

The Graduate Center, CUNY – May 4, 2017

Post Grad (Center): Engaging Publics with a PhD



#PostGC2017 #NextGenPhD

Part of **The New PhD: A Renaissance of Public Engagement**,
the Graduate Center's challenge grant project for
The National Endowment for the Humanities Next Generation PhD

About the Next Generation Humanities PhD Project

The Graduate Center of the City University of New York was awarded a **Next Generation Humanities PhD Planning Grant** by the **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)** for the 2016-2017 academic year.

NEH, an independent federal agency that funds high-quality projects in fields such as history, literature, philosophy, and archaeology, awards grants three times a year to top-rated proposals as examined by panels of independent, external reviewers.

Next Generation PhD is the first time that NEH, a longtime public funder of the humanities, is tackling the issue of how PhD students who immerse themselves deeply in graduate humanities research and writing can look to apply their skills and experience beyond teaching and professor positions to a broader range of careers.

The Graduate Center's project is titled "**The New PhD: A Renaissance of Public Engagement.**" Planning activities at the Graduate Center have encompassed three central planning themes:

1. curriculum: integrating multiple career outcomes early on in students' experience in graduate school;
2. data: collecting and publicly disseminating data about retention rates and student post-doctoral career paths; and
3. partnerships: initiating partnerships with non-academic institutions.

Since the implementation of the grant, planning committees have met regularly to discuss desired changes for the Graduate Center and the implementation of those changes. Those ideas have been documented on the project website:

<https://nextgenphd.commons.gc.cuny.edu/>.

The Graduate Center's committee members are listed on the back of this program and include faculty, key administrators, students, and alumni.

We would like to thank all of our panelists for generously taking time out of their schedules to share their stories, thoughts, and advice with us today. Special thanks also go to our volunteer student moderators and the Office of Career Planning and Professional Development.

Schedule of Events

9:30-10:30

Registration and Conversation
Segal Theatre

10:30-11:30

Welcome: Joy Connolly, Provost, Graduate Center
Panel: “Why the Humanities?”
Segal Theatre
(See next page for participant details)

11:45-1:00

Lunch and Keynote Talk: Fatimah Williams-Castro
“Making Connections”
Segal Theatre

1:00-2:15

Alumni Breakout Sessions 1
Concourse Level
(See next page for participant details)
Communicating (Room C201)
Making and Supporting Tools (Room C203)

2:30-3:45

Alumni Breakout Sessions 2
Concourse Level
(See next page for participant details)
Creating Content (Room C203)
Building Programs, Research, and Advocacy (Room C201)

4:00-4:45

Final Thoughts: Jason Pedicone
“Beyond the Tenure Track: A Legion of Opportunities”
Concourse Level (Room C201)

4:45-6:00

Reception
Segal Theatre

Morning Session

“Why the Humanities?” Panel Discussion (Segal Theatre)

(moderator: Stacy Hartman, Project Director, Connected Academics, Modern Language Association)

Rebecca Amato, Associate Director, Civic Engagement Initiatives and the Urban Democracy Lab, NYU Gallatin School of Individualized Study

Bennett Graff, Public Relations Associate, Big Voice Communications

Lindsay Krasnoff, Communications Consultant

Alumni Breakout Session 1

Communicating (Room C201)

(moderator: Jared Keel, English)

Lindsay Green Barber, Founder, Impact Architects

Laila Pedro, Managing Editor, *Brooklyn Rail*

Mike Pino, Senior Director, Cognizant Digital Academy (via Skype)

Peter Taback, Vice President, Communications, International AIDS Vaccine Initiative

Making and Supporting Tools (Room C203)

(moderator: Erin Garrow, English)

Shana Kimball, Research Manager, Data and Society

Lisa Rhody, Deputy Director, Digital Initiatives, Graduate Center

Salas Sanchez-Bennasar, Software Developer, DigitalGlobe (via Skype)

Red Wierenga, Creator Support Manager, Roli

Alumni Breakout Session 2

Creating Content (Room C203)

(moderator: Meira Levinson, English)

Elizabeth Cronin, Assistant Curator of Photography, New York Public Library

Johanna Gorelick, Manager, Education Services, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian

Glen Olson, Social Studies Curriculum Designer, IXL Learning (via Skype)

Rachel Burstein, Social Studies Curriculum Designer, IXL Learning (via Skype)

Sarah Richardson, Director and Global Curator, Citi Collections of Fine Art and Archives

Building Programs, Research, and Advocacy (Room C201)

(moderator: Abbie Turner, Educational Psychology)

Brooke Bryant, Director of Development, Kaufman Music Center (via Skype)

Effie MacLachlan, Director of Grants & Research Programs, CUNY Office of Research

Michael Partis, Chief Research and Policy Officer, Young Movement

Amy Starecheski, Co-Director, Columbia Oral History MA Program

Speaker Biographies

Rebecca Amato is associate director of the Urban Democracy Lab at NYU and a historian whose research focuses on the intersections between cities, space, place, and memory. Her writing has appeared in *Radical History Review*, *City Courant*, and *New York Magazine*, and is forthcoming in the *People's Guide to New York City* and *Urban Omnibus*. She holds a PhD in U.S. history from the Graduate Center.

Brooke Bryant is director of development at Kaufman Music Center. Previously, she served as assistant director, strategic partnerships and major gifts officer at Hospital for Special Surgery and major gifts officer at the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. She has a PhD in historical musicology from the Graduate Center and a background as a music educator.

Rachel Burstein earned her PhD in history at the Graduate Center. She is currently a social studies curriculum designer at IXL Learning, an edtech company in the K-12 space. Dr. Burstein previously held the following positions: academic director at Books@Work, a non-profit that brings literature seminars to workplaces; civic innovation researcher at New America, a public policy think tank; and researcher at Ithaka, the parent organization of JSTOR.

Elizabeth Cronin is the assistant curator of photography at the New York Public Library. She holds a PhD in art history from the Graduate Center and an MA in German studies from Technische Universität Dresden. In 2015 she published her book *Heimat Photography in Austria: A Politicized Vision of Peasants and Skiers* with Fotohof in Salzburg which appeared in both English and German editions.

Johanna Gorelick joined the Museum of the American Indian in 1989 (now the National Museum of the American Indian). She has served as manager of education services (from 1998), manager of the Cultural Interpreter Program (1994-1998) and manager of the Native American Arts Program (1990-1994). She earned her B.A. in art history from Vassar College and Ph.D. in anthropology from the Graduate Center, where she serves as a member of the Trustee and Alumni Professional Development Committee.

Bennett Graff is currently a public relations associate at Big Voice Communications. He has also served as the publisher of music and dance collections at database provider Alexander Street Press, the director of operations at the management consultancy RainmakerThinking, as a senior book editor at Rowman & Littlefield, a director of publisher solutions at National Archive Publishing Company, and editorial director at Gale. He received his doctorate in English from the Graduate Center, where he specialized in the American gothic tradition and the history of evolution.

Lindsay Green-Barber earned her PhD in political science from the Graduate Center. She started the Impact Architects in order to work with media organizations, nonprofits, and funders to develop custom impact frameworks, design strategies for maximizing impact, and conduct research to assess their success.

Stacy Hartman received her PhD in German studies from Stanford University in 2015. As a project manager of the Modern Language Association's Mellon-funded initiative Connected Academics, she helps early career PhDs in language and literature fields as they undergo the process of career exploration.

Lindsay Sarah Krasnoff is a historian and communications consultant whose writing on race, identity, immigration, and gender in sport has appeared in publications including *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Sports Illustrated*, CNN International, and Vice Sport. Previously, she served as director of communications for Salon Media Group and historian for the US Department of State's Office of the Historian. Krasnoff is a long-time member of the Overseas Press Club of America and sports think tank Sport & Démocratie. She holds a PhD in history from the Graduate Center.

Shana Kimball is the research manager at Data & Society. She brings ten years of experience working in research settings as an academic publisher, project and people manager, strategist, communicator, and public speaker on open access, alternative academic careers, and more. Most recently, at NYPL Labs, she led the development of a new initiative to engage technologists, scholars, and other digital practitioners in new uses of the Library's digital collections and data sources. She holds an MA in English languages and literatures from the University of Michigan.

Effie MacLachlan is the director of grants and research programs in the CUNY Office of Research. Dr. MacLachlan is an accomplished grant writer and communications specialist with many years of experience in all aspects of grants administration and program development. Prior to joining the CUNY Central Office, she stewarded the establishment of the ALL CITY Foundation, a private nonprofit with an innovative mission to integrate the visual arts and community healthcare. She received her doctorate in political science from the Graduate Center.

Glen Olson is PhD candidate in the history program at the Graduate Center. He also works as a history curriculum designer at IXL Learning, an education technology company based in the Bay Area.

Michael Partis is a practicing anthropologist who studies community-based problem solving and urban political culture. He currently leads community development programing and policy research for the non-profit Young Movement Inc. and does research for the Bronx African American History Project.

Jason Pedicone, the co-founder and president of the Paideia Institute, has a PhD in classics from Princeton University. Jason manages the Institute's general operations in the United States and teaches in its European programs. His academic interests include Greek and Latin metrics, Homer, and Roman lyric and epic poetry. He also cultivates a dilettantish love of Modern Greek language and poetry, the local Roman dialect, and cooking.

Laila Pedro is the managing editor of the *Brooklyn Rail*, where she oversees all facets of content, design, and production for the monthly publication dedicated to arts, culture, and politics. She has held senior roles at Andrea Rosen Gallery and the Wolfsonian Museum. She holds a PhD in French from the Graduate Center.

Mike Pino is a seasoned learning technologist who joined Cognizant in May 2017 to help drive digital transformation of its 200,000 employees globally through the Cognizant Digital Academy. He is co-founder of a firm developing learning technology for higher education in India and globally, and holds patents in several learning technologies. Pino holds a PhD in English from the Graduate Center.

Lisa Rhody is deputy director of Digital Initiatives at the Graduate Center. Before joining the GC, Lisa was associate director of research and research assistant professor at the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, where she oversaw technical development of PressForward and Zotero. She was also editor of the *Journal of Digital Humanities* and *Digital Humanities Now*. She earned her PhD in English Language and Literature from the University of Maryland.

Sarah Richardson is director and global curator of Citigroup's Fine Art and Archives departments, which include more than 15,000 artworks and archival material spanning more than 200 years of the firm's history. Before joining Citi in 2012, Sarah spent 15 years curating exhibitions, conducting research, and managing publications for galleries and museums. Sarah holds a PhD in art history from the Graduate Center and held a Douglass Foundation Fellowship at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. She earned her BA from Vassar College.

Salas Sanchez-Bennasar was born in Spain, arrived in the US in 2005 to complete a PhD in philosophy at the Graduate Center. After graduating with a dissertation on the philosophy of mathematics, she completed a coding bootcamp in San Francisco and got a job as a software engineer in Colorado. Currently at her second job as an engineer, she is working in Denver for DigitalGlobe, a satellite imaging company.

Amy Starecheski received a PhD in cultural anthropology from the Graduate Center. She is co-director of the Oral History MA Program at Columbia University; a member of the Core Working Group for Groundswell: Oral History for Social Change; and author of *Ours to Lose: When Squatters Became Homeowners in New York City* (2016, U. of Chicago Press). In 2016 she was awarded the Sapiens-Allegria prize for public anthropological writing.

Peter Taback is vice president, communications at the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI). He is charged with ensuring that IAVI's progress and unique mission are clearly conveyed to both internal and external stakeholders, and with raising broad awareness about the critical need for an AIDS vaccine. Taback is a member of the sociomedical sciences faculty at the Columbia University School of Public Health. He received his PhD in English from the Graduate Center.

Red Wierenga is a pianist, accordionist, respectronicist, improviser, and composer based in New York City. His longest creative association is with the Respect Sextet, called "one of the best and most ambitious new ensembles in jazz" by Signal to Noise. Wierenga builds and performs with new interfaces for electroacoustic improvisation, working with analog and digital synthesizers. He currently works as a creator support manager for the design-led music technology company ROLI.

Fatimah Williams-Castro is a speaker, author, and career consultant whose professional development guidance has been featured in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Scientific American*, *University Affairs*, *Rutgers Today*, and numerous podcasts and radio programs. She holds a doctorate in cultural anthropology from Rutgers University and bachelor's degrees in foreign affairs and African American studies from the University of Virginia.

The New PhD Project Committee Members

Project Leaders

Jennifer Furlong, Director, Office of Career Planning and Professional Development
David Olan, Associate Provost and Dean for Academic Affairs

Core Working Group Members

Khaled Al Hilli, PhD Student, Comparative Literature
Duncan Faherty, Director of the Early Research Initiative and Associate Professor of English
Katharine Grantz, Executive Coordinator and Manager of Institutional Relations, Social Science Research Council
Jared Keel, PhD Student, English
Bettina Lerner, Deputy Executive Officer, PhD Program in Comparative Literature, and Assistant Professor of French
Lisa Rhody, Deputy Director, Graduate Center Digital Initiatives
Peter Taback, Vice President, Communications, International AIDS Vaccine Initiative
Polly Thistlethwaite, Chief Librarian

Project Steering Committee Members

Claire Bishop, Professor of Art History
Carol Brathwaite, MA Student, Liberal Studies
Joshua Brumberg, Interim Dean of the Sciences and Professor of Psychology and Biology
Norman Carey, Professor and Acting Executive Officer, PhD/DMA Programs in Music
Mario DiGangi, Professor and Executive Officer, PhD Program in English
Peter Eckersall, Professor and Executive Officer, PhD Program in Theatre
Joshua Freeman, Distinguished Professor of History
Matt Gold, Executive Officer, MA Program in Liberal Studies, Associate Professor of English and Digital Humanities, and Advisor to the Provost for Digital Initiatives
Joseph Paul Hill, PhD Student, Theatre
Jennifer Kobrin, Director, Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness
Laila Pedro, Managing Editor, Brooklyn Rail
Jay Plum, Senior Manager of Content Marketing and Communications, Morrison & Foerster, LLP
Katina Rogers, Deputy Director, Futures Initiative and Humanities, Arts, Science and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory
Kendra Sullivan, Program Manager, Center for the Humanities
Gregory Wessner, Executive Director, Open House New York