

**USC Shoah
Foundation**

Center for Advanced Genocide Research

September 2017

This month we have been hard at work preparing for our upcoming international conference “Digital Approaches to Genocide Studies”, which is co-sponsored by the USC Digital Humanities Program. In just a few weeks, scholars will be gathering to discuss and debate the ways in which digital tools and methods, new media, and information technologies can help us to challenge conventional wisdom regarding Holocaust and Genocide Studies by raising new questions, improving our understanding, deepening our analysis, widening our field of view, or pioneering new approaches. We hope you join us.

Below you can read about a few of the Center's most recent guest lecturers, research fellows, and visiting scholars. Representing a wide range of topics -- from offering reflections on testimony broadly (in trials, documentary, and oral history archives and projects) to investigating Visual History Archive testimonies about the Polish countryside to interrogating the American government's refusal to call the Armenian genocide a "genocide" -- and also a wide range of disciplines -- Cinematic Arts, Law, and Geopolitics -- these scholars each pursue the kind of innovative and interdisciplinary research that the Center is committed to advancing and promoting.

In early September, I traveled to Nanjing, China to attend the international academic conference “Nanjing Massacre and Japanese War Crimes”, which was organized by The Research Institute of Nanjing Massacre History and International Peace and the Research Institute of Nanjing Massacre by Japanese Invaders. (Both organizations are branches of the Nanjing Massacre Memorial.) Eighty researchers from different universities and research institutions, mostly from China and Japan, attended the conference. Before my keynote lecture on the development of Holocaust and genocide studies and the potential avenues for comparison with the Nanjing Massacre, I highlighted the integration of testimonies from survivors of the Nanjing Massacre into the Visual History Archive and their significance for future comparative research.

With the conference, the arrival of our 2017-2018 Greenberg Research Fellow Irina Rebrova in mid-October, the residency of the 2017-2018 Rutman Fellow for Research and Teaching at the end of October, and three public lectures in November, the Center's activities are not slowing down any time soon. We appreciate 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

"The Place of the Witness: From the Holocaust to the November 13th Attacks in Paris"

At the end of August, historian and filmmaker Christian Delage (Institut D'Histoire Du Temps Présent, Paris) gave a public lecture at the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research focusing on analysis of different forms of testimony — in war crimes trials, oral history repositories, and documentary - and his recent project collecting interviews about the November 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris.



Read about Christian Delage [here](#).

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

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



Research

Graduate Summer Research Fellow Maria Zalewska concludes her residency

In September, the Center's Graduate Summer Research Fellow concluded her research at the Center. Maria Zalewska is a PhD candidate in the School of Cinematic Arts at USC. She spent her monthlong residency at the Center conducting research about how Holocaust survivors in the Visual History Archive describe the Polish landscape. She focused her research on 18 villages and towns in the Polish countryside that are depicted in the documentary film *Po-Lin* in order to compare accounts from the documentary and testimonies in the Archive.

Read more about Maria's research [here](#).



Center welcomes Fulbright Visiting Scholar Julien Zarifien

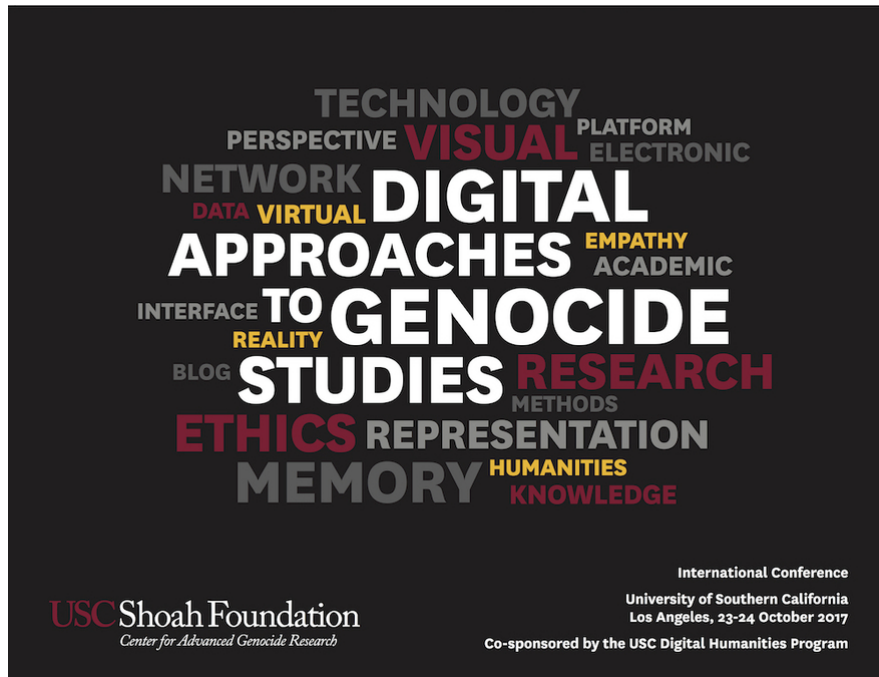
Julien Zarifian, Associate Professor in American Studies at the University of Cergy-Pontoise, France, is the Center's Fulbright Visiting Scholar for the 2017-2018 academic year. At the Center, his main research project will focus on "The United States and the Question of the Armenian Genocide, from 1915 to the Present." The goal of his project is to investigate and understand why the United States has failed to officially recognize the massacre of Ottoman Armenians in 1915-16 as genocide, despite the academic consensus to the contrary and the growing tendency to do so in the international community.



In his research, he will study the evolution and the complexity of the U.S. position on this question, to apprehend why and how it has shifted from a de facto plain recognition of the genocidal character of the events when they took place (although the term "genocide" had not been coined yet), to an ambivalent policy of "neutrality" that implicitly supports Turkey's official policy of denial

of the Armenian Genocide. He will also be watching testimonies to explore Armenian survivors' perspectives and attitudes towards this topic.

Professor Zarifian earned his Ph.D. in Geopolitics from the French Institute of Geopolitics, Paris 8 University, in 2010. His current research interests involve U.S. foreign policies in Eurasia, the role of ethnic groups in U.S. political life, and the importance of memory issues in U.S. political life.



"Digital Approaches to Genocide Studies": Spotlight on Our Upcoming Conference

On October 23-24, 21 scholars will come from all over the world -- the United States, Germany, Poland, France, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada -- to present their research at the "Digital Approaches to Genocide Studies" conference, cosponsored by the USC Digital Humanities Program. The invited international scholars represent a variety of disciplines, including history, geography, cinematic arts, media and communications, linguistics, forensic archaeology, creative writing, sociology, and digital humanities. Together they will be examining the relationships between digital methodologies, practices, ethics and contemporary Holocaust and genocide studies. [Register for the conference here.](#)

Among the presenters are:



Joanna Chen Cham



Caroline Sturdy Colls



Paris Papamichos Chronakis



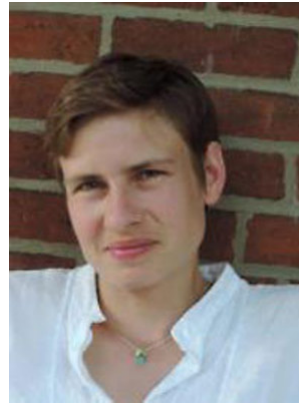
Anne Kelly Knowles



Tomasz Lysak



Todd Presner



Anika Walke



Andrew Woolford

OUTREACH

In mid-September, Center founding director Wolf Gruner traveled to the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts to conduct a workshop about the Visual History Archive. He introduced the Visual History Archive's testimonies, search functions, and interface to the attendees, who were graduate students and faculty from Clark University and nearby universities.

After his visit to Clark University, he attended the reunion of former John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellows at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University that celebrated the 50th anniversary of the fellowship program. He took that opportunity to promote the academic use of the Visual History Archive with other fellows, who mainly came from German universities.

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 16, 2017

Boris Adjemian's lecture: "Armenian Genocide Testimonies and the Evolution of Their Use".
Cosponsored by the USC Institute of Armenian Studies

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 7, 2017 at 3:30 PM

Benjamin Madley's lecture: "An American Genocide: The United States and the California Indian
Catastrophe, 1846-1873" - Hosted by the Department of Anthropology and the Folklore Studies
Program at USC

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 Opportunity at the Center

Academic Relations and Outreach Officer

The USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research is currently seeking a Senior Research Associate (Academic Relations and Outreach Officer) to join USC's Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History in the Center for Advanced Genocide Research. The Academic Relations and Outreach Officer will be responsible for conceptualizing, developing, and managing projects and programs geared towards reaching the academic community within USC and beyond, in order to raise the profile of the Center's events, opportunities, and activities and to promote use of the Visual History Archive in research and teaching. The successful candidate should have excellent analytical, writing, and communication skills. They should be knowledgeable in Holocaust or Genocide Studies and possess strong leadership, organizational, project development, and coordination skills. They will be expected to conduct original research in their field of expertise.

Applications are under ongoing review so we recommend applying promptly, if interested. For more details, click [here](#).

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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