

January 2016

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From the Director

Los Angeles, January 29, 2016

The new year at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research began with a visit from four scholars from the Holocaust Geographies Collaborative. These scholars from different disciplines (History, Geography, Art History) and different universities in the US and UK spent a week together conceptualizing their ideas about the next phase of their research exploring the spaces and places that survivors experienced during the Holocaust. In addition to spending intensive time together to develop a groundbreaking research program for the next few years, they spent time collaborating with USC Shoah Foundation staff and capped off their week with a public talk about their research, which provoked a long and lively discussion between the audience and the presenters. Find more information about their visit below.

We are very excited to start the new year also with the announcement of a new endowed fellowship -- the Robert J. Katz Research Fellowship in Genocide Studies. Named after long-time volunteer and former Board of Councilors Chair Robert J. Katz, in recognition of his service to the USC Shoah Foundation, the fellowship provides support for an advanced-standing Ph.D. candidate in the field of Holocaust and Genocide Studies to spend up to a month at our Center. Applications are already being welcomed for the fellowship. (For more information, see below.)

In addition to this new fellowship for PhD candidates, we are announcing the Center's Teaching Fellowships and Summer Research Fellowships. The Teaching Fellowships are open to faculty at any universities or colleges that are USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive (VHA) access sites. The fellowships support faculty in integrating testimonies from the VHA into new or existing courses. Summer Research Fellowships are open to USC students and faculty doing research focused on the VHA and/or other unique USC resources and collections during Summer 2016. (See below for more information about these opportunities.)

The range of fellowships that the Center bestows, which supports undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty at USC, and faculty at our access sites, fosters innovative research with the testimonies at all levels of higher education.

We are preparing now for upcoming lectures from our 2015-2016 fellows in February at USC. Our Center Fellow, Dr. Kiril Feferman, will be giving a lecture on the role of religion in influencing the decisions of Jews and non-Jews in the German-occupied Soviet territories on February 2nd. Julia Werner, our 2015-2016 Greenberg Fellow, will be giving a lecture on the use of photography in the ghettos on February 11th. And in March we will welcome Alina Bothe, who was awarded a Teaching Fellowship last year, for a presentation about her dissertation research that focuses on the Visual History Archive and testimonies.

Writing this letter on International Holocaust Remembrance Day reminds me once more of the significance of the academic work at the Center for Advanced Genocide Research. This scholarly work is strongly aimed at advancing the understanding of mass violence and how it can be resisted, and at the same time, is deeply rooted in and related to the memories of the survivors, as preserved

in the testimonies of the Visual History Archive of the USC Shoah Foundation.

Wolf Gruner
Director, USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research
Shapell-Guerin Chair in Jewish Studies
Professor of History

News



From left to right: Alberto Giordano, Anne K. Knowles, Wolf Gruner, Paul B. Jaskot, Tim Cole

Holocaust Geographies Collaborative Visits the Center for a Week of Research

In early January, four members of the interdisciplinary Holocaust Geographies Collaborative – Tim Cole (University of Bristol), Alberto Giordano (Texas State University), Paul B. Jaskot (DePaul University), and Anne K. Knowles (University of Maine) – arrived at our invitation for a second visit to the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research for a week of intensive discussion, research, experimentation, and collaboration. They arrived eager to spend time together planning the next phase of their research, refining their research questions, and devising the methodology for their next steps. To read about their visit and public talk, [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

"Religion and Jewish Survival in the Occupied Soviet Territories"

A lecture by **Dr. Kiril Feferman (Israel/Russia)**

**2015-2016 Center Fellow
at USC Shoah Foundation Center for
Advanced Genocide Research**

Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 4 PM
USC Doheny Memorial Library, Room 240

Dr. Kiril Feferman has conducted extensive research on the Holocaust in Crimea, the North Caucasus and the Soviet Union. In this lecture, he will illuminate an important and previously underresearched aspect of the Holocaust: the role of religion in influencing the behavior and decisions of Jews and non-Jews in the Soviet territories during German occupation.

Dr. Feferman has authored two books based on his extensive research, *The Holocaust on the Russian Ethnic Frontier: The Crimea and North Caucasus* and *Soviet Jewish Stepchild: The Holocaust in the Soviet Mindset, 1941-1964*, as well as edited or co-edited multiple collections on the Holocaust and/or mass violence. Dr. Feferman is currently finishing his third book project, *"If We Had Wings, We Would Fly to You": A Soviet Jewish Family Faces Destruction, 1941-42*, which is under review by Indiana University Press.

Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP at cagr@usc.edu.

[Learn more...](#)

Read more about Dr. Feferman [here](#).

This event is co-sponsored with the USC Casden Institute and the USC School of Religion.



"Beyond the Pictorial Frame: The Ghettoization of Jews in Poland"

A lecture by **Julia Werner
(Humboldt University, Berlin)**

**2015-2016 Margee and Douglas
Greenberg Fellow
at USC Shoah Foundation Center for
Advanced Genocide Research**

Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 4 PM
USC, Social Sciences Building, Room 250



In this talk, Julia Werner attempts to tell the story of the ghettoization of the Jewish population in Poland through the lenses of several photographic collections combined with interviews from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive. The use of the interviews allows the viewer to look

beyond the pictorial frame and get a more nuanced idea of what happened outside the pictures. The combination of photographic sources with interviews from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive is also an attempt to put the photographed people, the Jews being ghettoized, in the center of the analysis.

Julia Werner is an advanced PhD candidate in History at Humboldt University in Berlin, where she is working with Dr. Michael Wildt and Dr. Amos Morris-Reich (University of Haifa). She is also currently a Research Assistant to Dr. Wildt and works on the DFG-funded project "Photography During National Socialism: Visualizations of Everyday Inclusions and Exclusions, 1933-1945."

Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP at cagr@usc.edu.

[Learn more...](#)

Read more about Julia Werner [here](#).

“Meeting Survivors Online – Negotiating Memory in the ‘Virtual In-Between’”

A lecture by **Alina Bothe (Germany)**

2015-2016 USC Shoah Foundation Teaching Fellow

Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 4 PM
USC, Social Sciences Building, Room 250

The digitization of testimonies in the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive has not only changed the sources of media material, but also the sphere through which history is researched, written and perceived. The “digital turn” offers complex new challenges for historical research and narration. In this presentation, Alina Bothe will discuss why users of the Archive often have the impression of “meeting” the survivors, even though they have “only” been watching a testimony in the digital archive.

Alina Bothe studied History, Politics and Eastern European History at Freie Universität Berlin. From 2012 to 2015 she was a Research Fellow at the Center for Jewish Studies Berlin-Brandenburg.

She and Gertrud Pickhan were awarded the 2015-2016 USC Shoah Foundation Teaching Fellowship.

Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP at cagr@usc.edu.

[Learn more...](#)



Opportunities

Call for Applications

**Inaugural
Robert J. Katz Research Fellowship in Genocide Studies
for PhD Candidates
2016-2017**

Deadline: February 29, 2016

The USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research invites research proposals from advanced standing Ph.D. candidates for its 2016-2017 Inaugural Robert J. Katz Fellowship in Genocide Studies.

The fellowship provides \$4,000 support for dissertation research focused on testimony from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive, a collection of over 53,000 video testimonies of survivors and witnesses of the Holocaust and other genocides, including the Rwandan, Armenian, Guatemalan genocides and the Nanjing Massacre in China. The incumbent will spend up to one month in residence at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Award decisions for this fellowship will be based on the originality of the proposal and its potential to advance research with testimonies in the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive. The fellow will be expected to provide the Center with fresh perspectives, to play a role in Center activities, and to give a public talk during the stay.

To submit an application, please send a cover letter, CV, proposal abstract (1-3 pages), writing sample, and recommendation letter from your PhD advisor **by February 29th, 2016** to cagr@usc.edu.

For more details, click [here](#).

Call for Applications

**Greenberg Research Fellowship for PhD Candidates
2016-2017**

Deadline: February 29, 2016

The USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research invites research proposals from advanced standing Ph.D. candidates for its 2016-2017 Margee and Douglas Greenberg Research Fellowship.

The fellowship provides \$4,000 support for dissertation research focused on testimony from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive, a collection of over 53,000 video testimonies of survivors and witnesses of the Holocaust and other genocides, including the Rwandan, Armenian, Guatemalan genocides and the Nanjing Massacre in China. The incumbent will spend up to one month in residence at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research

during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Award decisions for this fellowship will be based on the originality of the proposal and its potential to advance research with testimonies in the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive. The fellow will be expected to provide the Center with fresh perspectives, to play a role in Center activities, and to give a public talk during the stay.

To submit an application, please send a cover letter, CV, proposal abstract (1-3 pages), writing sample, and recommendation letter from your PhD advisor **by February 29th, 2016** to cagr@usc.edu.

For more details, click [here](#).

Call for Applications

Teaching Fellowship Academic Year 2016-2017

Deadline: April 15, 2016

The USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research invites proposals for its 2016-2017 Teaching Fellowship that will provide summer support for faculty at universities and colleges that are USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive (VHA) access sites to integrate testimonies from the Visual History Archive into new or existing courses.

The fellowship is open to any faculty at any university or college that is a VHA access site. It is open to all disciplinary and methodological approaches and will be awarded on a competitive basis to the most interesting project or projects. Proposals will be judged according to the centrality of the VHA interviews to the course content. Preference will be given to classes that will be taught in the 2016-2017 academic year for existing courses and the 2017-2018 year for new course proposals.

The fellowship provides a \$2,000 stipend with an additional \$500 for in-class materials related to the testimonies.

The USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive holds over 53,000 video testimonies of survivors and other eyewitnesses of the Holocaust, the Rwandan and Armenian genocides, and the Nanjing Massacre in China. The interviews were conducted in 39 languages and in 63 countries. They encompass the experiences not only of survivors in these contexts, but also of witnesses, liberators, aid providers, and war crimes trials participants. These interviews are life histories, and as such their subject matter includes the history and culture of the countries of the interviewees' birth and their lives before, during and after genocide. The interviews average two hours in length and offer a wealth of possibilities for integration into many disciplines' coursework.

To submit an application, please send a cover letter, current CV, and proposal (2-3 pages) **by April 15th, 2016** to cagr@usc.edu.

For more details, click [here](#).

Click below to read about opportunities for teaching fellowships at:

[Texas A&M University \(A.I. and Manet Schepps Foundation Teaching Fellow Program\)](#)
[University of Pennsylvania \(Rutman Teaching Fellow Program\)](#)

Call for Applications

Summer Research Fellowships for USC students and faculty Summer 2016

Deadline: March 31, 2016

The USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research invites research proposals from undergraduate and graduate USC students and USC faculty for its Summer Research Fellowships. These fellowships provide support for USC students and faculty doing research focused on the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive and/or other unique USC resources and collections during the summer of 2016.

USC is the home of internationally unique and growing research resources, which include the *USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive*, a collection of over 53,000 video testimonies of survivors and witnesses of the Holocaust and other genocides, including the Rwandan, Armenian, Guatemalan genocides and the Nanjing Massacre in China; a *Holocaust and genocide studies collection* at Doheny Memorial Library with 14,000 primary and secondary sources, including the Nuremberg Trials papers and a class action lawsuit against New York Life regarding the Armenian genocide; and a *Special Collection* containing private papers of German and Austrian Jewish emigrants from the Third Reich.

The DEFY Summer Research Fellowships for undergraduate USC students provide \$1,000 support. The Summer Research Fellowships for USC graduate students and faculty provide \$3,000 support. Award decisions for these fellowships will be based on the originality of the research proposal and the centrality of USC resources to the research project.

Summer Research Fellows will be expected to spend three to four weeks in residence at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research during the summer of 2016, to play a role in the activities of the Center, and to give a public presentation based on their work and findings during the following academic year.

To submit an application, please send a cover letter, current CV, and research proposal, including a project outline and a description of methodology, **by March 31, 2016** to cagr@usc.edu. Undergraduate and graduate students should include a letter of recommendation from a faculty advisor.

For more details, click below:

[DEFY Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowships](#)
[Graduate/Faculty Summer Research Fellowships](#)

Special Collections

Please consider donating private papers, documents, photographs or films regarding the Holocaust and other genocides.

The Center works with USC Libraries Special Collections to preserve private collections and make them accessible for academic research and student investigation.

To find out more about donating materials, please visit our website at cagr.usc.edu or call 213-740-6001.

For more information about the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research and its work, please visit our website at: cagr.usc.edu

To subscribe to the Center's mailing list, please email cagr@usc.edu or click [here](#).