

## Twelve New Members Enrich the GC Faculty

The Office of the Provost has announced that twelve new faculty members have joined the Graduate Center community, eight began service in the fall 2010 semester and four are expected in 2011. These appointments bring new strengths to the programs in earth and environmental sciences, English, Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian literatures and languages, linguistics, mathematics, political science, social welfare, sociology, and speech–language–hearing sciences.



PHOTO: DON POLLARD

Uday Singh Mehta

**Uday Singh Mehta**, distinguished professor of political science, is a renowned political theorist whose work encompasses a wide spectrum of philosophical traditions. He has worked on a range of issues including the relationship between freedom and imagination, liberalism's complex link with colonialism and empire, and, more recently, war, peace, and nonviolence. He is the author of two books, *The Anxiety of Freedom: Imagination and Individuality in the Political Thought of John Locke* (Cornell University Press, 1992) and *Liberalism and Empire: Nineteenth Century British Liberal Thought* (University of Chicago Press, 1999), which won the J. David Greenstone Book Award from the American Political Science Association in 2001 for the best book in history and theory. In 2002, he was named a Carnegie Foundation scholar. He is currently completing a book on war, peace, and nonviolence, which focuses on the moral and political thought of M. K. Gandhi. He received his undergraduate education at Swarthmore College, where he studied mathematics and philosophy. He has a Ph.D. in political philosophy from Princeton University. Mehta comes to the Graduate Center from Amherst College, where he was the Clarence Francis Professor in the Social Sciences.



PHOTO: JUDITH NOË

Alva Noë

**Alva Noë**, distinguished professor of philosophy, will join the faculty in fall 2011. He comes to the GC from UC Berkeley, where he is also a member of the Institute for Cognitive and Brain Sciences and the Center for New Media. For the last fifteen years his philosophical practice has concerned perception and consciousness. His current research focus is art and human nature. Noë is the author of *Out of Our Heads* (Hill and Wang / Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2009) and *Action in Perception* (MIT Press, 2004). *Varieties of Presence*, is forthcoming from Harvard University Press in 2011. The central idea of these books is that consciousness is not something that happens inside us—not in our brains, or anywhere else; it is something we do. Noë was educated at Columbia (B.A.), Oxford (B.Phil.), and Harvard (Ph.D.). He has held visiting positions at the Institut Jean-Nicod, a CNRS lab in Paris, France; the Oxford Center for Neuroscience at Oxford University, UK; the Institute for Advanced Studies (Wissenschaftskolleg) in Berlin, Germany; the Center for Cognitive Studies, Tufts University; and the Department of Logic and the Philosophy of Science at UC Irvine. Noë is philosopher-in-residence at the Forsythe Company, a leading European contemporary dance troupe, and a member of Motion Bank, an interdisciplinary dance research project in Frankfurt.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF PAUL JULIAN SMITH

Paul Julian Smith

**Paul Julian Smith**, an internationally recognized literary critic in Hispanic cultural studies, joins the Graduate Center as distinguished professor of Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian literatures and languages. Elected a fellow of the British Academy in 2008, his interests are wide-ranging and interdisciplinary. His *Writing in the Margin* (Oxford University Press, 1988) was the first systematic application of poststructuralist critical theory to literature of the Spanish Golden Age, and *The Moderns: Time, Space, and Subjectivity in Contemporary Spanish Culture* (Oxford University Press, 2000) was a groundbreaking examination of Spanish urban space. As the Spanish film critic for the British Film Institute's *Sight and Sound* magazine, Smith has written dozens of reviews

and, as the author of *Desire Unlimited: The Cinema of Pedro Almodóvar* (Verso, 1994 and 2000), earned a reputation as the major world scholar on the films of the Spanish director. Smith went beyond the field of cinema in *Contemporary Spanish Culture: TV, Fashion, Art, and Film* (Polity, 2003) to examine cultural areas that receive less academic attention; and his 2007 work *Spanish Visual Culture: Cinema, Television, Internet* (Manchester University Press) explores emotion, location, and nostalgia in each of these media. His most recent book is *Spanish Screen Fiction: Between Cinema and Television* (Liverpool University Press, 2009). Smith's research also focuses on Mexico, including a book on the pioneering film *Amores Perros* (BFI, 2003). He was a juror at the Morelia Film Festival in Mexico in 2009, is a regular contributor to *Film Quarterly*, and is one of the founding editors of the *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies*. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF ALEXANDER GAMBURD

Alexander Gamburd

**Alexander Gamburd**, presidential professor of mathematics, will join the faculty in fall 2011. He specializes in spectral problems in number theory, probability, and combinatorics. His recent work concerns expander graphs, which are highly connected sparse graphs with wide-ranging applications in computer science and mathematics, and his research has resolved major conjectures in proving expansion for Cayley graphs by using recently developed tools from arithmetic combinatorics. This work has a number of applications, in particular in quantum computation theory of quasi-crystals and distribution of prime numbers in non-abelian groups. In 2008, he won a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on a beginning scientist or engineer. He currently holds grants for his work in expander graphs from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the National Science Foundation's Early Career Development Program. Gamburd, who comes to the Graduate Center from the University of California–Santa Cruz, has given dozens of presentations at universities, institutes, and seminars and has published widely. He has received the Sloan Foundation Research Fellowship, the von Neumann Early Career Fellowship at Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study, and other fellowships from the National Science Foundation, the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences, the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, and the Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques. Gamburd holds a Ph.D. in mathematics from Princeton University.



PHOTO: NGUYEN KIM HOA

Bryan S. Turner

**Bryan S. Turner**, presidential professor of sociology, is one of the world's leading sociologists of religion; he has also devoted significant attention to sociological theory, the study of human rights, and the sociology of the body. In *Vulnerability and Human Rights* (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2006), he presents an interdisciplinary dialogue with the literature of economics, law, medicine, philosophy, political science, and religion. His current research involves the role of religion in contemporary Asia and the changing nature of citizenship in a globalizing world. Turner has written, coauthored, or edited more than seventy books and more than two hundred articles and book chapters. *The Body and Society: Explorations in Social Theory* (Sage, 2008), first published in 1984, is in its third edition. He is also an author or editor of *The Cambridge Dictionary of Sociology*, *The Blackwell Companion to Social Theory*, and *The Sage Handbook of Sociology*. He is a founding editor of the journals *Body & Society*, *Citizenship Studies*, and *Journal of Classical Sociology*. Turner comes to the GC from Wellesley College, where he was Alona Evans Distinguished Visiting Professor; he is also professor of social and political thought at the University of Western Sydney, Australia. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Leeds and has been awarded the Doctor of Letters from both Flinders University in South Australia and the University of Cambridge.



PHOTO: MOLLY BLEVINS

Juliette Blevins

**Juliette Blevins**, professor of linguistics, is a world-class phonologist and an advocate for endangered and minority languages, with expertise in Austronesian, Australian Aboriginal, Native American, and Andamanese languages. Her first book, *Nhanda, an Aboriginal Language of Western Australia*, was based on work with the last speakers of the language, which has now become extinct. Her book *Evolutionary Phonology* (Cambridge

University Press, 2004) explores the nature of sound patterns and sound change in human language and presents a new theory synthesizing results in historical linguistics, phonetics, and phonological theory. As a senior research scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Blevins has worked on a range of major projects, from continued description of the Yurok language of northwestern California, to the role of analogy in grammar, to the reconstruction of proto-languages of two distinct language groups of the Andaman Islands. A major discovery by Blevins is an ancient link between Proto-Ongan of the south Andaman Islands and Proto-Austronesian, spoken six thousand years ago in Taiwan. Professor Blevins holds a Ph.D. in linguistics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and has taught at the University of Texas, Austin; the University of Western Australia; Stanford University; the University of California, Berkeley; and the University of Leipzig.



Susan Buck-Morss

**Susan Buck-Morss**, an interdisciplinary thinker and a prolific writer of international reputation, joins the GC as professor of political science. Her nomination as distinguished professor will soon go for consideration to the Board of Trustees of the City University of New York. Her most recent book, *Hegel, Haiti, and Universal History* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2009), offers a fundamental reinterpretation of Hegel's master-slave dialectic by linking it to the influence of the Haitian Revolution. Her books *The Origin of Negative Dialectics: Theodor W. Adorno, Walter Benjamin, and the Frankfurt Institute* (Macmillan Free Press, 1977) and *The Dialectics of Seeing: Walter Benjamin and the Arcades Project* (MIT Press, 1989) have been translated into several languages and have been called "modern classics in the field." Other publications include *Thinking Past Terror: Islamism and Critical Theory on the Left* (Verso, 2003) and *Dreamworld and Catastrophe: The Passing of Mass Utopia in East and West* (MIT Press, 2000). A longtime professor at Cornell University's Department of Government, Buck-Morss was also a member of Cornell's graduate fields in Comparative Literature, History of Art, German Studies, and the School of Architecture, Art, and City and Regional Planning. She is on the editorial boards of several journals and has been an invited lecturer at dozens of universities throughout the world. Her numerous international awards and fellowships include a Getty Scholar grant and a Guggenheim Fellowship. She holds a Ph.D. in European intellectual history from Georgetown University.



Kandice Chuh

**Kandice Chuh**, professor of English, is a prominent figure in Asian American studies. She is known for her theory of the field as a "subjectless discourse" that is alternative to the politics of identity. In *Imagine Otherwise: On Asian Americanist Critique* (Duke University Press, 2003), which won the 2004 Lora Romero Prize from the American Studies Association, Chuh argues for reframing Asian American studies as a study defined not by its subjects and objects, but by its critique. Her current work extends this to examine aesthetic theory and U.S. minority discourse with an emphasis on post-identity subjectivity. She is also coeditor, with Karen Shimakawa, of *Orientations: Mapping Studies in the Asian Diaspora* (Duke University Press, 2001), which uses the themes of transnationalism, globalization, and postcoloniality to consider various embodiments of the Asian diaspora. Chuh comes to the Graduate Center from the University of Maryland, where she was associate professor and director of graduate studies in the Department of English, winning awards for teaching and faculty service. Her courses have included Asian American literatures, twentieth-century American literature, feminist theory, critical race theory, and law and literature. She has published numerous essays in journals and edited volumes and lectured widely. She holds a Ph.D. in English literature from the University of Washington.



Ruth Wilson Gilmore

**Ruth Wilson Gilmore**, professor of geography in the earth and environmental sciences doctoral program, is known as an activist as well as an intellectual and is currently president of the American Studies Association (ASA). She examined how political and economic forces produced California's prison boom in *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California* (University of California Press, 2007), which was recognized by ASA with its Lora Romero First Book Award.

Gilmore's wide-ranging research interests also include race and gender, labor and social movements, uneven development, and the African diaspora. As an associate professor at the University of Southern California, she taught courses in race and ethnicity, economic geography, and political geography, was the founding chair of the department of American studies and ethnicity, and won the USC-Mellon Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring. She also works regularly with community groups and grassroots organizations and is known for the broad accessibility of her research. She holds a Ph.D. in economic geography and social theory from Rutgers University.



PHOTO: STEPHANIE MITCHELL

Peter Godfrey-Smith

**Peter Godfrey-Smith**, professor of philosophy, will join the faculty in fall 2011. At Harvard University since 2006, his main research interests are in the philosophy of biology and the philosophy of mind. His work also extends to pragmatism (especially concerning John Dewey), the general philosophy of science, and areas of metaphysics and epistemology. He is the author of three books, *Complexity and the Function of Mind in Nature* (Cambridge University Press, 1996); *Theory and Reality: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Science* (Chicago University Press, 2003); and *Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection* (Oxford University Press, 2009). Before Harvard, he taught at Stanford University and at the Research School for Social Sciences of the Australian National University. A native of Sydney, Australia, Godfrey-Smith received his Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of California, San Diego. He has been an associate editor of the journal *Biology and Philosophy* and currently sits on the editorial board of *Philosophy of Science*.



PHOTO: DON POLLARD

Roderick Watts

**Roderick Watts**, professor of social welfare, combines cutting-edge research and a strong theoretical framework with a commitment to social justice. His work encompasses liberation psychology, manhood development, and sociopolitical development theory; for the past few years he has been investigating the connection between a person's awareness of injustice and his or her willingness to act on this awareness. Trained in clinical and community psychology, he has worked with many nonprofit and community-based organizations, particularly in the area of African American youth development, and has been continuously involved in men's group work for twenty years. He is coeditor of *Human Diversity: Perspectives on People in Context* (Jossey-Bass, 1994), which offers practical guidelines on conducting diversity-conscious and diversity-sensitive projects and research, and he contributed to the book *Beyond Resistance! Youth Activism and Community Change* (Routledge, 2006). Watts's teaching interests include program evaluation, African American psychology, consultation, and qualitative research methods. He comes to the GC from Georgia State University, where he coordinated the joint clinical-community psychology program. He was recently visiting professor of psychology at Stellenbosch University in South Africa, and he also has been on the faculties of DePaul University and Yale University's School of Medicine. He holds a Ph.D. in clinical-community psychology from the University of Maryland.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF HASKINS LABORATORIES, INC., YALE UNIVERSITY

Douglas Whalen

**Douglas Whalen**, appointed professor of speech–language–hearing sciences, will join the faculty in spring 2011. As current vice president of research at the Yale-affiliated Haskins Laboratory, where he has been a researcher for thirty years, he is one of the world's leading scientists in the fields of speech and phonetics. The central theme of Whalen's research is the interrelation of speech perception and speech production, and how the two constitute a single system and cannot be understood in isolation from one another. His work addresses a wide variety of populations (from developing infants being raised in different language environments to adult speakers of American English and Native American languages) and techniques (including behavioral approaches, MRI, ultrasound imaging of the tongue, and electromyography). He was recently a program officer at the National Science Foundation, overseeing two major programs, Documenting Endangered Languages and Cognitive Neuroscience, and is the founder and president of the Endangered Language Fund, a foundation sponsoring research on the documentation of dying languages. Whalen also serves as associate editor of the *Journal of Phonetics*, and in 2008 he was elected a fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the discipline. He received his Ph.D. from Yale University.

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## New GC Apartments on the Rise

Construction of Graduate Center housing for students and faculty is well under way. The structure, seen here with the façade complete in late August, is part of the new CUNY East Harlem campus, which will also house Hunter's School of Social Work and the newly instituted School of Public Health. The residence hall has eight floors, and will include studios and one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments, a rooftop garden, and lounge/entertainment areas. The building is due to be completed in summer 2011, and will be leased for the academic year 2011–12. Inquire now at <http://housing.gc.cuny.edu/>.

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## New GC Committees Welcome Mellon Postdocs and Fellows

The first postdocs and student fellowships have been awarded from the \$2.4 million grant the GC received last year from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support the creation of three committees: the Committee for Science Studies, headed by Jesse Prinz (Dist. Prof., GC, Philosophy); the Committee for the Study of Globalization and Social Change, headed by David Harvey (Dist. Prof., Anthropology, Earth and Environmental Sciences, History); and the Committee for the Study of Religion, headed by Bryan S. Turner (Presidential Prof., GC, Sociology), who is new to the Graduate Center faculty this fall.

The grant provides each area of study with one postdoctoral fellow per year for three years; the appointments are for one year with the possibility of renewal. The fellows will pursue research and writing projects related to their committee's focus, as well as help to launch them in spring 2011. They also may organize a mini-conference or teach a course on a topic related to their research.

The selection committee for Science Studies, Prinz and Joan Richardson (Prof., GC, Comparative Literature, English), chose Dr. Eben Kirksey, a cultural anthropologist who studies the political dimensions of imagination as well as the interplay of natural and cultural history. As a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Pittsburgh and a research associate at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Kirksey has been exploring the interaction of technoscientific cultures and multiple species in ecosystems of the tropical Americas. Kirksey's first book, *Freedom in Entangled Worlds*, which examines an indigenous political movement in West Papua, the half of New Guinea under Indonesian control, is forthcoming from Duke University Press. He is guest coeditor for the November 2010 issue of *Cultural Anthropology*, for which he has assembled a collection of original research articles from the emerging field of multispecies ethnography. Kirksey received a Ph.D. in the history of consciousness from the University of California–Santa Cruz.

For the Committee for the Study of Globalization and Social Change, Dr. Anita Chan was the choice of Harvey, Jane Sugarman (Prof., GC, Music), and Susan Buck-Morss (Prof., GC, Political Science). Chan is an assistant professor in the University of Illinois Department of Media and Cinema Studies. Among other subjects, Chan's research concerns the relationship among information technology, intellectual property, and the global market. Her dissertation project, "The Promiscuity of Freedom: Development and Governance in the Age of Digital Networks," blends an ethnographic account of electronic government initiatives in Peru with a historical analysis of neoliberal strategies for rural development. She next intends to study the effects of increasing U.S. and European migration to Latin America undertaken in the search of better conditions of life. Chan was a postdoctoral fellow in the humanities at Stanford University and a predoctoral research fellow at Columbia University School of Law. She has a Ph.D. in the history and anthropology of science, technology, and society from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



PHOTO: THE ERODSKY ORGANIZATION



PHOTO: COURTESY OF JANE KIRKSEY

Eben Kirksey



PHOTO: L. BRIAN STAUFFER

Anita Chan



PHOTO: JANE HULSE

Berna Zengin Arslan

For the Committee for the Study of Religion, Turner, Dagmar Herzog (Daniel Rose Faculty Scholar, Prof., GC, History), and former Associate Provost Jack Jacobs (Prof., John Jay, Political Science) selected Dr. Berna Zengin Arslan, a sociologist studying Islam and science. Her dissertation, “Pious Science: The Gülen Community and the Making of a Conservative Modernity in Turkey,” examines how the Turkish Islamic Fethullah Gülen community is engaged in reconciling science and modernity with religion. She plans to continue this research by focusing on the challenges for Islamic political discourse presented by issues of homosexuality, reproductive technologies, the headscarf issue, and woman’s role in the family. Zengin Arslan is the author of *Women Engineers in Turkey: Gender, Technology, Education and Professional Life* (Lambert Academic Publishing, 2010). A member of the sociology department at Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul, she has expertise in the sociology of religion, gender studies, and the sociology of contemporary Turkey. She received a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of California–Santa Cruz.

Furthermore, eight incoming Enhanced Chancellor’s Fellows at the Graduate Center will receive \$5,000 per year for five years from Mellon, in addition to their \$18,000 fellowships, for their participation in the committees. The Mellon stipend fellows, who were nominated by the executive officers of their doctoral programs, are, for the Committee for Science Studies, Marissa Brostoff (English), Ryan DeChant (Philosophy), and Henry Shevlin (Philosophy); for the Committee for the Study of Globalization and Social Change, Joshua Ketton (Philosophy), Fabio Mattioli (Anthropology), Anne Marie Spencer (Earth and Environmental Sciences), and Frances Tran (English); and for the Committee for the Study of Religion, Julian Gantt (Anthropology).

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## GC’s Largest Incoming Class Welcomed at Orientation

It was standing room only at the Graduate Center’s Proshansky Auditorium on August 17, as expectant incoming doctoral students assembled for words of welcome and inspiration at this year’s orientation, for which Vice President for Student Affairs Matthew Schoengood served as the master of ceremonies.

President William P. Kelly welcomed the newcomers with great enthusiasm. “We anticipate with pleasure the excitement we’ll experience in your research, and we look forward to becoming your colleagues. This is a day of renewal that ignites our spirits and fuels our hope.” He also congratulated them on choosing the Graduate Center. Institutional aid reached \$44.7 million last year, a 370 percent growth from the \$12.2 million disbursed in 2001–02. This, and other factors—public programs, a diverse student body, the opportunity for hands-on teaching experience, and New York City itself—make the Graduate Center a great place to be. The president concluded by reminding the students of the delights awaiting them: “You are embarking on a joyful undertaking. Some days will be really hard ... But what are you doing? You’re reading books, pursuing knowledge, in the company of other people who care as much about ideas as you do. You’re spending your life and time thinking about things that matter to you, living in a world of ideas, and sharing that pleasure with everyone around you. That is a rare privilege, my friends.” (For the entire address see: [www.gc.cuny.edu/about\\_gc/president/orientation10.htm](http://www.gc.cuny.edu/about_gc/president/orientation10.htm).)

Linwood J. Lewis, a 1997 alumnus of the Ph.D. program in psychology and currently a professor at Sarah Lawrence College, provided the keynote address. He urged his audience to have self-confidence, to respect faculty and administrators, to see to the needs of the body—playing Frisbee was Lewis’s favorite method—and to choose a dissertation topic that would be enjoyable.

Provost and Senior Vice President Chase Robinson also spoke about the need to balance the academic, solitary life with socializing, and the importance of finding one’s academic voice. He described the doctorate as a pentathlon, in which students can meet the challenge of proving themselves in many different activities if they set small,



Over 400 new students crowd Proshansky Auditorium.



Meeting new classmates and colleagues at orientation breakfast



Matthew Schoengood



(L. to r.) Bill Kelly, Chase Robinson, Louise Lennihan, Ann Henderson, Linwood J. Lewis, Eero Laine



Linwood J. Lewis



Students register at One Stop services.

PHOTOS: PAUL AVILDOVSKY

achievable goals. Associate Provost and Dean for Humanities and Social Sciences Louise Lennihan mentioned the funding and fellowship opportunities available for students and encouraged them to reach out to their peers, as relationships created during the years of doctoral study can be lifelong. After quoting a humorous passage from Kurt Vonnegut’s *Slaughterhouse Five*, Associate Provost and Dean for Sciences Ann Henderson expressed her hope that science students could seek out their own truths through their work in the sciences.

Eero Laine, a doctoral candidate in theatre and co-chair for student affairs in the Doctoral Students’ Council (DSC), advised students to get involved in the DSC, “the sole policymaking body representing students in doctoral or master’s programs at the Graduate Center.” The DSC fosters a sense of community through its website ([www.cunydsc.org](http://www.cunydsc.org)) and the student newspaper *The Advocate*, as well as providing students with discounts and services.

Following the general orientation assembly, students had the opportunity to participate in workshops on information technology, library resources, financial aid, housing, the Wellness Center, and Student Health Services. There was also a special workshop to introduce international students to living in New York and to negotiating the Graduate Center’s academic system, as well as a free immunization clinic.

The Graduate Center’s One Stop services were also made available for new students. Now in its second year, One Stop provides eleven administrative services in a single space to ease the registration and enrollment process. Set up in the Concourse lobby, One Stop allowed entering students to do everything from registering for classes and applying for financial aid to setting up email and library accounts.

—Kerri Linden

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## Leadership Changes for Programs and Centers

Academic year 2010–11 will see a number of changes to top-level administrators of doctoral programs.

In August 2010, health sciences divided into four programs, with the following faculty members agreeing to serve as executive officers for three-year terms: **Professor Barbara Weinstein** (Audiology), erstwhile executive officer of health sciences, **Professor Keville Frederickson** (Nursing Science), **Distinguished Professor Nicholas Freudenberg** (Public Health), and **Professor Gary Krasilovsky** (Physical Therapy). Three other programs will welcome new executive officers: **Professor Mario DiGangi** (English), **Professor Mario Kelly** (Educational Psychology), and **Professor José del Valle** (Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Languages), who will begin his three-year term in the spring 2011 semester.

While five executive officers are on leave, the following faculty members have agreed to step into the role of acting executive officer: for the entire academic year, **Professor Joshua Freilich** (Criminal Justice), **Professor Jennifer Roberts** (Classics), and **Distinguished Professor David Savran** (Theatre); and for the fall 2010 semester, **Professor Roman Kossak** (Mathematics) and **Professor Steve Remy** (History).

Finally, there are changes to the administration of two centers: **Professor Bill McKinney** will serve as deputy director of the Howard Samuels Center, and **Professor Jane Gerber** will assume the role of Jack F. Skirball Interim Director of the Center for Jewish Studies.

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## Leon Levy Center Awards Four Fellowships for 2010–11

The Leon Levy Center for Biography (LLCB) at the Graduate Center has awarded four new fellowships to accomplished writers for the 2010–11 academic year. Established in 2004 by a generous gift from the Leon Levy Foundation and envisioned as a hub for writers, scholars, students, and readers of biography, LLCB seeks to build connections between independent and university-affiliated biographers across the disciplines and to cultivate lively discussions about the art and craft of biography historically and in our time. Brenda Wineapple, herself an accomplished writer and biographer who has taught at New York University and Columbia University, among others, serves as director.

The LLCB fellowships, funded by the Leon Levy Foundation since 2008, provide writers access to research facilities, writing space, and a stipend of \$60,000 for one year. Selected by committee, the fellowships are open to both established and emerging biographers, whether inside or outside the academy, as well as artists working on biography in film or other media. Past scholars have included prize-winning journalists, filmmakers, playwrights, and poets, among them Wendy Lesser, Mary Lisa Gavenas, John Matteson, and Vanda Krefft.

This year LLCB welcomes Mitchell Cohen, Michael Massing, Jed Perl, and Claudia Roth Pierpont.

**Mitchell Cohen**, professor of political science at Baruch College and the Graduate Center, was coeditor of *Dissent* magazine from 1991 to 2009 and now serves on its editorial board as well as that of *Jewish Social Studies*. While at LLCB he will be writing a political biography of Richard Wagner, especially examining the controversial composer in the context of his time and the roles of anarchism, nationalism, and anti-Semitism in his operas. Cohen's past books include *The Wager of Lucien Goldmann*, *Zion and State*, and, as coeditor, *Princeton Readings in Political Thought*. His articles have appeared in *The Times Literary Supplement*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Common Knowledge*, and *Musik und Aesthetik*.

**Michael Massing**, author of *The Fix*, a critical study of the U.S. war on drugs, and *Now They Tell Us: The American Press and Iraq*, is a frequent contributor to *The New York Review of Books*, a contributing editor at the *Columbia Journalism Review*, and a cofounder of the Committee to Protect Journalists. In 1992, he was named a MacArthur Fellow. While at LLCB, he will be working on his biography of Luther and Erasmus, to be published by HarperCollins.

**Jed Perl** is the art critic for *The New Republic* and the author of a number of books, including *New Art City: Manhattan at Mid-Century*, *Antoine's Alphabet: Watteau and His World*, and *Eyewitness: Reports from an Art World in Crisis*. A visiting professor in the Liberal Studies Program at the New School, he is currently working on the first full-length biography of Alexander Calder, to be published by Knopf.

**Claudia Roth Pierpont** is a staff writer for the *New Yorker*, where she has written some three dozen essays on subjects as varied as Nietzsche, Mae West, and contemporary Arabic fiction. A collection of her essays on women writers, *Passionate Minds: Women Rewriting the World*, was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award. At LLCB, she will be working on a cultural history of twentieth-century New York in the form of juxtaposed biographies, considering six individuals and four partnerships—including Alfred Barr at the Museum of Modern Art, George Balanchine and Lincoln Kirstein at New York City Ballet, and W. H. Auden—whose overlapping ideals, both moral and aesthetic, helped to make the city the cultural center of the world.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF MITCHELL COHEN

Mitchell Cohen

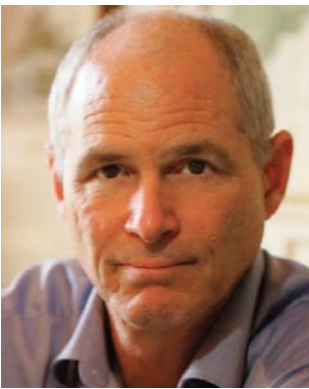


PHOTO: COURTESY OF MICHAEL MASSING

Michael Massing



PHOTO: COURTESY OF JED PERL

Jed Perl



PHOTO: COURTESY OF CLAUDIA ROTH PIERPONT

Claudia Roth Pierpont

While working on their own projects throughout the year, fellows participate in LLCB's monthly seminars, lectures, public programs, and the annual spring conference, and generally partake of intellectual life at the Graduate Center. One of the main fall events sponsored by LLCB is the annual biography lecture; this year, on September 28, prize-winning author Ron Chernow will discuss the art and craft of biography and his new book, detailing the life of George Washington, due out this fall from Penguin. The event is open to the public. For more information: [http://www.gc.cuny.edu/events/details\\_landing.asp?EventId=28151](http://www.gc.cuny.edu/events/details_landing.asp?EventId=28151).

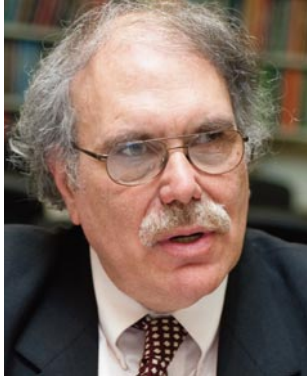


PHOTO: A. PHOTO

Martin R. Gitterman

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## Martin Gitterman Named Ombuds Officer

Professor Emeritus Martin R. Gitterman has assumed the position of Ombuds Officer at the Graduate Center, effective fall 2010. He replaces Professor Emeritus Rolf Meyersohn (Sociology), who served in the position for the past eleven years following his retirement from Lehman College and the Graduate Center. Gitterman served as chair of the department of speech and theatre at Lehman College for six years (1994–2000) and as executive officer of the Ph.D. program in speech–language–hearing sciences at the Graduate Center for six years (2003–09). His areas of specialization are second-language acquisition, bilingualism, applied linguistics, and neurolinguistics. His authored and coauthored publications have appeared in numerous journals (e.g., *Aphasiology*, *Brain and Language*, *Journal of Neurolinguistics*, and *TESOL Quarterly*). He is currently writing a book, “Teaching Speech to English Language Learners: A Theoretical and Practical Focus,” and coediting (with Mira Goral and Loraine K. Obler) another book, “Aspects of Multilingual Aphasia.” He has been a frequent conference presenter, including a presentation as keynote speaker at the Puerto Rico TESOL Eastern Chapter Annual Conference (2008).

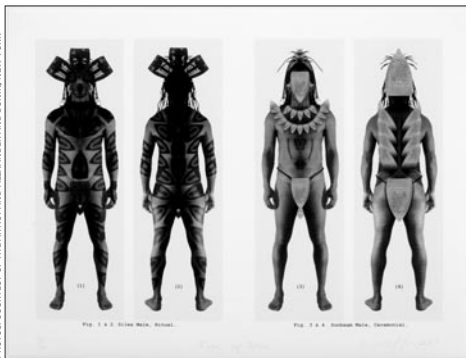
The Ombuds Officer is a neutral, impartial person who speaks confidentially with students, faculty, and staff about problems related to work or study at the Graduate School and University Center. The Ombuds Office is located in Room 7313 (<http://web.gc.cuny.edu/ombuds/>), and you may contact Dr. Gitterman at [mgitterman@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:mgitterman@gc.cuny.edu), 212-817-7191.

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## At the James Gallery: *Deep Impressions: Willie Cole Works on Paper*

Though known primarily as a sculptor, African American artist Willie Cole has been drawing and painting ever since he was a child growing up in Newark, New Jersey. As a teenager and young adult, he even made a habit of celebrating his birthday by studying his face in a bathroom mirror, then creating a self-portrait based on what he saw. Now one of these earlier drawings, along with many of the artist's other two-dimensional works, will be included in the first survey of its kind, focusing exclusively on Cole's prints, oil pastels, lithographs, and other works on paper. Like his sculptures, many of these works contrast the harsh realities and aspirations of inner-city life with suburban affluence.

The exhibition, *Deep Impressions: Willie Cole Works on Paper*, opens in the GC's James Gallery (on the main floor of 365 Fifth Ave.) on September 21 and runs through January 8. Curator Patterson Sims indicated that an unexpected phone call last spring from Gabriella De Ferrari, a vice chair of the Graduate Center Foundation Board, activated his long-considered objective to survey Cole's works in this medium. For more information, see [http://www.gc.cuny.edu/events/art\\_gallery.htm](http://www.gc.cuny.edu/events/art_gallery.htm).



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND ALEXANDER AND BONINI, NEW YORK

Willie Cole, *Men of Iron*, 2004



Avery Fisher Hall



Paquito D'Rivera



Stephen Sloan



Morris Dickstein



Newly hooded Ph.D. recipients

## “The Pride of CUNY” at Avery Fisher Hall

With brass instruments hailing their procession with fanfare, smiling students in their graduation robes and tasseled caps moved down the aisle of Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall on June 2, as families and friends watched with excitement and expectation at the Graduate Center’s forty-sixth commencement, where 410 students were awarded doctorates and fifty, master’s degrees. Bearing the Graduate Center’s ceremonial mace, Grand Marshal Joseph Wittreich (Dist. Prof., GC, English) headed the procession, accompanied by Marshals Kay Deaux (Dist. Prof. Emer., GC, Psychology), Anne Humpherys (Prof., Lehman, English), and William Kornblum (Prof., GC, Psychology, Sociology).

From the stage of Avery Fisher Hall, Graduate Center Provost and Senior Vice President Chase F. Robinson, serving as master of ceremonies, ordered the proceedings to begin and everyone rose as H. Roz Woll, a doctoral student in music, provided a fine rendition of “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

Once the assembly was seated, CUNY Trustee Philip Alfonso Berry and CUNY Vice Chancellor Alexandra Logue spoke on behalf of the university. Berry praised the degree candidates for being a “life force” of the community. “You are the pride of CUNY. You are the pride of New York,” he said. “You are well on your way to making tremendous contributions in this world and I salute you for that.”

María Elena Torre, a graduate of the doctoral program in psychology, delivered an address on behalf of the students. Her major topic was documentation—identification papers such as birth certificates, passports, or green cards, as well as educational degrees. After comparing the current backlash against immigrants with the days when her grandfathers emigrated from Spain and were assimilated with relative ease in U.S. society, Ms. Torre stressed that the graduate degree—a doctorate or a master’s—is a permit for the pursuit of fulfillment in a career. “Our graduate degrees and alumni cards are unlike others—they are permanent, they are yours and can never be taken away,” she said. “This means we have a responsibility to use them well. To remember where we have been, who we have come from, and how we connect to others. Tonight as we celebrate, I wish to challenge us, as scientists, writers, educators, artists, researchers, and practitioners, to delve deeply into and across our disciplines and think about ways to make our work matter.”

Morris Dickstein, distinguished professor of English, theatre, and liberal studies at the GC, delivered the commencement address. In speaking to the expectant graduates, he drew on his vast historical and literary knowledge as well as his thirty-five years’ experience in teaching the humanities at the college level. He urged them to pursue their love of knowledge, to remember the skills they gained during their years of graduate work, and to value highly the degrees they had earned. “If your graduate education has given you anything, it gave you tools to trawl the new knowledge environment, the skills and instincts to turn information into insight, dumb fact into articulate idea. This kind of critical thinking will serve you well, in any field you enter.” In his final comment, Dickstein wished each graduate well in setting out on a career “that combines a sense of social purpose with a deep feeling of inner fulfillment.”

The commencement ceremonies also provided for the awarding of two honorary degrees: the Doctor of Musical Arts to Paquito D’Rivera, multi-instrumentalist, conductor, and composer, whose extraordinary career has influenced American music across Latin, jazz, and classical genres; and the Doctor of Humane Letters to Richard P. Sloan, renowned psychiatric researcher of the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute. Sloan has criticized purported links between religion, spirituality, and health, most recently in his book *Blind Faith: The Unholy Alliance of Religion and Medicine*.

In his closing remarks, President Kelly touched on the lifelong connection between teacher and student. “Scholars live beyond their time in the work of their students,” he

said. “Children may transmit our genetic codes; students extend the life of our minds. So when we gather at commencement, we don’t celebrate your departure or take pleasure in your capacity for flight. Rather, we rejoice in the promise of a connection unbound by time.”

—Kerri Linden

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## GC Doctoral Faculty Hears Professors Bennett and Alexander

A doctoral faculty luncheon in February featured a lecture on “Liberalism and Knowledge” by Herman Bennett (Prof., GC, History), who has done extensive research on the history of the African diaspora and recently published *Colonial Blackness: A History of Afro-Mexico* (Indiana University Press, 2009). The talk focused on the intertwining of liberalism and higher education and the issue of diversity within well-regarded research institutions. Expressing deep concern about the lack of movement on faculty diversity in the academy, Bennett wondered why hopes for change had not been fulfilled. His research on minorities among the faculty at Rutgers University from 1976 to 2003, he said, showed that Rutgers had even made a “retreat from liberalism” over those years, when the number of minority faculty members declined rather than increased. He spoke passionately about the importance to U.S. society of creating a place for minorities in the academy, and opined that the responsibility to make that happen lay with members of the faculty themselves. The talk on February 23 was followed by a lively discussion among the doctoral faculty about diversity at CUNY. Bennett received his Ph.D. from Duke University and served on the faculty of both Johns Hopkins and Rutgers universities before joining the GC in 2009.

Celebrated poet and postcolonial studies scholar Meena Alexander (Dist. Prof., Hunter, English) shared some personal history as well as her thoughts about the origins of her inspiration at a meeting of the Graduate Center doctoral faculty on April 22. Describing her latest work, *Poetics of Dislocation* (University of Michigan Press, Poets on Poetry series, 2009), as a “series of reflections on migration and memory,” she explained that these themes have “haunted” her throughout most of her adult life. “I turned five on the Indian Ocean,” she said, “on a steamer going from Bombay to Port Sudan. That was very important for me, because I sensed I was being forced to enter another life: the life of the imagination.” Then she added, “But it was not yet the life of language.” She mused on this childhood experience and the power it took on as she thought about art emerging from a “pre-linguistic zone,” where no words are available. Her skill with language, she suggested, stems from growing up partly in Kerala, India, and partly in the Sudan; and she speaks Malayalam, Hindi, French, and Arabic, as well as English. She writes in English. But when she writes, English takes on multiple meanings, she said. “The English I use, that I learnt as a child, is one that bends and flows into many other languages. It is of course the language of Donne and Wordsworth, but also it is a postcolonial language, that exerts a slight, if intimate, violence as I use it.”

Professor Alexander then read several of her poems from various collected works. In her readings, “Triptych in a Time of War,” from *Raw Silk*, evoked the celebrated Iranian poet Forugh Farrokhzad; Frank Stella’s installation “The Dove of Tanna”; and Enheduanna of Ur, a woman from ancient Mesopotamia (now Iraq) who was the first recorded poet in history. The poem “Bengali Market” evoked her visit to Gujarat, India, in the aftermath of ethnic violence, and a recently completed, unpublished poem, “Resurrection Day,” recalled her daily walks along 35th Street to the Graduate Center.

—Kerri Linden



PHOTO: PAULA WLODKOWSKY

Herman Bennett



PHOTO: A. RIVO

Meena Alexander



(L. to r.) Executive Officer Merih Uctum (Prof., Brooklyn, Economics) with panelists Timothy Goodspeed and Frank Braconi, and Harold Hochman (Prof. Emeritus, Baruch, Economics), a member of the audience.



(L. to r.) Panelist Ronnie Lowenstein talks with Linda Edwards (Prof., GC, Economics, and former GC Provost), who attended the event.



James Parrot presents his paper.

## Economics Program Alumni Day's Roundtable

Old friends were reacquainted and new ones were made on May 21 as participants of the GC Economics Program Alumni Day got together for a roundtable discussion on “Recession and Fiscal Crises: Government Responses in a Federal System.” Though the topic was sobering at times, the economics experts—Dr. Ronnie Lowenstein, director, NYC Independent Budget Office; alumnus Dr. Frank Braconi, chief economist, NYC Comptroller’s Office; Professor Timothy Goodspeed (Hunter, Economics); and Dr. James Parrot, deputy director and chief economist, Fiscal Policy Institute—took a no-nonsense approach toward the topic at hand.

Among other issues, the discussants examined the effect of our nation’s economic crisis on public finances at the federal, state, and city levels. They showed that, at the federal level, about half of the stimulus of 2009 went to states and tax cuts for individuals. Government debt, aggravated by the entitlement problem, is expected to go beyond 100 percent of GDP by 2030. Such figures demand that new solutions be found to the crisis.

On a happier note, at the state level, New York is moderately affected compared to other states. Despite the great recession that led to 6 percent job decline, collapsed housing markets, and wealth destruction, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 contributed 2.5 percent of GDP and thus averted a Great Depression by helping the education sector, the business sector, transportation, health, and low-income families. The state budget was hit mainly by a 50 percent fall in state taxes. The panelists concluded that more reliance on Wall Street and further stimulus are required.

As for cities, experts stressed that New York’s economy is emerging from recession on roughly the same schedule as the nation as a whole. The federal bailout of the financial sector is one reason the local economic downturn was shorter and less steep than many had feared. While both New York City and New York State have benefited from budget relief under the 2009 federal recovery act, the city is in considerably better fiscal condition than the state. That’s small consolation, however, since one way for the state to address its fiscal problems is to reduce aid to local governments.

After indicating that another alumni event is planned for the spring of 2011, Professor Merih Uctum, executive officer of the program, declared: “Despite the bad economic news this year, our speakers conveyed some hope for the economy in the near future. We expect that when we meet next time, our alumni and speakers will bring us a brighter perspective.”

## Audiology Considers How Doctoral Students Can Best Be Taught Vital Counseling Skills

What is the best way to inform a parent that his or her child can’t hear, or to persuade an older adult to follow through on a referral for a hearing aid? Working with the GC’s theatre arts department, Barbara Weinstein, EO of the audiology doctoral program and outgoing EO of the health sciences programs, created scenarios that future audiologists at the school might use to hone their counseling skills and better deal with such situations.

Toward this same end, Weinstein also took the lead in creating a forum at which hearing care specialists representing audiology departments from twenty-three leading U.S. universities gathered at the GC this past May to discuss the physical, psychological, and social challenges of hearing loss. In addition to Weinstein, participants included Dr. Joseph Montano, who serves as GC adjunct associate professor of audiology based at Weill Cornell Medical College, and Theresa Chisholm, a GC alumna of the Speech–Language–Hearing Sciences Program. All three are members of the Ida Institute, a nonprofit independent educational institute located in

Copenhagen, Denmark, whose ideas were the basis of the conference discussion. The institute’s primary goal is to foster better understanding of the human dynamics associated with hearing loss and to share this knowledge with hearing care professionals as well as hearing-impaired persons.

According to World Health Organization estimates, hearing loss affects some 278 million people worldwide, and correspondingly is the second leading cause of years living with a disability—the first being depression in adults. Despite the burden of the disease, however, concerns remain that hearing loss remains underdiagnosed and undertreated. “Our goal,” says Weinstein, “is to prepare doctoral students to work with these consumers.”

—Jackie Glasthal

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## A Summer Festival of Tap

Proving that theatre can involve more than playwrights and actors, the Martin E. Segal Theatre Center devoted two July days to the art of dance—tap, to be specific. “World of Tap Dance,” presented in partnership with the American Tap Dance Foundation, featured screenings of both classic and rare dance footage, panel discussions with tap artists from across the globe, and live performances. Brian Seibert, dance writer for the *New Yorker* and the *Village Voice* and author of a forthcoming book on the history of tap dance, curated the screenings and moderated the discussions.

A genre that dates back to the eighteenth century and has African and Irish roots, tap dancing was seen on the street, in night clubs, on Broadway, and in film, gaining the most momentum in the 1920s and ’30s in Hollywood. “Tap is an indigenous American art, a unique art,” Executive Director and Director of Programs for the Segal Center Dr. Frank Hentschker said. “Declining in popularity in the 1950s, it became a sensational success story again in the 1970s and ’80s, and now is a very strong movement. I felt it was time to have a second look, and evaluate and celebrate this form.”

More than two hundred film clips were screened, some dating to the late nineteenth century, and some never seen before, Seibert noted. They included early artists like Bill “Bojangles” Robinson, who appeared in vaudeville, on Broadway, and on screen, often opposite Shirley Temple in the 1930s; the dance phenomenon Fred Astaire; and artists from the form’s revival in the 1970s and ’80s like Gregory Hines and Savion Glover, who made tap “cool” again with the 1995 Broadway show *Bring in ’Da Noise, Bring in ’Da Funk*. A panel discussion focused on Chuck Green, who performed on stage in jazz dance revues all over the United States and Europe, and later on television, his career extending from the 1930s to the 1980s. At another panel discussion, contemporary tappers, including artists from Spain, France, Germany, and Japan, noted not only the importance of American artists to the history of tap, but how much cross-influence now occurs. “We discussed how the international scene, once influenced by Americans, is now in reverse,” Seibert said. “The international scene is now nipping at the heels of American artists.”

—Kerri Linden



(L. to r.) Chuck Green, Will Gaines, and Charles “Honi” Coles



Charles “Honi” Coles

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF DAVID GOTTHARD, LONDON

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## GC Doctoral Student’s Paper Sparks E-Book Legislation

A white paper targeting the high cost of college textbooks, by GC doctoral student Kimberly Libman (Environmental Psychology), is the basis of a legislative package introduced last spring in the New York State Assembly. The paper, “Transforming Textbooks,” shows how electronic textbooks can reduce costs and expand academic resources for cash-strapped public college students, who spend more than \$1,000 annually on required texts, and for public universities, which are facing budget cuts.

But, the report also warns, the publishing industry's current business practices stand in the way.

Libman is the Graduate Center's first Urban Policy Fellow in a recently created program headed by Dr. Stephen Brier, professor of urban education and special assistant for legislative affairs to President William Kelly.

Based on Libman's research, NYS Assembly member Micah Z. Kellner, who represents District 65 on the East Side of Manhattan, introduced legislation to establish "a pilot program for bulk purchase electronic textbook delivery." The three-bill package is designed "to enable students to access electronic textbooks and course materials through the university library systems" of CUNY and SUNY and requires the chancellors to evaluate the program's impact among students, faculty, and library staff. The university systems would buy electronic titles only in flexible formats.

University libraries now experience difficulties in exercising traditional fair use of their electronic titles. Publishers put poison pills into licensing agreements that restrict e-book usage. For instance, e-books can expire and be deleted from the university library's server or are not allowed to be transferred from one college to another through existing inter-library loan systems. The legislation would not allow the universities to accept such licensing agreements, thus forcing publishers to negotiate. Kellner says the legislation, if passed, "leverages our biggest asset in fighting the publishing goliath—our strength in numbers."

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## Fifty Win 2010–11 Dissertation Awards

Louise Lennihan, associate provost for humanities and social sciences, has announced the results of the GC's dissertation fellowship competition for the 2010–11 academic year. The faculty members serving on selection panels noted the overall high quality of the 222 proposals submitted and the difficulty of narrowing the field to the fifty who were offered awards. Listed below are the winners, their doctoral programs, awards, award amounts, and dissertation topics. The + sign indicates that in-state tuition is also covered.

**Sean Akerman** (Psychology), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), "Home in Absentia: The Passage of Exile in the Tibetan Diaspora."

**Ozan Aksoy** (Music), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), "Music of the Kurdish Alevi Diaspora in Germany: Struggling with and for Multiple Identities."

**Marta Albala-Pelegrin** (Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Languages and Literatures), Doctoral Students' Council Award (\$5,000), "Paving the Way for the National Theatre: Comedy in Sixteenth-Century Spain (1490–1579)."

**Christian Anderson** (Earth and Environmental Sciences), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), "In the Space of West 46th Street: An Ethnography of Everyday Life and Processes of Structural Change on 3 1/2 New York City Blocks."

**Margaret Araneo** (Theatre), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), "Disabling the Human/Enabling the Posthuman: Neuropathology and Late-Nineteenth- and Early-Twentieth-Century French Cabaret and U.S. Burlesque."

**Sultana Banulescu** (History), Randolph Braham Dissertation Fellowship (\$5,000), "Mining the Mind, Mapping the Minefield: Political, Religious and Cultural Dynamics of Italian Psychoanalysis, 1908–48."

**Dana Battaglia** (Speech–Language–Hearing Sciences), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), "Word Association in Individuals with Autism."

**Katarina Bodirsky** (Anthropology), European Union Studies Center Dissertation Fellowship (\$5,000), "The Value of Diversity: State Transformation in EU-Europe."

**Anton Borst** (English), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), "American Minds: Phrenology and Self-Recovery in the American Renaissance."

**Louis Bury** (English), Helaine Newstead Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), "Exercises in Criticism: The Theory and Practice of Literary Constraint."

**Howard Caro-Lopez** (Sociology), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “The Impact of Immigrant Organizations on Migrants’ Transnational Political Participation.”

**Ananda Cohen** (Art History), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Mural Painting and Social Change in the Colonial Andes, 1626–1830.”

**Paula Fleshman** (Urban Education), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “An Exploration of Mathematics Identities of African American and Hispanic Students in a New York City Elementary Community School.”

**Valerie Futch** (Psychology), Doctoral Students’ Council Award (\$5,000), “Getting into Character: Adolescent Identity Development in the Context of a Teen-Theatre Peer-Education Group.”

**Leigh Garrison** (Linguistics), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “The Acquisition of L2 Reading Comprehension: What Is More Important, L2 Knowledge or L1 Reading Ability.”

**David Gary** (History), Leon Levy Center for Biography Award (\$22,000), “Rufus King and the Material Text: Reading, Writing, and Book Collecting in the Early Republic.”

**Edmundo Gonzalez** (Biology), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Systematics of the Spiny Retro-Barbate Clade of the North American Vaejovidae Thorell, 1876 (Scorpiones).”

**Bin He** (Engineering), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Synthesis, Characterization and Applications of Tether Supported Biomembrane-Microsphere Assemblies.”

**Miriam Intrator** (History), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Wartime Planning, Postwar Response: UNESCO and Library and Book Renewal Projects in Postwar, Post-Holocaust, Early Cold War Europe, 1944–56.”

**Reva Jaffe-Walter** (Urban Education), Dissertation Year Award (\$6,000), “The Paradox of Concern: An Ethnographic Study of First and Second Generation Muslim Immigrant Youth in a Danish Folkeskolen.”

**Robina Khalid** (English), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Orienting Blackness: African Americans and the Middle East, 1827–1928.”

**Ervin Kosta** (Sociology), Dissertation Year Award (\$6,000), “Ethnicity Unbound: Albanians and the Creation of an ‘Authentic’ Little Italy.”

**Matthew Tomas Lau** (English), MAGNET Dissertation Fellowship (\$20,000+), “Exceptional Conversations: Narrative Cinema and Classical Music.”

**Yuanxi Liao** (Chemistry), Rose K. Rose Dissertation Award in Chemistry (\$5,000), “Development of Highly Efficient Transition Metal-Catalyzed Addition Reactions.”

**Zeljka Ljubic** (Mathematics), Mina Rees Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Problems in the Intersection of Additive Number Theory, Algebraic Topology, and Geometric Group Theory.”

**Jamie McCallum** (Sociology), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “In Dubious Battle: Case Studies of New Labor Transnationalism in the Global South.”

**Anne McCarthy** (English), B. Altman Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “That Willing Suspension: Signification and the Ethics of Literary Form in 19th-Century British Poetry.”

**Shea McManus** (Anthropology), Mellon Dissertation Fellowship (\$22,000), “Emotions in Transition: An Ethnography of Social Repair in Post-War Lebanon.”

**Anna Mecugni** (Art History), Leon Levy Center for Biography Award (\$22,000), “A Voyage of Identities: Luigi Ontani and the Postmodern Question in 1970s Italy.”

**Hiroshi Morita** (Economics), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Solving Puzzles in Foreign Exchange Rates Using a Hidden Markov Model Under Bayesian Inference.”

**Nancy Murphy** (Social Welfare), Harold M. Proshansky Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Implementing a Bupreorphine Treatment Program into HIV Primary Care: An Explanatory Study.”

**Andrew Newman** (Anthropology), Naclerio Dissertation Award (\$2,000), “Landscaping Discontent: Space, Class, and Social Movements in Immigrant Paris.”

**Ornaith O’Dowd** (Philosophy), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “The Responsibilities of Reason: Kant and Care.”

**Yekaterina Oziashvili** (Political Science), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Electoral Systems, Political Parties, and Stability of the Ethnofederal State: The Case of Russia.”

**Ceren Ozugul** (Anthropology), Silk Dissertation Award (\$5,000), “From Muslim Citizen to Christian Minority: Tolerance, Multiculturalism, Secularism and ‘Double-Conversion’ in Turkey.”

**David Palazzo** (Political Science), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “The ‘Social Factory’ in Postwar Italian Autonomist Marxism: From Operaismo to Autonomia.”

**Andrew Pau** (Music), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “An Analytical Study of Bizet’s Carmen: Melody, Phrase Rhythm, Harmony, and Form.”

**Steven Pludwin** (Political Science), Mellon Dissertation Fellowship (\$22,000), “Ethical Inscriptions: Politics and the Rhetoric of Responsibility.”

**Lucia Pozzan** (Linguistics), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “The Acquisition of English Questions by Second Language Learners.”

**Paul Ranogajec** (Art History), Martin E. Segal Dissertation Award (\$18,000), “The Apotheosis of the Public Realm: Classical Architecture in New York City, 1880–1915.”

**Deniz Sarioz** (Computer Science), Doctoral Students’ Council Award (\$5,000), “Combinatorial and Geometric Methods in the Analysis and Design of Complex Structures.”

**Lisa Sarti** (Comparative Literature), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Pirandellian Refractions: On Page, Stage, and Screen.”

**Katrina Scott** (Anthropology), MAGNET Dissertation Fellowship (\$20,000+), “Reconstructing ‘Chocolate City’?: Public Knowledge, Local Media and the Master Plan in Post-Katrina New Orleans.”

**Utku Sezgin** (Political Science), Athena Pollis Fellowship (\$10,000), “Remaking Nationhood? Assimilation and Citizenship among University-Educated Turks in Berlin and Dominicans in New York.”

**Bann Seng Tan** (Political Science), Ralph Bunche Dissertation Fellowship (\$12,000), “Spear Versus Shield: The Impact of Democracy upon Rivalry.”

**Rosemary Twomey** (Philosophy), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Aristotle on the Common-Sense and the Unity of Consciousness.”

**Kristen Van Hooreweghe** (Sociology), Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$18,000+), “The Creeks, Beaches, and the Bay: The Political Ecology of Jamaica Bay, NY.”

**Sean Weiss** (Art History), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Photographs for the Modern City: An Enterprise in the Urban Transformation of Second Empire and Early Third Republic Paris.”

**Lori Yamato** (Comparative Literature), Doctoral Students’ Council Award (\$5,000), “The Temptation of Symmetry: Hamann, Herder, Kierkegaard, and Henry James.”

**Tina Zottoli** (Psychology), Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000+), “Maturation of the Feedback-Related Negativity and Its Contribution to Executive Function and Legal Decision-Making in Adolescence: An Evoked Potential Study.”

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## Experimental Geography Put on the Map

It seems rather obvious that artists, geographers, urban planners, and cartographers all view—and then depict—the world in differing ways. But what if, somehow, these varying perspectives could be interfused to create something new and entirely different?



Kanarinka (a.k.a. Catherine D'Ignazio), *It Takes 154,000 Breaths To Evacuate Boston*, 2007.

New media artist Kanarinka created this work, which is part of a larger project, to make a statement about Boston's new \$827,500 emergency evacuation system for protection against hurricanes, snowstorms, fires, and terrorist attacks. Kanarinka ran the entire evacuation route.

Basically, that is the thinking behind “experimental geography,” a term coined by artist Trevor Paglen in 2002 to describe a range of nontraditional approaches one might take to explore, capture, and perhaps even remake one’s surroundings. Experimental geography was also the subject of the Independent Curators International (ICI) exhibition on view at the GC’s James Gallery June 24 thru August 27, and the topic of a July 20 panel discussion held in Elebash Recital Hall in conjunction with the exhibit.

In addition to Paglen, participants on the panel included exhibition curator Nato Thompson, artists Lize Mogel and Iain Kerr, and social theorist David Harvey (Dist. Prof., GC, Anthropology, Earth and Environmental Sciences, History), director of the Center for Place, Culture, and Politics.

“More and more,” noted Harvey, “we see cities constructed around the notion of spectacle.” For him, these spectacles relate largely to consumerism and the way our world is constructed to encourage spending.

In her talk, Mogel pointed out that such spectacles appear not just in cities, but on world maps and other depictions of our globe. Long before air travel and electronic media, for example, world’s fairs and international expos enabled people to be consumers of products and ideas outside their immediate area. What they saw, however, was subject to distortions, stereotypes, and oversimplifications, said Mogel.

Like the other speakers, Kerr emphasized not only seeing the world afresh, but also taking an active role in changing it for the better. The melting of the Arctic ice caps and the BP oil spill, for example, affect not only the world’s geography, he noted, but also its inhabitants. And our response to situations like these, he concluded, further alter both the planet and the people in it.

Put another way, quipped Thompson, “You don’t need to see a psychotherapist to understand what is going on in your world. You just need to see a city planner.”

For more about the exhibit and panel discussion, see [http://www.ici-exhibitions.org/index.php/exhibitions/experimental\\_geography/](http://www.ici-exhibitions.org/index.php/exhibitions/experimental_geography/).

—Jackie Glasthal



Katherine Carl

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## James Gallery Changes Management

There has been an exciting new development at the Amie and Tony James Gallery on the first floor of our building. Consistent with the gallery’s mission of catalyzing critical inquiry across disciplines and bringing together the scholarly community at the Graduate Center with artists and arts organizations across the city and around the world, the gallery will now be managed by the Center for the Humanities.

For several decades, the Center for the Humanities has successfully organized public programs, conferences, and seminars intended to promote dialogue among artists, public intellectuals, civic leaders, and scholars inside and outside the CUNY system.

Aoibheann Sweeney, the executive director of the Center for the Humanities, will provide leadership for the gallery, while its programming will be headed by Katherine Carl, the new curator and deputy director of the Center for the Humanities. Carl recently received her Ph.D. from Stony Brook University in art history and criticism. As curator of contemporary exhibitions at the Drawing Center, New York, from 2004 to 2007, she is experienced in curatorial practice. Her other work in the arts ranges from the National Endowment for the Arts (1991–96) to Dia Art Foundation (1999–2003) and includes international arts exchange with CEC Artslink (1996–97). Carl approaches art, both contemporary and historical, from a vantage point of its dialogue with other disciplines and is also cofounder of the remarkably interdisciplinary School of Missing Studies, an international group of collaborating artists and scholars.

Carl and Sweeney look forward to collaborating with CUNY faculty and students and welcome input on gallery programs and exhibitions from the GC community.

## Doctoral Faculty Appointments

The following is a list of appointments to the doctoral faculty from May 12 through August 30, 2010. Listed after each name are the faculty member's home college or home institution and fields of specialization.

### AUDIOLOGY, AU.D. PROGRAM

**Jessica O'Gara**, Adjunct, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary: Tinnitus; vestibular assessment and rehabilitation.

### BIOCHEMISTRY, PH.D. PROGRAM

**Gregory S. Boutis**, Brooklyn: Solid State NMR, NMR hardware development, deuterium NMR. **Zimei Bu**, City: Molecular biophysics, biochemistry, structural biology, cell signaling. **Shubha Govind**, City: Signal transduction, Drosophila immunity, developmental genetics of model organisms, virulence proteins of parasites. **Itzhak Mano**, Sophie Davis Biomedical School: Physiology of excitatory synaptic transmission, membrane support, neuronal cell death, genetic animal model of human disease. **Luis E. N. Quadri**, Brooklyn: Biosynthesis, enzymology, microbial genetics, antimicrobial compounds.

### BIOLOGY, PH.D. PROGRAM

**John Marra**, Brooklyn: Ecology, plant physiology.

### BUSINESS, PH.D. PROGRAM

**Hyokyoung Hong**, Baruch: Management, employment and business statistics, research on aging. **Radhica Jain**, Baruch: Information systems and technologies, system sciences, e-technology.

### CHEMISTRY, PH.D. PROGRAM

**Yu Chen**, Queens: Organic chemistry. **Reddy D. Varatur**, KCC: Inorganic and organic chemistry.

### COMPARATIVE LITERATURE, PH.D. PROGRAM

**Monica Calabritto**, Hunter: Renaissance and early modern literature.

### EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, PH.D. PROGRAM

**Ruth Gilmore**, GC: Race and gender, labor and social movements, African diaspora, economic geography, political geography.

### ECONOMICS, PH.D. PROGRAM

**Sean M. Crockett**, Baruch: Experimental methods, general equilibrium theory, behavioral economics, learning/adaptive heuristics. **K. Ozgur Demirtas**, Baruch: Finance, asset pricing, investments. **Frank W. Heiland**, Baruch: Economics of human resources, public economics. **Inas Rashad Kelly**, Queens: Health economics, labor economics, public finance, microeconometrics. **Sebastiano Manzan**, Baruch: Applied econometrics, economic forecasting.

### EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY, PH.D. PROGRAM

**Alpana Bhattacharya**, Queens: Literacy, learning strategies, instruction for students with and without learning disabilities. **Mario Antonio Kelly**, Hunter: Issues of diversity in development, integration of technology in teacher education and teaching.

### ENGLISH, PH.D. PROGRAM

**Kandice Chuh**, GC: Asian American literatures, critical race theory, law and literature.

**HISPANIC AND LUSO-BRAZILIAN LITERATURES AND LANGUAGES, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Paul Julian Smith**, GC: Literary criticism and film criticism in Hispanic cultural studies.

**HISTORY, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Gunja Sen Gupta**, Brooklyn: Nineteenth-century U.S. social and cultural history, slavery, African American history, welfare, comparative slavery. **Premilla Nadasen**, Queens: Twentieth-century United States, labor, welfare, and gender. **Mary Roldán**, Hunter: Modern Latin America, politics and urban history in twentieth-century Colombia. **Clifford Rosenberg**, City: Modern French history (social and cultural), imperialism, immigration, public health.

**LINGUISTICS, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Juliette Blevins**, GC: Phonology; Austronesian, Australian Aboriginal, Native American, and Andamanese languages. **Matt Huenerfauth**, Queens: Computational linguistics, natural language processing, assistive technology for people with disabilities, automatic text readability detection. **Valerie Shafer**, GC: Speech perception in second language learning, morphosyntactic information in acquiring language, brain development and language acquisition, auditory processing and language learning.

**MATHEMATICS, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Jason A. Behrstock**, Lehman: Topology, geometry, group theory. **Alexander Gamburd**, GC: Spectral problems in number theory, probability, combinatorics, and quantum chaos. **Dan A. Lee**, Queens: Geometric analysis, general relativity. **Marcello Lucia**, COSI: Partial differential equations, calculus of variations, nonlinear analysis, geometric inequalities. **Clayton Petsche**, Hunter: Number theory, arithmetic geometry, algebraic dynamical systems.

**PHILOSOPHY, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Peter Godfrey-Smith**, GC: Philosophy of biology, philosophy of mind. **Alva Noë**, GC: Perception and consciousness; art and human nature. **Massimo Pigliucci**, Lehman: Philosophy of biology, philosophy of science, evolutionary biology.

**PHYSICAL THERAPY, DPT PROGRAM**

**Herb I. Karpatkin**, Adjunct, Rusk Institute: Neurology clinical specialist, multiple sclerosis clinical specialist. **Jonathan S. Luchs**, Adjunct, SUNY Stony Brook School of Medicine: Musculoskeletal imaging, radiology. **John E. Lugo**, Adjunct, COSI: Nerve conduction studies. **Cory R. Taglianetti**, Adjunct, COSI: Nerve conduction studies.

**PHYSICS, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Stefan Bathe**, Baruch: High energy nuclear physics. **William Bialek**, GC: Biophysics, theoretical physics. **K. E. Saavik Ford**, BMCC: Astrophysics. **D. Barry McKernan**, BMCC: Astrophysics, active galactic nuclei, accretion physics, x-ray astrophysics.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Susan Buck-Morss**, GC: European intellectual history, Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, Walter Benjamin. **Uday Singh Mehta**, GC: Political theory; freedom and imagination; liberalism, colonialism, and empire.

**PSYCHOLOGY, PH.D. PROGRAM (BIOPSYCHOLOGY AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE)**

**Regina Miranda**, Hunter: Adolescent depression and suicide, hopelessness, depressive future-event schemas, the social-cognitive process of transference in depression.

**PSYCHOLOGY, PH.D. PROGRAM (CLINICAL)**

**Robert L. Hatcher**, Adjunct, GC Wellness Center: Clinical competence, psychotherapy research, outcomes research.

**PSYCHOLOGY, PH.D. PROGRAM (SOCIAL-PERSONALITY)**

**Luis Barrios**, John Jay: Latin American and Latina/os studies, qualitative-participatory action research, street and prison gangs, liberation and cultural theology.

**PUBLIC HEALTH, DPH PROGRAM**

**Barbara Berney**, Hunter: Health policy, environmental health policy, policy analysis. **William T. Gallo**, Hunter: Health economics, social epidemiology, social gerontology. **Shiro Horiuchi**, Hunter: Health demography, biostatistics. **Mary H. Huynh**, Lehman: Epidemiology. **Gerald Markowitz**, John Jay: History of occupational health, history of public health, history of environmental health. **Thomas Matte**, Hunter: Environmental and occupational health and safety, epidemiology. **Ananya Mukherjea**, COSI: Gender and sexuality, urban sociology, medical sociology. **Robert A. Padgug**, Brooklyn: Health policy, finance and economics, health systems and administration. **Alice Sardell**, Queens: Health policy, children's health policy. **Shoshanna Sofaer**, Baruch: Health policy, program evaluation, research methods. **Makram Talih**, Hunter: Bayesian statistics and computational methods, data analysis methodology, multivariate analysis, social networks, clustering, measuring health and environmental disparities. **Lorna E. Thorpe**, CUNY School of Public Health at Hunter: Epidemiology. **Raymond E. Weston**, Brooklyn: Health disparities, mental health, substance abuse, racial identity.

**SOCIAL WELFARE, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Roderick Watts**, GC: Liberation psychology, manhood development, sociopolitical development theory.

**SOCIOLOGY, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Christopher Bonastia**, Lehman: Race, comparative/historical sociology, political sociology, social policy. **Maritsa V. Poros**, City: International migration, social networks, urban sociology, inequalities. **Bryan S. Turner**, GC: Sociological theory, human rights, sociology of the body, religion in contemporary Asia, citizenship in a globalizing world.

**SPEECH–LANGUAGE–HEARING SCIENCES, PH.D. PROGRAM**

**Paul W. Cascella**, Hunter: Communication disorders, speech-language pathologies. **Yuki Hrose**, Adjunct, University of Tokyo: Second language parsing, Japanese language, prosodic structure, perception of vowels. **Mary Jane Weiss**, Adjunct, McCarton School: Autism, atypical development. **Douglas Whalen**, GC: Phonetics, speech perception and speech production.

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**DSC Names Executive Committee**

The Doctoral Students' Council (DSC), the policymaking body representing doctoral and master's degree students at the Graduate Center, has filled a new roster for their 2010–11 executive committee. Eero Laine, a student in the theatre program, is co-chair for student affairs; Kimberly Libman, a doctoral candidate in environmental psychology, is co-chair for communications; Chris Alen Sula, a doctoral candidate in philosophy, will act as co-chair for business; and Jill Belli, a student in the English program, will serve as a delegate to the University Student Senate. This year, the DSC will offer free yoga and Pilates classes for students and has reinstated a discount movie ticket program, with \$6 tickets available for AMC theatres. In addition, the DSC continues to offer free legal consultation, lockers, website hosting, tax workshops, and assistance regarding NYSHIP student health benefits. The council provides funding for the Wellness Center and support for adjunct instructor advocacy through its Adjunct Project.

## News from GC Students

**Leslie Anne Anderson** (Art History) had her article “Sanford Robinson Gifford’s Views of Mount Merino and South Bay: A Visual Record of Change in Fluvial Geomorphology” published in the inaugural edition of the *Oregon Art Review* in Fall 2009.

**Theodore Barrow** (Art History) will have his paper “From the Easter Wedding to the Frantick Lover: Shifting Roles of the Repeated Woodcut” published in the forthcoming *Fugitive Pieces: An Epistemology of Ephemera in the Long Eighteenth Century* (University of Massachusetts Press). This spring, he presented his paper “Travesty Travestied: James Gillray and the Society of Dilettanti” at the 18th annual “Crossing the Boundaries” Conference at SUNY Binghamton.

**Jessica Brater, Jessica del Vecchio, Drew Friedman, Bethany Holmstrom, Eero Laine, Donny Levit, Hillary Miller, Carly Smith, Kenn Watt, Catherine Young, and Peter Zazzali** (Theatre), along with David Savran (Dist. Prof, Vera Mowry Roberts Chair, GC, Theatre, English) collectively authored the article, “‘Let Our Freak Flags Fly’: *Shrek the Musical* and the Branding of Diversity,” published as the lead article in the May issue of *Theatre Journal*.

**Dmitry Brogun** (Biology) participated in a BioBlitz at Jamaica Bay estuary in Brooklyn in June. A field study consisting of a 24- or 48-hour biological inventory by scientists and volunteers, a BioBlitz attempts to identify and record all species of living organisms in a certain area. Brogun was invited as a specialist on micro-algae, and is currently performing thesis research in biotechnology on micro-algae for biofuel applications at Brooklyn College.

**Marcos Burgos** (Sociology) won a \$25,000 Boren Fellowship, funded by the Institute of International Education in Washington, D.C. Burgos has been working with Mundo Real, a nonprofit organization, which works to provide public health services and educational opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**John P. Casey** (Art History) received the 2010 Dedalus Foundation Dissertation Fellowship to support his research on “Picturing Architectural Theory: The Architectural Photobook in Germany, 1910–45.” In June 2010, *The Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* published his review of Anthony Vidler’s *Histories of the Immediate Present: Inventing Architectural Modernism*. During the summer of 2010, he lived and worked in Berlin, Germany, on a DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Intensive Language Grant at the Goethe-Institut.

**Patrick Inglis** (Sociology) won a Cousins Fund Dissertation Fellowship of \$2,500, courtesy of Cousins Charitable Foundation, a small family foundation dedicated to the support of education.

**Svetlana Jovic** (Developmental Psychology) has been awarded a scholarship in Open Society’s Global Supplementary Grant Program. This award will supplement her GC funding and involve her in several international scholarly activities.

**Yoshikaki Kai** (Art History) worked as an assistant curator of “Suspending Time: Life-Photography-Death,” an exhibition at the Izu Photo Museum in Shizuoka, Japan, held from April 3 through August 20. The exhibition was organized by guest curator Geoffrey Batchen. Kai also published an essay, “The Shadows of Snapshots,” in the exhibition catalogue *Suspending Time: Life-Photography-Death* (Shizuoka: Izu Photo Museum, 2010).

**Bernadette Ludwig** (Sociology) won a 2010 Trans-Atlantic Summer Institute fellowship in European Studies. Run by Donna Gabaccia and Mirjana Morokvasic, the program focused on gender and immigration life in North America and Europe and brought together twelve European and twelve American advanced graduate students at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

**Laura Mauldin** (Sociology) won the Samuel Bloom Award for \$400 for her work in medical sociology. Professor Bloom, a medical sociologist affiliated with the GC and

Mount Sinai, passed away a few years ago. The award is provided courtesy of Barbara Svitlik, a student of Bloom's, who made the onetime gift to honor him.

**Morgan Ridler** (Art History) completed an internship in the Curatorial Department at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in the summer of 2010 and was awarded the Hilla von Rebay Graduate Intern stipend.

**Romy Silver** (Art History) recently published two articles, "Agnes Martin" and (with Michelle Elligott) "Modern Women: A Timeline," in *Modern Women: Women Artists at The Museum of Modern Art*, Cornelia Butler and Alexandra Schwartz, eds. (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 2010).

**Jessica Sperling** (Sociology), after a stiff competition, won a Bucerius dissertation fellowship in migration studies from the Zeit-Foundation of Hamburg, Germany—*Die Zeit* being a major political weekly in Germany. The fellowship runs for twenty-eight months and pays 1,200 euros per month.

**Latoya Tavernier** (Sociology) won the University of California–Santa Barbara Black Studies Dissertation Fellowship, which includes a stipend of \$22,000 with health benefits and student housing.

**Kristen Van Hooreweghe** (Sociology) won a Cousins Fund Dissertation Fellowship of \$2,500, courtesy of Cousins Charitable Foundation, a small family foundation dedicated to the support of education.



The new CUNY Baccalaureate graduates

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## CUNY Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded at Historic Cooper Union

Historic Cooper Union was the site of the commencement ceremony for the CUNY Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies on June 7, where 225 degrees were awarded. One hundred of the graduates were present, sixty-three of them graduating with honors. Each proudly walked to the podium as their hard work and achievements were recognized. A number of faculty mentors attended, as did the CUNY B.A./B.S. staff.

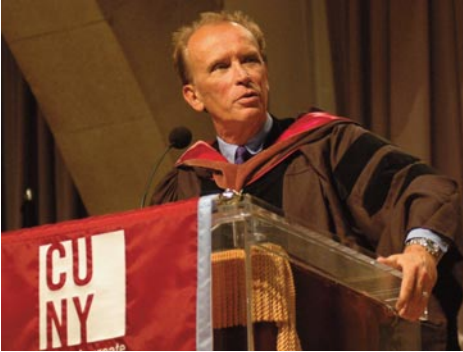
Patricia Licklider (Prof., John Jay, English, and Chair of the University Committee on the CUNY B.A.) served as grand marshal for the event. Carmen Keels, a 2010 B.A. graduate who majored in musical theatre, sang the national anthem, clearly elated as she stood on the same stage where she would soon receive her degree. Dr. Kim Hartswick, academic director for the program, acted as the master of ceremonies. He introduced the event, welcoming the guests, who had come from more than fifteen countries, recognizing the faculty, staff, students, and parents, and especially thanking Manfred Philipp, chair of the University Faculty Senate and ex-officio member of the CUNY Board of Trustees, who stepped down from his Senate post in August. Nancy Aries, interim University Dean for Undergraduate Education, brought greetings from the Chancellor's office.

Having alluded to Abraham Lincoln's presence on the same stage in 1860, when he gave his famous Cooper Union address on the issue of slavery, Hartswick then referred to President Barack Obama. "What a difference one hundred and fifty years make," he said. "This is a proud time in our history, and you graduates must seize this moment. We're depending on you to show us the way to an even more remarkable future, one that will bring down racial, economic, religious, political, and social barriers that continue to plague the world."

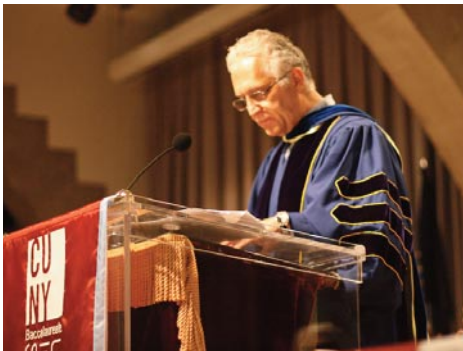
Amy Green (Assoc. Prof., John Jay, Communications and Theatre Arts, Chair of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program) spoke on behalf of the faculty mentors. She spoke of the top ten things she had learned as a B.A. mentor, and described what makes the program and its participants unique. "Irreverence can be a source of inspiration. Academic disciplines and traditional majors can be intimidating. They seem to say that



Rachel Ramirez



Peter Weller



Kim Hartswick

‘this is the way’ to learn or that ‘this is the body of knowledge’ to be mastered. You stood up to those powerful voices and listened to your own instead.”

Rachel Ramirez, a 2010 graduate who completed a degree in creative writing and literature, spoke on behalf of the students. She noted that the B.A. program provides students with a sense of freedom through its flexible program of study. “To learn is to feel unbounded, and rather privileged, in having the opportunity to be a member of a diverse community of students, who are unrestricted by a traditional college’s linear curriculum,” she said. “We, CUNY B.A. students, challenge those linear systems by taking responsibility for our education, and it is our education that is the platform from which we will set out to begin the next journey in our lives.”

Film actor Peter Weller was the keynote speaker. Best known as RoboCop in the *RoboCop* movies, Weller is also a stage actor, director, lecturer, and currently a Ph.D. candidate in Renaissance art at the University of California, Los Angeles. Graduate Center President William P. Kelly introduced him, appropriately, as a “Renaissance man,” someone who exemplifies the interdisciplinary nature of the B.A. program. Weller gave an impassioned speech about following your heart, the true meaning of success, and the value of education. “By ‘success’ regarding your degree, I do not mean money and a job, although those are earmarks of success in the material world,” he explained, “and those earmarks demand toil, for which you, as graduates, are ostensibly trained. However, what I mean by ‘success’—and mark me—is love and service. . . . Education is the gift of love and service, and that is the only endgame, folks.” Weller received a standing ovation from the audience.

Kim Hartswick offered special thanks to Thomas W. Smith, who was in attendance and is the founder and benefactor of the Thomas W. Smith Academic Fellowships, which to date have funded the college educations of 575 CUNY B.A. students, several of whom graduated on this day. He went on to announce the recipients of nine scholarships, funded largely through the generosity of the program’s alumni, including the Abby Stein Award to Christopher Rodriguez, to continue his study of criminology and sociology; the Dan Daley Journalism Award to Jessica Lawson, for her multimedia reporting; the Ursula Taylor Memorial Community Service Award to Matthew Hanson for his significant volunteer work; the Nan Bauer-Maglin Prize for Literary Studies to Rachel Ramirez for her work in literature and creative writing; the Barbara Kneller Memorial Award to Nicole Brown, given to a student who began at Kingsborough Community College and graduated successfully from CUNY B.A.; and the Lesley Hughes Health Services Award to Diana Arevalo for her studies in multicultural psychology. General Alumni Fund Scholarships for graduate study were given to Joseph Gallagher (Political Journalism), who will attend Fordham University School of Law; Mimi Lester (Women and Gender Studies/Public History), accepted to Queens College’s master’s program in library and information science; and Patrick Scullin (International Human Rights/Conflict Resolution), who is moving on to Georgetown University’s master’s program in conflict resolution. (Editor’s Note: Four other CUNY B.A. graduates have been accepted to the CUNY Graduate Center this year.)

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## In Memoriam

**Asher Arian**, distinguished professor of political science, died on July 6. Appointed to the Graduate Center's doctoral faculty in 1986, he served as program head until 1990. Arian held strong connections to Israel throughout his career, publishing dozens of books and articles dealing with the country's governance, elections, public opinion, and political behavior; he also played a leading role in founding Tel Aviv University's political science department in the late 1960s, was a member of the group that wrote the founding charter of the Israel Association of Political Science in 1979, was appointed a member of the executive committee of the International Political Science Association, and was editor of the association's prestigious book series, *Advances in Political Science*, throughout the 1990s. Beginning in 1995, he served as a Senior Fellow at the Israel Democracy Institute as well. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he received his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Michigan State University. In 1990, he returned to Israel, serving as professor of political science at the University of Haifa until his retirement in 2006. He continued to be connected with the Graduate Center, teaching a course as part of the Middle Eastern Studies master's degree program in 2009.

**Oliver Bloodstein**, professor of speech and hearing sciences, died on July 4. A founding member of the department at the Graduate Center, he is widely regarded as one of the creators of the modern field of speech-language pathology. He taught at Brooklyn College from 1948 until his retirement in 2002, and was on the Graduate Center doctoral faculty from 1980 to 1995. Receiving a B.A. from City College in 1941, he traveled to the University of Iowa for further studies under Wendell Johnson and Lee Edward Travis, major figures in the emerging discipline, receiving his M.A. in 1942 and his Ph.D. in 1948. He wrote the seminal work on stuttering, as well as texts on the continuity hypothesis and the anticipatory struggle hypothesis. His influential text, *A Handbook on Stuttering*, is now in its sixth edition.

**Bettina Liebowitz Knapp**, professor emerita of French and women's studies, died on August 27. Dr. Knapp also served Hunter College as Thomas Hunter Professor in the department of Romance languages. A Knight in the Order of Arts and Letters, an honor presented by the French government, she was a prolific author and recipient of numerous academic and scholarly awards. Among her many books were *Marie Dorval: France's Theatrical Wonder. A Book for Actors* (2006), *French Fairy Tales: A Jungian Approach* (2002), *Voltaire Revisited* (2000), *Images of Chinese Women: A Westerner's View* (1992), and *Images of Japanese Women: A Westerner's View* (1992). But, as her obituary in the *New York Times* states, "Her true memorial is the hundreds of students whose lives she touched and guided."

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Jane House, Editor  
Barry Disman, Director of Graphic Design  
Jennie Kaufman, Associate Editor  
Tim Ellis, Jackie Glasthal, Kerri Linden, Contributing Writers  
Donald Cherry, Alex Irklievski, Graphic Designers  
Elizabeth Fraser, Editorial Support

Submissions should be faxed or e-mailed to:  
Office of Public Affairs and Publications  
E-mail: [pubaff@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:pubaff@gc.cuny.edu)  
Fax: 212.817.1610

