

November 2014

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Recent Events at the Center



Center Announces Inaugural Center Fellow

The Center for Advanced Genocide Research is pleased to announce our inaugural Center Fellow: Associate Professor Peg LeVine, from the University of Melbourne and Monash University in Australia. She received her Ed.D from Virginia Tech University and her PhD in medical anthropology from Monash University. As the 2014-15 Center fellow, LeVine will spend the spring 2015 semester in residence at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research conducting research and participating in Center activities. She will give a public talk during her stay.

LeVine has conducted extensive ethnographic studies while traveling with Cambodians to sites of ritual and cultural destruction during the Khmer Rouge genocide (1975-79). Her work focuses on the *Ritualicide*, a concept which she introduced as the systematic erosion of access to spirit rituals, places, objects, and physical-metaphysical arbitrators. She has published multiple books, including *Love and Dread in Cambodia: Weddings, Births, and Ritual Harm Under the Khmer Rouge* (NUS Press, 2010). During her fellowship, LeVine will utilize the Center's resources and the Shoah Foundation's network of scholars to further investigate evidence of ritualistic breakdown and the targeted policies that relate to *Ritualicide*. LeVine also plans to use her time in the United States to study the stories of the large Cambodian refugee communities in Long Beach, Calif., and Lowell, Mass. LeVine's work also includes clay, wax and bronze sculptures inspired by her research and the testimonies she heard while in Cambodia. She hopes to present an exhibition of new sculptures at the end of her fellowship. Recently, LeVine presented part of her research "Accounting for *Ritualicide* in the Cambodian Genocide: Abduction of Children's Imaginations in a Spirit-based Culture (Film Ethnography)" at the 2014 Shoah Foundation Through Testimony International Conference in Los Angeles.

[Learn More...](#)

**First CAGR Visting Scholar Lecture with
Simone Gigliotti**

Simone Gigliotti (Victoria University, New Zealand) presented her lecture “A Mobile Holocaust: Testimony and the Spatial Turn” on November 11th at the Center for Advanced Genocide Research. She demonstrated the use of new analytical methodologies in her discussion of the “spatial experience” of Holocaust survivor testimony. By studying a very specific population of survivors within a camp and comparing their experiences across time and space Gigliotti was able to identify how their emotions and memories intersected. Her findings indicated that social structures present in the camp were maintained during a later evacuation march. This “mobile



Holocaust” experience was captured through the visualization of narratives from testimonies on a map by cross-referencing mentions of location, time, specific events and tracking the incidence of shared emotional responses.

Simone Gigliotti is part of the Holocaust Geographies Collective, a team of historians and geographers who work closely and across disciplines together on various spatial aspects of the Holocaust, such as mapping the displacement of Jews in Budapest, visualization of buildings phases in Auschwitz Birkenau or analyzing trajectories of mass killings in Lithuania. The integration of GIS (Geographic Information Systems) such as with Gigliotti’s research raises new questions and opens new possibilities for inquiries in the field of genocide studies.

[Learn More...](#)

Call for Applications for the 2015-2016 USC Research Fellow

The USC Undergraduate Research Fellows program provides support for undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Southern California interested in conducting research using the genocide resources at the school, including the testimonies in the USC Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive. Fellowships are open to scholars from any disciplinary or methodological background. The research of past Fellows has covered a variety of topics including, but not limited to, the focus areas of the Center. Individual fellowships have specific topical and methodological focus.

To submit an application, please send cover letter, CV, proposal outline, writing sample and a recommendation letter **by Thursday, January 15th, 2015** to Dan Leshem at dleshem@usc.edu.

[View the full Call for Applications...](#)

Call for Applications for the 2015-2016 Center Fellow

The USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research invites applications from senior scholars for its 2015-2016 Center Research Fellowship. The fellowship provides \$30,000 support and will be awarded to an outstanding candidate from any discipline, who will advance genocide research through the use of the Visual History Archive (VHA) of the USC Shoah Foundation and other USC resources. The incumbent will spend one semester in residence at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research during the 2015-2016 academic year.

Award decisions for this fellowship will be based on the originality of the research proposal and its potential to advance research within the field of Holocaust and genocide studies.

To submit an application, please send a cover letter, CV and research proposal discussing the topic, methodological approach and relevant USC resources (max. 3 pages) **by Monday, December 1st, 2014** to cagr@usc.edu.

[View the full Call for Applications...](#)

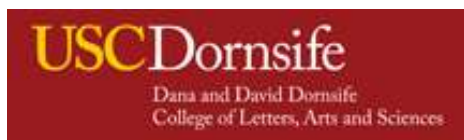
Special Collections

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



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