VISITING SCHOLARS AND ARTISTS PROGRAM

Established in 1960, the Visiting Scholars and Artists Program (VSAP) significantly contributes to the intellectual life of Western Michigan University. This program provides funds for academic artists to bring distinguished scholars and artists to campus. These visitors meet with faculty and staff on their own campus and address a wide variety of academic and cultural audiences. They provide a unique educational opportunity for faculty and students in their fields and help enrich the community at large. Since the program began, it has supported over 600 visits by scholars and artists representing more than 60 academic disciplines. Following are biographical sketches of the scholars and artists participating in the 2018-19 Visiting Scholars and Artists Program.

Dates are subject to change. For information about specific topics, scheduled details for each scholar or artist, and specific times and locations of events, please contact the corresponding host or the sponsoring departments as outlined below.

XU BAIQING
Co-Sponsor: Geography
Dr. Xu Biaqing is a Professor at the Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and serves as the Deputy Director of the China Society on Tibetan Plateau. He has been conducting research in climate change, carbon budget, and atmospheric environment in the Qinghai-Ile plateau over the past 20 years. Currently, he serves as Executive Director of the Second Comprehensive Expedition to the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, a large scale, multi-year, multi-billion dollar expedition project. He received a prestigious National Science Foundation of China’s Distinguished Young Scholars Award in 2011 and a Young Scientist Award in Tibet Scientific Study by the China Society on Tibetan Plateau in 2005. He will give a lecture: “Climate Changes in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau: Challenges and Opportunities”.

DATES: October 3-8, 2018
HOST: Chansheng He (chansheng@wmich.edu)

SANG-MI YOO
Co-Sponsor: Frostic School of Art
The Printmedia Area of the Frostic School of Art is pleased to host Korea-born artist, Sang-Mi Yoo. Prof. Yoo is an Associate Professor of Art at Texas Tech University, and received an MFA in printmaking from The Ohio State University and a BFA in painting from Seoul National University. She has exhibited widely most notably at the Seoul Olympic Museum of Art, The Museum of Print History in Houston, the artist’s exhibition of obra in Korea, the Genenom International Art Festival in Korea and the 2008 Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition among many others. She has received the Seacourt Print Workshop Artist-in-Residence in Korea in the 2008 Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition among many others. She has received the Seacourt Print Workshop Artist-in-Residence in Korea in the 2008 Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition among many others. She has received the Seacourt Print Workshop Artist-in-Residence in Korea in the 2008 Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition among many others.

DATES: October 7-14, 2018
HOST: Patricia Villalobos Echeverria (patricia.villalobos@wmich.edu)

LUCIA BANCi
Co-Sponsors: Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Gender and Women’s Studies, MSE, Environmental Studies
Lucia Banci is a Professor at the University of Florence, Italy, with extensive expertise in Structural Biology and biological nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR). She is one of the founders and the former director of the Center for Magnetic Resonance in Florence, with more than eleven high field NMR instruments. She has been awarded the IUPAC Award for “Distinguished Women in Chemistry”, the Gold Medal of the City of Florence, and has been selected as one of the Italian women in STEM project “100esperte”.

DATES: October 25, 2018
HOST: Ms. Maleeka Love & Dr. Toni Woolfork-Barnes (toni.woolfork-barnes@wmich.edu)

ALISA FREEDMAN
Co-Sponsors: World Languages & Literatures, Soga Japan Center
Prof. Alisa Freedman is the leading American expert on Japanese popular culture. She is an Associate Professor at University of Oregon and editor-in-chief of the U.S.-Japan Women’s Journal. Her many publications include the book Tokyo in Transit: Japanese Culture on the Rails and Road, and co-edited translation of Kawabata Yasunari’s The Scarlet Gang of Asakusa, and the co-edited books Modern Girls on the Go: Gender, Mobility, and Labor in Japan and Introduction: Japanese Popular Culture. Japanese has recently grown to become WMU’s second largest language major after Spanish. To celebrate this growth, Freedman will visit multiple Japanese language and culture courses in fall 2018. She will also give a talk/workshop on trends in contemporary Japanese culture for the university and local Japan-loving community.

DATES: October 29-30, 2018
HOST: Jeffrey Angles (jeffrey.angles@wmich.edu)

CHARLES MAXWELL BECKER
Co-Sponsor: Global & International Studies, World Languages & Literatures, and Economics
Charles M. Becker, with degrees from Grinnell College and Princeton University, holds appointments in both Economics and Slavic and Eurasian Studies at Duke University. Dr. Becker’s scholarship is creative, interdisciplinary, and accessible, most recently covering diverse topics such as the health and costs of forced marriages, tracing how violence in one country transcends borders, and analyzing housing bubbles in Kazakhstan. Dr. Becker is also recognized for significantly strengthening a national program that strives to increase the inclusion of minorities into the profession. On Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018, Charles Becker will deliver a public lecture in 2028 Brown, followed by a reception. He will meet with students on Friday morning and at 12 (3025 Brown) conduct a workshop with faculty on completing and encouraging successful interdisciplinary research.

DATES: November 15-16, 2018
HOST: Susan Pozo (susan.pozo@wmich.edu)

LAURA BLACK
Co-Sponsor: Communication
Laura Black is an associate professor in the School of Communication Studies at Ohio University and the Editor of the Journal of Public Deliberation. She is a group communication scholar whose research focuses on public dialogue, deliberation, and community engagement. She has studied communication practices such as disagreement,
storytelling, listening, and facilitation strategies to better understand how groups can address complex problems together in light of having different, deeply held values. Her work has been published in Communication Theory, Journal of Applied Communication Research, Western Journal of Communication, Small Group Research, Policy & Politics, and several edited books. She also works in her local community as a facilitator and leader of community conversations.

DATES: February 5-7, 2019
HOST: Leah Omilion-Hodges (leah.omilion-hodges@wmich.edu)

AMOS P. KENNEDY, JR
Co-Sponsor: Special Collections and Rare Book
Department, University Libraries; Gwen Frostic School of
Art; Kalamazoo Book Arts Center

Amos P. Kennedy, Jr. is printer, book artist, and papermaker, currently working in Detroit, who is best known for creating brilliantly colored letterpress prints that express social and political commentary. Using hand presses, he produces large editions of typographically driven posters on inexpensive chipboard, often layered with many vibrant colors of ink. His bold and challenging prints have been collected by libraries including Emory University and UC Santa Barbara, and he has taught workshops throughout the US, South America, and Europe. In 2009, the feature-length documentary film Proceed and Be Bold, directed by Laura Zinger, focused on his life and work. In 2015, he was honored as a United States Artists Glasgow Fellow in Crafts.

DATES: February 28 - March 3, 2019
HOST: Susan Steuer (susan.steuer@wmich.edu)

ROBB MANN
Co-Sponsor: History, Anthropology, and Geography

Dr. Rob Mann is currently Associate Professor of Anthropology at St. Cloud State University. He is an anthropological archaeologist with interests in historical archaeology, ethnohistory, and the North American fur trade. He has published widely on topics relating to the ethnohistory and archaeology of the fur trade era in the Great Lakes region. His studies have appeared in Ethnohistory, Historical Archaeology, and International Journal for Historical Archaeology, and Midwest Archaeological Conference Occasional Papers. He is particularly interested in the integration of archaeological and ethnohistorical methods to better understand the ethno genesis of Great Lakes fur trade society. He will discuss his recent research on voyageur smoking customs in a public lecture and his methodological musings on historical anthropology and fur trade society in a faculty seminar.

DATES: Late March 2019
HOST: Michael S. Nassaney (nassanev@wmich.edu)

ANAND YANG
Co-Sponsors: History, Sociology, Comparative Religion, Political Science, and Anthropology, and the Southwest
Michigan Educational Initiative on the East Indian Ocean

Dr. Anand Yang, Director of the Jackson School of International Studies and Stanley D. Golub Chair of International Studies at the University of Washington, Seattle, is a recognized authority on the recent history of the Indian subcontinent. Dr. Yang has edited and published numerous books and journal articles that have appeared in the Journal of Asian Studies, the Journal of World History, and the Journal of Social History, among others. He is the recipient of many grants and fellowships from various organizations including the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Institute for Indian Studies, and the U.S. Department of State. He will present a public lecture discussing the stories of Indian laborers banished to penal colonies in southeast Asia.

DATES: Early April 2019
HOST: Michael S. Nassaney (nassanev@wmich.edu)

PEGGY L. CHINN
Co-Sponsors: Bronson School of Nursing, Occupational Therapy, and Gender and Women’s Studies

Peggy L. Chinn, RN, PhD, FAAN is Professor Emerita of Nursing at the University of Connecticut. She is the Editor of Advances in Nursing Science. She has authored or co-authored 25 books and 60 articles on nursing theory, feminism and nursing, the art of nursing, nursing education, and LGBTQ health. She is co-founder and web manager for Lavender Health, an online LGBTQ health resource center. On April 29, 2019 at the Bernhard Center, Dr. Chinn will address health professionals and students on providing inclusive, evidence based care for LGBTQ+ patients. Nurses will be able to earn CEUs from this event.

DATE: April 29, 2019
HOST: Pamela Wadsworth (pamela.j.wadsworth@wmich.edu)