Karen M. Inouye Named Chair

Professor Inouye will be the next Chairperson of the Department of American Studies beginning academic year 2018-2019. She began her career in American Studies at IU as a lecturer in 2006, and was recently promoted to Associate Professor. Her research for a new book on wartime prisons on native and indigenous lands, conducted in the summer and fall of 2017, was sponsored by a College of Arts and Humanities (CAHI) Research Fellowship, a New Frontiers Fellowship and CAHI Research Travel Fellowship. During AY 2017-2018, she also presented research at Yale University, University of Oregon, and the Asian American Studies Association Conference. Karen served as Interim Associate Director of the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society (CRRES) and was recently elected to the American Studies Association Nominating Committee for 2018-2021. Her book, The Long Afterlife of Nikkei Wartime Incarceration (Stanford, 2016), was awarded Honor Book for Nonfiction by the Asian/Pacific American Library Association. In spring 2018, Professor Inouye taught the Senior Seminar course (A450) and American Experience: Through the Lens (E100), and received a 2018 Trustees Teaching Award.

Phoebe Wolfskill — Part of the AMST Team

Phoebe will join the Department of American Studies in July 2018 as Assistant Professor. She teaches American and African American art and visual culture, with particular attention to the ways in which conceptions of race, nation, gender, sexuality, and socioeconomic class undergird this imagery. Her courses focus on specific artistic and political periods, such as the Harlem Renaissance and the Civil Rights Movement. Professor Wolfskill’s most recent book Archibald Motley, Jr. and Racial Reinvention: The Old Negro in Negro Art and her anthology manuscript, edited with James Romaine, Beholding Christ and Christianity in African-American Art were published in September 2017. This spring the College Arts & Humanities Institute awarded Phoebe a Research Travel Grant to Washington, DC, New York and Boston for her project "Photographic Appropriation in the Early Work of Romare Bearden." She also received a grant in April for the second Primary Source Immersion Program for Indiana University instructors from the IUB Libraries for her fall 2018 course AMST-A 202 U.S. Arts and Media: Race in American Art. The three-day workshop (July 25-27) will introduce new possibilities for integrating primary sources and special collections into their courses with the goal of engaging students with the materials in meaningful ways.

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Special points of interest:
- Promotion & Tenure
- PhD Graduates
- Arun Saldanha & Nicholas De Genova
- Branham, Krieble, & Oates
- Laila Amine
This spring Dr. Halloran brought in two speakers to discuss environmental justice as part of her work with IU Grand Challenges, Prepared for Environmental Change: Professor Donnie Sackey from Wayne State University gave a talk entitled, “Research Notes from Flint” and Professor John Hultgren from Bennington College presented the talk, “Sustainable Solidarities: Environmentalism, Coalition-Building, and Community.” In April, Vivian received a grant for the second Primary Source Immersion Program (along with Phoebe Wolfskill, see p. 1) for Indiana University instructors from the IUB Libraries for her fall 2018 course ENG-L 204 Global Mystery Fiction and the BBC.

Dinah Holtzman

has developed a full range of new classes, including an innovative course on the intersection of politics and mass media. She also published an article on the politics of sexuality in popular culture in Black Camera Vol. 9 No. 1 (Fall 2017), 179-188.

Sonia Lee

received a New Frontiers of Creativity and Scholarship Grant to research the intersections of mental health and the black, Puerto Rican, and Chicano freedom movements of post-WWII America. She also presented some of her new research in a talk entitled “More than ‘Radicals’ or ‘Junkies’: Black and Latino Drug Addicts and the Pursuit of Psycho-Political Liberation,” which was sponsored by the CRRES. In addition, she presented “Toward an Intellectual History of Drug Addiction Treatment and Black Power” at the Critical Ethnic Studies Symposium at Indiana University. She also presented “Ocean Hill Brownsville and the Forging of a Multiracial, Pluralistic Vision of Democracy” and “Beyond Black and White Dolls: Kenneth Clark and the Development of Puerto Rican Self-Determination in New York City” at the American Educational Research Association Conference.

Micol Seigel

is on fellowship at the Charles Warren Center for Historical Studies at Harvard, where she joins a cohort of other fellows also working on histories of prisons and policing. She has taken the opportunity of this time away to move her book manuscript, Violence Work: State Power and the Limits of Police, towards publication by Duke University press in August 2018; to shepherd her edited anthology, Panic, Transnational Cultural Studies and the Affective Contours of Power, into production at Routledge; to finalize a series of articles which have appeared or will appear in The Global South, American Quarterly, Race & Class, and the Contemporary Justice Review; to give talks

(Cont’d. on page 3)
at Harvard and Yale, a keynote address at Penn State, and attend conferences in Vancouver, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. In 2018-2019, Dr. Seigel will hold the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in International Relations at the Instituto de Relações Internacionais (Institute of International Relations) of the University of São Paulo, in São Paulo, Brazil. Micol has been promoted to Full Professor!

Maisha Wester

is away on a Fulbright fellowship for the 2017-18 academic year, researching Black British Gothic writing and the deployment of the Gothic in British discourses of race. In addition to working in various archives around the UK, she has also received numerous invitations to give talks at universities in Britain, Scotland, Austria and Poland. She has been invited to the Benjamin Franklin House to give a guest talk titled “What Revolution / Whose Revolution: Haiti and the U.S.”, a lecture exploring the significance of the Haitian Revolution to late 18th and early 19th century American democratic and racial ideals. Additionally, she returned to the U.S. to give featured presentations at Columbia University and at the Huntington Library in California.

AFFILIATE FACULTY

Michael T. Martin, Professor of Cinema and Media Studies and Director of The Media School’s Black Film Center / Archives, along with creative writing graduate student, Yalie Kamara, published an interview with filmmaker, Dany Laferrière in the fall 2017 issue of Black Camera. Professor Martin gave a keynote address at the conference Memories of Slavery and Colonization: Historiography, Arts, and Museums on November 9, 2017, at Le Mans University of France. Additionally, he participated in the colloquium of the FESPACO Training for Cinema and Audiovisual Professions at the Panafriican Film and TV conference in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso Feb. 25 to Mar. 4 (for details see http://mediaschool.indiana.edu/news). Early in January, Race and the Revolutionary Impulse in The Spook Who Sat by the Door was published by Indiana University Press, 2018, edited by Michael Martin and David C. Wall.

Book Nook

Paul Gutjahr

Ruth Halls Professor, English Associate Dean for Arts & Humanities and Undergraduate Education

The Oxford Handbook of the Bible in America, Edited by Paul C. Gutjahr (December 2017)

‘Voyage to the Moon’ and Other Imaginary Lunar Flights of Fancy in Antebellum America Edited by Paul C. Gutjahr (March 2018).
**Alex Chambers** was awarded the College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2018-2019.


**Giselle Cunanan** was chosen to receive a 2018-2019 President’s Diversity Dissertation Fellowship offered by the University Graduate School. She also received a 2018 spring College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award. In June she will present “Against Diversity: Student Demands for Different Kind of University” at the Critical Ethnic Studies Association 2018 conference held at the University of British Columbia.

**Nzingha Kendall** accepted a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies at the University of Virginia. On June 5th she will defend her dissertation “Imperfect Independence: Black Women Experimental Filmmakers.” Nzingha was awarded two travel grants. One from the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society (CRRES), and the other from the College of Arts and Sciences (COLL), where she will attend the Tepotzlán Institute in Mexico City July 2018. She also received a Grant-in-Aid of Doctoral Research Award from the University Graduate School. Her video essay, "I Feel, Therefore I Can Be Free" was published in the last issue of [in]Transition: Journal of Videographic Film and Moving Image Studies [http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/intransition/2018/03/08/i-feel-therefore-i-can-be-free](http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/intransition/2018/03/08/i-feel-therefore-i-can-be-free). And lastly, Nzingha was invited to contribute to the April 2018 Docalogue on Yance Ford's Oscar-nominated documentary *Strong Island* [https://docalogue.com/april-strong-island/](https://docalogue.com/april-strong-island/).

**Jed Kuhn** accepted a position as Limited-term Assistant Professor in the Department of Historical Studies at the University of Toronto Mississauga and will be teaching courses in the history program and the Women’s and Gender studies program. Jed defended his dissertation, “Indigenous Intimacies: Native Americans and Mexican Americans Since 1848” on May 7th.

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**PhD Graduates**
Critical Ethnic Studies Symposium

**Wednesday, Feb 28** Woodburn Hall Social Science Research Commons
6:00 p.m. Opening Keynote—**Arun Saldanha**
“The Racial Anthropocene: Human Phenotype Under Capital”

**Thursday, Mar 1** The University Club, Faculty Room
10:00—5:00 p.m. Research Talks

**Friday, Mar 2** The University Club, Faculty Room
10:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Graduate Lightning Talks
1:30 p.m. Closing Keynote—**Nicholas De Genova**
Spring 2018 AMST-A450 Senior Seminar course required students to write a thesis. Members of the Undergraduate Affairs Committee chose three winning papers. In order to highlight some of the best work, a Senior Thesis Symposium was hosted on 4/25. Students awarded best paper prize are:

**First Place**

**GRACE BRANHAM** “The Ruination of Riot Grrrl: A Retrospective Analysis of Media Response”

**Tied for Second Place**

**CAROLINE (CARO) OATES** “Creating Visibility of Queer Black Women in *The Watermelon Woman* and *Pariah*”

**GABRIELLE (GABBY) KRIEBLE** “How to Win Subscribers and Influence Them: Inside the Empire of New Media Moguls”

**Other UG Student News:** Graduating seniors, Caro Oates and Kayla McCarthy were elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Caro also was elected to Sigma Delta Pi (National Spanish Honor Society), and was awarded the Kate Hevner Mueller Award for outstanding leadership on campus, and the 2017 Indiana Outstanding College Student Spanish Award. Along with AMST Majors, Grace, Caro, Gabby, and Kayla, who graduated this spring, are Alanah Hofmann and Katherine Wines.

## Keeping in Touch

**LAILA AMINE**

Assistant Professor in the English Department at the University of Northern Texas

*Postcolonial Paris: Fictions of Intimacy in the City of Light* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2018).

Laila graduated with a combined degree in American Studies and Comparative Literature (IUB) in 2011.