

40 INSTITUTE
YEARS FOR THE
1982 - 2022

HUMANITIES



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Forty years of humanities research at the University of Illinois Chicago: it's a major milestone! This brochure surveys some of the extraordinary scholarship and programming that has taken place at the Institute since 1982. Under four previous directors and with the passionate involvement from students, faculty, and the Chicago community, we have supported cutting-edge research and scholarship that has changed the course of humanistic inquiry in the US and abroad. We have also featured innovative programming that has deepened our knowledge of our disciplines, expanded our intellectual horizons, and ignited partnerships between UIC and other institutions.

The following pages celebrate our distinguished past and anticipate a bright future. The humanities disciplines are regularly under attack in the US and across the globe: budgets are cut, programs are downsized, and entire departments are eliminated in the name of utility and efficiency. But support at UIC for humanistic inquiry has been unflagging, and the COVID-19 crisis has only emphasized the value of cultural analysis, historical awareness, and generous engagement fostered by our humanities disciplines. Throughout this crisis, the Institute has provided space and resources for this work, even while it has been fueled by the brilliant contributions of our students and faculty. During the most challenging of times, we've brought together the UIC and Chicago communities to explore the multiple dimensions of humanities today: we reflect on the past, we engage in the present, and we imagine our shared future.

The Institute benefits from the generous support of alumni and friends. That support helps us to provide innovative programming for the UIC community and the city of Chicago. To give to the Institute, visit our website.



MARK E. CANUEL

DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES

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UIC INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES
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Gifts to the Institute for the Humanities allow us to support research and mount programs for the UIC and Chicago communities. Please contact Mark Canuel at mcanuel@uic.edu if you would like to learn about a gift that could name a program, lecture series, fellowship, or any other project in someone's honor.

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY (2000)

A conference on the problems, limitations, and possibilities of the modern presidency from Franklin Delano Roosevelt to William Jefferson Clinton.

THE VULNERABLE CITIZEN (2001)

A conference on perceptions of vulnerability and surveillance in everyday life in the United States.

FOOD JUSTICE (2013)

A conference exploring historical contexts of contemporary food policy debates.

CRISIS IN VENEZUELA: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS (2018)

An event on current affairs in Venezuela to discuss the historical causes of the crisis, the current situation, and the potential outcomes. Co-sponsored with Northwestern University's Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center.

EARLY MODERN DRAMA, EARLY MODERN POETICS: A SYMPOSIUM IN HONOR OF MARY BETH ROSE (2018)

A celebration of Professor and former Institute Director, Mary Beth Rose, and her many contributions to the intellectual life at UIC and to Renaissance Studies.

THE REFUGEE CRISIS (2019)

A conference interrogating the conditions leading to the refugee crisis that has led to over 68 million people being displaced from their homes due to wars, state collapse, persecution, terrorism, poverty, and climate catastrophes.

DIFFERENT ARCHIVES, DIFFERENT HISTORIES (2020)

This innovative conference, a collaboration between the Institute for the Humanities and the UIC Library, explored the importance of archives to cultural understanding.

BEYOND BINARY: GENDERS IN THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE (2021)

A conference exploring nonbinary gender in an interdisciplinary context.

Over many years, the Institute has sponsored a wide range of stimulating conferences on topics of urgent debate for students, scholars, and the general public.

CONFERENCES



Nasser Mufti (UIC English) in conversation with Ralph Cintron (UIC English and Latin American and Latino Studies) and Caroline Levine (Cornell University English) at the 2018 Political Futures Conference.

Institute for the Humanities

VISITING FELLOWS

UIC Institute for the Humanities Visiting Fellows conduct seminars, meet with graduate students and faculty, and present a public lecture. Although these scholars have worked in a range of different fields, they have much in common. Each one has asserted an influence far beyond his or her specific discipline. Each has challenged traditional paradigms and changed the way humanists think about history, culture, or theoretical approaches. The Visiting Fellows program began in 2001.

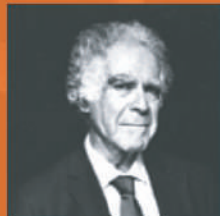


NATALIE ZEMON DAVIS

University of Toronto

VISITING FELLOW 2001-2002

"Cultural Mixture in a Divided World"

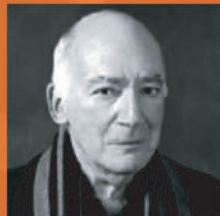


CARLO GINZBURG

University of California Los Angeles

VISITING FELLOW 2003-2004

"Machiavelli and the Art of the State"



MICHAEL FRIED

Johns Hopkins University

VISITING FELLOW 2004-2005

"Caravaggio: The Invention of Absorption"



MANTHIA DIAWARA

New York University

VISITING FELLOW 2006-2007

"Senghor's Aesthetic Criticism and Contemporary African Art"



ADOLPH L. REED, JR

University of Pennsylvania

VISITING FELLOW 2009-2010

"Obama, Antiracism, and Rebuilding the American Left"



NANCY FRASER

New School for Social Research

VISITING FELLOW 2011-2012

"Theorizing the Crisis of Capitalism in the 21st Century"

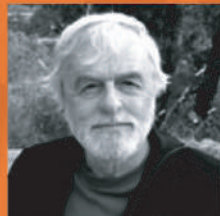


ROBIN D.G. KELLEY

University of California Los Angeles

VISITING FELLOW 2016-2017

"'A Female Candide': Inside U.S. Empire with Grace Halsell"



T.J. CLARK

University of California Berkeley

VISITING FELLOW 2017-2018

"Velázquez, Aesop, and War"

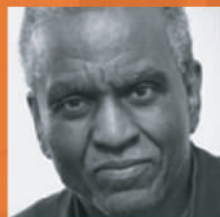


GAYATRI CHAKRAVORTY SPIVAK

Columbia University

VISITING FELLOW 2020-2021

"Learning From Mistakes: How A 'marxist-feminist-deconstructivist' Confronts the Paradox of Democracy"



GERALD HORNE

University of Houston

VISITING FELLOW 2021-2022

"Considering Counter-Revolution: 1776, 1836, 1876 and Today"

RESIDENT GRADUATE SCHOLARS

The Institute has supported graduate students with fellowships and awards to assist in the completion of PhD dissertations.

2016-

WILLIAM D'ALESSANDRO

PHILOSOPHY

INTERTHEORETIC REDUCTION AND EXPLANATION IN MATHEMATICS

LISA JAMES

HISPANIC STUDIES

LETTERS IN ABSENTIA: A MISSIVE CRITIQUE OF THE HUMANIST 'LETRA' IN FERNANDO DE ROJAS'S LA CELESTINA (1499)

LINDSAY MARSHALL

ENGLISH

RECOVERING RHETORIC: ADDICTION AND REHABILITATION AT THE LIMITS OF DISEASE DISCOURSE

TIMOTHY SORIANO

HISTORY

THE ROYAL NAVY, LEGAL PLURALISM, AND AUTHORITY IN EARLY SIERRA LEONE

2017-2018

ELIOT FACKLER

HISTORY

DOMESTICATING THE COUNTRY: COLONIALISM AND ECOLOGICAL CHANGE IN THE BLACK SWAMP OF AMERICA'S OLD NORTHWEST, 1783-1920

TYLER HANCK

PHILOSOPHY

JOHN LOCKE ON SUBSTANCE

AVIRAL PATHAK

POLITICAL SCIENCE

THE ART OF GOVERNING WELL: FREEDOM AND THE PRACTICE OF MODERN GOVERNMENT IN INDIA

AMY SCHOENECKER

POLITICAL SCIENCE

GOVERNING THE UNGOVERNABLE? STREET VENDING IN CHICAGO AND MUMBAI

2018-

MANAMEE GUHA

HISTORY

PERFORMING BRITISHNESS: THE CLUB AS A REPRESENTATION OF POWER IN COLONIAL CALCUTTA (1827-1947)

2019-2020

ANA SOARES

ANTHROPOLOGY

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF MANAUS (1870-1930): THE RISE OF THE INVISIBLE

ROBERT CASHIN RYAN

ENGLISH

WORLD FORM: EMPIRE AND THE HISTORY OF THE THEORY OF THE NOVEL

2020-

IONIT BEHAR

ART HISTORY

INTIMATE SPACE AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE: MARGARITA PAKSA IN ARGENTINA'S MILITARY DICTATORSHIP

CAITLYN DYE

ANTHROPOLOGY

NEW URBAN CLIMATE: WATER, SECURITY, AND THE STATE IN BOLIVIA'S NEW CLIMATE REGIME

CORBIN HIDAY

ENGLISH

'PROBABLE EXHAUSTION': EMPIRE'S ENVIRONMENTS AND THE POETICS OF EXTRACTION

2020-

ISMAEL BIYASHEV

HISTORY

BEYOND MYTHS AND RUINS: ARCHAEOLOGY AND NOMADISM IN RUSSIA (1850-1925)

AREINS PELAYO

PHILOSOPHY

UNDERSTANDING HYPOTHESES IN NEWTON'S SCIENTIFIC THOUGHT

NICOLETTA ROUSSEVA

ART HISTORY

BAD COMRADES: ART AND ANSWERABILITY AFTER SOCIALISM

For our full archive of Visiting Fellows and information about their innovative research, please visit our website:

HUMINST.
UIC.EDU /ARCHIVE

FACULTY

The Faculty Fellowship program allows UIC faculty the time to explore and create projects that have had an enduring effect across multiple fields. Fellowship support has resulted in books, articles, and other work over the past 40 years. Some notable recent projects include:

SUNIL AGNANI

"EDMUND BURKE AND HANNAH ARENDT: RESENTMENT AND THE SOCIAL QUESTION IN THE CONTEXT OF DECOLONIZATION"
BOUNDARY 2, 2022

TARINI BEDI

MUMBAI TAXIMEN: AUTOBIOGRAPHIES AND AUTOMOBILITIES IN INDIA
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PRESS, 2022

MARK E. CANUEL

THE FATE OF PROGRESS IN BRITISH ROMANTICISM
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2022

JOAQUÍN CHÁVEZ

POETS AND PROPHETS OF THE RESISTANCE: INTELLECTUALS AND THE ORIGINS OF EL SALVADOR'S CIVIL WAR
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2017

RALPH CINTRÓN

DEMOCRACY AS FETISH
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2019

CLAIRE L. DECOTEAU

THE WESTERN DISEASE: CONTESTING AUTISM IN THE SOMALI DIASPORA
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, 2021

TATIANA GAJIĆ

PARADOXES OF STATIS: LITERATURE, POLITICS, AND THOUGHT IN FRANCOIST SPAIN
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS, 2019

ADAM GOODMAN

THE DEPORTATION MACHINE: AMERICA'S LONG HISTORY OF EXPELLING IMMIGRANTS
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2020

Winner of the PROSE Award in North American History, Association of American Publishers, among other honors.

AIDAN GRAY

"MINIMAL FREGEANISM"
MIND, 2021

SYDNEY A. HALPERN

DANGEROUS MEDICINE: THE STORY BEHIND HUMAN EXPERIMENTS WITH HEPATITIS
YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2021

RACHEL HAVRELOCK

THE JOSHUA GENERATION: ISRAELI OCCUPATION AND THE BIBLE
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2020

ROSALIE HERNANDEZ

IMMACULATE CONCEPTIONS: THE POWER OF THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION IN EARLY MODERN SPAIN
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS, 2019

MICHAEL R. JIN

CITIZENS, IMMIGRANTS, AND THE STATELESS: A JAPANESE AMERICAN DIASPORA IN THE PACIFIC
STANFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2022

ANNA KORNBLUH

THE ORDER OF FORMS: REALISM, FORMALISM, AND SOCIAL SPACE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, 2019



STEVEN MARSH

SPANISH CINEMA AGAINST ITSELF: COSMOPOLITANISM, EXPERIMENTATION, MILITANCY
INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2019

ELLEN MCCLURE

THE LOGIC OF IDOLATRY IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY FRENCH LITERATURE
BOYDELL & BREWER, 2020

NASSER MUFTI

CIVILIZING WAR: IMPERIAL POLITICS AND THE POETICS OF NATIONAL RUPTURE
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2017

Winner of the Gustave O. Art Award in the Humanities, awarded by the Council of Graduate Schools, among other honors.

ROBIN REAMES

SEEMING AND BEING IN PLATO'S RHETORICAL THEORY
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, 2018

MARY BETH ROSE

PLOTTING MOTHERHOOD IN MEDIEVAL, EARLY MODERN, AND MODERN LITERATURE
PALGRAVE MACMILLAN, 2017

MARGARITA SAONA

DESPADRE: MASCULINIDADES, TRAVESTISMOS Y FICCIONES DE LA LEY EN LITERATURA PERUANA
GAFAS MORADAS EDITORIAL, 2021

HEIDI SCHLIPPHACKE

"KINSHIP AND AESTHETIC DEPTH: THE TABLEAU VIVANT IN GOETHE'S WAHLVERWANDTSCHAFTEN"
PUBLICATIONS OF THE ENGLISH GOETHE SOCIETY 87.3, 2018

Goethe Society of North America Prize for the best essay published in 2018 on Goethe, his times, and/or contemporary figures.

JEFFREY SKLANSKY

SOVEREIGN OF THE MARKET: THE MONEY QUESTION IN EARLY AMERICA
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, 2017

Honorable Mention for the Best Book in U.S. Intellectual History Prize from the Society for U.S. Intellectual History, 2018.

WILL SMALL

"THE INTELLIGENCE OF VIRTUE AND SKILL"
JOURNAL OF VALUE INQUIRY, 2021

DAVID STOVALL

"ON KNOWING: WILLINGNESS, FUGITIVITY AND ABOLITION IN PRECARIOUS TIMES"
JOURNAL OF LANGUAGE, LITERACY AND EDUCATION, 2020

SANDY SUFIAN

"AS LONG AS PARENTS CAN ACCEPT THEM: MEDICAL DISCLOSURE, RISK, AND DISABILITY IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICAN ADOPTION PRACTICE"
BULLETIN OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE, 2017

KAREN UNDERHILL

"BRUNO SCHULZ'S GALICIAN DIASPORA: ON THE 1937 ESSAY 'E. M. LILIE' AND ROKHL KORN'S REVIEW OF CINNAMON SHOPS"
JEWISH SOCIAL STUDIES: HISTORY, CULTURE, SOCIETY, 2018

SYLVIA VATUK

MARRIAGE AND ITS DISCONTENTS: WOMEN, ISLAM, AND THE LAW IN INDIA
WOMEN UNLIMITED, 2017

FELLOWS

HUMANITIES INNOVATION GRANTS

Humanities Innovation Grants are designed to fund work in the humanities that explores new theories, archives, methodologies, interdisciplinary connections, applications, and public engagement.

ALEXANDER EISENSCHMIDT
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

AT HOME WITH THE COLLECTIVE: A CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY AND FUTURE OF HOUSING

This interdisciplinary conference will convene historians, architects, and planners to address today's collective housing crisis.

BEATE GEISSLER
ART

THE ANTHROPOCENE LAB: A SPECULATIVE, EXPLORATORY LABORATORY OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AT UIC

A series of events will launch an exploratory laboratory that fosters innovative interdisciplinary research in the sciences, education, humanities, law, engineering, social sciences, planning, and the arts.

ANNA GUEVARRA
GLOBAL ASIAN STUDIES
GAYATRI REDDY
GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES AND ANTHROPOLOGY

EVICTED! A GAME OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

An immersive gaming experience will explore the problem of affordable housing by allowing participants to engage in the complexities of Chicago urban planning.

RONAK K. KAPADIA
GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES
THERESE QUINN
MUSEUM AND EXHIBITION STUDIES

NEW DIRECTIONS IN COMPARATIVE ETHNIC AND INDIGENOUS STUDIES: PARALLELS BETWEEN THE US "INDIAN WARS" AND THE "GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR" - A VIRTUAL SCHOLARLY SEMINAR AND PUBLIC DIALOGUE SERIES

A series of events will feature new work in the humanities at the intersections of comparative ethnic studies, Native North American Studies, and Middle Eastern Studies that explores the parallels between the two longest military conflicts in US history—the American Indian Wars and the Global War on Terror.

FRANCESCO MARULLO
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

DESERTS

Focusing on the American Southwest, this symposium will debate the notion of the "desert" in its physical and mental dimensions, focusing on how it permeates the architectural imagination and collective intelligence.

ALYSON PATSAVAS
DISABILITY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
MARGARET FINK
DISABILITY CULTURAL CENTER

COLLECTIVITY, ACCESS, AND ARCHIVING: CRIP PANDEMIC LIFE

Two workshops that build on and contribute to a forthcoming special issue of Lateral: The Journal of the Cultural Studies Association, entitled "Crip Pandemic Life: A Tapestry."

APRIL 29, 2016

BEYOND 'FREE' AND 'UNFREE' LABOR
Organized by Jeffrey Skiansky and Leon Fink, UIC History

SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2016

THE RELATIONAL NATURE OF THOUGHT
Organized by Aidan Gray and Mahrad Almotahari, UIC Philosophy

OCTOBER 14, 2016

AFTER EMPIRE AND NATION: RETHINKING ANTI-COLONIAL PASTS AND THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY
Organized by Rama Sundari Mantena, UIC History

NOVEMBER 4, 2016

INTERSECTIONALITY AND EMBODIMENT IN GAME STUDIES
Organized by Adrienne Massanari, UIC Communication

NOVEMBER 12, 2016

KANT AND LEIBNIZ ON SUBSTANCE
Organized by Sally Sedgwick, Daniel Sutherland, and John Whipple, UIC Philosophy

FEBRUARY 7, 2017

THE LOGISTICAL CITY
Organized by Clare Lyster, UIC School of Architecture

APRIL 13-14, 2017

EARLY MODERN EPISTOLARY CULTURE
Organized by Nina Dubin, UIC Art History

NOVEMBER 3-4, 2017

POLITICAL ECOLOGY AS PRACTICE: A REGIONAL APPROACH TO THE ANTHROPOCENE
Organized by Ömür Harmanşah, UIC Art History; and Molly Doane, UIC Anthropology

NOVEMBER 10, 2017

CRITICAL THEORY, PSYCHOANALYSIS AND THE POLITICS OF THE ARCHIVE IN SPANISH CINEMA
Organized by Steven Marsh, UIC Hispanic and Italian Studies

HUMANITIES FRONTIERS WORKSHOPS

These workshops have enabled focused discussions for faculty, students, and community partners.

Combining intensive exchange among scholars with public-facing events, they promote conversation and debate about research initiatives, theoretical problems, or critical methodologies. Workshops have addressed issues such as relationalism in philosophy, the future of democracy in former colonies, and communication flows in urban spaces.

MAY 3, 2018

STORIES OF ILLNESS: BUILDING HEALTH HUMANITIES CASES FOR MEDICAL TRAINING
Organized by Sandy Sullivan, UIC Health Humanities, Disability Studies, and History; and Michael Blackie, UIC Health Humanities

SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2018

EXPLANATION WITHOUT ESSENCE?
Organized by Mahrad Almotahari, UIC Philosophy

NOVEMBER 1, 2018

CAN A RIVER BE A PERSON? INDIGENEITY, LAW, AND CLIMATE CHANGE
Organized by Ralph Cintrón, UIC English and Latin American and Latino Studies; and Molly Doane, UIC Anthropology

OCTOBER 15-17, 2021

ARCHAISTS AND INNOVATORS RE-READ VIKTOR SHKLOVSKY'S IN 60 YEARS: WORKS ON CINEMA
Organized by Julia Vaingurt and Matthew Kendall, UIC Polish, Russian, and Lithuanian Studies



2022 RECIPIENTS

WORKING GROUPS

Working groups convene faculty and students with overlapping scholarly interests; they receive renewable support from the Institute. Although the format varies among them, working groups frequently involve readings groups, seminar discussions of new faculty work, or lectures by invited faculty members from other institutions. In the past, working groups have investigated the impact of class inequality on the humanities; the overlapping concerns among the disciplines of law, politics, and the humanities; and the connection between documentary media and current scholarship. These are the current working groups:

DANCE, THEATER, AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES

Offers events that apply a theoretical and critical lens both to the art of theater-making and to the performative practices.

ORGANIZERS: CHRISTINE DUNFORD (THEATRE), LISA FREEMAN (ENGLISH), MARIO LAMOTHE (BLACK STUDIES AND ANTHROPOLOGY)

DISSERTATION WRITING SEMINAR

Open to ALL students and faculty, this working group is eager to hear from all graduate students in the humanities who are at a point in their writing when a congenial audience of fellow scholars would be helpful in the writing process.

ENGAGED HUMANITIES WORKING GROUP

Connected with the Mellon-Funded Engaged Humanities Initiative (EHI), these regularly scheduled meetings, open to all interested faculty and students, offer discussions of readings, propose speakers, and address future goals for the EHI.

ORGANIZERS: LAURA HOSTETLER (HISTORY AND GLOBAL ASIAN STUDIES) AND JANAYA SHAW (UIC EHI)

QUEER AND TRANS STUDIES

Engages transnational and diasporic analyses of gender, sexuality, queer of color critique, trans studies, queer liberation activism and abolition, race, disability, and their multiple intersections.

ORGANIZERS: ASH STEPHENS (CRIMINOLOGY, LAW, AND JUSTICE), THEMAL ELLAWALA (ANTHROPOLOGY), AND JUSTIN PHAN (GLOBAL ASIAN STUDIES)

RACE & U.S. EMPIRE

Focuses on the ways that racism and capitalism inform the logics and practices of the contemporary U.S. empire both within the U.S. and across the globe.

ORGANIZERS: ANDY CLARINO (SOCIOLOGY) AND NADINE NABER (GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES AND GLOBAL ASIAN STUDIES)

RELIGION IN THE WORLD

Aims to foster an interdisciplinary scholarly community dedicated to analyzing cutting edge developments in religious studies through common readings and speaker visits.

ORGANIZERS: JUNAID QUADRI (HISTORY), LAURADINGELDEIN (RELIGIOUS STUDIES), SAMUEL FLEISCHACKER (PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES), ELLEN MCCLURE (FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES AND HISTORY), AND JUSTIN RADEN (ENGLISH)

SEE NEXT: (SEMINAR: EAST EUROPEAN AND NORTHERN EURASIAN CROSSTALK)

Brings together scholars who study history and culture of Eastern Europe and Northern Eurasia.

ORGANIZERS: MARINA MOGILNER (HISTORY), KEELY STAUTER-HALSTED (HISTORY), JULIA VAINGURT (POLISH, RUSSIAN, AND LITHUANIAN STUDIES), AND ISMAEL BIYASHEV (HISTORY)

SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

Aims to provide a space for interdisciplinary discussions on the emerging literature of South Asia.

ORGANIZERS: ANINDITA GHOSH (HISTORY), MAGGIE SCHUSTER (ART HISTORY), LAKSHITA MALIK (ANTHROPOLOGY), AISHANI KHURANA (ANTHROPOLOGY), WITH FACULTY SPONSORS, CATHERINE BECKER (ART HISTORY) AND RAMA SUNDARI MANTENA (HISTORY)

DIGITAL HUMANITIES AT UIC

A new Digital Humanities Initiative has been supported by generous grants from the office of the President of the University of Illinois. The initiative is a result of an innovative collaboration between the University Library and the Institute for the Humanities. The DHI provides technical resources and consultation for humanities scholars at UIC to develop new methods and technologies in their current research, to create new paradigms in future scholarship, and to increase graduate students' exposure to digital techniques to enhance competitiveness in the job market. The presidential grants have funded workshops for faculty and students, a postdoctoral fellowship, and a digital humanities conference. Through such efforts, the Initiative expands the dissemination of humanities research across digital platforms and enhances its impact by reaching larger audiences on regional, national and global levels. To learn more about the DHI's programs, and research opportunities, visit the DHI website at: <https://dhi.uic.edu/>

CHICAGO HUMANITIES FESTIVAL

In 2019, the Institute rekindled a partnership with the Chicago Humanities Festival. The relationship has brought the festival to the UIC campus, featured UIC faculty at festival events, and provided free tickets for faculty and students at festival events. This past year the May 7th CHF day at UIC brought exciting speakers to UIC, including Anita Hill, Marie Yovanovitch, and John Waters, among many others. UIC faculty speaking at the festival included Andy Clarno, Susila Gurusami, Rachel Havrelock, Ronak Kapadia, Michal Pawel Markowski, Nicole Nygen, and Jennifer Reeder.

ANTHROPOCENE LAB

Beginning with support from the Mellon-funded Humanities Without Walls, the Political Ecologies Working Group has continued to grow, mount programs, and inspire research across disciplines of Anthropology, Art, Art History, English, Latin American and Latino Studies, Political Science, and many more. This generative group enters a new phase as an Anthropocene Lab, which will mobilize the intellectual resources of art, literature, and the sciences to devise new creative approaches to climate change. Organizers of the Anthropocene Lab include Ralph Cintron (English and Latino and Latin American Studies), Beate Geissler (Art), Omur Harmanşah (Art History), Rachel Havrelock (English), and Bert Geyer (Art History). Stay tuned for further news about this initiative!

FRESHWATER LAB

Organized by Rachel Havrelock (UIC English) and receiving part of its initial funding from Humanities Without Walls, this initiative increases awareness, expands community, and improves life in the Great Lakes region. The Freshwater Lab's Backward River digital storytelling project, along with the lab's Freshwater Stories project, communicate Great Lakes water issues to the general public and create tools to visualize the current state of water sources. The Freshwater Lab has also developed an internship program connecting humanities students with professional opportunities in order to elevate a diverse cohort of Great Lakes leaders.

HUMANITIES WITHOUT WALLS

The Institute for the Humanities is delighted to be part of the Humanities Without Walls project, a 16-member consortium of Midwest universities sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and based at the Humanities Research Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

CELEBRATING LINDA VAVRA ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

In the spring of 2022, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences joined the Institute for the Humanities in celebrating the retirement of Linda Vavra. Since 1987 she has worked at the Institute, first as Assistant Director, and then as Associate Director. A scholar of Renaissance rhetoric and devotional poetry, Vavra combined a love for all humanities disciplines with formidable administrative skill. She has left a legacy of steady and imaginative leadership that the entire UIC campus community will cherish for years to come.

Linda Vavra at her retirement celebration on May 3rd, 2022, pictured between Mary Beth Rose (L), former Director of the Institute for the Humanities, and Mark Canuel (R), current Director of the Institute for the Humanities.



A NEW HOME FOR THE HUMANITIES

In the fall of 2022, the Institute for the Humanities is moving!



As the architect's rendering suggests, the new Institute space will be light-filled and flexible, supporting a new and exciting chapter of ground-breaking research and programming.

REFLECT. ENGAGE. IMAGINE.

CONTACT US



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