

Boston University Center for the Humanities

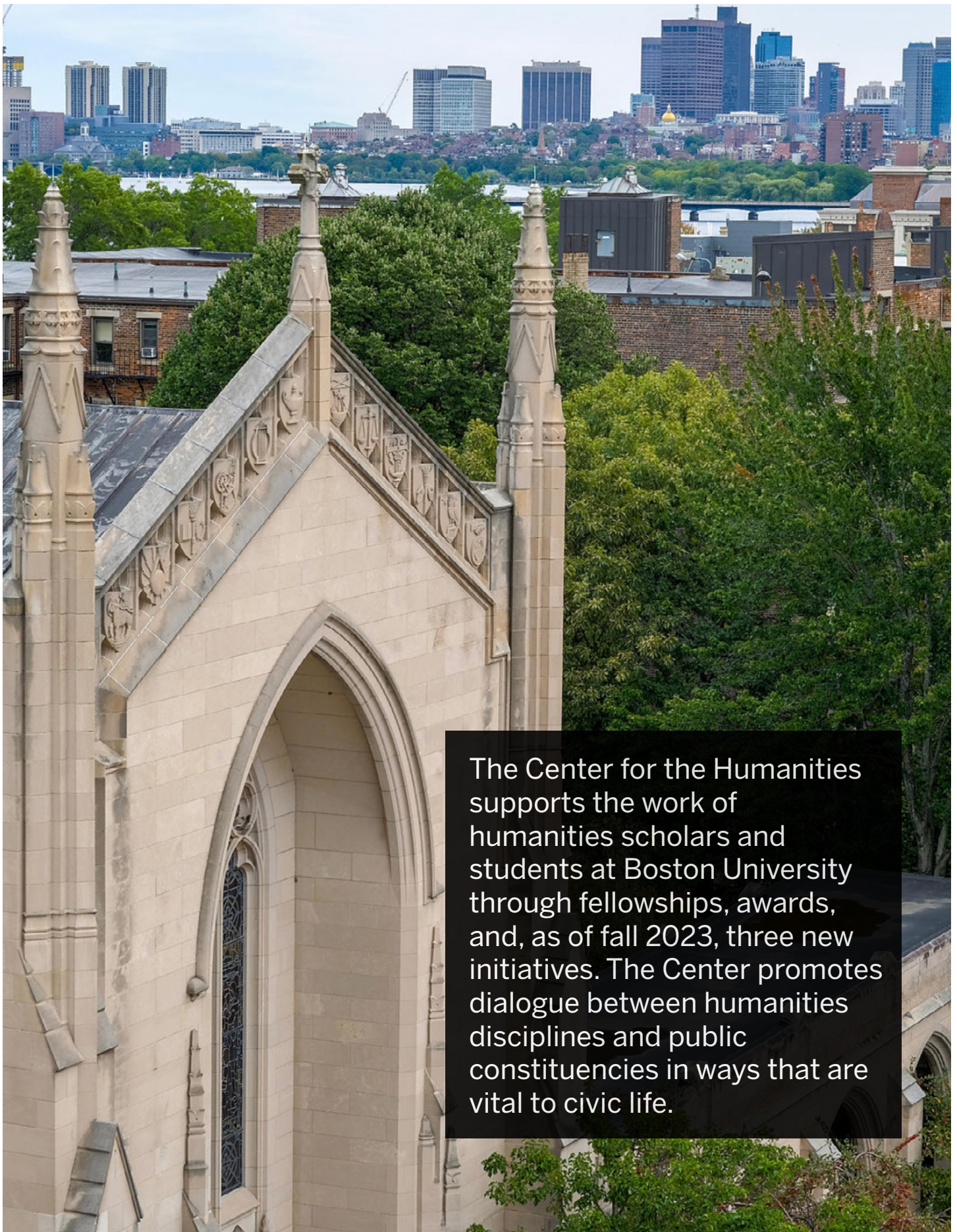
ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Volume 17 | 2024-2025



725 Commonwealth Avenue, B02
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
bu.edu/humanities





The Center for the Humanities supports the work of humanities scholars and students at Boston University through fellowships, awards, and, as of fall 2023, three new initiatives. The Center promotes dialogue between humanities disciplines and public constituencies in ways that are vital to civic life.



Table of Contents

Letter from the Director 2

BUCH Initiatives 3

BUCH Staff 4

Funded Publications 2024-2025 5

Lectures in Criticism 6

Humanities Leadership 7

Humanizing the Digital 8

Humanities in the World 9

BUCH Fellows 10-11

Funded Summer Internships in the Humanities 12-13

Sponsored Events 2024-2025 14-15

BUCH Student Awards 16-17

Staff 2024-2025

Juliet Floyd, director
Daniel Abramson, associate director
Margarita Guillory, associate director
Kurt Cavender, managing director
Ashley Mulcahy, senior administrative coordinator
Sophia Jackson, student staff
Cheryl Lai, student staff
Roni Lakin, student staff
Leilani Muchai, student staff

Executive Committee 2024-2025

Paula Austin, History
Victor Coelho, Musicology
Sarah Frederick, World Languages & Literatures
Aaron Garrett, Philosophy
Herbert Golder, Classical Studies
April Hughes, Religion
Susan Mizruchi, English
Neil Myler, Linguistics

From the Director



Juliet Floyd, director

During my second year as director, education in the United States has fallen under mighty pressures: political, economic, and technological. In the face of criticisms, cuts, doubts, and conflicts, now is the time for us to re-emphasize what the humanities contribute to our society's needs. The humanities celebrate human-to-human connection, helping us learn and relearn what matters, and why. Bridging times, places, and points of view, the humanities draw us together to create democratic community in the face of our moral, political, ideational, and generational differences. At their best, the humanities give us the tools to engage in productive and civil conversation about our experiences. If we can speak honestly, with a shared human sense of aspiration and moral clarity, we will be able to solve even the most seemingly intractable problems.

Our Center provides the BU community with opportunities through research support and a wide array of programming and internships. We continue to develop three overlapping initiatives described in our 2023 Charter. **The Leadership Initiative** seeds and trains humanistic leaders in and outside the academy, cooperating with Boston area institutions on internship training through our undergraduate and PhD programs. **The Digital Initiative** humanizes the digital in our world by sponsoring global research on humanities and AI and bringing our humanistic lens to bear on new research and modes of creativity across the disciplines. **The Humanities in the World Initiative** furthers this humanities research globally and locally, connecting individuals and institutions around shared languages, cultures, goals, and challenges.

We are grateful to **Aslihan and Demir Sabanci (CAS'93, PAR CAS'27)** for their continued support, which significantly expanded our programming in May 2024 through the establishment of the **Sabanci Humanities Endowment**. This generous gift has enabled BUCH to add a vital Public Humanities dimension to all three of our initiatives—at a time when such engagement is more urgently needed than ever. Through this support, we will advance the tradition of public outreach through the humanities for which BU has long been recognized. I am glad to welcome to BUCH our new **Public Humanities Manager Annette Frost**, who has worked for many years with former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky on **The Favorite Poem Project**, a collection of unforgettable videos of ordinary Americans reading poems they love (www.favoritepoem.org). With the help of Professor Paula Austin (BU History) and Managing Director Kurt Cavender, we will inaugurate our newly-named **"Be Human" residential summer program**, offering local area high school students the opportunity to explore BU's history over two weeks in summer 2025. We have begun a new partnership with Professor Eric Gordon, director of BU's Center for Media Innovation for Social Impact, on a Mellon Foundation Grant "Transforming Narratives for Environmental Justice" to create productive, shareable and informed discussion of local environmental challenges in the city of Boston.

In this historically bracing time, though sobered by many world events, I remain strongly inspired and hopeful. What our humanistic community is doing at BU matters to the world. What we learn, know, and create will last, on a human scale of time. And that scale matters enormously right now. I am glad to express my thanks and debts to all my colleagues and supporters at BUCH for the tremendous help they have given me through the year. Without you, we could not do all that we do.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juliet Floyd".

Juliet Floyd
Borden Parker Browne
Professor of Philosophy

BUCH Initiatives

The 2022/2023 BUCH Expanded Charter identified three new initiatives to focus the Center's programmatic expansion:



The **Humanities Leadership Initiative** strategically builds support and understanding for the humanities by demonstrating their value for leadership inside the academy and beyond. In AY 24-25, the Center welcomed **Associate Director Daniel Abramson**, Professor of Architectural History to lead the Humanities Leadership Initiative. In his first year, Professor Abramson assumed oversight of the Center's PhD Internships in the Humanities program and organized professional development opportunities for BU graduate students and humanities center staff throughout New England.



The **Digital Humanities Initiative** provides faculty and students with opportunities to critically engage intersections between digital technologies and the humanities, humanizing the digital. **Associate Director Margarita Guillory** has led the Center's Digital Initiative since AY 23-24. Programming under Professor Guillory's leadership helped increase the visibility of the digital humanities on campus and built an interdisciplinary community around shared interests in exploring humanistic questions through digital methods. The Center staff congratulates Professor Guillory on her appointment as chair of BU's African American and Black Diaspora Studies program and will miss her dearly. The Center will continue digital humanities programming under the leadership of Director Juliet Floyd.



The **Humanities in the World Initiative** promotes humanities research at BU that attends to global concerns and transnational patterns that shape everyday life. The Center is delighted to welcome Associate Professor of Russian and Comparative Literature **Yuri Corrigan**, who will lead this initiative as BUCH Associate Director beginning in AY 25-26. Professor Corrigan's work investigates the intersections of philosophy, religion, and psychology in modern Russian and European literature, and we are excited for him to draw on his interdisciplinary scholarship to lead the Center's global outreach.



Also new to the Center in AY 25-26 is **Annette Frost**, the Center's first **public humanities manager**. In this role, Annette will direct the Center's efforts to push our initiatives beyond the boundaries of campus into public spaces. An alumna of BU's MFA in Creative Writing program, Annette comes to BUCH after six years as Director of the **Favorite Poem Project** (FPP), where she supported former U.S. Poet Laureate and William Fairfield Warren Distinguished Professor Robert Pinsky's mission to "document and encourage the sharing of poetry across the world." Annette brings her title as Director of the FPP with her as the project finds its new permanent home at the Center following Professor Pinsky's retirement. The Center is

honored to continue the legacy of this public-facing project.



Center Staff



Kurt and Ashley

The Center's staff is often the point of contact between the Center and the greater BU community. In addition to overseeing the Center's daily operations and contributing to strategic planning, **Managing Director Kurt Cavender** and **Senior Administrative Coordinator Ashley Mulcahy** mentor and supervise the Center's undergraduate student workers, who are the force behind many of our most public-facing projects. These include the BUCH podcast, faculty interviews, and a new "Meet the Fellows" video series.

Undergraduate-led projects are disseminated through the Center's weekly bulletin. The high levels of engagement they receive testify both to the important role that the Center plays in publicizing work by BU humanists and to the BU community's enthusiasm for humanities content. Through these projects, undergraduate workers develop concrete skills like writing for a general audience, graphic design, and audio editing that complement the academic skills that they cultivate in their course work.

In the fifth season of the ***BUCH Podcast, The Order of Things***, BU alumni and scholars share their experiences studying and disrupting order in their own projects, from the role of beauty in programming to the disruption of religious norms by twentieth-century artists. All members of the undergraduate staff contribute content and audio editing skills to podcast production. In episode two, undergraduate staff member **Roni Lakin** (CAS '25) talks with Associate Professor of Religion Anthony Petro about his latest book *Provoking Religion: Sex, Art, and the Culture Wars*, which he completed during his time as a Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellow. Reading up on Professor Petro's recent work in preparation for their conversation gave English and Spanish major Roni an opportunity to dive deep into an unfamiliar humanistic discipline.



Roni also developed the Center's new ***Meet the Fellows series***, which introduces the BU community to the Center's current senior, junior, and graduate student fellows and their fellowship projects. The short YouTube videos in this series present complex research projects in an easily digestible and accessible format.

All undergraduate student workers contribute to ***BU Humanists at Work***, an ongoing series of written interviews that feature individual BU faculty members and their current research projects. In addition to developing writing and editing skills, students working on these interviews appreciate rare opportunities for one-on-one conversations between undergraduate and faculty members outside of discussion about coursework.

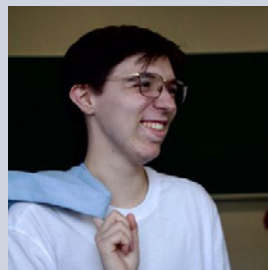
2024-2025 BUCH Student Staff



Sophia Jackson



Cheryl Lai

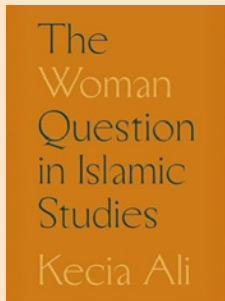


Roni Laikin

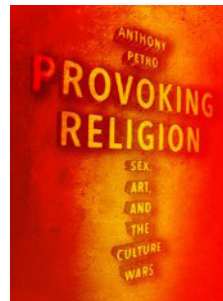


Leilani Muchai

Funded Publications 2024-2025



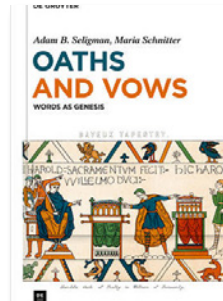
Kecia Ali
Religion
The Woman Question
in Islamic Studies



Anthony Petro
Religion
Provoking Religion: Sex,
Art, and the Culture Wars



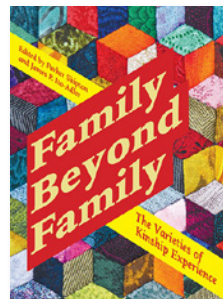
Jodi Cranston
History of Art
& Architecture
Animal Sightings: Art,
Animals, and European
Court Culture, 1400-1550



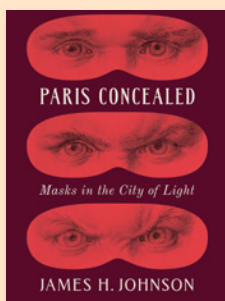
Adam Seligman
Religion
Oaths and Vows:
Words as Genesis



Maia Gil'Adi
English
Doom Patterns: Latinx
Speculations and the
Aesthetics of Violence



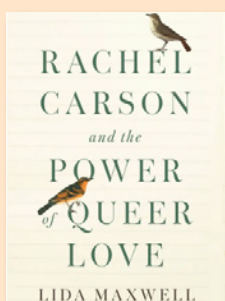
Parker Shipton
Anthropology
Family Beyond Family:
The Varieties of
Kinship Experience



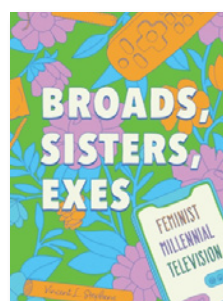
James Johnson
History
Paris Concealed:
Masks in the City of Light



Quinn Slobodian
Pardee School
of Global Studies
Hayek's Bastards: Race,
Gold, IQ, and the
Capitalism of the Far Right



Lida Maxwell
Political Science
Rachel Carson and
the Power of Queer Love



Vincent Stephens
CAS/CFA
Broads, Sisters, Exes:
Feminist Millennial
Television

Lectures in Criticism

The distinguished **Lectures in Criticism series**, which has run for over 40 years, brings humanities perspectives to bear on a wide range of subjects that are central to contemporary society. In AY 24-25, the series featured two interdisciplinary scholars who work in African Diaspora studies: **Louis Chude-Sokei** (BU) and **Chika Okeke-Agulu** (Princeton).

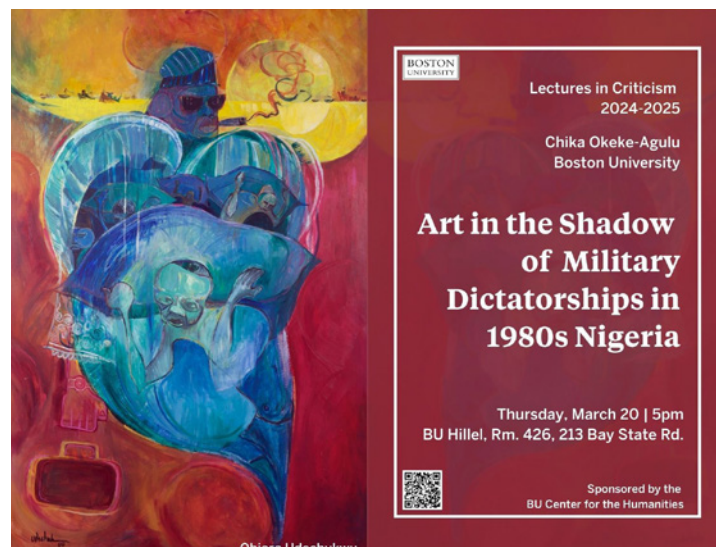


Photos from Professor Chude Sokei's lecture

In the fall, **Professor Louis Chude Sokei** presented his timely lecture **“On the Pleasures and Perils of Personhood: Slavery and the Making of Artificial Life.”** A memoirist and scholar with appointments in African American & Black Diaspora Studies, American Studies, and English, Chude-Sokei's interdisciplinary background brought nuance to the subject of artificial intelligence and made for an engaging post-lecture discussion with attendees from varied departments. Drawing from his book in progress, *Machines of Flesh and Blood*, Chude-Sokei explored the complicated matter of “what constitutes or delimits ‘the human,’” paying close attention to questions concerning “embodiment,” which, he explains, “include the all too human problem of race.” Chude-Sokei demonstrated how contests over labor-saving inventions by enslaved people established the

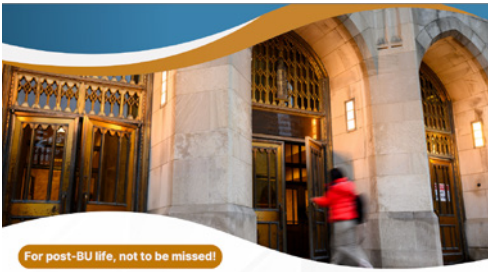
legal limits of the category of “personhood” in U.S. copyright and property law from the Antebellum period to today. Consequently, the legal legacy of slaves' efforts to own the products of their own intellectual labor fundamentally shapes how new technologies are legally empowered and socially assimilated.

In the spring, **Chika Okeke-Agulu**, Robert Schirmer Professor of Art and Archaeology and African American Studies, and Director of the Program in African Studies and the Africa World Initiative at Princeton University, presented **“Art in the Shadow of Military Dictatorships in 1980s Nigeria.”** Okeke-Agulu's lecture focused on Nigerian modernist painter Obiora Udechukwu (b. 1946), whose work provides a poignant example of what Okeke-Agulu calls the task of the painter in the face of authoritarianism: to record the truth. Unlike previous generations of Nigerian painters who optimistically employed the language of modernism to further nationalist goals, Udechukwu responded to increasing corruption by wielding art as a tool of political criticism. To demonstrate this paradigm shift, Okeke-Agulu guided the audience through an illuminating analysis of Udechukwu's painting *Tycoons and Stevedores*. The next morning Okeke-Agulu moderated a discussion with a group of graduate students, who were excited to speak with him about shared areas of interest.



To read the full articles by Carolyn Parker-Fairbain and Colleen Foran on which these summaries are based, visit bu.edu/lecturesincriticism/2024-2025

Humanities Leadership



For post-BU life, not to be missed!

IMPACTING ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITIES WORKSHOPS

Free and open to all BU PhD and MA students doing work in the humanities. The series will include three workshops to be held in June-July, 2025.

Whether your career path leads to working within or outside of academia, your responsibilities will involve leading, collaborating, and communicating within organizations and communities. This workshop series is designed for graduate students working in the humanities to enhance their professional and organizational skills to further career prospects in all fields.

Topics include:

- Giving and Receiving Professional Feedback;
- Building Trust and Relationships through Storytelling;
- Managing Teams and Projects.

Led by Dr. Hutch Hutchinson (GRS '15) and Professor Daniel M. Abramson.

For questions, information, and if you can't attend the May 6 orientation, contact buch@bu.edu

Orientation session:
May 6, 5:00-6:00 PM
CAS 132

RSVP BELOW

Drop-ins also welcome



BOSTON UNIVERSITY Sponsored by the BUCH

The **Humanities Leadership Initiative** strategically builds support and understanding for the humanities by demonstrating their value for leadership inside the academy and beyond.

For the second consecutive year, the Leadership Initiative hosted **directors of college and university humanities centers** throughout Massachusetts. Participants built community over a shared meal and discussed the opportunities and challenges of running a humanities center, as well potential future collaborations and initiatives.

As a corollary to this event, the Leadership Initiative initiated a gathering for **humanities center administrators** across New England in June. Topics at this all-day event included building professional networks for knowledge sharing and collaboration, developing administrative best practices, identifying humanities allies, and building on-campus community. For many participants, the meeting marked the first-ever opportunity in a multi-year

career to connect with fellow humanities administrators.

In AY 24-25, the Leadership Initiative also provided opportunities for **PhD students** to articulate how the skills that they are cultivating in their programs prepare them to assume organizational leadership positions within and beyond academia.



Isabella Dobson presents on her internship project



Connie Robles presents on her internship project

In September, the 2024 cohort of **PhD Interns in the Humanities** gave lightning talks on their internship projects for an audience of internship site staff members, BU faculty, and peer PhD students. Interns rose to the challenge of presenting succinctly for a non-specialist audience. Their presentations demonstrated the value of experiential learning outside of academia to highly-trained humanities scholars, and in turn how much these scholars have to offer a wide range of cultural institutions.

Throughout the summer months, the Center is excited to pilot a professional development workshop series open to all BU PhD and MA students doing work in the humanities. Led by Associate Director Daniel Abramson and Dr. Paul Hutchenson of BU's Questrom School of Business, small group sessions offer students with both public-facing and academic career interests training in how to give and receive professional feedback, build trust and relationships through storytelling, and manage teams and projects.

Humanizing the Digital



BU is already home to many students and faculty working at the intersection of humanistic inquiry and digital technologies. Their projects demonstrate the foundational role of the humanities as we confront unprecedented challenges driven by the computational revolution. In AY 24-25, programs under the Center's **Digital Humanities Initiative** supported BU's digital humanists and elevated the digital humanities on campus.

In the fall, PhD students across departments and disciplines gathered for **"Reimagining Humanities Research."** Organized by Associate Director Margarita Guillory, this workshop was led by PhD student Greta Rauch Frei (History), whose own research relies on computational methods. Greta introduced her peers to digital humanities tools and methodologies like geospatial technology, social network analysis, natural language processes, and digital archiving. Students enjoyed lively exchange about their own experiences with digital projects over lunch.

In the spring, the Center ran its second annual **Digital Creators competition**. Open to undergraduates in any college and department, Digital Creators Awards celebrate projects that creatively bridge the humanities and emerging digital technologies. Entries included projects that originated as class assignments as well as passion-driven projects that students created on their own time.

2025 Digital Creators Awardees

Audio Category

Emily Bone, CAS '25 & Cheryl Lai, CAS/COM '26
Emily and Cheryl's podcast, "Mommy's Issue," discusses two maiden in the tower tales and two versions of Snow White.

App Category

Theodore Sepulveda, ENG '28
Players in Theodore's visual storytelling game "Mind Over Batter" attempt to bake a cake while troubled by their past.

Visual Category

Gerry Hyunsun Hwang, CAS/COM '25
Gerry's short film "The Lonely Jazz Singer" follows a jazz singer through a cityscape while incorporating the conventions of 1940s film noir.

Remi Hayashi, CAS '265
Remi's video essay "The Impact of Technology on Our Attention Span" uses Confusian wisdom to capture its audience's attention while discussing the very problem of shortened attention spans.

Web Category

Sutton Faye, COM '25
Sutton's website explores how the Sunset Strip in Los Angeles became a hub for youth activism, music, and social change in the 1960s.

To view the awarded **Digital Creators** projects, visit the Center's **Digital Creators Page**:
tinyurl.com/mrydvx6t



Humanities in the World



Ethical Implications of AI for Entertainment and Education – Communication and Philosophical Perspectives

Thursday April 10, 2025 | BU Hillel Rm. 426 | 213 Bay State Rd.

Friday, April 11, 2025 | Wightman Mansion, Hewitt Boardroom | 43 Hawes St.



Sponsors: BU Center for the Humanities | Center for Data Sciences | College of Communication | Division of Emerging Media Studies | Feld Professorship of Emerging Media Studies



The Humanities in the World Initiative promotes humanities research at BU that attends to global concerns and transnational patterns that shape everyday life. In March, in partnership with **James E. Katz**, Feld professor of emerging media studies in BU's College of Communications, the Humanities in the World Initiative gathered an illustrious group of international scholars for **“Beyond the Binge: Ethical Implications of AI for Entertainment and Education – Communication and Philosophical Perspectives.”** Beyond the Binge contributed simultaneously to BUCH's Digital Initiative, and convened BUCH's annual Cross-Disciplinary, Cross-College Forum. The intention was to spark new interdisciplinary humanities research with global and local significance.

Over the course of two days, participants grappled with complex questions regarding futures of education and entertainment that will inevitably be shaped by AI. Fostering a critical dialogue among computer scientists, media theorists, philosophers, humanists, and historians, Beyond the Binge aimed to generate actionable recommendations for a more ethical and equitable future.

Participants presented and workshopped papers that addressed collective concerns including political bias in AI, algorithms and detrimental habits, censorship and mitigating misinformation, and the force of popular culture and effect of algorithm-generated recommendations on public discourse and temperament. Co-sponsorship from the College of Communication, Division of Emerging Media Studies, and Center for Data Science demonstrated the broad value of these discussions to academic and civic life.

Speakers

Laban P. Ayiro | Vice Chancellor | Day Star University | Kenya

Emilio José Montero Arruda Filho | Marketing | University of the Amazon | Brazil

Mariagrazia Benassi | Psychology | University of Bologna | Italy

Jocelyn Benoist | Philosophy | Panthéon-Sorbonne | France

Mary L. Churchill | Wheelock College of Education & Human Development | Boston University | U.S.A.

Piergiorgio Donatelli | Philosophy | Sapienza University of Rome | Italy

Blake Hallinan | Communication & Journalism | Hebrew University | Israel

Theo Hug | Media, Society & Communication | University of Innsbruck | Austria

Xiaoya Jiang | Journalism | University of Wisconsin | U.S.A.

Sandra Laugier | Philosophy | Panthéon-Sorbonne | France

Vanessa Nurock | UNESCO EVA Chair | Philosophy | Côte d'Azur University | France

Yvonne Rogers | Computer Science | University College London | England

Steve Shapiro | CEO | Finetune Learning | U.S.A.

HaeRin Shin | Media & Communication | Korea University | South Korea

Kun Xu | Media Production, Management, & Technology | University of Florida | U.S.A.

BUCH Fellows AY 2024-2025

Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellows

Robert CHODAT, Professor, English

Experts and Encounters: Knowledge and Aesthetics After Wittgenstein

Joanna DAVIDSON, Associate Professor, Anthropology

Singing Wives & Silent Widows: Essays on Marriage, Naming, and Death

David FRANKFURTER, Professor, Religion

Ritual and the Enemy Body: Reconceptualizing Acts of Atrocity

Paul KATSAFANAS, Professor, Philosophy

Aggrieved Identities

Jonathan KLAWANS, Professor, Religion

Seductive Discoveries: The Academic Authentication of Biblical Finds and Forgeries

Petrus LIU, Professor, World Languages & Literatures

Value-Form Queer Theory

Alexis PERI, Associate Professor, History

"Goodwill Makes Good Politics:" Pen-Friendship between Soviet and American Women

Ana María REYES, Associate Professor, History of Art & Architecture

To Weave and Repair: Aesthetics in Colombia's Peace Process

Junior Faculty Fellows

Andrei MAMOLEA, Assistant Professor, International Relations

Unbounded Empire: Sovereignism & International Law in US Foreign Relations, 1881-1945

Graduate Dissertation Fellows

Ying GONG, Linguistics

The Syntax and Semantics of Degree Constructions in Ersu

Constanza ROBLES, History of Art & Architecture

What's in a name? Visualizing Latin-, Hispano-, Ibero-, and Pan- American Alliances at International Expositions, 1901-1929

Henry TONKS, History

Don't Stop Thinking About Tomorrow: Remaking American Liberalism in an Age of Crisis, 1972-1992

Holly WIEGAND, English

Bold Devotion: Female Religious Authority and Transatlantic 19th-Century Fiction

BUCH Fellows AY 2025-2026

Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellows

Kimberly ARKIN, Associate Professor, Anthropology
Keepers of the National Faith: Medical Responsibility and Morality on the French Mediterranean

Paula AUSITN, Associate Professor, History
“You May Be Next”: A History of Anti-Black Police Violence and Police Reform in the US Capital

Nicolás FERNANDEZ-MEDINA, Professor, Romance Studies
A Sickening Modernity: Biomedicine, Pathology, and the Body in Ramón Gómez de la Serna’s Avant-Gardism

James JOHNSON, Professor, History
“Venice Betrayed: The Birth of Democracy and Napoleon’s War”

Margaret LITVIN, Associate Professor, World Languages & Literatures
A Daughter Named Internationale: The True Story of an Impossible Palestinian Family

Michaela McSWEENEY, Associate Professor, Philosophy
Grasping: the Subjective and the Social

Ayse PARLA, Associate Professor, Anthropology
Peripheral Time: Memoir as Survival after the Armenian Genocide

Junior Faculty Fellows

Rui HUA, Assistant Professor, History
Peasants Versus Empires and Antagonists of the Anthropocene

Dennis WUERTHNER, Assistant Professor, World Languages & Literatures
Insects in Premodern Korean Literature and Beyond

Graduate Dissertation Fellows

André BATCHELDER-SCHWAB, Linguistics
Topics in African Whistled Languages

Wiktoria BRYZYS, Romance Studies
Entre lo propio y lo ajeno en la evocación del espacio en la literatura ibérica medieval

Dylan RENCA, Anthropology
Ramifications of Recognition: Identity, Belonging, and the Challenges of Religious Coexistence in Muslim Indonesia

Kuizhi WANG, Philosophy
Towards a Hybrid Reading of Kant’s Transcendental Idealism

Funded Summer Internships

Summer Internships in the Humanities constitute an important component of the Center's mission, creating opportunities for BU undergraduates and graduate students to apply their humanistic training to public-facing institutions that serve Greater Boston.

Our two internship programs are supported by the great generosity of **Demir Sabanci** (CAS '93), whose devotion to the humanities ensures the longevity of these internships. Further support for the summer 2024 internships comes from the Office of the Associate Provost for Graduate Affairs, the Office of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, the Office of the Dean of Arts & Sciences, the Anthony & Mary Vigna Summer Internship Fund, and an anonymous donor.

Summer 2024 PhD Interns



"A unique combination of library, museum, and cultural center," the **Boston Athenæum** is home to a world-class collection of books, manuscripts, maps, and visual art. As the Athenæum's Education Intern, Meredith Barber

(History) drew on primary sources in the Boston Athenæum's holdings to develop source sets on topics in African American history for future use by K-12 educators.



The **Boston Symphony Orchestra** manages an impressive archival collection that chronicles its one hundred forty year history. At the BSO, intern Adebola Ola (Musicology & Ethnomusicology) digitized and documented current exhibition panels

on display at Symphony Hall and created a spreadsheet with over one thousand entries, documenting panel exhibits from 2014 to 2024.



The **Concord Museum** presents centuries of objects from Concord, MA and surrounding areas that bring the stories of the diverse peoples who lived in Concord to life. In an inaugural internship at the Concord Museum,

Genevieve Kane (American Studies) conducted historical research and drafted object labels for three exhibitions that will commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution.



Boston's **Institute of Contemporary Art** aptly self-describes as "a museum at the intersection of contemporary art and civic life." At the ICA, intern Alina Amvrosova (History) researched artists affiliated with the African American Master Artists-in Residency Program and used archival materials to craft biographies for several individual artists.

"The intersection of my PhD focus, research interests, and the internship at BSO has opened new perspectives for my research and broadened my skill set for both academic and non-academic career opportunities."

—Adebola Ola, 2024 PhD Intern



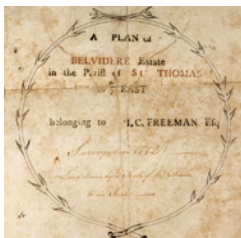
Founded in 1791, the **Massachusetts Historical Society** collects and communicates materials and resources from America's past to promote understanding of the history of MA and the nation. Intern Isabella

Dobson (History of Art & Architecture) worked on several projects over the course of her internship at the MHS. The largest project required her to read and analyze primary sources related to Japanese American incarceration during World War.



In 2023, the **New England Historic Genealogical Society** launched its ambitious 10 Million Names project, dedicated to recovering the names of the estimated 10 million people of African descent who were enslaved in pre- and post-colonial America between the 1500s and 1865. Working with primary source materials, intern Irene Garcia (History of Art & Architecture) researched African American abolitionists Nathan and Polly Johnson and several of the fugitives whom they sheltered in New Bedford, MA.

in the Humanities



The mission of the **Race and Regency Lab** is to bring the public, scholars, and cultural critics together to reimagine our collective understandings of race in the nineteenth century. During her inaugural internship at the Race and Regency Lab, Connie Robles

(History of Art & Architecture) curated a virtual exhibit, "Visualizing Property," which centers on a 1772 manuscript plan of Belvidere plantation in Jamaica, home to hundreds of enslaved people (c.1600–1833). Visit Connie's virtual exhibit at raceandregency.org/exhibition.

Summer 2024 Undergraduate Interns



Beacon Press is an independent publisher of non-fiction with a reputation for publications that promote social justice. At Beacon Press, Sofia Corso (English) read and wrote reports on publication proposals, wrote reader guides for new publications, wrote newsletter copy, and designed print and social media advertisements.



With a local and national reputation for high-quality journalism, the award-winning **Boston Globe** pursues an unwavering commitment to the truth. As an intern in the Boston Globe's Audience Engagement department, Vanessa Hanger (Philosophy)

researched engagement metrics and reported them to the newsroom's leadership in a way that made complex data accessible to a general audience.

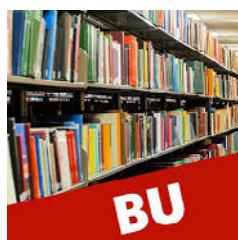


The mission of the **Brattle Film Foundation** is to "celebrate film as a popular and fine art form with cultural and historic importance that excites, educates, and inspires community." The Foundation operates Cambridge's unique Brattle Theatre. Over the course of her

summer, Margaret McNeir (History) helped the Foundation compile a record of every film they have ever shown.

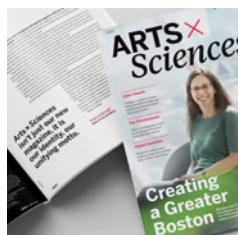
"I am grateful for the opportunity to learn how I can apply the skills I acquired in my undergraduate education to the media industry. This experience... gave me the confidence I needed to further develop myself in graduate school."

—Vanessa Hanger, 2024 Undergrad Intern



BU Libraries provide research tools and services to the BU community, including a network of fourteen specialized libraries with targeted collections for area-specific research. In an inaugural internship at the BU African Studies Library, Jessica Fatzinger (Religion)

worked with a newly donated collection to create a collection inventory, sort materials by theme, and interview the collection's donor.



The **Communications Office** at BU's College of Arts & Sciences helps promote the research and expertise of faculty, tells the stories of student experiences, publicizes individual achievements, and builds community within a diverse liberal arts college. In an internship at the

CAS Communications office, Cheryl Lai (Religion) drafted and edited written pieces, articles, features, and Q&As and developed content for CAS social media platforms.

"Spending a summer working at Beacon Press... reaffirmed my decision to study English and to embrace a humanities-focused education"

—Sofia Corso, 2024 Undergrad Intern

Sponsored Events 2024-2025

James CARTER
Romance Studies
Screening of BlaKKKlansman and
a Conversation with Justyn Davis,
Lighting Dept

James CARTER
Romance Studies
Cinema and Media Studies Program
10-Year Anniversary Celebration

Robert CHODAT
English
2024 Colloquium on Literature,
Philosophy, & Aesthetics:
Knowledge, Perception,
and Judgment



Elizabeth COPPOCK
Linguistics
African Linguistics Colloquium
Series

Daniel DAHLSTROM
Philosophy
Boston Phenomenology Circle
Symposium

Nathan DAVIS
Boston Playwrights' Theatre
Massachusetts Young
Playwrights' Project

Nathan DAVIS
Boston Playwrights' Theatre
Theatre Marathon XXVII

Jonathan FOLTZ
Cinema & Media Studies
Cinema & Media Studies Film Series

Marc GASSER-WINGATE
Philosophy
Philosophy Graduate Student
Conference: Virtues and Vices in
Social Context: Conflict, Conciliation,
and Violence

Micah GOODRICH
English
Pre and Early Modern Trans Studies
Symposium

Anna HENCHMAN
English
Northeast Victorian Studies
Association

"Getting the kids to see playwriting as a living breathing art form
and to interact with real playwrights, actors, directors, and MFA
students is exactly the kind of work that all English departments
should be doing!"

-Participating Massachusetts Young Playwrights Project high school teacher

Samia HESNI
Philosophy
Non-Ideal Philosophy of
Language Workshop

Melissa HOLT
Kilachand Honors College
Boston Poetics Workshop

HAA 2024 Guest Lecture Series



Paul KATSAFANAS
Philosophy
Conference on Devotion and the
Quest for Meaning

Deeana KLEPPER
Religion
Religion Department Annual
Lecture and Undergraduate
Program

Victor KUMAR
Philosophy
Cognitive Science and Animal
Ethics

Margaret LITVIN
World Languages & Literatures
The Eighth Annual Boston
University
"Big Fat Books" Symposium
On Marcel Proust's Swann's Way

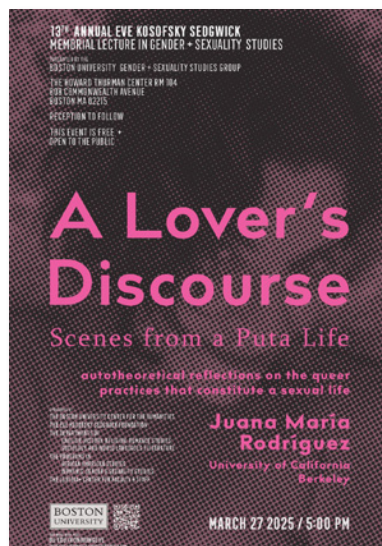
Jeremy MENCHIK
Pardee School of Global Studies
Conference on the Jewish Left

Rebecca MOORMAN
Classical Studies
Roman Studies Conference:
Smallness and Miniatures in the
Roman Empire

Rebecca MOORMAN
Classical Studies
GraceFunsten: Lecture on Non-elite
Epigraphic Poetry

Erin MURPHY
English
Folger Institute Membership

Alexis PERI
History
Environmental History of the
Crimean War



Carrie PRESTON
English
Faculty Gender and Sexuality
Studies Group

Joseph REZEK
American Studies
Indigenous Studies Working
Group

Andrew ROBICHAUD
History
On Ice Book Manuscript
Workshop

Jeffrey RUBIN
Latin American Studies
Seeing and Not Seeing Seminar



James UDEN
Classical Studies
Annual Graduate Student
Conference: Mens Mutata:
Altered Minds in Antiquity

James UDEN
Classical Studies
New Approaches to Classics
Lecture Series

Yoon Sun YANG
World Languages & Literatures
Global Asian Literary Studies
Lecture Series

"The event was a success based on quantitative metrics: 1,200 registrations, 325 people attending in person, 358 people online from 18 countries, more than 70 universities... Student engagement was high; just under half of attendees were students, a significant improvement from last year."

- Jeremy Menchik, organizer of the Conference on the Jewish Left

Sunil SHARMA
Global Medieval Studies
Global Medieval Studies Faculty
Lunch Series

Benjamin SIEGEL
History
Eating to Change the World

James SIEMON
English
Graduate Editorial Assistant for
Shakespeare Studies

Daniel STAR
Philosophy
BU Ethics Seminar

Margaret TYLER
College of General
Studies, Humanities
Poetry Reading Series

Keith VINCENT
World Languages & Literatures
12th Annual Sedgwick Lecture

Michael ZELL
History of Art & Architecture
History of Art & Architecture
Guest Lecture Series



BUCH Student Awards

Each year the Center recognizes outstanding students in the humanities through awards and fellowships.

We are grateful to current and foresighted donors who have funded these awards over the years. Award and fellowship recipients were honored at a ceremony on May 13, where their family, friends, and mentors joined in celebrating their accomplishments.

Undergraduate Student Awards

The Dean Elsbeth Melville Latin Prize

Gracie Rohde, Classical Studies, Linguistics



Undergraduate Brennan awardees

The John Oddy Memorial Award

Hannah Bruce, Classical Studies
Paige Dong, Classics & Philosophy
Caroline Foley, Classical Studies, History
Alyssa Phillips, Classics & Archaeology

The Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award

Guthrie Harris, Romance Studies
Olivia Mills, Anthropology
John Osmond, World Languages & Literatures
Josephine Perl, Philosophy
Riana Richani, World Languages & Literatures
Kerry Wang, World Languages & Literatures

Photos by Yohana Latuan



Awardees celebrate their achievements

The Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award

Scarlett Wills, History of Art & Architecture
Safiyah Young, Cinema & Media Studies

The Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize

Henry Chuang, Classical Studies
Oliver Goss, Archaeology
Ellen Moth, English
Robert Phipps, English
Victoria Raiken, Linguistics

The Robert E. Yellin Award

Karyna Cheung, Anthropology
Juliet Feldman, Philosophy
Kal Hawley, History
Cheryl Lai, Religion
Livia Prince, Religion
Simone Redensky, History



Awardees enjoy the ceremony

Graduate Student Awards

The Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award

Scott Chase, Religion
Damon Hatheway, Classical Studies
Genevieve Kane, American Studies
Colin Lacey, Classical Studies
Daniel Leonard, English
Meghan Townes, American Studies

The Helen G. Allen Humanities Award

Meredith Diane Barber, History
Khadija Joss, Romance Studies
Margot Rashba, History



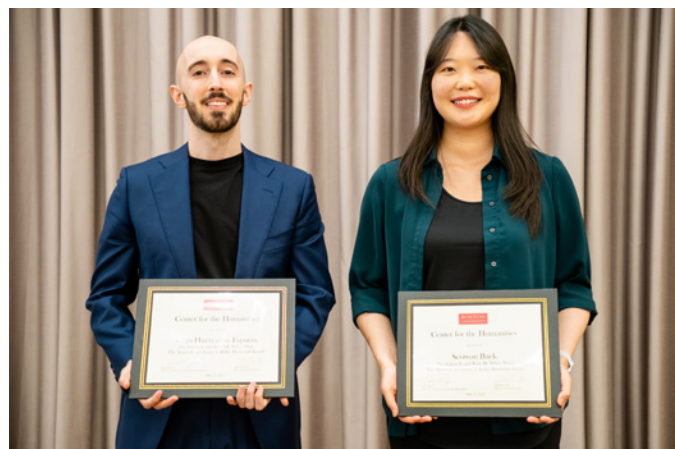
Ceremony attendees enjoy the reception

***All graduate students also receive the Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award**

Graduate Dissertation Fellows

The highest honor that the Center bestows on students, Dissertation Fellowships are awarded to graduate students who are about to enter their final year of study.

The Dissertation Fellowship provides a semester's stipend, affording recipients the opportunity to focus on finishing their dissertations. Dissertation Fellows participate in the Center's Fellows Seminar, where they receive valuable feedback on their work from an interdisciplinary group of scholars.



Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize Awardees

The Clarimond Mansfield Award

Toni Armstrong, History of Art & Architecture
Renée Brown, History of Art & Architecture

The Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize

Seowon Baek, Philosophy
Íñigo Huércanos Esparza, Romance Studies



Kuizhi Wang receives his award

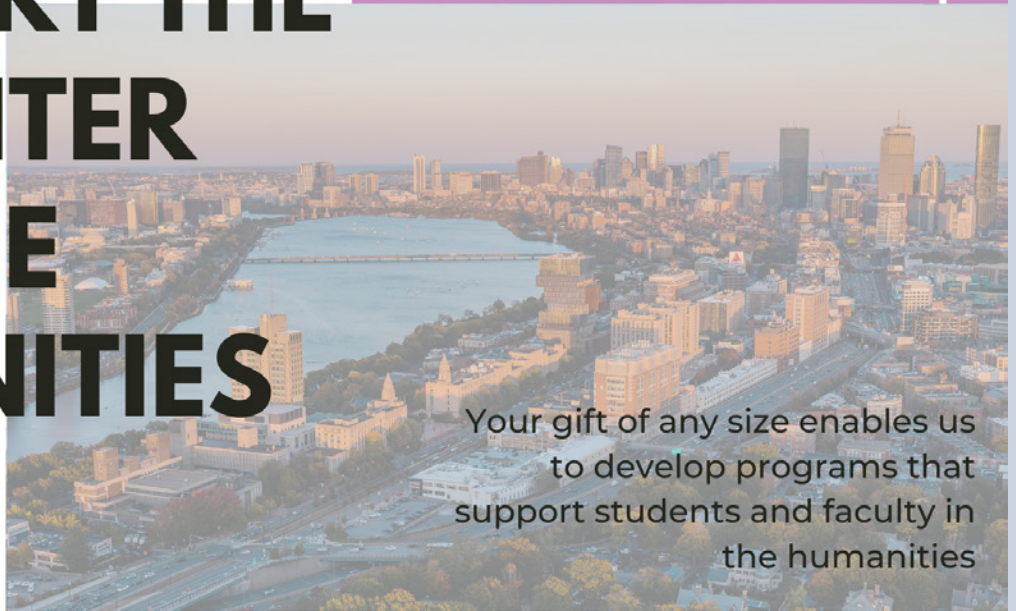


AY 25-25 Graduate Dissertation Fellows

2025-2026 Graduate Dissertation Fellows

André Batchelder-Schwab, Linguistics
Wiktoria Bryzys, Romance Studies
Dylan Renca, Anthropology
Kuizhi Wang, Philosophy

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