

## Faculty Scholarship and Presentations:

**Roxanne Donovan** received the award for Outstanding Diversity Advocate for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. She will also be a Diversity Fellow next year in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and her project will be creating a mentoring program for faculty women of color.

**Seneca Vaught** will also be a Diversity Fellow, with a project to document, model, and analyze innovative strategies that have been used by university-based anti-racist centers to counter opposition racial dialogue and improve the campus climate.

**Ari Eisenberg** presented the film *United in Anger: A History of Act Up* at the Zuckerman Museum in March, in support of the exhibit Art AIDS America.

**Rebecca Hill** presented "Rethinking Mass Incarceration in the South" at the Organization of American Historians in April. Her review essay on Timothy Messka-Kruse's books on the Haymarket Anarchists of Chicago will appear in the May 2016 issue of *Against the Current*. In June, her article on teaching American Studies Research Methods will be published in a special forum on teaching in *American Quarterly*. She had an online publication in Germany with the Willi Munzenberg Congress from the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation.

**Stacy Keltner** and **Ashley McFarland** presented a joint paper in March entitled "Nude Awakening: Exploring Feminism's Use of the Body in Intersectional Contexts," at the Southeastern Women's Studies Association (SEWSA) meeting in South Carolina.

**Tom Pynn** was nominated for the inaugural Distinguished Honors Faculty awards. Students and staff in the Honors College nominate faculty members based on criteria that include having taught honors courses for at least four semesters and evidence of service through effective teaching and mentoring of students in honors courses. Tom has a book chapter coming out this spring; "Radical Ritual Performance in the Early Prophetic Poetry of Bob Kaufman" will appear in *Beat Drama: Playwrights and Performances of the "HOWL" Generation*, ed. Deborah Geis. He will present a version of this chapter as part of the Beat Studies panel at the American Literature Association conference in San Francisco in May.

**Alan LeBaron** used his CHSS Engagement Award to spend his spring break in Guatemala doing research. He was also invited to speak on Maya Immigration at the National University of Mexico (Mexico City) in April.

**Robbie Lieberman** will have a review essay appearing in the next issue of *American Communist History*, "Beyond a Chilling Effect: The Impact of FBI Surveillance on African American Literature during the Hoover Era." The same journal will be publishing the edited version of a roundtable (from the 2015 OAH), "Activists, Writers, and Expansive Ideas about Peace in the Early Cold War Years," with her co-authored introduction. *The Sixties* journal will publish her review of Ronnie Gilbert's memoir, *A Radical Life in Song*, this summer.

**Robert Owusu** will be the keynote speaker at two conferences in Ghana this summer. The first is the Twifu-Praso District Assembly, Central Region, and the second is the Juaben-Effiduawse District Assembly. He will also be chairing a joint consultation.

**Kristin Petersen**, GWST, presented at the Center for Citizenship Studies conference at the end of March at Wayne State University in Detroit. The theme was Gender and Citizenship and her paper focused on the citizenship of mothers and the negotiation of their national belonging through taxation.

**Deniz Gumustekin**, presented at two conferences in the spring: "Ethnicity and Confidence in Government: The Case of Turkish-Kurdish Relations," at the International Studies Association in Atlanta, and "Conflict Analysis for Iraq after the 2003 Invasion," at the Sixth International Conflict Management Conference at Kennesaw State.

**Yvonne Wichman** presented on Gender and Women's Studies April 7-8, 2016, at the Southeast Coastal Conference on Languages & Literatures (SECCLL) in Savannah. She also received the 2016 Part-time English Faculty Distinguished Teaching Award and 2015 CHSS Outstanding Alumna Award while also serving as the Part-Time Faculty Council President.

**Ken Williamson** traveled to Brazil in May to conduct research after receiving the



**AADS:** This has been a great year for the African and African Diaspora Studies Program, which recently held a mixer in the Social Sciences Atrium with 43 students in attendance (see picture above). Additionally five new students have declared AADS as a major. The AADS Student Conference will be held next March with the theme of #Black Lives Matter. It will be co-sponsored with the Center for African and African Diaspora Studies and take place during Pan-African Week.

**LALS:** Latin American and Latino/a Studies faculty revised the minor, and changes go into effect in the fall. The program has sponsored several student-oriented events to raise awareness about the minor.

**ASIA:** The new B.A. in Asian Studies was approved at the March Board of Regents

**STS:** The general education class in Science, Technology, and Society, currently STS 2105, will become STS 1101, a 3-credit class, beginning in the Fall 2016 semester. It will satisfy an Area E requirement.



### Hello to Rodolfo Aguilar

He received a one year limited term appointment with American Studies and Latin American Studies and will join us in fall.



### Goodbye to

### Kathryn Walkiewicz

She has taken a new position at the University of California-San Diego and will leave us at the end of this semester.

ISD ...where ideas and identities connect



<http://kennesaw.edu/isd>

Interdisciplinary Studies Department

Summer 2016

## ISD Chair's Message

### What's New in ISD?

ISD continues to grow and change. We had an exciting year, with growing enrollments, new classes, and a number of successful events, including GWST Focus Week, a symposium on new directions in American Studies organized by our graduate students, and the biggest ever Symposium on Asia-U.S. Partnership Opportunities (SAUPO). There was even a SAUPO summit that took place in Shanghai.

We also helped organize other events that highlighted KSU's and ISD's focus on global engagement. Examples of these are a visit from the Director of the Peace Corps—that helped kick off our new Peace Corps Prep program—and from Native American environmental activist Winona LaDuke. Interim coordinator of Latin American and Latino/a Studies Alan LeBaron is working with a colleague in Coles College of Business to create a study abroad in Costa Rica that would feature work with economic cooperatives. Endeavors like these highlight how much ISD values offering creative opportunities for students that highlight peace and social justice.

ISD faculty and students received a number of honors, illustrated and described in other parts of this newsletter. But here I want to dwell on a number of personnel changes that will take effect next year. We are sorry to lose our Native American scholar Katie Walkiewicz but delighted for the new opportunities she will have in San Diego. We will be happy to welcome a new visiting assistant professor, Rudy Aguilar, who gave a talk during his recent visit about his research on cumbia sonidera—music from Colombia that traveled to Mexico and then to the United States, a "cultural movement" in several senses of that phrase.

Two of our programs will have new coordinators come fall. May Gao has served two terms as Asian Studies coordinator, and she leaves behind an impressive record of accomplishments, not least of which is our new Asian Studies major. She will continue as Chair of SAUPO, a big job in its own right. Dr. Heeman Kim, from the Communications Department, was elected as the new Asian Studies coordinator. He has worked closely with May Gao for several years, and we know he will be a committed coordinator and a great addition to our department.

Tom Pynn has served many years as a dedicated coordinator of Peace Studies. He leaves the program on a firm footing, having created several new courses and recruited excellent faculty to teach in the program. He will continue as the adviser for the Peace Corps Prep program and will serve as interim coordinator for the Religious Studies program. He will also continue his fabulous work on Pathways to Peace, the university wide program that brings an inspiring speaker to campus each year. The new coordinator of Peace Studies, Anne Richards, has taught in the program and is working on a co-authored book about Muslims in America.

We know next year will be exciting as well and we invite you to join us by enrolling in a class and/or attending events, whether it be the "Year of Russia," the AADS student conference, or another interdisciplinary showcase. Let us know if you'd like to be on our mailing list. Stop in to visit anytime, check out our website, follow us on Facebook or Twitter. And have a great summer!

### New Asian Studies Coordinator: Dr. Heeman Kim



Dr. Heeman Kim is an associate professor in the School of Communication & Media. He teaches Communication Research, Digital Media Production, and Media Studies Capstone. His research is closely related to his teaching and includes the cultural and social uses of electronic media. Dr. Kim holds the Ph.D. in Mass Media & Communication from Temple University, an M.A. in Media Studies from Northern Illinois University, and a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Incheon. He will assume his Coordinator duties in Fall 2016.

### New Peace Studies Coordinator: Dr. Anne Richards



Anne was voted in as the new Peace Studies Coordinator beginning in Fall 2016. From Iowa State University she earned both her PhD in Rhetoric and Professional Communication and her MA in Teaching English as a Second Language, and from Grinnell College she earned her B.A. in Religious Studies. She specializes in teaching professional writing and memoir, cultural studies, and peace and religious studies. She engages actively in service concerning the lives of Muslims in the United States and Europe.

## Teach-In on Campus Carry Law

ISD collaborated with the Department of History and Philosophy to organize a teach-in at the Legacy Gazebo, held March 15th, about the law passed by the Georgia legislature to allow concealed weapons on college campuses. Students, faculty, and staff filled the amphitheater seeking information and sharing opinions about the legislation. Thanks to everyone who attended and to Rosezetta Bobo for facilitating this thoughtful discussion. Governor Deal vetoed the bill at the last minute.



Nuru Akinyemi, Interim Director of the Center for African and African Diaspora Studies, cosponsored this exhibit with the AADS Program, Coordinated by Griselda Thomas.

### AADS hosted the CPDI architectural exhibit at the Marietta and Kennesaw campuses.

Kennesaw State University had the honor of hosting The Art of African Architecture exhibit in February, brought by Nmadili Okwumabua, Part-time Instructor of African & African Diaspora Studies and founder of Community Planning & Design Initiative Africa (CPDI Africa). The twenty-five works presented were the 2015 winners of The Community Planning & Design Initiative Africa. This interdisciplinary design competition fuses modern and traditional African architectural design with cultural history and social philosophy that is uniquely African, encouraging designers to create a new African architecture that is socially conscious.



Ariel Greenaway (R) and other students traveled to Brazil with ISD faculty members, Griselda Thomas and Ken Williamson as part of a learning community. The trip was the culmination of the Year of the Portuguese Speaking World.



## Student/Alumni Highlights

MAST Alumnus **Yen Rodriguez** accepted a new job as a Graduation Coach in the RRPG Latino/Hispanic Program.

**Ajay Murphy**, MAST Alumnus, coordinated the KSU Library System Author's Reception which honored KSU faculty who published researching the past year and a half. Kennesaw State President Daniel Papp commended the faculty authors for "helping your students by staying in the forefront of your respective fields."

**Ashley McFarland**, was named the Outstanding Graduate Student for the MA in American Studies. Her faculty nominee was Dr. Stacy Keltner.

The AADS Program recognized **Ariel Greenaway** as the outstanding AADS B.A. student. Her faculty nominee was Dr. Jesse Benjamin.



### Noche de Liderazgo April 21, 2016 KSU Center

The Latin American/Latino Studies Program, in collaboration with several other organizations at KSU, presented the Noche de Liderazgo program to celebrate Latino success.

More than 100 students were honored with music presented by Maurido Amaya. The keynote speaker was Gabriel Vaca, the Director of Enterprise Account Sales from United Parcel Service (UPS).

This was such a great event - plans are already in process for next year.

### CHSS Outstanding Diversity Advocate: Roxanne Donovan, Psychology & ISD



GWST Affiliate **Nancy Reichert** was awarded the Outstanding Contribution Award from the Presidential Commission on Gender and Work Life Issues. In her role as leader of the Women's Initiative in Academic Affairs Reichert, associate professor of English, helped create a positive environment for women on the Marietta campus in order to better retain female students. "With the small number of women on the campus, such an initiative was sorely needed and long overdue," her nomination stated. "Dr. Reichert worked tirelessly . . . to get as many women involved in campus life as possible through committees and activities, and used her blog, *Women, Work, and Academics* to highlight the stories and achievements of female students, staff, and faculty."



Twenty students received job and internship offers after volunteering at the recent SAUPO 2016 held at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel at the Cobb Galleria. The next SAUPO will be April 14, 2017.

### AMSTO Symposium featured a Speedy Research Mingle



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### Dr. Vanessa Slinger-Friedman, recipient of the 2016 Regents' SoTL Award.

The Board of Regent's USG Office of Academic Affairs selected Dr. Vanessa Slinger-Friedman, Associate Professor of Geography from the Department of Geography and Anthropology at KSU, for the 2016 Regents' Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Award. Vanessa serves as an Affiliate faculty for the Latin American/Latino Studies Program in the Interdisciplinary Studies Department.

### Luis Argueta with his film *Abrazos*



Ajay Murphy, Luis Argueta and Ernesto Silva hosted about 100 students at this film event on February 24.