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INTRODUCTION
The report that follows provides an overview of the many contributions of the University Center for Human Values to Princeton University's scholarly and teaching missions. What does the center do? The University Center for Human Values supports a number of regular faculty members, researchers, and term professors, typically appointed jointly with departments, who teach and conduct research in ethics, political theory, law, and other areas of human values. The center brings to campus every year a group of visiting professors and postdoctoral fellows who pursue their research and sometimes teach, and who always enliven the University's scholarly life by presenting their work and participating in discussions of the work of Princeton faculty and students. The center sponsors a wide array of courses for undergraduates concerned with values issues. And the center organizes and sponsors, often jointly with other programs or departments, an astonishingly broad range of workshops and lectures, seminars and colloquia, and discussion groups of all kinds, involving students and faculty. These events—sometimes three, four, or five per week—are the public settings in which ethics, political theory, and values questions more broadly are presented, discussed, and debated on campus. As the participants know, discussions that begin with a formal lecture or paper presentation in the afternoon often continue through dinner and into the evening.

Princeton now boasts a variety of interdisciplinary centers and programs that supplement and help build bridges across the work of scholars in the traditional departments. As someone who was a graduate student at Princeton prior to the establishment of many of these centers and programs, I continue to marvel at the difference they have made to Princeton's public intellectual environment. I know of no other university that provides a richer or more diverse set of opportunities to witness the life of the mind in action.

As extensive as are the listings that follow, this is but a portion of the scholarly and educational activities that the center helps bring into existence. The center is now a one-third co-sponsor and co-funder of the Program on Law and Public Affairs, which has its own extensive set of seminars, colloquia, and events, aimed at undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty and the public (see http://lapa.princeton.edu).

It has been an honor and a pleasure to direct the University Center for Human Values over the last eight years. The prospect of taking over from my illustrious predecessors—Amy Gutmann and George Kateb—was more than somewhat daunting. Thank goodness the ship is still afloat! Over the last eight years the scope of the center’s operations has increased considerably. Thanks is owed to the energetic engagement of the center faculty and the members—past and present—of the Executive Committee, as well as to wonderfully supportive administrators in Nassau Hall, especially presidents Shapiro and Tilghman. And of course, none of this would be possible without the visionary support and generosity of Princeton alumni such as Laurance S. Rockefeller and others, some of whom are recognized below.

I am grateful to my faculty colleagues for their careful attention to every aspect of center governance, and for their ever constructive camaraderie. Thanks to Josiah Ober and Anthony Appiah for each stepping in as acting director during the years in which I was on leave. The center has also been lucky to have an excellent and dedicated staff. Last but not least, as I rejoin the ranks of the full-time faculty, my special thanks to Chuck Beitz for taking the helm: the center is in excellent hands.

Stephan Macedo
Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Politics and the University Center for Human Values, Director of the University Center for Human Values, 2001–09
“I had the privilege of teaching at Princeton on the regular faculty for most of the 1980s…. A very good university has become truly great. This remarkable transformation seems partly due to the University Center for Human Values and the many other centers here that had been established in the intervening years. A sense of intellectual vibrancy is now palpable at Princeton. Very few universities have succeeded as well in their commitments to interdisciplinary engagement.”

–Jeffrey Tulis
Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow
FACULTY

Kwame Anthony Appiah, the Laurance S. Rockefeller University Professor of Philosophy and the University Center for Human Values, has published widely in philosophy and in African and African American literary and cultural studies. In 1992, Oxford University Press published In My Father’s House, which deals, in part, with the role of African and African American intellectuals in shaping contemporary African cultural life. His major current work has to do with the relationships between philosophical ethics and other disciplines. In 1996, he published Color Conscious: The Political Morality of Race with Amy Gutmann; in 1997, the Dictionary of Global Culture, coedited with Henry Louis Gates Jr. Along with Gates, he has also edited the Encarta Africana CD-ROM encyclopedia, published by Microsoft, which developed into Oxford University Press’s five-volume Africana encyclopedia in book form. In 2003, he coauthored Bu Me Bé: Proverbs of the Akan (of which his mother is the major author), an annotated edition of 7,500 proverbs in Twi, the language of Asante. He is also the author of three novels, of which the first, Avenging Angel, was largely set at Clare College, Cambridge, where he received his bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees. In 2004, Oxford University Press published his introduction to contemporary philosophy, Thinking It Through; in January 2005, Princeton University Press published The Ethics of Identity; and Norton published Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers in 2006. In 2008, Harvard University Press published his Experiments in Ethics.


Elizabeth Harman is an assistant professor of philosophy and the University Center for Human Values and the Laurance S. Rockefeller University Preceptor. She has written papers on the ethics of abortion, the moral status of babies and animals, the non-identity problem, and the ethics of stem-cell research. Her current projects address the significance of animal death, whether some common practical reasoning is good reasoning, and blameworthiness in cases of wrong actions due to false moral beliefs. Her papers include “Creation Ethics: The Moral Status of Early Fetuses and the Ethics of Abortion,” in Philosophy and Public Affairs; “The Potentiality Problem,” in Philosophical Studies; “Can We Harm and Benefit in Creating?” in Philosophical Perspectives; “Sacred Mountains and Beloved Fetuses: Can Loving or Worshipping Something Give It Moral Status?” in Philosophical Studies; “How is the Ethics of Stem Cell Research Different from the Ethics of Abortion?” in Metaphilosophy; and “Harming as Causing Harm,” in Harming Future Persons.

Nannerl Keohane, the former president of Duke University and Wellesley College, is the Laurance S. Rockefeller Distinguished Visiting Professor of Public Affairs and the University Center for Human Values. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American
Philosophical Society, and a fellow of Harvard College. Keohane specializes in political philosophy and is the author of *Philosophy and the State in France: The Renaissance to the Enlightenment* and coeditor of *Feminist Theory: A Critique of Ideology*. Her most recent book is *Higher Ground: Ethics and Leadership in the Modern University*. She has published essays in several leading scholarly journals, and is working on a book on leadership. She previously taught at Stanford University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Swarthmore College, as well as Wellesley and Duke.

**Erika Kiss** is an associate research scholar in the University Center for Human Values and director of the University Center for Human Values Film Forum. She regularly teaches in the Program of Freshman Seminars and, each year alternately, in the Department of Comparative Literature and the Program in European Cultural Studies. She has studied history and literature in Hungary (B.A., M.A.) and comparative literature at Harvard University (M.A., Ph.D.). She was a member of the Department of Medieval and Modern Languages, the University of Oxford, and a fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. She is a co-founder of Germany’s first English-language liberal arts college, the European College of Liberal Arts (ECLA) in Berlin, and served for a year as its CEO. As ECLA’s first dean of academic affairs, she developed a year-long interdisciplinary curriculum in intellectual history and the liberal arts and supervised its implementation. Her research and teaching interests include the connection between the civic and the aesthetic arts of rhetoric, poetics, dramaturgy (literary and cinematic), and the philosophy of education. Currently, she is completing a book that explores the crisis of higher education in the West.

**Stephen Macedo** is the Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Politics and the University Center for Human Values and served as director of the center from 2001–09. He writes and teaches on political theory, public policy, and law, especially on topics related to liberalism; democracy, diversity, and citizenship; religion and politics; and the family and sexuality. His current research concerns immigration and social justice, constitutional democracy in the U.S., and democracy and international institutions. As founding director of Princeton’s Program in Law and Public Affairs (1999–2001), he chaired the Princeton Project on Universal Jurisdiction, helped formulate the Princeton Principles on Universal Jurisdiction, and edited *Universal Jurisdiction: International Courts and the Prosecution of Serious Crimes Under International Law* (University of Pennsylvania, 2004). As vice president of the American Political Science Association, he was first chair of its standing committee on Civic Education and Engagement and principal coauthor of *Democracy at Risk: How Political Choices Undermine Citizen Participation, and What We Can Do About It* (Brookings, 2005). His other books include *Diversity and Distrust: Civic Education in a Multicultural Democracy* (Harvard University Press, 2000); and *Liberal Virtues: Citizenship, Virtue, and Community in Liberal Constitutionalism* (Oxford University Press, 1990). He is coauthor and coeditor of *American Constitutional Interpretation*, with W. F. Murphy, J. E. Fleming, and S. A. Barber (Foundation Press, fourth edition, 2008).

**Victoria McGeer** is a research scholar in the University Center for Human Values and a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy. In 1993, as an assistant professor in the philosophy department at Vanderbilt University, she won the Royal Society of Canada’s Alice Wilson Award for postdoctoral research. With support from the Canadian government, she took special research leave to explore how developmental questions affect theoretical work in philosophy of mind and moral psychology, and spent two years at the lab of developmental psychologist Alison Gopnik at the University of California–Berkeley. After leaving Vanderbilt in 1998 to pursue an interdisciplinary research program on the development of social cognition and its disorders, she became a senior member of the McDonnell Project in Philosophy and the Neurosciences in 2001. She has published a number of papers in prestigious journals that reflect her wide range of interests, encompassing topics in moral psychology, the development of agential capacities and its impairments (focusing especially on autism), the nature of folk-psychological explanation, problems of self-knowledge, and the metaphysics of mind.

Brennan, Robert Goodin, and Frank Jackson. Pettit leads the Project on Democracy and Human Values, which explores democratic principles and practices and fosters collaboration among normative and empirical researchers on fundamental questions of democratic government. He was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2009.

Kim Lane Scheppele is the Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs in the Woodrow Wilson School and the University Center for Human Values. In addition, she is the director of the Program in Law and Public Affairs and a faculty associate in politics. Before joining the Princeton faculty in 2005, she was the John J. O’Brien Professor of Comparative Law and Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, where she remains a faculty fellow in the law school. Her primary field is comparative constitutional law, and she has spent much time under three different grants from the National Science Foundation studying post-communist European countries undergoing constitutional transformation. She has published extensively on post-communist constitutional transformations in law reviews and social science journals. Her new book, *The International State of Emergency*, examines constitutional changes around the world in the wake of 9/11. Scheppele has held elective offices in the Law and Society Association as well as in the sociology of law and theory sections of the American Sociological Association. She has won numerous teaching awards, both at the University of Pennsylvania and at the University of Michigan. In 2009–10, she will be a visiting professor of law at the Yale Law School.

Peter Singer, the Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics, is the author of, most recently, *The Life You Can Save: Acting Now to End World Poverty*. Singer was the founding president of the International Association of Bioethics, and, with Helga Kuhse, founding coeditor of the journal *Bioethics*. He first became well known internationally after the publication of *Animal Liberation*. His other books include: *Democracy and Disobedience; Practical Ethics; The Expanding Circle; Marx; Hegel; The Reproduction Revolution* (with Deane Wells); *Should the Baby Live?* (with Helga Kuhse); *Hoe Are We to Live?; Rethinking Life and Death; One World; Pushing Time Away; The President of Good and Evil; and The Ethics of What We Eat* (with Jim Mason). His works have appeared in more than 20 languages. Singer holds his appointment at the center jointly with his appointment as Laureate Professor at the University of Melbourne, attached to the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics. This visiting research position involves spending three months a year at the University of Melbourne. Singer will be on leave in spring 2010.

**Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching**

The visiting professorships for distinguished teaching were instituted by Princeton President Harold T. Shapiro as part of a set of teaching initiatives announced at the beginning of the University’s 250th anniversary celebration in 1997. The program, known as the 250th Anniversary Visiting Professorships for Distinguished Teaching, supports as many as five visiting faculty members each year, spread across all divisions of the University. Laurance S. Rockefeller established the Visiting Professorship for Distinguished Teaching in the University Center for Human Values.

Visitors are selected for their demonstrated excellence in teaching and their capacity to bring new ideas in undergraduate teaching to the campus. Each faculty visitor teaches an undergraduate course, possibly in collaboration with a regular faculty member. The visitors also engage in other activities aimed at improving teaching at Princeton, such as workshops for faculty and graduate students, demonstration lectures, and classroom visits.

The 2008–09 Visiting Associate Professor for Distinguished Teaching was Lawrie Balfour, who is an associate professor of politics at the University of Virginia. A political theorist whose primary focus is democracy, race, and racism, she is the author of *The Evidence of Things Not Said: James Baldwin and the Promise of American Democracy*, and is completing a book on W.E.B. Du Bois’s political thought. While at Princeton, she taught a seminar in political theory on “Slavery and the Politics for Memory” (CHV 413/POL 413/AAS 313) and worked on a book manuscript titled *Reparations: A Democratic Idea*. She also organized a seminar series on “Reparations: The Future of the Debate” in spring 2009.
The Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellowship in Bioethics, endowed by William K. Fung ’70, enables the center to appoint a postdoctoral research associate, who is chosen in international competition, to pursue research in bioethics for a term of one to three years at Princeton and to teach one graduate or undergraduate course each year.

**Bennett Foddy** has been the Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Research Associate since 2008. Foddy is developing a novel account of addictive motivation in which he seeks to replace the dominant account of addictive behavior that informs current philosophical and biological literature. He is the author of numerous articles, including “Can Addicted People Consent to the Prescription of Their Drug?” in *Bioethics*, “A Liberal Account of Addiction,” forthcoming in *Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology*, and “A Duty To Deceive: Placebos in Clinical Practice,” forthcoming in *American Journal of Bioethics*. He received his D.Phil. in bioethics from the University of Melbourne in 2007.

Back row (left to right): Yannis Evrigenis, Sigrún Svavarisdóttir, Leland de la Durantaye, Sarah McGrath, Peter Brooks, Bennett Foddy, Victoria McGeer, Philip Pettit, José Martí, Elizabeth Harman

Front row (left to right): Jeff Tulis, Frank Lovett, Lawrie Balfour, Stephen Macedo, Kim Lane Schepele, David Lefkowitz
“The gift of ample time and conducive space to work, of an absence of teaching duties and an abundance of resources, is a great gift—the first of many that I received at the center this past year. But still greater was the gift of a stimulating environment…. I learned from the other fellows and our many visitors about disciplines ranging from evolutionary biology to romance philology, from metaethics to jurisprudence.”

–Leland de la Durantaye
Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow
LAURANCE S. ROCKEFELLER VISITING FACULTY FELLOWS

The Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellowships are awarded annually to outstanding scholars and teachers interested in devoting a year in residence at Princeton writing about ethics and human values. A central activity for the fellows is participation with the center’s faculty members in a fellows seminar to discuss ongoing work. Fellows participate in other activities, including seminars, colloquia, and public lectures. Fellows enjoy access to Firestone Library and to a wide range of activities throughout the University. They are selected on the basis of the significance of their proposed research and its relevance to the purposes of the center, the quality of their previous research, their ability to benefit from the activities of center, and the contribution they are likely to make to higher education in the future through teaching and writing about ethics and human values.

Laurence S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellows 2008–09

Leland de la Durantaye is the Gardner Cowles Associate Professor of English in the Department of English and American Language and Literature at Harvard University. He is a literary critic, journalist, and scholar whose work focuses on aesthetics and ethics. He is the author of Style Is Matter: The Moral Art of Vladimir Nabokov and the forthcoming The Idea of the Work: Giorgio Agamben’s Philosophy of Potentiality. While at Princeton, de la Durantaye worked on a book, The Values of Fiction and the Fiction of Values: Remorse, Retribution, and Reconciliation in Modern Literature, which will treat the ways in which literature creates and reinforces values.

Ioannis (Yannis) Evrigenis is an assistant professor of political science at Tufts University. He is the author of Fear of Enemies and Collective Action and articles on a wide range of issues in ancient and modern political thought, as well as coeditor of Johann Gottfried Herder’s Another Philosophy of History and Selected Political Writings. At Princeton, he worked on a study of the concept of the state of nature in political thought, titled “Images of Anarchy.”

David Lefkowitz is an assistant professor in the philosophy department at the University of North Carolina–Greensboro. His research focuses on the morality of obedience and disobedience to law, philosophical issues in international law, and questions of war and morality. While at Princeton, he worked on a monograph titled The Duty to Obey the Law and Its Limits: Domestic and International.

Frank Lovett is an assistant professor of political science at Washington University in St. Louis, where his research focuses on the role of political freedom and domination in developing theories of justice, equality, and the rule of law. He is currently completing a book tentatively titled A General Theory of Domination. While at Princeton, he studied the challenge of multicultural accommodation, especially as it relates to the concern that the special accommodation of some groups’ social practices might lead to the domination of vulnerable persons within those groups.

José Luis Martí is an associate professor of law at the Pompeu Fabra University of Barcelona. He specializes in democratic theory, theories of political representation, deliberative democracy, negotiation theory, and republicanism. He has published several books and articles on deliberative democracy and republicanism. At Princeton, he worked on legal republicanism and is writing a book on the republican perspective on criminal law.

Sigrún Svavarsdóttir is an associate professor of philosophy at Ohio State University. She specializes in moral philosophy. Author of Thinking in Moral Terms, she has also published articles on moral motivation, moral judgments, practical rationality, and objectivity in ethics. While at Princeton, she worked on a book, Disparate Evaluative Domains: Practical Rationality and Value, which explores the nature of evaluation in the context of defending the anti-rationalist thesis that the relation between practical rationality and value is erratic: a person may rationally have an end, even if his end has no value and, conversely, his end may have value, although he holds it irrationally.

Jeffrey Tulis, an associate professor in the Department of Government at the University of Texas at Austin, teaches political theory and American politics. His forthcoming publications include a book titled The Politics of Deference and articles on emergency power, impeachment, and separation of powers. The fall 2007 special issue of the journal Critical Review is devoted to a 20-year retrospective on his book The Rhetorical Presidency. At Princeton, he worked on a book (with Nicole Mellow) on Legacies of Loss in American Politics, about the transformation of massive political failure into long-term success. Tulis was also a fellow in the Program in Ethics and Public Affairs.

The Laurance S. Rockefeller Preceptorships are awarded for a three-year period to outstanding assistant professors whose scholarship and teaching are devoted in significant measure to ethical issues. Preceptorships are open to junior faculty in all Princeton departments.

Natasha Lee, an assistant professor of French literature in the Department of French and Italian, holds the 2008–11 preceptorship. Her primary interests lie in the Enlightenment and its legacies and the dialogue of literature and criticism with other disciplines, above all political theory and history of science. She is completing a manuscript, “The Myth of Human Nature,” which examines debates concerning human classification in the French Enlightenment and how writers explored the implications of thinking social questions in scientific terms. She was previously a research fellow at the Penn Humanities Forum.

Derek Baker was a fifth-year graduate student in the philosophy department. His dissertation deals with psychological autonomy, the ability to act on one’s own genuine desires, rather than desires that are compulsive, addictive, or otherwise alien. The dissertation argues, first, that even purely instrumental theories of practical rationality will be incomplete without a norm of autonomy. It then argues that autonomy is best understood as resulting from a process of acculturation in which a person learns to integrate various competing social roles and evaluative commitments in which certain desires are privileged over others. Baker earned his bachelor’s degree at the University of California–Berkeley.

Arudra Burra was a fifth-year graduate student in the Department of Philosophy. He studied philosophy, computer science, and mathematics at Brandeis University, and has a J.D. from Yale Law School. His interests are primarily in moral and political philosophy. His dissertation, tentatively titled “Exploitation, Coercion, and Consent,” is an attempt to vindicate the intuition, widely shared, that some forms of exploitation are morally objectionable. It is something of a puzzle to understand just why exploitation is morally wrong, particularly if exploitation may occur in the absence of coercion, and with the consent of the exploited. The aim of the dissertation is to provide accounts of these three concepts, and their relation to one another, in such a way as to support, and elucidate, the claim that it is morally wrong to exploit another.

Mina Cikara was a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of Psychology. Broadly stated, she is interested in the relationship between stereotypes and people’s emotional reactions to distinct social groups. Her dissertation focuses on people’s perceptions of envious targets and neural networks related to the experience of envy and Schadenfreude, or pleasure at others’ misfortune. She is interested in examining the ways that envy perpetuates, even validates, inequality and discrimination against people and groups who are perceived as competing for limited resources (e.g., money, power, social influence) using behavioral and neuroimaging methodologies. Cikara received her B.A. in psychology from Vassar College.

Kellam Conover was a sixth-year graduate student in the Department of Classics. His research focuses on law, literature, and the intersection of moral and material economies in the ancient Athenian democracy. His dissertation, “Bribery in Classical
Athens,” combines historical, sociological, and literary approaches to examine how the Athenians conceptualized and regulated bribery in their democracy. In it he argues that taking gifts or money while in office was perceived not as an act of greed, but as a violation of civic friendship between a public official and the community. He holds a B.A. in Greek and Latin from Swarthmore College.

Ryan Davis was a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of Politics. He is interested in defending the liberal thesis that what we owe to persons is respect for their standing as sources of reasons. His dissertation connects this idea with questions about the scope of justice internationally. Other work focuses on problems in contemporary Kantian moral and political philosophy, particularly on developing a Kantian non-ideal theory—or a theory designed to provide normative guidance when other agents act badly. Davis is also interested in political constructivism and the role of intentions in ethics. He received a B.A. from Arizona State University.

Jessica Flanigan was a third-year graduate student in the Department of Politics. Her dissertation, “States of Agency and the Agency of States,” focuses on the similarities between human agency and collective agency. In it, she explores the possibility that collectivities have moral status, including rights and responsibilities. Other research interests include Kantian ethics, formal theory, and judicial politics. Flanigan holds a B.A. in political science and philosophy from the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) and an M.A. in political science from Washington University in St. Louis.

Mark Johnstone was a fifth-year graduate student in the Department of Philosophy and a member of the Interdepartmental Program in Classical Philosophy. His current research focuses primarily on ancient theories of motivation and action, and on related topics in ethics, politics, and psychology. His dissertation, “Tripartition and the Rule of the Soul in Plato’s Republic,” concerns the view, famously advanced in this work, that the embodied human soul is a thing of three parts. In particular, it examines the idea that the soul can be “ruled” by different parts of itself and explores connections between this idea and some of the Republic’s key ethical and political claims. Johnstone received a B.A. (Hons.) from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, and an M.A. in philosophy from the University of Melbourne, Australia, where he held the Grimwade Scholarship.

Jada Twedd Strabbing was a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of Philosophy. Her research interests include topics in moral philosophy and philosophy of religion. Her current focus is on the nature of moral responsibility—particularly the sorts of capacities an agent must have to be morally responsible and moral responsibility’s connection to responsibility in other normative domains. Strabbing received a B.A. in physics and philosophy from Kenyon College, a B.A. in philosophy and psychology from Brasenose College, Oxford, and a master’s degree in theoretical physics from Trinity College, Cambridge.

Mairaj Syed was a fifth-year graduate student in the Department of Religion. His dissertation explores how duress was handled in Islamic legal and moral thought, with two primary aims. The first is to trace the chronological development of the doctrine of duress in the writing of Muslim jurists. The second is to conceptually clarify the moral and political spirit behind the writings of individual jurists operating within the confines of the different legal traditions to which they were committed. His general interests lie in Islamic law, ethics, and political thought, Islamic social and political history from the seventh till the 10th centuries, and, more generally, accounts on the proper role of religion in political life and discourse. Syed holds a B.A. in management information systems from University of Texas at Austin.

James Lindley Wilson was a fourth-year graduate student in the politics department. His current research focuses on democratic theory and constitutionalism. In his dissertation, “Finding Time for Democracy,” he argues that political equality requires a fair allocation of political control across time as well as between citizens at any given time. This thought, he suggests, sheds light on a number of puzzles in democratic theory, involving the identity and persistence of the people over time, the relationship between individual political liberties and the self-government of the people, the nature of democratic representation, and the justification of constitutionalism and judicial review. He holds a J.D. from Yale Law School and an A.B. summa cum laude in social studies from Harvard University.
The University Center for Human Values funds and sponsors a variety of courses and forums across the University that contribute to teaching and discussion about ethics and human values.

“One of the great gifts of visiting the University Center for Human Values as faculty is that, in addition to having access to the seminars offered by the center and ample time to do my research, I also had an opportunity to devise and teach a new course without the competing demands of a typical semester. I took seriously the invitation to think in broadly interdisciplinary ways and was lucky to have a group of students who had little trouble approaching the politics of memory and the legacies of slavery through the lenses of philosophy, history, political theory, sociology, law, literature, and cultural studies.”

–Lawrie Balfour
Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching
UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM

Freshman Seminars 2008–09

Rivka Amado
The Moral Dilemmas of Political Leadership
Professor Amy Gutmann Freshman Seminar in Human Values

Ellen Chances
A Multidisciplinary Approach to Dostoevsky’s
The Brothers Karamazov
Class of 1976 Freshman Seminar in Human Values

James Diamond
The Problem of Suffering
Peter T. Joseph ’72 Freshman Seminar in Human Values

Tom Espenshade
Diversity in Higher Education
Freshman Seminar in Human Values

Bennett Foddy
The Ethics of Human Enhancement: From Steroid Users to Superhumans
Kurt and Beatrice Gutmann Freshman Seminar in Human Values

Zia Mian
Life in a Nuclear-Armed World
Paul L. Miller ’41 Freshman Seminar in Human Values

Brent Shaw
Racism and Ethnic Hatred in Classical Antiquity
Dean Eva Gossman Freshman Seminar in Human Values

Susan Sugarman
Freud on the Psychology of Ordinary Mental Life
Peter T. Joseph ’72 Freshman Seminar in Human Values

Cross-Listed and Funded Courses

CHV 202/PHI 202: Introduction to Moral Philosophy

CHV 261/REL 261: Christian Ethics and Modern Society

CHV 301/POL 308/WWS 301: Ethics and Public Policy

CHV 306/POL 306/PHI 360: Democratic Theory

CHV 308/PHI 308: Perfecting Life: Designing Children, Designing Memories, Designing Death

CHV 311/PHI 307: Systematic Ethics

CHV 315/PHI 315: Philosophy of Mind

CHV 316/AMS 320/JDS 316: The Ten Commandments in Modern America

CHV 345/ECO 385: Ethics and Economics

CHV 351/FRE 351: The Enlightenment in France

CHV 352/ENV 352: Environmental, Ecological, and Climate Justice

CHV 382/HIS 382: Human Rights and Crimes against Humanity: A Global History

CHV 413/POL 413/AAS 313: Seminar in Political Theory–Slavery and the Politics of Memory

CHV 524/PHI 523: Problems from Sidgwick

CHV 532/COM 532: Reading Law Reading (The Ethics of Reading, Part 1)

SENIOR THESIS PRIZE

Every year, the University Center for Human Values awards prize(s) to the senior thesis that makes an outstanding contribution to the study of human values. Nominations for this prize are made by departments across the University.

The 2008–09 Senior Thesis Prizes were awarded to:

Jo-Ann Tamila Karhson ’09
Department of Politics
Reciprocal Obligations: A Just Theory of Immigration and Assimilation

Wendy Liu ’09
Department of Philosophy
Justifying Revolution

Emily Anne Weigel ’09
Department of English
To See It Feelingly: Shakespeare and the Exercise of Early Modern Empathy
The Human Values Forum provides an opportunity for approximately 50 undergraduate students and 15 faculty members—its junior and senior fellows—to meet in an informal setting to discuss current and enduring questions concerning ethics and human values. Students and faculty meet over dinner at 5 Ivy Lane several times during the academic year. Professors Stephen Macedo and Peter Singer served as advisers to the student leadership. We are grateful to Bert Kerstetter ’66 for generously endowing the forum.

2008–09 dinner discussion topics:

**October 6:** “Obligations to the World’s Poor,” with Peter Singer, Ira W. Decamp Professor of Bioethics in the University Center for Human Values

**October 13:** “Democracy in the Middle East and the ‘Clash of Civilizations’,” with Amaney Jamal, Assistant Professor of Politics and Harold Willis Dodds Presidential University Preceptor

**November 3:** “Social Cognitive Biases and the 2008 Elections: Do People Vote Rationally or Emotionally?” with Susan Fiske, Eugene Higgins Professor of Psychology

**November 10:** “Philosophy and Politics of Friendship,” with Alexander Nehamas, Edmund N. Carpenter II Class of 1943 Professor in the Humanities and Professor of Philosophy and Comparative Literature

**November 17:** “Weakness of Will,” with Josh Sheptow, Senior Research Assistant in Philosophy and Lecturer in Philosophy

**November 24:** “Ethics of Killing; Military/Humanitarian Interventionism,” with Jeff McMahan, Professor of Philosophy at Rutgers University, Visiting Research Collaborator, University Center for Human Values

**December 1:** “Ethics of Medical Research,” with Leon Rosenberg, Senior Molecular Biologist, Molecular Biology

**February 9:** “Corporate Responsibility,” with Philip Pettit, Laurence S. Rockefeller University Professor of Politics and the University Center for Human Values

**February 23:** “Eugenics,” with Shirley M. Tilghman, President of Princeton University

**March 23:** “Obama, Religion, and Politics,” with Eric Gregory, Professor of Religion

**March 30:** “How to Read Lolita,” with Leland de la Durantaye, Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow, University Center for Human Values

**April 6:** “Human Weakness and Parentalism,” with Eldar Shafir, William Stewart Tod Professor of Psychology and Public Affairs

**April 13:** “Natural Law, God, and Human Rights,” with Robert George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Professor of Politics

**April 20:** “Why Scientific and Geographical Understanding Matters: Lessons from Teaching the ‘Future of Food’ and Environmental Studies,” with Xenia Morin, Lecturer in the Princeton Writing Program and Princeton Environmental Institute

**April 27:** “Philosophical Implications of Quantum Physics,” with Jada Twedt Strabbing, graduate student in philosophy
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS FORUM

With the support of the University Center for Human Values, the Princeton Environmental Institute, and the Program in Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy, the Environmental Affairs Forum provides a comfortable environment for intellectual discourse among undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. The forum gives students the opportunity to interact closely with leading scholars on environmental ethics and policy. Faculty benefit from unique and engaging discourse with promising young minds. Students and faculty meet over dinner at 5 Ivy Lane several times during the academic year. Professors Stephen Macedo of the University Center for Human Values and David Wilcove of the Princeton Environmental Institute served as advisers to the student leadership.

2008–09 dinner discussion topics:

February 10: “The Justice of Environmental Justice: Reconciling Equity, Recognition, and Participation in a Political Movement,” with David Schlosberg, Visiting Professor of University Center for Human Values and the Princeton Environmental Institute

February 24: “How Many Species Should We Save? And What about the Unpleasant Ones?” with Andrew Dobson, Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

March 3: “Carbon Capture and Storage,” with Michael Celia, Theodora Shelton Pitney, Professor of Environmental Studies

April 7: “Climate Change and Immigration,” with Michael Oppenheimer, Albert G. Milbank, Professor of Geosciences and International Affairs

April 14: “Organic Food and Post-Christian Spirituality,” with Lee Silver, Professor of Molecular Biology and Public Affairs

April 28: “Living in a Greenhouse: Technology, Policy, and Values,” with Robert Socolow, Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Forum Officers
Max Branzburg ’11
President

The Environmental Affairs Forum is funded, in part, by a gift to the University Center for Human Values from Bert G. Kerstetter ’66.

UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR HUMAN VALUES FILM FORUM

With generous funding from Bert Kerstetter ’66, Erika Kiss coordinates this venture, which regularly attracts an overflow crowd of faculty and students to the Rockefeller College theater. Princeton faculty members give comments after each screening, and lively discussions often continue until midnight. Selected undergraduates serve as forum associates. In fall 2006, the Film Forum featured films exploring Ideas of Freedom. In spring 2007, the theme was Americana. In 2007–08 the series focused on Melodrama in the fall and Faith in the spring. Kiss was on leave in 2008–09.

TOP-UP PRIZES

The University Center for Human Values offers $2,000 prizes to help attract to Princeton graduate students whose work explicitly focuses on ethics, political theory, and human values. In spring 2009, 11 incoming students were awarded top-up prizes and subsequently elected to attend Princeton and work toward doctoral degrees. These students, who begin their graduate work in the Departments of English, Comparative Literature, Philosophy, Politics, and Religion in fall 2009, are:

Margaret Booth
Joseph Clair
Clifton Granby
Anjuli Gunaratne
William Hoffman
Amy Hondo
Jill Jarvis
Errol Lord
Matthew McCoy
Ada Shulman
POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY GRANTS

The Program in Political Philosophy and the University Center for Human Values award political philosophy grants, which were created through an allocation of funds from an endowed account established by Amy Gutmann, the Laurance S. Rockefeller University Professor of Politics and the University Center for Human Values Emeritus, former provost of the University, and founding director of the University Center for Human Values. Individual grants of up to $2,000 were awarded to graduate students specializing in political philosophy, to be used in support of research and travel related to research. The intent is to increase the overall support provided by Princeton for excellent scholarship and teaching in the field of political philosophy.

The 2009 recipients are:

Samuel Arnold
Loubna El Amine
Yiftah Elazar
Sandra Field
Matteo Giglioli
Sarah Goff
Kwesi Jefferson
Yu-Chi Kuo
Christopher Ro
Julie Rose
Genevieve Rousseliere
Dennis Yap
The University Center for Human Values sponsors a wide range of regular forums, special events, and conferences at which members of the Princeton University community, and often the wider community, come together to hear visiting speakers, discuss scholarly work in progress, and reflect on basic questions concerning ethics and human values.
TANNER LECTURES ON HUMAN VALUES

The Tanner Lectures on Human Values, established in 1976 by the American scholar, industrialist, and philanthropist Obert Clark Tanner, serve to advance and reflect upon scholarly and scientific learning related to human values. The lectures are presented annually at selected universities, including the University of California system, Cambridge, Oxford, Harvard, Michigan, Princeton, Stanford, Utah, and Yale.

Princeton has hosted Tanner lecturers since academic year 1989–90. Recent lecturers at Princeton include an economic historian (Emma Rothschild, Harvard University); a moral philosopher (Susan Wolf, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill); and a scholar of international relations and political theory (Michael Doyle, Columbia University).

Tanner Lectures 2008–09

Marc Hauser delivered the 2008–09 Tanner Lectures on November 12–13, 2008. His topic was “Seeds of Humanity: How a Unique Mind Transformed the Ethical Landscape.” Hauser is a Harvard Professor of Psychology, Organismic and Evolutionary Biology and Biological Anthropology; Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of Education and Program in Neurosciences; and Co-Director, Mind, Brain, and Behavior Program and Director of Cognitive Evolution Lab.

The four commentators were:

Simon Blackburn
Professor of Philosophy
University of Cambridge

Helena Cronin
Co-Director and Research Associate, Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science
London School of Economics and Political Science

Susan Gelman
Frederick G. L. Huitccl Professor of Psychology
University of Michigan

Walter Sinnott-Armstrong
Professor of Philosophy, Hardy Professor of Legal Studies, and Co-Director, MacArthur Law and Neuroscience Project
Dartmouth College

THE PROGRAM IN ETHICS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND THE JAMES A. MOFFETT ’29 LECTURES IN ETHICS

The Program in Ethics and Public Affairs (PEPA) is cosponsored by the Woodrow Wilson School. The program includes the James A. Moffett ’29 Lectures, seminars, and workshops in ethics, which focus on ethics in public and professional life, and are made possible by a generous grant in honor of James A. Moffett ’29. These events feature lectures and discussions by scholars from colleges and universities in the U.S. and abroad. Topics range across a wide array of ethical controversies concerning such matters as religious freedom, minority rights, the psychology of hypocrisy, identity politics, geography and inequality, racial and gender discrimination, and constitutional democracy.

PEPA Events 2008–09

September 25
Measuring the Wellbeing of the World
Angus Deaton, Princeton University
Daniel Kahneman, Princeton University
Peter Singer, Princeton University
Cosponsored by the Center for Health and Wellbeing

October 9
Equality and Exemptions in Principle and Practice
Stuart White, Oxford University

October 16
Liberty and Degradation
Peter de Marneffe, Arizona State University

February 5
Global Justice, European Enlargement, and Liberal Political Incorporation
Glyn Morgan, Harvard University
April 23
**Justice and Social Interaction**
*Andrea Sangiovanni*, King’s College, London

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**The James A. Moffett ’29 Public Lectures in Ethics**

October 2
**China’s New Confucianism**
*Daniel Bell*, Tsinghua University, Beijing
*Cosponsored by the Center for Globalization and Governance; Department of East Asian Studies; Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies; and Princeton University Press*

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November 20
**Word and Image in the Philosophy of Hobbes**
*Quentin Skinner*, University of Cambridge

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February 12
**Same-Sex Marriage: Beyond the Politics of Disgust**
*Martha Nussbaum*, University of Chicago
*Cosponsored by the Program in the Study of Women and Gender; the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Center; and the Program in Law and Public Affairs*

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**POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM**

*Philip Pettit*, Director

The Program in Political Philosophy presents a colloquium for graduate students and faculty in which scholars from the University, the Institute for Advanced Study, and other universities present papers, give lectures, and lead seminars on a broad range of topics of interest. The University Center for Human Values and the Department of Politics cosponsor the colloquium.

Colloquia speakers for 2008–09 were:

November 6
**The Moral Semantics of Legal Discourse**
*Jules Coleman*, Yale University

February 26
**Representative Government and Popular Sovereignty**
*Bryan Garsten*, Yale University

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**THE IRA W. DECAMP BIOETHICS SEMINARS**

*Peter Singer*, Director

The Ira W. DeCamp Bioethics Seminars are open to all students, faculty, and interested members of the public. Seminars range across a wide variety of topics at the intersections of philosophy, public policy, and the biological sciences—including ecology, biology, and medicine. Teachers and scholars from Princeton and other universities, as well as practitioners, present papers and deliver lectures, followed by questions and discussion from the floor.

Speakers for 2008–09 were:

October 8
**The Ethical Implications of Recent Research on Race and IQ**
*James Flynn*, University of Otago, New Zealand
Respondent: Deborah Prentice, the Alexander Stewart 1886 Professor of Psychology, Chair, Department of Psychology

October 22
**Drug Addiction and Personal Autonomy**
*Doug Husak*, Rutgers University
Respondent: Bennett Foddy, Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellow in Bioethics, University Center for Human Values

November 5
**Ethics in Neuroscience: Lessons from Lobotomy**
*Mariko Nakano*, University of California–Los Angeles
Respondent: Charles Gross, Professor of Psychology and the Princeton Neuroscience Institute
Same-Sex Marriage
Beyond the Politics of Disgust
Martha Nussbaum
University of Chicago
Thursday, February 12 • 4:30–6:00 p.m. • 101 McCosh
Co-sponsored by the University Center for Human Values; the Center, Law, Gender, Transgender Center, the Program on Law and Public Affairs, and the Program in the Study of Women and Gender.

China’s New Confucianism
Politics and Everyday Life in a Changing Society
Daniel Bell
Tsinghua University, Beijing
Thursday, October 2 • 4:30–6:00 p.m. • Aaron Burr 219
Follow-up Panel Discussion
Friday, October 3 • 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. • Mars Hall 301
November 10
**From Poverty to Power**
*Duncan Green*, Head of Research, Oxfam Great Britain

November 19
**Existence: Who Needs It?**
*Rivka Weinberg*, Claremont Colleges
Respondent: Melinda Roberts, College of New Jersey

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**LAURANCE S. ROCKEFELLER VISITING PROFESSOR FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING WORKSHOP**

*Lawrie Balfour*, the 2008-09 Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching, convened this workshop:

**Reparations: The Future of the Debate**
*A Series of Lunchtime Conversations*

Is now the time to consider reparations for slavery? In July 2008, the U.S. House of Representatives followed the lead of several states (including New Jersey) and passed a resolution apologizing for slavery and Jim Crow. What are the ethical and political implications of such an apology? Should it be followed by material redress? What lessons might the U.S. draw from similar efforts to come to terms with historical injustice in other parts of the world? The discussion included visiting scholars and Princeton faculty members who have helped to define the debates about slavery, race, and the politics of memory.

**March 10: The Future of the Reparations Movement?**
Discussion with Alfred Brophy, University of North Carolina School of Law
Led by Joshua Guild, Assistant Professor of History and African American Studies, Princeton University

**April 21: Apologies vs. Reparations: A False Trade-Off?**
Discussion with Melissa Nobles, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Led by Paul Frymer, Associate Professor of Politics, Princeton University

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**May 5: The Law and Philosophy of Reparations**
Discussion with Adrienne Davis, Washington University School of Law
Led by Tera Hunter, Professor of History and the Center for African American Studies, Princeton University

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**LUNCH SEMINARS**

October 3
**Panel Discussion: Asian and Western Values and China’s Past, Present, and Future**
*Daniel Bell*, Tsinghua University, Beijing
*Cosponsored by the Center for Globalization and Governance; Department of East Asian Studies; Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies; and the Princeton University Press*

November 20
**Discussion on John Rawls**
*Sebastiano Maffetone*, LUISS-Guido Carli University (Rome)

February 20
**Toward Cosmopolitan Democracy**
*Daniele Archibugi*, Italian National Research Council, and University of London

March 6
**War, Violence, and the Logic of Inevitability**
*Uday Mehta*, Amherst College

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**TWO-DAY WORKSHOP**

December 5–6
**Beyond Elections: The Democratic Legitimacy of New Forms of Representation**
Organizers: Nadia Urbinati (Columbia University); Mark E. Warren (University of British Columbia); Stephen Macedo (Director, University Center for Human Values)

Panel I: Can Non-Elected Representatives Be Democratic?
*Archon Fung*, Harvard University
Toward a Pragmatic Conception of Democracy
Michael Saward, Open University
Citizens in the Grey Zone: Democratic Credibility and Nonelective Representation

Laura Montanaro, University of British Columbia
The Democratic Legitimacy of “Self-Authorize” Representatives

Discussant: Jane Mansbridge, Harvard University

Panel II: The Expanding Domains of Representative Claims

Margaret Keck, Johns Hopkins University
Representation in Context

Jennifer Rubenstein, University of Virginia
The Ethics of NGO Advocacy or Why It Is OK That No One Elected Oxfam

Alex Zakaras, University of Vermont
Lot and Democratic Representation

Discussant: Melissa Schwartzberg, Columbia University

Panel III: New Forms of Representation

Stephen Macedo, Princeton University
Representation-Reinforcing Multilateralism: How Participation in International Institutions Can Improve Domestic Political Representation

Benedict Kingsbury, New York University
Jurisgenerative Capacity in International Law

Evan Oxman, Princeton University
Political Representation as Public Performance

Discussant: Jean Cohen, Columbia University

Panel IV: Formalizing Non-electoral Representation

Nadia Urbinati, Columbia University
On John Rawls’ Representational Judgment

Philip Pettit, Princeton University
Deputy and Proxy Representation

Mark Warren, University of British Columbia
Citizen Representatives

Discussant: Anna Stilz, Princeton University

PROGRAM IN LAW AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Kim Lane Scheppelle, Director
Leslie Gerwin, Assistant Director

The Program in Law and Public Affairs (LAPA) is a joint venture of the University Center for Human Values, the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, and Princeton University. The founding director of LAPA was Stephen Macedo. He was succeeded by Christopher Eisgruber, who served from 2001 until his appointment as provost of Princeton University in 2004. Kim Lane Scheppelle is the current director of the program.

LAPA supports outstanding scholars, lawyers, and judges who devote an academic year in residence at Princeton. Visiting fellows are drawn from the social sciences and humanities, from law schools, and from among individuals who have made a distinguished career in professional and public life. LAPA fellows join the Princeton community to research, write about, and teach law and public affairs and to participate in the activities of the program.

The visiting fellows for 2008–09 were:

Christopher Beauchamp
New York University School of Law

Mark Brandon
Vanderbilt University

Malcolm Feeley
University of California–Berkeley

Ingolf Pernice
Humboldt-Universität of Berlin

Noah Zatz
University of California–Los Angeles School of Law
The Program in Ethics and Public Affairs Seminar Series

Measuring the Wellbeing of the World

Thursday, September 25
300 Wallace Hall
4:30-6:00 p.m.
(reception following event)

Presenter
Angus Deaton
Princeton University

Commentators
Daniel Kahneman
Princeton University

Peter Singer
Princeton University

Wednesday, November 12 & Thursday, November 13
4:30-6:00 p.m., McCosh 50

Seeds of Humanity
Marc Hauser

Forward College Professor and Professor of Psychology and Evolutionary Biology
DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN VALUES PROJECT

Philip Pettit, Director

This project, established in 2005–06, has three broad aims:

- The foundation of democracy: to develop the theory of groups so as to explain what is involved in the formation of a democratic community and people and to explore the extent to which the state and government can be organized as group-agents.

- The role of democracy: to investigate the role that democratic government might be required to serve under such a foundational theory and, on that basis, to articulate a set of democratic expectations that can provide benchmarks for the assessment of democratic regimes.

- The design of democracy: to bring together strands of research among political scientists, sociologists, lawyers, economists, and psychologists in order to identify the institutions that can best implement such democratic expectations; and this, across different contexts—in developed and developing countries, for example, and in international networks as well as domestically.

In collaboration with Stephen Macedo, the director of the University Center for Human Values, Pettit coordinates a range of activities among members of the University faculty and student body that are designed, over the lifetime of the project, to advance the three aims. The activities include pursuing relevant research programs, organizing workshops and conferences on selected topics, and sponsoring lectures and colloquia in the area of the project.

The initial research focus of the project is on topics in the theory of groups: the nature of group formation, the possibility of group agency, the coherence of the notion of group responsibility, the notion of the demos as a group, and the extent to which states and governments should be constructed as contestable group agents.

The topic for 2008–09 was “Public Reasons and Deliberation.” The workshop was held on May 8–10, 2009. The workshop was a highly interdisciplinary meeting, with participants from history, law, philosophy, and politics. The presenters were Mathilde Cohen, Columbia University; John Ferejohn, Stanford University; Rainer Forst, Frankfurt University; and Michael Smith, Princeton University.
The University Center for Human Values, often with other cosponsoring departments and programs, provides support for lectures, small conferences, and special events at Princeton. Preference is given to departments and programs without extensive speakers’ programs and funds.
Ethics of Climate Change Seminar Series
Sponsored by the Princeton Environmental Institute

Human Rights and Crimes against Humanity: A Colloquium Series
Sponsored by the Department of History and the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies

Rethinking Foreignness Lecture Series
Sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, the Center for the Study of Religion; Department of Near Eastern Studies; Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia; Program in American Studies; Program in Latin American Studies; Program in Law and Public Affairs; and Program in South Asian Studies

Russian Studies Lecture Series
Sponsored by the Department of History, Program in Russian and Eurasian Studies, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Council of the Humanities, and Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

Princeton Documentary Festival—Real Stories: Fact and Fiction in the Documentary
Sponsored by Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures, the Program in Latin America Studies, Council of the Humanities, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Council of the Humanities, and Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

The Classical Philosophy Colloquium
Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy, Council of the Humanities, the Department of Classics, and the Department of Philosophy

Inaugural Americanist Research Symposium: The Work of Art and Story in an Age of Biotechnology and Public Matters in American Literary and Cultural Studies
Sponsored by the Program in American Studies, Americanist Colloquium, Department of English, Center for African American Studies, Program in the Study of Women and Gender, Program in American Studies, the Graduate Action Committee, and Center for the Study of Religion

Totalitarian Laughter: Cultures of the Comic under Socialism Seminar Series
Sponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, and Program in European Cultural Studies

A Tribute to Odetta Panel Discussion and Concert
Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion, Council of the Humanities, Department of History, Department of Music, Department of Religion, Graduate School's Office of Academic Affairs and Diversity, James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, Lewis Center for the Arts, Office of Religious Life, Princeton Theological Seminary, Program in American Studies, Program in the Study of Women and Gender, Public Lectures, and Vice President for Campus Life

Public Lecture: Working for an AIDS-Free World
Sponsored by Department of Politics, the Fund for Canadian Studies, the Princeton Canadians Club, Woodrow Wilson School, Health Grand Challenges Initiative, and Center for Health and Wellbeing

Public Lecture: Beyond Belief
Sponsored by the Fund for Intergroup Collaboration, Undergraduate Forum, Women's Center, Pace Center, Davis International Center, Department of Anthropology, Fields Center, and Butler College

Public Lecture: On the Possibility of Worlds
Sponsored by the Department of English, Council of the Humanities, and Office of the Dean of the Graduate School

Public Lecture: Currents in Contemporary Criticism and Theory
Sponsored by the Department of English, Department of History, Department of Art and Archaeology, Department of Philosophy, Department of Music, Department of German, Department of Comparative Literature, Department of French and Italian, Department of Classics, Program in Medieval Studies, Program in the Study of Women and Gender, Program in European Cultural Studies, Program in Latin American Studies, Program in Media and Modernity, Program in American Studies, Council of the Humanities, and Lewis Center for the Arts
Public Lecture: Religion in the Civil Rights Movement
Sponsored by Center for African American Studies, Center for the Study of Religion, Council of the Humanities, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Department of English, Department of History, James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, Program in American Studies, Office of the Dean of the Graduate School, Office of Religious Life, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, and Department of Religion

Public Lecture: Law and Legal Culture in the Middle Ages
Sponsored by the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Council of the Humanities, Center for the Study of Religion, Department of History, Department of English, Department of Art and Archaeology, Department of German, Department of French and Italian, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures, and Program in Medieval Studies

Public Lecture: Feeding a Hot and Hungry Planet: The Challenge of Making More Food and Fewer Greenhouse Gases
Sponsored by the Princeton Environmental Institute, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, and German Marshall Fund

Public Lecture: What’s Ailing the U.S.—Immigration and Health Care: Access and Barriers
Sponsored by the Center for Migration and Development, Program in Latin American Studies, Woodrow Wilson School, and Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies

Public Lecture: Beyond Cultural Essentialism: Grounding African Human Rights Project in a Common Morality
Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion

Graduate Student Conference: Rabbis and Others in Conversation
Sponsored by the Program in Judaic Studies, Program in the Ancient World, Council of the Humanities, Shelby Collum Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Department of Classics, Center for the Study of Religion, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Mellon Foundation, Tikvah Project in Jewish Thought, and Department of Religion

Graduate Student Conference: Political Theory
Sponsored by the Department of Politics

Graduate Student Conference: Agency and Autonomy
Sponsored by the Department of Politics and Department of Philosophy

Class Trip to Ghana
Sponsored by the Office of the President through the 250th Centennial Fund, Center for African American Studies, Council of the Humanities, and Department of English

Graduate Student Conference: The Complex
Sponsored by the Department of Art and Archaeology, Program in American Studies, Department of Religion, Department of History, School of Architecture, Center for African American Studies, and Program in the Study of Women and Gender
“I believe that this is the first year that other Princeton faculty were invited to attend the fellows’ seminars. I was extremely grateful to those who did so for taking the time to read our work carefully and attend our discussions.… To borrow a phrase from Cornel West (who used it in praise of Lawrie Balfour’s work), these local experts helped keep our lunches ‘funky and fresh.’”

–Sarah McGrath
Laurance S. Rockefeller
Resident Faculty Fellow
The University Center for Human Values Series

**Stephen Macedo**, Editor, 2003–09:

*Meaning in Life* (forthcoming)
Susan Wolf

*The Limits of Constitutional Democracy* (forthcoming)
Edited by Jeffrey Tulis and Stephen Macedo

*Striking First*
Michael W. Doyle

*Primates and Philosophers*
Frans de Waal

**Amy Gutmann**, Editor, 1994–2002:

*Democracy, Culture, and the Voice of Poetry* (etc.)
Robert Pinsky

*Human Rights as Politics and Idolatry*
Michael Ignatieff

*Goodness and Advice*
Judith Jarvis Thomson

*Truth v. Justice: The Morality of Truth Commissions*
Edited by Robert I. Rotberg and Dennis Thompson

*The Lives of Animals*
J. M. Coetzee

*Work and Welfare*
Robert M. Solow

*Freedom of Association*
Edited by Amy Gutmann

*A Matter of Interpretation: Federal Courts and the Law*
Antonin Scalia

*Multiculturalism and “the Politics of Recognition”*
Charles Taylor

Conference Proceedings

*Teaching New Histories of Philosophy*
Edited by J. B. Schneewind, Professor Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University, and the 2002–03 Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching (University Center for Human Values, 2004)

Based on the proceedings of a conference that took place April 4–6, 2003 at Princeton, this book includes commentary by Karl Ameriks, Lorraine Daston, Lisa Downing, Jeffrey Edwards, Juliet Floyd, Michael Friedman, Daniel Garber, Anthony Grafton, Knud Haakonssen, Jennifer Herdt, T. J. Hochstrasser, Ian Hunter, Ulrich Johannes, Denis Kambouchner, Donald Kelley, Mark Larrimore, Béatrice Longuenesse, Susan Nieman, Eileen O’Neill, and Nancy Tuana.
“As the most junior member of faculty at the center, I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work with, and learn from, such an array of brilliant and generous colleagues. The fortnightly Laurence S. Rockefeller seminars at the center were a fascinating and educational interdisciplinary experience…. This year also marked my second year teaching bioethics, in this case, a freshman seminar on the ethics of human enhancement. What an exciting and rewarding format these seminars are!”

–Bennett Foddy
Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Research Associate in Bioethics
Leland de la Durantaye

The gift of ample time and conducive space to work, of an absence of teaching duties and an abundance of resources, is a great gift—the first of many that I received at the center this past year. But still greater was the gift of a stimulating environment. Listing everything that I found stimulating and that proved salutary during this year would extend well beyond the bounds of such a report. If I were asked to choose the element that appears to me now as the most important, however, I would point to one that is, aptly enough, linked to the mission of the center—the benefits of interdisciplinary study. Academic work is, by its very nature, specialized. Doing that work often requires an immersion into the details of a given subject that can lead one to lose sight of the point of departure and its relation to other questions in other disciplines. What can prove regrettable is when scholars lose the habit of linking their own interests and findings with those of other scholars embarked on very different projects in very different fields. This is a roundabout way of saying that the greatest of the many gifts I received from the center over the course of this year has been a precisely renewed and intensified sense for such connections. This gift came in two forms. The first was all that I learned from the other fellows and our many visitors about disciplines ranging from evolutionary biology to romance philology, from metaethics to jurisprudence. The second was the impact of interactions with my fellows and our visitors and which led me in a variety of settings—from formal seminars to casual encounters—to focus on what it is in my own field and my own work that most matters to me and how I can communicate this in the clearest and most precise language—one which eschews the shorthand of jargon and allows for an exchange of ideas on the most fundamental aspects of the problem at hand. This intellectual exercise of developing a different perspective on my own work and its relation to work in seemingly distant areas has been of the greatest assistance in clarifying my sense of what I do and why I do it. In addition, I think it has improved my work by encouraging me to find ways of sharpening the focus of my studies without simplifying their concerns.

The intellectual stimulation of the center and its many affiliates on campus rotated around the fixed point of our Monday meetings. In addition to this fixed point there was a stunning variety of seminars and talks organized either by the center or with its assistance; one of whose focal points was the Tanner Lecture Series. Also, I spent a great deal of time in the departments of English, comparative literature, German, and Romance languages. I formed there relationships which have made this year an especially exciting and happy one and that I can only imagine will continue.

As concerns my own work, I am happy with the progress made. The first part of my year was focused on the completion of a book on the (interdisciplinary) Italian philosopher Giorgio Agamben, published by Stanford University Press (Giorgio Agamben: A Critical Introduction).

The bulk of my time, however, was spent on a related but ultimately quite distinct project titled “The Literature of Value and the Value of Literature,” which focuses on the interaction of ethical and aesthetic questions in modern literature. One question herein is the relation of the aesthetic imperative to study art for its own sake, to treat art not as a sub-field of history, philosophy, sociology, or what have you, but in and for itself—not as a means to an end, but its own end. To do so—that is to experience art for art’s sake—has proved salutary during this year would extend well beyond the bounds of such a report. If I were asked to choose the element that appears to me now as the most important, however, I would point to one that is, aptly enough, linked to the mission of the center—the benefits of interdisciplinary study. Academic work is, by its very nature, specialized. Doing that work often requires an immersion into the details of a given subject that can lead one to lose sight of the point of departure and its relation to other questions in other disciplines. What can prove regrettable is when scholars lose the habit of linking their own interests and findings with those of other scholars embarked on very different projects in very different fields. This is a roundabout way of saying that the greatest of the many gifts I received from the center over the course of this year has been a precisely renewed and intensified sense for such connections. This gift came in two forms. The first was all that I learned from the other fellows and our many visitors about disciplines ranging from evolutionary biology to romance philology, from metaethics to jurisprudence. The second was the impact of interactions with my fellows and our visitors and which led me in a variety of settings—from formal seminars to casual encounters—to focus on what it is in my own field and my own work that most matters to me and how I can communicate this in the clearest and most precise language—one which eschews the shorthand of jargon and allows for an exchange of ideas on the most fundamental aspects of the problem at hand. This intellectual exercise of developing a different perspective on my own work and its relation to work in seemingly distant areas has been of the greatest assistance in clarifying my sense of what I do and why I do it. In addition, I think it has improved my work by encouraging me to find ways of sharpening the focus of my studies without simplifying their concerns.

The intellectual stimulation of the center and its many affiliates on campus rotated around the fixed point of our Monday meetings. In addition to this fixed point there was a stunning variety of seminars and talks organized either by the center or with its assistance; one of whose focal points was the Tanner Lecture Series. Also, I spent a great deal of time in the departments of English, comparative literature, German, and Romance languages. I formed there relationships which have made this year an especially exciting and happy one and that I can only imagine will continue.

As concerns my own work, I am happy with the progress made. The first part of my year was focused on the completion of a book on the (interdisciplinary) Italian philosopher Giorgio Agamben, published by Stanford University Press (Giorgio Agamben: A Critical Introduction).

The bulk of my time, however, was spent on a related but ultimately quite distinct project titled “The Literature of Value and the Value of Literature,” which focuses on the interaction of ethical and aesthetic questions in modern literature. One question herein is the relation of the aesthetic imperative to study art for its own sake, to treat art not as a sub-field of history, philosophy, sociology, or what have you, but in and for itself—not as a means to an end, but its own end. To do so—that is to experience art for art’s sake—has seemed to many modern commentators to necessitate bracketing any and all ethical questions that arise in the experience of the work of art. The second strand, one I had not clearly envisioned at the beginning of the year, was the ethics of historical portrayal, from the narrowly personal to the broadly historical. Stated in the simplest possible terms, this is the ethics of presenting fact as fiction and fiction as fact. The final phase of the project concerns the same theme of the relation of fact to fiction as concerns larger-scale questions of historical portrayal.

Ioannis Evrigenis

I came to the University Center for Human Values with the outline of a project on the state of nature, centered on two broad sets of questions. On the one hand, I was interested in tracing the history and development of this concept in political thought. On the other hand, I wanted to use that history to think about its significance in the transformation of the ways in which political theorists have thought about anarchy, sovereignty, and equality. My initial outline came with a set of very serious problems and difficult choices, which can be summed up as revolving around how to contain the subject and render it manageable. Even if one were to confine such a study to those thinkers who use the term “state of nature,”
the relevant material is staggering, since the concept was central to grand political theories from the 17th century onwards. To make matters worse, accounts involving something like what the social contract theorists came to refer to as the state of nature can be found as far back as the earliest theories of politics. For my purposes, the story was complicated further by the fact that in putting together their accounts of the state of nature, these theorists made use of a wide range of sources, from the Bible to Thucydides, and from Cicero to John White.

Though I was at a particularly unappealing stage of the project at the beginning of the year, I could not have been situated in a better environment in which to consider these problems and seek solutions to them. Both the immediate and extended families of the center include scholars of an astonishing breadth, many of whom specialize in different aspects of this project, people who were eager to listen and help. Had I just been able to concentrate on the challenges posed by the extent and variety of my material, I would have considered the year a success. The many engaging conversations and helpful suggestions that I received made it an especially fruitful time, and the vibrant intellectual atmosphere of the center and the University at large, a time that I will think back on fondly.

During the course of the year, and in superb conditions, put in place by Steve Macedo and the center’s staff, I was able to find solutions to many of the problems that I started with, and think about the significance of the state of nature for the language of sovereignty, rights, and equality. I was able to continue my research into particular accounts and sources, present work at Princeton and beyond, and complete subsections of the manuscript. I was also able to develop and present other projects, on Plato and the Greek Enlightenment. I leave on the challenges posed by the extent and variety of my material, I would have considered the year a success. The many engaging conversations and helpful suggestions that I received made it an especially fruitful time, and the vibrant intellectual atmosphere of the center and the University at large, a time that I will think back on fondly.

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David Lefkowitz
My year as a Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow at the University Center for Human Values ranks at the very top of my experiences as an academic and philosopher. I describe below a number of concrete ways in which I gained from the time at Princeton.

The first of these was the pleasure of working and learning in an atmosphere characterized by a collaborative search for truth. Disciplines served not as boundaries to be defended or camps from which to wage war, but rather as domains of specialized knowledge to be shared with others in the common task of achieving a greater understanding of what makes for ethical conduct, a good life, or a just society. This approach was manifest not only in the center’s award of a Rockefeller Fellowship to philosophers, political scientists, historians, and a literary scholar, but also in the many interdisciplinary lecture series partly sponsored by the center, in which various fellows (including myself) were offered the opportunity to play a leading role. I personally gained not only from the comments of scholars in a variety of disciplines on the paper I gave as part of the LSR Fellows Lunch series, but also through participation in talks that were part of the Ethics and Public Affairs lecture series, the Political Philosophy Colloquium, and the Ethics and Climate Change seminar series.

A second equally abstract and equally valuable benefit I received as a result of my time at Princeton was the validation of my skill as a political and legal philosopher, and of the worth of the projects I have chosen to undertake. The opportunity to interact on an almost daily basis with so many leading scholars in my field, people who were genuinely interested in what I had to say and in helping me to improve the quality of my own research, significantly boosted the confidence I have in my abilities as a thinker and writer. Given the central role that criticism plays in academia—and I certainly experienced no shortage of it at Princeton, though it was always positive—I believe that experiences that reinforce the value of one’s efforts are essential to both good work and to making one’s professional endeavors part of a good life.

Though a great many people at Princeton actively sought to promote this atmosphere, three groups made especially salient contributions to my experience of it. The first of these was composed of the other fellows, each of whom taught me a great deal (and were wonderful dinner companions to boot). The second was made up of the permanent members of the center, and in particular Steve Macedo, Kim Schepple, Philip Pettit, and Tori McGee. The third consisted of several scholars in the politics department—including Chuck Beitz, Annie Stilz, Rahul Sagar, and George Kateb—with whom I spent many hours discussing topics of mutual interest.

More concretely, while a fellow, I completed the final two components of a project on the morality of obedience and disobedience to law that has been the primary focus of my research for the past
several years. The first of these concerns the type of normative claim that can be made by someone who petitions a legitimate state for recognition as a conscientious objector. For example, does such a person offer the fact that she cannot in good conscience comply with the law as an excuse for her illegal conduct? Or does she instead point to this fact as a reason for the state to treat her mercifully? There are other alternatives as well, and the discussion of all of them by those who attended my talk on this subject as part of the LSR lunch series greatly strengthened both the (shorter) paper on this topic that I have submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, and the (longer) chapter in the book on the moral duty to obey the law at which I am presently at work.

The second component of the aforementioned project I completed while at Princeton addresses the challenge of constructing an argument that begins with a moral duty owed to all human beings as such but that ends in a moral duty to obey the law of the specific state in which a person is a citizen (rather than, say, the law of some other state, or simply acting on one’s own judgment regarding what would be morally best). Several of the other visiting fellows gave me helpful comments on drafts of this paper (and eventual book chapter).

In addition to these two substantial pieces of scholarship, I also completed papers on the morality of obedience to a legal command to wage war in cases where the justice of the war is uncertain; the possibility of a Samaritan duty to undertake armed humanitarian intervention; the reconciliation of mercy with just legal punishment; articles on civil disobedience and on conscientious objection for the forthcoming second edition of the Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics; and a review of a new book on democratic authority.

My time as a Rockefeller fellow was truly extraordinary, and my only regret is that it has now come to an end.

Frank Lovett

This has been an enormously productive year for me at the University Center for Human Values. Early on, I presented some work in progress on multiculturalism and the problem of in-group domination, first at the LSR Seminar here, and then again when I was invited to a political theory seminar at Columbia University in November. This enabled me to take full advantage of my time here to develop the paper—responding to criticisms and suggestions, and absorbing the extensive literature relevant to the topic. (In these efforts, I benefited from the fact that Alan Patten is also working on issues related to multiculturalism, and that he was willing to share with me his own work in progress.) My multiculturalism paper is now under review at Political Theory, and several other projects that relate to this one—by way of the phenomenology of social practices generally—are also much further advanced. In particular, I have been able to draft a new paper on the connection between social practices and the rule of law, a topic that has long been an interest of mine. This paper was far enough along to present at a St. Louis workshop in April.

In addition to this main line of work, I have also profited greatly from my interactions with the other fellows and center faculty in advancing my research interests related to civic republicanism. Philip Pettit and I coauthored a review article on the state of the neo-republican literature, due out this summer in the Annual Review of Political Science, and I am now also bringing out an article on civic republicanism and distributive justice in the summer issue of the Journal of Politics. Moreover, I secured Oxford University Press as the publisher for my first book, tentatively titled A General Theory of Domination and Justice. With the help of many conversations with Philip, José Martí, and others, I managed to work in many important revisions to the final manuscript, which is now complete.

I need hardly add that the great many talks, seminars, lectures, and so on have also stimulated new avenues of thought which I will carry with me back to Washington University. The University Center for Human Values has indeed been the ideal place to spend my sabbatical, and I am very grateful to have been a fellow here.

José Luis Martí

It is not an overstatement to say that this year at the University Center for Human Values has changed my academic life in many significant and positive ways. It has offered me the opportunity to engage in an overwhelming amount of high-quality seminars, workshops, and conferences. It has also offered an incredible environment for developing and discussing my own research.

The list of seminars and workshops has been overwhelming both in quantity and quality. Our primary activity has been the bi-weekly LSR fellows’ seminars in which each of us had the chance
to present and discuss a work-in-progress. The heterogeneity of our respective interests is something to celebrate for all what we were able to learn from each other. We have also had, in an interesting initiative, the possibility to discuss a developing work of some members of the University’s faculty. In parallel run the many general activities organized by the center, such as the Program in Ethics and Public Affairs, the Political Philosophy Colloquium, and the Ethics and Climate Change Seminar. All these events were an amazing source of inspiration and gave me the opportunity to meet dozens of prestigious scholars, as well as to participate in generally terrific discussions. Finally, I have been particularly involved in two workshops organized at the center that were very close to my current research interests: a two-day workshop on political representation held in December 2008, and a three-day one on deliberative democracy held in May 2009 in the hallmark of the Democracy and Human Values Project. They hosted excellent and stimulating papers and discussions by some of the main experts on the topic.

In this year I have been able to finish two books and two papers, besides some other smaller things. The first book was an edition of a collection of essays, with my colleague Samantha Besson, published by Oxford University Press under the title Legal Republicanism. National and International Perspectives (2009), which includes a first chapter coauthored with Besson on the general idea of a legal republicanism and a chapter authored by me on the republican theories of criminal law. I have also coauthored a book with Philip Pettit, A Political Philosophy in Public Life. Civic Republicanism in Zapatero’s Spain. This book is about the relationship between Pettit and civic republicanism with Spanish social-democracy, and particularly with the Prime Minister Rodríguez Zapatero.

I wrote a short piece on jurisprudence with the title “Sobre la normatividad de la filosofía del derecho” that is forthcoming in the Spanish journal Anuario de Filosofía del Derecho. This piece was later the embryo for a paper written in English, “Value Neutrality and Political Jurisprudence,” which I presented to the fellows seminar in March. I am finishing a last version of the work, and am also using a good part of this material for writing another paper in Spanish for the Argentinian journal Discusiones.

Finally, I am working on a paper on large-scale and deliberative democracy with the provisional title of “Supersizing Deliberative Democracy and the Risk of Group Polarization,” to be presented at the APSA Annual Meeting in Toronto. I take this paper to be also part of a new book in English on deliberative democracy—my next big project. Besides this, I also started to work with Roberto Gargarella in editing two collections of classic essays on republican criminal law, as well as in my response to the criticisms raised by the contributors to a forthcoming monographic in the Italian electronic journal Diritto & Questione Pubbliche, devoted to discuss my book La República deliberativa.

The sum of all these activities helps to draw a segment of the dream academic environment I found at the center at Princeton. The faculty and the staff of the center itself have been particularly pleasant and enjoyable, and have ever appeared willing to help us by contributing to the content of our research or simply by granting ideal conditions for our work to develop. I am especially grateful for Philip Pettit, Steve Macedo, and Jan Logan for having been so helpful, affectionate, and patient with me. Princeton University as a whole and particularly its gorgeous campus have completed the dream environment for a year of study, meditation, and long strolls around.

Sarah McGrath

During my fellowship year, I worked on a series of essays unified by their concern with the peculiarities of moral knowledge. Thanks to the center, I was able to complete and submit to journals two papers on the possibility of “moral expertise.” A third paper concerns the role of experience in moral knowledge and is forthcoming in the journal Philosophical Perspectives. At my April LSR Seminar presentation, fellows in politics and history provided valuable references to relevant work in their fields, and others, including my commentator, Leland de la Durantaye, did an excellent job of raising objections that helped me to improve the paper. I also received helpful feedback when I presented versions of these papers at the University of Notre Dame, Temple University, and to the philosophy department here at Princeton. I had one paper accepted for presentation at the Wisconsin Metaethics Workshop in September 2009, another accepted for presentation at the American
Philosophical Association meeting in December 2009, and have third paper under review for another leading conference in my field. Because of my fellowship, I also had the opportunity to attend Elizabeth Harman's graduate seminar in ethics and the center's Agency and Autonomy Series.

The lunches at which the fellows presented their work ranged widely not only in topic but in intellectual style and method. I was repeatedly impressed by the extent to which discussants with very different intellectual backgrounds were willing to roll up their sleeves and engage with projects that had apparently little to do with their own fields, and which differed considerably in scholarly approach. The fellows seemed genuinely committed to working carefully through one another's papers and to mounting thoughtful, constructive critiques of the papers and projected book projects each week. Getting to know the fellows intellectually through their contributions to discussion made it even more interesting to read their papers and to become familiar with their own projects. I found it something of a luxury—like being an undergraduate again—to read papers in literature, history, and politics, as opposed to paper after paper in my own field.

I believe that this is the first year that other Princeton faculty were invited to attend the seminars. I was extremely grateful to those who did so for taking the time to read our work carefully and attend our discussions. The contributions of these resident experts were illuminating and also quite useful to the LSR fellows presenting. To borrow a phrase from Cornel West (who used it in praise of LSR Fellow Lawrie Balfour's work), these local experts helped keep our lunches “funky and fresh.”

Sigrún Svavarsdóttir

It has been a privilege to spend the year as a Laurence S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow at Princeton's University Center for Human Values. Admittedly, it turned out to be a frustrating year: a year of repeatedly refiguring the structure of my book manuscript and constantly chasing elusive ideas. However, I end the year with the satisfaction of having nailed down the structure, written the crucial first substantial chapter, started the second, and laid the groundwork for several others. It has been invaluable to have the time to devote myself almost exclusively to this project for a whole academic year and to do so in such a stimulating academic environment. I have behind me conceptual work that would have been difficult to accomplish in between teaching and service duties, and I am now in an excellent position to write the remaining chapters.

The weekly Laurence S. Rockefeller Fellows Seminar proved to be instrumental to getting the structure of the book right. It was under the pressure of presenting material to the seminar that my ideas came together in a way that led me finally to see what the structure of the book should be, and the first chapter is partly based on the paper that I presented to the seminar. I was thrilled that in addition to the regular participants, all the professors in moral philosophy at Princeton attended the seminar and gave me good feedback. More generally, I have very much enjoyed the weekly seminar. It has been interesting to learn about the projects of the other fellows and presentations of work in progress by Princeton faculty members invariably led to stimulating discussions.

I have benefited in many other ways from spending the year at Princeton. In the fall, I took the opportunity to attend some sessions of Professor Michael Smith’s seminar on practical rationality and of Professor Peter Singer’s ethics seminar. I have also sought intellectual stimulation in lectures at the University Center for Human Values and at the Department of Philosophy. This has exposed me to subjects as diverse as: our moral responsibility to fight global warming, ethical issues that arise in medical research, ethical questions concerning international trade in archeological objects, Hobbes’s pictorial illustrations of the Leviathan, the evolution of the sense of justice, Confucian ethics, the value of thought experiments in moral inquiry, obligation and regret when there is no determinate fact about what would have happened if you had done otherwise, the aesthetics and morality of Almodóvar’s film Talk to Her, the death of the duel as an example of moral change, the ethics of reparation for past social injustice such as slavery, and the metaphysics of modality. In addition, I have had some helpful informal exchanges with Princeton faculty working in my specialty, and I have used the proximity to New York City to engage with moral philosophers based there. This report is not complete without mentioning the gatherings at 5 Ivy Lane to watch and analyze the debates between the presidential candidates. I could not have been in better company during these debates and during the historical election night in the autumn of 2008.

Jeffrey Tulis

I had the privilege of teaching at Princeton on the regular faculty for most of the 1980s. Although I looked forward to returning to this place that I had liked 20 years ago, I was completely surprised by how a very good university had become truly great. This remarkable transformation seems partly due to the
University Center for Human Values and the many other centers here that had been established in the intervening years. A sense of intellectual vibrancy is now palpable at Princeton. Very few universities have succeeded as well in their commitments to interdisciplinary engagement. Shortly after we arrived last fall, the tone for the year was set by a workshop in which Angus Deaton, Daniel Kahneman, and Peter Singer discussed new findings which compel revisions of the entire literature on the relation of wealth and happiness. The event drew colleagues from across the university who delighted, as I did, in being part of a community witnessing and sharing in the birth of important new lines of inquiry.

I work at the juncture of political theory and American politics. It was refreshing to live in an environment where crossing disciplinary boundaries was as much a norm as an exception. I had a very stimulating and productive year. I completed an edited volume on *The Constitutional Presidency* for Johns Hopkins University Press. I presented a paper on emergency power to the faculty colloquium in political theory at Columbia, which will be published by Princeton University Press in *The Limits of Constitutional Democracy*, a sponsored volume by the University Center for Human Values that I edited with Stephen Macedo. I presented a paper on “Congress and Constitutional Responsibility” at Boston University, which was published in the *Boston University Law Review*. I delivered a lecture as part of a C-Span televised symposium, and forthcoming edited book, on *The Future of the Presidency*. At Princeton’s Law and Public Affairs workshop on constitutional theory, I presented a paper on Carl Schmitt. During the year, I also gave talks at American University, Georgetown University, the University of Michigan, and Williams College.

My main project, which I discussed at our fellows seminar, was a book on the problem of Congress abdicating its constitutional responsibilities, titled *The Politics of Deference*. The fellowship year allowed me to nearly complete this book, which is under contract at Princeton University Press. Conversation with my class of fellows, as well as with George Kateb, Philip Pettit, Stephen Macedo, Kim Scheppele, Daniel Rodgers, Raul Sagar, Nan Keohane, and Leslie Gerwin made this book better.

My cohort of fellows was a very congenial group. Some of our most memorable conversations were over meals or in other informal settings. Watching and discussing the presidential campaign debates and election returns at the center with a large cross section of the University community was especially memorable. I also benefited from the events and collegiality of our sister program, LAPA. In their distinctive and complimentary leadership styles, Stephen Macedo and Kim Scheppele proved to be the ideal academic hosts, encouraging fruitful conversation and drawing out the best in us.

**REPORT FROM THE LAURANCE S. ROCKEFELLER VISITING PROFESSOR FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING**

Lawrie Balfour

This was not the year that I expected. But it was far better. When I applied for the visiting professorship at the University Center for Human Values, my plan was to devote the year to a study of reparations for slavery and Jim Crow. I intended to design a new course on “Slavery and the Politics of Memory,” to organize a campus event on the topic, and to pull together and supplement some earlier essays on reparations so that I would have a short book manuscript by the year’s end. As it happened, however, I arrived with the previous book project, a study of W. E.B. Du Bois’s political thought, still comprised of disconnected chapters, some of which needed significant revision. Thanks to the wonderful environment provided by the center—its marvelous mix of stimulation and solitude—I was able to create the course, host a series of lunchtime workshops on reparations, and do some serious thinking about the new book. Thanks to the formal and informal conversations I have had with the LSR fellows, center faculty, and faculty and students across the campus, furthermore, the old book, the one I thought would be finished, is on the verge of going to press, and it is far stronger than it would have been.

One of the great gifts of visiting the center as faculty is that, in addition to having access to the seminars it offers and ample time to do my research, I also had an opportunity to devise and teach a new course without the competing demands of a typical semester. I took seriously the invitation to think in broadly interdisciplinary ways and was lucky to have a group of students who had little trouble approaching the politics of memory and the legacies of slavery through the lenses of philosophy, history, political theory, sociology, law, literature, and cultural studies. In loose conjunction with the
course, I also organized a series of conversations on “Reparations: The Future of the Debate.” These sessions engaged visiting scholars in conversation with Princeton faculty. Over the course of the semester, Alfred Brophy (University of North Carolina School of Law) and Joshua Guild (Princeton, History and African American Studies), Melissa Nobles (MIT, Political Science) and Paul Frymer (Princeton, Politics), and Adrienne Davis (Washington University School of Law) and Tera Hunter (Princeton, History and African American Studies) led three lively discussions. The intimacy of the sessions, which were smaller than I had hoped, did allow everyone to participate, and each conversation brought together a different mix of undergraduate and graduate students, faculty members, visiting scholars, and members of the local community.

If my research agenda took shape in unexpected ways this year, it was given a boost by three unanticipated opportunities that arose in the spring. The first was a request by a graduate student in religion, who was interested in constructing a reading course on radical democracy (focusing on the work of Sheldon Wolin and William Connolly). Although I was initially hesitant to commit the time, the decision to do so was more than repaid by the range and depth of our discussions, and I suspect that I learned as much from the course as she did. The second was Peter Brooks’s superb seminar on “The Ethics of Reading,” which not only showed me how to read legal opinions through the eyes of a literary critic, but also introduced me to a dazzling roster of visitors. Third, an invitation to present a paper at a conference on “Religion and the Civil Rights Movement,” organized by Albert Raboteau, proved to be a highlight of the year. It was an extraordinary weekend, a rare coming-together of scholars and grassroots activists on equal terms.

Over the course of the year, I have also taken the opportunity to travel. I presented chapters from my work on Du Bois in the WISER Distinguished Lecturer series at the University of Washington, in the “The Lincoln Legacy” series at the University of California–San Diego, and at the Seminar in Social and Political Thought at Columbia University, and gave a paper on James Baldwin at Wagner College. I also participated on panels and roundtables at the annual meetings of the American Political Science Association, the American Studies Association, and the Western Political Science Association.

Finally, any report on the center should emphasize the sense of welcome that enfolds visitors. I am especially grateful to Steve Macedo and to Jan Logan, Erum Syed, and Sue Winters. Kim Girman made everything easy at 5 Ivy Lane, and she did most of the hard work in organizing the reparations series (and instantly re-organizing when a speaker missed her plane). Valerie Smith and Kim Scheppelle were enthusiastic cosponsors of the series. Gayle Brodsky helped me get the course off the ground. Also, faculties from several departments, especially from the Center for African American Studies, were unfailingly generous with their time and advice and encouragement.

REPORT FROM THE HAROLD T. SHAPIRO POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN BIOETHICS

Bennett Foddy

My second year at the University Center for Human Values has been even more rewarding and productive, in many ways, than the first. As the most junior member of faculty at the center, I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work with, and learn from, such an array of brilliant and generous colleagues.

The fortnightly Laurence S. Rockefeller seminars at the center were once again a fascinating and educational interdisciplinary experience. I presented a recently accepted piece on the ethics of deceptive placebo prescription in medicine, which grew out of a collaboration with Adam Kolber, one of last year’s visiting fellows. David Lefkowitz sent in a very useful critique. In turn, I gave commentary on Lawrie Balfour’s introductory chapter to her book about reparations and the work of W.E.B. Du Bois, a far cry from my own area of research. Yet this matching underlines the extreme variety of content and cross-pollination we enjoy in the Rockefeller seminars.

Even leaving aside the LSR seminars, this has been a rich year indeed for events in ethics at the University Center for Human Values. Apart from the biweekly seminars, I have enjoyed the De Camp seminars in Bioethics, particularly Doug Husak’s paper “Drug Addiction and Personal Autonomy,” the subject of my project here at Princeton. As well as the bioethics seminars, the Agency and Autonomy Series was particularly useful for providing me with new perspectives on my own research. Of course, the other benefit of the many invited presentations is that they can broaden one’s academic horizons—for example,
this year’s series on Ethics and Climate Change, in which I participated as a respondent, suggested new avenues for my own research, while Quentin Skinner’s Moffett Public Lecture in Ethics provided new insights into the art of philosophical persuasion itself. Beyond the numerous events at Princeton, I attended a neuroethics conference in Washington, D.C., and a bioethics congress in Croatia.

This year also marked my second year teaching bioethics, in this case, a freshman seminar on the ethics of human enhancement. What an exciting and rewarding format these seminars are! Using a broad range of popular issues from steroid scandals in athletics to genetic engineering technologies, I used controversy to frame many of the fundamental concepts in moral philosophy. Freshmen at Princeton have a voracious appetite for ideas, and are both vocal and open-minded. Apart from my own course, I presented some of my work in Liz Harman’s graduate class, and in Professor Stephen Morse’s law class at the University of Pennsylvania.

The rest of my year was devoted to the completion of my book on agency and addiction. I hope to present my new material in a workshop in the fall, after road-testing it in the U.K. over the summer. Looking ahead to the third and final year of my fellowship, I feel a debt of gratitude to the center and its staff. Few other appointments could offer the same rich academic program and the same level of intellectual freedom.
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Designed by Arion Jamerson,
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