

Annual Report

Institute for Social and Economic
Research and Policy (ISERP) | 2022-2023



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CO-DIRECTORS



Alessandra Casella

Professor of Economics and
Political Science



Matthew J. Connelly

Professor of History

Message from our Directors

The Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP) of Columbia University plays a crucial role in supporting research within the social science departments of Arts and Sciences, and the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). Throughout 2022-2023, ISERP remained dedicated to fulfilling its mission and introduced new initiatives aimed at enhancing connections within the social science community and beyond.

During the academic year, we introduced two significant initiatives. Firstly, we launched the Working Papers Bulletin, showcasing unpublished scholarly papers authored by faculty members in the Social Sciences. To this date, we have released two bulletins: a Spring 2023 and Summer 2023 series, made up of around 10-15 working papers. The papers are kept on a private ISERP webpage only accessible to Columbia and Barnard faculty. This initiative was launched with the aim of increasing the visibility of research both to other faculty in our own departments and across Social Science departments and the university. We anticipate a rise in submissions throughout the upcoming academic year.

Secondly, we sponsored and created the "Espresso with the Experts" podcast, hosted and run by Political Science PhD candidates Beatrice Bonini and Leila Travaglini. This podcast features conversations between the hosts and Columbia-affiliated experts on contemporary social and political debates. We have released two episodes so far on differing subjects: "Big Historical Data: A Conversation with Professor Matthew Connelly", and "Elected by Choice or by Chance: A Conversation with Professors Nadia Urbinati and Alessandra Casella". We plan to release four more episodes in the Fall and Spring. These efforts have boosted interaction and dialogues among the Social Science faculty and students within the Columbia community.

In the summer, ISERP also supported two workshops hosted by the History Lab: "Archives as Data: An Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities", funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and "Writing the History of Covid-19: Lessons for the Next Pandemic", funded by ISERP. The workshops gathered a community of dedicated researchers, historians, and students. Led by Matthew Connelly and Courtney Chartier, Director of the Rare Book & Manuscript Library, with co-teachers Raymond Hicks, Adjunct Associate Research Scholar, and Benjamin Lis, Data Engineer, the Archives as Data program offered practical training for historians and archivists in processing and analyzing textual data. The History Lab's research program "Writing the History of Covid-19" led by Professors Matthew Connelly, Wilmot James, Senior Research Scholar, and Stephen Morse, Professor of Epidemiology at CUMC, research program assembled a multidisciplinary team to take stock of archival efforts to date, conduct exploratory research, and help identify

priorities for long-term preservation. The program began in FY23 with a two-week intensive workshop, followed with research projects in student groups throughout the summer, and concluded at the end of August with a two-day recap with presentations.

In FY23, ISERP awarded 4 programmatic seed grants to social science faculty: Douglas Almond in Economics & SIPA, Michael Carlos Best in Economics, Tey Meadow in Sociology, and Timothy Frye in Political Science. Additionally, we sponsored new thematic workshops led by Mae Ngai and Naor Ben-Yehoyada, and continued support for workshops directed by Rhiannon Stephens, Naoki Egami, and Gil Eyal. We also supported workshops and conferences that were postponed due to the pandemic, as well as departmental workshops and seminars through ISERP's Block Grants.

During this time, we also celebrated the publication of six new books authored by Columbia's social science faculty members, including Jack Snyder, Nadia Abu El-Haj, James Stafford, Rhiannon Stephens, Sarah Daly, Carl Wennerlind, and Deborah Valenze. The format remained hybrid in order to accommodate both in-person and virtual participants.

In Spring 2023, the Vaccine Safety and Confidence Building Working Group project reached its conclusion, and we bid farewell to Dr. Wilmot James, who had been serving as Senior Research Scholar at ISERP. We express our gratitude for Dr. James's invaluable contributions and wish him success as Senior Advisor to the Brown Pandemic Center and Professor of the Practice of Health Services, Policy, and Practice at Brown University.

In Fall 2022, the QMSS program, guided by Greg Eirich, welcomed a cohort of 140 students. QMSS activities were vibrant, taking place both in person and on campus, and remotely, with students displaying a high level of motivation and bringing diverse backgrounds and aspirations. Throughout Columbia, QMSS students have stood out, with the program being the sole MA program to have not just one, but two students invited to present their theses at the GSAS-Wide Synthesis Showcase. The QMSS research assistantship program remains a crucial source of research support for numerous Columbia faculty members, actively contributing to over 50 research projects in the past year.

Beyond the academic setting, the QMSS student group, the Society for Quantitative Approaches to Social Research (QASR), organized a diverse range of advanced programming activities for MA students. QMSS students continued their impactful contributions to various partner organizations through substantial practicum projects. The demand for QMSS graduates remained high, as they secured positions at some of the world's premier institutions.

In FY23, ISERP played a vital role in facilitating the acquisition of 21 new grants by faculty members. We managed 104 active grants, amounting to a cumulative funding of \$17,833,610, funded by a mix of government, private, and non-federal grants. Awarded projects include faculty research, grants supporting doctoral student dissertations, and funding for convening scholars and practitioners. This year we continued to see the ramifications of the pandemic as many faculty requested no-cost extensions on their grants due to past travel restrictions, but by the spring we could see an increase in research activity.

ISERP continues to serve as a vital source of information about important activities and prospects in the field of social sciences. This year, we also undertook a website redesign which we plan to roll out in the Spring. Our new website will shine a light on the research of our Affiliates.

As this academic year draws to a close, we welcome a new ISERP Co-Director, Adam Kosto, Professor of History. Adam Kosto takes the place of one of us, Matthew J. Connelly, who leaves ISERP after a seven-year term as Co-Director. At ISERP and in the wider social science community at Columbia, we are all deeply grateful to Matt for his exceptional work and contributions during this time. We wish him success in his new role as Director of the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk at Cambridge University.

Reflecting on our accomplishments at ISERP thus far, supporting students and faculty across the six Social Science departments, we look forward to continuing to enhance this vibrant community of researchers.

Matthew J. Connelly and Alessandra Casella

September 2023

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Research Development Office (RDO) supports investigators in Anthropology, Economics, History, Political Science, Sociology, African American and African Diaspora Studies, and the School of International and Public Affairs. For details on our services, see ISERP's website, iserp.columbia.edu.

In the last fiscal year, the RDO assisted with the submission of 49 grant proposals to multiple government agencies, foreign institutions, and private foundations.

ISERP's work resulted in 21 grants awarded by many sponsors in FY23. Awarded projects include faculty research, grants supporting doctoral student dissertations, training for early career researchers, and funding for convening scholars and practitioners.

Full time faculty in the social sciences and the School of International and Public Affairs are eligible to apply for up to \$30,000 in seed funding to develop a proposal for an external sponsor. ISERP issued a call for proposals in FY23 and awarded 4 seed grants, outlined below.



Seed Grants

Douglas Almond

Tey Meadow

Michael Carlos Best

Timothy Frye

Economics & SIPA

Sociology

Economics

Political Science

The Environmental Externalities of Expanding Cryptocurrency Mining in the United States

The Particularization of Identity: Race, Gender, Sexuality

Day to Day Disasters (Project 1), How much more does the government pay for inputs and how can it pay less? (Project 2)

Rallying Behavior in Response to War: Lessons from Russia's Invasion of Ukraine

EXTERNAL GRANTS

Extracurriculars, Information Asymmetry, and Labor Markets

Sponsor: Russell Sage Foundation

Researchers: Sandra Black, Professor of Economics and International and Public Affairs, and Tarikua Erda, PhD Candidate in Sustainable Development

The Political Dynamics of Supply-Side Counternarcotics

Sponsor: American Political Science Association

Researchers: Maria Murillo, Professor of Political Science and International and Public Affairs, and Julian Gerez, PhD Candidate in Political Science

"News Gaps" and the Political Effects of Monitoring by Local Media

Sponsor: American Political Science Association

Researchers: Justin Phillips, Professor of Political Science, and Michael Auslen, PhD Candidate in Political Science

Looking Inside the Party: Who Wins Partisan Primary Elections and Why?

Sponsor: Rapoport Family Foundation

Researcher: Donald Green, Burgess Professor of Political Science, and Hayley Cohen, PhD Candidate in Political Science

The Impact of Natural Disasters on Firm and Labor Dynamics

Sponsor: Washington Center for Equitable Growth

Researcher: Sandra Black, Professor of Economics and International and Public Affairs, and Tarikua Erda, PhD candidate in Sustainable Development

The impacts of remote work on gender and racial inequalities before and during COVID-19: the case of Brazil

Sponsor: Inter-American Development Bank

Researcher: Yao Lu, Professor of Sociology

Doctoral Dissertation Research in Economics: Extracurricular Activities, Information Assymetry, and Labor Markets

Sponsor: National Science Foundation (NSF)

Researcher: Sandra Black, Professor of Economics and International and Public Affairs

Student: Tarikua Erda, PhD Candidate in Sustainable Development

The Media Origins of the Attitudes Toward Policing

Sponsor: Russell Sage Foundation

Researcher: Eunji Kim, Assistant Professor of Political Science

To scale up usage of a platform for machine learning model sharing and education

Sponsor: Sloan Foundation

Researcher: Michael Parrott, Lecturer in the Discipline of Political Science

The Credit Consequences of College Attendance

Sponsor: Spencer Foundation/University of Colorado Boulder subaward

Researcher: Sandra Black, Professor of Economics and International and Public Affairs

Quality Standards and Firm Behavior in Ethiopia

Sponsor: International Growth Centre

Researcher: Eric Verhoogen, Professor of Economics and International and Public Affairs

Organizational diversity, peer influences, and networks in policing: Quasi-experimental evidence from five law enforcement agencies in the US

Sponsor: Russell Sage Foundation

Researcher: Gerard Torrats-Espinosa, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Early First-Dollar Categorical Need-Based Aid: A New Model for Making College Affordable?

Sponsor: University of Michigan sub/Department of Education

Researcher: Marissa Thompson, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Archives as Data: An Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Researcher: Matthew J. Connelly, Professor of History

EpiStan: notebooks and methods for disease modeling in Stan

Sponsor: Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

Researchers: Andrew Gelman, Professor of Statistics and Political Science, and Mitzi Morris, Senior Staff Associate

Trustworthy Bayesian modeling, inference, and computation

Sponsor: Office of Naval Research

Researcher: Andrew Gelman, Professor of Statistics and Political Science

Statistical adjustments of sample representation in community-level estimates of COVID-19 transmission and immunity

Sponsor: National Institutes of Health/University of Michigan subaward

Researcher: Andrew Gelman, Professor of Statistics and Political Science

Scalable Bayesian regression: Analytical and numerical tools for efficient Bayesian analysis in the large data regime

Sponsor: National Science Foundation (NSF)

Researchers: Andrew Gelman, Professor of Statistics and Political Science, and Philip Greengard, Postdoctoral Research Scholar

Lena Song Research

Sponsor: ETH-Zurich

Researchers: Suresh Naidu, Professor of International and Public Affairs, and Jack Wang and Echo Ren Professor of Economics, and Lena Song, Assistant Professor of Economics at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

The Enemy Is Within: Elite Affective Polarization in American Politics

Sponsor: Rapoport Family Foundation

Researchers: Gregory Wawro, Professor of Political Science, and Sam Frederick, PhD Candidate in Political Science

Preserving Government Responses to the Pandemic

Sponsor: National Historical Publications & Records Commission

Researcher: Matthew J. Connelly, Professor of History

Identifying and Characterizing Human-Insect Relations through Material Culture in Western Alaska

Sponsor: National Science Foundation (NSF)

Researcher: Brian Boyd, Senior Lecturer & Director of Museum Anthropology, and Amanda Althoff, PhD Candidate in Anthropology



FACULTY BOOKS

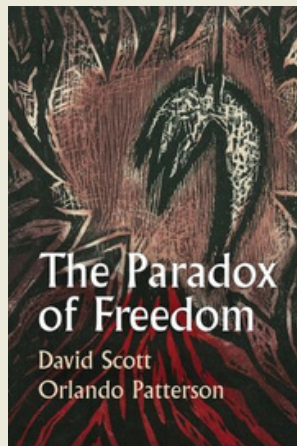
Published during the 2022-2023 Academic Year



Combat Trauma: Imaginarities of War and Citizenship in post 9/11 America (Verso)

Nadia Abu El-Haj

Professor of Anthropology, Co-Director, Center for Palestine Studies



The Paradox of Freedom (Polity)

David Scott

Ruth and William Lubic Professor of Anthropology, Chair, Anthropology Department

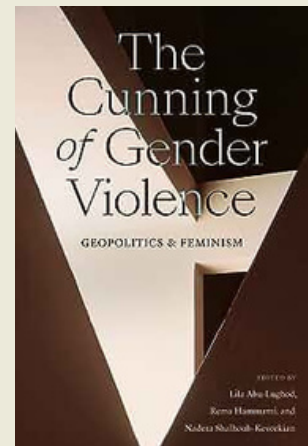


Rien de ce qui est humain ne nous est étranger. Une famille juive entre les mondes (Seuil)

Translation by Marc Saint-Upéry

Claudio Lomnitz

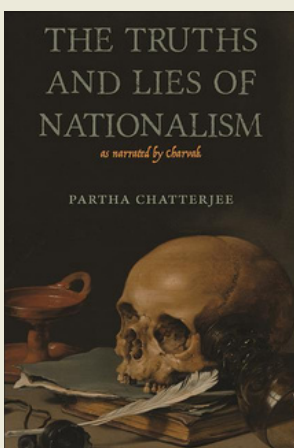
Campbell Family Professor of Anthropology, Director, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race



The Cunning of Gender Violence: Geopolitics and Feminism (Duke University Press)

Lila Abu-Lughod (ed.)

Joseph L. Buitendijk Professor of Anthropology



The Truths and Lies of Nationalism As Narrated by Charvak (State University of New York Press)

Partha Chatterjee

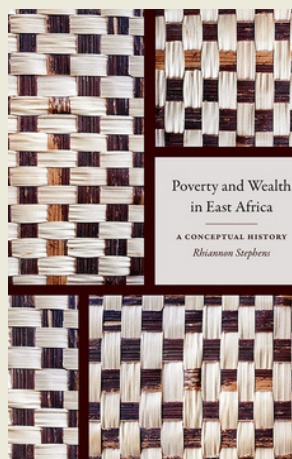
Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and of Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies



The Case of Ireland: Commerce, Empire, and the European Order, 1750-1848 (Cambridge University Press)

James Stafford

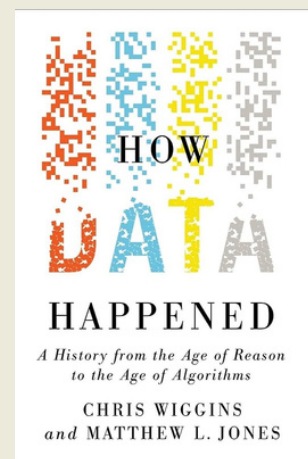
Assistant Professor of History



Poverty and Wealth in East Africa: A Conceptual History (Duke University Press)

Rhiannon Stephens

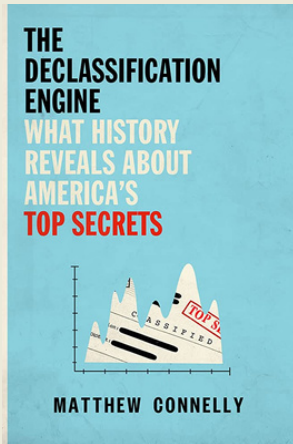
Associate Professor of History



How Data Happened: A History from the Age of Reason to the Age of Algorithms (W. W. Norton & Company)

Matthew Jones

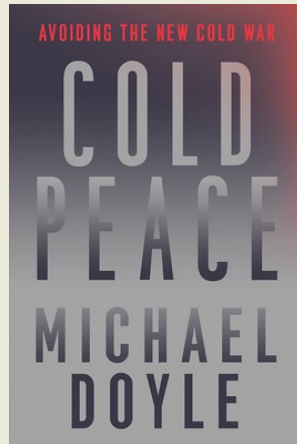
James R. Barker Professor of Contemporary Civilization



The Declassification Engine: What History Reveals About America's Top Secrets
(Pantheon Books)

Matthew Connelly

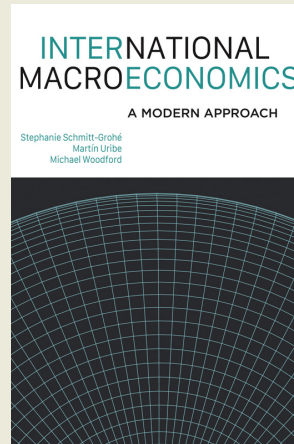
Professor of History, Co-Director of ISERP



Cold Peace
(Liveright)

Michael Doyle

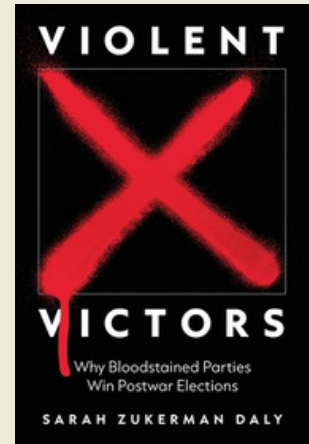
Professor of Political Science



International Macroeconomics: A Modern Approach
(Princeton University Press)

Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé, Martin Uribe, Michael Woodford

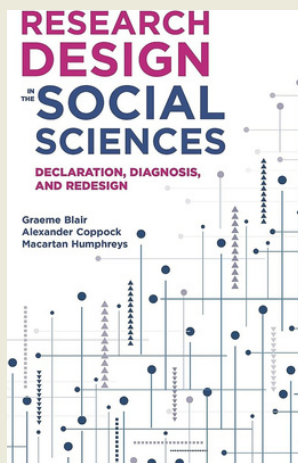
Professors of Economics



Violent Victors: Why Bloodstained Parties Win Postwar Elections
(Princeton University Press)

Sarah Z. Daly

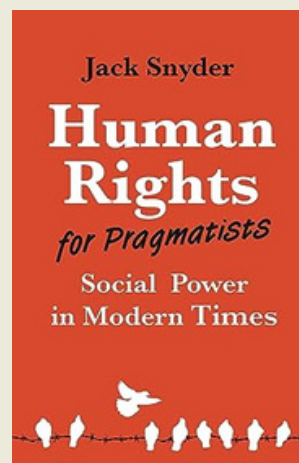
Associate Professor of Political Science



Research Design in the Social Sciences: Declaration, Diagnosis, and Redesign
(Princeton University Press)

Macartan Humphreys

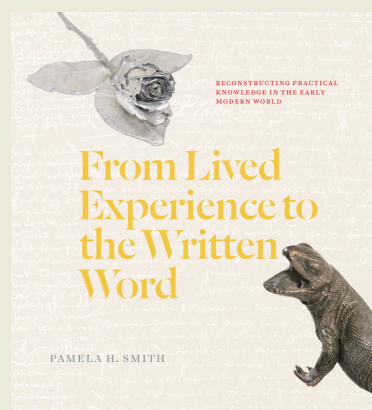
Professor of Political Science



Human Rights for Pragmatists: Social Power in Modern Times
(Princeton University Press)

Jack Lewis Snyder

Robert and Renée Belfer Professor of International Relations



From Lived Experience to the Written Word: Reconstructing Practical Knowledge in the Early Modern World
(University of Chicago Press)

Pamela H. Smith

Seth Low Professor of History, Director of the Center for Science and Society

Faculty Highlights

In this section, we shine a spotlight on the research of certain faculty members across the Social Sciences.

Suresh Naidu - Professor of Economics



In the past year, Professor Naidu's research has focused on studying the political and social implications of imperfectly competitive (i.e. "monopsonistic") labor markets. Recent work includes papers on implications of labor market power on non-financial dimensions of work, like the experience of dignity in low-wage labor markets (e.g. Wal-Mart), historical estimates of union density in Canada, the linguistic content of collective bargaining agreements, or the subjective well-being effects of guest worker migration between India and the United Arab Emirates.

These more social dimensions of work also appear in research on the efficacy of social-network based labor organizing, the economic geography of slavery, and the economic basis of partisan realignment in the United States. One unifying theme is that there are non-wage dimensions of freedom and autonomy at work that are valued by workers, and accounting for these is important for understanding the economic incidence of historical and contemporary labor market institutions, from unions to slavery to temporary migration.

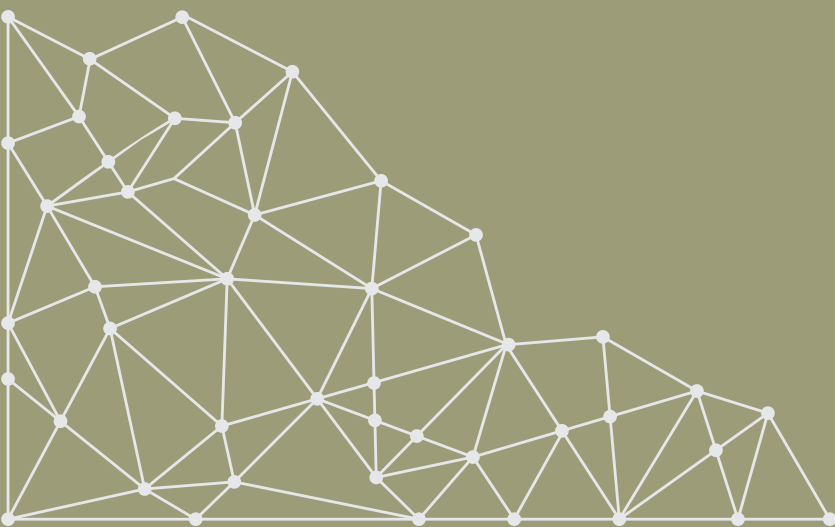
Politically, understanding the non-pecuniary dimensions of work is also important for understanding the distinction between "predistribution" vs. "redistribution" as different modes of economic policy making. In work with Ilyana Kuziemko and Nicolas Longuey Marx, they show that less-educated voters in the United States have, at least since the 1940s, differentially supported "predistributive" labor market institutions (like unions, job guarantees, and the minimum wage) as opposed to "redistributive" tax-and-transfer policies relative to more-educated voters. They show that the Democratic Party pivoting away from the former towards the latter can account for about 50% of the re-alignment of less-educated voters away from the Democratic Party since the mid-1970s.

Evan Sadler - Associate Professor of Economics

Evan Sadler is studying how incentives to form links affect the structures that form in different networks. One motivation for his work comes from studies of academic peer effects. Researchers have long known that students' academic performance benefits from having more accomplished peers, but getting this positive influence depends on the formation on meaningful relationships. Past efforts to leverage this effect to improve the performance of underachieving students have backfired because the friendship networks that form in socially engineered classrooms are different than those that form in typical classrooms. Theoretical models of network formation can help us understand when and why desirable peer effects should appear, allowing researchers to better anticipate the effects of interventions and improving outcomes.



In a newer companion project, Sadler explores the formal relationship between models of strategic network formation and classic matching models. Matching theory often focuses on settings with two clearly delineated sides---colleges match with students, hospitals match with medical residents, etc. However, friendship networks, or networks of trading relationships, need not have this structure. Sadler nevertheless shows that many celebrated results from matching theory continue to hold in this more general setting. In particular, any given individual always has the same number of connections in every stable graph - a result known as the "Rural Hospital Theorem" - and any link that changes between one stable graph and another necessarily benefits one of the individuals involved while harming the other.



Nadia Abu El-Haj - Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Anthropology
Combat Trauma: Imaginaries of War and Citizenship in post 9/11 America.



As the post-9/11 wars ground on, accounts of the devastating psychological afterlives of combat became ever more ubiquitous in US public culture. The national conversation about the post-9/11 wars, such as it is, has been mediated, largely, through representations of the psychic life of the American soldier-cum-veteran. The starting point for *Combat Trauma* is to ask: with what consequences? What does war appear to be when it is discussed, represented, and grasped primarily through the lens of the soldier, now home, living with PTSD, at risk of suicide? What crucial political conversations are elided in public debate and consciousness when so much focus is on the trauma suffered by American troops?

Combat Trauma examines the optics of a powerful and pervasive stand-in for these wars: the traumatized American soldier. It traces shifting understandings of combat trauma in American psychiatry and public culture, from the 1970s to today, and it asks: Who has the traumatized soldier been, who is he now, and how did he come to be? Through an analysis of clinical and cultural practices, together with political, ideological, and institutional realignments, the book provides a historical genealogy of the contemporary “combat-trauma imaginary”—one that departs radically from understandings of combat trauma during the war in Vietnam—and explores the ethics and politics of war and citizenship that emerge within its terrain. *Combat Trauma* suggests that the ceaseless demand for public “recognition” of the traumatized soldier is not an unequivocal ethical good, as it might seem to be when measured against the supposed neglect and warehousing of veterans in the aftermath of the American war in Vietnam. The incessant demand that attention be paid—that “we” must do a better job of listening to, caring for, and supporting the (traumatized) troops—not only produces these wars as a decidedly “American tragedy,” to borrow Christian Appy’s turn of phrase. In helping attach the American public to the virtue of the soldier as super-citizen to whom deference is owed, that demand is among the most powerful incitements to American militarism.

Shanya Cordis - Assistant Professor of African American and African Diaspora Studies

Shanya Cordis focuses on exploring the relationships between indigeneity, antiblackness, and gendered violence in Guyana and the Americas more broadly. She is continuing work on her forthcoming ethnography, "Unsettling Geographies: Antiblackness, Gendered Violence, and Indigenous Dispossession in Guyana", which examines how extractive forms of developmentalism are animated by enduring colonial racial logics, antiblackness, and ongoing indigenous dispossession. Through the concept of relational difference, the book brings an analysis of antiblackness and ongoing legal, discursive, and spatial processes that facilitate indigenous dispossession into the same framework, tracing how histories of racial slavery, indentureship, and conquest shape the postindependence state.



This year, Cordis also published a co-authored book as part of the Black|Indigenous 100s Collective, a collective of scholars who work within and across Black Studies and Indigenous Studies, titled *Say, Listen: Writing as Care*. Building on the 100-word writing experiment that originated with Emily Bernard at the University of Vermont in 2009, *Say, Listen* is a model grounded in black and indigenous practices as a method for thinking, writing, and practicing care together. This collection began before the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and grapples with the shifting social and political realities of precarity wrought by an ongoing pandemic, antiblack violence, and indigenous erasure. As such, the book disrupts traditional academic modes of writing to generate collective forms of care, relationality, and kinship at the intersection of blackness and indigeneity.

In addition, Cordis has published a co-authored review article for *American Anthropologist*, "A Poetics of Living Rebellion: Sociocultural Anthropology in 2021" with Sarah Ihmoud. Departing from a review of emerging anthropological literature, the article foregrounds the living rebellions of current social movements and everyday practices of people navigating the terrain of white supremacy, ecological catastrophe, and imperial capitalism. Interspersed throughout, the authors deploy letter writing, calling attention to the multiple geographies and practices of rebellion and rebellious method against structures of global antiblackness and indigenous erasure that calls for anthropologists to further think with and hone anthropological insights toward grounded social transformation.

Marissa Thompson - Assistant Professor of Sociology



This past year, Marissa Thompson has continued work on a large-scale evaluation of the state of Michigan’s Tuition Incentive Program (TIP). The grant project, which is funded by a \$2.7 million grant from the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) and led by Kevin Stange, Katherine Micheltore, and Megan Tomkins-Stange at the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, evaluates the TIP program, which has a unique structure among other Michigan need-based financial aid programs. TIP is a “first dollar” financial aid program and funds roughly 25,000 Michigan students annually. Because it is based on a student’s participation in Medicaid, students can be notified of eligibility for funding from TIP as early as eighth grade, which may shape their high school (and later college) trajectories.

The broader study encompasses both quasi-experimental and qualitative components. The team is currently in the process of using a regression discontinuity approach to compare students who meet the financial aid requirement for TIP to those who barely miss the cutoff based on their eligibility for Medicaid over childhood. In doing so, the team will be able to understand the effect of the program on high school graduation, college entrance, college persistence, and course-taking patterns. Furthermore, a qualitative component of the project will involve interviews with students, parents, school administrators, and TIP program staff.



James Stafford - Associate Professor of History

The Case of Ireland: Commerce, Empire and the European Order, 1750-1850

James Stafford's book *The Case of Ireland: Commerce, Empire and the European Order, 1750-1850* offers a fresh account of Ireland's role in European debates about commerce and empire during a global era of war of revolution. Drawing on a broad range of writings from merchants, agrarian improvers, philosophers, politicians and revolutionaries, *The Case of Ireland* shows how Ireland became a field of conflict and projection between rival visions of political economy, associated with the warring empires of Britain and France. It offers a new perspective on the crisis and transformation of the British Empire at the end of the eighteenth century, and places Ireland back at the centre of European intellectual history.



At a 'New Books' series event on February 2nd 2023, co-sponsored by ISERP with the Society of Fellows and the Heyman Center, Susan Pedersen, Isaac Nakhimovsky and Nadia Urbinati discussed the book's contributions to the fields of British and European history, as well as to political theory. Internal struggles over religious allegiance and landownership, they agreed, were understood as part of a broader problematic of aristocracy, empire and commerce; one that is not visible if we treat Irish politics in isolation from Britain or Europe. Eighteenth and early-nineteenth century Ireland was a crucible for the elaboration of liberal, republican and nationalist political ideologies, and for working out how Britain's global empire of commerce could be reconciled with a European balance of power.



Stafford is currently working on new research projects that explore further both the international and environmental dimensions within the intellectual history of European political economy. He is finishing a new article about the relationship between the natural sciences, especially chemistry, and economic thought in nineteenth-century Ireland, as well as developing a book project on the relationship between economic nationalism and international law in the nineteenth century.

Junyan Jiang - Assistant Professor of Political Science

Political Elites in Comparative and Historical Perspective Conference

In an era marked by mounting global challenges such as pandemics, climate crises, and geopolitical conflicts, understanding the elite becomes paramount. The vast capabilities of the modern state enable political leaders to exert wide-ranging influence—whether positive or negative—over social and economic developments, yet research on who these elites are, how they make decisions, and what relations they have with each other is still a relatively nascent area of research in the social sciences. The goal of the conference was to foster progress on elite studies by facilitating conversations between scholars studying similar elite groups in different regions and integrating insights from both contemporary and historical case studies.



China's Ideological Marketplace Seed Grant

The study of the origin, structure, and consequences of ideologies holds a central place in modern political science inquiry. In “China’s Marketplace for Ideologies,” we develop a novel methodology and data infrastructure to examine the distribution and dynamics of ideology in China, a country that has been a significant testing ground for a wide range of ideologies over the past two centuries.

Departing from the conventional, survey-based approach, we measure mass and elite ideologies based on revealed preferences in cultural consumption patterns. With the support of an ISERP Seed Grant, we collected data from China’s most influential social networking website specializing on cultural product reviews. We used the data to construct user-to-product and user-to-user networks and applied various network scaling methods to uncover the dominant cleavages and clusters in cultural consumption patterns, especially with respect to books that have heavy ideological content. Through this approach, we obtained individual-level ideal point estimates for consumers and producers of cultural products as well as for the cultural products themselves. These estimates allowed us to further investigate whether/how the ideological preferences of users and content creators, such as writers, intellectuals, and artists, evolve over time and to identify the specific political and market forces that led to those changes.

Our research yields several new and important findings about the ideological space in modern China. First, we find a clear and robust left-right divide. On one end of the spectrum lie readers (and writers) who hold favorable views about communism, revolution, and state-sponsored redistribution (left), while the opposite end is occupied by those who are pro-West, pro-market, and anti-communist (right). Second, contrary to the general impression of state domination, we show that the ideological distribution among users tilts toward the anti-state end, with more individuals holding extremist views on the right than the left. Moreover, analyzing books published over time, we find evidence of a dramatic shift in the ideological overtone: While the overall orientations of domestic publications became progressively liberal since 1978; this trend was reversed in 2008, after which left-leaning, nationalist writings began to emerge in significant numbers. These findings shed light on the trajectories and shifts of mass and elite opinion in the world’s most populous country, and offer a useful benchmark for future comparison of ideological spectra across countries.

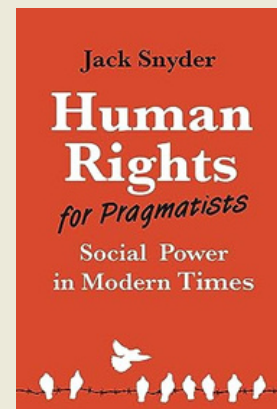
EVENTS

New Books in the Arts & Sciences

The New Books in the Arts and Sciences series is jointly hosted by ISERP, the Society of Fellows/Heyman Center for the Humanities, and the Divisional Deans of Arts and Sciences. The series celebrates newly-published monographs by Columbia Arts and Sciences Faculty with panel discussions, book-selling, and receptions. In 2022-2023, ISERP hosted the following events for newly-published work by Social Science faculty:

Celebrating Recent Work by Jack Snyder

Robert and Renee Belfer Professor of International Relations
Human Rights for Pragmatists: Social Power in Modern Times
November 3, 2022
Panelists: Sarah Daly, James Goldston, Joseph Slaughter,
Andreas Wimmer



Celebrating Recent Work by Nadia Abu El-Haj

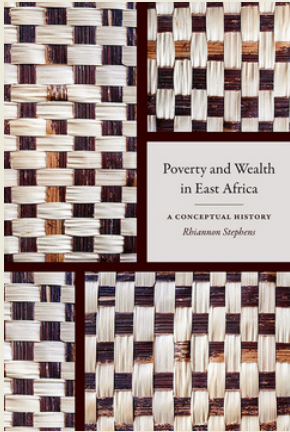
Ann Whitney Olin Professor in the Departments of Anthropology
Combat Trauma: Imaginaries of War and Citizenship in post-9/11 America
November 18, 2022
Panelists: Thomas Dodman, Catherine Fennell, Miriam Ticktin



Celebrating Recent Work by James Stafford

Assistant Professor of History
The Case of Ireland: Commerce, Empire, and the European Order
February 2, 2023
Panelists: Isaac Nakhimovsky, Susan Pedersen, Pablo Piccato,
Nadia Urbinati



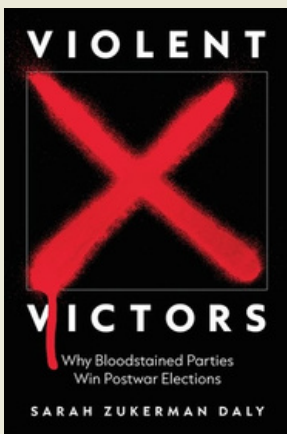


Celebrating Recent Work by Rhiannon Stephens

Associate Professor of History
Poverty and Wealth in East Africa

February 17, 2023

Panelists: Laura Fair, Raevin Jimenez, Pablo Piccato,
Caterina Pizzigoni



Celebrating Recent Work by Sarah Daly

Associate Professor of Political Science
*Violent Victors: Why Bloodstained Parties Win
Postwar Elections*

February 27, 2023

Panelists: Lisa Anderson, Michael Gilligan, Justin
Phillips, Andreas Wimmer



**Celebrating Recent Work by Carl Wennerlind and
Deborah Valenze**

*Scarcity: A History from the Origins of Capitalism to
the Climate Crisis* by Fredrik Albritton Jonsson and

Carl Wennerlind,

Professor of History and Chair, Barnard

*The Invention of Scarcity: Malthus and the Margins
of History* by Deborah Valenze

Ann Whitney Olin Professor of History, Barnard

April 6, 2023

Panelists: Fredrik Albritton Jonsson, Alyssa
Battistoni, James Stafford

Conferences

ISERP releases Calls for Conference Proposals each fall and spring. Faculty in the six social science departments and SIPA are eligible to apply. Learn more about how to secure funding for your proposed conference [here](#):

iserp.columbia.edu/conference

American Law and Economics Association Conference

August 4-5, 2022

Organized by Bentley MacLeod

Inequality and Politics as Dynamic Processes: A Celebration of the Scholarship of Seymour Spilerman

October 14-15, 2022

Organized by Yao Lu, Thomas DiPrete, and Yinon Cohen

Sustainable Development PhD Student Mini-Conference on Public Speaking

October 2022 - February 2023

Organized by Douglas Almond and Anna Papp

Khaki Rule: The History of Military Government in Contemporary Africa

November 11, 2022

Organized by Gregory Mann

Political Elites in Comparative and Historical Perspective

November 11, 2022

Organized by Junyan Jiang, John Marshall, and Daniel M. Smith

The Credibility of Government Policies: Conference in Honor of Guillermo Calvo

February 22-23, 2023

Organized by Martin Uribe, Mauricio Cardenas, Maria Victoria Murillo, and Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé

Interdisciplinary PhD Workshop in Sustainable Development (IPWSD)

March 25, 2023

Organized by Stephan Thies, with faculty member John Mutter

Worlds at Waste: Air, Water, Land, and the Public in Asia and Africa

April 7, 2023

Organized by Manan Ahmed and Kavita Sivaramakrishnan

Caribbean Crucible: Atlantic Migrations and the Making of the Modern World

April 14, 2023

Organized by Rochelle Malcolm, Samuel Niu, and Madison Ogletree, with participation of faculty member Natasha Lightfoot

Democratic Politics and the Problem of Mistrust in Experts

April 20, 2023

Organized by Gil Eyal

Reproduction of Possibility

April 27-29, May 4-6, 2023

Organized by Chloe Samala Faux, with faculty member Rosalind Morris

Women in Sustainable Development Retreat, part of the Second Columbia Conference on Environmental Economics and Policy

May 12-14, 2023

Organized by Douglas Almond and Wolfram Schlenker

Curiosity, Creativity and Complexity

May 23-25, 2023

Organized by Mark Dean and Jacqueline Gottlieb

The History of the Covid-19 Pandemic Archives and Agendas for Future Researchers

June 9, 2023


Organized by Matthew Connelly and Wilmot James

Conference Posters

**Worlds at Waste:
The Crisis of Water in
the Subcontinent**

April 7, 2023
10:30am - 4:30pm
Buell Hall, Columbia University

Sponsored by:
Institute for Social and
Economic Research and
Policy, Center for Science
and Society, Department of
History, and Center for the
Study of Muslim Societies



This conference will reflect on climate-caused displacement in Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh, working through the lens of historical pasts, politics, and embedded presents

Artwork by Laiba Raja

GENERAL SANNI ABACHA
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

THOMAS SANKARA
4 ADUUT 1983 - 15 OCTOBER 1987

GENERAL MOUSSA TARAORI
EX PRESIDENT DU MALI

**KHAKI RULE:
The HISTORY of MILITARY
GOVERNMENT in
contemporary AFRICA**

HEYMAN CENTER
First Floor
East Campus
Residential Center

FRI., NOV. 11, 9:30am-6 pm

COLUMBIA I SERP
Institute for Social and Economic
Research and Policy

SOF
HCB

THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS AND
HEYMAN CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY


History Department

**Writing the History
of COVID-19:
Lessons for the
Next Pandemic**

Conference
June 9, 2023
8:30am-6pm



Register Now!



Lehman Center for American History
406 International Affairs Building, 420 West 118th Street, New York, NY 10027

PANELS

History: How do we place the pandemic in the longer history of emerging infectious diseases and structural trends that are making outbreaks more common?
Speakers: Stephen Morse, Tom Ewing, David Rosner, James Colgrove

Policy: Considering past pandemics, what are we likely to learn, and what questions may remain unanswerable?
Speakers: Wilnot James, Stephen Hilgartner, Donald R. Olson, Jennifer Nuzzo

Prevision: How do we assess efforts to predict and plan for pandemics?
Speakers: Matthew Connelly, Caitlin Rivers, Siddhartha Dalal, Jeffrey Shaman

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY | I SERP

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY | DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Caribbean Crucible
Atlantic Migrations & the Making of the Modern World

April 14, 2023 | 10:00 am - 8:30 pm | Columbia University Law School
Jerome L. Greene Hall Room 106

Panels

African-Caribbeans & British Legal History
Leonie Clarke, SOAS, University of London
Elanor Kraaymer-Taylor, Kings College London
Rochelle Rowe-Wiseman, University of Edinburgh


Cultures in Transit, Africans in Diaspora
Mathilde Debriche, University of Toulouse
Taylor Prescott, University of Pennsylvania
Christopher Brown, Columbia University

Roundtables

Digitizing Diaspora, Mapping Migration
Vincent Brown, Harvard University
Stephanie Chancy, Digital Library of the Caribbean
Abraham Liddell, Columbia University

Stories of Migration: Oral History Methods
Jade Bentil, University of Oxford
Darold Cuba, University of Cambridge
Andrew Vinales, City University of New York

For further details and registration, scan the QR code below.
All attendees must register by April 12, 2023.



Africana Studies

ARTS AND SCIENCES
GRADUATE COUNCIL

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
AAADS
IRAAS

Legal History Workshop

I SERP
INSTITUTE FOR
SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC
RESEARCH
AND POLICY

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

COLUMBIA I SERP
Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race

COLUMBIA GSAS
Office of Academic
Diversity and Inclusion



April 27-29 (hybrid)

May 4-6 (virtual)

2023



details and registration:
www.reproductionofpossibility.net

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HEYMAN CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES
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AFRICAN AMERICAN
STUDIES
IRAAS

INSTITUTE FOR RELIGION,
CULTURE
AND PUBLIC LIFE
IRCPL
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

ISG
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE FOR
THE STUDY
OF SEXUALITY
AND GENDER

TRUST COLLABORATORY LAUNCH EVENT
DEMOCRATIC POLITICS
AND THE PROBLEM OF
MISTRUST IN EXPERTS

APRIL 20, 2023



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
INTERCHURCH CENTER
SOCKMAN LOUNGE

Curiosity, Creativity
and Complexity
Conference

PSYCHOLOGY NEUROSCIENCE
ECONOMICS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

May 23-25, 2023

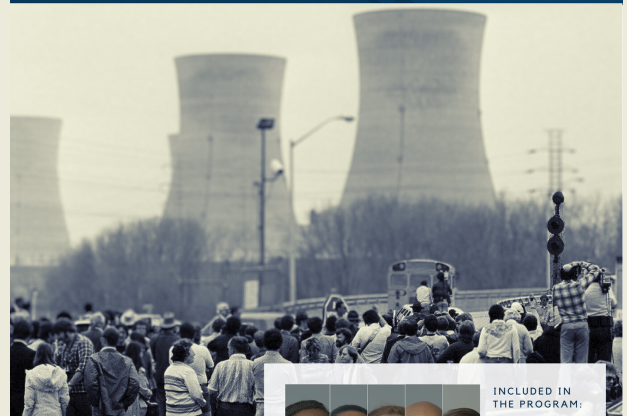
Speakers and
registration:



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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Center for Science and Society

COLUMBIA | Zuckerman Institute
MORTIMER B. ZUCKERMAN MIND BRAIN BEHAVIOR INSTITUTE



PANELS

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM |
DEMOCRACY AND EXPERTISE

11:15 AM - 01:00 PM |
OBJECTIVITY AND TRUST

02:30 PM - 04:00 PM |
PROFESSIONS AND THE MEDIA



INCLUDED IN
THE PROGRAM:

TRUST
WORKERS
A PHOTOVOICE
EXHIBITION

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Institute for Social and Economic
Research and Policy

REGISTRATION
TRUSTCOLLABORATORY.ORG

VENUE
61 CLAREMONT AVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115

TICKETS
FREE & OPEN TO PUBLIC

INITIATIVES

Centers & Workshops

Centers

Applied Statistics Center

Director: Andrew Gelman

**Center for the Study of
Development Strategies**

Director: Macartan Humphreys

**Center for the Study of
Wealth and Inequality**

Director: Seymour Spilerman

**Center on African American Politics
and Society**

Director: Frederick C. Harris

Center on Organizational Innovation

Director: David Stark

**Columbia Experimental Laboratory for
the Social Sciences**

Director: Alessandra Casella

Associate Directors: Mark Dean and
Jacopo Perego

The AI Model Share Project

Director: Michael Parrott

Workshops

**History and Climate Change: Africa,
Indigenous & Latin America, South Asia**

Rhiannon Stephens

**The 'Crime-Criminalization Nexus'
Seminar**

Naor Ben-Yehoyada

**Mapping Enslaved and Free Black
Populations on New York City c. 1800-
1820 workshop**

Mae Ngai

**Digital Mapping and Discourses of
Space and Place**

Mae Ngai

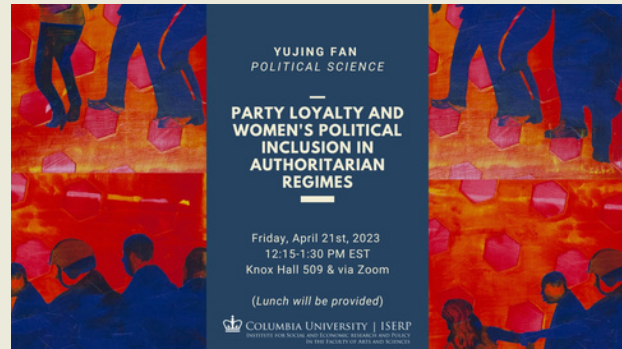
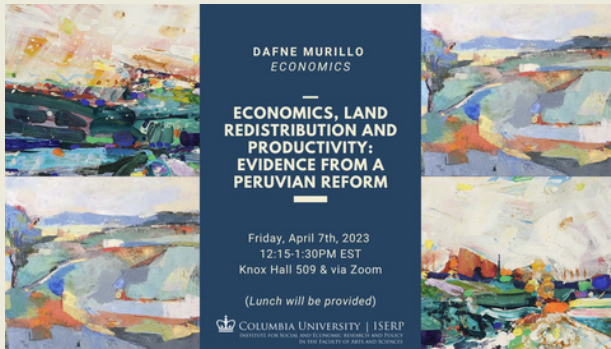
Political Methodology Colloquium

Naoki Egami, Andrew Gelman, Donald
Green

Sociology of Algorithms

Gil Eyal

ISERP Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Seminar (IIGSS)



The ISERP Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Seminar (IIGSS) is a year-long, ISERP-sponsored seminar that seeks to foster a conversation across the social science communities at Columbia to discuss the diverse ways in which interdisciplinarity can be mobilized. The ultimate goal of the seminar series is to explore how interdisciplinary approaches can contribute to and enrich traditional disciplines and what such interdisciplinarity demands from them.

This year, the IIGSS committee decided to choose a different theme for each semester. The themes were selected for their relevance to current affairs and their potential to involve research across disciplines. The theme for Fall 2022 was “Connection”, and for Spring 2023 was “Problem-Solving”.

The ISERP Interdisciplinary Graduate Seminar Series held the following seminars this year:

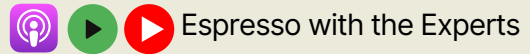
1. October 21: Alexander Borsa (History), How lay sexology centers incorporated the “natural law” (*legge naturale*) as a way to organize legal and medical knowledge on homosexuality and transvestism
2. November 11: Rohan Shah (History), Commodity crises and resource contests during their high point, between 1972-1976, explaining how they produced a subtle but consequential transformation in US foreign economic policy
3. December 2: Lucas Rene Ramos (Sociology), The Financialization of Fertility: Private Equity, Political Economy, and Reproductive Health in the U.S.
4. December 16: Anna Papp (SIPA), Plastics, Pollution, and the Global Trade in Garbage
5. March 10, Jaclyn Davis (Political Science), “Settling Differences: Historical Settlement Patterns and Contemporary Cooperation”
6. March 24, Julian Jürgenmeyer (Sociology), “Trials of Legitimacy – Stress Testing and Bank Supervisors’ Quest for Embedded Autonomy”
7. April 7, Dafne Murillo (Economics), “Land Redistribution and Productivity: Evidence from a Peruvian Reform”
8. April 21, Yujing Fan (Political Science), “Party Loyalty and Women's Political Inclusion in Authoritarian Regimes”

Espresso with the Experts

PODCAST

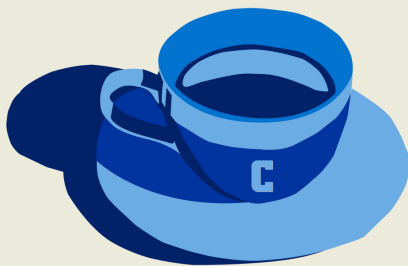
ISERP's Podcast on Social Science Subjects

Find us on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and YouTube



Espresso with the Experts

Instagram handle



This year, ISERP launched a new podcast series titled “Espresso with the Experts,” founded and run by PhD candidates Beatrice Bonini and Leila Travaglini. This podcast series invites you to learn from Columbia’s experts, both inside and outside academia, about the main social, economic, and political challenges we face. To this day, we have released two episodes. More to come in the Fall and Spring!

Big Historical Data : A Conversation with Professor Matthew Connelly



Matthew Connelly, Professor of History and Co-Director of ISERP at Columbia University, just recently published a new book, *The Declassification Engine*. His work traces the nature of secrecy in the United States, demonstrated by the over-classification of documents. In this first episode of our new podcast series, Leila and Bea discuss the research which went into his new book, along with his work with the History Lab, a lab at Columbia which uses data science tools, natural language processing, and machine learning tools in order to analyze historical data.

Elected by Choice or by Chance? A Conversation with Professors Nadia Urbinati and Alessandra Casella



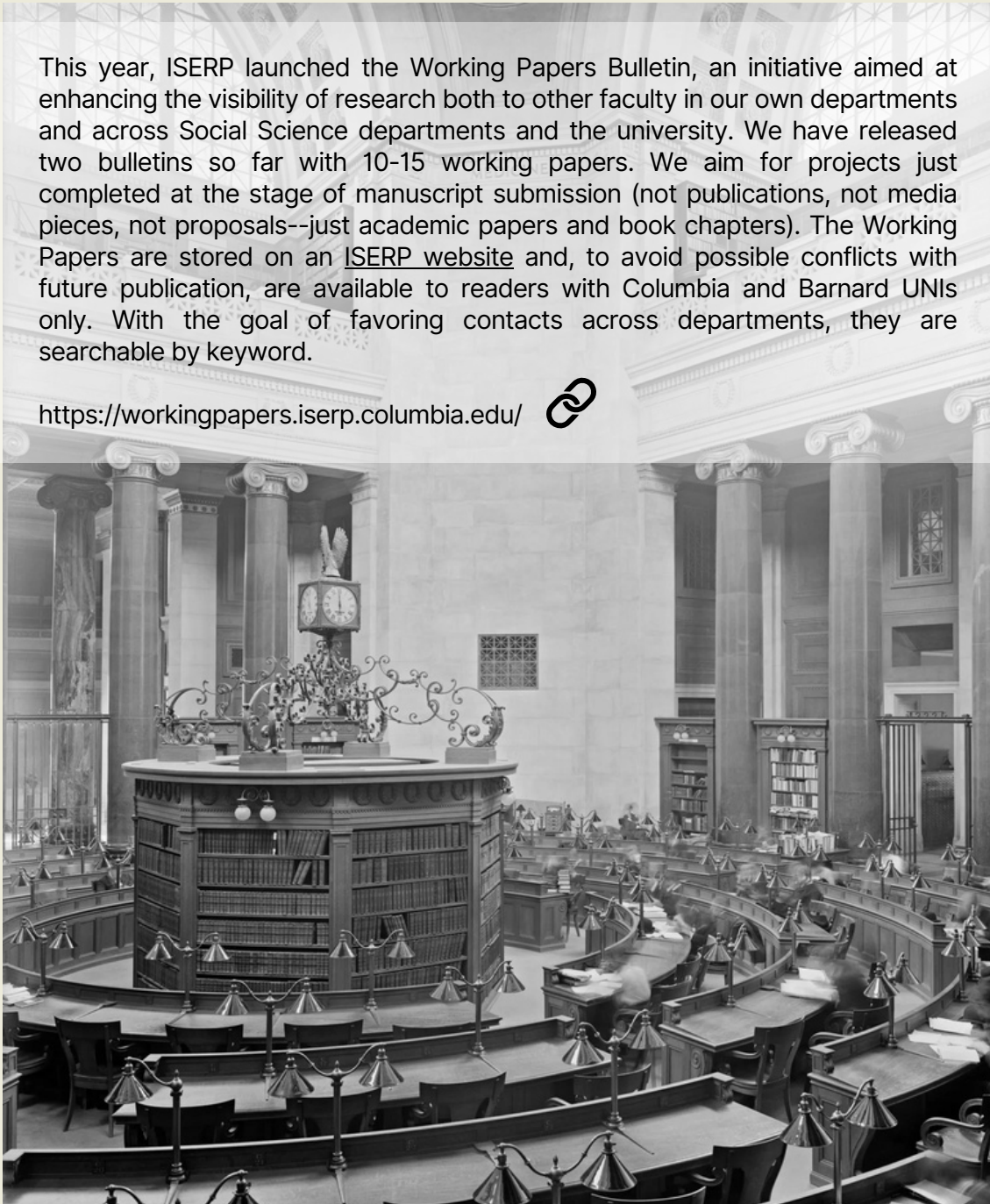
The crisis of party politics is an established fact in today’s democracies. In response to the distrust towards politicians, the use of lotteries to nominate representatives in democratic institutions has been revived. The so-called “lottocrats” claim that these new procedures would improve representativeness and decision making. In this new episode, **Nadia Urbinati**, Professor of Political Theory, and **Alessandra Casella**, Professor of Economics, discuss when such systems can support, ameliorate or hinder the functioning of our democracies.

WORKING PAPERS BULLETIN

ISERP's Bulletin of Social Science Scholarly Papers

This year, ISERP launched the Working Papers Bulletin, an initiative aimed at enhancing the visibility of research both to other faculty in our own departments and across Social Science departments and the university. We have released two bulletins so far with 10-15 working papers. We aim for projects just completed at the stage of manuscript submission (not publications, not media pieces, not proposals--just academic papers and book chapters). The Working Papers are stored on an [ISERP website](https://workingpapers.iserp.columbia.edu/) and, to avoid possible conflicts with future publication, are available to readers with Columbia and Barnard UNIs only. With the goal of favoring contacts across departments, they are searchable by keyword.

<https://workingpapers.iserp.columbia.edu/>



Summer Research Workshops

In the summer 2023, ISERP also supported two research workshops.

Archives as Data: An Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

The Institute was led by Matthew Connelly and Courtney Chartier, Director of the Rare Book & Manuscript Library, with co-teachers Ray Hicks and Ben Lis, who have extensive experience processing and analyzing textual data. It featured presentations from archivists, historians, and data scientists.

This program offered practical training for historians and archivists in processing and analyzing textual data. Participants in the Archiving Digital Records workshop, designed for archivists, learned how to use new technology to improve the description and arrangement of digital or digitized records, especially PDFs, and provide users with new ways to access them. Participants in the Text-as-Data workshop, designed for historians, learned how to organize and analyze large document collections and use new methods to formulate original arguments. All participants came together in seminar-style discussions on the novel challenges posed by doing archival research in the age of “big data”. The second iteration of the workshop is occurring in June 2024.

Writing the History of Covid-19: Lessons for the Next Pandemic, funded by ISERP

While the Covid-19 crisis is still unfolding, it has already revealed much about the history of our time and left lessons that will be important to study before the next pandemic. But even before it began, archivists and scholars were struggling to develop new methods to record and analyze history in an age of abundant but perishable data. Resource constraints and fights over access have only intensified because of pressures on archival budgets and the partisan politics that surround any attempt at retrospective analysis. How do we gain a sense of perspective, and preserve information that might otherwise be lost?

Led by Professors Matthew Connelly, Wilmot James, and Stephen Morse, History Lab assembled a multidisciplinary team to take stock of archival efforts to date, conduct exploratory research, and help identify priorities for long-term preservation. We began with a two-week in-person workshop (June 5-15) in which participants met with historians, journalists, archivists, and public health experts. Throughout the summer, students collaboratively conducted research, carrying out interviews with policy makers and academics, gathering primary and secondary sources, writing research reports, and presenting the research ideas to the wider team. The program began in FY23, and concluded into FY24 on September 1.

Participants of the pandemic research program, "Writing the History of Covid-19: Lessons for the Next Pandemic", **June 2023**



Donald H. Gemson Assistant Professor of Sociomedical Sciences, Merlin Chowkwanyun, presenting his research to participants of the "Archives as Data" workshop for the lunchtime talk, **May 2023**

Participants of the "Archives as Data" workshop during the lunchtime talk listening to Professor Tim Hitchcock, Professor Emeritus of Digital History and co-Director of the Old Bailey Online, **May 2023**



PROGRAMS

Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (QMSS)

For the 2022-2023 academic year, the Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (QMSS) MA program welcomed over 140 students into the program. Their excitement throughout the year was palpable and infectious. The students entered QMSS with incredibly diverse backgrounds and goals. They were from well over a dozen countries, and they were trained in scores of majors, including classic social sciences (e.g., sociology, political science, economics, psychology, history), but also data science, geography, information systems, accounting, philosophy, international relationships, English, communications, finance, music, statistics and many more!

All of the QMSS students threw themselves deeply into their studies, taking full advantage of Columbia classes and activities.

The QMSS students continue to do exemplary work - whether as research assistants, via their theses, on group projects, or in internships - pushing the boundaries of what can be done in an interdisciplinary MA program at the intersection of social science and data science here at Columbia. QMSS faculty continued to inspire students to look for valuable and impactful ways to analyze data, whether via geographic information systems (GIS), Bayesian statistics, social network analysis, machine learning, natural language processing, data visualization, or via numerous other techniques practiced in modern data science. As just one example of the type of work QMSS students had done this year, QMSS was the only MA program to have not one, but two students invited to showcase their theses at the GSAS-Wide Synthesis Showcase. Specifically, Cindy Chen's thesis examined the effect of the New York State bail reform from July 2020 on judges' racial biases in cash bail decisions. Cindy's approach was innovative in its use of this policy change to set up a causal model using hierarchical Bayesian methods and quantify any remaining racial bias after the law's implementation. Melissa Feeney's thesis addressed one of the biggest current challenges in natural language modeling. She built a pipeline to correctly detect sentiments around specific aspects of a product or service in customer reviews, using different transformer-based approaches. She demonstrated that deep learning models can transfer from one domain to another when applied thoughtfully.

QMSS students continued to make meaningful contributions to a number of partner organizations via large-scale practicum projects. Working with both large and small organizations - like Blue Labs, Quantilope, Priceline, the Census Bureau, Memorial-Sloan Kettering, New York Common Pantry, and KPMG - students took on all sorts of challenges, including conducting program evaluation, developing alternative methodologies to measure customer engagement, and developing a way of measuring a community's disaster risk potential. Overall, our Innovation Lab is growing and supporting cutting-edge work, connecting students with alumni mentors, research institutes, and organizations across industries.

In general, QMSS students made sure to get to know each other and learn outside of the classroom too. The QMSS student group QASR, the Society for Quantitative Approaches to Social Research, offered a rich variety of advanced programming for the MA students, including a virtual mini-hackathon, trips and tours around the City, and fun in-person events.

Our QMSS research assistant program continues to provide vital research support to dozens of Columbia faculty, working on over 50 faculty research projects over the last year. Additionally, a number of QMSS students were selected as Data For Good Scholars to work with Columbia faculty via research internships run through the Data Science Institute.

QMSS graduates continued to find themselves in high demand, taking on roles at many of the world's premier institutions, such as Doctors Without Borders, Mercer, Altice USA, Merck, the United Nations, AWS, Rakt, BlackRock, Neuberger Berman, Stanford, Penn, Cambridge, and Columbia itself. They join the hundreds of QMSS alumni who distinguish themselves as data scientists, research directors, senior analysts, and academic researchers in many fields.

As it has done for the last 23 years, QMSS will continue to look for ways to add value to the experiences of the MA students in the program and support advanced quantitative research among the larger Columbia community as well.



Cindy Chen, student thesis presentation



Melissa Feeney, student thesis presentation

Program for Economic Research (PER) Report

In March 2023, the Department of Economics and Program for Economic Research (PER) welcomed Chantel Hover as the new PER Program Coordinator. Having completed her undergraduate studies at Columbia University, Chantel is thrilled to return to Columbia once again in support of PER and the Department of Economics.

June 2023 marked the end of Dr. Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé's one-year term as PER Executive Director. Dr. Schmitt-Grohé plans to go on sabbatical for the upcoming academic year. The Program is grateful for the work, accomplishments, and insight Dr. Schmitt-Grohé has brought to PER and PER programming throughout the last year.

In July 2023, Professor David E. Weinstein graciously accepted the appointment of PER Executive Director for the 2023-2024 year. PER looks forward to the future research, events and programming to be stewarded under the direction of our new Executive Director.

Student Support:

- Data Purchase Grant Recipients:
 - Fall 2022: Palaash Bhargava for his project, "Percolation of Natural Disaster related Credit Shocks through Family Networks"
- Conference Support Recipients:
 - Fall 2022: Martsella Davitaya, presenting "Heterogenous Refinancing of Fixed-Rate Mortgages: Role of Credit Constraints" at the 2022 AREUEA National Conference in Fairmont, Washington D.C.
 - Spring 2023: Haaris Mateen, presenting "Something Biased This Way Comes: The Effect of Media on Local Elections in the U.S." at the 6th Annual Economics of Media Bias Workshop at the ifo Institute in Munich, Germany.
- In support of ongoing graduate research, PER provided summer stipends and/or funding awards to 28 PhD students/candidates, and funding support to summer research appointments for 8 MA students.

Economics Pre-Doctoral Programs:

PER is proud to serve as the main vehicle for administrative support and programming to the pre-doctoral students selected through both our Staff Associate program - specifically centered on providing research staff funding to junior faculty within the Economics Department - and the Bridge to PhD pre-doctoral programs. For the 2022-2023 year, PER welcomed three new Staff Associates to the program: Marco Gutierrez Chavez, working under the faculty mentorship of Professors Michael Best and Noemie Pinardon-Touati; Muhammad Bashir, working under the faculty mentorship of Professors Michael Best and Jack Willis; and Michael Duarte, working under the mentorship of Professor David Weinstein. PER also welcomed two new Bridge Scholars: Chiara Chanoi, working under the faculty mentorship of Professor Brendan O'Flaherty, and Alexander Forlenza, working under the faculty mentorship of Professor Suresh Naidu.

Events

1. October 21, 2022: PER-CFM Lecture on Alternative Data in Cryptocurrency Markets
2. January 19, 2023: Big Ideas Book Series with author Leah Boustan, author of *Streets of Gold: America's Untold Story of Immigrant Success*. Event co-sponsored with Columbia World Projects' Center for Political Economy.
3. February 16, 2023: CFM-PER Alternative Data Initiative: Global Value Chains Under the Shadow of Covid. Panel discussion with Raphael Schoenle, Associate Professor of Economics at Brandeis University and Adam Rej, Director and Head of Macro Research at Capital Fund Management (CFM). Moderated by Jose Scheinkman, Charles and Lynn Zhang, Professors of Economics at Columbia University.
4. March 9, 2023: Big Ideas Book Series with Claudia Goldin, author of *Career and Family: Women's Century-Long Journey Toward Equity*
5. March 27, 2023: A conversation with European Central Bank Executive Board Member Isabel Schnabel. Event co-sponsored with the Columbia Law School and Columbia Business School.
6. March 29, 2023: PER Distinguished Lecture Series: "A Resolution of Arrow's Impossibility Theorem" with Nobel Laureate Eric Maskin
7. May 4, 2023: Big Ideas Book Series with J. Bradford DeLong, author of *Slouching Towards Utopia: An Economic History of the Twentieth Century*. Event co-sponsored with Columbia World Projects' Center for Political Economy
8. May 18, 2023: Big Ideas Book Series with Rana Foroohar, author of *Homecoming: The Path to Prosperity in a Post-Global World* and Simon Johnson, co-author of *Power and Progress: Our Thousand-Year Struggle Over Technology and Prosperity*. Event co-sponsored with Columbia World Projects' Center for Political Economy

Conferences & Workshops:

- September 22-23, 2022: 4th Annual Columbia Conference on Economic Theory (CCET). Event co-sponsored with the Microeconomic Theory Initiative (MTI).
- November 11-12, 2022: 19th Annual Berkeley/Columbia/Duke/MIT/Northwestern IO Theory Conference
- March 31, 2023: Workshop on Cognitive Noise and Economic Decisions. Guest Speakers: Benjamin Enke, Dept of Economics, Harvard University; Cary Frydman, Marshall School of Business, University of Southern California; Michael N. Shadlen, Department of Neuroscience, Columbia University; Gaia Tavoni, Department of Neuroscience, Washington University in St. Louis; Michael Woodford, Department of Economics, Columbia University; Valentin Wyart, Laboratoire Neurosciences Cognitives, Ecole Normale Supérieure, PSL; Angela J. Yu, Centre for Cognitive Science & Hessian AI Center, TU Darmstadt; Sevgi Yuksel, Department of Economics, University of California Santa Barbara.

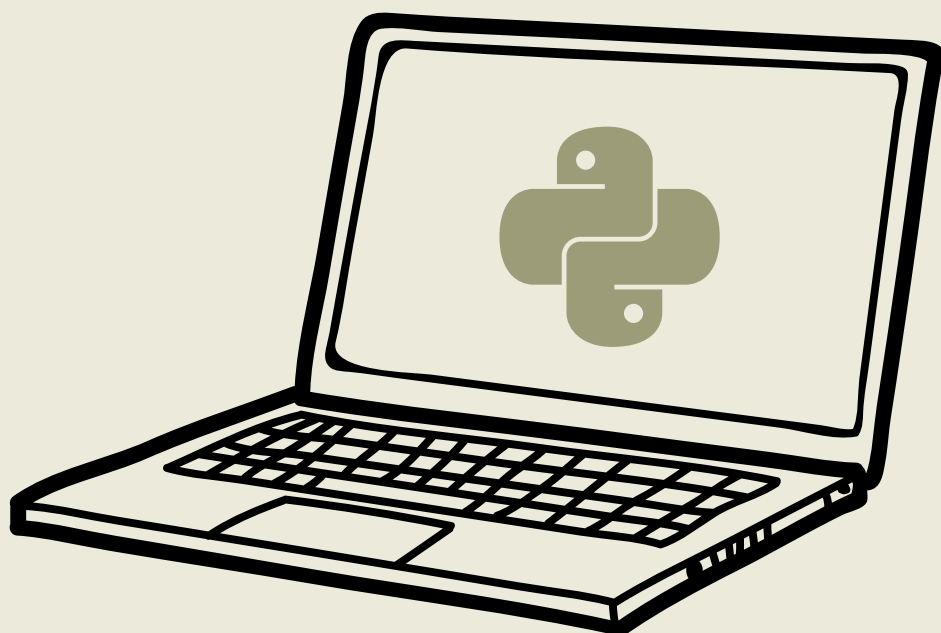
Computational Social Science Workshop

In the Spring semester, we held three different Computational Social Science Training Workshops for interested QMSS students and ISERP affiliates, which were well attended.

The first workshop was titled "Moving Beyond Jupyter" and discussed efficient ways to move beyond Jupyter notebooks to ensure that others can use the Python programs we create. It covered virtual environments and GitHub to ensure that the programs work across different environments as well as unit testing to make sure that the results stay the same as the package changes. Finally, the workshop went over deploying programs to Streamlit.

The second workshop offered an introduction to web scraping, or automatically extracting information from the internet. There were two main areas of focus: crawling over webpages to download a collection of documents and crawling over webpages to extract information and text from the pages.

The final workshop covered topic modeling which is one of the most popular programmatic techniques to identify the subjects in a body of text and cluster semantically related documents. There are many different topic modeling packages available for Python and R. What are the benefits and drawbacks of the different types? How does one know which one to use? This workshop went over some of the main packages for Python and R and compared the techniques and results to allow users some insight into which one would be most appropriate.





ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

Website & Social Media



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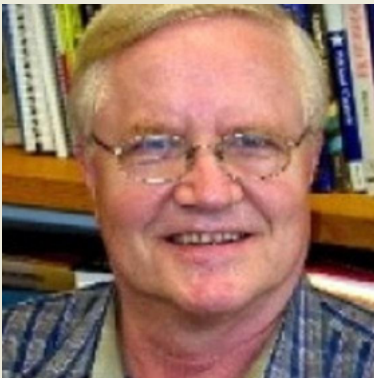
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Alessandra Casella
Professor of Political
Science and Economics;
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Robert Y. Shapiro
Professor of Political
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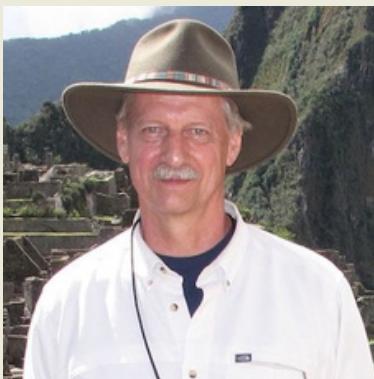
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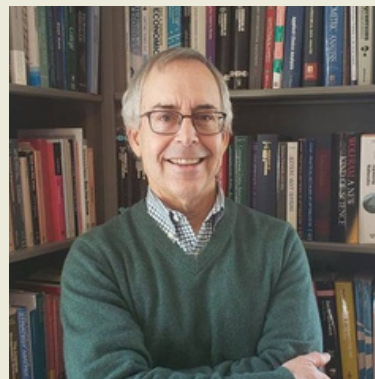
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Nancy and George Rupp
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Professor in African American
and African Diasporic Studies;
Director, Institute for Research
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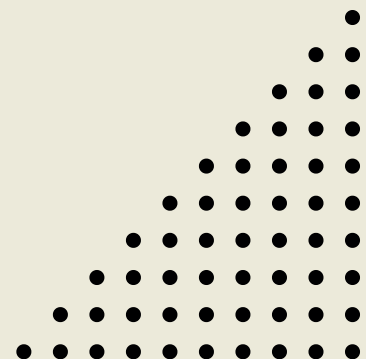
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Jess Benhabib
Professor of
Economics



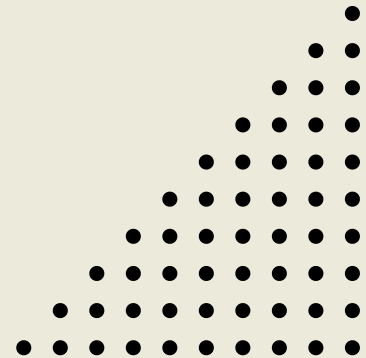
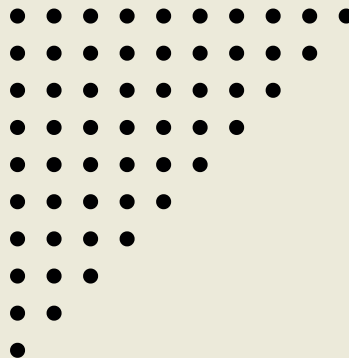
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Lecturer

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Grace Neveu

Assistant Director Pre Award

M.K. Babcock

Assistant Director of Finance

Dralca Mercado

Business Officer

Benjamin Lis

Data Engineer (History Lab)

Jo-Ann Rivera

Director of Administration and Finance

Aileen Espinoza

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Sameer Alsmadi

Full Stack Engineer

Stacy Royster

Grants Manager Post Award

Terine Persad

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Gretchen Streett

Research Staff Assistant (NUSS)

Georgiy Syunyaev

Research Staff Assistant (NUSS)

Harlowe Zefting

Variable Hours Officer

QMSS Staff**Gregory Eirich**

Director

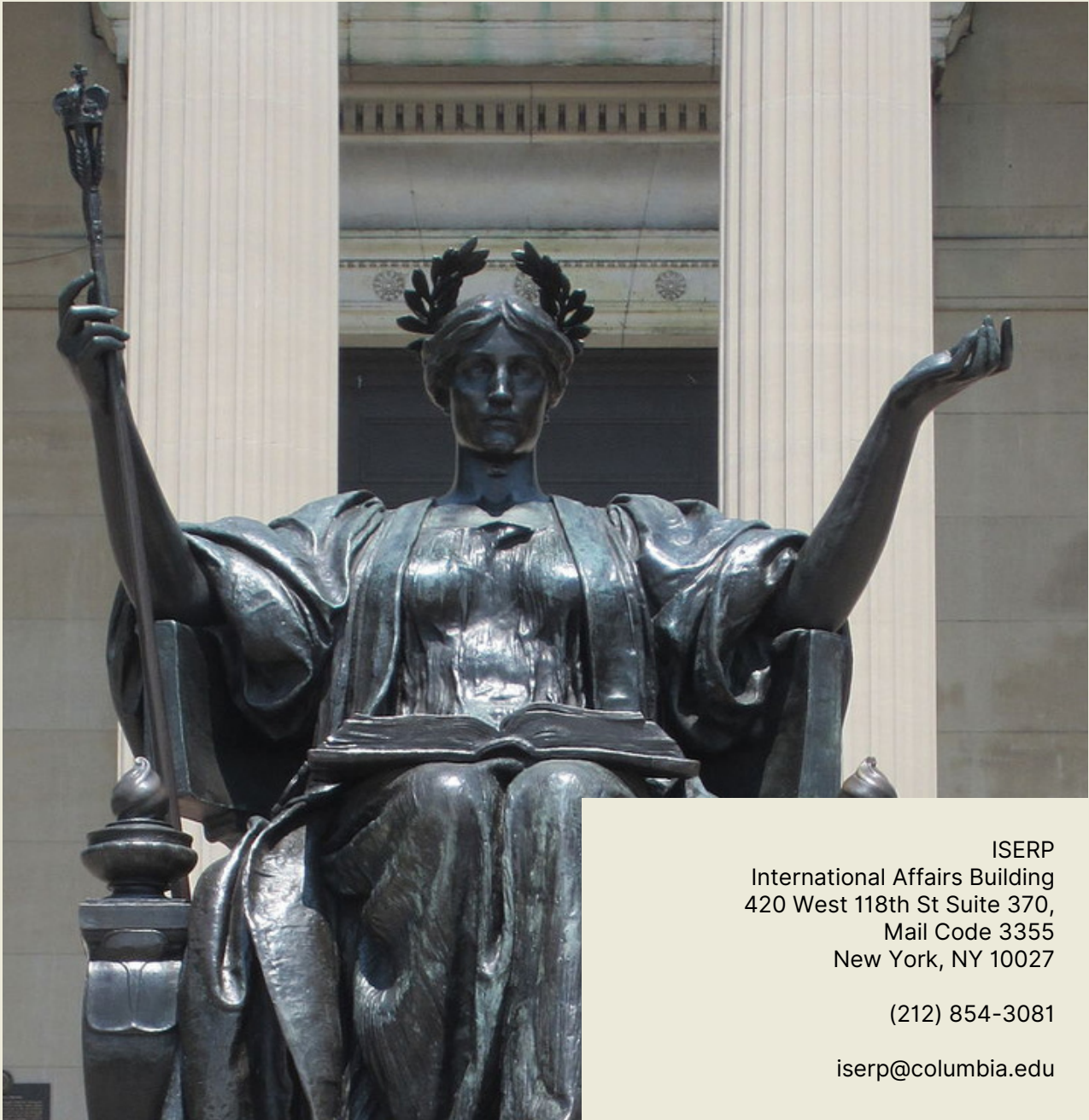
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Assistant Director

Rachel Raven-Chabin

Program Coordinator

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