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REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

From my three years of service on its Board, I knew the Society of Fellows to be perhaps the most vibrant and varied intellectual community in the humanities at Columbia University. Now, one year into my term as Director, I also know that David Johnston left the Society in terrific shape. The finances are sound, strong enough to underwrite significant renovations to our space in the Heyman Center. Under David’s leadership, the Society revised its selection process, newly drawing upon the expert judgment of sponsoring departments, which has increased our ability to bring to the program the very best emerging scholars in their respective fields. The program makes a profound difference in the life of the university and to the careers of our Fellows. Through their teaching, the Fellows expose Columbia and Barnard students to topics, questions, and approaches often absent from the undergraduate curriculum. The program, in turn, allows the Fellows to gain perspective on their graduate work, to pursue new avenues of inquiry in their research, to mature as scholars before they assume the responsibilities that attend full-time employment.

In the summer of 2011, I met with each of the departing, current, and incoming Fellows to discuss how the program might be improved. I was happy to learn that satisfaction runs high these days: Each answered by first expressing gratitude for the resources, the time, and the peer fellowship the Society offers. It is an honor to succeed David as Director of the Society Fellows and Chair of the Governing Board. As I told David last summer, I know my first responsibility is to sustain the reputation for excellence the Society of Fellows has earned, both within Columbia and beyond.

We marked the start of the academic year by welcoming two new scholars to the Society of Fellows. Ian McCreary-Flora took his doctorate in Philosophy from the University of Michigan, where he wrote a penetrating thesis on theories of belief, cognition, and rationality in Aristotle. Leah Whittington came to us from the Comparative Literature program at Princeton University with an interest in the Latin Classics and their reception in Early Modern English literature. They joined our six continuing Fellows: Dana Fields (Classics), Hagar Kotef (IRWAG and Political Science), Emily Ogden (American Studies and English), Edgardo Salinas (Music), Adam Smith (East Asian Languages and Culture), and Yanfei Sun (Sociology). The lively and well-attended lectures by the Fellows during the fall semester culminated with a stimulating presentation by Princeton University colleagues Jeff Dolven and D. Graham Burnett, one of our former Fellows, on “Critique and its Discontents.”
The Society of Fellows benefited immediately during the fall term from changes to the space in which we work. As an outgoing gift to the program, David set in motion perhaps the most significant renovation to the Heyman Center since the Society of Fellows took up residence there in the late 1970s. The project was completed in the Summer of 2011. It would have taken much longer, and cost a good deal more, if David and Associate Director Eileen Gillooly had not supervised its progress carefully. The results, though, proved worth the money and the wait. The technological enhancements to the Common Room have facilitated videoconferencing and the overhead projection of digital images, making it now much easier to record and archive events at the Heyman Center than had been the case in the past. The Fellows' Lounge has been moved down one floor, to the space formerly occupied by the Heyman Center director. This means that our events area has effectively increased by half, creating an overflow space and enhancing possibilities for conversation before and after our events. The open gallery on the floor over the Common Room has been soundproofed and partially enclosed so that the Fellows may enjoy a bit more quiet in their offices when workshops, seminars, and conferences events are taking place in the building. Additionally, we have begun to assemble and display a library of books published by former Fellows, including many that were written while in residence—one small way to accent continuity with our past even as the improved feel and utility of our space points us towards the future.

The appointment of historian Mark Mazower as Director of the Heyman Center for the Humanities has contributed to this sense of renewal. With characteristic energy, grace, and foresight, Mark launched several new initiatives in 2011–2012. He inaugurated a lecture series on “Writing Lives,” “Money,” and “The Disciplines” that, together with more traditional fare, put the humanities in conversation with current questions of sometimes urgent concern. Mark also looked for ways to encourage a sense of community among the increasingly large number of postdoctoral scholars in the humanities at Columbia. The Society, among the largest of these programs, benefited immediately, as it helped our Fellows build informal networks across the university. It also, in ways sometimes difficult to measure, expanded the audience for our weekly programs and occasional events.

For the spring semester, the Fellows organized a lecture series on the theme of “Hide and Seek.” This extended the successful program on “Evidence” from the previous year,
but it also called special attention to the relationship between secrecy and knowledge: to how intellectual inquiry is shaped by its confrontations with what is recondite or abstruse and to the various schemes devised by different disciplines to gain access to the hidden.

Two spring conferences organized by our Fellows complemented these lectures. In February, the Society hosted and sponsored the second annual meeting of “Reworking Political Concepts: A Lexicon in Formation,” with the proceedings organized by Hagar Kotef in conjunction with Adi Ophir at Tel Aviv University and Ann Laura Stoler at The New School. In April, Leah Whittington organized with Charles McNamara and Steven Baker, doctoral candidates at Columbia in Classics and Italian respectively, a two-day conference on “The Long Reach of Antiquity,” a program that brought to Columbia a number of promising young scholars in Classics and Comparative Literature.

As the year concluded, we bade farewell to three Fellows. Hagar Kotef returned with her family to Israel to take up a position in the Department of Politics and Government at Ben-Gurion University. Adam Smith joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania as an Assistant Professor of East Asian Civilizations and Curator of Chinese Antiquities at the University of Pennsylvania Museum. Leah Whittington took up a tenure-track job in English at Harvard University. Fixtures within the Society of Fellows and each a formidable intellect, they will all be much missed.

A stellar pool of newly elected Fellows, however, invites us to look forward. New to the Society of Fellows in Fall 2012 will be William Deringer (History of Science, Princeton University), Brian Goldstone (Anthropology, Duke University), and David Russell (English, Princeton University). Deringer, a former Wall Street analyst, comes to us with an important project on the history of financial calculation in early modern England. Goldstone studies, among other subjects, charismatic Christianity and Christian missions in contemporary Ghana. Russell, most recently at the Mahindra Humanities Center at Harvard, elucidates and explores the concept of tact in Victorian literature. We look forward to benefiting from the vigor, depth, and curiosity each of them possesses in abundance.

Christopher L. Brown
Chair and Director
MEMBERS OF THE 2011–2012
GOVERNING BOARD

James Eli Adams
English and Comparative Literature

Holger Klein
Art History

Courtney Bender
Religion

Elizabeth Leake
Italian

Christopher L. Brown, Chair/Director
History

Mark Mazower (ex-officio)
History

Jonathan Crary (ex-officio)
Art History

Monica Miller
English and Africana Studies, Barnard

Giuseppe Gerbino
Music

Samuel Moyn
History

Patricia Grieve (ex-officio)
Latin American and Iberian Cultures

Elizabeth Povinelli
Anthropology

Robert Hymes
East Asian Languages and Cultures

Joanna Stalnaker
French and Francophone Studies

Matthew Jones (ex-officio)
History

Katja Vogt
Philosophy
The thirty-seventh annual fellowship competition closed on 3 October 2011, with 786 applicants vying for the three fellowships available for 2012–13. A total of twenty-two departments, institutes, and centers conducted the first round of vetting. Each of the 100 applications they recommended for advancement to the next level of competition received three readings: two by members of the Governing Board and one by a current Fellow. Ranked by each reader on a scale of one to five, these applications were then reviewed by the selection committee, a sub-committee of the Governing Board. In mid-December, nine candidates were offered interviews, which were held in late January 2012 at the Heyman Center.

The three available fellowships for 2012–2013 were offered to, and accepted by, William Deringer (PhD, 2012), who joins the Society of Fellows from Princeton University; Brian Goldstone (PhD, 2012), who received his doctorate in Cultural Anthropology from Duke University; and David Russell (PhD, 2011), who, like Deringer, comes to us from Princeton University.

Dr. Deringer, Dr. Goldstone, and Dr. Russell, whose appointments began 1 July 2012, joined five returning Fellows: Dana Fields, Princeton University (PhD, 2009); Ian McCready-Flora, University of Michigan (PhD, 2011); Emily Ogden, University of Pennsylvania (PhD, 2010); Edgardo Salinas, Columbia University (PhD, 2010); and Yanfei Sun, University of Chicago (PhD, 2010).
## 2011–2012 Competition Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Studies</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3.05%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>7.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History &amp; Archaeology</td>
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<td>8.01%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Center for the Study of Ethnicity &amp; Race</td>
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<td>1.02%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classics</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>3.69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Asian Languages &amp; Cultures</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>4.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English &amp; Comparative Literature</td>
<td>133</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film Studies</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>French Romance Philology</td>
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<td>1.78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germanic Languages</td>
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<td>2.04%</td>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
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<td>19.34%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institute for Research on African American Studies</td>
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<td>.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for Research on Women and Gender</td>
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<td>1.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin American &amp; Iberian Studies</td>
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<td>1.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Eastern, South Asian, &amp; African Studies</td>
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<td>2.67%</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>5.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science</td>
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<td>3.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>4.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slavic Languages and Cultures</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>786</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FELLOWS IN RESIDENCE
2011–2012
Dana Fields is a Classicist with broad interests in Greek and Roman literature, culture, and intellectual history. She specializes in the Greek literary culture of the Roman Imperial period, often known as the Second Sophistic. Her research interests also include rhetoric, the ancient novel, ancient politics, and the use of antiquity in American politics.

In the second year of her fellowship, Dr. Fields worked primarily on two large projects. The first is a revision of her dissertation into a book on the significance of free and frank speech in Greek culture under the Roman Empire. In it, she argues that the concept of frank speech (parrhesia in Greek) provided Roman-era Greeks with a particularly useful tool to negotiate their relationship to the Greek past, and also played an increasingly crucial role in ethical self-definition in this period, with far-reaching implications for both philosophy and local Greek politics. It was in connection with this project that Dr. Fields presented her paper “What Do Classicists Mean When They Talk about ‘Ethics’ and ‘Politics’” at the Society of Fellows Lunchtime Lecture Series. She plans to submit a manuscript next fall to Cambridge University Press’s series “Greek Culture in the Roman World.”

Dr. Fields’ second book project addresses the use of animals as political metaphors in antiquity. In the spring she delivered a paper connected to this project at New York University, titled “Kingship and the Imperial Fable.” She is currently revising this paper for publication as an article. She also wrote a paper on the use of images of domestic animals in explorations of the concept of freedom, which she has submitted for inclusion in the American Philological Society’s 2013 conference program. This year Dr. Fields also had an article on Lucian’s satiric work Death of Peregrinus accepted for publication (appearing early next year) and published a book review.

In the fall, Dr. Fields taught a course called “Comedy, Past and Present,” which brought together ancient comic texts by Aristophanes, Menander, Apuleius, Petronius, and Lucian, with modern works by Christopher Durang, Ann-Marie MacDonald, Woody Allen, and Kurt Vonnegut. In addition, she guest-taught a session of the Classics Majors’ Seminar. The topic this year was space and topography, and Dr. Fields’ session focused on Pilgrimage in antiquity, including a close examination of De Dea Syria, a text attributed to Lucian of Samosata.

Dr. Fields will remain at the Society of Fellows for a third year in 2012–13, and will teach a course for the Classics Department next spring on the ancient Greek novel.
HAGAR KOTEF

Tel Aviv University, School of Philosophy, PhD, 2009

Hagar Kotef’s research interests include feminist theory, critical theory, political philosophy, and the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. During the academic year she neared completion of a manuscript currently titled Movement and the Ordering of Freedom: A History of a Political Problem. The manuscript proposes an inquiry into the politics of movement (motion, locomotion). The starting point of the inquiry is the regime of movement in the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt), one of the most successful and elaborated systems of controlling a population by controlling its movement. Thinking on and within this context Dr. Kotef seeks (1) to analyze the security discourse in the context of the logic of movement regulation, (2) to map the technologies this logic summons and contrives, and (3) to show how these technologies and this logic are translated to local moments of subject-making. The main chapters of the manuscript, circumscribed within a time and space considerably remote from this particular context, examine the political meanings ascribed to movement in canonic, predominantly liberal theories (focusing on Hobbes, Locke, Blackstone, Mill, and Arendt.) Thus, Movement and the Ordering of Freedom weaves a path between the textual analysis of philosophical texts and a more “ethnographic” and “comparative” analysis of contemporary spaces.

In December, Dr. Kotef published the final essay from an earlier project on women’s Left activism (in Politics and Gender); a paper on the same topic is forthcoming in Political Concepts, a Critical Lexicon, and a third is under review. A paper reflecting on the necessary failure of revolutions is forthcoming in a volume on the global uprisings of 2011. Dr. Kotef gave presentations based on her current research at multiple conferences and seminars, including the Western Political Science Association, the Lexical Conference in New York, The Vera List Center for Art and Politics at The New School, Women and Gender Studies at the University of Haifa, and the Philosophy Department at Ben-Gurion University.

In Fall 2011, Dr. Kotef taught a seminar titled “Bodies in Motion.” She very much hopes to finish her manuscript and send it for review in the summer. (Duke University Press has expressed interest in reviewing the book). In Spring 2012, she co-organized the second installment of a series of lexical conferences sponsored by the Society of Fellows and the New School for Social Research.

Research Project

Tracing the Political Body: A Story of First Wave Liberal Feminism
IAN C. McCREDAY-FLORA  2011–2014

University of Michigan, Department of Philosophy, PhD, 2011

Ian C. McCready-Flora is a philosopher who works mostly on the ancient Greeks, particularly Plato and Aristotle. His current primary project is a novel interpretation of Aristotle’s epistemology and cognitive science. The project focuses on what is supposed to make human thinking unique in the animal world, i.e. what Aristotle’s notion of “rationality” amounts to. It does this by examining his theory of belief (doxa in Greek), which Aristotle thinks is open only to humans, even though it is a pretty humble cognitive achievement. The ways in which Aristotle compares belief to the non-rational cognition that animals engage in reveal the line he draws between rationality and non-rationality.

The first part of the project, “Aristotle and the Normativity of Belief,” is forthcoming in Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy. The essay argues that, for Aristotle, believing operates under a constitutive norm to believe the truth in much the way soccer-playing operates under a constitutive norm not to pick up the ball. This norm derives from the value of truth for human flourishing and the inherent fallibility of belief. Subjection to this norm makes rational cognition what it is, in part. The second part of the project, “Belief and Rational Cognition in Aristotle: Response and Restraint,” is under consideration at The Philosophical Review. It will argue that, for Aristotle, rationality entails cognitive restraint, the ability to override information from perception, memory, and other sources. Humans can question what appears to them, and, sometimes, not act on it: a thirsty man can see a mirage and not run toward it for a drink. Animals, according to Aristotle, have no such capability.

In addition to his talk for the Society of Fellows, Dr. McCready-Flora chaired a session on “Aristotle and Frege on Thinking” at the Eastern Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association; gave a talk at Washington University in St. Louis; participated in the New York Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, and gave comments on a paper on Aristotle’s Metaphysics at the Pacific Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association. This summer, he will be a Visiting Scholar at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where he will complete drafts of two new projects. The first is a philologically-driven examination of Plato’s theory of emotion. The second discusses conversational and interpretative charity (i.e. what we owe to the people we talk to and whose writing we read), through a case study of Aristotle’s interpretation of Protagoras.

His daughter, Felicity Brian, was born on 1 December, 2011.
As a second-year Fellow, Emily Ogden continued work on a book manuscript entitled *The Fictional Faculty: American Lay Empiricisms, 1784–1910*. The project offers a genealogy of the “sixth sense” in mesmerism and spiritualism, two popular antebellum practices of entrancement. The roots of the sixth sense, Dr. Ogden argues, lay in the eighteenth-century accounts of imaginative error as a physiological susceptibility to fanciful tales that surrounded the rise of the novel. Mesmerism and spiritualism re-described the “credulity” of the bad novel-reader as a supplemental sense, thus treating the tendency to believe and to receive the suggestions of others as a useful capacity rather than a defect. *The Fictional Faculty* argues that the mesmeric tradition was—much like current accounts of social imaginaries—a modification of enlightenment by way of values preserved in the aspic of literature. It described the capacity to believe in and act creatively upon social fictions positively, and restored it to the circle of rationality.


Dr. Ogden will continue work on her book manuscript at the Society of Fellows in the 2012–2013 academic year and will organize a conference on enchantment and modernity, entitled “Credulity,” to be held at the Heyman Center in the spring of 2013. In the fall of 2013, she will begin a tenure-track assistant professorship at the University of Virginia English Department.
Research Project

Modernity’s Hearing Loss: Beethoven, Romantic Critique, and the Music of the Literary

EDGARDO SALINAS
Columbia University Department of Music, PhD, 2010

Edgardo Salinas’s research focuses on the mediated relationships among music, literature, and philosophy that emerged within the structural consolidation of print culture that took place around 1800 in the modern West. Two of his current projects investigate the literary trope of musical pleasure in exemplary novels of early Romanticism and the relationship between poiesis and techne in aesthetic critiques of modernity.

During the academic year, Dr. Salinas completed two articles that are currently under review for publication. The first reinterprets Beethoven’s “Tempest” sonata—a famous “problem piece” in the history of musical analysis—through the lens of Friedrich Schlegel’s romantic irony. It argues for a historicized notion of musical form in alignment with the revolutionary shifts in literary theory and practice of the late eighteenth century. The second article discusses problems of the reception of early Romanticism in musicological scholarship. Focusing on the theoretical writings of F. Schlegel and Novalis, intellectual leaders of Jena Romanticism, the article exposes crucial differences with the form of absolute idealism first articulated by Fichte. The Jena Romantics have been traditionally assimilated into the mainstream of German idealism by incorrectly attributing to them the problematic category of “absolute music” and overlooking the Romantics’ elective affinities with Kant.

Dr. Salinas delivered papers at the “New Beethoven Research” conference sponsored by the American Musicological Society in San Francisco; the “Counterpoints” conference organized by the journal 19th-Century Music at Fordham University, and presented work-in-progress at various reading groups in the New York area. In Fall 2011, Dr. Salinas participated in the founding of a reading group for faculty and postdoctoral scholars sponsored by the Center for Ethnomusicology at Columbia. The group’s main focus is in contemporary ontological theories on the porous relationship between “the human and the inhuman.” The group organized on-campus talks by Steven Shaviro and Manuel de Landa.

Dr. Salinas also completed the proposal for his book project, which furthers lines of inquiry opened in his PhD dissertation; the working title is Music and the Novel of Life: Beethoven and the Romantic Critique of Modernity. This past spring, Dr. Salinas taught a graduate seminar entitled “Music and the Critique of Modernity.” He has been invited to give a doctoral seminar in interdisciplinary methodologies of research at his alma mater, Universidad Nacional de Rosario, which he will teach in Fall 2012.
ADAM SMITH  
2009–2012

University of California, Los Angeles, PhD, 2008

Adam Smith’s research concerns the emergence and evolution of the Chinese writing system during the late second and first millennia BCE, as well as the early literate activities with which it was associated. He is interested in institutions for scribal training, the link between incipient literacy and the recording of divination, the beginnings of textual transmission, the cognitive consequences of the transition to literacy, and linguistic reconstruction of the early stages of the Chinese language.

Dr. Smith has recently been studying and propagandizing on behalf of the collection of late Shang (ca. 1300–1050 BC) royal divination inscriptions in the collection of the Starr East Asian Library at Columbia University. The core of the collection was acquired in China in the 1930s by Ernest Ketcham Smith, and donated to Columbia after his death in 1954 by his widow, Grace, sister of the then Chair of the East Asian department, Luther Carrington Goodrich. Ernest Smith’s inscriptions are some of the most important in the United States, but they have been little studied as a collection. Remarkably, it is possible to determine the precise location where they were excavated at the Shang site of Anyang, and many of the incomplete pieces at Columbia can be joined with further fragments in a collection in Taiwan. The collection also includes several important examples of scribal trainee texts, a topic that has featured prominently in Dr. Smith’s previous research.

Dr. Smith’s study of the Columbia inscriptions has been accepted for publication in the volume Archaeologies of Text: Archaeology, Technology, and Ethics (Rutz & Kersel eds.), forthcoming from the Joukowsky Institute. He presented on the subject to audiences at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and at the University of Chicago. Smith has also been working on topics in Chinese historical linguistics, recently completing the paper, “The Particle Yān 然, and the Phonological Reduction of Prepositional Phrases in Old Chinese.”

Dr. Smith will be leaving Columbia and the Society of Fellows to take up a position at the University of Pennsylvania in Fall 2012, as an Assistant Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and Curator of Chinese Antiquities at the University of Pennsylvania Museum.
YANFEI SUN
2010–2013

University of Chicago. Department of Sociology, PhD, 2010

Yanfei Sun’s research concerns the relationships between religion and politics, particularly the rise and fall of religions and changes in the structure of the religious ecology under different configurations of state-religion relationships. As a second-year Fellow, she has worked mainly on publication of journal articles. At year’s end, she had two articles under review, one undergoing a second-round review, and another article completed and ready for submission. She was invited to contribute an article to a book on religious revival and public life in the Lower Yangzi Region edited by Robert Weller and a second article to a book on manufacturing the charisma of Buddhist saints edited by Zhe Ji, Vincent Goossaert and David Ownby. Dr. Sun presented “Dance with the State: The Rise of Protestant Christianity in Post-Mao China” at the “Development and Social Change in Contemporary China” conference held at the University of Chicago in April.

During the summer, she will present her work at a conference on “Religious Revival and Public Life in the Lower Yangzi Region” in Shanghai, China; a workshop on “Buddhism in Contemporary China: Fields, Methods, and Sources” in Xiamen, China; and a workshop on “State-building and Nation-building in Modern China” in Beijing, China. She will also present at the American Sociological Association annual conference and the Association for the Sociology of Religion annual conference, both of which will take place in Denver.

Dr. Sun taught the self-designed course “Sociology of Religion” in Fall 2011.

Research Project
Religions in Sociopolitical Context: The Reconfiguration of Religious Ecology in Post-Mao China
Leah Whittington’s research interests are in Latin Literature, Classical Tradition and Reception, and Early Modern English Literature.

As a first-year Fellow Dr. Whittington completed an article called “Shakespeare’s Vergil: Empathy and The Tempest” for a volume of essays entitled Shakespeare and Renaissance Ethics, edited by John Cox and Patrick Gray. She also began the revision of her dissertation, Supplication and the Classical Tradition, which argues that Renaissance authors use the structure of classical supplication scenes to articulate ideas about the relationship between people and their government, the role of emotion in judgment, the place of mercy in justice, and the dynamic interaction between the reader and the writer of a text. She started work on a second book project, Supplementing the Classics, which examines post-classical continuations of ancient works and the ethics of literary imitation. She presented one chapter of this book project, “George Chapman’s Continuation of Marlowe’s ‘Hero and Leander’” as a conference paper. Finally, she finished a translation of John Hales’ “Funeral Oration for Thomas Bodley,” which will appear in the October 2012 edition of the Bodleian Library Record.

During the academic year Dr. Whittington taught one semester of “Literature Humanities,” as well as an undergraduate seminar in the Classics department on Vergil’s Eclogues and Georgics. In the summer of 2012, she will be teaching a course in spoken Latin in Rome.

Over the course of the academic year, in addition to her talk at the Society of Fellows Lunchtime Lecture Series, Dr. Whittington delivered papers at “The Many Worlds of The Odyssey” conference sponsored by the Columbia Program in Classical Studies, and at the annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America in Washington, D.C. She organized a conference, “The Long Reach of Antiquity,” sponsored by the Harry and Lynde Bradley Foundation and the Society of Fellows, which brought together young scholars whose research focuses on the reception of the Classics in the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

Dr. Whittington has accepted an Assistant Professorship at Harvard University starting in July 2012.
Columbia University Society of Fellows
Lunchtime Lecture Series Fall 2011
All talks begin at 12:15 in the Second Floor Common Room, Heyman Center, East Campus
www.columbia.edu/cu/societyoffellows

September 22
Leah Whittington,
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Classics
“Shakespeare’s Vergil: Clemency and ‘The Tempest’”

September 29
Adam Smith
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in East Asian Languages and Cultures
“Ernest Smith’s Chinese Bones: Shang Inscriptions in the Collection of Columbia University Library”

October 6
Hagar Kotef
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in the Institute for Research on Women and Gender
“Movement and the Ordering of Freedom: A History of a Political Problem”

October 13
Ian McCready-Flora
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Philosophy
“Aristotle and Our Obligation to the Truth”

October 20
Yanfei Sun
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Sociology and EALAC
“Grey Zone and Fuzzy Boundary: New Developments of the Post-Mao Chinese Buddhism and the Fragmented Authoritarian Regime”

October 27
Edgardo Salinas
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Music
“Musical Pleasure and the Materiality of the Literary”

November 10
Emily Ogden
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in English and Comparative Literature
“Sentiment and the Sixth Sense”

November 17
D. Graham Burnett
Society of Fellows (1997-1999), Professor of History, Princeton University
Jeff Dolven
Associate Professor of English, Princeton University
“Critique and Its Discontents: Notes toward a Post-Critical (?) Pedagogy”

December 1
Dana Fields
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Classics
“What Do Classicists Mean When They Talk about ‘Ethics’ and ‘Politics’?”
FALL 2011
Fellows Talks

22 September

Shakespeare’s Vergil: Clemency and The Tempest
Leah Whittington, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Classics

Recent studies of Shakespeare’s relationship to classical literature have firmly established the Aeneid as part of the imaginative landscape of The Tempest. Allusions to Vergil’s epic in Shakespeare’s play of exile, dynasty foundation, and the perils of sovereignty have encouraged critics to see The Tempest as an ambivalent response to the Aeneid’s representation of a myth of the translation of empire. This paper took a different approach to the relationship between The Tempest and Vergilian epic by focusing on the Aeneid’s contribution to the ethics of the play, particularly the problem of mercy. Vergil’s anxiety about the power of ira to conquer pietas lingers in the ethical substructure of The Tempest. In the concluding act of the play, Prospero’s anger and demand for strict justice override his more magnanimous gestures of forgiveness, leaving the reader of The Tempest, like the reader of the Aeneid, uncertain whether clemency can win out over the powerful forces of wrath and retribution. By activating the Aeneid’s interrogation of clemency in Prospero’s failed scheme of reconciliation with the Italian lords, Shakespeare allows for the darkening of the comic plot and reveals an ethical dimension of his reception of the classics.

6 October

Movement and the Ordering of Freedom:
A History of a Political Problem
Hagar Kotef, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in the Institute for Research on Women and Gender

“The state,” James Scott argues, “has always seemed to be the enemy of ‘people who move around’.” At the same time movement—in its very different meanings, attached to different objects, circulating between the metaphoric and the concrete—has been celebrated as a manifestation of freedom. In the 17th century, with Early Modern formulations of the idea that the state can either “be” free or promote freedom, these two modes of conceptualizing movement came to a conflict. This talk followed a series of splits along geographic and temporal lines to examine how this tension was negotiated, settled, or unleashed. It argued that while the movement of able, firm (masculine?), and European bodies was configured as a manifestation of freedom, the movement of other bodies, primarily bodies of colonized subjects, was seen as “excessive,” rendering them a threat to themselves and others. Examining how this “excess” becomes a mechanism of justification for colonial endeavors, Dr. Kotef asked how the configuration of movement can be mapped into different schemas of governance.

29 September

Ernest Smith’s Chinese Bones: Shang Inscriptions in the Collection of Columbia University Library
Adam Smith, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in East Asian Languages and Cultures

The oldest documents in the collection of the Starr East Asian Library at Columbia are Chinese records of divinations done on behalf of the Shang kings during the last centuries of the second millennium BC, inscribed into cattle bones and turtle shells. The core of the collection was acquired by Ernest K. Smith during the early 1930s, while he was a professor of English in Beijing. Several of Smith’s more complex inscriptions are frequently discussed in the scholarly literature. Two issues, however, have received little attention: the provenance of Smith’s collection, and the prominence within it of scribal training exercises. Unusually for a collection without a recorded archaeological provenance, we can say with precision where Smith’s bones were unearthed. Re-imagining the texts within their original archaeological context enriches our picture of literacy acquisition at the very earliest stage of the use of writing in East Asia.
13 October

Aristotle and Our Obligation to the Truth
Ian C. McCready-Flora, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Philosophy

Rational cognition, for Aristotle, aims at the truth. This goes especially for beliefs, which seize on falsehoods in a way that scientific knowledge and expertise cannot. When Aristotle says that belief is not “up to us,” he does not mean (as he is usually taken) that we do not control our beliefs or cannot believe “at will.” Rather, the view is that beliefs have a standard of correctness that rational beings, in forming their beliefs, have an obligation to uphold. Those who default on this obligation should no longer be considered rational beings.

20 October

Grey Zone and Fuzzy Boundary: New Developments of the Post-Mao Chinese Buddhism and the Fragmented Authoritarian Regime
Yanfei Sun, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Sociology and EALAC

In post-Mao China, a Buddhist movement inspired by the teachings of Monk Jingkong, a Buddhist teacher based outside the mainland, has displayed more dynamic and potent growth than the Chinese Buddhist establishment, even though it does not enjoy the greater resources and secured state recognition of the latter. How do we account for the rise of the Jingkong Buddhist movement under the restrictive state religious policies? And how do we explain the differentiated growth patterns between the Jingkong movement and the Chinese Buddhist establishment? Dr. Sun argued that reforms in post-Mao China have given rise to a central contradiction between the logic of political control and the logic of market. One result of this contradiction is the rise of a “grey area” where religious groups are able to achieve autonomous growth. The Buddhist establishment has been unable to expand quickly because their relationships with the state as well as their institutional features and patterned practices have prevented them from tapping into the grey area, whereas the institutional features and practices of the Jingkong groups have helped them to circumvent state constraints and achieve a vigorous growth.

27 October

Musical Pleasure and the Materiality of the Literary
Edgardo Salinas, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Music

The literary discourse inaugurated by the Jena Romantics situated music in a place of privilege within the modern system of fine arts. After the Romantics’ aesthetic revolution, instrumental music was perceived to be the medium that superseded language in its capacity to convey a supersensible basis of freedom that remained inaccessible to empirical knowledge. Reframed in a master literary trope, the sensuous pleasures elicited by music came to epitomize the fusion of the prosaic and the sacred that the early Romantics sought to attain. This talk discussed the epistemic significance of that literary trope in Friedrich Schlegel’s Lucinde, an allegorical novel published in 1799 that stirred a fierce controversy (detractors included Hegel and Kierkegaard) due to the metaphysical reflections on the pleasures of sexual intercourse that Schlegel made central to the novel’s narrative.
10 November

**Sentiment and the Sixth Sense**

Emily Ogden, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in English and Comparative Literature

In 1837 Providence, some invalid women turn out, under hypnotic treatment, to have a sixth sense: they can see into the bodies of others to diagnose illness; they can follow unspoken mental commands; and they can read letters sealed in heavy envelopes by pressing the letters against their parietal bones. These events initiate the science of mesmerism, or hypnosis, in the United States, which will blossom into a major national movement (encompassing Spiritualist séances and mediumistic practices in the late century) and will produce a series of compelling social-psychological theories. The talk offered a genealogy of the “sixth sense” of these early clairvoyants, as a first step toward understanding the subsequent developments. Dr. Ogden argued that the sixth sense is sentiment. In a move that had antecedents in the eighteenth-century culture of sensibility, mesmerism reworked feeling, especially diseased or excessive feeling, into a source of empirical information about the natural world and the minds of others. The question is, what ways of imagining the social did this reworking make available?

17 November

**Critique and Its Discontents:**

*Notes toward a Post-Critical (?) Pedagogy.*

D. Graham Burnett (Society of Fellows 1997–99),
Professor of History, Princeton University and Jeff Dolven,
Associate Professor of English, Princeton University

Professors Burnett and Dolven gave a talk based on their team-taught graduate course, “Critique and Its Discontents.” Criticism is preoccupied with what is behind the curtain or inside the box: we are a generation of unmaskers, they argued, whose task is to protect ourselves from naïve belief, delusion, and enchantment. The course and the talk pondered the project of critique and its history, but took an equal interest in alternatives, including imitation and forgery; appreciation and praise; observation and description; repetition, performance, memorization, meditation, consumption, and even ingestion.

1 December

**What Do Classicists Mean When They Talk about ‘Ethics’ and ‘Politics’?**

Dana Fields, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Classics

With the help of the cultural-historically oriented classics scholarship of the last fifteen years, in which Imperial Greek politics has been recuperated (mainly from literary texts) through the Foucauldian-influenced examination of power-relations broadly construed, Greek culture in the Roman empire has begun to shake off the enduring label of “depoliticized.” While the new approach has been illuminating and valuable, it has shifted attention away from the actual business of governance at the local level. Aristocratic friendship provides a way to think about non-democratic forms of Greek politics, which are often overlooked due to Classical Athens’ hold on our idea (and the Imperial Greek elites’ own idea) of what it means to be Greek. Two texts from the Moralia of Plutarch (c. 46–120 CE), *How to Tell a Flatterer from a Friend* and *Political Precepts*, reveal the centrality of aristocratic friendship to a range of political and ethical questions, in Plutarch’s time and among scholars today.
Columbia University Society of Fellows
Lunchtime Lecture Series
Spring 2012: Hide and Seek
All talks begin at 12:15 in the Second Floor Common Room, Heyman Center, East Campus
www.columbia.edu/cu/societyoffellows

February 16
Deborah Cohen
Peter B. Ritzma Professor of the Humanities, Northwestern University
"Queer Uncles: Homosexuality and British Families, 1920-1967"

February 23
Jeanne Morefield
Associate Professor of Politics, Whitman College
"Waking Up To Empire: Alfred Zimmern and Donald Kagan on Athens, Britain, and America"

March 1
Paul Fischer
Assistant Professor of East Asian Intellectual History, Western Kentucky University
"Hide and Seek in Early Chinese Literature"

March 8
Emily Dolan
Assistant Professor of Music, University of Pennsylvania
"Orchestration in Exile"

March 22
Jackson Lears
Board of Governors Professor of History, Rutgers University
"Animal Spirits Revisited: Toward an Affective History of Capitalism"

March 29
James Porter
Professor of Classics, University of California, Irvine
"Hiding in the Light: Longinus, Boileau, and the Sublime"

April 12
James A. Secord
Professor, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge
"The Visionary Science of Humphry Davy’s Consolations in Travel (1830)"

April 5
Laura Otis
Professor of English, Emory University
"Evidence of Visual and Verbal Thinking"

April 19
Andreas Glaeser
Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago
"Political Knowledge, Secrets, and the Livelihood of States: A view from and on the late GDR"

April 12
Sarah Rivett
Assistant Professor of English, Princeton University
"Desperate Linguistics: Missionary Aspirations and the Massachusetts and Micmac Limits of Translation"
**SPRING 2012**

**Hide and Seek**

16 February

*Queer Uncles: Homosexuality and British Families, 1920–1967*

Deborah Cohen, Peter B. Ritzma Professor of the Humanities, Northwestern University

Professor Cohen lectured on the intimate knowledge gained in families about a highly stigmatized subject, and about the relationship between the discourses concerning homosexuality that took place outside the family and those that took place within it. The talk discussed queer lives balanced at the edge of disclosure and concealment, and the ways in which accommodations reached within families did (and did not) translate beyond their boundaries.

23 February

*Waking Up To Empire: Alfred Zimmern and Donald Kagan on Athens, Britain, and America*

Jeanne Morefield, Associate Professor of Politics, Whitman College

Professor Morefield's presentation examined the classical scholarship of two pro-imperial, public intellectuals writing at opposite ends of the twentieth century, Alfred Zimmern and Donald Kagan. The analysis paid close attention to the way each author transformed the fifth-century Athenian Empire into a model for British and American imperial development. Professor Morefield did this by focusing on each man’s counterintuitive reading of Thucydides’ *History* and the forms of proleptic nostalgia at work in their respective writings. She concluded that Zimmern’s and Kagan’s transformation of Athenian imperial history into a narrative of liberal sleeping served to justify imperial intervention while excusing imperial violence.

1 March

*Hide and Seek in Early Chinese Literature*

Paul Fischer, Assistant Professor of East Asian Intellectual History, Western Kentucky University

Professor Fischer explored four different instantiations of his theme, which appear at the level of the word, the sentence, the paragraph, and the book. Prior to the unification of eastern China in 221 BCE, dozens of scholars wrote texts advising their readers on a wide array of issues, from personal self-cultivation to political success in an era of near-constant warfare. One central idea among these texts reminds us that effective communication, both personal and public, is predicated on defining our terms. A rhetorical device that was often employed asks the reader to call to mind precisely the words that were omitted. Longer bits of narrative were often layered in parallel prose that demands analytical attention. Finally, the very authorial paradigm with which we view these texts has in recent decades evolved to appreciate a much higher degree of opacity and uncertainty. Each of these aspects of early Chinese literature highlights a process of concealment that requires our careful attention to fully appreciate. Although these examples are all drawn from early China, each may help us to understand the vagaries of literature from around the world.
8 March

**Orchestration in Exile**

Emily Dolan, Assistant Professor of Music, University of Pennsylvania

The late eighteenth century witnessed the birth of modern orchestration—the art of manipulating the diverse instruments that constitute the orchestra. This development, which depended on technological, institutional, and compositional transformations, signaled the inauguration of a radical new attention to the sensual and immediate experience of listening. Strikingly, most discussions by critics and composers of the various effects afforded by instruments and their combinations were explicitly negative, targeted against musical bombast and the proliferation of noise; in the late Enlightenment, orchestration was untamed. Professor Dolan’s talk traced the disciplining of the orchestra over the course of the nineteenth century, exploring how the idea of orchestration became marginalized in musical discourse.

22 March

**Animal Spirits Revisited: Toward an Affective History of Capitalism**

Jackson Lears, Board of Governors Professor of History, Rutgers University

Professor Lears’s talk aimed to broaden and deepen the concept of “animal spirits,” which John Maynard Keynes used to identify the visceral urges motivating investors. Keynes challenged the rational actor model of classical economics, and Lears pushed the challenge further, to propose a historical framework for understanding the relationship between capitalism and emotional life—on the shop floor as well as the trading floor, for workers as well as managers.

29 March

**Hiding in the Light: Longinus, Boileau, and the Sublime**

James Porter, Professor of Classics, University of California, Irvine

The current view in Classics, that the Longinian sublime is not a rhetorical style but a special effect, owes everything to Boileau’s reading of Longinus, in particular the famous fiat lux example (Gen.1:3), which entered into world literature as one of the most talked about instances of sublimity. There are numerous difficulties with the current view. First, how can it be squared with the equation of sublimity with rhetoric that is found elsewhere in *On the Sublime*? Second, Boileau’s own reading is based on a tendentious mistranslation of Longinus, which led to a bitter polemic with two of his contemporaries. Was Boileau possibly blinded by the excess of brilliance in the example, and by Longinus’ own rhetoric? A closer examination of the passage, its surroundings, and Boileau’s role in the Quarrel between the Ancients and Moderns can suggest a better insight into the manifestly hidden mechanisms of the sublime in Longinus and elsewhere.

5 April

**Evidence of Visual and Verbal Thinking**

Laura Otis, Professor of English, Emory University

Professor Otis discussed the results of a qualitative study investigating individual differences in the experience of thought. She interviewed thirty-four scientists, engineers, novelists, poets, artists, and other creative professionals with the aim of learning how they vary in their mental use of words and images. To a large degree, the felt experience of conscious thought remains hidden. Everyone thinks, but what goes on in other people’s heads remains a mystery. In her talk, Dr. Otis shared the intuitions of her creative participants and talked about their relevance to scientific and literary knowledge.
12 April

The Visionary Science of Humphry Davy’s Consolations in Travel
James A. Secord, Professor of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge

Written during visits to Italy and the eastern Alps, between bouts of illness and fly-fishing, Consolations in Travel, or the Last Days of a Philosopher, was published posthumously in 1830, and was widely discussed and frequently reprinted throughout the nineteenth century. In a period when most scientific practice focused on detailed analysis and observation in the museum, field and laboratory, Consolation’s dialogue format and visionary use of fact offered resources for imaginative speculation on the widest questions of philosophy, belief and utility. In his talk, Professor Secord explored the text, the ambitions of its author, Humphrey Davy, and the significance of the work to a generation of scientists.

19 April

Political Knowledge, Secrets, and the Livelihood of States: A View From and On the Late GDR
Andreas Glaeser, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago

Based on his historical ethnography of the efforts of the secret police of former East Germany to control civil rights movements in the country, Professor Glaeser provided an overall interpretation of GDR political project as a revolutionary, self-fulfilling prophecy. By emphasizing the party state’s modalities of producing knowledge about its own situation, he also offered a novel way of understanding the failure of its socialism. These modalities were marred by the perceived need for constant mobilization in order to realize socialism—even at the expense of critique, which was seen as a hindrance to the mobilization effort. At the core, then, of the demise of GDR socialism is the profound irony that the measures devised by the party to secure the state were actually undermining it. Concluding, Professor Glaeser pointed out that socialism is a form of hyper-modernity and, as such, shares features with advanced capitalist democracies. Most notable among these features is an understanding of politics as intentional effort to form institutions: in both socialism and capitalism, trade-offs between mobilization and critique have historically led to institutional failures—even if, so far, such failures have occurred on a smaller scale in capitalist societies.

26 April

Desperate Linguistics: Missionary Aspirations and the Massachusett and Micmac Limits of Translation
Sarah Rivett, Assistant Professor of English, Princeton University

This talk examined one of the more prolific periods of missionary linguistics in seventeenth-century North America. Professor Rivett argued that the practice of missionary linguistics arises out of a fragmented theological and philosophical context in which transatlantic ideas about language splintered into a variety of mystical ideas and proto-Enlightenment notions of a separation between human words and divine knowledge. Missionary encounters in the New World became language laboratories of a sort, where we see the confluence of epistemic ruptures engendered by these disparate ideas about the significance of words, particularly in the work of John Eliot and Chrétien Le Clercq.
Reworking Political Concepts II:

A Lexicon in Formation
Friday and Saturday, 3 and 4 February 2012 10am-6pm

Gil Anidjar on Survival
Columbia University

Ariella Azoulay on Revolution
Tel Aviv University

Claudia Baracchi on Democracy
University of Milano-Bicocca

Anat Biletzki on Bubble
Quinnipiac University & Tel Aviv University

Susan Buck-Mors on Globalization
City University of New York

Alice Crary on Animal/Animality
The New School

E. Valentine Daniel on Concordance
Columbia University

Stathis Gourgouris on Arché
Columbia University

Ranjana Khanna on Un/Belonging
Duke University

Hagar Kotef on Movement
Columbia University

Jacques Lezra on Translation
New York University

Ann Stoler with opening remarks
The New School

Neferti Tadiar on Remaindered Life
Barnard College

Robin Wagner-Pacifici on Event
The New School

Uday Mehta on Violence
City University of New York

Adi Ophir on Geisteswissenschaften
Tel Aviv University

Oded Schecter on Literal Sense
Princeton University

Second Floor Common Room, Heyman Center, Columbia University
For full program see: http://www.columbia.edu/cu/societyoffellows/lexicon2.html
Organized by Adi Ophir, Ann Stoler, and Hagar Kotef
Funding is generously provided by the Society of Fellows in the Humanities; the Heyman Center; the New School for Social Research; IRWaG; and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Barnard College
This conference is free and open to the public. No registration or tickets necessary. Seating is on a first come, first served basis. Photo ID required for entry.

The Long Reach of Antiquity
A Graduate/Postdoctoral Conference
Friday, April 27th
The Heyman Center for the Humanities, 3:00-6:00pm
East Campus Residential Center, Columbia University

Saturday, April 28th, 2012
Deutsches Haus, 10:00am-6:00pm
420 West 116th Street

Keynote Speakers:
Leonard Barkan
Princeton University

Joseph Farrell
University of Pennsylvania

Leonard Barkan
Princeton University

Joseph Farrell
University of Pennsylvania

Sponsored by:
Department of Classics, Columbia University
The Society of Fellows in the Humanities, Columbia University
With the generous support of:
The Lunds and Babes-Bolyai Foundation
www.columbia.edu/cu/societyoffellows/antiquity.html
Contact us at: LONGREACHANTREACH@COLUMBIA.EDU
In support of the Society’s goal of fully integrating the Fellows into their host departments and encouraging them to partner with other institutions, the Society funded two conferences in the spring of 2012.

The first, Reworking Political Concepts II, was organized by Fellow Hagar Kotef, in collaboration with scholars from Tel Aviv University and The New School, and included a multidisciplinary lineup of international presenters and moderators. The sixth in a series of conferences begun in 2008 in Tel Aviv, it was the second such conference Dr. Kotef organized with Columbia support.

The second event, The Long Reach of Antiquity—organized by Leah Whittington in concert with Steve Baker and Charles McNamara of Columbia University—attracted an equally impressive roster of participants.
3 and 4 February 2012

**Reworking Political Concepts II: A Two-day Conference**

Reworking Political Concepts is an annual multidisciplinary conference that seeks to offer an ongoing forum for engaged scholarship focused on defining a formal political lexicon. Begun in Tel Aviv in 2008, the conference collectively explores a political lexicon still in flux. Each paper takes up a single lexical concept, with the express intention of resituating it in the field of political discourse by addressing what in the overall concept has remained unquestioned or unexamined. Participants aim to reconfigure a concept, rather than take for granted its generally accepted definition or the conclusions that follow from it, thereby opening pathways for a different understanding of its political meaning.

The project’s aim is to expand the scope of issues and questions that demand political accounting. For this reason essays that fashion new political concepts or demonstrate how concepts deserve to be taken as politically significant are welcomed. It is the organizers’ view that “politics” refers to the multiplicity of forces, structures, problems, and orientations that shape our collective life, and no one discipline can claim hegemony over this critical space.

The Reworking Political Concepts II conference was held at the Heyman Center and was sponsored by Columbia University and The New School for Social Research, with additional support from IRWaG; and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Barnard College.

**The conference was organized by:**
- **Adi Ophir**, The Cohen Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas, Tel Aviv University
- **Hagar Kotef**, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
- **Ann Stoler**, Department of Anthropology, The New School

**Participants included:**
- **Gil Anidjar**, Columbia University, Survival
- **Ariella Azoulay**, Tel Aviv University, Revolution
- **Claudia Baracchi**, University of Milano-Bicocca, Democracy
- **Anat Biletzki**, Quinnipiac and Tel Aviv University, Bubble
- **Susan Buck-Morss**, CUNY Graduate Center, Globalization
- **Anita Chari**, University of Oregon, Thinking
- **Alice Crary**, The New School, Animal
- **Valentine Daniel**, Columbia University, Concordance
- **Stathis Gourgouris**, Columbia University, Arche
- **Ranjana Khanna**, Duke, Un/Belonging
- **Hagar Kotef**, Columbia University, Movement
- **Jacques Lezra**, New York University, Translation
- **Uday Mehta**, CUNY Graduate Center, Violence
- **Adi Ophir**, Tel Aviv University, *Geisteswissenschaften*
- **Oded Schechter**, Princeton, Literal Sense
- **Neferti Tadiar**, Barnard, Remaindered Life
- **Robin Wagner-Pacifici**, The New School, Event

**Moderators included:**
- **Emily Apter**, New York University
- **Ian Baucom**, Duke University
- **Jay Bernstein**, New York University
- **Akeel Bilgrami**, Columbia University
- **Joshua Dubler**, University of Rochester
- **Janet Roitman**, The New School
- **Ann Stoler**, The New School
- **Antonio Vazquez-Arroyo**, University of Minnesota.
27 and 28 April 2012

The Long Reach of Antiquity:
A Two-day Graduate/Postdoctoral Conference

The legacy of Greece and Rome in the literary arts has become a topic of renewed interest in recent work by both Classicists and Early Modernists. This two-day conference brought together established scholars, early career scholars, and graduate students to discuss approaches to this diachronic and interdisciplinary work. Organized as an extended conversation, with responses to each panel and ample time for discussion, the event provided an opportunity for graduate students and faculty to consider how we account for antiquity’s long reach.

Funding for this conference was generously provided by the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, the Department of Classics, and the Society of Fellows.

Keynote speakers were Leonard Barkan, Princeton University, and Joseph Farrell, University of Pennsylvania.

The conference was organized by:
Steve Baker, Department of Italian, Columbia University
Charles McNamara, Department of Classics, Columbia University
Leah Whittington, Society of Fellows, Columbia University

Participants included:
Filippo Andrei, University of California, Berkeley
Corinna Box, University of Melbourne
Lauren Curtis, Harvard University
Alberto Dalla Rosa, University of Cologne
Caleb Dance, Columbia University
Loren Eadie, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Christina Ferando, Williams College
Leon Grek, Princeton University
Patrick Hadley, University of Toronto
Aaron Kachuck, Princeton University
Hester Shadee, Princeton University
Misha Teramura, Harvard University

Moderators included:
Steve Baker, Columbia University
Charley McNamara, Columbia University
Emily Vasiliuskas, Princeton University
Leah Whittington, Columbia University
The Society of Fellows provides major funding for the extensive series of conferences and lectures presented by the Heyman Center for the Humanities (www.heymancenter.org), which brings together the interests of Columbia’s various departments in the humanities and the broad conceptual, methodological, and ethical issues that are of interest to the natural sciences and to the professional schools of law, medicine, journalism, arts, and international affairs. The series includes the Lionel Trilling Seminar, given once each semester. A complete list of 2011–2012 programming follows.
FALL 2011

19 September

The Greek Crisis: A Conversation

Nikos Alivizatos, Professor of Law at the University of Athens, Mark Mazower, Ira D. Wallach Professor of World Order Studies at Columbia University, and Michalis Psalidopoulos, Professor of Economics at the University of Athens, engaged in a panel discussion that examined the causes of the Greek Economic Crisis and its effects on Greece and the global economy.

27 September

Blinken European Institute Presents:
Europe: Ground Zero

The roundtable discussion “Europe: Ground Zero” began a year-long series on the political economy of Europe. This series, entitled “Bringing Back Political Economy,” featured speakers from both sides of the Atlantic. Participating in this discussion were featured speakers Victoria de Grazia, Moore Collegiate Professor of History.
at Columbia University; Charles S. Maier, Leverett Saltonstall Professor of History at Harvard University; Perry Mehrling, Professor of Economics at Barnard College; Gordon Bajnai, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University; and Michele Alacevich, Associate Director of Research Activities at the Heyman Center for the Humanities.

10 October

Local Angel: Theological Political Fragments and Kashmir: Journey to Freedom

The films Local Angel: Theological Political Fragments and Kashmir: Journey to Freedom were shown as part of the series “Theory-Art-Action: On Binationalism and Other Specters,” co-sponsored by the School of the Arts. Director Udi Aloni participated in the Q&A following each screening.

12 October

Panel discussion on Aloni’s What Does a Jew Want?: On Binationalism and Other Specters

This panel discussion was part of the series “Theory-Art-Action: On Binationalism and Other Specters,” co-sponsored by the School of the Arts. The topic of this event was Udi Aloni’s newly published book, What Does a Jew Want?: On Binationalism and Other Specters (2011). The panel included Udi Aloni, filmmaker; Alain Badiou, Rene Descartes Chair at The European Graduate School, Slavoj Žižek, Cultural Critic and Professor of Philosophy and Psychoanalysis at The European Graduate School; and Alisa Solomon, Associate Professor of Journalism at Columbia University. The moderator was James Schamus, Professor of Professional Practice at Columbia University School of the Arts.

18 October

Inaugural Performance of While Waiting presented by the Freedom Theatre, Jenin

Some might claim that at the core of Beckett’s Waiting for Godot lies a nihilistic repetition—a representation of the meaninglessness of modern life. Directed by Udi Aloni, this production starred the acting students of The Freedom Theatre of the Jenin refugee camp and focused on the search for meaning, solidarity, and friendship within the repetition itself. This search within the perpetual repetition is what creates an opening in a world where friendship and devotion may seem to be impossible. This production of Waiting for Godot was a reflection on the experience of the students of The Freedom Theatre after the recent murder of their Master Teacher and beloved Trickster, Juliano Mer Khamis. The students’ performance of the play was itself an act of fidelity and healing after a meaningless and tragic loss.
20 October

Panel Conversation: American History Now, edited by Eric Foner and Lisa McGirr

This panel discussed the recently published book *American History Now*. Panelists included Eric Foner, DeWitt Clinton Professor of History at Columbia University; Lisa McGirr, Professor of History at Harvard University; Mae Ngai, Professor of History and Lung Family Professor of Asian American Studies at Columbia University; and Adam Rothman, Associate Professor of History at Georgetown University. Kenneth T. Jackson, Jacques Barzun Professor of History and the Social Sciences at Columbia University, moderated.

![American History Now](Image)

3 November

The Writing Lives Series

The Beautiful and the Damned: *Writing about the New India*

Siddhartha Deb, Associate Professor at The New School and author of *The Beautiful and the Damned: A Portrait of the New India*, delivered the inaugural talk of the Heyman Center’s “Writing Lives Series.” Gauri Viswanathan, Class of 1933 Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University, served as interlocutor and Adam Shatz, Senior Editor at *London Review of Books*, chaired.

![The Writing Lives Series](Image)
9 November

The Money Series
*The Global Minotaur: The Crash of 2008 and the Euro-Zone Crisis in Historical Perspective*


10 November

*Criticism in Action: The Godfather Movies*

Music critic, author, and journalist Greil Marcus was joined by fellow music and dance critic John Rockwell to discuss “Criticism in Action: The Godfather Movies.”
10 November

The Blinken European Institute Presents:
On the Political and Legal DNA of the Union and the Current European Crisis

This talk was part of the year-long series on “Bringing Back Political Economy.” The talk featured Joseph Weiler, Joseph Straus Professor of Law at New York University, and Turkuler Isiksel, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Columbia University.

14–16 November

Quentin Skinner: Shakespeare and Rhetorical Invention—Three Lectures

Quentin Skinner, Barber Beaumont Professor of the Humanities at Queen Mary, University of London, and one of the founders of the “Cambridge School” of the history of political thought, returned to the Heyman Center to deliver a set of three lectures collectively titled “Shakespeare and Rhetorical Invention.” The lectures, “The Renaissance Theory of Rhetorical Invention,” “Shakespeare on Beginning to Speak,” and “Shakespeare on Rhetorical Narratives and Proofs” were given on three consecutive days, 14, 15, and 16 November, and were followed on the 18th by a colloquy with Christopher Ricks, the William M. and Sara B. Warren Professor of the Humanities at Boston University.
17 November

The Diversity of Conscience

Preeminent intellectuals J.B. Schneewind, Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at Johns Hopkins University; Christopher Ricks, the William M. and Sara B. Warren Professor of the Humanities at Boston University; Richard Sorabji, Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at Kings College, London; and Paul Strohm, Anna Garbedian Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University, discussed “The Diversity of Conscience.”

18 November

Up for Interpretation

Concluding a four-day engagement at the Heyman Center, Quentin Skinner, Barber Beaumont Professor of the Humanities at Queen Mary, University of London, and frequent Center guest Christopher Ricks, the William M. and Sara B. Warren Professor of the Humanities at Boston University, explored the theme “Up for Interpretation: or, What Is this Thing That Hearsay Is Not?”
1 December

The Lionel Trilling Seminar
The Spontaneous Particulars of Sound

Poet and critic Susan Howe was the recipient of the 2011 Bollingen Prize in American Poetry. She delivered the Fall 2011 Lionel Trilling Seminar on the poetry of Wallace Stevens in a talk entitled “The Spontaneous Particulars of Sound.” Charles Bernstein, poet and Donald T. Regan Professor of English and Comparative Literature at University of Pennsylvania, and Joan Richardson, Professor of English, Comparative Literature, and American Studies at the Graduate Center, CUNY, were the respondents.

7 December

The Writing Lives Series
Literature, Exile, and the “Arab Spring”

The award-winning novelist and Barnard College English professor Hisham Matar spoke on “Literature, Exile, and the ‘Arab Spring.” The talk was part of the Heyman Center’s “Writing Lives Series.” Bashir Abu-Manneh, Assistant Professor of English at Barnard College, served as interlocutor.
The Athens Dialogues
Casa Italiana, Columbia University
8 December 2011

9:00am Coffee and Highlights from the Athens Dialogues 2010
Opening remarks Nicholas Dirks
Executive Vice President for Arts and Sciences, Columbia University

10:00am Democracy
Chair: Mark Mazower
Simon Critchley
Andreas Kalyvas
Nadia Urbinati

11:00am Medical Humanities
Chair: Stathis Gourgouris
Philippe Bourgois
Konstantinos Drossatos
Elisabeth Young-Bruehl

12:00pm Buffet Lunch

1:00pm Drama
Chair: Karen Van Dyck
Helene Foley
Peter Meineck
Gregory Nagy

We are also grateful to the Classics Department and the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society for their generous assistance.
Please RSVP to Hande Gumuskemer at the Program in Hellenic Studies if you will be joining us for the buffet lunch: hg2252@columbia.edu or 212-851-0297
Location directions for the Casa Italiana: http://www.italianacademy.columbia.edu/contact.html
For more information about this event and the hosts:

8 December

The Athens Dialogues—a Conference

The Program in Hellenic Studies at Columbia University, the Heyman Center for the Humanities, and the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation present the second of four projected conferences on Greek culture and its role in modern society at the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America (Casa Italiana).

The one-day interdisciplinary gathering, which drew participants from both the sciences and the humanities, took up the subject of “Today’s Responsibilities—Tomorrow’s Challenges.”

Participants included Mark Mazower, Chair, Ira D. Wallach Professor of World Order Studies and Professor of History at Columbia University; Simon Critchley, Hans Jonas Professor of Philosophy at New School for Social Research; Andreas Kalyvas, Associate Professor Political Science at New School for Liberal Arts; Nadia Urbinati, Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Professor of Political Theory and Hellenic Studies at Columbia University; Stathis Gourgouris, Chair, Professor of Classics, Institute of Comparative Literature & Society at Columbia University; Philippe Bourgois, Richard Perry University Professor of Anthropology and Family and Community Medicine at University of Pennsylvania; Konstantinos Drossatos, Postdoctoral Research Scientist in the Department of Medicine, Columbia University; Karen Van Dyck, Chair, Kimon A. Doukas Professor of Hellenic Studies S.B. at Columbia University; Helene Foley, Professor of Classics at Columbia University; Peter Meineck, Clinical Associate Professor of Classics and Ancient Studies at New York University; and Gregory Nagy, Francis Jones Professor of Classical Greek Literature and Professor of Comparative Literature at Harvard University.

9 and 10 December

Golden Ages: Universal Histories and the Origins of Science—a Two-day Conference

Participants at this conference discussed shaping the conceptions of science, new narratives of progress, universal histories, and Europe’s place in the development of the historiography of science and sacred narratives. Participating were: Cemil Aydin, Associate Professor of History at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Harold Cook, John F. Nickoll Professor of History at Brown University; Alex Csiszar, Assistant Professor of the History of Science at Harvard University; James Delbourgo, Associate Professor of the History of Science and Atlantic World at Rutgers University; Michael S. Dodson, Associate Professor of History at Indiana University, Bloomington; Marwa Elshakry, Associate Professor of History at Columbia University; Fa-ti Fan, Associate Professor at Binghamton University; Tamara Griggs, Research Scholar at Harvard University; Erik Hammerstrom, Assistant Professor of Chinese and Comparative Religion at Pacific Lutheran University; Matthew L. Jones, James R. Barker Associate Professor of Contemporary Civilization at Columbia University; Eugenia Lean, Associate Professor of Chinese History at Columbia University; Samuel Moyn, Professor of History at Columbia University; Projit Mukharji, Assistant Professor of the History and Sociology of
Science at University of Pennsylvania; Lissa Roberts, Professor of Science and Technology at University of Twente; George Saliba, Professor of Arabic and Islamic Science at Columbia University; Ori Sela, Lecturer in East Asian Studies at Tel Aviv University; Steven Shapin, Franklin L. Ford Professor of the History of Science at Harvard University; Pamela H. Smith, Professor of History and the History of Science at Columbia University; Geert Somsen, Senior Lecturer at Maastricht University; and John Tresch, Associate Professor, History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania.

Spring 2012

26 January

The Disciplines Series: The Idea of Development
The Hungry World: The War on Poverty in Asia During the Cold War

Nick Cullather, Associate Professor of History at Indiana University, Bloomington and author of The Hungry World: America’s Cold War Battle Against Poverty in Asia (2010), discussed the politics of hunger and war during the Cold War period. Anders Stephanson, Andrew and Virginia Rudd Family Foundation Professor of History at Columbia University, served as discussant. “The Disciplines Series” is made possible by the generous funding of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
1 February

The Money Series
Casualties of Credit

Carl Wennerlind, Assistant Professor of History at Barnard College and author of Casualties of Credit: The English Financial Revolution, 1620–1720 (2011), spoke about how changes in seventeenth-century natural philosophy, epistemology, and political economy contributed to the modern Financial Revolution. Martha Howell, Miriam Champion Professor of History at Columbia University, served as commentator.

9 February

The Blinken European Institute Presents:
The Ethical-Political Economy of Nuclear Waste

Professor Galison’s talk on the “Ethical-Political Economy of Nuclear Waste” was part of the series “Bringing Back Political Economy,” organized by the Blinken European Institute and co-sponsored by the Heyman Center for the Humanities. Deborah Coen, Associate Professor of History at Barnard College, served as commentator.
17 February

The Disciplines Series: The Idea of Development
*Development and Its Evangelists in the Cold War*

This conference, which explored international development during the Cold War Era, featured a number of historians and anthropologists during morning and afternoon panels. Participants were: George Rosen, Professor Emeritus University of Illinois at Chicago; David Engerman, Professor of History Brandeis University; Daniel Immerwahr, Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University; Amy Offner, PhD Candidate in History at Columbia University; Bradley Simpson, Assistant Professor of History and International Studies at Princeton University; Michael Latham, Professor of History at Fordham University; and Michele Alacevich, Associate Research Scholar at the Heyman Center. “The Disciplines Series” is made possible by the generous funding of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

28 February

The Blinken European Institute Presents:
*The Future of European Labor Relations: the Decentralization Paradox*

Jelle Visser, Chair of Sociology of Labour and Organization at the University of Amsterdam, presented a talk on “European Labor Relations, the Euro, and State Intervention: The Decentralization Paradox.” The talk was part of the ongoing series “Bringing Back Political Economy,” organized by the Blinken European Institute and co-sponsored by the Heyman Center. The commentator for the talk was Josh Whitford, Associate Professor of Sociology at Columbia University.
6 March
The Disciplines Series
*Is Imperialism a Useful Concept in an Age of Financial Globalization?*

This event focused on the viability of imperialism in a world in which financial markets are inextricably bound together. The talk featured Robin Blackburn, Professor of Sociology at University of Essex; Marxist economist Prabhat Patnaik; Robert Pollin, Professor of Economics at University of Massachusetts Amherst; Anwar Shaikh, Professor of Economics at The New School; and Duncan Foley, Professor of Economics at The New School. The talk was made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

7 March
The Money Series
*Capitalism Today: Lessons from Europe*

This event took a snapshot of the economy in Europe as its catalyst for discussion. The event featured Robin Blackburn, Professor of Sociology at University of Essex; Marxist economist Prabhat Patnaik; and Robert Pollin, Professor of Economics at University of Massachusetts Amherst. Eric Foner, DeWitt Clinton Professor of History at Columbia University, chaired the talk.
8 March

The Money Series

Debt: The Long View

What is debt? How did we get so much and what can we do about it? This discussion of debt and finance explored how debt has changed over time and its significance in our culture and society. Participants included: David Graeber, Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Goldsmiths College, University of London; Greta Krippner, Associate Professor at the University of Michigan; Louis Hyman, Assistant Professor in the ILR School at Cornell University; Peter Goodman, Executive Business Editor of The Huffington Post; and Daniel Immerwahr, Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University, who organized the event.

21 March

The Disciplines Series: The Idea of Development

Development and Empire

This panel discussion explored the hegemonic implications resulting from the rise of international development initiatives. Featured speakers included: Frederick Cooper, Professor of History at New York University; David Engerman, Professor of History at Brandeis University; Julian Go, Associate Professor of Sociology at Boston University; and Odd Arne Westad, Professor of International History at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The talk was made possible by generous funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
28 March
The Money Series
*An Anthropologist on Wall Street*


29 March
The Writing Lives Series
*Biography, Novel, Lord Byron*

Novelist Benjamin Markovits spoke about his recently published *Childish Loves*, which completes his trilogy of historical novels on Lord Byron (*Imposture, A Quiet Adjustment*). Journalist, critic, and author Julie Salamon (*Wendy and the Lost Boys*) served as discussant.
10 April

The History and Theory Lecture
Creating Rights in Holy Places: Some Reflections on the History of “Hindu” Law in India

The annual History and Theory Lecture featured Rosalind O’Hanlon, Professor in Indian History and Culture at the University of Oxford. Ethan Kleinberg, Wesleyan Professor of History at Wesleyan University and Executive Editor of the journal History and Theory, chaired.

13 April

The Disciplines Series
OSS, Intelligence, and Knowledge of the World

This conference, a featured event in “The Disciplines Series,” brought together a number of prominent historians and anthropologists from across the country and the UK to discuss the relationship between government intelligence gathering and the rise of the social sciences within the academy. Participants included: Priya Satia, Associate Professor of Modern British History at Stanford University; Osamah Khalil, Assistant Professor of History at Syracuse University; Nicholas Dirks, the Franz Boas Professor of Anthropology and Professor of History at Columbia University; David Price, Professor of Anthropology and Sociology at St. Martin’s University; Peter Mandler, Professor of Modern Cultural
History at the University of Cambridge; John Kelly, Professor of Anthropology at University of Chicago; David Engerman, Professor of History at Brandeis University; Bruce Kuklick, Professor of History at University of Pennsylvania; and Robert Vitalis, Professor of Political Science at University of Pennsylvania. The conference was made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

18 April

The Disciplines Series
Enchantment Across the Disciplines: A Symposium

This symposium on enchantment featured Michael Saler, Professor of History at the University of California, Davis; Wendy Faris, Professor of English at the University of Texas at Arlington; Sumathi Ramaswamy, Professor of History at Duke University; and Akeel Bilgrami, Johnsonian Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University. The conference was organized by Guari Viswanathan, Class of 1933 Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University. The conference was made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

19 April

Do America's Colleges Have a Future?: A Roundtable Discussion

This discussion coincided with the publication of Andrew Delbanco’s book, College: What it Was, Is, and Should Be. The panel included Andrew Delbanco, Director of American Studies at Columbia University; Ira Katznelson, Professor of Political Science
The Culture of Credit: A Conversation between Historians and Anthropologists

20 April

The Money Series

The Culture of Credit: A Conversation between Historians and Anthropologists—A Day-long Conference

This conference brought together prominent anthropologists and historians to discuss the growing twenty-first century global culture of credit. The first panel examined “Recurring Pathologies?: Historical Reflections on the Financial Crisis,” and the second panel took as its topic, “Taming Risk?: Models and Technologies of Trading.” The keynote, delivered by Jeff Madrick, columnist and critic, was entitled “Age of Greed.” Participants included: Julia Ott, Assistant Professor of History at The New School; Jonathan Levy, Assistant Professor of History at Princeton University; Stephen Mihm, Associate Professor at University of Georgia; Iain Hardie, Lecturer at the University of Edinburgh; Mary Poovey, Samuel Rudin University Professor in the Humanities and Professor of English at New York University; Caitlin Zaloom, Associate Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis at New York University; Karen Ho, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at University of Minnesota; Gustav Peebles, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at The New School; and Perry Mehrling, Professor of Economics at Barnard College.
25 April

The Disciplines Series

Civilization, the Curriculum, and the University, 1914–1950—A Day-long Workshop

This one-day workshop was part of the Heyman Center’s “Disciplines Series.” Speakers from the US and UK convened to discuss the growth of “Great Books” programs and “civilizations” curricula from World War I through the beginning of the Cold War period. Participants included: Elizabeth Sawyer, Doctoral Student at Trinity College, Oxford University; Andrew Jewett, Assistant Professor of History and of Social Studies at Harvard University; Robert S. Thomas, Research Scholar in History at Columbia University; Daniel Immerwahr, Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University; James Chandler, Barbara E. & Richard J. Franke Distinguished Service Professor at University of Chicago; Simon Goldhill, Professor of Greek Literature and Culture at King’s College Cambridge; Mary Jacobus, Professor Emerita and M. H. Abrams Distinguished Visiting Professor at University of Cambridge. This talk was made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
1 May

The Writing Lives Series
Odysseys: Adventures in Reading the Greeks

This talk in “The Writing Lives Series” featured Daniel Mendelsohn, Charles Ranlett Flint Professor of Humanities at Bard College, and the author of many books, including The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million, which was awarded the National Book Critics Circle Award in 2006. Professor Mendelsohn read from his work in progress, Odysseys: Adventures in Reading the Greeks, in which Mendelsohn tells the story of a father and son trip to ancient Greek cultural sites while reflecting on classical Greek texts.

2 May

The Lionel Trilling Seminar
Changing Places: From the Reign of the Novel to the Rise of Film Culture in Post-War America

Morris Dickstein, Distinguished Professor at the Graduate Center, City University of New York, discussed the sibling rivalry between film and the novel in the decades following World War II. He paid special attention to post-war novelists’ and critics’ concerns about the “death of the novel,” which they attributed largely to the instant access and immediate visual appeal of the new film and media culture. Dickstein showed how closely this response anticipated current anxiety about the decline of the book in the face of the new electronic culture. A revised version of the lecture will appear in the summer of 2013 in the quarterly Raritan, under the title: “The Moment of the Novel and the Rise of Film Culture.”
Jordanna Bailkin (1999–2001) was promoted to full professor in the Department of History at the University of Washington, and appointed to the Costigan Professorship in European History. Her book, *The Afterlife of Empire*, will be published by the University of California Press in 2012. Next spring, she will be the British Studies Fellow at the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin.

In the last year, Akeel Bilgrami (1983–1985) completed his book, *Secularism, Identity, and Enchantment*, for Harvard University Press. It is slated to be published in Fall 2012. He has also continued to work toward his long-term project on the relations between value, agency, and practical reason while giving lectures in universities in different parts of the world on those themes and on subjects in politics and moral psychology.

Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski (1981–1983) is chair of the Department of French and Italian at the University of Pittsburgh. This past year she gave a number of lectures in the US and Europe and published a volume of essays selected from the conference in Nicosia, Cyprus she co-organized in the summer of 2009: *Philippe de Mézières and His Age: Piety and Politics in the Fourteenth Century* (edited with Kiril Petkov, *The Medieval Mediterranean* 91, Leyden: Brill, 2012). She is currently working on a book on the 14th-century visionary Ermine de Reims.

George Bournoutian (1978–1980), Senior Professor of History at Iona College, published *The 1823 Russian Survey of the Karabagh Province: A Primary Source for the Demography and Economy of Karabagh in the Early 19th Century* (Mazda Press). He also published the sixth edition of *A Concise History of the Armenian People*, which was recently translated into Turkish (Istanbul, 2011), Arabic (Cairo, 2012), Armenian (Yerevan, 2012), and Spanish (Buenos Aires, 2nd printing, 2012), with a Japanese version forthcoming.

Betsy Bowen (1976–1977) has two books forthcoming from Potomac Books: *Back From Tobruk*, her father Croswell Bowen’s long-lost WWII memoir, and *Truth Teller and Traitor to His Class: A Daughter’s Biography*. Her father was a crusading liberal journalist after the war and the latter book details his life through the major events of the twentieth century to his death in 1971.


Greg Downey (1998–2000) is Senior Lecturer at Macquarie University in Sydney. His new volume, *The Encultured Brain: An Introduction to Neuroanthropology*, edited with Daniel Lende, will be out from MIT Press in August 2012. Greg has started a new project on skill acquisition in rugby and writes frequently for the weblog, Neuroanthropology, for the Public Library of Science (PLoS). In both 2010 and 2011, he finished in the top ten for “Lecturer of the Year” in Australia, based on student voting.

Last year James Higginbotham (1977–1978, 1979–1980) continued as Chair of
Linguistics at the University of South Carolina, and wrote further on the philosophical issue of first-personal thought. At the end of the 2011–2012 academic year he quit as Chair of anything at all for the first time (counting both USC and Oxford) since 1994–hurrah for that. In retrospect he appreciates all the more the research time he enjoyed at the Society of Fellows.

Judith Johnston (1977–1979) is now Emeritus Professor of English at Rider University. She continues to live in New Jersey, and she recently performed the Bach B Minor Mass with Westminster Choir in Princeton. On December 20, 2012, at Alice Tully Hall, with Riverside Choral Society, she will perform Bach’s Christmas Oratorio. Friends are very welcome to contact her.

John Lombardini (2009–2010) is entering his third year as Assistant Professor of Government at the College of William & Mary, where he teaches courses on ancient political thought. His recent work will appear in the journals History of Political Thought and Polis. He is currently working to complete a book manuscript titled The Comic Socrates: Humor and the Ethics of Socratic Citizenship.

Suzanne Lodato (1998–2000) works at Indiana University as Proposal Development Specialist in the Office of the Vice Provost for Research. She coordinates and supports the development and submission of proposals for multi-unit and multi-institutional interdisciplinary grant projects, mainly in the arts, humanities, technology, area studies, and international business.

Richard McCoy (1977–1979) recently completed a book, Faith in Shakespeare, which focuses on contrasts between religious and poetic faith while exploring dramatic techniques for sustaining “the willing suspension of disbelief.” It will be published by Oxford University Press in 2013. In July 2012, he will speak on the late Romances in the Celebrated Writers Series at the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario. He serves on the Council of Scholars for Theatre for a New Audience in New York, and continues teaching at Queens College and the Graduate Center, CUNY.

Christian Murck (1978–1980) continues to serve as President, American Chamber of Commerce in China, and regularly writes and speaks on trade, market access, and investment environment issues in the US-China relationship.

Suzanne Nalbantian (1976–1978) has been appointed Chair of the newly created International Comparative Literature Association Research Committee on Literature and Neuroscience. In this context, she has been organizing a succession of three conferences for the period of 2012–2014. Participants in these conferences will include literary scholars and prominent neuroscientists. She organized and directed the first in this series, an “Interdisciplinary Symposium on Literature, Memory and Neuroscience,” which took place at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on Long Island on 19–21 April 2012. At that 2012 symposium, she gave a presentation called “Nonconscious Memory and the Surrealist Mind.” She has also organized a group of four interdisciplinary sessions on “Consciousness and the Brain” for the July 2013 Paris ICLA Congress, at which she will give a paper as well. For the third meeting in 2014, she is planning a conference on “Creativity and the Brain.”

on women writers and public life, 1800 to the present, with her colleague Maria Di-Battista.

David Novak (2007–2010)’s Japanoise: Music at the Edge of Circulation will be issued in Spring 2013 by Duke University Press. In 2011, he published an article in Public Culture entitled “The Sublime Frequencies of New Media,” based on research he conducted in his last year as a Fellow. He is currently conducting new fieldwork on urban soundscapes of Japan, and working on a co-edited volume that examines key terms of sound studies, entitled Keywords in Sound: Toward a Conceptual Lexicon. He is the co-convener of the Ethnography and Cultural Studies Research Focus Group at University of California, Santa Barbara, where he is affiliated faculty with Anthropology, East Asian Studies, and Film and Media Studies; in Spring 2013, he will be a Fellow at the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center.

Linda Przybyszewski (1995–1997) continues to teach at the History Department of the University of Notre Dame where she is now a concurrent faculty member of the Law School. She became a Faculty Fellow for the College Seminar, a course devoted to the teaching of oral skills to students in the College of Arts and Letters. Her booklet, Religion and Morality in the Constitutional Order, came out in 2011 as part of the American Historical Association’s series called “New Essays on American Constitutional History.” Meanwhile, Basic Books purchased her book on the history of dress in modern America, The Lost Art of Dress, due at the press at the end of 2012. She was the keynote speaker at the annual conference of the Association of Design and Sewing Professionals in 2011, where she also served as one of the judges for the Garment Challenge. In short, her work on legal history and fashion history is keeping her busy and happy.

Micah Schwartzman (2006–2007) is Professor of Law at the University of Virginia School of Law, where he teaches courses on constitutional law, legal theory, and law and religion. His most recent work has been published or is forthcoming from the Journal of Political Philosophy, Journal of Moral Philosophy, University of Chicago Law Review, and Virginia Law Review. In Spring 2013, he will be Visiting Professor of Law at the UCLA School of Law.

Richard Serrano (1996–1998) was recently promoted to Professor of French and Comparative Literature at Rutgers University. He completed his third book, Qur’an and the Lyric Imperative with the help of a Guggenheim Fellowship, and was recently commissioned by the Library of Arabic Literature at NYU Press to translate the diwan of the 7th century Arab poet Jamil Buthaynah. He spent part of the summer in Seoul polishing his Korean for his next book project.

William Sharpe (1981–1983) continues to teach in the Department of English at Barnard College. He is currently working on a book on how shadows are used in literature and the visual arts.

Ginger Strand (1993–1995)’s third book, Killer on the Road: Violence and the American Interstate, was published by the University of Texas Press. She continues to write for a wide variety of magazines, including This Land, where she recently became a contributing editor.

Joanne van der Woude (2007–2008) has accepted a Rosalind Franklin Fellowship at the University of Groningen back home in the Netherlands. This research position, with a very light teaching load, leads to a full professorship in American Studies. This past year, Joanne has continued to write on Gaspar Pérez de Villagrá, Thomas Morton, and Phillis Wheatley, among others. Her work was the subject of seminars at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies (at the University of Pennsylvania) and the Massachusetts Historical Society. She also attended conferences in Baltimore and College Park, MD.
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