



Last May the American Academy of Arts & Sciences released "The Heart of the Matter," a report on the current state of humanities and social sciences education in the United States. The report was written to generate discussion about the importance of both fields in creating an enlightened democratic citizenry whose members are equipped to lead in a competitive and interconnected world. Intended as a complement to the 2007 National Academy of Sciences report, which advocated strengthening of funding for education in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) disciplines, "The Heart of the Matter" calls attention to the "troubling pattern of inattention that will have grave consequences for the nation" if the humanities and social sciences continue to be undervalued and underfunded.

In characterizing the practical value and purpose of an education in the humanities and social sciences, the report cites the words of Senator J. William Fulbright, who noted that the study of these disciplines develops the capacity for empathy, or the "ability to see the world as others see it, and to allow for the possibility that others may see something we have failed to see, or may see it more accurately." In Fulbright's view, national security, domestic stability, and the country's economic health all depend upon empathic understanding of others. Studying the humanities, Fulbright believes, equips students with an ability to "encounter difference and negotiate the diversity that makes the United States a unique experiment in political and social cohesion, and that makes the world a rich, exciting, and complex place."

If learning to see the world through the eyes of manifold others is a desired outcome of an education in the humanities and social sciences, the value of such an education must not be assessed exclusively in terms of the empathic ways of seeing it enables. Empathy begins as a perceptual attitude that then becomes consequential when it serves as an impetus for constructive social interactions. The value of empathy is therefore inseparable from the forms of caring it fosters and sustains, including care for the vulnerable and the abject, and care of the self.

To stimulate dialogue in the UCSB community about the humanities and care, the IHC is launching its 2013-14 public events series, *The Value of Care*. The series will explore care as a creative and transformative constant of human existence. It will consider how cultures have organized themselves around care and how care is practiced institutionally and interpersonally. Many of the speakers in the series share in the recognition that care practices can exert a legitimizing, or, as the case may be, marginalizing, effect upon the populations for whom they are intended. With this in mind, the ethics and politics of care will constitute a dominant theme running through the series.

The Value of Care will draw from diverse fields, including education, philosophy, labor studies, architecture, literature, history, media, journalism, political science, documentary filmmaking, and feminist studies. And while each of the presentations will have a unique focus, a number of common interests, broadly defined, run through them. The first is the generative function of care practices, their ability to create bridges between individuals and groups whose experiences are often unrelated, divergent, or isolated from one another. A second focal point concerns the needs and rights of specific populations, some of whom are identified by age and social position, such as students and senior citizens, and others by vocation, such as military service members and domestic caregivers. A third area concentrates on governmental policies and institutional practices executed on behalf of national security or political and economic strength; among the speakers addressing these areas are a journalist who will discuss U.S. surveillance practices and a bioethicist-physician who has treated prisoners engaging in hunger strikes in Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp.

Events in the *Value of Care* series will take place almost weekly throughout the 2013-14 academic year. Please consult the list of selected events, opposite, and visit our website regularly for program updates. IHC events are open to both the campus and Santa Barbara communities, and all are welcome to attend.

Susan Derwin

Director, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center



ABOUT THE SERIES:

Responding to the needs of others and relying upon others are twin conditions of human interconnectedness. The Interdisciplinary Humanities Center's explore the many ways that cultures have organized themselves around care as a creative and transformative constant of life, how they have fostered bonds that enable individuals and groups to survive and thrive, and how institutional practices to legitimate the vulnerable populations they serve or deprive them of a viable place in society. Throughout the year, "The Value of Care" will feature philosophers, professionals, labor historians and other scholars, who will present projects about care from diverse perspectives.

SELECTED EVENTS FOR 2013-14

INAUGURAL LECTURE: Care of the Wild: Sense, Sentience and the 'Primitive State'

Aranye Fradenburg (English, UCSB) Thursday, October 17 / 4:00 PM

TALK: After the War

Tim O'Brien (The Things They Carried)

Tuesday, October 22 / 4:00 PM

Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall,

UCSB Music Building Cosponsored by the Santa Barbara Public Library System's community reading program "The Big Read", and the Friends of the Santa Barbara Public Library.

TALK: Relational Selves and Narrative Communities in the Aftermath of Trauma Susan Brison (Philosophy, Dartmouth College) Tuesday, October 29 / 4:00 PM

TALK: Ethics, Animality and Ahuman Theory
Patricia MacCormack (English,
Communication, Film and Media, Anglia Tuesday, November 5 / 4:00 PM

William T. Vollmann (National Book Award recipient) Wednesday, November 6 / 4:00 PM Cosponsored by the Center for Information Technology and Society (CITS).

TALK: Soul Service: The Politics and Ethics of Practicing Michel Foucault's

Care of the Self Jane Flax (Philosophy and Religion, American University) Thursday, November 14 / 4:00 PM

TALK: Return to Duty: The Ethics of Caring for People in Uncaring Places

TALK: Robot Caregivers and Robo-therapy in Japan: Treating the "Trauma" of Aging Jennifer Robertson (Anthropology and Art, University of Michigan) Tuesday, November 26 / 5:00 PM Cosponsored by the IHC's Reinventing

TALK: Torture at U.S. Detention Centers, Hunger Strikes, and Physician Complicity Sondra Crosby (Medicine, Boston University) Thursday, January 16, 2014 / 4:00 PM

TALK: Helplessness

Deborah Nelson (English, University of Chicago) Thursday, January 23, 2014 / 4:00 PM

TALK: The Good Funeral: Death, Grief and the Community of Care

Thomas Lynch (poet, author of The Undertaking: Life Studies from the Dismal Trade)
Thomas Long (Candler School of Theology,
Emory University)
Thursday, February 6, 2014 / 4:00 PM

TALK: New Aging: Designing Architecture for All Ages

Hollwich Kushner) Thursday, February 13, 2014 / 4:00 PM

TALK: *In Defense of a Liberal Education* Sheldon Rothblatt (History, UC Berkeley) Tuesday, March 4, 2014 / 4:00 PM

TALK: Security: Politics, Humanity, and the Philology of Care

Thursday, April 10, 2014 / 4:00 PM

TALK: The Social Development Solution: The Ford Foundation's Ethos of Social Trusteeship in the Black Power Era Karen Ferguson (History, Simon Fraser University)

Thursday, May 1, 2014 / 4:00 PM
Cosponsored by the Critical Issues in America series "The Great Society at Fifty: Democracy in America, 1964/2014."



RESEARCH FOCUS GROUPS

The IHC is sponsoring the fifteen Research Focus Groups for the 2013-14 academic year. The IHC Research Focus Groups bring together faculty and graduate students with shared research interests from different fields and departments to foster the development of interdisciplinary research agendas. The RFGs meet to present work in progress, read and discuss texts and current scholarship, and plan and implement common research projects. For more information, and to find contact information for the following groups, visit: www.ihc.ucsb.edu/rfg

For this year, the IHC welcomes four new Research Focus Groups:

DIALOGUES AND INQUIRIES AMONG AMERICAN INDIAN AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (DIAIIP)

Conveners:

Margaret McMurtrey, Religious Studies

ann-elise lewallen, East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies
The Dialogues and Inquiries Among American Indian and
Indigenous Peoples (DIAIIP) group has been created by graduate
students, faculty members, and community members who want
to build research relationships between different disciplines
and research projects interested in issues within indigenous
communities nationally and internationally. The purpose of this
group is to foster the development of interdisciplinary research
agendas that focus on an Indigenous research paradigm
that would require new visions of ontology, epistemology,
methodology, and axiology in our respective fields.

REINVENTING JAPAN RFG

Conveners:

Kate McDonald, History

Sabine Frühstück, East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies We have come together as an interdisciplinary group of graduate students and faculty members from the departments of History, East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies, Religious Studies, Music, and Film & Media Studies to examine, discuss and analyze a singular topic: the reinvention of Japan. "Reinvention" and "renewal" are prominent themes in Japanese religion and philosophy but have also repeatedly got hold of public discourse at various moments throughout history, ranging from the Edo period to world renewal movements, a complex of carnivalesque religious celebrations and communal activities that were often fashioned as social or political protests, to Japan's late nineteenthcentury dramatic turn to the West, the quasi-fascist imperialist program of the 1930s and early 1940s, the rise from the ashes of the Asia Pacific War in the 1950s, the revolutionary era of the 1960s and 1970s, up to the current call to renew Japan after the 2011 disaster in Northeastern Japan.

PERFORMANCE AND POLITICS RFG

Conveners:

Ninotchka Bennahum, Theater & Dance Meredith Heller, Feminist Studies Ruth Hellier-Tinoco, Music

Relationships between and explorations of Performance and Politics form the core of this RFG. Working at the intersection of scholarship, artistic practice and political life, we aim to explore embodied practice-performance as a vehicle for the shaping, crafting, structuring, and transmission of cultural values and identities. We place a particular emphasis on knowledge and aesthetics of transformational, experimental, and anti-normative media, dealing with resistance, activism, and celebration. We encompass notions of "is performance," i.e. conventional manifestations, such as theater, dance, music, spoken word, puppetry, performance art, film; and notions of "as performance," i.e. any act, expression, and behavior that may be analyzed through a lens of performance.

MACHINES, PEOPLE, AND POLITICS RFG

Conveners:

W. Patrick McCray, History Lisa Parks, Film and Media Studies

The relationship between technology and society remains a central problem for today's citizens, policy makers, technologists, entrepreneurs, and politicians. Too often, these issues, as addressed by scholars, become nebulous and abstract. The Machines, People, and Politics Research Focus Group addresses these critical relations while retaining the requisite concreteness - or "thinginess" - necessary to explore and understand specific examples. Not limited to any specific geographic focus or time period - although endeavoring to relate historical perspectives to contemporary issues - the RFG explores the myriad ways in which people, machines, policy, and politics are co-produced. MPP considers objects as concrete as an assembly line or as intangible as computer code. In similar fashion, national or international politics are as relevant as those of individual producers, users, and consumers. MPP is especially curious about so-called "emerging technologies" which are notable for the risk, speculation, hope, fears, hype, and novel regulatory regimes associated with them. Juxtaposing machines and people with politics past and present allows us to address pressing contemporary issues associated machines old, new, and imagined while maintaining a rich contextual framework of history and memory.

THE FOLLOWING RESEARCH FOCUS GROUPS ARE RETURNING TO THE IHC THIS YEAR:

4HUMANITIES RFG:

Conveners: Alan Liu, English; Claudio Fogu, French and Italian; Linda Adler-Kassner, Writing Program

AFRICAN STUDIES RFG:

Conveners: Stephan Miescher, History; Christina McMahon, Theater and Dance

ANCIENT BORDERLANDS RFG:

Conveners: Christine Thomas, Religious Studies; John W.I. Lee, History

ARCHAEOLOGY RFG:

Conveners: Stuart Tyson Smith, Anthropology; Brice Erickson, Classics

HISTORY OF BOOKS AND MATERIAL TEXTS RFG:

Conveners: Sophia Rochmes, History of Art and Architecture; Charlotte Becker, English; Jim Kearney, English

HUMANIMALITY RFG:

Conveners: Russell Samolsky, English; Peter Alagona, History; Chloe Diamond-Lenow, Feminist Studies; Sienna Cordoba, History

IDENTITY RFG:

Conveners: Cynthia Kaplan, Political Science; Vesna Wallace, Religious Studies

LANGUAGE, INTERACTION AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATION (LISO) RFG:

Conveners: Melissa Curtin, Linguistics; Gene Lerner, Sociology; Mary Bucholtz, Linguistics

NEW SEXUALITIES RFG:

Conveners: Paul Amar, Global Studies; Mireille Miller-Young, Feminist Studies

SOUTH ASIAN RELIGIONS AND CULTURES RFG:

Conveners: Barbara Holdrege, Religious Studies; Bhaskar Sarkar, Film and Media Studies

THE USES OF THE PUBLIC UNIVERSITY RFG:

Conveners: Ann Bermingham, History of Art and Architecture; Ruth Hellier-Tinoco, Music

NEW IHC PROGRAM FOR 2013-14: THE IHC GRADUATE AFFILIATES PROGRAM

Designed to encourage academic professionalization, the IHC Graduate Affiliates Program will foster a community of graduate student scholars to engage in dialogue and collaboration around the events of the 2013-14 IHC series *The Value of Care*. In the course of the academic year, graduate students will exercise their skills in communicating with scholars from diverse fields about points of intellectual convergence and difference. The 2013-14 cohort of GAP scholars will collectively develop and plan a public event for the *Value of Care* series; they will participate in four additional *Value of Care* events and two workshops designed to prepare them to engage with featured speakers in an interdisciplinary context.

The members of the inaugural cohort of GAP scholars are: Heather Berg, Feminist Studies Lauren Ming Holden, Theater and Dance Cheryl Jaworski, English Chandra Russo, Sociology Jay Stemmle, History

IHC AWARD DEADLINES

NOVEMBER 15:

Faculty Release Time Award Faculty Collaborative Award

JANUARY 15:

Graduate Collaborative Award Visual, Performing and Media Arts Award

APRIL 15:

Faculty Release Time Award Faculty Collaborative Award Predoctoral Fellowships

MAY 15:

Research Focus Groups Research Fellowships

IHC FACULTY AND GRADUATE FELLOWS

The following individuals and groups were granted IHC awards during the 2012-2013 academic year:

Faculty Release Time Award

This award releases faculty from teaching during one quarter in order to concentrate on research projects.

Lalaie Ameeriar, Asian American Studies, *Downwardly Global: Re-Colonizing Pakistani Immigrant Bodies In the Age of Multiculturalism*

Felice Blake, English, *Black Love, Black Hate: The Paradox of Intracommunal Conflict in African American Literature*

Diane Fujino, Asian American Studies, *Japanese Americans* and the Contested Nature of Cold War Citizenship and Radical Democracy

Faculty Collaborative Awards

These awards support conferences at UCSB or in the Santa Barbara area, collaborative research or instructional projects by faculty in one or more departments, and initiatives to bring visiting scholars and arts practitioners to campus for collaborative research or teaching.

Jeremy Douglass, English; James Pulizzi, English; Scott Selisker, English; *Mediating the Nonhuman*

John W. DuBois, Linguistics; Amy Kyratzis, Education; Gene Lerner, Sociology, *LISO Symposium IV: "Multiple Engagements: Complexity in Human Involvement"*

Michael Emmerich, East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies; *Histories of the Japanese Book: Past, Present, Future*

Nelson Lichtenstein, History, From the Academy to the Public Sphere: Writing Opinion Pieces for the Mainstream Media

Visual, Performing and Media Arts Awards

These awards support innovative projects in the visual, performing and media arts that engage creatively with issues of interdisciplinary concern.

Sienna Cordoba, History; Warren Taylor, Materials Research Lab; *Secret Texts*

Predoctoral Fellowships

Pre-doctoral fellowships support doctoral candidates and advanced MFA students whose research facilitates dialogue across the traditional disciplinary boundaries within the arts and humanities, and/or between the arts & humanities, sciences, and social sciences.

Zachary Horton, English, Scale and Alterity: Ecology, Media, and Technics After the Human

Kuan-yen Liu, Comparative Literature, *Animal-Human Analogy* and the Order of Things: A Comparative Study of Victorian British and Late-Qing Chinese Darwinism

Andrew Magnusson, History, *Muslim-Zoroastrian Religions and Religious Violence in Early Islamic Iran*

Rahul Mukherjee, Film and Media Studies, *Competing Knowledges, Uncertain Futures: A Study of Mediated Technoscience Publics in India*

Barbara L. Taylor, Music, *The Ghosts of Banjos Past: The Early Banjo Revival and Remapping America's Racial Terrain*

Graduate Collaborative Awards

These awards support graduate students in organizing conferences, symposia, exhibitions, and performances.

Chris Morales, Religious Studies; Michael Kinsella, Religious Studies; Keith Hess, Philosophy; Rick Stoody, Philosophy, *Personhood, Possession, and Place: Embodiment and Emplacement in Special Contexts*

Kendra Sarna, Religious Studies; Andrew Magnusson, History; Samaneh Oladi Ghadikolaei, Religious Studies; Corrine Kalota, Religious Studies; *Reconstituting Female Authority:* Women's Participation in the Transmission and Production of Islamic Knowledge

Research Fellows

The IHC Research Fellowship is awarded to recent UCSB Ph.D.s in the humanities and the humanistic social sciences.

The Fellows are affiliated with the IHC and will have opportunities to participate in the Center's classes, activities and research groups.

Ayla Applebaum, Linguistics

Bianca Brigidi, History

Mary Garcia, Comparative Literature

Sarah Kimberlin Harris, Film & Media Studies

Andrew Henkes, Theater & Dance

Rachel Johnson, History of Art & Architecture

Alison Turtledove, History

Amber Workman, Spanish & Portuguese

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