

For Immediate Release

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The Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale Announces Director's Award Recipients

September 21, 2006. New Haven, CT ♦ The Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale has given its Director's Award to five Yale faculty: Alison Galvani, Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Public Health; Matthew Giancarlo, Associate Professor, English; Dean Karlan, Assistant Professor, Economics; Francesca Trivellato, Assistant Professor, History; Elliott Visconsi, Assistant Professor, English.

The MacMillan Center Director's Award were established in 2005. 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 are appointed Research Fellows at the MacMillan Center and 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

The 2006 MacMillan Center Director's Awards have been awarded to the following Yale faculty:

Alison Galvani, Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Public Health, received a 2006 Guggenheim Fellowship. Professor Galvani's research focuses on integrating epidemiology and or economics in order to generate predictions that could not be made by either discipline alone. This interdisciplinary approach has widespread potential for answering evolutionary questions, explaining empirical observations and informing public health policy. Professor Galvani has applied this approach to the study of HIV, influenza, SARS and helminth parasites.

"I'm honored to receive this generous award," said Galvani. "It will greatly facilitate our research to develop socioeconomic models of health-related decisions."

Matthew Giancarlo, Associate Professor of English, was the recipient of the Walter Hines Page Fellowship at the National Humanities Center for the 2004-2005 academic year. His book *Parliament and Literature in Late Medieval England*, forthcoming from Cambridge University Press, examines the interconnection between the development of parliamentary practices and institutions and the growth of English poetry in the late fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries.

"I am very pleased to be a recipient of the MacMillan Center Director's Award because it has facilitated the acquisition of permissions and resources for this interdisciplinary study of historical literature and European constitutionalism," said Giancarlo. "It also has facilitated some materials acquisition for the teaching of the History of the English Language at Yale, a combined graduate-undergraduate course that has a large component focusing on the spread of contemporary international world English.

Dean Karlan, Assistant Professor of Economics, received a CAREER grant from the National Science Foundation from 2006-2011. His research focuses on using field experiments to learn what social policies work, what do not, and why. Most of his work is in developing countries, particularly Peru, Philippines, India, Brazil and Mexico, and typically examines microfinance programs for the poor. Other research covers fundraising, voting, education and behavioral economics. His microfinance research agenda comprises projects that examine the impact on clients and households from microfinance programs, and projects that examine the efficacy of specific program designs and the salience of economic theories that motivate the different innovations.

"The support from the MacMillan Center provides me with a bit of extra flexibility that is crucial for maintaining high quality work in the field when unforeseen needs arise," said Karlan.

Francesca Trivellato, Assistant Professor of History, accepted fellowships from the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study and the ACLS to work on a new book-length project tentatively entitled *Language, Images and Practices of Cosmopolitanism in European Commercial Society, 1500-1800*. This study explores the ways in which economic exchanges favored (or not) relations between individuals and groups of different religious and ethnic backgrounds in early modern Europe.

"I conceived of this project in dialogue with current debates about cosmopolitanism in the Humanities and Social Sciences, but I want it to be fully grounded in new archival research," said Trivellato. "The Director's Award will allow me to travel to several archives in Europe, and for this I am very grateful."

Elliott Visconsi, Assistant Professor of English, was awarded an ACLS Fellowship for the calendar year 2005. A specialist in the literature, law, and political thought of early modern England and Europe, Visconsi is the author of a book entitled *"Above the Law: Literature, Equity, Sovereignty,"* a study of the seventeenth-century English literary transformation of equity from a principle of legal interpretation into an ethos of deliberative citizenship. His current research concerns the "secularization thesis" and the early modern cultural history of the constitutional principle of separation of church and state. This project is focused chiefly on the messy cultural struggles over the proper relations between law and religion-- how the idea of

separation of church and state enters broad public debate, is imbued with emotional significance, and is itself reshaped in the crucible of popular contestation. Most broadly construed, the project focuses on the public mediation of fundamental law and especially on the role of literary texts in the development of "popular constitutionalism."

"The Macmillan Center Director's Award will allow me to take my research in a new direction," said Visconsi. "I plan to study the literary and cultural controversies over law and religion in emerging contemporary states, and I look forward to exploring this topic with new colleagues at the Macmillan Center. I am honored by the Director's Award and excited about the vistas it opens for my research."

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