

**USC Shoah
Foundation**

Center for Advanced Genocide Research

October 2016

In October, the Center hosted exciting events and expanded its reach to the global community of scholars. We were proud to bring UCLA historian Benjamin Madley to the USC campus. Professor Madley's groundbreaking research on the Native American genocide in California details the systematic extermination of California's indigenous population after the Gold Rush in the mid-nineteenth century. We also co-sponsored a lecture by Arizona State University Professor Anna Holian, which was presented by the USC Max Kade Institute for Austrian-German-Swiss Studies and co-sponsored by the Casden Institute and the Visual Studies Research Institute. (See below.)

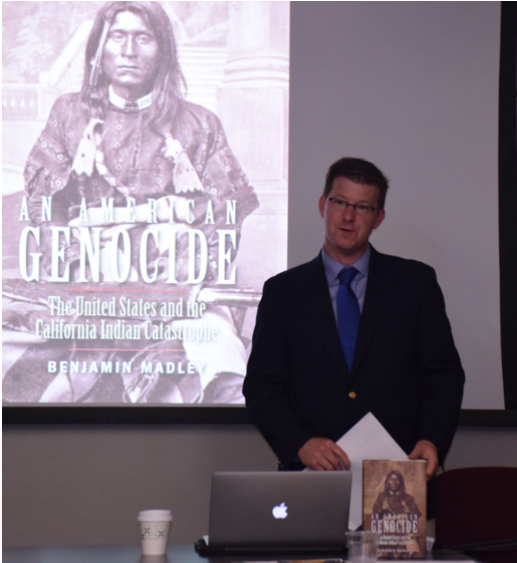
We hosted Constance Pâris de Bollardi re from Paris, a postdoctoral researcher, who will be responsible for the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive at the American University of Paris, one of our newest full access sites. This month, we also actively reached out to our university partners in the US and in Europe, conducting workshops at sites at Syracuse University, in London and in Paris. (Read more below.)

October was also the month when we announced several fellowship opportunities: the research week for a group of scholars from different universities and countries, short-term research stays for several PhD candidates, the semester-long research visit for a senior researcher, and the yearlong research opportunity for a postdoctoral scholar. (For more about these opportunities, see below. We invite you to share these opportunities widely.)

Wolf Gruner

Director, USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research

Professor of History and Shapell-Guerin Chair in Jewish Studies



Events

UCLA Historian Benjamin Madley Addresses Native American Genocide in California

A historian of Native America, the United States, and genocide in world history, Benjamin Madley's recent book *An American Genocide: The United States and the California Indian Catastrophe, 1846-1873* analyzes the state-sponsored genocide of the Native American nations in California during the 19th century.

Watch the lecture and read the summary [here](#).

More about the First International Conference about Genocide in Guatemala

Last month, our highly acclaimed international conference about genocide and resistance in Guatemala brought together a group of 30 international scholars from disciplines as diverse as International Relations, Anthropology, History, Literary Studies, Latin American Studies, and Women's Studies.

Watch videos of the conference proceedings [here](#), and read a summary of the conference [here](#).



Research

Anna Holian

In October the Center co-sponsored a public lecture by Professor Anna Holian from Arizona State University about the theme of Jewish children in Fred Zinnemann's 1948 film *The Search*.

During her brief visit to Los Angeles, Professor Holian visited the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research to conduct two days of in-depth research with testimonies from the Visual History Archive. Read more about Professor Holian's research [here](#).

Mélanie Peron

The Center recently hosted University of Pennsylvania French lecturer Mélanie Péron, the recipient of this year's Rutman Fellowship for



Research and Teaching. During her weeklong residency, she researched how to best use survivors' testimonies from the Visual History Archive in the classroom.

In her upcoming course on the Holocaust, Péron will integrate testimonies to reinforce historical facts but also to connect testimony to three works about French Jews the students will be reading: the diary of Helene Berr, letters from Louise Jacobson, and a novel about Dora Bruder. All three women were about 20 years old during the occupation, and all three died after they were deported from France. In

the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive, Péron has found testimonies of survivors who lived in Paris and share a name, similar birthday and/or neighborhood in Paris with the women in the literature. She hopes that these testimonies will help make the stories of Helene, Louise and Dora real for her students.

Read more about Professor Péron [here](#).

Outreach

This was a busy month for Center Academic Relations and Outreach Officer Emilie Garrigou-Kempton, who traveled to many places to conduct workshops familiarizing researchers, faculty, and library staff with the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive.

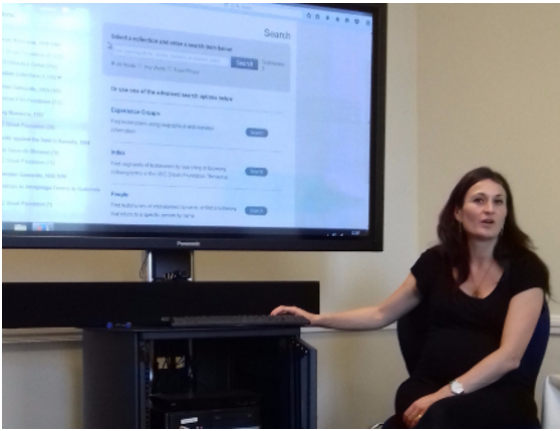
Syracuse University

Organized by Syracuse University Librarian Lydia Wasylenko, this workshop was part of Syracuse University's Fall Symposium, an annual public events series exploring humanities through lectures, workshops, performances, exhibits, films, and readings. Because the theme of this year's symposium engages the meaning and impact of "Place" from diverse perspectives and genres across a range of locations, locally and globally, the workshop focused on the usefulness of the VHA to actually envision "place." This well-attended event brought together scholars from disciplines ranging from History to Information Studies.



Royal Holloway Center for Holocaust Research, London

The Holocaust Research Centre at Royal Holloway University recently organized an all-day event about the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive.



After Center staff member Emilie Garrigou-Kempton introduced attendees to the video archive and its potential for research, University of Brighton PhD candidate Ian Cantoni presented on his use of survivor testimonies for his doctoral research on the topography of French cultural memory at the camp de Rivesaltes in France.

Yahad-in-Unum

This month we also presented the VHA outside of the university setting. During a recent trip to Paris, Center's outreach officer Emilie Garrigou-Kempton conducted a workshop for the staff of Yahad-in-Unum, a Paris-based non-profit organization dedicated to identifying mass graves of Jews and Roma in the former Soviet Union. Yahad-in-Unum records the testimonies of surviving witnesses and uses their first-person accounts to discover sites of executions. The possibility to combine their testimonies with those of the VHA can prove tremendously fruitful as it may enable them to uncover hitherto ignored sites of mass atrocities.

Center attends the Inauguration of the Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention

USC Shoah Foundation Executive Director Stephen Smith and Center for Advanced Genocide Research Outreach Officer Emilie Garrigou-Kempton represented the USC Shoah Foundation at the recent inauguration of the George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention at the American University of Paris.



To launch its new center, AUP organized an international conference entitled "Legal Legacies of Genocide: From Nuremberg to the International Criminal Courts." As one of the presenters, in a talk entitled "What Remains: Open Graves, Memorials and Testimony as Elements of Transitional Closure," USC Shoah Foundation Executive Director Stephen Smith explored how human remains, memorial culture and personal testimony continue to shape the aftermath of atrocities committed during the Guatemalan genocide (1982-1984) and the Rwandan Genocide Against the Tutsi (1994), alongside ongoing judicial processes.

Read more about this inaugural event [here](#).

Center staff to participate in 14th Biennial Lessons and Legacies Conference

The 14th biennial Lessons and Legacies Conference on Holocaust Studies organized by the Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University and hosted by Claremont McKenna College will bring together 250 of the world's leading Holocaust scholars and graduate students including several USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research staff and collaborators. This year's conference is entitled "The Holocaust in the 21st Century: Relevance and Challenges in the Digital Age."

Wolf Gruner, director of the Center, is co-chairing the conference along with Hilary Earl of Nipissing University. Before and after the conference, the Center offers workshops for the conference participants at the USC Shoah Foundation offices on how they can use the Visual History Archive in their research. Two dozen scholars have registered for these workshops. Center staff will also host a booth throughout the conference for scholars to drop by at any time and learn more about the Visual History Archive, the Center, or ask specific questions about their research.

Learn more about the Center's involvement in this year's Lessons and Legacies conference [here](#).

Spotlight on USC Resources

Part Five: The Harry K. Wolff Jr. World War II Collection

As part of our series on USC Holocaust and genocide studies resources, we would like to bring the spotlight to a recent and very unique donation from the Stanley family.

As the result of a collaboration between the USC Shoah Foundation and the USC Libraries, Andrea and David Stanley recently donated a large collection of letters, photographs, brochures and artifacts to USC. Andrea Stanley's father served in the US military from 1942 to 1946, and the Harry K. Wolff Jr. World War II collection consists of letters he wrote and materials and memorabilia he acquired during his service. Beginning with his leaving the civilian life of a San Francisco lawyer behind and entering Officer Training, this articulate, literary and keen observer wrote approximately 500 hundred long and detailed letters to his wife that document his life experiences in America and Europe, from the invasion of the Normandy on D-Day to the exploration of Ohrdruf and Dachau concentration camps after liberation, from his service at "C" Battery 120 AAA Gun Battalion, 3rd Army, to his work for the Judge Advocates office. Ever informative and packed with detail, the letters serve as a doorway into the life of a soldier. They capture the levity and pleasures, as well as the horrors, terror and shocking detail of human life degraded. The letters also provide documentation for much of the memorabilia that he gathered from captured German soldiers, often describing the place, events and circumstances related to their acquisition. He sent much of this memorabilia home along with hundreds of photographs and brochures, all of which have now become part of this exciting collection.



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 7, 2016

[“Reconceptualizing Nazi Camps: Changing Categories, Shifting Purposes, and Evolving Contexts.” A panel including Martin Dean \(USHMM\), Verena Buser \(Alice Salomon University Berlin\), Andrea Rudorff \(Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Munich\) and doctoral candidate Sari Siegel \(USC\) on new research regarding forced labor camps during the Holocaust.](#)

Opportunities

Call for Applications

Genocide Prevention Research Fellowship for PhD Candidates: Due November 23, 2016.

This fellowship will be awarded to an advanced-standing Ph.D. candidate from any discipline who will spend one month of residence at the Center in the Spring of 2017 to advance research on genocide prevention through the use of the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive and other USC resources.

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

Greenberg Research Fellowship: Due December 15, 2016

This monthlong fellowship during the 2017-2018 academic year will be awarded to an outstanding advanced-standing Ph.D. candidate from any discipline for dissertation research with innovative approaches focusing on testimony from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive and other USC resources.

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

Katz Research Fellowship in Genocide Studies: Due December 15, 2016

This monthlong fellowship during the 2017-2018 academic year will be awarded to an outstanding advanced-standing Ph.D. candidate from any discipline for dissertation research with innovative approaches focusing on testimony from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive and other USC resources.

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

Inaugural Breslauer, Rutman, and Anderson Research Fellowship: Due December 15, 2016

This monthlong fellowship during the 2017-2018 academic year will be awarded to an outstanding advanced-standing Ph.D. candidate from any discipline for dissertation research with innovative approaches focusing on testimony from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive and other USC resources.

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

Center Postdoctoral Research Fellowship: Due December 15, 2016.

This fellowship for the 2017-2018 academic year will be awarded to a postdoctoral scholar from any discipline who will advance digital genocide research through the use of the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive (VHA). Proposals should emphasize the use of innovative digital methodologies to approach the testimonies of the Visual History Archive.

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

Center Research Fellowship 2017-2018: due November 15

The Center Research Fellowship is awarded to an outstanding senior scholar from any discipline who will advance genocide research through the use of the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive and other USC resources. The recipient will spend four months in residence at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research during the 2017-2018 academic year.

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

Interdisciplinary Research Week 2017: due November 15

Each year, the Center hosts an interdisciplinary team of scholars from different universities and countries for one week so that they can meet in person and work together intensively to address a particular challenge within the field of genocide studies and start creating, or keep advancing, a cooperative research project. This unique opportunity, the week spent as a group together at the Center, allows researchers to prepare the groundwork for future cooperative research grant applications. The Center for Advanced Genocide Research will cover travel costs and accommodation for a team of five or six scholars for up to seven days and will provide them with expert staff assistance for their research as well as a dedicated workspace at the USC Shoah Foundation during the stay.

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

Donate to Special Collections

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

While the USC Shoah Foundation has tremendous expertise in preserving and making accessible audiovisual materials, the USC Libraries provides that same level of expertise for artifacts, papers, photographs and the digitization of those materials. The Center works with USC Libraries Special Collections to preserve private collections and make them accessible for academic research worldwide and student investigation at USC.

To find out more about donating materials, email us as 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, [click here](#).

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