



Oregon Humanities Center

154 PLC | (541) 346-3934 | ohc.uoregon.edu

2017 Summer Report

Note from the Associate Director



Julia J. Heydon

Greetings from the OHC! The Dog Days of summer are upon us, with unseasonably warm temperatures for Oregon, but given the gorgeous summer weather we've had until now it would be unseemly for me to complain about a few triple-digit days. I never cease to be amazed by this beauti-

ful and bountiful place we are so fortunate to call home. read about some of our fellows and their accomplishments in the pages that follow. We also had the privilege of working with a group of six promising young undergraduate scholars during winter and spring terms through our partnership with the Office of Research and Innovation,

the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP), and the Division of Undergraduate Studies, as part of the Humanities Undergraduate Research Fellowship (HURF) Program. This program, now entering its third year, provides helped make our 2016–17 public lecture series so successful. More than 1,330 people attended our five large public lectures, and an additional 67 participated virtually through our live video streaming. In addition, we co-sponsored more than 80 humanities-related events on campus and in the community, some of which were multi-day events such as the 2nd annual Musicking Conference, which offered 21 separate events over 5 days and engaged more than 1,300 people, including undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, guest scholars and musicians, and community members. We also produced 30 new episodes of our taped television program, "UO Today," which features interviews with both UO and visiting scholars, writers, and artists. We hope you will take time to view those shows that interest you. You can find a link to UO Today on our web page (ohc.uoregon.edu).



Five members of the 2017 HURF cohort (above); Reza Aslan speaking on UO Today (right)

ful and bountiful place we are so fortunate to call home.

As usual, the OHC staff has been taking advantage of this quieter time of year on campus to attend to tasks that have been patiently awaiting us on the "back burner," to reflect upon the previous year's activities, and to prepare for the coming months.

2016–17 was another very full year for us. Thanks to generous financial support from the VP for Research and Innovation, the Provost, and several OHC endowments, we were able to sponsor one of the largest cohorts of OHC Fellows ever, including 10 Faculty Research Fellows, seven Teaching Fellows, three Dissertation Fellows, and three Graduate Research Support Fellows. You can

opportunities for undergraduates to work with a faculty mentor for sixteen weeks on a research project, and then present their work to a public audience at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium in May, sponsored by the Division of Undergraduate Studies. The support of humanities research and its dissemination to the broader community continue to be at the core of the OHC's mission.

Humanities public programming is another crucial part of our mission. We're grateful to all of our audience members, supporters, and campus colleagues who



members. We also produced 30 new episodes of our taped television program, "UO Today," which features interviews with both UO and visiting scholars, writers, and artists. We hope you will take time to view those shows that interest you. You can

find a link to UO Today on our web page (ohc.uoregon.edu).

Our year-long exploration of our 2016–17 theme, *Humanities*, began with a powerful lecture by writer and scholar of religions Reza Azlan. His October 18th lecture on the crisis of identity gripping America today was more prescient and topical than perhaps anyone realized at the time. Without a doubt, the changing cultural and political climate in which we currently find ourselves is a topic that

continued on page 4

OHC fellowships provide crucial support for faculty

The OHC was pleased to support ten Faculty Research Fellows and three Dissertation Fellows during 2016–17. These fellowships allow the recipient a term off from teaching to focus on their research, often in residence at the OHC, where they have a private office, peaceful surroundings away from departmental demands, and close proximity to the UO Knight Library. They also have an opportunity to be part of a scholarly community, and to share their ongoing work with other fellows and get valuable feedback during their Work-in-Progress talks.

The research projects supported by the OHC during 2016–17 were wide-ranging in their topics, and included Japanese horror cinema; the historical development and significance of comic book super-heroes' miraculous bodies; the influence of African music and dance in Chilean culture; the impact WWI on American literature, and ways in which literature was used in the U.S. to promote the war effort; the reconstruction and performance of 19th-century ballets from contemporaneous choreography manuals; the popularity,

hybridization, and cultural appropriation of Balkan “gypsy” (Roma) music; an analysis of the Asian novel *Comfort Woman*, with a focus on queer theory and the power of haunting; the influence of some of Italy's major volcanic erup-

guitar and voice, is available on our website.)

Getting a scholarly book published by a major academic press is a crucial step in the promotion and tenure process. (In his fellowship report,



Drew Nobile demonstrating his concepts on the set of *UO Today*.

tions on Russian modernist literature; and parallels in post-revolutionary 20th-century novels from Cuba and Angola.

Drew Nobile, then a second-year Assistant Professor of Music Theory, used his research fellowship term to work on a couple of chapters for his first book, tentatively titled *Form as Harmony in Rock Music*, in which he identifies and analyzes pop and rock songwriting conventions used during the “classic rock” decades of the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. In his work, Nobile examines the relationship between the deep-level structure of the music and the meaning of the lyrics, and talks about how this relationship can be used to elicit specific reactions from listeners. He discusses how songwriters manipulate the conventions to thwart the listener's expectations, and to create layers of expression that go beyond what is immediately perceived. (A *UO Today* interview with Nobile, in which he talks about his project and demonstrates some of his concepts with

Nobile describes his book project as “the cornerstone of my case for tenure.”) It is especially difficult for junior faculty, just launching their academic careers and busy with designing and teaching new courses, to find the time and space to fully immerse themselves in their research for ten or more weeks. During his fellowship term, Nobile was able to complete a 60-page chapter from scratch, and outline another chapter in detail—something he says would have taken him at least two terms with normal teaching and service loads. The OHC is grateful to have the resources to provide UO humanities faculty with this crucial professional development support. Many thanks to the Provost, the Vice President for Research and Innovation, and, especially to our fellowship donors who contribute to this worthy endeavor!



In memory of

James Michael O'Fallon

November 25, 1944–July 11, 2017

Kudos to past and present OHC faculty fellows



Lara Bovilsky, English, 2015–16 Research Fellow, launched “Time’s Pencil” (timespencil.org) a suite of digital tools that enrich

the Shakespeare experience by showing how time has shaped the Bard’s legacy. The project was supported by a **National Endowment for the Humanities**-funded grant from the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.



The Time’s Pencil website is a revision and expansion of two exhibitions, “Time’s Pencil: Shakespeare After the Folio” and “Beyond the First Folio,” that were created to complement the “First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare,” on tour from the Folger Shakespeare Library exhibition, which the UO hosted in January 2016.



Tara Fickle, English, 2017–18 Research Fellow, won a **National Endowment for the Humanities** Summer Stipend for “Behind

Aiiieeeee!: A New History of Asian American Literature.”



Stephen Shoemaker, Religious Studies, 2009–10 Research Fellow, won a **National Endowment for the Humanities** Scholarly Editions

and Translations grant (with co-director Sean Anthony, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Ohio State University) for “A Critical Translation of *The Capture of Jerusalem* by the Persians in 614.”

The following faculty received 2017 Faculty Research Awards from the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation:



Katie Meehan, Geography, 2014–15 Research Fellow, won a grant from the **National Science Foundation** for her project “An

Ethnography of Pathways to Interdisciplinary Knowledge Integration at Two Environmental Science Sites in Brazil.”



Fabienne Moore, Romance Languages, 2011–12 Teaching Fellow, for “Gustave Doré’s “Histoire de la Sainte Russie” (1854):

The Invention of Graphic Rhetoric or the Artist At War.”



David Wacks, Romance Languages, 2017–18 Research Fellow, for “Spanish Crusader Fiction.”



Mark Quigley, English, 2015–16 Research Fellow, won a fellowship from the **American Council of Learned Societies** for residence at

The Huntington Library for *Not Such a Long Way to Tipperary: Retracing Opposition to the First World War in the Irish Popular Press, 1914-1919.*



Nicolae Morar, Philosophy and Environmental Studies, 2016–17 Teaching Fellow, for “A Critical Edition of Gilles Deleuze’s Seminar

on Michel Foucault.”



Peter Walker, Geography, 2017–18 Research Fellow, for “Sagebrush Collaboration: How Harney County, Oregon Chose Cooperation

Over Conflict.”



Drew Nobile, School of Music and Dance, 2016–17 Research Fellow, for “Form as Harmony in Classic Rock Music.”

Sign up for e-mail delivery of newsletter and event updates at: ohc.uoregon.edu

Associate Director's Note *(continued from page 1)*

seems to be on many people's minds—more than 640 people turned out to hear Aslan's lecture. If you missed Aslan's talk or would like to hear it again, you can find it, along with most of our other recent public lectures, on our website home page under the "Multimedia" link.

The second event in our year-long series, a slide lecture by photographer and African American art and cultural historian Deborah Willis on January 12th, was the first of two O'Fallon Lectures we hosted during 2016–17. Titled "Visualizing the Black Body in Photography and Popular Culture," Willis's presentation was planned to both complement the year's Common Reading, *Between the World and Me*, by Ta-Nehisi Coates, and to coincide with a JSMA exhibition of contemporary African American artists which featured works by Willis's son, Hank Willis Thomas, as well as pieces by several other artists. Willis's lecture drew a large and engaged audience, and provided an interesting perspective on the role of African Americans in photographic history that may not be generally well known.

In February we hosted a brilliant young artist and social activist as our



Tzedek Lecturer, Vijay Gupta, violinist with the LA Philharmonic, and founder of Street Symphony, a non-profit organization that brings classical music to disadvantaged populations including the homeless, the incarcerated, and the mentally ill. Gupta spent 2-1/2 days in Oregon, meeting with student groups,

giving public talks, meeting with symphony personnel in both Eugene and Portland, and in general inspiring and charming everyone who had the good fortune of spending time with him. In his lecture, "The Citizen-Artist as Healer," Gupta described the path that led him to found the Street Symphony, and how that endeavor has allowed him to merge his passions and talents for medicine and the healing arts with music. He urged the students he met with to find ways to put their gifts and passions to work for the betterment of the world.

In March we hosted Lucy Jones, a nationally renowned, recently retired USGS seismologist and disaster preparedness expert, as our Clark Lecturer. Jones's talk, "The Fault Lies Not in Our Stars: Why Natural Disasters Become Human Catastrophes," focused on why humans think about and respond to the threat of natural disasters the way they do, and how we might overcome our natural tendency towards inaction in the face of large, catastrophic events. Jones's current work combines the data of science with the work of policy makers and an understanding of human nature to help us learn how to better prepare for and respond to catastrophic natural occurrences such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and floods. Her March 2017 lecture was

Vijay Gupta (left); Annette Gordon-Reed and Peter Onuf engaged with the audience (below)

based on a forthcoming book, due out in late 2017 or early 2018, about the social, cultural, religious, psychological, and historical elements that shape human responses to natural disasters.

We were originally planning to offer two lectures during the spring term, but due to a family emergency, Pulitzer Prize-winning cultural critic Margo Jefferson, who was scheduled to speak in Eugene and Portland in May, had to cancel her trip to Oregon at the last minute. Happily, we have been able to reschedule her visit for the coming academic year. Jefferson will be giving a talk on May 30, 2018 in Eugene, and May 31st in Portland, so keep an eye out in the coming months for more information about her spring 2018 visit.

We were offered an unexpected opportunity in April to host two renowned American historians and experts on Thomas Jefferson, Annette Gordon-Reed and Peter Onuf, who presented an engaging public conversation about their recently published book on Jefferson as our second O'Fallon Lecture of the year. Their recent book, *"Most Blessed of the Patriarchs:" Thomas Jefferson and the Empire of the Imagination*, provides an in-depth study of the private life of this highly learned, complicated, and at times seemingly contradictory public figure who was so important during the formative years of our nation. Gordon-Reed's and Onuf's "staged conversation" was fascinating, and kept the capacity audi-



(continued from page 4)

ence in 175 Knight engaged throughout.

This was the 30th year for the O'Fallon Lectureship, the OHC's first endowed lectureship, and the first lectureship in the humanities on the UO campus. While we were not originally planning to host two O'Fallon lectures in a single year, in retrospect we are deeply grateful that we had the opportunity to offer both the "Art and American Culture" and "Law and American Culture" versions of the Colin Ruagh Thomas O'Fallon Memorial Lecture during 2016-17. We are sad to report that James M. O'Fallon, UO emeritus professor of law and father of Colin, in whose memory this lectureship was established in 1987, passed away on July 11, 2017 at the age of 72. His wife, Ellen Thomas, and two sons, Dylan and Cheyney, survive him. We will miss you, Jim!

I will end this annual communication with a farewell of another sort. After nearly 40 years at the UO, and 19 wonderful years as Associate Director of the Oregon Humanities Center, this coming academic year will be my last at the Center as I head into retirement. We hope to hire a new Associate Director some time this fall. I will stay on for a few months after that to assist with the transition and with some other OHC projects, so I won't be leaving immediately, but this will be my last summer missive to you, our loyal (and patient) readers. This job has been a tremendous privilege and honor, and I am deeply grateful to have held it for so many years. I have worked with and met many incredible, intelligent, generous, inspiring, people; learned something new virtually every single day; and never even considered the possibility that my job might ever become routine or boring. Whomever I end up passing the baton to is going to be in for a wonderful experience! Thank you to every single one of you who has helped to make these past 19 years so enriching and rewarding! I will miss you and the OHC deeply, but I also look forward to seeing what new adventures await me!

With warmest wishes,
Julia J. Heydon

2017-18 We Be PEOPLE

Exploring a diversity of perspectives on what it means to be American



2017-18 Cressman Lecture
An Evening with Maria Hinojosa
host of NPR's Latino USA
Thursday, October 5, 2017
7:30 p.m. • 156 Straub Hall



2017-18 Kritikos Lecture
George Packer
author of *The Unwinding*
Wednesday, January 24, 2018
7:30 p.m. • UO campus
Thursday, January 25, 2018
7:30 p.m. • UO in Portland



2017-18 Clark Lecture
Robin Wall Kimmerer
director, Center for Native Peoples and the Environment
Tuesday, March 13, 2018
7:30 p.m. • UO campus



2017-18 Tzedek Lecture
Margo Jefferson
author of *Negroland: A Memoir*
Wednesday, May 30, 2018
7:30 p.m. • UO campus
Thursday, May 31, 2018
7:30 p.m. • UO in Portland

Watch for more details in upcoming OHC newsletters delivered at the beginning of each academic term.

OHC dissertation fellows benefit from the gift of time to focus

Just as faculty research fellowships are essential to the professional development of tenure-track humanities faculty,



Natalie Brenner

Dissertation Fellowships are similarly critical to the completion of the PhD degree for graduate students. Many—if not most—graduate students teach as GE’s (Graduate Employees) to support themselves and gain valuable classroom experience while completing their doctoral programs. It can be very challenging for

them to carve out sufficient concentrated time to focus on writing the dissertation. The OHC, in collaboration with the Graduate School and the College of Arts and Sciences, is able to help graduate students over this final hurdle on their path to a doctorate with a term off from teaching, a generous stipend, paid tuition and health insurance, and a quiet space in which to work. We are currently able to support three one-term dissertation fellows per year, and hope to maintain or increase that number in the years ahead.

Natalie Brenner, a PhD student in Romance Languages, used her fellowship period to “tackle the most challenging and complex chapter of [her] dissertation.” Her project, “Generating Geographies and Genealogies: Jewish Francophone Women Writing in the 20th Century,” uses memory and gender theories as lenses through which to read and analyze the works of six 20th C. French-speaking Jewish women writers. In her dissertation, Brenner explores the possibilities and limitations of both autobiography as a genre, and national historiographies. Brenner claims that the six writers who are the focus of her study, and whose lives span a period of three generations, form a literary genealogy linked by experiences of war and (de)-colonization which ultimately crosses both national and temporal boundaries.

Your gifts are crucial

The University of Oregon is a research university—research is at the core of everything we do here, including teaching, publishing, and professional advancement. That is why support of faculty and graduate humanities research is central to the OHC’s mission. As a term off from teaching to focus on research can make a tremendous difference to a scholar’s progress on a book, article, or dissertation.

We receive many more applications for worthwhile research projects from faculty and graduate students than we can fund each year—we are rarely able to fund even a third of those submitted. Each fellowship requires \$14,000 of funding. If you would like to be a part of the groundbreaking work humanities scholars are doing at the UO, please consider making a gift to the OHC in support of faculty or graduate research fellowships. Please use the enclosed envelope, or contact our colleague Matt Hutter, matth@uoregon.edu or (541) 346-2837.

Thank you!



2016–17 by the numbers

OHC co-sponsored events: 80

OHC lecture attendance: 1,336

UO Today shows taped: 30

Fellowships granted: 23
(17 faculty, 6 graduate)

Work-in-Progress and Books-in-Print talks: 20

Website page views: 18,120
(from 70 countries)

Facebook friends: 386 

Twitter followers: 380 

YouTube subscribers: 710 

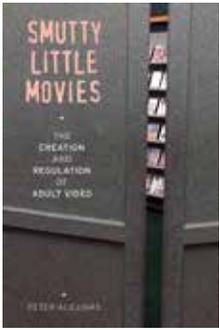
YouTube views: 89,897



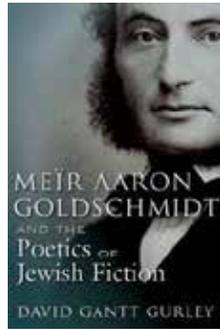
The Oregon Humanities Center’s half-hour television interview program provides a glimpse into the heart of the University of Oregon. Each episode offers viewers a conversation with UO faculty and administrators as well as visiting scholars, authors, and artists whose groundbreaking work is shaping our world.

youtube.com/c/OregonHumanitiesCenter

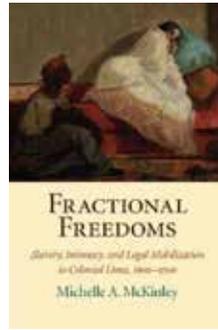
Recent publications supported by the OHC



Peter Alilunas, Journalism and Communication, *Smutty Little Movies: The Creation and Regulation of Adult Video*. University of California Press, 2016. OHC subvention.



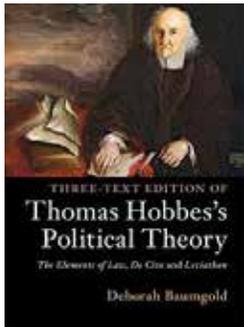
David Gantt Gurley, German and Scandinavian, *Meir Aaron Goldschmidt and the Poetics of Jewish Fiction*. Syracuse University Press, 2016. OHC/CAS subvention; OHC Research Fellow.



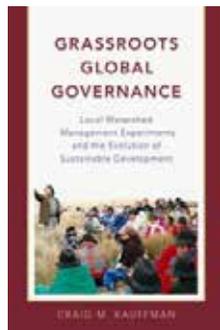
Michelle A. McKinley, Law, *Fractional Freedoms: Slavery, Intimacy, and Legal Mobilization in Colonial Lima, 1600-1700*. Cambridge University Press, 2016. OHC subvention; OHC Research Fellow.



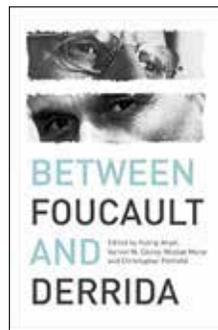
Helen Southworth, Clark Honors College, *Fresca—A Life in the Making: A Biographer's Quest for a Forgotten Bloomsbury Polymath*. Sussex Academic Press, 2017. OHC subvention.



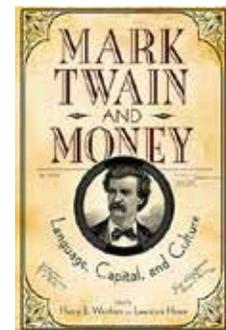
Deborah Baumgold, Political Science, ed., *Three-Text Edition of Thomas Hobbes's Political Theory: The Elements of Law, De Cive and Leviathan*. Cambridge University Press, 2017. OHC/CAS subvention.



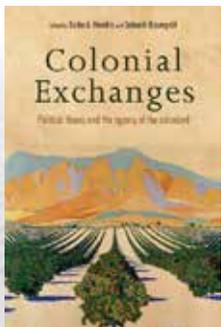
Craig M. Kauffman, Political Science, *Grassroots Global Governance: Local Watershed Management Experiments and the Evolution of Sustainable Development*. Oxford University Press, 2016. OHC/CAS subvention.



Nicolae Morar, Environmental Studies and Philosophy, and **Yubraj Aryal**, **Vernon W. Cisney**, and **Christopher Penfield**, eds., *Between Foucault and Derrida*. Edinburgh University Press, 2016. OHC/CAS subvention.



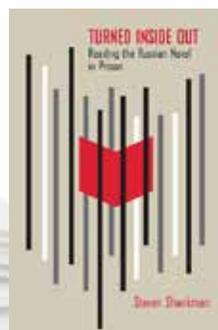
Henry B. Wonham, English, and **Lawrence Howe**, eds./ contributors, *Mark Twain and Money: Language, Capital, and Culture*. University of Alabama Press, 2017. OHC/CAS subvention.



Deborah Baumgold, Political Science, and **Burke A. Hendrix**, eds., *Colonial exchanges: Political theory and the agency of the colonized*. Manchester University Press, 2017.



Bonnie Mann, Philosophy, and **Martina Ferrari**, Philosophy (graduate student), eds., *On ne naît pas femme : on le devient: The Life of a Sentence*. Oxford University Press, 2017. OHC/CAS subvention.



Steven Shankman, English and Classics, *Turned Inside Out: Reading the Russian Novel in Prison*. OHC Research Fellow.



Kristin Yarris, International Studies, *Care Across Generations: Solidarity and Sacrifice in Transnational Families*. Stanford University Press, 2017. OHC/CAS subvention; OHC Research Fellow.



5211 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-5211

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Eugene OR
Permit No. 63

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

This report is available on our website:
ohc.uoregon.edu

If you receive this newsletter through U.S.
Mail and wish to be removed from our mailing
list please let us know. Call (541) 346-3934 or
send an e-mail to: ohc@uoregon.edu



Many thanks to our supporters

It is largely due to the generous support of our friends and donors that the OHC is able to offer free public programs, *UO Today*, and faculty and graduate fellowships. We invite you to learn more about OHC giving opportunities by visiting ohc.uoregon.edu or calling (541) 346-1001. We would like to thank the following individuals and foundations for their support during the 2016–17 fiscal year (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017):

Anonymous
Miriam R. Aiken
Rebecca and Mark Ankeny
Constance M. Berglund
Lola Broomberg
Robert E. Castleberry and Joyce Thomas
Maribeth W. Collins
James L. and Sharon L. Duncan
JoAnn M. and Dennis F. Durfee
Hue-Ping Lin and Richard P. Easley
Greg Edblom
Eleanor A. Ryan and John T. Egan
Margot Fetz
Klaus Galda and Beate Galda
Michael R. Graham
Amanda K. and Alexander D. Haugland
John E. Heintz
Ellen Herman

Marty Ireland
Rita I. and Roger T. Kiley
Kenneth M. Kodama
Susan Whitney Kurtz
Karen Lund
Patrick R. and Elaine M. Maveety
Elizabeth T. Mayer
Duncan L. and Jane McDonald
Herbert J. Merker and Marceline Nuss
Hammock
Lee G. and Mary Jean Michels
J. Anthony and Mary E. Mohr
Vicki L. Morgan and Mike Duran
Kathryn M. and John E. Nelson
Karen J. Nishimura
James M. O'Fallon and Ellen B. Thomas
Mary Jo Delyea O'Fallon
Jill Overley

Steven A. and Jenna Hudson Plasse
Joy Poust
F. Regina Psaki and Marc Vanscheeuwijck
Matthew R. and Ronda M. Roberts
Karen M. Seidel
Steven and Marsha Wells Shankman
Kenneth M. and Kenda Hills Singer
John S. and Catherine M. Smith
John J. Stuhr
Andrew Traisman
James V. and Barbara R. Walker
Daniel F. and Margaret A. Weill
Robert F. and Eveyln Nelson Wulf

Crow Farm Foundation
T J Education Fund of the Oregon
Community Foundation