March 18, 2019

To:   Executive Officers

From:  David Olan, Associate Provost and Dean for Academic Affairs

Re:    2019-2020 Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowships

I am happy to announce the results of this year’s Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowship competition. The Graduate Center has offered 74 doctoral candidates dissertation fellowships for the 2019-2020 academic year. The Dissertation Fellowships include level III in-state tuition coverage and we hope that these awards will support our students in successfully completing their dissertations during the upcoming academic year. I am grateful to the faculty members who served on the review panels and completed the process of evaluating and ranking the proposals. Please join me in thanking the reviewers and in extending congratulations to the outstanding doctoral students listed below.

The B. Altman Foundation Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Julio Arias Vanegas, Anthropology, The Making and Unmaking of State Lands: Neoliberalism, Property, and the Production of the Altillanura Region in Colombia

Erin Cully, History, Banking on Change: The Politics of US Bank Consolidation

Víctor García Ramírez, Latin American, Iberian, and Latino Cultures, Corpses and Biographical Narratives in Accounts of Venezuela’s War of Independence

Nana Mukbaniani, Economics, The Impact of Universal Basic Income

Zeynep Oguz, Anthropology, Unsettled Geologies: The Temporal and Spatial Politics of Oil Exploration in Turkey, 1923-2023

Richard Stillman, Philosophy, Fighting Words: Slurs, Semantics, and the Law

Alumni Fund Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Rebecca Fullan, English, Eating the Heart of Weetigo World: Decolonial Imaginaries in the Stories of Louise Erdrich and Tomson Highway

American Studies Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Arita Balaram, Psychology, Reconstructing memory, conjuring place: Cultivating a women & femme-centered intergenerational oral history project
Florence J. Bloch Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Jonathan Zisook, Sociology, *Discovering Atlantis: On the Politics of Memory and the Polish-Jewish Past*

Ralph Bunche Dissertation Fellowship ($12,000)


Mario Capelloni Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Kyla Bender-Baird, Sociology, *Standing Trans Before the Law*


Christopher Green, Art History, *Masked Moderns: Northwest Coast Native Art Beyond Revival*

Nicholas Olson, Comparative Literature, *Sentimental Educations: Modernist Aesthetics and the Historical Imagination*

Ariana Riccio, Psychology, *Understanding Factors Which Influence Autistic Identity Development in Adolescence and Early Adulthood*

Carell Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

John Dyck, Philosophy, *A Volitionalist Account of Aesthetic Value*

Dario Marcucci, Comparative Literature, *Spaces of The Great War: Poetry and Landscape on the Italian Front*

Xin Yuan, Business, *The Real Effects of Withheld Cybersecurity Breach News*

The Center for Place, Culture and Politics Dissertation Fellowship ($10,000)

Denisse Andrade, Earth and Environmental Sciences, *This Land is Our Land: The Poetics and Politics of Land in the Black Radical Movement, 1960s-1970s*

Lou Cornum, English, *Skin Worlds: Beyond the Human in Black and Indigenous Science Fiction*

Maegan Miller, Earth and Environmental Sciences, *Sea Stories: Maritime Labor and Black Internationalism in the Early Twentieth Century*

Sarah Molinari, Anthropology, *The Politics of Debt and Disaster in Puerto Rico: Contesting Debt and Remaking Community After Hurricane Maria*

Mert Peksen, Earth and Environmental Sciences, *Displacing the border: Refugees, law, and geography in Turkey*
China Sajadian, Anthropology, *From Migrants to Refugees: Land and Labor in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon*

Dissertation Year Fellowship ($25,000)

Khaled Al Hilli, Comparative Literature, *Telling War through Fiction: A Literary Reconstruction of Memory in American and Iraqi novels after 2003*

Alexis Amann, Anthropology, *Behavioral Endocrinology of Sexual Coercion in Wild Hamadryas Baboons in Ethiopia*

Mirko Amico, Physics, *Dynamical Lamb effect in superconducting circuits*


Charles Dolph, Anthropology, *Exporting Nature, Hoarding Power: Reconfigurations of Money and the State in Argentina*

Mohammed Ezzeldin, History, *Arwa Salih and the Other 1968: Rethinking Revolutionary Temporality in Egypt 1968- 2011*

Margaret Fay, Sociology, *Learning to Fail?: Student Experiences in Developmental Mathematics in Community Colleges*

Daniel Fox, Music, *The Aftersound: Acoustic Resonance and Modes of Intervention in the Music of Alvin Lucier and Morton Feldman*

Salvador Gomez Barranco, Latin American, Iberian, and Latino Cultures, *Inclinations of the I: Approaches from Affect and Vulnerability to Autobiographical Literature and Film of the Spain in Crisis (2008-)*


Elissa Myers, English, *Crafting Girlhoods*

Alison Parks, Political Science, *Beyond Pathology: Specters of Suicidality in the Queer Community*

Mohamad Prasad, Theatre and Performance, *Historiography of the Body and Corporeality in Indonesian Theatre: The Search for Decolonial Aesthetics*

Jimin Pyo, Criminal Justice, *Development and Validation of a Multidimensional Scale for Measuring Public Confidence in the Criminal Justice System*

Tom Ribitzky, Comparative Literature, *Pessimism and the Novel*

Sara Rychtarik, French, *Warrior Women and the Shaping of Narrative in Medieval French Literature*
Mara Sheftel, Sociology, *American dream or reality? The well-being of older immigrants in the US*

Jesse Spafford, Philosophy, *The Coherence of Left-Libertarianism: A New Approach to Reconciling Libertarianism and Socialism*

Iris Strangmann, Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences, *The cost (or not) of intra-sentential code-switching – An electrophysiological study of Dutch-English bilinguals in NYC*


Dissertation Year Award ($10,000)

Juraj Anzulovic, Anthropology, *Parking in the Margins of Europe: The Spatial Politics of Mobility and Infrastructure in Zagreb*

Davide Giuseppe Colasanto, History, *Violence, Desire, and Masculinities: Italy between Fascism and the Sexual Revolution*

John Flanagan, Latin American, Iberian, and Latino Cultures, *Afro-Americano/a: The transracialization of the African-American Spanish speaker*

Francisco Fortuño Bernier, Political Science, *“Braided with Words”: Political Language and Populism in Contemporary Spain*


Stephanie Huber, Art History, *Cultural Predicaments: Neorealism in The Netherlands 1927-1945*

Sean Kennedy, English, *Original Gangsters: Genre, Crime, and the Violences of Settler Democracy*

Sarah Kostecki, Political Science, *‘Ideal’ work-family reconciliation policies across 32 middle- and-high income countries: good or bad for gender equality in employment?*

Andrew Kotick, History, *Humoring the Republic: The Political and Historical Imaginary of Le Rire, 1894-1940*

Benjamin Macaulay, Linguistics, *Prosody and Intonation in Formosan Languages*

Patrick Sweeney, Psychology, *Social Media Data and Psychology: Opportunities, Challenges, and Controversies*


John Zayac, Earth and Environmental Sciences, *Fine-Scale Textural and Geochemical Stratigraphy of an Explosive, Compositionally Zoned Eruption at Cosigüina Volcano, Nicaragua: Insights into the Eruption Trigger Mechanism*

Anna Zhelnina, Sociology, *Engaging Neighbors in a Polarized City*
David Garth Award ($10,000)


Marilyn J. Gittell Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Drake Logan, Political Science, *The Military Toxics Complex: Epistemological Insurgencies in the US Military’s Environmental Warfare*

Samuel Stein, Earth and Environmental Sciences, *Labor, Land Use, and the Luxury City*

Sebastian Villamizar-Santamaria, Sociology, *Making the Rural Urban: The Creation of a Mixed-Class “Naturehood” in the Colombian Countryside*

William Randolph Hearst Dissertation Year Award ($25,000)


Frances Degen Horowitz Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Noelle Malvar, Psychology, *Let’s Talk: Increasing Individual’s Willingness to Engage in Intergroup Dialogue Through a Growth Mindset Intervention*

The Institute for Research on the African Diaspora in the America’s and the Caribbean (IRADAC) Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Rakhee Kewada, Earth and Environmental Sciences, *Cotton, Clothes and Indian Ocean Roads: A study of Tanzania’s cotton and textile industry (1961-Present)*

Leon Levy Center for Biography Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Phelim Dolan, History, *Henry Jones and the Networks of Seventeenth-Century Ireland*

Athena Pollis Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Alexandra Schindler, Anthropology, *Everyday Alexandria in the Age of Mass Displacement*

Mina Rees Dissertation Fellowship ($25,000)

Tai-Danae Bradley, Mathematics, *A Compositional and Statistical Framework for Natural Language*

Eileen Gonzales, Physics, *Understanding Atmospheres Across the Stellar-Substellar Boundary*

Isaac Overcast, Biology, *An integrated model of population genetics and community ecology*

Jacob Russell, Mathematics, *Connecting Geometry and Algebra via Projections*
Hamidreza Soleymani, Earth and Environmental Sciences, *Decoding the Stress History of Rocks Using Rock Deformation Experiments: Implications for Earthquake Hazard Assessment on New Zealand's Alpine Fault*

Yan Sun, Chemistry, *Reactions of Singlet Oxygen with Radical Cations of Guanine Nucleobase, Nucleoside and Its Oxidized Derivatives*

cc. President Joy Connolly
Provost Julia Wrigley
Dean Joshua Brumberg
Review Panelists