

2016

17

ANNUAL
REPORT

University of  CINCINNATI | TAFT RESEARCH CENTER

2016- 17 ANNUAL REPORT

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR CHAIR OF TAFT FACULTY

WELCOME TO THE 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TAFT RESEARCH CENTER.

This year was a time of major growth. Taft partnered with numerous outside organizations and was, for the first time, significantly involved in several, high-profile external engagements. Notable partnering achievements include collaborations with UC's Classics Department, Office of the Provost, Office of the Vice President for Research, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, College of Arts and Sciences, DAAP, UC Master of Public Health, Gamma Rho student chapter of the Delta Omega Public Health Honorary Society, Elementz, the Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati Public Schools, Seven Hills School, and DePaul Cristo Rey High school.

In July, the Taft Research Center was invited for the first time since the inception of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes to showcase our new **TAFTtalks**, **TAFTco-lab**, and **LTABcincy** programming at their annual meeting and conference. In early September, I was called to represent the Center and participate in *La Fondation Conférence Mondiale Des Humanities: Défis et Responsabilités Pour Une Planète en Transition* (The Founding World Conference Of Humanities Challenges and Responsibilities for a Planet in Transition), co-organized by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies and LiègeTOGETHER. This conference kicked off a series committed to exploring humanities

research and will culminate in the World Conference of Humanities August 6–12, 2017. It brings together 1,800 participants from across the world, from humanistic, artistic, scientific, and political circles. The Charles Phelps Taft Research Center at the University of Cincinnati was the only Center from North America to have a presence at this first UNESCO humanities event.

This past year we have extended the initial success of **TAFTtalks** with the creation of **H2Otalks**. This new offshoot of **TAFTtalks** aims to support UC's Third Century initiative to build a center of excellence in water studies and pair with a strong interdisciplinary interest in water worldwide. The **H2Otalks** were screened at UNESCO's "50 Years, 50 Movies on Water" to an international audience of policy makers and the general public.

In addition to these far-reaching partnerships, the Center collaborated with the Office of Ethnic Programs and Services and the Chief Diversity Officer to bring about UC's first celebration of Native American Heritage Month. The Center hosted Tara Houska, Esq., the National Campaigns Director for Honor the Earth and former Native American advisor to Bernie Sanders' presidential campaign. I want to thank Associate Professor Ken Tankersley, from the Department of Anthropology, for helping bring this event to the Taft Research Center.

Taft was also a featured player in a citywide Black History Month celebration at the Contemporary Arts Center, located in downtown Cincinnati. In this featured Black Box event, Napoleon Maddox performed *Twice the First Time*, wherein he tells the true story of his great-grand aunts, conjoined twins Millie-Christine. Born into slavery in 1851, Millie-Christine lived an extraordinary life jumping between autonomy and captivity, emancipation and exploitation. Here, Maddox uses the hyphen separating Millie-Christine as a metaphor for "Black" life in America; trapped between two identities, examined and exhibited. While Millie-Christine were inspected and labeled sideshow freaks, they defiantly self-identified as "beautifully and wonderfully made."

Following the national election this past fall, Taft led a university-wide series to describe, discuss, and debate the changing political landscape in the United States. The series featured eight faculty and one community representative. Vice President of Equity and Inclusion Bleuzette Marshall, College of Arts and Sciences Dean Ken Petren, and Provost Peter Landren provided the introductions.

Closing out the year, Taft was again the co-organizer and sponsor of Louder Than A Bomb Cincy. This unique event hosts hundreds of

students over the course of the year and it culminated in the finals at the Corbett Theater of the School for Creative and Performing Arts. The finals were attended by over 650 people, and it seems clear from the crowds this year that the Individual and Team competitions will need to be held on different days. This year's **LTABcincy** event was proudly supported by Kroger, the Goldsmith Family, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences, Elementz, and Cincinnati Public Schools.

My non-renewable term as the Director of Taft and Chair of Taft Faculty comes to a close next year. Over the past four years I have raised \$113,000 in non-Taft funding to support the many programs and events the Center organizes. For my final year I plan on solidifying the new programming introduced over the past four years. In this regard, 2017–2018 will be another busy year working collaboratively, commemorating important events, and celebrating the fabulous research achievements of Taft faculty and students.

I am very much looking forward to the year ahead.

Best Regards,



ADRIAN PARR

Director, Taft Research Center

Chair of Taft Faculty



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PREPARING STUDENTS
FOR THE WORLD
BEYOND COLLEGE.



I am very grateful to have been a Taft Undergraduate Research Award recipient. This award benefited me immensely in the financial support it provided. This funding was instrumental in helping me tackle my project and my goals in a more robust way. As a result, I have gained a better, more in-depth research experience with many transferable skills that will be integral to my future career. I also appreciated the structure of the program, and the support of a peer group [that] gave me insight and feedback on my project. Collectively, this structure and support trained me well as a social science researcher. It has given me a launching pad in pursuing other social science research opportunities.”

Mohamed Elzarka

*Undergraduate Research Award
recipient*

THE TAFT RESEARCH CENTER HAD AN AMAZING YEAR WHEN IT CAME TO COLLABORATIONS.

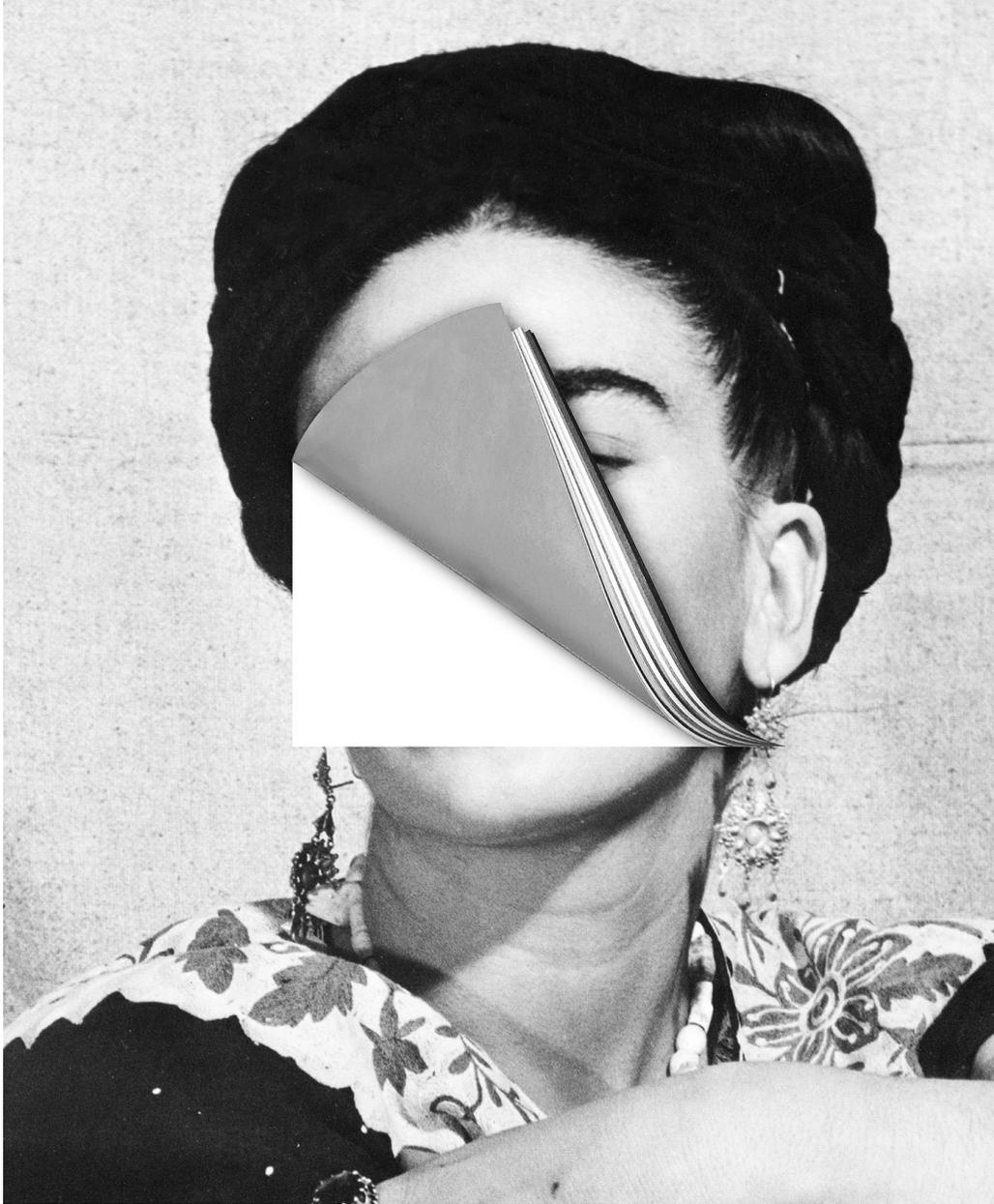
The Center partnered with a number of different groups across campus, the Cincinnati community, and beyond. Collaborations extend the research outcomes of humanities-based scholarship, and they expand the presence and relevance of Center programming locally, nationally, and internationally.

The year, which brought a number of collaborations, began with a multi-partnership initiative featuring a Frida Kahlo-themed exhibit. The US Presidency and Our Common Future series provided a public platform featuring faculty from across UC along with one member from the religious community, sharing their thoughts on the new political direction of the country. Partnering with UC Master of Public Health program and the Gamma Rho student chapter of the Delta Omega Public Health Honorary Society, Taft also welcomed Pulitzer Prize winner Ben Solomon to UC to speak on his work in the Middle East. Solomon is a video-journalist at *The New York Times*.

The Center forged a new relationship with the Classics Department, beginning with a lecture on the “Griffin Warrior.” This event filled the Center’s conference room to maximum capacity. In attendance were faculty, members of the general public, and Taft Trustees. This very successful beginning to a Taft-Classics collaboration was followed by the first *Conversations in Classics* event. The topic focused on “Culture as Casualty,” and the event featured faculty from both the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences and UC’s Classics Department.

Working with schools from across Cincinnati, the community arts organization Elementz, and DAAP faculty and students, this year’s third annual **LTABcincy** proved to be another exciting competition. **LTABcincy** uses the humanities as a platform to engage high school students in poetry through Spoken Word. Young people develop their literacy skills in reading and writing, and throughout the year, students are given close training in the many workshops at Taft and Elementz.

If measured in terms of audience numbers and participation, these collaborations were a tremendous success and show a lot of promise as we continue to strengthen and increase our bonds across-campus and with community organizations.



INTRODUCING FRIDA KAHLO

Frida Kahlo is an iconic feminist. This year, the Cincinnati community had a tremendous opportunity to learn more about the Latin American artist through the “Frida in Focus” exhibit.

University of Cincinnati Professor Emeritus **EDWARD SILBERSTEIN** enjoys a special connection to Kahlo through his father, the renowned photographer **BERNARD G. SILBERSTEIN**. Over a three-day period in December of 1940, Silberstein photographed Kahlo and her husband, Diego Rivera. Edward Silberstein shared eight of his father’s photos for

the “Frida in Focus” exhibit. Alongside Bernard G. Silberstein’s photos, the exhibit also featured 10 monographs that had published a selection of his portraits of Kahlo.

This marvelous opportunity was the result of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, under the leadership of Professor and Chair **CARLOS GUTIÉRREZ**, working with the Taft Research Center, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Vice President of Research, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the College of Arts and Sciences.



From Left: Sharon Stocker, Jack Davis, Dudley Taft, Adrian Parr



MEET THE “GRIFFIN WARRIOR”:

This year, the Taft Research Center not only focused on engaging faculty in learning about Taft-based research, we also collaborated with a new partner: The Department of Classics. “The Griffin Warrior of Pylos,” brought in a staggering crowd to the Center to hear Classics Faculty **JACK DAVIS** and **SHARON STOCKER** share their discovery of the ancient tomb of the Griffin Warrior from Pylos, Greece. Hailed in *The New York Times* as potentially being a “gateway to civilizations” and described as one of the most important Grecian digs within the last century, it is unsurprising that this event drew a packed house at Taft. Davis is the Carl W. Blegen Professor of Greek Archaeology, and Stocker is a Senior Research Associate in the Department of Classics. Their discovery has shed light on how Minoan culture influenced the Mycenaeans.

INTERESTING “GRIFFIN WARRIOR” FACTS:

- | A team, sponsored by the University of Cincinnati, discovered and excavated the warrior’s tomb in the summer of 2015. The team included 35 experts from 10 nations.
- | The burial site has been untouched for 3,500 years.
- | The grave is located on the southwest end of the Peloponnese peninsula at Pylos.
- | Homer mentioned a place called Pylos in the *Odyssey*.
- | The skeleton is called the “Griffin Warrior,” because archaeologists found an ivory plaque between the man’s legs that had illustrated upon it the representation of a griffin.
- | Other items in the tomb included signet rings, a bronze sword with a gold and ivory handle, ivory combs, weapons, and an array of jewelry.

LEARNING ABOUT THE SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

Continuing the goal of deepening and expanding humanities based educational opportunities for the Cincinnati community, the Center worked with the University of Cincinnati Master of Public Health program and its Gamma Rho student chapter of the Delta Omega Public Health Honorary Society, the Department of Environmental Health, and the Graduate Student Governance Association, to celebrate National Public Health Week. The focus was "Refugee Health."

Journalist **BEN SOLOMON**, of *The New York Times*, was part of a Pulitzer-winning team that covered many of the sobering and vivid stories on Ebola in Africa. Since 2011, Solomon has reported from more than 20 countries, including Tunisia, South Sudan, Afghanistan, Mali, Niger, Sierra Leone, and Syria. Solomon shared his experiences of the Ebola outbreak, as well as his recent reporting in the war-torn Middle East, describing the specific challenges Syrian refugees face.



From Left: Carlos Gutiérrez, Bluezette Marshall, Adrian Parr, Shakila Ahmad, Ervin Matthew

TALKING ABOUT THE US PRESIDENCY

The Presidential election was contentious and divisive, raising many issues concerning the future of religious freedom, the makeup of the Supreme Court, the state of US inclusivity of democracy, economic and environmental wellbeing, gender equality, and race relations. In this context, humanities research and scholarship provides an important platform to discuss, debate, and tackle these difficult topics. As such, the Taft Research Center saw this as an opportunity to bring together

different constituencies from across campus and the broader community to share their thoughts and concerns with the general public. The Office of Equity and Inclusion, the Center for Race, Gender, and Social Justice, and the College of Arts and Sciences cosponsored the event.

On January 24, **SHAKILA AHMAD**, the Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati President; **ERVIN MATTHEW**, from the Department of Sociology; and **CARLOS GUTIÉRREZ**, Chair of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures addressed religious diversity, race relations, and immigration. On January 31, **DEBASHIS PAL**, Chair of the Department of Economics; **ADRIAN PARR**, UNESCO Water Co-Chair and Taft Research Center Director; and **AMY LIND**, Mary Ellen Heintz Professor and Chair of the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies examined the US economy, environment, and gender relations. On the final day, February 7, **LAURA JENKINS**, interim Chair of the Department of Political Science; **JEFF BLEVINS**, Chair of the Department of Journalism; and **VERNA WILLIAMS**, interim Dean of UC's College of Law, discussed democracy, freedom of the press, and the future of the US Supreme Court.

THE VESTIGES OF CULTURAL MEMORY

The collaboration between the Taft Research Center and the Classics Department continued with a new program called *Conversations in Classics*. The first in the series was a panel discussion, entitled "Culture As Casualty." It featured faculty from classics, anthropology, and history.

Assistant Professor **MARION KRUSE**, of the Classics Department, described ISIS' destruction of the Syrian site of Palmyra. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, it had been one of the best-preserved ruins of the ancient Roman trading post. Kruse showed how modern warfare destroyed this site. Associate Professor **SARAH JACKSON**, from the Department of Anthropology, discussed how sacred monuments, built for one function, can be later utilized by others for different purposes. For instance, Mayans built temples to honor their gods, and today, people from across the world, journey to these same temples for spiritual exercises; whilst others use the site as a backdrop for political protest. Professor **HOLLY MCGEE** spoke of the South African government's forced relocation of Sophiatown's black residents to make way for white settlers. Once a thriving cultural hub with a rich Black culture, Sophiatown was destroyed by the government's relocation policy.



The Taft Research Center is a fantastic asset to the University. I am proud the College of Arts and Sciences has partnered with Taft to support our faculty and students, and jointly host events that engage our community. As dean, my goal is to grow the partnership between Arts and Sciences and the Taft Research Center. I want to help the Taft Research Center expand its reputation internationally and in our local community. The Taft Research Center is unique due to its breadth of disciplines, the quality of our faculty and its connection to our university's mission as an [urban-serving] research institution."

Kenneth Petren

Dean, College of Arts and Sciences







From Left: Adrian Parr, Malcom London, Siri Imani



IT'S A SLAM DUNK COMPETITION

Cincinnati high school students had an exhilarating time with the third annual **LTABcincy** competition, a Spoken Word contest where teenagers voice their opinions, hopes, dreams, and fears. Through this event, teenagers are provided with an incredible opportunity to have their voices heard in a public setting. The event is politically charged, emotionally moving, and artistically captivating.

The nationwide competition first began in Chicago in 2001. It is the largest youth Spoken Word competition in the world. The event became a triumph during its first run, and soon, other cities followed in Chicago's footsteps. In 2014, Taft Research Center Director Adrian Parr brought the program to Cincinnati with the aim of activating the humanities for the public good.

This year, Walnut Hills High School's **LENA ALPERN** took home first prize in the individual's category. **MAIA HARVEY**, of DePaul Cristo Rey, took second, and **NOELLE O'NEAL**, of Seven Hills, took third place. In the team category, DePaul Cristo Rey High School took first place, Walnut Hills High School took second place, and Elementz won third place. This year's event was showcased on public radio.

TERI BOLING, Associate Professor of Practice with UC's School of Architecture and Interior Design, and his MetroLAB team, took home an Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Collaborative Practice award for the Louder than a Bomb stage sets they designed. This award honors the best practices in school-based community outreach programs. MetroLAB received the award in late 2016 for the set designed for the 2015–16 **LTABcincy** competition. The UC team worked with local Cincinnati high schools to design and construct portable performance environments, which included platforms, walls, seats, and lighting for the competitors to use during their semi-final and final performances.

LTABcincy is sponsored by the Kroger Corporation, the Goldsmith Family, the Taft Research Center, the UC Office of Equity and Inclusion, and the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences. It is the result of a lively collaboration between Taft, Elementz, Cincinnati Public Schools, Seven Hills High School, and DePaul Cristo Rey High School.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES RESEARCH GROUP

Chair: Todd Herzogg (Department of German Studies)

This year, the group supported two large projects: The Patricia O'Connor Papers: Creating a Digital Research Collection in Spanish Drama Studies for International Scholarship and Collaboration, and the Classic Maya Relationships with Objects Database. **PATRICIA O'CONNOR**, Emeritus Taft Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, donated her research papers to Langsam Library for digitization. This work contains a rich set of documentation that evidences the crucial role of Patricia O'Connor in the foundation and development of the academic field of contemporary Spanish drama, as well as materials on theater written by Spanish women in the first half of the twentieth century, in particular by María Martínez Sierra. The Co-Principal Investigators are **ANDRÉS PÉREZ-SIMÓN** (RRL) and **ARLENE JOHNSON** (UC Libraries). The Classic Maya Relationships with Object Database, led by Associate Professor of Anthropology, **SARAH JACKSON**, seeks to understand objects as active partners in social relationships within the Maya, based upon depicted interactions.

GLOBAL HUMANITIES RESEARCH GROUP

Co-Chairs: Anne Sisson Runyan (Department of Political Science) and Rebecca Sanders (Department of Political Science)

Members of the Global Humanities Research Group are participating in the launch of the Gender Equity Research Team. Cincinnati's local government passed an ordinance, the seventh in the nation, to conduct a gender study of the city's government over the next 1 ½ to 2 years. The team conducting the study will be comprised of faculty from the departments of Political Science and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Research will be undertaken under the auspices of the Arts and Sciences Cincinnati Project in cooperation with the Taft Global Humanities and Human Rights Research groups, several local NGOs and UC departments. The Global Humanities Research Group also provided support for **CAROLINE SHENAZ HOSSEIN** to speak on "Politicized Microfinance: Money, power and violence in the Black Americas" in April. Hossein is an Associate Professor of Business and Society at York University. Group members also helped the Taft Center bring **CHANDRA TALPADE MOHANTY**, the Cultural Foundations of

Education and Dean's Professor of the Humanities at Syracuse University, to Taft as the Annual Taft Keynote Speaker.

PUBLIC HUMANITIES RESEARCH GROUP

Chair: Adrian Parr (Department of Political Science)

The Public Humanities research group finalized the post-production of *The Intimate Realities of Water*. This documentary examines the everyday lives of women living in Nairboi's slums and the water challenges they face. It is the first film in a five-part series exploring the state of the world's water resources. It was exhibited at the 50th Anniversary of Water at the UNESCO, and was screened at the COP21 climate talks in Paris, at the "City of Sydney's Art and About Public Art Program," and at the Esquire Theater for World Water Day celebrations. Producer and co-editor, **ADRIAN PARR**, was interviewed on public radio to share insights about the film, it's making, and the women featured in it. The film won 15 awards and honors including Best Picture at the Los Angeles Independent Film Festival, Best First-Time Filmmaker at the Hollywood International Documentary Awards, and the Board of Directors Award at the North Carolina Film Awards.



HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH GROUP

Co-Chairs: Stephen R. Porter (Department of History) and Rebecca Sanders (Department of Political Science)

The Human Rights Research Group brought several speakers to the university. **DR. FATIMA EL-TAYEB**, Professor of Literature, University of California San Diego, spoke on the *European Refugee Crisis, Neoliberal Racial Capitalism and Queer of Color Activism*. **DR. CHARLOTTE RYAN**, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Massachusetts, lectured on grassroots activism. The group also supported the Cincinnati for CEDAW research initiative, a city-wide project that aims to garner support for the observance of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Discrimination against Women.

MEDICAL HUMANITIES RESEARCH GROUP

Co-Chairs: Lisa Meloncon (Department English and Comparative Literature) and Jeffrey Jacobson (Department of Anthropology)

Group members supported two events this year and are already planning events for the 2017–2018 school year. **MICHELLE MAIESE**, Chair and Associate Professor of Philosophy at Emmanuel College, spoke on “Embodied Awareness: Consciousness in a World of Things.” **PHILIP VAN DER EIJK**, Humboldt Professor of Classics and History of Science at Humboldt University, Berlin, spoke on “Medicine, Mortality and the Doctor-Patient Relationship: Natural and Unnatural ways of Dying in Ancient Greek Medical and Philosophical Thought.”

URBAN STUDIES RESEARCH GROUP

Chair: Stanley Corkin (Departments of English and Comparative Literature and History)

The group has been involved in a variety of inter-college initiatives, working with the faculty in architecture and urban planning in particular. For one event, the group co-sponsored bringing in **ROY STRICKLAND**, A professor of Architecture and Urban Design at the University of Michigan. Strickland spoke on the intersection of urbanism and urban behavior. The group also participated in sponsoring a film series with Conrad Kickert, an assistant professor of urban design in DAAP. In addition, as a part of the Film Studies Brown Bag series, the group presented work by **UDO GREINACHER**, Associate Professor and MArch program coordinator, also with the DAAP Department. This research focused on film and urban design.

VISUAL STUDIES RESEARCH GROUP

Chair: Todd Herzogg (Department of German Studies)

This year, the group supported a film presentation by **JOSÉ ULLOA** and brought **RANDALL HALLE**, the Klaus W. Jonas Professor of German Film and Cultural Studies, at the University of Pittsburgh, to lecture on *The Stream of Refugees, the Flood of Images, the European Media Apparatus*.

“

The audience and community impact from *Twice the First Time* has been extraordinary, and overwhelmingly positive. All of this would not have been possible without support from organizations with a vested interest in promoting forward-thinking and socially-focused arts programming. We are incredibly grateful to the Charles Phelps Taft Research Center for the contribution to this performance and larger project and are excited to continue this relationship on many other programs in the years to come!”

Drew Klein

Performance Curator at the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati



“

The Office of Equity and Inclusion is a proud partner of the Taft Research Center, which offers members of our community a platform for engagement and expression to raise awareness about society’s most pressing issues and to explore their viable solutions.”

Bleuzette Marshall

Vice President for Equity and Inclusion



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THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, THE TAFT RESEARCH CENTER ENJOYS CELEBRATING AND RECOGNIZING THE CULTURE AND HERITAGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI'S DIVERSE CAMPUS.

In September, the Center celebrated National Hispanic month by helping to bring in well-known author **SANDRA CISNEROS**. In November for Native American History month, **TARA HOUSKA** shared the obstacles Native Americans face in keeping their drinking water supplies clean and safe. **NAPOLEON MADDOX**, a local Cincinnati artist, performed his work "Twice the First Time," at the Contemporary Arts Center as a part of the African American History month festivities. For Women's History month, **CHANDRA MOHANTY**, a well-known expert in global feminism, was our featured annual Taft Symposium Keynote Speaker. Throughout the year, the Center collaborated with the Department of Judaic Studies on various events to honor those who died during the Holocaust. **MICHAEL A. MEYER**, the Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History and Professor Emeritus at Hebrew Union College, visited UC's campus twice and gave two different lectures highlighting challenges Jews have faced.



Graduate Students from Romance Languages and Literatures with Sandra Cisneros

NATIONAL HISPANIC MONTH

To commemorate National Hispanic Month, award-winning novelist and poet **SANDRA CISNEROS** visited the University of Cincinnati in September. More than 200 students came to listen to Cisneros read excerpts from her book, *A House of My Own: Stories From My Life* (2016) a collection of short stories and nonfiction pieces.

Cisneros is a well-known author whose first novel, *The House on Mango Street* (1984), sold over five million copies. Most recently, former President Barack Obama awarded Cisneros with the 2015 National Medal of Arts.

Much of her writing illustrates the challenges she faced as a young Latina girl growing up between the worlds of Mexico and the United States. Her family moved frequently between the two countries during her childhood.



Tara Houska, Adrian Parr



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

TARA HOUSKA was the 2016 Native American Heritage month speaker. She shared with UC students, faculty, and staff, the challenges facing the water protectors of Standing Rock, North Dakota, who are working hard to block the construction of a 1,772-mile pipeline that will transport crude oil across four states, from North Dakota to Illinois. If the pipeline struck a leak, it would contaminate the drinking water of the Lakota tribe. The construction of the pipeline also ruins sacred burial sites of the Lakotas.

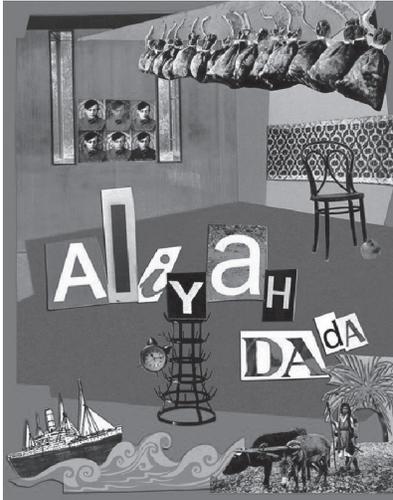
A citizen of the Couchiching First Nation, a Native American tribe in Canada, Houska grew up advocating for the rights of Native Americans. Senator Bernie Sanders appointed Houska as his advisor on Native American issues during his campaign to be the Democratic Presidential candidate. The tribal-rights attorney co-founded Not Your Mascots, a non-profit organization that fights against the misappropriation of Indigenous culture. She is the national campaigns director for the indigenous-led environmental-justice organization Honor the Earth.



Michael A. Meyer

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE MONTH

To combat intolerance and to keep alive lessons learned from the Holocaust, the Center partnered with Department of Judaic Studies to celebrate Holocaust Remembrance events. This year, the department used a three-pronged response to highlight the injustices many members of Jewish communities face. First, **MICHAEL A. MEYER**, the Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History and Professor Emeritus at Hebrew Union College, lectured on *Popular Anger or Planned Pogrom? What Really Happened During Kristallnacht 78 Years Ago*. For the second event, more than 150 people watched the screening of Oana Giurgiu's film, *Aliyah Dada*, which presents a well-documented history of Romanian Jews. Oana Giurgiu is a Romanian film and television director, and she is the executive director of the Transylvania International Film Festival. This festival is one of Europe's most prestigious film festivals. Then, in March, Meyer returned to give another lecture entitled *Looking Back: American Jews Relate to Their Places of Origin*.



Aliyah Dada directed by Oana Giurgiu



Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass



Napoleon Maddox



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Cincinnati local **NAPOLEON MADDOX** took to the stage at the downtown Black Box Theater, located in the Contemporary Arts Center, for Black History Month. The Taft Research Center worked with the Contemporary Arts Center to bring Maddox's show "Twice the First Time," to the Cincinnati community. Maddox is a UC graduate and his performance has traveled extensively. He has been commissioned to perform at a number of universities, festivals, and art institutions. These commissions have taken him to France, England, Serbia, and Slovenia. In 2009, the US Embassy sponsored Maddox to organize a series of workshops and concerts in six Estonian cities for Jazz Month.

His performance captures the story of his great-grand aunt's moving from a life in chains to a life of freedom. To do this Maddox uses poetry, song, and scenography.



“

Sisterhood cannot be assumed on the basis of gender; it must be forged in concrete historical and political practice and analysis.”

Chandra Talpade Mohanty

Professor of Sociology and the Cultural Foundations of Education & Dean's Professor of the Humanities, Syracuse University

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

In celebration of Women's History Month and as this year's Taft Symposium Keynote Address, the Center was proud to welcome renowned scholar **CHANDRA TALPADE MOHANTY**, Professor of Sociology and the Cultural Foundations of Education & Dean's Professor of the Humanities at Syracuse University. We would like to thank Professor Anne Runyan and the Taft Interdisciplinary Global Humanities Research Group for helping bring Mohanty to UC.

Mohanty is a postcolonial and transnational feminist theorist. She is especially known for her highly influential essay, *Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses*, where she argues that the "Third World woman" construct is not hegemonic. Rather, diverse women from many walks of life make up what is commonly referred to in the singular as "Third World woman."

In her keynote address, *Walls, Borders, Bridges: Cartographies of Violence and Transnational Feminist Critique*, Mohanty discussed how power is spatialized and militarized in the United States-Mexico, Israel-Palestine, and India-Kashmir Valley relations. In particular, she highlighted how dominant powers such as the US, Israel, and India operate under "neoliberal militarized regimes masquerading as democratic."



C O M M E M O R A T I O N S

A group of ten diverse people, including men and women of various ethnicities, are smiling and posing for a photo. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. Large, bold, white text is superimposed over the group, reading "CELEBRATIONS".

CELEBRATIONS



THE TAFT RESEARCH CENTER HAD PLENTY TO CELEBRATE THIS YEAR.

Through hard work and with the help of Taft funding, many faculty and students have enjoyed extra quality time to conduct and present their research at conferences both nationally and abroad.

Many of the Center Fellows are in the final stages of finishing their long-term research projects, such as submitting book proposals for review or editing their final manuscripts or publication. Dissertation Fellows are near completion of their dissertations and many are preparing to defend before graduation. In addition, Undergraduate Research Fellows are ready to embark on their next journey after graduating from college.

Notable awards have also come along the way for Taft Research Center faculty and students. This year Taft Professor **STANLEY CORKIN** received the George Rieveschl Jr. Award for Creative and/or Scholarly Works. This award, given to a member of the university's full-time faculty each year, recognizes the national and international acclaim a person has received in areas of scholarly and/or creative work. Next year, Corkin will also be one of the six Taft Research Center Fellows. In addition, History Professor **WILLARD SUNDERLAND** was named the Henry R. Winkler Professor of Modern History. These are truly outstanding achievements and the Taft Research Center is extremely proud to celebrate their accomplishments.

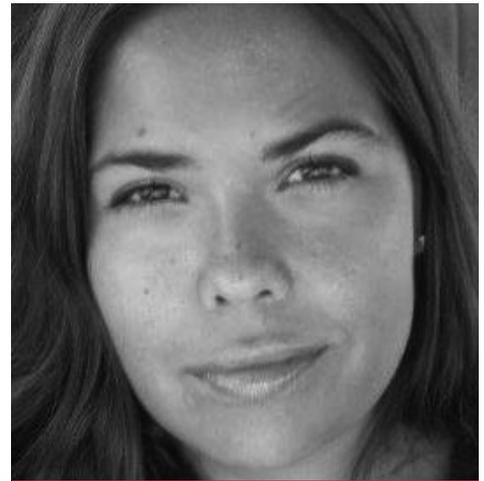
Undergraduate Research Award recipient, **MOHAMED ELZARKA** is the first University of Cincinnati student to receive the Truman scholarship. This is a competitive national scholarship that only awards 55 to 65 awards annually to college juniors. This award is given to students who want to attend graduate school and prepare for a career in public service.

TAFTtalks

This year we produced two more **TAFTtalks**. The first was with **AMY TOWNSEND-SMALL**, an Associate Professor in the Departments of Geology and Geography and the Director of the Environmental Studies program and the CV Theis Groundwater observatory. She researches the human impacts on global carbon, nitrogen, and water cycles; feedbacks between the carbon cycle, the hydrologic cycle, and climate change; greenhouse gas emissions and water quality associated with energy production; stable isotopes and radiocarbon dating. Her current research explores the sources and fluxes of methane, a very powerful greenhouse gas.



Amy Townsend-Small



Tara Houska

The second talk was with Native American Heritage Month speaker, **TARA HOUSKA**. She is an Ojibwe of Saulteaux, Couchiching First Nation and a founding board member of Not Your Mascots, a non-profit organization dedicated to addressing the misappropriation of Indigenous identity, imagery and culture. She is also currently the National Campaigns Director for Honor the Earth, an environmental justice group. Previously, Houska has served as the Native American advisor to the Bernie Sanders campaign, a tribal attorney, and lobbyist for Native American concerns. In her **TAFTtalk**, Houska discusses her work with Honor the Earth and fighting for Native American rights and sustainable land practices.

ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The Annual Research Symposium is a time when the Center casts a spotlight on the Center Fellows. During the week of the Symposium, each Center Fellow presents their research project, in discussion with an invited specialist in their field. The interlocutor format provides fellows with an important opportunity to receive critical feedback prior to submitting their work for review. The interlocutor format also allows for engaging and inspiring intellectual exchange.

TAFT CENTER FELLOWS

Each year, the Taft Research Center offers Taft faculty the opportunity to complete a significant scholarly project and prepare it for publication. If chosen, recipients receive one year away from teaching and university administration to write. **Meet the 2016–17 Taft Center Fellows:**



ARYAY FINKELSTEIN

Judaic Studies

Emperor Julian and the Jews: The Place of Jews in the Making of a Pagan Empire

Dr. Finkelstein’s book project demonstrates how Emperor Julian (361–363), the nephew of Constantine, used Jews’ proximity to pagans in Syrian Antioch to re-make imperial pagan identity and to delegitimize Christian “others.” This work asks questions about the relationship between religion and state and between religion and empire. Dr. Finkelstein specifically focuses on the state’s use of religious identity to legitimate itself and to de-legitimize its opponents.

How has the Taft Center Fellowship helped you? I am so thankful for my year at Taft as a Center Fellow. The fellowship provided me with an intellectual and social community in which other fellows and I shared each other’s works and lives. Taft also became a quiet sanctuary where I could sit and write my manuscript which I finished in March. Finally, the Center Fellow Symposium put me in contact with a key scholar in my field who read and commented on my work and with whom I maintained contact. All of these have contributed immensely to my growth as a scholar.

INTERLOCUTOR: **CHRISTINE SHEPARDSON**

Lindsay Young Professor, Department of Religious Studies,
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dr. Shepardson studies the history of early Christianity, particularly the Mediterranean world in the period of late antiquity. Her current book project, which is also the title of her 2016–17 NEH Fellowship project, is *A Memory of Violence: The Radicalization of Religious Difference in the Middle East* (ca. 431–750 CE).



GERGANA IVANOVA

German Studies

Unbinding The Pillow Book: Gender, Adaptation, and the Afterlife of a Japanese Classic

Dr. Ivanova's book project examines intersections between gender ideology, political context, cultural appropriation, and literary production in the re-construction of the large corpus of Japanese women's writings that emerged in the tenth and eleventh centuries. Focusing on *The Pillow Book* (early 11th c.), which is one of the texts that form the core of the Japanese literary canon as it is taught today, Dr. Ivanova examines different streams of influence on perceptions of Heian (794–1185) literary works.

How has the Taft Center Fellowship helped you? I am exceedingly grateful to the Taft Research Center for the opportunity to spend a whole year conducting research. I have succeeded in completing my first book manuscript, which is a major tenure requirement in my department, and have embarked on a new project. This fellowship has enabled me to share my work and engage in productive conversations with some of the other center fellows during our regular meetings, as well as to present my project and receive feedback from a larger audience of UC faculty members and one of the leading scholars in Japanese Studies from Washington University in St. Louis during the annual symposium. In Japanese Studies most of the research leave programs involve moving to Japan for the period of the leave, and I am greatly indebted to Taft for allowing me the opportunity to focus on my research without having to be away from my family.

INTERLOCUTOR: **JAMIE NEWHARD**

Associate Professor of Japanese Language and Literature, Director of Graduate Studies, Washington University in St. Louis

Dr. Newhard specializes in premodern Japanese literature and language, with a particular interest in courtly narrative of the Heian period and its reception in later ages. Her most recent monograph, *Knowing the Amorous Man: A History of Scholarship on Tales of Ise* (Harvard University Press, 2013), combines primary-source research with a theoretically framed analysis, exploring commentaries from the medieval period in the early 20th century, and situating the text's critical reception with an evolving historical and social context.



HEIDI MAIBOM

Philosophy

Coming to Grips with Perspective Taking

Dr. Maibom's book project analyzes the different components of perspective taking. She defends a version of the common sense view of perspective taking. She argues it involves a substantive change of perspectives, is experiential, contains different details than more objective and discursive modes of thought, allows you to share (part of) someone else's experience and brings to light distinctive kinds of information (what it's like). According to Maibom, perspective taking is central to responsibility, identity, understanding, and human relationships.

How has the Taft Center Fellowship helped you? The generous support of Taft helped me finish a book that I have worked on for a while. It freed up time to dedicate to this research, it provided the opportunity for incredible feedback during the Annual Taft Research Symposium, and the meetings with other fellows about our research helped me sharpen my ideas and learn about very different topics of research. The Taft Fellowship is a unique and incredible privilege.

INTERLOCUTOR: **KARSTEN STUEBER**

Professor of Philosophy, College of the Holy Cross

Dr. Steuber is the author of *Rediscovering Empathy: Agency, Folk Psychology, and the Human Sciences* (MIT Press 2006, 2nd edition 2010) and *Donald Davidsons Theorie Sprachlichen Verstehens* (Anton Hain, 1993). He is very much concerned with accounting for our knowledge of other minds and with defending the claim that empathy is epistemically central for this purpose.



SHAILAJA PAIK

History

The Politics of Performance: Caste, Sexuality, and Discrimination in Popular Culture in India

Dr. Paik's book analyzes how Maharashtrian popular culture is rooted in the politics of caste and gendered practices and how it engenders certain case-specific norms of gender and sexuality. She purposefully delves into the realm of popular culture — doggerels and poems, songs and theatrical performances — fashioned by lower caste women and men to express their concerns, experiences, and aspirations as they negotiate with colonial rulers, the upper-castes, and lower castes at particular historical junctures.

How has the Taft Center Fellowship helped you? I had been working at regional archives and conducting research on my second book for four years. The Taft Fellowship allowed me the wonderful opportunity to reflect upon and analyze the variety of data sources I had acquired over the years, and most importantly complete first drafts of some chapters. I also wrote a significant peer-reviewed article based on my field research. Moreover, I got critical feedback from my interlocutor in terms of revising my chapters. I also learned about my fellow-colleagues' research and got to know them better. In all, the Taft fellowship was certainly productive.

INTERLOCUTOR: **LUCINDA RAMBERG**

Associate Professor of Anthropology, Cornell University

A medical and sociocultural anthropologist and interdisciplinary scholar, Dr. Ramberg's research projects in South India and the United States engage the politics of sexuality, gender and religion, and are focused on the body as an artifact of culture and power in relation to questions of sexual subjectivity, social transformation, and citizenship projects.



EARL WRIGHT, II

Africana Studies

Jim Crow Sociology

The first book-length examination of “Black Sociology” in the United States, “Jim Crow Sociology: From the Atlanta Sociological Laboratory to the Association of Black Sociologists,” is the second of a three-book series on the origin, development and significance of sociology in the United States as practiced by Blacks at predominately Black institutions. Jim Crow Sociology extends the examination of the Black sociological enterprise beyond the exploits of W. E. B. Du Bois and Atlanta University and into the individual accomplishments of persons including, but not limited to, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Anna Julia Cooper and Maria Stewart and institutional units including Fisk University, Howard University and Tuskegee Institute over a nearly fifty-year period.

How has the Taft Center Fellowship helped you? “The Center Fellowship has been critical in the development and completion of my forthcoming book. UC faculty is privileged to have such a resource available to us. I encourage faculty that are engaged in quality research projects to seek this opportunity. You will not regret the decision.”

INTERLOCUTOR: **DR. OBIE CLAYTON JR.**

American Sociological Association Edmund Ware Distinguished Professor Chairperson, sociology and criminal justice, Clark Atlanta University

Dr. Clayton Jr. is the founding Director of the University of Georgia's Center for Social Justice, civil, and Human Rights, and from 2011 through 2013, he was the inaugural Hollowell Distinguished Professor of Social Justice and Civil Rights Studies. He is best known for his service and research in examining race relations, urban inequality, demography, and the family.



humanities**NOW** GRADUATE CONFERENCE

Early February saw students from across the country come to the Taft Center to present their research at the annual **humanitiesNOW** Graduate conference. In addition to the featured work of our Dissertation Fellows, the conference included presentations by graduates from DAAP at UC, the University of Tennessee – Knoxville, Bucknell University, the University of California – Davis, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Illinois at Chicago

humanities**NOW** KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tom Conley, Abbott Lawrence Lowell Professor of Visual and Environmental Studies and of Romance Languages and Literatures at Harvard University, was this year's **humanitiesNOW** Keynote Speaker. Conley studies relations of space and writing in literature, cartography, and cinema. His work moves to and from early modern France to issues in theory and interpretation in visual media.

Conley has published more than 250 articles and book chapters, and several books, including *Film Heiroglyphs* (1991, 2006), *The Graphic Unconscious in Early Modern Writing* (1992), and *L'inconscient graphique: Essai sur la lettre à la Renaissance* (2000). He has held visiting appointments at the University of California—Berkeley, University of California—Los Angeles, the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, L'École de Chartes, L'École en Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, and other institutions.

Conley has received a wide range of awards which include fellowships from the American Council for Learned Societies, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Guggenheim Foundation, and the Walter Jackson Bate Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute. In December of 2011, the Université Blasé Pascal (Clermont-Ferrand, France) awarded him an honorary doctorate.

TAFT DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS

The Taft Research Center not only supports faculty research, it also funds student research. Each year the Center provides superior graduate students, who are close to completing their doctorships, a fellowship of \$17,600. Each Taft-Ph.D-granting department is allocated one dissertation fellowship, and department faculty determine the recipient.

This year's Dissertation Fellows include:



MATTHEW BAUMAN

German Studies

Wie man (im Osten)

Bauman's dissertation concerns the thematic and formal links between non-fiction cinema made in The German Democratic Republic (East Germany) and The Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) during the Berlin Wall period (1961–1989). Specifically, the project focuses on documentary films that exhibit subjective, first-person, essayistic qualities.

How has the Taft Dissertation Fellowship helped you? The Taft Dissertation Fellowship has been an unqualified boon to the progress of my dissertation. In addition to giving me the opportunity to focus on writing for the year, the Dissertation Fellowship allowed me the flexibility to travel abroad to conduct archival research that is now integral to one of my dissertation chapters. The Dissertation Fellowship also pointed me to the English 9010 dissertation workshop, which helped me develop strategies to organize my writing time during my fellowship year and beyond.



VANESSA DE LOS REYES

History

From Conformity to Protest: The Evolution of Latinos in American Popular Culture, 1930s–1980s

De Los Reyes' dissertation examines the representation of Latinos in popular culture — specifically in film, television, and advertising — from the 1930s through the early 1980s. It follows the changing portrayals of Latinos in popular culture and how they reflect the larger societal phenomena of conformity, the battle for civil rights and inclusion, and the debate over identity politics and cultural authenticity.

How has the Taft Dissertation Fellowship helped you? The Taft Dissertation Fellowship has given me the incredible opportunity of being able to fully focus on writing my dissertation without having to worry about finances or the time commitment required as an instructor or graduate assistant. I have had the flexibility of choosing my own work schedule and space, which has made me a more effective writer. The Fellowship also has given me the chance to connect with other graduate students throughout the university who are in a similar position. Since

this dissertating process could be so isolating and my program is relatively small, it was comforting to meet others who were experiencing the same feelings and anxieties. I believe it would have taken me longer to complete my doctorate if I did not have support from Taft to fully emerge myself in this process.



ALAN GRIGSBY

Sociology

Black Social Life in a Diverse Suburb

Grigsby's dissertation focuses on an ethnographic approach to investigate social life in one racially diverse suburb of Cleveland, OH: Shaker Heights. The dissertation focuses on how black people, who occupy this space as residents, employees, and visitors, think about, describe, and participate in social life in a diverse suburb. This information will help researchers better understand dynamics of race relations in a neighborhood context that is both seldom explored and growing in demographic importance.

How has the Taft Dissertation Fellowship helped you? The Charles Phelps Taft Dissertation Fellowship Award afforded me the opportunity to devote an entire year to fieldwork and data collection. Presenting at the 2017 **humanitiesNOW** conference encouraged me to think early and often about the implications of my research beyond the disciplinary walls of sociology. I am truly grateful for the financial support and opportunities for professional development that Taft provided.



ALEXANDER JEUK

Philosophy

Embodied Understanding: A Phenomenological Approach

Jeuk's dissertation focuses on a phenomenological account of embodied understanding that is based on a synthesis of classic phenomenology and embodied cognition. The two major conclusions of his research are: human understanding exhibits body-relational spatiotemporal schematic structure and human understanding is constitutively integrated with affect.

How has the Taft Dissertation Fellowship helped you? The Taft Dissertation Fellowship has allowed me to complete my dissertation research swiftly, autonomously from economic and institutional constraints, and I have benefited in many ways from intellectual inspiration through Taft events. The support through Taft's members has been exceptional.



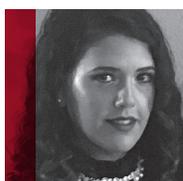
PULONG MA

Mathematical Sciences

Hierarchical Spatial and Spatio-Temporal Models for Massive Spatial and Spatio-Temporal Datasets

This dissertation aims to develop novel hierarchical spatial and spatio-temporal statistical models for massive spatial and spatio-temporal datasets from remote sensing, climate science, and environmental sciences. To tackle the issue, Ma has developed a hierarchical spatial model, which provides flexible covariance function for modeling different spatial scales, and also allows fast and exact computation for massive spatial datasets.

How has the Taft Dissertation Fellowship helped you? It is necessary to focus yourself on one thing to achieve success.



ANWAR MHAJNE

Political Science

Political Opportunities and Strategic Choices: The Case of the Muslim Sisterhood in Egypt

This project examines the mobilizing strategies of the of the Muslim Sisterhood in Egypt during various regime changes between 2010 and 2014. Mhajne uses a comparative analysis that draws on and contributes to the literatures on shifting political opportunity structures and how they influence women's organization of political groups.

How has the Taft Dissertation Fellowship helped you? The Taft Dissertation Fellowship has been essential for getting me closer to finishing my Ph.D. During the past year, I made substantive progress towards completing my dissertation project. I completed two chapters of my dissertation and collected data in Istanbul for the empirical chapters of my dissertation. I am working on transcribing the interviews I collected in Turkey to start working on my empirical chapters. Also, I am currently working on a few publication projects. One of these projects is going to be published in the next issue of the *International Feminist Journal of Politics*. This would not have been possible without the generous financial and professional support from the Taft Center.



JUAN CAMILO GALEANO SÁNCHEZ

Romance Languages and Literatures

The Male Outlaw: An Intersectional Approach to Identities in Colombia's "Novelas de la Violencia" Written by Women

Sánchez's dissertation, *The Male Outlaw: An Intersectional Approach to Identities in Colombia's 'Novela de la Violencia' Written by Women*, means to establish a dialogue between matters of gender, class, race, and national identity in the novels: *Jacinta y la Violencia* (1967) by Soraya Juncal, *Cola de Zorro* (1970) by Fanny Buitrago, *Triquitraques del Trópico* (1972) by Flor Romero, and *Estaba la Pájara Pinta Sentada en el Verde Limón* (1975) by Albalucía Ángel. Sánchez hypothesizes these authors construct the male outlaw character as a counter-hegemonic individual, one who is able to build new identities by questioning

patriarchal ones. His analysis emphasizes overlapping identities to expose different ideological positions and political agendas.

How has the Taft Dissertation Fellowship helped you? The dissertation fellowship allowed me to research at my own pace and to write without the pressure of a deadline. Likewise, it gave me the possibility of starting my job search from the beginning of my fourth year of Ph.D. Finally, it enabled me to share my work with a demanding audience during the **humanitiesNOW** Conference.

SIMON WORKMAN



English & Comparative Literature

A Criminal Strain Ran In His Blood: Medical Science, Criminology, and Empire in the Sherlock Holmes Canon

Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories and novels are clearly an international phenomenon. However, not many know Doyle's stories emerged as a response to and example of cultural anxieties that surrounded scientific advances. This dissertation demonstrates how the Sherlock Holmes tales respond to and participate in the ideological nexus of medical science, criminology, and British imperialism.

How has the Taft Dissertation Fellowship helped you? The Taft Dissertation Fellowship has been an invaluable resource, both financially and academically, during my research and writing this year. Being able to focus exclusively on my own work has increased my productivity, and I have learned a lot from the other dissertation fellows. Attending and presenting at the **humanitiesNOW** conference was extremely rewarding, allowing me to receive feedback from peers and to get a better sense of the exciting research going on in the humanities today. I am very grateful to the Taft Research Center for giving me this opportunity.



I strongly believe that my Taft-supported project was instrumental in setting me up for selection into prestigious programs like the Fulbright program and the Truman Scholarship program — programs in which I hope to build upon the skills that I have learned this year through my project. Ultimately, I know that the support that the Taft program has given me will have an important and lasting impact upon my career, and that the skills and lessons I have learned this year will stay with me long into the future.”

Mohamed Elzarka

Undergraduate Research Award recipient

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

The Center awards superior undergraduate students with \$2000 of research support for completing a scholarly project. Senior undergraduates have a more extensive project and are guided by a faculty mentor. **This year, there were three senior undergraduate students, and they included:**



MOHAMED ELZARKA

Majors: Neurobiology and self-designed bachelor in liberal arts with a focus on public health

Minor: Political Science

Certificates: International human rights

What is your project and the outcome of your research? My project focuses on access to mental healthcare among the Latino/Latina population of Cincinnati by using a cultural analysis. I adopt a multi-step and multi-modal approach to explore how current mental health infrastructures and the stigma around Cincinnati’s Hispanic populations intersect. This is done to develop a population-based understanding of the influence of cultural origin and geographic location on distinct Hispanic communities as way to highlight successful service integration for Hispanic patients and to advocate for best practices for widening access.

How has Taft enabled you to reach your goals? My taft award has enabled me to become a better researcher, and thus a better student. Having the chance to engage in a robust independent research project has given me insight into the complexity of such an endeavor. The award has also provided me the chance to explore my passion for expanding healthcare access. I am grateful to the Taft Center for the chance to take my learning beyond the classroom, and apply what I have learned to a project that will hopefully serve as the catalyst for my future career.

Future plans? Elzarka is the first Bearcat to receive the Truman scholarship. After he graduates this year, he will receive a \$30,000 scholarship which will go toward medical school. He will also have the opportunity to participate in a global health internship in Thailand this summer.



KEAVASH ASSANI

Major: Biology and Spanish

Minor: Chemistry

Certificates: Spanish certificate for Social Work and Health Care Sciences and Spanish certificate for Spanish

What is your project and the outcome of your research? Through my investigation of the Healthcare Provider-Patient Relationship I have worked to uncover the barriers that Hispanics and Latinos face in the

Emergency Department in the United States and Mexico. There are wide arrays of differences in how providers in the US interact with Hispanic and Latino patients in comparison to how native Mexican providers interact with their counterparts, and these cultural and linguistic differences are key to improving the healthcare provider-patient relationship inside and outside of the Emergency department.

How has Taft enabled you to reach your goals? My taft award has enabled me to pursue my research here in the United States and abroad. Without [this] financial support and guidance, I would not have been capable of pursuing this invaluable opportunity. I am extremely grateful to have had their support.

Future plans? Assani is pursuing his master's in healthcare administration at UC.



SVETLANA GALVEZ-STOJAVLJEVIC

Majors: Economics and analytical finance

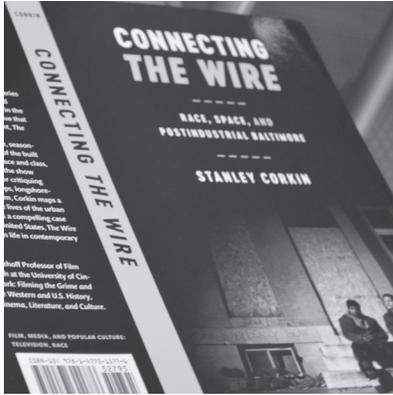
Minor: Mathematics

Certificates: French Language

What is your project and the outcome of your research? The world's food chain is comprised of 10 major food manufacturers — Coca-Cola, Unilever, Nestle, Kellogg, Associated British Foods, Danone, General Mills, Mars, and Pepsi Co — that control a majority of the food supply around the world. Together these companies generate \$1.1 billion in revenue a day, representing 10 percent of the global economy. To produce their products, these food manufacturers buy from small, poor agricultural farmers, process the raw materials into products, and then sell them to consumers in developed nations. In addition, while the agriculture sector employs about 450 million workers worldwide, 60 percent of those workers live in extreme poverty. A merger between any of these two food companies would present the poor farmers with less leveraging power on the price and quantity than before when it comes to negotiating trade deals. This paper focuses on understanding the impacts of mergers as a social responsibility and as an impact on the global economic community.

How has Taft enabled you to reach your goals? With the taft grant, I've been able to explore economics in a new light. By using themes that I've been passionate about, I can explore the problems using economic theory and practice. With the guidance of my advisor, not only have we explored the problems within the food industry, but I've also been able to understand the process of research in Economics. I am excited to present my findings and continue developing my skills in economics research.

Future plans? Galvez-Stojavljevic was recently voted as president of the Economic Society and she is working on the society's executive team to plan events for the upcoming semester. She was also named a Kautz-Uible Fellow for the Economics Department. This summer, she will be working with JP Morgan Chase as a summer intern in its commercial banking sector.



NEW BOOK ALERT

Besides winning the George Rieveschl Junior Award for Creative and/or Scholarly Works, Stan Corbin published his fourth book, *Connecting the Wire: Race, Space, and Postindustrial Baltimore* (University of Texas Press, 2017). Corbin gives readers the first comprehensive, season-by-season analysis of how the Emmy-award winning show, *The Wire*, illustrates the multi-dimensional character of class and race in Baltimore.

NEW BOOK ALERT

The Taft Research Center community celebrated the publication of Brian Calfano's, co-authored book, *A Matter of Discretion: The Politics of Catholic Priests in the United States and Ireland* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017). The book focuses on how American and Irish Roman Catholic priests use different professional and personal signs when responding to political issues, specifically when discussing their employer's institutional preferences.



OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS

PETER RYAN, Professor of Applied Security, University of Luxembourg
Modeling & Analysis of Security Protocols

ELIZABETH SCHECHTER, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and
Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology, Washington University in St. Louis
Multiple Identities: Self-Conception and Social Understanding

BILL MARSHALL, Professor of Comparative Cultural Studies, University of
Stirling, United Kingdom
Rethinking Francophone Film: World Cinemas and World History

TAMARA BEAUBOEUF-LAFONTANT, Women's Studies Director and
Professor of Women's Studies, DePauw University
The Strong Black Woman: A Half-Told Tale of Voice, Race and the Body

DOUGLAS J. KENNETT, Department Head and Professor of Anthropology,
Pennsylvania State University
Drought Induced Civil Conflict amongst the Maya

JACOB HACKER, Stanley B. Resor Professor of Political Science, Yale
University
*American Amnesia: How the War on Government Led Us to Forget What Made
American Prosper*

TIYA MILES, Professor of American Culture, Afroamerican & African
Studies, History, and Native American Studies, University of Michigan
*Goat Bones in the Basement: A Case of Race, Gender, and Haunting in Old
Savannah*

MEGAN KAVANAUGH, Senior Research Scientist, Guttmacher Institute
*Contraceptive Use and Unintended Pregnancy in the United States:
Measurement, Missteps and More Room for Improvement*

CHELSEY JUAREZ, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology,
North Carolina State University
*Mexican Water Isoscapes: Environmental influence and impact on provenance
analysis*

PAUL POMAN, Chief Executive Officer of Unilever
James C. Kautz Lecture on Global Sustainable Development

MATTHEW HUGHEY, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of
Connecticut
*Make America Great (White?) Again: The Logic of Race from Ozawa and the
Dixiecrats to Fisher and the Donald*

KRISTIN ANDREWS, Associate Professor of Philosophy, York University
Nonhuman Persons

CRISTEN PASCUCCI, Founder of Birth Monopoly
Toppling the Monopoly on Childbirth

TANJA DÜCKERS, 2016 Writer-in Residence, Oberlin College
 Mein altes West-Berlin

SANTIAGO ZABALA, ICREA Research Professor of Philosophy,
 Pompeu Fabra University
 Art, Aesthetics, and the Essential of Emergency

ELAINE REICHEK, New York City-Based Artist
 A Postcolonial Kinderhood

ROGER CHICKERING, Professor Emeritus of History,
 Georgetown University
 Imperial Germany's Peculiar War, 1914–1918

GEORGE CROTHERS, Director of the William S. Webb Museum of
 Anthropology and Associate Professor of Anthropology,
 University of Kentucky
 Hunters and Gatherers as Ecosystem Engineers and the Origins of
 Anthropogenic Landscapes in Kentucky Prehistory

ROBERT BRISCOE, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Ohio University
 Pictorial Experience in the Light of Vision Science

CATHEIRNE BAKER, Director of MA Provision and Lecturer of 20th
 Century History, University of Hull, United Kingdom
 Counterpublics: Popular Culture and Global Formations of Race in Eastern Europe

CARL CRAVER, Professor of Philosophy, Washington University in St. Louis
 Are more details better? On the Norms of Completeness in Mechanistic Explanations

ALEXEI MIASNIKOV, Department Director and Professor of Mathematical
 Sciences, Stevens Institute of Technology
 Group Theory Based Algorithms, Complexity and Cryptography

MARIA STEHLE, Associate Professor of Modern Foreign Languages and
 Literatures, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
 Willkommenskultur Documented: Refugees and Germans in Land in Sicht (2014)

KEVIN HUNT, Professor of Anthropology, Indiana
 Dry-Habitat Apes Are Convergent On Early Hominins: Savanna Ecology and the
 Evolution of Bipedalism

JEFFREY RUBENSTEIN, Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, New York
 University
 Talmudic Stories: From History to Literature

CHRIS SMEENK, Director of the Rotman Institute of Philosophy, Associate
 Professor of Philosophy, Western University, Ontario, Canada
 Measurement and Content

NICK KAWA, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Ohio State University
 Amazonia in the Anthropocene: People, Soils, Plants, Forests

BILL JENNINGS, Chair of the It's About Time Black Panther Party Alumni and Legacy Committee
Forerunners to the Black Lives Matter Movement: The Black Panther Party and the Role of Its Newspaper

MARLON M. BAILEY, Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies, Arizona State University
Butch Queens Up in Pumps: Gender, Performance, and Ballroom Culture in Detroit

GINA BELTRÁN, Leadership and Public Interaction Program Officer, the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation
Rethinking the Humanities PhD

SEBOUH ASLANIAN, Associate Professor and Richard Hovanniasian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History, University of California, Los Angeles
Global History, Microhistory, and the Voyage of the Santa Catharina: The Indian Ocean and Global Politics and Trade

RANDALL HALLE, Klaus W. Jonas Professor of German Film and Cultural Studies, University of Pittsburgh
The Stream of Refugees, the Flood of Images, the European Media Apparatus

CHARLOTTE RYAN, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Massachusetts, Lowell
The Stream of Refugees, The Flood of Images, The European Media Apparatus

JEAN-MICHEL CORON, Professor of Mathematics Department, University Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris
Small-Time Global Controllability of the Navier-Stokes Equation with the Navier Slip Boundary Conditions

BRIAN F. HARRISON, Lecturer of Political Science, Northwestern University, and **MELISSA R. MICHELSON**, Professor of Political Science, Menlo College
Listen, We Need to Talk: How to Change Attitudes about LGBT Right

BRIAN CALFANO, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Cincinnati, and **MELISSA R. MICHELSON**, Professor of Political Science Department, Menlo College
A Matter of Discretion: The Politics of Catholic Priests in the United States and Ireland

JEAN-MICHEL CORON, Professor of Mathematics, University Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris
Stabilization of Control Systems: From the Clepsydrae to the Regulation of Rivers

ANDREA GOULET, Professor of Romance Languages, University of Pennsylvania
Street Crimes: Paris (and France) After Poe

MICHAEL WEISBERG, Chair and Professor of Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania
Understanding and Accepting Evolution

EDUARDO HALFON, Guatemalan Writer and Recipient of Guggenheim Fellowship

Identity Under Construction: a Conversation with Guatemalan Writer Eduardo Halfon

CRYSTAL BIRUK, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Oberlin College
Cooking Data: Culture and Politics in an African Research World

PHILIP VAN DER EIJK, Alexander von Humboldt Professor of Classics and History of Science, Humboldt- Universität zu Berlin
Medicine, Mortality and the Doctor-Patient Relationship: Natural and Unnatural Ways of Dying in Ancient Greek Medical and Philosophical Thought

JASON COY, Professor of History, College of Charleston
Divination and Discipline in Reformation-Era Germany

DENISE DUHAMEL, Professor of English, Florida International University
Humor in Poetry

ANDREW HURLEY, Professor of History, University of Missouri-St. Louis
Urban Growth, Development, and Displacement

WENDY BELCHER, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and African American Studies, Princeton University
Writing Your Journal Article in Twelve Weeks

BUDGET OVERVIEW

FACULTY AWARDS: 34.8%

Faculty awards consist of travel, center fellowships, summer fellowships, release fellowships, research supplements, research support, departmental allocated research support, publications, and collections.

STUDENT AWARDS: 36.9%

Student awards consists of graduate travel, graduate enhancements, dissertation fellowships, graduate & undergraduate summer fellowships, graduate and undergraduate enrichment, and undergraduate research awards. Student awards remains the largest budget category, though the reduction of dissertation fellowships for 2016/2017 and beyond should shift this accolade to faculty awards.

FACULTY & STUDENT AWARDS: 8.3%

Faculty & Student awards consists of conferences, competitive and departmental lectures, and research seminars

CENTER AWARDS: 5.4%

Center-based programing consist of commemorative events, **TAFTtalks**, **TAFTco-labs**, **humanitiesNOW** graduate conference, annual research symposium, research groups, and CHCI membership and conference attendance.

ADMINISTRATION: 14.6%

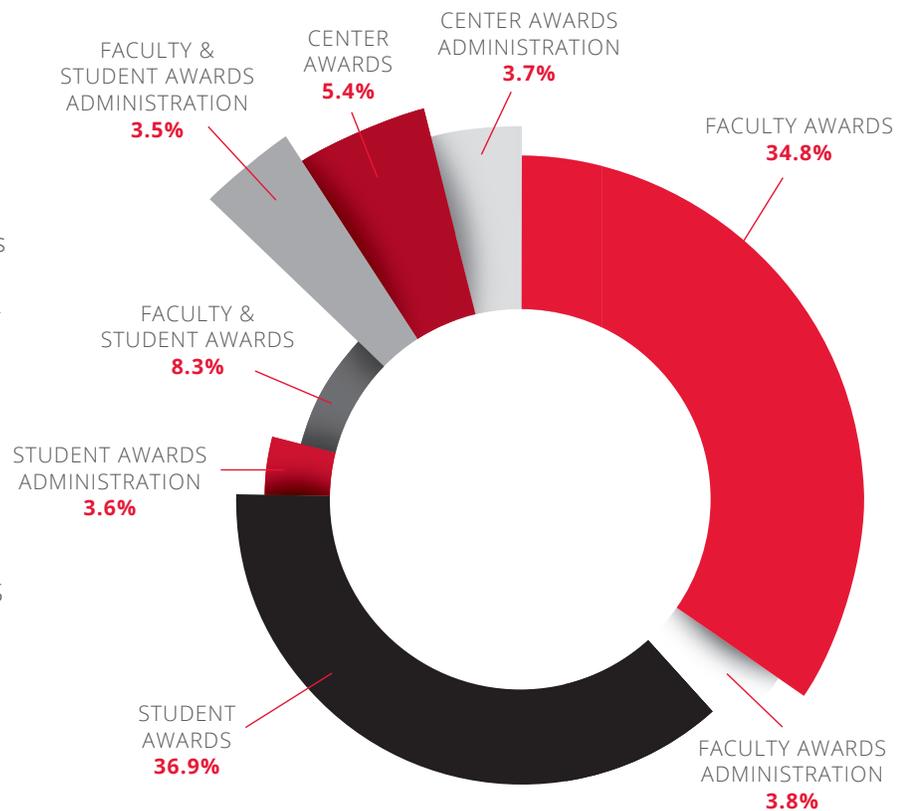
Administration costs of faculty programs, student programs, combined faculty & student programs, and center programs comprises just over 14% of the total budget. The breakdown of this category is as follows:

FACULTY AWARDS ADMINISTRATION: **3.8%**

STUDENT AWARDS ADMINISTRATION: **3.6%**

FACULTY & STUDENT AWARDS ADMINISTRATION: **3.5%**

CENTER AWARDS ADMINISTRATION: **3.7%**



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