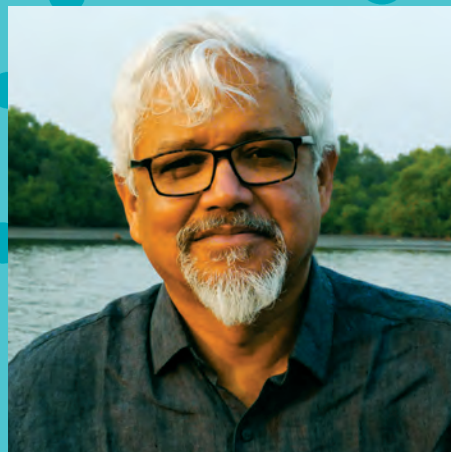
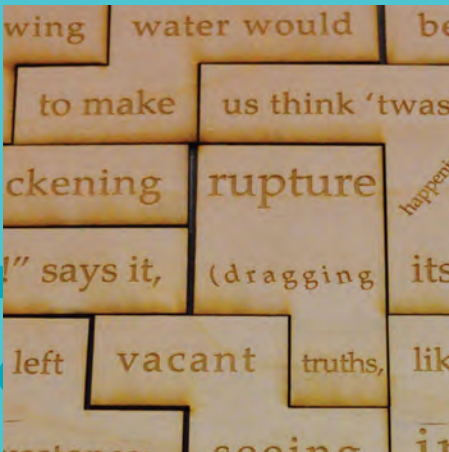
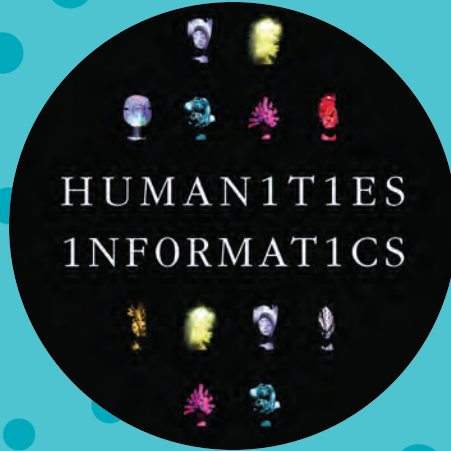


2017-2018

Annual Report



- 1 From the Director
- 2 About the IHGC
- 3 Mellon Humanities Fellows Program
- 6 Distinguished Speakers
- 9 Symposia/Workshops/Conferences
- 14 Co-Sponsored Events
- 15 Amitav Ghosh and Deborah Baker,
Writers-in-Residence 2017-18
- 16 Achille Mbembe
- 17 Humanities Week 2018:
“Civil Resistance”
- 18 IHGC Humanities Labs
- 24 Graduate Research Labs
- 25 Bologna Academy
- 26 CHCI 2018 Annual Meeting:
“Humanities Informatics”
- 27 Clay Faculty and Graduate Fellows
- 29 Partnerships & Collaborations
- 30 IHGC Impact in 2017-18
- 32 IHGC Advisory Board

IHGC | Institute of the Humanities
& Global Cultures

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA | COLLEGE and GRADUATE SCHOOL
of ARTS & SCIENCES

THE ANDREW W.
MELLON
FOUNDATION

Front cover

Top row, left to right

Deborah Baker, IHGC 2018 Distinguished Writer-in-Residence
The “Humanities Informatics” Lab and CHCI conference were
central to many IHGC activities in 2017-18

Solange Bumbaugh of American University, visiting scholar to the
Religious & Cultural Pluralism Lab

Middle row, left to right

IHGC Distinguished Visiting Scholar Achille Mbembe, University
of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

Public Humanities PhD Student Lab members: Alison Glassie
& Noah, Lara Musser, Kelli Shermeyer, Samantha Wallace,
Christian Howard, James Ascher, and DeVan Ard

Humanities Week’s sticker and logo—“Civil Resistance”—
designed by student Chair Emma Hendrix

Bottom row, left to right

Pentomino sonnet puzzle made by “Puzzle Poetry” students in the
Humanities Informatics Lab

Amitav Ghosh, IHGC 2018 Distinguished Writer-in-Residence
UVA’s centerpiece, The Rotunda on the Lawn

From the Director



Debjani Ganguly
IHGC Director and Professor of
English, University of Virginia

Our Fall semester began under the shadow of the infamous Neo-Nazi march on our Grounds and Lawn on August 11, 2017. As we gathered ourselves and confronted the vileness we witnessed, we remembered the generative work that humanists have carried out in dark times. Our labor nourishes the minds and hearts of future generations. We preserve records of previous habitations. We understand and assemble pasts, presents, and futures anew. We imagine spaces and topographies before and after they acquire materiality. We are moved to transform mores and norms through deep reflection. We offer informed hope that humans have more in common than deranged politicians and hate-filled ideologues are willing to allow. In a world so saturated with violence, and so bereft of ethical conduct, the pursuit of the humanities is not a luxury. It is our moral compass and a reminder of our common humanity.

Our journey this year has been painful, sobering, and invigorating in turns. Shocking as the far-right violence was, it offered us an opportunity to reckon with America's history of racial violence and its resurgence in the past eighteen months. Historians, philosophers, ethicists, political theorists, legal scholars, musicologists, art historians, and literary critics engaged our students and publics throughout the year with class sit-ins, symposia, forums, public lectures, and pedagogical initiatives that addressed ethno-nationalisms, racial violence, legacies of slavery, refugee movements, neo-fascism, and militarization of global public spheres.

We were inspired by the work of our undergraduate students who built our annual *Humanities Week* around the theme of "Civil Resistance." We heard compelling talks by Nicholas Kristof, Timothy Snyder, Achille Mbembe, Sarah Nuttall, Dilip Menon, Prathama Banerjee, Geoff Eley, Amitav Ghosh, Deborah Baker, Roy Scranton, Wendy Chun, and Premesh Lalu. Another highlight was a graduate-led initiative on "Irrationality and the Contemporary," which offered insights into the rise of extreme partisanship and the lamentable decline of rational deliberation on important global issues such as climate change, forced migrations, the rise of populism, and the increasing visibility of authoritarian leaders. As a reminder of the long history of such deadly polarization, often along color lines, graduate alumni of the Academy of Global Humanities and Critical Theory (a collaborative enterprise led by UVA, Bologna, and Duke) convened a conference on "Race and Division of Labor in Global Western Empires, 1791-1888."

Our Institute was fortunate to benefit from the Spring residencies of the distinguished novelist, Amitav Ghosh, and Deborah Baker, writer of creative non-fiction. Their talks, conversations, and informal engagements with faculty and students on issues of climate change, global migrations, and global wars were cathartic and inspiring. We look forward to welcoming them again in Spring 2019.

The IHGC's experimental foray into new areas of interdisciplinary work through our various laboratories has greatly enriched our intellectual *milieu*. Scholars of Classics and Religious Studies now lead a Lab on "Religious and Cultural Pluralism in Pre-Modern Mediterranean Worlds." Another Lab on "Humanities Informatics" surges ahead with experimental work on algorithms, artificial intelligence, social media, surveillance technologies, smart environments, and big data. Even as I write, we are putting finishing touches to a major international conference on this very topic that the IHGC is hosting from June 13-17 on behalf of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI). Around 200 humanities scholars from around the world will assemble on the Grounds of UVA. A fitting *riposte* to the vile march with which the year began, and a truly rewarding culmination of our collaborative labor.

— Debjani Ganguly, *IHGC Director and Professor of English, University of Virginia*

About the IHGC

Located on the historic grounds of the University of Virginia, the **Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures** (IHGC) fosters a community of scholars attuned to the global calling

of the humanities in the 21st century. The humanities today are oriented toward generating new universals of human belonging as they negotiate vast terrains of cultural difference. The “human” in the humanities is indelibly colored by the *ethnos* of the global others, even as it strives to articulate its provenance through a language of the commons in the name of our planetary fragility and a post-human consciousness. This shift offers unprecedented opportunities to rethink the very fundamentals of our humanistic disciplines, a task that the IHGC undertakes in all earnest.

The Institute’s mission gives new meaning to Thomas Jefferson’s founding vision for the University of Virginia as “the future bulwark of the human mind in this hemisphere.”

In partnership with Centers from around the world, the Institute assembles leading scholars to discuss the present state and future prospects of the humanities: methods of research and circumstances of teaching, institutional openings and constraints, self-assessments, and proposals for new engagements.

Supported by the Buckner Clay Endowment and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the IHGC promotes research and experimental pedagogy on the Global South, Climate Change and the Environment, Human Rights and the Post-Human Turn, Media Ecologies and Technology, War, Violence and Humanitarianism, Comparative Religions, Pre-modern and Early Modern Global Cultures, and Oceanic Connections. The Institute hosts laboratories that advance scholarship in these areas. Led by senior researchers, these labs foster vertical integration of undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, librarians, curators, and technologists around teaching and research initiatives, while at the same time developing horizontal links across multiple disciplines, both cognate and distant. They engage with institutions, both nationally and internationally, and serve as critical sites for training undergraduate and graduate students to embrace the new exigencies of a complex and rapidly changing 21st-century world, both *productively* (with complex collaborative intellectual and practical skills) and *humanely* (with nuanced intercultural knowledge and imagination).

The humanities serve to define our world in myriad ways: through its intellectual and cultural aspirations, its aesthetic values, its comprehension of the past that formed it, and its political, ethical, and theological dilemmas. With an enduring commitment to the humanities as both a domain of research innovation and an idiom of institutional self-scrutiny, the IHGC seeks to play a meaningful role in shaping humanities scholarship on the global stage, and in fostering democratic cultures of learning locally and nationally.



Mellon Humanities Fellows Program

The Mellon Humanities Fellows Program is part of a broad multi-year initiative on

The Global South: An Agenda for Advanced Research and Curricular Innovation in the Humanities (2015–2020), funded in partnership by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. The funding supports a faculty Fellowship program, Humanities Labs, new faculty hires, new courses and research focused on the connected histories and cultures of Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Central Asia, South and South East Asia. The idea of the Global South refers both to a post-Cold War cartographic conception that embraces Africa, Latin America, Asia, including parts of the Middle East and the Pacific Islands, and spaces shaped by global histories of capitalism, empire, race and diaspora

2017-18 Fellows

Nizar Hermes

Associate Professor, Department of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Cultures

Of Cities and the Poetic Imagination in the Premodern and Precolonial Maghrib, 9th–19th Centuries AD

Hermes' project addresses the poetic configuration of the city in the unduly neglected poetry of premodern and precolonial North Africa—hereafter the Maghrib. By exploring the poetic (re) construction, (mis)representation, and (mis)interpretation of *al-mad na* (the city), the study sheds critical light on the ways in which premodern Maghribi poets constructed idealized and demonized images of their home, host, and rival cities.

William Hitchcock

Professor, Corcoran Department of History

Refugee Century: An International History

Hitchcock's project explores the reasons for the surge in refugees around the world in the past century by adopting a historical approach. He is interested in posing a few questions that require fresh research to answer: how do states and governments of the wealthy western world "see" refugees? Have western/northern states constructed a political regime to contain and perhaps regularize the global refugee problem? If so, how, when, where was such a regime constructed? How have states interacted with international organizations and NGOs (the UN on the one hand and NGOs such as the International Rescue Committee on the other)? What is the global division of labor? How has global refugee policy been shaped by the international politics of war?

Murad Idris

Assistant Professor, Department of Politics

The Travels of Islamic Philosophy:

The Global Afterlives of Ibn Tufayl's Hayy ibn Yaqzān, 17th c. – 21st c.

Idris has been researching and writing a new monograph exploring the mobile life and afterlives of a single classical Arabic philosophical text as it traveled across Asia, Africa, and Europe. In six chapters, it will examine modern editions and translations of Ibn Tufayl's 12th-century allegory,



top to bottom

Nizar Hermes

William Hitchcock

Murad Idris

Hayy ibn Yaqzān, from 1671 to the present. *Hayy ibn Yaqzān* narrates the story of a boy on an island; he is raised by a doe, eventually attains knowledge of God, and attempts to spread this knowledge. There are over 25 extant modern Arabic editions, some scholarly and some popular of this text. It was translated into over 15 languages, including all major European languages, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, Malay, Turkish, and Urdu. The 17th-century journey of this allegory to Europe is well-documented, but its global itinerary beyond Europe has been neglected. This project gathers these texts: the allegory's modern Arabic editions, its modern non-European translations, and its European reception history.

Christopher Krentz

Associate Professor, Department of English and American Sign Language Program

Unexpected Kinship: *Disability and Human Rights in the Literature of the Global South*

Krentz has used his fellowship to complete his book manuscript, *Unexpected Kinship*, which studies the vibrant literature of the Global South, which contains many figures of disability who not only propel their narratives forward, but also do intricate cultural work. These characters may reflect the reality that, according to the United Nations, most of the world's disabled people live in developing countries, but authors also deploy characters with these exceptional bodies to signify on a countless number of topics.



Christina Mobley

Assistant Professor, Corcoran Department of History

The Kongolese Atlantic: *The Central African History of the Haitian Revolution*

With this fellowship, Mobley has worked to complete her monograph, *The Kongolese Atlantic*, which tells the remarkable history of Mwana and the more than 300,000 other Kongolese men, women, and children who survived slavery in Saint Domingue, won the only successful slave revolution in history—the Haitian Revolution (1791-1804)—and founded the first black republic, Haiti. Historians have yet to understand the social and cultural history of this important group of people who founded post-independence Haitian society. What was the social and cultural impact of the Kongolese in Saint Domingue? How did Central African men and women use Kongolese knowledge and spiritual technologies to mediate the experience of slavery on both sides of the Atlantic world? She analyzes the Haitian Revolution through the African history of the enslaved revolutionaries. The principal argument of her work is that in order to study the social and cultural history of Africans in the Atlantic world, historians must first understand their lives in Africa: who they were, where they came from, and what cultural tools they brought with them across the Atlantic Ocean.



Charlotte Rogers

Assistant Professor, Department of Spanish, Italian & Portuguese

Savage Storms in Literature of the Americas

The Fellowship has enabled Rogers to work on her book *Savage Storms*, which seeks to answer the following question: What role do tropical cyclones play in literatures and cultures of the Americas? She argues that storms are a disruptive, destabilizing force in twentieth-century narratives written in English, French and Spanish. They are environmentally catastrophic, producing major changes in landscapes and ecosystems. Storms have similarly tumultuous effects on humans, rending social, familial and political fabrics. They provoke migration and create diasporas, often exacerbating inequalities and sometimes encouraging community solidarity. *Savage Storms* is a new research project that enters into dialogue with several of the categories established by the Mellon Humanities Fellows Program: oceanic connections, diaspora, literary works and the effects of climate change lie at the heart of this project.

top to bottom

Christopher Krentz

Christina Mobley

Charlotte Rogers

Mellon Fellows Symposia

Fall 2017

September 22

Michael Allen

Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies

"On Weakness of Will: A Nyāya Approach to the Environmental Humanities"

Jessica Andrus

Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies

"An Arabic Poetics of the Hebrew Bible: Thinking About Metaphor in Medieval Jerusalem"

Andrej Petrovic

Professor, Department of Classics

"Concept of Belief in Greek Religion"

Spring 2018

February 16

Nizar Hermes

Associate Professor, Department of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Cultures

"Ibn Sharaf (d. 1067)'s Elegy for the City of Qayrawan"

Christina Mobley

Assistant Professor, Corcoran Department of History

"Vodou History: the Kongo History of the Haitian Revolution"

Murad Idris

Assistant Professor, Department of Politics

"Reading Ibn Tufayl in the Modern Middle East: Philosophy, Colonialism, and Political Fantasies"

April 20

Charlotte Rogers

Assistant Professor, Department of Spanish, Italian & Portuguese

"El ciclón: An Ecocritical Approach to the Hurricane in Gabriel García Márquez's *The Autumn of the Patriarch*"

William Hitchcock

Professor, Corcoran Department of History

"Constructing Refugees: The Hungarians of 1956"

Christopher Krentz

Associate Professor, Department of English and American Sign Language Program

"War, Neoliberalism, and Disability Human Rights in Two Chris Abani Novels"

2018-19 Fellows Mellon Humanities Program

Paul Dobryden

Assistant Professor, Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures

PROJECT. "Energetic Media: Thermodynamics and the German Avant-Garde"
SYMPOSIUM. "Cinema and Infrastructure"

Mathew Hedstrom

Associate Professor, American Studies Program and Department of Religious Studies

PROJECT. "Religion of Humanity: Spirituality, Politics and the United Nations"
WORKSHOP/PUBLIC LECTURE. "Religion, Democracy, Cosmopolitanism"

Aynne Kokas

Assistant Professor, Department of Media Studies

PROJECT. "Border Patrol on the Digital Frontier: China, US and the Global Battle for Data Security"
SYMPOSIUM (HALF DAY). "Digital Borders in the US-China Relationship"

Jennifer Rubenstein

Associate Professor, Department of Politics

PROJECT. "The Politics of Emergency Claim-Making and its Alternatives"
WORKSHOP. "Emergencies and Beyond"

Samhita Sunya

Assistant Professor, Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Cultures

PROJECT. "South by South/West Asia: Transregional Cartographies of Cinematic Action Genres"
WORKSHOP. "Formal Ecologies: South-South Aesthetics in Motion"

Jarret Zigon

William and Linda Porterfield Chair in Biomedical Ethics and Professor, Department of Anthropology

PROJECT. "Moral-Political Subjectivity in the Global HIV/AIDS Pandemic"
WORKSHOP. "Current Opioid Crisis or Justice in Healthcare & Incarceration"

Shankar Nair

Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies

PROJECT. "Hindu-Muslim Cosmopolitan Cultures in Early Modern South Asia"
WORKSHOP. "Comparative Approaches to Translation" (could be part of the Asian Cosmopolitanism Lab)

Ricardo Padron

Associate Professor, Department of Spanish, Italian & Portuguese

PROJECT. "Boxer Codex: Colonial Spanish Empire in South East Asia"
WORKSHOP. "Boxer Codex: Colonial Spanish Empire in South East Asia"

Distinguished Speakers

Our Distinguished Speakers Series brings humanities scholars from around the world

to the University of Virginia. While most visitors present a public lecture, many of these scholars also give generously of their time, participating in interdisciplinary colloquia, offering graduate workshops, and meeting with faculty and students alike. 2017-18 included a remarkably diverse and accomplished set of visitors, sparking conversations and sharing exciting research that continue to benefit the intellectual community across UVA.

Poulomi Saha

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of California, Berkeley

"Dropped Stitches: Fabrics of Life and the Gendered Production of Postcolonial Bangladesh"

November 3, 2017

Sarah Nuttall

Director, WISER, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

"The Planetary and the Posthuman: Perspectives from African Theory, Fiction and Art"

November 6, 2017

Isabel Hofmeyr

Professor of African Literature and Indian Ocean Cultures, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

"Hydrocolonialisms and Indian Ocean Worlds"

November 17, 2017

Alan Yuille

Bloomberg Distinguished Professor, Department of Cognitive and Computer Science, Johns Hopkins University

"Representing Objects by Binary Visual Concept Encoding"

November 17, 2017

Joshua Reeves

Assistant Professor, New Media Communications, Oregon State University

"Killer Apps: Military Surveillance and Media Escalation"

February 1, 2018

Patricia Gherovici

Psychoanalyst and Analytic Supervisor, Philadelphia and New York; Co-Founder and Director, Philadelphia Lacan Group; and, Associate Faculty, Psychoanalytic Studies Minor, University of Pennsylvania

"Psychoanalysis in El Barrio"

February 16, 2018

Geoff Eley

Karl Pohrt Distinguished University Professor of Contemporary History, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

"Fascism and Anti-Fascism: 1920–2020"

February 19, 2018


Edward Baptist

Professor of History, Cornell University

"The Great Enclosure of People and Accumulation of Dark Capital, 1500–1900"

March 16, 2018

**KILLER APPS:
MILITARY SURVEILLANCE
& MEDIA ESCALATION**

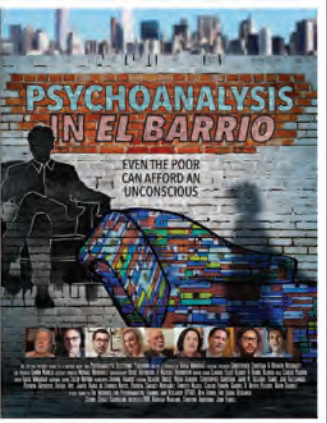


JOSHUA REEVES
Assistant Professor, New Media Communications, Oregon State University

Lecture: Thursday, February 1st
Wilson Hall 142 | 6:00 PM

Workshop: Friday, February 2nd
Wilson Hall 142 | 12:00 PM

IHGC Institute of the Humanities & Global Cultures




2-5 PM

Wilson Hall 142


Friday Feb. 16

A screening of
PSYCHOANALYSIS IN EL BARRIO
with Dr. Patricia Gherovici,
psychanalyst and analytic supervisor
author of *THE PUERTO RICAN SYNDROME* (2013) and
TRANSGENDER PSYCHOANALYSIS: A LACANIAN PERSPECTIVE ON SEXUAL DIFFERENCE (2017)



IHGC Institute of the Humanities & Global Cultures

GEOFF ELEY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
"CURRENT THINKING ABOUT NATIONALISM"
Monday, February 19, 2018
New Cabell Hall 236 12:00-1:30 PM
Workshop



Lunch will be provided. RSVP to
**Rachel Cressell at
rcc4dp@virginia.edu**

Cosponsored by the Page Barbour Fund of the College of Arts and Sciences, Center for German Studies, Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures, East Asia Center, Department of German and Concordia Department of History

1	2	3
---	---	---

- 1 Poster for Oregon State visiting professor Joshua Reeves' talk on drones, surveillance, and the media, in the Humanities Informatics Lab.
- 2 Poster for visiting Philadelphia/New York psychoanalyst Patricia Gherovici's film screening and lecture on psychoanalysis studies in Latino/a cultures.
- 3 Poster for Michigan professor Geoff Eley's workshop and public lecture on fascism, anti-fascism, and nationalism.

Baidik Bhattacharya

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Delhi

"In the Land of the Diamond King: Nation, Sovereignty and the University in Contemporary India"
March 22, 2018

Brinda Bose

Professor, Centre for English Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

"Beyond the Barricade"
March 23, 2018

Premesh Lalu

Director, The Centre for Humanities Research, University of Western Cape, South Africa

"The Humanities Without Which..."
March 23, 2018

Deborah Baker

IHGC Distinguished Writer-in-Residence

"Tricks of Perspective: Reimagining the Second World War Narrative"
April 3, 2018

Shoshana Magnet

Assistant Professor, Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies & Department of Criminology, University of Ottawa

"Affective Technologies: Gender, Race, and Behavioral Biometrics"
April 5, 2018

Rosanne Kennedy

Associate Professor of Literature, Australian National University

"Reading Redacted Testimony: From Guantanamo Diary to Nauru Files"
April 13, 2018

NEW URBAN WORLDS WORKSHOP

FEATURING ABDOUMALIQ SIMONE

WORKSHOP
WILSON 142
04.16.18
10AM - 12NOON



Salvador Bahia, intentionally blurred. Photo by AbdouMaliq Simone.



1	2
	3

- 1 Poster for AbdouMaliq Simone's talk in the "New Urban Worlds" workshop
- 2 Amitav Ghosh
- 3 Wendy Hui Kyong Chun

Andrew Demshuk

Assistant Professor, Department of History, American University

"Germans Expelled from Poland After World War II"

April 13, 2018

Carl Bon Tempo

Associate Professor, Department of History, SUNY-Albany

"Cold War Refugees: Writing the History of US Policy"

April 13, 2018

AbdouMaliq Simone

Research Professor, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Berlin

"New Urban Worlds: Inhabiting Dissonant Times"

April 16, 2018

Amitav Ghosh

IHGC Distinguished Writer-in-Residence

"The Great Uprooting: Migration and Movement in the Age of Climate Change"

April 23, 2018

Katherine Bode

Associate Professor, Digital Humanities and Literature, Australian National University

"The Future of Literary History: Mass Digitized Collections, Literary Data and American Fiction in the Antipodes"

April 24, 2018

Roy Scranton

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Notre Dame

"Learning to Die in the Anthropocene: Roy Scranton in Conversation with Amitav Ghosh"

April 27, 2018

Wendy Hui Kyong Chun

Professor of Modern Culture and Media, Brown University

"Proxy Politics: From Global Climate Change to Racial Politics"

May 4, 2018

Symposia | Workshops | Conferences

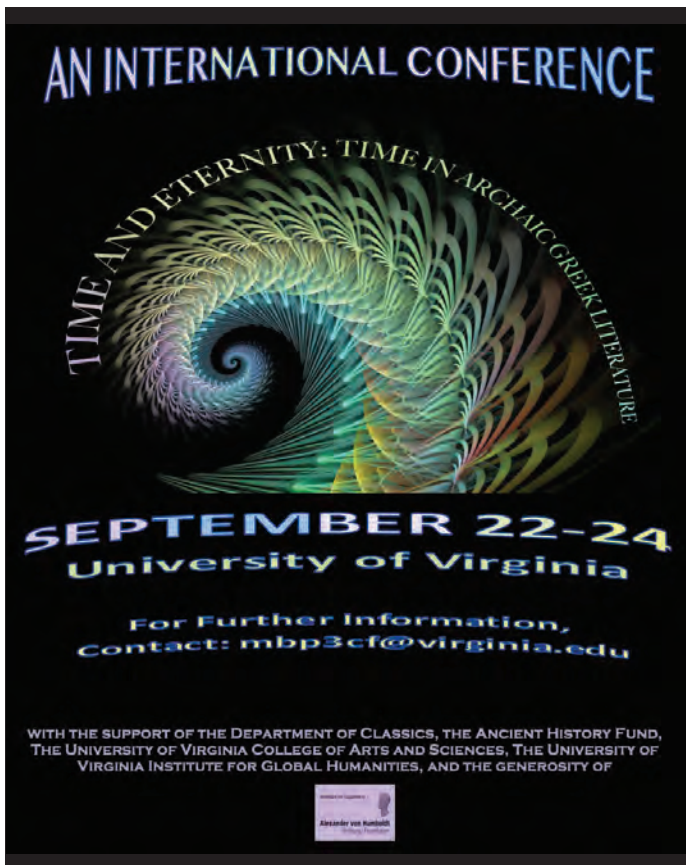
Fall 2017

Time and Eternity *The Conception of Time in Archaic Greek Literature*

September 22-24

CONVENED BY: Jenny Strauss Clay, *Classics*

Time is a central concept to both the human existence and the narrative art. Literary reflections on time begin with the literature of the archaic age. The Greeks were the first to compose narratives and explore their laws regarding the representation and ordering of time. This conference explored how the past and future are conceptualized in different literary genres in archaic literature, as well as what we can learn more generally from studying these issues on the relationship between time and texts.



1	2	3
	4	5

- 1 Poster for AbdouMaliq Simone’s talk in the “New Urban Worlds” workshop.
- 2 Jessica Andruss presents her research on Arabic Poetics to colleagues.
- 3 Classics professor Andrej Petrovic presents his work to colleagues.
- 4 Religious Studies professor Michael Allen speaks on environmental humanities.
- 5 IHGC Director Debjani Ganguly moderated most IHGC symposia and conferences during the year.

Global Political Thought
Perspectives from South Asia and the Middle East

October 5

CONVENED BY . Murad Idris, *Politics*, and Debjani Ganguly, *English*

This workshop was an experiment in comparative intellectual history and political thought from South Asia and the Middle East. Retrieving alternative genealogies of concepts such as equality, cosmopolitanism, the scientific imagination, reform, heresy, war, and power, the speakers shed light on non-western thought figures of the past three centuries from regions of the world that were central to European imperial expansion. Speakers included:

Dilip Menon, *University of the Witwatersrand*
 “Colonial Cosmopolitanisms, Literary Modernism and Deep History:
 The Essays of Kesari Balakrishna Pillai”

Aditya Nigam, *Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi*
 “Ambedkar, Micropower and Marxism”

Aishwary Kumar, *Stanford University*
 “A War without End: Ambedkar and the Dispositif of Cruelty”

Murad Idris, *University of Virginia*
 “Luthers of the Orient: Colonists, Reformers, and Tactical Identifications”

Marwa Elshakry, *Columbia University*
 “In Search of a Golden Age: Universal Histories of Science, Islam and the Arabs”

Prathama Banerjee, *Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi*
 “Equality: Ontology of an Idea”

Ongoing Mahfil
The Urdu Ghazal

October 14-15

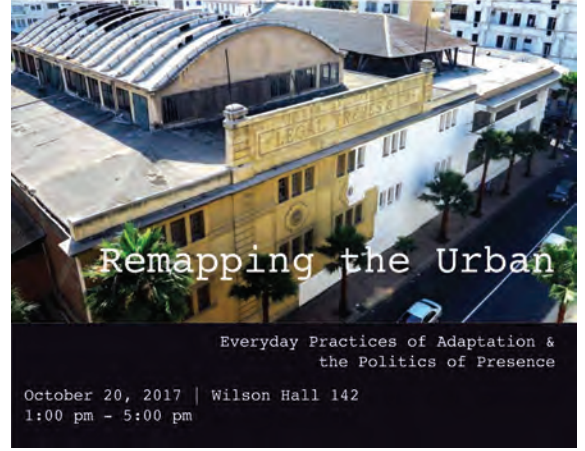
WORKSHOP AND PERFORMANCE BY . Pooja Goswami Pavan
 CONVENED BY . Mehr Farooqi, *Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies*

University of Virginia’s department of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages and Cultures (MESALC), in association with UVA’s chapter of the Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth (SPICMACAY), presented an evening of Sufi music and ghazals. The event featured internationally acclaimed scholar, teacher, and performer of



1	2
---	---

- 1 Poster for IHGC’s Global South Lab’s workshop on global political thought.
- 2 Performance and workshop poster for “A Night of Sufi Music and Ghazals,” with noted musician Pooja Goswami Pavan.



1	2
---	---

- 1 International participants in “Global Political Thought” workshop.
- 2 The “Remapping the Urban” conference addressed new and multiple perspectives of “the urban” in emerging Global South cities.

Hindustani (North Indian Classical) music, Pooja Goswami Pavan, with Debu Nayak on the tabla, and Pankaj Mishra on the sarangi. Over the years, Pavan has extensively studied and mastered several genres within the larger umbrella of Hindustani music such as Thumri, Dadra, Ghazal, Bhajan and various folk-inspired genres such as the Hori, Chaiti, Kajri, Sawani, and the Khayāl. She received her PhD from the University of Delhi in 2005, and possesses extensive experience performing at the highest level around the world.

“Remapping the Urban” Workshop

October 20

CONVENED BY. Sheila Crane, *School of Architecture*

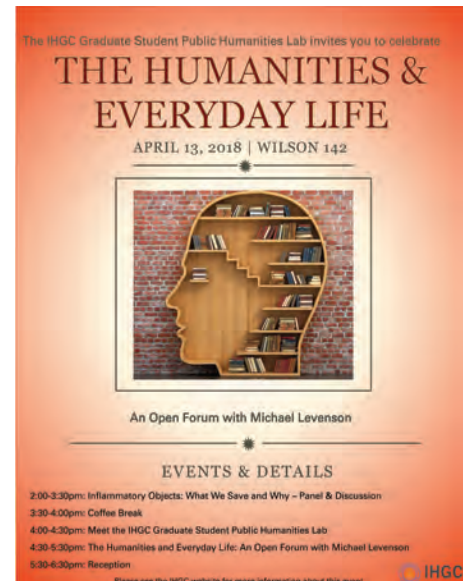
In the increasingly distant wake of the much-heralded urban turn and the concomitant outpouring of attention trained on megacities and slums across the Global South, the limits of familiar conceptual mappings, including the urban and the rural, and the formal and the informal, have been well established. At the same time, however, growing disparities around the world suggest the critical importance of developing new strategies for understanding the urban, both historically and in the present. This workshop considered new approaches for understanding the urban viewed from the Global South and from the vantage point of African cities, by focusing on everyday practices of adaptation and the politics of presence in cities from Cape Town and Nairobi to Casablanca and Jakarta. Bringing together scholars whose work addresses the urban from multiple perspectives, this event fostered sustained discussion about the capacities of urban residents to make and remake the city.

Spring 2018 **Bologna Academy Graduate Conference** ***Race and Division of Labor in Global Western Empires, 1791-1888***

March 16-18

CONVENED BY. A graduate student team from the University of Virginia, University of Bologna, and Duke University: *Swati Chawla, Matilde Cazzola, Martino Sacchi, Can Evren, Lorenzo Ravano*

This conference aimed to rethink the history of political thought by “provincializing” its Eurocentric canon, inviting contributions that reconsider the (re-)formation of modern political concepts, particularly in relation to race and division of labor, during a dynamic 19th century. Drawing on global history, the conference focused on the worldwide metamorphosis of European empires and the U.S. beginning with the Haitian Revolution (1791) until the abolition of slavery in Brazil (1888). Calling into question the binary opposition between European rule of law and its colonial exception, as well as examining the liberal myth of violence as a mere “colonial”



1	2	3
---	---	---

- 1 Conference convener Sree Sathiamma (l), and cinema professor Samhita Sunya (r), participate in “Global Knowledges, Local Universities.”
- 2 Symposium poster for “Poetry & the World,” convened by the Center for Poetry & Poetics.
- 3 Program for the IHGC’s PhD Lab’s conference “The Humanities & Everyday Life”.

technique of government, contributions focused on norms acting both within and outside the metropolises of globally extensive empires, and investigated the ways in which a racial division of labor worked on a global scale with varying modes of operation in specific contexts. The conference highlighted conflict and change, and explored emergent political challenges from below, which forced administrative authorities and emerging political subjects to reformulate political concepts at a time of political transformation.

Global Knowledges, Local Universities

March 22-23

CONVENED BY. Sreerekha Sathiamma, *Global Studies Program*

The Global Studies Program organized a conference to engage local, national, and international scholars in the field of Global Studies to examine the debates over the meaning of “the global,” to outline prospects and challenges for Global Scholarship, and to imagine the contribution of Global Studies to an emerging, 21st-century university. With six panels in two days, the conference featured 22 scholars as they discussed topics including: Meanings of Globalism in Contemporary Academia; Global Studies in Liberal Arts; Global Political Economy; Global Studies and Area Studies; Global South; and, Local Meets the Global: Engaging with the Community.

Poetry and the World Symposium

April 6

CONVENED BY. Jahan Ramazani and Peter Miller, *Center for Poetry & Poetics and English*

How global or local is poetry? Can it be understood comparatively? How does it illuminate the world? Scholars and poet-scholars of African-American, Afro-Caribbean, Franco-Arab, Persian, Chinese, Pacific Islander, South Asian, and Anglophone poetry discussed and debated these questions and more. Daljit Nagra, a celebrated British poet of the South Asian diaspora, concluded the symposium with a poetry reading and reflections.

Enduring Questions, New Methods
Haitian Studies in the 21st Century

April 12-13

CONVENED BY. Marlene L. Daut, Kaiama L. Glover, and Christina F. Mobley, *Carter Woodson Institute of African and African American Studies*

In the spirit of Papa Legba (a Haitian lwa, or spirit, who acts as a crossroads between the human and non-human worlds), this conference was dedicated to what scholar and invitee Gina Ulysse has called “New Narratives of Haiti.” Using a series of roundtable discussions, the conference facilitated conversation as a crossroads, at which scholars generatively explored Haitian history, art, politics, and culture in ways that contest narratives of fear, repression, failure, and dependency. In an effort to counter the fragmentation that can result from the geographic and intellectual diversity of Haitian Studies as a field, this conference convened national and international scholars, artists, activists, and cultural leaders from a variety of disciplines. Participants represented and intersected with a range of perspectives, including art history, history, literature, anthropology, religion, politics, development, and performance studies. Hosting a mix of established and emerging scholars, along with several politicians, writers, activists, and scholars from Haiti, speakers used English, French, and Haitian Kreyòl; translators helped ensure maximum accessibility.

The Humanities and Everyday Life
An Afternoon of Celebrating the Public Humanities

April 13

CONVENED BY. The IHGC’s PhD Public Humanities Lab, co-ordinator, Samantha Wallace

The Public Humanities Lab, a group of graduate students working on several different projects under the rubric of public humanities, hosted an afternoon on “The Humanities and Everyday Life.” Professor Michael Levenson led a discussion of his new book, *The Humanities and Everyday Life* (Oxford 2017), which investigates the many points of contact and exchange between the academic humanities and their “everyday” others including Wikipedia editing, family genealogy, and museum-going. Illuminating their shared and divergent histories, the book invited attendees to explore the fecundity of these others in order to shed light on the basic questions driving humanities research.

Romanticism, Now and Then
A New Literary History Workshop

April 20-21

CONVENED BY. Bruce Holsinger and Andrew Stauffer, *New Literary History*

This intensive two-day workshop brought together literary historians, musicologists, and art historians to reflect on the present, past, and future of Romanticism, as an interpretive project and a field of interdisciplinary inquiry. The workshop addressed these questions: How has the Romanticist interpretive project developed in recent decades, particularly in dialogue with literary theory and historiography? In this bicentennial era of the Romantic period, what connections and modes of remembering obtain, and to what ends? In what senses does Romanticism imply a method, a form, a politics? What are the abiding keywords, concepts, and challenges of Romanticism within and across disciplines,

Irrationality and the Contemporary

May 4

CONVENED BY. Jap-Nanak Makkar and Austin Hetrick, *English*

In light of the ongoing climate of skepticism and other signs of the retreat of liberalism around the world, our panels and keynote presentation considered the play between rationality and irrationality in the post-1945 period and especially in our public discourse, bringing together scholars from diverse disciplines to reflect on forms of irrationality that appear in our politics, new media, the university, and neoliberal institutions. Professor Wendy Chun (Modern Culture and Media, Brown University) delivered our keynote lecture. Cumulatively, the symposium illuminated conditions constitutive of the contemporary moment, as well as historical forces that may be contributing to the incremental dissolution of infrastructures that support liberal democracy.



- 1 Poster for conference on Haitian Studies, a Woodson Institute and IHGC event.
- 2 Poster for New Literary History journal's two-day conference on Romanticism.

Co-Sponsored Events

Time and Eternity in Early Greek Literature

September 22–24, 2017

CONVENED BY. Jenny Clay, *Department of Classics*

...

Michael Dobson: Rushton Lecture

October 5, 2017

CONVENED BY. Elizabeth Fowler, *Department of English*

...

Workshop: "Ongoing Mahfil: The Urdu Ghazal" Performance: "A Night of Sufi Music and Ghazals"

October 15, 2017

CONVENED BY. Mehr Farooqi, *Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Cultures*

...

East Asia Center Lecture Series IAN JOHNSON, *New York Times* Columnist

October 19, 2017

CONVENED BY. Dorothy Wong, *Center for East Asian Studies*

...

Nicholas Kristof *Sanctuary and Belonging:* *Reflections after August 11 & 12*

October 23, 2017

A PAGE-BARBOUR LECTURE,
AND CONVENED BY. UVA's Forum on Fascism:
Comparative Perspectives

...

ChitChaat

November 16, 2017

CONVENED BY. The Indian Student Association

...

Francois Jullien: There Is No Such Thing as Cultural Identity, But We Will Defend a Culture's Resources

November 16, 2017

CONVENED BY. Shiqiao Li, *School of Architecture*

...

Before Ontology, China and Cultural Theory: A Conversation Between Francois Jullien, Scott Lash and Shiqiao Li

November 17, 2017

CONVENED BY. Shiqiao Li, *School of Architecture*

...

Lecture: Tim Snyder *On Tyranny:* *20 Lessons from the 20th Century*

December 8, 2017

CONVENED BY. Gabriel Finder, *UVA's Forum
on Fascism: Comparative Perspectives*

...

Oceans of Exchange: Art, Indigeneity & the 21st Century Museum

February 2, 2018

CONVENED BY. Henry Skeritt, *Kluge-Ruhe
Aboriginal Art Museum Mellon UVA Indigenous
Arts Initiative/Symposium*

...

Interpretative Approaches to Political Economy: Political Science, India, and the Rudolph Legacy

February 3, 2018

CONVENED BY. John Echeverri-Gent,
Department of Politics

...

Eyes and Ears on Economic Activism: The Poor People's March on Washington

February 9, 2018

CONVENED BY. Miguel Valladares Llata,
UVA Library Global Initiative Group

...

GEOFF ELEY Workshop: "Current Thinking about Nationalism" Public Lecture: "Fascism and Antifascism, 1920–2020"

February 19, 2018

CONVENED BY. Manuela Achilles, *Center for
German Studies*

...

Biennial Disability Studies Symposium

February 23, 2018

CONVENED BY. Chris Krentz,
Disability Studies Initiative

...

Formation, Deformation, Care

February 24, 2018

CONVENED BY. China Scherz, *Department
of Anthropology*

...

JASBIR PUAR:

Homonationalism in Trump Times

March 14, 2018

CONVENED BY. The Power Violence Inequality
Collective

...

Gendering the Garden: from Antiquity to the Present: Cross-Cultural and Interdisciplinary Perspectives

March 15, 2018

CONVENED BY. Sara Myers, *Department
of Classics*

...

BAO PHI, Vietnamese-American poet and spoken word performer

March 24, 2018

CONVENED BY. Sylvia Chong on behalf of the
*Southeast Asian Studies Speaker Series of
UVA's East Asia Center for the Virginia Festival
of the Book*

...

Constructing Experience: Narrative Innovations Across Time and Media

March 23 & 24, 2018

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE GRADUATE
ENGLISH STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (GESA)

...

Spring 2018 South Asian Religions Lectures Series

March – April 2018

- Lyne Bansat-Boudon, March 25 & 26
- Yigal Bronner, April 4
- Lawrence McCrea, April 18

CONVENED BY. John Nemecek, *Department of
Religious Studies*

...

Poetry and the World

April 6, 2018

CONVENED BY. Jahan Ramazani and Peter
Miller, *Center for Poetry & Poetics*

...

Enduring Questions, New Methods: Haitian Studies in the 21st Century

April 12–13, 2018

CONVENED BY. Marlene L. Daut, Kaiama L.
Glover, Christina Mobley, *Carter Woodson
Institute for African and African American Studies*

...

Sanctuary and Belonging Symposium: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Flight, Refuge, and Community

April 13–14, 2018

CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY CENTER FOR
GERMAN STUDIES

CONVENED BY. Manuela Achilles and
Asher Berman

...

IHGC Distinguished Writers-In-Residence

Amitav Ghosh and Deborah Baker

Amitav Ghosh delivered a lecture April 23, 2018, entitled “The Great Uprooting: Migration and Movement in the Age of Climate Change.”

On April 27, the IHGC hosted a conversation between Ghosh and Roy Scranton on “Cultures of Climate.”

Ghosh published a highly influential book on the topic, *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable*; Roy Scranton is the author of *Learning to Die in the Anthropocene*.

Ghosh is the author of *The Circle of Reason*, *The Shadow Lines*, *In An Antique Land*, *Dancing in Cambodia*, *The Calcutta Chromosome*, *The Glass Palace*, *The Hungry Tide*, and three volumes of *The Ibis Trilogy*; *Sea of Poppies*, *River of Smoke* and *Flood of Fire*. *The Circle of Reason* was awarded France’s Prix Médicis in 1990, and *The Shadow Lines* won two prestigious Indian prizes the same year, the Sahitya Akademi Award and the Ananda Puraskar. *The Calcutta Chromosome* won the Arthur C. Clarke award for 1997 and *The Glass Palace* won the International e-Book Award at the Frankfurt book fair in 2001. In January 2005, *The Hungry Tide* was awarded the Crossword Book Prize, a major Indian award. His novel, *Sea of Poppies* (2008), was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2008, and was awarded the Crossword Book Prize and the India Plaza Golden Quill Award. In January 2007, the President of India awarded Ghosh the Padma Shri, one of India’s highest honors. Along with Margaret Atwood, he was also a joint winner of a Dan David Award for 2010. In 2011, he was awarded the International Grand Prix of the Blue Metropolis Festival in Montreal. ■

On April 3, 2018, Deborah Baker delivered a lecture entitled “Tricks of Perspective: Reimagining the Second World War Narrative” in the Solarium of the Colonnade Club. She also gave a reading from her current book, *The Last Englishmen* (2018).

Baker’s first full-length book, a biography of the American modernist poet Laura Riding, was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 1994. After many years as a book editor in various New York publishing houses, she wrote *A Blue Hand*, an account of Allen Ginsberg’s travels in India that also traced the idea of India in the American imagination. While a Fellow at the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library, she researched and wrote *The Convert: A Tale of Exile and Extremism*, a finalist for the 2011 National Book Award in Non-fiction. Her current book, *The Last Englishmen*, for which she received support from the Guggenheim and Whiting Foundations is forthcoming from Graywolf Press in August 2018. ■



above
Deborah Baker
opposite, left to right
Roy Scranton, Debjani
Ganguly, and Amitav Ghosh

IHGC Distinguished Visitor

Achille Mbembe



On September 18, 2017, the IHGC hosted a workshop with Professor Achille Mbembe on his latest book, *Critique of Black Reason*. Other workshop panelists included Laurent Dubois (Duke), Juan Obarrio (Johns Hopkins), and Christina Mobley (UVA). Professor Mbembe also delivered a public lecture entitled “Negative Messianism in the Age of Animism.”

In *Critique of Black Reason*, Achille Mbembe offers a capacious genealogy of the category of Blackness—from the Atlantic slave trade to the present—to critically reevaluate history, racism, and the future of humanity. Mbembe teases out the intellectual consequences of the reality that Europe is no longer the world’s center of gravity while mapping the relations among colonialism, slavery, and contemporary financial and extractive capital. Tracing the conjunction of Blackness with the biological fiction of race, he theorizes Black reason as the collection of discourses and practices that equated Blackness with the nonhuman in order to uphold forms of oppression. Mbembe powerfully argues that this equation of Blackness with the nonhuman will serve as the template for all new forms of exclusion. With *Critique of Black Reason*, Mbembe offers nothing less than a map of the world as it has been constituted through colonialism and racial thinking while providing the first glimpses of a more just future.

Achille Mbembe is Research Professor in History and Politics at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. He is co-editor of *Johannesburg: The Elusive Metropolis*, also published by Duke University Press, and the author of *On the Postcolony*, as well as several books in French.

Humanities Week 2018

Humanities Week 2018 (April 2-7), is the annual, week-long, multi- and trans-disciplinary, cultural celebration of the humanities held around Grounds produced by student team members of the IHGC.

This year's theme of the IHGC's annual Humanities Week 2018 was "CIVIL RESISTANCE," which was inspired by a desire to respond to the violent, neo-fascist, 'Unite the Right' rally last summer here in Charlottesville. The violence from the August 11-12, 2017 weekend at the University and in downtown Charlottesville awakened our community's awareness of racism and extremist beliefs and violence, and spurred a variety of positive, constructive responses on approaching prejudice, injustice, and inequality.

This student-produced Humanities Week 2018 included presentations, interactive workshops, a giant puzzle lawn game, film screenings, student-curated art exhibits, and other thought-provoking activities planned by a diverse group of students, faculty, and community members who are challenging the status quo to bring awareness and change through non-violent resistance.

The projects explored the many ways that these movers and shakers examine and use art, literature, music, dance, and other tools of the humanities to express their sentiments and declare their rights to peaceful civil resistance.



top to bottom

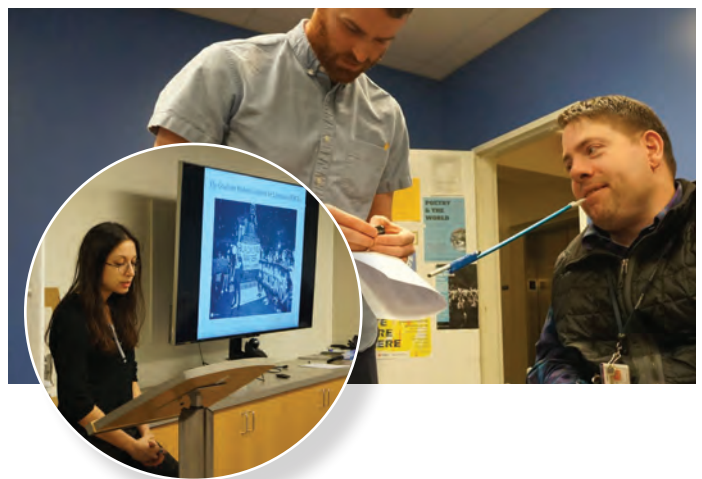
IHGC "Puzzle Poetry" student group builds giant puzzle pieces with boxes (inset) for lawn game in amphitheatre in which participants try to piece together a sonnet.

Lawn room resident leads students in an evening art therapy session in response to the August 11-12 neo-Fascist violence on the Lawn.

Student docent leads tour group through the "Art in Protest" exhibit at The Fralin Museum of Art.

Poetry professor Paul Guest (r) following a reading from his book, "Because Everything Is Terrible," with graduate student Michael Dhyne.

(Inset) Graduate student Sophie Abramowitz talks about her work with "The Charlottesville Syllabus" in a standing-room only presentation.



Humanities Research Laboratories

Humanities Labs are conceived as new spaces for collaborative, discovery-driven, and experimental work at UVA. Led by senior researchers, the laboratories foster vertical integration of undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, librarians, curators, and technologists around teaching and research initiatives, while developing horizontal links across multiple disciplines, both cognate and distant. The IHGC currently hosts four Labs, with three funded by the Mellon Global South Initiative and a fourth by UVA's Strategic Investment Fund (SIF).

The Global South: Concept and Practice

IHGC Mellon Lab

CO-DIRECTORS. Debjani Ganguly, *English*, and Camilla Fojas, *Media Studies and American Studies*

Established in 2016, this Lab is foundational to UVA's Mellon Global South Initiative. It originates in the assumption that an ambitious, multi-scalar agenda for curriculum development and advanced research on the Global South requires a sustained interrogation of its theoretical, historical, and cartographic provenance across a vibrant interdisciplinary space. "Global South" is an unsettled and unsettling epistemic frame from which to contemplate the world. Some think of it as a post-Cold War era replacement for the "Third World" (and so primarily covering Africa, Latin America, South and Southeast Asia, but not Europe, America and the Mediterranean worlds), while others use it synonymously with the idea of underdevelopment and deprivation wherever these are found. Yet others see it as a "frontier in the unfolding history of neoliberal capitalism." As will be obvious from the above, the idea of the Global South has varied inflections across disciplines. Currently, the concept exists at the confluence of and tension between systems of knowledge and ways of conceptualizing space, habitations, cultures, aesthetics and political economy. Its role as a disordering episteme in our contemporary world is what this lab examines and showcases.

2017-18 was a productive year for the Lab in terms of programming, events, and new initiatives. We instituted a new fellowship for graduate students working towards completing their dissertation proposal on topics related to the Global South. We awarded fellowships to three students in the Graduate School of Arts

and Sciences—Michelle Walsh, Mary-Colliers Wilks, and Vivien Chang—which included the opportunity to workshop their proposals with faculty members of the Global South lab and a modest stipend. The three fellows attended Global South events and fostered greater connections among faculty and graduate students working in similar research areas.

The programming for this academic year was ambitious in scope and frequency, and helped fostered greater connection to other institutional members of the Global South initiative, particularly Duke University, the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS, New Delhi), and WISER at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. Our CSDS colleagues, Prathama Banerjee and Aditya Nigam, participated in a colloquium on "Global Political Thought: Perspectives from South Asia and the Middle East." Three colleagues from the University of Delhi and University of Western Cape, Baidik Bhattacharya, Brinda Bose and Premesh Lalu, participated in a conference on "Global Universities, Local Knowledges," hosted by UVA's Global Studies Program.

We hosted lectures and workshops with WISER colleagues Achille Mbembe, Sarah Nuttall, Dilip Menon, and Isabel Hofmeyer. Hofmeyer's work on Indian Ocean worlds initiated a series of workshops on "Oceanic Connections," an important research area of the Lab. These include "Overflowing Histories," a workshop convened



Poulomi Saha, UC - Berkeley, spoke on post-colonial Bangladesh in the Global South Lab

by Lab member, Murad Idris, on the recently published work by Ali Wick and Fahad Bishara, who have written on trading networks on the Red Sea and the Western Indian Ocean, respectively

Another major area of interest relates to cities and urban design. Sheila Crane's workshop on "Remapping the Urban" and the colloquium on "Cities of the Global South" in Fall 2017 were followed

by AbdouMaliq Simone's workshop and lecture in the Spring. Urban knowledges as it relates to psychoanalysis was key to the talk by Patricia Gherovici entitled "Psychoanalysis en El Barrio." Poulomi Saha from Berkeley gave a talk on urban textile workers in Bangladesh.

We continue to forge connections across institutions on research related to the Global South. This year we worked with Duke graduate students Giulia Ricco and Renee Michelle Ragin who received a grant from the Duke Support for Interdisciplinary Graduate Networks (D-SIGN) for a project on "The Global South After 2010: Epistemologies of Militarization," sponsored by the Franklin Humanities Institute (FHI). To initiate this collaboration, this research group invited lab co-director Camilla Fojas to give a talk at Duke in Fall 2017. In Spring 2018, Ricco and Ragin visited UVA to share their work. We intend to continue this generative collaboration with this working group on the issue of militarization in the Global South. Ricco and Ragin are editing a special issue of *Cultural Dynamics* that will include many of the speakers invited to participate in the group's conferences and symposia.

We sponsored a number of workshops and conferences initiated by Lab members, including a significant conference on Haiti spearheaded by Marlene Daut along with Christina Mobley and Kaiama Glover. Mobley also hosted a workshop on "Global South Soccer," which convened scholars working on the global politics of soccer. In Spring 2018, the Lab sponsored an exciting and generative graduate student conference on "Race and the Division of Labor in Global Western Empires" that emerged out of the Bologna summer institute. ■

Dissecting Cultural Pluralism: Religion and Society in the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean World

IHGC Mellon Lab

CO-DIRECTORS. John Miller, *Classics*, and Janet Spittler, *Religious Studies*

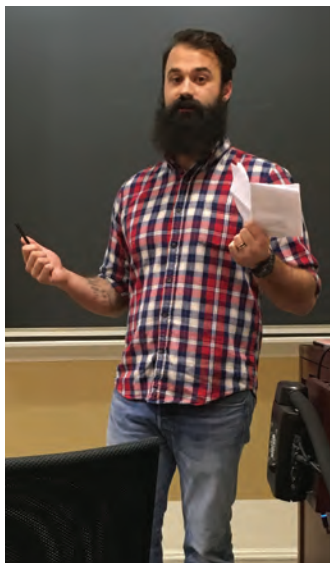
This Lab's interdisciplinary exploration of ancient and medieval Mediterranean religious pluralism starts from the premise that the study of the pre-modern Mediterranean is inextricably tied to the study of globalization and subalternity. We focus on topics of cultural inclusivity and cultural translation, in order to identify and follow trajectories of cultural, religious, and political pluralism across related religions and societies. The key problems we address involve strategies of resistance against cultural reductionism, both regarding academic disciplines and popular appropriations. The project aims at once to advance understanding of religious pluralism in its various manifestations and to debunk recent misappropriations of the legacies of the ancient and medieval

Mediterranean. Our research and conversations engage with Islamic, Greek, Roman, Christian, Jewish, and other ancient and medieval religious traditions.

The Lab launched in Fall 2017 with a week-long visit by Henk Versnel, Professor of History Emeritus at Leiden University and a leading scholar of Greco-Roman religions. He visited classes, met with students and faculty about their work, and gave a public lecture and a seminar for Lab participants: respectively, "Coping with the Gods: Implications and Complications of Greek Polytheism" and "Polytheism and Omnipotence: Incompatible?"



Lecture by Henk Versnel, University of Leiden



Lab intern Justin Mann, art history PhD student, speaks to the religious and cultural pluralism lab members.



Seminar presentation by Solange Bumbaugh, American University.

Thereafter the Lab sponsored seminar talks and lectures throughout the academic year, at least one every other week. Presenters included visitors and local participants in the Lab:

- Shatha Almutawa (Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Willamette University). "Dress Yourself in the Angelic Form': A 10th-Century Arabic Philosophy of Religion"
- Jessica Andrus (Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, UVA). "'Israel, repent and return!': Arabic Preaching in Medieval Jewish Discourse"
- Mary Bachvarova (Professor of Classics, Willamette University). "How to Use Near Eastern Sources to Shed Light on Greek Religion"
- Pierre Bonnechere (Professor of History, University of Montreal). "Past, Present, and Future: Old and New Perspectives in Dodona and Other Greek Oracles"
- Antoine Borrut (Associate Professor of History, University of Maryland). "Astrology and History in Early Islam"
- Solange Bumbaugh (Lecturer in Philosophy and Religion at American University). "Magical Protection: Ethiopian Prayer Scrolls and Egyptian Oracular Amuletic Decrees"
- Dimitri Gutas (Professor of Arabic and Graeco-Arabic, Yale University). "The Leaven of Translation: From Religious Pluralism to Cultural Concordance in the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean"
- Sonam Kachru (Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, UVA). "Practices of Self in Antiquity: Between Athens and Pataliputra"
- Andrej Petrovic (Professor of Classics, UVA). "Henk Versnel and Historiographies of Greek Religion"

In addition, three UVA students presented their work in our Graduate Seminar Series:

- Andrew Sorber (History). "'Lord, declare Your words through my mouth:' Prophetic Authority in Early Medieval al-Andalus"
- Justin Greenlee (Art History). "Bessaron's Body"
- Sarah Teets (Classics). "The Trauma of Autopsy and the Transgression of History in Josephus' *Jewish War*"

The Graduate Interns organized a Round Table on "Religious and Cultural Appropriation, Then and Now." Participants were Barbara Blythe (Classics), Anastasia Dakouri-Hild (Art and Archaeology), and visiting speaker Sarah Bond (Assistant Professor of Classics, University of Iowa).

A Pedagogy Workshop featured presentations by two recipients of course-development grants during Summer 2017, Karl Shuve (Religious Studies) and Ahmed al-Rahim (Religious Studies).

The Lab awarded three Course Development Grants during Summer 2017:

- Ahmed Al-Rahim (Religious Studies), "People of the Book: Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Manichaeism under Medieval Islam"
- Karl Shuve (Religious Studies), "Violence, Authority, and Christian Tradition"
- Andrej Petrovic and Ivana Petrovic (Classics), "From Dancing Bears to Dog-faced Baboons: Ritual in the Ancient Greek Public and Private Religion"

Research and travel for Lab participants was supported in various ways. Fifteen such grants were made, supporting faculty, undergraduate and graduate students.

Plans for 2018-19 include a major conference on cultural pluralism, "E pluribus nullum?"; another weeklong visit by a leading senior scholar; co-sponsoring conferences on early Christian literature in diverse cultural contexts ("The Material of Christian Apocrypha") and on religious interactions between ancient Mediterranean cultures ("Traditions of Inner Purity in Ancient Mediterranean and Beyond"); four more course development grants; and our regular biweekly seminar talks. ■

African Urbanisms

IHGC Mellon Lab

CO-DIRECTORS.

Ellen Bassett, *Architecture*, and James Igoe, *Anthropology*

The UVA African Urbanism Humanities Lab (AUHL) convenes a diverse group of scholars, who have come together to research, teach, and engage with Africa, Africans, and other scholars and students at UVA and elsewhere about this pivotal time of urban transition.

Lab members include scholars from the Arts & Sciences, the School of Architecture, School of Medicine, and School of Engineering, and from the disciplines of Urban Planning, Science and Society, Music, Public Health, Anthropology, African American and African Studies, Education, and Architectural History. The AUHL has research clusters in three overlapping areas: 1) actual and virtual urban spaces; 2) distributed networks of communication and media technology; and, 3) performance, music, and media.

In Fall 2017, the Lab co-sponsored a symposium “Remapping the Urban,” organized by Sheila Crane of the Department of Architectural History. Three external scholars, Anne-Maria Makhulu, William Bissell and Katarzyna Pieprzak, spoke about their work in the cities of Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Casablanca. We also worked together with the organizers of the Virginia Film Festival to bring two films and their filmmakers to Charlottesville and the university. Hussein Kurji and Salim Keshavjee from Kenya aired two episodes of the mockumentary “The Samaritans” which critiques the international development industry by featuring an



NGO that does, frankly, nothing. The second Nigerian film, “Green White Green” by Abba Makama, is a story of three Nigerian youth from different ethnic groupings coming together at university. In the Spring Semester, Jesse Weaver Shipley from the Department of African American Studies at Dartmouth College screened his film “Living the Hip Life” for students from the Music and Anthropology Departments. He also ran a workshop on audio-visual ethnography and gave a public lecture in conjunction with the Woodson Institute entitled “Pan-Africanism and Political Transformation in 1970s Ghana.”

Additional speakers in the Spring semester included Noel Lobley who gave a talk to the members of the Lab regarding his research on sound archives in South Africa entitled “Collaborative Sound Curation: Ethnography, Art and Practice in South Africa’s Eastern Cape” in March. The Lab co-sponsored a graduate workshop with AbdouMaliq Simone in April, as well as a lecture on African language and linguistics by Sinfree Makoni of Pennsylvania State University; the talk was entitled “Socio-Applied Linguistics from the

IHGC African Urbanisms Lab members had a two-day conference with a number of their colleagues from Africa.



Global South: Issues and Challenges” and was co-sponsored with the Woodson Institute.

Toward the end of the semester the Lab hosted a large gathering of research collaborators and allied Africanists; the symposium “Collaborative Engagements: The Politics, Practicalities and Promise of Collaborative Research in Africa’s Cities” was held on April 19–20. It included seven UVA faculty/researchers and their research colleagues from the African continent. Tom Asher from the Social Science Research Council, and his colleague Steve Okoth from Kenyatta University, also participated in these fruitful discussions.

Two new courses with a focus on cities in Africa and elsewhere in the Global South were offered this past year. In Spring 2018, Nancy Takahashi of Landscape Architecture offered a course with Guoping Huang of Urban and Regional Planning that focused on urban development and natural resource conservation around the coastal wetland in Winneba, Ghana. This wetland, which is an internationally important wetland for migratory wildfowl recognized under the Ramsar Convention, is threatened by uncontrolled urban development, as well as stormwater runoff and resource harvesting (e.g., mangroves). This course emerged from a summer curriculum grant to Prof. Takahashi. Fifteen students traveled to Ghana over spring break and worked together with students from the University of Winneba to assess the resource and develop strategies for its protection, as well as its development as a site of eco-tourism.

Patricia Basile de Toledo, a doctoral student in the Constructed Environment in the Architecture School, offered a graduate seminar, *Cities of the Global South*, which drew students from urban planning and global sustainability, among other disciplines.

The Lab has provided support to several research initiatives of both our faculty and our graduate students to be done during Summer 2018. Prof. Nomi Dave’s project examines sexual violence, specifically the role of the female voice in musical, socio-cultural, and legal responses to sexual violence in the Republic of Guinea. Her collaborative research involves a leading Guinean feminist activist, Moussa Yéro Bah. Prof. Ellen Bassett’s project supports her research in Kenya on its democratization and decentralization process after a new Constitution and its impact upon urban settlements. AUHL funds are being used to facilitate the work of the next generation of global scholars. Fatmah Behbehani, a doctoral student in the Constructed Environment, will be researching the lived experience for former slum dwellers in two Moroccan “New Towns.” Grace East and Erin Jordan will be continuing prior research into Hausa Linguistic Identity in Accra, Ghana and Women’s Organizations in Moshi, Tanzania, respectively.

We are planning a symposium on Africa’s Urban Future for Fall 2018. A variety of topics and panels are planned, including a major focus on African music and urban expression, technology and the city, and cities as spaces of democratization and insurgency. ■

Humanities Informatics Lab

CO-DIRECTORS. Debjani Ganguly, *English*; Jack Chen, *East Asian Languages, Literatures & Cultures*; and Alison Booth, *English*

The Humanities Informatics Lab, funded by UVA’s Strategic Investment Fund (SIF), brings together scholars who study the relationship between human culture and technology, and explore the management, control, and flow of information, in both historical and contemporary contexts. The Lab explores the ways in which data structures and algorithms inform cultural work, political systems, scientific endeavors, and studies of the evolution of human life. Through active collaboration with between humanities disciplines and library science, engineering, mathematics, statistics, computer science, neuroscience and bioinformatics, this Lab leverages UVA’s strength in the humanities and the information sciences. It aims to take a leadership role in global academia in innovative research, creative teaching and public engagement in the field of humanities informatics.

In its first year, the Lab established four interdisciplinary research groups led by eight faculty members from disciplines across the University. Through seminars, workshops, group discussions, and public lectures, they explored topics ranging from the benefits and risks of artificial intelligence to privacy in the age of information to the interplay between a poem and its physical manifestation to the implications of data informatics on urban design. Year two of the Lab will see these groups hone in on specific research projects.



HMI research group members from around the University shared their current research at weekly lunches.



"Puzzle Poetry" students compete in 2nd Biannual Sonnet Games; 12 student teams solve pentamino sonnet puzzles.



"DATA Dialogues" are the faculty, student, and community discussions produced by the Smart Environments group.

Research Groups

Human and Machine Intelligence (HMI)

Led by Philosophy Professor Paul Humphreys and Vicente Ordonez-Roman of Computer Science, the Human and Machine Intelligence research group's membership consists of 35 faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduates from philosophy, computer science, neuroscience, digital humanities, architecture, media studies, literature, and other areas. Throughout the year, this group held weekly meetings with presentations from a variety of areas that were followed by lively discussions. They used these meetings and lectures to establish a common knowledge base and formulate research questions. Two main areas of interest emerged. The first involves ways in which modern machine learning methods can involve social and other biases and ways to reduce such biases. The second area is concerned with differences and similarities between the ways in which humans and machines represent the world and the extent to which humans may be able or unable to understand the representations used in artificial intelligence. The second year of the project will be devoted to pursuing the two research projects with the aim of producing a number of publishable papers.

Network-Corpus

This cross-disciplinary research group is led by Brad Pasanek, Associate Professor of English, and Chad Wellmon, Associate Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures. The fall semester focused on Network, and involved discussions and a workshop with Scott Weingart of Carnegie Mellon on network analysis. The spring semester highlighted Corpus, with UVA's Puzzle Poetry Group, a collection of undergrads, graduate students, faculty members, and staff, leading the charge. They held weekly meetings, participated in a UCLA media theory conference, constructed a giant poetry puzzle for Humanities Week, and sponsored a sonnet game, as well as a lecture with digital literary scholar Katherine Bode. Seminars and workshops will continue in year two as the group works to develop a collaborative project.

Smart Environments

The UVA SMART ENVIRONMENTS research group, co-directed by Associate Professor Mona El-Khafif and Assistant Professor Jeana Ripple from the School of Architecture, challenges the social equity and urban spatial implications of data informatics. The project's first year was devoted to DATA Dialogues, where interested community members, students, and faculty joined discussions focused on data, its policies, and its design. The dialogues explored the digital era's successes and its failures, specifically regarding a lack of legible embedded assumptions or clear data ethics. Presenters raised critical provocations related to the social equity and urban spatial implications of data informatics, citing specific examples in the built environment when possible. Participants and observers were asked to respond to speaker provocations. Ultimately, DATA Dialogues provided background for the next stage of the project—data projects and a data exchange symposium—and served to hone focus topics, sites and data of interest, and target outcomes.

Surveillance & Infrastructure

This collaborative research group, headed by Associate Professor Camilla Fojas and Assistant Professor Liz Ellcessor of the Media Studies Department, explores the convergence of surveillance and sociotechnical infrastructures, particularly in the technologies, techniques, and networks used for gathering information about differentiated populations. Using an interdisciplinary approach, the group's goal is to generate coursework on a variety of related topics at UVA and create a web-based resource for scholars and students seeking to expand their knowledge about the field of surveillance studies. In year one, the group hosted experts in the field who spoke on topics ranging from biometrics, the ubiquity of surveillance regimes, and cybersecurity. They looked at the impact of surveillant technologies on culture, "militainment," the role of distribution networks in filtering and disseminating culture and information, and the histories and techniques of surveillance, among other topics. They ascertained the state of scholarship on the physical, technological, and human infrastructures of surveillance and began development of their website.

Graduate Training and Research Initiatives



Graduate students from multiple disciplines were an integral part of the IHGC's programs all year. They convened events, introduced speakers, presented their research, took Lab courses, participated in Lab workshops, and worked as program and outreach interns. Two graduate representatives, Samantha Wallace and Swati Chawla, are members of the IHGC Advisory Board, and PhD students, Austin Hetrick and Joseph Wei, served as program graduate interns. The IHGC, through its Clay Grant, also offered 22 competitive graduate summer scholarships for research or fieldwork outside Charlottesville. These activities offer invaluable professional training to our PhD students, and prepare them for academic careers once they complete their dissertations.

This academic year we were particularly pleased to launch two new graduate research networks, both wholly convened by PhD students.

Public Humanities Lab

This "PhD Lab" is an interdisciplinary, graduate student-led initiative within the IHGC, which aims to develop collaboration among departments in order to provide a common space for scholars and the wider community to generate lively discussion, research, and advocacy initiatives over the course of the coming year. The Public Humanities Lab is composed of ten core members from across the University of Virginia, who constitute the five working groups, each led by two core members, or principal investigators, and each centered on one of the following topics: Climate Change and Environment (Marine and Terrestrial); Human Rights and the Post-Human Turn; Literary and Language Worlds; and Pre-Modern and Early Modern Global Cultures; and, the fifth working group is currently open for applications. The Public Humanities Lab offers an invaluable opportunity to connect graduate research to the sphere of public humanities, as well as a chance for PhD students to gain valuable professional experience in the field of public humanities.

CONVENED BY. Samantha Wallace, director; James Ascher; DeVan Ard; Alison Glassie; Kirk Gordon; Christian Howard; Lara Musser; and Kelli Shermeyer

Eco Methods Lab

The "Eco-Methods Lab" facilitates interdisciplinary research seeking best practices for bringing ecological methods into the humanities. "Ecology" is gaining currency in the humanities as a metaphor to promote non-anthropocentric modes of inquiry and knowledge production, while trying to make sense of the complex entanglement of environmental, cultural, and political systems. The term now distinguishes an enormous array of subfields: political ecology, ecological economics, spiritual ecology, ecological theology, ecosophy, eco-poetics, eco-linguistics, eco-feminism, and eco-criticism. The Lab brings together PhD researchers interested in this mode of inquiry and will serve as a spring board for collaborations and partnerships between the sciences and the humanities, information sharing networks, public humanities initiatives, and advocacy groups.

CONVENED BY. Jeremy Sorgen, Luke Kreider, Alice Besterman



Academy of Global Humanities and Critical Theory

Research Projects hosted by the Academy

Toward a Global History of Political Concepts

LED BY: Raffaele Laudani and Tony Bogues

Rethinking the 'Human' in the Humanities

LED BY: Debjani Ganguly and Sarah Nuttall

Internationalism

LED BY: Paulo Capuzzo and Roberto Dainotto

Social Movements

LED BY: Michael Hardt and Sandro Mezzadra

below

Advanced graduate students from UVA, Duke, and Bologna convened a 3-day conference in the IHGC's Global South Lab in March 2018.

The Academy of Global Humanities and Critical Theory is a research entity jointly promoted by the University of Virginia, Duke University, and the University of Bologna. Based at the University of Bologna, the Academy is an intellectual space for scholars coming from different research fields and geographical regions to work together on the redefinition of the humanities in a global age.

The Academy is predicated on the assumption that the humanities and the interpretative social sciences need a global perspective in order to break down the "methodological nationalism" that has dominated them in the past and to envisage new interpretations. It is transnational in focus, facilitating the network and circulation of people and activities in different spaces.

The Academy hosts a graduate summer school in Bologna every year with participants from over 50 countries. It also hosts a visiting fellows program to enable scholars from the three founding institutions to travel and collaborate on various projects. It has close affiliations with WISER (Witwatersrand), Brown University, and the Center for Studies in Developing Societies (New Delhi).

In 2017-18, the IHGC hosted visiting scholars from Bologna and Duke, and facilitated the inaugural conference convened by the graduate alumni of the Summer School, "Race and Division of Labor in Global Western Empire, 1791-1888." IHGC's Mellon Lab, *Global South: Concept and Practice*, is affiliated with the Bologna Academy and will be hosting a workshop on July 2, during the 2018 Summer School, on topics ranging from Comparative Oceanic Studies; the Global South Novel; and, Race, Technology, and Militarization. ■

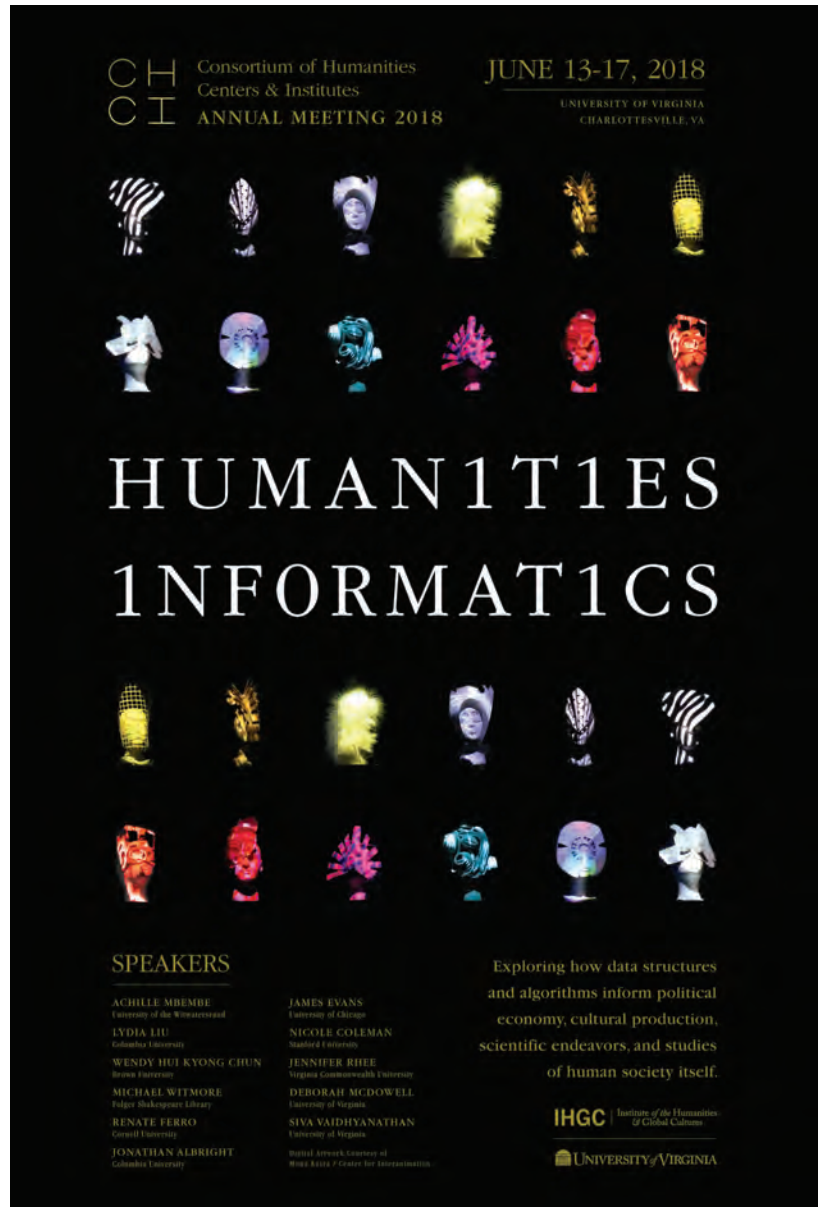


CHCI 2018 Annual Membership Conference

“Humanities Informatics”

The IHGC prepared throughout 2017 and 2018 to host the global membership of the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI), June 13-17, 2018, on the Grounds of the University of Virginia. This year’s CHCI conference on “Humanities Informatics” showcases the power of the humanities to address the many urgent questions confronting our world and our universities about the ‘human’ in this intense information age.

Big data is now ubiquitous across myriad domains: politics, war, security, environment, health, media, art, culture and finance. New frontiers in information sciences have expanded our understanding of the human through advances in genetics and artificial intelligence (AI). Google and Facebook are at the forefront of research on AI. Historically linked to the rise of cybernetics in the 1950s, the penetration of big data and machine learning in our lives through advances in social media, cloud computing, robotics, epigenetics and cyber surveillance, have transformed our understanding of social belonging, political agency, knowledge production, privacy and autonomy. ■



Digital “heads” artwork used on poster created by UVA professors Mona Kasra and Peter Bussigel.

© 2017, The Institute for Interanimation

Clay Fellows 2017–18

Clay Faculty Fellows

Matthew Burtner

Professor, Department of Music

"The Ceiling Floats Away: Musical/Poetic Emergent Democracies through Nomads"

Eve Danziger

Professor, Department of Anthropology

"Curation of Gurifana Language Texts"

Claire Lyu

Associate Professor, Department of French

The 43rd Annual 19th-Century French Studies Colloquium 2017

Nomi Dave

Assistant Professor, Department of Music

"Proposal for Improvisation Workshop: Indian Music in Practice & Theory"

Laura Goldblatt

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of English

"The Grassroots Public Humanities Collaboration, Stage 1: UVA and Its World"

Clay Student Fellows

Sherif Abdelkarim

Department of English

"artful Play in a 'ful tikel' World—fickle, harsh, joyous—poetic hypocrisy in Anglo-Arabic Letters, 700–1400"

Cory-Alice André-Johnson

Department of Anthropology

Anthropological field research in Belo sur Mer, Madagascar

DeVan Ard

Department of English

"Liturgical Poetry in Late Medieval Britain"

Nenette Arroyo

Department of Anthropology

"Loca Sancta in the New World: Creating Sacred Spaces in the Spanish California Missions"

Meaghan Beadle

Department of History

"This is What a Feminist Looks Like!: Photography and American Feminism, 1968–1987"

Meredith Blake

School of Architecture

"Climate Change Knows No Borders: Adaptive Strategies for Relocation of Climate Refugees into Urban Environments"

Timothy Brannelly

Department of Classics

Dissertation research on Ovid's treatment of Jupiter and Juno in the *Fasti*

Alicia Caticha

Department of Art History

"Etienne-Maurice Falconet: Sculpting Whiteness in Marble, Porcelain, & Sugar in 18th-Century Paris"

Neal Curtis

Department of English

Digital humanities

"Jefferson's Dual Monument: The Rotunda (Library)"

Claire Eager

Department of English

Dissertation research on early career of Edward Spenser

Anna Eisenstein

Department of Anthropology

"The Social Poetics of Pregnancy in Urban Uganda"

Kelly Fleming

Department of English

Dissertation research on ostrich feathers as accessories at the end of the 18th century

Andrew Gates

Department of Politics

"Critically-attuned, Non-imperialist, Global Discourse of Human Rights"

Meghan Hartman

Department of Religious Studies

"Collocation of Sanskrit poem *Meghadutam*"

Austin Hetrick

Department of English

"Irrationality & the Contemporary"

Christian Howard

Department of English

"Radical Translation: The Ethics of World Literature"

Karen Huang

Department of English

"Space/Time-bending the Pacific Rim and Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being*"

Fnu Kamaoji

Department of Religious Studies

"The Death and Return of Female Revenants in Tibet"

Samuel Lemley

Department of English

Dissertation research on synecdochic function of printed facsimiles and reproductions in Renaissance books

Christopher Maternowski

Department of History

"Island Laboratory: Tristan da Cunha and the Development of Modern Science, 1873-1983"

Emily Matson

Department of History

Collective memories of "Mongol and Manchu Ethnic Groups During Japanese Occupation"

Isaac May

Department of Religious Studies

"Quaker Mysticism as a Mediator Between Naturalism and Traditional Theism"

Sarah McElaney

Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

"The Spatial Dimensions of the Soviet Literary Landscape: Litfond Writers' Houses and Travel to Crimea, Georgia, and Latvia in the 1960s and 1970s"

Nana Adwoa Ofori

Undergraduate, College of Arts & Sciences

"The Impact of Civic Engagement Education of Youth Community Involvement in Ghana"

Xinyan Peng

Department of Anthropology

"Liturgical Poetry in Late Medieval Britain"

Holly Runde

Department of French

"Abortion in European Cultural and Academic Language"

Jeremy Sorgen

Department of Religious Studies

Ecological Methods Lab

Tracey Stewart

Department of Music

"Music's Role in Mediating Trauma among Jamaican Maroons"

Elizabeth Doe Stone

Department of Art History

"Cosmopolitan Fracture: John Singer Sargent and Anders Zorn, 1871-1915"

Julia Triman

School of Architecture

"Regulating Wildness: Planning Discourses of Weeds and Wildlife in Washington, D.C."

Chenyu Wang

Curry School of Education

"Constructing 'Bige': Volunteering and Youth Culture in Contemporary China"

Claire Weiss

Department of Art History

Field Excavation on Via Consolare Project and Sidewalks of Pompeii

Partnerships

Collaborations

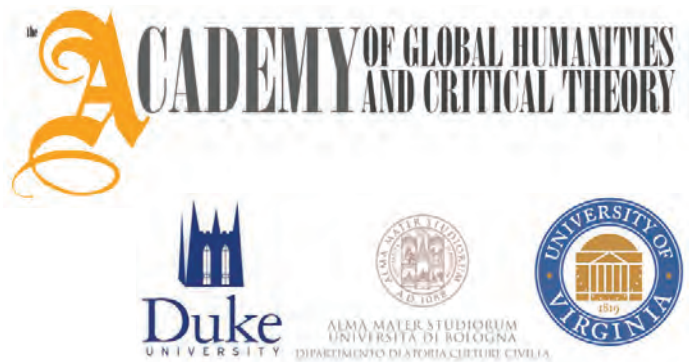
Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes

The IHGC is an active member of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI), established in 1988 to serve as a global arena for the discussion of issues germane to cross-disciplinary activity in the humanities, and as a network for the circulation of information and best practices related to the organizational and management dimensions of humanities centers and institutes. CHCI currently has a membership of over 230 organizations and affiliates in 23 countries and 46 US states. IHGC Director Debjani Ganguly serves on the CHCI's International Advisory Board and is an active participant in many of the key initiatives of this global consortium. In June 2018, the IHGC will host, on behalf of the University of Virginia, the Annual Meeting of the CHCI on the theme "Humanities Informatics." ■

CH
CI
Consortium
of Humanities
Centers and
Institutes

Academy of Global Humanities and Critical Theory

The Academy of Global Humanities and Critical Theory, based at the University of Bologna, is a new research entity jointly promoted by the University of Virginia, Duke University, and the University of Bologna. The IHGC is UVA's key facilitator of this collaboration. The Academy is predicated on the assumption that the humanities and the interpretative social sciences need a global perspective in order to break down the "methodological nationalism" that has dominated them in the past and to envisage new interpretative frameworks. Such an approach calls for a radical intermingling of diverse disciplines, traditions, and fields of critical thought from across the globe. At the heart of the Academy is a graduate summer school in global humanities and critical theory that offers students from around the world courses, workshops, lectures, and symposia by outstanding faculty. IHGC Director Debjani Ganguly serves on the Board on this Academy and is a faculty participant in the summer school. ■



Virginia Humanities

Virginia Humanities connects people and ideas to explore the human experience and inspire cultural engagement. It is the largest of 56 state humanities councils with the most diverse programs and funding sources in the nation. Virginia Humanities encourages discovery and connection through the humanities by supporting and producing cultural, civic, local, and global educational programs for broad public audiences. Since its founding in 1974 as the Virginia Foundation of the Humanities, Virginia Humanities has produced more than 40,000 humanities programs serving communities large and small throughout Virginia, the nation and the world. In addition to organization-directed programs including festivals, publications, digital initiatives, conferences, teacher institutes, and public radio programs, Virginia Humanities has contributed to more than 3,000 grant projects and 300 individual and collaborative fellowships. ■



IHGC Impact

2017–18



4-fold increase in IHGC programming occurred in 2½ years

312.7 people



- 27 Visiting & Distinguished Scholars
- 6 IHGC Mellon Faculty Fellows
- 18 Mellon Humanities Faculty
Global South Initiative new hires
- ~202 IHGC faculty and student members
of IHGC research groups
- 15 Faculty co-directors of Labs
- 2 PhD student Directors of Labs
- 37 Clay Faculty and Student Fellows
- 2.66 Staff administered activities
- 3 Student interns



42 partnerships

- 16 **established global collaborative** academic institutional linkages, with 7 more begun
- 20 **UVA departments and organizations** whose programs were hosted by IHGC
- 6 **continents** represented through IHGC faculty, students, and visiting scholars



10 research clusters

- 3 **Mellon Labs**
Global South, African Urbanisms, Religious & Cultural Pluralism
- 2 **PhD Labs**
Public Humanities and Eco-Methods
- 1 **Humanities Informatics Lab**
SIF-funded
- 4 **Research groups**
within the Humanities Informatics Lab
- & 10 **IHGC programs responded** to the neo-fascist violence at UVA and in Charlottesville on August 11 & 12, 2017

758 events



- 12 **undergraduate-produced events** for Humanities Week: "Civil Resistance"
- 27 **Lectures** by distinguished visiting scholars
- 22 **IHGC co-sponsored** University-wide, faculty-led humanities workshops and symposia
- 12 **Symposia, conferences, & workshops**
- 675 **Bookings of the IHGC's 3 Lab spaces**
- 10 **IHGC programs in response** to the August 2017 neo-fascist violence on the Lawn



funds & fuel

- \$136,864 **in Clay Fellowships awarded** by IHGC to 37 faculty and PhD students for book or dissertation research
- ~ 773 **Bagels, muffins, and croissants** devoured at IHGC morning events
- ~ 1,522 **Cups of coffee** consumed at conferences, symposia, and meetings

Staff & Advisory Board

Staff

Debjani Ganguly

Director

Anne Gilliam

Program Administrator

Julie Gronlund

Project Coordinator

Aida Barnes-May

Administrative Coordinator

Austin Hetrick

PhD Student, English
Graduate Research and Outreach Intern

Joseph Wei

PhD Student, English
Graduate Research and Outreach Intern

Emma Hendrix

Third Year Undergraduate Student,
Urban & Environmental Planning
Humanities Week 2018 Chair

Advisory Board

Hanadi Al-Samman

Associate Professor, Middle Eastern &
South Asian Languages & Cultures

Ira Bashkow

Associate Professor, Anthropology

Sarah Betzer

Associate Professor, Art History

Alison Booth

Professor, English; and, Director, Scholars'
Lab, University of Virginia Library

Enrico Cesaretti

Associate Professor, Italian

Swati Chawla

PhD student, History

Marcia Childress

Director, Programs in Humanities,
UVA School of Medicine, Department of
Medical Education (Medical Humanities)

Mehr Farooqi

Associate Professor, Middle Eastern &
South Asian Languages & Cultures

Rita Felski

William R. Kennan Jr. Professor, English

Francesca Fiorani

Associate Dean for Arts and Humanities,
College and Graduate School of Arts
& Sciences; and, Associate Professor,
Art History

Bonnie Gordon

Associate Professor, Music

Martien Halvorson-Taylor

Associate Professor, Religious Studies

James Igoe

Associate Professor, Anthropology

Willis Jenkins

Professor, Religious Studies

Fotini Kondyli

Assistant Professor, Art History

Krishan Kumar

William R Kenan Jr, Professor, Sociology

Charles A. Laughlin

Ellen Bayard Weedon Professor of East
Asian Studies and Chair, East Asian
Languages, Literatures & Cultures;
Director, UVA Asia Institute

Melissa "Jordan" Love

Academic Curator, The Fralin Museum
of Art

John Miller

Arthur F. and Marian W. Stocker
Professor and Director of Graduate
Studies, Classics

Brian Owensby

Director, Center for Global Inquiry &
Innovation; and, Professor, History

Ricardo Padron

Associate Professor, Spanish

William Sherman

Lawrence Lewis, Jr. Eminent Scholar
Professor & Chair, Architecture; and,
Associate Vice-President for Research in
Design, Arts and Humanities

Samantha Wallace

PhD Student, English

Chad Wellmon

Associate Professor, Germanic
Languages & Literatures

Gweneth West

Professor, Drama



Copy Editor/Production Manager

Anne Gilliam

Design

Anne Chesnut

Photography

Neal Curtis, The Fralin Museum of Art,
Anne Gilliam, Julie Gronlund, Emma Hendrix,
Austin Hetrick, Erin Johnson, Will Kerner,
Justin Mann, China Scherz, Andrew Sorber,
Jeremy Sorgen, UVA Communications Office,
and Joe Wei

Printing

Mid Valley Press

An online version of this report is available at:
<http://ihgc.as.virginia.edu/current-annual-report>

Copyright ©2018 by the
Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia

IHGC

Institute *of the* Humanities
& Global Cultures

University of Virginia
Institute of the Humanities & Global Cultures
Wilson Hall, First Floor
P.O. Box 400901, Charlottesville, VA 22904

434.924.2157
www.ihgc.as.virginia.edu



UNIVERSITY *of* VIRGINIA