

**ASU** Institute for  
Humanities Research  
Arizona State University

**annual**

**report**

**2018-19**

**A platform for diverse  
conversation on the  
human adventure**

# letter from the directors

The humanities play a vital role in society. They ensure the well-being of individuals, communities and our democratic institutions through a deep understanding of how human beings have shaped their lives, traditions, customs and cultures to forge futures that foster human dignity and agency. The Institute for Humanities Research (IHR) provides a platform for research and conversations about those issues fundamental to us all.

It is a pleasure to reflect on the past year in the IHR. Because of the support of our many constituencies — donors, community members, faculty and Arizona State University's administration — the year has been highly successful. We saw our Digital Humanities, Environmental Humanities and Health Humanities initiatives thrive with discussions, lectures and workshops. Two new initiatives were forged: Desert Humanities, reflecting a key priority of the new Dean of Humanities, Jeffrey Cohen; and Humane Technologies, given articulate voice at the IHR's March symposium, held at ASU's Barrett and O'Connor Washington Center.

We funded vital research projects and developed a series of workshops to help both faculty and graduate students further their research agendas. In addition, we sponsored and co-sponsored numerous public events, talks and lectures. We welcome all of you to our growing community of participants and look forward to your suggestions and ideas for how we can continue to fulfill and build upon our important mission. Your involvement is essential to our future success.

**Elizabeth Langland**  
Director, Institute for Humanities Research

**Ron Broglio**  
Co-Director, Institute for Humanities Research

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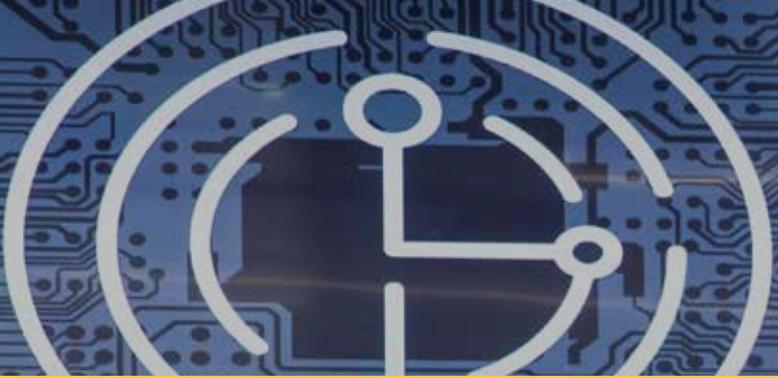
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# initiatives

IHR initiatives are responsive to emerging trends in academia. These initiatives provide opportunities for interdisciplinary conversation and research.



## Desert Humanities initiative

Desert Humanities is committed to life in the desert through building resilient communities and sustainable futures with attention to wellbeing, which is fundamentally a matter of understanding culture, ideas, religion and society. Desert Humanities explores our cultural comportment within the environment of the desert Southwest and innovates ways of reconfiguring cultural habits that determine how we bear upon this world.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Environmental Humanities initiative, which laid the foundation for the Desert Humanities at ASU.



### Vision

- **Innovate:** The Desert Humanities encourages bold humanities-led projects that are materially engaged, philosophically nimble, globally visible, multi-disciplinarily informed, timely and publicly accessible.
- **Intensify:** The Desert Humanities offers a site for convening faculty from across disciplines, giving a home to an ongoing exciting, inclusive and forward-thinking conversation among researchers, artists and thinkers from ASU and those from outside of our university.
- **Catalyze:** The Desert Humanities generates innovative learning opportunities for all, and always includes ASU students in its endeavors.
- **Connect:** The Desert Humanities amplifies the impact of faculty research and fosters alliances with research units worldwide.

### FY19 Achievements

**Created the Desert Humanities as a new initiative at ASU incubated within the IHR.**

**Made kin with an interdisciplinary board of advisors, affiliates and partners.**

**Seeded future projects, from colloquium to immersive learning experiences, and from art performances to humanities-arts publications.**

# Digital Humanities initiative

The digital humanities are concerned with humanities questions through digital means, such as digital archives, tool and algorithm building, large data set visualization, 3-D modeling of historical material objects, social media analysis, multimedia and multimodal exhibits, born-digital publications, narrative video games and search and discovery digital tools.

## Vision

The vision for the Digital Humanities initiative is to imagine possibilities with ASU faculty, staff and students by:

- Consulting directly with faculty about their ideas and projects.
- Building communities and networks of interdisciplinary scholars.
- Developing digital public humanities projects.
- Identifying research funding for the advanced development of projects.
- Developing workshops and events on digital humanities topics.

## FY19 Achievements

**Co-hosted the 2019 Digital Humanities and Pedagogy Institute with Connected Academics to connect ASU faculty, Maricopa County Community College faculty and graduate students to think about using digital tools in the classroom.**

**Created an on-paper prototype for a feminist video game tracking the experience of a migrant mother crossing the U.S.-Mexico border.**

**Developed a new digital tool for student survivors of sexual assault at ASU.**

**Reimagined ethical data practices and digital commons in online communities.**

**Provided 51 consultation hours.**

Scan the QR code to learn more about MyChoice, a digital tool for student survivors of sexual assault at ASU, developed with support from the Digital Humanities initiative.



# Health Humanities initiative

A continual engagement between the humanities and STEM fields is essential to address contemporary health issues and the practices of medicine. Yet these realms often remain separate both on university campuses and in healthcare institutions. At ASU, Health Humanities works to transcend these disciplinary and institutional boundaries by bringing academics, clinicians, caregivers and students together to address grand social challenges in areas of health and healthcare and to explore strategies for promoting, sustaining and reimagining health and resilience in individuals and communities.

## Goals

- To inquire what historical forces have shaped the structures and institutions of U.S. healthcare today.
- To ask how our understanding and delivery of healthcare impacts the quality and kind of care we receive.
- To explore how the stories we tell about health and healthcare shape outcomes.
- To pursue, through collaboration with healthcare organizations, innovative solutions to the complex, shifting challenges of health and healthcare in the world today.

## FY19 Achievements

**Sponsored an innovative lecture series in Health Humanities featuring five distinguished experts in the field.**

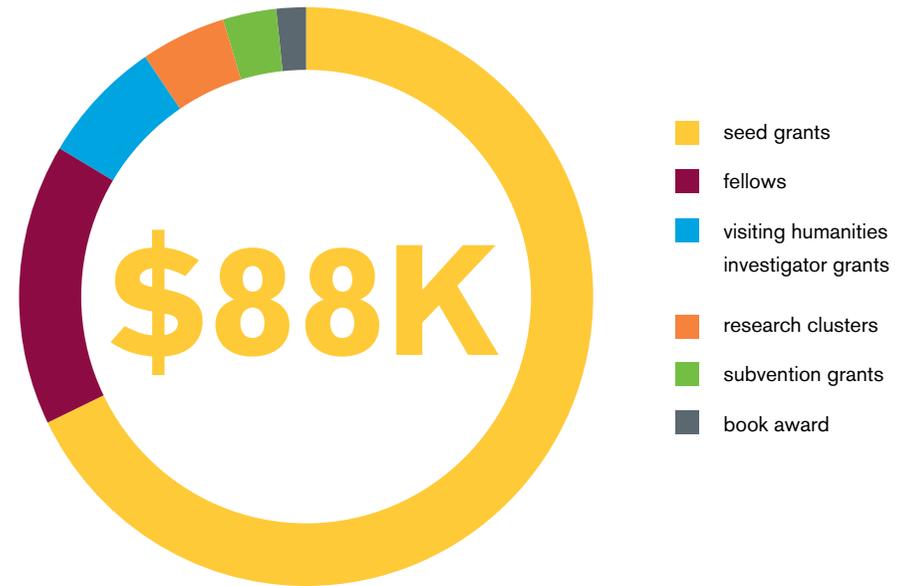
**Enrolled the first ASU undergraduates in a new Health Humanities Certificate program, designed to educate a new generation of health leaders and professionals.**

**Worked with physicians leading Mayo Clinic's Humanities in Medicine initiative to develop further collaborations between the Mayo Clinic and the IHR.**

The Digital Humanities initiative at the IHR is a feminist, anti-racist and inclusive space.

# grants and awards

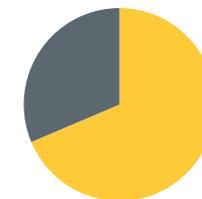
Grants and awards at the IHR imagine and create new futures for research and scholarship at ASU by funding humanities projects and publications.



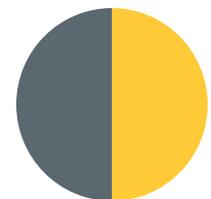
The IHR awarded \$87,908 in grants and awards in FY19.

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grants and awards were gifted to benefit humanities research and innovation in FY19.



69% of seed grant applicants were funded in FY19.



50% of seed grants that received funding in FY19 were collaborative projects.

# grants and awards fellows

The fellows program provides funding for faculty to commit to a year of intensive research and work together to meaningfully present their work to the community.

This year's fellows studied the binaries and narratives of place to discover what makes certain places visible and invisible.



**Our fellows gathered research on communities in six different regions across the world in FY19.**

The Klamath River and Yurok Tribe in Northern California • The Hopi Tribe in Northeastern Arizona • Chicanas/os in the U.S. • Public Art and Policy in New Orleans • Bodhgaya Land in Eastern India • Japan's Overseas Dam Construction in Asia

# FY19 fellows



**Myla Vicenti Carpio** Director of Graduate Studies and Associate Professor, American Indian Studies

**Salmon Wars on the Klamath River: Stories of Activism, Culture and Resilience.** This project shares stories of the Yurok Tribe's fight to protect their traditional fishing rights and the use of the gill net in the 1960s and '70s. Vicenti Carpio's work strives to capture this history before it is lost to time.



**Monica De La Torre** Assistant Professor, School of Transborder Studies

**Feminista Frequencies: Chicana/o Community Radio Archive.** The "Feminista Frequencies" archive tells the story of how rural community radio, like Radio KDNA in the Northwest U.S., was the way for Chicana/o farm workers to organize and create personal and collective power.



**Angela Gonzales** Associate Professor, School of Social Transformation

**Hopi Migration Stories: Uncovering the Legacy of the 1956 Indian Relocation Act on Hopi Identity and Sense of Belonging.** This project uncovers stories of how the 1956 Indian Relocation Act, which included the defunding of basic reservation infrastructure, impacted the lives of the Hopi people when it was implemented and continues to impact the Hopi Tribe today.



**Aaron Moore** Director of Graduate Studies and Associate Professor, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies

**Damming Asia: Japanese Overseas Development and the Reconfiguration of the Urban and Rural from the Colonial to the Post-Colonial Era.** This research looks at the history of Japan's overseas dam construction and how water is a power that shapes the economies, communities and global relations of Asian nations.



**Indulata Prasad** Assistant Professor, School of Social Transformation

**Towards "Total Revolution": Insights from the Bodhgaya Land Struggle of the Late 1970s in Eastern India.** This project captures the voices of women and urban activists who experienced the 1970s Total Revolution movement that ended slavery of women by securing land rights for the landless Dalit women in Eastern India.



**Johanna K. Taylor** Assistant Professor, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts

**Reclaiming the City: Art, Policy and Resistance in Urban Space.** This project examines how public art and cooperative art practices empower the New Orleans community to confront racial and social injustices in city and state legislation.

## In Memoriam

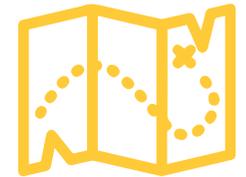
We are saddened by the untimely death of Aaron Moore, a historian of Modern Japan and East Asia. The 2018-19 IHR faculty fellows were strengthened by his participation in the annual forum. He will be deeply missed by family and dear friends, the scholarly community, his colleagues and the many students who studied with him.

Scan the QR code to access all lectures and resources from the Mapping Grand Canyon Conference.



# grants and awards seed grants

The purpose of the IHR seed grant program is to empower the ASU community to imagine, innovate and create humanities research that reveals new ways of understanding the past and future.



Matthew Toro, Paul Hirt and Robert Spindler used spring 2018 seed grant funding to document the history of mapping at the Grand Canyon.

February 28-March 1, 2019, they held the **Mapping Grand Canyon Conference**. This public event attracted hundreds of visitors, who enjoyed an uncharted exploration of map use at the iconic national park.

Toro developed the map to the left as an original cartographic contribution for the conference.

# spring 2018 seed grant recipients

## **“You can’t see it, but I’ve got a lot of shit going on”: Young Women, Invisible Disability and the Paradox of Passing**

Heather Switzer, Associate Professor, School of Social Transformation  
Anastasia Todd, Postdoctoral Research Associate, School of Social Transformation

## **Black American Podcast Archive**

Sarah Florini, Assistant Professor, Department of English

## **Dust & Shadow: Audio Attunements for Desert Living**

Ron Broglio, Professor, Department of English  
Adam Nocek, Center Director and Assistant Professor, School of Arts, Media and Engineering

## **Jews and Jewishness in the Dance World**

Naomi Jackson, Associate Professor, School of Film, Dance and Theatre  
Elizabeth Lerman, Institute Professor, School of Film, Dance and Theater

## **Mapping Grand Canyon: A Critical Cartographic History**

Matthew Toro, Director of Maps, Imagery and Geospatial Services, ASU Library  
Paul Hirt, Professor, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies  
Robert Spindler, University Archivist, ASU Library

## **Phoenix Mural Project**

Danielle Foushée, Assistant Professor, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts

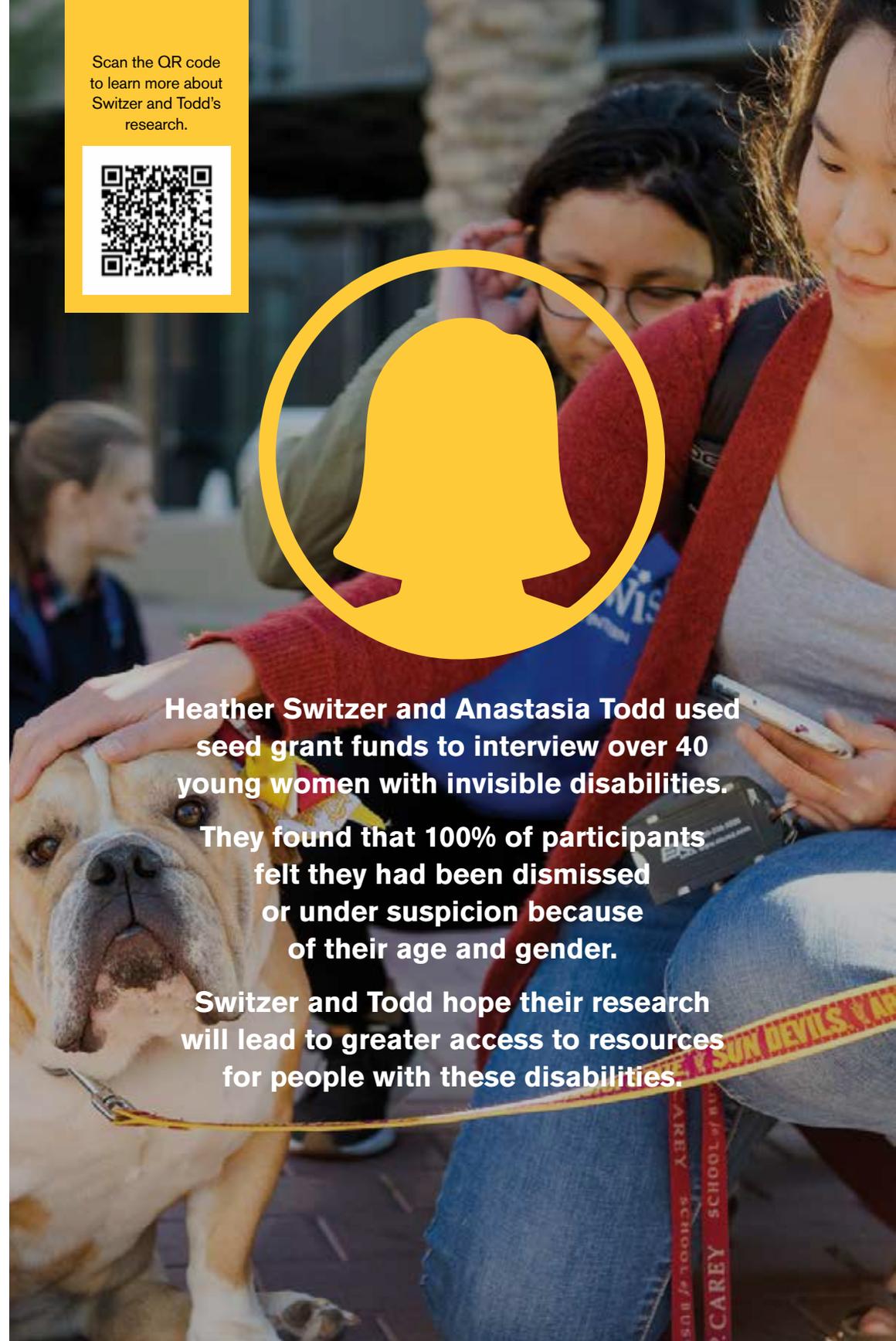
Scan the QR code to learn more about Switzer and Todd's research.



**Heather Switzer and Anastasia Todd used seed grant funds to interview over 40 young women with invisible disabilities.**

**They found that 100% of participants felt they had been dismissed or under suspicion because of their age and gender.**

**Switzer and Todd hope their research will lead to greater access to resources for people with these disabilities.**





For his seed grant project, Michael Tueller is developing a search engine that can identify metrical patterns in poetry and specific variances of those patterns. So far, his algorithm can identify 98% of lines in Homer's epics.

This search engine will allow scholars to investigate claims that Ancient Greek poets quoted each other by copying their metrical patterns.

## fall 2018 seed grant recipients

### **A Metrical Search Engine for Poetry in Ancient Greek**

Michael Tueller, Associate Director and Professor of the Classics, School of International Letters and Cultures

### **Crossing Through: What Threshold Concepts Can Tell Us about Disciplinary Identity Formation**

Barbara D'Angelo, Clinical Associate Professor, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts  
Barry Maid, Professor, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts  
Michelle Stuckey, Clinical Assistant Professor, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts

### **In the Land of Tigers and Snakes: Powers and Violence between Humans and Animals in Medieval China**

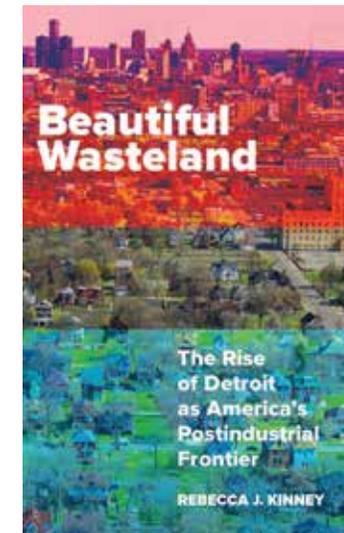
Huaiyu Chen, Associate Professor, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies

### **Kealiinohomoku Dance and Human Culture Audiovisual/ Scholarship Online Exhibit**

Adair Landborn, Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Film, Dance and Theatre; Curator, Cross-Cultural Dance Resources Collections

# grants and awards book award

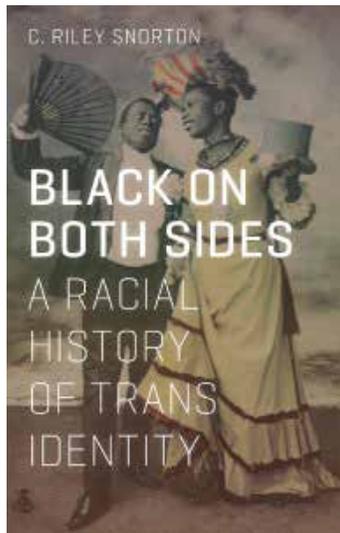
The book award celebrates outstanding writers whose contributions to the humanities change the conversation by fostering new directions for their discipline.



## Winner

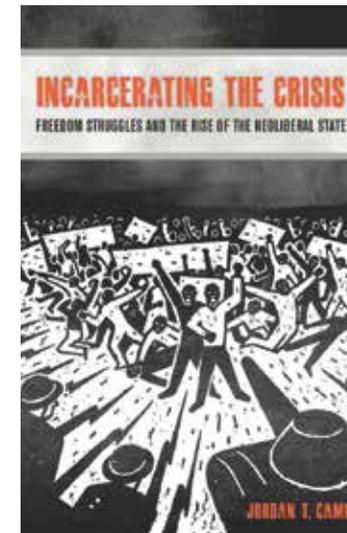
“Beautiful Wasteland: The Rise of Detroit as America’s Postindustrial Frontier,” by Rebecca J. Kinney, reveals the contemporary story of Detroit’s rebirth as an upcycled version of the American Dream, which has long imagined access to work, home and upward mobility as race-neutral projects.

Kinney tackles key questions about the future of postindustrial America, and shows how the narratives of Detroit’s history are deeply steeped in material and ideological investments in whiteness.



### Honorable Mention

“Black on Both Sides: A Racial History of Trans Identity,” by C. Riley Snorton, identifies multiple intersections between blackness and transness from the mid-nineteenth century to present-day anti-black and anti-trans legislation and violence.

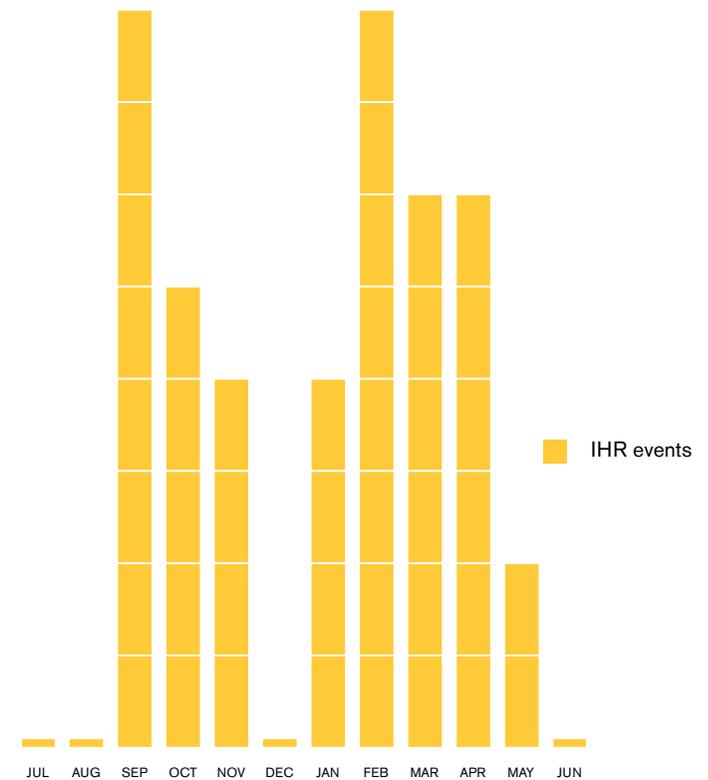


### Honorable Mention

“Incarcerating the Crisis: Freedom Struggles and the Rise of the Neoliberal State,” by Jordan T. Camp, traces the rise of the neoliberal carceral state through a series of turning points in U.S. history, including the Watts insurrection in 1965, the Los Angeles revolt in 1992 and events in post-Katrina New Orleans in 2005.

# community events

The IHR hosts lectures and events throughout the year to connect scholars across ASU campuses with local communities and shape new research possibilities.



**The IHR hosted 43 events and provided several event sponsorships in FY19.**

Human Ties: A Research Networking Reception • Humanities Forum: Talking Humanities, with Jeffrey Cohen • Negotiating North American Identities, with Susan Gray and Sybil Durand • Non-Binary Post/Colonialisms: A Discussion with Laura Chrisman • Book Award Reception • Humanities Forum: HUMANE? • 'Atlas of Men': A Conversation with David Sklar • ASU Humanities Faculty Celebration • Towards an Applied Humanities Alliance: From Research to Field Work • **Literature and Mental Health, with Sir Jonathan Bate** • Bibliotherapy: Poetry in Healthcare Environments, with Lady Paula Byrne • Afrofuturism and Cyborg Feminism, a Discussion with Steven Shaviro • Humanities Forum: Transdisciplinarity and the Humanities • Measuring the Role of the Humanities, a Conversation with Stephen Karian • Humanities Forum: Climate Change and the Humanities, with Robert Newman • Mapping Grand Canyon Conference • **The Future of Humane Technology Symposium** • Coffee and Conversation with Distinguished Lecturer Harry C. Boyte • Distinguished Lecturer Harry C. Boyte • Mindfulness and Mercy Reconsidered through Shakespeare • The Long Hand of Terror: White Spaces in South Africa, the U.S. and New Zealand • **Un/knowing Disability Symposium** • Donna Zuckerberg Reading Group: 'Not All Dead White Men' • 'Protect Yourself', the Ideas of Worth in Colonial Bombay • Challenging Power in Place Symposium • **Donna Zuckerberg: The Classics between White Supremacy and White Fragility\***

\*The remaining events are listed under "Workshops" on page 29.

Scan the QR code to read about Harry Boyte's efforts to empower students to be strong citizens.



On March 20, 2019, at “**Public Universities, Democracy and the Citizen Professional;**” Distinguished Lecturer Harry C. Boyte taught attendees how the arts can engage communities and empower people as agents instead of allowing them to be victims of social change.

Boyte discussed the Federal Theater Project’s production of “Macbeth” in Harlem (pictured left) as an example of community-mobilizing work.



The IHR brought together experts from across the world to discuss the role of the humanities in ensuring that new technology is ethical and humane at **The Future of Humane Technology symposium**, held at the ASU Barrett and O'Connor Washington Center on March 14-15, 2019.

The symposium included three panels, which focused on AI, climate change and bioethics, as well as a conversation with ASU President Michael Crow (pictured right). The symposium also laid the groundwork for the new Humane Technologies initiative.



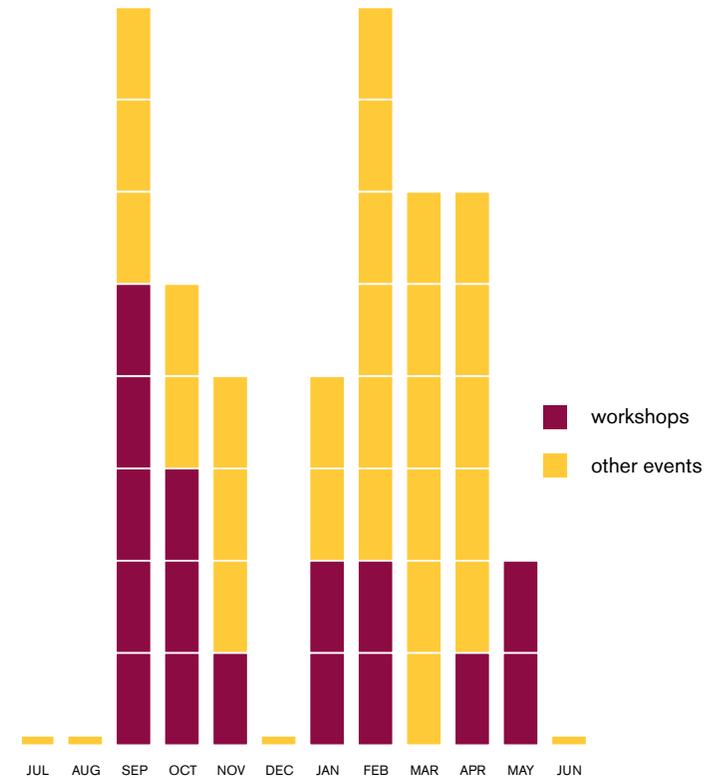
Scan the QR code to read about this event's panel on climate change.





# workshops

Development workshops at the IHR help faculty and graduate students thrive as scholars in the humanities.

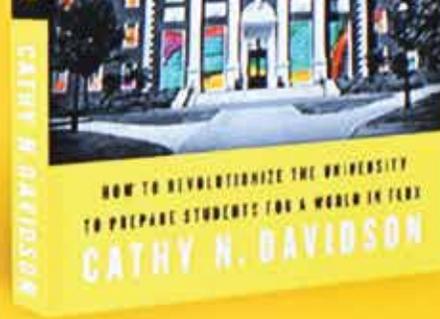


## The IHR hosted 16 workshops in FY19.

Fall IHR Seed Grant Application Workshop • Digital Humanities Coffee Hour 1 • The Grant Application Process Workshop • Collaboration, Humanities Style, with Cathy Davidson • Designing a Digital Humanities Project Workshop • NEH, ACLS and AZHumanities Grants Workshop • Digital Humanities Coffee Hour 2 • Using 'Digital Commons' Platforms Workshop • Digital Humanities Coffee Hour 3 • IHR Fellows Application Workshop • Writing Workshop, with Ian Bogost and Christopher Schaberg • Spring IHR Seed Grant Application Workshop • Fellowships at the National Humanities Center • Digital Humanities Coffee Hour 4 • Writing Workshop on Narratives, with Steven Beschloss • Digital Humanities and Pedagogy Institute

idson

and Founder, The Futures Initiative  
City University of New York  
rg



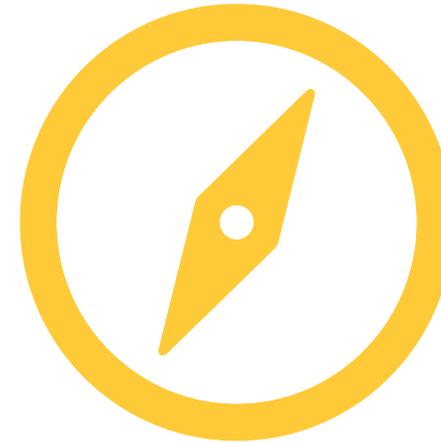
Cathy Davidson, scholar in technology history and active learning, led **“Collaboration, Humanities Style”** at the IHR on September 18, 2018.

Her workshop taught participants how to lead, organize, sustain and reward collaboration in the classroom, in research groups and in the community.

# thank you

Thank you to the donors, scholars and friends like you that support the IHR.

What we do is only possible when a community of people stands for the humanities and believes in its positive impact on our society.



## Let's continue charting new futures for the humanities at ASU.

With your help, the Institute for Humanities Research can continue to advance humanities scholarship at ASU, one of the fastest growing research universities in the country.

A donation of any amount will support:

- **IHR initiatives**, which inspire interdisciplinary projects that bring humanists to the table to solve the world's problems.
- **Research funding**, which sparks new futures for humanities research and scholarship at ASU.
- **Community events**, which connect humanities scholars with local communities to shape new research possibilities.

Make a donation at [ihr.asu.edu/give](https://ihr.asu.edu/give).

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