Mellon Innovating International Teaching, Research, and Collaboration
2015-16 Awards

Graduate Dissertation Fellowships

Mary Elizabeth Borgo, Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences, *Shining Lights: Missionaries, Ministers, and the Magic Lantern, 1845-1901*

This project sheds new light on early screen culture by exposing the 19th-century religious networks responsible for circulating projection equipment globally. Following David Livingstone’s example, missionaries used the magic lantern to illustrate spoken presentations of the gospel with projected images as they travelled throughout the British Empire. Upon their return to London, missionaries would share their stories through print media and on screen, creating virtual travel experiences for British audiences.

Ricardo Higelin Ponce de Léon, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences *Engaging Descendant Communities with the Ancient Past: Zapotec Cultural Heritage from Oaxaca, Southern Mexico*

The main objective of my project is to use a public archaeology approach to engage descendant communities in Oaxaca, Mexico to assist in the process of re-appropriating and acknowledging their own cultural heritage. My goals are 1) to combine 3D models with bioarchaeological data to document human remains, 2) to preserve the objects themselves in a digital format for future analyses and possible deterioration, and 3) to disseminate the information and resulting models to local communities. My research will contribute to the task of using a public archaeology approach to engage descendants with their ancient past in Mexico, and propose an option to strengthen the relationship between communities and archaeologists broadly in other regions.

Safak Kilictepe, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences, *High-Tech Islamist State Pronatalism and Kurdish Women’s Reproduction in Turkey*

This project investigates how the relationship between in vitro fertilization (IVF), political Islam, and the ethnic minority status shape the reproductive experiences, strategies, and negotiations of infertile Sunni Kurdish women in Turkey. I seek to understand how the category of race is reproduced in a non-colonial, non-western country, where the population is ethnically and religiously diverse; how and why the racialized Islamist discourse functions as a tool for the Turkish state to regulate reproductive technologies
and expand their power in the Sunni Kurdish populated areas; and how minority women’s reproductive experiences, decisions, and strategies are shaped by the collective state interests.


This dissertation uses quinoa as a case study to examine collective action in efforts to commercialize traditional products for global markets. Through ethnographic fieldwork in Puno, Peru the researcher will examine how diverse actors collaborate to “produce” a recognizable commodity distinct from other quinoa varieties, which they call Quinoa Puneño. This detailed examination of the conceptual and material work that goes into creating and managing the reputation of Quinoa Puneño offers vital insights into how diverse actors construct ‘cultural products’ and attempt to navigate the integration of those products into a complex global dynamic of supply and demand.

**Paige Wojcik**, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences, *Diet, Health, and Migration in Antigua, Guatemala, 1541-1773*

Antigua, a city seated in the Valley of Panchoy in the Guatemalan highlands, served as the Spanish colonial capital of Central America from 1541-1773. The capital attracted colonists, mestizos, and indigenous conquistadors (allied with the Spanish), who were eager to take advantage of the colonial enterprise. Indigenous peoples (mostly Mayas) from other towns who desired to escape tribute demands in their hometowns also migrated to Antigua. Local natives to Antigua were enslaved until the abolition of Indian slavery in 1549, when they were replaced by African slaves. Tribute laws and racialized status distinctions encoded by the Spanish further complicated the traditional social hierarchy. For example, *criollos*, or American-born Europeans, were of lower status than European-born colonists. This study will examine the biological effects of colonialism and analyze skeletal markers of health to establish whether lower status European and indigenous populations experienced harsher conditions in colonial Antigua than their higher status counterparts.

**Innovative Curriculum Development Fellowship**

**Morten Oxenboell**, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, School of Global and International Studies, and **Jonathan Risner**, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, College of Arts and Sciences, *Consumptions of Violence: An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Studies of Violence in Media*

We will design a course on the consumption and aesthetics of violence in an array of media (written texts, paintings, films, video games, television programs, etc.) from different geographical and historical contexts. We will collaborate with colleagues at IU Bloomington and in the IU system to create an interdisciplinary and transnational course that examines
violence as it relates to topics such as gender and violence, violence and nation building, and violence and its effects on the brain. The course will rely on innovative approaches to teaching such as a flipped format and the use of lectures posted online.

**Innovative Workshops**

**Judith Brown**, Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences, *Thinking Around Passive Resistance*

This workshop on passive resistance at the IU India Gateway Office will bring together U.S.- and India-based scholars to imagine a new range of interdisciplinary interpretations that might stretch, enhance, or develop the critical reach of Gandhi’s theory for nonviolent action.

**Tristan Dior Ivory**, Department of Sociology, College of Arts and Sciences, *Cross-national Investigation of Migrant Outcomes Project*

This collaborative workshop at Sophia University in Tokyo (with colleagues Guilherme Chihaya Da Silva of Umeå University in Sweden and Hirohisa Takenoshita of Sophia University in Japan) is an outgrowth of a cross-national collaborative project on migrant labor market and educational outcomes with a specific focus on gender. This project is to result in three academic papers that will be sent to journals specializing in demography and/or migration.

**Khalid Mahmood Khan**, Department of Environmental Health, School of Public Health-Bloomington, *Public Health Workforce Development in Bangladesh*

The shortage of skilled public health workforce primarily because of the lack of formal public health education is a major challenge faced by the developing countries. IU School of Public Health at Bloomington has developed a series of public health courses to meet educational needs of health workers within and outside of the United States. The proposed workshops will be held in Bangladesh concurrently with a MIIRT funded research project being implemented by Khalid Khan to pilot test four workforce development computer-based courses adapted from the U.S. version of “Public Health and You” (PHY). Feedback from the participants will help develop a culturally appropriate version of PHY for Bangladeshi public health workers.

**Short-Term Faculty Fellowships**

**Vincent Bouchard**, Department of French & Italian, College of Arts and Sciences, *The Film Commentator in West Africa: From Colonial Screenings to Video Animation*

I will examine materials held in the colonial and audiovisual archives in the Ministère des affaires étrangères and the Musée royal de l’Afrique centrale (Tervuren) in Belgium, as well as at the Colonial Archives and in the INA in France, in order to complete my research on colonial and postcolonial film screenings and to confirm my interpretation of data I
collected through fieldwork in West Africa. This will allow me to complete my book provisionally titled "The Film Commentator in West Africa: From Colonial Screenings to Video Animation", examining and comparing the conditions of the use and the reception of movies during colonial screenings and educational video screenings."

**Elizabeth Claffey**, School of Fine Arts-Studio: *Matrilinear: A Study of Ritual, Mnemonic Objects, and Embodied Memory*

I will conduct creative and archival research in Copenhagen and Aarhus, Denmark. Funding will support the expansion of an in-depth series of photographs, videos, and sculptural pieces that address embodied memory and its relationship to personal, familial, and cultural identity as shaped by rituals and mnemonic objects passed down through generations of women. I will produce a series of still life images utilizing the archives at the Women’s Museum in Aarhus and examine home space rituals in Danish culture.

**Arlene Diaz**, Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences, *The Invisible War: Spies and Detectives in the Making of the Spanish-Cuban-American War and the American Empire, 1868-1908*

I will make two archival research trips to Cuba and Spain in the summer of 2016. The documents I gather on these trips will allow me to complete the research for a book project on espionage during the Spanish-Cuban-American War. With this grant, I will complete in-depth research at the major repositories of the countries involved in this war. In Cuba, I will consult documents pertaining to the political activities of Cuban exiles against Spain in New York City that are housed at the Archivo Nacional de Cuba in Havana. I will also conduct research at Spanish military archives.

**Jane Goodman**, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences, *On Tour: Algerian Actors Prepare for the U.S.*

I am conducting ethnographic research with the theater troupe Istijmam in preparation for their Fall 2016 tour of the United States. The fieldwork will entail observing and recording rehearsals, conducting interviews with troupe members and other theater professionals, and developing a script translation. This represents Phase I of my project. In Phase II, I will accompany the troupe on their U.S. tour. The overall project will result in an enhanced digital book, oriented to undergraduates, about how Algerian actors envision and encounter the United States.

**Jason McGraw**, Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences: *A Transnational History of Jamaican Popular Song*

My project examines how, between the 1940s and 1970s, Jamaicans created and consumed music at home in Jamaica and abroad in the United States and Great Britain. They identified this musical culture as distinctively Jamaican even it was embraced by
immigrant communities far beyond the island. My social history approach, based on archival research in multiple countries, incorporates the perspectives of transnational audiences as well as performers. I will use the Mellon Short-Term Faculty Fellowship to complete necessary research in Britain. Through this social history approach I show how working class Jamaicans shaped the dynamics of decolonization, diaspora, and everyday life through their music.

Akwasi Owusu Bempah, Department of Criminal Justice, College of Arts and Sciences: Special Investigation: An Examination of Police Use of Force Cases in Toronto, Canada
I will examine the circumstances surrounding police use of force cases in Toronto by examining official records collected by the Special Investigations Unit and housed in a database managed by the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG). MAG has granted me special access to gather information on police use of force cases from their internal database.

Patrick Shih, Department of Information & Library Science, School of Informatics and Computing: Understanding Cross-Cultural Differences of Crowd Work in U.S., Taiwan, and China
Crowdsourcing platforms have afforded the possibility of a new form of a micro-tasking labor workforce in recent years. Research has primarily focused on improving coordination efforts that could result in better task efficiency and lower labor costs. Very little research has been directed at understanding crowd work in countries outside of the United States. I will observe and interview crowd workers in the U.S., Taiwan, and China to understand their work routine and social rhyme without a well-defined organizational structure. Lessons learned can be used to improve social and infrastructural support in the creation of future crowdsourcing platforms, benefiting crowd workers worldwide.