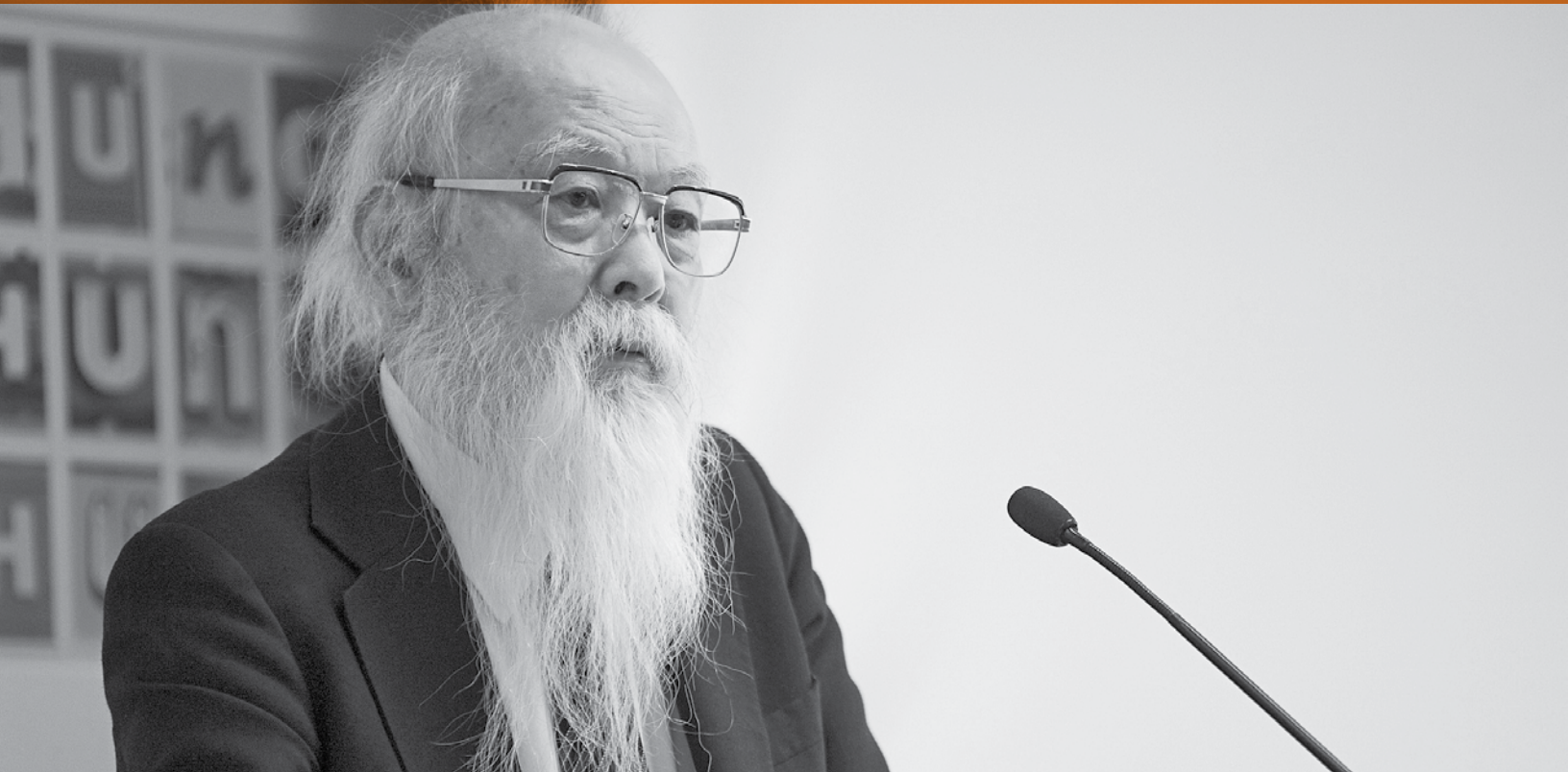


THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH NEWS

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

Fall 2010



World-renowned economist Hirofumi Uzawa speaking at the Climate Change Conference Photo: Conway Liao

NSSR Hosts International Conference on Climate Change

In an attempt to establish both the urgency of the mounting threat of global climate change and to help overcome the standoff in international negotiations on the subject, witnessed most recently at the 2009 United

Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, The New School hosted its own high-level international conference, “The Economics of Climate Change.”

Conference organizer and economics professor **Willi Semmler** noted, “It seemed very appropriate to have this conversation at The New School, where international perspectives are always brought to bear on complex economic and social issues such as climate change. I think the conference and the planned publication of the conference proceedings will provide important insights that will help fill the void that was left by the unsatisfactory outcome of the

Copenhagen conference.”

Participants included well-known scholars, policy advisors, and policy makers from around the world, including Damien Meadows, head of the Unit International Carbon Markets at the European Commission; Ulrich von Weizsäcker, a former member of the German Parliament; Hirofumi Uzawa from Japan, author of a groundbreaking work on global warming; and renowned international economists Alfred Greiner of Germany and Franz Wirl of Austria. NSSR faculty members **Edward Nell**, **Willi Semmler**, and **Lopamudra Banerjee** were also part of the two-day conference

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ALUMNI NEWS

Send news about your latest achievements to alumni@newschool.edu and see more news about your fellow alumni on the [Class Notes](http://www.newschool.edu/alumni/announcements/class-notes) page at www.newschool.edu/alumni/announcements/class-notes.

ANTHROPOLOGY

J. Michael Bone, PhD '78, was appointed special topics editor for the *American Journal of Family Therapy*, a peer-reviewed international publication devoted to issues related to the family.

Harald Prins, PhD '98, received the 2010 American Anthropological Association/Oxford University Press Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching of Anthropology. Prins, a visual anthropologist whose work deals with the land rights issues faced by Mi'kmaq Indians, is a distinguished professor of anthropology at Kansas State University.

ECONOMICS

Robert R. Korstad, MA '78, is the Kevin D. Gorter Professor of Public Policy and History at the Terry Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University. He is also the co-author of *To Right These Wrongs: The North Carolina Fund and the Battle to End Poverty and Inequality in 1960s America*.

HISTORICAL STUDIES

Andrew Deener, MA '02, is the recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation award, which will allow him to spend two years conducting ethnographic research on food options and choices in Philadelphia neighborhoods. His research focuses on why certain neighborhoods lack access to particular foods and how the city's political and economic organization can influence residents' choices of foods. Deener is an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Connecticut.

LIBERAL STUDIES

Urshula Barbour, MA '00, and Paul Carlos, both adjunct faculty members at Parsons, were selected through their studio, Pure+Applied, to join the team led by Norwegian architectural firm Snohetta to undertake the permanent redesign of the Times Square area.

Message from the Dean

As the 2010–2011 academic year unfolds, I am happy to report that the NSSR has attracted a new class of excellent students, about 24 percent of whom are international students. In addition, this past year proved highly successful in terms of recruiting. We welcomed 11 excellent new faculty members in economics, history, philosophy, psychology, and sociology, including senior sociologist **Robin Wagner-Pacifici**.

We are also proud to announce that this year's Heuss Professor is **Norbert Frei**, in history, and that this year's Hans Speier Professor is **Yoav Peled**, in sociology. Thanks to a recent grant from the Mellon Foundation, we launched an interdisciplinary post-doctoral fellowship program. Our first Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow is Benjamin Wurgaft (University of California, Berkeley), who has been jointly appointed in history and philosophy. We also have five visiting faculty, in economics and politics.

I am delighted to report that we have opened an NSSR student and faculty lounge and conference space, designed to replace the former Wolff Conference Room. The new Wolff Room, on the 11th floor of 6 East 16th Street, serves as an intellectual and social hub and has already become a center for NSSR activities.

High-level scholarship and instruction continue apace, and faculty and students continue to win competitive grants for innovative research (see the faculty and student profiles in this newsletter). And, as always, we have a wide array of conferences and public events scheduled for this year.

Please do join us in person this year or visit us online as much as your schedule allows. I would be delighted for you to experience again the vitality and passionate commitment that characterize The New School for Social Research.

With best wishes for the coming year,



Michael Schober
Dean, The New School for Social Research



Dean Michael Schober Photo: Matthew Sussman

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Sue O'Connell
Frank Roosevelt PhD '76 and Grace Roosevelt
Ronald J. Schmidt
Michael F. Schober
James Stanford PhD '95
Marjorie Williams-Kamara PhD '95
Harry Wolf

Robert Lichtman, MA '78, wrote the front-page article, "Anxiety The Rust of Life," in *Mental Health News*. Lichtman is a Treatment Team Leader at Rockland Psychiatric Center.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Sumangala Kailasapathy, MA '96, MPhil '06, was in the running for Ann Arbor City Council in the First Ward. Kailasapathy has also taught courses at Eastern Michigan University and is a certified public accountant.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Dr. Claudia Diez, PhD '03, was board certified in clinical psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology. In addition, she became a fellow of the American Academy of Clinical Psychology, the highest-level examination for clinical psychologists in the United States. Dr. Diez is a faculty member at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York City and also has an independent practice, where she provides assessment and psychotherapy for adults and couples.

PSYCHOLOGY

Mary Galligan, MA '87, was named special agent in charge of Cyber/Special Operations for the FBI's New York Division. Galligan has handled terrorism investigations for the FBI since 1988, where she was promoted from special agent to supervisor of PENTTBOM, (the Pentagon/Twin Towers Bombing Investigation) to her current position.

Sheila MacDonald, MA '90, released her first folk music album, *This Way*, in January 2010. It can be found on iTunes.

SOCIOLOGY

Jose Casanova, PhD '82, is a professor of sociology at Georgetown University and senior fellow at Georgetown's Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs. In the spring, Casanova delivered the Doris M. and Ralph E. Hansmann Lecture, "Exploring the Post-Secular: Three Meanings of 'The Secular' and Their Possible Transcendence," at Hamilton College.

First Alumni Association Board Members Appointed

The New School Alumni Association is pleased to announce its first cohort of board members. Drawing from a strong pool of candidates, the university has appointed 11 alumni representing all aspects of the university. The new members began serving two-year terms on July 1, 2010. With advisement from this new group, a full 40-member board will be in place by July 2012.

One of the group's first tasks is to help recruit future board members. They will also develop board objectives and goals and help shape an alumni program that provides alumni with even more opportunities to network, socialize, and connect with and support the university.

The first group of board members come from a wide range of professional backgrounds and graduation years. Their expertise in various fields and their common desire to build a strong alumni presence within the New School community will be invaluable.

To learn more about the new board of directors, visit www.newschool.edu/alumni/about.

The New School Alumni Association Board of Directors

Martha Alexander '79 (Parsons, BFA Communication Design)

Mark Cajigao '08 (New School Drama, MFA, Acting)

Colin Dean '06 (New School Jazz, BFA Jazz Performance)

Angela Gadeliya '05 (Mannes, PDPL Performance)

Chasson Gracie '03 (Milano, MS Urban Policy)

Michelle Hartman '06 (The New School for Social Research, PhD Political Science)

Jahmila Joseph '06 (Eugene Lang College, BA Liberal Arts)

Dee MacDonald-Miller '75 (Parsons, BFA Environmental Design)

Michael McKinnon '05 (Parsons, Cert. Interior Design)

James Stenerson '80 (The New School, MA Media Studies)

Morris Yankell '86 (Milano, MA Human Resources) ↻

Faculty News

The New School for Social Research is pleased to announce new members of its faculty.

Cinzia Arruzza (PhD in Philosophy, University of Rome Tor Vergata 2005) concentrates on the relationship between Christian platonism and pagan platonism in late antiquity and the early Middle Ages.

Omri Boehm (PhD in Philosophy, Yale 2009) challenges the standard assumption that Kant did not read Spinoza's *Ethics* and argues that Kant engaged with Spinoza's thought in the development of his critical philosophy. Boehm will join the faculty in fall 2011.

Chiara Bottici (PhD in Philosophy, European University Institute in Florence 2004) explores the concept of myth, particularly in early modern philosophers like Bacon, Bayle, Vico, Hobbes, and Spinoza.

Daniel Casasanto (PhD in Psychology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology 2005) focuses on the "embodiment" of the mind and the question of where cognition is situated—in the head, in the body, or in the environment. He will join the faculty in fall 2011.

Christopher Christian (PhD in Psychology, University of Massachusetts at Amherst 1996) joins the Psychology Department as director of The New School-Beth Israel Center for Clinical Training and Research.

Wendy D'Andrea (PhD in Psychology, Michigan 2008) conducts research on the intersection of trauma, psychophysiology, and treatment research.

Jenifer Francisco (PhD in Psychology, Virginia Tech 2007) serves as director of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling concentration for the MA in Clinical Psychology.

Christian Proaño-Acosta (PhD in Economics, Bielefeld University 2008) focuses on both macroeconomic theory (particularly heterodox thinking and classical political economy) and econometrics (multivariate time series and cointegration analysis).

Iddo Tavory (PhD in Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles 2010) focuses on connecting several areas within sociology, in particular urban studies, religion, culture, and method.

Robin Wagner-Pacifici (PhD in Sociology, University of Pennsylvania 1983) works in the field of cultural sociology, focusing on the connection between culture and violence. Her book *The Art of Surrender: Decomposing Sovereignty at Conflict's End* received Honorable Mention from the 2006 Culture Section of the American Sociological Association. She will join the faculty in spring 2011.

Louise Walker (PhD in History, Yale 2008) concentrates on the 20th-century Mexican middle class and its commitment to neo-liberalism.

Benjamin Wurgaft (PhD in Late Modern European and Jewish History, University of California, Berkeley 2009) is NSSR's first Mellon Interdisciplinary Post-Doctoral Fellow. He examines the way three European Jewish philosophers responded to the idea of the public intellectual as it emerged in the early to mid-20th century.

... Continued from cover

and were joined by top policy analysts, geoscientists, and economists from Princeton, MIT, Columbia, Pennsylvania State, and Johns Hopkins University.

The conference examined several fundamental issues, including whether we have already reached a "tipping point" with regard to global warming; the costs and benefits of mitigation policies; and how proposed measures to combat global warming burden or benefit developing countries. Participants spoke of the necessity to raise public awareness, pressure policy makers, and demonstrate successful mitigation policies. Overall, the conference illustrated the need to implement a well-designed mix of mitigation measures to avoid the negative effects of global warming on growth and welfare.

The conference was jointly sponsored by the Economics Department and the Schwartz Center of Economic Policy Analysis (SCEPA). The event also received generous support from the Alex C. Walker Foundation, the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, and the German Consulate.

For more information, visit www.newschool.edu/scepa/conferences/. ↻

2010–2011 Heuss Professor Norbert Frei Explores the Core of Nazi Ideology

Norbert Frei, the 2010–2011 Theodor Heuss Professor visiting from the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität in Jena, Germany, brings to The New School more than three decades of research on the Third Reich. His work explores notions of Nazi morality and overall Nazi social history. Frei's scholarship has also examined the impact of National Socialism on institutions from local newspapers in rural Germany to the Auswärtiges Amt, the German foreign ministry. In his landmark 2002 book, *Adenauer's Germany and the Nazi Past*, Frei takes an in-depth look at former Nazis becoming re-integrated into the political process in West Germany after the war.

"Since the 1960s, intellectuals and politicians in Germany have been advocating for self-critical confrontation with the Nazi past," Frei says. "But only in the past 20 years or so has this confrontation really become part of the Federal Republic's political identity."

The Heuss Professorship is named for Theodor Heuss, the first president of West Germany after World War II. Permanently established in 1975, the program fosters intellectual union between German and American intellectuals and commemorates the N SSR's founding tradition as a haven for intellectual refugees fleeing fascist persecution in Europe. Heuss Professors have included some of the most prominent names in German social science. 🔄



Norbert Frei Photo: Janine Cibellis



Gregor Sebastian Semieniuk Photo: Janine Cibellis

NSSR Names First Recipient of Prestigious Fellowship

Gregor Sebastian Semieniuk is the first recipient of the Alvin Johnson-University in Exile Memorial Fellowship at The New School for Social Research. Originally from Witten, Germany, Gregor began working toward a Master of Science in economics in fall 2010. His education and work and volunteer experiences have taken Gregor all over the world; he studied in the U.S., Russia, and Germany and spent one year in Karnataka, India, working for an NGO involved in microcredit and telemedicine. He enrolled in the International Business Administration BSc program at the European University in Frankfurt and then transferred to the Dresden University of Technology, where he studied international relations and from which he graduated in September 2010. Gregor served as a research assistant to Professor Sabine von Schorlemer, an expert on public international law who is now minister of state for Science and Art in Saxony; interned at the State Bank of India in Mumbai and at a business consultancy and marketing company in Berlin; and worked at the Germany Embassy in Moscow on German-Russian trade relations. He has also published two articles in book collections.

When asked about his studies at the N SSR, Gregor remarked, "The Economics Department gives me exactly what I was searching for in my graduate education: a stimulating learning environment, varied perspectives on economics, and insight into how the economy and society influence each other." 🔄

IN MEMORIAM

Beverly Abrahams, MA '73, Liberal Studies (March 7, 2010), worked for the *New York Times* from 1969 to 1991. Additionally, Abrahams enjoyed creating artwork, which was often displayed throughout Canandaigua, New York.

Jerilyn Ross, MA '75, Psychology (January 7, 2010), was a therapist and advocate for those with mental health issues, and made significant changes in the field of psychotherapy, helping hundreds of people overcome their fears. She advised listeners on her radio show in the 1980s and became known as "the phobia lady." She co-founded the Anxiety Disorders Association of America and served as its director until her death.

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Your participation makes a difference!

To make a gift, visit

www.newschool.edu/giving.

ALVIN JOHNSON-UNIVERSITY IN EXILE MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP

Established in 2009, the Alvin Johnson-University in Exile Memorial Fellowship commemorates the 75th anniversary of the founding of the University in Exile at The New School and the courageous actions of the university's president, Alvin Johnson, who recognized the importance of preserving Germany's intellectual capital and strong academic tradition. With the generous support of several corporate and private donors from Germany and the United States, the fellowship provides full tuition and a stipend for exceptional German graduate students wishing to attend The New School for Social Research. The Alvin Johnson-University in Exile Memorial fellows are funded jointly by the fellowship and the German-American Fulbright Commission.

Alumni in Action

Few academic institutions offer the kind of educational experience that The New School for Social Research has provided for more than 75 years. It is no wonder, then, that so many alumni feel a deep connection to the school that often intensifies as time goes on. For a growing group of clinical psychology and economics alumni, this feeling has translated into action, as they and their peers find new opportunities to engage with the rich intellectual life that they experienced in their days on campus.

Alumni, faculty, and current students of the Clinical Psychology program have formed a group that holds events for participants to reconnect as a community, network, and discuss their current work and professional interests. In May, the group organized a panel discussion moderated by talk show host and journalist **Charlie Rose**. His discussion with faculty members **Herbert Schlesinger**, **David Shapiro**, and **Jeremy Safran** explored the history of the clinical psychology program at NSSR and current debates about best practices within the field.

A group of alumni from Economics have also been holding frequent gatherings and events for faculty, students, and alumni. With help from **Olga Alexakos, PhD '02**, the group has organized a number of receptions in private homes featuring faculty members like **Anwar Shaikh**, **Ed Nell**, and **Willi Semmler**. Professor Ed Nell, who hosted one of the gatherings in his home, remarked, "I am positively delighted to have been able to play a part in reconnecting our alumni with the department and each other. These kinds of opportunities for engagement are so much more than happy social events. They allow those of us who work with nonmainstream ideas about economics to consult with folks who share an academic grounding that is as unique as it is vital." The economics alumni group is currently exploring the idea of conducting a formal conference to be held on campus in the coming months.

Economics alumni and friends also attended a recent reception in honor of **David M. Gordon** (1944–1996), a beloved member of the NSSR community remembered as an outstanding teacher and mentor, as well as a gifted and groundbreaking economist committed to leftist politics. Hosted by his widow, Diana R. Gordon, the reception featured remarks by NSSR Dean Michael

Schober, New School professors **William Milberg** and **David Howell**, and alumnus and member of the NSSR Board of Governors **Robert Pollin, PhD '82**. Past and current recipients of the David Gordon Dissertation Fellowship were also in attendance.

Those interested in participating in these or other alumni group events should contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 212.229.5662 x3784. ↻



Professors **Jeremy Safran**, **David Shapiro**, and **Herbert Schlesinger**, and journalist **Charlie Rose** Photo: **Chris Choi**

Reunion Recap

On Saturday, April 17, New School alumni from the classes of 1980, 1985, and 1990 gathered on campus to celebrate their 30th, 25th, and 20th reunions at Reunion 2010. The daylong event included lectures, panel discussions, and a cocktail reception. To view more photos, visit

www.flickr.com/photos/newschoolalumni. ↻



NSSR PhD student **Tyler Boersen '09**, Professor **Teresa Ghilarducci**, and **Nadine Hack '85** Photo: **Marty Heitner**



Alumni and friends connecting over lunch during New School Reunion 2010 Photo: **Marty Heitner**



Megan Craig

Alumni Spotlight: Megan Craig '07

Megan Craig received her PhD in Philosophy from The New School for Social Research in 2007. She is currently an assistant professor of philosophy and art at Stony Brook University, where she combines her career as an artist with her work as an educator and researcher. Megan studied painting at Yale University, where she also earned a BA in Philosophy. She has mounted many solo and group exhibitions of her work in the United States and abroad and has received numerous awards in both painting and philosophy. Her first philosophy book, *Levinas and James: Toward a Pragmatic Phenomenology*, became available in November.

She has received several awards in both painting and philosophy, including a Pollock-Krasner grant, two Vermont Studio Center Full Fellowship Awards, a New York Arts Recovery grant, the Grace LeGendre Fellowship for Advanced Graduate Study, and (during her studies at NSSR) the Graduate Faculty Holocaust Memorial Fellowship and the 2007 Alfred Schutz Memorial Award in Philosophy and Sociology for her dissertation.

What about the education you received at the NSSR has informed your work as both an artist and an academic?

The New School was such a vibrant, eclectic, and public place to study philosophy. I was coming from Yale, where the campus felt grand and sharply delineated from the city. At The New School, there was a great synergy between city and school, and I think that informs the kind of progressive work that the Philosophy Department generates and encourages. I experienced unconditional

support at The New School for my work as a painter and a thinker, and this was a testament to faculty and peers who were open to multiple models of research. That support and the terrific plurality of The New School made my graduate work possible. My years there continue to be a crucial touchstone for my sense of the public value of philosophy and the importance of creativity.

Who were some of the memorable faculty members you worked with?

I had so many great teachers at The New School, but I originally went there to study with **Richard Bernstein** after hearing him lecture on pragmatism. He continues to be a model and a mentor. Courses with **Jacques Derrida** and **Charles Taylor** were memorable highlights. **Claudia Baracchi**, **Simon Critchley**, and **Jay Bernstein** were also very important to me, and I loved hearing **Agnes Heller's** lectures on Hegel, which were energetic beyond belief.

How much does your research in philosophy influence your paintings and vice versa?

I deliberately kept my philosophical research somewhat separate from my studio work in the past, but I'm currently thinking a lot about perception and color, which relate intimately to my practice with paint. Teaching more courses in aesthetics has also brought my life as a painter more into focus in my teaching. I try not to overburden my paintings with theory, and I think that studying philosophy has allowed me to feel unusually free and unencumbered in the studio.

How have you remained connected to The New School since graduating?

I gave a talk in the Philosophy Department the year after I graduated, which was such a privilege and a nice opportunity to return. I remain close with several former students and faculty, and I keep up with the news from the department and the university as much as possible. Since I'm still in the New York area it's (theoretically) easy to drop in on lectures or other events, although now that I have a one-year-old, it's harder to find the time for spontaneous trips into Manhattan.

View Megan's paintings at www.megancraig.com. ↻



Sharika Thiranagama

Faculty Profile: Sharika Thiranagama

Born in Sri Lanka, raised in London, and educated at Cambridge (BA 2001) and the University of Edinburgh (PhD 2006), Sharika Thiranagama became an assistant professor of anthropology at The New School for Social Research and Eugene Lang College in 2009. Sharika recently spoke with John VanderLippe, associate dean of faculty and curriculum, over coffee at City Bakery near campus.

Tell us how you came to be an anthropologist.

I discovered anthropology as an undergraduate at Cambridge, where I had originally planned to study archaeology. I was drawn to anthropology by both the intellectual challenge and the global perspective of anthropology as a discipline. I think anthropology is the most global of all the disciplines—a way to understand global politics and global realities.

What prompted your current research on community and civil war in Sri Lanka?

I didn't intend to become a scholar of Sri Lanka, and I don't consider myself an area specialist. But because I was born in northern Jaffna, part of the war zone, and because of my family's political activism and the assassination of my mother when I was ten, I recognized a personal need to approach the Sri Lankan civil war in my scholarship.

Tell us about your forthcoming book.

In My Mother's House: War, Generation and Home in Sri Lanka will be published in fall 2011. The first problem with studying the Sri Lankan civil war is that one cannot just walk into the archives and examine the documentary record. This is a long war,

spanning two generations, and I found that to understand the war, I had to understand war not only as a form of violence but as a force in shaping social relations and the everyday life of individuals and entire communities. War is not just a series of violent actions but a complex social phenomenon.

Through a series of interviews with people of multiple generations, I came to understand how the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and their struggle represented a form of social mobility for some, especially young people who became soldiers, and also how the LTTE's actions forced individuals into the war and forced communities to redefine the past and future and their relationships to other communities. In particular, I focus on the relationship between refugee communities and the complex relationships between Tamil, Sinhalese, and Muslim communities both in Sri Lanka and globally.

What attracted you to a position at The New School?

I wanted to come to the United States and The New School in particular because of the energy and vibrancy of the intellectual life at this institution. The New School for Social Research is a place that welcomes diverse intellectual perspectives and has a long tradition of supporting progressive politics that I find both welcoming and challenging. And I really appreciate the qualitative emphasis of the programs here, with their emphasis on political theory.

The Anthropology program is now one of the top programs in the country, with truly amazing students. Last year, seven students received funding from the National Science Foundation, the most of any anthropology department in the United States. It is a small, intimate department, but the openness of the MA program allows students to excel and find their place in the discipline. ↻

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Upcoming Event

NEW SCHOOL REUNION 2011

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 16

New York City

Mark your calendars for a day of engaging activities including lectures, panel discussions, and a cocktail reception.

Want to be part of the Reunion Committee?

Contact Mara Caruso at carusom@newschool.edu or 212.229.5662 x3833

For updated information, visit www.newschool.edu/alumni/reunion.

What's New

New School Alumni Directory: Ready in 2012

The next alumni directory will be ready in 2012. Harris Connect will start contacting alumni next year. If you do not wish to be part of the list, email alumni@newschool.edu or call 212.229.5662 x3784.