From the Director

Los Angeles, September 29th

Researchers must engage in an in-depth study of primary sources to analyze the past. Being located at the University of Southern California, the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research is fortunate to have a variety of key Holocaust and genocide resources at hand, which provide our faculty and students as well as visiting researchers with a unique research experience.

The Holocaust and Genocide Studies Collection at USC’s Doheny Memorial library is home to over 1,000 original Nazi books and pamphlets and Jewish publications from the 1930s and 1940s, and approximately 13,000 books on almost any facet of the Holocaust, as well as increasingly on other genocides in various languages. The collection also features the almost complete set of English transcripts of the Nuremberg Major War Crimes Trial as well as the 12 follow up trials of the Nuremberg military tribunal, including the trials against Nazi doctors, German businesses and the killing squads.

USC’s Doheny Memorial library is also home to the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library, one of the foremost repositories on German-speaking exiles in Southern California, which contains German-Jewish émigré author Lion Feuchtwanger’s personal library and papers. Doheny’s Special collections also include unique collections on other German-speaking exiles, such as composer Hanns Eisler, writer Heinrich Mann, and literary agent Felix Guggenheim, along with other personal papers of German and Austrian Jews who experienced Nazi persecution.

In addition to text documents, the USC libraries house the USC Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive (VHA), a database of more than 53,000 audio visual testimonies of genocide survivors and eyewitnesses. The archive contains interviews with Holocaust survivors from different experience groups, in its majority Jewish, but also Sinti and Roma, political prisoners, as well as liberators and post-war trial participants. In addition to Holocaust testimonies, USC Shoah Foundation has recently integrated interviews from the Rwandan Tutsi Genocide, the Nanjing Massacre, and the Armenian Genocide. All interviews are indexed to the minute and easily searchable on the VHA webpage.

This unique availability of resources distinguishes the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research from Holocaust and Genocide Centers or Institutes at other universities and makes USC a leading place for genocide research in the United States and a main attraction for international scholars.

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

Visit from the Fundación de Antropología Forense de Guatemala (FAFG)

From September 22nd-24th, the Center for Advanced Genocide Research and the USC Shoah Foundation co-hosted a visit from leading staff of the Guatemalan nonprofit organization: La Fundación de Antropología Forense de Guatemala (FAFG). Headed by forensic anthropologist Fredy Peccerelli, the FAFG carries out forensic examinations of human remains of massacres in mass graves and DNA bone identifications of missing persons from so called forced disappearances that occurred during the Guatemalan genocide in the beginning of the 1980s.

During their visit, the director and the heads of two investigative teams from FAFG introduced faculty and students to their fascinating work and emphasized their aim to restore dignity to the victims of mass violence. On September 23rd, 2014, the CAGR organized an event where Peccerelli and his colleagues spoke about their important work to faculty and two comparative genocide classes taught by USC history professor Wolf Gruner and USC anthropology professor Nancy Lutkehaus. On Wednesday, September 24th, the CAGR facilitated a discussion between the guests and distinguished USC faculty who work on questions of genocide, including Vice Provost Beth Meyerowitz and Executive Director of the Center for Religion and Civic Culture at USC Don Miller.

Learn More...

Future Opportunities

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 Friday November 30, 2014 to cagr@usc.edu.

View the full Call for Applications...
Upcoming Events

A Mobile Holocaust: Testimony and the Spatial Turn
Music Library Herklotz Room, Doheny Memorial Library Room G24
November 11
4-6 p.m.

Please join the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research for its first public event, a lecture by Dr. Simone Gigliotti, Professor of History at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

Learn more...

Memory, Media, and Technology: Exploring the Trajectories of Schindler's List
USC Shoah Foundation International Conference
November 16-18

The Center for Advanced Genocide Research is proud to co-host USC Shoah Foundation's international academic conference this fall. This conference marks the 20th anniversary of Schindler's List and the USC Shoah Foundation. Panel presentations and roundtable discussions will focus on the role of media archives in research and education, the role of mediated memories in facilitating public action, and the future of these new practices for mediating memory.

Learn more...

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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