




HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics



Report on Activities

2015-16





**On the cover (clockwise):** Liav Orgad (photo by Gerard Vong); Calvin Lai; Madeline Hung; Charles Payne; Natalia Gutkowski; Ruth Chang; Rohini Somanathan (photo by Gerard Vong); Joseph Hollow (photo by Gerard Vong); Danielle Allen

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

# Danielle Allen

Director, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics

To be a part of Harvard's Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics is an extraordinary privilege. I must begin, first, simply by thanking all those who gave me such a warm welcome—my predecessors Dennis Thompson and Larry Lessig, the Center staff, and especially our outgoing Administrator, Stephanie Dant, the members of our Faculty Committee and all our Faculty Associates, and the awe-inspiring members of our three 2015-16 fellowship cohorts: the Fellows-in-Residence, Graduate Fellows, and Undergraduate Fellows.

As Larry said farewell to research on institutional corruption through the Center, and took the cause to presidential politics, we settled down for our year on Mt. Auburn Street to do three things:

- deepen a conversation among ourselves, on campus, and in the broader world about diversity, justice, and democracy;
- learn about the state of ethics education on the Harvard campus and make judgments about where we could contribute to its renewal and evolution;
- build a structure of events, workshops, and seminars that would provide our affiliates with an opportunity to deploy the convening power of the Center to advance conversations on the most important and most challenging ethical issues of our time—whether those issues pertain to personal or public ethics; to professional or civic ethics; to habits and norms or policy-frameworks.

Over the course of the academic year, our chosen theme, Diversity, Justice, and Democracy, grew only more urgent. From the refugee crisis in Europe to the U.S. presidential campaign and Brexit; from debates over social equality, free speech, and “political correctness” on college campuses to parallel debates about security, terrorism, and “political correctness” in Southern California; from conflicts over LGBT rights in Africa to honor-killings of young women in places around the world, we are routinely asked to think through challenging ethical and political problems that have become ever more complex because of social diversity.

“Over the course of the academic year, our chosen theme, Diversity, Justice, and Democracy, grew only more urgent.”

Our traditional venues for deepening collective reflection on urgent matters of individual, institutional, and public ethics continue to be our Thursday evening public lecture series and our Tuesday lunchtime Faculty Seminars. During the fall's public lecture series, philosopher Ruth Chang walked us through frameworks for decision-making when one faces two choices that are “on par,” not better or worse than one another. Bioethicist Julian Savulescu explored the stakes of designating disabilities as differences or of resisting such designations. Jiwei Ci, a philosopher from the University of Hong Kong, offered a critique of modern democracy as being agnostic on whether people are equal by nature and as, consequently, permitting social structures with great inequalities. In our lunchtime seminars, Faculty Committee members Tommie Shelby, Meira Levinson, and Nir Eyal worked through, respectively, issues of a right to self-segregate, ethical dilemmas in urban classrooms, and health disparities. As part of our annual Lester Kissel Lecture in Ethics, the Undergraduate Fellows joined Stephen Macedo (Senior Scholar 2002-03) for a feisty set of conversations about same-sex couples, monogamy, and the future of marriage. Sociologist Charles Payne invited us to re-consider the ethical stakes in a scholarly decision to prioritize explaining why things work over identifying what works and how to re-create it.

Fellows-in-Residence presented material on the limited efficacy of interventions designed to reduce implicit bias (Calvin Lai); the invisibility of links between our treatment of inmates and health crises in minority communities, particularly around HIV (Laurie Shrage); global justice (Caleb Yong); the right to bear arms and cultures of violence and domination (Jackie Bass); and the possibility that the right to education, when tethered to the goal of preparing citizens, as it is in many U.S. state constitutions, might provide a higher standard for educational justice than is currently available on the policy landscape (Michael Rebell). Liav Orgad worked through the legal definitions of citizenship that affect immigrant integra-

tion across Europe, and Gerard Vong homed in on definitions of quality of life. Liz Beaumont helped us think about dissent and Marta Jimenez drew on Aristotle to re-visit definitions of self-interest.

Our theme working group on “Diversity, Justice, and Democracy,” spearheaded by Fellow-in-Residence Rohini Somanathan, found that it shares four basic premises that can provide a foundation for seeking philosophical, social scientific and policy frameworks that might support the achievement of “difference without domination.” Those four premises are:

*(1) Social difference is a good thing all-in-all; none of us wishes to see a socio-political universe that is pursuing homogenization or that rigidly fixes our identities; (2) Social difference easily becomes articulated with hierarchies that are institutional, economic, political, cultural, and psychological (even at the unconscious level); (3) these hierarchies are also often sources of social fragmentation, rather than cohesion; (4) justice (on any number of accounts) requires unlinking social difference and hierarchy.*

On all of these, and many other fronts, research, writing, and conversing continue apace. The theme of diversity, justice, and democracy turned out to be so rich and so urgent that we decided to our focus here into the 2016-17 academic year as well.

Meanwhile, we have also been privileged at the Edmond J. Safra Center to pull together colleagues from all across Harvard’s campus to discuss approaches to ethics curricula and pedagogy. Interest in how to teach ethical reasoning is high.

In our conversations, we have been struck by the need to balance exposure of students to the rules, regulations, and principles of academic and professional responsibility with an equally pressing need to engage them in big picture questions about how our moral frameworks define our individual and collective lives and our conceptions of justice. At the undergraduate level there is also a new kind of challenge to meet. Once upon a time, a collegiate program could expect that professional education would complete its students’ preparation for the exercise of judgment and that professional protocols of responsibility would tightly govern their lives. Now we have to expect that many college graduates will often live “off the grid” of the traditional professions. Their preparation for success at the work of ethical reasoning must be accomplished during the four years of their undergraduate education.



Professor Danielle Allen, Center Director

Ethics educators face challenging questions about how to awaken their students into authentic moral reflection, ethical reasoning, and decision-making. How do students get started? How are matters de-familiarized for them? Do they need to be “cracked open” as decision-makers? Do they need to start by learning how to spot the dilemmas? Or have they progressed to such a point in their own experience that hard decisions are obvious and right in front of them all the time? Do they need case studies, do they need simulations, do they need improvisational theater, do they need clinics? Great creativity can be brought to bear on finding effective ways of making questions of ethics real for students, something to be lived, not merely studied, an area where we are as likely to make mistakes as to succeed.

Our own focus at the Edmond J. Safra Center, in helping to frame a conversation about how to teach ethics, is on the question of how to integrate the resources of pre-existing ethical theories and traditions with a judgment-oriented pedagogy that also draws on the resources of psychology and positive social science. Preparation for ethical reasoning requires not only the twin pillars of philosophy and a policy or decision-making context. It also demands a third pillar: socio-theoretic understanding.

## “People are the root and branch of what we do at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics.”

Finally, we re-thought our approach to programming at the Center in order to open opportunities for our faculty affiliates to use the Center as a launch pad for projects of their own devising. We now look forward to supporting one-day workshops, multi-stage workshops, and conferences from across the university that connect conversations about ethics to new contexts. This coming year Faculty Associates Max Bazerman and Joshua Greene are spearheading a workshop on behavioral ethics; Faculty Committee member Archon Fung and colleagues in the Ash Center for Democratic Governance at HKS are organizing a multi-stage project on the all-affected principle. Former Fellows-in-Residence Liav Orgad and Caleb Yong are collaborating on a multi-stage workshop on migration, citizenship, and democracy.

People are the root and branch of what we do at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics. We are pleased to congratulate our outstanding and long-serving administrator, Stephanie Dant, on her admission to Columbia University’s Masters in Social Work program and wish her well in her new adventure. We also congratulate Bill English, who served as Research Associate this year to transition the Institutional Corruption project, and who now moves on to a faculty position at Georgetown University.

We are delighted to welcome Mónica Tesoriero, who joins us from Harvard’s David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, as our new Director of Administration. In the fall of 2015, we were also pleased to welcome, Jess Miner (from UT-Austin), as Research Director, and Tomer Perry (from Stanford), as Research Associate.

We are glad to have added the following new Faculty Committee members: Eric Beerbohm, Aisha Beliso-De Jesús, Richard Fallon, Nien-hê Hsieh, and Meira Levinson. We are equally pleased to have added the following new Faculty Associates: Selim Berker, Emily Click, Joshua Greene, Helen Haste, Lawrence Lessig, Ann Marie Lipinski, Marc Lipsitch, Eric Maskin, Samuel Moyn, Laurence Ralph, Dani Rodrik, Michael Rosen, Susanna Siegel, Mario Small, Doris Sommer, Brandon Terry, Richard Tuck, Jonathan Walton, and Chris-

topher Winship. In addition, we are grateful to former Lab Committee members who transitioned from that role to serve as Faculty Associates: Mahzarin Banaji, Max Bazerman, Eric Campbell, Francesca Gino, David Korn, Joshua Margolis, Susannah Rose, and Malcolm Salter. Two faculty associates, David Wilkins and Dan Brock, completed their terms of service on the Faculty Committee. We are very grateful for their many contributions.

We also congratulate and thank Nancy Rosenblum, who was a Senior Scholar in Ethics in 2003–04, and a member of the Faculty Committee from 2007–2015, and retired from the Government Department this past spring. This spring also saw the retirement of Tim Scanlon, who was a charter member of the Faculty Committee and who served since the Center’s founding in 1987 until 2010. We are grateful for Tim’s remarkable contributions.

Sadly, this year we lost former affiliates Alan Wertheimer and Stanley Hoffman.

Finally, we are grateful to Mrs. Lily Safra and the Edmond J. Safra Foundation, the Berggruen Institute, the Ford Foundation, and the Spencer Foundation for their very generous support of our endeavors.





# Arthur Applbaum

Director, Edmond J. Safra Undergraduate Fellowships in Ethics

Each fall, I have the happy task of selecting as fellows eight to ten talented and committed Harvard undergraduates from across the disciplines who share an interest in ethical questions. These fellows enroll in an intensive seminar with me on topics in moral and political philosophy and then continue to work together on their scholarship as they prepare senior theses on normative topics. Twenty-two sophomores, juniors, and seniors participated this year from eleven concentrations: Economics, Classics, Computer Science, Government, History, Mathematics, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Neurobiology, Philosophy, Physics, Social Studies, and Statistics.

Five of our graduating seniors have been awarded fellowships to continue their studies at Oxford or Cambridge this coming year, including Rhodes Scholar Garrett Lam. Perhaps the Center teaches these talented young women and men something. Perhaps we merely do an astute job at selecting them. Either way, the number is a measure of the intellectual seriousness with which the Center's undergraduate ethics fellows have pursued their studies at Harvard.

Two of our juniors, Fanelesibonge Mashwama and Bo Seo, won first prize at the World Universities Debating Championship in Thessaloniki, Greece, where, on fifteen minutes of notice, they (apparently successfully) argued that the world's poor are justified in a complete Marxist revolution. The Center does not try to take credit for their achievement. Indeed, to be crowned the world's foremost pair of sophists required some suspension of the careful philosophical reflection we teach (and at which Fanele and Bo also excel).

The range of thesis topics our eight graduating seniors pursued gives some sense of the intellectual intensity and variety nurtured around our seminar and workshop tables, and their post-graduation plans attest to their callings in scholarship and public service. **Vivek Banerjee**, a Social Studies concentrator, wrote "Revolution Without Rebellion: The Purpose of the Convention" for his senior thesis. He will continue his exploration of constituent conventions at the University of Cambridge, where he will study Political Thought and Intellectual History as the Governor William Shirley Scholar

"Five of our graduating seniors have been awarded fellowships to continue their studies at Oxford or Cambridge this coming year, including Rhodes Scholar Garrett Lam."

at Pembroke College. **Joshua Blecher-Cohen**, who concentrated in Philosophy and Classics with a secondary in Government, wrote a senior thesis titled "Law and Nature in Plato's Republic." He will study Ancient Philosophy at New College, Oxford as the Harlech Scholar, and then enroll at Yale Law School. For her thesis, **Zoë Hitzig**, a Mathematics and Philosophy concentrator, wrote "The Evolutionary Dynamics of Distributive Justice." She was awarded the Frank Knox Memorial Scholarship to study History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Cambridge. **Madeline Hung**, a Social Studies concentrator, is devoted to work in corporate social responsibility. Having written "The Corporate Criminal: A Legal Philosophy of Corporate Personhood and Prosecution in Human Rights Law" for her thesis, she takes up a position as program associate at MSI Integrity, a not-for-profit start-up that evaluates multiple stakeholder initiatives. **Garrett Lam** combined his studies in Neurobiology and Philosophy to write "The Volitional (In)significance of Neuroscience: What Libetian Investigations Can and Cannot Do for Free Will." He has been awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to study Philosophy at Oxford. Garrett plans to return to Harvard Law School to become a scholar of criminal justice. For her thesis, **Priyanka Menon**, a Mathematics concentrator, wrote "Ultrafilters in Social Choice Theory," a new way to prove Arrow's Impossibility Theorem. Priya joins the group in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern Division of New York that is investigating fraud in mortgage-backed securities leading up to the 2008 financial crisis. A Social Studies concentrator active in the effective altruism movement, **Jesse Shulman** studied the giving behavior of the very wealthy in his senior thesis, "Wealth and Influence: How Personal Characteristics Predict the Political and Charitable Contributions of U.S. Billionaires." Although **Joy Wang** concentrated in Physics and Mathemat-



Left to right: Priyanka Menon and Nancy Ko; Thomas Westbrook and Susan Wang

ics, she wrote a thesis in her secondary field, Government, entitled “Making the Citizen: Liberalism and Administration in the Thought of John Stuart Mill.” Joy continues her studies in political theory as the Paul Williams Scholar at Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, reading Political Thought and Intellectual History. Joy will then pursue a PhD in Political Science at Yale.

The four juniors who attended the workshop had a head start on formulating their senior thesis topics. **Nicholas Bonstow**, a Social Studies concentrator, is exploring free speech and hate speech. **Nancy Ko**, a concentrator in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, studies the idea of secularism and the treatment of religious minorities in France. **Fanele Mashwama**, a student in Philosophy, is developing an account of the moral responsibility of group agents. **Eva Shang**, an Economics concentrator, continues to investigate alternatives to our practices of incarceration.

The entering cohort of ten fellows, in addition to studying a curriculum that explored freedom in its various forms, spent considerable time together working on the craft of writing normative arguments. Their efforts were rewarded in the fine term papers they produced. **Noah Delwiche**, a junior in Philosophy, wrote “Forget You: Constructing Privacy Rights in a Digital Age,” an exploration of the supposed right to be forgotten on the Internet. **Abigail Gabrieli**, a junior concentrating in History with a secondary in Government, proposed an account of when jury nullification is justified in her paper, “Between Civil Disobedience and Judicial Review: Jury Nullification and Democratic Legitimacy.” In “Interpreting Discrimination as Pollution,” **Gabriel Karger**, a sophomore Social Studies concentrator, offered a novel argument about what the wrong is in wrongful discrimination. **Jessica Levy**, a sophomore in Social Studies and Philosophy, took up one of the central themes of our seminar in her paper, “The Alignment of Wills: The Beginnings of a Theory of Legitimacy.” A sophomore in Social Studies, **Phoebe Mesard** offered an ethical critique of the practice known as “Voluntourism.” **Rohan Pavuluri**, a sophomore in Statistics and Computer Science, wrote “The Ethics of Government Implemented Black Box Algorithms,” an exploration of automated racial profiling. **Justin Sanchez**, a junior concentrating in Neurobiology with a secondary in Government, grappled with a Rawlsian view of the issues raised by the recent Supreme Court case, *Whole Women’s Health v. Hellerstedt*, in his paper, “On Abortion and the Civility of Public Reason.” A junior in Social studies, **Bo Seo** challenged standard arguments for taking cultural rights seriously in “What Cultural Rights? A Critique of Cultural Rights as Claim Rights.” **Susan Wang**, a Social Studies concentrator with a secondary in Statistics, tackled paternalism and recent accounts of “nudging” in “Ulysses on the Mast: Theoretical Considerations in ‘Sin’ Licensing Schemes.” **Thomas Westbrook**, a sophomore in Philosophy and Clas-



## UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN ETHICS

sics, wrote a paper on political founding moments, “Land Ho! Pirate Codes as a Groundwork for Secessionist Legitimacy Claims.” I’ll not look upon a Jolly Roger without recalling Thomas’s swashbuckling argument.

**James Brandt**, who has conducted the undergraduate fellowship workshop from its inception four years ago, is (sadly) stepping down this coming year to (joyfully) complete his own PhD dissertation. James is a master teacher of political philosophy, in equal parts rigorous and gentle, who has coached and coaxed all of our fellows to grapple deeply with questions they knew and didn’t know they had. Who can possibly fill James’s seat? Center director Danielle Allen will try, running the fall workshop along with the Center’s Research Associate, Tomer Perry.

The signature event of the undergraduate program is the Lester Kissel Lecture in Ethics, honoring one of the Center’s

earliest and most generous benefactors. This year, Stephen Macedo, Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor at Princeton University, delivered a thought-provoking public lecture, “No Slippery Slopes: Same-Sex Couples, Monogamy, and the Future of Marriage.” The undergraduate fellows had a lively lunch with Professor Macedo the next day, followed by private meetings with him about their research in progress.

The fall semester brings a new cycle of activities. Rae Langton, professor of philosophy at the University of Cambridge and a faithful friend of the Center, will be our Kissel lecturer. We’re delighted that Lily Safra will return for a special session of the undergraduate workshop (special only in that we’ll eat well—Lily insists that the readings and discussion be no less demanding). And when the leaves fall, a new cohort of undergraduate fellows will be chosen.



Edmond J. Safra Undergraduate Fellows in Ethics with Arthur Applbaum and James Brandt



GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN ETHICS

## Eric Beerbohm

Director, Edmond J. Safra Graduate Fellowships in Ethics

The Graduate Fellowship program had an outlier year. Sometimes our border-crossing project is downright herculean. Other years call for less heavy-lifting, but demand the long slog through our weekly, three-hour seminars. And then there was this year. The eight fellows were from backgrounds no less diverse than the past twenty-five years of the program—stretching from legal theory to intellectual history, from normative ethics to sociology and health policy. Early on, the exchanges clicked. There were no fewer disagreements, and even moments of “heated agreement.” What was remarkable to witness was the consistently high level of constructive dialogue.

This presents a mystery, though one that isn’t as puzzle-ridden as my co-organizer, Frances Kamm’s new book, *The Trolley Problem Mysteries*. What could explain this distinctive intellectual gelling of the group? It didn’t hurt that the Center’s new Director, Danielle Allen, is a passionate opponent of policing intellectual boundaries, and the spirit of the Center’s theme, “Diversity, Justice, and Democracy,” was in the air. Second, out of the gate, there were natural affinities between subgroups of our scholars. These shared themes included the moral and legal status of a person, the way diverse groups can be spoken for in formal and informal politics, and the tragic ethics of triage that we face in public life. Third, we were fortunate to have a new seat in the room, occupied by our inaugural Eugene P. Beard Fellow. This fellowship is earmarked for scholars with an unusually strong commitment to connecting the most philosophical approaches to the most concrete moral problems that we collectively face. But the best explanation is probably the simplest. This group took the commitment to get into each other’s projects—to cross the mind-body problem of interdisciplinary practice—as their sacred responsibility. They just made it look easy.

Our curriculum examined a problem that gets harder the deeper you push it. What is it to be a social inferior? What is subordination in and out of political institutions? We didn’t pretend that our three-hour stretch of arguments, rejoinders, and counter-replies would provide anything like a neat answer to this problem. Indeed, the first couple of seminars deliberately drew upon sources that were incom-

plete. We read early drafts of leading scholars’ work, material that was unmistakably in progress. The frustration of jointly grappling—even fumbling—with rough material may have helped forge the group’s identity. This served us well when we moved to workshop each other’s dissertation chapters. In the spring, we were joined by a hearty crew of Center associates, including Dennis Thompson, Dan Wikler, and Danielle Allen. They guarded our group against the pat assumptions that build up over a year-long discussion.

To see the fellows’ topics is to see the many connections that run through their work. **Adriana Alfaro Altamirano** worked on the morality of uncertainty and diversity among a number of continental thinkers. **John Harpham** is writing a history of a monstrous invention: American chattel slavery. **Monica Magalhaes** is writing a dissertation in Health Policy, concentrating in Ethics. One of the papers she presented worried about triage and the egalitarian dilemmas of treating rare diseases. **Julie J. Miller** is a PhD candidate in History, who admits she is “obsessed with figuring out what it took to count as a person.” Her story culminates, and hopes to help explain, the crooked timber of arguments that made up the Dred Scott decision. **Wendy Salkin** is a political philosopher who is showing us how fascinating the problems of informal representation can be—she might well be pushing democratic theorists to create a new subfield. **Aleksy Tarasenko-Struc** is exploring how we can make demands on each other. He seeks an answer to the amoralist, who denies that reason-giving and demanding is possible. **Beth Truesdale** is a PhD candidate in Sociology and has held fellowships at the most centers of any previous fellows, including Inequality and Social Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and the Center for American Politics. For the first time in our seminar, she wrote a paper custom-built for the themes of the seminar, where she fixed on the idea of economic diversity in various sectors of public life.

We were delighted to have two additional fellows, who rounded out the group’s broad-minded outlook. Our exchange Graduate Fellow from our namesake center in Israel, **Natalia Gutkowski**, is a doctoral student in the School for Environmental Studies and has a background in anthropology



## GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN ETHICS



Edmond J. Safra Graduate Fellows with Eric Beerbohm and Frances Kamm

and sociology. She works at the interstices of environmental protection and minority rights. And finally, there was our first Eugene P. Beard Fellow in Ethics. **Zeynep Pamuk** is a political theorist working on the problem of democracy and science. Her work is a powerful challenge to what counts as an expert in democratic decision-making.

Next year I am looking forward to co-running the seminar with Mathias Risse, whose rigor and unsurpassed scope of scholarship will be a boon to the group. Let me end by noting a tradition that began this year—quite organically. In the spring presentations of research, the fellows began their sober reflection on moral life with a *New Yorker*-style cartoon. It was a welcome way into a fifty-page dissertation chapter. Something, anything, to serve as balm against the heavy topics that fellows are inevitably drawn to—war and peace, life and death, and the dichotomies of our social life.



Graduate Fellows Aleksy Tarasenko-Struc (with microphone) and Zeynep Pamuk (in foreground)



## Jess Miner

Research Director,  
Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics

The Edmond J. Safra Center’s Fellows-in-Residence program brings together a small group of postdoctoral and senior Fellows from a range of disciplinary backgrounds and professional fields to work closely over the course of one year on pressing issues in ethics. The majority of Fellows are selected in relation to an annual theme; however, some “open” spots are reserved for researchers who add complementarity to the cohort and contribute to the development of valuable intellectual partnerships.

All Fellows-in-Residence devote the majority of their time to their individual projects and participate in regular Faculty Seminars. In addition, they contribute frequently to the Center’s formal and informal programming through participation in public lectures, conferences, workshops, lunch discussions, and social outings.

The Faculty Seminar met regularly on Tuesdays over lunch during the academic year, bringing together the Fellows-in-Residence with many of the Center’s faculty affiliates. Each session was dedicated to discussion of a pre-circulated paper, usually a work in progress, by a seminar participant. Fellows and faculty members enjoyed the opportunity to think broadly about one another’s work and to develop personal and professional relationships. Participants often lingered in the room—sometimes for hours—continuing the discussion from the session or exploring topics of shared interests.

This year, the Fellows tackled the theme *Diversity, Justice, and Democracy* with the goal of exploring how we might achieve fair and just forms of democratic life amidst conditions of significant demographic diversity. Each of our Fellows presented once, showcasing pieces from research they were developing while at the Center. For example, Laurie Shrage presented a paper on the connection between racial health disparities and mass incarceration, arguing that higher incarceration rates of black Americans explain the HIV/AIDS epidemic among black women; Calvin Lai discussed recent research that examines methods for reducing implicit bias,



## Tomer Perry

Research Associate,  
Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics

“This year, the Fellows tackled the theme *Diversity, Justice, and Democracy* with the goal of exploring how we might achieve fair and just forms of democratic life amidst conditions of significant demographic diversity.”

arguing that their effects are short-lived. Michael Rebell presented chapter drafts from his forthcoming book on the role of state courts in enforcing the constitutional right of citizens for effective civic education in public schools. As this sample demonstrates, the Faculty Seminar discussions covered three broad areas of research activity that ground the Center’s work: normative philosophy, empirical social science, and public policy proposals. Presentations were followed by comments from invited respondents who challenged the presenter to consider different disciplinary perspectives and provided critical feedback for setting up the fruitful discussions that ensued.

Several faculty members also introduced their own work and our Fellows-in-Residence provided feedback and commentary. Arthur Applbaum presented several chapters from his forthcoming book on the concept of legitimacy; Tommie Shelby discussed a chapter draft from his forthcoming book on disadvantaged black neighborhoods and the policies that governments pursue in an attempt to “fix” ghettos; and Felix Warneken summarized his research on the origins of the human tendency to help one other, comparing the behavior of human children to that of primates. Again, the discussions covered normative theorizing, social scientific experiments and evaluation of public policies. Through these conversations, a sense of community between Harvard faculty and our Fellows-in-Residence was fostered, and the exchanges enriched the work presented by all participants.



**2015-16 Fellows-in-Residence**

**Jackie Bass** received her PhD in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley in 2015 with a specialization in race and ethnicity, religion, and politics. Her dissertation explored the relationship between changing religious doctrine, African American political attitudes, and church ministries. Bass’s seminar presentation, “Double-Standard in Violence,” examined the ethical tensions between democratic values, violence, and marginalization. Her respondent was Aisha Beliso-De Jesús.

**Elizabeth Beaumont** is Associate Professor of Politics and Director of Legal Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her work centers on constitutional democracy and American political development, as well as civic engagement and education. Beaumont’s seminar paper, “Civic Dissent and Constitutional Democracy: Some Preliminaries,” stemmed from a larger book project on the historical and theoretical

underpinnings of political dissent, protest, and civil disobedience. Her respondents were Eric Beerbohm and Frank Michelman.

**Marta Jimenez** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy at Emory University. Her primary area of research is ancient Greek and Roman philosophy, and her work focuses mainly on topics related to moral psychology, philosophy of action, theory of emotions, ethics, and political thought in Aristotle. Jimenez presented a seminar paper, “Aristotle on Justice and Self-Love,” aiming to find a viable way of understanding the controversial Aristotelian notion of justice as a personal virtue. Her respondents were Danielle Allen and Malcolm Salter.

**Calvin Lai** received his PhD in Social Psychology from the University of Virginia in 2015. He studies the unconscious mind—the discrepancies between what people value (e.g. racial equality) and what people end up doing (e.g. racial dis-



Edmond J. Safra Fellows-in-Residence with Danielle Allen, Jess Miner, Tomer Perry, and members of the Center staff





Marta Jimenez and honorary fellow Mateo; Gerard Vong and Liz Beaumont

crimination). His research employs large-scale comparative methods to find the most effective approaches for changing implicit biases. Lai’s seminar paper, “Reducing Implicit Racial Preferences: II. Intervention Effectiveness Across Time,” investigated the long-term effectiveness of several interventions strategies for reducing implicit racial prejudice. His respondent was Susanna Siegel.

**Liav Orgad** is an Associate Professor of Law at IDC Herzliya, Israel and a Marie Curie Fellow at the Freie Universität Berlin. He teaches and researches in the fields of constitutional identity, citizenship theory, multiculturalism, and legal philosophy. During his seminar, Orgad presented a section of his new book project, “The Citizen-Makers: Immigration Policy and Constitutional Identity,” which explores the ethical challenges of “creating” citizens in multicultural nations. His respondents were Ayaan Hirsi Ali and Noah Feldman.

**Michael A. Rebell** is the Executive Director of the Campaign for Educational Equity and Professor of Law and Educational Practice at Teachers College, Columbia University. He is also an adjunct Professor of Law at Columbia Law School. Rebell’s seminar covered two chapters, “The Civic Engagement Crisis and the Civic Engagement Gap” and “Civic Participation and the State Courts,” from his new book on how courts can ensure that schools effectively prepare students to function productively as civic participants. His respondents were Meira Levinson and Peter Levine.

**Laurie Shrage**, Professor of Philosophy and Women’s and Gender Studies at Florida International University in Miami, is known for her work on markets in sexual services, reproductive health care, legal gender identity, and marriage. Shrage’s seminar paper, “Race, Health Disparities, Incarceration, and Structural Inequality,” looked at the impact of mass incarceration on African American women. Her respondent was Carol Steiker.

**Rohini Somanathan** is Professor of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics. Her research interests lie at the intersection of development economics, public economics, and political economy. Her research explores mechanisms through which public institutions and community behavior influence patterns of mobility and group inequality, including racial segregation in the United States and links between poverty and the politics of environmental change. Currently she is researching the politics of caste identities in India, which was the focus of her seminar paper: “Scheduling Caste: State-Shaped Identity and Inequality in India.” Her respondents were Richard Tuck and Abhijit Banerjee.

**Gerard Vong** received his DPhil in Philosophy from the University of Oxford in 2013. He has taught at Fordham University and the University of Oxford and has been a Procter Fellow at Princeton University. Vong’s research focuses on the fair and ethical allocation of scarce resources, with an emphasis on healthcare resources such as donor organs. His

seminar paper, “The Personal Value of Opportunity,” examined the value of opportunity for human well-being through the concepts of Opportunity Goods, Well-Being Pluralism and Chancy Symmetry. His respondents were Caspar Hare and Nir Eyal.

**Caleb Yong** received his DPhil in Politics from the University of Oxford in 2014. His dissertation, *Justice, Legitimacy, and Movement Across Borders*, was awarded the Sir Ernest Baker Prize for best dissertation in political theory by the Political Studies Association. His area of specialization is social and political philosophy, especially questions connected with global justice, international migration, and democratic citizenship. In his paper, “Non-relational Justice, Institutions, and Equality,” Yong argued for principles that apply to the entire global population because they specify what humans owe to each other simply as humans. His respondent was Judith Lichtenberg.

Among the many noteworthy accomplishments of our talented 2015-16 Fellows, Gerard Vong will join Emory University’s Center for Ethics as Assistant Professor and Director of the Master of Arts in Bioethics Program in the fall. Liav Orgad published his first book, *The Cultural Defense of Nations: A Liberal Theory of Majority Rights*, and was invited to join the Global Young Academy for his academic excellence and commitment to service. Laurie Shrage published an Op-Ed in *The New York Times*, “Why Are So Many Black Women Dying of AIDS?” looking at the factors “fueling an urgent public health crisis among some of the most disadvantaged members of our society.” Shrage followed this success with further publications and presentations, including for Boston’s Union of Minority Neighborhoods’ first REAL TALK event. We congratulate all of the 2015-16 Fellows-in-Residence on a successful and productive year!

Beginning with the 2016-17 academic year, the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics launched a partnership with the Berggruen Institute’s Philosophy and Culture Center, whose goal is “to develop fresh ideas through comparative and interdisciplinary work and to relate these insights to the pressing issues of our day.” Each year, the Edmond J. Safra Center will host Berggruen Fellows, who will expand the global perspectives of our fellowship class through their engagement in scholarship of broad social and political importance from cross-cultural perspectives and commitment to the public dissemination of their ideas. We are pleased to introduce our new class of incoming Fellows-in-Residence, including our first class of Berggruen Fellows.



Calvin Lai, Jess Miner, and Tomer Perry

## 2016-17 Fellows-in-Residence

**Gabrielle Adams** is Assistant Professor of Organisational Behaviour at London Business School. Her research focuses on responses to interpersonal transgressions, aiming to understand what drives the motivation to punish, compensate victims, apologize, and forgive. During the fellowship year, Adams will study differences between victims’ and transgressors’ views of forgiveness and other responses to wrongdoing, particularly in an attempt to understand how these divergent perspectives create barriers to conflict resolution.

**Tongdong Bai** is the Dongfang Chair Professor of Philosophy at Fudan University in China. His research interests include Chinese philosophy and political philosophy, especially the comparative and contemporary relevance of traditional Chinese political philosophy. During the fellowship year, Bai will work on an English and drastically revised version of his 2009 book, which will explore Confucianism-inspired alternatives to liberal democracy in both domestic and global governance. *Professor Bai will be a Berggruen Fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics.*

**Joyce Dehli** is a longtime journalist who, as a senior news executive, helped lead a major newspaper company's journalists through the past decade of great upheaval and innovation. She left her position as vice president for news at Lee Enterprises last year to return to writing. She has served on the Pulitzer Prize Board since 2008. She was an Ethics Fellow at the Poynter Institute, a global leader in training for professional journalists. During the fellowship year, Dehli will explore the ways in which stories and storytelling, across fiction and nonfiction genres, influence how people emerge into both individuals and participants in a democracy and whether they see themselves as insiders or outsiders.

**Sungmoon Kim** is Professor of Political Theory in the Department of Public Policy at City University of Hong Kong and currently Associate Director of the Center for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy at City University. His research interests include comparative political theory (Western and East Asian), Confucian democratic theory, and the history of East Asian political thought. During the fellowship year, Kim will work on a new book manuscript provisionally titled "Democracy after Virtue: Philosophical Challenges for Confucian Democratic Theory," which explores a robust normative Confucian democratic theory plausible in a pluralist society. *Professor Kim will be a Berggruen Fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics.*

**Rachel McKinney** received her PhD in Philosophy from the City University of New York Graduate Center in 2015. Her areas of research include philosophy of language, feminist philosophy, and social/political philosophy. Before coming to the Center, she was a postdoctoral associate in the Department of Linguistics & Philosophy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. During the fellowship year, McKinney will be working on a series of articles on communication under conditions of uncertainty, threat, and antagonism.

**Samuel Moyn** is Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Professor of Law and Professor of History at Harvard University. His areas of interest in legal scholarship include international law, human rights, the law of war, and legal thought, in both historical and current perspective. During the fellowship year, he will be working on a manuscript in which he is addressing how to think about the evolution of human rights claims globally since World War II. *Professor Moyn will be a Berggruen Fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics.*

**Stephen Soldz** is Professor at the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis. He is also part-time faculty in the mental health counseling program at Boston College. Soldz is a clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst with a specialization in research methodologies. For the last decade, he has been a leader in a movement to remove psychologists from sometimes abusive national security interrogations and to change the American Psychological Association's (APA) permissive policies allowing that involvement. During the fellowship year, Soldz will work on the ethics of operational psychology, contextualizing those ethical issues in a real-world understanding of the broader influences affecting military and intelligence activities.

**Winston C. Thompson** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Education and Affiliate Faculty in the Department of Philosophy at the University of New Hampshire. Thompson's scholarship focuses on ethical and social/political questions of justice, education, and the public good, with recent efforts analyzing dilemmas of educational policy. During the fellowship year, Thompson will work on his monograph project, "Justice in the Balance: Revitalizing Politics and Education."

**Christopher Winship** is Diker-Tishman Professor of Sociology and a faculty member at the Harvard Kennedy School. He is affiliated with the Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science and the Harvard Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations. He researches The Ten Point Coalition, a group of black ministers working with the Boston police to reduce youth violence; statistical models for causal analysis; effects of education on mental ability; causes of racial difference in performance at elite post-secondary institutions; and changes in the racial differential in imprisonment rates. During the fellowship year, Winship will be working on an evaluation of community-police relations in Boston.



# New Research and Curricular Programming

Authored by Jess Miner and Tomer Perry

This past year, the Center outlined a new strategic plan under Director Danielle Allen’s leadership, adding these goals: strengthening connections across the Harvard campus along lines of common interest, increasing support for new curriculum development, and expanding intellectual programming for undergraduates.

## Diversity, Justice, and Democracy

In connection with the Center’s theme, *Diversity, Justice, and Democracy*, generously funded by the Ford Foundation, we brought together a group of nearly 50 domestic and international scholars and practitioners for a novel session on Structural Equalities and Inequalities in Cities, launched by Clarissa Hayward’s book *How Americans Make Race* and new work from Archon Fung and Laurence Ralph. This non-traditional workshop promoted wide-ranging conversation and opened up new possibilities for reorienting policy paradigms particularly as they apply to urban contexts. Under this umbrella, the Center hosted a new research project on policing in U.S. cities, led by Laurence Ralph and Aisha Beliso-De Jesús with support from Maggie Gates.

The Center also convened a smaller group of researchers, including Fellows-in-Residence Calvin Lai and Rohini Somnathan, as part of a three-stage workshop to produce a groundbreaking volume on “difference without domination.” The group will come together in September 2016 to present final drafts of their work before the volume goes to press. This research-centered workshop design spawned two new projects for the coming year, one on *Migration, Citizenship and Democracy* that will be co-organized by Liav Orgad, Danielle Allen, and Tomer Perry; and another on the *All-Affected Principle*, co-organized by Archon Fung, former Graduate Fellow Sean Gray, Danielle Allen, and Tomer Perry.

## Ethics in Your World

To highlight and promote the scholarship of our community, the Center launched an exciting new series this year with the Harvard Book Store, Ethics in Your World, which features “leading thinkers taking on tough problems that matter to us all.” This year’s speakers included Leif Wenar discussing his new book *Blood Oil*; Liav Orgad presenting his first book, *The Cultural Defense of Nations: A Liberal Theory of*



Laurence Ralph and Aisha Beliso De-Jesús

*Majority Rights*; Meira Levinson on her latest, *Dilemmas of Educational Ethics: Cases and Commentaries*; and Danielle Allen’s *Education and Equality*, just published in June 2016. To assist our younger scholars seeking to publish books for the first time, the Center also implemented a new book proposal workshop with Harvard University Press.

## Ethics Mondays

Another successful new initiative the Center launched this year was Ethics Mondays. The goal of this program is to open up a space for reflective conversation on pressing issues among all of the Center’s core constituencies. Those in attendance put on the table a burning question with which they have been wrestling in relation to a pre-circulated topic.

The inaugural Ethics Monday discussion in October covered Sexual Assault and Misconduct on campus in light of the release of the AAU Campus Survey on Sexual Assault and Sexual Conduct (along with the companion report specific to the Harvard campus). Next we turned to New Directions in Civic and Moral Education, led in conversation by Helen Haste, who helped us think through the problems of civic education as traditionally conceived. We also had a special appearance from former Center Director Lawrence Lessig to learn about the challenges he faced during his run for the Democratic Party candidacy in the 2016 presidential



Archon Fung

election. Additional topics we discussed were the ethics of CRISPR, a medical technology that allows scientists to change DNA with greater precision than ever before, including repairing DNA or removing parts of it completely; Diversity Disconnect, the distance between administrative and student perspectives on how well colleges and universities are doing at evolving to support diverse student populations; Narrative Ethics, a special session with Neal Baer on private and public storytelling and his research on why we often are *not* moved by a compelling story to take action for change. Our last topic, returning to the theme of the current election cycle, addressed the growing problem of Polarization in American Politics and Society. Archon Fung provoked us with the question of whether American politics is increasingly polarized not in issue space but in identity space, positing that polarization does not simply stem from our disagreement with the other side's public policies, but much more problematically from our visceral dislike for the other side.

Through informal conversation, the participants tried to develop or improve frameworks for thinking about these topics with the additional aim of determining where and how we could make contributions to improving the quality of related public conversation.

### Ethics Education Forum

In an effort to foster synergies across campus in the area of ethics pedagogies and curricula, the Center convened its first Ethics Education Forum in January for a high-level discussion that included innovators from almost every Harvard school. In framing a conversation around interdisciplinary ethics teaching, the Center identified areas of interest for curriculum and pedagogical development in order to design ethics-focused

workshops in response to methodologies that Forum participants deemed most productive for instructors to pursue within our distinctive interdisciplinary environment. Participants reflected sensitivity to balancing student engagement and immediate learning needs with longstanding traditions and principles in moral philosophy that will serve students well as lifelong learners.

The shifting landscape of labor and labor markets also brought a new lens to the issues; our 21st century undergraduates must confront the challenges of ethical reasoning before graduation so that they are prepared to tackle whatever profession they undertake. Among the many suggestions raised by participants at the Forum, high on the list was concrete pedagogical demonstrations by instructors who are at the forefront of this work in their various disciplines.

The Center followed the first Forum conversation with an Ethics Simulation Workshop, led by Chris Robichaud from the Kennedy School, which offered a novel way to integrate ethical theories, judgment-oriented pedagogy, and contributions from positive social sciences. Chris ran a simulation, *Liberty Hospital*, asking participants to first play the part of students before turning to a review of instructional goals and guidelines. The workshop drew approximately 25 participants from a wide range of Harvard faculty and Center Fellows. The Center's Research Associate Tomer Perry followed up with several interested faculty members, providing support for integrating simulations into their courses.

### Web of Conversation

It is integral to the Center's core mission that we not only produce ground-breaking research but also endeavor to spread it, engage in public discourse, and translate our academic outputs to various constituents on campus and beyond. To strengthen the Center's outreach operation, a good part of the year was dedicated to strategic planning around building a *web of conversation*. The goal is to bring together the multiple exchanges that take place in different activities of the Center and integrate these with related conversations taking place among other scholarly communities and public audiences. The Center is employing several strategies in pursuit of this goal.

In addition to promotion through our website and email, we have emphasized our presence on social media. As part of this effort, we now have Undergraduate Fellows "live-tweet" our public lectures, which has led to increased engagement with



our feed. Next year, which is also the year of our 30th anniversary, we plan to tweet a series of clips from our archives using the hashtag #tbt (“Throwback Thursday”). In addition, we are developing a new section on our website, *For the Record*, which will host regular reports from our Fellows regarding their research and seminar contributions.

To make the most out of these forms of communication, we have dedicated time and effort during the summer to organizing and mining our archives. In cooperation with the Behavioral Laboratory in the Social Sciences (BLISS) program, the Center hosted two excellent Harvard undergraduate student researchers, Sebastian Reyes and Undergraduate Fellow Susan Wang. During the summer, the students conducted individual research on topics related to our theme, *Diversity Justice, and Democracy*, while also organizing and cataloguing the Center’s archival materials. Specifically, our BLISS researchers reviewed all recordings of Center events, going back to its establishment as the Program on Ethics in the Professions in 1986. The students also produced a detailed catalogue of the Center’s public lectures that can be used by scholars interested in the history of the Center’s work.

In keeping with our plan to diversify the forms of media in which we present our materials, we’ve continued to post videos of our public lectures on our website. Behind the scenes, we have been working toward launching a new podcast series called *Conversational Ethics*, meant to accompany our events. Over the summer we recorded two pilot episodes featuring interviews with Fellows-in-Residence Calvin Lai and Caleb Yong about their research.

The Center also provided support for fellows who wished to publish short opinion pieces in large media outlets. This year, Fellow-in-Residence Laurie Shrage published an op-ed in *The New York Times* following a revision process that included feedback from Center staff and Director Danielle Allen. The piece was a huge success in promoting Laurie’s work, and she received numerous invitations to further publicize her research, including an invitation to publish a comment in *The Lancet* and an invitation to give a public talk at the Union of Minority Neighborhoods in Boston. The Center also supported the participation of Fellow-in-Residence Jackie Bass in an op-ed writing workshop organized by *The Op-Ed Project*. Next year, we have invited *The Op-Ed Project* to the Center to run a workshop dedicated to our Fellows, to help get their work published in leading media outlets.

“The Center has laid the groundwork for a new series, *What I Decided & Why*, which will rotate through various Harvard undergraduate Houses over the course of the academic year and connect academic and professional leaders in a conversational setting with undergraduates.”

As part of our strategic planning, we have developed several programs that specifically aim to engage the undergraduate student population, including partnering with student groups periodically to offer support for events and fostering the intellectual dimensions of student life on campus. This year, the Center was invited to moderate a discussion following the play *There is a Field*, produced in collaboration with several student groups (The Harvard Palestine Solidarity Committee, Progressive Jewish Alliance, Black Student Association, SLAM, Transgender Task Force, RAZA, and Native Americans at Harvard College).

The Center has laid the groundwork for a new series, *What I Decided & Why*, which will rotate through various Harvard undergraduate Houses over the course of the academic year and connect academic and professional leaders in a conversational setting with undergraduates. Each speaker will discuss a major decision they faced in their life, explaining the decision itself, how and why they made it, what academic resources or educational experiences they drew on in the moment, and, reflecting back, what they think of their decision now. The series is designed to give students the chance to observe leading figures model real-world ethical decision-making and to promote reflection, questions, and discussion in an informal setting.

Finally, we are pleased to report that the Center’s ambitious new set of academic and curricular initiatives, prompted by the Center’s strategic planning process, has led to a series of productive collaborations with the Harvard Law School’s Petrie-Flom Center, the Harvard Business School, the Harvard Medical School’s Center for Bioethics, the American Repertory Theater, the Phillips Brooks House Association, the Harvard Kennedy School’s Ash Center, the Harvard Initiative in Learning and Teaching, and the Effective Altruism student group. Stay tuned to learn more about the spate of new programs and events these collaborations will bring in the coming year!

# Reports of the Fellows-in-Residence

Jackie Bass, Elizabeth Beaumont, Marta Jimenez, Calvin Lai, Liav Orgad, Michael A. Rebell, Laurie Shrage, Rohini Somanathan, Gerard Vong, Caleb Yong

## Jackie Bass

I would like to thank the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics for this wonderful opportunity to work, learn, and grow during my one year fellowship in residence. Having just finished my dissertation at the beginning of this fellowship, I had grown fairly disillusioned with academia—with the misplaced priorities, the self-centeredness, the lack of engagement. I came to the Center and saw that it could be different. The people around me recognized my abilities and took the time and effort to encourage them to grow. From the leadership, to the staff, to other fellows, everyone participated in creating an environment of collaboration and support. This willingness to offer help and show concern also extended to those indirectly connected to the Center. From day one, faculty affiliates offered helpful advice about my project. I never felt isolated; I never felt someone was not there to help. I can go on and on about the numerous tangible and intangible ways my year at the Center has helped me, but below I focus on three specific areas:

**The Fellowship Project** – My primary project during my time at the Center analyzes the double standards surrounding use of violence and violent rhetoric within the United States. I spent the majority of the first semester doing background research on my topic and writing a paper to present at the weekly Faculty Seminar. I received extremely helpful feedback during my seminar presentation. One of the attending faculty affiliates, Professor Susanna Siegel, invited me to join her class on Violence and Democracy. During that class I was introduced to the work of Caroline Light. She recently completed a book on “stand your ground” laws that relates to my own work. She has been very helpful in advising me on potential paths to move forward with my own project. Center Research Director, Jess Miner, put me in contact with Professor Roslyn Satchel of Pepperdine University, who is helping me develop an appropriate research design utilizing discourse analysis. Thanks to my fellowship research funds, I will be able to travel to the RSA Conference to meet with her and learn more about this particular method. My plan is to have a working paper completed by the end of June.

**Using My Voice** – There have been numerous opportunities to develop my critical voice while at the Center. The Center’s Director, Professor Danielle Allen, facilitates our sessions in such a way that almost everyone who wants to speak has at least one opportunity to do so. The seminar and other sessions are primarily composed of philosophers and theorists, but there is still a respectable representation of other disciplines that creates an intellectually stimulating dynamic. The Center also encouraged fellows to participate in the Op-ed Project, a program designed to increase the participation of underrepresented voices in writing op-eds. In large part due to my participation in this seminar, I have completed my first op-ed. Also, after hearing my presentation during the weekly Faculty Seminar, Professor Siegel invited me to be a respondent during her Policing and Psychology workshop. I have never before participated on a public panel critiquing the work of another discipline. It was a stressful and exciting opportunity, and was yet another chance to develop cross-disciplinary communication skills.

**Skill Development** – As written above, my time at the Center has provided ample opportunity for skill development. In addition to working on communicating within the academy, I have improved my research skills. Jess Miner has generously dedicated her time to help me through the publication process with another article. During our numerous meetings she advised me on the best way to phrase critiques, how to prevent my comments from being quickly dismissed, and how to frame my work for successful publication. She helped me develop a research plan and set up a strategy for my future career. No one, and I mean no one, has ever dedicated this amount of one-on-one time to help me develop as a scholar. I am deeply grateful for all the time and effort she has invested in me. In addition to gaining exposure to a new research method—discourse analysis—I was also able to use my funds to attend an amazingly informative qualitative research workshop in February.

I have benefitted in ways that I cannot succinctly put into words from my time with the Center. This has been a wonderful community and has reinforced in me the belief that good research is not done in isolation. Academia does not depend on outstanding individuals, but strong communities.

### Elizabeth Beaumont

It was a great pleasure to have a fellowship at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University this year. It was particularly exciting to join the collaboration around the theme of Diversity, Justice, and Democracy being developed by the Center's new director, Danielle Allen. At a moment when so many people are troubled by the condition of our communities and institutions, Allen's leadership at the Center not only contributes astute critical commentary, but much needed hope and ideas for positive change. Together with Allen, the Center's remarkable staff—Emily Bromley, Susan Cox, Stephanie Dant, Maggie Gates, Joe Hollow, Tomer Perry, and Jess Miner—all contributed greatly to the intellectual and collegial life of the Center.

With respect to my own research, it has been an invigorating and productive time for study, reflection, sharing ideas, and writing. I enjoyed presenting talks on several research interests in civic engagement and education to audiences at Harvard. In September, I spoke to the American Constitution Society at Harvard Law School on "The Promise and Pathos of Civic Constitutionalism," and in March, I was invited to include this talk by the Institute for American Constitutional Heritage. I also spoke to the Civic and Moral Engagements Initiative group at the Harvard Graduate School of Education on "Democratic Education and the Open Inquiry Imperative" and made several fruitful connections with graduate students and faculty working on civic education. Presenting a work-in-progress on the relation of dissent to democracy to the Center's fellows was a highlight.

Feedback from Eric Beerbohm (Government) and Frank Michelman (Law) as well as from Danielle Allen and other members of the Faculty Seminar pushed me to think in different ways about the relation of dissent to formal law and to society and public sentiment. I also presented work from this project at a conference on democracy and constitutionalism at the University of Maryland Law School and received further helpful feedback there. I am revising an essay from this project for a symposium in the journal *Constitutional Studies*, and have made good progress researching the deep history of the "law of dissent" looking at the important models and discussion surrounding impiety, heresy, sedition, and riots in the classical and early modern eras.

I was also happy to complete other writing projects examining problems of injustice and domination in contemporary law and constitutionalism. This includes a chapter on Philip

Pettit's blueprint for modeling institutional arrangements and policies around the goal of "non-domination" for an edited volume, as well as a forthcoming article, "Gender Justice vs. the Invisible Hand of Bias in Law and Society," that will appear in the political philosophy journal *Hypatia*.

I depart with great growth in my own intellectual development and new friends and colleagues who have sparked my imagination. This has been fed by rich cross-disciplinary conversations on topics ranging from ethical issues involved in medical transplants, to those facing teachers in the classroom, to those facing and citizens and policy-makers as they debate immigration and naturalization. I was particularly enriched by our weekly scholarly seminars with an amazing group of fellows and Harvard faculty and graduate students, by Allen's DuBois Lecture, "An Unforgiving World," and by the "Inequalities in Cities" workshop. Both these more formal occasions as well as many informal discussions provided a feast for the intellect and the soul. I am extremely grateful to have had this opportunity.

### Marta Jimenez

My residence at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics has been a fantastic opportunity to advance research on my new project on Aristotle on justice and to give shape to substantial sections of my book, *Aristotle on Justice as a Virtue: Self-Love, Friendship and Equality*. During the spring semester, I have been able to outline all the chapters of the book, and have concluded a full draft of one central chapter on the relationship between justice and self-love (*philautia*) in Aristotle's ethics. I have also written a first draft of a chapter on anger, indignation and envy as the sources of revolution, and have polished a piece on the place of *pleonexia* (graspingness) in Aristotle's concept of injustice. It has been particularly gratifying to map out all the chapters of the book and to develop a unifying structure for the manuscript. This project was aided substantially through discussion with Center Director Danielle Allen and other fellows and members of the Center. The book chapters are currently structured as follows: (1) Aristotle's Two Kinds of Justice: Lawfulness and Equality; (2) A New Approach to Injustice as *Pleonexia*; (3) Proto-Just and Proto-Unjust Emotions: Anger, Indignation and Envy as Sources of Revolution; (4) Aristotelian Political Friendship and Justice; (5) Self-Love as the Core of Justice as a Personal Virtue.

My residence at the Center has also afforded me ample time to participate in discussion about my research at talks, conferences and workshops both in the region and internationally.

Over the course of the spring semester, I have presented my work at: the University of Arizona, Tucson; the philosophy department at Harvard University; Haverford College; the University of Lisbon; and Aristotle University in Thessaloniki. In addition, I will present versions of chapters 2, 3 and 5 at several conferences this summer: the ASPP at the London School of Economics; the International Association of Greek Philosophy in Athens; and the 25th International Conference of Philosophy in Ancient Olympia.

During my presentation at the Faculty Seminar, we discussed a combination of main ideas from chapters 1 and 5, with a special focus on the relationship between justice and self-love, and this allowed me to test the viability of the project as a whole. My commentators, Danielle Allen and Malcolm Salter, gave me a good sense of the relevance of these questions inside and outside of Aristotelian scholarship. In particular, our discussion confirmed that a better understanding of the Aristotelian notion of justice as a virtue and its relationship with self-love can enable us to produce new models for thinking about social harmony in contexts of demographic diversity in democratic societies and to moderate some of the contemporary practices in business that often function as obstacles to the well-functioning of our democracies.

I am also very grateful for the feedback I have received from the other fellows and members of the Center throughout the semester. Specifically, Tomer Perry, Caleb Yong and Gerard Vong helped me to better think about the place of Aristotelian views on justice in contemporary philosophical debates. In addition, Jess Miner gave me detailed comments on my written paper and made very useful suggestions to help make my work stronger.

Finally, the interdisciplinary character of the Center has allowed me to increase my knowledge of how the issues that I explore in my own research in ancient philosophy can be useful for a broader audience of scholars, and I have learned to think about my own topic from a variety of perspectives.

### Calvin Lai

My fellowship year at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics has been incredibly productive for my intellectual development and my research output. Before coming to the Center, I was uncertain about the role of social science in understanding normative questions and the value of the humanities in understanding social science. Both of these uncertainties have been extinguished by the weekly Faculty Seminars and

talks sponsored by the Center. The explicitly interdisciplinary approach at the Center has taught me much about what social science can contribute to social problems and the humanities. It has also given me a greater appreciation for how the humanities can inform social science. I am immensely grateful to the Center for giving me the opportunity to work here for the past year.

My program of research focuses on understanding implicit biases, which are thoughts outside of conscious awareness or control that can lead people to unintentional discrimination. This year has been helpful for advancing this research program. With my fellow Fellow-in-Residence Rohini Somanathan and my mentor Mahzarin Banaji, we have been examining implicit attitudes about the caste system within India. We analyzed a pre-existing dataset of over 1,000 Indians and are preparing to run a series of studies to understand how Indians think about caste and affirmative action. With Professor Banaji, I also ran three studies which sought to apply principles from research on long-term memory retention to see if they extended to “learning” new implicit attitudes. Currently, I am preparing a chapter on breaking the link between implicit bias and discrimination for a volume by Rohini Somanathan and Center Director Danielle Allen on diversity, justice, and democracy.

During my fellowship year, I published three pieces and submitted a fourth. One project conducted one hundred replications of psychology studies to examine the replicability of psychological science. Our paper and a reply to a critique of the paper are now published in *Science*. A second project experimentally compared nine interventions to reduce implicit racial biases. We found that all nine interventions were effective at reducing implicit bias immediately, but that none continued to be effective after several days. This paper is now in press at the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. Finally, a third project was a meta-analysis of experimental efforts to change implicit biases. Our quantitative review of the literature compared different approaches to changing implicit bias and found that the link between implicit biases and behavior was more tenuous than previously estimated. This paper was recently submitted at *Psychological Bulletin*.

In addition to presenting my research at the Center’s Faculty Seminar, I also presented research to the Psychology Department and the Berkman Center for Internet and Society. Beyond Harvard, I’ve attended and presented at conferences such as the General Meeting of the Society for Personality

and Social Psychology in San Diego and the General Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues in Washington, D.C.

### **Liav Orgad**

The Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics is the closest one can get to an academic heaven. It is a vibrant and stimulating environment that provides the ideal conditions in which one can flourish; the mix of undergraduate, graduate, and faculty fellows from different disciplines and countries is truly inspiring; and the academic activities—Faculty Seminars, Ethics Mondays, and the guest lecturers—are fruitful and rewarding.

Academically, this year was incredibly rich for me. I have published my first book, *The Cultural Defense of Nations: A Liberal Theory of Majority Rights* (Oxford University Press, 2015). The book explores one of the greatest challenges facing liberalism today: is it morally justified for a liberal state to restrict immigration in order to protect the culture of the majority group? It was positively reviewed by several magazines and law journals—among them LSE Review of Books, Human Rights Law Review, and The New Rambler—and was the focus of an international symposium at *Verfassungsblog*, a leading European blog. I was honored to present the book at Harvard Law School and at Harvard Book Store’s Series “Ethics in Your World,” co-organized with the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics.

Doing research at the Center is the greatest gift that I could get—not just due to the intellectual environment of the Harvard community and in the Cambridge area (MIT, Tufts University, etc.), but mainly because of the academic encouragement and training I received (one example is the book proposal workshop, organized by the Center). Working on a second book, *The Citizen-Makers: Ethical Dilemmas in Immigrant Education*, I have received valuable feedback from colleagues at the Center and from Faculty Associates (Meira Levinson, Frank Michelman, and Frances Kamm, to name a few examples). During my talk at the Faculty Seminar, I was privileged to have two distinguished commentators—Professor Noah Feldman (Harvard Law School) and Ms. Ayaan Hirsi Ali (AHA Foundation).

Bearing the title “Edmond J. Safra Fellow” has greatly contributed to my career and has opened doors to publishers and grant foundations. During my year at Harvard, I have been selected to the Global Young Academy, awarded a prestigious DFG Emmy Noether Grant (€ 1 million) to establish a research

team at the Freie Universität Berlin on migration and citizenship, and invited to be a Visiting Professor at Columbia Law School. These achievements could not have been possible without the Edmond J. Safra Fellowship.

The time at Harvard has been not only a rare opportunity to develop my current research projects, but also to promote a new project. Following my return to Berlin, I plan a collaborative project—an annual workshop on “Migration, Citizenship, and Democracy,” co-organized by the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics and the Freie Universität Berlin.

My fellowship at the Center has been a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work on one of the pressing issues of our time with leading researchers in the field. This will have a profound impact on my career. I am grateful to Danielle Allen for having faith in me—I owe her more than I can ever repay; to the Center academics and staff—Susan Cox, Stephanie Dant, Jess Miner, and Tomer Perry, who have made my stay intellectually productive and socially unforgettable (always with endless kindness), and to my deans at IDC Herzliya and Freie Universität Berlin, who have facilitated my year off at Harvard.

The fellowship has ended, but a new journey with the colleagues and friends at the Center has just begun.

### **Michael A. Rebell**

Most of my efforts at the Center this year were focused on writing a book, tentatively titled, “Schools, Courts and Civic Participation.” State courts in at least 25 states have declared that preparing students for civic participation is a prime purpose or the prime purpose of public education. Most of these courts have specifically held that preparation for civic participation is a key aspect of students’ constitutional right to a “sound basic education.” Civic apathy, the polarization of our political institutions, and rampant social inequality render students’ preparation for active civic participation more important today than ever. Yet the schools, by and large, have done a poor job in preparing students to meet this challenge, and the courts have done little to enforce this constitutional right.

The aim of my book is to help galvanize interest in meeting the contemporary challenges of preparing students for civic engagement, and to harness the authority and the power of the courts to help schools do so. I could not have found a better place to pursue this project than the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics. Danielle Allen has written extensively and



profoundly on the issues of citizenship and education. I have benefited greatly this year from being able to discuss ideas with her on a daily basis and from being exposed to the breadth of her knowledge and her ability to incorporate concepts from a broad range of fields into issues relevant to my research. The general topic for this year's Faculty Seminar discussions, Democracy, Justice and Diversity, parallels my research and advocacy interests, and many of the papers presented by my colleagues at our seminars have deepened my understanding of many relevant issues and have led me to explore new research directions.

The professional contacts I made through the Center were also important. Before coming to Harvard last fall, I had not been aware of the depth of the research and thinking on civic participation issues that was taking place at Harvard and neighboring institutions. Many of the leading thinkers in this field are affiliated with the Center, and I have benefitted enormously from my conversations with them and from their willingness to read and comment on drafts of my chapters.

At this point, I have completed solid drafts of five out of what I expect to be nine chapters of my book, and I have working outlines of the other four chapters. I hope to complete the book by the end of the year. I have also co-authored a substantial paper on "A New Constitutional Cost Methodology" that has been submitted for publication. This paper proposes a new method for ensuring that states provide sufficient funding to public schools to support all of students' constitutionally-mandated needs, including preparation for civic participation, and explains how they can do so in a cost-effective manner.

### Laurie Shrage

I learned so much this year from the seminars and workshops at the Center, and from the lectures I attended at other Harvard schools and departments. The level and quality of the discussion following the talks were always the most interesting part.

In October, I presented my paper, "Race, Health Disparities, Incarceration, and Structural Inequality." The comments I received helped me revise and submit my final draft for the *Oxford Handbook on the Philosophy of Race*. With encouragement and help from Danielle, Jess, Tomer, and several other fellows, I wrote and published an op-ed in *The New York Times*: "Why Are So Many Black Women Dying of AIDS?" This op-ed also appeared in the print versions (national and international) under the title "An AIDS Crisis for Black Women" on

December 12, 2015. I received many responses to this piece, including an invitation to give a talk to the Union of Minority Neighborhoods (UMN) in Boston, and an invitation to contribute a commentary on this topic to the journal *The Lancet*, which will be finished by the end of May. In addition, I was interviewed on January 4, 2016 on the Sean Moncrieff Show (Ireland), and on December 29, 2015 on the Jim Engster Show (Baton Rouge, LA; the city with the highest prevalence of HIV, according to the 2014 CDC HIV Surveillance report, in the state with the highest incarceration rate).

In October, I gave a talk at Arizona State University on "Marriage vs. Parenting," and then developed it into a paper that I submitted to the *Journal of Applied Philosophy*. It was accepted with minor revisions, and I will complete the final draft this summer.

I wrote the first paper for my project on self-segregation, titled "Racial Segregation and Equality," which I presented in March at a Pacific APA session in San Francisco on "Justice in the City."

Being able to talk with Professor Tommie Shelby while here at Harvard has been immensely valuable. I have started a book manuscript that will take a public health approach to hyper-segregation and mass incarceration, utilizing recent work in epidemiological criminology, and on the moral dimensions of slow violence and negligence.

I was invited to contribute to a symposium on Stephen Macedo's recent book "Just Married" (2015), for a new journal *Syndicate Philosophy*. Attending Macedo's Kissel Lecture in the spring, in which he expanded on the topics in this book, was quite helpful as I was writing my commentary: "Just Two: Macedo and Marriage Equality."

Finally, Naomi Zack and I were invited to co-edit a new book series for Rowman and Littlefield, "Hot Topics in Social-Political Philosophy," and we have started inviting proposals.

### Gerard Vong

I am extremely grateful to Harvard University's Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics for a fantastic and rewarding year. The fellowship greatly facilitated work on my two ongoing research projects on the fair distribution of scarce goods and on philosophical value theory.

During the fellowship year I published a paper in *Utilitas* on how lottery distribution procedures can satisfy moral claims,

and had revision requests on three other papers submitted for peer review. In these papers, I argue that there are multiple types of morally relevant fairness; develop a new measurement of the fairness and unfairness of lottery distribution procedures; and defend a new theory about the relation between value and reasons. I also continued work on my “Fair Chances and Healthcare” monograph. This book incorporates important contemporary developments from the philosophy of probability and provides a sustained evaluation of the role of chance in the ethical distribution of healthcare goods.

In addition to this written work, I had papers accepted for presentation at the Montreal Centre de recherche en éthique and the American Philosophical Association’s Pacific Division Conference in San Francisco. The feedback I received at these events and at my Center Faculty Seminar was important in revising my work.

I am particularly grateful to my Faculty Seminar respondents, Caspar Hare and Nir Eyal, as well as to all of my fellow Fellows for their contributions. Elizabeth Beaumont, Andrew Gold, Marta Jimenez, Liav Orgad, Laurie Shrage, Rohini Som-anathan, and Caleb Yong all took the time to meet with me individually to discuss my work, for which I am very appreciative. I hope that my comments and questions on their work were as helpful as theirs were for mine! I also benefited greatly from Michael Rabenberg’s research assistance and I am very glad to hear he will be joining the Center as a Graduate Fellow next year.

Being a fellow at the Center enabled me to attend academic events in Cambridge and the greater Boston area. I benefited greatly from the Center’s broad programming: from journalists such as Sheri Fink to philosophers such as Julian Savulescu. Of all the lectures I attended during the year, Danielle Allen’s Du Bois lectures were a particular highlight. I am also thankful to Danielle for her leadership of the Center and for her warm advice and support, particularly while my daughter was in intensive care. I am also very appreciative of all of the Center staff: Emily Bromley, Susan Cox, Stephanie Dant, Maude Gates, Jess Miner and Tomer Perry. The Center is fortunate to have such an efficient and friendly team.

Finally, the most exciting event of my year was becoming a father. A few days after being born, my daughter became an honorary fellow of the Center! As should be evident from this report, my time at the Center has given me much to be thankful for.

### Caleb Yong

Spending an academic year at the Center as a Fellow-in-Residence has provided me with an especially fertile intellectual environment to develop my research on global justice, immigration policy, and citizenship and naturalization policy, and has opened up new research vistas, spurring a new project on the relationship between ideal and non-ideal theory within political philosophy. I have benefited in particular from discussions with Danielle Allen, Eric Beerbohm, Laurie Shrage, Liav Orgad, Tomer Perry, Elizabeth Beaumont and Gerard Vong at the Center, with Meira Levinson, Mathias Risse, T. M. Scanlon, and Nir Eyal from the wider Harvard community, and even with visitors to other departments and schools at Harvard such as Laura Valentini, Christian List, and Judith Lichtenberg.

During my time as a Fellow-in-Residence, I was able to complete a number of papers and reviews for publication. An article on “Justice in Labor Immigration Policy” is forthcoming from *Social Theory and Practice* (October 2016), and an article on “Caring Relationships and Family Migration Schemes” is due to appear in an edited volume on “The Ethics and Politics of Immigration” (Rowman & Littlefield, October 2016). Two reviews, one of Joseph Carens’ “The Ethics of Immigration” and another of Margaret Moore’s “A Political Theory of Territory” are also due to appear in *Social Theory and Practice* and *Contemporary Political Theory* respectively. Apart from the article on labor immigration policy, these pieces of research were all entirely developed during my time at the Center. My discussion of medical brain drain in the labor immigration policy paper benefited from discussion with Nir Eyal, and my paper on family migration schemes was improved by the helpful comments of Laurie Shrage.

I have also completed drafts of a number of working papers. I benefited from an opportunity to present an earlier version of “Internationalism and the Natural Duty of Justice” at the Faculty Seminar where the comments helpfully pushed me to reframe the paper’s main concerns. Another working paper, “The Structure of Nonideal Theory,” emerged from an engagement with another Faculty Seminar paper by Meira Levinson; the Center’s generous research support also allowed me to present this paper at a conference on Normative Interventions at University College London. The main ideas of a third paper, “Rights in Immigration Justice,” were clarified in the course of offering a guest undergraduate seminar on the ethics of immigration policy at the invitation of Tomer Perry. A paper evaluating the criteria of positive and

negative selection among would-be immigrants that receiving states might employ, entitled “Selecting Immigrants,” has benefited from discussion with Liav Orgad and especially with T. M. Scanlon.

Finally, my fellowship at the Center has also allowed me to make progress on my research concerning immigrant integration policies and their connection to civic education. My thoughts on these topics have been clarified and enriched by conversations with Danielle Allen, Elizabeth Beaumont, and Liav Orgad, and by numerous exchanges regarding civic education at the Faculty Seminars.

# Reports of the Graduate Fellows

Adriana Alfaro Altamirano, Natalia Gutkowski (Exchange Scholar), John Harpham, Monica Magalhaes, Julie J. Miller, Wendy Salkin, Aleksy Tarasenko-Struc, Beth Truesdale, Zeynep Pamuk (Beard Fellow)

## Adriana Alfaro Altamirano

My dissertation examines ideas about identity, freedom, and authority in early 20th century continental philosophy. More specifically, it explores the traditions of phenomenology and philosophy of life, putting them into dialogue with canonical figures within political theory (Kant, Smith, Weber) and making them relevant for debates about obligation, political emotions, and charismatic authority in democratic politics.

My year at the Center allowed me to polish two chapters of my dissertation and to write a draft of one more. I was also able to submit two papers to peer reviewed journals. Our weekly Graduate Fellow seminar became, by the end of the fall semester, a conversation among friends. It set the stage for the spring semester, when we devoted entire sessions to discuss the work of the fellows, from which we all profited very much. Interdisciplinarity can be a problem if there is not enough overlap, but in our year, we were definitely able to speak to one another's work from different perspectives.

Our work ranged from moral and political philosophy, to intellectual history, all the way to anthropology, and to empirical debates about inequality in education and healthcare. I thank Eric Beerbohm and Frances Kamm for their careful and sustained feedback on our work. I also thank my fellow Fellows for their comments and collegiality.

The Center provides a very supportive and comfortable atmosphere. Academically speaking, it has many resources, which can make an important difference for young scholars. For example, Jess Miner organized a book-proposal workshop that helpfully confronted me with the task of thinking how and why to transform my dissertation material into a book. Personally speaking, the Center gave me a welcoming place where I could work, which, of course, is not an unimportant thing to count on when trying to write a dissertation.

## Natalia Gutkowski

I feel grateful for the fellowship year at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University. This year has been a true experience of growth, and it provided me with a fas-

inating platform for intellectual exchange. I am especially thankful for the productive conversations we had in the Graduate Fellow seminar. They were spaces not only for thought evoking discussions, but also for the sharing of perspectives on various analytical commonplaces across disciplines and for the examination of one's own suppositions. I have also benefitted significantly from the Center's workshops, lectures and "Ethics Monday" meetings that were held throughout the year. All these encounters made possible new personal and professional exchanges, and opportunities to engage with diverse people who hold diverse scholarly commitments.

Throughout this year I wrote the major part of my dissertation, which I will soon submit. The physical distance from my home university (Tel Aviv University) and research field (Israel) helped me to step back from assumptions, academic conventions, and political concerns I might have had when I was enmeshed in the region. It also allowed me to present my developing work to readers and listeners who are unfamiliar with my local context and to receive their valuable questions, insights and contestations. In sum, the fellowship provided me with both the financial and intellectual support I needed to complete the writing-up period. I received valuable feedback on my dissertation from colleagues and scholars across the university, and this helped me to better articulate my dissertation's arguments and to finesse my writing style.

The fellowship also allowed me to initiate relationships with other departments and programs at Harvard. I was a regular participant in the weekly seminars of the Science, Technology and Society (STS) Circle at the Harvard Kennedy School, as well as a participant of the Dissertation Writing Workshop in the Department of Anthropology. Participating in these groups not only strengthened my dissertation and expanded my theoretical horizons but also fostered new academic connections and networks, which led ultimately to my decision to remain at Harvard for a second year as a post-doctoral affiliate in the Department of Anthropology.

This year I also presented my work at the annual conference of the American Anthropological Association, a conference



that yielded new professional networks as well as a recent invitation to participate in a special issue of the *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*. I was also invited to speak at the Civic and Moral Education Initiative at Harvard's Graduate School of Education, and there I felt happy to return to the Harvard community just a bit of what I received in the past year.

I would like to extend a special expression of gratitude to all the Center's staff and faculty who are doing extraordinary professional work, highly rigorous both in the academic dimension and in its administrative aspects. The Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics is a real model for a research center that has all its participants working together to advance both academic research and a social common good. I hope the scholar exchange program with Tel Aviv University's Center for Ethics will continue. I certainly benefitted from it tremendously. Thank you!

### John Harpham

A year ago, at the end of May 2015, I had just finished my fourth year of graduate school. I had done a good amount of research on the subject of my dissertation. I had even published two articles in the field; another was in draft form. But I had not written even the first word of my projected volume on "the intellectual origins of American slavery," whose title was the only part of it that really seemed set in stone.

Today, the situation is very different.

I have completed my first chapter, "From Freedom to Slavery," a 15,000-word piece on the theories of slavery contained within, and indeed extremely central to, the classic early-modern theories of natural rights. (In about a week, I will also send this as an essay to *Political Theory*, the flagship journal in my field, and in September I will present a version of it at the American Political Science Association annual conference.)

I have written the opening section of my second chapter, "The Sources of African Slavery," which argues that John Locke, the great theorist of slavery in the later Stuart period, was also author of the great catalogue on travel narratives from that time. (I will complete this chapter during the summer.)

I have completed the 16,000-word third chapter of my dissertation, on "The Causes of Complexion," which maintains, against a great deal of historical scholarship, that race, or some sense of the meaning of black skin, was not at all central to the origins of the English trade in African slaves.

I have heavily revised, and turned into my 18,000-word fifth chapter, the article draft that I had first composed last spring, on "The Sources of American Slave Law."

In all, then, I have written two chapters from scratch, begun another, and revised yet another. Progress has seemed slow, but it has been steady.

After this summer, I will have only to write my fourth chapter, on "The Intellectual Origins of Antislavery," and then what will be a substantial conclusion, centering on Thomas Jefferson. I will be a Mahindra Humanities Center Interdisciplinary Dissertation Completion Fellow next academic year, and will graduate in May 2016.

It should go without saying that you can only have a year like this if you have a great deal of time away from teaching.

But this fellowship has given me much more than time. It's given me a beautiful office, where I spent most of the weekends, as well as most of Winter Break, Spring Break, and, in the future, most of this Summer Break. It's given me a rhythm of social life to make the work seem less impossible: it has been a joy, especially, to get to know Joe and Stephanie in the office. It's given me colleagues who care about my work, but who also push me to make my work something worth caring about. It's given me a setting in which I have been allowed to learn, not just how to write an essay, but how to be a member of an academic community and how, more specifically, to be a political theorist. Perhaps most importantly, it's given me two incredible mentors, in Eric and Frances, whom it has been both an intellectual and a personal pleasure to get to know. I have no complaints about my time here; it's been a delightful, delightful year.

### Monica Magalhaes

What a privilege it has been to spend this year with the wonderful people of the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics! This opportunity has been of great value to me, both personally and with regards to my dissertation research, and I am very grateful to have had it.

My dissertation consists of three papers related to the question of which values apart from cost-effectiveness ought to inform the decisions of public health care systems on whether to fund new treatments. As I started my year at the Center, I had an early draft of the first paper, which argues that severity of illness can justify funding drugs for rare diseases (also called orphan drugs), which are normally not considered cost-

effective. I had also recently returned from Canada, where a team from the University of Alberta and I had conducted a citizens' jury, a deliberative process aiming to elicit public views about what ethical values the Alberta health care system should incorporate in its funding decisions. This jury will be the basis for my second paper. My first semester at the Center was spent working on the draft of the first paper, which I presented at a conference in Alberta in October, and coding and analyzing the transcripts of the jury. In December, I presented the draft of the first paper to our Graduate Fellow seminar.

In the spring semester, I continued to work on the second paper with coauthors in Canada, and wrote a proposal for my third paper. The paper raises ethical questions about a recent, influential policy proposal made by health economists, according to which the British National Health System should adopt an empirical method to set a cost-effectiveness threshold (a cost-benefit limit above which new treatments should not be funded). In my view, this is a normative decision and any empirical method for setting the threshold will leave important questions unaddressed. We discussed this proposal at the Graduate Fellow seminar.

Our seminars were always something to look forward to. I feel honored to have had Eric Beerbohm and Frances Kamm devote their time and attention to reading my drafts. I thank Eric for always helping us place our work in a broader context through his thoughtful comments. I am especially grateful for Frances' thought-sharpening remarks, since her work is fundamental to the current conversation on ethics and health care, and is also in part the cause of my interest in this topic.

Reading the work of my fellow Fellows was always inspiring, and I hope that the comments I offered them were even remotely as thought-provoking as what they had to say about my drafts. It was wonderful to share this year with such bright, interesting and generally impressive people as Adriana, Aleksy, Beth, John, Julie, Natalia, Wendy and Zeynep. I sincerely hope we will stay in touch after our time at the Center comes to an end.

The Center's public events also gave me much to think about, whether closely related to my work—as in the talks by Julian Savulescu and Sheri Fink—or more broadly about the goals of doing research, as in the recent Charles M. Payne lecture. These were also enjoyable opportunities to get to know the Fellows-in-Residence. Other events were great for profes-

sional development, and I especially thank Jess Miner for the workshop on book proposals, and Tomer Perry for the demonstration of simulations in teaching ethics. I also want to express my appreciation of Danielle Allen's care to keep the Center connected to current ethical debates via events such as "Ethics Mondays."

I am very grateful to Stephanie Dant, Emily Bromley, Susan Cox and Joe Hollow for all their help and their patience, and for making the Center such a wonderful place!

### **Julie J. Miller**

Sometimes in life we receive gifts. These gifts arrive quietly, perhaps in the day or perhaps in the night, and when they get to us, however they get to us, the measure of their mark on our lives—like the measure of any good thing—takes time to dawn on us. So it was with the Edmond J. Safra Graduate Fellowship in Ethics. When the fellowship came, all those months ago, I intuited that it would open up an embarrassment of riches, but not until now, at the end of things, do I have the eyes to see the gift that was given to me and to recognize that it turned out to be different, and better, than I could have supposed.

My favorite novelist once wrote that scholars can become inadequate from all the nothing but books, and about this she was right. It is possible to lose the world while wandering high and long trying to find the answers to the questions that feed and preserve our work, and for this reason I was time and again moved, and on not a few occasions sincerely thrilled, by the creativity, wit, and intellectual generosity of my Graduate Fellow cohort-mates, now friends, as likewise by Professor Eric Beerbohm and Professor Frances Kamm, who made it plain through the painstaking reading of and thoughtful reflections on the Graduate Fellows' work, that scholarship is a many-peopled phenomenon that perhaps longs, like the political animal, to be gregarious too. A humanist's work will only work, in the fullest sense, if she stirs something inside the human beings with whom she lives and wants to understand, and this truth seeped up and out and filled my path, again, in Professor Danielle Allen's W.E.B. Du Bois Lectures delivered in April, where she introduced the Harvard community to a fiercely intelligent man of great passion, whose life ended too soon because of a beast underwater, canny and inaccessible.

With the time and space provided me by the graduate fellowship, I saw my dissertation project assume its final shape, that is to say: I figured out how I wanted to capture it. Returning

to Harvard in July after an academic year devoted to traveling for archival research in 2014-15, I found my footing in the earliest days of this academic year and then got to the difficult business of writing. My dissertation is a history of the idea of the person in the place that became, but did not have to become, the United States of America, from King James's gracious grant of land and license to his loving and well-disposed subjects in April of 1606, to Chief Justice Roger Taney's decision in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* some time later, in December of 1856. I follow the perversion of the "person" from its heightened but not monopolized claim on a certain value in the earliest English law book, and I try to understand the way in which this idea coursed alongside and travelled together with another, that of "right" or "rights." In the fall I drafted an experimental essay (which began, as my cohort-mates know, with a preface exhausted by riddles) and presented it for comment and critique at a Graduate Fellow seminar in November, and then, during the cold but not too hard winter, I drafted two dissertation chapters, the second of which—on a homology between justice and mercy—I presented at a Graduate Fellow seminar in May. I would not have summoned the courage to write that chapter without having spent a great deal of time over the course of the fall semester thinking about the polysemous notion of equality together with Eric, Frances, and my fellow Fellows, and so that piece, composed as the year neared its end, bears assertive witness to one of my many and far-reaching debts.

I fear that I have taken more than I have given during my time at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics this academic year, but that will, I hope, change as the days open out to weeks, months, and to years, and my work discloses, in big and small ways, the content and scope of the intellectual riches, and happiness, I found here.

### Wendy Salkin

It has been both an honor and a delight to spend the academic year as a Graduate Fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics. Between captivating public lectures, fascinating 'Ethics Monday' roundtable discussions, thought-provoking interdisciplinary workshops on, *inter alia*, inequalities in cities and implicit bias in policing, and wonderful weekly seminars with my fellow Graduate Fellows, I have found this to be among the most intellectually stimulating and fruitful years of my graduate career.

I have had an exciting and productive year. First and foremost, I have been working on my dissertation, a project in

moral and political philosophy in which I construct and defend a novel and systematic account of the informal political representation of groups. In the fall, I wrote the first chapter of my dissertation, where I explain the core features of the phenomenon of informal political representation. I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to present this chapter to the Graduate Fellow seminar and receive careful and detailed insights and feedback from both my fellow Fellows and our inimitable seminar conveners, Eric Beerbohm and Frances Kamm. In the spring, I wrote the second chapter of my dissertation, in which I continue to consider what is distinctive about being an informal political representative for a group by zeroing in on a particular feature of the representative-represented relationship—namely, being subject to the group's members' complaints. I presented this chapter to the Graduate Fellow seminar and, in addition to once again receiving insightful guidance and pressing challenges from Eric, Frances, and my fellow Fellows, I was also fortunate to receive insightful comments at the seminar from Professor Lucas Stanczyk (a 2007-08 Graduate Fellow at the Center) and Professor Laurie Shrage (a 2015-16 Fellow-in-Residence at the Center).

In addition to working on my dissertation, I presented a paper, "Informal Political Representatives," at the 2016 UCLA Law and Philosophy Graduate Conference. I also continued work on my paper "Why Stop Snitching? Morally Evaluating Confidential Informants," which I will present at the Legal Philosophy Workshop at Queen's University at Kingston in Ontario in June 2016. Additionally, I am in the process of developing a paper based on the first chapter of my dissertation, which I will present at the Philosophy of 'Race' and Racism conference at the University of Oxford in June 2016.

I am deeply grateful to have had this opportunity to spend the year in so vibrant and inspiring a community. Interacting with and learning from the Center's many affiliates, from such varied fields as philosophy, political theory, bioethics, law, history, education, medicine, sociology, anthropology, and psychology (to name a few), has taught me that we are better together—better indeed when we are speaking across and between disciplines and thinking about ethics as an interdisciplinary enterprise. Without a doubt, my time at the Center and the relationships I have formed will shape the way I think about ethics and its place in our daily conversations going forward. Thank you to the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics for providing me generous support throughout the year. Thank you to Danielle Allen for bringing together such a wonderful and diverse array of interlocutors, and for making

the Center such a thriving space of inquiry and exploration. Thank you to Eric Beerbohm and Frances Kamm for boldly and compassionately leading the Graduate Fellows into ever more exciting and challenging intellectual terrain. Thank you to my fellow Graduate Fellows (Aleksy, Adriana, Beth, John, Julie, Monica, Natalia, Zeynep), whose friendship and kindness I shall ever cherish, and from whom I have learned so much. Thank you to Jess Miner, Tomer Perry, and Bill English for convening engaging research-focused programming at the Center. And thank you to Emily Bromley, Susan Cox, Stephanie Dant, Maggie Gates, and Joe Hollow for working tirelessly and enthusiastically to make the Center the amazing, unparalleled community that it is. What a year!

### **Aleksy Tarasenko-Struc**

My academic year at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics was perhaps the most pleasant and productive of my graduate career. I certainly don't say this lightly. That I enjoyed and benefited from my time here so immensely was due not just to the very generous financial support with which the Center provided me, but also to the wonderfully stimulating and consistently rewarding weekly Graduate Fellow seminars. During these seminars and often afterwards, my interactions with my peers broadened my intellectual horizons while giving me a much clearer sense of the directions in which my own work was headed. Indeed, the topics the Graduate Fellows were addressing frequently placed us in such close space with one another that we were compelled to be responsive, preemptively and retrospectively, to one another's dissertation projects, despite the various disciplinary boundaries that otherwise separated us.

My fellowship year happened to coincide with a critical point in the writing of my dissertation, in which I had to articulate its positive proposals while clarifying some of its broader, central themes to myself. I ended up producing drafts of three chapters this year. The first, which will serve as the introduction to my dissertation, concerns the interpretation of moral skepticism—skepticism about the authority of morality's requirements—and considers the viability of a rationalist response to it, a form of response according to which these requirements are constitutive norms of practical reason. Here I argue that the purpose of answering such skepticism is not to restore our entitlement to confidence in morality's authority but rather to confirm the veracity of our ethical convictions in a way that provides us with philosophical self-understanding. I finished this draft in the fall. In the same semester, I also finished a draft of my third chapter, on

what it is to recognize someone as a person. In this chapter, I develop an alternate conception of interpersonal recognition on which recognizing someone as a fellow person is a motivational state; specifically, it consists not in a purely dispassionate intellectual judgment but in a kind of immediate openness to the practical perspective of another. This view makes possible an attractive way of replying to moral skepticism: to insist that there cannot be reasons for treating persons morally, only better and worse ways of regarding others as persons.

Both drafts were, for the most part, completed in the fall. In the spring, I set about working on a preliminary version of the fourth and final substantive chapter of my dissertation. The draft is a work-in-progress, but the argument of the chapter is that a total failure to take moral considerations seriously involves a problematic kind of dissociation from the practical perspectives of other persons. This kind of dissociation makes it psychologically impossible for one to be friends with others, which means that taking moral considerations seriously is itself a condition of the possibility of friendship. Lastly, I produced a conference paper based on a chapter of my dissertation. In this paper, I argue that, given its conception of the nature and grounds of obligation, Kantianism yields the conclusion that all of our obligations to others are, in fact, owed to oneself instead: in other words, that there are no such obligations, if this view is correct. I have presented this paper at graduate conferences at the University of Waterloo and the University of Pittsburgh/Carnegie Mellon University, as well as at a conference hosted by the Northwestern Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics (NUSTEP).

I can think of no better way to pursue these topics than in the company of Eric Beerbohm, Frances Kamm, and the other Graduate Fellows. This is not just acknowledgement-page boilerplate; I have reason to believe that the discussions of this year's seminar were especially fruitful, in part because the members of my cohort were approaching similar themes from different vantage points. And of course, the seminar's excellence is due in no small part to the efforts of Eric Beerbohm, who ensured that the atmosphere was friendly and congenial and whose (often, aerial-view) comments on our work were always constructive, always led us to see some aspect of our work in a new light. Frances Kamm's contributions were also invaluable; she was always ready with a battery of incisive objections which led me in particular to sharpen many of the formulations of my views which would otherwise have been vague or sloppy. Finally, special thanks is owed to Stephanie



Dant, Susan Cox, and Emily Bromley, without whom none of this intellectual enrichment would have been possible. I'm particularly grateful to Emily for her efforts in coordinating the catering for the seminar and taking account of my various allergies and dietary restrictions; without her who knows what harm may have befallen me.

### **Beth Truesdale**

During my year as a Graduate Fellow, I made substantial progress on my research on the subject of income inequality and health disparities. With my advisor, Christopher Jencks, I published an article on the health effects of income inequality in the *Annual Review of Public Health*. We clarify that rising income inequality can affect individuals in two ways. Direct effects change individuals' own income and the resources they can invest in their health. Indirect effects change other people's income, which can then change a society's politics, customs, and ideals, altering even the behavior of those whose own income remains unchanged.

I drafted two empirical chapters of my dissertation using data from the Current Population Survey, examining the relationship between state-level income inequality and disparities in health between rich and poor across states and over time. As a basis for a third empirical chapter, I successfully applied for access to a new dataset containing rich health data and complete residential histories for a large sample of U.S. residents. These data, held by the University of Alabama at Birmingham, will allow me to study the cumulative effects of income inequality on individual health. I believe my study will be the first to take a life course perspective on the effects of income inequality.

I enjoyed being an empirical social scientist in a cohort mostly comprised of philosophers, theorists, and historians. They encouraged me to think more clearly about the normative commitments that my choice of research topics implies, and to consider the meaning of taken-for-granted terms such as "diversity" and "inequality." In response to the challenge, I wrote an essay on the tensions between economic diversity and economic inequality. Can we have one without the other? It is a question I would not have considered without my time at the Center. I now hope to develop this essay into a theoretical chapter of my dissertation.

I am grateful for both the financial support and intellectual challenge I enjoyed from the Center this year. My year at the

Center helped me to make progress on my dissertation, to push my research in directions I had not expected, and to puzzle over questions I had not previously considered. I am also grateful to Frances Kamm, who taught me that I just might be a consequentialist; Eric Beerbohm, who kept all us seminar participants in line; the Center staff, who organized the fellowship logistics and many wonderful speakers; and Danielle Allen, who delivered the most remarkable lectures I have heard during my years at Harvard. I look forward to keeping in touch with the Center in years to come.

### **Zeynep Pamuk**

My year at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics was one of the best and most productive of my five years in graduate school. The Center provided me with the intellectual stimulation and flexibility of time that allowed me to make significant progress on my dissertation, which focuses on the role of scientific experts in democratic politics.

I wrote drafts of three chapters and revised an earlier chapter in the course of this year. In the fall, I worked on a chapter that examines whether a democracy may limit certain lines of scientific inquiry on the basis that they pose a risk of harm. I argue for an affirmative answer and defend a more robust conception of responsibility for scientists in society, focusing especially on cases where harms from new research will fall disproportionately on marginalized groups and exacerbate discrimination and inequality. The Center's focus on professional ethics and the work of past and present faculty and fellows on the subject were particularly helpful in writing this chapter.

In the spring, I wrote two chapters that develop the core argument of my thesis: the first shows the role that the values and background assumptions of researchers play in the production of scientific knowledge, and challenges the appropriateness of a Weberian division of labor between experts and citizens based on the ideal of value-free science. I argue instead for more democratic input into science, and show the stages at which such democratic input would be most effective. The second chapter focuses on obstacles confronting the possibility of this kind of democratic engagement, and how the dynamics of authority and of social hierarchies affect the distribution of credibility in the public sphere. I presented this work at conferences at Princeton, Duke and the New England Political Science Association, supported by the Center's generous research allowance.

The weekly Graduate Fellow seminar was one of the most rewarding and enjoyable parts of being a fellow at the Center. Eric Beerbohm, Frances Kamm and the other fellows inspired, challenged and supported me both academically and personally throughout the year. I received extremely constructive, detailed, and thoughtful feedback on my chapters and learned a lot from the work of other fellows. I am deeply grateful to all participants for the time and effort they dedicated to my work, as well as the kindness, support and friendship that motivated all their questions and criticisms. The interdisciplinarity of the fellows and the many unexpected connections we found or invented among our work made the seminar a particularly rare and valuable intellectual exchange.

I would like to thank Emily, Susan, Stephanie and Joe for making this special experience possible and for making the Center such a welcoming and fun place to work.

# Reports of the Undergraduate Fellows

Vivek Banerjee, Joshua Blecher-Cohen, Nicholas Bonstow, Noah Delwiche, Abigail Gabrieli, Zoë Hitzig, Madeline Hung, Gabriel Karger, Nancy Ko, Garrett Lam, Jessica Levy, Fanele Mashwama, Priyanka Menon, Phoebe Mesard, Rohan Pavuluri, Justin Sanchez, Bo Seo, Eva Shang, Jesse Shulman, Joy Wang, Susan Wang, Thomas Westbrook

## Nicholas Bonstow

As a Junior in Social Studies, I have been focused on moving toward my senior thesis. I have furthered my ethical interests by taking two social studies tutorials, alongside fantastic philosophy classes.

I discussed and debated an outline of my thesis topic, on free speech and hate speech, in the Undergraduate Workshop in the fall, and this was wonderfully helpful as I moved forward with my topic. The political and the legal theorists I read as a sophomore as part of the fellowship, such as R. Dworkin, have been indelible to this work.

On the theme of language and political philosophy, in my philosophy of language course I have spent a significant amount of time writing a critique of the recent movement of philosophers interested in language intervening in free speech debates, for instance Rae Langton's work. Academically this year, my interest has been continually piqued by the theoretical questions of public law, ethics, and political theory.

This year, I have become especially interested in the boundaries of normative thinking. The boundaries of descriptive and normative projects are very sharp, and I have been interested in this distinction more and more as it concerns free speech jurisprudence. Different approaches, for instance the difference between formalistic approaches in legal thinking, that avoids historical contextualization, and kinds of legal realisms, heavily determine how one views free speech jurisprudence. This year, I hope to delve further into whether it is possible to have some kind of reunion between descriptive and normative projects, the uses of both, through the lens of free speech jurisprudence.

## Noah Delwiche

My first semester at the Center has been, without any uncertainty, a rewarding experience. Enrolling in the undergraduate seminar, I have widened my understanding of practical ethics, questions of political legitimacy, and scholarly engagement.

Under Professor Applbaum's guidance, our small cohort of undergraduates tackled a variety of complicated and controversial topics while maintaining an academic atmosphere of skepticism and challenge. By the end of the seminar, we had with respectful skepticism debated competing accounts of freedom, legitimacy, and consent. The pinnacle of the seminar, a lengthy research paper, was an artful opportunity to synthesize broad readings while advancing personal arguments. My own topic, on the moral right to be forgotten, aimed to tackle a topical and controversial issue through the lens of practical ethics. With the aid of Professor Applbaum and James, I learned the true value of scholarly collaboration, and tried my best at responding to pointed objections. Outside of the class, I was fortunate to participate in a number of sharp speeches that covered topics ranging from polygamy to journalism and emergency medical crises. This summer, through the generosity of the Center, I will continue research on digital privacy in Europe.

## Abigail Gabrieli

Since entering the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics community this spring, I have had a rewarding experience that has enriched the academic work I have produced in other areas. As an Undergraduate Fellow concentrating in History, I found the opportunity to engage with modern ethical debates invaluable. By giving me some much-needed perspective on the dilemmas occupying philosophers today, my time as a fellow has already helped me make my historical work an effective intervention in contemporary discourse instead of an exercise in aesthetic antiquarianism. In particular, the seminar has introduced me to discussions about the intersubjective nature of moral epistemology in political communities that have shaped the questions I have asked in my historical research.

In addition to exploring particular topics in political philosophy that have informed the direction of my historical work, the interdisciplinary nature of the seminar has been invaluable.

able in helping me clarify my thoughts about the unique skills and responsibilities that historians bring to the table. Discussing the nature of language, power, and history with other fellows whose concentrations ranged from Classics to Neurobiology, and who quickly became personal friends, was an opportunity of a kind unmatched at Harvard to work out the particular benefits and shortcomings of different forms of scholarship.

Thanks to the Center's support, I will be spending this summer in Cambridge, England, doing research for a senior thesis on seventeenth century revolutions in legal epistemology in transatlantic perspective. Conversations with Professor Applbaum and other fellows as well as the seminar readings and the final paper I wrote on jury nullification have already guided this thesis toward engaging more substantively with modern debates about epistemic and procedural legitimacy and the ethics of non-majoritarian activity in a republic. I'm eagerly anticipating returning next year and refining my thesis even further in the fall seminar.

### **Madeline Hung**

In the past year, I have focused my academic energies on the completion of a senior thesis for the Committee on Degrees in Social Studies titled, "The Corporate Criminal: A Legal Philosophy of Corporate Personhood and Prosecution in Human Rights Law." Using both philosophical and legal research methods, my thesis explored whether the concept of "corporate personality" offers an opportunity to expand corporate liability for human rights abuses in both domestic and international law. Specifically, I utilized theories of group agency to consider what fundamental properties and capacities of corporate agents may make them eligible for criminal liability.

Throughout the thesis writing experience, I felt incredibly supported by the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics. In the early stages of my thesis work, I received a Lester Kissel Summer Grant to pursue research over the summer and to participate in a human rights fellowship in Warsaw, Poland. In the fall, I was able to refine my ideas and thesis writing through participation in the Undergraduate Fellow Workshop led by James Brandt. Finally, through attendance at Center dinners and lectures, I was able to connect with Graduate Fellows and professors who were able to suggest different directions and available source material for my project. In the coming year, I will continue on in my work around business and human

rights with the non-profit organization MSI-Integrity. I am deeply indebted to the Center for all the ways it has supported my research and cultivated my critical thinking during my time as an Undergraduate Fellow at Harvard.

### **Gabriel Karger**

I was fortunate to join the Center as an Undergraduate Fellow this year. In seminar with Professor Applbaum (and James), I gained an enormous amount from the liveliness of our discussions of normative problems and puzzles. In my term paper, I argued that our intuitions about wrongful discrimination are best accounted for by analogy to pollution and other aggregative harms. This aggregate conception of discrimination as pollution in the realm of equal opportunity has desirable intuitive properties and some surprising implications for the way we talk about discrimination in everyday discourse.

Outside of class, I enjoyed other Center events, including our lectures and dinners, which facilitated opportunities to spend time with faculty and other fellows. These formal and informal gatherings were fun on their own terms, but they also helped introduce us to a larger community of scholars and peers. Becoming closer to the other Undergraduate Fellows might have been the most rewarding experience of all. I feel confident that the relationships our cohort began building in seminar will continue to deepen with the help of next year's workshop and other Center opportunities.

This summer I will be doing an Institute of Politics internship at the Sunlight Foundation in Washington D.C., which focuses on issues of government transparency and accountability. Though I don't think my work will involve too many forays into first-order moral theory, I look forward to seeing ethical reasoning in a more applied domain.

### **Nancy Ko**

As an Undergraduate Fellow at the Center, I have gained valuable frameworks with which to conduct my research. Although my undergraduate thesis will deal with Jewish involvement in the Iranian Constitutional Revolution through a historical lens, I have also spent much of my time developing a research project under the guidance of Malika Zeghal regarding contemporary Muslim organization in France. My research seeks to challenge entrenched notions of the exceptionalism of Islam in French policy, forming a historical bridge between current governmental and government-sanctioned bodies meant to represent or regulate Muslim citizens, like



the Conseil Français du Culte Musulman, and the religious consistories that existed for Jews and other minorities before the formal secularization of the state in 1905. In dealing with questions of what French secularization does and does not entail for different religious minorities at different times, I have found this year's workshop with fellow Fellows to be invaluable. I am ever grateful for the insight of political theorists, philosophers, and the like regarding my historical work on secularization and the state. It also helps that the Center's fellows are endlessly entertaining, brilliant, witty, and so on. Here's to another year!

### **Garrett Lam**

The Center has got to be one of the best communities out there at Harvard. Never have I been part of a group with so much camaraderie, commitment, and shared knowledge. Ethics being the sort of field that greatly benefits from interdisciplinary work and diverse perspectives, I applaud the Center for putting together forums and events where any thorny issue can be first brought up by a psychologist, responded to by an economist, qualified by a philosopher, etc...

I was a senior this past year, so most of my time was spent on my thesis, "The Volitional (In)significance of Neuroscience," in which I examined the relevance of certain neuroscientific experiments (Libet paradigms) toward the philosophical problem of free will. The Center was always there to provide financial, and more importantly, intellectual support, and I found a community always eager to hear where my latest thoughts were.

I'm extremely fortunate to have been part of the Center during my time here, and I will carry over many of the thought-provoking conversations, as well as the friendships, that arose because of the fantastic efforts made by this community.

### **Jessica Levy**

After completing the first of what I know will be many amazing semesters with the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, I find myself profoundly grateful for the opportunity to be an Undergraduate Fellow. Over the course of this semester, I have enjoyed thought-provoking lectures, spoken with insightful Undergraduate Fellows, Graduate Fellows, and Fellows-in-Residence, and participated in Arthur Applbaum's wonderful weekly seminar on topics in moral and political philosophy. Delving into the puzzling questions of free will, legitimacy, duties to others, and more, the seminar was an enlightening and incredibly intellectually stimulating experience.

The Undergraduate Fellow seminar sharpened my critical analysis skills, exposed me to areas of thought previously unknown to me, and honed my academic interests in political philosophy. While my general interest in political legitimacy and systemic injustice was a fundamental motivation for my application to the fellowship program last fall, I struggled to develop my exact positions on the various complexities of such a broad interest area. Writing my final paper for the seminar, entitled "The Alignment of Wills: The Beginning of a Theory of Legitimacy," I wrestled with the intricacies and nuances of the idea of legitimacy. Narrowing my focus, I began to develop an idea of how one can preserve the idea of legitimate authority while acknowledging each person's non-voluntary existence within the state. I hope to expand on the provisional ideas of the paper into an eventual senior thesis.

I would like to thank the Center for providing such an intellectually engaging experience and connecting me with such a wise group of peers and mentors.

### **Phoebe Mesard**

My semester as an Undergraduate Fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics has exceeded all expectations. I greatly enjoyed the seminar with Professor Applbaum. The perspectives of my peers from different disciplines and academic background was enlightening, and the conversation was always engaging. I also hugely appreciated the time and effort taken by Arthur and James. Both really pushed me to reconsider my own assumptions and hold my work to a high academic standard. Through the course term paper, I was able to explore a long-standing interest in a certain subset of the international development and NGO world, which we have been referring to in short-hand as "voluntourism." This subject has interested me since before I even came to Harvard, but has not fit in elsewhere in my academic career so far. It was unusual, challenging, and rewarding to have the freedom to take on that topic.

Outside of the classroom, I attended several of the Center's talks and dinners. I found Professor Miranda Fricker's work on constructions of forgiveness to be particularly memorable. I found her methodological approach fascinating and her clarity of explanation is something I will continue to try (and fail, and try again) to replicate in all my work. At dinners, I had the opportunity to interact with the many affiliates of the Center, from Graduate Fellows to the kind of distinguished professors whose work we read in nearly all of my classes.

This has been an enriching experience in many ways and I am excited to continue it next year and beyond!

### **Rohan Pavuluri**

Needless to say, a highlight of my spring semester was the weekly two-hour seminar I had with my peers, Arthur Applbaum, and James Brandt. As a statistics concentrator, it's a unique privilege to be able to sit around a seminar table each week to chat about political and moral philosophy.

In addition to the weekly seminar, I'm fortunate that the Center allowed me to attend several lectures. In particular, I enjoyed talks from Charles Payne and Stephen Macedo. A dinner following Professor Macedo's talk gave me a chance to meet Professor Tommie Shelby and engage in a memorable conversation.

For my term paper, I explored the ethical questions surrounding modern "black box" algorithms. Given my interests in statistics and computer science, the topic allowed me to bridge my academic interests and address a topic that has appeared almost daily in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, etc. over the last few months.

Thank you for providing me with such a wonderful opportunity.

### **Priyanka Menon**

This year, I had the pleasure of participating in the Undergraduate Workshop, guided by the inimitable James Brandt. During the workshop, I had the opportunity to read and discuss the fascinating work done by the other fellows in the cohort, which was really quite a privilege.

I also had the good fortune to present chapters from my senior thesis to the group, and receive productive feedback on the structure and content of the work. My senior thesis focused on the uses of ultrafilters, objects arising in set theory, in work done regarding the implications of Arrow's Impossibility Theorem in social choice theory. My work sits at the intersection of mathematics and economics, and seeks to construct a useful dialogue between the two disciplines at this juncture. To this end, my senior thesis presented the idea of using partial orderings on ultrafilters generated over infinite sets to help understand exactly how democratic societies of certain structures are.

Reflecting on this year, and the past two years as an Undergraduate Fellow, I'd like to express my immense thanks to the Center, especially to Arthur Applbaum and James Brandt. The lectures, discussions, and workshops held by the Center have expanded my intellectual horizon by an incredible amount.

### **Justin Sanchez**

I am extraordinarily grateful to the Center, Arthur, James, and my fellow Fellows for giving me some of the most stimulating conversation I've ever had and for reinvigorating my intellectual curiosity on at least a weekly basis. My short time as an Undergraduate Fellow has already left me better equipped to tackle my questions and my academic future.

In particular, I learned a lot about the thrills and challenges of contributing to a heated ethical conversation in writing my final paper for the seminar, "On Abortion and the Civility of Public Reason." Never before had I put so much time, thought, or effort into a single academic project. The readings and assignments from the seminar offered me a glimpse into the illimitably exciting world of ethical reasoning, where new questions are revealed faster than old ones are resolved.

This summer, with the help of a Lester Kissel Grant in Practical Ethics from the Center, I'll be starting work on my next big project, (tentatively) titled, "Eighteen Going on Twenty-One: Nicotine, neuroscience, freedom, and policy." In this project I'll examine the changing tobacco age policy in American cities from a few different angles and perspectives. Once again, I am extremely grateful to the Center for the opportunity to pursue this topic at the intersection of many of my academic interests.

### **Bo Seo**

I am very much enjoying my time at the Center as an Undergraduate Fellow. Every Thursday of this semester, Professor Applbaum, armed with slides, hypotheticals and Dove Chocolates, led a two-hour seminar for the Undergraduate Fellows. Our rich conversations ranged from freedom and responsibility to civil disobedience and political legitimacy. In and out of class, Arthur's unrelenting rigor has encouraged me to be more precise with my words and more clear-headed in my thinking. Our TF, James Brandt, offered detailed and thoughtful feedback, and his interventions in class served as a model for participating in philosophical discussion.

As a recipient of the Lester Kissel Summer Grant, I am also excited to spend this summer working on the question of recognition—its nature, its demands and its relation to the doctrine of human rights. Many of the ideas developed in our undergraduate seminar and, in particular, in my final paper on cultural rights, will inform and strengthen my future study.

It has been a special treat to attend the Center’s public lectures and dinners (and conversations) that have followed. They were made all the more enjoyable and rewarding by the company of my advisers, Professor Rosen and Professor Beerbohm, and other members of the Center’s community whom I have gotten to know. I will also not soon forget Professor Allen’s lecture series, “Cuz,” on the American criminal justice system. To be in an intellectual community (though certainly not parity) with these people has been a source of enormous challenge and enrichment.

### Joy Wang

With the generous support of a Lester Kissel Grant in Practical Ethics, I spent the summer of 2015 at the University of Cambridge conducting library and archival research in preparation for a senior thesis. Although I initially pursued a research project on the evolution of Anglo-American discourses of political corruption in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the project developed into several interrelated lines of inquiry concerning the creation of professional civil services as a response to conspiracy and corruption and the role of robust and insulated administrative bodies in the theory and practice of liberal democracy.

The latter concern grew into the central question of my undergraduate thesis, which engaged in a reconstruction and critique of administration and governance in the work of John Stuart Mill. Upon returning to campus in the fall, the Undergraduate Workshop, under James Brandt’s deft supervision, was an invaluable forum for the development of this project. I am especially grateful for the thoughtful feedback of my fellow seminar participants on an early draft of my first chapter, an account of the influence of theories of East India Company governance on Mill’s thinking on the administrative state in the *Considerations on Representative Government*. Their well-directed criticism was invaluable in helping me to think and write more clearly.

Outside of the Undergraduate Workshop, the diversity of lectures delivered and lunches organized this year proved especially vibrant and productive. The discussions on the relationship between sociology, ethics, and law prompted by Stephen Macedo’s Kissel lecture were lively and fruitful, and Jiwei Ci’s week-long residency was a welcome opportunity to consider anew the moral implications of the interplay of markets and political structures.

I am thrilled to report that next year I will be returning to the University of Cambridge to read for the MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History as the Paul Williams Scholar at Emmanuel College, where my dissertation will explore the development of international law in the late nineteenth century, before continuing to a PhD in Political Science at Yale University.

As I reflect upon an extraordinarily rich four years as a Harvard undergraduate, my memories of two-odd years spent as an Undergraduate Fellow at the Center are among my fondest. For a young political theorist, it has been a gift to think and write in this community—the spirit of collective and collaborative endeavor will guide my work for many years to come.

### Susan Wang

This past semester as an Undergraduate Fellow with the Center, I have very much enjoyed my time learning from and being immersed in the incredible resources and opportunities it has to offer. Our weekly seminar served to expand my academic horizons far beyond where they had been previously, and I enjoyed the constant challenge to think harder, speak clearer, and question more. This class has been unlike any I have ever taken, and for that experience I am very grateful.

Outside of class I enjoyed attending lectures hosted by the Center, and learning about the incredible array of interesting questions people were grappling with both at the Center and beyond. I look forward to continuing my engagement with the Center through the undergraduate research seminar in the fall.

This coming summer I will continue the research project begun for this class on the ethics of “soft” paternalism, with the hopes of turning my seminar paper into a longer thesis topic. I will also be doing research with the Center in preparation for its 30th anniversary.

**Thomas Westbrook**

Since receiving my fellowship a few months ago, I've had an ethics-focused semester. I was extremely enthusiastic about studying Kant's ethics with Professor Korsgaard, supported by a simultaneous study of his first Critique with Professor Boyle. I also considered the ethics of censoring hate speech and pornography in my sophomore philosophy tutorial.

Parallel to these three courses, I spent a class this semester studying the Second Sophistic (a period of success and influence for Greek sophists in the Roman empire). The gradual corruption of ancient philosophy by the influences of state and society is a topic I find both fascinating and frightening. I am not a classicist—I only moonlight as one—but the threat of sophistry is a universal one.

Worried I might be a sophist myself, I looked for recent instances when I had changed any of my views in response to a superior argument. And here, I think, is where I owe my first debt of gratitude to the Center and to Professor Applbaum, in particular. Most of my changes of position this semester—on questions of coercion, distributive justice, and the relationship between legitimacy and the duty to obey—can be traced back to arguments I read for his seminar. I am especially indebted to him for his thoughts on the role of judicial review in safeguarding justice, which I found personally very valuable.

I am also grateful to the Center for introducing me to so many ideas in contemporary ethics. Not all of those were position-changing ones like the theories mentioned above. Either way, however, I really was grateful to have heard every idea presented to me in connection with the Center. (I'll mention the visits of Sheri Fink and Stephen Macedo specifically as novel and unexpected experiences.) I came into this fellowship very unfamiliar with contemporary ethics, and any change in that state is entirely thanks to my work with the Center. I look forward to the next two years!



# Public Lectures and Events

## 2015-16 Events

### Public Lectures

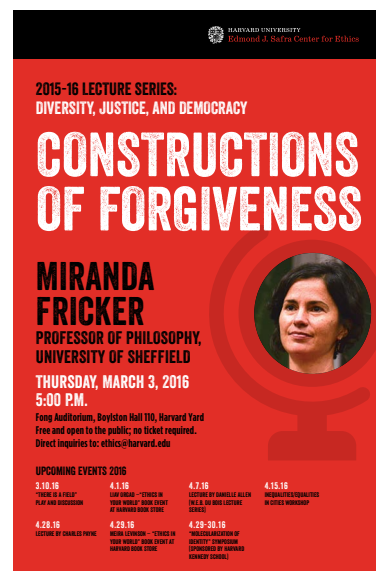
- **Ruth Chang**, “Hard Choices”
- **Julian Savulescu**, “Disability and Mere Difference”
- **Jiwei Ci**, “Modern Democracy as Agnostic Egalitarianism”
- **Sheri Fink**, “Medical Ethics in Emergencies: From Katrina to Ebola and Beyond”
- **Miranda Fricker**, “Constructions of Forgiveness”
- **Charles Payne**, “Claim No Easy Victories: Can the Social Sciences Serve the Equity Interest of the Poor?”

### Other Events

- **Fourth Annual Lester Kissel Lecture in Ethics: Stephen Macedo**, “No Slippery Slopes: Same-Sex Couples, Monogamy, and the Future of Marriage”
- **“Diversity, Justice, and Democracy”** Workshops I and II
- **“Democracy and China”** Workshop on Themes from the Work of Jiwei Ci
- **“Inequalities/Equalities in Cities”** Conference

### Co-Sponsored Events

- **Zittrain Interviews Lessig**  
“What I Learned Running for President: The Ethics of Citizenship”  
*(co-sponsored with Harvard Law School Library)*
- **“Ethics in Your World”** Book Series  
*(co-sponsored with Harvard Book Store):*
  - **Leif Wenar**, “Blood Oil: Tyrants, Violence, and the Rules that Run the World”
  - **Liav Orgad**, “The Cultural Defense of Nations”
  - **Meira Levinson**, “Dilemmas in Educational Ethics: Cases and Commentaries”
  - **Danielle Allen**, “Education and Equality” *(also with Boston Review)*
- **“There Is A Field”** Play and Discussion  
*(Moderated discussion co-sponsored with the Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program at Harvard Law School)*
- **W. E. B. Du Bois Lecture Series** at Hutchins Center for African and African American Research: Danielle Allen, “Cuz, or the life and times of Michael A (1979-2009)”
- **“The Molecularization of Identity: Science, Metaphors, and Personhood in the 21st Century”** Symposium *(co-sponsored with the Program on Science, Technology, and Society at Harvard Kennedy School)*



Lecture posters

### Co-Sponsored Events/Cont.

- **“Pluralism Public and Private: The Work of Nancy Rosenblum”**  
(co-sponsored with the Department of Government, Harvard University)

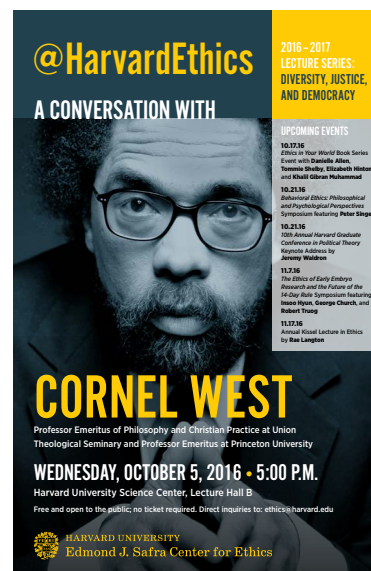
## Upcoming Events 2016-17

### Public Lectures

- **October 5, 2016:** Cornel West
- **November 17, 2016:** Lester Kissel Lecture in Ethics by Rae Langton
- **February 23, 2017:** Yuval Levin
- **March 23, 2017:** Kathleen O’Toole
- **April 13, 2017:** Rebecca Henderson  
(co-sponsored with Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University)

### Other Events

- **September 13, 2016:** “Notes from the Field: Doing Time in Education” created, written, and performed by Anna Deavere Smith at A.R.T.  
(introduction by Danielle Allen)
- **October 21, 2016:** “Behavioral Ethics: Philosophical and Psychological Perspectives” Symposium (co-sponsored with Harvard Business School and the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard Kennedy School)
- **October 21, 2016:** 10th Annual Harvard Graduate Conference in Political Theory – Keynote: Jeremy Waldron  
(co-sponsored with Department of Government at Harvard University)
- **November 7-8, 2016:** The Ethics of Early Embryo Research and the Future of the 14-Day Rule  
(co-sponsored with the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at Harvard University and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School; with support from the Center for Bioethics at Harvard Medical School, the Harvard Department of Stem Cell & Regenerative Biology, and the International Society for Stem Cell Research)
- **December 15-16, 2016:** “All-Affected Principle” Workshop  
(co-sponsored with the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard Kennedy School)
- **May 4-5, 2017:** Center 30th Anniversary Event – Keynote: Cécile Fabre



Lecture poster

# New Fellows

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## 2016-17 Edmond J. Safra Fellows

### **Undergraduate Fellows:**

Nicholas Bonstow, Noah Delwiche, Abigail Gabrieli, Gabriel Karger, Nancy Ko, Jessica Levy, Fanelesibonge Mashwama, Phoebe Mesard, Rohan Pavuluri, Justin Sanchez, Bo Seo, Eva Shang, Susan Wang, Thomas Westbrook, Gene Young Chang (*These are returning fellows; incoming fellows will be selected in November 2016.*)

### **Graduate Fellows:**

Roni Bar (exchange scholar), Brandon Bloch, Austin Campbell, Myisha Cherry (Visiting), Jacob Fay, Barbara Kiviat, Michael Rabenberg, Ronni Gura Sadovsky

**Eugene P. Beard Fellow in Ethics:** Kelsey Berry

### **Fellows-in-Residence:**

Gabrielle Adams, Tongdong Bai, Joyce Dehli, Sungmoon Kim, Rachel McKinney, Samuel Moyn, Stephen Soldz, Winston Thompson, Christopher Winship

**Visitor:** Bernd Irlenbusch

# Masthead

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## University Faculty Committee

Danielle Allen  
Arthur Applbaum  
Eric Beerbohm  
Aisha Beliso-De Jesús  
Nir Eyal  
Richard Fallon  
Archon Fung  
Nien-hê Hsieh  
Frances Kamm  
Meira Levinson  
Mathias Risse  
Tommie Shelby  
Robert Truog

## Faculty Associates

Joe Badaracco  
Max Bazerman  
Selim Berker  
Derek Bok  
Allan Brandt  
Eric Campbell  
Emily Click  
Norman Daniels  
Catherine Elgin  
Einer Elhauge  
Lachlan Forrow  
Charles Fried  
Howard Gardner  
Francesca Gino  
Joshua Greene  
Helen Haste  
Bryan Hehir  
Andrew Kaufman  
David Korn  
Christine Korsgaard  
Lisa Lehmann  
Lawrence Lessig  
Ann Marie Lipinkski  
Marc Lipsitch  
Jane Mansbridge  
Joshua Margolis  
Eric Maskin

Frank Michelman  
Martha Minow  
Samuel Moyn  
Lynn Sharp Paine  
Laurence Ralph  
Dani Rodrik  
Susannah Rose  
Michael Rosen  
James Sabin  
Malcolm Salter  
Michael Sandel  
Thomas Scanlon  
Elaine Scarry  
Amartya Sen  
Susanna Siegel  
Mario L. Small  
Doris Sommer  
Carol Steiker  
Brandon Terry  
Dennis F. Thompson  
Richard Tuck  
Jonathan L. Walton  
Daniel Wikler  
David Wilkins  
Christopher Winship

## Center Leadership & Staff

Danielle Allen, *Director*  
Arthur Applbaum,  
*Director of Undergraduate Fellowships*  
Eric Beerbohm, *Director of Graduate Fellowships*  
Emily Bromley, *Assistant to the Director and  
Fellowship Coordinator*  
Susan Cox, *Communications and Events Coordinator*  
Stephanie Dant, *Assistant Director*  
William English, *Research Associate*  
Maggie Gates, *TCSP Program Coordinator*  
Joseph Hollow, *Grants and Finance Manager*  
Jess Miner, *Research Director*  
Tomer Perry, *Research Associate*

*All photography by Martha Stewart unless otherwise noted.*





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