



The Bernard and Audre
RAPOPORT CENTER
For Human Rights and Justice

The University of Texas at Austin
School of Law

Partners for Change at the Intersection of Academics and Advocacy

Annual Review 2010–2011



Our Mission

is to build a multidisciplinary community engaged in the study & practice of human rights that promotes the economic & political enfranchisement of marginalized individuals and groups both locally and globally.

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Center fellows Lydia Putnam, Amina Zarrugh, and Raja Swamy, intern Julie Bissinger, post-graduate fellow Lucas Lixinski, and administrator William Chandler assisted in the preparation of this Annual Review.

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Staff Profiles



Karen Engle is Cecil D. Redford Professor in Law and founding director of the Rapoport Center. Engle publishes and lectures extensively on international law and human rights, with focuses on indigenous and Afro-descendant rights in the Americas, and gender and international criminal justice.



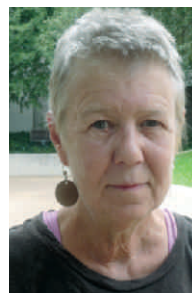
Daniel Brinks is associate professor of government and co-director of the Rapoport Center. He is a faculty advisor for the graduate human rights concentration in Latin American studies. He has researched and written broadly on law and human rights in Latin America, as well as in comparative politics in Latin America, particularly Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay.



William Chandler is administrator of the Rapoport Center. He manages the everyday logistics of the Center and supervises the fellowship and internship programs. William worked previously as a program manager for an international education organization. He recently completed an MS in International Politics, focusing his research on human rights issues in Mexico.



Ariel Dulitzky is clinical professor of law and director of the Human Rights Clinic. He also directs the Rapoport Center's internship program. Dulitzky is a leading expert in the inter-American human rights system and has published on human rights, racial discrimination, and the rule of law in Latin America.



Barbara Harlow is the Louann and Larry Temple Centennial Professor of English Literatures and chair of the faculty panel for the Human Rights and Social Justice Bridging Disciplines Program. Her teaching, research, and writing focuses on third world studies, critical theory, prison and resistance writings, and postcolonial studies.

Photograph credits: Karen Engle and Ariel Dulitzky, by Mark Rutkowski; Daniel Brinks, courtesy of Brinks; William Chandler, by Steph Swope; Barbara Harlow, by Heather Teague.

Letter from the Directors



Karen Engle. Photograph courtesy Engle.

Over the past year, the Rapoport Center has moved to a new and expanded space, has both replaced and increased personnel, and has started a series of exciting new projects in addition to continuing many existing ones. These changes in the midst of continuity are the visible markers of our growing institutional commitment to our original mission: to build and maintain an interdisciplinary community engaged in the research and practice of human rights at UT.

As this Annual Review goes to press, we write you from our new offices in a center for centers at the law school, where we are delighted to share a suite with the Energy Center and the Center for Women in Law. This ample physical space, with a shared conference room and workspaces for students who are affiliated with the centers, has facilitated increased engagement within the Rapoport Center, as well as between centers. The place is abuzz

with people working on collaborative projects, and with law, graduate, and undergraduate students sharing experiences and knowledge.

We also have a new Center administrator. After nearly five years with us, Sarah Cline moved out of Texas for personal reasons. We were sad to see her leave, of course, but grateful that her commitment to the future of the Center led her to help us conduct an extensive search for her replacement. We chose William Chandler from over eighty applicants for the job; he joined us in April, and has already begun to leave his own mark on the Center.

And this past summer, we (Karen Engle and Dan Brinks) became co-directors of the Center. Dan is associate professor of government, and has been involved with the Rapoport Center nearly since its inception. He brings to the Center a wealth of experience as an academic and as a lawyer. In keeping with his research interests, he will play a crucial role in continuing to develop our work on comparative constitutional law and on social and economic rights, particularly but not exclusively in Latin America. As co-directors, we look forward to further enhancing the interdisciplinary work and outreach that is central to our mission, and that makes us stand out among human rights centers throughout the world.

As we hope you will see in this Annual Review, interdisciplinarity, collaboration, and an attention to structural inequality in the pursuit of social justice continue to animate our work. Our working groups, speaker series, and legal clinics spent another year bringing together advocacy and academic pursuits aimed at understanding and ameliorating the effects of events as seemingly disparate as the HIV/AIDS pandemic, the Texas-Mexico border wall, a Costa Rican dam, and the war in Iraq. As disparate as they are, these projects are all connected by the goal of attacking the structural inequalities that undergird their impact on marginalized populations.

The Rapoport Center is what the people who work with us make it. We have therefore asked a number of faculty and students who were intimately involved with our projects last year to write about the Center's activities from their perspective. We hope you enjoy hearing from a clinic student, a Rapoport Center scholar and intern, and three of our faculty steering committee members about their important work over the past year.

As always, thank you for your support and interest in our work. We hope to see you at many of our events in the coming year.



Daniel Brinks. Photograph courtesy Notre Dame.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Engle".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Brinks".



Clinic Defends Indigenous Rights in Costa Rica

by Eva Hershaw

The Teribe people of southern Costa Rica, a meager 1% of the country's total population, have already lost 90% of their historic landholdings to non-indigenous interests. In what constitutes a continued violation of their right to free, prior, informed consent by the Costa Rican state, they are now faced with further loss of land through the construction of a mega-dam. If completed, this would become the largest dam of its type in Central America.

To date, the Human Rights Clinic (HRC) has sent two student groups to Costa Rica to document the implications of the El Diquís Hydroelectric Project, a state-planned mega-dam on the Térraba indigenous reserve. Data collected by students in the spring of 2010 led to a report by the HRC entitled "Swimming Against the Current." I formed part of the second group, which visited Costa Rica in the fall of 2010 to present the report to relevant government officials, NGOs, interested (and uninterested) media, and the Teribe community itself.



Teribe community members with a copy of the Human Rights Clinic report. Photograph by Eva Hershaw.

While at times the work felt easy, fascinating, and rewarding, at others it was as difficult as one might expect. We planned and prepared in advance, but there was nothing we could do to anticipate circumstances on the ground. We were working in a foreign country and in another language, and things did not always go as planned. Reporters did not show up after saying they would, we scheduled concurrent meetings on opposite sides of town, and we were asked to give an impromptu presentation to a faction of the Costa Rican Parliament, having no choice but to deliver our 20-minute presentation in a rushed five. We were running in circles, juggling important documents, and trying to keep our clothes looking professional in the tropical rain.

One of the things that made this trip a crucial learning experience was that both the Clinic and Professor

Ariel Dulitzky, director of the HRC, gave us a high degree of freedom and responsibility, treating us as human rights professionals.

Moreover, while a lot of things did not go as planned, the important things did. Our report reached the hands of many crucial actors, drew a good amount of media attention, and was well-received in our visit to the Teribe community. We gathered additional information to further bolster our findings, and in the months that followed our trip we continued to reach out to officials in Costa Rica, in the US, and in the international community.

As a dual Master's student in Journalism and Latin American Studies, I had little background in the legal framework surrounding the issues faced by the Teribe people. However, the HRC values the contributions of students from different backgrounds, giving me the opportunity to contribute my own journalistic expertise to the task of publicizing the results of its investigation. In turn, my work with the HRC has given me valuable insights into the world of human rights. As a journalist, advocate, and academic, I can now add faces, images, and greater understanding to my reporting on the challenges to human rights in Latin America.

A number of other clinics at the Law School also provide students with opportunities to gain hands-on experience with human rights litigation and advocacy. Clinic students have defended low-income immigrants in court, brought claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act, and worked on cases challenging detainee treatment in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

Immigration Clinic

"Working on an asylum case in the Immigration Clinic, I learned the importance of passion and persistence even when the final result was not what I'd hoped for. Those who have risked their lives to seek refuge in this country deserve nothing less."

- Eric Berelovich

Transnational Workers' Rights Clinic

"One thing I've learned from my experience at the Clinic is that you can use the law to make positive change. I have seen several employers correct their unfair payment practices after their employees consulted us."

- Claire Rodriguez

National Security Clinic

"The hands-on experience of the National Security Clinic taught me how to write like a lawyer, research like a lawyer, and think like a lawyer. Practicing national security law requires a great deal of patience and a great deal of teamwork."

- Della Sentilles

Curriculum Bridges the Gap Between Interdisciplinary Studies and Human Rights

by Professor Barbara Harlow

The “Asian values” debate, the Danish cartoons controversy, the recent conflicted funeral commemorations of former Congolese leaders Patrice Lumumba and Mobutu Sese Seko, and the ongoing case of Libya and UN sanctions, were among the topics researched at biweekly meetings in 2010-11 by a small, informal – but highly informed! – working group created to develop curricular strategies for the undergraduate Bridging Discipline Program’s concentration in Human Rights and Social Justice (BDP-HRSJ). The group’s goal was to make the concentration’s cornerstone required course, BDP319: Human Rights: Theories/Practices, responsive to current human rights and social justice issues as these crises might emerge even mid-semester.

As chair of the faculty panel for Human Rights and Social Justice, and instructor for BDP319 in fall 2011, I was privileged to meet regularly throughout the year with Rapoport Center scholar Caroline Carter (Law), PhD candidate Daniel Kahozi (Comparative Literature), and Rapoport Center postgraduate fellow Lucas Lixinski to develop these and other topics, as well as to coordinate the eventual building of an archival resource of references, bibliographies, and materials (print, audio-visual, and electronic) that future

instructors and students could make part of their research.

BDP-HRSJ, which has 37 students currently pursuing the certificate, was launched in spring 2010 as one of UT’s premier Bridging Disciplines Programs (www.utexas.edu/ugs/bdp) designed to offer undergraduates, whatever their major, the opportunity to consolidate specialized disciplinary interests, both academic and professional, in interdisciplinary campus-wide inquiry. BDP-HRSJ, distinguished among the BDP programs by its innovative collaboration with the Rapoport Center’s faculty and affiliates, draws on courses from Social Work, Liberal Arts, Public Affairs, Communications, and Nursing.

The cornerstone course is therefore designed to provide a coherent and consistent – historical, theoretical, and practical – basis to a student’s understanding of the importance of human rights in our contemporary world, while nonetheless making it possible for faculty to teach a course that is open to the challenges to a human rights narrative posed each semester by natural disasters, political conflicts, and humanitarian crises. We hope now to be ready to address – and to enlist our students in redressing – some of the inequalities and injustices that persist in an ever-changing national and international environment.

Center Co-Sponsors Workshop on Global Law and Policy



The Rapoport Center again co-sponsored Harvard Law School’s Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP) Workshop, which took place June 1-10, 2011. This year’s program

brought together more than 100 doctoral and post-doctoral researchers from over 40 countries to engage in a series of cross-disciplinary seminars on international law, economics, human rights and social justice, and legal theory. Professor David Kennedy (Harvard University), who is faculty director of the Institute, noted, “Professors Karen Engle and Daniel Brinks from the Rapoport Center helped shape our research agenda, which strives to nurture innovative thinking by and collaboration among young scholars and policy-makers from what might be termed the ‘semi-periphery’ of the global economic, cultural, and political system.” Professors Engle and Brinks organized and led the Workshop’s writing component, which involved



IGLP Workshop participants during one of the plenary sessions. Photograph courtesy Neal O’Connor.

in-depth discussions of each participant’s research project. Lucas Lixinski, the Center’s postgraduate fellow, reflected on his own participation in the Workshop: “It was a tremendous experience to interact with so many committed researchers from a variety of disciplines, constantly instigating one another to think creatively about the role of law and institutions in addressing global challenges.”



Summer Fellows Gain Invaluable Practical Experience

Although Argentina's period of state-sponsored violence known as the "Dirty War" came to an end nearly three decades ago, its impacts are still being felt today. Legislation developed during that period that allows police to detain suspects on an arbitrary basis was the foundation of an enforced disappearance case from 2003, which was recently brought before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in Costa Rica. Law student Devin Sefton, who interned with the Court, assisted judges and attorneys in drafting opinions regarding the case, which included charges of arbitrary detention and police abuse. Central to his interest in the Inter-American system was his recognition of the Court as "many people's only hope because their home country is overridden with corruption and violence" and as a site providing those "who have no money and power in their country an opportunity to seek justice."

Sefton was among eight UT law students awarded summer fellowships by the Rapoport Center to work with organizations, both inter- and non-governmental, that make human rights central to their missions. Three other students also interned with international institutions. In Phnom Penh, Della Sentilles worked at the Office of the Co-Prosecutors of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia to prepare for trial and to organize Khmer Rouge regime confessions and interrogation logs. Caitlin Boehne assisted the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania, by drafting rulings and reviewing oral judgments, including that of Pauline Nyiramasuhuko, the first woman convicted of genocide by the tribunal. Kristian Aguilar prepared background materials for case studies at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, DC. Of her experience, she remarked, "I have had the opportunity to witness first-hand the inner-workings of this human rights mechanism. I was encouraged by how strongly dedicated and motivated the staff and attorneys were to upholding justice and human rights."

Two fellows engaged in projects that prioritized interaction with clients directly affected by human rights violations. Audrey Lynn interned with the Equal Justice Center in Austin, Texas, where she worked with both US-born and transnational workers to seek recovery of their

withheld and unpaid wages. As part of her internship with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid in Weslaco, Elizabeth Coleman interviewed Spanish-speaking clients involved in domestic violence cases to facilitate the return of children who had been abducted by their fathers and taken into Mexico.



Rapoport Center summer fellows, from left to right: Kristian Aguilar, Stacy Cammarano, Caitlin Boehne, Devin Sefton, Mallory Owen (Not pictured: Elizabeth Coleman, Audrey Lynn, Della Sentilles). Photograph by William Chandler.

Other law students developed their legal skills working for organizations involved in complex domestic and international litigation. Mallory Owen interned with Protimos in London, where she performed research and drafted memos concerning unsustainable development projects in Kenya's Tana River Delta. Working with Human Rights USA in Washington, DC, Stacy Cammarano attended congressional hearings, interviewed clients, and conducted research on torture and human trafficking.

According to Professor Ariel Dulitzky, coordinator of the fellowship program and director of the Human Rights Clinic, "Our fellowship program helps law students actively contribute to human rights advocacy, providing them with the opportunity to expand their knowledge, develop their skills, and gain experience in the practice of human rights law." These fellowships were made possible by the generous financial contributions of the Effie and Wofford Cain Foundation, which has long supported the Law School's international legal placements, and the Orlando Letelier and Ronnie Karpen Moffitt Endowed Presidential Scholarship in Law.

"I have had the opportunity to witness first-hand the inner-workings of this human rights mechanism."

– Kristian Aguilar

Internship Expands Student World Views

by Luis Soberon

During my last semester at UT, I was privileged to serve as one of the Rapoport Center's seven undergraduate interns for the 2010-11 academic year. This internship offered me a perfect opportunity to focus my diverse interests in human rights and international affairs into one experience and to prepare for challenges ahead in my professional pursuits.

One of the most valuable aspects of the internship came from the human rights conversations (see page 7) that were held at our weekly team meetings. The topics and readings were chosen by Lucas Lixinski, the Rapoport Center's 2010-11 postgraduate fellow, and occasionally by the Center's scholars and undergraduate interns. Last spring, many of our conversations often turned to the wave of protests that erupted in the Middle East beginning in January. We read the writings of Gene Sharp, whose work on non-violent struggle has been connected to the protests, and we critically examined the increasing use of humanitarian intervention as a response to human rights violations.

During these meetings, I was encouraged to share my interest in human rights issues in the Middle East and specifically in Yemen, where regional allegiances and high levels of poverty placed the country in a vulnerable position as protesters called for the resignation of President Ali Abdullah Saleh. The discussions were always insightful and often challenging. What they provided for me as an undergraduate was an open space where I could critically discuss these issues with people who draw from a breadth of knowledge much greater than my own.

Being able to attend the Human Rights Happy Hour Speaker Series (see page 10) and the "Aftershocks: Legacies of Conflict" conference (see page 8) also gave me the opportunity to listen to and even engage in scholarly debate on contemporary human rights issues from around the world.

This internship offered me a perfect opportunity to focus my diverse interests in human rights and international affairs into one experience.



Spring 2011 undergraduate interns, from left to right: Rowan Viva, Alexis Simon-Landa, and Luis Soberon. Photograph by Sarah Cline.

Additionally, I worked on a diverse range of projects with the Center, including reporting on events, translating documents, and publicizing the Happy Hour Speaker Series. My work complemented that of the other undergraduate interns, who contributed to the Center by expanding a human rights internship database, developing affiliated faculty outreach initiatives, and conducting research on human rights programming at UT for undergraduate, graduate, and law students.

From the many inspirational discussions and experiences I had at the Rapoport Center, I was better prepared to volunteer at the Aida Refugee Camp in Palestine this past summer. I plan to begin law school at UT in the fall, and to embark eventually on a career that I hope to devote to preserving the human rights of peoples from around the world.

2010-11 Undergraduate Interns

Eunice Ali (Nursing)

Julie Bissinger (Journalism)

Priscilla Pelli (Government and Journalism)

Alexis Simon-Landa (Business and Spanish)

Luis Soberon (Philosophy)

Rowan Viva (Government)

Zoya Waliyany (Government)



"The projects that I worked on made me realize that human rights violations are all around us and that we really do have the ability to improve people's lives."

— Julie Bissinger



Student Organization Builds Undergraduate Human Rights Community

Undergraduate students painted their thoughts about human rights on a giant wall, while student organizations held carnival games to inform passersby about social justice issues. These activities were part of the 2nd Annual Human Rights Fair on the UT South Mall this spring, organized by the Human Rights Student Advisory Council (HRSAC), an initiative of the Rapoport Center that connects undergraduate groups in their efforts to build a student human rights community.

The ten different student groups involved in the HRSAC focus on a variety of human rights issues, ranging from fighting hunger, to aiding refugees, to building sustainability projects abroad. Zoya Waliany (Government) and Andrea Shannon (Rhetoric and Writing) served as co-liaisons between the HRSAC and the Rapoport Center this past year.

“We pool our resources, manpower, and creative ideas to help people around the world,” said Shannon. “It’s truly rewarding to see so many students who have a steadfast commitment to effecting change.”

During the fall semester, the HRSAC organized a campus-wide canned food drive with the help of the Capital Area Food Bank, the largest hunger-relief organization in Central Texas. At the end of the spring semester,



Undergraduate students participating in the 2nd Annual Human Rights Fair. Photograph by Andrea Shannon.

HRSAC representatives hosted a potluck that brought together students with human rights interests.

In the future, the HRSAC hopes to continue to forge a coalition of human rights activists who may look to one another for camaraderie and support. “We hope to do more each year,” said Shannon.

The Making of a Human Rights Scholar

by Caroline Carter

Working with the Rapoport Center as a human rights scholar has been the highlight of my law school experience. I had the opportunity to work on a wide array of projects, which allowed me to engage



2010-11 human rights scholars, from left to right: Caroline Carter, Lydia Putnam, Stacy Cammarano, and Marion Armstrong. Photograph by Sarah Cline.

with human rights issues on many levels. As a human rights scholar, I was involved with the Border Wall Working Group (see page 15), curriculum development for the Bridging Disciplines Program (see page 3), the Working Paper Series (see page 13), and the annual conference (see page 8). The most rewarding part of working on these projects was the collaboration with faculty and students.

As someone interested in academic scholarship and in potentially pursuing a career in academia, the project was both useful and inspiring.

The curriculum development project for the Bridging Disciplines Program (BDP), in particular, offered a unique opportunity for me to engage with human rights issues and to expand my knowledge of this field. At fort-

nightly meetings with Professor Barbara Harlow (English), our small group discussed various human rights topics and ways to integrate them into the undergraduate BDP curriculum. As someone interested in academic scholarship and in potentially pursuing a career in academia, the project was both useful and inspiring. I learned a tremendous amount about human rights; furthermore, the project offered a forum for open and engaging debate about controversial human rights issues as well as the opportunity to apply a human rights framework to the analysis of current events.

I had the pleasure of working with three other human rights scholars this year - Marion Armstrong (Law), Stacy Cammarano (Law), and Lydia Putnam (Women's and Gender Studies). I learned a great deal from hearing about their

perspectives on human rights and their experiences within this area. We have all enjoyed drawing from and contributing to the dynamic atmosphere at the Rapoport Center over the past year.

2011 Graduate Summer Fellows

Juan Portillo (Women's and Gender Studies)

Lydia Putnam (Women's and Gender Studies)

Raja Swamy (Anthropology)

Amina Zarrugh (Sociology)

Human Rights Conversations Critically Engage Interns and Scholars

What are the promises and pitfalls of using law to achieve social justice? How do freedom of expression and freedom of religion relate? What might be some of the unintended consequences of a human right to property? What is gained or lost by thinking of human trafficking as a human rights issue?

Questions like these framed a new series of weekly conversations about human rights among the Rapoport Center's interns, scholars, and staff.

“The weekly conversations that Lucas organized really took our scholar and internship program to a new level. [The students’] engagement with the issues was palpable in their work.” – Karen Engle

into the everyday work of the Center's interns (see page 5) and scholars (see page 6). Each week, Lixinski selected and distributed a text, alongside a set of questions that would guide an hour-long discussion in the subsequent team meeting.

Students, as well as Center administrators Sarah Cline and William Chandler, were also invited to present their own work and experiences in the field of

human rights. By providing students with texts to reflect on as a group, the Center hoped to enhance their experience and allow them to participate more fully in the Center's commitment to critical engagement with human rights.

The readings for each meeting ranged from news stories to scholarly articles. To help break the ice, each semester's first discussion was framed around a broad inquiry about the goals, purposes, and sources of human rights. This conversation also set much of the agenda for the following meetings.

“Observing the students' level of engagement with the texts, and the way they seamlessly connected the ideas raised during the human rights discussions with the Center's projects and their own role in them, has been an extremely rewarding experience,” Lixinski said. Professor Karen Engle (Law), co-director of the Center, assessed the impact of the conversations: “The weekly conversations that Lucas organized really took our scholar and internship program to a new level. He led meetings that successfully opened space for participants to share their own experiences in human rights and to think critically about the field as a whole. Their engagement with the issues was palpable in their work.”



Postgraduate fellow Lucas Lixinski, second from left, leads a human rights conversation on social and economic rights. Also pictured, from left to right: Raja Swamy, Professor Daniel Brinks, Juan Portillo, and Lydia Putnam. Photograph by William Chandler.

The new series took advantage of the background and interests of postgraduate fellow Lucas Lixinski, who received his PhD in International Law from the European University Institute, to integrate more academic discussion



Conference Explores the Contested

In the play *Black Watch*, a writer asks soldiers from a Scottish infantry battalion of the British army whether the storied history of the regiment influenced their decision to join its ranks. “Aye,” one soldier answers. “It’s the golden thread. It’s what connects the past, to the present,

the Rapoport Center’s seventh annual conference, entitled, “Aftershocks: Legacies of Conflict,” on February 17-18, 2011.

A panel with Burke and Professor Nicholas Cull (University of Southern California) on “Performance and Human Rights” opened the

entitled “How Al-Qaeda Ends: The Future of Terror Ten Years After 9/11,” and the National Theatre of Scotland’s performance of *Black Watch* at the Texas Performing Arts Center.

Conference participants reconvened the following day in panels



A moving scene from the performance of Gregory Burke’s play, *Black Watch*, which explores the aftershocks of conflict as experienced by members of a Scottish infantry battalion in the Iraq War. Photograph courtesy Manuel Harlan.

to the future.” A performance of the award-winning play by Scottish playwright Gregory Burke anchored

the conference. It was followed by a keynote address by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Lawrence Wright

organized around “Colonial Legacies,” “Traumatic Legacies,” and “Institutional and Legal Legacies.” There, speakers implicitly and explicitly questioned the extent to which conflicts might properly be considered “post,” given how their aftershocks are often long-felt in multiple sites.

Participants from wide-ranging disciplines, geographic locations, and perspectives examined different stages of conflict including colonial and imperial histories that continue to be reproduced in the 21st century,

“The conference was an incredibly innovative and provocative combination of theatrical, academic, and popular perspectives on conflict and its aftermath. It encouraged me to rethink the presentation of contested legacies of conflict to include not only scholarly, but also artistic, histories and voices.”

— Helen Kinsella

Legacies of Conflict

the nature of wartime violence, and post-war factors that often perpetuate social divisions. Professor Priya Satia (Stanford University), for example, took audience members back in time, connecting the British colonialist policy of aerial surveillance and bombardment of Iraq in the first half of the 20th century to US drone warfare in the second Iraq War.

Discussion of the play and the role of art in addressing conflict was woven throughout the panels. Professor Laura Edmondson (Dartmouth College) used *Black Watch* to analyze external spectatorship of conflict and the fascination with traumatic experiences of others. Borrowing the term “atrocious Tinkerbell” from the play *Maria Kizito*, she critically examined how people who are safely separated from conflict nevertheless engage with and are sometimes even complicit in it.

Professor Michael Rothberg (University of Illinois) focused on the role of art, in particular on the work of South African artist William Kentridge, as a way of exploring multi-directional memories during moments of transition. Professor Neloufer de Mel (Colombo University in Sri Lanka) and Jeffrey Helsing (United States Institute of Peace) noted the prominent (and intentional) absence of civilians in *Black Watch*, as they considered the effects on civilians of conflict and post-conflict situations.



Pulitzer Prize-winning author Lawrence Wright (*The New Yorker*) discusses the future of terror and violence. Photograph by Steph Swope.

After presenting her own work on the history of the civilian/combatant distinction, Professor Helen Kinsella (University of Wisconsin - Madison) commented generally on the two-day event: “The conference was an incredibly innovative and provocative combination of theatrical, academic, and popular perspectives on conflict and its aftermath. It encouraged me to rethink the presentation of contested legacies of conflict to include not only scholarly, but also artistic, histories and voices.”



From left to right, Playwright Gregory Burke, Professor Michael Rothberg (University of Illinois), Professor Paul Gready (University of York), Sarah Cline (Rapoport Center), and Lawrence Wright (*The New Yorker*) debate institutional and legal legacies. Photograph by Steph Swope.

Conference Participants

Benjamin Brower, University of Texas at Austin
Gregory Burke, Playwright of *Black Watch*
Charlotte Canning, University of Texas at Austin
Sarah Cline, University of Texas at Austin
Nicholas Cull, University of Southern California
Kate Doyle, The National Security Archive
Laura Edmondson, Dartmouth College
Karen Engle, University of Texas at Austin
Frances T. "Sissy" Farenthold, Advisory Board Member, Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice
Paul Gready, University of York
Jeffrey Helsing, United States Institute of Peace
Helen Kinsella, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Barbara Harlow, University of Texas at Austin
Neloufer de Mel, Colombo University, Sri Lanka
Michael Rothberg, University of Illinois
Priya Satia, Stanford University
Pauline Strong, University of Texas at Austin
Ralph Wilde, University College London, University of London
Lawrence Wright, Author, Screenwriter, Playwright, 2010-11 Cline Visiting Professor in the Humanities

The conference was co-sponsored by Texas Performing Arts, the Humanities Institute, the Center for Women's and Gender Studies, UT Libraries, the South Asia Institute, the Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, the Performance as Public Practice Program, the British Studies Program, and the Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance (at St. Edward's University).



Health Issues Take Center

A World Bank economist, an Argentine anthropologist, and an environmental lawyer were among the ten lecturers who participated in the 2010-11 Happy Hour Speaker Series. While presentations probed diverse topics ranging from oil litigation in the Amazon rainforest to the Palestinian liberation movement, three of the talks revolved explicitly around issues concerning access to healthcare and health as a human right.

The interdisciplinary nature of the speaker series, coupled with heightened attention to the US healthcare debate, generated lively discussion on this topic. The talks examined access to medical treatment in South Africa, Brazil, and Argentina, making for provocative comparisons to the US healthcare system. Participants reflected on topics such as the potential benefits and drawbacks of having a constitutional right to health, and how pharmaceutical companies often prioritize the health of privileged populations over those most in need.

Professor Daniel Brinks (Government; now co-director of the Rapoport Center) and Varun Gauri (Senior Economist, Development Research Group of the World Bank) kicked off the speaker series by considering the extent to which courts help poor people secure access to healthcare. Focusing on constitutional claims to health brought in Brazilian and South African courts, Brinks

and Gauri found that approximately two-thirds of the people who benefited most (directly and indirectly) from the lawsuits were underprivileged. While the extent to which the poor benefit varies – it is greater in South Africa than in Brazil – Brinks and Gauri noted that these results challenge common skepticism that litigation only works for people who have the means to use the judicial system.

Later in the fall, Professor Paola Bergallo (Universidad de San Andrés in Argentina) provided a more skeptical view of the law’s ability to ensure healthcare access for marginalized populations. In her talk, she focused on the recent increase in right-to-health proceedings in Argentinean courts. While Bergallo acknowledged that some marginalized populations and poor people have benefitted from litigation, she also noted that, despite judicial intervention, the public health system still falls far short of fulfilling the constitutional right to health. “Every single ministry of health [in Argentina] in the last 20 years said that the rules are impossible to comply with,” Bergallo noted.



From left to right, Professor Paola Bergallo (Universidad de San Andrés in Argentina) discusses health litigation with UT professors Karen Engle (Law) and William Sage (Law). Photograph by Steph Swope.

Professor William Sage (Law; Vice Provost for Health Affairs), who is both a lawyer and a physician, offered a provocative response to Bergallo’s talk. He elucidated the differences and similarities between health law in Argentina and the US and noted that, despite the significant difference in constitutional protections, both systems appear to be broken.

In addition to debate on healthcare litigation, Professor Thomas Pogge (Yale University) highlighted the key role of pharmaceutical companies in determining access to and types of medical care throughout the world. In his presentation, Pogge argued for the creation of a Health Impact Fund, which would reward pharmaceutical companies based on the number of lives they save, with the aim of providing financial incentives to conduct research on diseases that most affect the poor.



Economist Varun Gauri (World Bank) reflects on the use of litigation by underprivileged individuals. Photograph by Sarah Cline.

“Despite the myriad of topics, the talks all felt connected; they shared similar themes or guiding principles.”
– Della Sentilles

Stage During Speaker Series

If Pogge's proposal was meant to be provocative, it succeeded. He encountered a broad range of responses from audience members, from Professor John Deigh's (Philosophy; Law) philosophical concern about how one could count the saving of lives that had not yet been born, to Professor Karen Engle's (Law) skepticism about the proposal's reliance on the preferences and competition incentives of the neo-liberal market. Engle lauded the proposal's aims and willingness to use public policy to shape the preferences of private companies, but noted that "ultimately [the pharmaceutical companies] are controlling the game."



Professor Thomas Pogge (Yale University) speaks about access to medical care. Photograph by Caroline Carter.

Assessing the series, law student Della Sentilles said, "I was amazed by the diversity of the series; one week we'd learn about the use of the judiciary to advocate for access to medical care in developing countries, the next week we'd discuss the credibility of a human rights scholar with alleged Nazi ties. What really impressed me was that despite the myriad of topics, the talks all felt connected; they shared similar themes or guiding principles."

The Speaker Series was enriched by the co-sponsorship of other departments and centers on campus (see sidebar). For the fall 2011 schedule, please see the back cover.

2010-11 Program

Daniel M. Brinks, Associate Professor of Government, University of Texas at Austin, and **Varun Gauri**, Senior Economist, Development Research Group, World Bank

"Assessing the Distributive Impact of Social and Economic Rights Litigation: More Litigation = More Inequality?"

Karen Knop, Professor of Law, University of Toronto

"The Informal State in International Law: the United States, Gender and Unilateralism"

Co-sponsored by the Center for Women's and Gender Studies

Lora Wildenthal, Associate Professor of History, Rice University

"Asylum Rights between Left and Right: The German Case"

Co-sponsored by the Institute for Historical Studies

Samera Esmeir, Assistant Professor of Rhetoric, University of California, Berkeley

"Temporalities of Struggle: National Liberation Movements and International Strategies of Rule"

Thomas Pogge, Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs, Yale University

"TRIPS, Human Rights, and the Health Impact Fund"

Co-sponsored by the Law & Philosophy Program

Paola Bergallo, Professor of Law, Universidad de San Andrés in Argentina

"Cycles of Right to Health Litigation: the Elusive Argentine Experience"

Co-sponsored by the Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies and the Center for Women's and Gender Studies

Claudia Briones, Director of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, National University of Río Negro in Argentina

"Bringing Anthropology to Court: The Promotion of Dialogues for the Enforcement of Indigenous Rights"

Co-sponsored by the Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies

Judith Kimerling, Professor of Law and Policy, The City University of New York

"Oil, Litigation and Conservation in the Amazon Rainforest in Ecuador: Can Cowode Law Protect the Rights of Indigenous Huaorani in the Oil Patch and Yasuni Biosphere Reserve?"

Co-sponsored by the the Center for Global Energy, International Arbitration and Environmental Law

Julie Mertus, Professor, School of International Service, American University

"Leap Frog Feminism: Learning about Human Rights Institution Building from Local Actors"

Co-sponsored by the Center for Women's and Gender Studies



Partners for Memory and Justice in Guatemala

by Professor Daniel Brinks

About a year ago, Karen Engle asked me to join a delegation from UT on a trip to Guatemala to meet with Gustavo Meoño, the coordinator of a vast archive of recently discovered police documents. We had been in conversation with various representatives of the archive, known as the *Archivo Histórico de la Policía Nacional* (AHPN), for several years, but political and other circumstances suggested this could be a fortuitous time to finalize an agreement facilitating access for our students and researchers, and opening the door to other collaboration.

En route, Karen and I, Charles Hale, the director of the Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS), and Christian Kelleher, archivist for the Benson Latin American Collection, tried to coordinate expectations. We needn't have bothered. The very first meeting, at the AHPN's main building, promised far more than the four of us had dreamed on the flight down.

Like few others, the project that began to take shape at that meeting epitomizes what it means to be "partners for change at the intersection of academics and advocacy." The Rapoport Center, in collaboration with LLILAS and UT Libraries, is now working with the AHPN and with academics and activists in Guatemala to safeguard, render publicly accessible, and promote the use of millions of documents that memorialize the activities of the Guatemalan National Police – especially documents related to the peak periods of state violence in that country.

The documents have an interesting history. In the context of human rights investigations in the 1990s, the government and the police had denied the existence of any documents relating to the violence. Then, quite by accident, in 2005 the Guatemalan Human Rights Ombudsman's Office discovered a treasure trove of documents in moldering boxes and bags hidden in a warehouse in Guatemala City – the Archive.

The Archive contains about 80 million documents dating back to the 19th century, many of them related to the counter-insurgency operations carried out by the National Police during the Guatemalan Civil War (1960-1996) – a period during which 200,000 people were killed and 40,000 more disappeared. With the assistance of international aid, the AHPN has already digitized 12 million of these documents. Guatemala's human rights community views the Archive as central to the struggle for memory and justice.

In January 2011, the Rapoport Center and its partners at UT signed a letter of understanding with the

AHPN. The agreement contemplates three areas of collaboration: preservation and public dissemination of the documents; prosecutions and other attempts to shed light on specific human rights violations; and academic research. The centerpiece, however, is the agreement to make UT a depository of the digitized content of the AHPN, in order to preserve it indefinitely and make it publicly available.



Archive Coordinator Gustavo Meoño (center) with UT delegation members Professor Charles Hale (left) and Professor Daniel Brinks (right). Photograph by Christian Kelleher.

The UT libraries have already received copies of the 12 million documents digitized to date, and we are all working to design a searchable public website to host them. We are also seeking funds for grants, exchange programs, and other projects centering on the AHPN, in order to continue developing this complex project with our local and international partners.

In December, we will host a conference at UT to officially announce the collaboration and launch the website. The end goal of the project is to shed light on difficult and dark periods of Guatemalan history, strengthen and support efforts within and outside of Guatemala to promote human rights, and create lasting institutional capacity around these issues.

Working Paper Series Generates Cross-Disciplinary Engagement

by Amina Zarrugh



Most working paper series are a rather lonely affair - authors submit papers, a small editorial board makes a decision regarding the manuscript, and accepted papers are posted to web pages for the reader to digest and contemplate in isolation. In contrast, the Rapoport Center's new series seeks to generate a lively dialogue around human rights throughout the process, from initial paper receipt to subsequent publication.

In January, the Center launched its Human Rights Working Paper Series with three prize-winning and finalist papers on gender from the Audre Rapoport writing competition (see below). The editorial board, which I had the privilege to co-chair with Rapoport Center post-graduate fellow Lucas Lixinski, is intentionally interdisciplinary, composed of graduate and law students as well as professors Karen Engle (Law) and Barbara Harlow (English). We aim to create a series that deconstructs the borders often erected between disciplines, scholarship and praxis, and author and audience.

Selected papers are published in a blog-style format so that readers may actively post comments concerning the paper. For each accepted submission, the regional and topical knowledge of editorial board members is solicited to offer a reaction piece that raises questions from multidisciplinary perspectives and sets the tone for the ensuing discussion. This publication style enables an ongoing conversation that individuals can move in and out of irrespective of geographic location or professional practice. The approach also provides authors the opportunity to receive timely feedback and interact with their audiences.

We anticipate that the series will promote rich intellectual exchange. On behalf of the editorial board, I welcome your participation in the series, through paper submissions or comments, and eagerly look forward to engaging in a dialogue with you.

CALL FOR PAPERS: We invite papers from a range of topics, disciplines, and perspectives related to international human rights law and discourse for submission on a rolling basis. For submission guidelines, please visit: <http://blogs.utexas.edu/rapoportcenterwps/>

Reflection on UN Approach to Gender-Based Violence Wins Audre Rapoport Prize

Maggie Corser won the sixth annual Audre Rapoport Prize for Scholarship on Gender and Human Rights for her paper "Enhancing Women's Rights and Capabilities: An Intersectional Approach to Gender-Based Violence Prevention." The paper is published online in the Center's Human Rights Working Paper Series (see above), which also features papers of this year's prize runner-up, Shana Tabak, and finalist, Jennifer Del Vecchio.

Corser's piece poses challenges to the UN's approach to combating violence against women. Specifically, drawing on the example of refugee camps in Ngara and Kibondo, Tanzania, Corser argues that, because of inadequate attention to race, socioeconomic class, and historical and political environment, UN programs and policies often fail to decrease rates of gender-based violence and to provide meaningful services to survivors.

Corser said she chose to write about this topic after noticing that nuanced understandings of both privilege and oppression remain largely absent within the human rights discipline. "My academic and activist life have focused on gender oppression and combating violence against women, so I chose to focus my paper on that," she said. Corser received her MA in International Affairs

and Human Rights from The New School in 2010.

With the competition's \$1,000 prize, Corser plans to return to China to improve her Mandarin and to learn more about non-governmental organizations operating there. "It seemed appropriate to use a prize awarded for academic work towards furthering my post-school education," Corser said.

Corser's paper was selected from multiple submissions from around the world. The competition's judges included distinguished scholars from UT and abroad.

Land Rights Report Selected for Government Publication

A Rapoport Center report on Afro-descendant land rights in Ecuador, released in 2009, has recently been selected to be the opening chapter in a published volume edited by the Ecuadorian Ministry of Justice. The book is entitled "Afrodescendientes y Derechos Humanos" ("Afro-Descendants and Human Rights").





Working Group Emphasizes Local Connections to a Global Pandemic

UT undergraduates enticed classmates to participate in HIV/AIDS testing by offering free breakfast, while activists and academics discussed the various factors that impede universal access to medical care. As part of the 4th Annual World AIDS Day Conference at UT in December, panelists from disciplines as diverse as English, Law, Social Work, and Epidemiology highlighted how limited awareness about HIV/AIDS contributes to the spread of the pandemic in countries such as India, Kazakhstan, and South Africa. As Texas holds the fourth highest HIV/AIDS rate in the US, several panelists stressed that inadequate public understanding of the disease also exists close to home.

Naveen Pattisapu, a UT undergraduate student with the Austin chapter of FACE AIDS, gave a presentation on the national student-run organization that aims to increase awareness about factors that contribute to the spread of the pandemic such as gender and race inequities.

“Every day you’ll see us tabling at the West Mall and trying to engage students about these issues,” said Pattisapu of the activities of FACE AIDS at UT. “We’re trying to bring students to the table who don’t normally talk about gender equity and activism.”

The event was sponsored and coordinated by the Rapoport Center Working Group on Health and Human Rights, along with FACE AIDS and the Department of Government.

Center Welcomes Matthew Flynn

Matthew Flynn joins us as Postdoctoral Fellow in Health and Human Rights for 2011-12. Flynn is a sociologist and lecturer at the LBJ School of Public Affairs. He wrote his recently-defended doctoral dissertation on pharmaceutical governance in Brazil and its impact on AIDS policies. He will assist in the coordination of the Center’s Working Group on Health and Human Rights.

New Working Group Deepens Center's Focus on Human Rights and the Arts

“**F**ilm, literature, and the arts are media that enable people to talk about human rights,” said Professor Luis Carcamo-Huechante (Spanish and Portuguese). “Thanks to the ambivalence of aesthetic language, artworks are always open to interpretations and, in this way, they offer a democratic, flexible manner to set a conversation in motion.”



From left to right, Professor Zipporah Wiseman (Law), postgraduate fellow Lucas Lixinski, and Professor Luis Carcamo-Huechante (Spanish and Portuguese) lead a discussion on the relationship between film and human rights. Photograph by Alexis Simon-Landa.

Such an understanding has long formed the basis for the Rapoport Center’s commitment to incorporating the arts into its work on human rights, which is now institutionalized thanks to the initiative of faculty members who recently organized the Human Rights and the Arts Working Group.

The Working Group brings together faculty and students at the university from disciplines as varied as Ethnomusicology, Theater, American Studies, English, History, Social Work, and Art History, who use the arts in their teaching, research, and advocacy.

For its inaugural event, the Working Group hosted a screening and discussion of Chilean filmmaker Patricio Guzman’s documentary “Nostalgia de la Luz” (“Memory of the Light”), which follows several Chilean women in their search for relatives who were victims of enforced disappearances during Augusto Pinochet’s dictatorship (1973-1990). Following the screening, professors Carcamo-Huechante and Zipporah Wiseman (Law) spoke about the representation of human rights in the film.

“Artworks are always open to interpretations and, in this way, they offer a democratic, flexible manner to set a conversation in motion.” – Luis Carcamo-Huechante

Beginning fall of 2011, the group will make such encounters a regular event, through a “Human Rights Film Series” organized by Carcamo-Huechante. Following film screenings, UT faculty will lead discussions on social justice issues explored in the films.

Research Cluster on Gender and Human Rights Links Local and Global Voices



In a Sudanese refugee camp, men were hoarding the food, so the undernourished women suggested that agency officials label some food items “women’s biscuits.” A rumor was then circulated that eating the biscuits would transform men into women, resolving the inequitable distribution problem.

This story opened a talk by Professor Julie Mertus (American University) at a Human Rights Happy Hour in April (see page 10). “Human rights advocacy can be very controversial,” Mertus said. “But one thing we all know is that we need to listen to the voices of the local.”

The discussion was one of several activities supported over the year by the Research Cluster on Women, Gender, and Human Rights, which emerged as part of collaboration between the Rapoport Center and the Embrey Women’s Human Rights Initiative (EWHRI) of the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies (CWGS).

The idea that international human rights actors can discover innovative solutions by working with, not simply for, local communities inspired many of the Research Cluster’s efforts to generate interdisciplinary and reflective thinking at UT on women, gender, and human rights.

Working Group Obtains Critical Information on Construction of the Border Wall

by Professor Denise Gilman

Pursuant to our federal lawsuit filed in March 2009 under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) against the US Army Corps of Engineers and Customs and Border Patrol, the UT Working Group on Human Rights and the Border Wall has received more than 30 CDs containing emails, maps, and other documents relating to the construction of the Texas/Mexico border wall.

Rapoport Center scholars and interns spent countless hours over the past year categorizing and processing the information obtained. Their efforts have allowed the Working Group to promote greater transparency and accountability regarding this colossal infrastructure project that has had a severe negative impact on human rights.

The information released to the Working Group confirms many of the human rights violations we identified in 2008 in our briefing papers to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The documents establish that political considerations motivated the border wall process and that influential landowners whose land might have been

Among those efforts was the group’s spring gathering with members of Refugio, a community organizing training center in Austin. As a part of the meeting, Rapoport Center steering committee member Professor Shannon Speed (Anthropology), who also serves as director of UT’s Community Engagement Center, gave a presentation on activist research, which engages community members in the production of scholarship on social justice issues.

The Research Cluster’s other meetings explored a diverse range of themes and places. Professor Joy James (Williams College) presented her research on US women and political imprisonment; Professor Jennifer Suchland

“At its best, women’s human rights challenges the idea of a ‘universal’ identity and challenges us to build alliances across difference.” – Kristen Hogan

(Ohio State University) discussed sex trafficking in Russia; Professor Paola Bergallo (Universidad de San Andrés in Argentina)

talked about reproductive rights in Argentina; and human rights archivist T-Kay Sangwand (UT Libraries) and Professor Ann Cvetkovich (English) discussed the role of human rights in archival preservation and research.

EWHRI Director Kristen Hogan, who organized the Cluster, commented, “Together, our discussions over the past year have acknowledged that, at its best, women’s human rights challenges the idea of a ‘universal’ identity and challenges us to build alliances across difference.”

The information released to the Working Group confirms many of the human rights violations we identified in 2008.

impacted received special consideration while smaller Latino landowners had their land seized by the government. An email from Jeffrey Self, Southwest Border Division Chief of Customs and Border Patrol, exemplifies the documents acknowledging that the wall was not designed in a tailored fashion to meet legitimate governmental goals. He writes, “I was advised that funding and timelines are driving this deployment not operational need.” In reference to the government’s failure to consult effectively with affected communities, Chief Self stated in another

email: “[T]he present execution of this plan was a snowball headed for Hell and it arrived there last week.”

While our FOIA litigation continues against Customs and Border Patrol, as the Working Group seeks to obtain further documents, we acquired the information sought from the US Army Corps of Engineers and have settled and dismissed the lawsuit against that agency. In a sign of the success of the litigation, the government reimbursed the Rapoport Center for the filing costs incurred when we sued to ensure compliance with FOIA.



Inspiration from Our Benefactors

While continuing to focus on building the multi-disciplinary human rights community at UT, the Rapoport Center took time to learn from the example set by its benefactors, Bernard (“B”) and Audre Rapoport. On May 24, 2011, the Rapoport Center unveiled an online exhibit featuring B and Audre Rapoport. The exhibit, hosted on the Rapoport Center website, chronicles the influence of B’s Jewish Russian immigrant parents on his awareness of social justice issues, B and Audre’s lifelong commitment to the political and economic enfranchisement of others, and the impact of their philanthropic endeavors. Despite the Rapoport’s many contributions



Bernard and Audre Rapoport. Photograph courtesy Rapoport Foundation.

throughout the years, they’re still eager to find new ways to give back. As B recently said, “I think I could contribute more and be more effective. I want to be a

better citizen.” The Rapoport Center seeks to harness this inspiration to continue B and Audre’s remarkable work on human rights.

Alumni Spotlight: Katy Yang



Former intern Katy Yang. Photograph courtesy Yang.

The Rapoport Center strives to maintain a connection with alumni and welcomes the opportunity to spotlight those who have continued the study and practice of human rights beyond UT. Katy Yang served as an undergraduate intern at the Rapoport Center during the fall of

2008. She currently attends Harvard Law School and explored exploring human rights related fields. The broader social awareness I gained from my time at the Center has led me to explore different approaches to social justice through involvement in various student organizations and summer experiences.

What type of human rights work have you participated in since your time at the Center?

Last summer, I worked as a legal intern in the Immigration Intervention Project at Sanctuary for Families, a non-profit that provides victims of domestic violence with a wide range of services. It was extremely rewarding to build personal relationships with my clients and to know that with each immigration application I prepared, I was helping to give someone a chance at a safer, healthier, and happier life.

What are your future plans?

I plan to continue advocating for women’s rights and searching for my place within the vast community of social change-makers.

2008. She currently attends Harvard Law School and received the Goodwin Diversity Fellowship in 2010. Yang spoke to us from Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, LLP, where she worked as an associate during the summer of 2011.

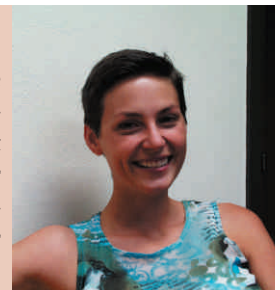
How did your experience at the Center impact your understanding of human rights?

As an undergraduate intern, my experience at the Center helped make human rights real to me – it introduced me to the impact that legal and academic advocacy can have in advancing justice.

How did your experience with the Center shape your personal and professional development?

Farewell Sarah!

Many thanks to Sarah Cline for the incredible dedication and growth she brought to the Rapoport Center in her nearly five years as administrator. We wish her the best in her new endeavors!



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The Year to Come

Human Rights Happy Hour Speaker Series

September 19, 2011

Inderpal Grewal, Professor and Chair of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Yale University

"Humanitarian Citizenship and Race: Katrina and the Global War on Terror"

October 3, 2011

Catalina Smulovitz, Director, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Argentina)

"Legal Inequality and Domestic Violence. Who Gets What and When at the Subnational Level?"

October 17, 2011

Tara J. Melish, Associate Professor of Law and Director, Human Rights Center, University at Buffalo Law School, SUNY

"From Monuments to Ladders: Collapsing Social Rights Typologies into a More Usable, Enforcement-Oriented Schema"

October 31, 2011

Youk Chhang, Executive Director, Documentation Center of Cambodia

John Ciorciari, Assistant Professor of Public Policy, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor

"Archiving Memory After Mass Atrocities"

November 14, 2011

Henry Steiner, Professor of Law, Harvard University

"Muslims in Europe: Culture Shock, Cultural Clash, Human Rights"

Conferences

December 1, 2011

World AIDS Day Conference

The fifth annual World AIDS Day Conference will explore various aspects of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic.

December 2, 2011

Guatemala National Police Archives Conference

This conference will officially announce the multi-faceted collaboration between UT Austin (Rapoport Center, Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, and UT Libraries) and the Historic National Police Archives of Guatemala.

March 1-2, 2012

Annual Conference

"Trading Places": Property Rights and the Human Rights Agenda

This multidisciplinary and comparative conference will explore the promises and pitfalls of the human right to property.

Be a Partner for Change!

Attend a lecture, conference, or other event.

Connect students to outreach and internship opportunities.

Join us online where we discuss human rights topics and post Center activities. Friend us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Submit a paper to the Working Paper Series.

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