UCI School of Humanities
Internal newsletter
Ideas that matter

You're invited to attend:

2019 SOH Fall Reception

September 23rd

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

HG 1030

Meet new faculty and staff!

New Faculty:

Six new faculty have joined the UCI School of Humanities with research interests including social epistemology, classical literature, Jainism and animal ethics, early modern English literature, Japanese environmental humanities and intersections between Asian American and Chicano/Latino histories.

Please join us in welcoming:

Anna Boncompagni, assistant professor, Department of Philosophy

Dr. Anna Boncompagni's research focuses on social epistemology, with an emphasis on the nature of prejudice, which she investigates through the lenses of the later Wittgenstein's thought. She has been working extensively also on American pragmatism, particularly on Charles S. Peirce, William James, and Frank P. Ramsey.

She has published the monographs *Wittgenstein and Pragmatism* (2016) and *Wittgenstein. Lo sguardo e il limite* (2012), besides articles in scientific journals and book chapters for Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Routledge, and other publishers.

Boncompagni was a UCI Chancellor's ADVANCE Postdoctoral Fellow with the Department of Philosophy in 2018-2019. She earned a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Rome III, Italy, after a five-year degree in communication sciences (University of Siena) and an M.A. in theoretical philosophy (University of Florence).

Fun fact: In her spare time, Anna enjoys travelling, hiking, and reading science fiction.

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Brianne Donaldson, Shri Parshvanath Presidential Chair in Jain Studies, Department of Philosophy and Program in Religious Studies

Dr. Brianne Donaldson joins us from Rice University, where she was the fellow in Jain Studies, offering courses in Asian philosophies and religions, bioethics, and accounts of consciousness across cultural and species boundaries. While there, she was also a faculty leader for the first-year medical ethics course at Baylor College of Medicine.

Donaldson is currently completing a co-authored book entitled *Insistent Life: Principles for Bioethics in Jainism* (2020), as well as another book examining global animal agriculture, entitled *Meat*, in the Resources series of Polity Press (2020). She is the author of *Creaturely Cosmologies: Why Metaphysics Matters for Animal and Planetary Liberation* (2015), and editor of three collections: *Beyond the Bifurcation of Nature: A Common World for Animals and the Environment* (2014); *The Future of Meat Without Animals* (with Christopher Carter, 2016); and *Feeling Animal Death: Being Host to Ghosts* (with Ashley King, 2019).

Donaldson earned her Ph.D. from the Claremont School of Theology and B.A. from Goshen College.

Fun Fact: Brianne developed a connection to forest life growing up in rural Michigan. She loves to walk in the woods with her beagle pals, play guitar, dance (swing, contra dancing, and Texas two-step), commuter cycle, and prepare plant-based foods.

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Kyle Grady, assistant professor, Department of English

Dr. Kyle Grady's primary areas of focus are early modern English literature and culture, African American literature and culture, and critical race theory. His current book project explores representations of black ascendency, racial mixing, and interracial cooperation in Elizabethan and Jacobean drama. His work has appeared in *Early Modern Culture*, *Pedagogy*, *Shakespeare Studies*, and *Shakespeare Quarterly*.

Grady earned his Ph.D. in English language and literature from the University of Michigan and his B.A. in English from Rutgers University. Prior to joining UCI, he was a Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of English at UCLA.

Fun Fact: As an undergraduate, Kyle competed on the Rutgers University Track and Field team.

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Aleah Hernandez, teaching professor, Department of Classics

Dr. Aleah Hernandez's research focuses on issues of violence and gender in classical literature. More specifically, she is examining how acts of violence affect the portrayal of women not only as victims of violence but as perpetrators of such acts as well. Before joining UCI, Hernandez was actively engaged in various educational pursuits, working for a nonprofit in Santa Ana, lecturing at UCI and California State University, Long Beach, and teaching in her local school district. She is currently developing several projects which highlight the intersection of classics and popular culture.

Hernandez earned her Ph.D., M.A. and B.A. in classics from UCI.

Fun fact: Aleah is a fan of the comic book writer, Brian K. Vaughan.

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Jon Pitt, assistant professor, Department of East Asian Studies

Dr. Jon Pitt situates his research within the emerging field of the environmental humanities. His work explores the intersections of Japanese literature, visual/sound media, ecology, and environmental philosophy. His current book project focuses on the entanglements of plant life and botanical science with human subjectivity in modern Japanese literature and film.

Pitt earned his Ph.D. in Japanese literature from the University of California at Berkeley, an M.A. in Eastern classics from St. John's College, Santa Fe, and his B.A. in literature from the University of California at Santa Cruz. Pitt has also undertaken a Japan Foundation sponsored research fellowship at Waseda University in Tokyo.

Fun fact: Jon is an avid music collector, and looks forward to exploring the record shops of Southern California.

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Isabela Quintana, assistant professor, Department of Asian American Studies

Dr. Isabela Quintana is a scholar of gender, race, space, and borders in Asian American and Chicano/Latino histories. Before joining UCI, she was an Honors College assistant professor at New Mexico State University and also taught at Loyola Marymount University. She is currently at work on a book manuscript that explores the relational histories of Chinese American and Mexican American neighborhoods in Los Angeles.

Quintana earned her Ph.D. in history from the University of Michigan, and an M.A. in history from the University of Texas at Austin. She spent her undergraduate years at Oberlin College.

Fun fact: Isa enjoys pilates, watching movies with her partner, and running with her toddler through the sprinklers in the backyard.

New Staff:

Audrey Fong, Digital Content and Social Media Coordinator, Marketing & Communications: Audrey recently joined the SOH as digital content and social media coordinator reporting to Annabel Adams, executive director of marketing and communications. An alumna of UCI English, Audrey brings a passion for the humanities to her position. In her role, she will manage the school's digital presence, amplifying the school's news and stories across the Web and social media. Fun fact: Audrey's cattle dog Charlotte is Instagram-famous with 15.3k followers.

Rakib Haque, Director of Development, Advancement: Rakib joins us from UCLA, with 9 years experience in fundraising. He graduated from UCLA with a BA in International Relations and a minor in Global Studies, and lives in Anaheim with his family. He'll be the primary development officer working with the Humanities Center and its Centers as well as Armenian Studies. If you'd like to learn how to say "Hello, how are you?" in Bengali, Mandarin, Spanish, Hindi, or Urdu, Rakib can help you!

Grant Speckler, Scheduling and Undergraduate Coordinator, ELS and CL: The Departments of European Languages and Studies and Comparative Literature welcome Grant Speckert, our new Scheduling and Undergraduate Coordinator. Grant is a UCI Alumnus who received his B.A. in Political Science and minored in International Studies and History. He also participated in the Global Connect program. Since graduating he has worked in the UCI Path office and at the USC Orange County Center. Grant is originally from Northern California and enjoys reading and watching movies.

Soodabeh "Suzi" Weaver, Development Coordinator, Advancement: Suzi recently joined our team as development coordinator. She graduated last year with a Ph.D. in History. She discovered the joy of fundraising while a graduate student, and is passionate about beginning her career in fundraising. She's responsible for many of the behind the scenes work that goes into closing gifts - preparing proposals for donors, drafting presentations, preparing for donor meetings, working with our Dean's Leadership Council volunteer leaders, coordinating donor stewardship, and working directly with donors. If you love cats, you'll have a lot to talk about with Suzi!

Communications

New outdoor marketing: Starting on September 20, the SOH will have 22 new pole banners featuring faculty, graduate students and alumni placed throughout Humanities plaza and between HG and HIB.

New resources and templates: The Humanities Communications website features updated graphic design templates, including a new grad program one-pager template; updated event publicity tips; and updated social media case studies.

Parking rates: Since many of you send out communications to external audiences who may need to park at UCI, please note that parking rates have increased (see current rates here).

Events digest: Our events digest resumes every Friday, starting September 27. If you would like to ensure your events are included in this compilation, be sure to work with your Dept. staff to have them added to the SOH calendar at least 2 weeks before the event date.

Newsletters: Our e-newsletters will resume this September. Please continue to keep Communications updated on new faculty book publications, new pedagogical approaches (for example, developing a MOOC or online course), significant external grants, innovative new courses, etc.

The Conversation: Did you know UCOP has a partnership with The Conversation? Faculty and Ph.D. candidates can write for this publication. Learn more about the publication here.

AntMedia: Please note that starting this Fall, AntMedia will no longer be providing photography services to the units. We are searching for a comparably priced photographer. Once we have one, the provider will be added to our resource page here.

Annabel Adams
Executive Director of Marketing & Communications

Advancement

On October 4, Chancellor Gillman will announce a $2B university-wide fundraising campaign. The campaign has been in a silent phase since August 2015, and this is the public launch. More than $800 ML has been raised so far towards the $2B goal. We've been getting ready for the campaign by preparing a school-wide case statement, which is a comprehensive case for support of UCI Humanities. Our funding priorities focus on faculty research, undergraduate experiential learning, graduate student support (fellowships and summer research), and public impact. We'll share it with all of you when it's final. We also started a new Dean's Leadership Council, which has met three times this year, and is really coming together as a volunteer leadership group. We'll ask each member to serve as a volunteer leader for a specific area within the School which captures their interest.

As of September 23, our team will be complete, with two new team members (see New Staff above), as well as changes for Sean and JoAnn:

Sean Fischer, Director of Development: Sean has been on our team for two and a half years and his role has recently been expanded; he is now the primary development officer for most of the Departments, including History, Philosophy, English, Art History, Film and Media Studies and more. With a Masters in Cello Performance from UCLA, you could ask him about his favorite cello pieces!

JoAnn Jamora, Development Coordinator: JoAnn is working part-time, and on Sept. 23, will start sharing her time between Advancement and the Humanities Center. For Advancement, she's responsible for financial transactions (our favorite financial transaction is depositing gifts from donors but of course there are other tasks) and scheduling appointments (this is no small feat when donors are involved). For Humanities Center, she will provide administrative support for ICWT and Medical Humanities.

If you have any questions at all about what we do in Advancement, please contact me at lhaghi@uci.edu or x42923.

Linda Haghi
Executive Director, Advancement

Humanities Center (formerly the Humanities Commons)

The UCI Humanities Center: Borders & Belonging 2019-2020

The UCI Humanities Center (formerly the Humanities Commons) is launching a year-long exploration of "Borders & Belonging" as part of a "Conversations that Matter" series. The year 2020 is an election year, a census year, and the 100th anniversary of U.S. Women's Suffrage. Join us to explore questions of pressing importance to our society.

Fall 2019: Who Belongs and Who Decides?

October 8 (Tuesday):

11:30 Lunch Reception in HG 1010

12:00 Roundtable Conversation in HG 1030

Facilitator: Tyrus Miller, Dean of the School of Humanities

Speakers:

- Rachael De La Cruz (Ph.D. Candidate, History)
- Christopher Fan (Assistant Professor, English)
- Holly Guise (Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow, History)
- Tiffany Willoughby-Herard (Associate Professor, African American Studies)

1:00 Open House Dessert Reception for the New Humanities Center. Location: Humanities Gateway 1st floor, (Humanities Center Lobby)

Please RSVP by September 30 here.

Undergraduate Study

New Student Convocation will be held in the Bren Events Center on Monday, 9/23/19, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. That event will be followed immediately by the **Humanities Dean's Welcome** (in HIB 100) and the **Humanities Transfer Welcome** (in HG 1800). For more information about these or other **Welcome Week** events, please visit the Welcome Week website (www.welcomeweek.uci.edu). If your department would like to advertise any Welcome Week events on that site, please be sure to scroll to the bottom of the main page and click "submit your event."

The **first day of classes** is Thursday, 9/26/19.

The **deadline to add and drop classes** is Friday, 10/11/19, at 5 p.m. Details about this policy are on the Add/Drop Policy section of the Office of Undergraduate Study website (www.humanities.uci.edu/undergrad/students/add_drop.php). Please direct any students with questions to the Undergrad Study Office in 143 HIB. Please refer to the Registrar's Quarterly Academic Calendar for other important dates and deadlines.

For issues regarding **academic integrity** and/or **student conduct**, please work with the Office of Academic Integrity & Student Conduct (https://aisc.uci.edu/). Their staff and faculty resource page is available here: https://aisc.uci.edu/faculty-staff/index.php .

For resources on **scheduling**, **curriculum**, **statistics/reports**, and more, please visit the faculty/staff resources page of the Undergraduate Study website: https://www.humanities.uci.edu/undergrad/resources/schedule.php.

Brittney Pinney
Director of Undergraduate Study

Facilities

As the new academic year begins, we will once again be hosting many events in our conference rooms. Please take time to review our conference room policies at https://www.humanities.uci.edu/facilities.

Additionally we are looking to assemble a committee to discuss creating a policy for **conference room holds**. Anyone interested should contact Colin Andrews at andrewsc@uci.edu.

The School of Humanities has been awarded two Small Capital Improvement Projects for this fiscal year.

- The Department of Philosophy has been awarded a project to create additional office space by altering existing space to create an additional faculty office, two multi-occupant offices, and a small file storage room.
- The Department of Film & Media has been awarded a project to create a much needed dedicated production space and an expansion of their equipment storage area. A portion of MKH 100 will be renovated to create a soundproofed room with advanced lighting controls and a green screen. A file storage room will be converted to store additional production equipment.

Colin Andrews, Director of Facilities

Humanities Studio

TechnoExpo: October 9, 2019

I am looking forward to this year's TechnoExpo. They have a lot of new information for faculty and staff.

TechnoExpo (short for "Technology Exposition") is a fair showing information technology products and services to the campus. At TechnoExpo, you can talk with a range of support teams, try out tools and services, and attend short informative presentations on all the ways UCI is using IT to make your job more productive, enjoyable, and secure.

Topic Tracks
Communication, Collaboration & Networks
Data & Analytics
Enterprise Solutions & Systems
Research & Faculty
Security
Student Lifecycle
Teaching & Learning

Visit the website for more information: https://technoexpo.uci.edu. Please see the registration page to sign up (also a free lunch). I hope to see you there.

If you can't make it and see something you would like to learn more about let Dwayne Pack (dwayne.pack@uci.edu)know and he will try to get the information for you.

Staff Retreat 9-11-19

Thank you to everyone who responded to the UCI Staff Engagement Survey! We were asked to get an 80% response rate and the School of Humanities broke the goal with a response rate of 83.75%!!!

The SOH Engagement Survey Ambassador Team

Mindy Han, Marc Kanda, DeeDee Nunez, Beth Pace

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Thank you to everyone who participated in our 2019 Annual Staff Retreat! It was a great day full of games, lunch and an inspirational movie! Wednesday, 9/11 was a huge success.   Many of you showed team spirit by wearing your Humanities T-shirt. Congratulations to "CHAMPIONS 4 HUMANITIES" team for taking the first place in our first ever outdoor games day. We hope you enjoyed not just the team flag designing and games but meeting some of your colleagues as well.

HR Workgroup

DeeDee Nunez, Beth Pace, Marc Kanda, Mindy Han

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CHAMPIONS
HIGH 5

UCI School of Humanities

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