Asking Questions that Matter...
for 15 years and counting
THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMANITIES RESEARCH (IHR) AT UC SANTA CRUZ IS A LABORATORY FOR THEORIZING AND IMPLEMENTING NEW VISIONS OF THE HUMANITIES VIA FACULTY RESEARCH PROJECTS, GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION, AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS.

Established in 1999, the IHR has grown dramatically since its inception and now serves as an umbrella for a multitude of research centers, research clusters, and multi-campus research projects.

With these and other initiatives, the IHR serves as an incubator for new ideas and provides crucial support to faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students at every stage of the research process. One of our key functions is to identify promising students and help them become productive researchers through mentorship programs, fellowships, and internship opportunities.

As the designated humanities center of UC Santa Cruz, the IHR is a part of the University of California systemwide Humanities Network and is able to leverage the human and intellectual resources of the finest public university system in the world.
As the Director of the Institute for Humanities Research for the past five years, I have been mindful of the legacy I inherited from the institute’s previous Directors, Gail Hershatter and Jorge Hankamer, and I would like to thank them for creating such a strong foundation upon which to build.

This year the IHR is celebrating its fifteen-year anniversary. Since 1999, we have given out 69 fellowships to faculty, 148 to graduate students, 150 to undergraduate students, and have seeded 22 research clusters. Over the past decade and a half, we have grown into a vibrant hub of Humanities research on campus and a model for other Humanities centers in the University of California system. With our help, faculty and students have developed individual and collaborative research projects at the university and numerous sites around the world, with support from the Mellon Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, Fulbright, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, and more.

This year we are launching several new projects that will extend our reach both locally and globally. In September we will be hosting a gathering of scholars and students from partner institutions in Australia, Germany, and Wisconsin to explore the topic of indigeneity. The event will inaugurate the Integrative Graduate Humanities Education and Research Training (IGHERT) program which seeks to re-imagine how we train graduate students in the Humanities. IGHERT is supported by a major grant from the Mellon Foundation and the Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes which was awarded following an international competition. In January I will moderate a dialogue in downtown Santa Cruz on the theme of “Cosmos” with Professors Minghui Hu from the Department of History and Anthony Aguirre from the Department of Physics, which will literally seek to bring the university to the public.

Finally, in 2015, the UC-Santa Cruz will also be celebrating an important anniversary—its fiftieth. We are proud that the university has designated the IHR as one of its giving priorities in the capital campaign. And so, as we turn towards the future, we invite you to join us as we continue to ask questions that matter.

Nathaniel Deutsch
Director
Research & Training

UC SANTA CRUZ HUMANITIES HAS A LONG-STANDING TRADITION OF FOSTERING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE TRAINING AND MENTORSHIP PLAY AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN THE ACADEMIC LIVES OF FACULTY, GRADUATE STUDENTS, AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS.

The IHR maintains this tradition by providing Faculty Fellowships, Graduate Dissertation Fellowships, Graduate Summer Fellowships, and Undergraduate Awards (HUGRA) to faculty and students (ranging in the amount of $500 - $30,000) in the Humanities with much needed time and resources to pursue their research and exercise leadership in the humanities both within UC Santa Cruz and in the public sphere.

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What are the different ways that languages can indicate who is doing an action, and who is on the receiving end? One major strategy involves the order of words, as in languages like English and Spanish. Another involves special endings on nouns, as in languages like Latin and Japanese. With the support of an IHR fellowship, I have been studying the way that noun endings behave in a group of languages ranging from Basque to Nez Perce (a Native American language spoken in Idaho) to Warlpiri (a native language of central Australia). In these languages, noun endings are used in different ways depending on whether or not something is on the receiving end of an action. For example, the word for ‘man’ is different in a sentence meaning ‘The man ran’ versus ‘The man fed the pig’. The IHR fellowship has allowed me to study additional aspects of these languages, revealing some surprising commonalities in sentence structure which correlate with the choice of noun endings. The results, which form the basis of two articles currently in progress, underscore the value of endangered and under-studied languages in casting light on the range of variation in human languages.

The IHR fellowship allowed me to complete three chapters of my first monograph, Late Colonial Sublime: Neo-Epics and the End of Romanticism. This book asks: When and where did Romanticism come to an end? What do its afterlives in various styles of extreme right- and left-wing politics have to say about the significance of this global cultural phenomenon over the course of its history since the 18th century? In seeking to answer these questions, Late Colonial Sublime presents a cultural history of the last “Eastern” moment of Romanticism, focusing on one of the richest genres – the neo-epic – in which this aesthetic took expression over the last decades of colonial rule in India. The arguments are premised on original research in Hindi, Urdu, Persian, Sanskrit, German, French, Spanish, and English sources. In sum, they seek to offer a new translational perspective on what Goethe once called Weltliteratur (World Literature).
JOANNA MEADVIN
SUMMER DISSERTATION FELLOW, LITERATURE
“Anhelos Que Aún No Se Han Realizado: Jewish Immigrants Write Themselves American in the Age of Linguistic Nationalism”

I situate my dissertation at the confluence of the new transnational focus in Jewish studies and the multilingual turn in US literary studies. Working in English, Spanish and Yiddish, I explore the American networks—and imaginings—of Eastern European Jewish immigrants to the US and Argentina (1890-1950). With the help of the IHR Summer Dissertation Fellowship, I traveled to Buenos Aires this summer to read the papers of Alberto Gerchunoff, the “father” of Latin American Jewish literature, at the Ravignani Institute. My findings have made it possible to finish the first chapter of my dissertation and prepare an article for publication.

While in Buenos Aires, I also worked at the IWO institute for Jewish research where I uncovered a treasure of rich materials on Mimi Pinzón—a Jewish Argentine feminist and yiddishist whose work will be the focus of my third chapter.

AMANDA SHUMAN
SUMMER DISSERTATION FELLOW, HISTORY

My dissertation project examines sport and physical culture in Maoist period China, which included not only elite sport, but also extended into everyday society. Sport and physical culture programs, developed initially in the 1950s and inspired by Soviet models, aimed to cultivate ideal socialist citizens who could serve the needs of the socialist nation. Chinese leaders meanwhile sought to use international sport to build foreign relations and mobilize people at home for domestic goals. I trace the rise of sport programs in the PRC alongside transnational relationships in sport, and show how the Chinese leadership questioned the western dominance of international sport by offering its own, alternative models for sports competition.

HEIDI MORSE
IHR YEAR-LONG DISSERTATION FELLOW, LITERATURE

What did nineteenth-century Americans’ reverence for ancient Greece and Rome mean for African Americans? After the Civil War and Emancipation, Americans engaged in contentious debates about the role “the freedman” would play in the newly non-slaveholding republic. Many considered knowledge of the classics, including Greek and Latin languages and rhetoric, a prerequisite to social advancement. But not everyone had access to classical education, especially not black women. By showing how black women adapted cultural legacies of the classics in their everyday lives, including in popular oratory, elementary lessons, neoclassical sculpture, and print periodicals, I argue that “black classicism” was the rule, rather than the exception, in nineteenth-century America.

Thanks to the generous IHR year fellowship, I have been able to accelerate the pace of my research and writing and complete the final two chapters of my dissertation. I have accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan for 2014-15.

NOEL EDWARD SMYTH
IHR YEAR-LONG DISSERTATION FELLOW, HISTORY

The IHR Dissertation Fellowship allowed me the necessary time needed to sort through two years of archival research and to draft my dissertation, “The Natchez Diaspora: A History of Indigenous Displacement and Survival in the Atlantic World”. My dissertation follows the Natchez diaspora from colonial Louisiana to the Caribbean and across the southeastern United States where communities of Natchez live to the present day. This year I presented research drawn from my dissertation at two major conferences: the annual Southern History conference and the 20th annual conference of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Southern History.
UC Santa Cruz Humanities Alum Named 2014 ACLS Public Fellow

CAREER-BUILDING TWO-YEAR FELLOWSHIP PROVIDES $65,000 ANNUALLY FOR RECENT HUMANITIES PH.D.S TO GAIN WORK EXPERIENCE IN THEIR FIELD

UC Santa Cruz humanities alumnus Michael Ursell has been named a 2014 ACLS Public Fellow by the American Council of Learned Societies.

Ursell is one of 20 new ACLS Public Fellows nationwide who will take up two-year assignments in government agencies and non-profit organizations, including the Center for Public Integrity, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the San Francisco Arts Commission.

Designed to expand the reach of doctoral education in the humanities, the career-building fellowship allows recent humanities Ph.D.s to gain significant experience in a variety of fields, including communications, public policy, arts management, and digital media.

“I have always thought that advocacy needed to go hand in hand with humanities research,” Ursell added. “Throughout my Ph.D studies in Literature, I worked with UC Santa Cruz research centers which were models for this. I am happy that a Ph.D in Literature gave me the right mix of flexibility and experience to make this opportunity possible.”

Since completing his graduate work, Ursell has been a Visiting Assistant Professor of Literature at UC Santa Cruz and a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Emory University’s Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry.

“ACLS launched the Public Fellows program in 2011 with a cohort of eight fellows,” Christy noted. “The great demand for the fellowships—among Ph.D.s and employers alike—encouraged us to expand this career-building initiative, and now four years in, the program has placed over 60 fellows with 50 partnering institutions.”

The two-year ACLS Public Fellows program provides an annual stipend of $65,000, plus health insurance.

WRITTEN BY SCOTT RAPPAPORT

I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT ADVOCACY NEEDED TO GO HAND IN HAND WITH HUMANITIES RESEARCH. THROUGHOUT MY PH.D STUDIES IN LITERATURE, I WORKED WITH UC SANTA CRUZ RESEARCH CENTERS WHICH WERE MODELS FOR THIS. I AM HAPPY THAT A PH.D IN LITERATURE GAVE ME THE RIGHT MIX OF FLEXIBILITY AND EXPERIENCE TO MAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY POSSIBLE.

“The diversity of our institutional partnerships, from the American Refugee Committee to Kiva to the Smithsonian, demonstrates just how valuable a humanities Ph.D can be to a wide variety of careers beyond the classroom.”

Ursell—who graduated from UC Santa Cruz in 2011 with a Ph.D in Literature—said he will be working as Program Manager for Zócalo Public Square in Los Angeles.

A project of the Center for Social Cohesion at Arizona State University, Zócalo Public Square is a not-for-profit organization that blends live events and humanities journalism. It partners with educational, cultural, and philanthropic institutions, as well as public agencies, to present free public events and conferences in cities across the U.S. and beyond.

It also publishes original daily journalism that is currently syndicated to 150 media outlets nationwide.

“I’m excited to advocate for the humanities through the ACLS program,” said Ursell. “Zócalo Public Square is a vibrant organization with national reach. This position will give me a chance to participate in conversations about big ideas, ranging from poetry to ecology, from California politics to food fads.”

WRITTEN BY SCOTT RAPPAPORT

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“...”
CHRISTOPHER CHITTY
SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOW, HISTORY OF CONSCIOUSNESS
“After Homosexuality: Cities, War and Capitalism”

KIRAN GARCHA
SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOW, HISTORY
“Beyond Transgressive Pedagogy: A Gendered Analysis of the Black Panther Party’s Oakland Community School”

Evan Grupsmith
SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOW, HISTORY
“Red Tourism in the People’s Republic of China”

Clara Sherley-Appel
SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOW, LINGUISTICS
“Differential Object Marking in Turkish”

Erica Smeltzer
SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOW, LITERATURE
“Urban Space and National Memory: the Narratives of Prague, Gdansk and Berlin”

IHR Summer Fellowships allow graduate Students to travel both nationally and internationally to conduct their research.
Graduate Student in Literature
Awarded Mellon/ACLS Fellowship

ARIANE HELOU, A PH.D. CANDIDATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE, HAS BEEN AWARDED A 2013-14 MELLON/ACLS DISSERTATION COMPLETION FELLOWSHIP FROM THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

Helou’s $30,000 fellowship is one of 64 awarded this year to advanced graduate students “pursuing promising and ambitious Ph.D. research” from 32 universities and more than a dozen humanistic disciplines. Fellows were selected from a pool of nearly 1,000 applicants through a multi-stage peer-review process.

“The fellowship program intervenes at a critical juncture in a scholar’s professional development,” said Matthew Goldfeder, director of fellowship programs at American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS). “It aims to support fellows in the final year of dissertation writing as they improve the project that will form the basis of their early postdoctoral research agenda and publications.”

Helou’s dissertation, “Figures of Voice in Early Modern Europe,” explores theories of vocality in modern and early modern sources, and examines the status of voice as a nexus of lyrical expression, affect, and embodiment in Renaissance poetry, drama, and music.

“I believe strongly in academic work that combines both theory and practice, so in addition to my scholarly research, I am also active in early music performance as a woodwind player and singer, and in theater as a dramaturg and language specialist,” said Helou.

My secondary research field is food studies—food writing and history of gastronomy. I am in the process of putting some of my translations of early modern cookbooks online at renaissancefood.wordpress.com,” she added.

WRITTEN BY SCOTT RAPPAPORT

“Thanks to IHR support in summer 2013, I researched and wrote my dissertation chapter on voice and violence in Shakespeare. I was also able to travel to England to consult research materials at the British Library and to share my research at an international conference on voice in early modern Italy, forging connections with other scholars in a small but growing field of vocal studies. At the same time, I had the opportunity to balance theory with practice, volunteering as a dramaturg and language consultant at Shakespeare Santa Cruz. Most importantly, however, the support of the IHR was instrumental in my success in the Mellon/ACLS fellowship competition, as the IHR fellowship made it possible for me to make significant progress on my research project during the summer.”

ARIANE HELOU, LITERATURE PH.D. CANDIDATE
IGHERT, Indigeneity, and Interdisciplinary Research at UC Santa Cruz

Following an international competition, the Institute for Humanities Research (IHR) at UC Santa Cruz has been selected to participate in a $1.35 million grant awarded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI) on the pilot project, Integrative Graduate Humanities Research Education and Training (IGHERT).

“This pilot project represents an exciting opportunity for UC Santa Cruz doctoral students to conduct their research in an international, collaborative perspective,” said UCSC Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Tyrus Miller, who together with Nathaniel Deutsch, Professor of History and Jewish Studies and Director of the IHR are the principal investigators from UC Santa Cruz.

“Our [UC Santa Cruz] students will receive the mentorship of our network of faculty collaborators and the collegial cooperation of their peers from our partner universities.” The IHR is one of four CHCI member centers and institutes including The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture at Justus Liebig University in Giessen, and the Humanities Research Centre at Australian National University, Canberra that will lead the research through 2016.

UC Santa Cruz boasts a strong history of fostering an environment where interdisciplinary research from both faculty and students is supported. Examples of this interdisciplinary dialogue can be seen through the work of IGHERT fellowship recipients from UC Santa Cruz Ph.D. Candidates Rachel Cypher, Anthropology and Diana Rose, Visual Studies.

“I am so thrilled to have received this IGHERT fellowship. I also look forward to collaborating with fellow scholars in the four IGHERT workshops, which will not only give me new ways to think about my project but will also facilitate an interdisciplinary dialogue that I hope to cultivate as both a student and professor,” Rachel Cypher.

Rachel’s dissertation is entitled “Belonging in the Pampas: Haunted Landscapes, Indigenous Exclusion, and Ecological Imperialism in Argentina.” Her research is, in her words, “Interdisciplinary—linking history, literature, anthropology, and the environmental humanities more generally with studies of indigeneity. I am especially interested in human and nonhuman belonging in the pampas of Argentina.”
"IGHERT will also be a great opportunity to collaborate more closely with faculty and students from other departments on campus and in other institutions to further develop my knowledge on indigenous issues and take advantage of their mentoring to become better scholars in our fields," says fellow Diana Rose.

In Diana’s dissertation titled: “Living Time: Ancient Maya time, Embodiment and Memory,” she is concerned with the notions of time and history-making held by the Ancient Maya. Her study will encourage and expand the discussion of Maya philosophies of time, embodied performances, and strategies for memory-making using visual culture. She eloquently expands on her studies in saying “during my academic studies in Pre-Hispanic Mesoamerican visual culture, I have actively combined the rich historical heritage of the Maya with the issues indigenous people face in the current moment, as they negotiate a voice in communities affected adversely by the forces of globalization.

UC Santa Cruz faculty advisors for IGHERT are Amy Lonetree, Associate Professor of History and Vilashini Cooppan, Associate Professor of Literature. Amy Lonetree is currently working on two research projects- 20th century Ho-Chunk history and survivance through an examination of photographic collections housed in Wisconsin, and an historical study documenting the removal, fostering, and adoption of roughly 25%-35% of Indigenous children in the mid to late 20th century and Vilashini Cooppan has focused her book (2009) Worlds Within, on tracking the changing forms of novels and nations against a long, postcolonial twentieth century.

Throughout the campus’ history, UC Santa Cruz has maintained a rich and active mentor-student relationship and fostered interdisciplinary research and dialogue, and is proud to continue this tradition.

WRITTEN BY SOLMAAZ SARRAF

“I am honored to participate in this visionary project that focuses on the dynamic field of Indigenous studies and offers exciting international collaborative opportunities for graduate students. This program will help establish UC Santa Cruz as an important site to pursue Indigenous studies research and I look forward to the conversations and scholarship inspired by these collaborations.”

AMY LONETREE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND IGHERT MENTOR
Humanities Undergraduate Research Awards (HUGRA)

TAYLOR R. BACKMAN
LITERATURE
“A Global Genealogy to Wallace’s Infinite Jest”

In conducting this research project I thoroughly read secondary sources on Wallace, Cortázar, Puig, and other innovators in fiction to offer a global perspective concerning foundational texts to Wallace’s Infinite Jest. His biggest questions have to do with the genesis of Infinite Jest. Wallace's novel is one of the most important works of the last quarter century and it is for anyone who feels a little lonely in contemporary society and wants to engage in an entertainment that is not designed to be sold to them, but instead, offers a human connection between author and reader.

LISA J. CLARK
PHILOSOPHY
“Knowing When I’m Right: An Evaluation of Arguments for the Selective Permission to Ignore Higher Order Evidence”

I think it’s safe to say that we are all imperfect reasoners. Presumably, we don’t always reason poorly, but even the best of us have reasoned to a conclusion that isn’t well supported by the available evidence, or have been too confident in an otherwise sound belief. My project will consist of an evaluation of arguments for the selective permission to ignore “higher order evidence,” evidence concerning one’s epistemic state with regard to a belief. I think this is an issue that is relevant to anyone engaging in critical self-reflection and my hope is that my project will elucidate and promote what I see to be a necessary and humble response.

NICHOLAS A. GARCIA
HISTORY
“Using Slave Advertisements to Analyze the Intercolonial Slave Trade”

Little is understood about the intercolonial slave trade. My research project seeks to answer certain questions about the intercolonial slave trade by analyzing slave advertisements within colonial era newspapers. I am really thrilled by the idea that I could be breaking new ground on this subject. My research over the longer term, will contribute to the development of the Intercolonial Slave Trade Database that UC Santa Cruz Assistant Professor Gregory O’Malley is developing.
GUY HERSCHMANN
JEWISH STUDIES
"Israel and Turkey: 1955-1967"

Historical literature reveals a profound lacuna in the study and understanding of Israeli-Turkish relations. My research benefits students of Israeli-Turkish foreign policy that do not possess a full account of Israeli-Turkish relations between 1955-1967 and the study of Turkey and Israel that involves two of the world’s great religious traditions: Judaism and Islam. I hope my research might be a contribution to humanistic inquiry more generally.

ABIGAIL KATZ
LINGUISTICS
"Modern Hebrew Nicknames and Phonology"

This project aims to expand on "Nickname Formation in Modern Hebrew (MH)." (Examples of these processes are Yosef -- Yosi and Sara -- Sarale.) The major goals of my research are to investigate -le nicknames further, to explore the restrictions on the forms that can combine with the -le nickname, to understand the processes that create abnormal nicknames in MH, and finally, to make a comparison between truncation patterns in MH and truncation patterns in English. I will gather data from Noam Harel, a UC Santa Cruz undergraduate student from Israel and a native MH speaker, as well as from Oded Lonai, a UC Santa Cruz graduate student and native MH speaker, who has informally agreed to work with me.

TOBIAS O. RUSHING
HISTORY
"The 'Pashtunistan Issue': Problems of Nation Building in Cold War Afghanistan"

In 1953, construction was completed on the Kajaki and Argandab dams in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. The construction, undertaken by the American corporation Knudsen-Morrison, creators of the Hoover Dam and the San Francisco Bay Bridge, was an attempt by the United States to develop Afghanistan’s backward agricultural south to create a modern capitalist buffer state with the Soviet Union.

I will use findings from this project to conduct more research on the Nad-i-Ali and Marja nomadic Pashtun settlements, the Baghdad Pact and Northern Tier Policy, and American dam building projects as a weapon of containment.

PRISCILLA M. SANCHEZ
HISTORY
"More Power Than Leisure: Property, Businesses, and Self-Reliance Among Late Colonial Mexican Elite and Working Women, 1700-1821"

My research project examines the economic power and financial control held by both elite and working-women as they created a sense of self-reliance in colonial Mexico. "More Power Than Leisure" shows that female self-reliance originated from financial control over household economies, and the management of businesses. I draw on primary sources in the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection at the University of Texas, Austin, and the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley which contains a Latin Americana: Mexican and Central American Collection.
SOPHIE SHORT
CLASSICAL STUDIES
“Death and Marriage in the Greco-Roman World”

My topic of research is the comparison of marriage and funerary rites in the ancient Greco-Roman world, specifically patrilocal marriage as a symbolic death for young women, as well as the death of a virgin being seen as a symbolic marriage to Hades. I look into whether parallels between funeral rites and marriage rites in ancient Greece are as present in different localities and eras within the Greek world, such as in Sparta or Hellenistic Egypt. Furthermore, in my research I will determine whether or not these themes are also present in Latin literature and Roman art.

MICHAEL A. TITONE
LINGUISTICS
“The Semantics of Nothing If Not Constructions”

My project investigates the semantics of nothing if not constructions, constructions of the form "x is nothing if not P." I use a combination of experimental and formal methods to determine whether or not these constructions ought to be given a compositional semantic analysis. If they should be, this may provide a new perspective on if-clause semantics.

Samantha N. Vega
POLITICS
*BERTHA N. MELKONIAN PRIZE RECIPIENT
“Remembering Their Finest Hour: Danish Memories of the Miraculous Rescue of Jews During World War II”

This is a fascinating historical event as Denmark was the only European country to save virtually all of its Jews from deportation by German forces to extermination camps, evacuating nearly 8,000 Danish Jews to safety in nearby neutral Sweden. Danes often regard this momentous rescue as “the finest hour in Danish history;” furthermore, many assert that the rescue is “emblematic of Danish values of democracy and inclusion.” I investigate how Danish collective memory compares to written historical documentation of the rescue of Danish Jews.
Constructing Meaning Out of Silence

THIS IS THE MYSTERY OF ELLIPSIS. WHY DO WE DEPLOY ELABORATE GRAMMATICAL MECHANISMS TO AVOID SAYING EXPLICITLY WHAT WE AIM TO EXPRESS? AND WHY DO WE THEREFORE IMPOSE ON THOSE WE ARE COOPERATING WITH IN CONSTRUCTING A DISCOURSE, THE UNENVIOUS TASK OF HAVING TO CONSTRUCT MEANING OUT OF SILENCE?

The fact that we work so hard to avoid it in our ordinary speech and writing is very mysterious, but we do. We do in every language, in every language-family, and language-type. Somehow if we say out-loud explicitly what we really mean, the result strikes us as awkward and ugly.

And that’s what ellipsis is - we go silent rather than risk a repetition.

For example, in English we say:

“Although you don’t have to avoid salt, you should...”

When what we really mean is:

“Although you don’t have to avoid salt, you should avoid salt.”

This kind of ellipsis is sort of rare (when a whole verb phrase goes missing) and not many languages other than English have that option in their grammars; other kinds of ellipsis though are extremely common across languages. This one for instance:

“The university has to change, but in what ways [the university has to change] is not clear.”

The Santa Cruz Ellipsis Consortium, a research cluster of the Institute for Humanities Research (IHR) at UC Santa Cruz, has been formed as a collaboration among faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students in the language sciences whose purpose is to deepen understanding of one of the most pervasive and mysterious aspects of human language — that of ellipsis.

The Santa Cruz Ellipsis Consortium is focusing on the development of a new research resource: a richly annotated database of naturally occurring instances of ellipsis. This database will be freely available to researchers around the globe who are trying to understand ellipsis and what its implications might be for our understanding of the nature of human language in general.

Associate Professor of Linguistics Pranav Anand, who together with Professor Jim McCloskey leads the cluster, emphasizes the importance of undergraduate student annotators in the group’s research.

“Whatever we’ve accomplished so far was the result of our undergraduate annotators. We couldn’t have done the initial pilot without them. There is a real sense in which annotators are co-researchers, especially in this first stage,” states Pranav Anand.

The research is conducted in the Linguistics Research Center labs at UC Santa Cruz, which provide an atmosphere and an infrastructure for carrying out research, holding lab meetings, running subjects, and constructing and analyzing data.

Pranav Anand speaks to the importance of the labs in saying “all lab space is usable by everyone, something quite rare in research laboratory space. And it means that we make decisions from a much broader coalition.”

UC Santa Cruz Alumni (undergraduate and graduate) who now work in the tech industry emphasize that the kind of detailed annotation of linguistically-interesting phenomena that the cluster is engaged in is precisely what linguists are being hired for right now, and that being involved in a large, ambitious project like the Santa Cruz Ellipsis Consortium provides students with real-world experience in the kind of work they may find themselves doing after graduation.

WRITTEN BY SOLMAAZ SARRAF
A primary focus of the IHR, since its inception in 1999, is to serve as an umbrella for a multitude of research centers, research clusters, and multi-campus research projects. With these and other initiatives, the IHR serves as an incubator for new ideas and provides crucial support to faculty and students at every stage of the research process. The IHR is proud to boast, after 15 years, that it has administered 11 centers, founded 22 clusters, and contributed to the development of 17 projects and initiatives—and the numbers keep growing.

2013-2014 CLUSTERS
Affect Working Group
Complicated Labor
Critical Race and Ethnic Studies
Crisis in the Cultures of Capitalism
Philosophy in a Multicultural Context
Santa Cruz Ellipsis Consortium
Shakespeare Workshop
Working Group on the Study of Children

2013-2014 CENTERS & PROJECTS
Center for Ancient Studies
Center for Cultural Studies
Center for Jewish Studies
Center for Labor Studies
Center for Mediterranean Studies
Center for the Study of Pacific War Memories
Dickens Project
Mortality: Facing Death in Ancient Greece
Sikh and Punjabi Studies
UC Presidential Chair in Feminist Critical Race and Ethnic Studies

COLLABORATIONS
SINCE 1999
11 CENTERS
22 CLUSTERS
17 PROJECTS
Professor Karen Bassi

LAST YEAR, UC SANTA CRUZ RECEIVED A GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH) TO UNDERTAKE A SUMMER INSTITUTE INVESTIGATING THE HISTORY OF MORTALITY IN ANCIENT GREEK CULTURE.

Directed by Professor of Classics and Literature Karen Bassi—a specialist in ancient Greek literature and history—the four-week institute kicked off last week in Athens, Greece.

Titled Mortality: Facing Death in Ancient Greece, the program brings college and university teachers together with graduate students and experts to examine material from a broad range of ancient Greek literary sources, archaeological remains, and historical periods.

Why study mortality in ancient Greece?

“The topic of the Institute is framed by the Promethean conundrum that humans know they will die but must nevertheless go on living,” Bassi explained.

“We are investigating the link between the quality of one’s life and the contemplation of one’s death in ancient Greece, with an eye to its relevance for comparative study across cultures, disciplines, and historical periods,” Bassi noted.

The participants are taking guided tours of Athens’ museums; the ancient Kerameikos cemetery and museum, with its extensive collection of burial-related artifacts; and the ancient Athenian agora, which began as a cemetery before becoming the marketplace and political center of the city in the 7th century BCE.

Next week they are planning to visit the Peloponnesus to visit sites that have direct relevance to the lectures and seminars, including the sanctuary and temple of the healing god Asclepius at Epidaurus and the monumental gravesites at Mycenae.

They will also be attending a performance of Aeschylus’ Prometheus Bound at the ancient theater of Epidaurus.

Bassi is the recipient of a University of California President’s Fellowship in the Humanities and an Associate Research Fellow at Harvard’s Center for Hellenic Studies.

She received her B.A. in Classics from UC Santa Cruz in 1980 and her Ph.D. in Classics from Brown University in 1987.

Bassi joined the UC Santa Cruz faculty in 1989. She was recently chair of the Literature Department (2008 to 2012) and has been director of the Classics program, and director of the Educational Abroad Program in the Netherlands.

Her interest in the history of mortality stems from her latest book project, currently titled Seeing the Past/Reading the Past: Classics Between Archaeology and History.

The NEH Institute is sponsored by the UC Santa Cruz Institute for Humanities Research in collaboration with the Athens Centre, The American School of Classical Studies, The Canadian Institute in Greece, and The Centre for Hellenic Studies in Nafplion.

WRITTEN BY SCOTT RAPPAPORT

Studying Death in Ancient Greece

The topic of the Institute is framed by the Promethean conundrum that humans know they will die but must nevertheless go on living.
Professor Alan Christy gave an ED Talk “Humanities Today: The Transformational Power of Student-Centered Learning” in October 2013 on The Gail Project, a research project of the Center for the Study of Pacific War Memories (CSPWM).

The CSPWM was founded in 2006 to support a variety of projects arising out of the History Department at UC Santa Cruz with the premier goal of promoting truly collaborative and truly transnational research into the legacies of the Asia Pacific War in the Pacific region across the 60 years since the end of the World War II.

In an introduction to the ED Talks, Santa Cruz Major, Hilary Bryant noted Professor Christy as “a gifted teacher who avoids pre-packaged history, instead he provides primary source documents and encourages students to take charge.”

UC Santa Cruz history students, together with Professor Christy have been developing The Gail Project - inspired by historical photos taken by Charles Gail, an army dentist and avid photographer who used much of his free time to take pictures of the landscape, people, and daily life of Okinawa, Japan. These photos were generously donated to the UC Santa Cruz Library’s Special Collections.

The Gail Project is taking place in three stages – interviewing veterans assigned to Okinawa during the Korean War, teaming up with researchers and publishers in Okinawa to show the photographs as widely as possible, and showing the photographs with the new script at exhibition spaces in Hawai’i, and the west coast of the United States.

Professor Christy expresses his enthusiasm for this hands-on project - stating, “Instead of giving students a textbook or lecturing at them about Okinawan history, I am inviting them to generate their own understanding of history out of primary sources...they learn that historical thinking is linked to a wide range of professions and activities and that it can impact the world, and that they can change the world.”
In the 2013-14 Academic Year, the UC Santa Cruz Center for Labor Studies (CLS) presented two events as part of the series ‘Labor Across the Food System.’

The first event held on October 21, 2013, a talk titled “Stagnant Immigrant Social Networks and Cycles of Exploitation” was given by Rocio Rosales, a Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellow in the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies at the University of California, San Diego.

On October 28, 2013, Saru Jayaraman, director of the Food Labor Research Center at UC Berkeley and co-Founder of the Restaurant Opportunities Centers United (ROC United) also gave a talk titled “Behind the Kitchen Door in Santa Cruz and Across America.”

The CLS continues to bring together scholars, students, staff, and community members interested in the study of working people, the labor movement, and the challenges of a globalizing economy in California and beyond – yet another example of UC Santa Cruz’s commitment to fostering interdisciplinary research, as participants include faculty and students on campus from Politics, History, Latin American and Latino/a Studies, Film + Digital Media, and Sociology.

Still image from Behind the Kitchen Door book trailer

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16 OCT | Center for Cultural Studies

21 OCT | Center for Labor Studies
Rocio Rosales: “Stagnant Immigrant Social Networks and Cycles of Exploitation”

17 OCT | Ed Talks: Local Roots, Global Impact
Alan Christy: “Humanities Today: The Transformational Power of Student-Centered Learning”

23 OCT | Center for Cultural Studies
Jennifer Derr: “Embodied Politics and Bilharzia Infection in Colonial Egypt”

23 OCT | UC Presidential Chair in Feminist Critical Race and Ethnic Studies
Gihan Abou Zeid: “Egyptian Women in Stuggle: Then and Now”

25 OCT | UC Presidential Chair in Feminist Critical Race and Ethnic Studies
“Free Angela and All Political Prisoners” Film Screening and Discussion

28 OCT | Center for Labor Studies
Saru Jayaraman: “Behind the Kitchen Door in Santa Cruz and Across America”

29 OCT | Center for Cultural Studies, Literature & the UCSC Emeriti Group
Helene Moglen: “From Frankenstein to Facebook: Reflections on the Dissolution of the Humanities”

30 OCT | Center for Cultural Studies
Clare Monagle: “Neo-medievalism and the Postcolonial: International Relations Theory and Temporality”
Founded in the spring of 1988 as a part of the University of California’s President’s Humanities Initiative, the Center for Cultural Studies at UC Santa Cruz continues to provide a crucial interdisciplinary space for scholars (both within and outside of UCSC) to share their work among colleagues across the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

The Center for Cultural Studies weekly colloquium series for the 2013-14 academic year showcased yet again how crucial the Center is for generating intellectual conversations, fostering interdisciplinary engagements, facilitating ongoing relationships between faculty and graduate students across the disciplines and earning UCSC a national and international reputation. With audience attendance of no less than thirty and often exceeding the number of seats available, we were proud to support the work of UCSC faculty from a range of disciplines including History of Consciousness, Anthropology, History, Literature, Sociology and Film and Digital Media. The Center of Cultural Studies also enjoys a national and international reputation that has been built and sustained over its twenty-five year history. In the past year we have hosted scholars from the University of Chicago, Michigan and New York as well from Australia, the United Kingdom and Denmark. As we prepare for the colloquium series for Fall 2014 we are confident that the Center for Cultural Studies will continue to promote the intellectual space, dynamic interdisciplinary conversations and cutting-edge research that have long defined Humanities scholarship at UCSC. 

Attendees at Daniel Selden colloquium, "Our Films, Their Films: Postcolonial Critique of the Cinematic Apparatus"
The UC Presidential Chair for Feminist Critical Race and Ethnic Studies is a collaborative project joining Feminist Studies and the newly minted Critical Race and Ethnic Studies program. Integrating theoretical and political models in which race, class, gender, and sexuality are coequal analytical categories, this initiative bridges scholarship across academic divisions and supports interdisciplinary studies of histories of inequality, discrimination, gender and racial violence, and social movements for justice, equality and representation.

This academic year, we helped to initiate and fully fund two major events: a two-day conference, Undisciplining Feminism: Formations in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies and a one-day symposium, Gender, Region, Slavery. In addition, we initiated and funded: a talk by Egyptian human rights activist, journalist, and author, Gihan Abou Zeid, “Egyptian Women in Struggle: Then and Now;” a “Food for Thought” presentation by Professor of Feminist Studies, Bettina Aptheker entitled, “The Meaning of Freedom of Speech: Surveillance, Incarceration & the Politics of the First Amendment,” and a screening of the film documentary by directorwriter Shola Lynch, Free Angela & All Political Prisoners; followed by a Q&A with co-chief council for the Davis defense, Howard Moore, and Professor Aptheker.

Additionally, we have been pleased to cosponsor numerous events across campus and to promote several key conferences and symposia, including the keynote presentation by author Ursula Le Guin for the conference Anthropocene: Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet and the graduate symposium, Doing Critical Race and Ethnic Studies in a Neoliberal Age. All of these events were well-attended, often with packed audiences and the enthusiastic participation of students and faculty across divisions and disciplines.

The UC Presidential Chair also sponsored a course by Carolyn Dunn, “Native American Women Writers,” in the Literature Department, and co-sponsored Joy Harjo, with Living Writers. Dr. Dunn was also Director of the American Indian Resource Center at UC Santa Cruz, and Harjo is one of the most important of contemporary Native American poets and novelists.
Crisis in the Cultures of Capitalism Research Cluster presents:

THE Origins of Civil Society

2/6 Kathi Weeks: “The Problem with Work: Feminism, Marxism, Antiwork Politics and Postwork Imaginaries”
3/6 Michael Perelman: “Primitive Accumulation: From Adam Smith to Angela Merkel”

"The interdisciplinary nature of our cluster’s research, and the pressing social importance of the questions it raises, have laid the foundation for a robust program, which has the potential to expand and encompass new projects for events, publications, curricular development, and public partnerships."

ROBERT CAVOORIS, HISTORY OF CONSCIOUSNESS PH.D. CANDIDATE
Working w/Shakespeare

“The public wants to know Shakespeare, talk about Shakespeare, play with Shakespeare,” remarked Sean Keilen, Porter College Provost and Associate Professor of Literature, when discussing what prompted him to lead the research cluster Shakespeare Workshop. “In this community, we don’t have to make the argument that people should spend time with Shakespeare. They already want him! It’s a great boom for the public mission of the arts and humanities at this university.”

Shakespeare Workshop, a research cluster of the Institute for Humanities Research (IHR) was established in order to launch new collaborations between faculty and students in the Literature and Theater Arts Departments. “Shakespeare is a golden opportunity to bring the Humanities and Arts Divisions at UC Santa Cruz closer together,” said Sean Keilen. What began as a reading group focused on research and teaching in Literature and Theater Arts became, by the end of its first year, a series of events in which faculty and students from UC Santa Cruz and other campuses discussed topics of common interest with local artists and members of the public, using Shakespeare’s works as a point of reference.

Sean Keilen was very enthusiastic about this development, reflecting that “the research cluster became something very special at the moment when our interdisciplinary dialogue became a shared commitment to bringing the arts and humanities to the community through Shakespeare. That’s the point at which the different interests and aspirations of the cluster’s members converged, and we started to do great things together.”

Professor Keilen led the cluster and organized two public events and a workshop-based conference.

The first public event, “Shakespeare + ASL” was a performance and discussion of a translation of Shakespeare’s Sonnets into American Sign Language, featuring the DC-based artists Monique Holt and Tim Chamberlain. More than 100 people including UC Santa Cruz faculty and students, local high school teachers, and families with hearing impaired children attended.

The next event was a film screening of Caesar Must Die, a 2012 film about an inmate production of Julius Caesar in Rome’s Rebibbia Prison. The screening was attended primarily by UC Santa Cruz affiliates and the discussion was led by Emily Sloan-Pace, a graduate of the doctoral program in Literature at UC Santa Cruz who is now working as a dramaturg for San Quentin Shakespeare and Santa Cruz Shakespeare and teaching in the Literature Department at UC Santa Cruz.

“Working w/Shakespeare,” the culminating event of the cluster’s first year, took shape as three workshops about The Winter’s Tale.

The first workshop, on acting, was led by Mike Ryan, co-Artistic Director of Santa Cruz Shakespeare; the second workshop, on theater design, was led by Kate Edmunds, Professor of Theater Arts at UC Santa Cruz, and Sean Keilen led the third workshop, which focused on teaching and writing about Shakespeare. “Working w/Shakespeare” was attended by faculty and graduate students at UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, UCLA, and UC Irvine and by members of the Santa Cruz community.

Encouraged by the success of its first year, Shakespeare Workshop is planning three events for 2014-15: a conference about Shakespeare programs in American prisons, a new performance of Shakespeare in ASL, and a symposium about music in Shakespeare, which will be held in conjunction with the visit of the Baltimore Consort to UC Santa Cruz.
During the 2013-2014 academic year, the Center for Jewish Studies sponsored a series of events that illuminate one of the paradoxes of Jewish history: Jews have found themselves, in certain periods of that history, confined to closely restricted spaces, and yet they have also played crucial roles as pioneers and pacemakers in the world-wide process of development we now call globalization.

This year, for example, the Center co-sponsored a summer workshop on the Venice Ghetto at the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem. With the participation of Professor Murray Baumgarten, and two UC Santa Cruz graduate students in Literature–fellowship recipients Shawna Vesco and Katie Trostel–the workshop examined how the paradox of spatial confinement coupled with global diaspora began with Venice, and continued to shape paradigmatic Jewish spaces for half a millennium after the establishment of the Ghetto in 1516.

Steven Zipperstein of Stanford University explored the paradox of spatial confinement and global radiation from a different angle: delivering the Center’s annual Helen Diller Family Endowment Distinguished Lecture in Jewish Studies, he asked “How the 1903 Kishinev Pogrom Changed Jewish History.” How could an event in an isolated Jewish border town in the Russian Empire capture headlines in Western newspapers, with reverberations that ranged from America to Palestine?

From micro-histories of ghettos and camps to the macro-history of the global Jewish diaspora, the Center’s activities continued its dual mission of crossing boundaries and building bridges within the rapidly evolving universe of modern humanistic scholarship.

In an event co-sponsored by Jewish Studies, Morris Ratner of the UC Hastings College of the Law presented a lecture to an overflowing audience on his groundbreaking work as a litigator, prosecuting Holocaust-era private law claims against Swiss, German, Austrian, and French entities that profited from Nazi atrocities by retaining dormant bank accounts, failing to pay on life insurance policies, and profiting from slave labor.
The Dickens Project is a multi-campus research consortium composed of over 40 colleges and universities from around the world. Founded in 1981 and centered at UC Santa Cruz, the Project promotes collaborative research on Dickens and the Victorian age and disseminates research findings through annual conferences, institutes, and publications. It supports the professional development of graduate students and produces curricular material for teaching Victorian literature at both secondary and post-secondary levels.

The Project’s annual summer gathering, the “Dickens Universe,” brings together distinguished scholars, teachers, undergraduates, and members of the general public for a week of intensive study and Dickensian festivity, centered on a single Dickens novel. In 2014, the Universe focused on Dickens’s last completed novel, *Our Mutual Friend*. In lectures and small discussion groups, and with the aid of films and dramatic performances, Universe participants explored different facets of this large unruly text. Lectures examined the novel’s complex and contradictory attitude toward money, its portrayal of marriage and disability, its treatment of material culture, and its investigation of the fragile boundary between life and death. Other highlights of the program included presentations on the history of the river Thames and on Victorian taxidermy. The Universe concluded with a Victorian ball featuring live music and dance instruction.

**22 JAN | Center for Cultural Studies**
Rebecca Karl: “Economics, Culture, and Historical Time: A 1930s Chinese Critique”

29 JAN | Center for Cultural Studies
Mayanthi Fernando: “Improper Intimacies, or the Cunning of Secularism”

30 JAN | Center for Jewish Studies
North French Hebrew Miscellany with Gildas Hamel and Sharon Kinoshita

30 JAN | The Dickens Project
An Evening with the UCSC Dickens Project
Complicated Labor, a research cluster of the IHR led by UC Santa Cruz faculty Micah Perks, Professor of Literature / Creative Writing Program, Irene Lusztig, Associate Professor of Film + Digital Media, and Megan Moodie, Assistant Professor of Anthropology is an interdisciplinary collaboration that brings together artists and scholars around questions of feminism, maternity, and creative process and has, over the course of 2013-14, maintained a visible and active presence on campus.

Multiple events were organized around the cluster, including a well-attended symposium, an on-campus screening of Irene Lusztig’s film The Motherhood Archives together with the Center for Documentary Arts and Research, and a screening of the documentary film After Tiller, which was co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood to bring together an unusually diverse, mixed audience of campus and community members.

Complicated Labor raised over $6000 in addition to the $5000 awarded by IHR in 2013-14 alone and continues to create events that bring Santa Cruz community members to campus.

“Every day, people struggle to do work they find meaningful, including providing care not only to children, but to the elderly and disabled, and to sick friends. We want to open up questions about this work via art, film, performance, writing, and scholarship.

We want to host this conversation because feminism is not about whether highly educated women can “have it all” but about fundamental questions of social justice.”

MICAH PERKS, PROFESSOR OF LITERATURE AND CO-PI OF COMPLICATED LABOR
The Center for Ancient Studies supports the community of scholars, students, and the general public both in and near Santa Cruz who take an interest in antiquity. Programming and research emphasize the many different histories and cultures of the ancient world, the relationships among them, and the place of these antiquities in the modern world.

The most visible activity of the Center is its ongoing lecture series on “Archaeology and the Ancient World.” These lectures reflect the diversity of the ancient world, and demonstrate the many scholarly approaches to it. Lectures are intended to be of interest to the research community of UC Santa Cruz, but also reach out to the educated public. Topics have ranged from ancient China to India, to Greece and Rome, from Africa to Meso-America.

In the past year Professor Nick Cahill of the University of Wisconsin at Madison spoke on recent explorations of “The City of Sardis” in Lydia (now in Turkey). Professor Marjorie Venit of the University of Maryland lectured on “Strangers in a Strange Land: Negotiating the Afterlife in Greek Tombs in Graeco-Roman Egypt.” Christopher Krebs of Stanford University spoke on the modern reception of Tacitus’ ethnography of the Germans: “What Makes Books Dangerous?” Yiqun Zhou of Stanford gave a fourth talk, a comparative treatment of ancient China and ancient Greece, entitled “Helen and the Chinese Femmes Fatales.”

Illustration from Charles Hedrick’s current book project on the reception of ancient Greece in modern China.
In its fourth year, the UC Multicampus Research Project (MRP) continued its highly successful core program of three interdisciplinary workshop-conferences drawing scholars from across the UC system and beyond. Topics for 2013-2014 were “Translation” (Fall), “Minorities” (Winter), and “Connectivities” (Spring), highlighting modes of interaction among linguistic, religious, and ethnic communities.

The Fall 2013 event, held at UC Berkeley’s Townsend Center for the Humanities, exemplifies the scope of our activities. The Friday workshop featured works-in-progress by three junior scholars, on Arabic as a language of social and cultural prestige among Jewish communities of medieval Iberia and southern France; the eighteenth-century French interest in the Turkish “Republic of Letters”; and the role of translation in the literary renaissance in nineteenth-century Egypt. The keynote lecture by Karla Mallette (Michigan), “The Cosmopolitan Language as Literary Medium,” provided a perfect transition to Saturday’s one-day conference, featuring ten presentations on cases from Arabic, Armenian, French, Greek, Latin, Spanish, and Turkish. Attendees came from departments of Art History, Classics, History, Literature (English, French, Italian, Spanish), and Religious Studies. The MRP also funded research by 14 UC scholars on topics ranging from a medieval Byzantine alchemical manual to Greek and Turkish popular culture of the 1960s.
Graduate student in history wins Fulbright Award

BENJAMIN PIETRENKA, A PH.D CANDIDATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, HAS BEEN AWARDED A 2014-2015 FULBRIGHT IIE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP.

He will travel to Berlin, Halle, Herrnhut, and Göttingen, Germany for one year to conduct archival research for his dissertation project on a small group of early modern German Protestants called the Moravian Brethren.

Focusing on Moravian correspondence, personal diaries, spiritual memoirs, and poetic literature, Pietrenka will study how common Moravian believers facilitated a transatlantic sense of individual and collective identity, which consequently produced common understandings of race, gender, and sexuality that differed, often quite extensively, from both the religious and secular leaders of Moravian communities, Germans in Europe, and British colonists in North America and the Caribbean.

His critical engagement with the historical issues of social identity and religious radicalism will yield a deeper understanding of how marginalized ethnic and religious groups in America affect mainstream culture and adapt in spaces they consider foreign.

WRITTEN BY SCOTT RAPPAPORT
The Working Group on the Study of Children was formed in 2013-2014 to bring together faculty and graduate students working on the study of children across divisions and disciplines in the university. The group set out to explore how different disciplinary accountings of children and childhood might intersect in challenging and fruitful ways.

Pursuing readings across fields of psychology, philosophy, anthropology, and history revealed shared questions as well as distinctive methodological approaches. In addition to stimulating conversations about research underway at UC Santa Cruz, the group brought two noted scholars to campus, including Mary Niall Mitchell, a historian at the University of New Orleans. Her talk told the story of Mary Botts, a child whose widely-circulated portrait helped spur nineteenth century abolitionists, in part because her apparent whiteness seemed irreconcilable with her enslaved status.

The talk, which attracted a lively audience, generated good discussion about the tension between the sentimentalization of children and their exposure to profound risk. Mitchell also led a research colloquium for graduate students and faculty focused on the methodological challenges of studying children. The wide-ranging conversation particularly focused on the value of fiction and visual culture in reconstructing the historical values attached to childhood.

"Working with colleagues who approach the study of children with a completely different methodological toolkit, notably talking with living children rather than parsing the archival traces historical ones have left behind, raised important questions for me about the larger stakes of the research scholars pursue. It pushed me to think about the potential implications of uncovering how ideas about children have evolved in the ongoing struggle to mitigate the vulnerability so many face as a consequence of poverty, violence, and discrimination."

CATHERINE JONES, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY
Philosophy in a Multicultural Context, a research cluster of the IHR currently in its second year of activities, explores both the impact of multiculturalism on philosophical methodology and the use of philosophical tools for understanding the promises and challenges of multiculturalism.

The focus of the second year (2013-14) was “Genomics and Philosophy of Race” and the cluster held three events: Two workshops (Stanford in the Fall, UC Davis in the Winter) and one public conference (UC Santa Cruz in the Spring).

UC Santa Cruz Associate Professor of Philosophy, Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther led the cluster, and cluster members and participants of all events were drawn from four UC campuses (Berkeley, Davis, San Diego, and Santa Cruz) as well as Stanford University, the University of San Francisco, and Google.

Cluster member Noah Rosenberg, Professor of Biology at Stanford University expresses his enthusiasm - having attended all three events stating, “The Genomics & Philosophy of Race meetings have helped me and other population geneticists to understand how other communities see some of our research on human genetic variation. The conversations during the three meetings have influenced my thinking, surely contributing to what I think will ultimately be seen as a significant event in this area: the publication of a group letter in the New York Times Book Review against the misrepresentation and misappropriation of the field of population genetics in the problematic book A Troublesome Inheritance.”

This group letter in the New York Times was co-written by 5 professors, including two members of the cluster, Noah Rosenberg and Rasmus Nielsen of UC Berkeley.

Philosophy in a Multicultural Context discussed six themes: (1) concepts of race, (2) mathematical modeling of human history and population structure, (3) data and technologies of human genomics, (4) biological reality of race, (5) racialized selves in a global context, and (6) pragmatic and political consequences of ‘race talk’ among biologists.
A major goal of Sikh and Punjabi Studies at UC Santa Cruz is to support research and teaching on the global Sikh community in the context of multiculturalism and globalization. Professor Nirvikar Singh, Sarbjit Singh Aurora Chair in Sikh and Punjabi Studies, has regularly taught a class he designed, “Introduction to the Sikhs,” which focuses on these themes. The class attracts a diverse enrollment and includes a field trip to the San Jose Gurdwara, giving students first-hand cross-cultural experience. Professor Singh is working toward integrating this class into the new Critical Race and Ethnic Studies major. Through a second endowment, the Guru Nanak Heritage Fund, an introductory Punjabi language class has been taught three summers in a row, in San Jose, reaching out to the community.

Building on an international conference, (Re-)Building Punjab, co-organized by Professor Singh and Dr. Inderjit Kaur, Advisor to Sikh and Punjabi Studies, Professor Singh gave a public lecture and a conference keynote address, both at Punjabi University, Patiala, on tackling the deep problems of Punjab’s economy. He also gave a public lecture at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar on Sikh Studies in Western academia, highlighting asymmetries in the cross-cultural production of knowledge.

Complementing these international connections, the Sikh Student Association held a very successful “Turban Day” on campus, educating the campus about Sikh identity.
AFFECT WORKING GROUP

Affect is a term used in psychology and the study of emotion. It has also recently migrated into other areas of study: animal ethology, the study of Artificial Intelligence and online gaming, the Arts and Humanities. The Affect Working Group focuses on the felt dimensions of social life, drawing from the many disciplines developing methods for thinking about feeling.

In 2013-14, Deborah Gould (Sociology) and Carla Freccero (Literature, History of Consciousness, Feminist Studies) invited renowned affect scholar Lauren Berlant, to present a paper at the Center for Cultural Studies noontime colloquium series and to lead a faculty-graduate student seminar on a book she co-authored with Lee Edelman called Sex, or the Unbearable. Professor Berlant visited on May 7, 2014.

Through interpretations of works of cinema, photography, critical theory, and literature, Berlant and Edelman explore what it means to live with negativity, with those divisions that may be irreparable. Together, they consider how such negativity affects politics, theory and intimately felt encounters.

Professor Lauren Berlant

Lauren Berlant is a George M. Pullman Distinguished Service Professor of English at the University of Chicago. She is the author of Cruel Optimism, The Female Complaint, and The Queen of America Goes to Washington City, both published by Duke University Press. Her Cultural Studies talk was “On Being in Life Without Wanting the World: On Biopolitics and the Attachment to Life.” The talk addressed a shattered, yet intelligible zone defined by being in life without wanting the world—a state traversing misery and detachment that is well-known to historically structurally subordinated people (people of color, of non-normative sexuality, proletarianized laborers). Reading with Claudia Rankine (Don’t Let Me Be Lonely), the novel and film of A Single Man (Christopher Isherwood, 1964; Tom Ford, 2009), and Harryette Mullen (Sleeping with the Dictionary (2002), it describes life at the limit of optimism in terms of a dissociative poetics.

After the seminar, the Affect Research Cluster held a catered dinner at the Oakes Provost House with faculty and graduate student guests from across the university (Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences and Engineering) that included the Dean of Humanities as well.
Over the past two years, with IHR support, CRES has mounted programming aimed at articulating a vision, at once campus-specific and in conversation with critical directions in the larger field of ethnic studies.

Continuing its exceptionally successful 2012-13 speaker series, CRES inaugurated its line-up of events for the 2013-14 year with a seminar and a program-building discussion led by Joanne Barker, Professor of American Indian Studies at San Francisco State and a major theorist of indigeneity. During her visit, Professor Barker delivered a lecture, “In Debt: A Reconsideration of ‘Race, Empire, and the Crisis of the Subprime’ from Manna-Hata,” that focused on the violence of territorial expansion, resource destruction and extraction, labor exploitation, and debt as past and present depredations upon Native peoples within the United States. Her visit was invaluable in shaping CRES discussions about the centrality of indigeneity to the CRES program.

The CRES Cluster also co-sponsored a lecture titled “Perishment: Thoughts on Blackness and the Human/Animal Distinction” by Sharon Holland, Professor of American Studies at UNC Chapel Hill and a renowned scholar of feminist, queer, and critical race studies. Drawing upon her most recent book project, Perishment, Professor Holland’s theoretically provocative talk opened with German philosopher Martin Heidegger’s notion that humans “die” while animals “perish” and read across a spectrum of cultural texts preoccupied with the human/animal distinction. This past spring, in close collaboration with the CRES Student Working Group, the CRES Cluster organized a two-day symposium, “Doing Critical Race and Ethnic Studies in a Neoliberal Age.” Our goal was to bring CRES into dialog with social justice advocates and community organizers, with an eye to exploring program ties to a spectrum of community organizations. Speakers from campus, local, and Bay Area organizations took part in sessions on the prison industrial complex and the public university; militarization, criminalization, racial and sexual violence; and political education and activist knowledges. On the first day, roughly 130 people attended.

By furnishing a site of collective critical inquiry and a forum in which field-forming scholarship could be presented to a larger campus audience, the cluster has been vital in enriching and nurturing the campus-wide initiative to realize an institutional home for CRES at UC Santa Cruz. At the end of the 2013-14 year—we, the principal investigators, are pleased to report—UC Santa Cruz inaugurated the CRES B.A. program, a historic first for this campus.
Greening the IHR

IHR Event Coordinator, Evin Guy, launched the Humanities Green Team in Fall 2013 together with members of staff Tony Grant, Humanities Space & Operations Coordinator, Courtney Mahaney, IHR Program Manager, and Marissa Fullum-Campbell, Humanities Development Coordinator. Their goal was to obtain “Green Office Certification” (through the UC Santa Cruz Office of Sustainability) and recognition for efforts in resource, energy, and water conservation while engaging staff in on-campus sustainability goals.

In January 2014, three Humanities departments (IHR, Humanities Dean’s Office, and Humanities Academic HR/Business Office) were certified by the UC Santa Cruz Green Office Program at the “Sprout” level, making Humanities the first academic division to be certified on campus!

“Sustainability is a real passion of mine and I like to take my greening thumb with me wherever I go. Luckily I work at the IHR where passion, exploration, and creativity are encouraged. Before coming to the IHR I worked at UC Berkeley’s Haas Business School in the Center for Nonprofit & Public Leadership. I launched a green team there as well and got the business school certified as a Green Department. It’s important for me to not only tread gently on the environment, but to give back to my community, engage colleagues in collaborative teamwork, and make the place where I work and spend most of my day a place that makes me happy, healthy, and proud.”

- EVIN GUY, IHR EVENT COORDINATOR

Green team members pledge to serve as sustainability champions for the division and act as liaisons with the Office of Sustainability to implement sustainable practices in everyday operations, improve overall environmental performance, reduce waste, and build a community of sustainability for the Humanities Division. The team is also committed to the Chancellors Sustainability Challenge, a coordinated campus-wide effort to make significant progress toward reaching zero landfill waste by 2020.

The Humanities Green Team projects include: 1) the implementation of Zero Waste Stations with recycling and composting bins in the Humanities 1 Building, 2) switching to 100% recycled content copy paper, and 3) the installation of bottle-less water coolers in the Humanities Division’s large event and conference rooms in support of the campus campaign “Take Back the Tap”.

Together with the participation from all departments within the Humanities Division, the team is hoping to embark on exciting future projects including the installation of low-flow dual-flush toilets, the expansion of onsite composting, the creation of a Humanities Green Team website, obtaining LEED Certification (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design), and researching green roof-top gardens for the Humanities 1 Building.

For more information, please write to HGT@ucsc.edu

WRITTEN BY SOLMAAZ SARRAF
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Gregory and Jessica Sterling
Mark Sterrett
Christy and David Story
Sarah Beth Sussman
Janet and Alex Sydnor
Teresia Kieuea Teaiwa
Robert E. Thaler
Georges Y. Van Den Abbeele
Carol and Carl Verheyen
Robert and Joylene Wagner
Miriam Wallace and Ron Silver
Michael Weber and Frances Spivy-Weber
Melinda Ann Weinstein
Philip Eric Whalen
Lauren Lucinda Loyd Wilson
Howard Winant and Debbie Rogow
Rebecca Wolff
Yang Xue
April Marie Yee
John and D. Ysais

UNIVERSITY SUPPORT:
Division of Humanities, UCSC
Executive Vice Chancellor, UCSC
Vice Chancellor for Research, UCSC
Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, UCSC
UC Office of the President
“The Institute for Humanities Research facilitates research collaboration and public engagement in the Humanities, broadly construed. In addition to serving as the campus designated center for the University of California system-wide Humanities Network, the IHR participates in national and international collaborations to advance research and training in the Humanities and to foster public appreciation of humanistic inquiry.”

WILLIAM A. LADUSAW, DEAN OF HUMANITIES
RECENT HUMANITIES GRANTS

2014

Project: Integrative Graduate Humanities Education and Research Training Project (IGHERT)
Principal Investigators: Tyrus Miller and Nathaniel Deutsch
Funding Agency: Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Amount: $197,000 (part of a $1.35 million grant)

Project: Negotiating Identities in the Christian-Jewish-Muslim Mediterranean (Summer Institute)
Principal Investigator: Sharon Kinoshita
Funding Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
Amount: $190,688

Project: Mortality: Facing Death in Ancient Greece (Summer Institute)
Principal Investigator: Karen Bassi
Funding Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
Amount: $200,000

2013

Project: The Real-Time Grammar of Chamorro WH-Dependencies
Principal Investigators: Matthew Wagers and Sandra Chung
Funding Agency: National Science Foundation (NSF)
Amount: $299,231

Project: Building a Future for Jewish Studies at UC Santa Cruz
Principal Investigator: Nathaniel Deutsch
Funding Agency: David B. Gold Foundation
Amount: $150,000

Project: Great Adaptations: Dickens in Literature and Film (Summer Seminar)
Principal Investigator: John Jordan
Funding Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
Amount: $112,594
Celebrating 50 Years of Being Truly Original.

THE IHR IS TURNING 15, AND UCSC IS TURNING 50: WE HAVE A LOT TO CELEBRATE!

UCSC first opened in fall 1965 with 652 students. Now we have over 16,000! This is a place like no other. It was imagined from the minds of original thinkers—the rebels and visionaries, artists, scientists, and poets who had the courage to strike off on a different path. They searched for ideas that questioned norms in hopes of making the world a better place.

During calendar year 2015, UCSC will honor the campus’s glorious past, its innovative present, and its exciting future. Visit 50years.ucsc.edu.

Toni Morrison: “Literature and the Silence of Goodness”
October 25, 2014

Humanities Division and Peggy Downes Baskin Ethics Lecture presents Toni Morrison at the Rio Theatre in Santa Cruz. After the lecture, Toni Morrison will be awarded the UC Santa Cruz Foundation Medal for her powerful writing and expressive depictions of Black America, giving life to an essential aspect of American reality.

UC Hastings Social Justice Speaker Series presents Elizabeth Hillman
November 6, 2014

UC Hastings Provost and Academic Dean Elizabeth Hillman will be at UC Santa Cruz to speak about her efforts to reform the way sexual assault in the military and her work on various congressional committees on the issue.

Questions That Matter: Cosmos IHR Public Humanities Series at Kuumbwa Jazz Center
January 27, 2015

Questions That Matter is a new public humanities series that will bring together UCSC scholars with Santa Cruz community residents and students to explore questions that matter to all of us.

Anita Hill: “Speaking Truth to Power”
February 26, 2015

UC Presidential Chair in Feminist Critical Race & Ethnic Studies is pleased to bring Anita Hill to UC Santa Cruz for a public talk and a graduate seminar on sexual harassment law, gender and race equality.

April 10-11, 2015

Gloria Evangelina Anzaldúa -- poet, philosopher, and critical scholar -- encouraged a transformative body of writing and scholarship, with generative influences on critical race, feminist, queer, and decolonizing ways of knowing. The UC Presidential Chair in Feminist Critical Race and Ethnic Studies is proud to initiate a celebration of the intellectual legacy of Gloria Anzaldúa.

Linguistics@SantaCruz: Theory and Practice
April 2015

Half day conference on past and present research on endangered languages and linguistic theory; new experimental methodologies; linguistic training as a bridge to careers in language technology.

UC Santa Cruz Alumni Weekend
April 24–26, 2015

Join us at Alumni Weekend to recognize and revel in our exceptional campus, reflect on its meaning to alumni, reconnect with old friends and meet new ones, attend fascinating lectures, and enjoy fine alumni wines and craft beers.

50 Years of Literature: Alumni Weekend Mini-Seminars
April 24-25, 2015

To celebrate a tradition of working and teaching across national, linguistic, and disciplinary divides, this series of short seminars will pair emeritus faculty with current faculty and alumni for lively, engaging conversations at Alumni Weekend.

Tales as Tall as the Redwoods: Reflections on UCSC's Founding Years
April 24-25, 2015

Description: A panel of alumni and faculty will share their oral histories of UC Santa Cruz’s early years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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