

For Immediate Release

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Yale Center for International and Area Studies Announces Director's Awards

January 3, 2005. New Haven, CT - The Yale Center for International and Area Studies recently announced the establishment of the YCIAS Director's Award. The 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 will be appointed Research Fellows at YCIAS and will receive research funds of \$5,000 per year for two years. Junior faculty members who have received one of the following awards are eligible:

Carnegie Scholar

Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship

Wenner-Gren Individual Research Grant

National Science Foundation Young Investigator Award

Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship

Bradley Foundation Fellowship

Smith Richardson Junior Faculty Fellowship

Russell Sage Foundation Fellowship

Institute for Advanced Study Fellowship

Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences Fellowship

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship

National Humanities Center Fellowship

To date, there have been five Director's Awards:

Michael Auslin, Assistant Professor of History, received a Smith Richardson Foundation Junior Faculty Fellowship, 2003-04, for the book he is currently writing entitled, *Bridging the Pacific: The Cultural Encounter Between Japan and the United States*. This book, which is under contract at Harvard University Press, is the first full-scale study of the evolution of cultural exchange between Japan and the U.S. since the 19th century. It focuses on the modernization of cultural contact, specifically the rise of the influential exchange organizations, such as the Japan Society, as well as the increasing importance of public diplomacy in the post-war period.

"Since I am writing a history of the major US-Japan organizations, I cannot ask them for any funding for research for this book, even though they are the usual resource for scholars," said Professor Auslin. "The Director's Award, therefore, is crucial to my being able to complete the research necessary, including travel to Japan and purchasing books. Without this support from YCIAS, writing this book would be a much more difficult process."

Gretchen Berland, Assistant Professor, Yale Medical School, was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship, 2004-09. Professor Berland is a physician-filmmaker who uses film to explore the lives of patients. She plans to continue her research on the human rights of the disabled in countries around the world, and to create films to bring disabilities issues to the attention of international policy makers and others. Her more recent project, *Rolling*, uses the video diary format to document the experiences of several people who, for varying medical reasons, require wheelchairs for mobility. By placing the camera in the hands of her three subjects, she presents their struggles to maintain independence and dignity in the face of their disabilities from a compelling and informative vantage point. Berland also served as lead author on a survey of health information resources on the Internet. Through her efforts, Berland prompts physicians and the public to consider several key questions about health and society: how we learn about our own health, how physicians teach and learn, and how affliction creates physical and social barriers that often pass unnoticed.

"I'm so thrilled to receive the news about the Director's Award," said Professor Berland. "I thank the Yale Center for International and Area Studies for its support. It represents such an extraordinary opportunity for new collaborative efforts."

Oona Hathaway, Associate Professor, Yale Law School, was named a Carnegie Scholar, 2004-05. Her research topic is "Between Power and Principle: A Political Theory of International Law" and it will examine why states commit to and comply with international law. She puts forth the theory of how states respond to international law that builds upon existing international legal and political science scholarship, yet moves beyond it in emphasizing the role of domestic institutions and collateral incentives, as well as the reciprocal influence of states' commitment decisions on their compliance behavior. To test her theoretical predictions about state behavior, she will collect and analyze extensive data in three areas--human rights, the environment, and trade. She will then use the findings of this research to draw conclusions about how international law can be designed more effectively.

"The YCIAS Director's Award comes at a crucial point in my research," said Professor Hathaway. "The resources it provides will allow me to deepen and expand my ongoing project into when and how international law can be used to change state behavior."

Nicholas Sambanis, Associate Professor of Political Science, was honored as a Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholar, 2003-04. Professor Sambanis asks, "Why do civil wars occur? Why are some wars long and others short? Why do some wars restart while others give way to a stable peace? Why do some countries have civil wars over secession or revolutions, whereas others have coups, genocide, terrorism, but no civil war?" These questions are at the center of his book *The Organization of Political Violence, Self-Determination, and Civil War*. In it, Sambanis attempts to develop an "organizational" theory of political violence by explaining the conditions under which political conflict will escalate into the use of violence. Once there is violence, Sambanis tries to explain how violence will be organized to predict where and when violence will take the form of civil war and how other forms of violence, such as terrorism or state-sponsored violent repression will turn into civil war. He develops a model of political violence that he then tests empirically using data on various forms of violence from more than 160 countries analyzed over a 45-year period.

"I am honored to receive this award," said Professor Sambanis. "The funds will help me complete my data collection for this research project during the spring and summer of 2005."

David Skelly, Professor, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and Ecology/ Evolutionary Biology, was named a Guggenheim Fellow, 2003-04. His research centers on amphibian decline and biodiversity conservation in Australia, North America and other sites around the world. Professor Skelly examines how well mesocosms, or artificial ecosystems, develop a realistic picture of the natural world. In his study, he calls into question the reliability of research methods widely used by environmental scientists in their experiments. He is writing a book on frogs, focusing on their conservation plight. Tropical Queensland has been the site of seven recent species extinctions - it is the world epicenter for species loss in a globally imperiled group. He interacts with the scientists who are trying to unravel the mystery surrounding disappearances from relatively pristine areas including world heritage designated rainforest that is completely protected.

"I am extremely grateful to YCIAS," said Professor Skelly. "The award will make it possible for me to return to Australia in 2005 and 2006 to continue my research on declining amphibians, continue work on my book and to initiate research projects with Australian colleagues.

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