

Pembroke Center

for TEACHING AND RESEARCH ON WOMEN

The Question of Consent

Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg, Associate Professor of Italian Studies and Comparative Literature, will lead the 2011-2012 Pembroke Seminar. The seminar will explore the idea of consent, which has always been fundamental to the notion of a just and democratic order. It is at the core of the social contract, indeed of any legal contract, thereby presupposing a free individual capable of engaging in contractual agreements. Consent is at the basis of liberalism and of a free economy. In this sense, consent is tightly linked to the idea of desires that can be met by way of claims made on the basis of natural, political, or ethical rights.

At the same time, it has been argued that consent historically carries with it another, darker sphere. How to understand the notion of freely given “consent” when it leads to the subject’s exclusion, exploitation, or injury of some sort? How to think about the conditions under which people participate in their own subjugation, whether in an economic-political context or in private and sexual contexts? How to explore the question of repression, in both the political and psychoanalytic senses?

This seminar will investigate the complicated relations that the idea of consent evokes: is it the promise or fulfillment of a desire, or a submission to boundaries? Does it speak to contractual obligations and rights, or does it invoke the specter of ideology, of blindness, and therefore of an unfulfilled promise? Does consent speak to the fulfillment of desires and fantasies, or does it instead use those same fantasies and desires to harmful ends? Is consent founded in some residue of biological/neurological mechanisms that protect the human species? Does it find an adequate place in a “survival of the fittest” paradigm, or does it belong, after all, in the enlightened realm of reason?

If the idea of consent has been fundamental to the notion of a free and democratic society, it has also functioned as an organizing principle of what we think of as knowledge: free enquiry, free speech, and the organization of many different knowledges into distinctive domains. Indeed, the very idea of free consent has been predicated on the possibility that multiple knowledges may in fact exist – and maybe should exist.

Scholars Explore Expertise in Pembroke Center Roundtable April 20 – 21



Hank Randall

(L-R): Rachel Burma of Swarthmore College, Sheila Jasanoff of Harvard University, and Evan Kindley of Princeton University. Missing from photo: Sara Wylie of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Following the research theme of this year’s Pembroke Seminar, “The Power and Mystery of Expertise,” leading scholars came to Brown in April to join legal scholar and Chesler-Mallow Senior Faculty Research Fellow David Kennedy of Harvard Law School to discuss how expertise writes itself into power. Scholars discussed how expertise is significant for rulership – in the vernacular of national politics, the managements of international economic life, the arrangement of family and gender relations and more. Roundtable participants used the notion of expertise to explore the relationship between power and knowledge.

The question of expertise and power was approached from a broad range of disciplines, including critical legal studies, new perspectives in science and technology studies, the history of English literature as a university discipline, and critical approaches to the institutionalization of culture. This year’s postdoctoral fellows, Laura Hefernan, Arnulf Becker Lorca, and Sophia Roosth, invited colleagues in their own fields of study to participate in a two-day examination of how expertise impacts on their own research and professional practices.

2010-2011 Pembroke Seminar: The Power and Mystery of Expertise

This year's seminar, led by legal scholar David Kennedy, explores the question of expertise. The significance of expertise for rulership today is easy to see – in the vernacular of national politics, the management of international economic life, the arrangement of family and gender relations, and more. But what is “expertise”? What part knowledge, what part common-sense? What part analytics, argument, lifestyle, character? Expertise is often associated with professional or disciplinary formations; how important are these institutional forms to the practice and reproduction of expert rulership? How does expertise write itself into power?

The interdisciplinary seminar brings together Pembroke Center postdoctoral fellows, faculty members, affiliated visiting scholars, and graduate and undergraduate students. During the year, participants attend a seminar once a week and pursue their related research projects. This year, the Pembroke Center welcomes three postdoctoral fellows whose research is enriching seminar discussions.



Hank Randall

Laura Heffernan

Carol G. Lederer Postdoctoral Fellow
Ph.D. in English, University of Pennsylvania, 2007

Project: “Modernist Criticism: Sociologies of Literary Form, 1910-1930”

Heffernan's work focuses on how and why literary critics at the beginning of the twentieth century stopped evaluating literary texts and started considering their inner forms. Scholars have long seen this turn to form as a success story, in which a few key modernist critics transformed literary study into a field for experts and founded English as a discipline. In contrast, Heffernan draws on the work of a wider range of critics to explore the connections between these critical languages and everyday or amateur styles of meaning-making. She suggests ways that literary critics today might benefit from a renewed sense of the uncertainty that surrounded the origins of their own expert practices.



Hank Randall

Arnulf Becker Lorca

Artemis A.W. and Martha Joukowsky Postdoctoral Fellow
Ph.D. in Juridical Science, Harvard Law School, 2009

Project: “Mestizo International Law: A Global Intellectual History”

Lorca's research traces the global intellectual history of international law focusing on the role non-Western international lawyers have played in the construction of the international legal order between the second half of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century.

His forthcoming book, *Mestizo International Law: A Global Intellectual History, 1850–1950*, will be published in 2011 by Cambridge University Press.



Hank Randall

Sophia Roosth

Nancy L. Buc Postdoctoral Fellow
Ph.D. in Anthropology and History of Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2010

Project: “Crafting Life: A Sensory Ethnography of Fabricated Biologies”

Roosth explores the making of new kinds of expertise in the life sciences, tracking how craft and artisan practice shapes the production of biological knowledge. In the fields of synthetic biology (a type of biological engineering), sonocytology (the use of sound to understand cellular processes), molecular gastronomy (the application of biochemical principles and techniques to food preparation), and hyperbolic crochet (using handicraft to model marine morphology and evolution), Roosth investigates how scientific researchers build new kinds of biological things in order to investigate how biology works.

Pembroke Center Lectures 2010-2011



Hank Randall

Lynne Joyrich
Associate Professor of
Modern Culture and Media
Brown University
**"Media Madness: Multiple Identity
(Dis)Orders in MAD MEN"**

September 28, 2010



Hank Randall

John Guillory
Professor of English
New York University
**"Reading for a Living: Observations
on the Difference between Lay and
Professional Reading"**

November 23, 2010



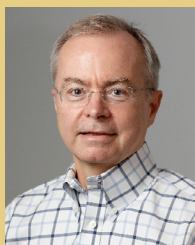
Annelise Riles
Jack G. Clarke Chair in Far East Legal
Studies, Professor of Anthropology
Cornell University
**"Collateral Knowledge:
Legal Reasoning in the Global
Financial Markets"**

May 3, 2011

2010-2011 Pembroke Seminar Fellows

Photos by Hank Randall

FACULTY FELLOWS



David Kennedy
Law
Harvard University
Chesler-Mallow
Senior Faculty
Research Fellow



Gianpaolo Baiocchi
Sociology,
International Studies
Brown University
Pembroke Center
Faculty Fellow
Project: "Democracy's
Blueprints: Expertise and
the Politics of Translation"



Evelyn Lincoln
History of Art and
Architecture, Italian Studies
Brown University
Edith Goldthwaite Miller
Faculty Fellow
Project: "Pictures and
Readers in Sixteenth-
Century Rome"



Michael Steinberg
Cogut Center for the
Humanities, History, Music
Brown University
Edwin and Shirley Seave
Faculty Fellow
Project: "The Worldly
University: Political
Economies of Knowledge
and the Post-colonial Campus"

GRADUATE FELLOWS



Maggie Hennefeld
Modern Culture and Media
Project: "Mediating
Expertise: The Question
of Parody in Visual Culture"



Katerina Seligmann
Comparative Literature
Project: "Travelling Texts,
Travelling Ideas, and the
Writing of the Afro-Caribbean"



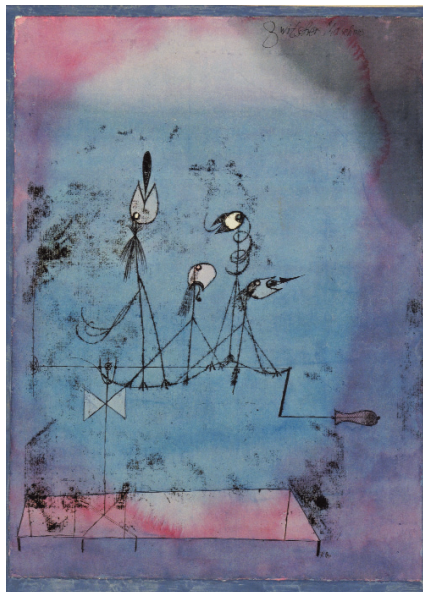
Sean Feiner'11
Modern Culture and Media
Project: "The Discipline
of Gaming"



Taylor Lane'11
Comparative Literature
Project: "Enterprise and
Habit, or, How to Talk to
Your Neighbor: Alcoholics
Anonymous as a Social Model"

differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies

Dicle Koğacioğlu's "The Tradition Effect: Framing Honor Crimes in Turkey," published in the spring 2004 issue of *differences* (15.2), made a real impact across several disciplines and was widely cited by scholars working in such fields as the sociology of law, postcolonial studies, and feminist theory. As a tribute to Koğacioğlu's work and life (she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Pembroke Center in 2003–2004), several scholars from across the globe have contributed to a special issue of *differences* (22.1 spring 2011) titled *The Other Effect*. This issue of the journal includes essays by such renowned scholars as Lila Abu-Lughod, Elizabeth Povinelli, and Koğacioğlu herself, whose posthumous "Knowledge, Practice, and Political Community: The Making of the 'Custom in Turkey" has been made accessible for free download by Duke University Press <http://differences.dukejournals.org/>.



"Twittering Machine (Die Zwitscher-Maschine)"
by Paul Klee Credit: © 2011 Artists Rights Society
(ARS), New York

We are also looking forward to the forthcoming publication of *The Sense of Sound*, a special issue of *differences* guest edited by Rey Chow (Duke University) and James Steintrager (University of California, Irvine). Sound has given rise to many rich theoretical reflections, but when compared to the study of images, it continues to occupy a somewhat marginalized status. This paradox may have something important to tell us not only about sound but also about processes of objectification in intellectual inquiry. This issue considers how the "sense" of sound is constituted and elaborated linguistically, textually, technologically, phenomenologically, and geologically, as well as acoustically. How does sound become an object? The contributors to this double issue of *differences* explore this and other related questions.

Mehrangiz Kar Appointed Visiting Professor at the Pembroke Center



Mehrangiz Kar

The Pembroke Center looks forward to welcoming Iranian attorney and human rights activist Mehrangiz Kar, who has been selected to be the PARSA Community Foundation Visiting Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies at Brown. During her two-year appointment with the Pembroke Center starting next academic year, Kar will participate in the Pembroke Center's programs, work with Brown students, and pursue her own writing projects.

Kar is currently a resident fellow with the Dubai Initiative at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Author of *Crossing the Red Line: The Struggle for Human Rights in Iran*, Kar has been actively promoting democracy, rule of law, and human rights within the framework of Islamic law in the Islamic Republic of Iran since the revolution in 1979. Despite her efforts being frequently impeded and curtailed by the intelligence services of the Islamic Republic, she has been an active public defender in Iran's civil and criminal courts and has published regularly in several influential and independent Iranian journals. Banned from making public appearances within her country, including at conferences, on radio, and on television, Kar has used international forums to voice her opinions and advocate for the democratic and human rights of the Iranian people.

Upon her return to Iran in April of 2000, following her participation in a symposium in Berlin, Kar was arrested and imprisoned on several charges, including "acting against national security" and "spreading propaganda against the regime of the Islamic Republic." Kar was to be additionally tried on charges of "violating the Islamic dress code" at the Berlin Conference, "denying the commands of the *shari'a*," and abusing sacred principles. Three of the five charges against her are pending, for which she may again be arrested upon her return to Iran.

In 2002, Kar was awarded the Ludovic Trarieux Prize in recognition of her life's work and was honored by Human Rights First in 2004. She has served as a fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy, the Woodrow Wilson Center, American University, University of Virginia, and Columbia University. Kar has been recognized as a Scholar at Risk through an international network of universities and colleges working to promote academic freedom and to defend the human rights of scholars worldwide.

Gender and Sexuality Studies Concentration

The vitality of the Pembroke Center's Gender and Sexuality Studies concentration is evident in our growing course offerings. In 2009-2010, the Pembroke Center postdoctoral fellows began teaching one seminar each during their tenure at the Center. This academic year, course topics have included "Gender and the Modernist Self," "The Laws of Violence: Lawful Killings in Law Enforcement, Punishment, War, and the War on Terror," and "Sense and Sensibility: Beyond Vision, From the Scientific Revolution to Now." These courses have enriched the intellectual life of the concentration and have deepened the connections between the critical research agenda and teaching mission of the Center.

The concentration's connections with other departments and programs across campus also contribute to its strength. We have fostered ties with the medical community through a first-year seminar on reproductive health, "Reproductive Health: Science and Politics," taught by obstetrician/gynecologist Dr. Sarah Fox, who is on the faculty at Women and Infant's Hospital. Such teaching arrangements between a hospital and the University represent an exciting opportunity for Brown students. In addition, many of our concentrators pursue double concentrations in fields across the humanities and social sciences.

Our interdisciplinary concentration board of faculty advisors also furthers our cross-departmental presence and connections.

The concentration participated in Brown Degree Day by bringing back to campus alumnae/i who had been concentrators to speak with undergraduates about the diverse career possibilities afforded by a Gender and Sexuality Studies concentration. Kate Cook '98, attorney and Director of Cabinet Affairs for Governor Deval Patrick, Martha Gardner '88, Professor of History at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Nicole Raphaelson '83, Seal Cove Investment Advisors, Robert Smith III '09, Development Associate with the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, and André St. Clair Thompson '05, actor, participated by very generously sharing their professional experiences and answering student questions.

Last fall our concentration board brought its intellectual acuity to events of broader community interest, in addition to guiding curricular decisions. In October, faculty members of the concentration board organized a well-attended Teach-In on Queer Suicide. Instigated by GNSS board member Lynne Joyrich and led by board members Eng-Beng Lim, Katrina Gamble, and Gail Cohee, the event brought together faculty and stu-



Undergraduates met with alumnae/i to explore possible career paths for Gender and Sexuality Studies concentrators.

dents from Brown and several other Rhode Island academic institutions for a timely discussion of the recent spate of gay teen suicides, hate crimes, and persistent homophobia in a variety of public forums. The event led to the publication of an online Periscope forum in *Social Text*, edited by Professor Lim, with contributions from Professors Joyrich, Lim, Cohee, and other academics across the country.

Associate Professor of Italian Studies and Comparative Literature Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg instigated many of these programs as director of the concentration. In September 2010, Professor Stewart-Steinberg became Acting Director of the Center, and Visiting Lecturer in Gender and Sexuality Studies Debbie Weinstein took on the directorship of the concentration.

Feminist Theory Papers

With over 105 scholars who have pledged their papers to the collection, the Feminist Theory Papers promises to become one of the premier feminist theory archives in the United States and beyond. As scholars continue to send us their personal collections, the Pembroke Center will be able to make more materials on this fascinating history available to researchers and students.

As feminist theory continues to grow and change, we will continue to contact scholars, young and old, whose writings would enrich the dialogues and debates in our collections. Through historical and contemporary scholarship in the archives, we can better understand the history of feminist theory, the struggles of women writers to transform the way we think issues such as power and the

production of knowledge, critical theory, representation, inequality, difference, gender, and freedom. We can trace the way diverse scholars incorporated feminist theory into their specific academic disciplines and the development of feminist, women's, gender, and gender and sexuality studies programs and departments in the University.

Thirteen collections are already accessible to researchers and students, with other collections in process. Available collections include the papers of Teresa Brennan, Seyla Benhabib, Karen Brodtkin, and Jacqueline Bhabha. The papers of Diane Middlebrook, Linda Nicholson, and Karen Newman will be available in upcoming months. These collections contain a wide variety of materials, providing valuable insights into scholar-

ship, feminist theory, and activism. Examples of materials include, but are not limited to, correspondence, research notes, paper and presentation drafts, syllabi, and institution-building histories. Scholars can view online finding aids to search these collections at: <http://pembrokecenter.org/archives/FeministTheoryPapers.html>. To view materials, researchers should contact the John Hay Library (hay@brown.edu) to request the specific collection and box numbers they would like to use. The Pembroke Center is committed to the goal of digitizing small online exhibits, as we have done with materials from the collections of Naomi Schor and Elaine Marks, to make these resources internationally accessible.

Recent and Forthcoming Books by Faculty Affiliated with the Pembroke Center

Faculty from a number of fields participate in the Pembroke Seminar, take part in Pembroke Center roundtables, and teach courses that are cross-listed within Gender and Sexuality Studies. The Pembroke Center recently asked our affiliated faculty to share their most recent books. Although the list is far too long for us to publish every title here, the full list may be viewed at our website: <http://www.pembrokecenter.org/facultybooks.html>.

Omer Bartov

Shatterzone of Empires: Identity and Violence in the German, Habsburg, Russian and Ottoman Borderlands, co-edited with Eric D. Weitz, Indiana University Press, 2012

Timothy Bewes

The Event of Postcolonial Shame, Princeton University Press, 2011

Mark Blyth

Austerity: The History of a Dangerous Idea, Oxford University Press, Fall 2011

Wendy Hui Kyong Chun

Programmed Visions: Software and Memory, MIT Press, 2011

Carolyn Dean

Aversion and Erasure: The Fate of the Victim after the Holocaust, Cornell University Press, 2010

James N. Green

We Cannot Remain Silent: Opposition to the Brazilian Military Dictatorship in the United States, Duke University Press, 2010

Matthew Gutmann and Catherine Lutz

Breaking Ranks: Iraq Veterans Speak Out against the War, University of California Press, 2010

Sherine Hamdy

Our Bodies Belong to God: Islam, Organ Transplants, and the Struggle for Human Dignity in Egypt, University of California Press, Fall 2011

Coppélia Kahn

Shakespearean Educations: Power, Performance, Citizenship, co-edited with Heather S. Nathans and Mimi Godfrey, Rowman Littlefield, 2011

Jacques Khalip

Anonymous Life: Romanticism and Dispossession, Stanford University Press, 2009

David Konstan

Before Forgiveness: The Origins of a Moral Idea, Cambridge University Press, 2010

Ross S. Kraemer

Unreliable Witnesses: Religion, Gender, and History in the Greco-Roman Mediterranean, Oxford University Press, 2011

K. Dian Kriz

Slavery, Sugar, and the Culture of Refinement: Picturing the British West Indies, 1700-1840, Yale University Press, 2008

Jessaca Leinaweaver

The Circulation of Children: Kinship, Adoption, and Morality in Andean Peru, Duke University Press, 2008

Stephanie Merrim

The Spectacular City, Mexico, and Colonial Hispanic Literary Culture, University of Texas Press, 2010

Karen Newman

Essaying Shakespeare, University of Minnesota Press, 2009

Marc Redfield

The Rhetoric of Terror: Reflections on 9/11 and the War on Terror, Fordham University Press, 2009

Pierre Saint-Amand

The Pursuit of Laziness: An Idle Interpretation of the Enlightenment, Princeton University Press, June 2011

Rebecca Schneider

Performing Remains: Art and War in Times of Theatrical Reenactment, Routledge, 2011

Lewis C. Seifert

Manning the Margins: Masculinity and Writing in Seventeenth-Century France, University of Michigan Press, 2009

Barbara Herrnstein Smith

Natural Reflections: Human Cognition at the Nexus of Science and Religion, Yale University Press, 2010

Daniel Jordan Smith

The Secret: Love, Marriage, and HIV, co-authored with Jennifer S. Hirsch, Holly Wardlow, Harriet M. Phinney, Shanti Parikh, and Constance A. Nathanson, Vanderbilt University Press, 2009

Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg

Impious Fidelity: Anna Freud, Psychoanalysis, Politics, Cornell University Press, Fall 2011

Lingzhen Wang

Chinese Women's Cinema: Transnational Contexts, Editor, Columbia University Press, Fall 2011

Kay B. Warren

Japanese Aid and the Construction of Global Development: Inescapable Solutions, co-edited with David Leheny, Routledge, 2010

Save the Date

PEMBROKE CENTER 30th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

The Pembroke Center will be celebrating thirty years of groundbreaking research and scholarship with a special conference next fall.

Saturday, November 5th, 2011

Pembroke Hall, 172 Meeting Street

Brown University, Providence, RI

Our festivities will include:

- Panels of illustrious scholars who held Pembroke Center postdoctoral fellowships when they were launching their academic careers
- Reflections from former Pembroke Center directors on new directions for feminist and critical theory
- Celebrations of the Pembroke Center's rich history, new directions, and our generous supporters

More details will be announced soon. For more information, please visit: www.pembrokecenter.org

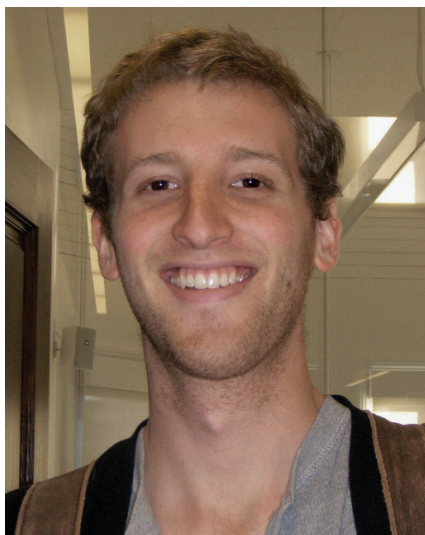
Helen Terry MacLeod Grant Recipient Taylor Lane'11 Studies David Foster Wallace's Novel, *Infinite Jest*, and Texts from Alcoholics Anonymous



Taylor Lane'11 is the recipient of this year's Helen Terry MacLeod grant to support her research for her honor's thesis in Comparative Literature. Lane's research project is a critical reading of David Foster Wallace's novel, *Infinite Jest*, read in parallel with texts produced by Alcoholics Anonymous. The title of her thesis is "Enterprise and Habit, or, How to Talk to Your Neighbor: Alcoholics Anonymous as a Social Model." She looks at the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and examines the implications of being "programmed," even if the purpose is self-improvement.

Lane has been using the grant to purchase obscure texts and to travel to the Henry Ransom Center at the University of Texas, which just opened the archives of David Foster Wallace to researchers. Lane's examination of Wallace's handwritten notes and drafts of *Infinite Jest* were critical to further her understanding of his development of characters in the novel and his characterization of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Barbara Anton Internship Award Recipient Sammy McGowan'11 Explores How to Improve Health Clinics in Kenya



Sammy McGowan'11 is this year's recipient of the Barbara Anton Internship Award to support research for his honors thesis in Africana Studies. McGowan's thesis, "Patients and Power: The Development of a Health Infrastructure Gone Awry in Kibera, Kenya," examines the problems with health clinics in Kibera, the largest continuous slum in Africa.

For his research, McGowan interned with Shining Hope for Communities, a non-governmental organization that runs a primary school for young girls, a maternity health clinic, a green biolatrine, and a community center in Kibera. During his internship, McGowan was involved in a large-scale community baseline assessment to examine the long-term impact of Shining Hope's work on gender attitudes and the quality of life of individuals in Kibera. This project is closely related to the develop-

ment of the Johanna Justin-Jinich Maternal Health Clinic, Kibera's first community developed primary and maternal health clinic, the initial blueprints of which were developed by McGowan as a student abroad in his Junior year. In his thesis, McGowan synthesizes this data with colonial and neoliberal development strategies in Kibera, bridging historical accounts of development to modern ones. In searching for both continuities and discontinuities, McGowan questions modern forms of development, asking how humanitarianism functions within a larger global context and what role Kibera plays in modern struggles for power, poverty, and patients' rights. Based on his research, his thesis recommends a new health development strategy: placing women at the center of community health development.

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Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg
Italian Studies and Comparative Literature

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