



## Advisory Committee & Staff

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lan Coller History

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Jeanne Scheper Gender and Sexuality Studies

Jacobo Sefami Spanish and Portuguese

Roberta Wue Art History

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Erica Yun Program Coordinator





# Research Centers & Clusters

### Research clusters

Architecture and Urban Studies
Blackness and the Asian Century
Critical Historiography and Social
Theoretical Enquiry
Japan Studies
Knowledge, Technology, and Society
Science, Technology and Race

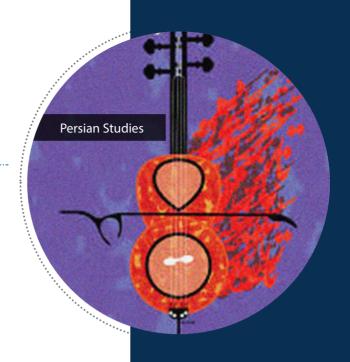
**University and State** 

### School centers

UCI Critical Theory
Center for Early Cultures
Center for Critical Korean Studies
Culture and Capital Center
Forum for the Academy and the Public
Center for Jewish Studies
Latin American Studies Center
Center for Legal Philosophy
Shakespeare Center

### Campus centers and initiatives

Jordan Center for Persian Studies Medical Humanities Initiative



# ollaboration & Exchange





### Center for Jewish Studies

The Center for Jewish Studies faciliates faculty and student research in Jewish history, culture, and society, and engages the Orange County community through lectures and public programs. In 2017-18, the Center hosted a dozen public events, awarded research and travel grants to graduate students and faculty, and inaugurated the "New Horizons in Jewish" Studies Graduate Essay Prize." Events included a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the endowment for the Teller Family Chair in Jewish History; "Last Yiddish Heroes" with Russian singer Psoy Korolenko [left] and University of Toronto Professor Anna Shternshis; and a lecture series on the Babylonian Talmud and on Judeo-Persian poetry.

### Center for Critical Korean Studies

The UCI Center for Critical Korean Studies (CCKS) promotes Korean language learning, thinking critically about Korea's relationship to the Pacific Rim region and the world, and a deeper historical understanding of Korea. Key theories and practices in Korean studies contribute to a broader understanding of current globalization and its effects. The Center's focus on critical studies draws upon UCI's strengths and reputation in critical theory. This year, the CCKS launched a Program in International Engineering-Korea, a 5-year dual degree program. CCKS also hosted events on Korean costumes, architecture, and ice-skating as well as contemporary politics and current events.

### **CULTURAL MEMORY AND** ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS IN LATIN AMERICA

DAUGHTERS OF THE FOREST (PARAGUAY), FEB. 14

"ILHA DAS FLORES" (BRAZIL), "ANIMALES DE ALQUILER" (COSTA RICA), AND "LA CERCA"

JAUJA (ARGENTINA), FEB. 26

MARAEY (BOLIVIA), MAR. 5

OSCURO ANIMAL (COLOMBIA), MAR. 16

ABERINTO YOEME (MEXICO), APR. 4

### Latin American Studies Center

The LASC promotes dialogue and collaboration in the study of Latin America across disciplines and organizes educational activities on campus and off. In 2017-18, the LASC organized or co-organized 27 academic events during this year. Highlights included hosting the SoCal Brazilian Studies Conference, film screenings on campus and in Santa Ana, and talks on slavery (Brianna Simmons), Marxism and deconstruction (Bruno Bosteels), and state terror in Mexico (Alexander Aviña). The LASC hosted a dissertation workshop for graduate students, and is working on a 4+1 Masters program with Chicano/Latino Studies and International Studies. The LASC is also pursuing international partnerships. The LASC received a California Humanities grant to support their film series.

### Black studies: consortium and clusters

The Black Studies Consortium is a Multi-Campus Research Program and Initiative (MRPI). The UCI convener is Nahum Chandler (English and African American Studies). Research clusters affiliated with the Black Studies Consortium include Blackness and the Asian Century (BASIC), Critical Historiography and Social Theoretical Enquiry (CHASTE), and Science, Technology and Race (STAR). The groups contributed to a major joint conference in June, 2018, on Blackness and the Asian Century. The gathering aimed to rethink the problem of race in the very making of Asia, by way of reference to African, African American, and Africa Diaspora examples.

### japan studies

This research cluster aims to build Environmental and Sustainability Studies within the field of Japanese Studies. Our proposal "Sustainable Japan" was funded by the Japan Foundation and will allow us to hire a new assistant professor in Japanese Environmental Humanities and expand our annual International Eco-Japan Symposium. Events in the planning include "Japanimals," "Affect, Materiality, Performance in Japanese Art and Theater," and "Agrarian Japan." Our areas of strength include environmental history; ecological literature, cinema and activism; religious studies of pollution and purification; art histories of wood and clay; and music and theater of minority and indigenous environmental justice.

### center for legal philosophy

The Center for Legal Philosophy supports work at the intersection of philosophy and law. It is a resource for UCI faculty already working in and collaborating on jurisprudential areas and a forum for hosting national and international scholars in this subfield. The 'Law, Reason and Value' Speaker Series has by now featured many of the the leading legal philosophers in the US, including Brian Bix (Minnesota), Allen Buchanan (Duke), Barbara Fried (Stanford), John Goldberg (Harvard), Deborah Hellman (UVA), Scott Hershovitz (Michigan), David Luban (Georgetown), Seana Shiffrin (UCLA), Giden Yaffe (Yale) and Ben Zipursky (Fordham).













### center for early cultures

A collective of faculty and graduate students from departments including English, Art History, Classics, Comparative Literature, History, Drama, European Studies, Spanish, Political Science, and Philosophy, Early Cultures is defined by its wide-ranging approaches to both intellectual questions and pedagogical issues. In 2017-18, the Center organized a graduate student symposium on travel and translation. Roland Betancourt (Art History and Visual Studies) organized a symposium on the topic "Premodern Intersectionality: Marginal Identities in Early Cultures." Early Cultures also sponsored lunchtime talks throughout the year featuring UCI faculty, Huntington scholars, and UC colleagues.

### UCI shakespeare center

The UCI Shakespeare Center brings together scholars, performers and the public for shared inquiry into Shakespeare as a renewable resource for art and life. This year, the Center hosted the Hamlet Trial, featuring Deans of Law Song Richardson (UCI) and Erwin Chemerinsky (Berkeley). The Center provided community learning opportunities for New Swan Shakespeare Festival and hosted six Shakespeare reading groups in locations across the county. The Center provided travel grants to PhD students working in Shakespeare studies and hosted several scholarly and public-facing talks on campus. A lecture and performance featuring Robin Buck (UCI Drama) was held at the Laguna Art Museum on the topic of Shakespeare in art and music.

### culture and capital center

The Culture and Capital Center seeks to understand how the dynamics of contemporary capitalism transform cultural production. Our members study everything from the political economy of Southern California to that of nations in the global periphery, tracing the relations of those economies to the production, transmission, and consumption of traditional and new media. The Center sponsors guest speakers, organizes events, and holds regular reading and discussion groups. Highlights this year included a visit by Melinda Cooper, who gave a lecture on "Taxation by Citation: Ferguson, Missouri as a Laboratory of Virginia School Neoliberalism"; and a conference on "Elemental Media and Extractive Politics."

### Architecture and urban studies

The Architecture and Urban Studies Research Cluster promotes campuswide discussion of the aesthetic, cultural, and social dimensions of the built environment. Simultaneously global and historical, it aspires to enrich the learning experience of students and to foster collaborations among faculty working in the humanities and the social sciences. This year the cluster sponsored four events, including a showing of Cabrini Green [right] with filmmaker Ronit Bezalel; a lecture on environment and landscape by Larry Busbea; and a public lecture by Korean architect Minsuk Cho [inside back cover].

### University and State

University and State studies the university as a social, psychic and historiographic idea of state consolidation and rationalization. Affiliated with a UCHRI Graduate Student Working Group with the same title, participants convened a conference at UCI, "State Reason/ University Thought." The conference posed the following questions: When, where, how, and why does the university and its influence begin? Where does it end? And what is at stake in answering these questions with certitude? Twenty-five participants from thirteen universities in the US, Chile, and India presented original research. UCI members also attended a meeting at UCR and contributed to an event at UCI on "Opaque Media."

### Knowledge, technology, and society

Since 2016 the Department of Philosophy has made a number of new hires in epistemology, thereby adding to existing UCI strengths in this field. The result has been a vibrant and high profile research group. To capitalize on these developments, in 2017 a research cluster was established in this area, entitled 'Knowledge, Technology and Society' to reflect how the cluster approaches epistemological questions from an applied and interdisciplinary angle, with a particular focus on the application of epistemology to technological and societal issues. Highlights this year included a conference on Hinge Epistemology, a workshop on Epistemic Relativism, the establishment of the Southern Californian Epistemology Network, and funding for a MOOC on Scepticism and Relativism.









### miniseminar

Kaushik Sunder Rajan Multi-Si(ght)ted: On Pharmacy, Postcoloniality, and Perception March 6, 7, and 8, 2018

### koehn lecture

James clifford

Carlo Scarpa: Articulation Theory, Indigeneity: Working with/in History

### wellek lectures

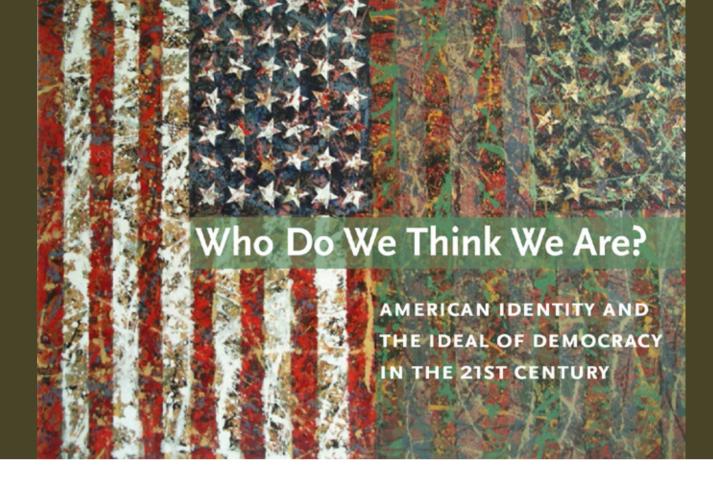
wendy Brown Authoritarian Liberalism and Moral Nihilism: Neoliberalism's Accidental Legacies

1.Society Must Be Dismantled: Neoliberalism's Critique of the Social 2. Democracy versus Freedom: Neoliberalism's Critique of the Political May 1-3, 2018

3. Markets and Morals in a Nihilistic Age: Traditional Values Weaponized November 8, 2018



ABOVE: Liron Mor, Wendy Brown, and Radha Radakrishnan, Wellek Lectures



### The Forum for the Academy and 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, who do we think we are?, featured major journalists, jurists, and writers reflecting on the dilemma of being American in the present moment. Keynote speaker Jill Lepore (Harvard University and The New Yorker) read from her forthcoming history of the United States. The 2018 conference, "Fire and Ice," will address the challenges of communicating climate change.

Jill Lepore (Harvard University) and Amy Wilentz (UCI Literary Journalism) at "Who Do We Think We Are?" symposium, February 2018.





### **Medical Humanities Initiative**

Launched in 2014-2015, the Medical Humanities Initiative has become a vibrant multi-disciplinary space for exploring the meanings of health, healing and well-being. It represents an unprecedented collaboration among faculties from three schools: Arts, Humanities, and Medicine. The initiative is committed to the promotion of a model of health care that is intentionally focused on the individual, culturally sensitive, and responsive to the community. Health care resources and capacities must be available to respond to a regional population that is now more ethnically and racially diverse, economically divided, and stratified by age than at any other time. This holistic model of health care not only demands the consideration of multiple perspectives but also involves probing settled binaries—doctor-patient, illness-cure, faithscience, and life-death among others—to serve, equip and, ultimately, enrich the lives of people. The initiative is poised to become a campus center in 2018-19.

### Highlights 2017-18

- Six works-in-progress talks by speakers from Nursing, Drama, English, and History
- Distinguished Lecture by Dr. Rita Charon, "To See the Suffering, to Lend the Care: How Humanities and the Arts Transform Medicine"
- Co-sponsored conferences on The Wellness Myth, Asian American Health, and Health and Healing through Poetry
- Graduate Emphasis approved, beginning 2018-19
- Funding for faculty to develop new courses in Medical Humanities

Above: Andromache Karanika, Kelli Sharp, James Kyung-Jin Lee, Douglas Haynes, and Johanna Shapiro

### **Digital Humanities Working Group**

The Digital Humanities Working Group sponsors conversations and skills development around humanities and computing. Led by Emilee Mathews (UCI Libraries) in 2017-18, the DHWG sponsored the third annual Critical Games Studies Symposium and hosted speakers, panels and skill shares on digital matters.

10/10: DH Live!

10/31: Pedagogy Skillshare

12/6: Pedagogy Skillshare

1/24: DH Live!

2/13: Text Mining Workshop

3/6: DH Skillshare

4/6: Opaque Media

4/13: Topic Modeling Workshop

5/14: Music and Sound in Games

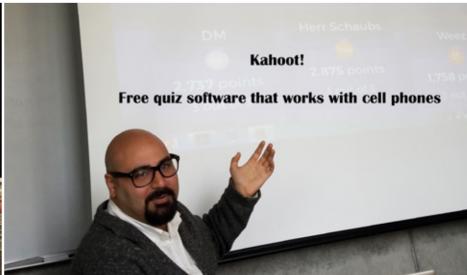
5/16: Excel for Humanists



Introducing Madelynn Dickerson, UCI's new Digital Humanities Librarian. She and Dwayne Pack (Humanities Computing) will lead the DH Working Group in 2018-19.

Matt Knutson (Visual Studies) and Ali Olomi (History) contributed to digital humanities skill shares. Matt was also this year's DH graduate assistant.







### Academic Publishing and Beyond

This year, the Commons hosted editors from Oxford University Press, University of California Press, and Lever Press.

A clearly written, well-argued book proposal enables an editor to determine whether or not your book is suitable for the publishing program she oversees.

—Susan Ferber, Oxford university press





## webinar with Dr. Katie Linder, oregon state university

This year we participated in Dr. Katie Linder's "How To: Academia" webinar series on writing and publishing. Assets are available for download to all members of the School on the following topics.

Juggling Multiple Writing Projects

Organizing an Edited Collection

Promoting an Academic Book

Interacting with Journal Editors

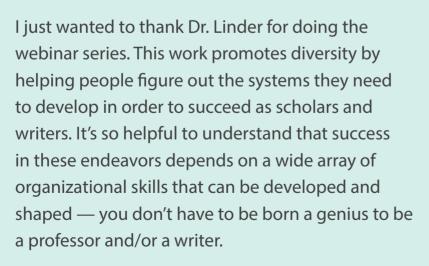
Setting and Accomplishing Writing Goals

Writing a Book Proposal

Being a Productive Writer

Creating and Maintaining Your Publishing Pipeline

Designing a Five-Year Publishing Plan



—Sharon Kunde (English PhD)



cholarly communications



Dr. Amanda Jeanne Swain Executive Director, takes the lead in research development.

# Seeking support

### **Humanities Commons Grants**

**Grants to Faculty** 

22 Research Grants

13 Publication Support Grants

23 Collaborative Conference Grants

66 Conference Travel Grants

**Grants to Graduate Students** 

12 Collaborative Conference Grants

12 Research Grants

### **Featured Commons Conferences**

The Wellness Myth: Affect, Information and Diagnosis in the Post-Industrial World Catherine Liu (Film and Media Studies), convener April 15, 2018

This conference explored the commodification and privatization of traditional ideas of health and tested the thesis that the myth of wellness has accompanied austerity budgets and a collapse of public health infrastructure. Speakers probed the rhetoric of recovery and shared the ways in which different communities discover new solidarity and well-being when social institutions fail to provide them. The group is convening as a research cluster in 2018-19 and received funding from the Medical Humanities Initiative.

opaque media
Graduate student conference
April 6-7, 2018
"Grey media" refers to media produced
outside of commercial or academic
channels and pertaining to the work of
government agencies and departments,
NGOs, private companies, consulting
firms, and university centers.
Participants explored how greyness
mediates scholarly understandings of
government, bureaucracy, archives, and
other units of administration.



### Faculty fellowships

Catherine Benamou Film and Media Studies California Humanities Quick Grant

Marcello Fiocco, Philosophy Marc Sanders Foundation

Peter Frei European Languages and Literatures France America Cultural Exchange

Amy Gerstler, English Guggenheim Fellowship

Kyung Kim
East Asian Languages and Literatures
Korea Foundation
STARTALK with Korean American Center

Julia Lee, Asian American Studies Huntington Library Fellowship

Margherita Long East Asian Languages and Literatures Japan Foundation

Jessica Millward, History Mellon Scholars Program in African American History, The Library Company of Philadelphia

Laura Mitchell, History History in Professions, Mellon/AHA

Armin Schwegler Spanish and Portuguese Fulbright Scholar

Jared Sexton, African American Studies Hosan Foundation

Brook Thomas, English Fulbright Scholar

Cécile Whiting, Art History NEH Summer Stipend National Gallery Fellowship

Hu Ying East Asian Languages and Literatures Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation

### **Graduate Fellowships**

Noah Dolim, History Ford Pre-Doctoral Fellowship

Linette Park, Culture and Theory Thurgood Marshall Dissertation Fellowship, Dartmouth College

Shyam Patel, English Clark Library Fellowship, UCLA

Anat Schwartz-Meron, East Asian Languages and Literatures Fulbright; Academy for Korean Studies

Kirsty Singer East Asian Languages and Literatures Hayman Dissertation Fellowship

### Grants and Fellowships: 2017-18 Highlights

Edward Dimendberg, Humanities

The Los Angeles Project: Architectural and Urban Theories of the City of Exception

This project will identify what European and American thinkers perceived in the Southern California metropolis, why they valued it, and how their legacy is being reworked today. Dimendberg argues that discarding the belief in Los Angeles as an urban anomaly illuminates many of the challenges confronting cities globally.

Guggenheim fellowship Fellowship Getty Scholar

Alka Patel, Art History

India, Iran, and Empire: The Shansabanis of Ghur, c. 1150-1215

The Afghan Muslim Ghaznavids' idolbreaking raids and the Shansabanis' momentous architectural spoliations supposedly heralded the fundamental incompatibility of "Hindu" and "Muslim" cultures a thousand years before Partition. Or did they? This study uses architectural biography to write a non-sectarian history of conflict and conquest.

national humanities center

Araceli CalderÓn Spanish and Portuguese

Motherhood in Movement: Artistic Representations Depicting the Mexican Revolution

What role did women play, as historical actors and icons, in the Mexican Revolution? Using photographs, films, postcards, and interviews, this dissertation brings into the scholarly and historical record women who—until now—have been omitted from history.

Association of American University Women dissertation fellowship









### TH!NK

Designed and directed by Marcello Fiocco (Philosophy), TH!NK introduces elementary school students to philosophical thought and discourse, in four schools in Irvine and Costa Mesa.

Being a part of TH!NK always revitalizes my love for philosophy and brings it to life for me. It is so rewarding to see how the kids react to the philosophical questions we pose for them and to watch their faces as they realize just how wide open the world of ideas really is.

—Kourosh Alizadeh (Philosophy PhD candidate)



### **Higher Education Public Fellow**

Soodabeh Malekzadeh (History PhD) spent four weeks this summer shadowing members of the Humanities advancement team.

I learned that my research skills are useful in a variety of settings. As a Higher Ed intern I drafted and designed case statements for different departments, centers, and programs in the School of Humanities in order to share the fabulous work they do in a manner that will show impact and encourage giving.

—SoodAbeh Malekzadeh Erdaji, History PhD 2018



### **Imagining America**

Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life is a national project promoting the humanities. Ana Elizabeth Rosas (History and Chicano/Latino Studies) is UCI's representative. Her rich and varied mentoring of graduate and undergraduate students culminated in an exhibition, The Material of Memory: Revisiting Our History of Immigration Together [left], displayed in UCI's Viewpoint Gallery and shared at the Imagining America national conference at the University of California, Davis. Another event, Magnifying Generative Imaginaries and Transformative Relational Ethnic Studies, featured undergraduate and graduate research in support of communities collecting and disseminating new civic engagement histories.

### **Humanities Out There**

Humanities Out There was founded in 1997 as an educational partnership between UCI's School of Humanities and local schools. Humanites Out There Teaching Fellow Alden Sajor Wood (English) led a group of undergraduate interns in providing homework help at the Bowers Kidseum in Santa Ana. 12-18 undergrads participated each quarter.

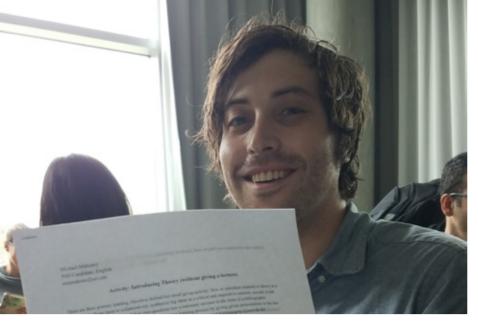


During the first two quarters we focused on the specific learning needs of the Kidseum students. In addition to their daily tutoring responsibilities, our UCI interns designed and led their own small-group literature circles. In spring the UCI interns developed Project Based Learning (PBL) lessons. The Kidseum students had a blast learning from our interns! UCI student involvement grew over the course of the year. We hope that trend will continue!

—Alden sajor wood, english PHD Candidate



# Public humanities



Pedagogy Skill Share featuring graduate students, faculty and lecturers in the School of Humanities Left: Michael Mahoney (English PHD candidate)

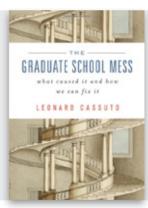
**Richard Arum** Dean, UCI School of Education for the Mellon 5+2 **Teaching Institute** 





**Leonard Cassuto** English, Fordham University for the NEH Next Gen PhD **Planning Grant** 







WordPress and **Canvas Workshops** with Amalia Hermann, lecturer, Humanities Core



The Humanities Commons supplements departmental offerings with School-wide workshops on grant-writing, public speaking, pedagogy, and careers. Much of our work involves peer-to-peer exchange. Is there an offering you'd like to see, or a skill you'd like to share? Please let us know!

# Graduate education



At the Laguna Beach Art Museum I was asked to develop materials for school teachers to use in relation to current exhibitions and the museum's Art and Nature Festival. This project was creative and fun and allowed me to use some of the skills I've acquired as an instructor and researcher at UCI.

Lucia cash beare, spanish and portuguese Laguna Art Museum



Working for the OC Parks Historic Sites wonderfully blends my passions of public outreach and engagement, history, and research. Working at the Old Orange County Courthouse encouraged me to think about space in new ways. I am developing new training materials for the site's docents and student tours centered around the history of the Courthouse building, county government and officials, and the judicial process.

stephanie narrow, history OC Parks, Historic Sites

# HUMANITIES OUT THERE PUBLIC FELLOWS

This program creates meaningful summer research opportunities for Humanities PhD students and promotes the exchange of knowledge with community partners.



charles george Allen, spanish and portuguese City of Santa Ana



tavleen kaur, comparative Literature Heritage Museum of Orange County



Mackenzie Weeks, English Los Angeles Review of Books



Railroad and a 2017-18 Chancellor's Distinguished Lecturer

Below: Taco Literacy with Gustavo Arellano, Loretta Ramirez (PhD student, English), and Steve Alvarez, hosted by Jerry Won Lee (English) and Yong Chen (History); Chef Jessica Van Roo at the ARC Test Kitchen.

### humanities collaborations Illuminations

Illuminations: The Chancellor's Arts and Culture Initiative was launched in 2016 to promote cultural programming and performance opportunities across campus. Humanities faculty have taken the lead in applying for grants to support film series, visiting artists, and undergraduate research and creative inquiry. The illuminations Authors Series works with English, African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Academic English, and other units to bring compelling speakers to campus. A facultyled book club supports the series. Cooking with the Professor, founded by Yong Chen (History), has spawned other food-related programs at the Anteater Recreation Center Test Kitchen [right].





## CHALLENGES

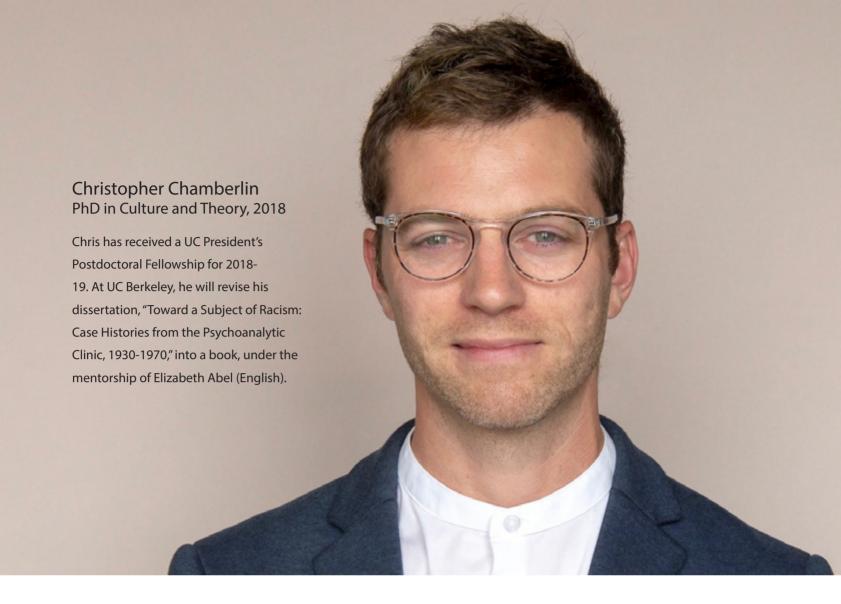
April 10, 2018 4PM-6PM Humanities Gateway 1030





Minsuk Cho founded the Seoul-based architecture and design firm Mass Studies in 2003, after previously working in the offices of Rem Koolhaas and James Stewart Polshek. His projects include the Pixel House, Missing Matrix, Bundle Matrix, Shanghai Expo 2010: Korea Pavilion, Daum Space.1, Tea Stone/ Innisfree, Southcape, Domeino, and the Daejeon University Residential College. In 2011 he co-curated the 2011 Gwangju Design Biennale, and was the commissioner and co-curator of the Korean Pavilion for the 14th International Architecture Exhibition at the Venice Architecture Biennial, which was awarded the Gold Lion for Best National Participation. His work was the subject in late 2014 of the first architecture exhibition held in the PLATEAU Samsung Museum of Art, Seoul, and continues to receive global attention.







Front cover: Charles George Allen (PhD student, Spanish and Portuguese), Humanities Out There Public Fellow. Photo by Danilo Caputo (English PhD candidate)