



Dresher Center FOR THE
HUMANITIES

Annual Report 2015-2016

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Executive Summary

The Dresher Center had a busy year in 2015-16. We continued to serve as an incubator for humanities research, helping to sustain a robust humanities environment that benefits the university, the local community, and the wider mid-Atlantic region. In connection with our growing commitment to the humanities as a driver of civic engagement, we are a major partner in *Baltimore Stories: Narratives in the Life of an American City*, a project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities' Humanities in the Public Square grant program. The project brings faculty and students into partnership with community groups to explore narratives of race and identity in Baltimore. We also began working on new funding opportunities for the Center in the future. Many of the scholars we support directly through grants and fellowships, as well as our faculty working groups and other programs, are active participants in Baltimore's civic life. They produced a remarkable range of publications and other scholarly activity in this academic year, with a particular increase in applications for external funding. Public programs, like the long-established Humanities Forum, were successful in 2015-16, with continued strong attendance, especially from the campus community. The Center is known for the excellence of its programming – and increasingly, is helping to make the case for the range and quality of humanities scholarship at UMBC. Its Humanities Scholars Program is robust and has built a national reputation.

As you'll see in this report, the Dresher Center had a very successful 2015-16. The Center acknowledges the generous support of the Dresher Foundation, and at UMBC, the Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; the Provost; and the Vice President for Research. With this funding support and a mission to support and promote research into the social, historical, and cultural dimensions of the human experience, at UMBC, in the Baltimore-Washington region, and beyond, we are working to extend these achievements into the future.

Jessica Berman
Director

The Dresher Center for the Humanities Annual Report 2014-2015

I. Vision and Mission

The Dresher Center for the Humanities supports and promotes research into the social, historical, and cultural dimensions of the human experience, at UMBC, in the Baltimore-Washington region, and beyond.

The Center encourages intellectual exchange among UMBC faculty and students, cultivates interdisciplinary and collaborative scholarship, and promotes the humanities as indispensable to the mission of the contemporary public university. The Center fosters creative thinking about the role of the humanities in public life. It promotes innovative work linking the humanities to civic engagement, and participates in the public conversation about the value of the humanities to our increasingly interconnected global world.

With its Humanities Forum, the Dresher Center seeks to make UMBC's achievements in the humanities more widely known, while connecting UMBC researchers and students to the broader scholarly community. Through its support of the undergraduate Humanities Scholars Program it helps to nurture a generation of humanities thinkers for the future.

II. Relationship to UMBC Mission

The Dresher Center's mission complements the mission of UMBC. As a dynamic public research university UMBC integrates teaching, research, and service to benefit the citizens of Maryland. The campus offers academically talented students a strong undergraduate liberal arts foundation that prepares them for graduate and professional study, entry into the workforce, and community service and leadership. It contributes to an educated, informed, and creative citizenry through initiatives that include entrepreneurship, collaboration, and technology. UMBC is dedicated to cultural and ethnic diversity, social responsibility, and lifelong learning.

By promoting and supporting research into the social, historical, and cultural dimensions of the human experience, as well as nurturing humanities scholarship at the undergraduate and graduate levels, the Center exemplifies the best practices of the liberal arts. Through its digital humanities initiative it integrates technology with scholarship. The Center's focus on collaborative research and teaching, along with its emphasis on the role of the humanities in civic life, mobilize social entrepreneurship in service to the citizens of Maryland and the wider mid-Atlantic region.

III. Background

The Center for the Humanities at UMBC was established in 1996 with three original missions: plan and coordinate the Humanities Forum, administer the Humanities Scholars Program, and participate in the development of a program linking science and technology with the humanities.

The James T. and Virginia M. Dresher Center for the Humanities at UMBC was established in May 2007 and dedicated in September 2007. The Center moved into the new Performing Arts and Humanities Building (PAHB) in September 2010. The Dresher Center's goal, then and now, is to serve as an incubator for scholarly work in the humanities at UMBC and to become a major humanities research hub in the Baltimore-Washington area.

The Dresher Center continues to organize the Humanities Forum and manage the Humanities Scholars program. The Center has expanded upon its earlier mission through new funding opportunities, programs, and initiatives that encourage intellectual exchange among UMBC faculty and students, cultivate interdisciplinary and collaborative scholarship, and promote the humanities as indispensable to the contemporary public university. The Dresher Center links the humanities to civic life, and engages in the public conversation about the value of the humanities to our increasingly interconnected global world.

IV. Resources, Staff, and Space

Resources:

Funding support in 2015-16 came from several sources:

- Continued funding from the Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; the Provost; and the Vice President for Research;
- New funding for the Faculty Working Groups Program from the Vice President for Research.

A return on the Dresher endowment in 2015-16 helped to support internal costs. In January 2016 the Dresher Center received a 12-month grant (sub award) from the NEH Humanities in the Public Square program in support of multiple events in the "Baltimore Stories" partnership project. In conjunction with the CAHSS Dean's Office, we have been invited to prepare a proposal for future funding to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for "The Inclusion Imperative: Expanding Diversity in the Humanities, a project that will include a Visiting Fellowship Program, Humanities Teaching Labs, and a Diversity Teaching Network.

Dresher Center Staff:

- Jessica Berman, Director; Professor, English; Affiliate Professor, Gender + Women's Studies; Language, Literacy and Culture
- Ana Oskoz, Associate Director and Director of the Humanities Scholars Program; Associate Professor, MLLI
- Rachel Brubaker, Assistant Director, Grants and Program Development
- Natalia Panfile, Program Management Specialist
- La Atwater, Administrative Assistant for the Humanities and Linehan Scholars Programs

The Dresher Center Advisory Board meets three times a year to review fellowship and funding proposals and to provide guidance on a range of operational matters. The Advisory Board also holds online meetings and email conversations as needed. Board members serve two-year terms, communicate regularly, and participate in Dresher Center programs.

2015-2016 Advisory Board:

- Rebecca Adelman, Media & Communication Studies
- Beverly Bickel, Language Literacy and Culture
- Kate Brown, History, Dresher Center Residential Faculty Research Fellow, Spring 2013
- Theodore Gonzalves, American Studies
- Viviana MacManus, Gender & Women Studies
- Margaret Re, Visual Arts, Dresher Center Residential Faculty Research Fellow, Spring 2015
- David Rosenbloom, Ancient Studies
- Jessica Berman, Director, Dresher Center
- Ana Oskoz, Associate Director, Dresher Center and Humanities Scholars Program
- Rachel Brubaker, Assistant Director, Dresher Center

Space:

The Dresher Center's suite in PAHB includes staff offices, our conference room, offices for Residential Faculty Research Fellows and Graduate Student Research Fellows, and space for the Humanities Scholars Program. The Center for Innovation, Research, and Creativity in the Arts (CIRCA) also shares the space, promoting close collaboration, co-sponsorship of programs, and scholarly synergy.

The Dresher Center conference room is a sought-after campus space for meetings, public programs, workshops, and seminars. We make our conference room available to CIRCA for its Catalyst events, the Humanities and Linehan Scholars for their core courses. Current and former fellows (when possible) use the room for their classes, and the Dean of CAHSS holds monthly chairs and directors meetings in the space. The wider humanities community on campus also uses the room for events, talks, and workshops. Allowing campus groups access to our conference room contributes to our efforts to make the work of the humanities at UMBC and the Dresher Center in particular more widely known.

V. Goals

Three broad goals have emerged from our central mission:

- **To encourage intellectual exchange among UMBC faculty and students**
- **To cultivate, support, and promote interdisciplinary and collaborative scholarship and education in the humanities on campus**
- **To promote the mission of the humanities as indispensable to the contemporary public university**

VI. Objectives and Accomplishments

We have identified seven objectives that support the Center's goals:

- **Objective 1:** Provide a high level of research support to faculty and graduate students, while cultivating interdisciplinary and collaborative scholarship

- **Objective 2:** Support the Humanities Scholars program in its efforts to educate and nurture a cadre of undergraduate humanities thinkers
- **Objective 3:** Develop and present exceptional public programming in the humanities
- **Objective 4:** Cultivate partnerships with allied centers and organizations
- **Objective 5:** Develop new initiatives that encourage intellectual exchange among UMBC faculty and students
- **Objective 6:** Provide support to faculty for grant and fellowship proposal development
- **Objective 7:** Promote humanities scholarship on and off campus

The Dresher Center’s activities in 2015-16 supported each of these seven objectives.

Objective 1: Provide a high level of research support to faculty and graduate students, while cultivating interdisciplinary and collaborative scholarship

i. Dresher Center Funding Opportunities:

The research mission of the Dresher Center encourages and supports scholarship in the humanities by UMBC faculty and graduate students through competitive funding opportunities. The Dresher Center’s Advisory Board and Director review all proposals and select awardees for fellowships and funding programs.

- **Summer Faculty Research Fellowships (SFRF)** – Provides support for the development of proposals intended to lead to extramural funding or research activities related to grants and fellowships, the completion of book manuscripts, or for projects of a similar stature. Summer research fellows receive a \$6,000 stipend to support their external grant proposal and/or the development of a proposal for a book or other extended project. Applications from all full-time faculty pursuing humanities research in the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences are considered. After their fellowship summer, fellows submit a draft grant or book proposal and report on the progress made towards completion of their fellowship project.

In 2015, the Center granted three Summer Faculty Research Fellowships for book projects:

- **Nicoleta Bazgan**, Assistant Professor, Modern Languages, Linguistics and Intercultural Communication
Project: “Parisiennes: City Women in French Cinema”
- **Piotr Gwiazda**, Associate Professor, English
Project: “Translation of Zero Visibility: Poems by Grzegorz Wróblewski”
- **Michael Nance**, Assistant Professor, Philosophy
Project: “Anarchy, Legitimacy, and Economic Planning in Fichte’s Jena Political Philosophy”
- **Residential Faculty Research Fellowships** – The Dresher Center hosts two internal faculty fellows in residence in the spring semester. Each fellow receives course releases equivalent up to two courses, \$500 to hire an undergraduate research assistant for the

semester, and an office and staff support in the Dresher Center for the term. Fellows benefit from each other's work and their association with the Dresher Center. During their term of residency, fellows present their works-in-progress to other former fellows and faculty in the CURRENTS: Humanities Work Now and Fellows and Others programs. After their fellowship, fellows submit a statement summarizing the work accomplished and progress made towards completion of their fellowship project.

In spring 2016 the fourth cohort of Faculty Research Fellows took up residence in the Dresher Center:

- **Denise D. Meringolo**, Associate Professor, History
 Research project: "Radical Roots: Civic Engagement, Public History, and a Tradition of Social Justice Activism"
 Dr. Meringolo writes, "As a humanities fellow, I found like-minded scholars who understood my project. The conversations that emerged from these sessions were challenging in the most positive implication of the word – they pushed me to clarify its direction and implications. It was a very intellectually freeing experience."
 - **Craig Saper**, Professor, Language, Literacy & Culture Program
 Research Project: "A Documentary Script Adaptation of Amazing Adventures of Robert Carlton Brown"
 Dr. Saper says, "The most valuable aspects of [Dresher Center activities] for me have been to learn about others' work, to increase the pool of people who know about mine (several people have since sent me references that were helpful to my work), and to get the perspectives of people outside of my discipline – in other words, to create and be part of an intellectual community at UMBC."
- **Residential Graduate Student Research Fellowships** – The Dresher Center hosts 1-2 internal graduate student fellows in residence in the fall semester. Graduate fellowships are open to all doctoral and master's level students working on humanities-related research projects that will culminate in a dissertation or thesis. Graduate fellows reside two days a week in a shared office in the Dresher Center and receive up to \$1,000 for research travel, materials, or other directly related research expenses. Fellows present their research at a CURRENTS: Humanities Work Now workshop and participate in other Dresher Center events. After their fellowship, fellows submit a statement summarizing the work accomplished and progress made towards completion of the dissertation or thesis.

In fall 2015, the Center hosted Felix Burgos and Rachel Carter, both of whom are Ph.D. Candidates in Language, Literacy, and Culture. Burgos' doctoral project is "Exploring Memory and Memorialization in the Midst of Colombia's Armed Conflict." Carter's project is titled "Imagining otherwise: Narrating Transformative Identity Work in a College-Level Social Justice Course."

- **Scholarly Development Grants** – Support of up to \$1,000 is available to full-time faculty or Ph.D. students pursuing humanities research and have already exhausted all

departmental, DRIF, and CAHSS Travel Fund and publication subvention support. The Center awarded twelve Scholarly Development grants in 2015-16, three of which were awarded to Ph.D. graduate students (see Appendix I).

- **Scholarly Completion Grants** – These grants of up to \$2,500 are intended to support tenured and tenure-track faculty and Ph.D. students pursuing humanities research in completing the final stages of a scholarly project. They may be used for such items as research travel, publication subvention, indexing, or a technology purchase necessary to bring a scholarly project to completion. Three Scholarly Completion grants were awarded in 2015-16 (see Appendix I).
- ii. Dresher Center Faculty Accomplishments:
Recent Dresher Center research funding supported faculty in a number of endeavors this year, resulting in a range of accomplishments, including:
One forthcoming book, 3 book chapters, 14 conference papers and invited lectures; 5 journal articles (published and in review); and two awarded grants and fellowships (See Appendix II for faculty research support and accomplishments)
- iii. Dresher Center Faculty Development Initiatives:
The Center conducted a number of development activities with and for faculty in 2015-16:
- **Understanding the UMBC Grant Process** (October 12, 2015). In partnership with the CAHSS Dean’s Office and the Office of Sponsored Programs, the Dresher Center hosted a session overviewing the UMBC external grant processes and with suggestions for UMBC faculty members. The workshop was attended by 21 faculty from 12 departments.
 - **Digital Research Tools for the Humanities** (November 2, 2015). Ed Larkey (MLLI) and Meredith Oyen (History) introduced the digital tools ATLAS.ti and Scrivener, and discussed how they can be used in humanities research, long-form writing, and teaching. Ten faculty from seven departments/offices attended the workshop.
 - **New Faculty Micro-Talks** (October 7, 2015 and April 5, 2016). Held in partnership with the CAHSS Dean’s Office in fall 2015 and spring 2016, a total of 12 tenure-stream faculty, hired in the last two years, were invited to give 5-7 minute talks about their current research. The talks introduced these new colleagues to the UMBC scholarly community and connected scholars across departments in the College.
 - **CAHSS Centers Fellowship Proposal Workshop** (December 4, 2015). In collaboration with the Center for Innovation, Research, and Creativity in the Arts (CIRCA), the Imaging Research Center (IRC), the Maryland Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (MIPAR), and the CAHSS Dean’s Office the Dresher Center hosted this second workshop, which was attended by 35 faculty members. The Center directors and previous fellows offered suggestions, examples, and concrete strategies on writing successful internal fellowship applications.

Objective 2: Support the Humanities Scholars program in its efforts to educate and nurture a cadre of undergraduate humanities thinkers

The Humanities Scholars Program enables undergraduate scholars to become independent thinkers who examine cultural products and practices from a multitude of perspectives. The program provides educational opportunities and strong support for learning, research, and civic

engagement to a cadre of particularly talented young people who, over time, will have an impact on the intellectual atmosphere of the campus and will make significant contributions to the humanities in society.

The program encourages Humanities Scholars to:

- Think creatively and critically, to reason, and to ask questions that maintain an ongoing dialogue;
- Learn about the values of different cultures, learn how works of art are created and how histories are developed;
- Prepare for entering a wide variety of social and career settings for the betterment of society;
- Create a strong and vocal constituency at UMBC for the humanities and related fields.

(See full report below)

Objective 3: Develop and present exceptional public programming in the humanities

- Baltimore Stories: Narratives in the Life of an American City*** – In 2016 the Dresher Center was a major partner in a \$225,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support a series of public programs designed to help transform narratives about race in Baltimore following the events of April 2015. The initiative explores the ways that citizens of Baltimore think about narratives of life and identity in the city and seeks to bring humanities scholarship and methodologies to help frame and contextualize narratives of race. The project also shines a spotlight on the ongoing, collaborative work being done in Baltimore neighborhoods by universities and non-profit organizations, and especially by UMBC faculty and students. UMBC, through the Dresher Center and Imaging Research Center, is a major partner in the project, along with the UMCP Arts and Humanities Center for Synergy, Maryland Humanities, Enoch Pratt Free Library, and Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance.

The first of three public, Dresher Center sponsored events, “Multiple Stories, Multiple Communities,” took place at the Creative Alliance in Baltimore on April 23, 2016. It featured a two-hour-long community conversation highlighting UMBC-community partnerships and local activism. UMBC faculty Nicole King (AMST), Michelle Stefano (AMST), and Ana María Schwartz Cabellero (MLLI) presented their community-engaged work alongside neighborhood partners and representatives from community-based organizations. Following the conversation, Bill Shewbridge (MCS), Tania Lizarazo (MLLI), and Christine Ferrera and Dustin Roddy (New Media Studio) guided community members in creating stories about their life experiences in a 90-minute digital storytelling workshop. Overall, 65 people participated, one of the largest turnouts for a Baltimore Stories event. See <http://dreshercenter.umbc.edu/multiple-communities-multiple-stories/> for the complete agenda.

The Dresher Center will host two more “Baltimore Stories” events in 2016: “Building Public Humanities: Baltimore Coalition Stories” on October 29 at Brown Memorial Church and the project Culminating Event, on December 3 at UMBC.

- ii. **Humanities Forum** – Founded in 1996, the Humanities Forum builds on a tradition of advancing the study of human thought and culture at UMBC and the Baltimore region. The Forum offers a program of events that illustrate the richness of contemporary work in philosophy, history, culture, language, media, literature, and the arts. Forum events present exciting new ideas and lively exchanges, in the spirit of inquiry and conversation. These events are always free and open to the public.

The Dresher Center co-sponsors named departmental lectures in the Humanities Forum, including the Webb Lecture with History, the W.E.B Du Bois Lecture with Africana Studies, the Korenman Lecture with Gender + Women’s Studies, and the Barker Lecture with Philosophy. Ancillary events organized by the Dresher Center include dinners with speakers, Humanities Scholars, and invited faculty on campus. Post-event receptions provide opportunities for small-group discussions among speakers and audience members.

The Humanities Forum had a strong year, presenting 15 events in the fall and spring of 2015-2016. These events attracted a total audience of 1,771 people. The audience size for Forum events averaged 118 people and regularly included members of the community as well as faculty and students on campus. (See Appendix III for the complete list of 2015-2016 Humanities Forum events, co-sponsors and partners.)

Several Humanities Forum speakers were featured on Maryland Humanities’ “Humanities Connection” radio series on WYPR. Marjoleine Kars spoke about her research on a slave rebellion in colonial Berbice ahead of her Forum presentation on December 2, 2015. Tim Nohe discussed his creative work in Botany Bay, Australia that resulted in the “Sounding Botany Bay” exhibit and Humanities Forum talk (February 16, 2016). Both podcasts are available on the Dresher Center’s “Humanities Connection Talks” webpage (<http://dreshercenter.umbc.edu/test/humanities-connection-talks/>).

As part of the Dresher Conversations series, Director Jessica Berman conducted video interviews with several Humanities Forum speakers during the fall and spring. These videos are in production and will be made available on the Dresher Center’s “Dresher Conversations” webpage (<http://dreshercenter.umbc.edu/test/media/>).

Fall 2015

- **Eduardo López**, television producer, journalist and documentarian
- **Tong Lam**, photographer and Associate Professor of History, University of Toronto

Spring 2016

- **Alice Dreger**, historian of science and medicine
- **Ram Devineni**, filmmaker, publisher, and founder of Rattapallax publishing and film production company

The following nine Humanities Forum events were promoted by the Office of Institutional Advancement (OIA) in radio spots on WYPR and/or display ads in *The Baltimore Sun* and *Baltimore City Paper*:

Fall 2015

- "In Comis Veritas: The Principles of Ancient Roman Hairdressing," Janet Stephens, Independent scholar and hairstylist
- "Linked Fates and Great Expectations: Revisiting Post-Colonial Africa and African-American Life through Diasporic Literature," Dinaw Mengestu, MacArthur Fellow, acclaimed novelist, and Professor of English, Brooklyn College (W.E.B. Du Bois Lecture)
- "China's Forgotten Gated Communities," Tong Lam, photographer and Associate Professor of History, University of Toronto
- "Freedom Marooned: An Atlantic Slave Rebellion in the Dutch Caribbean," Marjoleine Kars, Chair and Associate Professor of History, UMBC, and 2015 Dresher Center Fellow

Spring 2016

- "Implicit Biases, Moral Agency, and Moral Responsibility," Angela Smith, Roger Mudd Professor of Ethics and Professor of Philosophy, Washington and Lee University (Evelyn Barker Memorial Lecture)
- "'Some wine, ho!' Shakespeare, Women, and the Story of English Wine," Frances Dolan, Distinguished Professor of English, University of California, Davis (MEMS Colloquium Lecture)
- "Heroes and Villains: Art, Imagination and the Road to Improved Race Relations in Baltimore," Breai Mason-Campbell, Baltimore dancer, teacher, and community activist (Daphne Harrison Lecture and Performance)
- "Can A Comic Book Superhero and Rape Survivor Change Attitudes Toward Sexual Violence?" Ram Devineni, filmmaker, publisher, and founder of Rattapallax, Inc. publishing and film production company
- "Socioeconomic Status and Brain Health: Biological, Psychosocial, and Behavioral Pathways," Shari Waldstein, Professor of Psychology, UMBC (Lipitz Lecture)

Members of the Humanities Forum Committee in 2015-2016 included: Tom Beck, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery; Maleda Belilgne, English and Africana Studies; Chris Corbett, English; Preminda Jacob, Visual Arts; Michele Osherow, English and Judaic Studies; Ana Oskoz, Dresher Center and Humanities Scholars Program; Michelle Stefano, American Studies; Constantine Vaporis, Asian Studies and History; Tom Moore and Max Cole, OIA ex-officio members; and Jessica Berman, Director, and Natalia Panfile, Program Management Specialist, Dresher Center.

- iii. **Dresher Center Partner Events** – The Dresher Center also partners with departments, programs and centers on talks, workshops, colloquia, panel discussions, and film series. Dresher Center Partner Events are often geared to smaller audiences and can be more specific to certain disciplines or campus interest groups. While not listed in the Humanities Forum flyer, Partner Events benefit from all the other means of publicity offered by the Dresher Center.

Dresher Center Partner Events in 2015-16 included:

- "The Calling: Art Practice Along the Road of Changing Consciousness" Selected Readings and Commentary. Cherrie L. Moraga, in partnership with the American Studies Department.

- English Department Reading Series. Reading and Book Signing by fiction writer Ann Pancake, in partnership with the English Department.
- *Salvation Army/ L'Armée du salut* (2013) Film Screening and Q&A with author and director Abdellah Taïa, in partnership with MLLI.
- “Enemies within? The Othering of France’s Muslims” with Alec Hargreaves, in partnership with MLLI.
- Critical Social Justice Keynote “Baltimore in Action: Always Rising” teach-in, in partnership with the Women’s Center and Student Life’s Mosaic: Center for Culture and Diversity.
- “From Baraka to Rihanna: Legacies of the Black Arts Movement” with Mike Chasar. In partnership with the English Department.
- Roberto Brodsky, Chilean screenwriter and novelist:
 - Screening of *Machuca*
 - Screening of *My Life with Carlos*
 - Roberto Brodsky talk and Q&A
- Linda Gregerson/Susan Botti:
 - “Resonating Poetry: Words with Music,” Susan Botti and Linda Gregerson, discussion of their collaborative process.
 - “Twice Told Tales: Adapting Ancient Stories in Contemporary Arts” with Linda Gregerson
 - “Moon Myth” Works by Susan Botti, including a world premiere of *Mangetsu*

Objective 4: Cultivate partnerships with allied centers and organizations

- i. **Imagining America Consortium** – UMBC is a member of the Imagining America Consortium, an association of approximately 90 universities that includes many of the country’s most prestigious institutions of higher learning. The consortium explores and promotes the idea that the humanities, arts, and design have a significant role to play in helping our country overcome its biggest challenges by understanding our past and present, and imagining our future. Along with Baltimore community and higher education partners, UMBC hosted the 2015 Imagining America national conference (October 1-4). The Dresher Center collaborated with the IA committee on planning interdisciplinary events with humanities faculty and students both on- and off-campus. The Dresher Center’s panel, “From the Local to the Global: Micro-Talks on the Power of Place in the Humanities,” held in the Dresher Center conference room, featured five Dresher Center Fellows (summer and residential) and one Humanities Scholar who presented their place-based humanities research to an enthusiastic audience of 35 people.
- ii. **Center for Innovation, Research, and Creativity in the Arts (CIRCA)** – The Dresher Center often collaborates with CIRCA on interdisciplinary events. Our ongoing partnership promotes synergistic work between the arts and humanities at UMBC, which is a hallmark of CAHSS.
- iii. **Imaging Research Center (IRC)** – IRC and the Dresher Center have supported the digital humanities through collaborations with humanities faculty on several external funding applications to the NEH and the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS). Lee Boot,

IRC Associate Director (2016 Director), leads the interdisciplinary Critical Engagement Faculty Working Group, supported by the Dresher Center, whose members were involved in planning and implementing the 2015 Imagining America conference in Baltimore. IRC is also a partner with the Dresher Center in the NEH-funded “Baltimore Stories” project, and has developed a series of media events on the intersections of art, race, and the humanities following the April 2015 death of Freddie Gray and subsequent response.

- iv. **Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes** – The Dresher Center joined the Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI) in December 2013. This 200-plus member international organization provides support, professional development, and networking to member centers. CHCI serves as an arena for the discussion of issues germane to cross-disciplinary activity in the humanities and as a network for the circulation of information and best practices related to the organizational and management dimensions of humanities centers and institutes. The Consortium produces a major annual meeting for its membership, maintains a content-rich website, develops an annual print directory, and serves as a re-circulator for information about its members via listservs and its website. CHCI members also assist one another with ideas, evaluation, and other forms of service.

Jessica Berman, Dresher Center Director, and Ana Oskoz, Associate Director, attended the CHCI annual conference in London, in June 2016, on the theme “Area Studies in a Globalizing World: Past, Present, and Future.” Membership in CHCI has already begun to pay benefits through the Dresher Center’s participation in the Consortium’s workshops for new chairs and for associate/assistant directors and with its connections to the Mellon Foundation, which supports several CHCI initiatives. The organization addresses important areas of interest to Centers, such as public humanities and digital humanities, and brings together established humanities centers and institutes in an international network.

- v. **“Baltimore Stories” Partnership** – The Dresher Center and IRC are major partners in the NEH-funded Humanities in the Public Square grant project *Baltimore Stories: Narratives and the Life of an American City*. The project, which is led by the UMCP Arts and Humanities Center for Synergy and Maryland Humanities, was awarded in January 2016. Other partners are the Enoch Pratt Free Library and the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance (GBCA). The initiative grew from the Baltimore Thinkathon, an annual gathering of artists, scholars, and activists, supported by UMCP and UMB, that seeks to address issues in Baltimore through the arts and the humanities. Dresher Center Director Jessica Berman is a member of the Thinkathon group.
- vi. **Maryland Humanities** – The Dresher Center maintains close ties with Maryland Humanities and promotes its initiatives and funding resources to the UMBC community. UMBC faculty and students have been featured speakers on the Maryland Humanities “Humanities Connection” radio series. Maryland Humanities and the Dresher Center are partners on the NEH-funded “Baltimore Stories” project.

Objective 5: Develop new initiatives that encourage intellectual exchange among UMBC faculty and students

- i. **Dresher Center Faculty Working Groups** – Dresher Center Faculty Working Groups encourage and support collaborative, interdisciplinary communities of scholars working on humanities projects, research concerns, or matters of public interest. The Dresher Center provides seed funding of up to \$1,000 per year for the first-year activities of these groups and continuation funding of up to \$1,500 per year for subsequent years. Working groups are expected to meet regularly and may use their funds to travel to sites or archives, host speakers, explore technologies, and create new resources or materials, or other similar activities. Groups must submit periodic reports on their activities.

One new faculty working group was funded in spring 2016:

- **Translation and Displacement**

Leader: Piotr Gwiazda (English)

With attention to theory and practice, and with an eye on the shifting cultural paradigms, this group seeks to “reclaim” the meaning, value, and relevance of translation in today’s world. Activities include presentations on translation-related research, workshops, collaborations, and invited talks.

Accomplishments:

This new group, comprised of faculty members and graduate students from the departments of English, Ancient Studies, MCS, and MLLI, and the LLC Program, held three meetings during which group members and an invited guest, former UMBC faculty member Helen Burgess (North Carolina State University), presented their work in progress.

Four Working Groups received continuation funds for ongoing work in 2015-16:

- **Digital Storytelling and Civic Agency in Higher Education**

Leader: Bill Shewbridge (Media and Communication Studies)

This working group explores the research focus of digital storytelling including discussions of digital literacies and competencies in the humanities and social sciences, narrative and storytelling research, and classroom work across disciplines. The group serves as a steering body for ongoing digital storytelling activities and connects with other campus work that involves storytelling for civic agency and engagement. The group promotes opportunities for faculty involved in digital storytelling research to share their experiences through presentations, workshops, roundtables and a possible one-day conference. Participating departments and programs: MCS, American Studies, LLC, MLLI, Visual Arts

Accomplishments:

The group met several times in 2015-16, with two resulting outcomes:

1. Beverly Bickel and Bill Shewbridge presented “Collaboration and Community Engagement through Digital Storytelling” at the 6th International Digital Conference. The presentation highlighted UMBC’s digital storytelling work through a series of video interviews with working group and community of practice members.

2. Working group members Beverly Bickel, Bill Shewbridge, Romy Hübler, and Ana Oskoz submitted a book chapter, “Faculty at the Intersection of Digital Storytelling and Community Engagement,” for the *International Handbook of Digital Storytelling*. The chapter is currently in review and scheduled for publication later this year.

- **Sound Studies**

Leaders: Maleda Belilgne (Africana Studies and English) and Steph Ceraso (English)
Over the past decade, sound studies has been generating a buzz in disciplines across the humanities. The dual purpose of this group is to 1) facilitate more cross-disciplinary discussions about sound, and 2) bring together faculty members with shared interests to encourage collaboration. Among its activities the group discusses relevant sound studies issues from different disciplinary perspectives, holds informal presentations of their own in-process work, and coordinates and participates in invited talks with guest speakers. Participating departments and programs: English, Africana Studies, American Studies, History, LLC, MLLI, MCS, Music, and Visual Arts.

Accomplishments:

The Sound Studies group concluded the year 2015-16 with a Sound Studies Symposium, with senior scholar Jonathan Sterne, Professor of Art History and Communication Studies at McGill University and editor of *The Sound Studies Reader*, in attendance. Presenters Tim Nohe (CIRCA), Linda Dusman & Alan Wonneberger (Music), Nicole King (AMST), Bryce Peake (MCS) and Maleda Belilgne (AFST/ENG) discussed a range of work that included acoustic composition, audiovisual installation, sonic interpretation of urban renewal in Baltimore City, jazz and sexology in British Gibraltar, and James Baldwin’s blues aesthetic. While focused on disciplinary-situated projects, many of the presenters noted the role of Sound Studies faculty outside of their own field in inspiring new research directions.

- **Critical Engagement: Socially-Engaged Research in the Baltimore Region**

Leader: Lee Boot (Imaging Research Center)

This interdisciplinary group is exploring the potential of participatory action research and social practice in the arts and humanities to have a positive impact in communities local to UMBC. Participating departments and programs: American Studies; English; Gender and Women’s Studies; History/ Center for Digital History and Education; Media and Communication Studies; Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication; Visual Arts; and Language, Literacy, and Culture. Other participants include BreakingGround, the Shriver Center, CADVC, CIRCA, the New Media Studio, and the Dresher Center.

Accomplishments:

As a result of the conversations created by the Critical Engagement Working Group in 2015-16, an effort to map – geographically, organizationally, and conceptually – the engaged scholarship and service activities of UMBC in Baltimore and the surrounding area is underway. This project, being researched and developed by the IRC, is gathering information, descriptions, text, websites, and other media on the various work being done in order to embed it in a 3D interactive environment where it can be explored, edited, and added to by all involved. The hope is that what emerges will be a “living, breathing” visualization that is both a tool for the work itself, and an effective way to

spread awareness of UMBC's efforts in this area. The development schedule has the project rolling out to the campus community for the 50th anniversary celebration.

- **Issues in Digital Humanities: Definitions (or What Precisely Do You Mean by Digital Humanities?)**

Leader: Craig Saper (Language, Literacy, and Culture)

This group seeks to define digital humanities in a more systematic, nuanced, and complete way. Its activities include discussions with leaders in the digital humanities with the expectation that some of its work will lead to publications. Participating departments and programs include: Ancient Studies, English, MCS, MLLI, LLC, and Music.

Accomplishments:

The group had three major events with guest presentations and workshops in 2015-16. A Digital Humanities Workshop with Raffael Vigilante and Matthew Kirshenbaum from the UMCP Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH) was held on March 24, 2016. On April 9, 2016 guest speakers Rebecca W. Black and Jonathan Alexander from University of California-Irvine spoke on "Hunger Games and Transmedia Storytelling." On May 4, 2016, Helen Burgess, from North Carolina State University, presented "Machine Translation and Poetry at Electric Press: From Text to Code to Algorithm to Text," with Craig Saper as a respondent, with co-sponsorship from the Translation and Displacement Faculty Working Group.

- ii. **CURRENTS: Humanities Work Now** – CURRENTS showcases exciting new faculty work in the humanities in a dynamic interdisciplinary setting. Designed to promote ongoing conversation and multi-disciplinary investigation, these meetings offer faculty and advanced graduate students an informal venue for presentation, conversation, and ongoing collaborative exchange.

CURRENTS presentations take many forms, including:

- Discussion of key research questions in projects and articles;
- Conversations about methodological issues surrounding multi- or trans-disciplinary work;
- Presentations of working drafts of new papers;
- Explorations of digital and multi-modal scholarship;
- Consultations with other scholars about grant or other major project proposals.

Faculty participants represented eight CAHSS departments and programs with one presenter from the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and average attendance was 12 per session.

(See Appendix IV for a list of 2015-16 CURRENTS workshops.)

Fellows and Others Workshops – The Fellows and Others Workshop series is a cornerstone of the Dresher Center's Residential Faculty Research Program. Current and past Dresher Center Fellows and other faculty participate in small-group discussions on issues concerning humanities research and scholarship. Faculty members commit to attend multiple sessions, which include

preparatory work such as short assigned readings or selections from the presenters' works in progress.

The Dresher Center 2016 Residential Faculty Fellows, Denise Meringolo and Craig Saper, along with previous Dresher Fellows and other faculty met three times during the spring, with an average attendance of eleven faculty members, double the attendance of 2014-15. The program's value was echoed in informal comments made during and following the sessions.

Objective 6: Support faculty in grant and fellowship proposal development

- The Dresher Center held two grant workshops in 2015-16:
 - 1) **Understanding the UMBC Grant Process** (October 12, 2015), with Dresher Center, the CAHSS Dean's Office and the OSP, on the external grant process. Attendance: 21 faculty
 - 2) **CAHSS Centers Fellowship Proposal Workshop** (December 4, 2015), with the Dresher Center, CIRCA, IRC, MIPAR, and the CAHSS Dean's Office on developing proposals for Dresher Center and CAHSS Research Center fellowships. Attendance: 35 faculty
- Rachel Brubaker, Dresher Center Assistant Director for Grants and Program Development, provides extensive support to arts and humanities faculty on a client basis. In 2015-16 assistance was given to 42 faculty (individuals and groups) seeking internal and external funding support, up from 14 in 2014-15 when this support was first available. This assistance included initial and exploratory discussions; grant research; planning with applicants and staff from the CAHSS Dean's Office, OSP, and OVPR; communication with funding agencies; application review, compilation, and editing; budget/budget narrative preparation; internal routing assistance; and assistance in submitting final proposals to external funders. Ms. Brubaker communicates grant and fellowship opportunities through a monthly announcement to all CAHSS faculty, as well as through the Dresher Center website, Facebook, and Twitter. She also meets with faculty in their departments.
 - **30 external funding proposals were submitted.** Selected sponsors include: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation; American Academy in Berlin; American Council of Learned Societies (Fellowships, Collaborative Research Fellowships, Digital Extension Fellowships); Andrew Carnegie Foundation; Columbia University Research Library; European University Institute; National Endowment for the Arts (ArtWorks); National Endowment for the Humanities (Division of Research, Division of Public Programs, Division of Museums, Libraries and Cultural Organizations); NEH Palestinian American Research Council Fellowship; Center for Craft, Creativity, and Design; U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation
 - **9 external funding proposals were awarded in 2015-16** (6 award decisions on other proposals are pending):
 - **Dresher Center for the Humanities (Jessica Berman, PI) –** NEH Humanities in the Public Square Grant (subaward to UMCP):

- Baltimore Stories: Narratives in the Life of an American City*
- **Kate Brown** (History) –
 - Andrew Carnegie Foundation Humanities Fellowship: *Chernobyl's Pale: Health, Controversy, and Science in Determining the Contours of Nuclear Disaster*
 - American Academy in Berlin Fellowship: *Circumnavigation: The History of Human Survival in the Chernobyl Zone*
 - European University Institute Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowship: *Circumnavigation: History's Renovation in the Age of the Anthropocene*
 - **Marjoleine Kars** (History) – European University Institute Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowship: *Freedom Marooned: An Atlantic Slave Rebellion in the Early Modern Dutch Caribbean*
 - **Viviana MacManus** (GWST) – Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation Mellon Career Enhancement Fellowships for Junior Faculty: *"We are Protagonists of this History:" Gender, Political Violence, and Testimonies of Resistance in Latin America's Dirty Wars*
 - **Michael Nance** (Philosophy) – Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation Fellowships for Experienced Researchers: *Revolution, Recognition, and Legitimacy: Fichte's Jena Theory of Right*
 - **Meredith Oyen** (History) – United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Sosland Research Fellowships: *The Shanghai Survivors: World War Two's Displaced Persons in Asia and the Politics of Resettlement*
 - **Colette Searls** (Theater) – Light City Baltimore Artist Grants: *Kendra's Bay*

Objective 7: Promote humanities scholarship on and off campus

- ii. **Website and social media** – The Dresher Center's Twitter (<https://twitter.com/UMBCHumanities>) follows 620 individuals and humanities organizations and has more than 820 followers, a 25% increase from 2015. The Center's tweets and re-tweets, which average 15-20 per week, promote UMBC humanities faculty accomplishments, events, and news, as well as concerns and topics of interest to humanities audiences. The Dresher Center Facebook page (208 likes) promotes the Humanities Forums and UMBC humanities faculty accomplishments, as well as posts events and relevant news.

The Dresher Center website (<http://dreshercenter.umbc.edu>) is a hub for disseminating information about the Center's events, programs, and funding opportunities. The Center also produces and shares curated media such as "Dresher Center Conversations," (<http://dreshercenter.umbc.edu/test/media/>) a rich video archive of provocative and reflective discussions with leading humanities thinkers, and "Humanities Connections Talks" (<http://dreshercenter.umbc.edu/test/humanities-connection-talks/>) archived podcasts featuring UMBC faculty discussing their humanities research and other humanities topics (originally broadcast through the Maryland Humanities "Humanities Connection" radio series on WYPR 88.1 FM). In 2015-16 the following faculty were recorded on the Humanities Connection: Michele Osherow (English and Judaic Studies) and

Manil Suri (Mathematics); Marjoleine Kars (History); Tim Nohe (Visual Arts); and Dawn Biehler (Geography and Environmental Studies).

- ii. **Communications** – The Dresher Center has continued to increase its use of internal communications through the use of email “blasts” and announcements (MailChimp) on, as well as a new monthly announcement on external grant and fellowship opportunities. Dresher Center events and announcements are also posted on the Center’s myUMBC page and on the CAHSS Dean’s Office’s calendar. External communications through social media (Twitter and Facebook), as well as printed event marketing materials are used to disseminate information on Dresher Center programs.
- iii. **Advocacy activities** – Jessica Berman participated in Humanities Advocacy Day, sponsored by the National Humanities Alliance, on Capitol Hill in March 2016.

VII. Opportunities and Challenges for the Future

Residential Fellows, etc.

We are delighted with the success of our residential fellows program for faculty (spring) and graduate students (fall), which has helped accelerate the research of several faculty and advanced graduate students. However, we believe it is important to complement these internal awards with fellows in residence from other institutions. External fellows bring new and creative ideas, alternate perspectives, and might offer UMBC an opportunity to help address campus issues and initiatives. To that end, we have developed a proposal for a Visiting Fellowship Program for Faculty Diversity and Inclusion and are currently exploring funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The proposal contains two additional complementary components: Humanities Labs and a Regional Diversity Teaching Network. We are very excited about the possibility of being able to mount these programs in 2017-18.

Faculty Working Groups

We consider the Dresher Center Faculty working groups to be one of the most significant of our new programs. The groups incubate innovative cross-disciplinary work and support scholarship in a very cost-effective way. The Faculty Working Groups are already contributing to faculty publications and presentations, and are likely to generate applications for external funding and other new initiatives. We appreciate new Faculty Working Group support provided by the Vice-President for Research in 2016.

Humanities Scholars

The Humanities Scholars Program needs continuing and expanded support. Under the able directorship of Ana Oskoz, the program is increasingly robust, with more programming and strong student engagement. Yet, the Scholars Program faces real limits on the amount and number of awards it can make to prospective students. And Humanities Scholars continue to face challenges in funding their study-abroad semesters (as described in the Humanities Scholars Program Report that follows).

We will continue to assist the program in its support of student study abroad, as well as in its recruitment and outreach efforts. We consider the Humanities Scholars Program ripe for external funding and hope to partner with CAHSS and OIA to discover potential donors.

Public Programming

The Humanities Forum continued strong in 2015-16, with a variety of prominent speakers and enthusiastic audiences. The Center expanded and improved its video conversations, which are archived on its website. But with current funding it is difficult to sustain such a high level of programming, which has continued to benefit UMBC in the terms of support for the humanities on campus and increased prominence for UMBC.

1. Over the next several years we will continue to expand the number and range of Dresher Partner Events, which are a very cost-effective way of extending the reach of our support.
2. We will expand our co-programming and coordination of events and workshops with CIRCA as it grows. We also hope to continue partnering with CADVC, as well as with the IRC and MIPAR.

Academic Initiatives

At the request of the CAHSS Dean's Office, we are partnering with humanities departments to explore a potential academic program in Public/Applied Humanities. Jessica Berman will co-chair this initiative with Nicole King of American Studies. Given the Center's strong programming in this area, this initiative fits well with our other goals for the future. There is also potential for external funding related to this initiative through the NEH's new Humanities Connections grant program.

Affiliations and Outreach

1. Our partnership with UMCP, Maryland Humanities, the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance and the Enoch Pratt Free Library on the "Baltimore Stories" grant has extended our outreach activities significantly this year. We hope to continue to partner with these organizations in the future.
2. We hope to build more collaborations with such partners as City Lit, Howard County arts and cultural organizations, and the Maryland State Arts Council.
3. We have developed improved office, business, and communication procedures, including use of software such as MailChimp for email "blasts" and announcements, and have built an improved Dresher Center website. We also make extensive use of social media (Twitter and Facebook). We are in the process of designing a Dresher Center marketing brochure, which we will for outreach in order to build the Center's reputation beyond campus and to help ensure that the community is aware of the strength of the humanities at UMBC.

Conclusion

In 2015-2016 the Dresher Center for the Humanities continued to expand its leadership role in the cultural life of UMBC and the region. The Center is becoming widely known for the excellence of its programming and for its work to promote humanities scholarship at UMBC and in the Baltimore region. As an incubator for humanities research, the Center fosters a robust humanities environment that benefits the university, the local community, and the wider mid-Atlantic region. Through its Civic Engagement faculty working group, support for the Imagining America Conference, and partnership on the “Baltimore Stories” NEH grant project, the Center has enhanced and expanded its connection with Baltimore’s civic life. This focus on “public humanities” and issues of diversity and inclusion will propel new initiatives in 2016-17, such as a plan for a potential new undergraduate program and a proposal for major funding to the Mellon foundation. The scholars the Center has supported are publishing and disseminating their work nationally and internationally. The Humanities Forum had a strong year, bringing distinguished guest speakers to local audiences. The new Dresher Partner Events program helped expand the range of offerings at UMBC. The Humanities Scholars Program is recognized as a model program by other centers nationwide. We take pride in the recent comment of a faculty member that, thanks to our work, the humanities now have a higher profile on campus than ever before. We look forward to building on these achievements into the future.

HUMANITIES SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2015–2016 YEAR-END REPORT

I. Vision and Mission

The Humanities Scholars Program enables undergraduate humanities scholars to become independent thinkers who examine cultural products and practices from a multitude of perspectives. It provides educational opportunities and strong support for learning, research, and civic engagement to a cadre of particularly talented young people who, over time, will have an impact on the intellectual environment of the campus and will make significant contributions to the humanities in society.

The Humanities Scholars Program at UMBC encourages humanities scholars to:

- Think creatively and critically, reason, and ask questions that promote ongoing dialogue;
- Learn about the values of different cultures, how works of art are created, and how histories are developed;
- Prepare for entering a wide variety of social and career settings for the betterment of society;
- Create a strong and vocal constituency at UMBC for the humanities and related disciplinary fields.

II. Hallmarks of the Program

Through the study of history, literary and cultural studies, art, philosophy, language, and media, motivated humanities scholars seek a better understanding of human experience. Highlights of the Humanities Scholars Program include:

Individualized advising

Throughout their four years in the program, humanities scholars are advised by their program director before registration each term and when the need arises during the semester. The program director establishes a strong relationship with each student and knowledge of his or her goals and experiences at UMBC.

Crossing disciplinary boundaries

Throughout their experience, humanities scholars work closely with faculty from different disciplines. During the first year, humanities scholars participate in a team-taught interdisciplinary seminar each semester. The purpose of these seminars is to enable the cohort to bond with each other and interact with at least four faculty members. Students are taught to think across disciplinary boundaries and learn about independent research. In their senior year, students participate in mini seminars in which they are reunited with their first-year seminar professors and their cohort. They reexamine selected texts they read as incoming students and note the ways in which their understanding of the readings and their worldviews have changed.

Study abroad

A semester of study abroad is required for all humanities scholars, and this generally takes place during their junior year. Some students, especially those interested in language, may study abroad for a full year. The director of the Study Abroad Office works with students to assure

them of experiences that will best serve their intellectual and professional goals.

Emphasis on a well-rounded education

Humanities scholars present their work at Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Day (URCAD) and apply for Undergraduate Research Awards (URA). They also participate in a myriad of extracurricular activities, internships, service learning, and on- and off-campus jobs.

III. 2016- 2017 Goals

1. To attract high quality applicants while operating within a restricted budget

- The national attention garnered by UMBC in recent years has attracted a greater number of high-achieving applicants. We saw a noted increase in the number of program applicants in 2014-15 and 2015-16 was similar. The quality of applicants was also high. This healthy number of applications (in addition to the relatively healthy yield from the last two years) allowed the Humanities Scholars Program selection committee to be quite discerning in choosing the applicants invited to campus (see Appendix V for the committee members). After the final selection, the committee extended offers to the most deserving in the applicant pool. Twenty-four out of 35 students (68.57%) of applicants received offers, which was 14% higher than the previous year. Thirteen of those 24 applicants (54%) accepted our offer. Although the yield on this year's offers presented a slight decrease (6%) from fall 2015, and was less than the record high of fall 2014, when we admitted 18 scholars, the numbers are still in line with the yield in 2012 (55%) and above 2013 (42%). We are fulfilling our goal of enrolling cohorts of 12-15 scholars, and we currently count 49 humanities scholars in the program overall. Maintaining a healthy number of scholars in the program reflects, no doubt, UMBC's improved national status, as we are better able to compete with other top-level institutions.
- While we are experiencing a steady number of applications, there is still a need to smooth the application process which has sometimes presented obstacles. Several strategies have been put in place to improve the online application process, the award process, and the acceptance of awards:
 - After each UMBC admissions event (September-December 2015), the program director followed up with an email to all the high school students who attended the humanities orientation sessions or stopped at the Humanities Scholars Program tables.
 - In December 2015, the director obtained from the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships a list of students admitted to UMBC who were interested in the humanities. She then emailed those applicants with a GPA of 3.5 or above and a minimum SAT score of 1600 to make them aware of the Humanities Scholars Program and to invite them to submit their applications.
 - In January 2016, the director followed up on the incomplete applications to ensure that the applicants' dossiers could be reviewed.
 - In March and April 2016, after sending the offers to the new class of humanities scholars, the program director sent regular emails to each accepted applicant, inviting him or her to come to campus; organized meetings among current scholars

and the invited applicants, such as in New Students Day; and invited the accepted students to come to campus to specific events, such as the Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Day (URCAD) and the Second Humanities Scholars Salon. Several applicants came to campus to meet the scholars, emailed professors, and attended classes at UMBC.

- The application will now be available to prospective scholars as of August 1st rather than November 1st. This is likely to have a significant impact on numbers of applications. Previously applicants could not submit their applications to the Humanities Scholars Program until after November 1st, often after they submitted their UMBC applications. This mismatch of deadlines may have caused some prospective candidates not to apply to the program. We expect this change to product a higher number of applications, and a higher yield rate as a result.
- Despite stable yield rates, if we want to maintain and even increase the amount of scholars in the program, we need to address the challenge of competing with programs at other universities that have more resources. We are hoping to attract the very best students (1600 SATs, 4.0 GPAs, school leaders, etc.), who are also applying to a large number of prestigious colleges and universities. Many of those applicants receive better financial offers from other institutions. In 2016 one of our top candidates received “a full ride” scholarship that included summer programs and extra classes from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte through the Levine Scholars program. Two other top candidates selected College Park over UMBC, one of them as a College Park Scholar.
- Another issue to be addressed is the recruitment of Baltimore City high school students, a population that is underrepresented at UMBC and that often lacks some of the educational opportunities as students in other Maryland areas. Last year, together with the Honors College, Admissions office, and the other UMBC scholars programs, the Humanities Scholars Program got actively involved in the recruitment of Baltimore City students. Yet, despite an increase in applications from Baltimore City, most of those students’ SAT scores were below the UMBC requirements and they were not accepted into our institution. Other students, albeit accepted at UMBC, did not possess the scores required to be part of the scholars program. However, we believe in the need to look at different measures, such as the high school GPA scores (with an upward trend) and recommendation letters, which often highlight student characteristics not obvious in standardized test scores. Another possibility is to have students present a portfolio of their best work in the humanities. By looking at alternative measures that better reflect the academic possibilities of this underserved population, UMBC can attract candidates with the potential to be successful not only in our institution but also in their future endeavors. Adopting these measures would further enhance UMBC’s reputation as a leader in closing the educational equity gap among underserved student populations in the Baltimore area.
- Despite these outreach efforts and our close working relationship with the Admissions Office, there are admitted students who only find out about the program after the January 15th application deadline. Other prospective students are not aware of the distinction between declaring a major in the humanities and applying to the Humanities

Scholars Program. And we know that some accepted applicants are hesitant about becoming part of both the Humanities Scholars Program and the Honors College. The director of the program recently suggested the Admissions Office the need to publicize the unique characteristics of the Humanities Scholars Program and to communicate more effectively with prospective applicants early in the process. We are also updating the Humanities Scholars Program website with a new section that will address the need for prospective scholars to apply to the program, independent of whether they have declared a humanities major. The section will include information on how the Humanities Scholars Program and the Honors College are different yet complementary. This section will also emphasize the need to complete the program application by the January 15th deadline.

2. To encourage scholars to maximize the academic and professional possibilities of their study-abroad experience

Humanities Scholars spend a full semester studying abroad to gain exposure to a culture other than their own (<http://humanitiesscholars.umbc.edu/general-information>). Studying abroad provides the opportunity to acquire the skills, attitudes, and perceptions that allow students to be globally and cross-culturally competent.

To prepare scholars for their study-abroad experience, the Study Abroad director meets with them both in their first and second years. In the spring, the first year students are guided in finding the right program based on their interests, major, and second language knowledge. In the fall the sophomores begin to narrow down the programs that better fit their academic and financial needs. The Humanities Scholars Program also holds additional events in which returning scholars present their experiences adapting to the host country culture, including navigating different educational systems.

Some scholars look for even more opportunities to study and research abroad. Humanities scholar Kelly Wan, for instance, was funded by the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Chinese 2016 Program to study for eight weeks over the summer in Xi'an, China at Shaanxi Normal University. Anthony Alberti participated in a ten-day creative writing program at the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David in Lampeter, UK; and Morgan Chadderton, through the Critical Language Institute of Arizona State University, studied Russian in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, for eight weeks.

In fact, both students and parents seem to be excited about the study-abroad requirement, which is a special hallmark of UMBC's Humanities Scholars Program and distinguishes it from programs at other universities. It often becomes one of the deciding factors in choosing UMBC. In the past the Humanities scholarship covered the full cost of study abroad. The reality today, however, is that even at the top in-state award of \$7,500 per semester students are still approximately \$5,000 short of the cost of their programs, which are usually priced at private school levels. We believe that a promise to fund most of the *required* semester abroad might make a difference to families weighing their options when applying to programs. This initiative would cost about \$90,000 per year, but would attract top students to the program and would help to maintain and improve the yield rate. Studying abroad provides a unique cultural and academic experience that allows humanities scholars to develop skills and attitudes that promote global and cultural competency. Studying abroad also enhances the possibility that

humanities scholars will be selected for post-graduate scholarships, such as Fulbright grants, or employment abroad. Given the relevance of achieving global and cultural competency, which aligns with UMBC's strategic plan, the Humanities Scholars Program considers that the humanities scholars' study abroad experience should be considered a funding priority.

3. To encourage scholars to engage in opportunities that provide them with a rounded education

Humanities scholars participate in a series of on- and off-campus cultural activities (see Appendix VI and VII for a list of the activities). Scholars often comment that these events give them exposure to films, performances, and discussions of topics unfamiliar to them. In addition, humanities scholars participate in internships, volunteer work, and hold jobs on and off campus.

- In 2015-2016, for example, junior Allison Feeney (American Studies and Financial Economics) accepted an internship at Altus Group, which provides State and local tax and advisory services to companies. Sophomores Emily Grace (English) was an assistant online editor at BrickHouse Books and Kelley Bennett (History and MCS) served as the social media assistant for Dr. Mitch Yockelson's fourth book, *Forty-Seven Days*. Even first-year scholars get internships, such as Sage Burch (Global studies and Professional Writing), who is currently a communications intern at St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Ahana Kowdley (Asian Studies and Global Studies), who is helping to translate documents between Chinese and English for AZIMARC IP Law Services, LLC.
- Scholars are also engaged in a variety of volunteer opportunities to help the UMBC community and beyond. Sophomore Kelly Wan is involved with UMBC Global Medical Brigades, where she helps provide legal assistance and educational workshops to those seeking aid. Junior Allison Feeney volunteered for the World Relief office in Anne Arundel County, and freshman Helena Wachhaus was a content research and development volunteer for an exhibition on climate change at an environmental and historical conservation organization in Vieques, Puerto Rico. Given that volunteering helps scholars have an impact on the community and obtain practical knowledge, in 2016-17 the Humanities Scholars Program director met with Lori Hardesty, from the Shriver Center, to discuss additional volunteer and service learning opportunities. A workshop on service learning, led by Lori Hardesty and humanities scholar Morgan Zepp (junior), will take place on September 7th in the Humanities LLC. We expect this presentation will encourage new scholars to participate in internships and engage in volunteer work from the moment they arrive at UMBC.
- Humanities scholars also search for employment opportunities that will help them enter the workforce. For example, first-year student Mairead Alexander (English and Music) worked as an assistant to a music educator at the Wolfe Street Academy in Baltimore City. Sophomore Carrie Cook works in the UMBC Office of Undergraduate Admissions, assisting parents and students with the application process and leading prospective students and parents on tours around campus. Sophomore Flora Kirk was employed by UMBC Special Collections, where she retrieved archival material, created book enclosures and updated archival metadata; and junior Dylan Elliott, who worked at the UMBC Career Center, conducted workshops and presentations for Students

Organizations, residence hall floors, and academic classes on topics such as career preparation and resume writing. For other examples of humanities scholars internships and volunteer work, see <http://humanitiesscholars.umbc.edu/internships/> and <http://humanitiesscholars.umbc.edu/volunteer---work/>. This variety of internships, volunteer work and relevant employment reflects the diverse interests and initiative of the humanities scholars.

- The humanities scholars' academic excellence is recognized by their home departments. Scholars Emily Grace and Emory Russo, both English majors, were the recipients of the Malcolm C. Braly Awards for Creative Writing Award for Fiction and the Writing Award for Poetry, respectively. Morgan Zepp also won the English Department's Braly Award for Writing for (nonfiction essay) and Emory Russo won the Best Fiction Piece in the 2016 edition of *Bartleby*. The Department of History awarded scholar Lauren O'Connell the John Bell-Clifford Maas Prize for Academic Excellence for the best overall academic record by a history major during his or her years at UMBC. Other awards included The William and Martha Christopher Award in Ancient Studies to Flora Kirk, and the Outstanding Researcher to Melina Latona in Global Studies. Amanda Burns (English and Music double major) also received an award from the Music department. For the full list of awards, awardees, and departments, see Appendix VIII.
- Many humanities scholars assume leadership roles at UMBC in their home academic departments or in their extracurricular activities. Caroline Davis (senior) was the Secretary of the Linguistics club in the MLLI department since spring 2015. Morgan Zepp (sophomore) is a Service Learning Coordinator for Arbutus Achievers organizing events for students to learn about themes, such as diversity (see <https://umbcbreakingground.wordpress.com> for a featured article); and in 2015-16 Rebecca Haddaway (sophomore) served as the Vice President of Fellowship in UMBC's chapter of APO (Alpha Phi Omega), a co-ed community service focused fraternity.
- The humanities scholars' sterling work allows them to apply for external scholarships. Recent humanities scholar alumnus, Matthew Poissant, '15, received a Teaching Fulbright to teach in Indonesia from January-December 2017. Alex Szabo, '15 is a Teaching Fulbright alternate for Nepal, and humanities scholar Lauren O'Connell, '16 was a semi-finalist to teach in Germany. Julian Tash is an alternate for the Boren Scholarship. To continue this impressive record of major scholarships, the Humanities Scholars Program director has already identified several scholars and put them in contact with the Study Abroad Office to start the Fulbright application process. Many scholars have recognized that completing the Humanities Scholars Program requirements, such as studying abroad, gives them an edge in applying for these scholarships.

4. To continue to prepare scholars to engage in independent research while at UMBC

As in previous years, the program director has emphasized the importance of completing original research and the opportunities for engaging in research at UMBC. Our humanities scholars conduct research with faculty members in their departments, present their work at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Day (URCAD), and apply for Undergraduate Research Awards (URA).

- Humanities scholars gave five presentations of their research (either poster or papers) at URCAD on April 22, 2016. Sophomore Julian Tash presented his project titled “Burnt Bridges over Troubled Waters: A History of Territorial Disputes in the South China Sea” and the poster “The Middle Kingdom’s Middle Ground: Understanding China’s Conciliatory Policy in the Mekong River.” Senior Melina Latona, together with Sondheim scholar Isabel Geisler, presented their work “Grassroots Alternatives to the Global Corporate Food Regime in Baltimore.” Flora Kirk (sophomore) presented her project “I Was Here: Roman Coins in the Third Century AD and their Role in Immortalizing Emperors,” and Emily Grace (sophomore) presented “By Ear: Hearing Poems into Being.” Sidrah Shayiq presented on “Answer the Question: Writing Proper Thesis Statements.” For information on the URCAD Humanities Scholars’ mentors and departments refer to Appendix IX.
- To encourage and showcase the current research conducted by humanities scholars, the program held the second Humanities Scholars Salon in April 2016, where five students presented their projects. The Salon, which took place the week before URCAD, served also as a rehearsal venue for URCAD presenters Flora Kirk, Julian Tash, Sidrah Shayiq, Melina Latona, and Emily Grace, and for Lauren O’Connell, who defended her final paper at the end of the semester. Several scholars have already communicated that they are in the process of starting their own independent research and are looking forward to presenting at future URCADs. The Humanities Scholars Program director also met with Ms. Janet Mcglynn in August to discuss how to keep on working with humanities scholars about the URA and the URCAD programs. All sophomores will be strongly encouraged to participate in one of the research orientation sessions provided by the Office of Undergraduate Education.
- From their first year, humanities scholars are encouraged to conduct research when participating in their study abroad semester. The program director communicates regularly about the frequent workshops provided by the Office of Undergraduate Research. This year sophomore humanities scholars Flora Kirk and Julian Tash applied and received an URA to conduct research while studying abroad. Flora Kirk (Ancient Studies) will be researching in Rome for her project “Roman Coins in the Second and Third Century A.D. and Their Role in Immortalizing Emperors.” Julian Tash (Asian Studies and History) will be researching in Japan for his project “Objects of Devotion: Exhibiting Images of the Buddha.” Although preparing and conducting a research project while studying abroad takes a significant amount of planning, we hope that the preliminary success of scholars Flora Kirk and Julian Tash will encourage other scholars to pursue this route.
- Humanities scholars have had the opportunity to publish and present their research beyond UMBC. Both Melina Latona and alum Arielle Erenrich published their papers in the Global Baltimore Report (<http://globalstudies.umbc.edu/files/2015/12/GlobalBaltimoreReport.pdf>), and alumna Yoo-Jin Kang published her work in the *UMBC Undergraduate Review* <http://ur.umbc.edu/files/2016/05/kangYooJin.pdf>. Kelly Wan, together with Dr. Nicole King, spoke about her work on Baltimore’s Chinatown at the Dresher Center’s panel on place-based humanities research during the Imagining America Conference in October 2015. Julian Tash presented his work at the Student Research Conference on Asia and

the Environment at Bard College in Spring 2016. This past year, in conjunction with ongoing faculty public humanities projects, seminar first-year scholars had the opportunity to conduct research in Baltimore City with Dr. Michelle Stefano and Dr. William Shewbridge (<http://news.umbc.edu/starting-at-sparrows-point-humanities-research-amplifies-voices-and-histories-of-baltimore-communities>).

- Many humanities scholars have published their creative work in *Bartleby*. For example, freshmen Alex Armbruster and Lane Kennedy published their poems “Between Her Hands” and “Alleyway,” respectively; sophomores Carrie Cook and Emily Grace published their poems “Panic” and “Snow”; sophomore Emory Zoe published her fiction work “Alone Together,” and sophomore Morgan Zepp and senior Anna Crow published their creative nonfiction work “Lifelines” and “Nothing is Wrong.”

5. To prepare Scholars to engage in graduate studies or enter the work force

The diversity of interests of the humanities scholars is evident in the variety of paths they take after graduation. Our graduates pursue graduate studies, continue their research, teach abroad, and enter the work force.

To prepare humanities scholars for future career endeavors, the program continued its Professional Series workshops, with the goal of providing scholars with the necessary professional and financial skills to enter the work force. Partnering with Career Services, humanities scholars attended professional workshops on internships and volunteer work. Humanities scholar and Career Services assistant Dylan Rogers, for example, offered a workshop on developing interview skills. With the success of these workshops, the program is planning future workshops for 2016-17, several of which will again be given by humanities scholars. In addition, this year we hosted a Humanities Scholars Alumni Panel on the topic “Life after Graduating from UMBC,” with a special focus on work force skills and knowledge.

6. To develop and maintain a close-knit group of Humanities Scholars

The program is strengthening the interactions among the humanities scholars beyond the cohorts.

- In addition to the Big-Little Buddy Program that connects the first-year cohort with more seasoned scholars, the Humanities Scholars Program hosted the second Meet-and-Greet event on September 22, 2015. This event, which provides an opportunity for scholars to get together in an informal environment, helps to create a larger sense of community and enhance the presence of the humanities scholars at UMBC. The addition of the new Humanities Scholars Program sign (with funding from CAHSS Dean, Scott Casper) has also helped increase the program’s visibility at UMBC.
- To enhance the community beyond the current scholars, this past year we hosted the first Humanities Scholars Program Alumni brunch during Homecoming. The event, which was well received by the program alumni, resulted in the creation of an alumni Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/845778605540763>) where we share articles, news about the program, and updates about current humanities scholars and alumni. Another result of this reception was the first Humanities Scholars Program alumni panel in spring 2016, where four alumni presented and answered questions about their experience after leaving the program. A future aim of the program is to

create a mentorship program between alumni and current scholars to develop a closer Humanities Scholars Program network.

7. To maintain the popularity and success of the community and to increase students' participation in Humanities Living Learning Community activities.

The program director also serves as the academic program coordinator of the Humanities Living Learning Community (LLC), which is located in Harbor Hall and serves 32 students. Approximately one third of the residents are first-year or sophomore humanities scholars (they are invited, but not required, to live on the Humanities LLC floor) and the rest are drawn from the broader student population. Students living in the Humanities LLC take advantage of cultural events on and off campus. (See Appendix VII for a list of Humanities LLC activities). To enhance participation of the Humanities LLC residents, several of the Professional Series workshops took place on the Humanities LLC.

Humanities Scholars Program and Beyond

Finally, the mission of the Humanities Scholars Program—providing educational opportunities and strong support for learning, research, and civic engagement—does not focus only on the humanities scholars or the Humanities LLC, but extends to all humanities students at UMBC. Students across campus are invited to attend the Humanities Forum and participate in the conversations with the Forum speakers. To recognize the academic strength of UMBC humanities students, the Dresher Center and Humanities Scholars Program continue to oversee the Mary Akaras Book Scholarship competition for undergraduate students majoring in the humanities. This year's awardee, Caleb Metcalf, was praised by the Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication Department for his extraordinary talents. With this and other initiatives stated in the report, the Humanities Scholars Program maintains its commitment to creating a strong and vocal constituency at UMBC for the humanities and related fields.

(See Appendix V--IX for 2015 – 2016 Humanities Scholars Selection Committee and Program Activities)

Appendices

APPENDIX I: 2015-2016 SPONSORED AWARDS

Dresher Center Summer Faculty Research Fellowships (Summer 2015):

Nicoleta Bazgan, Assistant Professor, Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication: *Parisiennes: City Women in French Cinema* (\$6,000)

Michael Nance, Assistant Professor, Philosophy: *Anarchy, Legitimacy, and Economic Planning in Fichte's Jena Political Philosophy* (\$6,000)

Piotr Gwiazda, Professor, English: *Translation of Zero Visibility: Poems by Grzegorz Wróblewski* (\$6,000)

Dresher Center Residential Faculty Research Fellowships (Spring 2016):

Craig Saper, Professor, LLC: *A Documentary Script Adaptation of Amazing Adventures of Robert Carlton Brown* (\$6,000 course release)

Presented one Fellows & Others session and one CURRENTS: Humanities Work Now session.

Denise Meringolo, Associate Professor, History: *Radical Roots: Civic Engagement, Public History, and a Tradition of Social Justice Activism* (\$8,000 course release, \$500 research assistant)

Presented one Fellows & Others session and one CURRENTS: Humanities Work Now session.

Dresher Center Residential Graduate Student Research Fellowships (Fall 2015):

Felix Burgos, LLC Ph.D Program: *Exploring Memory and Memorialization in the Midst of Colombia's Armed Conflict* - \$1,000

Rachel Carter, LLC Ph.D Program: *Imagining Otherwise: Narrating Transformative Identity Work in a College-Level Social Justice Course* - \$1,000

Dresher Center Scholarly Development Fund 2015-2016:

Erin Berry, LLC Ph.D Program: to present on "Computer Mediated Communication in the Transition from College to Career: A Study of Black Female U.S. Undergraduates' Sociolinguistic Practices on Social Media" at the Language in the Media (LiM) Conference in Hamburg, Germany (fall 2015) - \$1,000

Edward Larkey, Associate Professor, Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication: to attend and present on panel titled "Measuring Transnationalism: Comparing Television Formats Using Digital Tools" featuring papers from Ibrahim Er and Landry Digeon at the British Association for Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS): Fourth Annual Conference, London, UK (spring 2016) - \$1,000

Fan Yang, Assistant Professor, Media and Communication Studies: to attend The Society of Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia and the Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) annual meeting in Miami, Florida (spring 2016) - \$1,000

Landry Digeon, LLC Ph.D Program: to attend and present on panel titled "Measuring Transnationalism: Comparing Television Formats Using Digital Tools" featuring papers from Ed Larkey

and Ibrahim Er at the British Association for Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS): Fourth Annual Conference, London, UK (spring 2016) - \$1,000

Ibrahim Er, LLC Ph.D Program: to present on a panel at the *Sound and the Screen Symposium* at the University of West London (fall 2015) (\$850); to attend and present on panel titled “Measuring Transnationalism: Comparing Television Formats Using Digital Tools” featuring papers from Ed Larkey and Landry Digeon at the British Association for Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS): Fourth Annual Conference, London, UK (spring 2016) - \$650

Lynn Cazabon, Associate Professor, Visual Arts: to attend international exhibition of her work hosted by the WRO Art Center in Wroclaw, Poland (spring 2016) - \$1,603

Melissa Bailey, Visiting Assistant Professor, Ancient Studies: to present on session called “Standardization and State” at the Society for Classical Studies/Archaeological Institute of America joint Conference in San Francisco (spring 2016) - \$948

Raphael Falco, Professor, English: to cover photographic costs and publication fees for two images in his forthcoming book, *Cultural Genealogy and Early Modern Myth* (spring 2016) - \$316

Rebecca Adelman, Associate Professor, Media and Communication Studies: travel funding to deliver talks titled “An Ethics of Unidentifiable Suffering: Spectatorship, Responsiveness, and Photos from the War in Syria” at the “Photography and Its Publics” symposia, in Prato, Italy and “Imperial Cry-Faces: Women Lamenting the War on Terror,” at the “Imperial Benevolence: U.S. Foreign Policy in American Popular Culture Since 9/11” Fulbright conference, Hong Kong (spring 2016) - \$719

Jessica Pfeifer, Associate Professor, Philosophy: to present paper on “Abstraction and Probabilities in Evolutionary Theory” at Philosophy of Biology at Madison conference (POBAM), Madison, WI (spring 2016) - \$439

Elizabeth Patton, Assistant Professor, MCS: to conduct archival research in the Sperry Rand Collection at the Hagley Library, Delaware (spring 2016) - \$860

Molly Jones-Lewis, Lecturer, Ancient Studies: to attend and present on “The Misbehaving Doctor in Roman Law” at the the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS) conference in Williamsburg, VA (spring 2016) - \$267

Dresher Center Scholarly Completion Fund 2014-2015:

Carole McCann, Chair and Professor, Gender + Women’s Studies: indexing and proofreading for *Figuring the Population Bomb: Gender and Demography in the Mid-Twentieth Century* (forthcoming Fall 2016) - \$2,195

Kathryn McKinley, Associate Professor, English: publication subvention for *Chaucer and Boccaccio: Image, Vision, and the Vernacular in the House* (forthcoming December 2016) (spring 2016) - \$2,500

Brian Grodsky, Associate Professor, Political Science: indexing for *The Democratization Disconnect* (forthcoming) (spring 2016) - \$495

APPENDIX II: DRESHER CENTER SPONSORED RESEARCH – FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2015-2016 Selected Faculty Accomplishments

Recent Dresher Center research support has resulted in a range of faculty accomplishments in 2015-2016, from conference papers and external grant applications, to works in progress, and the publication of journal articles and books.

Marjoleine Kars, History

- Support: Residential Faculty Research Fellowship (spring 2015)
 - Funding awarded: Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowship, European University Institute, Florence, Italy, Fall 2016
 - Presented: “Sovereign Subjects,” workshop Ch. 8 of her book project “Freedom Marooned,” Atlantic History Seminar, University of Maryland College Park, April 8, 2016
- Summer Faculty Research Fellowship (2013)
 - Publication, article: “Dodging Rebellion: Women and a Politics of Gender in the Berbice Slave Rebellion,” *American Historical Review* 121, 1 (Feb. 2016), 39-69

Mike Nance, Philosophy

- Support: Summer Faculty Research Fellowship (2015)
 - Publications:
 - Chapter: "Freedom, Coercion, and the Relation of Right," in *Fichte's Foundations of Natural Right: A Critical Guide*, Gabriel Gottlieb, ed., Cambridge University Press, in press
 - Chapter: "Hegel's Jena Practical Philosophy," in *The Oxford Handbook of Hegel*, Dean Moyar, ed., Oxford University Press, forthcoming
 - Funding awarded: Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers for *Revolution, Recognition, and Legitimacy: Fichte's Jena Theory of Right* (funded, ~€55,000)
 - External Grant Application: ACLS Fellowship, for project *Revolution, Recognition, and Legitimacy: Fichte's Jena Theory of Right* (not funded)
 - Invited Workshop Presentation: “Anarchy, Legitimacy, and Economic Planning in Fichte’s Jena Political Philosophy,” DC – Baltimore Kant Workshop, George Washington University, February 2016 Works in Progress: “Anarchy, Legitimacy, and Economic Planning in Fichte’s Jena Political Philosophy,” (journal article, in preparation)

Nicoleta Bazgan, Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication

- Support: Summer Faculty Research Fellowship (2015)
 - Book manuscript completed: *Parisiennes: City Women in French Cinema*
 - Presentations:
 - “The Atlas of Cinematic Paris: City Women in Paris since 1957,” *European Cinema Research Forum Conference*, NUI Galway (Ireland), July 7-8, 2015
 - “Girls in the Banlieue in Contemporary French Cinema,” Northeast Modern Language Association 47th Annual Convention March 17–20, 2016 Hartford, CT

- Support: Scholarly Development Fund (spring 2015)
 - Publication Subvention for *Parisiennes: City Women in French Cinema* (University of Liverpool Press)

Piotr Gwiazda, English

- Support: Summer Faculty Research Fellowship (2015)
 - Publications:
 - Book: *Zero Visibility*, a translation of collection of poems by Grzegorz Wróblewski, Phoneme Media 2017.
 - Selections from *Zero Visibility* appeared in 2015-16 in the following publications: *6x6 Magazine*, *Mantis*, *From the Fishhouse* (audio archive, with Q&A), *Los Angeles Review*, *Pleiades*, and *The Nation*. More selections are forthcoming in *Tripwire* and *Granta*. External Grant Application: PEN American Center (2015), (not funded).
 - Conference presentations and poetry readings.:
 - Seminar on “Poetry and Translation: A Question of Life and Death,” at the Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers (ALSCW) Conference in Washington, D.C. (October 2016)
 - Reading at release party for *6x6 Magazine*, which has published excerpts from *Zero Visibility*, Brooklyn, NY. (June 2016)
 - Talk: “‘Enhanced Interrogation Techniques’: Poetry, Translation, and the News” at the DC-ALT Group, American Literary Translators Association (ALTA) in Washington, DC. (February 2016)
 - Residencies:
 - The Baltic Centre for Writers and Translators (Sweden) (March 2016)
 - Banff Centre Arts Program (Canada) (not funded).
 - Works in Progress, essay: “‘Enhanced Interrogation Techniques’: Poetry, Translation, and the News.”

Rebecca A. Adelman, Media and Communication Studies

- Support: Scholarly Development Fund (spring 2016)
 - Presentations:
 - “An Ethics of Unidentifiable Suffering: Spectatorship, Responsiveness, and Photos from the War in Syria” at the “Photography and Its Publics” symposia, in Prato, Italy
 - “Imperial Cry-Faces: Women Lamenting the War on Terror,” at the “Imperial Benevolence: U.S. Foreign Policy in American Popular Culture Since September 11th” Fulbright conference, in Hong Kong in May, 2016

Raphael Falco, English

- Support: Scholarly Completion Fund (spring 2016)
 - Publication, book: *Cultural Genealogy in Early Modern Myth* (Routledge, pub. date Sept. 2016)

Lynn Cazabon, Visual Arts

- Support: Scholarly Development Fund (spring 2016)

- Art Creation: work for two site-specific, public art projects, "Uncultivated" and "Junkspace," Wroclaw, Poland

Ibrahim Er, Ph.D student, Language, Literacy and Culture

- Support: Scholarly Development Fund (fall 2015)
 - Publication, article: Er, I. (2016). "A Funnier *Monk*: A Multimodal Approach to Transnational TV Series Adaptations." *Series - International Journal of TV Serial Narratives* 2(1): 5–19.
- Support: Scholarly Development Fund (spring 2016)
 - Publication, article: Larkey, E., Digeon, L., & Er, I. (2016). "Measuring Transnationalism: Comparing TV Formats using Digital Tools." *VIEW Journal of European Television History and Culture* 5(9): 72-92.
 - Presentation: with Ed Larkey, Ph.D. and Landry Digeon: "Measuring Transnationalism: Comparing Television Formats Using Digital Tools" at the British Association for Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS): Fourth Annual Conference (2016)

Kathryn McKinley, English

- Support: Scholarly Completion Fund (spring 2016)
 - Publication, book: *Chaucer's House of Fame and its Boccaccian Intertexts: Image, Vision and the Vernacular* (Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies Press, 2016)
 - Research: travel to Florence, Italy (July 2016)

Erin Berry, Ph.D., Language, Literacy and Culture

- Support: Scholarly Development Fund (fall 2015)
 - Publication, article: Daniels, A. and Erin L. Berry. "For Harriet, For Me: An Analysis of Black Feminist Safe Spaces in Digital Media." *PHILLIS: The Journal of Research on African American Women* (2016).
 - Presentations:
 - Berry, Erin L. "Computer Mediated Communication in the Transition from College to Career: A Study of Black Female U.S. Undergraduates' Sociolinguistic Practices on Social Media" (2015). Accepted for presentation at the 6th International Language in Media Conference, Hamburg, Germany: September.
 - Berry, Erin L. "Sister Insider, Sister Outsider, & Semiotician: The Politics of Positionality in Qualitative Research with Black Female Millennials at HBCUs." 31st Annual Maryland Communications Association Conference (MCA), Bowie, MD: November, 2015

Margaret Re, Visual Arts

- Support: Residential Faculty Research Fellowship (spring 2015)
 - Applications for External Funding: NEH (August 2015); Center for Craft, Creativity and Design (October 2015); NEA (February 2016); Coby Foundation (July 2016); and NEA (August 2016)

- Presentation: "Contemporary American Textiles," panel on "Traveling Domestic: Modernism's Revolutionary Interiors" at Modernist Studies Association Conference in Boston, MA (Nov 19-22, 2015).

Felix Burgos, Ph.D., Language, Literacy and Culture

- Support: Residential Graduate Research Fellowship (Fall 2015)
 - Presentations:
 - "Exploring memory and memorialization in the midst of Colombia's armed conflict," *What does heritage change?* Association of Critical Heritage Studies, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada. June, 2016.
 - "Work of Memory and the Construction of the Museo Nacional de la Memoria," XXXIV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, New York, NY. May, 2016.
 - Research: Dissertation research in Colombia between June 14th and August 11th, 2016.

Rachel Carter, Ph.D., Language, Literacy and Culture

- Support: Residential Graduate Research Fellowship (Fall 2015)
 - Presentations:
 - *Imagining otherwise: Narrating transformative identity work in a college-level social justice course.* Poster presentation. Imagining America annual conference: *America will be! The art and power of "weaving our we."* UMBC. October 1-3, 2015.
 - *Imagining otherwise: Narrating transformative identity work in a college-level social justice course.* Panel presentation on 'Scholar' or 'activist'? *Interrogating the difficulties of women's studies as a destination for both roles.* Interventions Graduate Student Symposium: Women's Studies in Action. University of Maryland, College Park. October 23-24, 2015.
 - *Toward a pedagogy of hope.* Panel presentation on *Reading affect: An embodied pathway for countering hegemonic discourses in the feminist classroom.* National Women's Studies Association annual conference. Co-panelists: Emerald Christopher, Ph.D. and Emek Ergun, Ph.D. November 12-15, 2015.
 - *Feminist transformations: From diversity to social justice.* Panel presentation on *Intersectional feminist pedagogy, resistance, and counter strategies.* National Women's Studies Association annual conference. Co-panelists: Mignonette Chiu, Ph.D., Emek Ergun, Ph.D., Agatha Beins, Ph.D. November 12-15, 2015.

Fan Yang, Media and Communication Studies

- Support: Scholarly Development Grant in (spring 2016) and Summer Faculty Research Fellowship (2014)
 - Publications:
 - Article: "Fiscal Orientalism: China Panic, the Indebted Citizen, and the Spectacle of National Debt," *Journal of Asian American Studies* (accepted, forthcoming 2017)

- Article: "Temporality and Shenzhen Urbanism in the Era of 'China Dreams'," *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* (accepted for publication, forthcoming 2017)
- Article: "From Bandit Cell Phones to Branding the Nation: Three Moments of *Shanzhai* in WTO-era China," *positions: asia critique*, Vol. 24 (3) (August 2016)
- Article: "*Under the Dome*: 'Chinese' Smog as a Viral Media Event," *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, April 26, 2016 (online first)
- Presentations:
 - "Chimerica/Chimera: Mirror, Media, and Mediation," The Institute on Culture and Society, Marxist Literary Group, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, June 25-29, 2016
 - "Book Discussion: *Faked in China*," *Violence, Social Reproduction and the State*, The Institute on Culture and Society, Marxist Literary Group, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, June 25-29, 2016
 - "Author Meets Critics: *Faked in China*" The Cultural Studies Association Conference, Villanova University, Philadelphia, June 2-4, 2016
 - "'Through the Looking Glass': Rethinking China, Crisis, and Transnational Media," *Contesting Globalization II: Crisis, Culture and the Global Economy*, The Cultural Studies Association Conference, Villanova University, Philadelphia, June 2-4, 2016
 - "Chimerica/Chimera: Mediation, Transnationalism, and Asian American Studies," *Bridges and Departures: New Sites of Inquiry for Asian American Studies*, The Association for Asian American Studies Conference, Miami, Florida, April 28-30, 2016 (panel organizer and presenter)
 - "*House of Cards* in China: Paratexts and Transnational Circulation," *Paratextual Analysis and Global Circulation*, the Society of Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Atlanta, GA, March 30 - April 3, 2016
 - "*Under the Dome*: China, the Environment, and the Viral Media Event," *Eco-Media in China*, the 44th annual conference of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Association for Asian Studies, the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, Oct 9-11, 2015 (Oct 10)
- Applications for External Funding:
 - National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2017-2018)
 - Oct, 2015: National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipends (one of the two University nominations), (not funded).

Landry Digeon, Ph.D., Language, Literacy and Culture

- Support: Support: Scholarly Development Fund (spring 2016):
 - Publication, article: Larkey, E., Digeon, L., & Er, I. (2016). "Measuring Transnationalism: Comparing TV Formats using Digital Tools." *VIEW Journal of European Television History and Culture* 5(9): 72-92.
 - Presentation:

- with Ed Larkey, Ph.D. and Ibrahim Er: “Measuring Transnationalism: Comparing Television Formats Using Digital Tools” at the British Association for Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS): Fourth Annual Conference (2016).
- “Using Digital Tools for a Genre-Based Comparative Analysis of TV Formats,” at the British Association for Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS): Fourth Annual Conference (2016)

Carole McCann, Gender + Women’s Studies

- Support: Residential Faculty Research Fellowship (spring 2014)
 - Publication, book: *Figuring the Population Bomb: Gender and Demography in the Mid-Twentieth Century*, Seattle: University of Washington Press, in press.

APPENDIX III: 2015-2016 HUMANITIES FORUM

Humanities Forum Fall 2015

Thursday, September 17

5:30 pm, PAHB 132 – Attendees 167

“Harvest of Empire: The Untold Story of Latinos in America”

Eduardo López, television producer, journalist and documentarian

Sponsors: *the Dresher Center for the Humanities; Latino/Hispanic Faculty Association; the Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication Department; the American Studies Department; and the Media and Communication Studies Department*

Thursday, September 24

7:00 pm, PAHB 132 – Attendees 105

“Dear White People – film screening and conversation”

Kimberly Moffitt, Associate Professor of American Studies, UMBC, and 2014 Dresher Center Fellow

Damon Turner, Adjunct Professor in Africana Studies, UMBC and PhD Candidate in African American History, Morgan State University

Sponsors: *the Dresher Center for the Humanities; the Africana Studies Department; the American Studies Department; and Student Life’s Mosaic: Center for Culture and Diversity.*

Wednesday, October 14

4:00 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 120

Ancient Studies Week

“*In Comis Veritas: The Principles of Ancient Roman Hairdressing*”

Janet Stephens, Independent scholar and hairstylist

Sponsors: *the Ancient Studies Department and the Dresher Center for the Humanities.*

Wednesday, October 21

4:00 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 97

Webb Lecture

“The Republic of the Unlettered: Intellectual History, the Enlightenment, and the Law in the Spanish Empire”

Bianca Premo, Associate Professor of History, Florida International University

Sponsors: *the History Department and the Dresher Center for the Humanities.*

Wednesday, November 11

7:00 pm, Linehan Concert Hall – Attendees 300

W.E.B. Du Bois Lecture

“Linked Fates and Great Expectations: Revisiting Post-Colonial Africa and African-American Life through Diasporic Literature”

Dinaw Mengestu, MacArthur Fellow, acclaimed novelist, and Professor of English, Brooklyn College

Sponsor: *the Africana Studies Department and co-sponsored by the Dresher Center for the Humanities; the English Department; the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts,*

Humanities, and Social Sciences; the Division of Undergraduate Academic Affairs; and the Office of Undergraduate Education.

Wednesday, November 18

5:30 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 75

"China's Forgotten Gated Communities"

Tong Lam, photographer and Associate Professor of History, University of Toronto

Sponsor: *the Dresher Center for the Humanities; the Visual Arts Department; the History Department; the Asian Studies Program; and the Global Studies Department.*

Wednesday, December 2

4:00 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 100

"Freedom Marooned: An Atlantic Slave Rebellion in the Dutch Caribbean"

Marjoleine Kars, Chair and Associate Professor of History, UMBC, and 2015 Dresher Center Fellow

Sponsor: *the Dresher Center for the Humanities and the History Department*

Humanities Forum Spring 2016

Tuesday, February 16

4:00 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 60

"Sounding Botany Bay: an exhibition on how humans have changed a unique Australian environment"

Tim Nohe, intermedia artist, Professor of Visual Arts and Director of the Center for Innovation, Research and Creativity in the Arts (CIRCA), UMBC

Sponsors: *the Dresher Center for the Humanities; the Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery; the Visual Arts Department; and the Center for Innovation, Research and Creativity in the Arts.*

Wednesday, February 24

5:30 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 250

9th Annual Korenman Lecture

"Why Have Intersex Rights Been So Hard to Secure in America?"

Alice Dreger, historian of science and medicine

Sponsors: *the Gender + Women's Studies Department; the Dresher Center for the Humanities; the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; the Office of the Provost; the Office of the Vice President for Research; Women Involved in Learning and Leadership; and the Psychology Department.*

Tuesday, March 1

4:00 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 60

"Poetry Reading: It Shouldn't Have Been Beautiful"

Lia Purpura, Writer-in-Residence, English, UMBC

Sponsors: *the Dresher Center for the Humanities and the English Department.*

Thursday, March 24

4:00 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 95

Evelyn Barker Memorial Lecture

“Implicit Biases, Moral Agency, and Moral Responsibility”

Angela Smith, Roger Mudd Professor of Ethics and Professor of Philosophy, Washington and Lee University

Sponsors: *the Philosophy Department, the Dresher Center for the Humanities, and the Psychology Department.*

Tuesday, March 29

4:00 pm, University Center 312 – Attendees 95

MEMS Colloquium Lecture

Shakespeare Anniversary 2016

“Some wine, ho!’ Shakespeare, Women, and the Story of English Wine”

Frances Dolan, Distinguished Professor of English, University of California, Davis

Sponsors: *Dresher Center for the Humanities, the Africana Studies Department, and the Dance Department.*

Thursday, April 7

5:30 pm, Dance Cube, PAHB 337 – Attendees 54

Daphne Harrison Lecture and Performance

“Heroes and Villains: Art, Imagination and the Road to Improved Race Relations in Baltimore”

Breai Mason-Campbell, Baltimore dancer, teacher, and community activist

Sponsors: *Dresher Center for the Humanities and the Media and Communication Studies Department.*

Wednesday, April 13

7:00 pm, PAHB 132 – Attendees 78

“Can A Comic Book Superhero and Rape Survivor Change Attitudes Toward Sexual Violence?”

Ram Devineni, filmmaker, publisher, and founder of Rattapallax publishing and film production company

Sponsors: *the Dresher Center for the Humanities, the Visual Arts Department, the Asian Studies Program, and the Gender and Women’s Studies Department.*

Tuesday, May 3

4:00 pm, Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery – Attendees 85

Lipitz Lecture

“Socioeconomic Status and Brain Health: Biological, Psychosocial, and Behavioral Pathways”

Shari Waldstein, Professor of Psychology, UMBC

Sponsors: *the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; the Dresher Center for the Humanities; and the Social Sciences Forum.*

APPENDIX IV: 2015-216 CURRENTS: HUMANITIES WORK NOW WORKSHOPS

Fall 2015

Wednesday, October 21

Attendees: 10, (LLC, MCS, EDU, GWST, PUBPO, ENGL)

Rachel Carter, Ph.D. student, LLC, and Dresher Center Graduate Fellow (Carole McCann, advisor): *Imagining Otherwise: Narrating Transformative Identity Work in a College-Level Social Justice Course*
Sarah Shin, Professor, Education Co-Director, M.A. TESOL Program: *Developing a new Professional Identity: Second Career Teachers*

Monday, November 9

Attendees: 14 (LLC, MLLI, PSY, MCS, GLOBAL)

Viviana MacManus, Assistant Professor, Gender + Women's Studies: *Sexual Necropolitics and the Gender of Betrayal in Latin American Literature and Film*
Felix Burgos, Ph.D. student, LLC, and Dresher Center Graduate Fellow (Craig Saper, advisor): *Memory and Memorialization in the midst of Colombia's Armed Conflict*

Wednesday, November 18

Attendees: 17 (LLC, MCS, MLLI, ENGL, ANST, GES)

Erle Ellis, Professor, Geography and Environmental Systems: *Human Agency, Intentionality, and Niche Construction*
Tanya Olson, Lecturer, English: *txt me im board: The Long Poem in Contemporary American Poetry*

Spring 2016

Monday, March 7

Attendees: 11, (PHIL, ECON, MLLI, LLC, POLI, VART, ENGL)

Michael Nance, Assistant Professor, Philosophy: *Philosophical Anarchism and Political Obligation: Kantian Questions*
Edward Larkey, MLLI: *Using Digital Tools to Measure Transnationalism: Developing Typologies and Methodologies for Cross-cultural Comparisons of Television Formats*

Wednesday, April 20

Attendees: 12, (ENGL, LLC, HIST, LLC, ANTH)

Ruth E. Toulson, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Department of Humanistic Studies, MICA: *From Paid Wailing to Protestant Tears: The Transformation of Chinese Grief*
Michelle Scott, Associate Professor, History: *Racial Violence and Vaudevillians of Color: The Makings of a Black Theater Circuit*

Wednesday, April 27

Attendees: 11, (AMST, LLC, Library, MCS, HIST, ENGL)

Denise Meringolo, Associate Professor, History and Dresher Center Residential Fellow: *The American Civilization Institute: Toward a New History of Civic Engagement*

Monday, May 2

Attendees: 9, (ENGL, MATH, HIST, ENGL, LLC)

Craig Saper, Professor, LLC and Dresher Center Residential Fellow: *Building an Augmented-Reality Reading Machine: A Documentary*

APPENDIX V-IX: HUMANITIES SCHOLARS PROGRAM**APPENDIX V: HUMANITIES SCHOLARS SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS**2015-2016 Humanities Scholars Selection Committee:

Jessica Berman	English, Director of the Dresher Center
Kate Drabinski	Gender and Women's Studies
Tom Field	Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication (MLLI)
Carolyn Fitzpatrick	English
Theo Gonzalves	American Studies
Michael Nance	Philosophy
Michele Osherow	English
Ana Oskoz	MLLI; Humanities Scholars Program Director
Meredith Oyer	History
Donald Snyder	Media and Communication Studies
Tim Phin	Ancient Studies

APPENDIX VI: HUMANITIES SCHOLARS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

September 2015:

- 4th: Humanities scholars Senate meeting. Scholars met to discuss and select different off-campus activities for the 2015-2016 academic year.
- 17th: Humanities Forum: *Harvest of Empire: The untold story of Latinos in America*, Eduardo Lopez, television producer, journalist, and documentarian
- 22st: Meet-and greet: Humanities scholars get together in an informal environment to get to know one another.
- 24th: Humanities Forum: *Dear White People* – Kimberly Moffit, Dresher Center Fellow and Associate Professor of American Studies, UMBC Damon Turner, Adjunct Professor in Africana Studies, UMBC and PhD Candidate in African American History, Morgan State University

October 2015

- 5th: Professional Series Workshop: Internship panel (at the Humanities LLC)
- 10th: Humanities scholars Homecoming Brunch
- 14th: Humanities Forum: *In Comis Veritas: The Principles of Ancient Roman Hairdressing* Janet Stephens, Independent scholar and hairstylist
- 18th: Holocaust Museum (together with Judaic Studies)
- 20th: Humanities Scholars Program reception with students, faculty and administrators (including the Dean)
- 21st: Humanities Forum: *The Republic of the Unlettered: Intellectual History, the Enlightenment, and the Law in the Spanish Empire*, Bianca Premo, Associate Professor of History, Florida International University

November 2015

- 4th: Study Abroad Meeting (sophomores with Brian Souders)
- 11th: Humanities Forum: *Linked Fates and Great Expectations: Revisiting Post-Colonial Africa and African-American Life through Diasporic Literature*, Dinaw Mengestu, MacArthur Fellow, acclaimed novelist, and Professor of English, Brooklyn College
- 13th: *Fences* Everyman Theatre (together with Honors College and Sondheim Scholars)

18th: Humanities Forum: *China's Forgotten Gated Communities*, Tong Lam, photographer and Associate Professor of History, University of Toronto

December 2015

2nd: Humanities Forum: *Freedom Marooned: An Atlantic Slave Rebellion in the Dutch Caribbean*
Marjoleine Kars, Chair and Associate Professor of History, UMBC, and 2015 Dresher Center Fellow

9th: Study Day Brunch

February 2016

4th: *Phantom of the Opera*, Hippodrome Theatre

16th: Humanities Forum: *Sounding Botany Bay: an exhibition on how humans have changed a unique Australian Environment*, Tim Nohe, intermedia artist, Professor of Visual Arts and Director of the Center for Innovation, Research and Creativity in the Arts (CIRCA), UMBC

24th: Humanities Forum: *Why Have Intersex Rights Been So Hard to Secure in America?* Alice Dreger, historian of science and medicine

March 2016

1st: Humanities Forum: *Poetry Reading: It Shouldn't Have Been Beautiful* Lia Purpura, Writer-in-Residence, English, UMBC

24th: Humanities Forum: *Implicit Biases, Moral Agency, and Moral Responsibility*, Angela Smith, Roger Mudd Professor of Ethics and Professor of Philosophy, Washington and Lee University

25th: Study Abroad Meeting – Sharing experiences and photos

28th: Professional Series Workshop: Developing your interview skills (at the Humanities LLC)

29th: Humanities Forum: *'Some wine, ho!' Shakespeare, Women, and the Story of English Wine*, Frances Dolan, Distinguished Professor of English, University of California, Davis

30th: Study Abroad Meeting (freshmen with Brian Souders)

April 2016

- 7th: Humanities Forum: *Heroes and Villains: Art, Imagination and the Road to Improved Race Relations in Baltimore*, Breai Mason-Campbell, Baltimore dancer, teacher, and community activist
- 13th: Mini-seminar: Seniors humanities scholars reconvene with Dr. Chapin and Dr. Phin to discuss topics of their first-year seminar
- 13th: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Everyman Theatre Humanities Scholars with Honors College
- 13th: Humanities Forum: *Can A Comic Book Superhero and Rape Survivor Change Attitudes Toward Sexual Violence?* Ram Devineni, filmmaker, publisher, and founder of Rattapallax publishing and film production company
- 19th: Humanities Scholars Program Alumni Panel
- 22nd: Humanities Scholar Program Salon
- 22nd: Mini-seminar: Seniors humanities scholars reconvene with Dr. Dusman and Dr. McCully to discuss topics of their first-year seminar
- 29th: Teachers Award Reception

May 2016

- 3rd: Humanities Forum: *Socioeconomic Status and Brain Health: Biological, Psychosocial, and Behavioral Pathways*, Shari Waldstein, Professor of Psychology, UMBC
- 11th: Study Day Brunch
- 18th: Seniors humanities scholars' reception (parents invited)

APPENDIX VII: HUMANITIES LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

September 2015:

- 17th: Humanities Forum: *Harvest of Empire: The untold story of Latinos in America*, Eduardo Lopez, television producer, journalist, and documentarian
- 24th: Humanities Forum: *Dear White People* – Kimberly Moffit, Dresher Center Fellow and Associate Professor of American Studies, UMBC Damon Turner, Adjunct Professor in Africana Studies, UMBC and PhD Candidate in African American History, Morgan State University

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- 18th: Holocaust Museum (together with Judaic Studies)
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November 2015

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Marjoleine Kars, Chair and Associate Professor of History, UMBC, and 2015 Dresher Center Fellow

February 2016

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- 24th: Humanities Forum: *Why Have Intersex Rights Been So Hard to Secure in America?* Alice Dreger, historian of science and medicine

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April 2016

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May 2016

- 3rd: Humanities Forum: *Socioeconomic Status and Brain Health: Biological, Psychosocial, and Behavioral Pathways*, Shari Waldstein, Professor of Psychology, UMBC

APPENDIX VIII: HUMANITIES SCHOLARS AWARDS

Emily Grace

English

Malcolm C. Braly Award, Creative Writing Award for Fiction

Zoe (Emory) Russo

English

Malcolm C. Braly Award, Writing Award for Poetry

Lauren O'Connell

History

John Bell-Clifford Maas Prize for Academic Excellence (best overall academic record in the Department of History by a history major during his/her years at UMBC)

History and MLLI German

Flora Kirk

Ancient Studies

The William and Martha Christopher Award (In memory of the parents of Barbara Christopher, to support the Ancient Studies program in the form of scholarships for majors who excel).

Melina Latona

Global studies

Outstanding Researcher (The student with the best performance in a research project).

Amanda Burns

Music

Kelly Wan

Critical Language Scholarship, Chinese

Fulbright Awards

Alex Szabo

History

Fulbright Award

Matt Poissant

American Studies and Political Science

Fulbright Award

Lauren O'Connell

History and German

Fulbright Finalist

APPENDIX IX: URCAD (APRIL 27, 2016)

Oral Presentations

Student: Julian Tash

Mentor: Dr. Meredith Oyen
ENG 023, 10:00 am

“Burnt Bridges over Troubled Waters: A History of
Territorial Disputes in the South China Sea”
History

Student: Melina Latona, Isabel Geisler

Mentor: Dr. Felipe Filomeno
UC 312, 10:15 am

“Grassroots Alternatives to the Global Corporate
Food Regime in Baltimore”
Global Studies

Student: Flora Kirk

Mentor: Dr. Melissa Bailey
ENG 023, 02:15 pm

“I Was Here: Roman Coins in the Third Century AD
and their Role in Immortalizing Emperors”
Ancient Studies

Student: Emily Grace

Mentor: Ms. Lia Purpura
UC 312, 02:15 pm

“By Ear: Hearing Poems into Being”
English

Poster Presentations, University Center Ballroom

Student: Julian Tash, Jennifer Christhilf

Mentor: Dr. Constantine Vaporis
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

“The Middle Kingdom’s Middle Ground:
Understanding China’s Conciliatory Policy in the
Mekong River”
Asian Studies

Student: Sidrah Shayiq

Mentor: Dr. Linda Oliva
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

“Answer the Question: Writing Proper Thesis
Statements”
History