

Academy Fellowships

Early-Career Scholars in Residence

Visiting Scholars Program

The Visiting Scholars Program is an interdisciplinary research institute housed at the Academy in Cambridge. Chaired by Patricia Meyer Spacks and Leslie Berlowitz, the program enables untenured junior faculty and postdoctoral scholars in the humanities, social sciences, and policy studies to carry out their individual research as well as to collaborate with Academy Fellows on shared scholarly or policy-related interests.

Eight Visiting Scholars will be in residence during the 2009 – 2010 academic year.

2009 – 2010 Visiting Scholars

Daniel Amsterdam – Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania; B.A., Yale University. Field: History. *The Roaring Metropolis: Business, Civic Welfare, and State Expansion in 1920s America*. A study recasting the 1920s as a moment of aggressive governmental expansion that hinges primarily on the interrogation of urban politics, corporate political activism, and the introduction of a new analytic framework, the civic welfare state.

Deborah Becher – Ph.D., Princeton University; B.A., University of Virginia. Field: Sociology. *Valuing Property: Eminent Domain for Private Redevelopment, Philadelphia, 1992 – 2007*. A study of Philadelphia's recent use of eminent domain, revealing how difficult decisions about economic management are made, challenging existing notions of what citizens expect from government, and exploring the tensions between the public and private dimensions of property.

Angus Burgin – Ph.D., Harvard University; A.B., Harvard University. Field: History. *The Return of Laissez-Faire*. A transatlantic history of free-market ideas and the institutions that supported them, focusing on economists in the decades following the onset of the Great Depression who helped to create a theoretical framework for the revival of conservatism in American politics.

Dawn Coleman – Assistant Professor of English, University of Tennessee. Ph.D., Stanford University; M.T.S., Harvard Divinity School; B.A., University of California, Los Angeles. Field: Literature. *Preaching and the Rise of the American Novel*. A project on the intersection of Protestant preaching and literary culture in the nineteenth century, considering a range of antebellum authors who sought to capture for novels the spiritual authority of the pulpit.

Jason Petrusis – Ph.D., Columbia University; A.B., Harvard University. Field: U.S. History. *Marketing the American Way, 1932 – 1950*. An examination of how U.S. government policy intersected with corporate marketing to mobilize Americans during World War II and the early Cold War through “idea advertising,” a process that uses marketing techniques to sell ideas about companies, people, and even nations.

Jamie Pietruska – Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology; A.B., Brown University. Field: History. *Propheteering: A Cultural History of Prediction in the Gilded Age*. An analysis of changing practices and perceptions of prediction in late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century America, including weather prediction, agricultural forecasting, fortune telling and spiritualism, and utopian literature.

Associate Scholars

Crystal Feimster – Assistant Professor of History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Ph.D., Princeton University; B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. *Sexual Warfare: Rape and the American Civil War*. A study describing how sexual violence during the Civil War and the decades that followed went beyond the immediate effects of the physical attack and had long-lasting political and social consequences. She was a Visiting Scholar in 2003 – 2004.

Andrew Jewett – Assistant Professor of History and Social Studies, Harvard University. Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley; B.A., University of California, Berkeley. *Against the Technostructure: Critics of Scientism Since the New Deal*. An exploration of the political meanings attributed to science by mid-twentieth-century critics of American liberalism. He was a Visiting Scholar in 2002 – 2003.

Hellman Fellowship in Science and Technology Policy

Part of the Academy's Initiative for Science, Engineering, and Technology, the Hellman Fellowship in Science and Technology Policy is open to early-career professionals with training in science and engineering who want to transition to a career in public policy or to acquire experience working on science-policy issues.

2009 – 2010 Hellman Fellows

Kimberly J. Durniak – Ph.D., Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry, Yale University; B.A. and B.S., University of Pittsburgh. As a member of the laboratory of Thomas A. Steitz at Yale, Durniak studied the process by which RNA is synthesized during gene expression. She was also a McDougal Fellow in the Yale Graduate Career Services Office and worked as a liaison to the New York Academy of Sciences to provide career workshops for fellow graduate students. She began her Hellman fellowship in 2008.

John C. W. Randell – Ph.D., Virology, Harvard University; B.S., University of Iowa. Field: Molecular Biology. Randell has just completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the laboratory of Stephen P. Bell at MIT. His research focuses on the connection between DNA replication and the cell division cycle. He has published papers in major journals and has taught at the Kathmandu University Medical School in Nepal. ■