

**USC Shoah
Foundation**

Center for Advanced Genocide Research

August 2017

As the new academic year gets underway, the Center has experienced one of our most active months ever, during which we welcomed teaching fellows, research fellows, visiting scholars, a collaborative interdisciplinary research team, and a visiting lecturer.

In this newsletter, you can read about the visits of Daniel Conway (A.I. and Manet Schepps Teaching Fellow from Texas A&M University), Nancy Sinkoff (International Teaching Fellow from Rutgers University), visiting scholar Maria Rita Corticelli (Director of the Center for Genocide Studies at the International University of Erbil in Iraq), and our 2017-2018 Center Research Fellow Geraldien von Frijtag Drabbe Künzel (Utrecht University), who began her four-month residency with us in August.

In August, we also hosted the scholars for the Interdisciplinary Research Week, a unique opportunity the Center extends each year to a team of scholars from different disciplines and from different universities in different countries, some of whom have never met in person. Support from the Center enables the team to gather together at the Center for a week to design, plan, and pursue a collaborative research project using the testimonies of the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive. This year's participants came from universities and other institutions in Chile, Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico. You can read more about them and their project below.

We remain hard at work finalizing the details for our upcoming international conference "Digital Approaches to Genocide Studies", which is co-sponsored by the USC Digital Humanities Program and will be held on October 23-24 on the USC campus. Registration is now open so please make your plans to join us as we gather together scholars to examine the relationships between digital methodologies, practices, ethics and contemporary Holocaust and genocide studies.

I want to draw your attention to the "Opportunities" section of our newsletter below. There you'll find the announcement of the fellowship competition for the 2018-2019 Center Research Fellowship,

which supports a semester-long residency by a senior scholar, as well as a postdoctoral research opportunity focusing on the study of racial and religious biases on college campuses. I encourage you to circulate these opportunities widely.

As the recent events in Charlottesville so painfully illustrate, scholarly research into the dynamics and rhetoric of bigotry and intolerance remains vital. The Center's research focus on resistance to actions and ideologies of racist violence feels as urgent and important as ever. As our activities continue into the academic year ahead, including cosponsoring a conference about testimony at the University of Virginia, we eagerly invite your participation and thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Wolf Gruner

Founding Director of the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research
Professor of History and Shapell-Guerin Chair in Jewish Studies

Events

"Mobility, Survival and Integration: Experiences and Narratives of Holocaust Survivors in Latin America"

The Center's 2017-2018 public lecture series began with a public lecture by the Interdisciplinary Research Week team of seven scholars whose lecture focused on their project to comparatively examine the individual experiences and narratives of Holocaust survivors in four Latin American countries using USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive testimonies as the primary source.

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



Research

Interdisciplinary Research Week

The recipients of this year's Interdisciplinary Research Week opportunity are focusing on testimonies of Holocaust survivors in Latin America, specifically on Chile, Argentina, Colombia and Mexico. These scholars represent a wide variety of

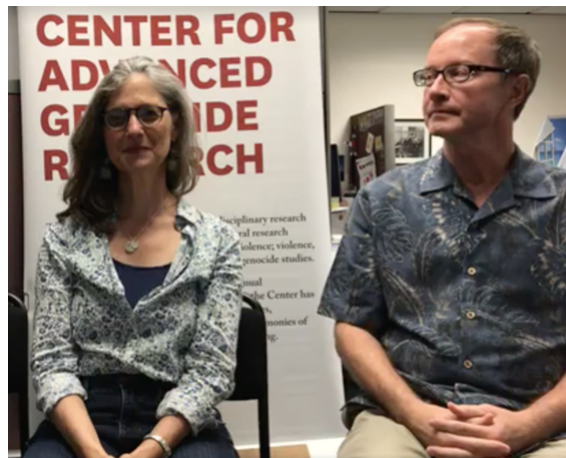
academic disciplines, including history, political science, international law, visual arts, and sociology. The research team includes Lorena Avila Jaimes (Centro Internacional de Toledo para la Paz, Colombia), Emmanuel Kahan (Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina), Nancy Nicholls Lopeandía (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile), Daniela Gleizer Salzman (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México), Yael Siman



(Iberoamericana University, México), Susana Sosenski (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México), and Alejandra Morales Stekel (Jewish Interactive Museum of Chile, Chile). Their week of intense discussion, brainstorming, and experimentation yielded a fascinating lecture about how they conceive of their project so far and a long and lively discussion afterwards. See more above.

Center welcomes teaching fellows Daniel Conway and Nancy Sinkoff

August began with the weeklong residencies of two of the Center's teaching fellows – Professor Daniel Conway from Texas A&M University (2017-2018 A.I. and Manet Schepps Foundation Teaching Fellow) and Professor Nancy Sinkoff from Rutgers University (2017-2018 International Teaching Fellow). After getting a deep introduction to the Visual History Archive, both spent their week exploring the Archive, watching testimonies, consulting with staff, and conceiving and planning how they will incorporate testimonies from the Archive into their university teaching. Professor Sinkoff plans to incorporate testimony into a course about exile under Nazism and communism, and Professor Conway will introduce testimonies in his philosophy course on science fiction film and genocide.



Watch a Facebook Live interview with them [here](#).

Center welcomes visiting scholar Maria Rita Corticelli

Professor Maria Rita Corticelli, director of the Center for Genocide Studies at the International University of Erbil in Iraq, spent two weeks in residence at the Center in August to learn more about the work of the USC Shoah Foundation, receive a deep introduction to the Visual History Archive, watch testimonies, consult with staff, and spend dedicated time conceiving and planning how testimonies can play a role in documenting the atrocities against minority groups in Kurdistan and Iraq, where between 2008 and 2013,

26% of the minority population has been killed.

Read more about her visit [here](#).



2017-2018 Center Research Fellow Geraldien von Frijtag arrives for her residency

In August, the Center welcomed our 2017-2018 Center Research Fellow Geraldien von Frijtag Drabbe Künzel from Utrecht University in The Netherlands. During her four-month residency, her research will focus on the impact of the Holocaust on ordinary people in the Netherlands, using testimony to uncover how relationships between Jews and their non-Jewish neighbors developed or changed from the early 1930s until the late 1950s. Using testimonies as part of her microhistorical approach will provide historical accounts “from below,” from the level of the individuals, focusing on the thoughts, feelings, interactions, and experiences of ordinary people in the Netherlands.

You can find out more about her research [here](#).

OUTREACH

Former fellow conducts Visual History Archive workshop and gives lecture at Appalachian State University

In late August Jared McBride, the Center’s 2014-2015 Greenberg Research Fellow, traveled to Appalachian State University to conduct a workshop for the Center about the Visual History Archive and deliver a lecture about his research that utilized testimonies from the Archive. Cosponsored by Appalachian State’s Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies; the Department of History at Appalachian State; and the Center, the workshop provided participants with a deep introduction to the Archive, its interface and search engines, and its powerful potential for research and teaching.

Over 50 people attended Dr. McBride’s lecture entitled “Of Course, They Were Neighbors: Testimony, Archives, and the Holocaust in the Ukraine”, which highlighted the significance of testimonies to his own research investigating the Nazi occupation of a region in western Ukraine. In testimonies by survivors and witnesses from the region, many discussed the perpetrators by name,

allowing Dr. McBride to confirm information that is otherwise difficult to access in many of the former Soviet territories. From what he discovered in the testimonies, he was able to conclude that local, indigenous police were responsible for many killings during the German occupation.

Upcoming Visual History Archive workshop at Clark University in Massachusetts

In September, Center director Wolf Gruner will be conducting a workshop about the Visual History Archive at the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. The workshop is open to the public by reservation. For more information, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

August 27, 2017 - April 30, 2018

[“Filming the Camps: From Hollywood to Nuremberg” – An exhibition at Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust co-sponsored by the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research](#)

October 23-24, 2017

[2017 International Conference: “Digital Approaches to Genocide Studies”. Cosponsored by the USC Digital Humanities Program](#)

November 2, 2017 at 4 PM

[Alexander Hinton’s lecture: “Man or Monster? The Trial of a Khmer Rouge Torturer”](#)

November 9, 2017 at 4 PM

[2017-2018 Center Research Fellow Geraldien von Frijtag Drabbe Künzel’s lecture: “Being and Belonging: Jewish-Gentile Relations in the Occupied Netherlands Through the Lens of a Microscope”](#)

November 14, 2017 at 4 PM

[2017-2018 Greenberg Research Fellow Irina Rebrova’s lecture: “The Role of Oral History Interviews in Regional Holocaust Memory: The Case of the North Caucasus”](#)

November 15, 2017 at 6 PM

["Edgar Feuchtwanger's *Hitler, My Neighbor: Memories of a Jewish Childhood*" - Book presentation with discussion moderated by Professor Paul Lerner - Co-sponsored by the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research](#)

Opportunities

Call for Applications

2018-2019 Center Research Fellowship

The USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research invites applications from senior scholars for its 2018-2019 Center Research Fellowship. The fellowship provides \$30,000 support and will be 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 be required to spend one semester in residence at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research during the 2018-2019 academic year. **Deadline to apply is October 25th, 2017.**

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

Call for Applications

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship for the Study of Racial and Religious Biases on College Campuses

The USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research invites applications for its 2017-2018 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship for the Study of Racial and Religious Biases on College Campuses. The fellowship provides \$20,000 support for a period of one semester (four months) and will be awarded to an outstanding postdoctoral scholar from Anthropology, Sociology, Psychology, or a related field such as Ethnic or Religious Studies where the scholar is an expert in ethnographic methods. The recipient will be required to spend one semester of the 2017-2018 academic year conducting research on behalf of the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research. This research will be a comparative ethnographic study of racial and religious bias in its many forms – especially antisemitism and islamophobia – on university campuses. **Deadline to apply has been extended to October 15th, 2017.**

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

Career opportunities at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research

The Center is currently hiring. If you're interested in learning more about current career opportunities at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research, please email us at cagr@usc.edu.

Donate to 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 worldwide and student investigation at USC.

To find out more about donating materials, email us at cagr@usc.edu or call 213-740-0375.

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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