Following Dr. Ross’ keynote address, there will be a reception for all graduate students. Please join us for hors d’oeuvres and refreshments in Tilton Hall, one floor above the conference rooms.
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8:45–9:00  Opening Remarks  ·  Grace Conference Room
Dr. Priscilla Elsass, Dean of Graduate Studies

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*Suburbanization and Residential Segregation* p. 13

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The World Around Us: People & Their Environment

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*Extended EOT Analysis of Multi-level Ocean/Atmosphere Temperature* p. 19

William A. Coniglio (Physics), Kyuil Cho, Braunen E. Smith, Laurel E. Winter, C. C. Agosta
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Rachel Shmookler (Geography)
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Erin McNally Diaz (IDCE)
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Avian Species Distribution Model Accuracy Assessment using Global Biodiversity Information Facility Data for North America p. 27

Elia Machado (Geography)
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11:45–1:00  POSTER SESSION  ·  Abraham’s Gallery

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How the Belief in Good and Evil Sustains Violence p. 35
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Wuxuan Xiang (IDCE)

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*Business (not) as Usual*

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Business (not) as Usual

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Social Networks
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*“Draw, if you be men”: Cultural Clashes in the Swordplay of Romeo and Juliet* p. 57

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4:00–5:00  Keynote Address · Grace Conference Room
Dr. Laurie Ross
Youth Work: Everyday Practice and Social Justice

Travel Awards Presentation
Graduate Student Council Travel Awards Committee

5:00–7:00  Reception · Tilton Hall, University Center
Dr. Laurie Ross

*Keynote Speaker – Youth Work: Everyday Practice and Social Justice*

Laurie Ross, who joined the IDCE faculty in 2000, received a Ph. D. in Public Policy from University of Massachusetts, Boston, an M.A. from the Program for International Development and Social Change in 1995 and a B.A. in Geography and International Development in 1991 from Clark. Ross engages in community based participatory research on youth employment as a gang reduction strategy and youth-led tobacco control. She is the director of the Healthy Options for Prevention and Education (HOPE) Coalition, a youth-adult partnership coalition created to reduce youth violence, substance use and promote adolescent mental health in the City of Worcester. Eighteen local organizations are part of the Coalition. In 2008, Ross received the second annual William Meinhofer Award for Faculty Excellence from the Worcester UniverCity Partnership. The award is given to college or university faculty who enable students to engage in community-based work that was important to the award’s namesake, William Meinhofer, who had served as director of the Donelan Office of Community-based Learning at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester.

Ross received a third year of funding as the Project Director from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security on the project Action Research to Prevent and Reduce Youth and Gang Violence in Worcester, MA with Ellen Foley. She was also awarded a 2007–2009 Learn & Serve America - Faculty Fellowship for Youth grant from Rhode Island Campus Compact and Massachusetts Campus Compact to support her development and growth as a leader and campus organizer around issues of youth development in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Ross’ proposal will allow her to continue her work with the HOPE Coalition’s mental health program. The HOPE Coalition was awarded funds to conduct action research on the distribution of alcohol vendors and advertising to complement its work on tobacco. The Coalition is also conducting a youth-led social norms marketing campaign focusing on the prevention of underage drinking. Ross is the President of the Worcester Youth Center’s Board of Directors; she also
sits on the United Way of Central Massachusetts' Board. In 2009, she was appointed to the City Manager's Public Health Task Force, charged with reinventing Worcester's Public Health Department.
Urban Parks: Discovering How They Build Community Using the Case Study of Milwaukee’s Lakefront Parks

This research explores the types of engagement which occur within urban public parks. Three forces were identified which affect the type of engagement which occurs in parks: the physical design of the park, the presence of nature within the park, and the planned activities which occur within the park. These ideas were explored within the case study of Milwaukee’s lakefront parks. Through observation and interviews conducted in these parks three distinct forms of engagement were identified: solitary engagement, insider social engagement, outsider social engagement. These forms of engagement were made possible through the space that urban parks provide and this engagement can, in turn, help to build a sense of community for the city.
Session 1

Nikita Kharlamov
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Psychology · Advisor: Jaan Valsiner

Relating to Heterotopic Environment: Experience of Everyday Urban Path-Making

The project focuses on the spontaneously emergent affect and meaning in urban environment. A dynamic developmental-processual approach is constructed in order to capture the emergence of personal experience in situations of moving through particular locations in the city. Foucault’s concept of heterotopia is used to conceptualize the particularly structured experiences in settings that contain unexpected, ambiguous phenomena (e.g. “strange” buildings, urban ruins) that catalyze the processes of semiotic mediation.

The central substantive question of the project is what kinds of meanings emerge in heterotopic environments. Theoretical question is what role urban space plays in the creation of particular personal experiences and, consequently, how should we conceptualize the aesthetic qualities of the city. Methodological question is how to make the process of semiotic mediation, or emergence of culturally structured meanings, observable and legible.

Theoretical framework of the project draws on von Uexkull’s biosemiotics and Amin and Thrift’s encounter ontology, as well as on Valsiner’s cultural psychology in focusing on the encounter between the urban inhabitant and the environment, or time-space, of the city.

Methodological framework is developed in line with Thrift’s ideas on non-representational theory and in the spirit of Sheller and Urry’s new mobilities paradigm, and is aimed at capturing the process of microgenesis of experience in vivo, in the actual encountering with the city, rather than in its representations (as in Lynch’s studies of mental maps). The technique of walk-along is implemented on a field location in close vicinity of Clark University.
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Economics · Advisor: Junfu Zhang

Suburbanization and Residential Segregation

This paper analyzes the link between suburbanization and racial residential segregation in US metropolitan areas. I hypothesize that rapid suburbanization between 1960 and 2000 has caused an increase in residential segregation in US metropolitan areas. Earlier studies fail to identify the direction of causality in explaining the relationship between suburbanization and residential segregation. Using 1947 National Highway plan as an instrument for suburbanization and decennial Census data from 1960 to 2000, I find that suburbanization negatively affects residential segregation. Estimation results from both long difference and panel settings are robust to an array of specifications. Improvement in transportation facility reduces the cost of mobility thereby enabling the affluent whites to move to the suburbs. As a result we observe a distinctive location pattern with non-black living in the suburbs and black in the central city of a metropolitan area.
Session 1
Writing and Interpreting History: the Case of Auschwitz

The history of Auschwitz has been written and re-written numerous times throughout the century. Its place and meaning have been interpreted and depicted to fit various roles within different governments, different communities, and even within different historic and ideological movements. One interpretation replaces another – it is a battle for control, for whoever controls the site, physically or abstractly, controls the memory. My presentation will attempt to outline the post-war history of Auschwitz. It was during these years that the history of the former camp was being written- and at times, manipulated and exploited. Not only do these events affect our understanding of the infamous camp, but they also contribute to our appreciation of the role that history plays within our own interpretation of our past, present, and future.

Auschwitz has become a battlefield over memory. How did this happen? The writing of the historical narrative began with a Soviet Commission’s investigation in February 1945 and the opening of the State Museum at Auschwitz in 1947. This narrative continued to change and grow throughout the following decades, often following the political and social trends of the times. Along with the creation of this narrative came the fight over the possession of the narrative. Whose
story was being told and how was it was being told? And perhaps the
most elusive question of all – why Auschwitz?

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Psychology/Political Science · Advisor: Joseph de Rivera

_The War Next Door: Peace Journalism in US Local and National Newspapers’ Coverage of Mexico_

Unlike war journalism, peace journalism aims to show all aspects of a
contlict, providing a broader, fairer and more accurate story (Galtung,
1998). Speciatively, peace journalism presents the people involved in
the conlict in unbiased and disarming ways, pointing out similarities
between the parties and with the reader, and thereby emphasizing our
common humanity. Using this theoretical framework, we were inter-
ested in geographic proximity’s effect in facilitating a peace-journalistic
approach. Past research shows that contact with outgroup members
can increase liking (Pettigrew & Tropp, 2006), while other research
indicates close proximity creates difficulties in staying open-minded
and not demonizing outgroups (MacGinty, 2001). Using the current
drug wars occurring in Mexico, tested how US border state newspapers
(higher proximity) differ in their use of war vs. peace journalism from
prestigious newspapers with US national circulation (lower proximity).

One-hundred-and-twenty articles (twenty per newspaper) pertaining
to the Mexico drug wars were analyzed from three lower proximity
and three higher proximity newspapers. Using content analysis, each
article was coded based on Galtung’s war and peace journalism cat-
egories (Lee & Maslog, 2004) and conlict news frames (Dimitrova
& Strömböck, 2005). Significant differences were found, particularly
with national newspapers being more problem-focused and using more
demonizing and emotive language, all components of war journalism.
However, national newspapers included more common people as infor-
mation sources a factor of peace journalism. In sum, the findings suggest
it is promising to combine Galtung’s peace journalism framework with
psychological constructs to test them in the context of news media.
The emphasis of Multi-Criteria Evaluation here is placed on the use of GIS for suitability mapping and resource allocation decisions. GIS is nowadays widely used for finding a suitable spot or area for a certain industry. In this project, however, GIS is proved to be used in both locate and choosing a proper industry in community planning.
Session II
Qingling Wu
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Geography · Advisor: Ron Eastman

Extended EOT Analysis of Multi-level Ocean/Atmosphere Temperature

An Extended Empirical Orthogonal Teleconnection (EEOT) technique is proposed in this research and an EEOT application is demonstrated with the Microwave Sounding Unit (MSU) tropospheric temperature datasets, along with the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Sea Surface Temperature (SST) data from 1982 to 2009. Although the traditional Empirical Orthogonal Function (EOF)/Principal Component Analysis (PCA) methods have the ability to integrate both the spatial and temporal dimensions, Empirical Orthogonal Teleconnection analysis (EOT) provides an automatic and elegant form of rotation that leads to simpler patterns. Extending this across multiple data sets, the EEOT technique, seeks preferred patterns of variability (teleconnections) in the coupled ocean-atmosphere system. Rarely have scientists considered examining temperature correlations among geographical and temporal dimensions through multiple vertical oceanic/atmospheric layers. In this study, temperature anomalies were found to be significantly correlated in the spatial, temporal and thematic dimensions. Among the major patterns uncovered, one is the familiar ENSO phenomenon and another is a dynamic propagation
effect known as the Tropospheric Bridge. It is suggested that \( \text{EEOT} \) is a highly useful tool for the systematic diagnosis of teleconnections.

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Physics · Advisor: Charles Agosta

Survey of Pauli Limiting and FFLO behavior in organic superconductors

Superconducting effects near the Pauli paramagnetic limit have drawn increased attention recently, with several suggestions of inhomogeneous superconductivity (Fulde-Ferrell-Larkin-Ovchinikov) at high magnetic fields and low temperatures. Many of these studies have been done on layered superconductors when the magnetic field is oriented exactly parallel to the conducting layers to suppress orbital limiting. We show preliminary results from RF penetration depth measurements on \( \kappa-(ET)_2\text{Cu(NCS)}_2 \) and \( \kappa-(ET)_2\text{Cu[N(CN)]Br} \), and we compare their \( H_p \)- and \( T_c \)-normalized phase diagrams along with \( \text{CeCoIn}_5 \), \( \alpha-(ET)_2\text{NH}_4\text{Hg(SCN)}_4 \), \( \beta''-(ET)_2\text{SF}_5\text{CH}_2\text{CF}_2\text{SO}_3 \), and \( \lambda-(\text{BETS})_2\text{GaCl}_4 \). In some of these materials, we have found possible inhomogeneous phases below reduced temperature \( (T/T_c) \approx 0.35 \). We also inspect some measurable sample characteristics for clues to the formation or absence of the inhomogeneous state.
Valerie Locker
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Biology • Advisors: Susan Foster & John Baker

Social learning in threespine stickleback fish: interactions between genotype, phenotype, and conspecific tutors

Many species use social learning, the process by which individuals obtain information by watching or interacting with conspecifics, to develop adaptive patterns of foraging effectiveness, anti-predator defense, and migratory behavior. Social learning allows individuals to rapidly and efficiently adapt to local conditions when confronted with variable environments. Social learning is also likely to prove important to the survival of populations locked in spatially limited habitats as anthropogenic modification of environments forces populations to adjust to novel conditions. We have explored the effectiveness of video images as “tutors” for social learning by the threespine stickleback fish, Gasterosteus aculeatus. We demonstrate that stickleback attempt to forage more intensively when a video image of a pair of foraging conspecifics is displayed than when a video of the same pair swimming is displayed, even when no food is available. We describe these results and further evaluate the possibility that stickleback are able to associate a plant landmark with the presence of food when played stimulus videos of conspecifics swimming, foraging in gravel, or foraging at an identical plant landmark. The use of video images to understand both the reflexive responses of stickleback, and the ability to generalize from images of conspecifics, has the potential to offer enormous insights into the patterns of social learning in this species and into the likely ability of populations to respond to anthropogenic environmental change.
Session III


SESSION IV

Lurie Conference Room

10:00–10:45

The World Around Us: People & Their Environment

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IDCE · Advisor: Laurie Ross

LGBT Issues: Examining the Beliefs, Attitudes, and Behaviors of Adolescents at the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester

Gay, lesbian, transgendered, bisexual and questioning (LGBTQ) youth of all ages in the US are overwhelmingly stigmatized, excluded, harassed and bullied by both peers and adults. Homophobic epithets and teasing have significant implications for LGBTQ teens, including anxiety, social isolation, depression and suicide. Because homophobic language is so widespread in teen culture in the US, schools can become extremely hostile environments for LGBTQ youth and those who care about them. The mission of the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester (BGCW) is to provide a safe haven for all youth members. While the institution offers a physically safe building and plenty of opportunities for youth to get involved, this study has shown that the BGCW has allowed for unsafe situations because of existing heterosexism, dominance of gender conforming ideals, and stigmatization of homosexuality. The results have illustrated several incidents involving intolerant language that are ignored or not handled sufficiently by the staff. Inconsistencies in staff intervention, along with the lenient attitude of teens and their peers regarding intolerant language have threatened the comprehensive safety of the BGCW. The preliminary step toward a safer environment is to
increase staff awareness through trainings, open discussion and a consistent approach in addressing issues of intolerance and homophobia.

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Geography · Advisor: Gil Pontius

*Modeling water demand in the Greater Boston region*

This study uses a quantitative model to analyze current water use and projected future water demand for 2010–2030 in the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) region in eastern Massachusetts, USA. The model calculates baseline demand as the minimum, average, or maximum water demand for any year interval within the historical record of 1994–2004. The different baseline calculations are assessed using sensitivity analysis to examine water use variation. This model produces spatial outputs for water demand, relative importance of each sector, and towns that exceed their water permits. Findings indicate that the minimum, average, and maximum baseline water demands for the entire historical record in the region are 410 million gallons per day (MGD), 478 MGD, 547 MGD, respectively. Residential water use is considerably greater than employment use, and the number of towns that exceed their permits increases with each decade. Variation in baseline demand impacts total future demand and is the most significant factor in regional water extraction.
Marked for Export: Nemagon Environmental Justice Lawsuits in Honduras, Nicaragua and the United States

Activists often discuss pesticide use and organic agriculture in the context of consumer health benefits and the global environment, yet agricultural methods also profoundly impact the health of people who grow food around the world. Between the mid-1960s and early-1980s, Dole Food Company, Dow Chemical, and Shell Oil sickened thousands of Central American banana workers and communities with the toxic pesticide “Nemagon.” For over twenty years, Central American banana workers and communities have attempted to use transnational class action lawsuits to hold these corporations accountable for the deaths, sterility, birth defects, cancers and other long-term illnesses they suffer. This paper focuses on banana workers and communities bringing suit from El Naranjal, Honduras and Chinandega, Nicaragua, in particular. Drawing from interviews with plaintiffs, court manuscripts of the cases, press coverage of the cases, and legal anthropological and feminist secondary sources, I explain why the cases have resulted in such little compensation and justice for ex-banana workers and communities. I argue that plaintiffs and activists face two sets of related challenges: global legal protections of corporations both block cases from appearing before court and undermine non-US legal rulings; and the scientific and gender-biased Western court system narrows plaintiff classes, limits injury claims, and discounts plaintiffs’ points of view. Still, the publicity generated by these same court cases has created an international stage to expose the dangers of unchecked corporate power to contaminate the environment and people’s health. Thus, the lawsuits create a platform for broader local and global activism.
Session iv
Putting the Pieces Together

Katherine Doiron
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IDCE · Advisor: Florencia Sangermano

Avian Species Distribution Model Accuracy Assessment using Global Biodiversity Information Facility Data for North America

Bird species are important local indicators of ecosystem and climate change due to population declines and shifts in their natural ranges. An estimated 79% of species predicted to become extinct in the Western Hemisphere due to range shifts in the next century are not currently considered threatened with extinction. Accurate continent-scale avian species distribution models are critical to understanding the magnitude of range shifts occurring throughout the world. North America is the most data rich continent and, therefore, it is the best location for assessing the accuracy of these models before they are used for conservation planning purposes. This study analyzes the prediction success of a Weighted Malahanobis Typicality Probabilities (wMTP) species distribution model for 240 North American bird species ranges, including 30 habitat generalist and 30 habitat obligate species types, and 30 species breeding in each of the following habitat types: Eastern Forest, Western Forest, Boreal Forest, Grassland, Aridland and Arctic habitats. The model performed best for Eastern Forest and Aridland species, and worst for Arctic and Boreal habitat species. The model performed better for year-round species than for breeding-only species, and performed equally as well for range-restricted and large-range species. Patterns in
species range prediction success could not be established, due to the unknown amount of error from input polygons, input environmental data and observation data. Future model prediction success studies should use input and validation data with a known or estimated accuracy to better determine for which species types the model predicts well.

Elia Machado
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Geography · Advisors: R. E. Eastman & B. L Turner

Putting it all together: a comparison of methods to derive composite vulnerability indices

Vulnerability assessments lie at the core of global environmental change research, and aim at providing an integrated assessment of vulnerability that identifies areas for further examination or priority action in decision making processes.

The assessment of vulnerability requires the integration of social, ecological and geographical information. Two major challenges are inherent to vulnerability assessments. The first is operationalizing a complex concept such as vulnerability into measurable indicators. The second is integrating these indicators into a composite index that attempts to convey the differential vulnerability within the study area without obscuring any of its dimensions.

The research on vulnerability to global environmental change has devoted significant amount of attention to the first challenge. However, there is still limited guidance about the relative strengths and weaknesses of different methods for combining information into a vulnerability index.

This paper addresses the implications of different aggregating methods in formulating integrated statements of vulnerability through a comparison of selected case studies from the global environmental change literature. Methodological insights on vulnerability assessments are presented by assessing different aggregating methods and illustrating their implications with a case study on the vulnerability to dengue fever in Mexico.
Emerging adulthood is a period of the life cycle between the ages of 18 and 29 that is characterized as the age of instability, age of self focus, age of possibilities, age of feeling in between, and the age of identity explorations (Arnett, 1998). In many US immigrant families, the children are exposed to two sets of values; one from their family and one from American society. So emerging adulthood often serves as the time where these values are sorted out and develops his or her ethnic identity (Phinney, 2006). In this study, 29 Filipino Americans filled out surveys and answered interview questions about their ethnic identity and how they make sense of their Filipino values in the context of living in America. A grounded theory approach was used to analyze the interviews. Results from the interviews indicate that Filipino Americans generally hold individualistic criteria as most important for the transition into adulthood which is consistent with previous studies with middle class Caucasian American samples (e.g. Arnett, 1998; Arnett 2000). However, Filipino Americans are unique in their balance between Filipino values and American values. In particular, religion plays a significant role in their lives as Filipinos. The majority of them were raised as Roman Catholics and this is linked to their Filipino identity. Overall, Filipino American emerging adults have similar experiences to their Caucasian American counterparts, but also have distinct experiences in emerging adulthood.
Session v
Ryan C. Jones  
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History · Advisor: Wim Klooster

*The Principle Business: Charles II, the Anglo-Dutch Rivalry and the Making of New York*

In 1664, King Charles II granted the area of land known as New Netherland to his brother James, Duke of York and Albany. The English may have been no match for the Dutch in shipping and trading at this time, but the English would not be outdone in colonization. Historians have vilified England for having “stolen” New Netherland. This presentation, however, offers a differing interpretation of the transition that begins with a look at the broad context of the Anglo-Dutch rivalry in foreign affairs as they were in the middle of the 17th Century, followed by a comparative look at each country’s motivation for colonization and finally an explanation of the conditions of the transition and the legacy of the Dutch period of settlement in the development of the new English colony.
Using Spatial Statistics to Analyze the Distribution of West Nile Virus within the United States from 2000 to 2008

West Nile Virus (WNV) is a serious illness that has affected thousands of people in the United States. Over 1,000 disease related deaths have occurred since its introduction to American soil in 1999. First, data were acquired from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United States Geological Survey (USGS), and NationalAtlas.gov to create maps of human WNV cases for each year from 2000 to 2008. While mapping the cases by county is an effective way to visualize patterns, the use of spatial statistics can provide more in depth information about a certain type of phenomenon. This was done through four analyses: Global Moran’s I statistic, hot spot analysis, mean center, and standard deviational ellipses. The results of this study conclude that the area affected has differed significantly from year to year with a trend from the east coast towards the west. Areas that have routinely had a high number of human cases have been in the metro areas of large cities, the Great Plains and the desert Southwest. The results of this study may help decision makers target areas for spraying, larval control, and public awareness.
William Adjei
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IDCE · Advisor: Gil Pontius

Testing the Sensitivity of Land Change Results to Category Aggregation in Southwestern Ghana

A previous study of land change in Southwestern Ghana by Alo and Pontius (2008) suggested that the process in protected areas is different than that outside protected areas. This paper tests the sensitivity of those results to category aggregation. Two land cover maps of 1990 and 2000 are used to identify landscape transitions for land cover categories in Southwestern Ghana. The influence of aggregation on the systematic land transitions identified, including gross gains and gross losses for each category is then assessed. The results indicate annual rate of gross gain and loss and the net quantity change as a function of category aggregation. The total change drops from 61% to 54% in protected areas and from 67% to 49% in unprotected areas.
Stephen Burrows
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Biology · Advisor: Denis Larochelle

*A Novel Gene Associated with Cellular Adhesion in Dictyostelium discoideum*

We have identified a novel gene in Dictyostelium discoideum that presents a cell-surface adhesion defect when disrupted. The disruption gives rise to cells lacking the ability to remain attached, under normal conditions, to the surface of a petri dish. The gene, DDB_G0270794, is described in the genomic database (dictyBase) as having two-exons and a single intron. We have confirmed the two-exon sequence using RT-PCR. The gene was cloned into an over-expression vector and cell lines generated. These cells were grown as attached cultures for 4–5 days and then exposed to trypsin for a set time with agitation, followed by two separate washes in PBS, with agitation. Each wash was removed, cells counted, adjusted for volume and converted to percent of total cells. Following the initial trypsin wash the percent adherent cells for the parental (DH1) cell line was 53.3 ± 8.23% while the over-expression (JC) cells were 73.2 ± 6.95% adherent.

After the last wash the remaining cells had a mean of 14.4 ± 4.8% adherent DH1 vs. 61.5 ± 8.92% adherent for JC cells. In a modification of the experiment, cells were allowed to attach for only 3 hours. Surprisingly, in all cases the cells were more adherent after the 3-hour attachment period compared to the 4–5 day attachment period. However, consistent with above results, the JC cells were significantly more adherent as compared to the DH1 cells (68.5 ± 9.68% for the DH1 cells vs. 98.8 ± 0.774% for the JC cells). Therefore, DDB_G0270794 represents a novel gene that contributes to the overall cellular adhesion in D. discoideum.
Maggie Campbell  
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Psychology · Advisors: Johanna Vollhardt & Joseph de Rivera

*How the Belief in Good and Evil Sustains Violence*

This study sought to investigate endorsement and predictors of redemptive violence; i.e. violence that is perceived as morally justified because it is seen as necessary in order for good to triumph over evil. I hypothesize that endorsement of redemptive violence is associated with a dichotomized view of good and evil. To test these ideas, two scales were developed; one assessing the tendency to dichotomize good and evil, and the other assessing endorsement of redemptive violence. An online survey was conducted ($N = 332$), assessing responses to these scales and to five political issues; the death penalty, a Department of Peace, Operation Enduring Freedom, nuclear weapons, and Guantanamo Bay. Multiple regressions were used to test the scales’ power to predict responses to the political issues. This concept is an important area of investigation as the notion of good prevailing over evil is often used by politicians to gain public support for violence.

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Geography · Advisor: Trevor Heburn

*Jornada Basin Long Term Ecological Research Site: Desertification in the 20th Century*

The analysis conducted here is based on three time intervals, and a three step method developed within the context of the GIS and Land Change Science Class in the Fall of 2009. The goal was to look at the long term ecological research sites, across the country, and use a three step analysis to visualize different trends taking place at each site. These three steps are speed of change, specific category gains and losses, and category transitions, in each time interval. This poster examines the Jornada Basin in New Mexico, and the three step analysis helps to show the conversion of grassland to shrubland, i.e., the desertification of the
Poster Session

landscape in time period one (1915–1928) and time period two (1928–1998).

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Physics · Advisor: Chris Landee

Molecular Magnets; Spin Ladders

The discovery of superconductivity in magnetic molecular spin ladders has sparked renewed interest in the field of molecular magnets. Low temperature, high field magnetization data for 6 spin ladders compounds [Cu(2,3-dmpz)X₂, Cu(mepz)X₂, and Cu(qnx)X₂ (where X = Cl, Br, 2,3-dmpz = 2,3-dimethylpyrazine, mepz = methylpyrazine, and qnx = quinoxaline)] were taken using a 65 Tesla short pulse magnet at the NHMFL LANL. I report on these results which support the spin ladder model.

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A cultural-developmental approach to moral reasoning: The use of three ethics across religious and age groups

The current research examines moral reasoning from a cultural-developmental perspective, which seeks to merge cultural and developmental approaches to moral reasoning. In order to address developmental shifts in moral reasoning, the current study includes three age groups: children, adolescents, and adults. In order to address cultural differences in moral reasoning, the current study focuses on religious conservatives and religious liberals within the United States. By exploring moral reasoning from a cultural-developmental perspective, the current research tests the way in which ethic invocation (the ethics of autonomy, community, and divinity) differs both on an individual and societal level.
Results demonstrated that religious conservatives and religious liberals differed significantly in their use of the ethics of autonomy and divinity, with a trend of differences in use of the ethic of community. There were also significant age differences for the use of all three ethics. It was also found that differences between religious groups increase with age for the ethic of autonomy, with conservatives showing a far steeper drop-off in use of the ethic of autonomy with age. Finally, conservatives’ use of the ethic of divinity steadily increases with age, whereas liberals’ use of this ethic remains fairly stable across the lifespan. Because different types of moral reasoning are employed both between and within religious groups according to age, the current study highlights the fact that one’s moral reasoning depends both on one’s culture and one’s age.

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Method to show the stationarity of a land change process along a Gradient: Forest Regrowth in Hubbard Brook

Gradient sometimes has a great impact on land transformation, such as topographic slope or distance to road. This paper illustrates the procedure with maps of forest versus non-forest for three points in time 1860, 1930, and 2001. The study area is Hubbard Brook, New Hampshire, where there has been substantial forest clearing before 1860 and substantial forest regrowth after 1860. The method reclassifies a continuous gradient into several bins as in a histogram, and then computes gross gains and gross losses of forest within each bin to analyze the stationarity of the land transition process between the two time intervals: from 1860 to 1930 and from 1930 to 2001.
Healing or Opening the Wounds of the Past? : Responses to the Framing of Truth Commissions

Many truth commissions assume that uncovering and publicizing a history of violence aids societal reconciliation. However, a great deal of social psychological research suggests that exposure to violent media can have harmful effects, potentially increasing aggression. This research tests the supposition that violent truths must be told in a certain context in order to achieve reconciliatory aims. Study 1 experimentally tested the effect of exposure to personalized violent narratives publicized at South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) on uninvolved bystanders (60 American students). Even among this sample of people who were not personally affected by violence in South Africa, exposure to the narratives decreased participants' acceptance of ubuntu and willingness to forgive (concepts promoted by the TRC). However, when the narratives were placed in the context of the healing purpose of the TRC - stressing “healing the wounds of the past, transforming anger and grief into an understanding and thereby creating the climate essential for reconciliation” - negative effects were ameliorated, and the acceptance of reconciliatory values was increased. Study 2 built upon and extended Study 1 with a sample of 100 South Africans, more directly affected by the TRC. This survey study found that more knowledge of the healing purpose of the TRC was associated with greater endorsement of values of ubuntu and forgiveness. Together, these complementary studies suggest that the healing purpose of truth commissions must be continually stressed in order to encourage reconciliatory values and impede potential negative effects of exposure to accounts of historical intergroup violence.
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*The Markov model Versus an alternative model of land transitions over time: a case study of land change in the Florida Coastal Ecosystems*

This poster compares two models of land transitions over time: the Markov model and the model of Pontius et al. (2004). A traditional and common way of analyzing and predicting land change over time is to use the Markov model, which results in a predictive transition matrix that expresses a constant probability of transition from one category to another during each time interval. In the Markov model, if the transitions probabilities are stable over time, then the land change process is considered stationary over time. This is only one possible conceptual definition of stationary. If a study area shows a constant area of transition per unit time, then the study area would be considered non-stationary by the Markov model but would be considered stationary by other simpler models. In Pontius’ model, stationarity of transitions are measured by gross gains and gross losses of each category during the time intervals. This alternative model also examines whether there are non-random transitions, given the allocation of categories in the maps. The empirical data are from the Florida Coastal Ecosystems study area in Redlands, Florida. The three years are: 1994, 2001, and 2006.

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*Do Builders Consistently Target Forest Over Time?*

The study area is the Plum Island Ecosystem (PIE) site in northeastern Massachusetts, where the largest land change in recent decades is the transition from Forest to Built. The maps have three categories: Built, Forest and Other. The four time points are 1971, 1985, 1991 and 1999. Transition matrices summarize each time interval. Both the amount and the intensity of the land use transition are analyzed.
Over the course of the financial crisis, many states have come to play increasingly important economic roles as investors, often seemingly in lieu of performing their roles as economic regulators. Much of this state investment, coming in the form of emergency bailouts by national governments of struggling locally based firms, is likely to prove temporary, with divestitures already occurring or imminent in many cases. Such bailouts, however, have been accompanied by a wave of state investments of a different sort, made by a small number of states – predominately in the Middle East and East Asia – who have run large trade surpluses for an extended period, and accumulated a significant portion of the foreign exchange thereby obtained as state rather than private wealth. Vehicles for the active investment of this state wealth are referred to as sovereign wealth funds. This study employs a methodology of network-mapping and analysis to investigate and clearly visualize complex large-scale patterns of sovereign wealth fund investment. Results indicate that some of the largest sovereign wealth funds are not simply passive portfolio investors, but rather holding companies or conglomerates, pursuing global investment/expansion strategies aimed at promoting the development of their home economies, as well as their
own corporate competitiveness. They have not only become the largest shareholders in many high-profile global financial and non-financial firms, but such equity stakes are in many cases clearly aimed at acquiring key resources and capabilities, as well as promoting and cementing broader long-term strategic partnerships with both firms and other governments.

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*Sustainability In The American Workplace: The Development Of A Sustainability Plan For Public Consulting Group, Inc.*

During the Spring 2010 semester, three Clark University students, Elsa Scheie, Jing Yang, and Patrick Bird, undertook a class project in Green Business Management to develop a sustainability plan for Public Consultant Group, Inc. (PCG). PCG is an international, for-profit company dedicated to thoughtful and innovative education, health, managerial, and IT consulting services for public agencies headquartered in Boston, MA. With cooperation from PCG, the Clark team researched current practices and potential changes to develop a multifaceted sustainability plan that included recommendations for energy efficiencies, water consumption, green IT, expanded recycling programs, paper use, transportation, and waste disposal. The Clark team found that environmental consciousness and practical business sense do not produce mutually exclusive options, and the team emphasized the cost incentives as well as the environmental benefits in their recommendations. This case exemplifies the changes that need to occur throughout American workplaces as we pursue business practices that exert a lower impact on our environment. In many situations, a win-win solution can be implemented.
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*The Intricate Interplay of the Human and the Machine: Aldous Huxley’s “Brave New World” Vision of the Future*

This presentation analyzes the relationship of human beings to scientific and technological advancements. Primarily employing Aldous Huxley’s Brave New World, the main argument is structured around two terms, “machine identity” and “human identity.” Briefly, machine identity is defined by physical, emotional, and sensual superficialities of feeling, while human identity involves deep-seated suffering and pain. Throughout Huxley’s novel, these identities interact to reveal the predominance of machine identity in the future, “Brave New World” society of Huxley’s fictional World State. Ultimately, then, human identity is endangered, on the brink of disappearing after the suicide of John at the end of the novel. However, drawing from Huxley’s essays comprising Brave New World Revisited, the presentation concludes with hope, hope for the preservation of human identity even when subject to machine identity-laden environments.
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On the Tyranny of Democracy and Dead Labor: Participatory Economics and Capital

My paper employs Marx’s and contemporary Marxism’s critique of socialist planning to critique an increasingly popular strategy to build a participatory and decentralized cooperative economy known as Participatory Economics. I argue that institution building, even if it is fully participatory and economy-wide as Participatory Economics has proposed, is not enough to bring an end to many of the injustices generally characteristic of capitalism. Rather, many of these injustices are the result of consumer and producer egotism and the isolation and hierarchies produced by the very physical layout of our workplaces. This means that it is incumbent on activists to both challenge egotism by means of consciousness raising and to create new workplaces that foster cooperation and horizontality in addition to building participatory institutions in order to realize an economy in which economic justice prevails.

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“Showdown of 1850:” Reevaluating Zachary Taylor’s Presidency

Historians have, for a long time, treated Zachary Taylor’s presidency, from March 1849 to July 1850, as an annoying roadblock on the way to the Compromise of 1850. Taylor’s untimely death, far from being seen as a tragic loss, is seen as the necessary element to diffuse the crisis swirling around slavery in the west. This is all wrong. Taylor deserves a reevaluation, preferably one that has a very long range perspective in mind. As part of smaller piece of a much larger and broader dissertation, I will show in this talk how and why prior assessments of Taylor’s time as Commander-in-Chief have completely missed the larger importance of his tenure in office. Not only was Taylor’s position tied historically to an
older vision of the Union, but he relied on tremendously weighty and
important precedents stretching back at least to George Washington.
His refusal to compromise the issues at stake should not be seen as
willful intransigence and stubborn crotchety, but instead as what
it was, a principled stand against those who blithely threatened “the
greatest of calamities,” civil war.
Session VIII
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*Creating a Wheel: A Partnership between Clark University Graduate Students and the Regional Environmental Council*

Community gardens are important community networking tools that can be utilized for everything from youth development to community revitalization. They encourage the building and bridging of social networks which helps to increase vitality and civic engagement within the community. The Regional Environmental Council currently coordinates the UGROW community garden network, which has a network of thirty-one community gardens throughout the Main South and Worcester communities. Despite the significant number and diversity of gardens, the REC identified that there was a real need to strengthen the existing community garden network. During this community based participatory research partnership, we found that the REC functions as the “hub” of a disjointed community garden network “wheel.” Through our participation in the Garden Coordinator’s wrap-up dinner, analysis of the end of the year garden surveys and planning and implementing the Spring Garden Forum, we found six common trends that all spoke to the ideas that there is a lack of information and resource dissemination, and each of the individual gardens need to be supported before the network as a whole can be strengthened. If the REC can rectify these gaps and fortify the rim of the UGROW wheel, a strengthened UGROW
network will help to increase leadership and civic engagement within
the community, and work towards the REC’s new purpose of creating a
just local food system.

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Holocaust trauma and its aftermath in Israel: when the personal and
political meet

Those that are able to flee or survive genocide are faced with far more
than an adaptive process of relocation. Not only are survivors grieving
the loss of their families and friends, dealing with the repercussions of
the violence they have witnessed, but they have been uprooted from
their homes, rendered essentially stateless, and in a sense, stripped of
their traditional roles of identification. A discourse of trauma develops
on a national level to promote action and change, but are the individual
voices recounting trauma silenced or heard? If trauma is not successfully
healed at the individual level, what repercussions does this have on the
community? The nation?

When a trauma as vast as the Holocaust is experienced by individ-
uals, a community, and a nation, its impact resonates across space and
time, having a lasting effect over generations. This paper explores the
trauma of the Holocaust and its resonance in Israel specifically. I aim to
define trauma, its impact, and its legacies, as well as the way in which
trauma was appropriated and transformed.

The extensive review of literature suggests that in Israel the trauma
of the Holocaust has transformed, but not necessarily subsided. Dyn-
amics of memorialization are complexly intertwined with a political
agenda for redemption and national pride. These short-term national
goals appear to have “splintered” the socio-psychological process of
working through trauma. In essence, the lessons and legacies of the
Holocaust in Israel have overlooked psychic healing in favor of other
lessons that have more “national currency.”
As the United States Peace Corps approaches its fiftieth anniversary, it is an opportune time to examine an aspect of Peace Corps Volunteer service that is often overlooked by the agency's reporting and measurement of achievements. Personal relationships between Volunteers and people in their host communities are a significant part of the Peace Corps experience and can lead to meaningful social change, yet these friendships often go unnoticed, and are at times hindered, by the agency's evaluations and policies. In this paper, I explore this contradiction and oversight through my personal experience of service in Morocco, stories from friends who have served in a variety of other countries, Volunteer memoirs of their service, and Peace Corps documents including recruiting materials, Office of the Inspector General reports and evaluations, annual reports, budget justifications to congress, and the bi-annual survey. As two of the earliest countries to host Volunteers, experiences and Peace Corps documents from Morocco and Ghana are given particular attention. Currently, the agency largely emphasizes and supports only Volunteer work that is in line with specific project goals. With more than 7,600 Volunteers serving in over seventy countries every year, the Peace Corps has the potential to support social change around the world
by enabling Volunteers to forge strong personal relationships with their Hosts and maintain these friendships after their service.

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*Cyber nationalism and Diaspora Identity: A Study of the web presence of Sri Lankan Diaspora Websites and Sri Lankan Government Websites*

This paper examines the relationship between the phenomenon of cyber nationalism and the presentation of diaspora identity on the Internet. In the case of Sri Lankan cyber nationalism on the Internet, the three major participants are the Sri Lankan government, the Sri Lankan diaspora and the Sri Lankan Tamil diaspora websites. I examine how Sri Lankan diaspora identity is re-imagined and re-shaped online through the websites and also how these identities are influenced by the presence of competing models of identity. For this purpose I analyze two Sri Lankan Tamil diaspora websites and two Sri Lankan diaspora websites together with an analysis of Sri Lankan identity as portrayed in two Sri Lankan Government websites. Stuart Hall’s theory of identity as a “production” and May Joseph’s view of identity as a performance of affiliations in a national and international arena, are utilized to understand the construction of identity on the Internet. Thus, this paper highlights the importance of understanding the relationship between diaspora and hybrid identity. It also foregrounds the tensions created as “traditional” nationalist ideologies find a more dynamic and fluid space to compete for in cyberspace, thereby, re-imagining national and ethnic identities.
Development workers often advocate for education as a means of empowering the poor, yet education in the form of schooling may not necessarily lead to this desired result. This study investigates the consequences of increased schooling in Santa Cruz la Laguna, an indigenous village located in one of Guatemala’s poorest municipalities. I argue that schooling greatly benefits the state, both by providing hope for a better future and by instilling students with a sense that the current system need not be challenged. While graduates also benefit, their empowerment is incomplete, and students appear unaware of some of the institutional mechanisms that have subordinated indigenous people. In a country with a history of state-sponsored discrimination and genocide, indigenous leaders may need to rethink schooling to ensure it is truly meeting their needs rather than those of the state.
Session x
Rethinking the Pequot War (1636–1638)

The Pequot War (1636–1638) was fought in southern New England and was the first full scale war between Europeans and Natives in northeastern North America. Beginning in 2008 I have served as the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center’s Senior Military Historian working to help identify, protect, and preserve Pequot War era battlefield sites in conjunction with the National Park Service’s American Battlefield Protection Program. This multidisciplinary project draws upon historical research, ethnographic study, and archaeology to not only identify potential archaeological sites but to reconsider the complexities of the Pequot War. The war was not simply a contest between the “English” and “Pequot” but was a conflict that involved three English New England colonies and their Native allies against the Pequot Confederacy which dominated Long Island Sound and the Connecticut River. Relying on 17th Century narratives and colonial records I compiled geographic and temporal clues to reconstruct military movements, avenues of approach, and potential settlements and fortifications on the landscape. These same sources have been used to reconstruct the arms, equipment, and tactics employed by English and Native combatants. The geographic information gleaned from the primary sources, historical accounts, and archaeology are all tied to USGS topographic
maps utilizing GIS technology. This NPS funded project has currently entered its second field season and currently research staff are investigating the Mystic Fort battlefield site in search of the Pequot fort and associated engagements. This summer I will also assist in supervising the University of Connecticut Archaeology Field School with Dr. Kevin McBride, Professor of Anthropology University of Connecticut. This multi-year project, involving several battlefield sites, in three southern New England states and while at Clark University I plan on expanding on this project by researching the entangled histories of 17th Century Dutch New Netherland, New England, and Native America under the guidance of Professor Willem Klooster and expect to enroll in GIS mapping courses as well.

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A Bear Deprived of Her Welps: Complications with Dual Mothering in Anti-Tom Fiction

Looking at pro-slavery and unionist novels written in response to Harriet Beecher Stowe’s best-selling novel, Uncle Tom’s Cabin, I discuss the ways apologists for slavery depict mothering on Southern plantations, specifically which aspects of mothering the biological, white mother and the black mammy take on. I am interested in the intersections of the discourses of paternalistic slavery and domesticity. How are apologists for slavery able to reconcile the cult of true womanhood’s emphasis on motherhood with the realities of plantation life where the white woman delegates many of her maternal responsibilities to another woman? I look at four examples of mistress/mammy dual mothering in anti-Tom novels and discuss the authors’ intended messages and the inconsistencies in their arguments.
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*Understanding Democracy and Demilitarisation: The Internet as an Alternative Space in Sri Lankan Politics*

The ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka spanning three decades is now in a state of suspended animation with the ending of the military war in May 2009. Although the war has ended, there is civil unrest due to sustained militarization and the systemic creation and proliferation of undemocratic practices. While the conflict and the following almost-fascist regime curtailed democratic spaces in the country, the internet revolution provided alternative spaces to express voices of dissent. Citizen journalism via blogging remains the only means of expression of counter-hegemonic ideas and praxis. New discourses about the conflict, its extraneous impacts and post-conflict solutions come to light as individuals participate to actively produce an alternative, organic, political space. Such democratic, common spaces like blogs not only allow for knowledge-creation and sharing, defying the bounds of censorship of physical media, but go on to naturalize the need to rethink both the conflict, and the idea of development.

However, this democratic space is now limited politically by severe state scrutiny on the one hand, and structurally by accessibility, on the other. The state claims that the blogs are a part of the pro-LTTE international conspiracy seeking to undermine Sri Lankan sovereignty, thereby acquiring popular legitimacy to suppress them. At the same time, the access to the blog-space is limited by class, region and gender.

The real democratic potential of the blogs is therefore restricted by a number of factors in post-conflict Sri Lanka. Demilitarization, democratization and allowing voices of dissent to emerge are three impending changes needed today. This paper will, among other things, explore whether the process of development will address these issues through the organic politics evident in the blogs.
Session xi
Considerations on Violence

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“Draw, if you be men”: Cultural Clashes in the Swordplay of Romeo and Juliet

As the most popular spectator sport of the Early Modern period, fencing occupied an important place in Elizabethan culture, with prizefights often held in the same theatres that staged Shakespeare’s plays. This paper examines the language and culture of late medieval and Renaissance swordplay in Romeo and Juliet, and how this language reflects the growing interest in civilian swordplay in Elizabethan England. I focus specifically on the weapons that evolved with this interest, and the styles of fence that employed them, from the “Spanish blades” of Mercutio’s Queen Mab speech to the swords and bucklers of the servants, Samson and Gregory.

An appreciation for the Elizabethan audience’s familiarity with arms, armor, and the highly stylized language of the formal duel allows the modern reader greater understanding of the sword’s significance in Renaissance society. Within the urban culture of Shakespeare’s London, the intersection of popular notions of honor with increasingly lethal weaponry was a frequent concern. Through a discussion of contemporary attitudes towards the recently introduced style of Italian rapier fence (versus more traditional English swordplay), I examine the role of civilian violence in Elizabethan times compared to the later Middle Ages, with particular attention to the cultural and class significance of
the approaches to swordplay espoused by the play’s characters. Viewed within this context, Romeo and Juliet’s underlying theme of new technology clashing with old codes of behavior is an idea relevant to audiences in every century, from the Bankside swordfights of early modern England to tonight’s evening news.

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“Military Necessity” or Genocidal Warfare? The German Military in Belgium and Anatolia, 1914–1915

Germany’s role in the Armenian Genocide has been a focus of fervent debate for the past two decades and remains a highly contentious issue to this day. As a wartime ally of the Ottoman Empire, Imperial Germany was influential in shaping Turkish military policy throughout the First World War and, as such, was exposed to Ottoman decision-making at the highest levels. Evidence confirms that German officers authorized and encouraged mass deportations of Armenian civilians during WWI, even after the Ottoman government’s annihilationist policy were known. Central to understanding the issue of German complicity, however, are the probable motives that led German officers to order, or at the minimum condone, deportations of Armenian civilians. Why did the German military support these policies? Was German decision-making shaped by politics, indifference, or purely military considerations? And what did German officers understand by “deportations?” were they synonymous with mass murder or genocide?

My paper will examine the German military’s policies towards civilians in Belgium in 1914 and contrast them with German actions in the Ottoman theater during WWI. Four areas vital to understanding German actions in Anatolia will be explored: the ideology of military necessity, the German military’s counterinsurgency doctrine, deportation policies, and its treatment of civilians in occupied territories. By contrasting German conduct in Western Europe during WWI, this paper will try to establish whether military culture offers an explanation for German complicity in the Armenian Genocide.
Liberatory resistance and social movement cooptation: A case study of domestic violence organizing in Tucson, Arizona

Domestic violence (DV) activism in Tucson, Arizona, since the early 1970’s has undergone a process of enclosure by state and capital actors. Specific processes through which social movements become coopted—institutionalization and stratification— are explored within the context of the DV movement. Broader connections are made with resistance movements in general, arguing that an intersectional approach to liberatory resistance can overcome movement fragmentation and enclosure.
Session xii
Acknowledgements

Putting a conference together requires the cooperation of many people and groups. The Graduate Student Council Conference Planning Committee is thankful for the help and encouragement of the Clark community. We would especially like to recognize a number of individuals, without whom this conference would not have been possible:

- Special thanks to Dr. Priscilla Elsass, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, for her support and advocacy for graduate students and research.

- Denise Robertson, the Graduate Student Coordinator, and her student assistants for their help in making this conference possible, and helping gsc with its day to day operations; we could not complete half of what we do without her help.

- Dr. Laurie Ross, for sharing her time and insight with us this afternoon.

- The faculty and staff of all the graduate programs at Clark, for providing a constructive and intellectually stimulating academic environment, without which we could not do our research.


- Kim McElroy in Catering Services.

- Alpha Graphics and staff at their main office and Clark University.

- Past conference planning committees, who have created goodwill toward this event and a basis for our planning.
This year’s conference planning committee consisted of the entire Graduate Student Council and all the session chairs under the leadership of Co-presidents Kate Doiron and Ryan Jones. Andy Coniglio chaired the Travel Awards Committee with reviewers Ryan Jones, Jacqui Mitchell, and Thorstuen Schwaben. Andy Coniglio also set the type for the book. Valerie Locker drew the cover art from a road map of the City of Worcester, MA and the e. e. cummings poem “if everything happens that can’t be done.”

The Graduate Student Council at Clark University holds open meetings every two weeks at a time convenient for its membership. (Currently Mondays at noon.) We plan events, appropriate money from our budget of student activity fees, sit on University committees, and provide graduate student input to administrators making decisions. In addition to the officers, each department is allowed two representatives. If there is an opening in your department, there is no formal process to become a council member. Simply start coming to the meetings and voice your opinion. Agenda items frequently include event planning, appropriation requests, health insurance and stipends, University policy, and campus services. Pizza and beverages accompany each meeting.

Officers of the Council include Co-presidents Kate Doiron and Ryan Jones, Treasurer Tipun Chatterjee, and Secretary Keen Hahn. Active department representatives include Ezra Becker, IDCE / Andy Coniglio, Physics / Kringle Daly, Physics / Jill DiMedio, IDCE / Chantell Lafond, Chemistry / Valerie Locker, Biology / Sarah Ludy, Chemistry / Jacqui Mitchell, Biology / Thoren Schwaben, English / Rachel Shmookler, Geography / Dimitri Yannopoulos, IDCE / Kritika Rao serves as GSOM liason.

See the gsc website http://clarku.edu/~gsc/ for information on our next meeting.
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