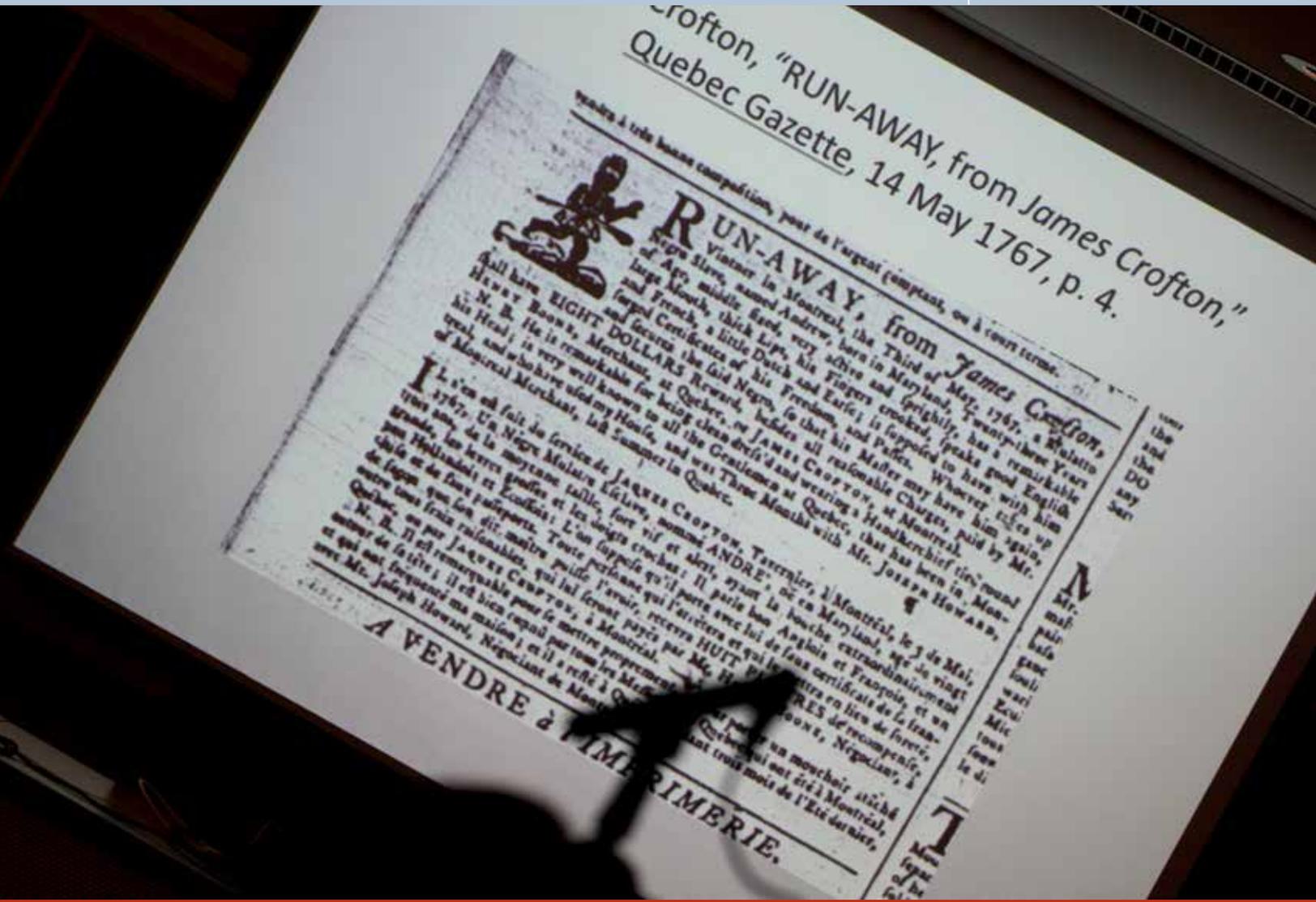




# CENTERPIECE

NEWSLETTER OF THE WEATHERHEAD CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HARVARD UNIVERSITY



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with Weatherhead  
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Cover: Image of a slave advertisement from Charmaine A. Nelson's October 11 Weatherhead Forum talk titled, "[H]e...had meditated an attempt to get on board a ship...bound to Newfoundland': The Limits of the Term Refugee for Enslaved Africans in Canadian Fugitive Slave Advertisements."

Photo credit: Lauren McLaughlin

Above: Weatherhead Center Director Michèle Lamont.

Photo credit: Martha Stewart

## Message from the Director



The fall has been an exciting time at the Weatherhead Center. We welcomed our first cohort of Weatherhead Scholars, a wonderfully dynamic group of postdoctoral scholars, visiting faculty, and practitioners who, on a regular basis, exchange ideas on projects, participate in our various research clusters and initiatives, publish in *Epicenter*, and work side-by-side at their desks at 61 Kirkland. Many of our faculty and graduate students benefit from their presence and engage with them in various research contexts, including in our Weatherhead Forum, our new biweekly lunchtime series. In this setting, we all have learned about the work conducted by various Center research groups. This forum has been a great success, with upward of fifty people attending each session.

The walls of the WCFIA are also bustling with activities thanks to greater interaction between our various communities. This is especially the case with our new research clusters, which provide avenues of shared interest for faculty, graduate students, and visitors. The new Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion began by regularly bringing together visiting scholars from the SCANCOR-Weatherhead Partnership, the Canada Program, the Weatherhead Scholars Program, former GSAs and others, and will

ramp up its activities in the spring by reaching out to faculty. The Weatherhead Research Cluster on Global Populism organized several successful events, bringing together experts whose research helps us make sense of the current political climate in the United States, Europe, and beyond. This cluster also provides opportunities for busy Harvard professors to connect, which is often a real challenge on our campus. The Weatherhead Initiative on Global History, whose objective was field building, has transmuted into the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Global Transformations, with a research focus on specific questions aiming at understanding great transformations. A fourth research cluster on diplomacy and international security, led by Iain Johnston, Josh Kertzer, and Stephen Rosen, all from the Government Department, was approved by the executive committee in November and will start its activities in 2018.

A general principle made salient from our 2016 external review is a clear desire among our faculty to see the WCFIA play an even more active role in empowering research. This is the *leitmotiv* of our activities, which is highlighted in our new mission statement.

As the walls of the WCFIA are increasingly buzzing with activity, we are encouraging leaders of the dozens of seminars sponsored by our Center to make every effort to meet within the walls of the Knafel building—and in the Bowie-Vernon Room if possible—to reinforce their connection to the WCFIA community.

As these post-review changes become institutionalized, new projects are taking shape. We are beginning to collaborate with the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics to jointly host visiting scholars next September, thanks to financial support of the Berggruen Institute. We are also re-engineering our annual Talloires conference, which has been held by the WCFIA for the last twenty-nine years. Faculty will now lead the conference, and there will be a different focus every year.

There is much to look forward to, in large part thanks to the active involvement of the devoted members of our steering and executive committees, and our excellent staff. Stay tuned to learn about future developments!

Michèle Lamont

Weatherhead Center Director

Robert I. Goldman Professor of European Studies

Professor of Sociology and African and African American Studies

## Theodore C. Bestor Wins Inaugural “Senior Scholar” Award

Faculty Associate **Theodore C. Bestor**, director of the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies and Reischauer Institute Professor of Social Anthropology, received the inaugural “Senior Scholar” award from the Society of Urban, National, and Transnational Anthropology (SUNTA) section of the American Anthropological Association. SUNTA acknowledges Bestor’s decades of research, as well as the contributions his research has made in understanding urban culture, economic organization, and global commodity flows.

## Kenneth I. Juster Appointed US Ambassador to India

Former advisory committee chair **Kenneth I. Juster** was confirmed as the new US Ambassador to India. Juster has a long history in government and has extensive expertise on US-India trade relations, founding the US-India High Technology Cooperation Group. He also played a key role in negotiations that culminated in the US-India civilian nuclear deal. Juster will succeed Richard Verma, who left New Delhi after the US election in November 2016.

## Dara Kay Cohen Book Wins Two Awards

Faculty Associate **Dara Kay Cohen**, associate professor of public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, received two prestigious awards for her book, *Rape during Civil War* (Cornell University Press, 2016). The book draws on Cohen’s extensive fieldwork in Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste, and El Salvador. Cohen won the 2017 APSA-IPSA Theodore J. Lowi First Book Award, which recognizes the author of a first book in any field of political science that exemplifies ambition, originality, and intellectual daring. She also won the 2018 Best Book Prize from the Feminist Theory and Gender Studies Section of the International Studies Association.

## Joshua D. Kertzer Wins 2017 Alexander George Book Award

Faculty Associate **Joshua D. Kertzer**, assistant professor of government, received the Alexander George Book Award for his 2016 book, *Resolve in International Politics* (Princeton University Press). The award, given by the International Society of Political Psychology for the best book published in the field of political psychology during the previous calendar year, recognizes books that make a substantive contribution to the field.



## SUNIL AMRITH: 2017 MACARTHUR FELLOW

Faculty Associate and Harvard Academy Senior Scholar Sunil Amrith, Mehra Family Professor of South Asian Studies and professor of history, was named a 2017 MacArthur Foundation Fellow. Colloquially known as the “genius” grant, the fellowship is a “no-strings-attached award to extraordinarily talented and creative individuals as an investment in their potential.” The MacArthur Fellows Program has awarded fellowships since 1981 to a wide range of recipients, from writers to scientists to entrepreneurs.

Amrith is an historian exploring migration in South and Southeast Asia and its role in shaping present-day social and cultural dynamics.

His research is on the transregional movement of people, ideas, and institutions, and has focused most recently on the Bay of Bengal as a region connecting South and Southeast Asia. Of particular interest is the history of migration, environmental history, and the history of public health.

Amrith is one of twenty-four MacArthur fellows in 2017 (also in the class is former Harvard Academy Scholar Betsy Levy Paluck). The Weatherhead Center extends warmest congratulations to Sunil Amrith on receiving the award and for all his dedication to his field of study.

## Melissa Dell Wins Calvó-Armengol International Prize in Economics

Faculty Associate **Melissa Dell**, assistant professor of economics, received the fifth Calvó-Armengol International Prize in Economics. Awarded every two years to an economist or social scientist under the age of forty, the prize recognizes “contributions to the understanding of social structure and its implications for economic interactions.” Dell was chosen for her groundbreaking research that illustrates how political institutions and social systems function well or poorly.

## Faculty Associate Candelaria Garay Wins Dahl Award

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate **Candelaria Garay**, assistant professor of public policy at Harvard Kennedy School, received the 2017 Robert A. Dahl Award. The award is given annually to non-ladder and junior tenure-track faculty whose scholarship includes books, papers, reports, and articles on the subject of democracy. Garay’s recent book, *Social Policy Expansion in Latin America* (2016), is available through Cambridge University Press.

## Lisa McGirr and Timothy J. Colton Named Cabot Fellows

Faculty Associates **Lisa McGirr**, professor of history, and **Timothy J. Colton**, Morris and Anna Feldberg Professor of Government and Russian Studies, were among the group of ten Harvard faculty named as Walter Channing Cabot Fellows for 2017 for outstanding publications.

## Mihir Desai Book on FT Longlist for Best Business Book of the Year

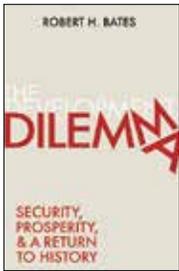
Faculty Associate **Mihir Desai** is the Mizuho Financial Group Professor of Finance at Harvard Business School and a professor of law at Harvard Law School. His book, *The Wisdom of Finance: Discovering Humanity in the World of Risk and Return* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017), made the *Financial Times* longlist for best business book of the year.

## John G. Ruggie Receives the A.SK Social Science Award

Faculty Associate **John G. Ruggie**, Berthold Beitz Professor in Human Rights and International Affairs at Harvard Kennedy School, received the A.SK Social Science Award for 2017. The prestigious international prize in the social sciences is awarded every two years by the WZB Berlin Social Science Center, and honors researchers who have made an important contribution to political and economic reforms.

## Michèle Lamont Receives Two Honorary Doctorates

Center Director and Faculty Associate **Michèle Lamont** is the Robert I. Goldman Professor of European Studies and professor of sociology and of African and African American studies. She was awarded two honorary doctorates: from the University of Bordeaux, which is given to personalities of foreign nationality for their contribution to the arts, literature, science, and technology; and from the University of Ottawa—her alma mater—for substantial contributions to the university, profession, or society at large.

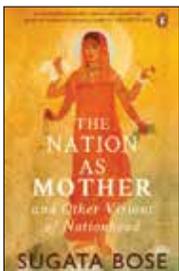


**The Development Dilemma: Security, Prosperity, and a Return to History**

By Robert H. Bates

(Princeton University Press, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Robert H. Bates is the Eaton Professor of the Science of Government and professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University.



**The Nation as Mother and Other Visions of Nationhood**

By Sugata Bose

(Penguin Random House, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Sugata Bose is the Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs at Harvard University.

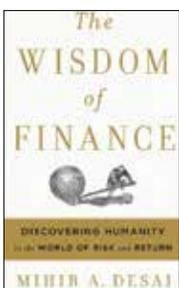


**Everyone Loses: The Ukraine Crisis and the Ruinous Contest for Post-Soviet Eurasia**

By Timothy J. Colton and Samuel Charap

(Routledge, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Timothy J. Colton is the Morris and Anna Feldberg Professor of Government and Russian Studies at Harvard University.



**The Wisdom of Finance: Discovering Humanity in the World of Risk and Return**

By Mihir A. Desai

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Mihir A. Desai is the Mizuho Financial Group Professor of Finance at Harvard Business School, and professor of law at Harvard Law School.

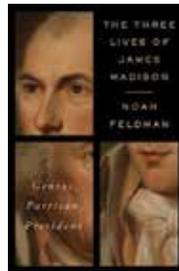


**The Space Between Us: Social Geography and Politics**

By Ryan D. Enos

(Cambridge University Press, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Ryan D. Enos is an associate professor of government at Harvard University.

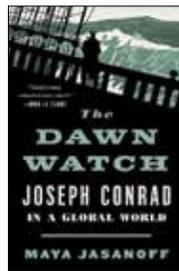


**The Three Lives of James Madison: Genius, Partisan, President**

By Noah Feldman

(Penguin Random House, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Noah Feldman is the Bemis Professor of International Law at Harvard Law School.

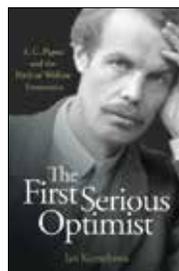


**The Dawn Watch: Joseph Conrad in a Global World**

By Maya Jasanoff

(Penguin Random House, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Maya Jasanoff is a professor of history at Harvard University.



**The First Serious Optimist: A. C. Pigou and the Birth of Welfare Economics**

By Ian KumeKawa

(Princeton University Press, 2017)

Center for History and Economics Graduate Research Associate Ian KumeKawa is a PhD Candidate in the Department of History at Harvard University.

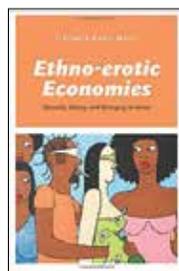


**The Contentious Public Sphere: Law, Media, and Authoritarian Rule in China**

By Ya-Wen Lei

(Princeton University Press, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Ya-Wen Lei is an assistant professor of sociology at Harvard University.

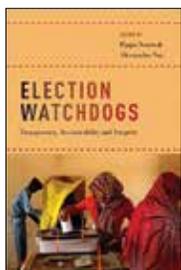


**Ethno-erotic Economies: Sexuality, Money, and Belonging in Kenya**

By George Paul Meiu

(University of Chicago Press, 2017)

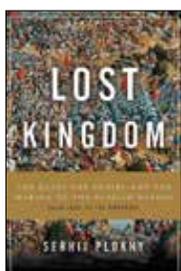
Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate George Paul Meiu is an assistant professor of anthropology and African and African American studies at Harvard University.



**Election Watchdogs: Transparency, Accountability and Integrity**  
 Edited by Pippa Norris and Alessandro Nai

(Oxford University Press, 2017)

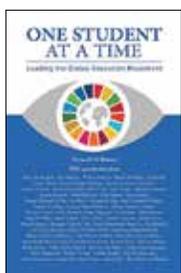
Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Pippa Norris is the Paul F. McGuire Lecturer in Comparative Politics at Harvard Kennedy School, and Laureate Research Fellow and professor of government and international relations at the University of Sydney.



**Lost Kingdom: The Quest for Empire and the Making of the Russian Nation**  
 By Serhii Plokhy

(Basic Books, 2017)

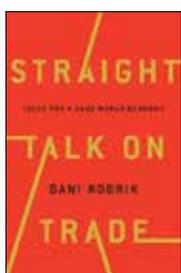
Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Serhii Plokhy is the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard University.



**One Student at a Time: Leading the Global Education Movement**  
 By Fernando M. Reimers

(CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017)

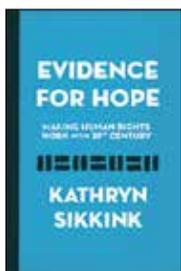
Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Fernando M. Reimers is the Ford Foundation Professor of International Education at Harvard Graduate School of Education.



**Straight Talk on Trade: Ideas for a Sane World Economy**  
 By Dani Rodrik

(Princeton University Press, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Dani Rodrik is the Ford Foundation Professor of International Political Economy at Harvard Kennedy School.



**Evidence for Hope: Making Human Rights Work in the 21st Century**  
 By Kathryn Sikkink

(Princeton University Press, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Kathryn Sikkink is the Ryan Family Professor of Human Rights Policy at Harvard Kennedy School, and the Carol K. Pforzheimer Professor at the Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University.

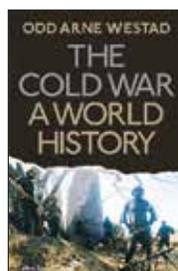


**The Art and Science of Social Research**

By Mary C. Waters et al.

(W. W. Norton & Company, 2017)

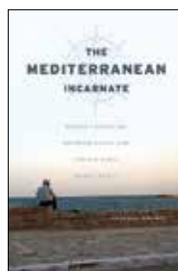
Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Mary C. Waters is the M. E. Zukerman Professor of Sociology at Harvard University.



**The Cold War: A World History**  
 By Odd Arne Westad

(Penguin Random House, 2017)

Weatherhead Center Faculty Associate Odd Arne Westad is the S.T. Lee Professor of U.S.-Asia Relations at Harvard Kennedy School.



**The Mediterranean Incarnate: Region Formation between Sicily and Tunisia since World War II**  
 By Naor Ben Yehoyada

(University of Chicago Press, 2017)

Former Weatherhead Center Academy Scholar Naor Ben Yehoyada is an assistant professor of anthropology at Columbia University.

**WWW**

Read the latest research by faculty and other affiliates of the Center by visiting:  
[wcfia.harvard.edu/publications](http://wcfia.harvard.edu/publications)



The Weatherhead Center is pleased to announce its 2017–2018 class of Juster Fellows. Now in its seventh year, this grant initiative is made possible by the generosity of Kenneth I. Juster, former chair of the Center’s advisory committee, and recently named US Ambassador to India. Juster has devoted much of his education, professional activities, public service, and nonprofit endeavors to international affairs and is deeply engaged in promoting and understanding international relations. The Juster grant supports undergraduates whose projects have broad experiential components in international affairs. The newly named Juster Fellows—all of whom will be traveling this December and January—are as follows:

**Puanani Brown**, a senior environmental science and public policy concentrator, will conduct thesis research in Hawai’i on food sovereignty and traditional Hawaiian agriculture in the context of the global food system.

**Julian Duran**, a senior economics and government concentrator, will conduct thesis research on education reform, student socioeconomic mobility, and the “Citizens’ Revolution” in Ecuador.

**Belèn Mella**, a junior social studies concentrator, will travel to Chile to conduct exploratory thesis research on youth perceptions on, and participation in, Chilean politics.

**Yong Han Poh**, a sophomore East Asian studies and anthropology concentrator, will travel to Taiwan to support her research on the memories and perceptions of Japanese colonialism.

**Cole Scanlon**, a senior applied mathematics and economics concentrator, will travel to Pune, India, to finish research for his thesis investigating the characteristics of effective school leaders.

**Alexandra Smith**, a senior government and environmental science and public policy concentrator, will complete her thesis research in Cambridge on deliberative democracy and how it can shape public opinions on solar geoengineering.

**Anthony Volk**, a senior government and East Asian studies concentrator, will travel to Japan to complete his thesis research on political activism by foreign residents in Kawasaki City.

**Adele Woodmansee**, a junior organismic and evolutionary biology concentrator, will travel to Oaxaca, Mexico, to continue her thesis research on the connections between native corn, international immigration, and agricultural change in a Zapotec community.

## WEATHERHEAD SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The new Weatherhead Scholars Program, which evolved from the former Fellows Program, welcomed its first group of participants this fall. This first class includes both academic scholars, such as visiting faculty and postdoctoral researchers, and practitioners in the field of international affairs, such as diplomats and military officers. Collectively termed as Scholars, most are here for the full academic year and have dedicated their time to pursuing various research projects. In addition, they participate in the Center’s closed seminar series for affiliates, the Weatherhead Forum, and in a biweekly breakfast meeting to share their research and receive constructive feedback from their colleagues in the program. It is a diverse group, in terms of research discipline and topic as well as choice of profession.

Affiliates in the Scholars Program have made valuable connections since arriving on campus. Several are collaborating with faculty through their participation in the Center’s research clusters. They include **Camille Hamidi**, a visiting scholar from the University of Lyon, who is working with WCFIA Director Michèle Lamont in the Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion, and **Adrien Abecassis**, former advisor to the French president François Hollande, who is participating in the new Research Cluster on Global Populism. **Øyvind Skorge**, a postdoctoral fellow from the Institute for Social Research in Oslo, Norway, has connected with the Weatherhead Initiative on Gender Inequality, while **Darja Djordjevic**, also a postdoctoral fellow and recent Harvard MD and PhD, is working with Harvard faculty in the Department of Anthropology as well as at the Harvard Medical School.

Making connections across the Harvard campus, Scholars also share their research findings and expertise through participation in seminars. **Sophie Lemièrre**, a postdoctoral fellow from France, joined four Harvard faculty on a recent panel on “Islam and Democracy,” sponsored by the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation and chaired by WCFIA Faculty Associate **Tarek Masoud**. **Harald Stieber**, a senior economist from the European Commission and visiting scholar in the Scholars Program, recently presented to the Scholars his research on digital currency and financial regulation.

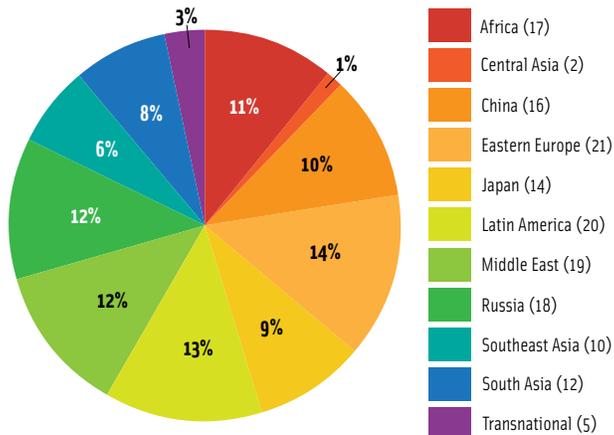
The Weatherhead Scholars Program is currently accepting applications from would-be visiting faculty, postdoctoral researchers, and practitioners who wish to conduct research at the Weatherhead Center in 2018–2019. As the current class has demonstrated, the opportunities for intellectual engagement and collaboration are considerable.

Above: Ambassador Kenneth I. Juster, former Weatherhead Center advisory committee chair.

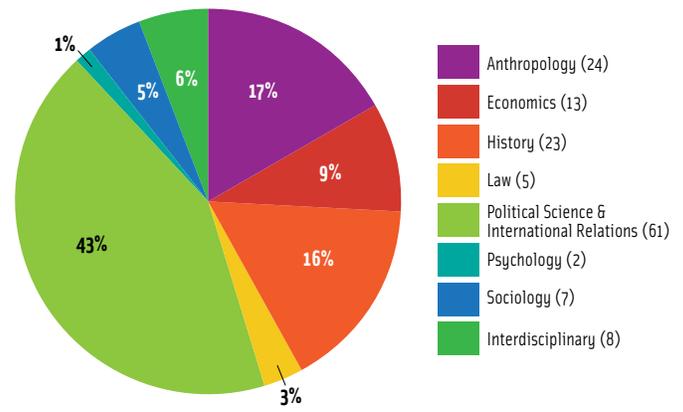
Opposite page: Henry Rosovsky speaking at the memorial held for Ira Kukin on September 12, 2017. Photo credit: Bruce Jackan; portrait of Ira Kukin by Bettina Burch.

Since its founding in 1986, made possible through the generous support of the late Dr. Ira Kukin, founding benefactor of The Harvard Academy, and Albert and Celia Weatherhead and the Weatherhead Foundation, The Harvard Academy has supported over 140 social scientists in area studies—focusing especially on the non-Western areas of the world. The Academy's premise is that the scholarly world needs individuals who combine thorough disciplinary and area specialization. The Academy Scholars Program was established to facilitate this goal.

**Scholars by Region**  
(n=154, some scholars listed in 2 regions)

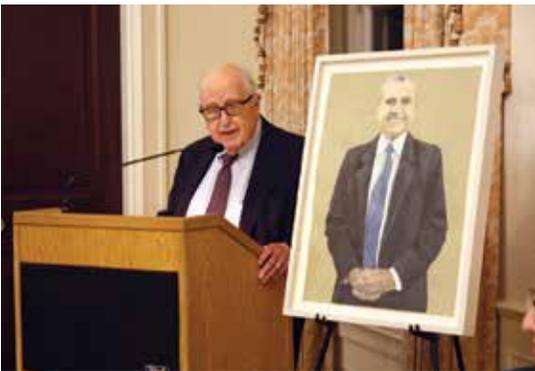


**Scholars by Discipline**  
(n=143)



Since The Harvard Academy Scholar class of 2000–2001, scholars have published over fifty books with the leading academic presses in the United States and abroad. This staggering amount of publications produced by a relatively small number of scholars speaks to their dedication and mastery of a wide variety of topics. Impressively, almost half of those books were published by Cambridge University Press—the world's oldest university press and one of the oldest publishers and printers in the world.

**IN MEMORIAM: IRA KUKIN, 1924–2017**



**Dr. Ira Kukin**, the founding benefactor of The Harvard Academy, died in New Jersey at the age of 93 on May 17, 2017. The Jewish saying “may his memory be a blessing” is, in this case, particularly appropriate. A great many scholars have benefitted from Ira Kukin's generosity and vision. Indeed, it could be argued that his gift was an important factor in sustaining “area studies” at a time of great uncertainty about its future—at Harvard and everywhere else. High theory was in; language and culture was out.

Kukin graduated from City College in 1945 and came to Harvard for graduate studies in chemistry. He was awarded a PhD in 1951 and started

his career working in a number of industrial research laboratories. In 1963, he went out on his own and created Apollo Technologies, a pioneer company in the field of reducing air pollution resulting from electricity generated through the use of coal and heavy fuel oil. Apollo was very successful and eventually operated all over the world. Kukin remained at the helm until 1983, when Apollo was sold and he was able to turn to full-time philanthropy.

The list of those who benefitted from his donations is long: Yeshiva University, Albert Einstein Medical School, Cardozo Law School, City College, Brandeis, Barnard, etc. And, of course, in a major way: Harvard University.

When one of our own makes a fortune it rarely escapes the notice of those in charge of what we euphemistically call “development.” As dean I had been made aware of Kukin's resources and of his strong attachment to Harvard and to the Chemistry Department. I was in hot pursuit of a chair in chemistry and in the early 1980s journeyed to New York to close the deal. (In those days, if I remember correctly, a chair cost slightly over one million dollars.) In Manhattan, standing on the street

and about to shake hands, Ira Kukin unexpectedly said, “If you inspire me, I would be willing to make a much bigger gift.” Louis Pasteur said, “Luck favors the mind that is prepared,” and I was prepared. For some time Derek Bok and I had wanted to start something resembling the Society of Fellows focusing on international and area studies. (The original Society of Fellows seemed to be increasingly concentrating on the physical and biological sciences.) The idea inspired us and most fortunately, it also inspired Kukin. His founding gift was the equivalent of about three chairs, and the Academy was on its way.

Ira Kukin was not a passive benefactor. He regularly attended dinners and presentations. He asked questions; all the senior and junior scholars knew him. Through his businesses he became quite knowledgeable about different parts of the world. He had strong opinions and was not shy about expressing them. Those of us who were his contemporaries will remember him with gratitude and we will miss him.

—Henry Rosovsky, former chair, The Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies

# Photos: Fall 2017 Events

## MICHÈLE LAMONT WINS ERASMUS PRIZE

Center Director **Michèle Lamont**, Robert I. Goldman Professor of European Studies and professor of sociology and of African and African American studies, is the recipient of the 2017 Erasmus Prize. Lamont received the prize due to her "devoted contribution to social science research into the relationship between knowledge, power and diversity."

The Erasmus Prize is one of Europe's most distinguished honors. It is awarded annually, by the board of the Praemium Erasmianum Foundation, to a "person or institution that has made an exceptional contribution to the humanities or the arts, in Europe and beyond." Former prize winners include A.S. Byatt, Wikipedia, Claude Lévi-Strauss, Ingmar Bergman, Marc Chagall, and dozens of other influential thinkers, creators, and institutions.

A wide range of academic and cultural lectures, conferences, and exhibitions preceded the award ceremony, which was held on November 28, 2017 at the Royal Palace of Amsterdam. The award was presented to Lamont by the patron of the Praemium Erasmianum Foundation, King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands.



Above (left to right): Ernst Hirsch Ballin, Chairman of the Praemium Erasmianum Foundation; Her Majesty the Queen; Michèle Lamont; His Majesty the King, Patron of the Praemium Erasmianum Foundation; HRH Princess Beatrix; Shanti van Dam, Director of the Praemium Erasmianum Foundation in *De Burgemeesters Raadzaal* (the boardroom of the mayors). Photo credit: Erasmus Prize Foundation



## WRITERS SPEAK: MICHAEL ONDAATJE

On November 13, the Mahindra Center for the Humanities and the Canada Program cosponsored Writers Speak: Michael Ondaatje in Conversation with Claire Messud at Memorial Church. The event consisted of select readings from his book, a conversation with Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing and author Claire Messud, and a book signing. Ondaatje is the author of five novels, a memoir, a nonfiction book on film, and several books of poetry. His novel *The English Patient* won the Man Booker Prize, and his fourth novel, *Anil's Ghost*, won the Irish Times International Fiction Prize, the Giller Prize, and the Prix Médicis.



Top: Ondaatje speaks with undergraduates over lunch on the day of the event.

Photo credit: Lauren McLaughlin

Middle: Weatherhead Center Director Michèle Lamont (left), Clare Messud (center), Michael Ondaatje (right) before the event.

Bottom: Clare Messud (left) and Michael Ondaatje (right) in conversation after the reading.

Photo credit: Martha Stewart



### INTERNATIONAL COMEDY NIGHT

On October 24, the Weatherhead Center participated in Harvard's inaugural Worldwide Week with an international comedy night featuring stand-up comedian Nembr at Knafel Center, Radcliffe Gymnasium. Nembr Abou Nassar is a Lebanese-American stand-up comedian who is credited with establishing and pioneering the stand-up comedy scene throughout the Middle East. Five Harvard undergraduates from the Harvard College Stand-Up Comic Society were the opening act.

Left: Nembr (center left) after the show with members of the Harvard College Stand-Up Comic Society.

### THE WEATHERHEAD FORUM

The Weatherhead Forum showcases the research of the various units that are associated with the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. The forum provides the opportunity to bring together the diverse constituencies of the Center, so all affiliates may learn about and discuss emerging academic research from our community. Facilitating exchange across disciplines and other boundaries strengthens and broadens to the intellectual community here at the Center.

The Center is fortunate to host many different programs, initiatives, and research clusters, and each forum highlights research from one of those groups. Fall 2017 forums included presentations by the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion, the Weatherhead Initiative on Afro-Latin American Studies, the Canada Program, the Weatherhead Initiative on Climate Engineering, the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, and the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Global Transformations.

The Weatherhead Forum meets every other Wednesday throughout the semester in the CGIS Knafel building. Center affiliates connect over a brief lunch while listening to the presentation, and a vibrant question-and-answer period follows. Most forum events will be streamed live and made available on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/wcfia](https://facebook.com/wcfia)).

Images from Fall 2017 Weatherhead Forums (clockwise from top left):

Michèle Lamont, "Addressing the Recognition Gap: Destigmatization and the Reduction of Inequality"

Genevieve Dempsey, Doris Sommer, and Alejandro de la Fuente, "New Research on Afro-Latin American Studies."

David Keith, "An Introduction of the Public Policy of Solar Geoengineering."

Sugata Bose, Charles Maier, and Arne Westad, "Global History: What Are Its Intellectual Claims?"

Hilary Holbrow, "Ethnic Bias and Wage Inequality: Do Coworkers' Attitudes Matter for Immigrants' Earnings?"

Charmaine Nelson, "[H]e...had meditated an attempt to get on board a ship...bound to Newfoundland': The Limits of the Term Refugee for Enslaved Africans in Canadian Fugitive Slave Advertisements."

Photo credit this page: Lauren McLaughlin



### WWW

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## Creating Community with Weatherhead Research Clusters

*Born out of a need to complement the Center's traditional focus of supporting individual faculty and student research, our new Weatherhead Research Clusters center around hefty questions for the social sciences and the world.*



Affiliates of the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion. The cluster is chaired by Weatherhead Center Director Michèle Lamont. Photo credit: Kristin Caulfield.

### THE WEATHERHEAD RESEARCH CLUSTER ON COMPARATIVE INEQUALITY AND INCLUSION

Advanced industrial societies have become increasingly characterized by two trends: growing inequality and an increasing recognition gap. As the distribution of wealth and income has grown more unequal, an increasing number of groups are making claims for recognition as the poor, workers, immigrants, Muslims, LGBTQ people, and various ethnoracial and religious minority groups experience stigmatization. A major challenge for contemporary societies is to extend cultural membership to the greatest number. Thus we need to gain a better understanding of the social and cultural processes behind the recognition gap and inequality. How can social scientists and policy makers better understand and respond to these trends, and how can we make societies more inclusive? Finding responses to the timely questions related to inequality and the recognition gap requires drawing on expertise from many disciplines.

During the fall semester, our research cluster brought together a diverse group of visitors working on recognition. Our first event of the semester, held on September 13, was an organizational meeting during which scholars from different fields brainstormed the ways they could collaborate and learn from their respective research projects. This event also included a presentation by SCANCOR visiting scholar Antoinette Hetzler on the recognition of teachers and the transformation of work in a changing welfare state in Sweden.

The following two meetings in October marked the beginning of our lunch seminars—during which participants like Canada Program postdoctoral fellow Mireille Paquet and University of Toronto Professor Ron Levi shared their research on the making of the immigration policy in Canada and the claims for recognition in the field of international justice, respectively.

On November 13, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow Lorenza Fontana presented her recent work on political identity, recognition claims, and social conflict in Bolivia, Peru, and Columbia. University of Edinburgh postdoctoral scholar Andreas Hackl also presented his work on the stigmatization and discrimination experienced by Arab Palestinian citizens of Israel.

December brings a few more seminars to the research cluster. On December 7, visiting scholar Camille Hamidi will present her work on ethnic minority representatives in French politics. Her presentation will be followed by that of Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile graduate student Matias López, who works on perceptions of the poor and attitudes toward redistribution among the elite in Brazil and South Africa.

We also look forward to having a half-day seminar on “Analytical Tools for the Study of Recognition across the Disciplines,” with Professor Stefan Hirschauer, on December 8. Professor Hirschauer directs SOCUM, an innovative multidisciplinary research program on social and cultural differentiation at the University of Mains.

In the spring semester, the research cluster will ramp up its activities by reaching out to WCFIA Faculty Associates studying various dimensions of recognition. The broader objective will be to better connect faculty, visitors, and graduate students around common research interests. The regular meetings, workshops, and the more informal social gatherings will continue to be important venues for further discussion.

### THE WEATHERHEAD RESEARCH CLUSTER ON GLOBAL POPULISM

The world's economic-political order appears to be at an inflection point, with its future direction hanging in balance. The Weatherhead Research Cluster on Global Populism responds to the upending of everyday assumptions of the conventional strengthening of global governance. Ever-changing current events—such as the Brexit vote, the Trump presidency, and the rise of populist-nationalist parties in Netherlands, France, Germany, and elsewhere in Europe—make the topic immediate. The Harvard community has greeted us with enthusiasm and interest since getting the program off the ground in late summer.

Our first event on September 18 with University of Oxford Professor Timothy Garton Ash, was very well attended, and showed a real enthusiasm for asking difficult questions about global populism. Ash's talk was titled "Does European Populism Exist?" and explored what, if anything, Europe tells us about populism—and what populism tells us about Europe.

A panel on "The Economic and Cultural Causes of Populist Support" on October 19 featured a strong lineup of MIT Professor David Autor, Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance Professor Luigi Guiso, and Faculty Associate Peter A. Hall. Faculty Associates Bart Bonikowski and Jennifer Hochschild from our steering group served as discussants. This rich discussion among the panelists covered a variety of topics, focusing on distrust in government—and whether that increases or decreases voter turnout.

We also partnered with the Study Group on Populism, Nationalism and Radical Politics at the Center for European Studies on November 15 for a panel titled "Euroskepticism in a Post-Brexit Era," featuring University of Essex Professor Catherine de Vries, University of Kent Professor Matthew Goodwin, Georgetown University Professor Kathleen McNamara, and University of Amsterdam Professor Armen Hakhverdian. The panel examined the uncertainty around whether the Brexit vote—and Euroskepticism trends more generally—represents continued commitment to the European project, a vote against populism, or confusion over the future of the EU.

The spring term will mark the beginning of our lunch seminars, with regular meetings for our steering group and graduate student affiliates to discuss current issues on global populism. These meetings will bring together the many scholars at Harvard who are trying to make sense of recent developments from diverse disciplinary perspectives, as well as encourage graduate student research. We also look forward to hosting a book talk for Yascha Mounk on *The Age of Responsibility: Luck, Choice, and the Welfare State*, and a presentation by Faculty Associates Steve Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt on their new book *How Democracies Die* at the Weatherhead Forum.

We feel very fortunate that so many people here at Harvard share our desire to understand where populism is coming from and where it is taking us. We will continue to foster a sustained intellectual exchange across disciplines and established research traditions.

## THE WEATHERHEAD RESEARCH CLUSTER ON GLOBAL TRANSFORMATIONS

The Weatherhead Initiative on Global History (WIGH) has been designated as one of three new research clusters: the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Global Transformations. Since the shift, our group of co-chairs has grown with the addition of two Faculty Associates: Jean Comaroff and Sugata Bose. Both bring interdisciplinary approaches to the study of vast areas of the world that are central to many conversations on global history. Our own disciplinary mission remains the same: to study and explain the global currents of change that societies and economies have undergone through their continuing interaction—whether through investment and commerce, migration, empires and colonization, or ideas and cultural transfer.

This fall, we held two large international conferences. On September 5–6, we met in Athens, Greece, for "Reinforcing, Crossing, and Transcending Borders: Soccer in a Globalized World," a continuation of our global history of soccer project under the leadership of Simmons College Professor Stephen Ortega and Faculty Associate Cemal Kafadar. The conference generated significant publicity in Greece—not least because the keynote speaker was Senator George Mitchell—and successfully began a conversation on soccer's role and responsibilities between academics, activists, and former players.

On December 3–5, our network partners in Delhi hosted "Empires: Towards a Global History." Empires—which have had an enduring influence on global history—have drawn their strength from a global systemic architecture of hegemony and dominance. The conference sought to delineate different strands and interconnected themes that explain both empires' persistence as well as their mutations over time. Representatives from all our network partners in Senegal, China, Brazil, the Netherlands, the USA, and India all attended, as well as other international scholars.

The well-established Global History Seminar drew many interested participants for its fall term meetings. Our own fellows presented the first three papers: Quinn Slobodian on "The Road to the Alt Right: How Race and Culture Split the Neoliberal Movement"; Justin Jackson on "The Everyday Politics of Imperial Sovereignty: The U.S. Army and the Making of American Colonialisms in Cuba and the Philippines"; and Christy Thornton on "A Mexican International Economic Order? Tracing the Hidden Roots of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States." We were also pleased to host Rutgers Professor Julia Stephens, speaking on "Governing Islam: Law and Ritual in Imperial Contexts."

WIGH also sponsored a talk by University of Texas at Austin Professor Jeremi Suri on "The Rise and Fall of the American Presidency in Historical Perspective," chaired by Faculty Associate Arne Westad. Suri's talk, drawn from his new book *The Impossible Presidency: The Rise and Fall of America's Highest Office*, made the provocative argument that the American presidency has grown simultaneously more powerful yet less effective than ever before.

The Weatherhead Research Cluster on Global Transformations will continue to play an important role in establishing a vibrant and rapidly growing community of global history scholars here at Harvard, and in building connections with partner organizations on all continents.

**"THE WEATHERHEAD CENTER IS DEDICATED TO THE NOTION THAT HISTORIANS, SOCIOLOGISTS, AND POLITICAL SCIENTISTS HAVE THINGS TO SAY TO EACH OTHER, TO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER, AND I THINK THAT'S CRUCIAL."**

**—CHARLES MAIER**

Last spring, thirteen Harvard College students received travel grants from the Weatherhead Center to support their thesis field research on topics related to international affairs. Since their return in September, the Weatherhead Center has encouraged these Undergraduate Associates to take advantage of the Center’s research community by connecting with graduate students, faculty, postdocs, and visiting scholars. Early in the spring semester on February 1–2, 2018, the students will present their research in a conference that is open to the Harvard community. Four Undergraduate Associates write of their experiences in the field last summer:



**Benjamin Grimm**  
Williams/Lodge International Government and Public Affairs Fellow. Departments of Comparative Study of Religion and German & Scandinavian Studies, Harvard College. *Research interests: Swedish Muslim identity within the fabric of nationalism, secularism, and post-Lutheranism.*

I completed my thesis research this summer in the city of Malmö, Sweden, which welcomed me back after a year of separation with great sentimental—if not meteorological—warmth. One summer previously, I had lived there for six weeks working on the early stages of my research. During my two summers of fieldwork, I conducted interviews with two mosque leaders, a few leaders of civil society, and numerous laypeople in the Muslim community in Malmö. The third-largest and southernmost city in Sweden, Malmö also boasts the largest demographic of immigrants (43 percent of its inhabitants have a foreign background), and the presence of Muslims is more palpable there than anywhere else in the country.

My thesis focuses on the relationship between nationalism and secularism in Sweden, using the experiences of Muslims as a lens through which to examine Swedish culture at large: How do Muslims—through assertions of their own “Swedishness”—disrupt the secular narrative that Swedishness and religion do not go together? I focus on how this ideological challenge reveals the Lutheran history that still inheres in the culture and social systems and shows the fragility of norms about national identity.

In addition to bolstering my existing lines of

inquiry, my research gave me a look at ongoing ways in which Muslims are working to reconcile the tension between the two parts of their identity. I found that Muslims often draw on the same cultural references and values that their detractors do—particularly the Swedish emphasis on humanitarianism and equal rights. However, they interpret them contrarily, asserting the Muslim community an obvious and integral part of Swedish society and not a pariah. I am excited to see how these current approaches develop in real time.

I had many high points during my trip. One moment sticks with me particularly vividly. I had secured an interview at a new mosque. The mosque was not granting interviews generally, but a serendipitous connection from my previous summer was able to get me in. It was Ramadan, and so we scheduled a meeting for 11:30 p.m. (the late hour due to the delayed sunset of the far North). I set out in a torrential downpour, through a poorly lit industrial stretch on the outskirts of the city, clinging to my notebook and dollar-store umbrella, and made my way to the mosque. I was greeted with warm coffee and dates to break the fast. I had a fantastic interview and when I returned home at 1:00 a.m., I stayed up, poring over detailed research notes until the wee hours of the morning. It was an exhilarating feeling I won’t forget.

Another great moment took place completely outside the research context. Through some of my academic contacts, I made friends with a twenty-seven-year-old local named Tilda. On my third night in Sweden, she invited me over to her apartment to meet her friends. Surrounded by strangers and inundated by fast-paced and overlapping conversations in a foreign language, I was intimidated. But as soon as I started talking about my research, other conversations petered out and people turned to listen. I had triggered a full-room discussion of Swedish nationalism and religion with people I barely knew giving me their input and debating me on my research. The level of interest they took in my

work was so heartening, and renewed my confidence in the timeliness and importance of my subject of study.

My research this summer allowed me to travel all over the city and across the country, expanding the scope of my research and allowing me to achieve a considerable familiarity with the culture of Malmö. Now, the next challenge is to condense the wealth of material I have collected on the subject and to compose a thesis that reflects my topic of study in all its depth and vibrancy.



At a public Eid Festival in the Malmö People’s Park (Folkets park), a young girl waits for a performance to begin. In the context of a Muslim gathering, her jacket takes on a whole new valence.

Photo credit: Benjamin Grimm



### Margot Mai

Williams/Lodge International Government and Public Affairs Fellow. Departments of Anthropology; Romance Languages and Literatures; and Global Health and Health Policy, Harvard College. *Research interests: Gendered violence of migration and social insertion in France and the European Union; and global health and health policy.*

I spent this summer considering displacement, violence, and caregiving among the Nigerian sex worker community in Marseille. As France's second largest city and a historic center of migration, Marseille serves as an important collecting point for migrants traveling to or through France—many of whom have entered Europe via Italy after crossing the Mediterranean from Libya. Women and girls who have come from their Nigerian homes to Europe in the name of a better future enter a thorny intercontinental politics of migration, development, and sexuality as they become human components of sex industry/trafficking along their journeys, either knowingly or unknowingly. A patchwork of governmental, medical, and NGO actors regulates

their movement and determines the legality of these women's presence. In the worst cases, such infrastructure can inflict profound violence upon vulnerable individuals. At their best, these actors attempt to identify and respond to the needs of these women.

I have witnessed this landscape firsthand at Amicale du Nid (AnD), a Marseille center that provides social services access to individuals involved in or proximate to sex work. Approximately one-third of AdN beneficiaries are of Nigerian origin, and it is with this demographic that I primarily interacted as a volunteer intern doing street outreach and working at the day center. I spent time with several key interlocutors beyond an institutional setting—cooking meals together, exploring Marseille's beaches and parks, and participating in forms of Nigerian community such as church worship and barbershop hangouts.

What emerged most clearly from my interactions and observations within this space is the practice of distance management as a form of self-care. How do these women use notions of separateness and closeness to both relate to and protect themselves from their local world? Distance is a common theme in the narratives of current and former Nigerian prostitutes in Marseille. Physical distance exists between France and home back in Nigeria, but closeness is maintained with friends and family through

daily phone calls, Facebook posts, and money transfers. These women live in urban France and partake in public services and a common cultural matrix like the rest of the French, yet there exists a paradigmatic distance between themselves and a society that can scarcely imagine their life experiences. These women experience physical separation too since the spaces they occupy are inscribed by their status as migrants and former or current sex workers. The Nigerian expat community can provide support and familiarity in this environment of unknowns, yet many women maintain a measured separation from this group since it can equally be a source of exploitation and violence (former Nigerian sex workers often pimp fresh arrivals).

Fieldwork in this landscape was rich in material but posed specific challenges. The biggest challenge I encountered was limited access to formal interviews with beneficiaries at AdN for reasons of institutional confidentiality. This felt enormously frustrating at times—there were so many moments where it was clear someone had an incredible story to share from a preliminary conversation, but I was not permitted to inquire further. While this felt like an obstacle at first, it forced me to explore alternative methods of data collection that I otherwise would not have attempted. I was pushed to spend time with key interlocutors outside of institutional settings to get to know them and develop conversations, resulting in more organic relationships than that of researcher-respondent in a formal interview. These connections were high points of my summer—both uplifting and humbling moments where I felt I had earned another's intimacy and was also aware of just how much distance remained between us in the encounter.



Marseille's vieux port at dusk is a gathering point for tourists and immigrants. Photo credit: Margot Mai



**Daniel A. Martinez**

Williams/Lodge International Government and Public Affairs Fellow. Committee on Degrees in Social Studies, Harvard College. *Research interests: The ethnic and racial dimensions of the armed conflict in Colombia; and the relationship between revolutionary movements and race in Latin America.*

During the summer, I traveled to Colombia—my home country—where an armed conflict has raged for more than fifty years and has resulted in eight million victims. My research focuses on the ethnic and racial dimensions of the armed conflict, a subject that has been chronically understudied.

The scholarship on the armed conflict and the guerrilla movements in Colombia is divided. Some have paid little attention to questions about the ethnoracial composition of the armed groups or the effects of the violence on ethnoracial minorities in the country. On the other hand, the scholarship that has studied race and Afrodescendants in Colombia has tended to overlook the approach of revolutionary movements to questions of race, pointing out that the guerrillas held to class-based paradigms and ignored other factors of difference such as race and ethnicity. My research seeks to point

out this gap in the literature and begins to clarify the role of race and the Afrodescendants in the guerrilla movements. In other words, it aims to give color to rebellion.

I went to Bogotá and the Pacific Coast to Cali and Quibdó, as well as Medellín—a center of colonization and an important region for the historical development of the department of Chocó. I interviewed about thirty people, from Afro-Colombian activists, ex-constituents, politicians, military officers, and academics to ex-guerrilla members. I also researched several archives containing the programmatic documents of the guerrillas and compiled hundreds of news stories from national and regional newspapers. This research helped me define a clear timeline of the conflict in the Pacific region (as it pertains to the guerrillas) and reconstruct the history of a racially defined guerrilla group named the Benkos Biohó, a small all-black guerrilla group that acted in Chocó from 1993 to 1998.

Throughout my investigation, the focus of my thesis broadened to include racial expressions within the guerrilla movements. I found out that the guerrillas gradually opened up to questions of race through the frame of ethnicity around the late 1980s. After the approval of Law 70 in 1993, which recognized the cultural and territorial rights of black communities as an ethnic group, the idea of black ethnicity gained national attention, and the struggles of Afrodescendants over land forced the guerrillas to give specific attention to issues of racial justice and to the black communities. Questions

of race went from being mostly invisible in the 1960s to being prevalent enough to allow for racial expressions within the revolutionary movements, which I identify as Afro-guerrillas. To my knowledge, my study is the first to reconstruct the history of the Benkos Biohó, and describe the phenomena of Afro-guerrillas in Colombia.

My summer thesis research was academically and personally fulfilling. I believe that understanding the role of race in the armed conflict is crucial. After the peace deal between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the country has entered the so-called “post-conflict” scenario. However, this period is not exempt from further violence. Given the global trend for national conflicts to erupt into ethnic conflicts, the unresolved issues of race and ethnicity and their relation to the armed conflict represent a pressing concern. Therefore, the future of peace in Colombia demands the racial and ethnic dimensions of the armed conflict to be made visible and clarified.

Moreover, my research reshaped my view of Colombian society. I became aware of the impressive achievements that recognized the ethnoracial rights of Afro-Colombians, but also of their continued plight for recognition and equality. I've learned that any social science research today, especially in Latin America, should look at racial-ethnic minorities and give equal weight to matters of identity and class and their respective struggles for recognition and redistribution.



Panorama of the Atrato River in the proximity of Quibdo, Chocó. Many Afrodescendant communities live on the littorals of rivers like the Atrato on the Pacific Coast. Photo credit: Daniel A. Martinez



## Theo Serlin

Frank M. Boas Fellow. Department of History, Harvard College. *Research interests: How Indian members of British Parliament discussed nationalism and economics during multinational debates c.1900.*

This summer I travelled to the UK and India to do archival research for my thesis. My project focuses on three Indian members of Parliament (MPs) in Britain over the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: Dadabhai Naoroji, M.M. Bhownagree, and Shapurji Saklatvala.

Despite all being Bombay-based Parsis representing London constituencies, they represented three radically different viewpoints in the Liberal, Conservative, and Labour and Communist Parties, respectively. Looking at these thinkers is an inroad into understanding the functioning of the late British Empire and early Indian nationalist movement. I plan on focusing on how people like Naoroji sought to represent India in British politics, and who accepted and disputed this mission.

In London I visited the British Library, home to the papers of George Birdwood and William Digby, pro-Indian activists in Britain and correspondents with Naoroji and Bhownagree. I also read several accounts of Saklatvala's life sent to his children by friends after his death, and spent a day reviewing MI5 surveillance reports on Saklatvala in the National Archives.

The purpose of my trip to India was to visit the National Archives of India and the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library. The former, heavily guarded on the outside but curiously lightly supervised on the inside, contains most of Naoroji's private papers. The Nehru Library, an enormous archive located in the house occupied by India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru (and before him, the British viceroy), contained several letters and manuscripts relating to a trip Saklatvala took to the Soviet Union in 1934, as well as some of Naoroji's papers.

Conducting archival research for the first time was interesting, but frustrating. Often letters between important and politically opposed peo-



ple contain just everyday pleasantries, such as Bhownagree asking Naoroji for "the pleasure of your company at dinner" on June 14, 1891.

Of course, discovering that historical figures are human is no bad thing. Indeed, I think my understanding of Naoroji's perseverance in the cause of Indian reform is enhanced by my new knowledge of how the septuagenarian exercised every day, with "a little gymnastics by two light dumb bells ... and some motions of the body" (a secret he presumably did not share with Bhownagree when they met in June 1891). Bhownagree later complained that "I cannot have more turtle soup and cheese. ... I kicked the balance at 12 stones, that is one stone more than at Xmas."

Similarly humorous, but more instructive, was my discovery of a large number of poems written by Naoroji's supporters to aide his parliamentary campaigns. While Naoroji was decrying the "drain of wealth" from India to Britain, campaigners on his behalf claimed "in all foreign parts" Britain "is hailed with greater joy than gold!" It was further helpful to find that Saklatvala's otherwise rosy impression of the Soviet Union in 1934—the year Stalin launched the Great Purge—was marred by the state of its "lavatories which breed microbes by the millions and enable the flies and insects to scatter them about."

Of course, not all that was surprising was funny. Saklatvala's willful blindness to suffering under Stalin, and categorization of the victims of Stalin's policies as "largely undesirables,"

was surprising given his criticism of British brutality, but shed light on the weight of optimism attached to the Soviet Union in the 1930s. Similarly confounding was a letter from a prominent Indian journalist to William Digby, suggesting an English MP would be more useful to the Indian cause than Naoroji. That letter suggests the existence of a substantial debate in India about the purpose of representation in Britain.

I found the archival research experience hugely worthwhile and helpful for my thesis. While I struggled to find many useful points of direct overlap between the three subjects of my research, the ideological similarities and differences between them—magnified by the changing fortunes of the British Empire and Indian nationalist movement—should supply a lot to work with going forward.

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Entry to Isa Khan's tomb, New Delhi.  
Photo credit: Theo Serlin

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Above left: New Weatherhead Center affiliates mingle with staff at the orientation BBQ.

Above right: Jorge I. Domínguez (left) and Timothy J. Colton (right) speak on a panel titled “Trump’s Impact on the World.”

Photo credit:  
Lauren McLaughlin

## THE CENTER WELCOMES ITS NEW AFFILIATES DURING ORIENTATION

At the end of August every year, incoming affiliates and their families come and mingle with staff, faculty, students, current affiliates, and friends of the Center to get to know each other, attend workshops, and get started on their work here at the Center.



## EPICENTER: AT THE HEART OF RESEARCH AND IDEAS

[epicenter.wcfia.harvard.edu](http://epicenter.wcfia.harvard.edu)

Epicenter is an online publication that provides commentary and analysis on issues that transcend borders. Our team of writers and editors works with academic specialists to help bring clarity to complex global issues. The Weatherhead Center for International Affairs is committed to Harvard’s tradition of fostering innovative, timely, policy-relevant scholarly activities that help us all make sense of the world. Some of our recent posts include:



Absences in the “Archive of Dominicanidad”  
What We Think about When We Think of Crime

Insight on Syria: A Quagmire of Warring  
Religious Groups? Why the Western View  
is Misguided

Hard Times for Soft Power: A Q&A with Joe Nye

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