

Yale MACMILLAN CENTER  
ANNUAL REPORT 2017–2018

*Teaching and research  
on cultures, languages, societies,  
institutions, and  
practices around the world*



## Councils, Programs, Initiatives, and Centers

### COUNCILS

African Studies

East Asian Studies

European Studies

Latin American and Iberian Studies

Middle East Studies

South Asian Studies

Southeast Asia Studies

### PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

Program in Agrarian Studies

Arabic Program at Yale

Baltic Studies Program

Committee on Canadian Studies

Conflict, Resilience, and  
Health Program

European Union Studies  
Program

Fox International Fellowship  
Program

Genocide Studies Program

Stavros Niarchos Foundation  
Center for Hellenic Studies

Yale InterAsia Initiative

Program in Iranian Studies

Japan at the Crossroads Project

Georg Leitner Program in International  
& Comparative Political Economy

Political Violence FieldLab

Programs in International  
Educational Resources

Program on Refugees, Forced Displacement,  
and Humanitarian Responses

Initiative on Religion, Politics,  
and Society

Project on Religious Freedom  
and Society in Africa

Program in Russian Studies

Yale Africa Initiative

Yale Himalaya Initiative

### CENTERS

The Gilder Lehrman Center for the  
Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition

Yale Center for the Study of Globalization

Yale Center for Historical Enquiry &  
the Social Sciences

Yale Center for the Study of  
Representative Institutions

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Ian Shapiro  
*Henry R. Luce Director  
Sterling Professor  
of Political Science*

George Joseph  
*Executive Director*

Rahima Chaudhury  
*Director for Finance  
and Administration*

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The Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center  
for International and Area Studies at Yale

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## OVERVIEW

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**F**or nearly eighty-five years, the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale and its precursors have served as the University's focal point for teaching and research on cultures, languages, societies, institutions, and practices around the world. The MacMillan Center is an incubator for innovation in international teaching and research. It houses more than 20 interdisciplinary, collaborative, and transregional programs. In 2017-18, the Center hosted more than 800 events ranging from scholarly seminars, conferences, and workshops to film screenings and cultural performances.

In teaching, the MacMillan Center and its councils and programs support six Yale College majors, three M.A. programs, four graduate certificates of concentration, as well as provide substantial resources for students to pursue opportunities in research, language study, internships, and other international experiences. Additionally, there are joint degree programs between the MacMillan Center and Law, Management, Public Health, and Forestry and Environmental Studies.

On the research front, the Center spent nearly \$5 million on Yale faculty research in 2017-18; more than \$3.7 million on student research and academic exchanges; and \$1.3 million on conferences, workshops, and seminar series.

For details on all of the MacMillan Center's Councils, Programs, and Initiatives, as well as feature articles and videos, please visit [macmillan.yale.edu](http://macmillan.yale.edu).

**FAST FACTS**

**\$4.8M**

Funding provided to Yale faculty for their research by the MacMillan Center

**\$3.7M**

Funding provided to Yale students as fellowships and grants for research, language study, and other international experiences

**\$1.3M**

Funding provided to Yale faculty for conferences, workshops, seminars, and other scholarly events

**\$900K**

Funding provided to Ph.D. students for their dissertation field research and conference travel





**400+**

Faculty who maintain their research accounts, grants, and funding through the MacMillan Center

**376**

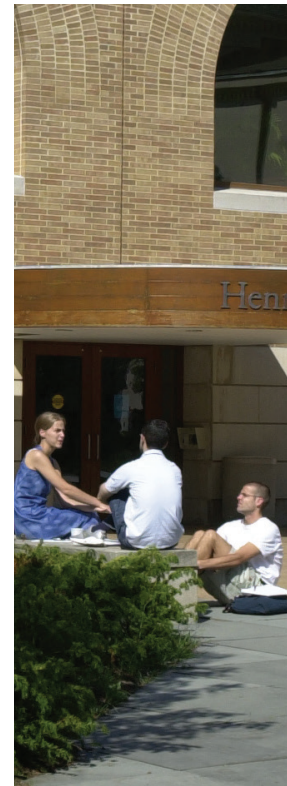
Conferences, seminars, speakers, film screenings, and cultural performances convened by the MacMillan Center

**800+**

Number of events hosted by the MacMillan Center

**112**

Visiting scholars and students hosted at the MacMillan Center



From its genesis in the middle of the last century, the MacMillan Center has been the University's primary vehicle for encouraging interdisciplinary, area-focused research and teaching.

The constituent councils, committees, centers, and programs have made tremendous contributions to our understanding of the world, and have trained generations of scholars. With so many of the world's most challenging and immediate problems requiring collaborative, interdisciplinary, and regionally expert inquiry, the Center is focusing its activities on the following three substantive areas:

### **Identity, Security, and Conflict**

Religious, national, racial, ethnic, and other identities are among the most powerful sources of human motivation. They structure much human conflict, and they are integral to the age-old human search for meaning and security. The MacMillan Center illuminates identities from multiple disciplinary perspectives, accounts for their similarities, differences, and resilience, and explores their implications for the study of security and conflict—sub-national, national, and international.

### **Democracy: Past, Present, and Future**

The last quarter of the twentieth century saw the advent of democracy in more than a third of the world's countries. Yet the great majority of the earth's population continues to be governed by undemocratic regimes. The MacMillan Center advances our understanding of how to create and sustain democracy, how the tensions between democracy and other goods are best managed, and how established democracies can renew themselves in the face of internal and external challenges.

### **Justice and Distribution: Local, National, Regional, Global**

In an era of unprecedented global integration, the political organization of the world remains centered on nation states. As the main organs of political accountability and collective enforcement, national governments remain the central focus of demands for justice and redistribution. Governments confront many limits to their effectiveness in such a world, but also profound moral dilemmas. The MacMillan Center studies these moral and practical dilemmas from multiple disciplinary vantage points.







### Humanitarian program benefits mental health of Syrian refugee youth

A new study demonstrates that an eight-week humanitarian intervention can improve the mental health and psychosocial well-being of Syrian refugee and Jordanian youth affected by Syria's war.

"Community-based mental health interventions can help young people process the extreme stress of conflict and forced displacement," said Catherine Panter-Brick, professor of anthropology, health, and global affairs, and the study's lead author. "Our findings will help humanitarian organizations develop evidence-based programs to protect and support the development of conflict-affected youth."

The study, which was published October 2 in the *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, showed that a psychosocial support program implemented by the global organization Mercy Corps in partnership with local community organizations in northern Jordan reduced levels of insecurity and mental-health difficulties of 12- to 18-year-olds, both boys and girls.

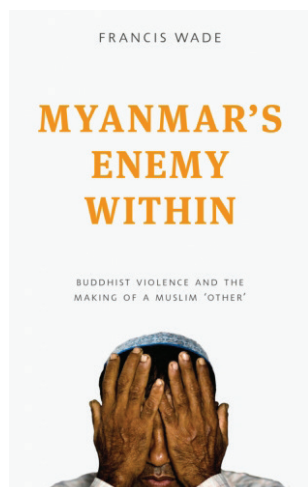
In a randomized control trial, the researchers learned that the program most benefitted adolescents who had been exposed to four or more traumatic experiences. Regardless of past trauma, the program benefited the young people who expressed high levels of insecurity, which was measured in terms of worries and fears about oneself, one's family, and one's future.

The findings can inform strategies for identifying and targeting adolescents for psychosocial programming, the researchers said. They can also inform future research agenda, looking more deeply at the impact of bringing young people together from refugee and non-refugee host communities.



### Disunion in Civil War America: Parallels for today?

On November 3, a number of scholars, journalists, students, and community members gathered at the MacMillan Center for the annual conference sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition. The theme, "Disunion in Civil War America: Parallels for Today?" was particularly relevant, given the controversies at the time surrounding Confederate monuments and the many comments about the Civil War coming from top White House officials. David W. Blight, Class of 1954 Professor of American History at Yale and Director of the Gilder Lehrman Center, began the conference by reflecting on the contemporary political moment in which the United States finds itself. According to Blight, "Historians have never been asked so often to answer the questions 'What is going on? Where are we? Is this unprecedented? Is this 1859?'" The conference, Blight noted, was intended to ask "How is the present embedded in the past and how is the past embedded in the present?"



### Understanding the Rohingya crisis: Race, religion, and violence in Burma

Francis Wade, freelance journalist and longtime correspondent of Burmese politics, spoke at Henry R. Luce Hall Auditorium on November 10 about his new book, *Myanmar's Enemy Within: Buddhist Nationalism and Anti-Muslim Violence*. Wade's work has appeared in, among others, *Time Magazine*, *The Guardian*, *Al Jazeera English*, *Asia Times Online*, *Foreign Policy*, and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. He was introduced by Elliott Prasse-Freeman, graduate student in anthropology. They were joined on the panel by Kyaw Hsan Hlaing, an activist from the Rakhine State; U Myo Win, Director of Smile Education and Development Foundation in Rangoon; and Professor James C. Scott, Sterling Professor of Political Science and Professor of Anthropology.

Wade's book studies the predicament of the Rohingyas, a largely Muslim ethnic minority in Burma's Rakhine State. The Rohingyas have been persecuted by the Burmese state for many decades and were denied citizenship since 1982. Lacking basic facilities and employment opportunities, more than a million Rohingyas have escaped to neighboring countries over the years. However, their condition in Burma has only become worse.

Francis Wade, Kyaw Hsan Hlaing, and U Myo Win came to Yale on the invitation of the Poynter Fellowship in Journalism, the Schell Center for International Human Rights at the Yale Law School, and the Council on Southeast Asia Studies at the MacMillan Center.



### Between ISIS and the state: Religious minorities in Iraq

The rise of ISIS since 2013 has heavily impacted religious minorities across Iraq and Syria. ISIS's rapid spread across Northern Iraq in the summer of 2014 resulted in the displacement of over 800,000 people, of which a majority identified as members of religious minorities. ISIS also kidnapped over 6,000 Yazidi women, among others, during their violent campaign on the Ninewa Plains.

To further discuss these atrocities and the complexity of these issues, the Council on Middle East Studies (CMES) at the MacMillan Center hosted a panel on November 13 titled, "Between ISIS and the State: Religious Minorities in Iraq." It was convened by Professor Naysan Adlparvar, a Rice Faculty Fellow at CMES. Panelists included Professor Orit Bashkin, a historian in the Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations department at the University of Chicago and Associate Professor Sebastian Maisel, a Middle East Studies scholar at Grand Valley State University. The panel delved into the contemporary challenges facing religious minorities by discussing political representation, corruption, legal responses, land disputes, and historical migratory patterns.





### Yale Professors Hathaway and Shapiro, *The Internationalists*

*The Internationalists: How a Radical Plan to Outlaw War Remade the World* (Simon & Schuster, 2017), a new book by Yale Law professors Oona Hathaway, Gerard C. and Bernice Latrobe Smith Professor of International Law, and Scott J. Shapiro, Charles F. Southmayd Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy, gives an innovative account of the origins of the modern international order. The book brings to light the monumental shift in international norms following the Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928 in which nations came together to sign a treaty outlawing the use of war to resolve international disputes.

Professors Hathaway and Shapiro spoke about the main theses of *Internationalists* on November 30 at the invitation of the MacMillan Center. They were joined on the panel by John J. Mearsheimer, R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago; Tanisha M. Fazal, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota; and Samuel Moyn, Professor of Law and History, Yale University.



### Iran: Generational change, internal politics, and foreign policy

On December 8, the Program in Iranian Studies at the MacMillan Center sponsored a panel discussion titled “Iran: Generational Change, Internal Politics & Foreign Policy.” The panelists were Mehrzad Boroujerdi, Professor of Political Science, Syracuse University, and Barbara Slavin, Director of the Future of Iran Initiative at the Atlantic Council. The discussion was moderated by Abbas Amanat, Professor of History at Yale University and Director of the Program in Iranian Studies.

Amanat began by noting the importance of evaluating how Iran has changed since the Iranian Revolution in 1979. He wondered if there is still an ideological regime in Iran and “whether this is still a revolutionary society, or whether a chasm has since been developing” between the ideals of the Islamic revolution and the realities of life.

Boroujerdi then talked about his ongoing attempt to characterize the Iranian post-revolutionary elite. His 14-year long empirical study explored the structure of Iranian politics beyond focusing on just a few Iranian personalities.

Barbara Slavin talked about her observations visiting Iran as a journalist for the past two decades. She argued that Iranians are engaged in the democratic process by pointing to the relatively high voter turnout rates in Iran.



### Popular Music & Society in Iran

A two-day symposium highlighting the social and political significance of music in Iran took place at the MacMillan Center on January 26-27.

“The political and sociological study of music in contemporary Iran is a growing field, and this event is the first of its kind to bring together re-searchers and academics working on the topic,” said symposium organizer Nahid Siamdoust, a postdoctoral associate and lecturer in Iranian Studies at the Council on Middle East Studies. “Our goal is to incorporate perspectives from musicians, recognizing the importance of including their voices in academic research on the subject.”

The symposium had six panels and three artist sessions, where the musicians participated in an interview-style panel, and then performed a few pieces. The panels were: Pop Music & State Policy in Safavid Iran; From Musicians in the Qajar Era to the Golha Radio Program; Discussion of the Persian Radif & Setar Performance by Amir Hosein Pourjavady; From State Policy on the Female Voice to Women Musicians’ Narratives; From the Sounds of Lalehzar to Emerging Trends in Tehran’s Musical Theaters; From Persian Hip-Hop to Music Education Among Rockers; and From Diasporic Musical Impiety to New Musical Religiosities in Iran.

It was sponsored by the Yale Program in Iranian Studies, Yale Institute of Sacred Music, and the Council of Middle East Studies at the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale, with generous support from the Title VI National Resource Center Grants from the U.S. Department of Education.



### “Welcome to the New World”: Cartoons in crisis

Amid a worldwide refugee crisis, the Council on Middle East Studies at the MacMillan Center held a colloquium in February with Jake Halpern and Michael Sloan, the co-creators of *The New York Times* comic strip about refugees called “Welcome to the New World.” Halpern is also a contributor to the *New Yorker* and *This American Life*. Sloan is an award-winning illustrator. During the colloquium, the two came together to talk about their experience working on the comic, which details the journey of a refugee family after their arrival in the United States. The talk was titled “Cartoons in Crisis: *The New York Times* Reports on Refugees... in a Comic Strip.”

Halpern stressed how thankful he was that the family decided to trust him, especially at the beginning. He understood that in Syria, “journalists were often spies or informants for the government.” Much to his surprise, “it actually took no coaxing... he [the father] immediately started telling me the story of the day Assad’s men abducted him and his brother.” During the writing process, Halpern felt he was “helping them write a ghost memoir of sorts.”





## Politics and religious conflict in Nigeria

Nigeria, one of the world's most religious nations – where religious identity and religious freedom are considered of primary importance – continues to experience high levels of distrust between persons of different religious affiliation and a heightened concern about religious conflict. In 2017, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom once again designated Nigeria as a “Country of Particular Concern” listing one of its chief concerns – the failure of the Nigerian government to effectively prevent sectarian violence or punish those responsible for such violence.

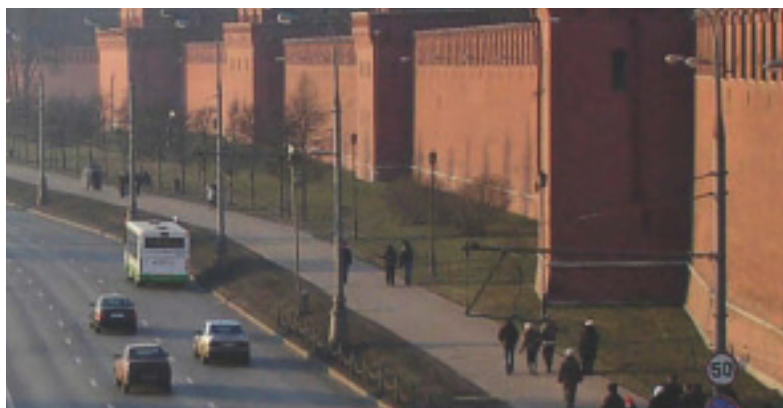
In light of these troubling developments, the MacMillan Center's *Project on Religious Freedom and Society in Africa* in partnership with The Kukah Center hosted a workshop, titled “Freedom, Interfaith Relations, and Civil Society in Nigeria,” in Abuja, Nigeria, on March 15-16 at the Pope John Paul II Conference center. The project's director, Professor Lamin Sanneh summarized the need for the workshop, saying “The politicization of religion and ethnicity has brought great harm to interfaith harmony and neighborliness, with destabilizing consequences for society as a whole. Tribalism and religious fundamentalism accentuate the divisions that hinder our capacity for mutual charity and forbearance. Reflection on how civil society may help counteract the tendency of politicization and be a source of moderation and civic engagement is necessary to help move the discussion forward.”



## Emerging identities in Afghanistan

On April 13 and 14, the Program in Iranian Studies hosted the Conference on Identities in Contemporary Afghanistan (CICA). Established academics and early career scholars were invited to Yale to participate. The topics covered included the re-emergence of sub-national identities; shifting subjectivities; the role of humanitarian action as a vector of social change; new frontiers in the interpretation of Afghan identity; the changing dynamics of Hazara collective identity; and identity and the state. The conference closed with a discussion of “community self-governance” and outlined the legal and administrative changes required to operationalize such a concept in present-day Afghanistan. It was also noted that contemporary research on identity was not only necessary, but that such inquiry should seek to move beyond the conventional framings of identity in Afghanistan.

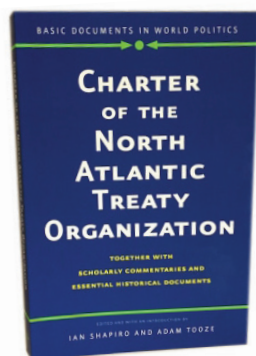
The conference was made possible with a grant from the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund, and funding from the MacMillan Center. Additional financial support was provided by both the South Asian Studies Council and Council on Middle East Studies at the MacMillan Center, the American Institute of Afghanistan Studies, and in part by a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center grant.



### Contemporary Russian Politics

The Russian Studies Program at Yale hosted a conference titled, “Regime Evolution, Institutional Change, and Social Transformation in Russia: Lessons for Political Science,” on April 27-28. The conference featured Russian, European, and North American scholars who discussed Russia’s political institutions and culture, the impact of Soviet legacies, and the future of global order. The first day of the conference addressed some of the most widely debated questions in current social scientific

study of the Russian Federation. Panel I assessed the current state of Russian Studies in the political science discipline. This was followed by a closer look at the specific political influence of Soviet legacies in Panel II. The third panel addressed the issue of social mobilization in Russia’s less-than-democratic regime. The first day ended with the keynote panel featuring Celeste A. Wallander, who served as former Special Assistant to President Barack Obama and Senior Director for Russia and Eurasia on the National Security Council, on the future of U.S.-Russian relations. The second day began with a discussion of Russia’s political culture. Russia’s incomplete Europeanization, efforts at nation building, misogyny and masculinity were some of the issues addressed in Panel V. Panel VI looked at institutional reforms in the post-Soviet context and was followed by some insight into Russia’s public opinion formation in Panel VII. The final panel of the conference explored the future of global order and Russia’s role in it.



### Charter of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

The most powerful military alliance in history, NATO shaped the geopolitical contours of the Cold War and continues to structure the contemporary international system. In the book, the NATO agreement is reprinted with speeches and essential historical documents concerning the alliance’s founding and subsequent evolution. Accompanying essays by major scholars discuss debates about NATO’s evolving governance, its role in nuclear politics, and its appropriate mission during and since the Cold War.

Ian Shapiro and Adam Tooze collaborated on an edited book titled, *Charter of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization: Together with Scholarly Commentaries and Essential Historical Documents* (Yale University Press, 2018).

Ian Shapiro is Sterling Professor of Political Science at Yale University, where he also serves as Henry R. Luce Director of the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies. Adam Tooze is Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Professor of History at Columbia University, where he also serves as Director of the European Institute.



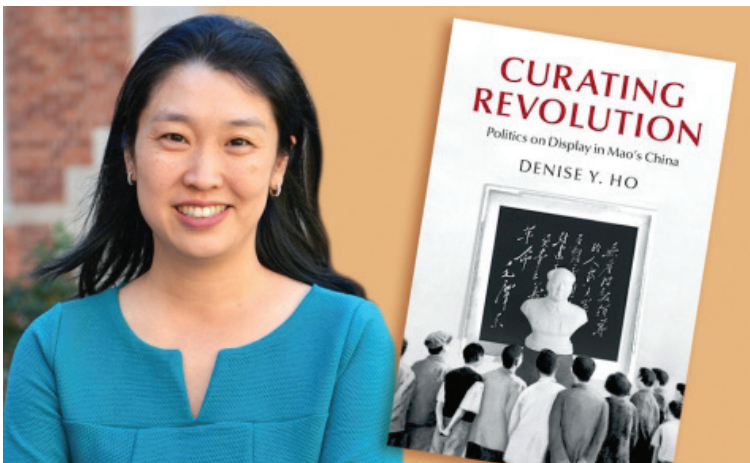


### Brazilian Studies in the United States: The Road Ahead

On May 7, the Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies and the Ministry of Education of Brazil co-sponsored a conference titled, “Brazilian Studies in the United States: The Road Ahead.” The conference represents an ongoing partnership between Yale and the Brazilian Ministry of Education. Through this partnership, both institutions seek to foster scholarly connections as well as to improve the study of Brazilian culture and the Portuguese language within the U.S. The event in May was the first of two conferences. (The second one took place on November 30–December 1, 2018, at Yale.) The event included four panels, bringing together scholars from various disciplines. The speakers represented Yale, as well as a number of other U.S. colleges and universities. The audience included representatives from the Brazilian Ministry of Education and the Brazilian Consulate in Hartford; faculty members from Yale and other institutions; and graduate and professional students.

### Insights into China’s Cultural Revolution

It was a long-standing curiosity about museums — one that was piqued during a fellowship as a Yale undergraduate — that sparked Denise Y. Ho’s desire to write her new book, *Curating Revolution: Politics on Display in Mao’s China*. Ho, who is assistant professor of 20th-century Chinese history, had a lifelong interest in museums, but it was during her time as a Light Fellow in China that she began to see how very different Chinese museums were in presentation, culture, and narrative from those in the United States. While doing archival research for her Ph.D. dissertation, Ho encountered files about how Chinese cultural officials tried to protect objects of China’s antiquity in the middle of China’s Cultural Revolution. “That is what made me think: ‘What is the story behind this?’” said Ho.



Ho incorporates the research that she conducted for her book into “China from Mao to Now,” a lecture course for students who have no background on China. “Unlike traditional history classes that move chronologically, the class begins with a two-week crash course focusing on major events of 20th-century Chinese history,” said Ho. “After that we proceed thematically — we start with the state, then move to economy, then society and then culture.”



### How do democracies fall apart (and could it happen here)?

On October 6, the Program on Democracy and Bright Line Watch (BLW) – an initiative that studies democratic performance in the U.S. and calls attention to threats to American democracy – convened the conference “How Do Democracies Fall Apart (And Could It Happen Here)?” Bringing together world-renowned scholars and journalists with Yale’s political science community, the full-day conference discussed the critical factors that have led to the degradation or destruction of democracy in other times and places, and analyzed whether these factors conspire to have the same effect in the United States today.

The four academics who founded Bright Line Watch – John Carey, Dartmouth College; Gretchen Helmke, University of Rochester; Brendan Nyhan, Dartmouth College; and Susan Stokes, Yale University – and Joe Goldman, President of Democracy Fund, opened up the conference with the findings of a series of surveys of political scientists and the public on the state of American democracy, which Bright Line Watch had conducted since Trump took office. Among the findings, Americans’ ratings of democratic performance are often worse than those of experts, especially in the areas experts identify as the most important, and Trump’s backers and detractors often have quite similar views on which dimensions of democracy matter most: Both groups rated clean elections, politically neutral investigations of public officials, and equal legal, political, and voting rights as most important for democracy.

In the closing session, academics and journalists reflected on the likelihood of democratic backsliding in the U.S. and the role of academia and the media in preventing it.



### Connected histories of the first South American republics

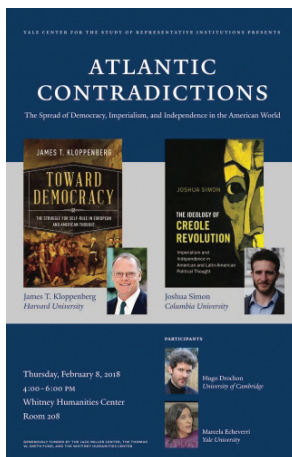
On October 16, a group of South American scholars met at Yale to discuss the history of the early republics of the region. The conference, titled “Connected Histories of the First South American Republics (1808-1850),” was part of a broader project called “War and Nation in South America,” funded by the Leverhulme Trust, which features a group of seven historians from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Perú, who have been meeting regularly during the past two years to exchange ideas with local academic communities across Latin America. The project was particularly timely given the bicentennial anniversaries of the independences of most South American nations during this decade.

“Connected Histories of the First South American Republics (1808-1850)” provided a rare opportunity for scholars and the general public in the United States to establish a direct dialogue with South American historians working at the cutting edge of the discipline and on subjects of immediate interest in contemporary hemispheric debates. The event was sponsored by the Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies.



### Pluralism and democratic governance in Ghana

On November 16, Kwabena Asamoah-Gyadu, Baëta-Grau Professor of Contemporary African Christianity and Pentecostal Theology at the Trinity Theological Seminary in Accra, Ghana, gave a talk titled “Jerusalem: My Happy Home” to explore pluralism, democratic governance, and Christian pilgrimage as religious equalization in contemporary Africa. His talk was sponsored by the Project on Religious Freedom and Society in Africa, which aims to promote critical religious inquiry into the connection between freedom of religion and societal well-being.

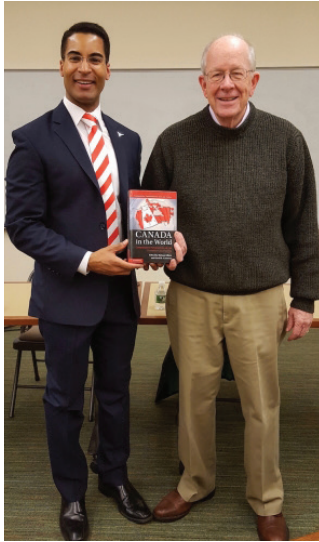


### Democracy, revolution, and empire in the early modern Atlantic world

How should we understand the history of democratic thought in the modern West? Is the story of democracy one of progress or hypocrisy? On February 8, four scholars participated in a symposium devoted to these questions. The event, titled “Atlantic Contradictions,” was sponsored by the Center for Representative Institutions. Harvard’s James T. Kloppenberg, discussed his new book *Toward Democracy: The Struggle for Self-Rule in European and American Thought*. Joshua Simon, Columbia University, spoke about his recent book, *The Ideology of the Creole Revolution*. Kloppenberg was introduced by Hugo Drochon, Cambridge University; Simon’s talk was introduced by Marcela Echeverri, Yale University.







### Comparative Perspectives on the Canadian Constitution

“A living tree” was how Professors David Cameron, Yale University, and Richard Albert, Boston College and 2015-16 Canadian Bicentennial Visiting Associate Professor of Political Science at the MacMillan Center, described Canada’s constitution at its 150th birthday. They presented their co-edited work on November 15, which emerged from a conference Professor Albert organized at Yale in the spring of 2016 as a part of his visiting professorship. The book, *Canada in the World: Comparative Perspectives on the Canadian Constitution*, comprises chapters by 20 distinguished authors, each one asking and answering key questions of origin, operation or impact.

Event participants heard how the constitution had come to be treated as an evolving document by Canadian legal scholarship, generally eschewing “originalist” approaches to interpretation. What were termed the “Canadian values” of democracy, federalism, and diversity may indeed be present in other constitutions, but the balance that has been struck has been specific to the confederation’s particular historical and social circumstances.

Alongside specific circumstances must also come specific challenges, and discussion turned to the interrelated questions of language politics and the long-running debate over Québec sovereignty. Original provisions such as, for example, guarantees of publicly funded schooling for the minority Protestant community in Québec and minority Catholic community in Ontario have endured, while others, such as the creation through advisory rulings of a recognized process for secession, have been established in response to pressing political issues that have emerged over time. All of these also intersect with how to properly recognize and accommodate the indigenous rights of First Nations, not least those who are a minority-within-a-minority in northern Québec. That such debates and evident constitutional tensions persist is an important reminder that even after a century-and-a-half of evolution and adaptation, not all questions have been conclusively answered. The maple tree may still need to grow a few more branches.

### Rebuilding Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria

On February 16, the Council for Latin American and Iberian Studies held a roundtable discussion titled “Rebuilding Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria.” The discussion brought together four speakers from various disciplines, and approximately 35 audience members, to discuss what happened in the aftermath of Hurricanes Maria and Irma, paying special attention to the political, social, economic, and climatic factors that contributed to the widespread destruction throughout the country. The speakers also discussed how Puerto Rico might move forward after this environmental catastrophe.



The panel was moderated by Priscilla Melendez, Trinity College. Melendez opened the panel with a discussion of what it means to “rebuild” in Puerto Rico. She set the tone for the discussion by emphasizing that rebuilding does not mean a return to what was there before. Puerto Rico cannot, and should not, return to its pre-hurricane state; it must rebuild with an eye toward the future.

### Rock music and the death of communism

On February 22-23, the European Studies Council hosted a conference titled “Rock(ing) Regimes” featuring Russian, Polish, and Czech films. It looked at the effect rock music had on the collapse of the regimes of the Eastern bloc. The first day of the conference included a reception before the opening screening of the Russian classic *Assa* by Sergey Solovyov. First shown in 1987, *Assa* became a seminal work on Russian rock music and a prominent symbol of resistance to the disintegrating regime. A crime drama and a love story, it features music by Boris Grebenshchikov, Viktor Tsoi, Zhanna Aguzarova, and many others. The second day of the movie marathon began with the screening of *The Plastic People of the Universe*, a 2001 documentary on the eponymous Czech rock band directed by Jana Chytilová. The second film was *Beats of Freedom*, a 2010 Polish documentary discussing the rebellious nature of Polish underground music. The documentary features interviews with artists and fans, performance recordings, and unpublished archive materials. The screenings were followed by a roundtable discussion about the role of rock music in contemporary cultures. The conference was funded by The Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund.





### Intervention reduces “stress hormone” in war-affected youth

A new study shows that a humanitarian program to improve the mental health of adolescents affected by the Syrian war has a biological benefit: For participants in the program, it decreased levels of cortisol (a hormone associated with stress) by one-third.

The study, published in the journal *Psychoneuroendocrinology* in March, is the first to use an objective biomarker – in this case, hair cortisol – to assess the impact of a mental-health intervention for war-affected youth. By measuring the cortisol concentrations in hair samples, the researchers corroborated the youths’ self-reporting of stress and psychosocial well-being.

“Our work demonstrates the utility in using stress biomarkers for tracking physiological changes in response to interventions over time. Through hair cortisol, we can examine the biological signature of past trauma, current insecurity, and stress-alleviating interventions,” said Jackson faculty member Catherine Panter-Brick, professor of anthropology, health, and global affairs, and the study’s co-author and principal investigator. “We’ve shown that effective psychosocial interventions can have a physiological benefit, protecting the health and development of young people who live through war and forced displacement.”

The researchers partnered with Mercy Corps, a global humanitarian and development organization that operates Advancing Adolescents – a structured eight-week program for 12- to 18-year-olds designed to reduce the effects of profound stress and build strong ties to family and community. The study was conducted in four cities in northern Jordan, near the Syrian border, where Mercy Corps had implemented the program. It involved a gender-balanced sample of 733 adolescents (411 Syrian refugees and 322 Jordanian non-refugees).

The research was funded by Elrha’s Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises (R2HC) Programme, which is funded equally by the Wellcome Trust and the U.K. government.



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### **The virtualization of material mediums of social memory**

The capacity for communities, individuals, states and organizations to share and represent the past through artifacts, objects, and in places is constantly and rapidly evolving. A symposium, “Memorialization Unmoored: The Virtualization of Material Mediums of Social Memory,” held on March 8-9, addressed some of the ways these processes are occurring in the context of aftermaths of mass violence.

The event was hosted by the Genocide Studies Program with sponsorship from the MacMillan Center, the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund, and the Reflections in the Aftermath of War and Genocide Consortium, which seeks to bring scholars and practitioners together to enhance our understanding of recovery and healing in the aftermath of mass violence and work toward preventing such events in the future.

The symposium gathered 17 scholars and practitioners to discuss material and digital forms of mass violence, the connections between the material and the digital, the ethical issues of representation, and new directions and developments in the collection, maintenance, and distribution of testimonial archives and materials. The increasing use of artificial intelligence in memorial and research practices was also included.



## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

### Qiyang Niu wins William J. Foltz Journalism Award



Qiyang Niu won the MacMillan Center's competitive William J. Foltz Journalism Award. His submission "Can Russia Save Northeast China's Economy?" appeared in *The Diplomat* on April 16, 2017. Niu is a recent graduate from European and Russian Studies program (M.A. '17). His main

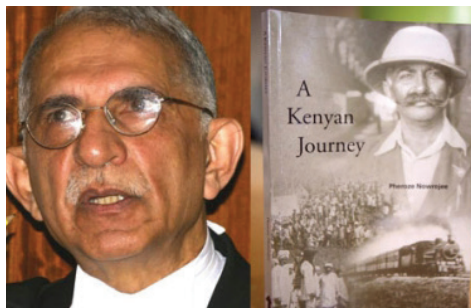
research focus is Russia-China-U.S. trilateral relations. The Journalism Award is an annual prize named for William J. Foltz (1936-2013), the H. J. Heinz Professor Emeritus of African Studies and Political Science. Articles entered must relate to some aspect of international affairs, area studies or foreign relations, and treat the subject with originality, be well-written, and help the audience gain greater knowledge and understanding of international issues.



### Jonathan Wyrzten selected for Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program for Morocco

Associate Professor Jonathan Wyrzten was one of five faculty selected in the 2017-18 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program competition for Morocco. In fall 2017, he was based as a Fulbright scholar at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco, finishing the research and writing for his current book manuscript. This transnational study analyzes how World War I and its immediate aftermath transformed political orders from Morocco to Iraq. His previous book, *Making Morocco: Colonial Intervention and the Politics of Identity*, won the 2016 Social Science History Association President's Book Award.

### Pheroze Nowrojee gives Annual Gandhi Lecture



Pheroze Nowrojee LL.M. '74, the renowned human rights lawyer and author, gave the South Asian Studies Council's Annual Gandhi Lecture on October 2, M. K. Gandhi's birthday, in Henry R. Luce Hall Auditorium at the MacMillan Center. Senior counsel and advocate in the High Courts of Kenya, Tanzania, and Zanzibar, Nowrojee was awarded the International Bar Association's Bernard Simons Memorial Award for the Advancement of Human Rights, among many other honors, in a distinguished career. Nowrojee's talk "Gandhi and Kenya, 1919-1929: An Unlikely Theatre of Operations?" highlighted "a pivotal time in Gandhi's life."



### The battle for China's soul

On October 23, the Council on East Asian Studies at the MacMillan Center sponsored a talk by Pulitzer-Prize-winning journalist Ian Johnson on "The Battle for China's Soul." A Poynter Fellowship in Journalism Lecture, the talk addressed the return of religion in China and how President Xi Jinping and his administration have sought to shape religion in recent years.

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### Mikhail Fridman: What does it take to become an entrepreneur?



On October 24, the Yale School of Management and the Russian Studies Program at the Council on European Studies hosted Mikhail Fridman, international businessman and co-founder of LetterOne (L1), the international investment business, headquartered in Luxembourg. As one of Russia's most prominent business leaders and a philanthropist, Mr. Fridman was invited to Yale to share his thoughts on "What it takes to be an entrepreneur?"

### UConn professor wins the 19th annual Frederick Douglass Book Prize



Manisha Sinha, the James L. and Shirley A. Draper Professor in American History at the University of Connecticut, has been selected as the winner of the 2017 Frederick Douglass Book Prize for her book *The Slave's Cause: A History of Abolition* (Yale University Press). The

Douglass Prize was created jointly by the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition at the MacMillan Center and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York City. It is awarded annually by the Gilder Lehrman Center for the best book written in English on slavery or abolition. The \$25,000 prize was presented to Sinha at a reception sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute in New York City on February 22.

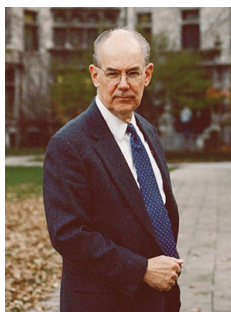
### Latino and Iberian Film Festival at Yale



Prominent and emerging filmmakers from Latin America gathered on campus Nov. 15-19 to discuss their latest work during the annual Latino and Iberian Film

Festival at Yale (LIFFY). Produced by the Council for Latin American and Iberian Studies, the festival featured dozens of films from more than a dozen countries where Spanish and Portuguese are the primary languages. The festival, which originated as a local film series in the late 1990s and was formally established at Yale in 2015, promotes cultural understanding through film.

### Mearsheimer on "Liberal Ideals and International Realities"



John J. Mearsheimer, R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science and the co-director of the Program on International Security Policy at the University of Chicago, delivered the Henry L. Stimson Lectures on World

Affairs in November. In a series of three lectures under the theme of "Liberal Ideals and International Realities," Professor Mearsheimer gave some pause to the current liberal international order that operates under the insignia of universal human rights and the Responsibility to Protect. The lecture series is sponsored by the MacMillan Center and Yale University Press.





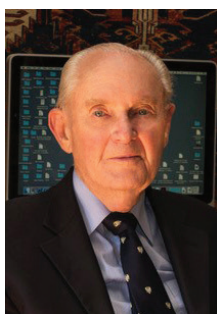
### **Chinese cities since 1900: Revolutionary discipline and exuberance**

The story of China's last century has been one of growth, of strife, of soul-searching and transformation. Cities are both the engines and the manifestations

of China's ongoing metamorphosis, representing a vision for the nation's future. Professor Kristin Stapleton has explored the continuity in Chinese urban landscapes across historical periods, and she shared her findings at a talk on January 25 sponsored by the Council on East Asian Studies.

A professor of history at the University at Buffalo, SUNY, Stapleton has conducted research and published on subjects ranging from literary representations of urban spaces to the history of Chinese family life. Her work on urban planning and development, which she showcased in her talk, has its origins in her early years abroad at schools in Taipei and Chengdu.

Stapleton presented the qualities of discipline and exuberance as complementary – and sometimes competing – forces in the reinvention of Chinese cities from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. She framed the relationship in terms familiar to anyone interested in civic engagement.



### **Polk explores America's changing role in the world**

William R. Polk, a veteran foreign policy consultant and author, gave a series of three lectures in February under the title of "America Confronts the Post-Imperial World." They focused

on "Snow White's Mirror: What We See and What Others See. How Both War and Altruism Shaped American Image of Ourselves and Set a Pattern of Foreign Policy," "How, from Our Earliest Days, We Have Been Beset by Fear of Violence and Have

Increasingly Put Our Faith in Military Force" and "Is Our Quest for Affordable World Security Feasible and What Can We Do To Make It More Likely?" The lecture series is sponsored by the MacMillan Center and Yale University Press.



### **Gilder Lehrman Center turns 20**

Caption: David W. Blight, Class of 1954 Professor of American History, and the Director of the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition

at the MacMillan Center at Yale.

In February, the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition at the MacMillan Center celebrated the 20th anniversary of its founding with a panel discussion on the life of Frederick Douglass, whose 200th birthday was also last week.

The panel – moderated by Jacqueline Goldsby, who chairs the African American Studies Department – featured professors from around the world, including Leigh Fought, M. Nzadi Keita, Sarah Meer, Hannah Rose Murray and Gilder Lehrman Center Director David Blight, a Yale history professor whose biography of Douglass came out in late 2018. The discussion focused on Douglass' private life – the women in his life, his overseas connections and his personal friendships. Through examinations of his two marriages, his extended family and his speaking engagements in Great Britain, the panelists sought to paint a more complete, and nuanced, picture of Douglass.



Sarah Chayes (left) with Professor of Political Science Frances Rosenbluth

### Chayes links extremism to corruption

On March 6, Sarah Chayes, a senior fellow in Carnegie's Democracy and Rule of Law program and the author of *Thieves of State: Why*

*Global Security*, gave the annual Coca-Cola World Fund Lecture at Yale on the topic of "Government in the Public Interest: Under Assault?" Chayes is internationally recognized for her innovative thinking on corruption and its implications. Her work explores how severe corruption can help prompt such crises as terrorism, revolutions and their violent aftermaths, and environmental degradation.

### Inaugural Brazil Activities Fair showcases Yale's links with Brazil



(L-R) Deputy Consul General Luis Antonio Borda Silos; Consul General Ambassador Fernando Mello Barreto; Professor Susan Stokes, Chair of the Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies; and Professor of Spanish and Portuguese David Jackson.

In support of the diverse array of activities and opportunities related to Brazil available through Yale University's undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs, the Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies hosted its inaugural *Brazil Activities Fair* on March 28. The fair showcased more than fifteen Yale-affiliated student, research, and professional initiatives with strong links to Brazil and Brazilian culture. It also demonstrated the wide variety of opportunities available to those interested in studying Brazilian topics and working with Brazilian institutions through Yale University and its New Haven and Brazil-based partners.



### Conservatism in the age of Trump

On April 5, the Yale Center for the Study of Representative Institutions at the MacMillan Center hosted a panel discussion with James Ceaser, William Kristol, Eliana Johnson, and Ross Douthat on "Conservatism in the Age of Trump," chaired by Yale's Steven B. Smith. Each panelist is a noted conservative commentator. Three come from the news media: Douthat writes a weekly column in *The New York Times* and is a fellow at the Elm Institute in New Haven; Kristol is the founder and editor-at-large of the conservative magazine *The Weekly Standard*; and Johnson is a former Fox producer and *National Review* editor who currently covers the White House for Politico. Ceaser is the Harry F. Byrd Professor of Politics at the University of Virginia.



### Africa Salon

Africa Salon, Yale's contemporary African arts and culture festival, returned to

New Haven on April 5-8. The fourth annual Africa Salon festival brought artists, poets, dancers, comedians, writers, and photographers to Yale and New Haven to celebrate the diversity of art and culture throughout the African diaspora. Through performances, discussions, creative workshops and exhibits, Africa Salon invited attendees to peel back the complex layers of contemporary African culture, introduced listeners to the disruptive and defiant discourse of contemporary Africans, and encouraged all communities to sample the vast and rich beauty of Africa's artistic and cultural contributions.



### British minister Rory Stewart gives Walker Lecture

On April 9, Rory Stewart, O.B.E., the member of Parliament for Penrith and The Border (the largest geographical constituency in England), author, senior diplomat, the founder of Turquoise Mountain, and a documentary maker, presented the George Herbert Walker Jr. Lecture in International Studies at Yale on the topic of “Failed States – And How Not to Fix Them.”



### Louisa Lombard receives Director’s Award

In April, Louisa Lombard, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, received a MacMillan Center Director’s Award as a recipient of a Wenner-Gren grant, a National Science Foundation Senior Scholar Award, and a Harry F. Guggenheim Foundation research grant for her project, “Ethics in Wars of Protection.” Lombard is exploring how military peacekeepers understand themselves as ethical actors. She is a cultural anthropologist who studies African borderland areas where the state is largely absent, and a range of actors govern. Her research locales, primarily the remote and little-populated eastern reaches of the Central African Republic (C.A.R.), are further marked by violent histories that continue into the present. Her main fieldwork interlocutors are among the region’s men-in-arms, such as anti-poaching guards and rebels.

The Director’s Awards are for non-tenured Yale faculty who receive certain distinguished individual grants, prizes or fellowships for international

research. In addition to recognizing these junior faculty members’ accomplishments, the Director’s Awards are intended to enable them to enhance their future research. Recipients are appointed Research Fellows at the MacMillan Center and receive research funds of \$5,000 per year for two years.



Priyamvada Natarajan



Kate Baldwin



Taisu Zhang

### International book prizes

In May, three Yale faculty members were awarded book prizes by the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale.

Priyamvada Natarajan, professor of astronomy and physics, received the Gustav Ranis International Book Prize for best book for *Mapping the Heavens: The Radical Scientific Ideas that Reveal the Cosmos* (Yale University Press).

Two faculty members received the Gaddis Smith International Book Prize for best first book: Kate Baldwin, assistant professor of political science, for *The Paradox of Traditional Chiefs in Democratic Africa* (Cambridge University Press) and Taisu Zhang, associate professor of law, for *The Laws and Economics of Confucianism: Kinship and Property in Preindustrial China and England* (Cambridge University Press).

Established in 2004 to recognize the distinguished legacy of two former directors of the MacMillan Center, the prizes are awarded for books on international topics written by current members of the Yale faculty. Award recipients receive a research appointment at the MacMillan Center and a \$10,000 research award over two years.



The MacMillan Center funded 376 students in 2017-18 to do independent research abroad. The students showcased here highlight the extraordinary work that they can accomplish.

### The politics of conservation technologies in Myanmar

**Jared Naimark**, a Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies graduate student, in Myanmar.



In the office of an international conservation organization in Myanmar, the passionate staff are eager to show me a video from one of their camera traps. I watch in awe as a huge, gray, wrinkly elephant ambles into the frame. It tentatively sniffs another camera trap, a metal box strapped to a tree, with its trunk. And then, it deliberately raises one leg, and STOMPS the camera with its massive foot, completely destroying it. But rogue elephants aren't the only challenge for conservationists hoping to conduct biodiversity surveys with camera traps. At least 23 cameras have been destroyed or stolen by local people, much to the frustration of project staff. I'm no elephant behavior expert, so I have no idea what motivates a gray giant to destroy expensive research equipment. But what about local people?

I'm in Myanmar this summer for my Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies master's thesis research, which draws on political ecology to explore the controversy over a proposed national park in southeast Myanmar, and its potential impact on the customary land rights and livelihoods of indigenous Karen communities. Using qualitative social science methods including semi-structured interviews, document analysis, and participant observation, my research uncovers how different actors construct multiple visions of the same landscape, leading to conflict over the proposed national park. One of my tasks has been to critically examine the role of conservation technologies, such as camera traps, in this conflict. Conservationists working in the park see camera traps as technical research tools for producing objective scientific knowledge. By analyzing data from hundreds of cameras placed in 4km by 4km grids throughout the proposed national park, they can estimate the population density of tigers, elephants and other endangered species. These estimates can then be used to guide conservation interventions that aim to protect globally important species. Camera trap biodiversity surveys are presented as neutral and apolitical.

Conservationists believe that when local people destroy a camera trap, it's because they don't understand what it is, and are afraid. However, Karen villagers in the area tell a different story. They know full well the purpose of the camera trap survey and they are concerned about what data on endangered species might bring down the line — establishment of a national park. Villagers worry that if a national park is established in their area, they will lose access to the forest resources and customary agricultural lands they depend on to survive. Because of these concerns, they express searing anger that conservationists have placed cameras on indigenous peoples' territory without first asking permission. For local people, camera trap biodiversity surveys are a highly political undertaking, with serious implications for their autonomy and self-determination. They see camera traps not as a neutral, technical tool, but as part of the ongoing efforts by the Myanmar government to expand its territorial

control into contested areas in the Karen borderlands. In this way, camera traps in Myanmar reflect what anthropologist James Ferguson (1990)\* has termed “anti-politics.” These supposedly neutral, technical tools obscure the highly political nature of international conservation projects in Myanmar. Understanding the anti-politics of conservation technologies such as camera traps will be crucial for resolving conflict over protected areas.

Thanks to the MacMillan Center’s Council on Southeast Asian Studies and Council on East Asian Studies, as well as the Tropical Resources Institute at Yale University for their financial support of this project.

\*Ferguson, J. (1990). *The anti-politics machine: “development,” depoliticization, and bureaucratic power in Lesotho*. Cambridge University Press.

### Working on climate change in the Caribbean

**Brittany Williams**, *Master of Environmental Management 2019, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, in front of the UN House in Barbados.*



Thanks to funding from the Coca-Cola World Fund at Yale that I received from the MacMillan Center, I had the amazing opportunity this summer to work with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Barbados on climate change mitigation and adaptation activities in the Caribbean region. From a young age, I was deeply interested in development and environmental work performed by agencies within the United Nations and always hoped that I would get a chance to experience such work firsthand. That hope was fulfilled when I secured a summer internship with UNDP Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) as part of my degree requirements for my Master in Environmental Management at Yale’s School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (FES).

While at UNDP Barbados and the OECS, I provided technical support to the Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP), a project which seeks to advance the process of low-emission, risk-resilient development by strengthening the capacity of eight Caribbean countries to invest in climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies. The targeted countries are Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The J-CCCP team were very welcoming and accommodating, allowing me to make substantial technical contributions to the project based on my interests as well as my background in international agricultural development. I had the opportunity to review and edit numerous national-level climate change policy documents, including Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) for Grenada, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. I also traveled to Saint Vincent to support monitoring of ongoing J-CCCP pilot projects there, focused on sustainable agriculture, water management, and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Outside of my work at UNDP, I explored Barbados and all that it has to offer, from beautiful beaches to caves, to a wildlife reserve home to green

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monkeys and land tortoises. I even snorkeled among green and hawksbill turtles and three shipwrecks full of coral and fish. It was such a wonderful and relaxing environment in which to spend my summer gaining experience in climate change mitigation and adaptation work, and I will return to Yale in the fall refreshed and reinvigorated to start my final year at FES.

**From Yale to Bhutan:  
Looking for the  
rare nest of endangered  
White-bellied Heron**

*Indra Acharja, Master  
of Forest Science 2019,  
School of Forestry and  
Environmental Studies,  
in the field in Bhutan.*



The White-bellied Heron is a critically endangered heron species found only in Bhutan, Northeast India, and Myanmar. Fewer than 60 confirmed White-bellied Herons exist in the world today. While there are few records of occurrence of the bird from the range countries, nests of this species have remained one of the rarest in history. Before 2000, only two nests had been found that were presumed to be of this bird; one was reported in Darjeeling, India, before 1890 and another in Myanmar, before 1930. With lack of breeding evidence, the bird was assumed to have vanished during late 1900 until a new nest was found in Bhutan in 2003. Since then, two to five active nests have been identified in Bhutan from where two to eight new chicks fledge annually. However, the population has remained critically low and the trend is further declining.

Having worked on the conservation of the rare bird for the past three years with the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature (RSPN), a conservation NGO in Bhutan, I have realized the support the bird needs for its survival in this era of rapid change. I am committed to saving this species. I had dreamed of traveling to Bhutan this summer to study the “Nesting Ecology and Migration of Critically Endangered White-bellied Heron,” which is also part of my master’s thesis. Thanks to the Council on South Asian Studies Rustgi research grant I received, I was able to travel to Bhutan and conduct the research.

During the two-month field trip, I worked with the experts at RSPN, who have 15 years’ experience conserving the rare bird. I visited and collected data from all the 17 identified nesting sites and all feeding sites



along the two major river basins – Punatsangchu and Mangdechu. During the trip, we sighted nine critically endangered White-bellied Heron and located two active nests. It was overwhelming to see five new juveniles of this rare bird growing in the wilds of Bhutan. With the five new birds, there are now 29 confirmed White-bellied Herons in Bhutan and less than 60 in the world.

Through this research, I look forward to understanding the nesting ecology and filling the knowledge gap, strategizing the conservation plan, and developing models to assess habitat availability and suitability across the region. Amid the endless works of RSPN, there is still a hope of survival for this scarce bird. The RSPN is establishing a Captive Breeding Facility Center in Bhutan to preserve the gene pool and revive the wild population through a captive breeding and release program in the near future.

Finally, this research will also help in improving the captive breeding facility and identifying habitats to release the juveniles reared in captivity in the long run. While I feel satisfied seeing the rarest nests, juveniles, and the bird that a few luckiest in the world have seen, I still fear the risk of losing them to the wave of extinction.

### Testing how monkeys think about their social world

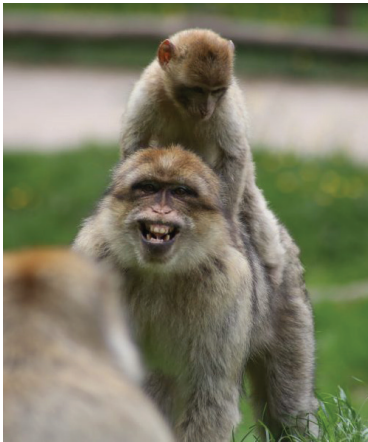
*Alyssa Arre, a Class of 2022 graduate student, showing a monkey her cognitive experiment.*



Do you think you could recognize 140 of your closest friends? What about 140 strangers? This was the challenge I faced when I began my summer research at the Trentham Monkey Forest, in Stoke-on-Trent, England, thanks to a generous Pre-Dissertation Fellowship from the MacMillan Center. Trentham Monkey Forest is a park that's home to 140 Barbary macaques. Before I was able to begin my data collection, I had to learn the face of every monkey resident.

During the six-week data collection trip, my goal was to test how monkeys think about their social world. While this type of research, called “comparative cognition” can help inform our understanding about how animals navigate all sorts of situations, it can also improve our understanding of human cognition. Specifically, studying primates can help us make inferences about how human cognition evolved. While it is impossible to go back in time and see what our last common ancestor could think about, by studying some of our closest *living* relatives, we can infer what sorts of evolutionary pressures might be required in order for certain cognitive abilities to emerge.

My specific project investigated what Barbary monkeys know about what others can see. As humans, we are able to track other people's perspectives and even take into consideration what someone might know about someone else's perspective. We know what others see, know, and feel, and are pretty good at making predictions about how other people will



act based on this information. This ability is what psychologists refer to as ‘theory of mind’ and was long believed to be uniquely human.

How do you ask a monkey what it knows about what *someone else* knows? For nonverbal subjects like animals, and also human infants, we use a measure known as “looking time,” or the amount of time the subject looks at the experimental setup. Traditionally, we use this measure to evaluate the subject monkey’s surprise. Like humans, monkeys look much longer when they are surprised at the outcome of a situation. We can compare looking time between different conditions to determine whether monkeys are surprised in the same way as humans. This method has been used in a variety of nonverbal populations, including human infants, as well as a variety of primate and other nonhuman animal species. In my task in particular, I was wondering whether monkeys could make the same predictions as humans about how other people should act based on their visual perspective.

In short, for my research I show magic tricks to monkeys. At Trentham Monkey Forest, I walked around the park looking for monkeys that were sitting calmly on which we could test our experiment. Once located, we approached the monkey and sat about a meter away. The test required two experimenters: one person who presented the experiment, and a second who filmed the monkey’s reaction. Later, someone blind to the experimental hypothesis and the conditions of each video watches the videos and records when the monkey is attending to the apparatus.

To date, much of the comparative cognitive research has been carried out on only a few select species. Barbary macaques are relatively understudied compared to some of their closest primate relatives, such as the Rhesus macaque. Barbary macaques are genetically very close to Rhesus macaques, but are near opposite in their social behavior. While Barbary macaques are tolerant and friendly, the Rhesus macaque is notorious for being one of the more aggressive and despotic primates. By studying development in both species, we can begin to tease apart how a species’ ecology shapes their cognition. I hope to pursue this type of research for the duration of my graduate career.

This summer was an incredible learning experience. I am so grateful for the generosity of the MacMillan Center for the Pre-Dissertation Fellowship funding I received that allowed me to pursue this project, the staff at the Trentham Monkey Forest for allowing me to collect data there, and my two advisors and mentors on this project, Dr. Laurie Santos and Dr. Alexandra Rosati. While we are still working on analyzing the data, perhaps my biggest success was that in time, and much to my own surprise, I learned all 140 monkey faces



### Learning in Cuba

The course introduces students to Cuban social, political, economic, and cultural history from the colonial period to the present. It focuses on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with special attention paid to the 1959 Cuban Revolution within the context of the Cold War, and examines the relationship between Cuban society and nature; the intersections of race with enslaved labor, art and Cuban national identity; the Cuban diaspora in the United States; accomplishments and critiques of the Cuban Revolution; and the long history of U.S.-Cuba relations. Students are also exposed to the literature, film, music, television, and other popular culture forms of this time period. The heart of the course is the class trip to Cuba during spring break.

*Maile Speakman, an American Studies doctoral student '22, wrote the following article about her return to Cuba as the Teaching Fellow for the “History and Culture of Cuba” course a decade later. Maile, along with Professors Albert Sergio Laguna and Reinaldo Funes Monzote, accompanied 18 undergraduate students on the trip, which is a signature piece of the Cuba Initiative housed in the Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies at the MacMillan Center.*

In 2007, eager with excitement and anticipation, I boarded a plane in Cancún with 27 other Lewis & Clark College students who were en route to Havana. In those days, there were no direct commercial flights to Cuba from the United States. The airplane cabin was abuzz with chatter as we speculated about what our experience for the next four months would be like. In that moment, I found that I had many questions about Cuba. Some of my questions included:





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As an undergraduate  
and now as a graduate  
teaching fellow,  
I relish in the time  
I have spent learning  
about Havana  
through the practice  
of “flânerie,” or  
aimless wandering.

- How does a communist country survive in a capitalist world? Why did Cuba remain communist while countries in the former Soviet Union transitioned to capitalism after 1989?
- In what ways has the Cuban Revolution addressed racial and gender inequality?
- What is the role of censorship in Cuban society?
- How does the U.S. embargo impact Cuba?
- How do things like property distribution, labor, and consumption work outside of a capitalist model?

Over ten years later, while traveling in Cuba with students from Yale’s 2018 History and Culture of Cuba class, I heard many rearticulations of these questions, along with questions I had never considered before. As the class teaching fellow, I was energized by the intellectual engagement and deep curiosity of each of my students. Cuba is a place of many contradictions. It is a site where a long-standing Marxist revolutionary regime partners with multinational companies to create all-inclusive tourist resorts. It is a site where resources are incredibly scarce, but homelessness is nearly non-existent. Cuba is the home of Che billboards, the Guantanamo Bay Naval base, two currencies, and a number of cultural practices (like baseball) that directly gesture to Cuba’s past ties to the United States.

Havana’s Vedado neighborhood, where the class stayed for most of our two-week stay, is a place that has been particularly marked by U.S. influence. In Vedado, U.S. modernist architecture and art deco buildings populate the urban landscape. Vedado is also a neighborhood where one can buy a hot dog, go to the movies, eat pizza, stroll along the malecón, take a collective taxi ride in a run-down 1950s Ford, eat ice cream, or hang out in the Habana Libre hotel. As the students explored Vedado, I wondered what felt familiar to them and what felt strange. I know the movies and ice cream are cheaper (less than 25 cents USD to have both!), the lines are longer, and that navigating a two-currency system was new for everyone. However, I’m curious if the urban landscape and all its signifiers of a past U.S. presence resonated with the students or even felt distantly familiar.

I likely wonder this because Vedado was what captivated me most when I studied in Cuba in 2007. Though I can’t relay each student’s experience of Cuba or even begin to fully document every learning experience we collectively had in Cuba, I can say that I think students truly learned the most during their free time in Havana. Both as an undergraduate and now as a graduate teaching fellow, I relish in the time I have spent learning about Havana through the practice of “flânerie,” or aimless wandering. By strolling through the cityscape, buying palomitas from a Cuban retiree, and facing Florida while gazing out to sea on the malecón, one can learn a lot.



### Market solutions for inclusive societies in Africa

Harnessing the power of markets in the fight against poverty has been an area of much study and experimentation over the past 40 years. Increasingly, business innovators are using market-based practices as a means to bring sustainable social benefits to locally impoverished regions of the world and provide a financial return to investors. In 2011, Bo Hopkins, who has more than 25 years of private industry investment, management, and consulting experience, developed a course – Market Solutions for Inclusive Societies (AFST 305/306) – that explores the increasing importance of enterprise solutions as a means of fostering local empowerment to establish the building blocks of regional economic development.

There are two parts to the class. Part 1 (January–April) is structured as a case-based seminar. Selected sophomores and juniors meet weekly as a class to discuss and explore the many commercial opportunities and challenges faced by socially entrepreneurial organizations and their sponsors in each of their unique circumstances. Part 2 takes place over 6–8 weeks of summer. Student team members travel in their individual groups (three students per group) to a selected research “host” headquartered in Africa that is directly involved in the promotion and development of businesses whose mission prioritizes social benefit along with financial sustainability.

Now in its seventh year, this summer 14 students will travel to four African countries to learn and work with five dynamic social enterprises. Two teams will participate in Uganda for the first time – a Rhino Camp in the north and Kampala in the south – making this the fifteenth country in which the class has studied.

- African Health Placements (South Africa)
- Living Goods (Uganda)
- Global Environment & Technology Foundation (Ghana)
- Bridge International Academies (Kenya)
- Gulu Agricultural Development Company (Uganda)

*The following report is from Sam Burton, Yale College Class of 2020, who is in Nairobi working with Bridge International Academies, a social enterprise that focuses on providing underprivileged students with access to suitable education. Bridge has a network of over 300 affordable private schools throughout Kenya to support low-income families, and has expanded to Liberia, Nigeria, Uganda, and India.*



Bridge pupils learning math.

“Kenya and Bridge have been incredible! I am working with the Quality Assurance and Measurement & Evaluation departments to make Bridge’s audits easier to use and more efficient, so that Quality Assurance associates can better help students, and so that the data they collect can be more reliable and usable.”

“Work has been so interesting and inspiring. The project they gave me involves programming, which is new for me, and also gives me the opportunity to come up with my own insights and ideas that I will eventually incorporate into my project. I have been in meetings with the heads of departments (operations, IT, schools, customer care, etc.) and got to learn all about the different facets of Bridge. I’m learning how to use the software SurveyToGo, which will be crucial to my project. I got to visit two academies with a QA Associate to watch how the Attendance audit and Key Observation audit—the two audits I am tasked to improve—actually work. Visiting the schools was so incredible. I was able to play with the students during recess and sit in on some of their classes. We work long hours, from about 9 am to 6 pm, but since everyone here (including me) is so passionate about the students and about education, it doesn’t feel like a long day at all.”





### Undergraduate Majors

#### AFRICAN STUDIES

One student graduated. The Class of 2019 includes five students who have declared as African Studies majors, a significant increase from recent years.

#### EAST ASIAN STUDIES

Thirty-seven students expressed interest in the major, with twenty-seven officially enrolled. Thirteen students graduated.

#### LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Three students graduated.

#### MODERN MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

Five students graduated, and there are currently five students in the major.

#### RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES

Three students graduated.

#### SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES (SECOND MAJOR)

Two students graduated.

### Master's Degree Programs

#### AFRICAN STUDIES

Five students were enrolled: two first-year students and three-second year students. The M.A program offered admission to six incoming students for fall 2018, and all six matriculated.

#### EAST ASIAN STUDIES

Of the ten enrolled M.A. students, three graduated; six will be returning to complete the second of the two-year track, and one will be on a leave of absence to take part in a year-long Richard U. Light Fellowship in China.

#### EUROPEAN AND RUSSIAN STUDIES

Twelve students graduated — seven concentrated on Russia and Eastern Europe, and five on Western Europe. The program had 23 students in 2017-18.

The MacMillan Center's councils regularly teach all levels of several foreign languages, including Hindi, Indonesian, modern Greek, Sanskrit, Swahili, Urdu, Vietnamese, Yorùbá, and Zulu. It also collaborates with the Center for Language Study (CLS) in supporting Directed Independent Language Study of more than another 60 languages for undergraduate, graduate, and professional school students. Additionally, regional councils and language faculty participate actively in the Cornell, Columbia, and Yale Shared Course Initiative led by CLS, using distance-learning technology to send Dutch, Modern Greek, Yorùbá, and Zulu, and to receive Bengali, Romanian, and Tamil.

Here are some of the 2017-18 highlights for each area:

### AFRICAN LANGUAGES

The Program in African Languages (PAL) had three full-time instructors and offered full-year courses in isiZulu, Kiswahili and Yoruba at the Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced level. A fourth year was offered in Kiswahili. African language enrollment in AY2017-18 was 192; five with FLAS fellowships. Seventeen students were selected to participate in the Intermediate and Advanced Kiswahili in Tanzania Summer Program in 2018. Three additional African languages were studied by students as non-credit tutorials under the Directed Instruction

Language Study (DILS) program. The Yale Africa Language Initiative materials continued to be developed and piloted. This is a model that will respond to the challenge of cost-effectively offering instruction in a wider range of African languages to students in multiple locations. A six-week course in isiZulu for medical professionals was offered in Summer 2018.

### EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES

The Council on East Asian Studies had 23 language instructors. In Chinese, there were 625 students; Japanese, 117 students; and Korean, 142 students. Through DILS, the Council offered Cantonese, Mongolian, and literary Cantonese.

### EUROPEAN LANGUAGES

The European Studies Council continued working with CLS on distance learning courses in Hungarian, Romanian, Serbo-Croatian, Ukrainian, and Dutch, to provide LCTLs, which were especially important for our FLAS fellows. It supported 10 Directed Independent Language Study (DILS) courses in Armenian, Belarussian, Dutch, Georgian, and Ladino.

### LATIN AMERICAN LANGUAGES

The Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies supports the study and development of new resources for language teaching in Spanish, Portuguese, and other languages, such as K'iche Maya and Nahuatl.





### MIDDLE EASTERN LANGUAGES

The Council on Middle East Studies has 10 language instructors and 191 students took Arabic; 119 took Modern and Biblical Hebrew; 28 took Persian; and 23 took Modern and Ottoman Turkish. Through DILS CMES offered Egyptian and Levantine Arabic. The Council was able to support four undergraduate and six graduate students for the academic year, and six students for summer language study each year with Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships.

### SOUTH ASIAN LANGUAGES

Language offerings have grown through the Shared Courses Initiative with Cornell and Columbia Universities. South Asian Studies has actively participated in this Initiative, including in its governance. The Council offered a number of languages through this program—Bengali, Sinhala, Classical Tibetan, Punjabi and Tamil. As its involvement has grown, the Council also worked this year to facilitate the introduction of Modern Tibetan, Urdu, and Punjabi to the repertoire of languages made accessible via this initiative. This is in addition to its thriving Hindi program and steady Sanskrit program. The Council's support for the Directed Independent language Studies Program (DILS) increased, given the level of student interest in learning less commonly taught languages for research purposes. It also supported a total of eight DILS programs. As in past

years, the Council was able to send a number of students to South Asia for intensive language study.

The South Asia Languages Program also continues to support the national Hindi Debate, which begins with an intramural competition to select a Yale team and then an intermural competition held at Yale and hosted by South Asian Studies. The Debate draws undergraduate participants from across all the Ivy League schools that teach Hindi, and as far afield as UCLA and Chicago.

### SOUTHEAST ASIAN LANGUAGES

With continued implementation of more rigorous control and management of class size and teaching loads, enrollments in Indonesian stayed at stable levels. However, the number of students seeking to enroll in elementary classes exceeded available spaces, and more than one-third of students who wished to register were turned away. Enrollments in intermediate and advanced classes experienced growth, and were evidence of sustained student interest and enthusiasm for Indonesian language and culture studies.

The program's two Indonesian language lecturers were supported by a Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant, as well as an additional TA from the Indonesian Ministry of Education funded through the Center for Development of Language Strategy and Diplomacy, Jakarta, Indonesia. Such teaching support has proved invaluable, given the rarity of native speakers of Indonesian in the GSAS graduate student TA pool. The Council also continued to subsidize language immersion tables for Vietnamese and Indonesian, along with providing financial support to the Directed Independent Language Study program for Southeast Asian languages not currently taught at Yale.



During the 2017-18 academic year, the Fox International Fellowship successfully continued its mission to nurture the next generation of “citizen scholar” ambassadors – scholars conducting academic work with the potential to offer practical solutions to the problems that stand in the way of the world’s peace and prosperity. The Fellowship sent 14 students from Yale to the 19 world-renowned universities that are its exchange partners, and those same exchange partners sent 20 students to conduct research and reside at Yale.

### Program Summary

#### TRAINING IN PUBLIC SPEAKING

The public speaking training program for Fox Fellows develops skills in effective communication that are essential to their research and fieldwork. The training program seeks to transform how the Fellows explain their ideas, engage with audiences, participate in panel discussions, and establish credibility in the international community. Sessions are led by Dr. William Vance, a linguist and cognitive scientist, who served on the faculty at Yale and worked as a communications expert for organizations in more than 75 countries.

#### POLICY TRAINING RETREAT AT YALE GREAT MOUNTAIN FOREST

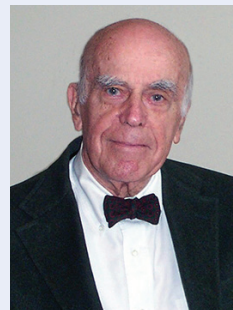
In August 2017, Fellows were trained in policy and research uptake during a two-day retreat at the Yale Great Mountain Forest. They received practical training on presenting research in the format of a policy brief, and how to view their work through a policy-relevant context.

#### FOX FELLOWSHIP MINI CONFERENCES

In the spring semester, a Fox Fellowship mini conference series was launched, where all Fox Fellows at Yale presented their research to other Fellows and the Academic Director. Each Fellow also had the chance to moderate a Question & Answer session after each presentation. This gave all Fellows experience in moderating panels and sessions at an academic conference.

#### CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Outside the academic sphere, Fox Fellows traveled to the Fox family home in Norfolk to experience an authentic Thanksgiving lunch, where they learned the cultural and historical significance of the day. At Yale, Fellows immersed themselves in the cultural and social sphere of the University and attended Oktoberfest, Halloween, Spring Fling, the Annual McDougal Grad Winter Ball, and more. In an organized group outing, Fox Fellows also traveled to the U.N. headquarters in New York for a tour of the institution, and dined in the delegates’ dining room. During their visit to the U.N., Fox Fellows attended U.N. Security Council open debate titled “The Situation in the Middle East,” and participated in an interactive discussion on the World Public Sector Report 2018, titled “Working Together: Integration, Institutions and the Sustainable Development Goals,” organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Public Administration and Development Management. They also met with the Director of UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research) Ambassador Marco Suaso.



#### IN MEMORIAM: Joseph Carrère Fox

The founder of the Yale Fox International Fellows Program, Joseph Carrère Fox, passed away on August 10 at the age of 101 years old, in Hamden, Connecticut.

A memorial service was held on October 20 in Battel Chapel at Yale.



*The MacMillan Report is an Internet show featuring Yale faculty in international and area studies and their research, as well as visiting scholars and dignitaries, in a one-on-one interview format. Thousands of viewers from all over the world click in to watch the show at [macmillanreport.yale.edu](http://macmillanreport.yale.edu).*

**In its ninth year, 14 interviews aired from October 2017 to February 2018:**

**October 4, 2017**

“Nuclear Politics: The Strategic Causes of Proliferation”  
Guest: Alexandre Debs, Associate Professor, Political Science

**October 11, 2017**

“Writing Technology in Meiji Japan”  
Guest: Seth Jacobowitz, Assistant Professor, East Asian Languages and Literatures

**October 25, 2017**

“The Effectiveness of Climate Clubs”  
Guest: Detlef Sprinz, Rice Faculty Fellow, European Studies Council

**November 1, 2017**

“The Spousal Age Gap in Cross-border Marriage”  
Guest: Grace Kao, Professor of Sociology

**November 8, 2017**

“The Monstrous New Art: Divided Forms in the Late Medieval Motet”  
Guest: Anna Zayaruznaya, Assistant Professor, Music

**November 15, 2017**

“Muslim Arains: Reform and Social Mobility in Colonial Punjab”  
Guest: Ashish Koul, Singh Postdoctoral Associate, Council on South Asian Studies

**November 29, 2017**

“Politics with a Human Face: Identity and Experience in Post-Soviet Europe”  
Guest: Arvydas Grišinas, Joseph P. Kazickas Postdoctoral Associate, Council on European Studies



#### December 6, 2017

“Human Rights and Multilateral Development”

Guest: Esther Lam, Visiting Fellow, Council on East Asian Studies

#### December 13, 2017

“The Communal Dimensions of the Post-Arab Spring in the Middle East”

Guest: Shaul Mishal, Visiting Professor, Council on Middle East Studies

#### December 20, 2017

“The Changing Nature of Ethnic and Religious Identity in Afghanistan’s Bamyan Valley”

Guest: Naysan Adlparvar, Lecturer, Program in Iranian Studies

#### January 24, 2018

“Soundtrack of the Revolution: The Politics of Music in Iran”

Guest: Nahid Siamdoust, Ehsan Yarshater Fellow in Iranian Studies

#### February 7, 2018

“Climate Justice After the Paris Agreement

Guest: Alexandre Gajevic Sayegh, Postdoctoral Fellow

#### February 14, 2018

“The Internationalists: How a Radical Plan to Outlaw War Remade the World”

Guest: Oona Hathaway, Professor of International Law

#### February 20, 2018

“Contested Bodies: Pregnancy, Childrearing, and Slavery in Jamaica”

Guest: Sasha Turner, Visiting Fellow, Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition



The MacMillan Center publishes YaleGlobal Online (YG), an online magazine that has explored globalization since 2002. Two original articles are published each week, many from Yale-affiliated authors. The YG mission regards globalization as the connections of our world throughout history, touching all aspects of life.

Embracing an inclusive perspective, YG produces 100 original articles, 500 news items and six book reviews each year—all analyzing globalization trends in the economy, the environment, politics, labor, security and terrorism, science and technology, society and culture. More than 515,000 unique users from more than 200 countries visited during 2017-2018, representing a 30 percent increase: 40 percent of YG readers are from the United States and another 36 percent are from India, Malaysia, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, France, Singapore, Philippines, and China combined. The average age of YG readers has shifted in recent years: In previous years, most readers were age 45 and older; for 2017-2018, 40 percent were age 18 to 24, with 23 percent over age 45. Also, of readers who report gender, 53 percent are male and 47 percent are female.

More than 30 percent of original articles during 2017-2018 were from Yale-affiliated authors including faculty, World Fellows, Fox International Fellows, staff, students, and alumni. Other authors include former ambassadors, economists, journalists, demographers and academics prominent in their fields. Original YG articles are distributed for reprinting with attribution to about 40 partner newspapers, magazines, broadcasters and blogs around the globe, which increases readership exponentially. Libraries and academic institutions list YG as an online resource, and EBSCO Information Services distributes original YG articles for use by scholars around the world. YG releases more than 400 social media messages each year, and the program manager and editor produce at least twelve podcasts each year. YG employs three Yale students, designated MacMillan Fellows, to analyze globalization and practice all facets of the online publishing process under the supervision of the editor and program manager—selecting news articles for reprint, writing analytical summaries and original articles, suggesting headlines and social media messages, fact-checking and proofreading, producing podcasts, and formatting and posting articles.





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