

Annual Report

2021
2022

ASU Institute for
Humanities Research
Arizona State University



Dear Colleagues,

In my first year as Director I put in place a number of tactics and a new mission to reflect the IHR's new focus as an institute that is able to strategically deliver world changing research with impact.

The mission attempts to capture two important aims of the IHR: first, to grow scholarly, intellectual and research impact and address real world issues through engagement with internal and external communities, stakeholders and end users. Second, to build research capacity among faculty by increasing publications and grant expertise, with the further aim of increasing citations and humanities national and international rankings, and continuing to uphold our excellent research reputation.

To achieve these aims I have added new grants to the existing suite, creating a scaffolded approach where faculty can move through various research outcomes that build research knowledge and capacity, as well as a research track record that makes them competitive for external grants. Professional development workshops and seminars in turn underpin this second aim, by training faculty in how to effectively write external grants; how to build collaborative and cross-disciplinary research teams, and the 'how to' of academic journal and book publishing.

Enhancing its mission, I am committed to growing humanities external and internal visibility and creating productive collaborations among diverse stakeholders. To this end, the IHR continues to host its annual Distinguished Lecture and its Book Award, and to this I have added our emerging digital engagement program, with the launch of the IHR podcast series, "Futures of Democracy," produced by myself and colleague Professor Julian Knowles, and hosted by Arizona PBS. The inaugural episode featured ASU President Michael M. Crow on "Democracy and Education." The current and second podcast series will continue into the new academic year

On top of this we were honored to support two ACLS Emerging Voices postdoctoral scholars: Nnamdi Igbokwe, working on public policy and globalism, and Victoria Rizo Lenshyn, whose work focused on the German Democratic Republic (GDR). We concluded our year by hosting Palestinian faculty from An-Najah University in May, thanks to a \$60K grant for "Entrepreneurship Education for the Humanities and Social Sciences" procured by Dean Jeffrey Cohen. I also held the international Derrida Today conference focusing on the relevance of French-Algerian-Jewish philosopher Jacques Derrida for the cultural, political and social crises we face in today's world. The conference, comprising over 200 delegates from 36 countries, was held at ASU's Barbara Barrett and Sandra Day O'Connor Washington Center in Washington, D.C.

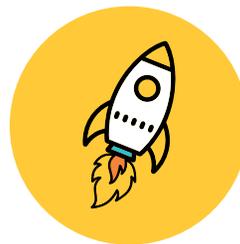
At the center of all of this was our faculty, students, staff, donors and ASU community, as well as visiting faculty from around the country. Everyone at the IHR thanks you for your support and commitment and looks forward to working with you in the year ahead!

Nicole Anderson
Director

Mission

The Institute for Humanities Research (IHR) promotes inter- and cross-disciplinary research among faculty and students that help increase humanities impact, while also facilitating innovative research contributions to – and engaging industry, government and community in – the real-world problems of our times.

In this report



Grants • 2



Initiatives • 6



Events • 12



Workshops • 15



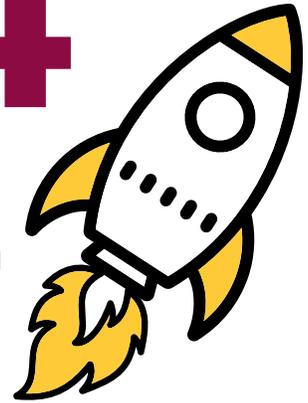
Awards • 16

By funding humanities research, the IHR aims to increase humanities impact, publication and citations thereby contributing to rankings, while also facilitating innovative inquiry that helps us better understand the real-world problems of our times.

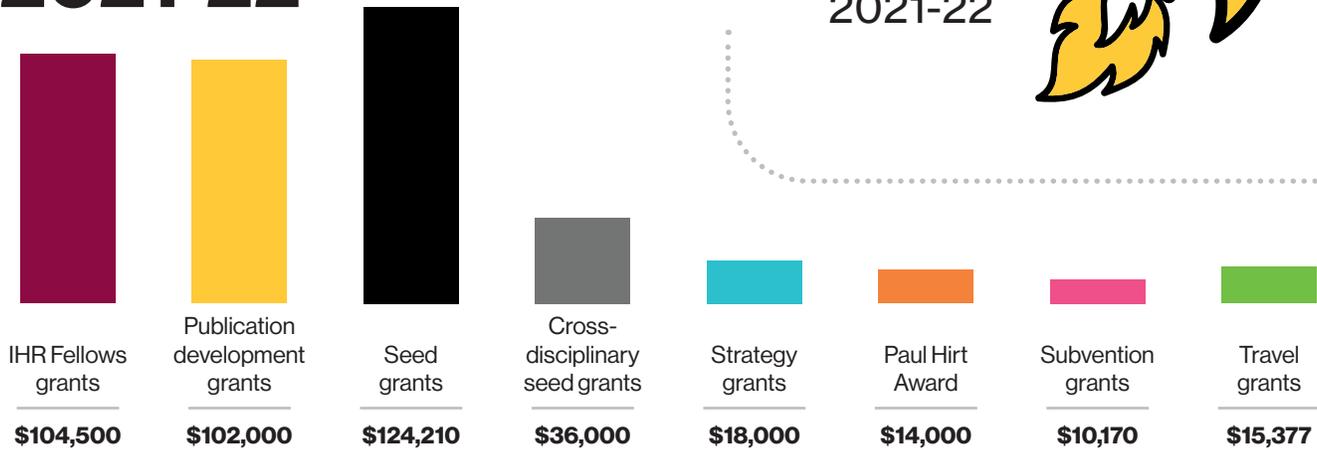
Grants

74

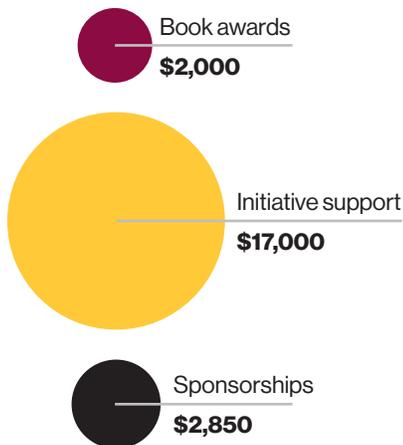
projects received funding in 2021-22



2021-22



Awards and non-grants



\$475K In total funds for 2021-22



\$300K from the knowledge enterprise



\$157K from The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

\$446K

In grants and awards were distributed in 2021-22

IHR Fellows Grant

The Institute for Humanities Research Fellows program advances the scholarly writing and research of humanities faculty. The program includes course buyout, research funding, peer writing groups and development of a cross-humanities faculty community. Additionally, the program assists faculty in grant writing and writing for a broad public.



**Britta
Ager**



**Curtis
Austin**



**Eugene
Clay**



**Aviva Dove-
Veibahn**



**Mark
Hannah**



**Isaac
Joslin**



**Han Hsien
Liew**



**Ilana
Luna**



**Katherine
Morrissey**

11 fellows
\$104K
awarded in funding

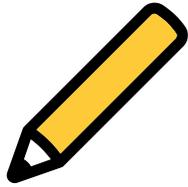


**Matt
Simonton**



**Patricia
Webb**

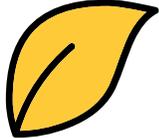
To learn more about the Institute for Humanities Research and the Fellows program, please visit ihr.asu.edu/fellows.



Publication Development Grant

The Institute for Humanities Research Publication Development Grant is designed to provide support, facilitate publication outputs and boost research track record, in order to enable increased citations, reputation and rankings in the Humanities. Within one year of completing the grant, recipients apply for an IHR Seed or Cross-Disciplinary Seed Grant.

\$102K awarded



IHR Seed Grants

The IHR Seed Grant enables scholars to become competitive for external grant funding, while increasing the impact of their research within and outside the ASU community.

Cross-Disciplinary Seed Grants

This grant brings together research from across the university to foster innovative solutions to real world issues.

93% of seed grant projects were collaborative and cross-disciplinary.
88% of seed grant applicants received funding

\$160K+ awarded



Research Strategy Grant

The Institute for Humanities Research Strategy Grant is designed to facilitate external grant writing and publication outputs that will boost research track record, in order to enable increased citations, reputation, further external grants, and increased Humanities funding and rankings.

\$18K awarded



Subvention Grant

These grants are designed to support those whose book publishers make an explicit requirement of subvention funding.

\$10K+ awarded



Travel Grants

This grant scheme supports research activity that involves travel for article presentation at conferences and symposiums, presentation at research lectures, and travel for archival research purposes. Recipients publish within one year of the grant. Travel grants increase visibility and reputation of ASU Humanities research, as well as enabling scholars to receive peer-review feedback from scholars in their field.

\$15K+ awarded



Paul Hirt Award

This award is named in honor of our recently retired colleague from SHPRS, a historian and public humanist whose research and community engagement offer a powerful model for how to reach wide audiences and deploy humanities knowledge for social change around issues of climate, environmental justice and resource access.

\$14K awarded

External grants and research advancement

5.1 Million dollars in external funding

95% of grants involved community outreach or engaged with community

Grant awards and funding



Projects funded



External funding awarded



This year, our seven initiatives received \$17k in funding from the IHR. Initiatives are designed to make an impact in critical areas of contemporary life. This work supports ASU's faculty and the mission of the IHR in engaging our community.

Initiatives



7 interdisciplinary initiatives were supported in 2021-22

\$17k dollars funded IHR initiatives

9 IHR sponsored Initiative Events

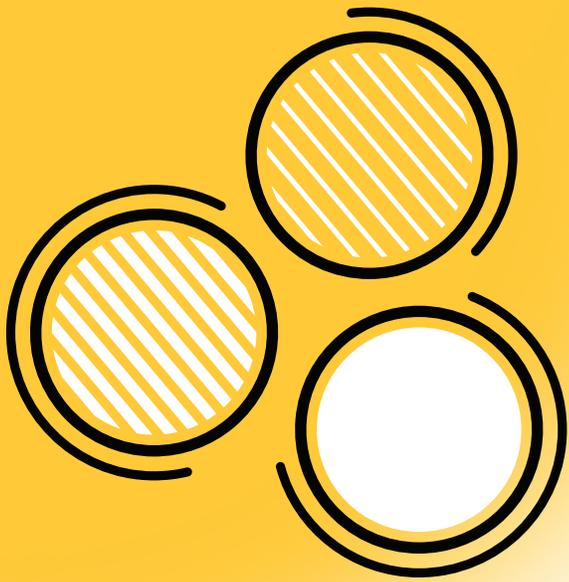
Applied Theory

Initiative lead Stacey Moran, assistant professor, School of Arts Media and Engineering

Applied Theory Initiative intervenes in theory as a highly specialized and contemplative activity separated from practice. The initiative is inspired by early Greek practice of theory as a cultural journey that is both political and sacred. Exploring the various ways that theory shows up in the world, the Applied Theory initiative examines various forms of knowledge production and seeks to reconnect the theoretical humanities to the communities that they hope to serve.

**Where
many
worlds
fit**

Applied Theory's project, "**Designing the Pluriversity**," is a community-building, activation space designed to catalyze alternative modes of thinking. Collaborative, participatory and open to the public, the project seeks to design a pluri-versity, one that embraces a plurality of ways of knowing and being. "Designing the Pluriversity" culminated into a virtual symposium in Spring 2022, comprised of eight international artists, scholars and researchers who contributed materials to the project to speak on the creation, development and outcomes of their work, with a workshop planned for the fall. The project has also been integrated into the curriculum of Art Education, Digital Culture and General Education courses, as well as cited in publications, with a book project on the way.



Black Ecologies

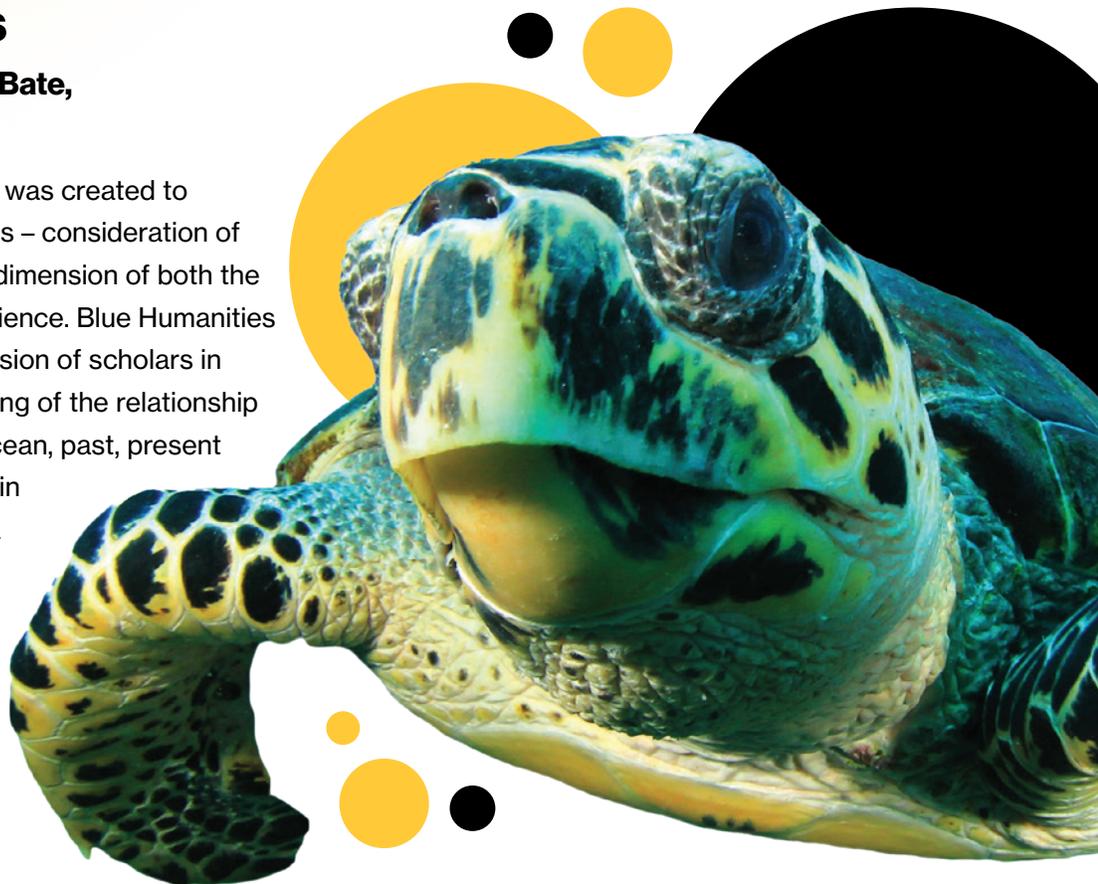
Initiative lead J.T. Roane, assistant professor, African and African American studies, School of Social Transformation

The **Black Ecologies Initiative** encompasses various multi-media projects to document, amplify and create alternative cultural resources related to the ecological vulnerability Black communities in the U.S. and around the African Diaspora face. The initiative supports the work of cultural workers, organizers and intellectuals, providing alternative epistemic entryways for historicizing and interrupting the current overlapping ecological, social and political crises.

Blue Humanities

Initiative lead Sir Jonathan Bate, professor of English

The **Blue Humanities Initiative** was created to address the environmental crisis – consideration of oceanic ecologies as a crucial dimension of both the earth system and human experience. Blue Humanities will bring the expertise and passion of scholars in The College to our understanding of the relationship between humankind and the ocean, past, present and future. The initiative works in collaboration with the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences, (which has recently become part of ASU's Global Futures Laboratory), ASU's Hawaii-based Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science, and in partnership with researchers at King's College, London.



Desert Humanities

Initiative lead Ron Broglio,
professor of English

Desert Humanities provides environmental experiences with the Desert Southwest. Its premise is that we understand, appreciate, and care about our environment through physical engagement and cultural framing. Desert humanities provides frames or ways of seeing, thinking, and feeling about the desert and offers opportunities to immerse in the landscape and its textured histories.



Radically Reimagining the Human Relationship with Nature

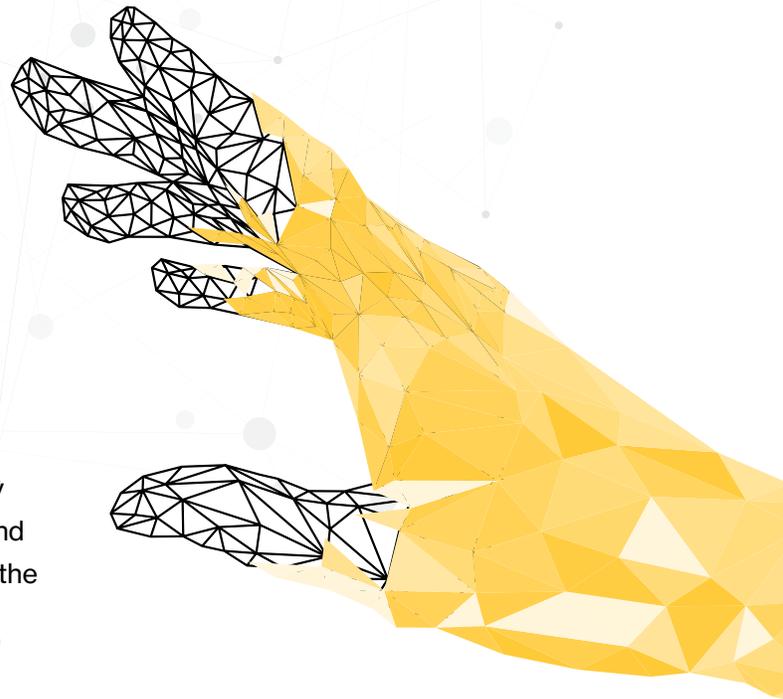


Earth Day Celebration was sponsored by the Desert Humanities Initiative on April 22. Over one-hundred and fifty sustainability thought-leaders throughout Arizona gathered at a private Earth Day event in Paradise Valley, hosted by ASU Professor of Law, Karen Bradshaw and the 2021-22 Desert Institute for the Humanities Fellow. The Arizona Sustainability Leadership Awards ceremony, which celebrates bold thought entrepreneurs delivering innovative sustainability solutions, also took place during the evening. Nominations included a broad cross-section of leaders in sustainability – from landscapers to nonprofit organizations, loggers to conservationists, artists to farmers. The complete list of The Arizona Sustainability Leadership Awards recipients can be found at radicallyreimagining.com/awards.

Digital Humanities

Initiative lead Liz Grumbach, program manager for Digital Humanities and Research, Lincoln Center Applied Ethics.

The IHR **Digital Humanities Initiative** formed the Digital Humanities Working Group with representatives from multiple academic career paths to address the needs and goals of the ASU Digital Humanities community. The Digital Humanities Working Group is led by Program Manager Liz Grumbach, with support from Professor Michael Tueller, Faculty Associate School of International Letters and Cultures Silvia Stoyanova, and post-doctoral scholar Melissa Rhodes. The intention is to form a cooperative governance structure for building community and addressing the professional development, training, and networking needs of the digital humanities community in the Phoenix Valley and beyond.



Health Humanities

Initiative lead Cora Fox, director of graduate studies, associate professor

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.

Environmental Humanities

Initiative lead Joni Adamson,
President's Professor English

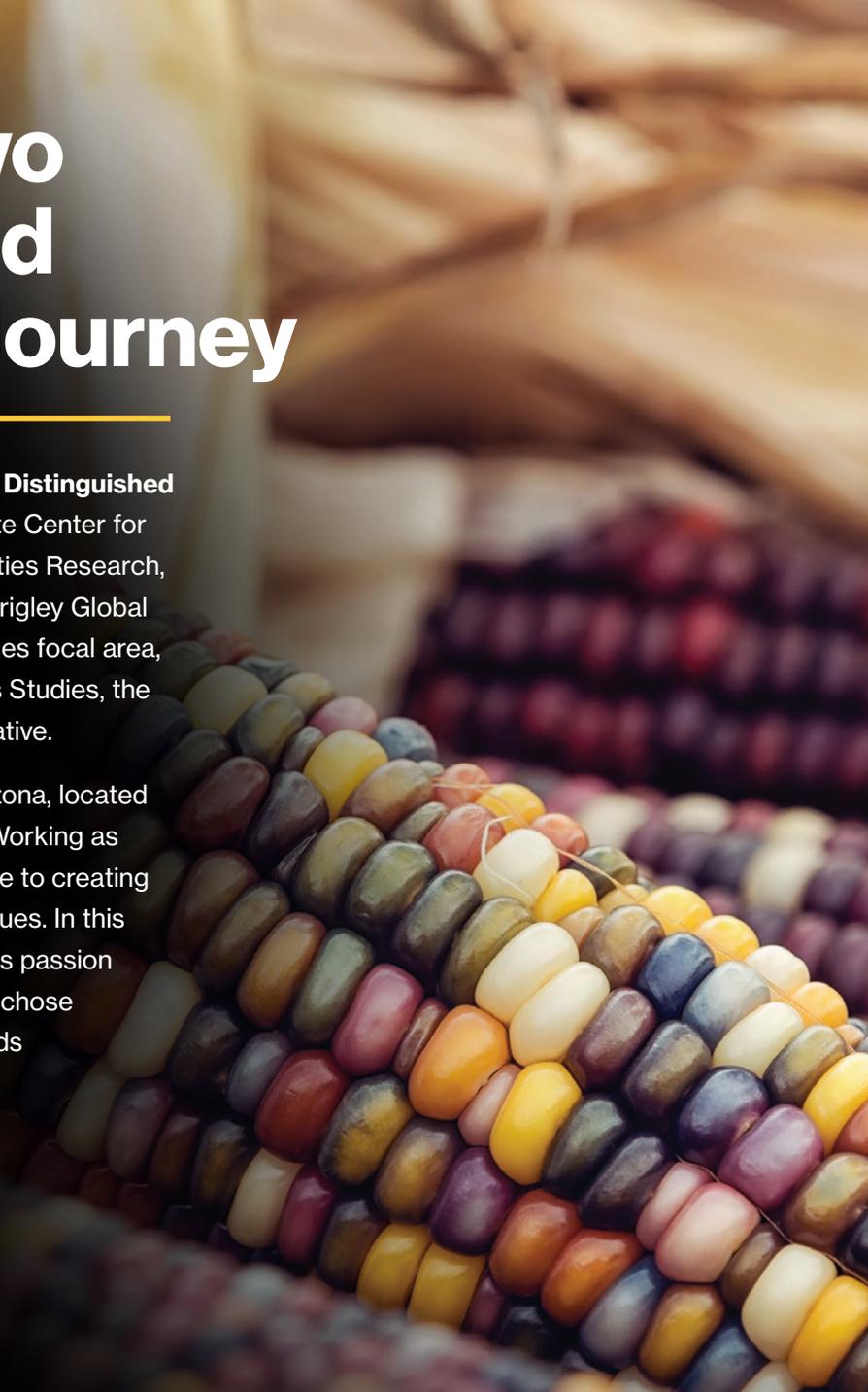
The **Environmental Humanities** explore how art, history, literature, philosophy and other humanities topics serve as entry points to discussions about the relationships between people, place and planet. Events from the Environmental Humanities Initiative included "Cooking in Two Worlds," "Indigenous Chef Cooking Demo," and "Ecologies and Infrastructures: Cultural Techniques of Environmental Management."



Cooking in Two Worlds: A Food Sovereignty Journey

The 2022 **Environmental Humanities Initiative Distinguished Lecture** was co-sponsored in April by the Swette Center for Sustainable Food Systems, Institute for Humanities Research, Environmental Humanities Initiative, Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory, GFL's Indigenous Knowledges focal area, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, the Humanities Lab and the Desert Humanities Initiative.

Diné Chef Brian Yazzie is from Dennehotso, Arizona, located on the northeastern part of the Navajo Nation. Working as "Yazzie the Chef," he brings ancestral knowledge to creating modern indigenous cuisine and cooking techniques. In this Distinguished Lecture, Chef Yazzie discussed his passion for cooking and addressed the culinary path he chose as a food activist and servant to indigenous foods and tribal communities.



Indigenous Chef Cooking Demo and Tasting Event

Held at ASU's Engrained Restaurant, this event was part of the Global Futures Laboratory launch celebration. The Humanities Lab, Indigenizing Food Systems students and faculty hosted Celebrity Chefs Dr. Lois Ellen Frank, Walter Whitewater and Yazzie the Chef for an invitation only immersive food exploration, featuring cooking demonstrations, story-telling, visual, taste and smell experiences.



Ecologies and Infrastructures: Cultural Techniques of Environmental Management



Held on Earth Day, April 22, 2022, this event was organized and moderated by Bernard Geoghegan (Kings College London) and Lisa Yin Han (ASU). This hybrid event brought ASU energy and environmental humanists and futurists together with their colleagues at Kings College London. This event was part of GFL's Launch Week, coordinated by the Human Sciences Focal Area, and organized in collaboration with the ASU Environmental Humanities Initiative and Kings College London. The series culminated this summer with the GFL Food Sovereignty and Global Syndemic Project/Seed Grant sponsored Slow Food Phoenix's "Feeding Communities, Changing the Narrative" film screenings.

Events

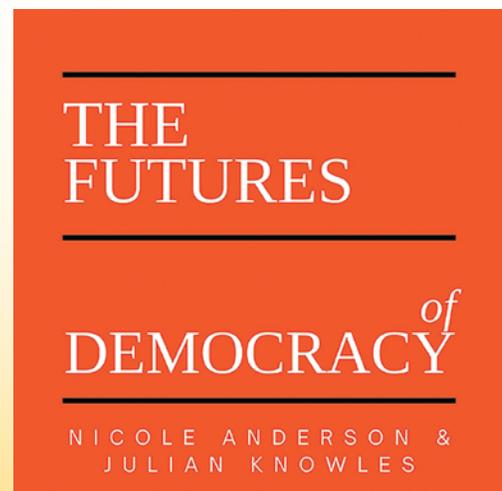
Spring 2022 Distinguished Lecture

The IHR was pleased to host the Spring 2022 Distinguished Lecture: “**When Humanities Meets Science**,” with Professors **Vicki Kirby** and **Karen Barad** in conversation on the constructed division between the humanities and sciences. Long at the forefront of theoretical movements that rethink the nexus of nature, culture and physics, the feminist anthropologist Vicki Kirby and feminist theorist Karen Barad have questioned conceptual divisions between the humanities and sciences and challenged long-held assumptions about the humanities. The hybrid event was hosted by the IHR in conversation with IHR Director, Nicole Anderson and Stacey Moran, assistant professor, School of Arts Media and Engineering.



Arizona PBS hosts “The Futures of Democracy”

As part of the IHR Online initiative, Nicole Anderson (Director, IHR) and Julian Knowles (Macquarie University), produced the first podcast series, “**Futures of Democracy**,” supported by The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the IHR, and hosted by Arizona PBS, featuring world-renowned experts examining the emerging challenges of possible futures for democracy in the 21st century. The podcast launched with an interview with ASU President Michael M. Crow and will continue through Fall 2022.



Palestinian Delegation

The Institute for Humanities Research at ASU hosted **Palestinian** faculty from **An-Najah National University** May 23–27. The visit was facilitated by a \$60,000 grant, “Entrepreneurship Education for the Humanities and Social Sciences,” procured by Jeffrey Cohen, dean of humanities at The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The grant is part of the Institute of International Education’s Sustainable U.S.-Palestinian Higher Education Partnerships (SUPHEP) program.



Image: Nicole Anderson, IHR Director, Asaad Taffal (ANNU), Ahmad Qabaha (ANNU), Ron Broglio IHR Associate Director, and Jafar Abahre (ANNU)



The ASU logo, featuring a stylized sunburst icon, is illuminated in blue. To its right, the words "Arizona State University" are displayed in a large, blue, sans-serif font, also illuminated from below. The background is a light-colored stone building facade with several windows, some of which are lit from within.

ASU Arizona State University

Derrida Today Conference

The **7th Annual Derrida Today** conference ran from 12–16 June at ASU's Barbara Barrett and Sandra Day O'Connor Washington Center, Washington, D.C. The conference, brought together a community of Jacques Derrida and deconstruction scholars from around the world, to showcase the latest work in Derrida Studies and its relevance to cultural, political, and social practice. "The aim is to see Derrida's work in its broadest possible context and to argue for its keen and enduring relevance to our present intellectual, cultural, ethical and political situations," says Nicole Anderson, ASU's Director of the Institute for Humanities Research.

The five keynote speakers for the 2022 Conference were: Gil Anidjar (Columbia University), Marc Crépon (École Normale Supérieure), Peggy Kamuf (University of Southern California), Samuel Weber (Northwestern University), and Elisabeth Weber (UC Santa Barbara). There were 220 scholars from a range of different countries including; Hong Kong, Indonesia, Tokyo, China, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Britain, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, South Africa, Iran, Israel and numerous countries across Europe.

The logo for Derrida Today, consisting of a red stylized 'G' or 'D' shape.

DERRIDATODAY

Image: ASU's Barbara Barrett and Sandra Day O'Connor Washington Center

The IHR hosted 16 professional development workshops and events that supported the mission of the IHR, and nine sponsored interdisciplinary events. Below is a sample of some of our programs.

Workshops

October 2021

- Hannah Barker, IHR Book Award for *The Most Precious Merchandise: The Mediterranean Trade in Black Sea Slaves, 1260-1500* (Hybrid)

March 2022

- Christopher Schaberg and Steven Beschloss, “Writing for the Public” (Hybrid)
- Nicole Anderson and Elizabeth Langland, “Publishing Tips & Tricks” (Virtual)

April 2022

- Douglas Armato (Editorial Director from University of Minnesota Press) on publishing (Hybrid)
- Kaushik Balakrishnan, Humanities Grant Proposal Development (Virtual)

May 2022

- “The Humanities in Print: Two Editors on Book and Journal Publishing,” Alan Thomas and W.J.T. Mitchell in conversation with Devoney Looser (Hybrid)



View our programming on our YouTube site **IHR ASU**
[youtube.com/c/IHRASU](https://www.youtube.com/c/IHRASU)

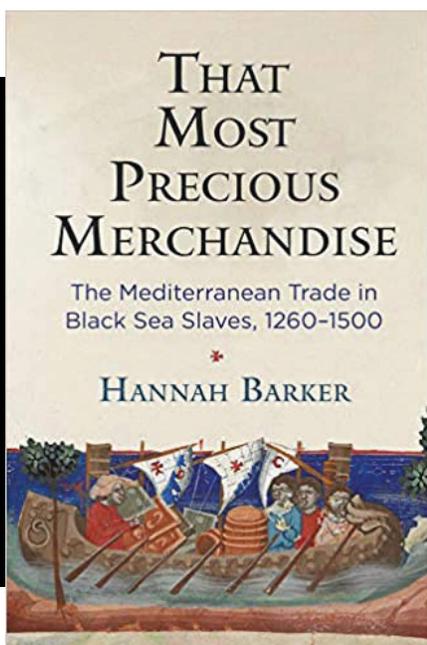


Snap the QR code to see more



The IHR Book Award celebrates outstanding writers whose contributions to the humanities change the conversation by fostering new directions for their discipline. The 2021 award was open exclusively to publications by ASU faculty.

Awards



Winner

That Most Precious Merchandise: The Mediterranean Trade in Black Sea Slaves, 1260-1500

Author: Hannah Barker, assistant professor, SHPRS

Publisher: University of Pennsylvania Press

The history of the Black Sea as a source of Mediterranean slaves stretches from ancient Greek colonies to human trafficking networks in the present day. Reading notarial registers, tax records, law, merchants' accounts, travelers' tales and letters, sermons, slave-buying manuals, literary works and treaties, Barker gives a rich picture of the context in which merchants traded and enslaved people met their fate.

Shortlisted books for 2021

Beyond Hashtags: Racial Politics and Black Digital Networks

Author: Sarah Florini, associate professor, Department of English.

Publisher: NYU Press

Psychomotor Aesthetics: Movement and Affect in Modern Literature and Film

Author: Ana Hedberg Olenina, asst. professor, School of International Letters and Cultures.

Publisher: Oxford University Press

Colonial Legacies in Chicana/o Literature and Culture: Looking Through the Kaleidoscope

Author: Vanessa Fonseca-Chávez, asst. dean of diversity, equity and inclusion, College of Integrated Sciences and Arts.

Publisher: University of Arizona Press

Women, Sex, and Madness: Notes from the Edge

Author: Breanne Fahs, professor, School of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies.

Publisher: Routledge

IHR Advisory and staff

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Ron Broglio

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School of Historical, Philosophical
and Religious Studies

Lois Brown

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Arts and Cultural Studies

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Jacob Leveton

Program Coordinator

Thank You!

This upcoming academic year, we look forward to celebrating our grant recipients with a reception, celebrating recognizing our new IHR Book Award winner in October, announcing our Spring 2023 IHR Distinguished Lecture speaker and welcoming our new Advisory Board members to our team, along with all the new programs and workshops! We will continue to provide programs, initiatives and events that build upon and support the IHR's mission. Thank you to our donors, stakeholders, friends and colleagues for your continued support. We look forward to serving you!



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