

The University Seminars Newsletter



Winter 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS from the OFFICE

Dear Colleagues,

As we emerge from the hibernation of intersession, I wish you all a Happy New Year and I hope that we may all continue to share the work of safeguarding a peaceful, civil year, both at Columbia and in our many different outside worlds.

Here, we are focused as always on The Seminars, and on our obligation to maintain continuity with their past while keeping them as open as possible to the future. Consider for instance the Schoff Lectures. This past fall we had the great honor of sharing three evenings with Edward Mendelson, who took us through a single book, *Mrs. Dalloway* by Virginia Woolf, in three successive weeks through three different aspects of the novel. "Medicine, Empire, Love: *The Inner Life of Mrs. Dalloway*" will appear as the 2017 Schoff Lectures, to be published by Columbia University Press. The 2018 Schoff Lectures will be by our distinguished Music Department colleague Fred Lerdaahl.

And what of the fall of 2019?

For those Schoff Lectures we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of The Seminars by Frank Tannenbaum, in the closing years of World War II. We are looking to produce a volume that will include a history of The Seminars based on our searchable digital archive of minutes from seminars and of correspondence from my four predecessors as Director. This history will be complemented by histories of separate seminars, written by chairs and members of those seminars.

Thinking that perhaps this would be a lot of work for a lot of you, I did my own essay of a sort, and began to study the origins of the Seminar on Content and Methods in the Social Sciences, now chaired by Tony Carnes. I picked that seminar because I enjoy attending it when I can, and learned it was founded by Joseph Maier, a German refugee with a Columbia PhD in sociology, who had an illustrious career as an author after a stint as the key translator for interrogators working at the Nuremberg Trials of 1946-47. His oral history, complemented by the minutes of his seminar, convinced me that there are treasures to be unearthed, and that everyone who cares for their seminar should pitch in. If we are all focused on the task, I am confident we can get this book to Columbia University Press in time to have it appear in 2020, our 75th anniversary year. I hope every Seminar will discuss this opportunity at an early meeting in the Spring, and that you will not hesitate to reach out to all of us in the office if you have any questions or suggestions about how best to accomplish the assembly of this unique volume.



Robert Pollack
Director, The University Seminars

PLEASE NOTE: Formal invitations and flyers for the Annual Dinner will go out in March, and will include full details for the event. In the meantime *please mark you calendars...*

The University
Seminars

Please save the date...

Seventy-fourth
Annual Dinner Meeting

April 11, 2018

Reception at 6, Dinner at 7

NEW ADDITIONS to the UNIVERSITY SEMINARS DIGITAL ARCHIVE

The University Seminars Office is pleased to announce that minutes, announcements, and related materials from years 2001-2012 have been incorporated into The University Seminars Digital Archive. Available to scholars at the Rare Book & Manuscript Library Reading Room, this collection contains 40,625 items from 194 seminars ranging in date from 1944-2012.

New content will continue to be added on a yearly basis, as per the five year privacy policy.

To submit a request to access archival materials, please use [The University Seminars online finding aid](#). You will be directed to set up a Special Collections Research Account. From here you may request a laptop or specific boxes from the collection. [Read more...](#)

CALLING ALL CHAIRS!

You are cordially invited to lunch at Faculty House with the Director and Deputy Director (Bob & Alice) this semester. Please send Alice a few possible dates. We'll organize small groups and talk about the seminars and more.

To schedule a lunch, email Alice: an2113@columbia.edu

CONFERENCES and EVENTS

THE UNIVERSITY SEMINARS CALENDAR spring 2018

Monday	January 1*+	New Year's Day
Tuesday	January 2*+	New Year's Day Observed
Monday	January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr., Day
Tuesday	January 16	Spring Term Begins
Wednesday	January 17	The Faculty House reopens for lunch
Thursday	March 1	Purim (begins sunset on February 28th)
Monday–Friday	Mar 12-16+	Spring Holidays / RECESS
Friday	March 30	Good Friday
Saturday–Saturday	March 31- April 7	Passover (begins sunset on 30th)
Sunday	April 1	Easter Sunday
Wednesday	April 11	USEMS Annual Dinner / Tannenbaum Lecture
Monday	April 30	Spring Term Ends – Faculty house dining room closes
Wednesday	May 16	Commencement
Friday	May 25	The Faculty House closes for regular seminar meetings
Monday	May 28*+	Memorial Day

The University Seminars office will be closed on Fridays from June 1, 2018 through August 31, 2018.

* Dates shown with asterisk indicate days when offices on Morningside Campus are closed.

+ Dates shown with cross indicate days when the Faculty House is closed for seminars and events.

SPRING SEMESTER BAR DATES

January 18*, 24*

February 1, 7, 9, 15*, 20, 26

2/23: Faculty House Community Hour

March 6, 7, 8*, 9, 21*, 22

3/29: Faculty House Community Hour

April 4, 5*, 6*, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19

4/20: Faculty House Community Hour

May 2, 3, 4

5/11: Faculty House Community Hour

*** open until 10 pm**

Faculty House Community Hour

During *Community Hour*, the bar is available to CU faculty, staff, and students in the Ivy Lounge. Entry is a flat \$10 for unlimited wine and beer. We encourage our seminars to take advantage of these special nights.

MID-DAY MUSIC AT COLUMBIA

Mid-Day Music @ Columbia offers live music to a general audience, following the rendition established by Aaron Warner and Isidor Isaac Rabi, great lovers of music whose memory lives on at Faculty House. Come join us in the Garden Room at Faculty House, where Students and Music Associates from Columbia University's Music Performance Program will be showcased in an afternoon recital series. *All events are on Wednesdays at 1pm at Faculty House.*

[View full schedule](#)

EPIC YOGA

Mixed-level class for EPIC members, geared for beginners to intermediate yogis. Breathing techniques, basic yoga poses concentrating on alignment, balance and flexibility. Wear clothing that is comfortable for moving, either loose or stretchy. Bring a small towel and a yoga mat if you have one. If not, a mat will be provided. First class is free, then sign up for the next three at \$10 per class. *All classes are held at Faculty House.*

[View full schedule](#)

459A | The City

Germany Past and Present: A Conference in Honor of Volker Berghahn

February 9, 2-6:30 pm

Faculty House

Germany Past and Present will be held on the occasion of Volker Berghahn's 80th birthday. This half-day conference will feature Berghahn's former students, now prominent university professors, discussing their scholarly work. They will chart their academic and intellectual journeys, partly influenced by Berghahn, as well as how their work has impacted the breadth of German history. When Professor Berghahn began his scholarship and teaching a half century ago, the field was still dominated by political and military history. Since then, German historical writing has proliferated and now includes fields covering areas such as social, intellectual, cultural, gender, minorities, and memory and emotions. This conference will explore the varieties of perspectives, methods, and approaches that constitute this expanded German history. We are fortunate to have distinguished Yale Professor Paul Kennedy to give the keynote on German history and his lifetime friendship with Volker.

531 | Culture, Power, Boundaries

The Culture, Power, Boundaries seminar will offer three notable contributions to the anthropological discussion in multiple fields during the Spring of 2018 :

February 5, Orin Starn (Duke) with *The Last Revolution: Rethinking Peru's Shining Path*

March 5, Genese Sodikoff (Rutgers, Newark) with *Multispecies Infrastructures of Zoonosis*

April 9, Sonia Das (New York University) with *'Les maudits T-A-*-*-*L-S!': Racial Slurs, Comedy, and the Pragmatics of Hate/Free Speech in Diverse Francophone Publics*

751 | Religion and Writing

Of Prophets and Saints: Literary Traditions and "convivencia" in Medieval and Early Modern Iberia

February 22-23

Madrid, Spain

The Seminar on Religion and Writing is sponsoring **Of Prophets and Saints: Literary Traditions and 'convivencia' in Medieval and Early Modern Iberia**, which will take place in Madrid (Spain) on February 22 and 23, 2018. For more information about the interna-



Image: Jonah rudders towards the whale (earthenware, diameter 41 cm, Talavera de la Reina, Toledo, ca.1600 New York City, The Hispanic Society of America, LE2407)

tional and interdisciplinary workshop on comparative hagiography, which is co-organized by seminar member Dagmar Riedel (CSIC-Columbia University.)

[Visit the workshop website...](#)

667 | The History of Columbia University

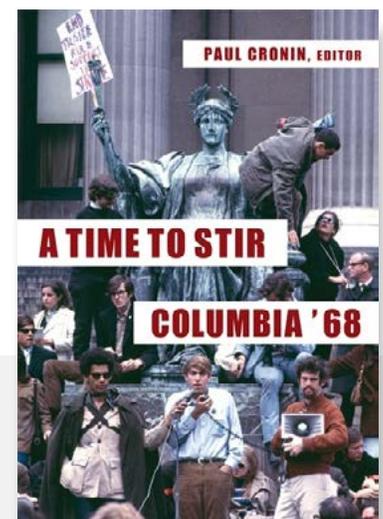
Book Launch with panel discussion and reception for *A Time to Stir: Columbia '68*

March 7, 6-9pm

Faculty House

Book Launch for *A Time to Stir: Columbia '68*

Celebrate the publication of a new collection of essays written by Columbia '68ers (and edited by Paul Cronin) There will be a short film presentation followed by a conversation with participants of the Columbia University protests. Featured speakers include Ray Brown, Karla Spurlock-Evans, and Mark Rudd. Moderated by Paul Cronin.



AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS and SPECIAL SESSIONS

The 2014 Leonard Hastings Schoff Memorial Lectures: *Cinematic Overtures: How to Read Opening Scenes* is now available through Columbia University Press.

"In *Cinematic Overtures*, Annette Insdorf discusses the opening sequence so that viewers turn first impressions into deeper understanding of cinematic technique."

[Read more...](#)

405 | Studies in Religion

Tony Carnes' *Asian American Religions* was published on July 2017 in the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religions. The article is an overview of Asian American religions, which have dramatically increased their presence in the United States. Partly, this is a function of the increasing population of Asian Americans since 1965. The discussion covers the origins and history of Asian American religions as well as their beliefs, doctrines, worship, and rituals.

The publication of the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religions is available via online and in paper book format.

445 | Modern East Asia: Japan

Yukiko Koga, Chair of the Seminar on Modern East Asia: Japan, is happy to report that her recently-published book, *Inheritance of Loss: China, Japan, and the Political Economy of Redemption after Empire* (University of Chicago Press, 2016), won two book awards from the American Anthropological Association. One is the Anthony Leeds Book Prize from the Society for Urban, National, and Transnational/Global Anthropology and the other is Francis L. K. Hsu Book Prize from the Society for East Asian Anthropology.

[Read more...](#)

511 | Innovation in Education

Prof. Uwe P. Gielen of St. Francis College, a member of the Seminar on Innovation in Education is a co-ed-

itor of *Internationalizing the Teaching of Psychology*, just published by IAP Publishers. The book has been endorsed by Philip Zimbardo, past-president of the American Psychological Association: "I see this bold new volume as a great leap forward for international psychology....For psychology to continue to be relevant in the 21st century, it must become more international. This book will help us accomplish this challenging but rewarding goal."

[Read more...](#)

The co-chair of the Seminar on Innovation in Education, Elizabeth Cohn, has been appointed to the Rudin Distinguished Chair in Community Health at the City University of New York.

555 | Twentieth Century Politics and Society

The chair of Seminar 555, **Chris Dietrich**, published his first book, *Oil Revolution*, with Cambridge University Press in June 2017. Former rapporteur, Stephen Wertheim, has been hired as a Lecturer at Birkbeck, University of London.

[Read more...](#)

557 | Brazil

Ana Paulina Lee's book, *Mandarin Brazil: Race, Representation, and Memory* (Stanford University Press, 2018) is due out shortly.

Scott Barton published *Race, Faith and Cake: Foodways at a Festa de Divino Espírito Santo*, Culture and Religion journal, Issue #4, September 2017

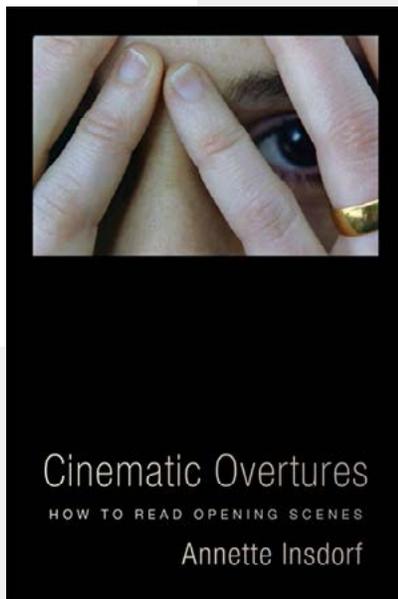
[Read more...](#)

At What Price Passion, Food and Foodways publication, November 2017

[Read more...](#)

An essay on the photography of Adenor Gondim and the Irmandade da Boa Morte, Cachoeira, Bahia for the catalogue, *Axé Bahia*, that accompanies the exhibition at UCLA's Fowler Museum as part of the L.A.L.A. shows.

Ethel V. Kosminski, with **Anne Urnterwurzacher, Anne & Katharina Auer-Voigtländer** published *Viena e 'a crise de refugiados na Europa': um mosaico*



etnográfico. *Travessia: Revista do Migrante*. Ano XXX, no. 80, Janeiro - Junho, 2017. Pp. 11-40.

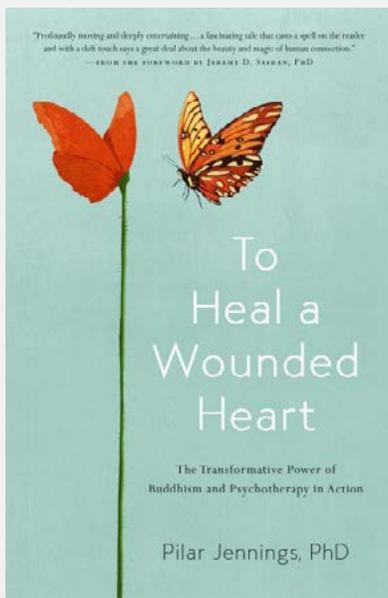
Co-chair **Sid Greenfield** helped organize, chaired and presented in the session: **Anthropologists' Retirement Accounts, Land-Grabbing, and Deforestation: Local and Global Impacts of TIAA's Agricultural Investments**, at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, December 1, 2017.

[Read more...](#)

613 | Full Employment, Social Welfare, and Equity
Trudy Goldberg, Co-chair, published the article: "The Living New Deal" in *Dollars & Sense*:

In the depths of the Great Depression, the New Deal mounted job creation programs that put millions of unemployed Americans back to work. The projects they worked on changed the face of the nation, greatly enhancing our physical, environmental, human service, and cultural resources. The publication of the Map and Guide to New Deal New York City—demonstrating the tremendous impact of these work programs on the City—was an opportunity, not only to show what enlightened government programs had once accomplished, but to promote an updated model of New Deal job creation. [Read more...](#)

689 | Memory and Slavery



Pilar Jennings, Co-chair of the seminar on Memory and Slavery published her new book *To Heal a Wounded Heart: The Transformative Power of Buddhism and Psychotherapy in Action*. [Read more...](#)

739 | Columbia School Linguistics

Joseph Davis, Associate Member of the Seminar on Columbia School Linguistics and Associate Pro-

essor at The City College of New York, announces the 2017 publication of *The Substance and Value of Italian Si* (John Benjamins). The author express-

es appreciation to the Schoff Fund at the University Seminars. The book, like the seminar, advances the line of research begun by the late Professor William Diver of the Columbia Linguistics Department. [Read more...](#)

757 | Global Mental Health

The Global Mental Health Program hosts a series of mental health themed university seminars, inviting speakers from all over the globe to present on a breadth of topics. [Read more...](#)

Global Mental Health is also sponsoring the following events:

February 9

Love is EleMENTAL: In the Body of the World performance with Eve Ensler
Manhattan Theater Club, NY.

The Tony Award-winning author, performer and activist Eve Ensler, whose *The Vagina Monologues* is an international sensation, comes to MTC with a powerful new play based on her critically acclaimed memoir. [Read more...](#)

March 6

Sell, Buy, Date

Performed by Innovation in the Arts: Sarah Jones
Geffen Playhouse Theater, Los Angeles.

Sarah Jones is a one-woman global village, and she's receiving the 2017 Global Mental Health Award for Innovation in the Arts in honor of her unabashed exploration of people's struggles, and her crusade to preserve the full humanity of voices seldom heard in the theater. Sarah is a Tony and Obie Award-winning playwright and performer best known to theater audiences for her multi-character, one-person shows *Bridge & Tunnel* and *Sell/Buy/Date*. [Read more...](#)

771 | Indigenous Studies

Following an International Expert Seminar on *Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Unreported Struggles: Conflict and Peace* in 2016, co-sponsored by the University Seminar on Indigenous Studies, the Institute for the Study of Human Rights published an edited volume on the same topic (November 2017), also co-sponsored by University Seminars. [Read more...](#)

Got News?

We'd love to hear from you

Deadline for the Spring 2018 issue:

April 2, 2018

Please visit our website for complete [submissions guidelines](#).

[Make a Donation](#)

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