The GSAS Office of Academic Diversity welcomes you to the 27th annual

Summer Research Program Symposium

Wednesday, July 22, 2015
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

569 Lerner Hall
Columbia University

Office of Academic Diversity
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Columbia University
107 Low Memorial Library
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

gas-diversity@columbia.edu
(212) 851-9851
gas.columbia.edu

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Welcome to the Research Symposium for the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences’ 2015 Summer Research Program (SRP). Our 17 students this year represent different universities and colleges from across the country and have taken advantage of this opportunity to conduct original research with Columbia and Barnard’s distinguished faculty.

The work presented at this symposium represents the research conducted during the nine weeks the students are in residence at Columbia. The goal of this program is to increase the presence of individuals from traditionally underrepresented groups among the faculties of U.S. colleges and universities. By introducing them to the joy and rigor of graduate level work, we hope to encourage and help prepare them to attend graduate programs in their chosen field.

We would like to thank the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the Leadership Alliance, the Creating Connections Consortium (C3), and the National Science Foundation for supporting our 2015 SRP Fellows. A special thank you to the Columbia professors at both the Morningside and uptown campuses, Barnard College, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows for giving their valuable time to work with the students this summer.
2015 SRP STAFF AND MENTORS

Program Directors
S. Isabel Geathers
Assistant Dean for Academic Diversity

Samantha Shapses
Associate Dean of Students

Faculty Mentors
Karen Benezra, *Latin American & Iberian Cultures*
Maura Boldrini, *Psychiatry*
Patricia Dailey, *English & Comparative Literature*
Marwa Elshakry, *History*
Aaron Fox, *Music*
Farah Griffin, *English & Comparative Literature*
Holly Moore, *Psychiatry*
Celia Naylor, *History (Barnard College)*
Robert Y. Shapiro, *Political Science*
Joseph Slaughter, *English & Comparative Literature*
Alexander Sobolevsky, *Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics*
Josef Sorett, *Religion*
Van Tran, *Sociology*

Graduate Student Mentors
Westenley Alcenat, *History*
Cesar Colon-Motijo, *Music*
Nijah Cunningham, *English & Comparative Literature*
Brittany Fox, *Sociology*
Tiana Reid, *English & Comparative Literature*
Viviana Rivera-Burgos, *Political Science*
Ciara Torres, *Neurology (Postdoctoral Fellow)*
Devon Wade, *Sociology*
**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

8:15 - 9:00 a.m.  
Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.  
Welcome and Overview

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Research Session I  
Clair Beltran, Sociology  
Isaiah Gibson, Religion  
Madelene Santizo, Sociology  
Debanjan Roychoudhury, Sociology  
Andres Villegas, Psychiatry  
Tara S. Ramírez, Biochemistry  
Chibuokem Ikwuazom, Psychiatry  
Victoria Mogollón Montagne, Music  
Gabriela P. Barrios, Latin American & Iberian Cultures

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.  
Lunch

12:45 - 3:00 p.m.  
Research Session II  
Andrea Penman-Lomeli, English  
Cheswayo G. Mphanza, English  
Jeremy L. Glover, English  
Aleena Khan, Political Science  
Melissa Espinosa, Political Science  
Syeda Z. Malliha, Political Science  
Ahmad Greene-Hayes, History  
Brittanie L. Lewis, History

3:00 - 3:05 p.m.  
Closing Remarks

3:05 - 4:00 p.m.  
Light Refreshments
RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Clair Beltran
Mentor: Van Tran
*Fields of Difference: Differences in Usage and Perception of Urban Park Spaces*

Isaiah Gibson
Mentor: Josef Sorett
*Just(us) the Black and the Black Church: A Case Study of Social Justice in Harlem’s St. Luke AME Church*

Madeleine Santizo
Mentor: Van Tran
*Eres lo que Comes: Ethnic Restaurants and the (Re)Production of Cultural Identities in Upper Manhattan*

Debanjan Roychoudhury
Mentor: Van Tran
*All Eyez on Me: Surveillance and Policing in West Harlem’s Neighborhood of Hamilton Heights*

Andres Villegas
Mentor: Holly Moore
*Role of a Cell Cycle Regulator in Subcortical Parvalbumin Interneurons: Implication for Schizophrenia*

Tara S. Ramírez
Mentor: Alexander Sobolevsky
*Expression Screening of TRP Channels for Structural and Biochemical Studies*

Chibuokem Ikwuazom
Mentor: Maura Boldrini
*SSRIs Upregulate Expression of 5-HT$_{1A}$ Receptor mRNA in the Dentate Gyrus of Major Depression Disorder Patients*

Victoria Mogollón Montagne
Mentor: Aaron Fox
*Preparing for the Show: Ideologies of Children’s Development at Two NYC Community Music Programs*
Gabriela P. Barrios  
**Mentor: Karen Benezra**  
*Varying Narratives: The Agency of Community Narratives as Represented in Cartucho*

Andrea Penman-Lomeli  
**Mentor: Joseph Slaughter**  
*Bodies that Work: Citizenship and the Rendering of Chicana/o Identity in Tomás Rivera’s …y no se lo tragó la tierra*

Cheswayo G. Mphanza  
**Mentor: Farah Griffin**  
*Tha Block is Hot*: Black Aesthetics in A Street in Bronzeville

Jeremy L. Glover  
**Mentor: Patricia Dailey**  
*Blurred Understandings and Interpretations: A Queer Reading of Two Women in Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales*

Aleena Khan  
**Mentor: Robert Y. Shapiro**  
*American Public Opinion of the United States’ Standpoint on the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*

Melissa Espinosa  
**Mentor: Robert Y. Shapiro**  
*In Our Land: What Factors Influence Public Opinion on Immigration?*

Syeda Z. Malliha  
**Mentor: Robert Y. Shapiro**  
*What Factors Influence Public Opinion on Natural Disasters?*

Ahmad Greene-Hayes  
**Mentor: Celia Naylor**  
*Black Women’s and Men’s Legacies and Activism: Legal Discourse and Literary Interventions against Sexual Violence, 1990-Present*

Brittanie L. Lewis  
**Mentor: Marwa Elshakry**  
*The Iranian Woman in the Chador: Symbolic Representation of Nationhood in the 1970s*
2015 SRP FELLOWS BIOGRAPHIES

Gabriela P. Barrios is a rising senior at Rice University with a major in Spanish & Portuguese and English and a minor in art history. She was born and raised in Houston, Texas, and her research interests are in merging and exploring the juncture between literature and visual culture in Mexico, especially in the post-revolutionary era.

Clair Beltran is a rising senior at Middlebury College with a major in the history of art and architecture and a minor in Arabic and geography. She is from New York City, and her academic interests include geography, sociology, and languages.

Melissa Espinosa is a rising junior at St. Edwards University with a major in business marketing. She is from Austin, Texas, and her research interests include Hispanic political opinion and surveying.

Isaiah Gibson is a rising junior at Dickinson College with a major in law, policy, and sociology. He has a strong research interest in the relationship between the law, race, gender, and class.

Jeremy L. Glover is a rising junior at Bates College with a major in music and English and a minor in history. He is originally from Cleveland, Ohio, and enjoys listening to, playing, and composing classical music. He has additional interests in literature and history, with a special interest in the work and life of Geoffrey Chaucer.

Ahmad Greene-Hayes is a rising senior at Williams College with a major in history and Africana studies. He is from Newark, New Jersey, and his research interests include African American history and religion, Black gender and sexual politics, and social movements against sexual violence, police brutality, and mass incarceration.

Chibuokem Ikwuazom is a rising junior at the University at Albany, SUNY, with a major in biochemistry and molecular biology and a minor in neuroscience. Originally from North Babylon, New York, he is interested in researching the nervous system and the synaptic networking of neurons and glial cells.
Aleena Khan is a rising junior at Simmons College with a major in political science and a minor in public health. She was born in Lahore, Pakistan, and grew up in Deerfield Beach, Florida, and she is interested in researching political polarization in the U.S.

Brittanie L. Lewis is a rising junior at Amherst College with a major in history. She is from Modesto, California, and her research interests include the development of foreign diplomacy between the United States and various MENA countries in the twentieth century.

Syeda Z. Malliha is a rising junior at Amherst College with a major in English and law. She is originally from the Bronx and is interested in researching majority and minority rights.

Victoria Mogollón Montagne is a rising senior at the University of Denver with a major in music and Italian. Originally from Caracas, Venezuela, she is interested in the popular music traditions of Latin America.

Cheswayo G. Mphanza is a rising senior at Middlebury College with a major in English & American literature and a minor in African American studies. His research interests are the cultural revolutions led by African Americans during the great migration in the early to mid-twentieth century.

Andrea Penman-Lomeli is a rising senior at Middlebury College with a major in comparative literature. She is from Detroit, Michigan, and her research interests include literary theory, post-colonialism, Chicana feminism, and translation theory.

Tara S. Ramírez is a rising senior at the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras with a major in cellular and molecular biology. Her research interests lie mainly in membrane biophysics and computational neuroscience.
Debanjan Roychoudhury is a rising senior at Middlebury College with a major in sociology. He is from Queens, New York, and his research interests include policing and racial formation.

Madeleine Santizo is a rising senior at Bates College with a major in anthropology and a minor in Spanish. She is originally from Pomona, California, and is interested in the intersections between race, ethnicity, migration, and social inequalities.

Andres Villegas is a rising senior at Rutgers University with a major in biological sciences. He is from Elizabeth, New Jersey, and is interested in researching the effects of psychological trauma on the development of psychiatric disorders, including schizophrenia.
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