

SPRING 2015

Circulating Cubism

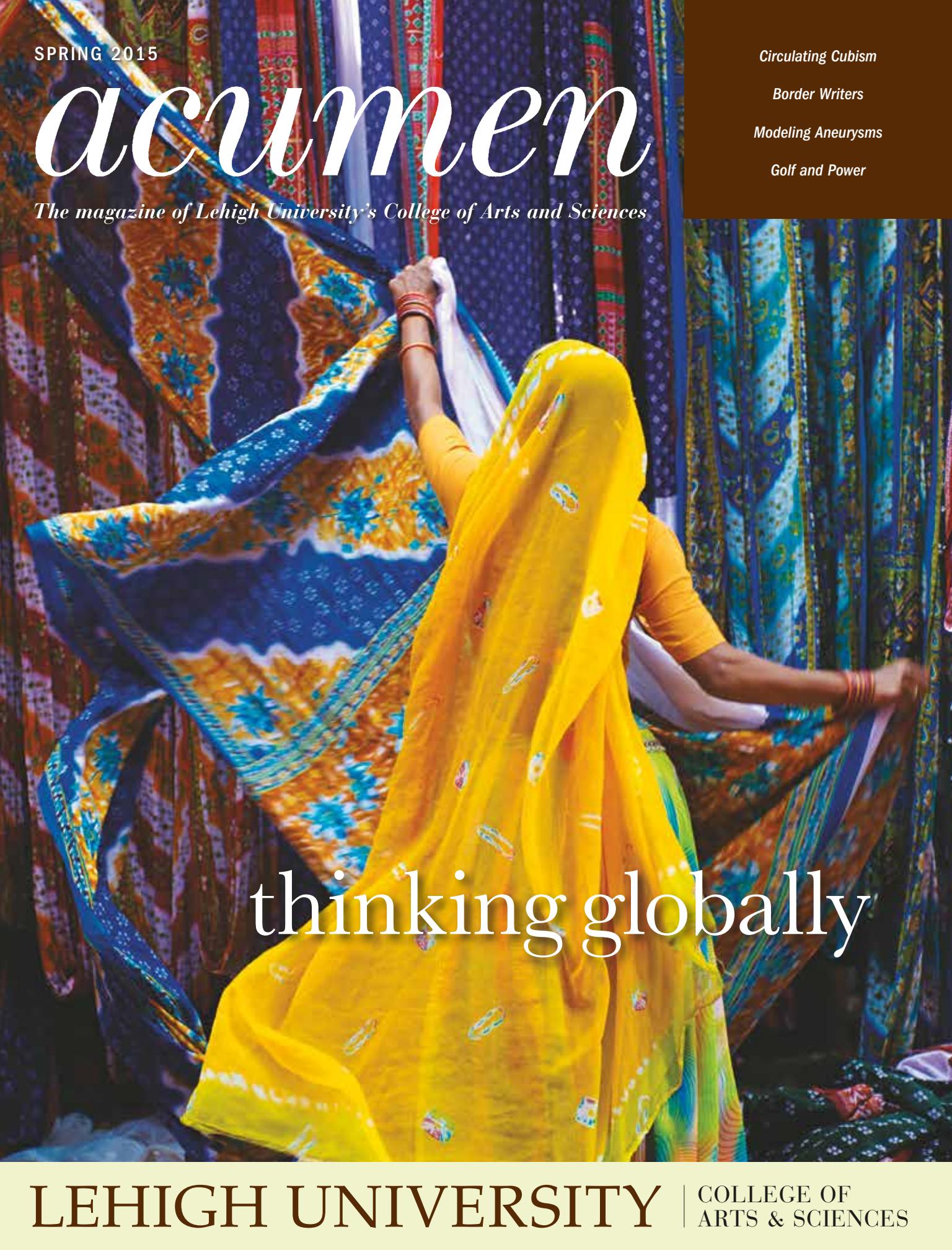
Border Writers

Modeling Aneurysms

Golf and Power

acumen

The magazine of Lehigh University's College of Arts and Sciences

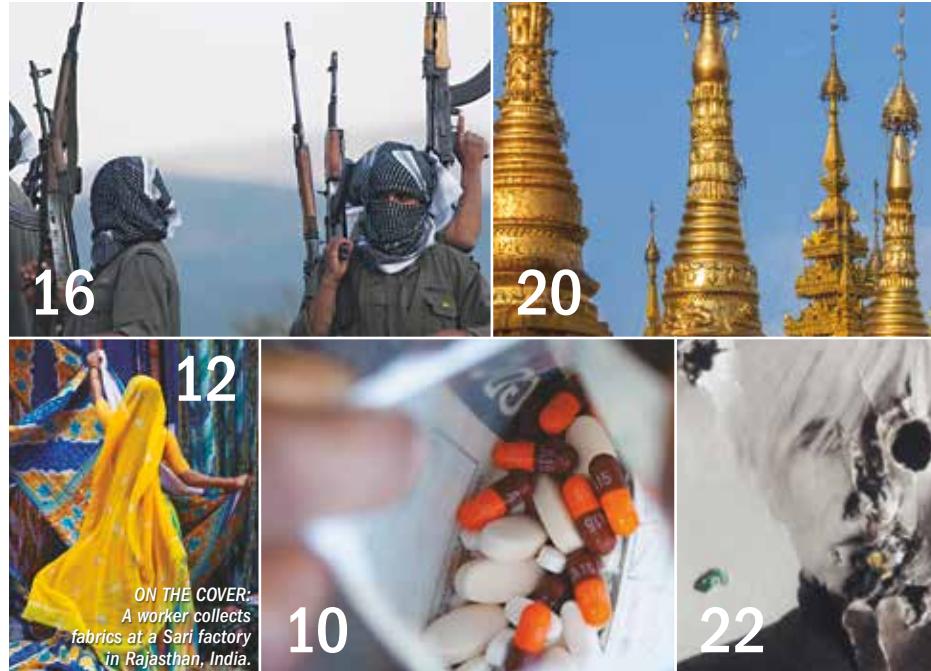
A photograph of a woman in a yellow sari with small floral embroidery, standing in a shop filled with vibrant, patterned fabrics. She is holding up a blue and yellow fabric, looking at it closely. The background is filled with various fabrics in shades of blue, red, and green.

thinking globally

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF
ARTS & SCIENCES

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Message from the Dean



An International Approach to an Arts and Sciences Education

This issue of the magazine explores the global impact of CAS alumni, faculty and students

It is a privilege to share with you the spring issue of *Acumen*. I continue to be proud of the College's work to elevate its position within academe and have an international impact. Building on an extraordinary base of faculty, we continue to make great advances in research and scholarship that will improve our lives and broaden our understanding of the world around us.

My pride might seem strange at a time when so many voices in the media and politics extol the

virtues of technical education. Yet, all successful careers and civic lives require the components found in a globally engaged liberal arts education—critical thinking, teamwork, an ability to appreciate alternate perspectives, and sensitivity to cultural, economic, and societal differences. Locally, we engage with the community and develop curriculum that provides our students with experiences in a changing society. Inside this issue of *Acumen* you will discover the efforts of Dong-Ning Wang '98G, an adjunct professor of Chinese in the department of modern languages and literatures, who spearheaded a collaborative project with nearby Touchstone Theater to develop a two-part play about integrating Chinese and American cultures. You will also learn about Peter Navario '96, who has spent much of his career working on issues surrounding the delivery of health care to HIV patients in Africa. And Jennifer Long '93, who works with prosecutors to fight gender-based violence globally.

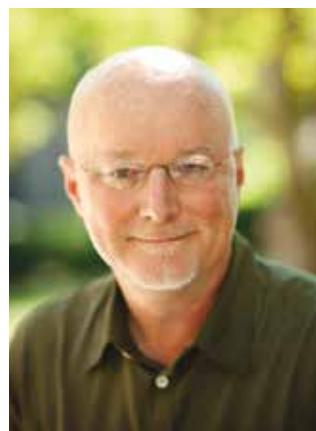
Equally important, faculty scholarship shapes and informs teaching. Our students are direct beneficiaries of our research as we integrate teaching with opportunities for experiential learning. The university has encouraged our efforts to establish the Global Studies program, as evidenced by faculty whose research is focused on areas that include global communication, politics and social structures, and culture and identity. Our international work attracts students from around the world, students like Hnin Su Mon, a sociology graduate student and Fulbright scholar who is exploring the ongoing ethnic and religious conflict in her country of Myanmar.

This issue in many ways also highlights the kind of scholarship and community I want to champion as dean. In remembrance of Malcolm X's assassination in 1965, the Africana Studies program and political science department collaborated on a three-day international

conference exploring the civil rights leader's legacy. Sessions were well attended and many of the lectures were streamed live, reaching participants in nearly 30 countries.

Research is vital to the life of any premier university and our discoveries have lasting impacts on the world beyond our campus. The world is experiencing major changes that cross borders and cultures and our alumni and faculty are actively working to meet and embrace these challenges. The work we do is impossible without the interest and support of our alumni. As educators, we motivate our students to think, feel, and act in ways that will help define who they are as individuals and leave a lasting impact on the world around them. Our alumni go on and make wonderful things happen.

This issue of *Acumen* highlights many College alumni, students, and faculty who are agents of change. It casts a spotlight on their talents and commitments. I hope you enjoy reading about them as much as I have. I invite you to learn more about



how alumni can play a role in these types of programs. As Lehigh alumni, you can help shape the future of today's, and tomorrow's, students.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and comments.

Donald E. Hall
Herbert and Ann Siegel Dean

ART

Circulating Cubism

In 1913, nearly 90,000 people came to New York City to see the future of art. The Armory Show gave America its first look at what avant-garde artists in Europe were doing. More than 1,400 works were on



**Georges Braque
(1882-1963)**
The Studio. 1939.
Oil with sand on canvas.

exhibition—Georges Braque, Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Paul Cézanne and many others. It was the biggest art show New York had ever seen, and it introduced America to cubism. Art historian Nicholas Sawicki is examining the history of this art form, which originated in Paris, and its transnational popularity across Europe and the United States.

The 20th century began as a period of incredible artistic diversity, says Sawicki, assistant professor of art history. It was a time in which artists were interested in many artistic movements, styles and practices. Sawicki is examining how cubism eventually became a common denominator for leading artists around the world and the mechanisms through which it spread. He is examining diaries and correspondence of visitors to the studios of Parisian cubists to under-

stand the role of personal connections among artists and critics and how these newly formed networks became a vehicle for transferring artistic knowledge from one place to another.

"How did this process of transmission unfold, and how does it complicate our own widely held belief that cubism, and modernism in general, was premised above all on artistic originality?" says Sawicki. "The accepted story of modern art in many ways still prioritizes originality and uniqueness, and I'm interested in what happens when an art form like this becomes so vastly popularized and international. How does this complicate what we think about the modern?"

Sawicki, who last year published his first book on the art world in Prague at the turn of the 20th century, is also looking at how news of cubism circulated in art periodicals. He has recently been working with art history students to research and digitize an important avant-garde New York art magazine, *Playboy: A Portfolio of Art and Culture*. It published extensively on cubism in the years after the Armory Show and is part of the holdings of the Special Collections division of the Lehigh University library.

"It's interesting that during this period, cubism is such an internationally widespread art form," he says. "Today, we recognize that cubism has been tremendously influential to modern art on the whole. It is seen as a gateway art form that paves the way for abstraction and as marking a sharp break with centuries of pictorial conventions. It's a canonical artistic movement, but until recently, we haven't paid much attention to its international dimension."

Cubism received extensive media coverage recently when Leonard A. Lauder pledged to give, in 2013, the Metropolitan

Museum of Art his collection of 78 cubist works, the world's foremost private collection of cubism. An exhibition of cubist paintings, collages, drawings and sculpture from the collection recently opened at the museum, and Sawicki presented a talk on his research at a symposium organized for the show.

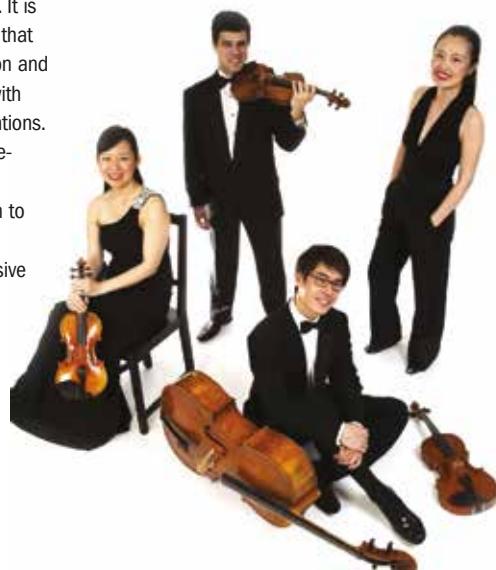
"We think of ourselves today as a newly globalized world, but when you turn the clock back 100 years, you realize there was an extraordinary amount of cultural contact and travel around the world. With cubism, there was tremendous information transfer happening, and it happened in what was then a basically analog world, without the technologies of connectivity we now have at our disposal."

MUSIC

String Quartet 1.5

Paul Salerni, professor of music and National Endowment for the Humanities Distinguished Chair in the Humanities, premiered a new composition in November when the Vega String Quartet performed *String Quartet 1.5* at Emory University.

Commissioned by the Emory Chamber Music Society of Atlanta, Salerni's composition was performed as part of Emory's yearlong series of events on the theme of creation



The Vega Quartet

stories. Salerni says this composition is a departure from his recent chamber music. Many of those pieces have featured a string quartet plus one or two other performers. The creation of this pure string quartet was new and more organic, developing naturally without a backstory to ignite inspiration, he says.

"The unique quality to this piece is that there is no extra musical idea. For the past 10 years, most of my compositions have had a starting point in an opera libretto, a ballet scenario or a set of poems. There has always been a story to tell. With this new string quartet, there's no concrete story. This is abstract music. I've been able to hang my hat on someone else. This one had to come directly from me."

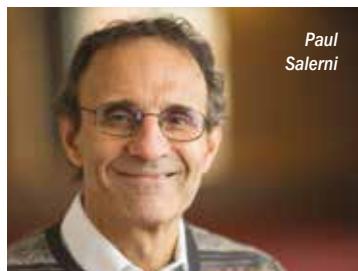
"Because of my positive experience writing string music with a Celtic flavor and my recent setting of some poems by Seamus Heaney, the Irish thing has been in my craw, so I started this new quartet with something jig-like. The original jig movement turned out not to be the beginning, but rather the second movement of the piece. From there I extrapolated the other movements."

Salerni composed String Quartet 1.5 knowing the Vega String Quartet loves performing Beethoven. Late Beethoven string quartets, particularly *Opus 131* and *132* are not the usual four movements. They tend to be five and six movements, he says. *String Quartet 1.5* has six movements, each based on a key indicated by open strings of the instruments in a string quartet.

"G is one of the open strings on all the instruments in the quartet, and I like to write pieces in that key. A good place to start. The next movement that came along was in C. C is an open string on the viola and the violoncello. At that point, I realized I could write a piece where all the movements are in a key indicated by the open strings available in a

string quartet. So I went back and wrote a prelude in D and eventually composed movements in A and in E."

Salerni notes that the last time he wrote a pure string quartet was for his doctoral dissertation in 1979. Of the movements of that piece, only the first movement has been published and performed. Since that seemed like only half a quartet, he decided to name this new piece *String Quartet 1.5*. It is a fortuitous name for other reasons: Most quartets are four movements long, so a six-movement piece is really a quartet and a half, and a note 1.5 times higher in frequency than a base note is a fifth away—the interval that determines both the key



*Paul
Salerni*

structure and much of the moment-to-moment language of the quartet.

Salerni brought *String Quartet 1.5* to Lehigh when the Vega String Quartet performed Jan. 25 at Zoellner Arts Center.

THEATRE

Act Like You Know

Kashi Johnson was in third grade when adults around her predicted hip-hop wouldn't last, claiming it was just another fad like disco. Johnson, however, fell in love with the art form. Her journey with hip-hop has paid off, providing a tangible means of applying her passion for the art form to her pedagogy, as hip-hop impacts everything from fashion to music, art, dance, and theater. Hip-hop culture has now become a global phenomenon.



*Kashi
Johnson*



Johnson, an actress, director, and poet participated in Blackademics Television, Feb. 10-11 in Austin, Tex., where she was invited to present on her hip-hop theater course 'Act Like You Know.' She also shared the pedagogy of her research, the history of her course, the climate of diversity the course embraced, performed excerpts of her students' spoken word poetry, her connections to hip-hop culture, and the current success of the class.

Growing up in Queens, NY, Johnson was influenced by the hip-hop culture. It has provided a voice for people who feel like they do not have one.

"My connection to hip-hop is very strong because it helped me find my footing personally and gave me the confidence to recognize that what I have to say matters. Hip Hop is my first love and theater is my passion, so it was no brainer to try and marry these two interests together," said Johnson, associate professor of theatre.

One of Johnson's inspirations for using hip-hop in the classroom stemmed from world-renowned actor, writer, director and founder of the New York City Hip-Hop Theater Festival, Danny Hoch. Upon meeting him when Hoch was an artist in residence at Lehigh, Johnson realized she was surrounded by abundant resources to take part in the hip-hop theater genre.

"As the classic Hip Hop line goes, 'It ain't where you're from, it's where you're at' and what you're going to do while you're there," she said.

Ten years later, Johnson's hip-hop theater class Act Like You Know is popular among students. They are encouraged to learn about hip hop by doing, rather than sitting and talking. Johnson is now

supplementing student learning with several Hip Hop artists to teach about the foundational elements of hip-hop. A DJ, breakdancer, graffiti artist and professional internationally acclaimed MC, will complete a week-long residency with her class. She said she recognizes that while she can teach her students about certain aspects of hip-hop, they would learn the most from professionals.

"Hip hop is about self expression so there's no right or wrong, it's just a willingness to try and to find your voice in the process," Johnson said.

Johnson said she met several wonderful scholars in Texas who continued to validate and affirm that her work is both exciting and necessary. The program was taped in front of a live audience and will air on the Austin public broadcasting system station KLRU. It will also be featured on the Blackademics website and KLRU.org

Johnson, supported by a Lehigh University Humanities Center grant, will host the Inter(Play) Hip Hop Symposium on Identity, Pedagogy & Performance co-sponsored with other Lehigh departments and programs. Hip-hop scholars, Lehigh faculty, alumni, students and invited guests will convene for a three-day symposium to investigate, discuss and celebrate hip-hop's interdisciplinarity. She also envisions a digital archive of her work and start a book-writing project to put it all together.

"I love the work I do and I want to share it with the world. There are all kinds of examples of engaged, culturally responsive teaching happening all around the country, some of it, right here at Lehigh University, and I feel like its my job to let people know."

The Humanities

ENGLISH

Rhetorical Legacies

Jacques Derrida was the founder of “deconstruction,” a way of challenging not only both literary and philosophical texts, but also political institutions. Brooke Rollins uses Derrida’s critical theory to create a bridge to the past. She uses the French philosopher’s writings to re-imagine classical rhetorical texts and contexts, and she is particularly interested in uncovering the long-overlooked ethical dimensions of persuasion.

The author of the upcoming book *The Ethics of Persuasion: Derrida's Rhetorical Legacies*, Rollins makes an updated claim for Derrida as an important thinker of rhetoric, and she uses his work to argue for the ethical priority of a discipline that’s been characterized as bereft of ethics.

“It’s a postmodern rethinking of a classical discipline,” says Rollins, assistant professor of English.

Rollins uses Derrida’s work to demonstrate the ethics of classical rhetorical texts and figures famous for their persuasive power. “Rhetoric is not merely a discourse of utility,” she says. “While persuasion is involved in the guileful production of linguistic rule, it actually challenges the sovereignty



of the speaker who would seem to be running the rhetorical show.”

Rereading the texts of Greek rhetoricians including Plato, Isocrates, Gorgias and Aristotle alongside the poststructuralist theory of Derrida, Rollins developed the classical rhetorical tenet of “otherness.”

In one chapter, for example, she took up the ancient tradition of ghost-writing. “Lysias was the ancient world’s most famous ghostwriter,” Rollins says. “He was known as a rhetorical gun for hire who would write a legal defense speech for anyone who could pay him.”

She explains that all but one of Lysias’ extant speeches were written in the voices of his many criminal clients. But by analyzing Lysias’ speeches, as well as the various histories and fictions others have told about him, she shows that persuasion involves an encounter with otherness. “The ghostwriter is other not just insofar as he writes in other voices. He is other from

the start, hovering at the boundaries of presence and absence.”

Rollins argues that radical otherness is a central tenet of the rhetorical tradition. “In persuasion, otherness always comes first. This is the ethics of persuasion.”

MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Border Writers

For many, Tijuana is not aesthetically pretty. With a population of 1.3 million people, it is grimy and loud, as with any large city, and lacks the colonial architecture or history found across Mexico’s interior. The growth of Tijuana is recent, but the city’s magnificence lies deeper and is brought to the surface by writers living here. The work of four Tijuana authors is the focus of research by Miguel Pillado.

Pillado, assistant professor of Spanish in the department of modern languages and literatures, analyzes work by authors who challenge the stereotypical images of the city.

“We’re talking about images being produced, both in Mexico and the United States, of Tijuana as a city of vice or Tijuana as a city of transit, where migrants pass to get to the United States,” he says. “There is a more recent metaphor to talk about this city and that is to talk about Tijuana as a cultural hybrid entity, an emblem of the postmodern world.”

He is exploring images of the city through the literature of these local writers. He examines the works of four authors he terms *fronterizo* writers—Federico Campbell, Luis Humberto Crosthwhite, Rosina Conde and Heriberto Yépez. Each writer brings to his or her work a unique perspective of Tijuana’s cultural

and social panorama. Yet, together they demonstrate that Tijuana has problems, such as social and economic inequality, issues that can be translated to any other large city in the world, says Pillado.

“Some of them want to explore issues of gender, in the case of Rosina Conde, while others explore issues of ethnic encounters in the city. The multiplicity of the character of this city challenges the stereotypes that tend to simplify reality. These writers talk about the dynamic identities of the people who live along the border and the border experience. They don’t invert the totalizing metaphors about the city, but rather elevate them to levels of complexities that go beyond their



Pillado analyzes the work of four Tijuana authors.

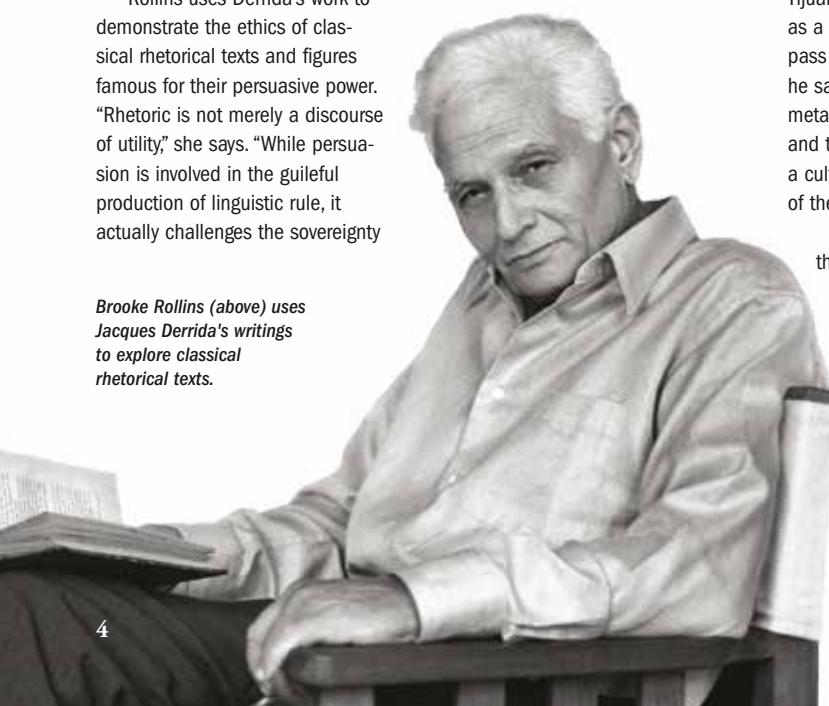
oversimplifying nature. They do this by emphasizing the narratives of the people who live in this place, whose lives are diverse as well.”

PHILOSOPHY

A Reexamination of Reality

Metaphysics, the branch of philosophy that studies existence, holds that reality is absolute. Reality is definitive, composed of many big things, dependent in some important way on smaller things. Although this picture—a model on which reality has this hierarchical structure and a fundamental level—has intuitive appeal, it does not stand

Brooke Rollins (above) uses Jacques Derrida’s writings to explore classical rhetorical texts.



on such firm footing as one might expect, says Ricki Bliss.

Metaphysics holds that reality has a specific nature and it must be consistent to that nature. In particular, most metaphysicians believe that reality is hierarchically structured by various kinds of dependence relations. Bliss, assistant professor of philosophy, argues that reality doesn't possess this type of structure and examines why philosophers adhere to this traditional picture. Her current research investigates various theories of reality's fundamental structure and assesses their nature and possibility. She takes a different tack, employing non-Western thinkers in her approach.

"Much of what I've done is try to explore the different kinds of arguments philosophers offer in defense of this standard picture," she says. "Alternatives to traditional views of reality have been well explored in Indian and Chinese Buddhist traditions, for example. In the Western tradition, we've assumed this standard hierarchical picture, with a fundamental level that seems so obviously true that nobody thinks of an alternative, whereas in Buddhism, people have been questioning this picture of reality for a long time. Parts of Eastern literature provide a treasure trove for well-developed accounts of alternatives to a picture we in the Western tradition have never bothered questioning."

Bliss assesses the notion of reality in light of the explanations for which we are told we ought to believe it. The justifications only adds to comprised notions of reality. Her work also examines how we think of cosmological questions surrounding existence and argues the view is flawed. She reasons



that, in most cases, these large universe questions, and how they are used in arguments to lead us to the conclusion normally that God has to exist, are misunderstood—and these misunderstood variations are semantically defective.

"It's a very intuitive picture, but it's not necessarily right."

RELIGION STUDIES

Kabbalistic Revolution

Hartley Lachter, associate professor of religion studies and Philip and Muriel Berman Chair in Jewish Studies, is an expert in the study of Kabbalah, or Jewish mystical literature. His most recent work examines medieval Kabbalah on the Iberian Peninsula, focusing in particular on the Spanish region of Castile during the late 13th and early 14th centuries, which was an unusually creative moment in the history of Jewish mysticism. The author of *Kabbalistic Revolution: Reimagining Judaism in Medieval Spain*, Lachter examines this rapid spread of Kabbalah in Spain and considers how the development of this new form of Jewish literature was connected to Jewish-Christian polemics and the conditions of Jewish life in medieval Europe.

"If we pay close attention to the strategies that were at play in Kabbalistic literature that helped

Jews rethink the meaning of Judaism and Jewish identity, then we'll understand something really important about Jewish history," says Lachter, who is also director of Lehigh's Berman Center for Jewish Studies.

Lachter argues that the development of Kabbalah in Europe allowed Jews to reimagine their identity, enabling them to regard themselves as powerful, despite their lack of political

agency. In the Kabbalistic system, Jewish religious practice is a potent force that literally holds the fabric of the universe together. This conception of Jewish power was appealing to many medieval Jews, Lachter notes. While the era's Christian preachers claimed that Jews were blind to the true meaning of scripture and had been abandoned by God, Kabbalists countered that Jews possessed a uniquely privileged relationship with God. Kabbalah envisioned this marginalized group at the center of the universe.

"Kabbalah argued that Jewish religious practice influences the divine world, that Jews maintain divine unity and, in the process, maintain the being of the cosmos itself. In the Kabbalistic worldview, Jews are secret heroes, who by practicing Jewish law in these subordinate communities are actually the ones who sustain the universe. It was a very bold presentation of Judaism that transformed how many Jews understood themselves."

Kabbalah allowed Jews to see themselves as powerful despite having little political power, Lachter argues.



The Natural Sciences



Krystle McLaughlin
(below) explores
several novel proteins
in bacteriophages.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Structures of Phages

Bacteriophages, viruses that infect and replicate within bacteria, are the research focus of the biology department's SEA-Phages program. Phages are widely distributed in locations populated by bacterial hosts, such as soil or the intestines of animals, yet little is known about them. The molecular configuration of these organisms is the focus of research by structural biologist Krystle McLaughlin.

McLaughlin, professor of practice of biological sciences, is collaborating with Vassie Ware, professor of biological sciences, to structurally characterize a number of novel proteins in phages.

"In many cases, we don't know what they look like," says McLaughlin. "What is their purpose? These proteins don't have any relatives to any other proteins that we can find. Structure is a big part of function. The structure/function relationship is usually very helpful, so you can often infer what it does. Sometimes the amino acid sequence doesn't tell you all that much if it's not similar to anything else. Examining the structure will give us major insights in this case."

McLaughlin is interested in phages because of their potential to treat bacterial infections using phage therapy, which could replace



antibiotics. Since many bacterial strains have antibiotic resistance, this could be the main way physicians treat bacterial infections in the future. Her research revolves around X-ray crystallographic and biochemical studies of protein-nucleic acid interactions from a range of bacterial systems. Her current project continues research initiated by Lehigh undergraduate students last summer as part of a Mountaintop project. The student researchers discovered proteins on phages and worked to express them. McLaughlin is collaborating with Ware to develop a better protein expression and to crystallize them.

McLaughlin says her work in the lab transfers to classroom discussions. Her expertise in X-ray crystallography is adding new instructional components to the department. Under McLaughlin, students have grown their own molecular crystals and examined structures in a computer program. The department has added three new biochemistry labs that discuss structures, which she says brings about new classroom dialogue.

"You can see it in a book, but it doesn't really tell how it is structured or how it interacts," she says. "To see it on the screen in 3-D is completely different. It really expands what they think about these protein complexes."

CHEMISTRY

A Better Solar Cell

A new generation of solar cells, organic solar cells may promise an answer to the energy demands of the future. These cells contain organic semiconductors and are the center of research under way in the laboratory of Mark Chen.

Chen, assistant professor of chemistry, studies materials design and has primarily focused on the development of polymers in emerging solar technologies. Organic semiconductors are nonmetallic, carbon-based materials that possess the ability to conduct electrons. Semiconductivity can occur with single molecules, short chains of molecules and long polymer chains, depending on the material. He is investigating ways in which these molecules can be employed to develop a better semiconductor. Chen and his colleagues are designing new compounds with semiconducting properties in the laboratory, and the work has yielded promising results in an effort to achieve power-conversion efficiencies above eight percent.

"In the laboratory, we're aiming for 10 percent," says Chen. "We currently get six or seven, but about four years ago, the best we were getting was five. It's not efficient. These devices are much thinner, and they could

be complementary to commercially available silicon-based solar cells."

Organic photovoltaics (OPVs) continue to attract research attention for their potential to be flexible, lightweight and efficient devices for power generation. OPV devices convert solar energy to electrical energy. A typical OPV device consists of one or several photoactive materials sandwiched between two electrodes. Organic photovoltaic cells are solar cells that use organic polymers and small molecules as the active layer for light absorption and charge transport.

Organic semiconductors are currently employed in technologies such as flat-screen televisions, and Chen says these substances could help make solar technologies less costly. One advantage of OPV technology is that manufacturing costs can be reduced for organic solar cells compared to silicon-based materials.

"If we can use organics, sometimes they can be thinner and more efficient. Our research begins in the actual chemical synthesis, which will be followed by taking these compounds and making electronic devices with them."



The advantages of organic photovoltaic cells include low cost manufacturing technology, low raw material consumption, reduced weight, and the flexibility of the plastic substrates.

EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Modeling Surface Hydrology

River systems support industry, agriculture and the infrastructure that helps drive modern society. The world's regional climates are influenced by water, and local responses to climate change are the focus of research by two professors in the department of earth and environmental sciences.

Typically, runoff increases in winter throughout the northern United States and decreases in summer; snowpack decreases as well. Benjamin Felzer, assistant professor, together with Dork Sahagian, professor, used computer modeling to generate projections of surface hydrology and local ecosystem responses to expected climate change.

"We've always known that dry places get drier and wet places get wetter as climate changes," says Sahagian. "But it's not that simple. There's a seasonality to it. Pennsylvania is a wet place; on average, it will get wetter with more precipitation, but there's more evaporation. Soil moisture goes down, on average. It doesn't seem to be a big deal in the winter, but based on [Felzer's] modeling, in the summer, we're going to get less stream flow and the summers will be drier. At the same time, it's going to get wetter in the winter."

Drier summers and decreased stream flow are concerning to a state with a strong agricultural economy. Dairy is first in production in the Keystone State, but cows produce less milk when it is hot and dry. Corn yields are also reliant on the soil moisture levels. Nationally, the researchers project crop yield will increase in the West and Pacific Northwest.

Smaller rivers may also influence power generation in Pennsylvania, say Sahagian. Electrical generation relies on rivers for cooling systems, and it will be harder in the summer to meet regulatory constraints because hot water cannot be released back into the river.

The study provides a basis for policy makers to choose from a



Reduced river flow can effect Pennsylvania power generation.

range of likely climate futures for their particular region. It is necessary to understand significant regional trends, says Sahagian. A modeling approach might reduce uncertainty at the regional level for decision makers. Studies like this also help businesses prepare for climate changes that will affect them as warmer summers translate to increased power demand, he says.

"It's not a disaster if you're not caught off guard."

MATHEMATICS

Modeling Aneurysms

Cerebral aneurysms (CA) lead to strokes for more than 40,000 Americans annually. Currently, there exists no formal framework toward the diagnosis of CAs, and most go unnoticed until they rupture or are detected by brain imaging that may have been obtained for another condition. Additionally, assessing the risk of a potential rupture of a diagnosed CA

is mostly experiential as the biomechanics governing the time evolution of CAs is not fully understood. Developing a mathematical model to better understand the processes leading to and during a CA is the focus of research by Yue Yu.

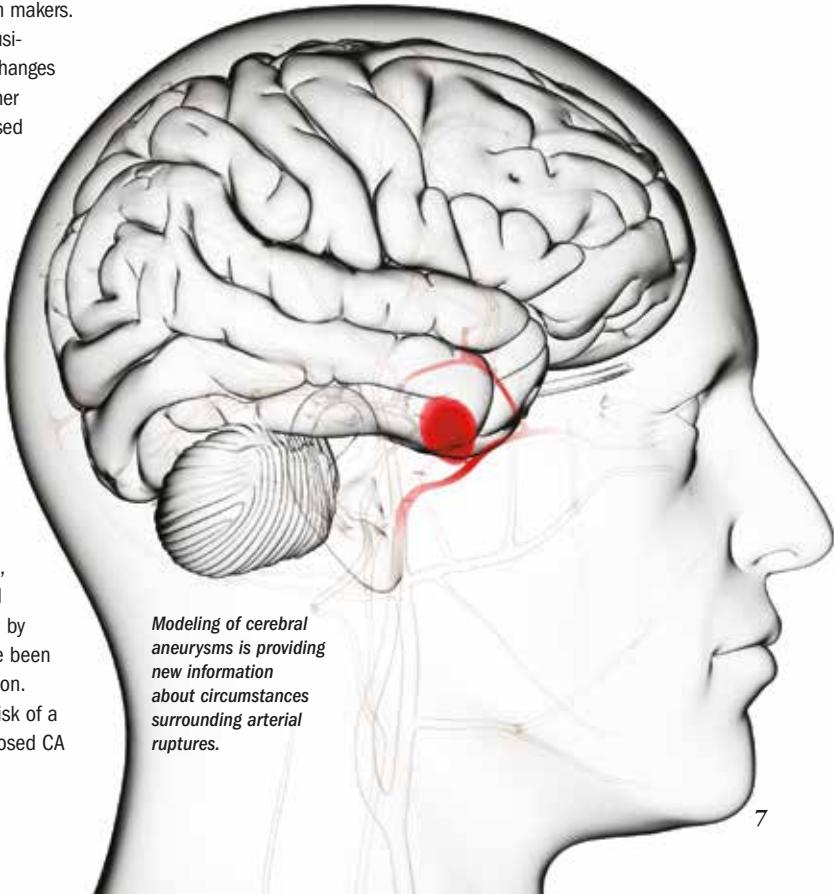
Yu, assistant professor of mathematics, constructs arterial geometry from patient-specific CT data to understand the flow patterns that occur inside an aneurysm that has formed on the wall of one of the arteries. Visualization of the blood flow can reveal the complex flow patterns in the aneurysm, while rendering the stress tensor on the arterial walls highlights the local stresses in the aneurysm due to the flow structure interactions.

"The numerical simulation is challenging because the patient-specific aneurysm geometry is very complicated, which requires a high resolution in space. Therefore, the numerical solver has to be both high-performance and high-fidelity," says Yu. "Also, the relatively light density of

the arterial wall brings a further challenge: the convergence of the partitioned fluid (blood)-structure (arterial wall) interaction solver is problematic because of the so-called added-mass effect, and a new numerical algorithm needs to be designed."

The challenge for researchers is there are few *in vivo* measurements with which they can compare and validate software. Current technologies only allow researchers to study aneurysms at specific moments in time. Yu hopes to develop software that will allow scientists to simulate aneurysm processes over longer periods of time.

Yu's work is shedding new light on the conditions for arterial rupture. Developing a better model will allow researchers to zoom in and excerpt high-resolution images of the areas affected by blood flow and derived quantities that may be of vital importance to physicians. With improved images, they can clearly identify and treat the regions of high stress.



Modeling of cerebral aneurysms is providing new information about circumstances surrounding arterial ruptures.

HISTORY

Optics of War

Since the opening days of the Iraq War in 2003, scholars have examined the United States military from many angles. In his latest project, historian John Pettegrew examines the way that visual culture within the United States Marine Corps facilitates the projection of force in foreign wars—in particular, in the Iraq War.

The author of the upcoming book *U.S. Marines and the Optics of Combat in the Iraq War*, Pettegrew focuses on how the United States is able to get military force into a foreign country to wage war. He argues that warfare has a 21st-century appeal to young men, developed through a visual culture and training that facilitates war making and mass violence. It facilitates war making by appealing to the eye, by creating visual representations of combat—in movies, YouTube

Pettegrew found
Marines during
the Iraq War were
influenced by combat
video games and
YouTube.



and first-person shooter combat video games—that make causing death and destruction look pleasurable, challenging and gratifying.

"The killer distances himself from the killed through technology, which is not a new story," says Pettegrew, associate professor of history and director of American studies. "It's been around since the invention of

the longbow. But that technology enjoyed a huge advancement in the years leading up to the Iraq and Afghanistan wars through the digital revolution and network-centric, mobile warfare."

Pettegrew examined more than 100 oral histories of Marines at a base in Quantico, Va. Quantico is home to the Corps' library and archives, and Pettegrew was granted access to hundreds of hours of video and audio files.

"I experienced considerable cooperation from the Marine Corps. They opened up a lot of their material to me, including interviews they conducted with their own people who were on the ground in the opening months of the war in Iraq."

Pettegrew found many of these men were influenced by first-person combat video games and YouTube war videos. The first wave of Marines into Iraq were well equipped with personal cameras and they captured images of their firefights. Pettegrew spent three months watching videos created by Marines and examining the comments posted by viewers. From that work, he found patterns in the responses. The videos glorify combat, he says, while separating the viewer from the victim's humanity.

SOCIOLOGY

Golf and Power

Golf is a relatively accessible sport in four countries—United States, United Kingdom, Australia and Argentina. Access to golf courses in all other countries requires membership in expensive clubs, and sociologist Hugo Ceron-Anaya examines gender and bodily dispositions on the golf course in contemporary Mexico.

Ceron-Anaya, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, focuses on the sociological notions of golf among affluent players. He has found that the racial, class and gender categories present at

Mexican clubs are also found at other places of power. He traveled to multiple golf clubs in Mexico and interviewed club members and staff about the traits needed for joining golf clubs. High class, good moral standing and large amounts of money were required for admission.

"People use golf when they conduct business," he says. "Just as importantly, they use golf to make connections and create business and social networks. The people you find playing golf are very similar, in background, to the people you find at exclusive universities or in top corporate positions or high-ranking government positions."

Golf clubs, however, are hidden sites in Mexico. They are often tucked away from public view, secluded by fences or bushes to deter outside visitors, creating an invisible environment for a select few.

"There are few green spaces in places like Mexico City, where there are natural resource issues, such as access to water. This invisibility prevents any discussion about public resources. These green spaces are being used to benefit small, wealthy communities."

Ceron-Anaya contends that golf clubs are based on traditions that naturalize otherwise irrational relations, such as gender bias.

"Women are perceived as being inferior in this perception of power. For example, women are not banned from areas like the 19th hole (the bar), but they are not accepted. It perpetuates this view that women are not normal golfers. They are the others. Unsurprisingly, you also rarely see women in other positions of power, like corporations or the government. In fact, you can trace changes in the history of the state by looking at history in this sport. Both are part of the same field of power."

PSYCHOLOGY**Parental Influence**

Heavy alcohol use by college students can lead to a number of alcohol-related problems, including increased chances of risky behavior. Parents play a crucial role in shaping student perceptions about alcohol consumption and are an important factor when targeting alcohol use and related consequences in college students, according to research by psychologist Lucy Napper.

Napper, assistant professor, examines students' alcohol behaviors and parents' influence on alcohol use.

"Up until about 10 years ago, people thought parents' influence waned when their children went off to college and peers were the primary social influence on drinking," says Napper, who is also a member of Lehigh's community health research group. "That's true in that peers have a significant influence on drinking, but more recent research has shown that parents can have a direct influence on their student's alcohol use and also possibly moderate the influence of peers."

Her data backs this up. She recently studied a group of parents of college students and their perceptions regarding student alcohol use, student alcohol approval, parent

alcohol approval and intentions to discuss alcohol use with their student. The parents were provided with information regarding student alcohol use and other parents' alcohol approval. After receiving the information, parents were less confident in their knowledge of their student's alcohol use, believed that their student drank in greater quantity and more frequently than before and reported stronger intentions to talk to their student about alcohol.

Both parents' communication about alcohol and their own attitudes toward alcohol can influence student drinking behaviors. Students who see their parents as being approving of alcohol use tend to drink more and experience more negative consequences, she notes. Napper also examines students' perceptions of alcohol use. Students tend to overestimate how much other students drink and how much peers approve of alcohol use, she says.

"When you have these misperceptions where you think everyone else is drinking, this can influence students to engage in more risky drinking behaviors. Providing students with feedback that corrects these misperceptions and lets them know that people don't drink as much as they think can help them reflect on their own attitudes and rethink their drinking behaviors."

**JOURNALISM****Fair and Balanced?**

In recent research, studies found that Americans use news coverage of groups such as the poor and racial/ethnic minorities to shape their perspectives on these groups. Studies further demonstrated that these groups are unfairly treated in coverage by the media. Imaani El-Burki, professor of practice in the department of journalism, examines media portrayals of racial minorities and economically marginalized groups as well as the social and political impact of such depictions. Her recent work moves into new media to explore the dialogue surrounding opinions toward the poor and attitudes on poverty as they relate to discussions about race. In an age driven by technology, the dialogue is no longer local, she says.

"New media has created a globalized context," says El-Burki, who is also a member of the Africana studies program. "It's important to understand how new media spaces are, or are not, giving people a new voice to combat dominant images and representations. Whether it's racism, or classism, or sexism online, we need to understand the different dynamics that are showing up."

Analyzing mediated discussions in online newspapers and political blogs, El-Burki argues that whether or not the poor are identified as a group deserving of societal support depends upon how the group is defined. El-Burki found that "when the poor are defined as those deserving of social support or poor due to circumstances beyond their control, outside entities, such as the government, are identified as the source of their financial hardship. When the poor are identified as responsible for their hardship, either individually or collectively via dysfunctional culture, societal help

is unnecessary. "Oftentimes, those considered responsible for their own financial hardship are racial minorities who are poor." She found that both conservative bloggers and liberal bloggers use a moral basis for their discussions of the poor. While conservative bloggers see the poor as abandoning their social contract by not adhering to American values, personal responsibility and individual work ethic,



liberal bloggers appear to see the poor as continuously failing victim to an unequal social system designed to facilitate their failure. Her examination of discussions in print and online are important for understanding how poverty is framed and discussed within the media.

"Everywhere we go, we have our phones, and people have access to the media on their phones. We're really bombarded with messages in a way we haven't been in the past and are in a space to be the producers of those messages. NBC may produce a story, but we can repost it and frame it in a different way by including additional commentary about it. The technology has penetrated our lives in a way that is both fascinating and scary at the same time."



by Karen Wetmore

BRINGING HEALTH TO THE HURTING

Mothers carry emaciated children, many unconscious or in comas, through the doors of the Botswana-Baylor Children's Clinical Centre of Excellence. Bones jut starkly from their small, brown frames, their bodies ravaged by malnutrition—not because they lack food or loving parents, but because HIV/AIDS has hindered their bodies' ability to metabolize nutrients.

Those same children, within months of receiving anti-retroviral therapy at the clinic, transform into happy, plump, healthy kids.

"They call it the Lazarus Effect, because it's like they come back from the dead. It was amazing to see, and it had a huge impact on me," says Peter Navario '96, who witnessed the phenomenon in 2003 while working for the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative in Gaborone, Botswana. Before the clinic was built, children living with HIV in Botswana had no access to lifesaving anti-retroviral therapy.

"You can't just have medicines; you also need infrastructure, trained health workers, reliable supply chains, supportive policies and engaged communities," Navario says. "I've worked in 20 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, and the vast majority of the work has focused on building capacity to deliver care and treatment for people living with HIV."

Peter Navario '96
works to improve the
health of socially excluded
people around the world

Such a simple goal—getting treatment to those who need it—proved to be a tremendously complex task that Navario has spent much of his career tackling.

Changing Course

Navario, who graduated from Lehigh with a bachelor's degree, majoring in psychology and French, discovered his public health mission by saying "yes" to opportunity and following where passion and purpose collided. While preparing applications for graduate study in psychology, he accepted a job offer from the National Institutes of Health to draft clinical trials for anti-retroviral therapy in pediatric AIDS patients. The work stirred his passion for helping kids and revealed how public health can impact the lives of tens of thousands of people.

The experience inspired him to acquire a master of public health degree in global health from Yale University and, in 2003, to accept an offer to work with Baylor in Botswana.

Through Baylor and later BroadReach Health Care, Navario spent six years establishing, monitoring and evaluating HIV/AIDS treatment programs throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Key accomplishments during that time included serving as chair of the Botswana Ministry of Health's National HIV/AIDS Health Professional Training Committee and as lead evaluator of World Bank's Treatment Access Programme in Burkina Faso.

He faced several challenges abroad, including competition for program resources and difficulty coordinating efforts with local governments, communities and other humanitarian organizations. He also had to embrace a complete paradigm shift.

"You're not there as some Western savior telling them what you or others think they need, but rather to help local people respond to their self-identified needs," Navario says. "The people in these communities may not be resourced in the same way, but that doesn't mean they're not smart or capable. Quite often, the solutions to their problems actually exist in the communities."

Humbled and enlightened, Navario learned to work with local communities and governments to discover what had been done before, why it didn't work and what they might try differently next time. It's an approach he continues to this day.

"Peter doesn't make a big splash when he starts something new. He's not looking for stardom, but rather what he can contribute, what value he can add and what he can learn," says Roger Phillips, former Lehigh psychology professor and Navario's friend of 15 years. "It just warms my heart to see him so engaged, productive and successful."

Learning a New Language

During his years in the field, Navario noted the role health economists had begun to play in the global HIV/AIDS response, helping to frame HIV as a political and economic imperative and not just a public health issue.

"Their role was transformational, as it provided a more effective way to communicate the importance of HIV in societies across the continent to the folks who really make the decisions: ministers of finance and politicians. They talked about what it would cost to prevent new infections, the cost to roll

out treatment and the cost you'd incur if you didn't do that," Navario says. "Putting dollar figures on program and policy responses had a dramatic impact that sparked my interest in health policy and applied economics."

So he contacted Nicoli Nattrass, economics professor and director of the AIDS and Society Research Unit at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in South Africa, to discuss the need for economic data comparing different systems for providing anti-retroviral treatment in Africa. He inquired whether data from a pilot program he was monitoring could be used as part of a larger study.

"I thought it was a brilliant idea, so he enrolled at UCT to work on the study for his Ph.D." says Nattrass, who served as Navario's adviser while he pursued his doctorate in health economics. "Not only did he produce an exceptional study, with important policy implications, but he did so in record time—while continuing to work. I have never met anyone as capable as Peter of doing several jobs at the same time, and all of them well."

Back in the United States

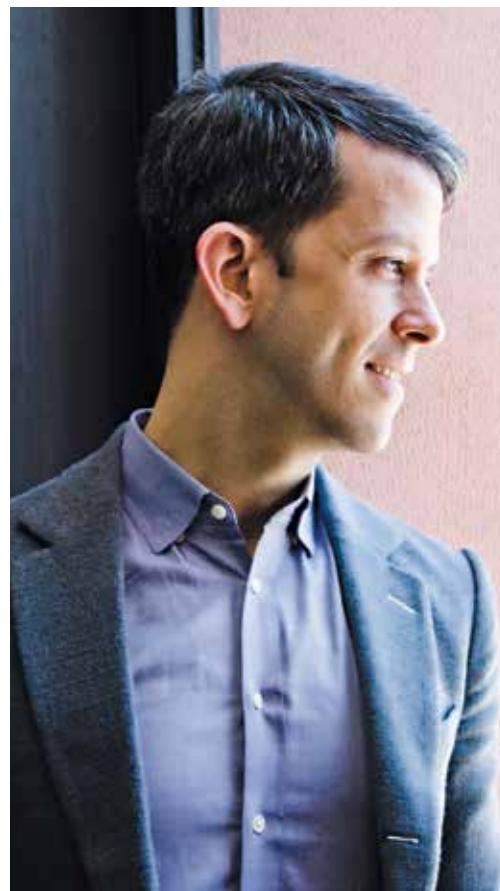
Navario returned stateside in 2008 to serve as a global health fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations, where he worked to advance the policy dialogue around scaling up access to HIV/AIDS treatment in sub-Saharan Africa. The work included facilitating strategic discussions with leaders from a variety of organizations, including the Joint United Nations HIV/AIDS Program (UNAIDS). His work with UNAIDS ultimately led to a post in its New York office, where he held technical advisory roles on various initiatives, including the UN Task Team on the Post-2015 Development

Agenda and Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals, the 2011 UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on HIV and the UN Secretary General's Global Strategy on Women's and Children's Health.

Last year, Navario took on a new role as executive director of HealthRight International, a global health organization dedicated to

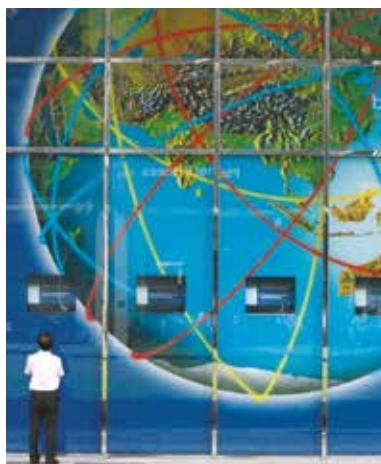
improving the health of marginalized populations around the world. HealthRight recently partnered with New York University (NYU) to collaborate on high-impact global health programming and research, training opportunities for future public health leaders and thought leadership. In addition to his executive director role, Navario serves as associate research professor and director of global health strategy at NYU's Global Institute of Public Health.

Although some workdays end as late as 11 p.m., Navario thrives on the variety and significance of the work.



"If you asked me a year ago to describe my ideal job, I'd say: I'd love to do some teaching, research and policy work, all while having a closer connection with what's happening in the field and the opportunity to craft new programs that improve the health of populations around the world. Incredibly, that's the job I now have." ●

Feature



thinkingglobally

The college's popular Global Studies program prepares students for the dynamic of globalization



At a time when the value of a liberal arts education is under attack by higher education critics clamoring for a more narrowly focused, even vocational approach to college, Lehigh University's Global Studies program has taken a divergent approach, exposing students to different disciplines and perspectives to prepare them for an increasingly complex, interconnected world.

"We're really going the other way," says Bruce Whitehouse, associate professor of anthropology and director of the Global Studies program. "We're looking to expose our students to a very broad cross-section of issues and literatures and methodologies. The idea is that cross-training in these different disciplines is actually going to make them stronger candidates for positions later in life when they are faced with complex social environments and business environments and they need to be able to work across cultural divisions and geographical space."

"Our idea is they're going to need lots of different tools in their toolkit, and it's not sufficient to have just political science training or anthropological training or whatever discipline it is—no one of them is really going to be adequate to form the kinds of leaders we're trying to prepare."



Launched just as the Great Recession hit in 2008 and running counter to the prevailing academic winds, Global Studies has enjoyed striking success, both in attracting students and sending graduates into almost every sector of the economy.

"We did not plan for this to be a big major. It's just remarkable how quickly it grew," says Jack Lule, professor and chair of the journalism and communication department who served as director of the Global Studies program from its launch until last year, when Whitehouse took the reins. "To me, it's just a real testimony to this generation. They get global. They get interdisciplinary."



When the College of Arts and Sciences built the program, the students came, as the number of Global Studies majors mushroomed from 41 in 2010 to 101 in 2014 (which included a graduating class of 41). And while about 20 percent of the roughly 150 graduates to date have gone directly to graduate school, the other 80 percent are now working in a wide array of jobs in the private sector, nonprofits, NGOs and government.

"If you asked me for a portrait of a typical Global Studies graduate, I can't give it to you because they're just going in too many different directions," Whitehouse says.

"I don't know if there's a spectrum of the job market they're not in now," adds Lule.

The Global Studies program grew out of the Globalization and Social Change Initiative, a research initiative that "bubbled up from the faculty" in 2006 around recognition that globalization was "changing everything we're doing, even the very nature of education," says Lule, who was one of the faculty members spearheading the initiative.

The creation of the Global Studies major followed quickly, and it has been demanding from the outset. In addition to the Introduction to Global Studies course, it requires a foreign language; four core courses (history, culture, political economy and politics), with a fifth core course in arts and humanities being added in the fall; 12 credits of Study Abroad; area studies, such as Africana Studies or Latin American Studies; and a senior seminar.

Yet, some 60 percent of Global Studies majors are double majors.

"That was another surprise to me," Lule says. "I thought this was a pretty heavy major to begin with. We require a lot. But it turns out these are really organized students and they know how to manage their time."

Lehigh does not have a foreign language requirement, but the Global Studies requirement is about to become even more stringent. From the start, Global Studies has required intermediate proficiency (basically a sophomore level) in a

foreign language offered by Lehigh. (Currently, Spanish, with 19 Global Studies majors, and French, with 13, are by far the most popular; Arabic, Chinese, German and Russian each have three Global Studies majors, and Hebrew and Japanese have one each.)

Starting in the fall, Whitehouse says, the program is “lifting the bar” to an advanced level. “We found that enough of our students were coming in with high school credits and

requirement “is an integral part of the Global Studies experience,” Whitehouse says. For most students, it means an intensive semester studying in another country, although some fulfill the requirement in other ways.

Lehigh offers a wide range of programs to complete the requirement, so students can tailor their experience to their interests, whether it’s around a particular issue (global health, international business or the environ-

Studies after taking the Intro to Global Studies course in his junior year. “There were moments of frustration, there were moments of growth.”

The team members managed to do marketing research and design and build a prototype within their six weeks in Ghana. But they wanted to do so much more. Among the valuable lessons Jean-Noel learned: “As hard as it’s going to be, we just need to accept the way



The idea is that cross-training in these different disciplines is actually going to make them stronger candidates for positions later in life when they are faced with complex social environments and business environments and they need to be able to work across cultural divisions and geographical space.



passing out of the introductory levels,” he adds. “We want to encourage them to take that study a little further and get to the point where they’re really proficient in a language.”

The core courses, taught by a group of 10 faculty members, expose students not only to different disciplines, but the way those disciplines approach issues related to globalization. So they get a historian’s perspective in the Histories of Globalization class; an anthropologist’s view in the culture course; a sociologist’s perspective and experience doing sophisticated, quantitative analysis with large data sets in the political economy course; and a political scientist’s perspective in the politics course.

In recent years, the arts and humanities perspective has been offered through elective classes. (Some 50 faculty members have taught elective courses for Global Studies over the years.) But starting in the fall, it will become part of the core curriculum, adding a humanistic viewpoint to the mix.

“I think many of our students find that breadth appealing,” Whitehouse says.

That certainly was true in Kendall Wilkins’ case. “It’s very wide and diverse and really challenging to me in terms of thinking about things from a lot of different perspectives and a lot of contradicting perspectives,” says Wilkins, a junior Global Studies major who also is minoring in Economics and Latin American Studies. “Because economists and anthropologists think really differently about a lot of different processes.”

But to truly understand global, you have to go global. And that’s why the Study Abroad

ment, for instance) or a specific geographical area, language or cultural setting.

Ralph Jean-Noel, a senior of Haitian descent with a double major in Global Studies and Africana Studies, has been to Africa twice as well as to the Caribbean during his time at Lehigh. On a 10-day service trip to Antigua and Bermuda the summer after his sophomore year, he and other students helped at a recycling plant, including giving it a new coat of paint, and painted several schools. They also toured the islands and immersed themselves in the culture.

“It was a humbling experience,” he says. “I loved it, just to meet so many different people. It was my first time traveling abroad and, being of Haitian descent and my parents being from the Caribbean, it was great to go to a Caribbean nation and see the similarities between their culture and my culture.”

He and his Social Entrepreneur classmates went to Kenya over spring break last year as part of a semester-long project to help a community-based organization called the Soccer Queens develop a business venture to help sustain fundraising efforts.

He followed that up with an Iacocca Internship to Ghana, where he worked with a team of mainly engineering students for six weeks on a sustainable development project to help a local company with the initial development and marketing plan for a granular fertilizer applicator that could save low-income farmers money and considerable time.

“It was a learning process,” says Jean-Noel, who switched from a business major to Global

things are. Simple things, like doing business in Ghana, are a lot different than they are here in the U.S., where a lot of things are on time and efficient and everything’s fast.”

And in Kenya, the budding social entrepreneurs grew frustrated when the innovative ideas they brought to the Soccer Queens—an organization that provides girls an alternative to life on the streets and a safe place to grow, learn and have fun—were not accepted.

But once again, he learned a valuable lesson.

“We couldn’t force our ideas down their throats. It has to come from an organic place. It was a little difficult, knowing the group had so much potential and they could do a lot and we had so many great ideas. But it really was up to them to decide what they wanted to do. We had to forgo our vision and hopefully help them develop their own vision.”

Wilkins, who spent the summer after her junior year of high school in Spain and traveled to Israel following graduation, is spending this semester in Valparaiso, Chile. She is living with a host family and taking advanced courses in oral and written Spanish, as well as learning about the culture, history, politics and economics of Chile.

“I was really intentional about choosing a program where I could interact with the people there,” she says. “That’s the thing I really want to be able to do. I want to hear people’s stories and what their life is like and what those pieces of history that we know about here in the U.S. have been like for them. I want to build relationships and friendships cross-culturally that I’ll remember for the rest of my life.”

The experiences living, studying and working abroad of Wilkins, Jean-Noel and other Global Studies majors is one of the things that makes them so attractive to prospective employers, Lule says. "They're culturally competent. And what workforce doesn't want someone who's used to working with people from different cultures and different backgrounds? These kids have lived that already."

After graduation in May, Jean-Noel plans to work for a year while he decides on the graduate school path he wants to take. He is thinking about getting a Ph.D. in the long run.

"I may not know exactly what's next, but I feel like what I have learned in the past year has prepared me and made me realize that the opportunities are limitless," he says. "And it has helped me shape the way I look at things and pursue things in my future."

Wilkins, who still has another year at Lehigh, is interested in eventually working as a consultant to help businesses get into international markets, drawing on the knowledge and experience she has acquired in dealing with potential cultural and language barriers.

"I definitely feel like I've been prepared well, not only in my Global Studies classes, but by Lehigh's curriculum and environment in general," she says. "Learning how to learn, how to think critically—those are the kind of things I will take with me wherever I end up and that will help me be successful, I think."

When Lehigh launched its Global Studies program, there were only a handful of successful models, among them Yale, University of Wisconsin-Madison and UCLA. Lule says he has advised colleagues at about a half dozen other universities in recent years who were interested in creating a program, and he expects the field of Global Studies to grow.

"I do believe we're going to see more and more interdisciplinary majors and interdisciplinary programs arising within the academic environment because it makes so much sense," Lule says. "Once people get it, once they realize that the best questions are going to be answered at the intersection of disciplines and no matter how good one discipline is—it can be economics, it can be political science, it can be journalism—it's going to benefit more from a conversation with other disciplines. And if the students live that, they're going to do better. So I do think that global studies is going to grow nationally, but I also think interdisciplinary majors will grow nationally." ●



CONFLICT & DI

**Henri Barkey
examines the
ever-changing
landscape of
international
politics**

Understanding overseas political affairs, particularly in the Middle East, can often seem like reading tea leaves. Countries are divided internally, factions contend for command, and competition for power between military and civilian governments continue to feed conflict. In a world of the 24-hour news cycle, most Americans only see and hear of the surface work done behind the scenes in international politics. Henri Barkey has a perspective few bring to the discussion, a viewpoint garnered by decades of experience both in academe and the United States State Department.

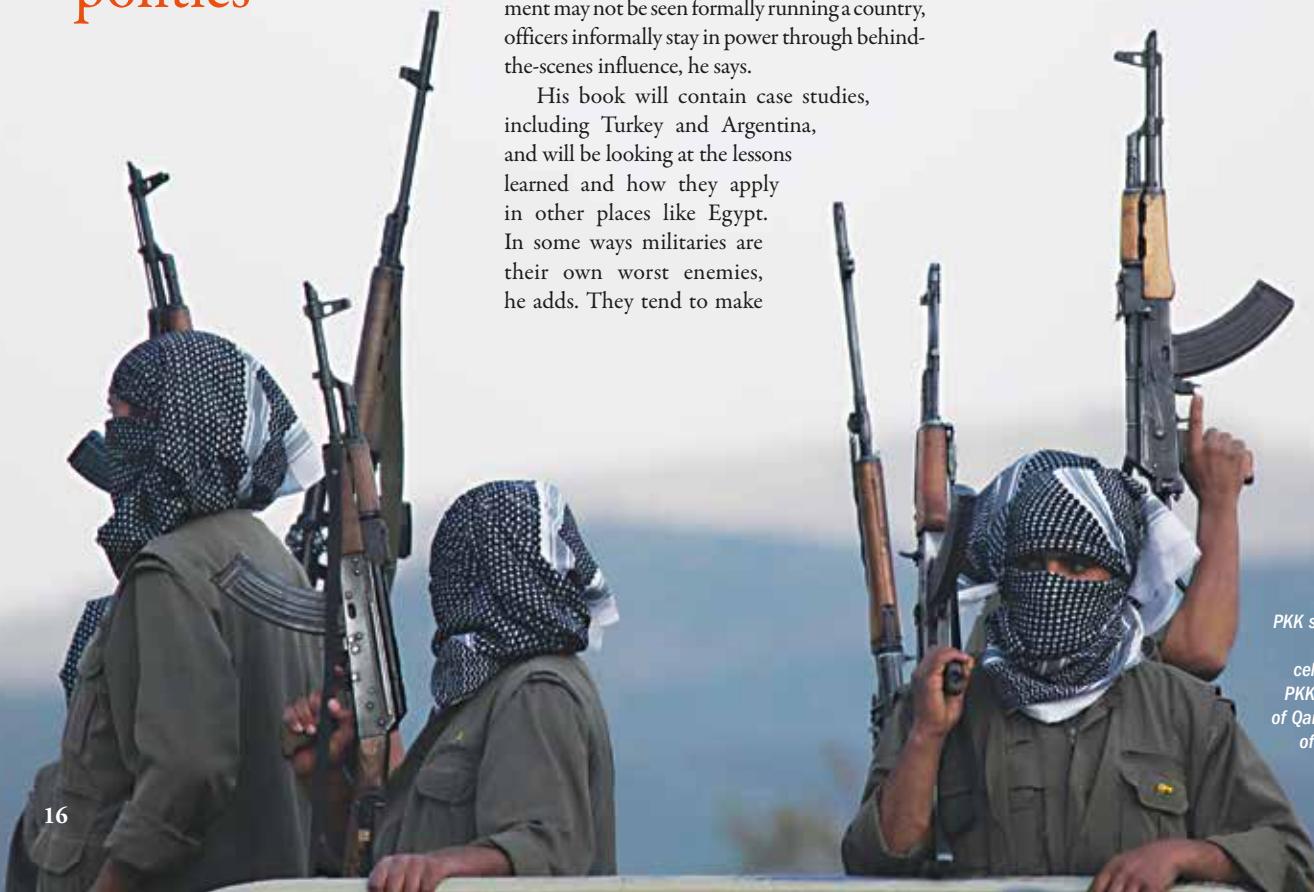
Barkey, Bernard L. and Bertha F. Cohen Professor and chair of international relations, has spent the last year on leave laying the groundwork for a book exploring and analyzing how militaries withdraw from politics after assuming control in a country. Though a military government may not be seen formally running a country, officers informally stay in power through behind-the-scenes influence, he says.

His book will contain case studies, including Turkey and Argentina, and will be looking at the lessons learned and how they apply in other places like Egypt. In some ways militaries are their own worst enemies, he adds. They tend to make

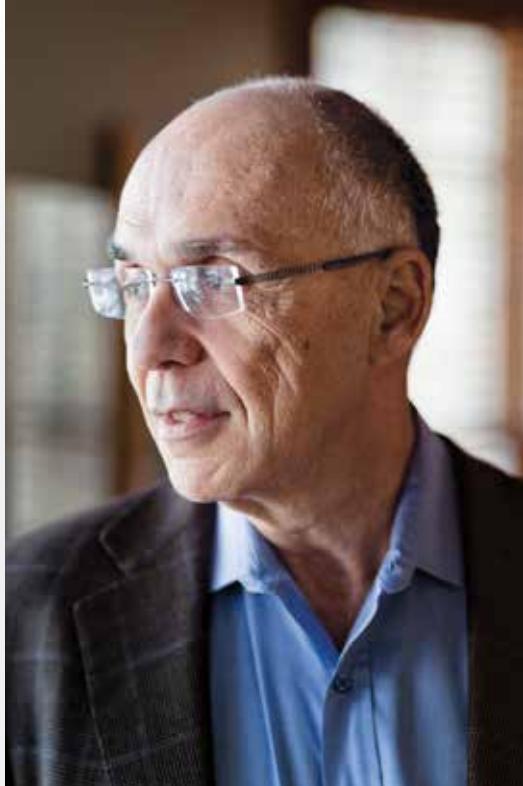
mistakes because they do not understand politics. Those mistakes are the ones that ultimately cause them to leave power and lose legitimacy.

"The trick is to see not only how they formally leave power, but also how civilians reduce their informal power," says Barkey. "That is far more difficult to ascertain, far more difficult to see, in an analytical way because the military works behind the scenes, even when they are not formally in power, by influencing government officials, elected officials, the judiciary, academia, and the media."

"Where the military as an institution has assumed a great deal of power, it is exercised not just along traditional political lines, but also along other societal concerns be they in the economic and social policy arenas and even cultural realms. In the process they create networks of influence that continue



PKK soldiers pictured during Newroz celebrations in the PKK controlled area of Qandil in the north of Iraqi Kurdistan.



ALOGUE

to exist and play an active role way after the generals have given up on the direct instruments of governance. So the question is how do you civilianize, really civilianize? Putting the military back in the barracks like they are in Western Europe or the United States and restrict their influence to predominantly military questions is harder than one thinks."

In Argentina, the military was very influential, but has been out of power since 1983. In Turkey, Barkey says the military has acted as self-appointed guardians of society. Their influence has waned recently under President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. In both cases, the generals had assumed power with a great deal of public support. Barkey says it's not clear whether the generals are just being quiet or have lost their power permanently.

"That's the interesting question," he says. "I'm not sure, but I don't think the dragon has been slayed."

A Clearer Picture

Barkey has both an outsider's and insider's view of foreign policy decision making, intelligence, and diplomacy. From January 1998 through January 2000, he worked in the State Department's Office of Policy Planning where, among other things, he spearheaded a project to rethink the State Department's intelligence output.

"It was a terrific opportunity," he says. "Unless you have spent time in the belly of the beast you don't really understand how the beast works. Having experience inside is critical in terms of understanding how certain decisions are made. It's amazing how much I learned during that time."

With his broad background in international politics, Barkey's views are often sought, especially in his areas of expertise—Turkey, Greece, and the Middle East. His commentary pieces have appeared in some of the nation's top media outlets, such as *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Foreign Affairs*, *The National*

Interest, and *The American Interest*. Given his considerable teaching and traveling load, why is Barkey so active publishing opinion pieces?

"I like to participate in the policy debate," he says. "Opinion pieces are quick and are designed to interject one's ideas at the right moment when there is a debate over specific issues. This may be U.S. policy vis a vis Syria or Pakistan or Venezuela. The idea should always be to enter a debate either by reinforcing a side or suggesting new ways of thinking. In government, while long pieces are written, much of the debate takes place over short memos that then get disseminated, discussed and then expanded into full blown discussion pieces."

A Global Perspective

At Lehigh, Barkey has taught courses on the Iraq war and the international politics of oil, among other subjects. But his research often has him traveling overseas, quite often to Turkey. During these trips, Barkey meets with government officials, journalists, and academics to remain in touch with Turkish politics.

"The Turkish press is in such bad shape that you can't believe anything they write," he says. "You need to actually talk to people and you really need to go and go back frequently."

Barkey has deep roots in Turkey. He is the descendant of Sephardic Jews forced from Spain during The Inquisition who landed in the Ottoman Empire. His parents were educated in French schools in Turkey. He grew up in Istanbul and remembers his mother turning on the BBC international news as a child. By fifth grade, he says, he was fascinated by the French Revolution.

"My parents talked a lot about international politics at home," he says. "I was interested in international relations as far back as I can remember."

Barkey's lifelong interests immerse him in the world's powder keg, the Middle East. To him, Iraq remains the most important place there and ISIS the biggest threat. One of his

"The trick is to see not only how they formally leave power, but also how civilians reduce their informal power."

interests in Iraq is the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani. A brand new institution created in northern Iraq with exact same principles and ideals of American university tradition. He serves on the Board of Trustees of the university and chairs its Academic Committee.

"The war in Iraq ended disastrously, but Iraq is still far too important to the United States and to the Middle East," he says. "The threat of ISIS is very serious. I think the Obama administration made huge mistakes in Iraq, ignored the impact of the Syrian conflict on the neighborhood and failed to understand the internal dysfunction of the Iraqi system. Instead it appeared as if it consented to self-defeating policies of the Iraqi government. Now the U.S. is solely focused on helping the Iraqi forces push ISIS back. This is not going to be easy. Iraq and not Syria has to be the focus because in the latter case there really is no one to work with. But in Iraq, it can be done." ●

Feature

shifting the scales

Jennifer Gentile Long '93
heads an international
resource on violence
against women



Jennifer Gentile Long '93 JD spends her days helping the legal community fight gender-biased violence. As director of AEquitas: The Prosecutors' Resource on Violence Against Women, she heads a global project with a mission to improve the quality of justice in sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking and human trafficking cases by developing, evaluating and refining prosecution practices that increase victim safety and offender accountability. She credits her career choice to the community engagement opportunities that were presented to her while a student at Lehigh.

As head of AEquitas, Long currently provides case consultation and resources to prosecutors employed at the state, local and federal levels, as well as all branches of the U.S. military and the Department of Defense. She has also worked closely with allied justice system professionals representing several countries, including Liberia, the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Israel, Uganda, Papua New Guinea and Kenya, where her work has included developing and participating in leadership institutes and training events for prosecutors and providing technical assistance and case consultation. She serves as an advisory committee member with the American Law Institute, an editorial board member with the Civic Research Institute for the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Reports and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center.

BY LESLIE FELDMAN

A LOCAL BEGINNING

Though the reach of AEquitas is global, Long's interest in using her talents for social good started on Bethlehem's Southside. Volunteering at Turning Point, a shelter where victims of abuse and their children can find refuge, and New Bethany Ministries, a local homeless shelter, Long was exposed to the world of violence against women.

"Being out in the community taught me the dynamics and harm caused by child abuse and violence against women," she says. "I wanted to make a difference and believed that I could do so most effectively by becoming a prosecutor specializing in these crimes."

Graduating with majors in English and East Asian Studies, Long notes that Lehigh provided her with an appreciation that the conditions surrounding any case will not always be ideal. In fact, they will rarely be flawless, but one cannot wait for perfection, she notes.

"One has to act, based on the best information available at the time action is required. Lehigh provided me with the analytical skills to identify the relevant information, and process it as accurately as possible and the courage to act. It also instilled a certain resilience in me so that I wasn't defeated by failure, but rather used it to learn how to improve. It also instilled in me a responsibility to continue to improve, not to be satisfied with the status quo, but to search for ways to do things better. Finally, it taught me the value and power of persuading individuals



1994, she entered the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She graduated with a juris doctorate degree and a master's degree in government administration from the Fels School of Government.

Fresh out of law school, she landed what she calls "her dream job" at the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office under Lynne Abraham. She worked her way up to the Family Violence and Sexual Assault Unit, where she prosecuted child abuse, sexual assault and intimate partner violence.

"I was lucky to work with driven, smart, aggressive and ethical prosecutors who taught me to take hard cases and prosecute with a victim-centered, offender-focused approach."

After her tenure with the DA's office, she went to work at a law firm in Bermuda and then a firm in Philadelphia before heading to Washington, D.C., where she worked at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"I was lucky to work with driven, smart, aggressive and ethical prosecutors who taught me to take hard cases and prosecute with a victim-centered, offender-focused approach."

to change attitudes and behaviors rather than relying upon edits, rules and regulations to effect change. This has helped me throughout my career as a prosecutor and in my current position, which brings our work throughout the U.S. and beyond."

Long's education, although not focused on gender-based violence or psychology, provided the academic and philosophical inspiration for her career choice. She learned critical thinking and reasoning and the value of action. After graduating from Lehigh, Long and her roommate headed to Colorado with the hope of working at a ski resort in Vail before attending law school. Not finding employment, she joined Coopers & Lybrand (now PricewaterhouseCoopers). In

Through the course of her work, Long stayed connected to work around child abuse, family violence and sexual assault through volunteer work with the Support Center for Child Advocates.

"Finally, I was able to return to work centered around the prosecution of gender-based violence, which was my priority, but this time, instead of serving on the front lines, I served those who were on the front lines prosecuting these crimes," Long explained.

In 2004, Long became senior attorney and then director of the National Center for the Prosecution of Violence Against Women at the American Prosecutors Research Institute. In 2009, she co-founded AEquitas.

STAYING CONNECTED

When not working or volunteering, Long makes family her priority. Many members of her family are Lehigh alumni, including her dad, Nick Gentile '53; her brother, Mark Arendas '77; her husband, Dan Long '92; his brother, Joe Long '88; and his father, Charles (Chuck) Long '59.

"I literally spent my earliest years on campus," Long adds. "My dad's love, admiration and respect for Lehigh was infectious. He took us to football games at Taylor Stadium. I attended parents' weekend events at my brother's fraternity. We visited the campus often and walked through the libraries and Packer Chapel and on Mountaintop campus and the Hill. By the time I was considering colleges, my application to Lehigh seemed like a foregone conclusion. However, I almost made the most foolish decision of my life when I began resisting attending Lehigh because my dad and brother had attended it and I thought I should do something different. Thankfully, I remembered how much I admired them both and appreciated how lucky I was to have the opportunity to attend Lehigh. I have come to appreciate this opportunity more and more as time goes on."

Long and her family continue to show their appreciation for an education that guides her well. Whether attending football games annually or going to events at Zoellner Arts Center, she is a constant ambassador, promoting the benefits of a Lehigh education. Long and her husband

have two young boys, Jacob and Harry, whom she hopes will follow in their footsteps at Lehigh someday.

"I have an amazing family and a fulfilling job on an issue about which I am passionate, and my work has given me the opportunity to travel to many countries all over the world," she says. "To anyone considering Lehigh, you will never regret it. You will be exposed to extraordinary faculty and peers who are some of the most genuine, hardworking, brilliant, motivated, creative, fun, loyal people you will ever meet. They will help you to succeed and make a future for yourself." ●



Pursuing a Passion for Human Rights

Fulbright student Hnin Su Mon '16G brings a personal connection to her exploration of human rights

by Esther Shanahan

HOUGH KNOWN FOR HER quiet, soft-spoken demeanor, Hnin Su Mon '16G has a passion for public health and human rights. As a Fulbright scholar, Hnin Su came to Lehigh to pursue her master's degree in sociology, and she hopes her research will make the difference of a lifetime for persons living in her home country of Myanmar.

Although Hnin Su has always been enthusiastic about social policy and human rights, she has taken an indirect route to the field of sociology. She began her career at a hospital, working as a private nurse and went on to be a communication officer.

"As a private nurse, I had to take care of one patient for 12 hours a day," she recalls. "But I learned a lot during my undergraduate education and thought I could do more for a greater number of people, rather than spending most of my time with one patient. So I took

a six-month English language course, and learned about human rights. At the time, I was 23, and that was the first time I heard about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Hnin Su took those classes at the American Center in Yangon, and the experience inspired her to become involved in health issues on a global level. She has worked for various international NGOs and United Nations-affiliated organizations on child protection issues and HIV and drug counseling services for marginalized groups.

Hnin Su began working for Médecins du Monde (Doctors of the World), providing prevention counseling for persons with a heightened risk of contracting HIV. She found the work professionally fulfilling.

"I counseled sex workers, gay men and drug users and their spouses and family members," she says. "And I was happy, every day of my life. I was making a difference. After one year, I received a promotion."

Her promotion to behavior change communication officer within the same organization

enhanced Hnin Su's ability to design, implement and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions for specific populations—skills she will use in researching and writing her thesis. This new position also propelled her into the world of nongovernmental organizations and social policy, setting her on the path that would lead her to Bethlehem's Southside. Five years after beginning her career with Médecins du Monde, and finishing both intermediate and advanced English courses, Hnin Su obtained a position with the United Nations, first as a communication associate with the Three Diseases Fund, which is dedicated to reducing the morbidity and mortality rates for HIV, AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Myanmar and next as a communication officer for the United Nations' Children's Fund. The work undertaken by colleagues at UNICEF and various NGOs has changed Hnin Su's life.

"At the UN, we worked together with the Department of Social Welfare on a new campaign to prevent (unnecessary) family



A mother and her child in Kyon Da (left) and Shwedagon Zedi Daw pagoda in Yangon, Myanmar (center). Fulbright scholar Hnin Su Mon (above) explores ethnic and religious conflict in Myanmar as part of her thesis.

separation," she says. "My senior colleagues at the UN and the NGOs were Fulbrighters, and I learned a lot from them. There were different scholarship opportunities—in Australia or New Zealand, for example. But, since I had taken English classes at the American Center, for me it was the U.S. or nothing!"

During the application process for the Fulbright, Hnin Su was certain that Lehigh was her top choice. Lehigh was proposed by the Institute for International Education, an organization that works closely with Fulbright. A variety of factors, including a diverse array of sociology courses, the beautiful campus and cost-sharing with the Fulbright program, guaranteed her decision.

Transitioning from a full-time career in Myanmar to graduate school in the United States wasn't as difficult as Hnin Su thought it would be. A monthlong pre-academy orientation at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies, sponsored by the Fulbright program and held in Monterey, Calif., prepared her for

what to expect regarding language requirements of U.S. graduate programs, study habits, managing stress and homesickness and adjusting to culture shock. And at Lehigh, a warm welcome made her feel right at home.

"Dr. Bill Hunter was the first person I met at Lehigh," she remembers of Lehigh's director of international outreach. "He met me at the airport with a sign that said 'welcome home.' At first, I was worried. I thought, 'I'm 31, I'm older, so maybe I won't make any friends.' But I have! It's been amazing here."

Other advantages Hnin Su has discovered are that the courses in which she is enrolled, and the variety offered by the sociology department, are invigorating and cater to her broad array of interests.

"I want to learn about gender and sexuality," she says. "At the same time, I want to learn about political sociology and race and ethnic issues. This program has all of these. My thesis is about the ongoing ethnic and religious conflict in my country. It's difficult to describe,

and there are so many factors complicating this issue. The class I am taking this semester on comparative religion and politics will help me explain it."

And, while Hnin Su is in the United States, she receives ongoing support from fellow Fulbright scholars she met in Monterey, as well as newfound friends at Lehigh who helped her understand aspects of American culture, such as football and how to survive cold weather. In February 2015, she reconnected with fellow Fulbrighters at an enrichment seminar, where she attended sessions on civic engagement and advocating for civil rights—two themes that will feature prominently in her thesis.

"After graduation, I plan to return to Myanmar and share what I've learned," she reveals. "As a student from a developing country, it's impossible to earn this kind of degree by myself (without a Fulbright). I feel like I have a responsibility—not only to my country, but also to humanity—to contribute in building a better world." ●



Dr. Richard and Alice Thall (above right) at their home in Long Island, NY. Their donation of photographic prints is a significant addition to the LUAG teaching collection.

ABSTRACT ART IMPACTS REAL LEARNING

Dr. Richard and Alice Thall's
Private Collection Adds to
the Lehigh Experience

by
Dawn
Thren



LIVING CLOSE TO NEW YORK CITY and its international art scene in the 1960s, Lehigh benefactors Dr. Richard and Alice Thall began purchasing affordable works of fine art early in their marriage. Their interests ranged from lithographs by Stuart Davis to engraved prints by John Sloan, George Bellows and Whistler. Switching mediums when the artists' work became "out of our price range," they began collecting photography by artists Aaron Siskind, Richard Misrach and Ansel Adams before most of mainstream America began considering this mode of creative expression as a form of art. After five decades of following rising artists, the Thalls say their notable collection has surpassed their imagination as to what it has become today.

"It was luck and love," said Alice. "You buy it because you like it, not because of what you think it will be worth in the future."

Their collection and knowledge of art are impressive. As a board member of Brattleboro Museum and Art Center in Vermont, Dick attributes his early interest to the liberal arts while majoring in the pre-med/pre-dental program at Lehigh. In fact, he considers his undergraduate experience, which included being president of Pi Lambda Phi and a member of the Interfraternity Council, "a great growing process."

"During those three years at Lehigh, I took as many liberal arts courses as I could fit in. I wanted to become a person that had varied interests. One of the first courses I took was History of Art. That opened my eyes to the world of art and, through that, ancient history," said Dick, who appreciated that education even more when he fulfilled his two-year Lehigh ROTC military commitment after earning his dental degree. The Air Force stationed him in Athens, Greece, where he was the base dentist. "It was very exciting to actually see all of the places that I studied about while at Lehigh, like the Acropolis and Olympia, the place of origin of the Olympic Games."

Always knowing that he and Alice would want to give back to Lehigh to provide others with the same opportunity, they established a student scholarship fund in their names in 1984. While so far helping 11 men and women obtain a Lehigh education, the Thalls thought of another way to add to the student experience. When the Lehigh University Art Galleries (LUAG)/Museum Operations opened two new galleries in 1997 as part of the Zoellner Arts Center, they thought of their personal art collection.

"When I was at Lehigh, there was no place to hang art or hear a concert. The concert series was in Grace Hall, which was a combination of a wrestling

arena and auditorium,” said Dick, a retired orthodontist. “The Zoellner Arts Center opened up the ability to be able to give back to Lehigh something that Alice and I had. I wanted to give back to the school that I felt was responsible for a great deal of my life with art.”

From their first donation in 2004 to this past fall, the Thalls have provided 63 Siskind and four Misrach limited-edition photography prints to Lehigh’s teaching collection.

A WORKING FRIENDSHIP

A collaborative relationship bloomed between the Thalls and Ricardo Viera, professor of art and director/chief curator of Lehigh University Art Galleries/Museum Operations, who met in Zoellner after the venue’s inaugural gala performance of the New York Philharmonic. Learning of their mutual admiration for Siskind and that Viera was planning a major Lehigh art exhibition to celebrate the artist’s work, Dick was instrumental in helping the exhibit become reality. He connected Viera with the Robert Mann Gallery in New York City, which loaned many of the prints from its collection to Lehigh for the 2003 exhibit. The following year, the Thalls made their first gift of 18 Siskind photographs to LUAG and then followed with very famous works by Misrach.

“Dick Thall loved the idea that we were building the art collection at Lehigh,” said Viera, who, in the 40 years he has been at the university, has expanded the collection from 2,500 pieces to almost 13,000 with close to 6,000 being works of photography. “I think that was one of the reasons that he made a point to help us. He and Alice were truly gracious. Today, we have a beautiful, important body of Siskind work of our own.”

Siskind is considered America’s most influential abstract photographer. His early work in the 1930s and 1940s focused on documentary photography in Harlem, then transitioned to organic images such as rocks, seaweed, trees and lava and finally evolved into abstraction.

“He was kind of revolutionary in the ’60s when he went to Mexico and South America. He was photographing graffiti...walls. He was becoming extremely well known as an abstract photographer,” said Viera, who met and heard Siskind lecture as a graduate student at the Rhode Island School of Design.

Viera includes the artist as a key element in the Photography as Contemporary Art course that he teaches. Using works from the teaching collection, he explores the power of photographs as a dominant 21st-century visual art form. The collection

includes the first 13 Siskind prints donated by Simon Levin ’64 in 1984.

“Now, with this latest gift of 45 works from the Thalls, we have the amount of Siskind prints we need to see the evolution of how he actually composed. How he dealt with dynamic symmetry and depth of field. How he worked with light. There are many aspects that can be studied,” said Viera. “Siskind has a generation of followers.”

As an academic art museum, the teaching collection offers students from all disciplines direct experiential learning to explore diverse topics in visual literacy and the humanities.

“Students are learning to be curators and care for art...how to store it, handle it and mat it properly,” said Dick. “We are happy to be able to give this art to the students to learn about this important artist—and photography in general.”

Viera stated that the entire Lehigh collection has been developed from gifts by alumni, parents, friends and artists. “Almost everything comes from others’ generosity,” he said.

Enhancing the student experience with their collection is very important to Dick and Alice, who are members of the Asa Packer Society and the Tower Society, Lehigh’s leadership giving societies.

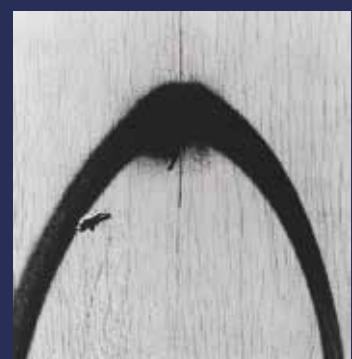
THREE GENERATIONS OF THALLS CHOSE LEHIGH

Dick attended Lehigh because of the well-rounded education he would receive. In 1954, he was able to leave his undergraduate alma mater a year early to attend New York University and earn his dental degree. He eventually earned his graduate orthodontic degree at NYU.

Dick and Alice’s daughter, Diana, majored in psychology at Lehigh, and her husband, Craig Levin, majored in finance. They are 1987 graduates. Both of their children chose Lehigh because of the different disciplines they could pursue and the possibility of doing research. Jennifer ’15 is majoring in psychology and has a double minor in business and health, medicine and society. Matthew ’18 is currently undeclared in the College of Business and Economics but is interested in minoring in creative writing or international relations. Dick lauds Lehigh’s interdisciplinary approach to education and knows how it personally impacted him.

“Lehigh was a very important marker in my life to put me into a position to be a different person from when I arrived,” he said.

Reflecting on the Thall-Lehigh family legacy, Alice said, “Lehigh has just been a total win-win for all of our family.” ●



A Journey from the East

Lehigh builds a theatrical Chinese bridge between Bethlehem and New York City

by Geoff Gehman '89 M.A.

Dong-Ning Wang '98G approached the middle-aged Chinese man outside the Sands Casino Resort on Bethlehem's Southside, where busloads of Asians arrive daily to escape New York City. The Lehigh teacher asked him in Chinese why he was there, sitting on the curb without shoes or socks. He told her he was relaxing in "the countryside," basking in the sun 80 miles and a world away from Chinatown to improve his poor health and bad fortune.

Part of a team of Lehigh faculty and students, she was collecting stories for a two-part play about integrating Chinese and American societies and produced by Touchstone Theatre, the South Bethlehem company devoted to communal experiments. The first part, "Journey: Dream of the Red Pavilion," was staged last year

Wang will also appear in the second play, "Journey from the East," an adaptation of "Journey to the West," an immensely popular 16th-century Chinese novel about a monk's mission to obtain saving scriptures from the Buddha. The production will unfold April 18-19 and 25-26 on the South Bethlehem Greenway, where Wang and her student collaborators interviewed Chinese New Yorkers who were taking gambling breaks. It will begin and end at the Chinese-Heting Harmony Pavilion, which she helped develop with colleagues Norman Girardot, professor of religion studies; Constance Cook, professor of Chinese in the department of modern languages and literatures; and Marcus Brandt, craft master.

Wang has been building bridges since she came to Lehigh nearly

20 years ago as a doctoral candidate in material science. She was the ideal guide for Touchstone ensemble associate Mary Wright, the writer/director of "Journey: Dream of the Red Pavilion." She introduced Wright to Chinese-speaking students, merchants and worshippers, all of whom agreed to be interviewed because they trusted Wang.

"Dong-Ning opened up so many avenues," says Wright. "She was our connector."

Inspired by Wright, Wang launched Storytelling and Collecting, a course



Dong-Ning Wang (center) with Liana Irvine (left) and Emma Chong.

focusing on the Touchstone project. Wang and her students interviewed a wide range of Chinese visitors to the Bethlehem casino. Over the course of four semesters spanning 2013-14, students conducted interviews and collected several important Chinese alumni's stories from Lehigh's archive while working with the theatre to develop the two productions.

Students came away with real-world experiences. Michael Rong '15, a computer science/engineering student, met an elderly lady who came not to gamble but to sell her free gambling card for \$40, \$5 under its value. Architecture major Shannon Chen '13 learned that Asian "transients" have turned Bethlehem into a playground for playing cards and practicing tai chi. The casino area is so popular, she points out, there is a two-week wait for bus tickets. Corina Fitzgerald '17 traced another kind of gambling while conducting interviews. The tourists told the Asian Studies major that many of their peers apply to American colleges and universities to avoid taking China's extremely difficult entrance exam, an experience made more fiendish by the release of their scores after

they've applied to Chinese schools.

Wang notes that the students enjoyed the assignment and came away with personal parallels and new perspectives on the tourists. Fitzgerald thanks Wang for expanding a Far Eastern quest she began as a middle schooler in Maine, where the lack of ethnic diversity made her want to embrace ethnic diversity.

"Dong-Ning is a great resource and a great person," says Fitzgerald. "Her encouragement is just amazing; she made me, the only non-Chinese student in her class, feel completely comfortable. She makes everyone feel at home."

Empowered by stories gathered by Wang and her team, Wright changed "Journey: Dream of the Red Pavilion" from a tale about natives changed by non-natives to a more universal, personal tale about emotional migration. She weaved in Wang's belief in the Chinese conviction that everyone and everything is tied by a thread of invisible red silk.

"People share more in common than differences," says Wang. "The world would be a better place if we tried to understand each other instead of guessed."



A man exercises near the Sands Casino.

and featured four women acting out their Asian-American experiences. One of the performers was Wang, a Beijing native and adjunct lecturer in the department of modern languages and literatures.

Malcolm X's World 50 Years Later

Reappraising race, religion, and revolution today

by Christina Holden '15

Feb. 21, 2015 marks the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Malcolm X. To commemorate the life and legacy of Malcolm X as a public figure and his contributions to social justice in America, the College of Arts and Sciences with the Africana Studies program and political science department hosted a three-day conference that attracted international attention.

"Malcolm X's World 50 Years Later: Reappraising Race, Religion, and Revolution Today" was held Feb. 17-19 and featured a variety of keynote speakers, paper presentations and panels. This live-streamed dialogue, which attracted viewers from nearly 30 different countries, gave academics an opportunity to share their work and thoughts with Lehigh's faculty, staff and students.

Saladin Ambar, associate professor of political science, co-chaired the conference with James Peterson, associate professor of English and the director of Africana studies.

Ambar, author of *Malcolm X at Oxford Union: Politics in a Global Era*, said a wide array of impressive speakers, panelists and guests from countries including France, England, Malaysia, and Japan whose work and life speaks to the legacy of Malcolm X attended and made this an exceptional conference. Participants included activists

involved with the Black Lives Matter movement, Malcolm X biographers, and academics from across the country and world. Investigating and exploring Malcolm X's civil rights legacy, speakers included Tariq Ali, Rosa Alicia Clemente, Pap Ndiaye, and Michael Eric Dyson.

Hosting this conference allowed Lehigh to join a collection of universities being a destination for international scholarship on African American historical figures, said Ambar. He added that Princeton, Oxford University, Villanova and Columbia University are just some of many schools that have taken part in the remembrance of Malcolm X's legacy.

It was important that conference planners had the support of the institution to host the conference, Peterson said.

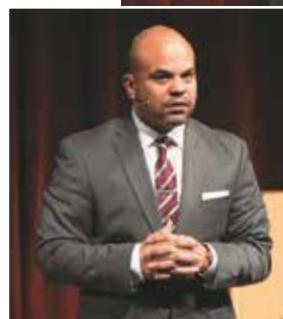
do with the black experience."

Ambar noted this conference was an opportunity for students to draw attention to other aspects of Malcolm X about which they are not accustomed to hearing or thinking.

People have been commemorating different civil rights milestones on national and international scales, said Peterson.

"We have been working very actively to try to identify the ways in which we might be able to honor that national and international process of looking at the civil rights movement and thinking about its accomplishments and challenging ourselves to move forward and to honor that legacy going forward."

"There continues to be a hunger and appetite for information about Malcolm X and his legacy and his personal history but also what he



Saladin Ambar (left) and James Peterson (above right) speaks with Michael Eric Dyson.



meant to the American civil rights movement, and what he meant to the worldwide human rights movement," said Ambar. "That hunger and appetite only grows with the years, and I am delighted that not only Lehigh students but those who were able to view the conference by live streaming or Internet will get the opportunity to satisfy some of that interest that continues to grow."

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RICHARD MISRACH



**“Lehigh was a very
important marker
in my life to put me
into a position to be
a different person
from when I arrived.”**

see page 22