

# ISD & Faculty & Student News

**Regina Bradley** accepted a tenure-track position at Armstrong Atlantic. She will be a Fellow at Harvard for the spring 2016 semester.

**May Gao** has two new publications, an article called the "The Six-Tier Communication Gap for Multinational Corporations After Mergers and Acquisitions: Lessons Learned from the Case of Duracell and Nanfu" in *Global Business Languages*, published by Purdue University. The other is a co-authored (with an INCM doctoral student) book chapter, "Cultural Engagement and the Effectiveness of Overseas NPOs: Peace Corps Volunteers in Gambia" published in *Case Studies of Nonprofit Organizations and Volunteers*, by Peter Lang Publishing.

**Mazida Khan** is a speaker in the TEDx series. Her talk, "How Allah and America Made Me a Peacebuilder" can be found at Ted.com or on YouTube.

**Robbie Lieberman** presented "The Strange History of Kumbaya: Challenging Cultural Defusion of Songs for Peace and Justice" at a conference on Songs of Social Protest held at the University of Limerick in Ireland, April 29-May 1. Her co-edited book (with Paula Rabinowitz and Howard Brick), *Lineages of the Literary Left: Essays in Honor of Alan M. Wald*, just came out from Maize Books, an imprint of Michigan Publishing. (She has an essay in this collection called "The Missing Peace: Charlotta Bass and the Vision of the Black Left in the Early Cold War Years.")

**Sarasij Majumder** was awarded a Manuscript Completion Award for Fall 2015.

**Tom Pynn** recently completed the Basic, Advanced and Facilitator Trainings for the Alternatives to Violence Project and will become an apprentice facilitator.

Peace Studies Faculty **Maia Hallward**, **Mazida Khan**, and **Tom Pynn** recently presented their panel entitled "Can Nonviolence Transform our Ideas and Practices of Livelihood, Sustainability and Conflict?" at the 5th annual Center for Conflict Management Conference: Livelihood, Sustainability and Conflict on April 17-18.

**Ruth Yow** will be a Brittain Fellow at Georgia Tech beginning in Fall 2015.

**Jade Hill** accepted a new position at Georgia Tech.

## Congrats to our MAST Spring 2015 Graduates:

Christine Debord

Nilufer Gokmen  
(Pictured here)

Nykia Hannah

Yen Rodriguez

Emmie Trull



**Jennifer Dickey** and **Catherine Lewis** celebrating their book *Museums in a Global Context: National Identity, International Understanding* at the recent American Alliance of Museums Conference in Atlanta.



Student Assistant Marie Ahebee graduates with a degree in International Affairs

MA in American Studies student **Lynne Tipton** assisted local author Melissa Beck with research for her newly published book, *Blue Ridge Scenic Railway*.

Two students currently enrolled in PAX 3780: Theories of Peace recently completed trainings in the Alternatives to Violence Project (avp.org).

\***Melanie Cardenas** completed her Basic training

\***Serena Huskey** completed the Advanced Training and is now eligible for facilitator training.

ISD ...where ideas and identities connect



[www.kennesaw.edu/isd](http://www.kennesaw.edu/isd)

Interdisciplinary Studies Department <http://kennesaw.edu/isd>

Summer 2015

## ISD Chair's Message

This has been a very exciting year as you can see from the contents of this newsletter. The year ended with an inspiring visit from Michael Kimmel, Sociologist from Stonybrook, who spoke on why gender equality is good for everyone, a talk by Dr. Delia Aguilar on "Intersectionality: Re-viewing its Origins," and Dr. E. San Juan's presentation on Filipino writer Carlos Bulosan. In addition to the conferences and awards pictured in this newsletter, many other changes and plans are worth mentioning. Come August we will welcome another new faculty member, Ariel Eisenberg, who is jointly appointed in ISD and History. An interview with Ari about her work on homelessness in New York City in the 1980s is available at <http://www.processhistory.org/?p=324>

Speaking of personnel changes, ISD will welcome back Roxanne Donovan as Assistant Chair. We know her recent experience in the dean's office will add to the many wonderful qualities she brings to the department. This is also a good opportunity to say thanks once again to outgoing program coordinators Jesse Benjamin (African & African Diaspora Studies) and Ernesto Silva (Latin American/ Latino/a Studies) for their service. Griselda Thomas will be the new coordinator for AADS and Alan LeBaron will serve as interim coordinator of LALS. We are in the process of hiring a new administrative associate and new student workers, so there will be a lot of new faces in the office next year.

ISD will be the home for a new undergraduate Peace Corps preparation program that begins at Kennesaw State University next year. This should bring a lot of new adventurous students through our doors. Tom Pynn, who will continue one more year as coordinator of both Peace Studies and Religious Studies, will serve as the advisor for the program. Thanks to Sherrill Hayes, Director of the Master of Science in Conflict Management Program, for bringing this to our attention, writing much of the proposal, and shepherding it through to a successful conclusion.

The department approved ideas for two new certificates. The one on Doing Business in Asia has been developed and is working its way through the approval process. The other, a graduate certificate in Gender and Women's Studies, is in the planning stages. The department's certificate in Diversity and Community Engagement will be rolled out in Fall 2016.

Laura Davis coordinated department awards, which went to the following people:

- ◆ Regina Bradley received the Part-Time Faculty Award
- ◆ Ruth Yow was a finalist for the Part-Time Faculty Award
- ◆ Ernesto Silva received the Outstanding Diversity Advocate Award
- ◆ Alan LeBaron received the Outstanding Engagement Award
- ◆ May Gao received the Outstanding Service Award
- ◆ Griselda Thomas received the Outstanding Teaching Award

Please come find out more about ISD by visiting us in our suite SO 2005 or at our website: [www.kennesaw.edu/isd](http://www.kennesaw.edu/isd)

*Robbie Lieberman*

## ISD Welcomes Roxanne Donovan, Assistant Chair



I am excited to be returning to ISD. I find great meaning in my work with faculty and students here and look forward to serving both in my new role as the Assistant Chair. For those who do not know me, I am Associate Professor of Psychology and ISD at KSU. My scholarship and teaching are interdisciplinary with a focus on psychology, Black studies, and gender studies. I am also a licensed psychologist in Georgia and provide coaching and consultation on healthy ways to reduce stress and integrate oftentimes competing work-life priorities. If we haven't met yet, please stop by and say hi.

*Roxanne Donovan*

### Important Dates

9/3 - GWST Film: *The Mask You Live In*  
9/11 - ISD Fall Retreat @ CETL House  
11/2-11/5- GWST Focus Week  
10/28-30 - International Summit for Civil & Human Rights, KSU  
11/6 - Sports & Ethics Conference, KSU



## Highlights of the Spring Semester 2015

### 7th AADS Student Conference



Immanuel Berry was named the "Most Active AADS Student on Campus" at the 7th Annual AADS Student Engagement Conference. The award was presented by Dr. Seneca Vaught.



MA in American Studies Program students presented a round-table titled "Representations of Black Women in Contemporary Media." Panel organizer: Kristen Walker. Participants: Tanya Brinkley, Camille Kleidysz, Ashley McFarland, and Anna Tussey.

### 2014-2015 Presidential Diversity Awards

MAST Student Jessica Duvall received the Teresa M. Joyce Award for Excellence in GLBTIQ Initiatives



### CHSS Annual Awards Ceremony

Chss Part-Time Faculty Distinguished Teaching: Regina Bradley, ISD



CHSS Outstanding Diversity Advocate: Jesse Benjamin, ISD/SCJ



Ernesto Silva received the R.O.H. Social Justice Award in the Racial and Ethnic Dialogue category.



Jalessah Jackson, Outstanding Senior African and African Diaspora Studies Faculty Honoree: Dr. Griselda Thomas



Nykia Hannah, Outstanding Graduate Student Master of Arts in American Studies Faculty Honoree: Dr. Kenneth Maffitt

### Southern American Studies Assn. Atlanta, Georgia



Frances Smith Foster, Robbie Lieberman and Robin Kelley at the Colloquy on Kelley's 1990 book, Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists during the Great Depression. MAST Director, Rebecca Hill chaired the program and on-site committees for the conference, which was sponsored by ISD and the American Studies Program in February.



Dean Schwaig, Dean Dorff, Julia Nesheiwat, Dept. Asst. Secretary at the U.S. Dept of State, May Gao, the Honorable Seong-jin Kim, Counsel General of Korea, and Provost Harmon at the Symposium on Asia-US Partnership Opportunities (SAUPO 2015) Conference.