



## Sonia Lee Joins American Studies

Sonia Song-Ha Lee, Associate Professor, recently joined American Studies, IUB. She graduated with a Ph.D. in U.S. History from Harvard University and began her career at Washington University, St. Louis.

Sonia explains that she is a “social, political, and intellectual historian of twentieth century United States, with particular interests in race, ethnicity and the history of medicine.” She works in “multiple fields simultaneously, Latino history, African American history, politics and modern medicine. She investigates the ways in which the labor economy, social movements, electoral politics, housing reforms, educational curricula, and mental health treatment shaped contemporary notions of race and ethnicity in the United States.”

Her first book, *Building a Latino Civil Rights Movement: Puerto Ricans, African Americans and the Pursuit of Racial Justice in New York City* (Chapel Hill: [The University of North Carolina Press](#), 2014) “traces the



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## Jordache Ellapen Accepts Offer



Alumnus, Jordache Ellapen, has accepted a tenure-track position in the English Department at the University of Oregon, with a specialization in the Literatures and Media of Africa and the African Diaspora.

While spending time at Washington University as a postdoc, he published:

“*When the Moon Waxes Red: Afro-Asian Feminist Intimacies and the Aesthetics of Indenture*,” in *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism* (Special Issue: *Visual Arts after Indentures*), Summer 2017.

“Queering the Archive: Brown Bodies in Ecstasy, Visual Assemblages and the Pleasures of Transgressive Erotics” in *Scholar and Feminist Online* (Special Issue, *Afro-Asian Feminist and Queer Formations*). Forthcoming Fall 2017.

### Inside this issue:

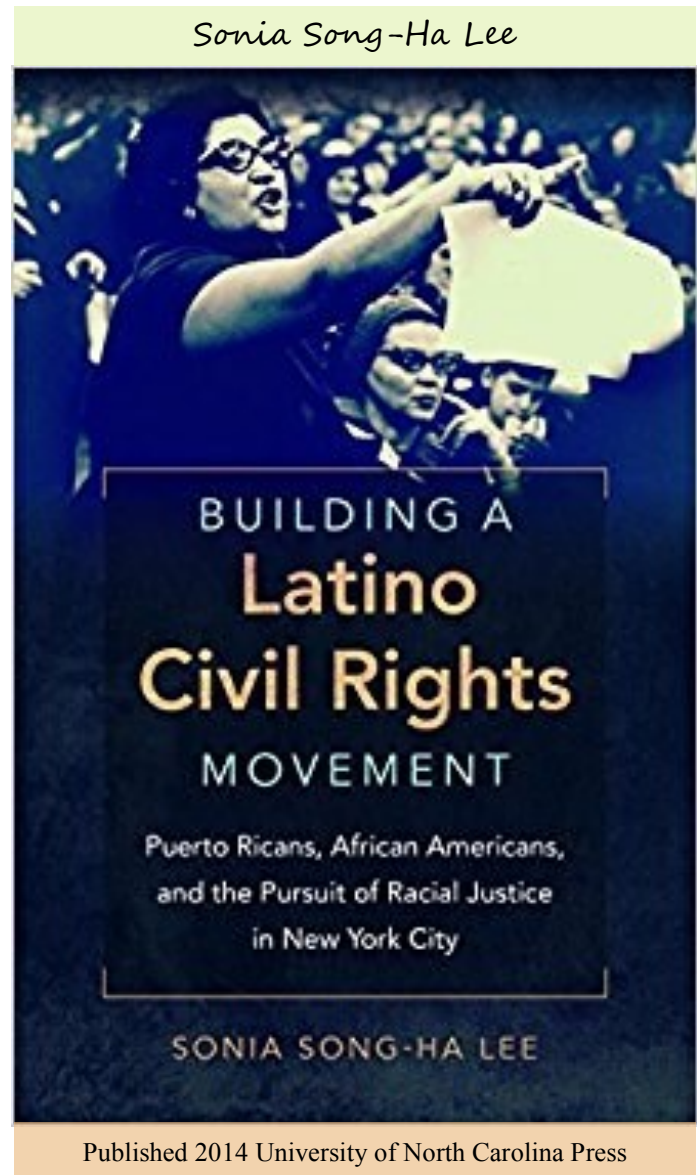
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### Special points of interest:

- New Faculty
- Faculty Promotion
- Graduate Student Nzingha Kendall
- Undergraduate Student Caroline Oates
- Alumni News

strategies used by Puerto Ricans and African Americans to conceptualize their racial and ethnic identities, and to build a common civil rights agenda in New York City from the 1950s through the 1970s. Previous work has tended to see blacks and Latinos as either naturally unified as “people of color” or irreconcilably at odds as two competing minorities, but she argues instead that Puerto Ricans and African Americans in New York City shaped the meanings of “Puerto Rican-ness” and “blackness” through political activism. African American and Puerto Rican New Yorkers came to see themselves as minorities joined in the civil rights struggle, the War on Poverty, and the Black Power movement—until white backlash and internal class divisions helped break the coalition, remaking “Hispanicity” as an ethnic identity that was mutually exclusive from “blackness.””

Her second book project, *Diagnosing Difference: Psychiatrists, Psychologists, and the Racialization of the Rehabilitation Ideal, 1940s-80s*, “moves from examining racialization through the lens of social movements to that of psychiatry, psychology, and drug policies. It brings together the history of black radicalism with that of drug addiction and mental health to highlight the intellectual contributions of drug addicts, mental health professionals, and political activists of color in the 1940s-80s. Despite scholars’ tendency to view the black and brown freedom movements as anti-psychiatric, she argues that black and Latino freedom dreams included the individual transformation of people suffering from psychological suffering, as well as the political empowerment of people of color. Black and brown political activists and mental health professionals proposed a liberatory politics that could work alongside a liberatory psychiatry to restore the lives of poor African Americans and Latinos and their communities. They combined race-specific psychotherapy, chemical treatment, and political organizing to promote the full humanity of people of color.”



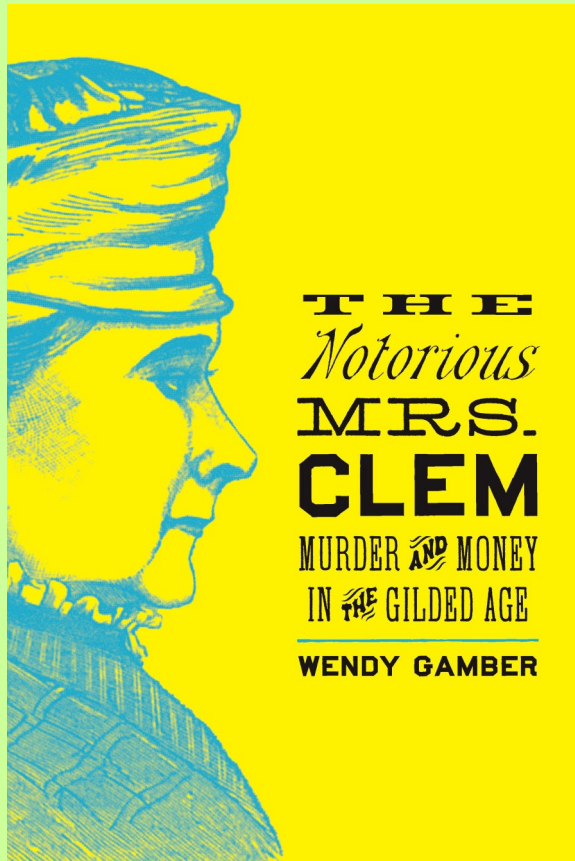
## Vivian Halloran—Full Professor



Congratulations to Professor Vivian Halloran who was promoted to Full Professor July 1, 2017. Professor Halloran joined American Studies in 2009 and has published two books: *Exhibiting Slavery: The Caribbean Postmodern Novel as Museum* (University of Virginia Press, 2009) and *The Immigrant Kitchen: Food, Ethnicity and Diaspora* (Ohio State University Press, 2016). Her current book project “examines those moments when Americans of Caribbean descent address themselves to the American people to share the lessons of their immigrant upbringing. By presenting American citizenship as a gift, rather than something to be taken for granted, the writers, performers, politicians, and activists whose work I analyze all challenge their compatriots to renew their efforts of working towards a richer and more just version of the American Dream.” You can read about Literary Food Studies on Professor Halloran’s [blog site](#).



**Wendy Gamber's** *The Notorious Mrs. Clem: Murder and Money in the Gilded Age* ([Johns Hopkins University Press](#), 2016) was selected as an "Editor's Choice" by the *New York Times Book Review*. *The Notorious Mrs. Clem* was also reviewed in the February 10, 2017 issue of the *Times Literary Supplement*.



**Ilana Gershon's** new book, *Down and Out in the New Economy*, published April 2017 by [The University of Chicago Press Books](#).



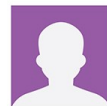
### Down and Out

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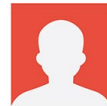
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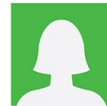
### New Economy

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How People Find  
(or Don't Find)  
Work Today

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**Ilana Gershon**

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## Caroline Oates—First Place!



Caroline Oates ("Caro") won first place in the Asian American Studies Program's undergraduate essay contest for her essay "Age, Gender, and Money: Wartime Incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans and Shifts in Power Dynamics." Caro wrote her award-winning paper for the AMST-A 200 fall 2016 class taught by Professor Karen Inouye. Viewed through the lens of Julie Otsuka's novel *When the Emperor was Divine*, Professor Inouye's in-class lectures, and *Rabbit in the Moon*, a documentary directed and written by Emiko Omori, her paper focuses on the power shift within and outside of the Japanese and Japanese American community in the U.S., and the upheaval these communities experienced in every dimension of their lives. Ms. Oates is a senior pursuing a double-major in American Studies and Spanish as well as a minor in Linguistics and a certificate in LAMP.

## Nzingha Kendall—Upcoming Artist

This past May 12, Nzingha Kendall, a doctoral candidate in American Studies, presented the creative portion of her dissertation, *Four Seasons*, at the I. Fell Gallery in Bloomington. Four experimental films, each centered on a season, were shown simultaneously on a loop for the duration of the 2-hour exhibit. Kendall gave a brief informational talk which was followed by a Q&A with the audience.

The one of the films, *Springtime Plaint*, premiered at the exhibit. Two other films, *Autumn Song* and *Summer Memorial*, screened previously at the Indiana University Cinema.

Using the natural world as inspiration, *Four Seasons* is a four-part set of films based on Kendall's experiences in Bloomington. With the exception of *Summer Memorial*, which contains footage from the Caribbean coast of Colombia, all of the films were shot in and around Bloomington. Kendall used a variety of formats for her films, including Super 8 and 16mm film, and HD video.



### **four seasons | a film installation** *experimental shorts by nzingha kendall*

thursday 11 may 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

artist talk: 7:00 pm

i fell building 415 w fourth st bloomington



Photo courtesy of Giovanna Chesler



# Graduate Student Events

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## AMST Graduate Student Colloquium

November 8, 2016, 4:00—6:00 PM, BH 004

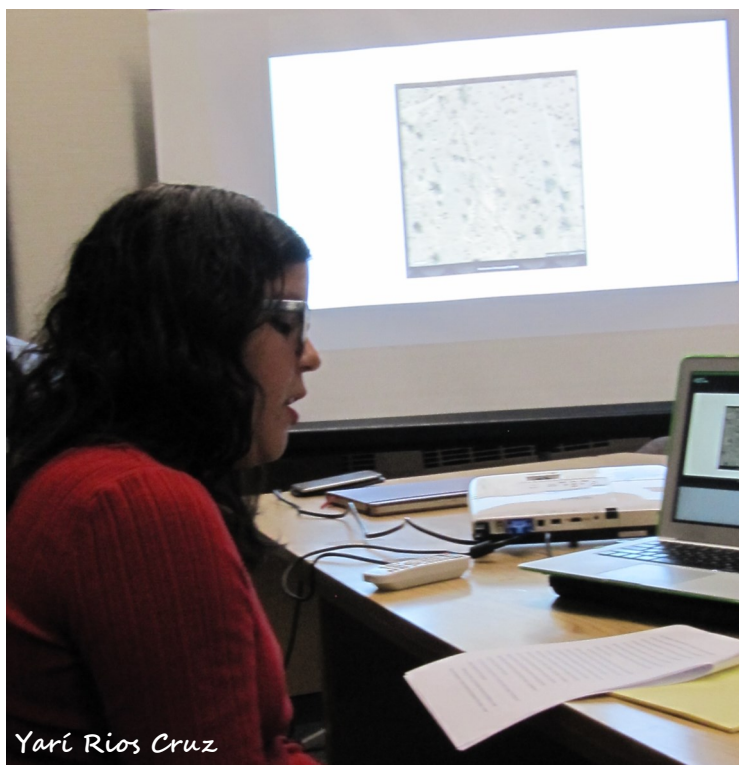
4:00—5:00 Presentations

Presenters:

**Jed Kuhn** “Indigeneity and Race in John Rollin Ridge’s *Joaquin Murieta*”

**Yarí Ríos Cruz** “Trance/Scribing Border Crossings: Latinidad as the Spectral Latinx American Migrant”

5:00 Dinner from Turkuaz Café



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# Accolades

**ALEX CHAMBERS:** Alex received a Katharine Bakeless Nason Scholarship for Emerging Writers and traveled to Vermont in early June for the Bread Loaf Orion Environmental Writers' Conference. Later in the same month, he headed to Detroit to present at the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment conference. He went to Northampton, MA, in July for two weeks where he taught creative writing at the Smith College Young Women's Writing Workshop. Alex was awarded a 2017 Fall College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award.

**YARÍ CRUZ:** Yari was chosen to receive a College of Arts and Sciences 2017 Spring Travel Award.

**GISELLE CUNANAN:** In the fall of 2016 Giselle passed her PhD Qualifying exams, and defended her prospectus this past spring. She received a College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award and was selected to receive the 2016-2017 Won-Joon Yoon Scholarship. Part of her summer was spent teaching AMST-A 200 Comparative American Identities, which examined the heterogeneous experiences of American identities in the U.S. as they construct ideas about home, culture, labor, belonging, and social status locally and globally.

**DEREK DIMATTEO:** Derek received the Wesleyan University English Department's Winchester Fellowship Award in April, which has funded travel expenses for conference presentations. He presented his paper "(Un)Safe Harbor: *Higher Learning in a Time of Campus Carry*" at the 31st MELUS Conference held the weekend of April 28th at MIT. He states, "my presentation was greatly improved thanks to the feedback I received in the workshop at the En/Counternarratives, CES Symposium that I participated in here (IUB) at the end of March." At the 4th Conference on Global Higher Education held on June 10th at Lakeland University Japan in Tokyo, Derek presented "International Students and the Political Economy of Global Higher Education," which is based on a portion of his dissertation. Upon his return to IU in mid-June, he taught J101 Intro to College Composition in the Groups Scholars Program during the second six-week summer term. Derek is a PhD candidate in the English Depart-



ment with a minor in Critical Race and Postcolonial Studies.

**KAREN INOUE:** During 2016-2017, Professor Inouye gave several book talks, including a book launch at the Seattle Public Library. She has begun work on her second book, "Double Displacements and Surprising Alliances: The Impact of Wartime Incarceration of Nikkei on Native and Indigenous Land." For her new research, Karen has been awarded the College of Arts and Humanities Institute (CAHI) Research Fellowship, a New Frontiers Research Fellowship, and a CAHI Research Travel Award.

**STEPHANIE KANE:** Professor Kane's article "Enclave Ecology" has been published in *Human Organization*. She received a \$2500 travel grant to begin "Humanizing Remote Sensing," a collaborative research project with geoscientists from Community Surface Dynamics Modeling System (CSDMS) at the University of Colorado, Boulder, also supported by a \$500 SGIS Faculty Research Grant. Her book *Where Rivers Meets the Sea: The Political Ecology of Water* has been released in a new audiobook edition. Sage Press released her video talk on "[Unconventional Methods](#)" filmed in the SGIS V studio.



**NZINGHA KENDALL:** Nzingha Kendall was selected as one of 15 participants in the Scholarship in Sound and Image Workshop for Advanced PhD students that was held June 18—July 1 at Middlebury College, in Vermont. Her work resulted in seven videos related to one of the films she writes about in her dissertation.

**JED KUHN:** Jed won the 2017-2018 College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Research Fellowship Award. He also received a College of Arts and Sciences 2016 Fall Travel Award.

**RASUL MOWATT:** Associate Professor in American Studies and the School of Public Health, Mowatt was elected Incoming Chair for the Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies in the School of Public Health. He was featured in an article written by Dave Zirin, sports editor of [The Nation](#). Rasul will present "A Pedagogy for White Nationalists: Or, A Pedagogy of Our Ruin" for the panel entitled Troubling White Nationalism and Whiteness at the American Studies Association Annual Conference to be held November 9 in Chicago.

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# CES Symposium

En/Counternarratives, a Critical Ethnic Studies Symposium held March 30-31, 2017, at the College Arts and Humanities Institute organized by Professor Micol Seigel brought three scholars with national reputation to present emerging work: Brandon Manning, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, A. Naomi Paik, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and Jessie Lenore Speer, Syracuse University. The symposium provided support to IUB junior scholars by connecting them to these important figures in their fields through the process of sharing their work. It also created an opportunity for graduate students to present their research and receive feedback from IUB scholars and invited guests. The symposium included a Performance Party headlining DJs Rob Swift, Rasul Mowatt, Gabriel Peoples, and DJ MetroGnome at The Back Door.



# Accolades

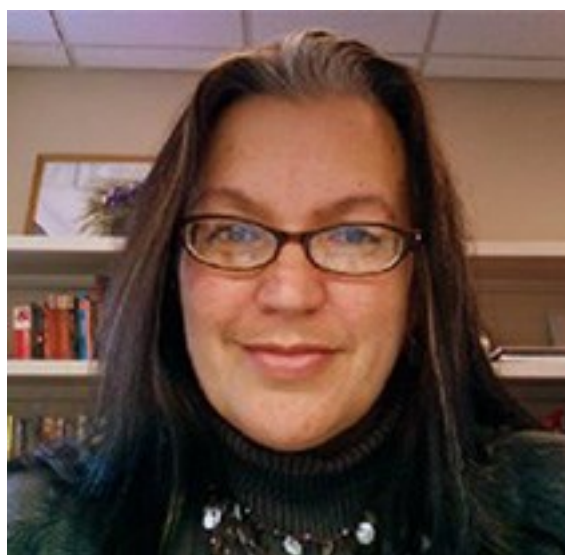
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**MICOL SEIGEL:** Professor Seigel's prison course was featured in *Inside IU*. Incarcerated artists at the Indiana Women's Prison shared their passion in contributing to a 'zine—"More Than A Number." She delivered a keynote address "Violence Work: Understanding Police and State Power in a Changing World" at the CLACS 6th Annual Graduate Student Conference—The Individual, The People, and The State: Power in Latin America, held March 3-4. CAHI awarded Micol a Conference & Workshop Grant for the En/Counternarratives, CES Symposium that took place March 30-31. She will spend the 2017-18 academic year at the Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History at Harvard University as a Visiting Scholar.

**MAISHA WESTER:** Professor Wester received a Fulbright US Scholar Award for the 2017-18 academic year hosted by

## Keeping in Touch

**RHONDA DASS:** "Monsters of God: Negotiating the Sacred in 'Stake Land'" in *Divine Horror: Essays on the Cinematic Battle Between the Sacred and Diabolical* McFarland Press, September 2017. She tells me that this chapter is a result of her work on folklore of fear and horror movie analysis. It is the product of a section on vampires that she teaches about in her course ANTH 260 Vampires, Werewolves, and Zombies: The folklore of Fear. Rhonda Dass is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director of American Indigenous Studies and Museum Studies at Minnesota State University, Mankato. She graduated from IU with a combined degree in American Studies and Folklore in 2009.



**STONE IRR:** Stone recently moved to Los Angeles to launch a new career as producer for a music house called Butter Music + Sound. Stone, singer, songwriter, and performer just put out his first album—"Sinner". He performed around Bloomington while studying as an undergraduate student in American Studies, and graduated in 2015. You can check out his album and newly recorded music video—"In the Rain" [here](#).



**KATE LEMAY:** This summer Kate's exhibition on Marlene Dierich—"Marlene Dietrich: Dressed for the Image"



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# Keeping in Touch

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opened at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery.

**JAKE SHEFF:** Jake is now the Registrar at the Center for Sacramento History, a research and collections center in Sacramento, CA. Jake points out that "the Center is the official repository for the archival records of the City and County of Sacramento, and maintains privately donated archival material and museum collections documenting the lives and activities of the residents of the Sacramento region. The Center does not have an exhibit space, but partners with the Sacramento History Museum to display objects from its collection."



His work as Registrar, "is focused on collections management. I implement policies and procedures for storing and preserving the archival materials and objects in our collection. I also am responsible for maintaining the records management system used to track materials in the Center's collection. Being a Registrar requires generalized knowledge of the history and cultural significance of the items in the collection, while also having the specialized skills to preserve the items correctly."

Currently, he is overseeing a comprehensive inventory of the collection across two locations. Not only is the goal of the inventory to ensure accuracy of documentation and proper storage but to provide increased access to the items for the Center's staff and the public.

Jake graduated from IU in 2011 with two BA degrees; American Studies and History. As a senior he indicates in his Graduating Seniors Survey, a questionnaire that was administered in the required course AMST-A 450 Senior Seminar that "the best part of being an AMST major was the interdisciplinary aspect of the program. I got to learn from many different teaching methods and interpretations of different subjects."

**GRACE BOYA SHEN:** Grace returned to the U.S. after spending the summer with her family in China and is attending graduate school at Columbia University.

**ELIZABETH WARREN:** After graduating from Indiana in 2009, Elizabeth reports: "I spent two academic years in Granada, Spain, working as an Auxiliar de Conversación (English Language Assistant) at an elementary school and taking Spanish courses. I am currently a PhD Candidate in Hispanic Languages and Literature at UCLA, and I am writ-

ing my dissertation on the Aesthetic of the Grotesque in Post-Franco Spanish and Catalan literature, film, and visual art.

Living in Los Angeles--having spent all of my life in the Midwest (apart from that brief stint in Spain), and having family from Chicago and New York--has been an amazing opportunity. I have loved getting to know a completely different part of the country, and as a student and teacher of

## Welcome to AMST!

**PETE GIORDANO,** Undergraduate Academic Advisor, was recently assigned to guide students in the departments of American Studies, French and Italian, and History through their IUB academic careers. To schedule an advising appointment with Pete, [click here](#).

Pete holds an M.A. and a J.D. from IU. He is passionate about History, Law, and Political Science, and loves cooking in his free time.



## Upcoming Events

### NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

#### **A Hundred Years of Migration (1917-2017): Stories of Caribbean Exile and Diaspora**

*International Conference: September 29-30, 2017  
Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies  
IUB—SGIS Bldg.*

The event will bring together scholars from the humanities, social sciences, and policy studies to discuss the long-term effects of migration in the Caribbean, the United States, and Canada. Ed Chamberlain, an IU PhD graduate in American

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# Upcoming Events

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Studies and Comparative Literature will present “From Father to Humanitarian: Charting the Intimacies and Discontinuities of Ricky Martin’s Social Media Presence.” Ed is Assistant Professor in the Culture, Arts and Communication unit at the University of Washington, Tacoma.

The event is free and open to the public. Contact persons: Anke Birkenmaier ([abirkenm@indiana.edu](mailto:abirkenm@indiana.edu)); Vivian Halloran ([vhallora@indiana.edu](mailto:vhallora@indiana.edu)).

Conference Webpage: <https://100yearsofmigrationconference.wordpress.com/conference-abstracts/>.

Sponsors: Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Institute for Advanced Studies, College Arts and Humanities Institute, Department of American Studies, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Department of French and Italian, Department of History, Latino Studies Program, and the Black Film Center/Archive.

## Reading Groups

### ALTERNATIVE DISSERTATION READING GROUP

Wednesday, October 4, 12-1:30 pm, Walnut Room, IMU—Presentation by **RASUL MOWATT**, Chair, Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies, School of Public Health.

Thursday, October 12, 11 am-12:30 pm, CAHI—Presentation by **JOHN WALSH**, Associate Professor of Information and Library Science, School of Informatics.

Thursday, October 19, 11 am-12:30 pm, CAHI—Presentation by **TASSIE GNIADY**, Manager, Cyberinfrastructure for Digital Humanities Research Technologies, UITS.

Thursday, October 26, 11 am-12:30 pm, CAHI—Student showcase of their dissertation work.

### VIET THANH NGUYEN READING GROUP

Friday, October 16, 11 am-1 pm, CAHI—**BRANDO SKYHORSE**, Assistant Professor, Department of English.

Friday, October 13, 1-3 pm, SGIS 1060—**NICK CULLATHER**, Associate Dean, School of Global and International Studies; **PURNIMA BOSE**, Chair, Department of International Studies, SGIS.

Friday, October 20, 11 am-1 pm, CAHI—**VIVIAN HALLORAN**, Professor, Departments of English and American Studies; **ED COMENTALE**, Associate Vice Provost for Arts & Humanities, Professor English.

**UNDERGRADUATE OCTOBER EVENT:** date and location TBA on the AMST website: <http://www.indiana.edu/~amst/>.

### American Studies Association Annual Meeting

## “PEDAGOGIES OF DISSENT” November 9-12, Chicago, IL

**Vivian Halloran**, Panel: Against the Tide: Transpacific Imaginaries, Caribbean Counter-Narratives, Pleasure and Politics  
**Karen Inouye** “Honouliuli as National Monument and Wartime Incarceration of Nikkei in Hawaii”  
**Rasul Mowatt** “A Pedagogy for White Nationalists: Or, A Pedagogy of Our Ruin”  
**Micol Seigel** “The Cruel Pedagogies of Common Sense”





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**THINK...**



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