

# Visiting Scholars Program



The Visiting Scholars Program (VSP) stimulates and supports research conducted by scholars and practitioners who show promise of becoming leaders in their field, especially those who work on multidisciplinary topics. The program, now in its third year, offers opportunities for Visiting Scholars to carry out their individual research as well as to collaborate with Academy Fellows on shared scholarly or policy-related interests. It also contributes to making the House of the Academy an active research center for intensive scholarship by individuals from diverse disciplinary, institutional, and geographic backgrounds.

Visiting Scholars have the opportunity to join in seminars sponsored by the Academy's program areas as well as to participate in social gatherings and other regularly scheduled Academy activities. Neighboring institutions, including Harvard University, the Boston Public Library, and the Boston Athenaeum, partner with the Academy in the work of the program.

The Visiting Scholars Program is undertaken in collaboration with the Harvard Humanities Center, which provides access to the university's research facilities and works with

the Academy to plan joint lectures, seminars, and informal discussions.

Scholars are chosen by means of a national competition. Fellows expert in the candidates' fields review applications, and the resulting recommendations are passed on to a final advisory committee.

A group of more than 40 academic institutions from across the country have become "University Affiliates" of the Academy, with a special interest in developing and supporting the VSP.

## Visiting Scholars, 2004–2005

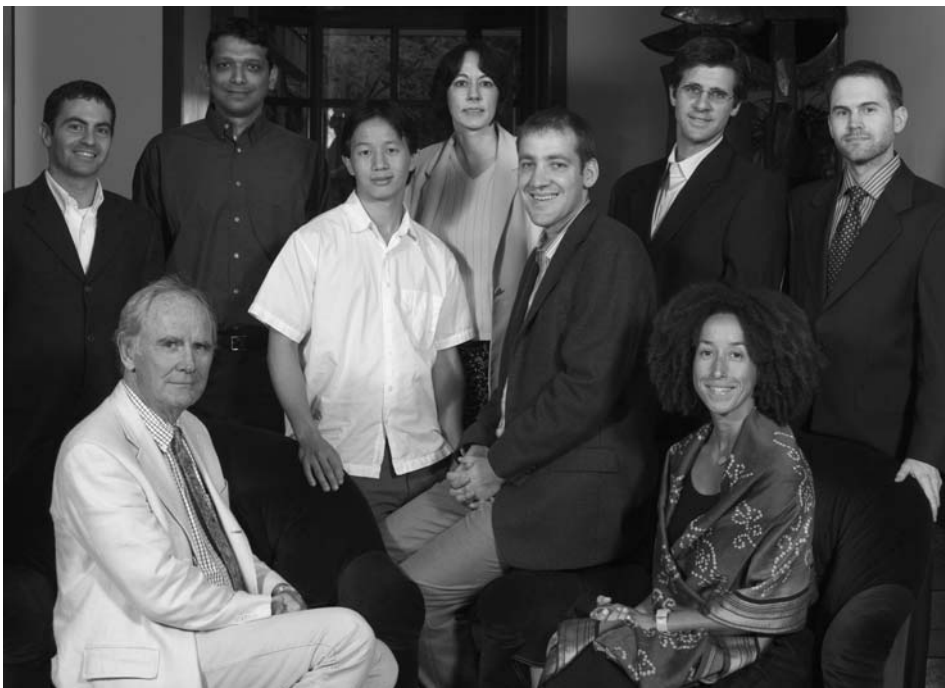
**Christopher Capozzola** – Assistant Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Ph.D., Columbia University. A.B., Harvard College. *Uncle Sam Wants You: Citizenship and Obligations in World War I America*. A study of military conscription; voluntary associations and their dual roles in war mobilization and home front repression; and the rise of legal understandings of civil liberties and citizenship rights, demonstrating how political obligations were tied to coercive practices of citizenship in early twentieth-century American political life.

**Cheryl Finley** – Assistant Professor of the History of Art, Cornell University. Ph.D., Yale University. B.A., Wellesley College. *Committed to Memory: The Slave Ship Icon in the Black Atlantic Imagination*. An examination of the history, meaning, and use of the leading visual image associated with slavery, the engraving *Description of A Slave Ship*, from its emergence in 1789 as a propaganda tool of the abolitionist movement to the present day, when it remains an icon of remembrance and identity in twentieth-century black Atlantic literary, political, and artistic spheres.

**Hsuan L. Hsu** – Assistant Professor of English, Yale University. Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley. A.B., Harvard College. *Scales of Identification: Geography, Affect, and Nineteenth-Century U.S. Literature*. An analysis of two sets of writings – texts that deal with the colonization of Africa by freed American slaves and Japanese and American writings on the opening of Japan to Western commerce – that exemplify how nineteenth-century literature reflected changes in the geographical scale by which events are influenced and interpreted.

**Christopher Klemek** – Assistant Professor of History, Florida International University. Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania. B.A., Ohio State University. *Urbanism as Reform: Modernist Planning and the Crisis of Urban Liberalism in Europe and North America, 1945–1975*. A survey of the development of the interdisciplinary field of urban studies, focusing on institutions, such as the Harvard-MIT Joint Center for Urban Studies; public policies, including the Federal Model Cities Program; and individuals, such as neighborhood activist and author, Jane Jacobs.

**Matthew Lindsay** – J.D. Yale Law School, Ph.D. candidate, University of Chicago. B.A., University of California, Irvine. *In Defense of "Racial Balancing": Accounting for Inequality in the Post-Civil-Rights Era*. The study analyzes the Supreme Court's retreat from the ideal of racially proportionate representation in several areas of American antidiscrimination law, including employment discrimination, government contracting, and affirmative action in higher education. It maintains that central to that retreat has been an intellectual sea change in the meaning that several of the Justices, in dialogue with a host



Front (left to right): Chair of the VSP James Carroll, Hsuan L. Hsu, Robert MacDougall, Cheryl Finley; back (left to right): Christopher Capozzola, Asif Siddiqi, Lisa Szeffel, Matthew Lindsay, Christopher Klemek

of influential political and social scientific thinkers, have ascribed to conspicuous racial underrepresentation.

**Robert MacDougall** – Postdoctoral Scholar, Harvard University. B.A., Queens University. *The People's Phone: Rewiring the History of the Gilded Age and the Progressive Era*. A history of the telephone and telephone networks in the United States and Canada from the 1880s to the 1920s, demonstrating how the political struggles of the Gilded Age and the Progressive Era were inextricably intertwined with technological changes.

**Asif Siddiqi** – Postdoctoral Scholar, Carnegie Mellon University. M.B.A., University of

Massachusetts, Amherst. M.S., Texas A&M University. *Science and Repression in the Twentieth Century: Revisiting Soviet Science and Technology*. An historical study of the dialectic relationship between repression and the practice of science and technology in the Soviet Union, focusing particularly on the costs and benefits of state-sponsored repression to scientific and engineering communities during the Great Terror.

**Lisa Szeffel** – Postdoctoral Scholar, University of Rochester. M.A., University of Virginia. A.B., Mount Holyoke College. *The American Poetic Community, 1890 – 1920*. An analysis of the transformation of American poetry in the early twentieth century brought about

by the interaction of organizations and publications that linked poets, readers, and editors in new ways, resulting in fresh creative possibilities for poets and new expectations in readers.

### Chair of the VSP

**James Carroll** – Historian and columnist for *The Boston Globe*. Books include *An American Requiem*, *Constantine's Sword: The Church and the Jews: A History*, and, most recently, *Crusade: Chronicles of an Unjust War*, a collection of his *Boston Globe* columns since 9/11. During his tenure at the program, he is working on a history of the Pentagon. ■



**Cheryl Finley, A. Hunter Dupree (Cambridge, MA), and Donald Hornig (Harvard School of Public Health)**



**Lisa Szeffel and Krister Stendahl (Harvard University)**



**Eugene Skolnikoff (MIT) and Robert MacDougall**