Advisory Committees & Staff

Faculty Advisory Committee

Jonathan Alexander  
*English*

Alex Borucki  
*History*

Edward Dimendberg  
*Film and Media Studies*

Zina Giannopoulou  
*Classics*

Aaron James  
*Philosophy*

Arlene Keizer  
*Comparative Literature*

Susan B. Klein  
*East Asian Languages and Literatures*

Santiago Morales-Rivera  
*Spanish and Portuguese*

Beryl Schlossman  
*European Languages and Studies*

Linda Trinh Vo  
*Asian American Studies*

Jeffrey Wasserstrom,  
*History*

Cécile Whiting  
*Art History*

Graduate Student Advisory Committee

Philip Anselmo  
*Comparative Literature*

Michael Berlin  
*Comparative Literature*

Soodabeh Erdaji  
*History*

James Goebel  
*Comparative Literature*

Racquel Gonzales  
*Visual Studies*

Sharon Kunde  
*English*

Meredith Lee  
*Culture and Theory*

Dana Murphy  
*English*

Staff

Julia Reinhard Lupton  
*Director*

Amanda Jeanne Swain  
*Associate Director*

Angélica Enríquez  
*Program Manager*

Saeid Jalalipour  
*Program Coordinator*
**Message from the Director**

For me, it was a year of commemoration and reflection, thanks to our participation in the 50th anniversary celebrations on campus. In April, we hosted a symposium and exhibit on the architecture of the campus. In May, Humanities and Arts contributed to a joint symposium on Cognition, Creativity, Critique. The academic year ended with a visit by William “Bro” Adams, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, which is also celebrating its 50th year.

UCI was among the first universities to receive NEH funding, and we continue strong, with grants just received for 2016-17 by Alex Borucki (History) and William Bridges (East Asian Languages and Literatures).

I have been at UCI for over half of the university’s existence, and I am pleased to be able to work on programs and projects that strengthen us going forward.

**JULIA REINHARD LUPTON**

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**Message from the Associate Director**

Although I have only been at UCI for 2 years, the university’s 50th anniversary gave me a deeper appreciation of the campus.

Our joint celebration of the 50th anniversary of the NEH through a slide show and a short video revealed the impact of NEH grants on UCI and the role of our faculty in establishing and advancing fields of study.

After attending the architecture symposium, I now see how William Pereira’s Brutalist concrete buildings are able to float in space and create a defining feature of our campus.

With support from the Luce and Mellon Foundations, we are training graduate students to be leaders in multiple career paths for the next 50 years. I hope that, when UCI celebrates its 100th anniversary, the work of the Humanities Commons will be part of the story.

**AMANDA JEANNE SWAIN**
Research Clusters

Active clusters in 2015-16 included:

- Culture, Law & Capital
- Early Cultures
- Jurisprudence
- Desert | Structure | Modernism
- Latin American Studies

New clusters funded for 2016-17 include:

- Architecture and Urban Studies
- Blackness and the Asian Century
- Critical Historiography and Social Theoretical Inquiry
- Korean Cultural Studies
- Japan Studies
- Russian and Eurasian Studies
- Science, Technology and Race
- The University and the State

Graduate students in Early Cultures present at Santa Barbara conference.

Laura Hatch (CL), James Funk (English), Peter Cibula (English) and Sonia Desai (Drama)
Cultivating conversation

Research Clusters allow groups of faculty from multiple departments to define focused areas for sustained study. Nimble and lightly structured, the Clusters aim to foster a range of new ideas throughout the School, wherever they might be taking shape.

Identifying subfields and research questions that do not belong to a particular department, Clusters encourage new groupings that may grow into longer-term partnerships or provide briefer bursts of inspiration and pollination. Several clusters are seeking funding from foundations, building partnerships in the region or working with other UC campuses on areas of mutual concern.

The systemwide Black Studies Consortium was hosted at UCI in 2015-16 and led to the formation of three research clusters for 2016-17.

LEFT: HORTENSE SPILLERS TALKS ABOUT BLACK STUDIES WITH NAHUM CHANDLER (UCI)
Critical Theory as an Institution

UCI Critical Theory

NEW STRUCTURE

A distinguishing feature of the University of California, Irvine since its founding, critical theory is both crucial to our institutional history and vital to our scholarly present. Under the directorship of James Steintrager, UCI Critical Theory amalgamates the events, programming and faculty research support associated with the former Critical Theory Institute and the curricular and pedagogical doings of the interdisciplinary and cross-school Graduate Critical Theory Emphasis.

MINISEMINARS

Rosi Braidotti (University of Utrecht) led three miniseminars on the subject “Non-Human | Inhuman | Posthuman.”

Georgina Born (Oxford University) led three miniseminars on ethnographies of music, interdisciplinarity, and cultural policy.

KOEHN LECTURE

Jacqueline Rose gave the annual Koehn Lecture in October, 2015. She spoke on “Feminism and the Eloquence of Violence.”

Jacqueline Rose is Professor of Humanities, Birkbeck Institute for the Humanities, University of London. She is internationally known for her writing on feminism, psychoanalysis, literature and the politics and ideology of Israel-Palestine.
**2016 WELLEK LECTURES**

**N. Katherine Hayles**

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**WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 4PM**

Bodies at Risk

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**THURSDAY, MAY 19, 4PM**

Memorializing Print: Individual and Collective Memory in J. J. Abrams and Doug Dorst’s *S*

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**FRIDAY, MAY 20, 4PM**

Precarious Narratives: The Risky Behaviors of Print Books No Longer Able to Tell Coherent Stories

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**N. Katherine Hayles** is James B. Duke Professor of Literature at Duke University and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is the author of many books, including *Comparative Textual Media*, *How We Think*, *Electronic Literature: New Horizons of the Literary*, and *My Mother Was A Computer*.

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**Precarious Prospects**

*Biological & Media Extinction*
Digital Humanities Working Group

The Digital Humanities Working Group sponsors conversations around new work in humanities and computing. This year we sponsored or co-sponsored several conferences, hosted a DH reading group, and sent graduate student Racquel Gonzales (Visual Studies) to the year-long UCLA Meta Data Central project. The DH Working Group works closely with the Library, the Data Science Initiative, and CALIT2 on shared programming and research.

Academic Publishing

The Commons hosted several workshops and residencies featuring publishers and professional writing. **WILLIAM GERMANO**, author of *From Dissertation to Book*, gave a public talk and led a four-hour workshop on academic writing for faculty. Thirteen faculty and post-docs participated.

What’s the number one thing an editor is looking for? A voice.

Think of your book as a series of episodes, not chapters. It’s a drama.

The idea of developing a tool that could be useful for others offered a new way to think about scholarship for me.

**JUDY TZU-CHUN WU,**
PROFESSOR OF ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

Bill’s workshop enabled me to approach my own research with greater clarity, to frame new questions, and to reconnect with the uncertainty and joy integral to writing and thinking.

**ED DIMENDBERG,**
PROFESSOR OF HUMANITIES

Listening to the conversations about colleagues’ proposals helped me to think about the intended audience for my own book.

**LAURA MITCHEL,**
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY
CounterBalance Theater, directed by Annie Loui, was awarded a community engagement grant for *Elsewhere*, a dystopian narrative about organ donation.

**Medical Humanities Initiative**

Understanding the human dimensions of health, healing and well-being animates this inter-school Provost-sponsored excellence initiative. Achievements this year include the approval of a new minor in Medical Humanities and a faculty works-in-progress series.

**Medical Humanities Grants, 2016-17**

**RESEARCH:** James Steintrager (English), Jessica Millward (History), and Andrew Highsmith (History) were awarded Research grants for their current book projects.

**CURRICULUM:** Anthony Kubiak (Drama), Andromache Karanika (Classics), and Zacharitsa Giannopoulou (Classics) will develop courses for the new minor.

**COMMUNITY:** Marco Angulo (Medicine), Kelli Sharp (Dance), and Daniel Gary Busby (Drama) were each awarded grants for community events.
Members of the Early English Broadside Ballads Archive (UCSB) performed at UCI in conjunction with a lecture by Matthew J. Smith.

UCI Shakespeare Center

The UCI Shakespeare Center was founded in 2015 thanks to support from members of the community. The Center hosts performance, scholarship, teaching, and public programming around Shakespeare. Events include First Folio Fridays, seminars and workshops around New Swan Shakespeare Festival, community teaching at Osher and elsewhere, and the Kirk Davis Jr. Public Shakespeare Lecture.

Reading Shakespeare aloud in a group gave us a better feel for the language and allowed us to express our thoughts and ideas.

Leslie and Catherine Polgar, Community Members
Program and Department Grants
The Department of Spanish & Portuguese was awarded a four-year Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) grant from the U.S. Department of Education to support graduate student fellowships. The first GAANN fellowships were awarded to four PhD students for winter and spring 2016.

The Luce Foundation contributed $50,000 to the Humanities Commons for the Humanities Out There Public Fellows program. Launched in winter 2016, the Public Fellows program partners with local cultural organizations to provide paid external internships for humanities Ph.D. students. This is the first grant to UCI from the Luce Foundation.

HUMANITIES COMMONS GRANTS TO FACULTY
18 research grants
19 publication support grants
13 collaborative conference grants
56 conference travel grants

& GRADUATE STUDENTS
13 research grants
6 collaborative conference grants
Grants and Fellowships: 2016-17 Highlights

UCI Office of Research
Seed Funding

Two Humanities faculty received UCI Office of Research seed grants to launch new projects.

**HORACIO LEGRAS** *(Spanish & Portuguese)* will develop a documentary film project with colleagues in Argentina on the Viennese-born Argentine psychoanalyst Marie Langer, whose biography overlaps with many of the decisive historical moments that shaped the twentieth century.

**LAURA MITCHELL** *(History)* will work with scholars and archivists in South Africa to develop a database of records of household auctions in the early colonial period at the Cape, cataloged as the MOOC-10 series.

National Endowment for the Humanities

**ALEX BORUCKI** *(History)* and his colleague Greg O’Malley *(History, UC Santa Cruz)*, were awarded an NEH grant this spring. The NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resource Grant will support the creation of the Final Passages: the Intra-American Slave Trade Database during 2016-2018. This project will document individual shipments that transferred enslaved people between territories in the Americas, e.g. from Barbados to South Carolina, from Rio de Janeiro to Buenos Aires, and from Jamaica to Mexico.

**WILLIAM BRIDGES** *(East Asian Languages and Literatures)* received an NEH Enduring Questions grant to develop a course that uses fiction and nonfiction texts to invite students to consider a question that has been asked since antiquity: when should war end? William also received a UC Presidential Fellowship and a Japan Fulbright.

Other grants & awards

**Faculty**

**MATTHIAS LEHMAN**, History
Fulbright Fellowship, Israel

**JANE O. NEWMAN**
*European Languages and Studies and Comparative Literature*
Berlin Prize (2017)

**RENEÉ RAHAEL**, History
Huntington Library Fellowship

**HEIDI TINSMAN**, History
Guggenheim Fellowship

**Graduate Students**

**SHARON KUNDE**
PhD candidate, English
ACLS Dissertation Fellowship

**SHEIBA KIAN KAUFMAN**
PhD in English, 2016
Clark Library Post-Doctoral Fellowship

**SARAH MELLORS**
PhD candidate, History
Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Award

**ANDREA MILNE**
PhD candidate, History
AAUW Dissertation Fellowship
Since middle school, I have dreamed of becoming a high school English teacher—but after only one quarter’s worth of time at the Kidseum, I am seriously contemplating becoming an elementary school teacher.

—Humanities Out There Intern

Humanities Out There was founded in 1997 as an educational partnership between UCI’s School of Humanities and local schools. This year, teaching fellow Lucena Lau Valle (PhD candidate in Visual Studies) led a group of undergraduate interns in providing homework help at the Bowers Kidseum in Santa Ana. 12-18 undergrads participated each quarter.

* 100% of the students who participate in the After School Learning Center improved their math skill level during the grant period (last year was 83%).

* 93% improved their English/language arts skills (last year was 83%).

* 91% improved their social studies skills (last year was 79%).

* 85% improved their science skills (last year was 75%).
The Forum for the Academy in the Public

The Forum brings scholars together with journalists as well as novelists, cartoonists, comedians, and other public intellectuals from outside of the academy, to explore and debate current issues in politics and culture through public events and writing residencies. Billed as a SERIES OF GATHERINGS AND EVENTS ON NARRATIVE, POLITICS, SCIENCE, CULTURE, AND LAW, the Forum seeks to broaden audiences for university work, encourage public writing among faculty and students in all disciplines, and enhance the depth and seriousness of writing and conversation in the public sphere.

This year’s major conference, FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION: WHAT CANNOT BE SAID, featured a live video appearance by Edward Snowden plus panels and talks by distinguished cartoonists and journalists from around the world.
50th
Anniversary Symposia

CALIFORNIA MODERN, IRVINE STYLE: CAMPUS ARCHITECTURE & THE LEGACY OF WILLIAM PEREIRA
As part of UCI’s anniversary celebrations, the Commons organized a symposium, exhibit, and week of gallery talks on the legacy of campus architect William Pereira. Architect Elizabeth Diller gave a keynote address about her many campus projects. Catherine Liu (FMS) and Jesse Colin Jackson (Art) designed a timeline tracking fifty years of campus and regional history. Speakers included architectural historians Alan Hess, Nicholas Olsberg, and Jean-Louis Cohen. Students submitted 60-second films interpreting the campus from their points of view. The symposium and gallery talks were attended by over 300 people from the campus and the community.

CREATIVITY, COGNITION, CRITIQUE: BRIDGING THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES AT UCI
This two-day event featured artists and scholars working at the intersection of creative practice, critical reflection, and the study of or engagement with cognitive processes. Keynote speakers included Anne Balsamo, Jodi Dean, Georgina Born, and Teddy Cruz. The event included a performance by Random Access Music Universe and a screening of the classic film Killer of Sheep (1977), followed by a conversation with the director Charles Burnett.

The film is really not about despair. It’s about a decent man trying to maintain his dignity and keep his family together under difficult circumstances.

CHARLES BURNETT (CENTER RIGHT) ON HIS CLASSIC FILM, KILLER OF SHEEP. FEATURED WITH DESHA DAUCHAN, JAMIE ROGERS, ED DIMENDBERG, AND ARLENE KEIZER (LEFT TO RIGHT).
Both UCI and the National Endowment for the Humanities celebrate a significant milestone this year—their 50th anniversaries. On September 29, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into effect legislation that called for the creation of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Four days later, UCI opened its classroom doors to students for the first time. UCI had also received its blessing from President Lyndon B. Johnson, who arrived by helicopter to the rolling hills of Orange County to dedicate the campus. For the past 50 years, NEH has played a significant role in furthering humanities scholarship at UCI. UCI humanities faculty and students have received over 100 prestigious grants totaling more than $7 million. These grants have resulted in more than 80 book publications; major public outreach initiatives still ongoing today; field-establishing research in a number of disciplines; and interdisciplinary projects that have become the model for other universities.

On May 31, the Commons was pleased to host NEH Chairman William “Bro” Adams for a day of conversation and reflection on the state of the humanities. He met with directors of centers and clusters; visited the Southeast Asian Archive and Vietnamese American Oral History Project, talked with graduate students about applied research opportunities, and gave a public address about the history and futures of humanities funding at the national level.
Pedagogy Skill Share with Racquel Gonzalez (Visual Studies) and Jessica Conte (EALL). The event was organized by Dana Murphy (English).

Grad Slam with Anna Finn (English); Chris Dearner (English); Philip Anselmo (Comp Lit); Megan Zane (Philosophy); Eun Young Seong (EALL); Tiffany Tsai (EALL); Ryan Gurney (Visual Studies); and Laura Imaoka (Visual Studies).
The Grad Lab promotes graduate student professional development through workshops, panels, skill-shares, and public speaking opportunities. A Graduate Advisory Committee recommends programming ideas, helps design and implement activities, and publicizes Grad Lab events.

Themes for 2016-17 include:
SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS, LEADERSHIP & MENTORSHIP, PEDAGOGY, AND GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS.

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**2015-16 SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS AND PROFESSIONALIZATION FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS**

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**Workshops for graduate students**

**Fall, 2015**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6**
Humanities Out There Public Fellows Open House

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24**
You ... on Google Search: Managing Scholarly Profiles

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27**
Pedagogy Skill Share: Communication, Diversity, Technology

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17**
How Do I Write Thee?: cover letters, resumés, CVs

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1**
PhD Futures: Exploring Multiple Career Paths

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**Winter & Spring, 2016**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 15**
Mastering the Short Form: A Workshop with William Germano

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 30**
Power Speech with Professor of Drama Eli Simon

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11**
Alicia Christensen and Bridget Barry, University of Nebraska Press

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**
Grant-Writing Panel and Workshop for Graduate Students

**TUESDAY, APRIL 26 - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27**
“How to Think Like an Editor” with Alan G. Thomas, University of Chicago Press

**FRIDAY, MAY 27**
Grad Research Slam: celebrating humanities research
The HUMANITIES OUT THERE PUBLIC FELLOWS PROGRAM was launched in the winter of 2016 to create meaningful research opportunities for Humanities PhD students.

**OC PARKS, HERITAGE DIVISION**

Laurie Dickmeyer, History

OC Parks encompasses regional, wilderness and historical facilities, as well as coastal areas throughout the County of Orange. Adobe Historic Site, and the Historic Yorba Cemetery. Anna Kryczka and I have been preparing a programming series focusing on the individual and familial connections to Orange County’s changing landscape as a result of its rapid urbanization and suburbanization.

Anna Kryczka, Visual Studies

Laurie and I developed a volunteer handbook to guide participants on the day of the event. Anticipating the needs of both participants and volunteers has provided me with invaluable management perspective on the enactment of public humanities projects. It has been great to see two historians with PhDs working in a non-academic context and doing such valuable work.

Stefanie Lira, History

I interned with Orange County’s local PBS Station (PBS SoCal/ KOCE). I am creating a digital database of PBS SoCal/ KOCE’s archival materials from the 1970s to the present day. My archival experience in three countries prepared me for the complex process of constructing a digital archive.

Stefanie Lira has helped PBS SoCal transform its archive process from a piecemeal side project to a defined, documented process with cross-trained staff. The success of this project at PBS SoCal has inspired other departments to brainstorm opportunities to partner with a UCI Public Fellow, and we look forward to learning more about both internship opportunities next year.

Jillian Tempesta, Development Manager, PBS SoCal and UCI Alum (English)
In 2016-17, the program will be expanded to include quarter-long and summer internships, thanks to a generous grant from the Luce Foundation.

Michelle Brewster, History

The Laguna Art Museum “collects, cares for, and exhibits works of art that were created by California artists or represent the life and history of the state.” My UCI Humanities Out There (HOT) project is to provide background research for the museum’s upcoming fall 2017 exhibition, Mexico/la: History into art, 1821-1930, and to create lesson plans for K-12 teachers based on the exhibition. My doctoral research in nineteenth-century California overlaps with the time period featured in the exhibition. I have the privilege of sharing knowledge of my field and working to make it accessible to the public. Collaborating with the director, the exhibition curator and the education curator has helped me to further shape and refine my own work.

Chris Dearner, English

I interned with South Coast Repertory, Orange County’s largest and oldest resident theatre. SCR has been digitizing their historical promotional materials and photos to eventually make available on their website, and I have been assisting them in developing a document that not only provides an overview of the theatre’s history, but also builds a narrative framework for website visitors. I worked closely with the theatre’s public relations director and I got to discuss the history of the theatre with one of SCR’s founding artistic directors. I have gained a much better understanding of how my particular humanistic skills can translate into meaningful work outside of the academy after graduation.

Jessica Conte, East Asian Languages & Literatures

I worked with the Vietnamese Film Fest, editing and drafting the festival screening guide. I had to navigate the diverse visions of the committee, festival directors, and filmmakers. I also helped organize a public panel for the festival’s Community Spotlight Film, Finding Phong. The 2015 documentary follows a twenty-three year old transwoman as she comes out to her family and prepares to undergo gender confirmation surgery. Le Ahn Phong, the subject of the documentary, flew out along with the film’s director and executive producer. They were joined by representatives of the Viet Rainbow Coalition of Orange County, and I moderated the panel’s public discussion on transgender justice, community allyship, and filmmaking.
Megan Zane graduated from UCI in 2015 with a Ph.D. in Philosophy and is now a Faculty Fellow in Humanities Core, thanks to the Mellon 5+2 grant, which encourages timely completion of humanities degrees while also providing meaningful, broad-based teaching experiences for postdocs.

What’s it like teaching in Humanities Core as a faculty fellow?

Humanities Core is an excellent program for the transition between TA and professor. You have the freedom to design materials according to the particular needs of your students and your teaching style but the program also supports you with a wealth of experience.

How did your advisor help you complete your Ph.D. in five years?

My advisor, Marcello Fiocco, held me accountable to my self-imposed writing deadlines and provided an immense amount of feedback on my written work. I could not have done it without him.

You participated in the Grad Slam, which was funded by the Mellon grant. Tell us about your experience.

The workshops on articulating the core aspects of our research not only prepped me for my Slam presentation, but also helped me revise my dissertation abstract and research statement in preparation for the job market.
What’s coming in 2016-17?

RESEARCH COMMUNITIES
Increased activity in area studies (Japan, Korea, Latin America, Ireland, and Russia)
Continuing the conversation on architecture, urbanism and creative economies
Increased activity in Black Studies through School clusters and systemwide Consortium
Research residency in Waterways

SHARED EXPERIENCES
Sawyer Seminar on War and project on Homescapes / Warscapes, including panels, films and exhibits
Fact and Fiction: symposium by Forum on the Academy and the Public
Film series in Latin American and Indian cinemas
Humanities -medicine-law integrations

CAPACITY-BUILDING & SKILL SHARING
Expanded internship opportunities for PhD students through Luce grant
Expanded Grad Slam program in public speaking and research narrative development
Both multi-session and one-off workshops on grant writing
Skill-sharing in pedagogy and digital humanities
Cover: The Fabricated American Desert

Conference at the Huntington Library, April 15-16
Research cluster for Humanities Commons (Desert | Structure | Modernism)
Faculty organizers: Lyle Massey and James Nisbet
On line exhibit: curated by Jessica Ziegenfuss, PhD candidate, Visual Studies
Image: Everything and the Kitchen Sink, Noah Purifoy, Noah Purifoy Desert Art Museum of Assemblage Sculpture, Joshua Tree, California. Image by permission of the Purifoy Foundation.
Photo credit: Lyle Massey.