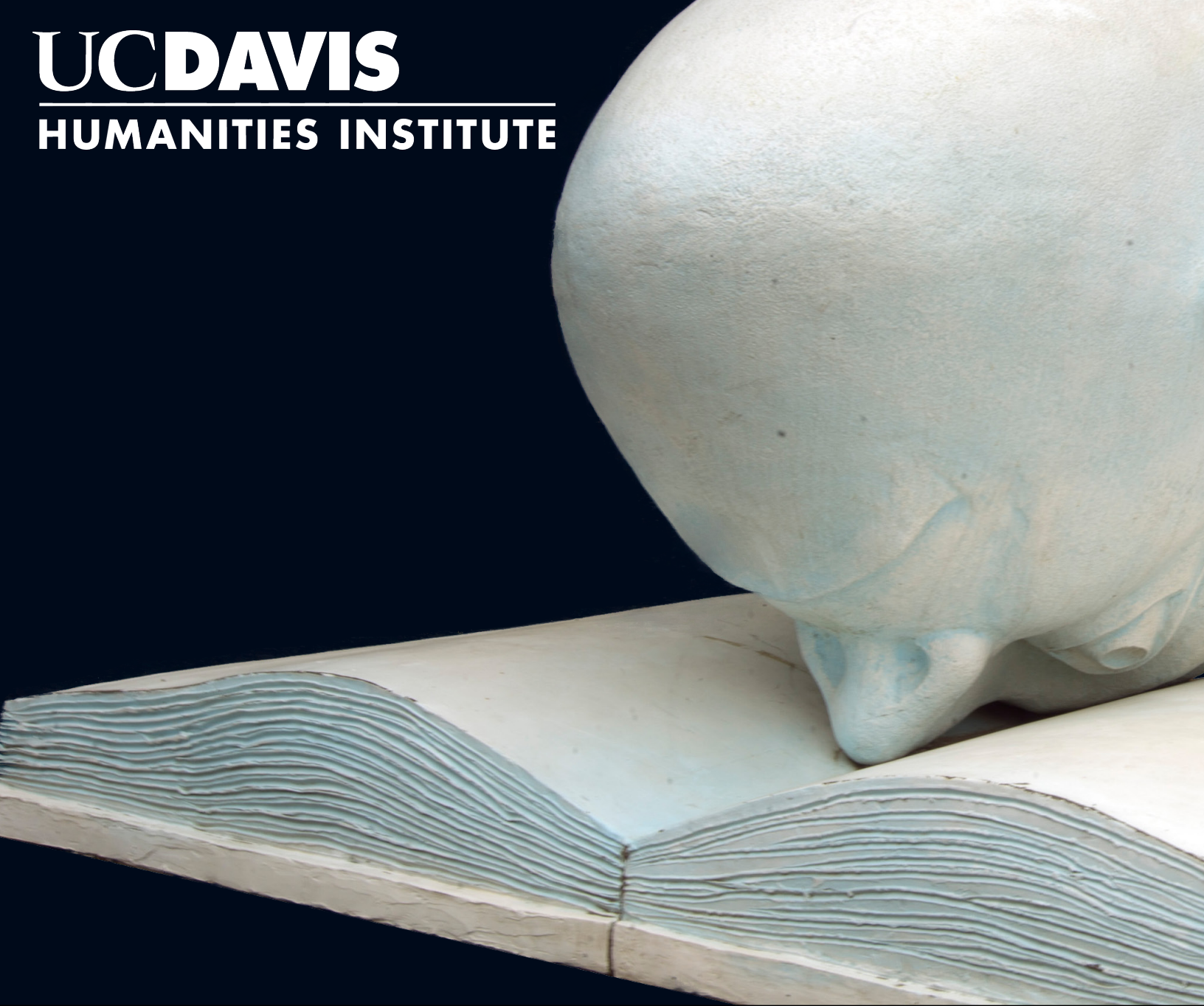


UC DAVIS
HUMANITIES INSTITUTE



bridging disciplines, building dialogues

— 2011 • 2012 —
ANNUAL REPORT

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BETH LEVY INTERIM DIRECTOR

The year 2011-2012 brought significant changes to the UC Davis Humanities Institute, with an Interim Director at the helm, a relatively new Associate Director, and five fresh faces on the Faculty Advisory Board. The much anticipated roll-out of a new and improved website has made it easier than ever to see the results of our continued mission: bridging the boundaries that separate humanistic disciplines, building dialogues between scholars in different fields and at different stages of their careers, and helping UC Davis humanists communicate their good work to the wider world.

In other respects, 2011-2012 was a challenging year for humanists, and indeed for all of us at UC Davis—a year marked by peaceful student protests and pepper spray, economic crisis, state budget cuts, and pressing questions about access to higher education. While these could easily seem unwelcome “distractions” from the ongoing work of scholarship and teaching, I have seen again and again how faculty and students have stretched to reach the greater goals of engagement with current events and renewed commitment to the scholarly exchange that makes the public university worth fighting for in the first place.

Expanding to the regional level, this year marks the climax of the Art of Regional Change [ARC], a three-year collaboration with the Center for Regional Change in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Directed by Jesikah Maria Ross, this initiative represents the best of the public humanities, bringing together scholars, students, artists, and community groups to address shared concerns about our social and natural environments. Unveiled in fall 2012, ARC’s powerful “Restore/Restory” project took shape in a site-based audio tour of Yolo County’s Cache Creek Nature Preserve, and an interactive website

“It has been a year with much to celebrate”

It has been a year with much to celebrate: the brilliant launch of the Civility Project, a new Arts Faculty Showcase lecture series, the first flowering of Mellon Research Initiatives devoted to Early Modern Studies and Environments & Societies, new directions for the California Cultures Initiative, and the culminating chapter in the Art of Regional Change, to name just a few. At the same time, important groundwork has been laid for the future success of two new Mellon Research Initiatives, the 2012-2013 Sawyer Seminar “Indigenous Cosmopolitics,” and a whole host of graduate student research projects soon to reach completion.

In October, we were encouraged to reflect on the history of protest and free speech in the UC system, through the multifaceted Civility Project, co-directed by Jessica Loudermilk and Carolyn de la Peña (American Studies). As part of our Conversations in the Humanities series, Cristina Gonzalez (Education) shared her thoughts on the UC system and the challenges it faces; among our co-sponsored events in February was an invigorating “teach-in” featuring activist and scholar Angela Davis as keynote speaker and inquiries into social justice by faculty in Hart Hall and students from across campus.

with input from more than 200 participants about the richly layered history of this unique place. In addition to funding course development grants and research stipends for faculty and graduate students, the California Cultures Initiative sponsored an ambitious research seminar called “California, the Great Exception?” directed by Julie Sze (American Studies) and Tom Beamish (Sociology); and the quarterly BOOM was honored by the Library Journal as one of the “Best Magazines of 2011” for its engaging treatment of a wide range of Californian topics, including a special issue built around the contributions of faculty in the

“California Architecture and Design” Multi-Campus Research group, funded by the UC Humanities Network.

While these projects have made the most of their local focus, others have expanded our historical and geographical horizons, including the impressive Human Rights and the Humanities week in March, directed by Keith Watenpaugh (Religious Studies). The Mellon Research Initiatives are off to a stunningly successful start, thanks to strong administrative support from Institute staff and the leadership of faculty directors Gina Bloom (English) and Louis Warren (History).

As always, the Institute remains deeply concerned with technology—both as a tool for research and its dissemination and as a shaping factor in our modern lives. We were pleased to host Professor Cathy Davidson of Duke University for her fall appearance at the Chancellor’s Colloquium Distinguished Speakers Series and to hear her insights on the intertwining of technology and collaborative inquiry. The Institute’s Faculty Research Seminar in winter 2012 was devoted to the technologies of “Surveillance and the Social Network,” and in the spring we worked with Shields Library to put together an exciting line-up of “lightning talks” on tools and projects in the digital humanities. The Institute’s own Digital Innovation Lab has continued to garner recognition from far and wide for its research on collaborative data aggregation and immersive environments.

With more than \$14,000 distributed to co-sponsored events, \$50,000 allocated to our diverse research clusters and related groups, and nearly \$60,000 in support for faculty research, the Institute remains a catalyst in the intellectual life of UC Davis and a key resource for faculty who have sought and won external funding from the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation, the UC Office of the President, the UC Institute for Research in the Arts and the UC Humanities Research Institute. Equally critical is the Institute’s role in supporting graduate student research—whether through the Mellon Research Initiatives, our own dissertation year fellowships and summer stipends, or our shepherding of generous gifts from the Bilinski Foundation and other campus resources.

In closing, allow me to say what a privilege it has been to work with such outstanding staff, faculty colleagues, and administrators during my time at the Humanities Institute. I welcome the return of Director Carolyn de la Peña, knowing that the Institute is in excellent hands and that the scholarly dialogues it supports will continue to enrich our campus, our community, and our world.



Beth E. Henry

Associate Professor, Music Department
Interim Director, Davis Humanities Institute

2011-2012

FELLOWS

Scholars might do their best work alone or in a group, and that is one of many reasons why the Humanities Institute supports both individual research and interdisciplinary collaboration. It is hard, if not impossible, to have one without the other. The following pages catalog the fellows supported with assistance through the Institute's Faculty Research Seminar, Dissertation Year Fellowships, and Summer Research Stipends as well as from an endowment of the California Cultures Initiative and a gift from the Bilinski Education Foundation. The wide array of projects across the humanities and humanistic social sciences is a testament to the diversity and richness of the work of UC Davis's faculty and graduate students.



FELLOWS

FACULTY RESEARCH SEMINAR

With the support of a research stipend that some used towards a course release, a small group of faculty across the disciplines met weekly in a single quarter to dig deeply into a topic that they approached from different directions. In 2011-2012, Kriss Ravetto-Biagioli, associate professor of Technocultural Studies, convened a Faculty Research Seminar titled “Surveillance and the Social Network,” to explore the growth of social networking sites in relation to the numerous and dispersed surveillance technologies that permeate our everyday lives. The seven participants each arrived with specific topics ranging from nanotechnology and biosensing to the politics of atmosphere, the history and politics of surveillance, and the subversive practices of social networks.

The variety of projects and approaches is one of the most valuable aspects of the Faculty Research Seminar, according to Sunaina Maira, professor of Asian American Studies. “Despite having a central theme, we’re doing many different types of projects and have different approaches,” said Maira. “All of this leads to original, creative, and unexpected entry points into the theme and into each other’s work.” Maira also emphasized the importance of making these connections: “Davis is a dispersed campus, and the seminar is one of the few spaces where we actually get to share each other’s work.”



THE SEMINAR’S PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

ARE LISTED BELOW

- Kriss Ravetto-Biagioli (Technocultural Studies), convener
- Lawrence Bogad (Theatre & Dance) “Satire, Surveillance and the States: a Performative Exploration”
- Tim Choy (Anthropology and Science & Technology Studies) “The Making of Political Atmosphere: Technoscience, Affect, and the Ontological Politics of Air”
- Jaimey Fisher (German & Russian) “Eavesdropping on the Past: Domestic Terrorism, Political Dissent, and Surveillance in Contemporary European Cinema”
- Caren Kaplan (American Studies) “The Visual Culture of Stealth: Deception and Detection Under Neoliberal Militarism”
- Sunaina Maira (Asian American Studies) “Surveillance Effects: Youth and ‘Radicalization’ in the War on Terror”
- Colin Milburn (English) “Touching Little Things: Probe Microscopy as Surveillance Technology”

“Davis is a dispersed campus, and the seminar is one of the few spaces where we actually get to share each other’s work.”

DISSERTATION YEAR FELLOWS

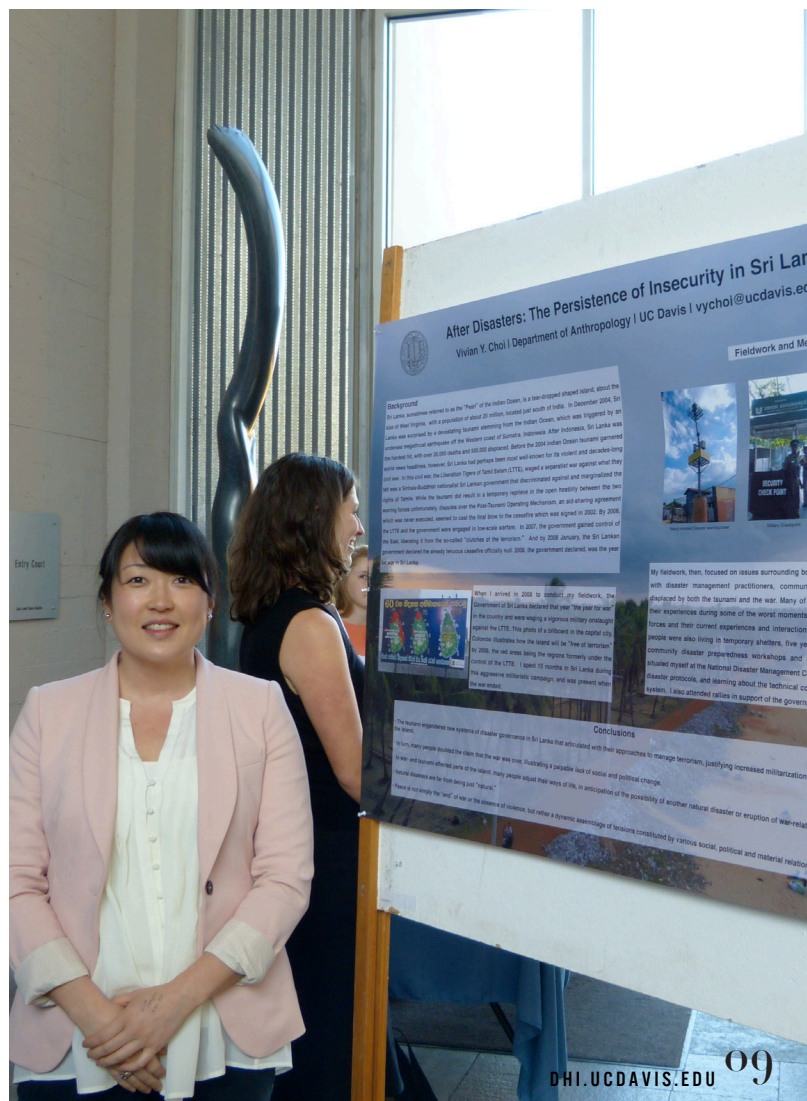
Chad Anderson (History) examines the relationship between changes to the built and natural landscape of the New York frontier and the meaning attached to this landscape in a project titled “The Storied Landscape of Iroquoia: Landscape and Memory on the New York Frontier, 1750-1840.” Anderson explores how settlers imposed a new vision of the landscape on Iroquoia, invented new traditions associated with this transformation, and remembered or distorted the land’s Indian past.

D.A. Caeton (Cultural Studies) investigates how the pursuit of a standardized method of literacy for blind people was informed by divergent beliefs about blind people’s assimilability into the dominant sighted culture. His dissertation, “Reading Between the Dots: The Somanormative Silhouette of Braille in U.S. Culture, 1830-1938,” engages questions around citizenship and belonging in nineteenth-century America.

Vivian Choi (Anthropology) creates a critical ethnography of disasters both natural and man-made in her dissertation, “After Disasters: The Persistence of Insecurity and Violence in Sri Lanka.” Choi compares the aftermaths of the tsunami and war, assessing the possibilities of peace through new processes of nation-building and reconstruction in a post-tsunami and post-war context. By examining how both disasters unfolded socially and politically, she hopes to unsettle the very terms by which we understand phenomena as either “natural” or “man-made” — that is, “natural” or “cultural.”

Matthew Russell (Spanish and Portuguese) completed a dissertation titled “Postmemory, the Holocaust and the Re-Moralization of the Spanish Civil War in Contemporary Spanish Cultural Production” that examined how contemporary Spanish novelists, filmmakers, graphic novelists, and authors of testimony use the moral trope of the Holocaust to understand, mediate, and construct memories of Spain’s contentious history of violence. Russell’s study suggests a more nuanced view of memory discourses and explains how the trope of the Holocaust informs and hinders local memory practices.

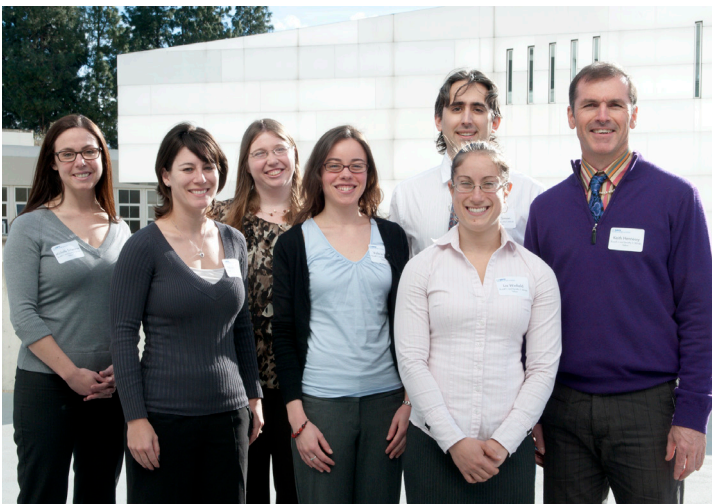
Made possible through the generous support of the UC Humanities Network with additional funding from the UC Davis Deans of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies and Social Sciences, Dissertation Year Fellowships enable a select group of advanced graduate students to spend a full academic year completing their dissertations. The fellowships are awarded to those projects that will make significant and original contributions to research in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. Two of the Dissertation Year Fellows in 2011-2012, Vivian Choi and Matthew Russell, were invited to participate in the UC Society of Fellows in the Humanities, an interdisciplinary network of outstanding graduate student and faculty fellows whose research receives support from the UC Humanities Network.



FELLOWS

BILINSKI FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

UC Davis was awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship Fund, a program of the Bilinski Educational Foundation, that allowed the College of Letters and Science to offer dissertation fellowships in six of its top-ranked programs in the Division of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies (HArCS) and the Division of Social Sciences (DSS). This generous program is designed to support students as they begin the advanced stage of doctoral study by offering funding during the quarter immediately following advancement to candidacy, providing summer research and writing support, and providing for a full academic year fellowship for dissertation writing. The Humanities Institute coordinates programming support for the Bilinski Fellows, and in Spring 2012 organized a public presentation of the fellows' work.



DIVISION OF HUMANITIES ARTS AND CULTURAL STUDIES

- Valerie Billing (English) "Large and in Charge: Age, Size, and Gender in Early Modern England"
- Nicole Kenley (English) "Detecting Globalization"
- Sampada Aranke (Performance Studies) "Black Power/Black Death: Images and the Circulation of Affect in Black Radical Politics"
- Keith Hennessy (Performance Studies) "Archives of an emergent culture: West Coast Performance Collectives, 1975"
- David Verbuč (Music) "Alternative music house concert scenes in the US: music, space, language, and community"

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Andrew Kerr (History) "The Fight for Vieques, Puerto Rico – A Story of Empire and Environmentalism during the Cold War"
- Lia Winfield (History) "Claiming Their Place: Women in the United States Army, 1973-1993"
- Debra Leiter (Political Science) "How Individual, Party System, and Institutional Factors Mediate Voter and Party Emphasis on Valence and Ideology"
- Michelle Schwarze (Political Science) "The Motivation for Justice: Moral and Political Psychology in the Scottish Enlightenment"
- David Simon (Economics) "Anti-Tobacco Policy and the Long Term Impacts of In Utero Exposure to Cigarette Smoke"



Summer funding for graduate students is all too rare. For that reason, with the support of the Dean of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies, the Humanities Institute was especially pleased to be able to set aside additional funding in 2011-2012 to support graduate student research and travel. Projects ranged widely from an aesthetic and feminist history of yoga in America to an examination of the ideological and political dimensions of Molière's plays. The students, and their projects, are listed below.

SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWS

- Gina Caison (English): "Being, Feeling, and Seeing Red in the Native South"
- Amy Champ (Performance Studies): "Feminism from the Inside out: The Hidden Story of Women and Yoga in America"
- Megan McMullan (French): "The War of All and The Ship of Fools: Molière's Quarrels"
- Joshua Waggoner (Comparative Literature): "Repetitions of the Fall: The Concept of Trauma as a Special Theory of Irony"

SUMMER TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS

- Abigail Boggs (Cultural Studies): "Prospective Student, Potential Threat: The Figure of the International Student in US Higher Education"
- Emelie Coleman (Comparative Literature): "Tajik Dance in Literature and Practice"
- Jon Dettman (Spanish and Portuguese): "Contemporary Cuban literature, film, and culture"
- Karen Embry (English): "Philosophy, Truth, and the Claims of Art"
- Sascha Gerhards (German): "Zeitgeist of Murder: The Krimi and Social Transformation in Post-1945 Germany"
- Erik Larson (Spanish and Portuguese): "Chilean Hard-Boiled Novel, or Novela Negra"
- ChiaWei Lin (Music) "Rewinding Improvisation"
- Sarah McCullough (Cultural Studies): "Mechanical Intuitions: Innovating Appropriate Bicycling Spaces"
- Stephanie Maroney (Cultural Studies): "Seminar in Reading Historic Cookbooks"
- Giovanna Montenegro (Comparative Literature): "Discovery of America"
- Anna Pruitt (English): "Shadow Patriarchs: Rogues, Witches, Bawds, and the Politics of Reproduction"

SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWS AND TRAVEL GRANTS

CALIFORNIA CULTURES INITIATIVE FELLOWS



The California Cultures Initiative (CCI) works to enhance the connection of humanities research and scholars at UC Davis to their surrounding region, defined broadly to include areas or sites within the state, as well as state-wide geographies and broader regional understandings. In 2011-12, CCI introduced two new programs of individual research funding: summer research support of up to \$5000 for faculty and \$1000 for graduate students, and course development grants of up to \$1000 for faculty.

SUMMER RESEARCH FACULTY FELLOWS

THOMAS D. BEAMISH (SOCIOLOGY)

“Making The Invisible, Visible: Comparing California and EU Response to Crescive Environmental and Health Risks”

Beamish was awarded summer research support to continue a fruitful comparative research collaboration with French colleagues at the Groupe de Sociologie Pragmatique et Réflexive. The comparative research program takes California and the EU as its points of focus, comparing societal level responses to crescive risks in order to provide a cross-national look at the way regulators and experts similarly and differently deploy their expertise and regulatory tools and models to address emerging environmental and health issues. The research collaboration explores the central questions of how regulatory regimes in California and the EU apprehend environmental and health risks and have responded to them and how civil societal groups and institutions as represented by residents, protest groups, social elites, and the media in California and the EU have responded to environmental and health risks.

KIMBERLY NETTLES-BARCELÓN (WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES)

“California Soul: Narratives of Food, Power, and Place in Post-Civil Rights Oakland”

Nettles-Barcelón received summer research funds in support of her book project, California Soul, in which, according to her proposal, she “constructs the history of a place and a people through the stories they tell about food – growing, buying and selling, as well as cooking and eating. The project focuses on the ideological and material struggles around food in Oakland, California by examining the interrelations amongst three key food moments: the ‘Free Breakfast’ and ‘Food Giveaway’ programs of the late 1960s, the current community food security movement, and the burgeoning renaissance of ‘soul food’ restaurants.”

JULIE SZE (AMERICAN STUDIES)

“Denormalizing Landscapes of Injustice in the San Joaquin Valley”

With the funding provided by CCI, Sze worked to develop two projects rooted in concerns about social justice in the Central Valley: an article about the Kettleman City birth defects controversy; and “Driving with Isao,” an online and print project based on interviews with social justice researcher Isao Fujimoto. In both projects, according to her proposal, Sze aims to shed light on “persistent patterns of contamination and destruction in the Central Valley [which] are not accidental, but instead, endemic and embedded in systems of exploitation, heightened in an era of neoliberalism.” The projects combine traditional academic research and publications with online and collaborative research projects that cross campus/community divides.

SUMMER RESEARCH GRADUATE FELLOWS

TRISHA BARUA (CULTURAL STUDIES)

“Field Research at Northern California Trader Joe’s Stores”

With her CCI award, Barua was able to conduct field research for her dissertation project, which uses Trader Joe’s stores as sites of Bay Area race and class politics. Her research on this topic addresses issues of food access, consumption practices, and the dissemination of middle-class culture. Additionally, according to Barua’s proposal, the project works to “shed light upon how the state is imagined in various locations across the country through an everyday space of consumption, the grocery store,” by informing our understanding of how California functions as a symbol or icon both within and outside of its borders.

LORI LAIWA (NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES)

“Historical Narratives of the Central Pomo Indians”

Laiwa’s research award enabled her to conduct dissertation research at UC Berkeley and at the federal archives located in San Bruno, California. Her summer research focused on historical narratives connecting Central Pomo Indians to specific places within ancestral and contemporary territories between 1940 and present day. According to Laiwa’s proposal, this project explores “the cultural interactions, and traditional knowledge systems regarding migration routes, sacred places, fish and game disputes, land claims, and language” and recognizes oral histories as “primary research materials for Indigenous communities where written history does not exist.” By integrating elder knowledge with more traditional written histories of significant events, places, genealogies, traditions, ceremonies, and languages, Laiwa aims to provide a more balanced and nuanced understanding of the distinct Central Pomo culture.

TARA ZAGOFSKY (HUMAN GEOGRAPHY)

“Civic Engagement Unbound: Social & Spatial Forms of Inclusion/Exclusion in Marginalized Communities”

With the assistance of the CCI award, Zagofsky conducted ethnographic research investigating the civic engagement practices of low-income and multiethnic communities and how social and spatial boundaries shape such practices. Zagofsky’s case study in South Sacramento involved the collection and analysis of data from participant observations, interviews, documents, and archival records to address how social and spatial boundaries of inclusion/exclusion are produced and the consequences of this social and spatial boundary-making for civic engagement processes.

CECILIA M. TSU (HISTORY)

Tsu's proposal focused on the improvement and updating of an established undergraduate offering, "California History." The redesigned course will take advantage of the latest research on the history of race relations and visual culture in California. New studies of race and ethnicity highlight the complex history of California. The introduction of new material such as documentary photographs, films, and other art forms and images will help students move beyond the traditional white-non-white framework to consider the historical interactions among minority groups.

ROBYN MAGALIT RODRIGUEZ (ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES)

Rodriguez's proposed course, "Immigrant Routes/Roots: Comparative Explorations of California's Immigrant Communities," explores how migration shapes Californian and American identity. The course examines how immigrants from the Philippines and Mexico share similar histories of immigration and labor struggles that create new Californian communities and identities.

NAOMI JANOWITZ (RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

Janowitz was awarded a grant in support of a new course titled "Reading War/Fighting War," in collaboration with Joseph Harvey of the Military Science ROTC program. The course is designed to facilitate a dialogue between two of the central "microclimates" within California—the UC campuses and military bases. Janowitz and Harvey hope to connect students unfamiliar with experiences of war with the veterans among our campus populations. According to Janowitz, these encounters will facilitate critical and civil discussion about the challenges facing America in a time of war. Readings on war and peace, such as the Iliad and the Bible, will be juxtaposed with presentations by current members of the armed forces. To reach as many people as possible, Janowitz will invite the campus community to join the 300-person class for special lectures of interest.





Golden Society
Staircase

EXIT

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

Among our goals at the Humanities Institute is to promote and publicize the great research being done here at UC Davis and at our peer institutions across the country and around the globe. Our events also serve the dual purpose of fostering research networks and sparking scholarly conversations that enrich the work of our faculty and graduate students. Here is a selection of programs, exhibitions, and stand-alone events in 2011-2012 that served these key objectives.



Always a Protest

The

Civility Project



On the evening of October 27th, the Humanities Institute hosted the Civility Project Launch Event, the culmination of a year and a half of academic and artistic exploration of questions of civility on our campus and beyond. The Civility Project was conceived as campus communities began to discuss their reactions to a series of incidents of incivility across the UC campuses. The project drew upon UC Davis's strengths in research across the disciplines, bringing them to bear upon questions our community must ask itself in order to develop or refine a shared notion of civility, and to foster the conditions necessary to nurture it. Incorporating research from the social sciences, humanities, and arts, this project was designed to engage members of the university community in an examination of how we define and achieve civility on campus.

“The Civility Project was conceived as campus communities began to discuss their reactions to a series of incidents of incivility across the UC campuses.”

The Fall launch event celebrated the work of the Civility Project with a public reception and launch of the three major project components: a web-based history of incivility on UC campuses; an original documentary theatre production; and a custom designed exhibition of materials from the Shields Library's special collection of radical pamphlets. Each component of the Civility Project involved stakeholders and participants from a broad range of constituencies on the UC Davis campus, including administrators, staff, faculty, and both graduate and undergraduate students.

Tracing the tension on campuses between free expression and the exchange of ideas, and facilitating inclusion and tolerance in an increasingly diverse population, *The Limits of Civility* is a web-based history synthesizing journalists' accounts of incidents of hate on UC campuses, institutional records of campus responses to those events, and data regarding the rapidly shifting demographics of the UC system since the 1960s. *Paper Takes: The Power of Uncivil Words* exhibits materials from the Shields' strong collection of “extreme” pamphlets. Created by UC Davis design students, faculty, and graduate student curator fellows, *Paper Takes* explored how intolerant views are communicated and disseminated in order to better understand the role that individuals, communities, and social systems play in perpetuating the inaccurate stories of one group's superiority over another that often lead to uncivil events. A documentary theatre piece conceived and directed by a graduate student Civility Project fellow and featuring an undergraduate student cast, *(Un)Civil (Dis)Obedience* explored the campus community's emotional responses to the alarming series of uncivil moments and hate-based incidents on the UC Davis campus between 2009 and 2010. Based on transcripts of interviews conducted on campus by a group of student researchers and performers, the play gives voice to the interior, emotional experience of incivility and insists that we listen to such “unofficial” records of the heart if we are to foster the free and respectful exchange of ideas within our community.

CALIFORNIA CULTURES INITIATIVE

The California Cultures Initiative (CCI) introduced “Thinking the Region,” an exciting new funding opportunity for collaborative research seminars. The inaugural seminar *California: The Great Exception?*, convened by Julie Sze (American Studies) and Tom Beamish (Sociology), explored the concept of California exceptionalism through the state’s approaches to environmental and health risks. The seminar also hosted a public event series inviting local and international scholars to contribute to the conversation around these issues.

Occurring weekly in May 2012, the series explored California exceptionalism in attempts to manage climate change and ensure democracy, and in issues of food and health, bodies and justice in an interdisciplinary and comparative context. Each of the public conversations in the series featured brief presentations by social scientists and humanists concerning their own current work on topics relevant to the seminar topic, followed by an open forum discussion of the issues raised by those presentations. A keynote lecture in the series offered an international perspective on the issues. European sociologists Francis Chateauraynaud and Josquin Debaz of the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences were guests of the seminar, giving a public lecture in which they comparatively discussed their studies of both French and Californian contexts and exploring how each region has framed and pursued environmental and health risks.

CALIFORNIA THE GREAT EXCEPTION?

Conversations on Environment, Health & Risk

This series explores manifestations of California exceptionalism in attempts to manage climate change and assure democracy, issues of food and health, and bodies and justice in an interdisciplinary and comparative context.

MAY 9

Managing Climate Change and Ensuring Democracy
Tom Beamish, Chris Benner & Ryken Grattet

MAY 16

Food and Health in California
Julie Guthman (UCSC), Ryan Galt & Charlotte Biltekoff
Followed by a reception and book signing

MAY 23

KEYNOTE LECTURE
Is California Exceptional? – An EU perspective
Environmental Health Issues Regulation in US and in Europe, a comparative study
Francis Chateauraynaud and Josquin Debaz of the School for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (EHESS, Paris)

MAY 30

Agriculture, Bodies & Justice in the Central Valley
Julie Sze, Jonathan London & Natalia Deeb-Sossa

All events take place from 4-6pm in 126 Voorhies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:
cci.ucdavis.edu/seminar

This series is offered in conjunction with the “Thinking the Region” faculty research seminar supported by the California Cultures Initiative at the UC Davis Humanities Institute.

COSPONSERED EVENTS

The Humanities Institute administers a cosponsored events program that allows faculty across the division to apply for funding to support a wide array of events, such as conferences, symposia, workshops, and guest lectures that enhance research and serve faculty and graduate students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences at UC Davis. In 2011-2012, the Institute supplemented the support it received from the Deans of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies and Social Sciences to support 40 events across the campus, including a social justice teach-in featuring Angela Davis; talks on gender equity in the public university; lectures on early modern art history; and seminars on memory and revolution in Latin America.



ARTS FACULTY SHOWCASE

The UC Davis Arts Initiative, a partnership with the Humanities Institute and the six campus arts departments, inaugurated an arts faculty lecture series in 2011-2012 that featured recently hired faculty in Music, Theatre & Dance, and Art Studio. Laurie San Martin, associate professor of music and Arts Initiative faculty assistant, spearheaded the lecture series as a way for the campus community to get a peek into the research, thought, and creative processes of UC Davis's arts faculty. Bella Merlin of the Theatre & Dance Department kicked off the series with her latest practical investigations in a talk titled "Practice as Research: Playing Up and Acting Out." Swedish composer Mika Pelo in the Music Department discussed his approach to musical composition as "controlled dreaming," and photographer Youngsuk Suh of Art Studio shared the inspiration for his new project "Let Burn: Landscape in the age of natural disasters," a photo and video series on controlled fires. "The initiative hoped to shed light on some of the essential inner workings of our arts departments: Theater & Dance, Music, Art, Creative Writing, Cinema and Technocultural Studies, and Design," said San Martin.

UC Davis Arts Initiative Presents

Arts Faculty Showcase



Bella Merlin Theatre & Dance

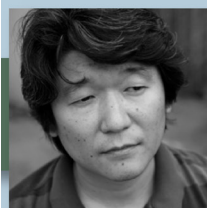
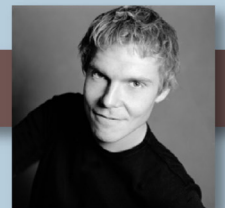
"Practice as Research:
Playing Up and Acting Out"

Thursday, March 8, 12-1 p.m. Wyatt Theater

Mika Pelo Music

"Controlled Dreaming"

Friday, May 4, 4-5:30 p.m. Art Annex



Youngsuk Suh Art Studio

"Let it Burn: Landscape in
the age of natural disasters"

Thursday, May 31, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Art Annex

UC DAVIS
HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

DIGITAL HUMANITIES LIGHTNING TALKS

Just what is digital humanities? There is no clear definition, but nine faculty members and librarians came together in a spring 2012 event hosted by the Institute and Shields Library and offered their views of the landscape of digital scholarship at UC Davis. In a series of five-minute “lightning talks,” presenters provided an introduction to a vast array of projects and technologies. “Our goal was to bring people together,” said Amy Kautzman, Associate University Librarian for the Humanities and Social Sciences. “At UC Davis, we have lots of people with fingers and toes in the digital humanities, but most are isolated... I hope that these conversations will help people to connect and will lead to further collaboration.”

“There is no solid definition of the digital humanities, and it’s exciting to be a part of defining it.”

Professor Eric Smoodin (American Studies) presented his work in reconstructing the moviegoing experience in 1930s Paris using digital tools such as Second Life and the Keck Caves. Kautzman introduced a suite of publishing and data preservation tools hosted by the University of California Curation Center (UC3). Professor and composer Sam Nichols (Music) gave an overview of Strand, a music composition tool he is developing in order to record, alter, and interact with improvisations. Humanities and Social Sciences Librarian David Michalski showed how the Cultural Atlas of California Wine makes use of digital technology to create interactive maps of the historical and cultural impact of California’s wine regions and provide new ways to conceptualize landscapes. “There is no solid definition of the digital humanities, and it’s exciting to be a part of defining it,” said Phillip Barron, Digital History Developer for the History Project at UC Davis. Barron presented his work on creating a digital archive of the rare and fragmented primary documents of the indigenous slave trade in colonial Central and South America.



CONVERSATIONS IN THE HUMANITIES



In 2011-2012, the Humanities Institute continued its series of events highlighting exciting areas of humanities research at UC Davis and beyond. These lunch time brown bag events are designed to feature a rich area of research in the humanities, while appealing to both specialists in that area and a broader campus and community audience. Following brief presentations, speakers opened a conversation about the area of research and its potential importance and impact in the humanities, in the academy, in our community, and beyond. In the fall, Chad Anderson, a doctoral student in history and Humanities Institute Dissertation Year Fellow, put his work on Native American monuments and place-making in conversation with broader dialogues around race, place, and space with the help of faculty panelists Hsuan Hsu of English and historian Christina Snyder, an ACLS visiting fellow from Indiana University. In the spring, Dissertation Year Fellow D.A. Caeton of Cultural Studies tackled issues around blindness and citizenship in

“Speakers opened a conversation about the area of research and its potential importance and impact in the humanities, in the academy, in our community, and beyond.”

the nineteenth-century U.S. with commentators Sarita See, professor of Asian American Studies, and Doctoral Candidate Tristan Josephson, also of Cultural Studies. Caeton, who is completing a dissertation titled “Reading Between the Dots: The Somanormative Silhouette of Braille in U.S. Culture, 1830-1938” found the discussion with his panelists and the audience invigorating as he continued to work through how blind subjects assimilated as citizens and achieved self-determination in the modern liberal state.



KEN WISSOKER *TALK*

EVENTS

Duke University Press has published more than a dozen books by UC Davis faculty, so who better to address the future of publishing than Duke University Press's editorial director? As editor-in-chief of one of the most renowned and intellectually innovative academic presses, Ken Wissoker spoke at a Fall 2011 Humanities Institute event, offering an engaging and timely presentation titled "Writing and Publishing in a Time of Media Transformation." Faculty and graduate students from a host of disciplines peppered Wissoker with questions about the viability and vitality of traditional academic publishing in a world saturated by electronic alternatives. Wissoker made the case for the continued relevance and necessity of academic monographs that break new ground as they reach readers in their own fields and beyond. A testament to the interdisciplinarity of Duke University Press's list, Wissoker's talk was cosponsored by a broad cross-section of departments, programs, and centers, including the departments of English, History, and Anthropology; the Consortium for Women and Research; the Hemispheric Institute on the Americas; the American Studies Program; Science and Technology Studies; Cinema and Technocultural Studies, and the Office of Graduate Studies.



EVENTS

BILINKSI *SHOWCASE*

In May 2012, the cohort of Bilinski Fellows, recipients of dissertation fellowships offered through a \$500,000 grant from the Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship Fund, were able to share the work they had accomplished in a research showcase for the UC Davis community. The fellows are completing dissertations in top-ranked programs in the Division of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies (HArCS) and the Division of Social Sciences (DSS). Bilinski Fellows are supported in their advanced stages of doctoral study with not only a traditional dissertation-year fellowship, but also an additional summer and academic quarter of funding. The Humanities Institute coordinates programming support for the fellows and organized the research showcase, which gave fellows an opportunity to present their work and also to put it in conversation with the work of their colleagues, some of whom work in vastly different disciplinary territories.

In the first panel of the day, three of the fellows from Social Sciences presented together in a panel called “Market Failures in Economics/Health, Voting and Morals.” In the second session of the showcase, fellows from HArCS made up a panel presentation of works that share a central concern with politics, power, and performance, though the scholars approached these concerns from different points of entry. A third panel was arranged around the topics of gender, performance, and embodied categorization. The significant progress on their dissertations made evident in the fellows’ presentations would not have been possible without the Bilinski Fellowship Program that allows the fellows to focus on their dissertation projects for a total of five quarters. For more details on the fellows and their projects, please visit the Bilinski Fellows page at dhi.ucdavis.edu.



MELLON RESEARCH INITIATIVES **IN THE HUMANITIES**





The Humanities Institute is home to the Mellon Research Initiatives in the Humanities, a series of interdisciplinary collaborations aimed at building upon core strengths in humanities research at UC Davis. Funded through a generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the program will underwrite four research initiatives over the next five years. The first two initiatives, one in early modern studies led by Distinguished Professor of English Margaret Ferguson and Associate Professor of English Gina Bloom and the other in environments and societies directed by Louis Warren, the W. Turrentine Jackson Professor of Western U.S. History, debuted in the fall of 2011. Two additional groups, selected in a competitive call for proposals, are due to start in the fall of 2013. In the program's first year, it quickly became clear that there was no single model for a successful Mellon Research Initiative that provides support for programming such as colloquia, lectures, and workshops, graduate student recruitment and retention, and post-doctoral fellows. Each group approached the challenges of broadening networks and enriching graduate education in its own way, with great results.

The Early Modern Mellon Research Initiative held three events over the course of 2011-2012 each pairing two high-profile scholars presenting on a single theme, such as gender and honor in the early modern world. Gina Bloom, co-director of the early modern group, explained the rationale behind mounting a series of large events versus smaller workshops: "It was about getting people to come to events and building connections among different disciplines." Inspired by the format of the Agrarian Studies Seminar at Yale, the Environments & Societies Mellon Research Initiative chose a 10-week colloquium inviting scholars to engage in discussions around a sample of their research, an article, book chapter, or opinion piece that was pre-circulated on their web site. Warren reported that the colloquium experience had been "extraordinary" and that bringing people together across so many disciplines "was not something I could do in the history department."

Apart from mounting a robust program of events around their topics, the Mellon directors were equally focused in their inaugural year on the recruitment and intellectual development of a strong cohort of graduate students. The postdoctoral fellow for the Early Modern Studies Mellon group, Ari Friedlander, took on an important mentoring role by convening a seminar for Mellon Graduate Fellows in which the students shared their own works in progress. One PhD candidate credited the support of the Mellon seminar with enabling her to focus on her writing and garner a prestigious Pacific Rim Graduate Fellowship to conduct research in Spain, Peru, and Mexico next year. In another approach, Louis Warren teamed with Associate Professor of English Mike Ziser to teach a graduate seminar on environmental humanities. In the first year, each of the Mellon Research Initiatives successfully recruited graduate students who will contribute to and benefit from the groups' activities.

"It was about getting people to come to events and build connections among different disciplines"





Partnerships

The Humanities Institute works with a number of community and campus partners to expand our research mission beyond UC Davis and provide opportunities for engagement outside the classroom. In 2011-2012, these strategic partnerships helped produce a multimedia history project, an ongoing speakers series, an award-winning journal, and an intimate conversation with a visiting film director.

THE ART OF REGIONAL CHANGE



In the works for more than a year, “Restore/Restory: A People’s History of the Cache Creek Nature Preserve” is the latest community-university project of the UC Davis Art of Regional Change, a joint initiative of the Humanities Institute and the Center for Regional Change. The multimedia storytelling project, which was unveiled in a community event at the Cache Creek Nature Preserve on October 20, 2012, brought together UC Davis students, faculty, and artists with members of the Cache Creek Conservancy as well as a cross-section of Yolo County residents (Native leaders, miners, farmers, environmental activists, and policymakers) in creating a collaborative vision of the past. That public history, consisting of a story map, audio tours, digital murals, and a timeline of images, maps and historical documents, is featured on an interactive web site: <http://restorerestory.org>.

The history of the Jan T. Lowrey Cache Creek Nature Preserve is rich, diverse, and reflective of the layered stories and landscapes across California. Today, the 130-acre site bordering Cache Creek outside Woodland is a rural idyll, a natural landscape brimming with native plants, birds, and animals, but that is also home to a contested past, perspectives the Restore/Restory project captures and records. “We have involved over 200 residents in co-creating a public history that brings to life a mosaic of experiences with a place we have in common. The Preserve is a tangible reminder of our past,” said Project Director jesikah maria ross. “While the preserve may not be known for a single historic event, witnessing its social and ecological history helps us understand who we are and consider the lessons learned as we move forward as a community.”

Over one hundred UC Davis students took part in the project through five different classes: two in English, two in Technocultural and Cinema Studies, and one in Design. ross considers Restore/Restory a hands-on humanities project as well as a model for turning histories of conflicts into sites for collaboration. Apart from the Humanities Institute and Center for Regional Change, the Restore/Restory project has been supported by the UC Humanities Research Institute, the UC Institute for Research in the Arts, the Quitilpas Foundation, Tuleyome, Capay Valley Vision, Putah Creek Council, and the Yolo County Historical Society.



THE CHANCELLOR'S COLLOQUIUM

PARTNERSHIPS

In 2011-2012, Cathy Davidson, the Ruth F. DeVarney Professor of English and John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at Duke University, opened the third season of the UC Davis Chancellor's Colloquium Distinguished Speakers Series, an ongoing series produced in partnership with the Humanities Institute. In an address drawn from her latest book titled *Now You See It: How Technology and Brain Science Will Transform Schools and Business for the 21st Century*, Davidson challenged the academic community to adapt its work and learning environments to better suit the digital age. Nominated by President Obama to the National Council on the Humanities in December 2010, Davidson is a co-founder of HASTAC (The Humanities, Arts, Sciences and Technology Advanced Collaboratory), a network of educators dedicated to new modes of learning for the digital age.

The Chancellor's Colloquium Series is intended to spark engaging conversations with our university and the broader public about some of the most pressing issues of our time. Free and open to the public, the forums provide opportunities for robust discussions around topics involving food and agriculture, biochemistry, medicine, and humanities and scientific research. Other guest speakers in the 2011-2012 Chancellor's Colloquium Series were Charles Vest, president emeritus and professor of mechanical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Ralph Cicerone, president of the National Academy of Sciences and chair of the National Research Council; Michael Dukakis, former governor of Massachusetts and the 1988 Democratic nominee for president; and Subra Suresh, distinguished engineer and professor and director of the National Science Foundation.

BOOM

A JOURNAL OF CALIFORNIA

PARTNERSHIPS

The Humanities Institute has served as an institutional home to BOOM: A Journal of California, co-edited by Carolyn de la Peña, professor of American Studies and Humanities Institute director, and Louis Warren, W. Turrentine Jackson Professor of Western U.S. History, since its founding in the spring of 2011. A peer-reviewed quarterly journal, BOOM speaks not only to the scholarly community but also to the broader public about the vital social, cultural, and political issues facing California and the region.

“An engaging and visually attractive forum for scholars and artists to describe some of California’s remarkable stories.”

In its first year of publication, Library Journal named BOOM one of the Best Magazines of 2011, praising it as “an engaging and visually attractive forum for scholars and artists to describe some of California’s remarkable stories. It brings history and social sciences to life with readable scholarship that will not only please scholars and entertain general readers but also interest patrons well beyond California’s borders.” The first five issues covered topics including California design, immigration, the natural and built environment, and the state of crisis in California. In the spring 2012 special issue, guest editors Christina Cogdell, UC Davis professor of design, and Stuart Kendall, a professor at the California College of the Arts, presented a collection of articles, interviews, and images exploring “the centrality of design to California politics and culture.”



Mondavi Distinguished Speakers Series

PARTNERSHIPS



UC Davis film students got a brief glimpse into the process and approach of a great filmmaker thanks to the Humanities Institute's continued partnership in the Mondavi Center's Distinguished Speakers Series. As a cosponsor of the series, the Institute annually invites UC Davis undergraduates to an informal, daytime discussion with that year's distinguished speaker. In the spring of 2012, the Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts brought Oliver Stone to campus for an evening engaged in dialogue with a large, public audience in Jackson Hall. Before that event, the Humanities Institute arranged for Stone to talk with a small, more intimate group of UC Davis students enrolled in film courses, including one on experimental digital cinema and another on film production.

For nearly an hour, the students enjoyed the chance to ask the film director about his style, his passions, and what advice he had to pass along. When asked if he thought he had developed an "Oliver Stone style," Stone suggested that rather than developing his own unique style, he made the style of the film fit the story and built the story on the people. "People are what make it dramatic. People first. Don't get lost in the rhetoric," Stone explained. Overall, Stone encouraged students to "Start from the personal. Everyone has something to give. Life is about finding out what that is."



PARTNERSHIPS

CAMPUS COMMUNITY BOOK PROJECT

The Humanities Institute worked closely with the Campus Community Book Project in 2011-2012 to generate conversations among humanities faculty and students around Sherman Alexie's *Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. The book chronicles the protagonist Junior's adolescence and his decision to leave the reservation to attend an all-white school in the neighboring town where the only other Indian is the school mascot. With his characteristic humor, Alexie confronts serious, often painful topics such as racism, poverty, and the role of cultural tradition in the lives of young people. The campus book project was established to promote dialogue and build community by encouraging members of the campus and local communities to read the same book and attend related events and discussions. "The books serve as vehicles to encourage conversations that would not happen otherwise," said Mikael Villalobos, project coordinator and administrator of Diversity Education with the Office of Campus Community Relations.

"The books serve as vehicles to encourage conversations that would not happen otherwise."

In the spirit of fostering conversations around the campus selection, the Humanities Institute co-sponsored a number of forums and events involving faculty and students from across the humanities and humanistic social sciences. For instance, Traci Brynne Voyles, Mellon Visiting Assistant Professor of History, presented a public lecture exploring issues of environmental injustice on and near tribal land throughout the U.S. Voyles examined the ways in which Native land is consistently targeted for environmentally destructive practices, ranging from hazardous waste incinerators to uranium mines and discussed the emergence of a powerful Native environmental justice movement.



COLLABORATIONS

The collaborations we host at the Humanities Institute serve as incubators, seeding conversations both large and small around central questions posed by our faculty and graduate students in the humanities and social sciences. We are especially gratified when those conversations lead to successful proposals for external funding that allow our scholars to achieve more ambitious projects.

RESEARCH CLUSTERS

The Humanities Institute supported twenty research clusters in 2011-2012. From American Cultures and Politics to the History and Religions of Late Antiquity, these initiatives often serve as a starting point for faculty interested in exchanging ideas on emerging and evolving topics across the humanities. Each group consists of faculty and graduate students who determine how to use their funding to best support members' research. In recent years, cluster-supported activities have included graduate student travel fellowships, faculty and graduate student seminars on new research, guest speakers and workshop facilitators, and conferences. For a complete listing of our research clusters, please visit <http://dhi.ucdavis.edu>.

In 2011-2012, thanks to a strategic investment from the UC Davis Office of Research, our research clusters competed for funds to support more ambitious projects. The one-time grant from OR builds the capacity of selected research clusters and prepares them for developing collaborations worthy of extramural funding. A review committee chose two proposals it determined contained the most exciting and innovative ideas and potential for external support. The first proposal, submitted by Associate Professor of Latin American Literature Michael Lazara on behalf of the Latin@american Cultural Studies Research Cluster, will build on an existing international collaboration among scholars at UC Davis and the Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia. With its proposal entitled



“Performing the Archive: The Problem of Memory in Post-Transitional Latin America,” the cluster was awarded \$15,000 to host a major international conference at UC Davis in 2013 that will create a joint research alliance investigating how “archives” of memory are being defined and deployed in Latin American societies in the turbulent decades following authoritarian rule.

“In 2011-2012, thanks to a strategic investment from the UC Davis Office of Research, our research clusters competed for funds to support more ambitious projects.”

The second proposal, entitled “The Birth of the Liberal Arts: Education Networks and Cultural Change in Late Antiquity” and submitted by Associate Professor of Religious Studies Catherine Chin,

seeks to lay the groundwork for a new collaboration on the origins of the liberal arts in late ancient textual, economic, and urban networks. Chin and a cohort of participating faculty will receive \$9,227 to hold a series of workshops in 2012-2013 to develop a new method for the study of knowledge structures and networks in the pre-modern world as well as a collaborative book project on the rise of the liberal arts. In addition to those short-term goals, the team hopes to use these regular meetings as a space to develop proposals for future stages of the continuing project. As Chin put it in the proposal, the funding will allow the working group “to structure the beginning stages of a large multi-stage project in a truly collaborative manner, and will create the intellectual scaffolding for later stages of the project.”

UC MULTICAMPUS RESEARCH GROUP

In California Architecture and Design



University of California Humanities Research Institute
Multicampus Research Group 2012
California Architecture and Design



With support from the UC Humanities Network, three UC Davis design professors, Christina Cogdell, James Housefield, and Simon Sadler, spearheaded a multicampus collaboration to address the question: is there a design history of California? California design is ripe for new study, said Housefield, and this UC-wide initiative is poised to lead the call for critical thinking about California's design heritage and future. Sadler agreed: "California itself is a design. One way or another, every piece of it has been designed, planned, and even fought over. Even in its naturalness, there's nothing natural about California." The group highlights the strength of architecture and design studies to address some of the major issues facing the state.

In 2011-2012, a cohort of scholars from across the UC system, including Berkeley, Riverside, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz as well as California College of the Arts, joined Housefield, Sadler, and Principal Investigator Cogdell in meetings and other collaborative projects. In February 2012, two of the MRG participants hosted a session on "California Design After 1965" at the College Art Association meeting in Los Angeles; in March, a special design-themed issue of the new UC Press journal *BOOM: A Journal of California* hit newstands; and in May, two other MRG members hosted a conference at UC Santa Barbara titled "Icon and Anonymity: What is California Architectural History?" With additional funding from the UC Humanities Network awarded for 2012-2013, the MRG will continue to work towards developing networks that can help the University of California system lead the way into the future. Despite all of the differences among the diverse regions of the state, as Sadler observed, "Californians are always trying to make a better future, and it takes a lot of design to sustain it."

UC WORKING GROUP ON THE CULTURES OF MILITARIZATION



Funded through a grant from the UC Humanities Research Institute, the Cultures of Militarization Working Group, led by UC Davis Professor of American Studies Caren Kaplan, spent 2011-2012 exploring all aspects of militarization, both historically and in relation to current conflicts. “I have got photos of camouflage snug-gies, camouflage tricycles, camouflage everything. It’s unbelievable what they will put camouflage print on,” said Kaplan. These products are symptomatic of the many ways in which the line between military and civilian life has become blurred. Such everyday instances of militarization often are missed in more narrowly disciplinary approaches to the topic, according to Kaplan.

“These products are symptomatic of the many ways in which the line between military and civilian life has become blurred.”

The challenge of the working group’s approach is to understand militarization in a way that does not reduce complex and subtle parts of the story to an overgeneralized “deep structure.” The cultural studies of militarization can elicit the subtler and possibly more unsettling disparate aspects of the operations of thinking, seeing, and being a part of a military project, especially in the age of globalization. That is, in part, why Kaplan and a cohort of faculty from UC Davis, UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, UC Irvine, and UC Santa Barbara, took a more interdisciplinary approach in their ongoing working group.

HUMANITIES INNOVATION LAB

The Humanities Innovation Lab at UC Davis has been producing cutting-edge scholarship and facilitating unexpected collaborations since its founding in 2009 with seed funding from the Office of Research and the dean of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies. Over the next six years, the lab will see a major influx of new work and international collaboration. In 2011-2012, the lab's director, Colin Milburn, the Gary Snyder Endowed Chair in Science and the Humanities, and his co-investigators worked on securing a \$2.5 million grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The Interactive and Multi-Modal Experience Research Syndicate (IMMERSe), a collaborative initiative between the Games Institute at Canada's University of Waterloo and the Humanities Innovation Lab at UC Davis, together with a team of researchers from several other Canadian universities (McMaster, Concordia, Carleton, and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology) will study the cultural impact of video games and immersive technologies.

One key component of the research at UC Davis will address how games and virtual reality technologies might converge with the experimental practices of the sciences. Other phases of the project will examine relations of games to literature and the arts, urbanization, political activism, education, militarization, and social networks. "This research grows out of the ongoing collaborative projects at the Humanities Innovation Lab," said Milburn, "and it also incorporates several individual

research programs developed by faculty and students participating in IMMERSe." Milburn is a co-Principal Investigator on the project and will allow him and other participants to focus on the cultural impacts of video games and interactive media, examining questions of virtuality and immersivity, narrative, multimodality, serious games and gamification, and ways in which game technologies transform diverse aspects of everyday life around the world.

A host of UC Davis researchers will contribute to IMMERSe, including Joe Dumit (Anthropology and Science and Technology Studies), Caren Kaplan (American Studies and STS), Oliver Kreylos (Geology, Institute for Data Analysis and Visualization), John Marx (English), Michael Neff (Computer Science, Cinema and Technocultural Studies), Josef Nguyen (English), Kriss Ravetto (Cinema and Technocultural Studies, Science and Technology Studies), and Eric Smoodin (American Studies). According to Milburn, additional UC Davis faculty, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and undergraduates will join the project over the next few years.



GAMING THE GAME
Tweaking, Cheating, Hacking, Creeping

UC DAVIS
April 12-13, 2012
Vanderhoof Studio Theatre
Markovni Center

Participants:
Mario Biagioli
Simon Biggs
Julian Bleecker
Finn Brunton
Anupam Chander
Mia Consalvo
Joseph Dumit
Sue Hawksley
Tad Hirsch
Caren Kaplan
Timothy Lenoir
Vincent Lépinay
Colin Milburn
Garth Paine
Kriss Ravetto
Rita Raley
David Simpson
Blake Stimson
Jennifer Terry
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UC HRI
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
HUMANITIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Center for Science & Innovation Studies

The Humanities Institute became home in 2011-2012 to the UC Davis Human Rights Initiative (HRI) after Keith David Watenpaugh, a historian of the Modern Middle East who teaches in the Religious Studies Program, was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Academic Senate's Committee on Research to launch the program. "The study of the human condition is very much a part of the way the humanities are understood at the Institute," Watenpaugh explained. "Bringing the HRI to the Institute makes the point that the history, theory and practice of human rights has a role in the humanities, and humanists, be they historians, artists, or anthropologists, have a role in the protection and promotion of human rights."

Watenpaugh hopes to bring more shape and organization to the study of human rights at UC Davis and other academic institutions across the region by bringing together faculty and graduate students for greater collaboration and conversations around the topic. To do this, the Initiative hosted a Human Rights Symposium in Winter 2012 exploring the contested histories of hu-

man rights to better understand current debates about the history of human rights, their violation and protection. Among the questions posed: Where do human rights come from? What role have they played in post-World War II anti-colonial struggles? How has human rights discourse changed after 1989 and the end of the Cold War? In Fall 2012, the Initiative will build on the themes of the symposium with a faculty research seminar that brings together faculty members from an array of disciplines to continue the conversation.

In 2012-2013, the Human Rights Initiative will extend the conversation to other UCs after Watenpaugh was awarded funding for a UC Multicampus Research Group, administered through the UC Humanities Network, called "Re-envisioning the Human: Human Rights and Humanitarianism across the Humanities and Social Sciences: The UC Human Rights Collaboration."



COLLABORATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
INITIATIVE



AN ARCHIVE OF
Arts Initiative Feature Stories
SINCE 2010
can be found under the archives tab at
[HTTP://DHI.UCDAVIS.EDU](http://DHI.UCDAVIS.EDU)

• COLLABORATIONS

UC DAVIS ARTS INITIATIVE

The Arts Initiative, a partnership with the Humanities Institute and the six campus arts departments, inaugurated an Arts faculty lecture series in 2011-2012 that featured recently hired faculty in Music, Theatre & Dance, and Art Studio. Laurie San Martin, associate professor of music and Arts Initiative faculty assistant, spearheaded the lecture series as a way for the campus community to get a peek into the research, thought, and creative processes of UC Davis's arts faculty. San Martin also recruited a talented pool of arts graduate students as an Arts Story Corps to write a series of features about the arts on campus. "The faculty lecture series and the story corps are two examples of the ways that we are reaching out and highlighting the people, ideas, and activities that make up the arts departments at UC Davis," said San Martin.

San Martin also spent 2011-2012 planning for a week-long music and arts festival on the theme of migration. With the support of the Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts, the division of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies, and the campus's arts departments, the festival, set for January 30-February 3, 2013, and titled "Worlds of Discovery and Loss: The Art of Migration," will showcase the work of UC Davis graduate students and faculty alongside those of visiting artists, performers, and musicians. The Humanities Institute, with the support of the UC Davis Dean of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies, created the Arts Initiative in 2010-2011 to promote and support the creative work of the six campus arts departments and programs: Theater and Dance, Music, Art Studio, Creative Writing, Technocultural Studies, and Design.



Support the ...

DAVIS HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

The Humanities Institute is the “research hub” for the humanities at UC Davis. Each year we provide fellowships and awards to faculty and graduate students working in the humanities and humanistic social sciences and support a wide array of interdisciplinary research collaborations. Our events offer a forum for exchange around questions of critical importance in areas such as the environment, food and health, and history and culture as well as give our faculty in the humanities and the creative arts an opportunity to showcase their work. We exist to facilitate the research of UC Davis faculty and graduate students and to bring that work to an audience beyond the university. Fulfilling this mission would not be possible without the generous support of private foundations and individuals who understand how important the humanities is to the future of the public university.

By engaging with the Humanities Institute through your gifts, you directly support UC Davis and the institute in our overall mission. Please consider supporting our faculty and graduate fellowships, research forums, or public events by making a gift in any amount to the Humanities Institute.

To give, send a check payable to “UC Regents” to the Humanities Institute, One Shields Avenue, 227 Voorhies, Davis, CA, 95616, or go online to dhi.ucdavis.edu and click the “gift” button on the top menu bar. For named funds or endowments, please contact Associate Director Molly McCarthy (molmccarthy@ucdavis.edu) or 530-754-0331.



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D H I

UCDAVIS
HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

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DESIGNED BY • DONNA BELLE IBARRA '12