williamson of the Rio de Janeiro NGO Catalytic Communities (on “Rio’s Pavels as Models of Sustainability”).

This fall Mary Leonard of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez offered a film screening and a lecture on “Cinema of the Crisis: Feminist and Queer Filmmaking in Puerto Rico in 2018.” Dietician and Fulbright scholar Dan Fenyevesi gave a presentation on “Food, Culture, and Obesity in Nicaragua.” LAIS is excited to be re-launching the online journal DeRLAS (Delaware Review of Latin American Studies) under the editorial leadership of Asima Saad Maura.

### Faculty News

**Joan Brown** (Elias Ahuja Chair of Spanish; Languages, Literatures, and Cultures), delivered an invited talk at Harvard’s Cervantes Institute, discussing the future of graduate education in Hispanic Studies. She also chaired a session and delivered a paper at the AATSP Centennial convention in Salamanca.

**Eve Buckley** (History) has been awarded the 2018 Humanities Book Prize by the Brazil Section of the Latin American Studies Association and Honorable Mention from the Warren Dean prize committee of the Conference on Latin American History, for *Technocrats and the Politics of Drought and Development in Twentieth Century Brazil* (University of North Carolina Press). She published a contribution to the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History*, participated in round tables at the Agricultural History Society and History of Science Society annual meetings, and presented at a symposium held at the University of Washington.


**Jesús Cruz** (History) published “Lifestyles: Cities, Towns, and Villages” in *A New History of Modern Spain: Chronologies, Themes, Individuals*, and “El papel de la música en la configuración de la esfera pública durante la época Isabelina. Ideas y pautas de investigación” in *Cuadernos de Música Iberoamericana*. He participated in a round table at the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies.

**Mónica Domínguez Torres** (Art History) received a Renaissance Society of America/ Samuel H. Kress Mid-Career Research Fellowship to conduct research in Spain for her upcoming book *Pearls for the Crown: European Courtly Art and the Atlantic Pearl Trade, 1498-1728*. Her essay “*Nel più rico paese del Mondo*: Cabagua Island as an Epicenter of the Early Atlantic ‘Trade’” was published in *Circulación: Movement of Ideas, Art and People in Spanish America*. She presented papers at the International Congress of Americanists and the College Art Association Annual Conference.

**Carla Guerrón-Montero** (Anthropology) published “Plural Citizenship and Social Inclusion in Brazil’s Urban Communities of Practice” in *Communities of Practice in Global Sustainability*; “Women Sustaining Community: The Politics of Agro-Ecology in Quilombo Tourism in Southern Brazil” in the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*; and “A Critical Look at the State of Tourism Studies in Anthropology in Latin America and the Caribbean” in *Tourism Analysis*. She also presented research at national and international conferences and was appointed Chair of the Greater Philadelphia Latin American Studies Consortium (GPLASC), Program Chair of the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, and Member of the Executive Board of the American Anthropological Association (AAA).

**Silvina Frydlewsky**

During her research sabbatical, **Asima Saad Maura** (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) participated in the Biennial Conference of the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry in Seville. She also visited numerous archives and libraries. In Mexico she found a 1597 manuscript about Bernardo de Balbuen.
In The Words of our Researchers
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were as a direct consequence to the interviews I conducted in Manila. This research also helped me teach ARSC 300 on Failed and Failing States and Good Governance, a new class on Good Governance, and my graduate seminar on Failed States and Good Governance. I am grateful to CGAS for continuing to support faculty research in Area Studies.

German Business Elites in an Age of Resurgent Nationalism and Authoritarian Populism. Daniel Kinderman, Political Science & International Relations, European Studies. 2017 grant recipient

The CGAS grant enabled me to fly to Germany to investigate how German business elites are responding to right-wing populism. I traveled to cities including Berlin, Bonn, Cologne, Düsseldorf, Dortmund, Frankfurt, and Munich, and conducted twenty-three interviews with leading officials from German business associations, employers’ associations, and companies. Summer 2017 was an interesting time for me to conduct this research. German companies were grappling with the transformations wrought by Brexit and Trump, but the right-wing populist AfD had not yet been elected to the German Bundestag. It was fascinating to hear how German business elites understood the situation and how they responded to it. Some perceived right-wing populism to be a significant threat and founded campaigns to critique these populists and support the embattled EU. Others downplayed the danger and failed to take collective action in response to this threat. I have presented this research at several conferences; I am preparing an article to submit for publication and am currently active in their planning work in the field of nutrition. The work I continue to engage in with people I met on this trip is helpful in enhancing the global awareness and academic scope of the Program of Nutrition at UD and in strengthening the creation of linkages with African institutions through which students can participate in Public Health field research training in Africa.

Jewish Humanitarianism in Russia’s Great War and Revolution. Polly Zavadivker, History, Jewish Studies. 2017 grant recipient

I used the grant to offset expenses of conducting seven days of archival research in St. Petersburg for my current book project, Jewish Humanitarianism in Russia’s Great War and Revolution, 1914–1921. This project examines Jewish humanitarian work in the lands of the Russian Empire during the First World War and Civil War. It describes how during years of continuous war and revolutionary upheaval in Russia from 1914 to 1921, Russian Jews led the largest war relief campaign ever undertaken to that time in Jewish history. They established large aid organizations at the home front that helped nearly 300,000 Jewish civilians in Russia’s western front zones.

The major finding of this study is that the legacy of the Russian Jews’ wartime humanitarian campaign outlasted the collapse of the Russian Empire. Even after the consolidation of Soviet political authority in early 1920, Jewish aid workers continued to use the methods they learned from the last Jews of the Russian Empire, while adapting them to suit the demands of the new Soviet political and cultural context. While scholarship of imperial Russian Jewry typically ends with the year 1914 or 1917, here I seek to bridge the history of the last imperial Russian Jews to that of the first Soviet Jews.

Beauty Matters: The Disenfranchisement of Women and the Cosmetological Field of Medicine. Cristina Guardiola-Griffiths, Languages, Literatures & Cultures; Latin American & Iberian Studies. 2016 Grant Recipient

While researching in the National Library of Spain I came across a 17th-century manuscript that gives “proven diverse recipes” for a variety of household products, ranging from eye ointments to perfumes to marzipan. While of a later date than the medieval manuscripts on which I focus for my book project, it proves a continued female presence within a cosmetic production. I hope to demonstrate that despite the growth of cosmetics within the purview of medical (and therefore masculine) practice, women still produced and traded these goods for their personal and public profit. By cataloguing the recipes found within, and comparing them to those found in earlier manuscripts, I can posit their domestic use and suggest a continued female readership (if not a female authorship) contributing to the growth of the cosmetic branch of medicine within the medieval and early modern world.


Thanks to support from CGAS, I was able to make significant progress on a project investigating early Cold War debates about the problem of overpopulation, with a particular focus on the work and writing of Brazilian nutritionist Josué de Castro. He was a prolific writer and public intellectual who led the U.N. FAO’s (Food and Agriculture Organization’s) executive council from 1951 to 1955. I visited the UN FAO’s library in Rome to consult reports from global nutrition conferences held during the years surrounding Josué de Castro’s tenure as chair of their Executive Council. I also spent three weeks at the Fundação Joaquim Nabuco in Recife, Brazil, examining the personal papers of Josué de Castro. While in Recife I met with history graduate students...
at the Universidade Federal de Pernambuco and gave a talk at the Universidade Católica de Pernambuco. I am submitting an article version of that lecture for inclusion in a volume produced by their graduate program. Back at UD I presented some highlights from my research findings to the Geography Department.

Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Its Impact on the Textile and Apparel Supply Chain in the Asia-Pacific Region. Sheng Lu, Fashion and Apparel Studies. 2016 grant recipient

With the support of the CGAS research grant, I attended the 2016 Sourcing at Magic Exhibition and conducted ten in-depth interviews with executives from leading textile and apparel (T&A) companies, T&A trade policymakers, and leaders from leading T&A trade associations. Through these interviews, I collected valuable qualitative data for my research project. I also did a detailed textual analysis of the 6,000-page Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement and identified critical clauses in the agreement that are relevant to the textile and apparel sector. Based on the Global Trade Analysis Project computable general equilibrium models, I further quantitatively analyzed the potential impact of the TPP on the U.S. textile and apparel industry. This research resulted in two conference papers and four articles in scholarly and trade journals. The paper that I presented at the International Textile and Apparel Association won a Paper of Distinction Award and I also obtained an external grant from Aroq Limited (just-style.com).


The CGAS grant was for travel to Alaska to use archival materials in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and in native centers on Kodiak Island and Unalaska. I am grateful for your support for an intense and enriching trip, with information and perspectives that fully seeped into my chapter on Alaska Natives in California Bound: The History of Slavery in California and the American West (Yale University, forthcoming January 1, 2019). I began by reviewing the University of Alaska, Fairbanks’ extensive holdings of the Russian invasion, and then traveled to Anchorage to visit the archives of the Pribylof Native Association and the collections at the Smithsonian Arctic Circle Branch. The final research was to spend time near Homer with Alaska Natives picking ice cranberries and salmon and halibut fishing. It was here that I heard personal narratives of descendants of survivors of those few who had managed to return from California. It is difficult to quantify what I learned and discovered those two weeks. These stories shaped my understanding of the horrific and legal disruption by captivity and removal of many young people from sixty tribes spread out across an island chain of a thousand miles, whose descendants endured in part because of their knowledge of the land, their skills, and their commitment to preserving tribal traditions yet now rooting them in modern pressures (out-migration for work, compromises with oil and mining for jobs, and tourism).

Asian Studies Faculty News

Chandra Reedy (Art) taught a week-long workshop on ceramic analysis in Siem Reap, Cambodia, with twenty students from Cambodia, Viet Nam, Myanmar, and Thailand. The workshop was funded by the Luce Foundation and the Friends of Khmer Art, in collaboration with Cambodia’s APSARA Authority, the Freer and Sackler Galleries of Asian Art, University of Arizona, and U.S. National Park Service. Prof. Reedy published two papers, in Indology’s Pulse: Arts in Context and the 2018 International Symposium on Ancient Ceramics – Its Scientific and Technological Insights. Presentations included an invited paper at the Freer and Sackler Galleries of Asian Art in Washington DC and an invited lecture at the Beijing University of Science and Technology.

Vikramaditya Thakur (Anthropology) launched his co-authored book Ground Down by Growth: Tribe, Caste, Class and Inequality in 21st Century India with a symposium at UD, with senior UD and external faculty discussing the book.

Yuanchong Wang (History) published his first book, Remaking the Chinese Empire: Manchu-Korean Relations, 1616-1911, with Cornell University Press. He gave a talk on his experiences in North Korea for the UD Asian Studies lecture series in fall.

Haihong Yang (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) presented at the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies conference and the New England Region Association for Asian Studies conference.

European Studies Faculty News


Deborah Steinberger (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) published three articles: “Le Parnasse au féminin dans les Nouvelles nouvelles de Données de Vis” in Papers on Seventeenth Century French Literature, “Un nain géant: Le Mercure Galant devant ses critiques” in Mineurs, minorités, marginalités au Grand Siècle, and “Le Théâtre ‘classique’ de Danièle Sallenave” in Danièle Sallenave, une écriture impliquée, une œuvre opinant. She also participated in an international colloquium at Oxford University.

Bruno Thibault (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) co-edited a volume of essays, Danièle Sallenave: une écriture impliquée. Danièle Sallenave is a contemporary French novelist, essayist and playwright. The essays focus on Danièle Sallenave’s ethics, politics, and poetics. A couple of essays focus on her vision of France within the European Union.
The world is in motion. Since 2015, almost 2 million refugees have landed on the coasts of Italy and Greece in states of increasing precarity, while demonstrating resilience when improvising their journeys into Europe. Movements are seen globally, from caravans crossing Mexico to movements across the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. This ground-breaking series ‘maps’ the global migration net through the journeys of clandestine migrants from their point of view, inviting researchers, humanitarians, policymakers, artists, and entrepreneurs to share field experiences. Hearing voices through real-time feeds, we will meet brave individuals around the world recounting their journeys, where technology connects us as global citizens. We will work together to relinquish borders by taking a positive look at agency and exploring the ‘joys’ of standing firm in the face of uncertainty - empowering when disempowered as we settle into motion global networks that govern our worlds.

CENTER FOR GLOBAL AND AREA STUDIES
309 McKinley Lab • Newark, DE 19716
(302) 831 - 3202 • www.cgas.udel.edu

Please direct your inquiries to Professor Malasree Neepa Acharya • macharya@udel.edu