Six international scholars chosen as first Fung Global Fellows

By Michael Hotchkiss, Office of Communications

Six exceptional early-career scholars from around the world will come to Princeton University in the fall to begin a year of research, writing and collaboration as the first Fung Global Fellows.

The Fung Global Fellows Program, administered by the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, brings together international faculty members from the social sciences and humanities around a common theme. During the 2013-14 academic year, the theme will be “Languages and Authority” — an examination of how languages interact with political, social, economic and cultural authority.

The fellows — all of whom have been awarded doctorates in the past 10 years — will be expected to conduct research, write and participate in a weekly public seminar series, where they will have the opportunity to present their work to the University community.

The six fellows selected for 2013-14:

• Adam Clulow, a senior lecturer in the School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia;

• Helder De Schutter, an assistant professor in social and political philosophy at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium;

• David Kiwuwa, an associate professor of international studies at the University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China;

• Pritipuspa Mishra, a lecturer in the Department of History at the University of Southampton, U.K.;

• Brigitte Rath, an assistant professor of comparative literature at the Universität Innsbruck, Austria; and

• Ying Ying Tan, an assistant professor in the Division of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

“This first cohort of the Fung Global Fellows Program is a milestone not just for this initiative — designed to bring some of the world’s most brilliant young academics working on the topic of ‘Languages and Authority’ here to Princeton — but for the globalization and interdisciplinary focus of our university,” said Michael Gordin, director of the Fung Global Fellows Program and a professor of history.

“Among this excellent first group we have individuals ranging from Southeast Asia to Europe to Africa to South Asia, and they work on even more diverse regions to boot,” Gordin said. “But they also range across different fields: we have a sociolinguist, a literary scholar, a political philosopher, a scholar of international relations and two historians, all tackling important questions from a diversity of angles.”

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Fourteen members of the Class of 2014 have been tapped as PIIRS Undergraduate Fellows as part of an initiative launched by the institute last year. With guidance from Michael Laffan, a professor of history and fellowship adviser, the students will prepare proposals for conducting senior thesis-related summer research abroad and will be eligible for between $3,000 and $5,000 from PIIRS to fund that research.

The fellows represent 11 departments — anthropology, art and archaeology, comparative literature, East Asian studies, economics, English, history, Near Eastern studies, operations research and financial engineering, psychology, and the Woodrow Wilson School for Public and International Affairs — and an independent concentration in linguistics.

They also represent a broad range of certificate programs: African American studies, American studies, applications of computing, Arabic language and culture, Chinese language and culture, contemporary European politics and society, creative writing, engineering and management systems, environmental studies, European cultural studies, French language and culture, global health and health policy, humanistic studies, technology and society, Latin American studies, linguistics, South Asian studies, translation and intercultural communication, and urban studies.

Laffan’s role is to ensure that the students develop advising relationships with faculty in advance of their senior year and to help them transform their applications for summer research into solid proposals. The incoming fellows will also benefit from presentations by last year’s fellows about their experiences preparing and working abroad.

To become eligible for funding, a fellow’s proposal must be approved by PIIRS Director Mark Beissinger.

The fellowships are open to Princeton students who are about to enter the second semester of their junior year on campus.

The program is funded by a portion of a $10 million gift from Princeton alumnus and trustee William Fung of Hong Kong. It is designed to substantially increase the University’s engagement with scholars around the world and inspire ideas that transcend borders.

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The following is more information on the newly appointed Fung Fellows:

**Clulow** received a Ph.D. in East Asian history from Columbia University. Since completing his first book — “The Shogun and the Company: The Dutch Encounter With Tokugawa Japan” — he has begun work on the project “Possessing Asia: Languages, Power and European Ceremonies of Possession in Early Modern Asia,” focusing on the rituals performed by colonizing powers when they arrived in new territories.

**De Schutter** received a Ph.D. in philosophy from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium. De Schutter is a political theorist who has published broadly on theories of linguistic justice, drawing most of his examples from European cases such as Belgium and Spain. In his current project, “Intralinguistic Justice,” he attempts to construct a novel theory for language policy.

**Kiwuwa** received a Ph.D. in international studies from the University of Nottingham, U.K. His research interests revolve around questions of nationalism, ethnopolitics, conflict and post-conflict reconstruction, and democratic transitions, with a focus on Africa, but also including China and Europe. Currently, Kiwuwa is working on “Post-Conflict Reconstruction and the Politics of Language in Rwanda,” a project that explores the case of linguistic politics in post-genocide Rwanda.

**Mishra** received a Ph.D. in modern South Asian history from the University of Minnesota. Her interests lie in the cultural and intellectual history of South Asia. With her present project, “Vernacular Homeland: Language and the Making of the Region in Eastern India,” Mishra is writing the history of the territory of Orissa from its creation in British India up through the formation of an independent India.

**Rath** received a Ph.D. in comparative literature from Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany. She focuses on 18th- and 19th-century texts in French, German and English that claim to be translations from original languages — languages in many cases that the authors
2013 Cyril Black International Book Forum: Author of ‘The Impossible State’ shares predictions on North Korea’s future

By Ellis Liang ‘15

In a timely coincidence, Victor Cha, former director for Asian affairs at the National Security Council under President George W. Bush, shared his predictions for North Korea’s future and U.S. diplomacy at the 2013 Cyril Black International Book Forum on Feb. 11, just hours before the world learned that North Korea had conducted another underground nuclear test.

Cha, who holds the D.S. Song Chair in the Department of Government at Georgetown University where he is also director of Asian studies, spoke about his latest book, “The Impossible State: North Korea, Past and Future.” He said North Korea will undergo a dramatic political shock in the next four years.

“You have a leadership that is trying very hard to adhere to the old traditionalist ideology that enabled the regime to maintain political control as it had for the last 50 years,” said Cha. “But what we’ve seen [is that the] … leadership is moving in one direction and society is moving in another, and my point is that this cannot go on forever.”

Sponsored annually by PIIRS, the Cyril Black International Book Forum brings together Princeton faculty and an author of a new and important book on international affairs for a discussion of issues related to the volume.

Discussing Cha’s book were three faculty members specializing in Asian affairs: Thomas Christensen, the William P. Boswell Professor of World Politics of Peace and War and co-director of the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program; G. John Ikenberry, the Albert G. Milbank Professor of Politics and International Affairs and co-director of the Center for International Security Studies and the Princeton Project on National Security; and Gilbert Rozman, the Musgrave Professor of Sociology.

Regarding the selection of Cha’s book for the forum, PIIRS Director and Professor of Politics Mark Beissinger, who recently visited the demilitarized zone separating North and South Korea, said, “Victor Cha is one of the world’s leading experts on North Korea, and his book focuses on a critical topic that PIIRS has not covered in the past, but is often in the news.”

The forum is held in honor of the late Cyril Black, who was the director of Princeton’s Center of International Studies (PIIRS’s predecessor) for nearly 20 years and served as the James S. McDonnell Distinguished Professor of History and International Affairs.

A workshop organized by Mara Isaacs, producing director at McCarter Theatre, and Tamsen Wolff, associate professor of English, brought a group of professional international theater artists together at Princeton to begin work on a new theatrical work that reflects their disparate backgrounds and focuses largely on the Middle East.

Held from March 25 to April 1, 2013, “Theater of Conflict and the Middle East: A New Approach to an Old Divide” marked the beginning of collaboration among Wolff; Isaacs; Ofira Henig, an award-winning director based in Israel; Gjorgji Jolevski, an actor, director and producer based in Macedonia; Andre Odendaal, a South African actor and director; and Khalifa Natour, a Palestinian actor. Each of the artists has a history of performing and producing work that engages with questions of personal and political identity, and, for some, with the politics and religions of the Middle East.

Supported by the PIIRS Conference Fund, the Center for the Study of Religion and the Lewis Center for the Arts, the workshop enabled the artists to lay the groundwork for a play — outlining a script and beginning to map the story. It was the first part of a process that Isaacs hopes, will result in a touring production.

Discusants G. John Ikenberry (l.) and Thomas Christensen flank author Victor Cha at the Cyril Black book forum.
Kotkin named acting director of PIIRS

Stephen Kotkin, the John P. Birkelund ’52 Professor in History and International Affairs, has been named acting director of PIIRS for AY 2014 while Director and Professor of Politics Mark Beissinger is on leave.

In making the announcement, Beissinger said: “Steve Kotkin is an internationally acclaimed scholar of Russia who has long been involved in the development of the international and regional studies programs here at Princeton. I am extremely grateful to Steve for helping with the continuing development of PIIRS during my leave of absence.”

Kotkin joined the Princeton faculty in 1989, and he holds a joint appointment in the Department of History and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on modern authoritarian regimes, global history and Soviet-Eurasian history. He writes about power and the paradoxes of authoritarian regimes around the globe.


Falleti selected as 2013-14 World Politics visiting fellow

Tulia Falleti, an associate professor of political science and a senior fellow in the Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics at the University of Pennsylvania, has been named the 2013-14 World Politics visiting fellow. The annual fellowship is funded jointly by PIIRS and World Politics, a quarterly journal of international relations published under the sponsorship of PIIRS.

Falleti’s research interests include comparative politics with a focus on Latin America, historical institutionalism, and community participation with an emphasis in the health sector.

At Princeton, she will work on a book project on participatory democracy and citizenship in Latin America, and as co-editor of the “The Oxford Handbook of Historical Institutionalism.”

The appointment is effective Sept. 1.

LABOISSE PRIZE

Crumpler is an anthropology major pursuing a certificate in global health and health policy. She is also earning certificates in Latin American studies, Portuguese, and dance. The Laboisse Prize will support her work in Rio de Janeiro with Catalytic Communities. The nonprofit group, also known as CatComm, aims to change the public perception around unserved neighborhoods known as favelas and support community-driven initiatives.

According to Crumpler, who is from Raleigh, N.C., preparations for the 2014 World Cup finals and the 2016 Olympic games have the potential to marginalize further many of the 1.4 million people who live in Rio’s favelas. CatComm and other community organizations are concerned about forced evictions in parts of the city marked for related development and about favela upgrade programs in neighborhoods closest to the public eye.

Crumpler will contribute to CatComm’s goals by documenting community organizing initiatives throughout the city and developing strategies to increase participation in them, conducting workshops in targeted favelas, and producing educational materials and news articles.

“What I am most excited about for this fellowship,” Crumpler said, “is the opportunity to collaborate with and learn from my future colleagues in Brazil, discovering the ways that people-centered research is being put into practice as Rio de Janeiro transforms in the coming years.”

Crumpler’s commitment to Rio and the issues facing its low-income residents began in 2010, when she traveled there as a recipient of a Paul E. Sigmund Scholars Award from the Program in Latin American Studies. The award enabled her to work on HIV/AIDS-related issues.

In summer 2012, as a recipient of a Davis Project for Peace award, she and a colleague designed and implemented a gardening project at a preschool in Niteroi, a city across the bay from Rio. Crumpler conducted research for her senior thesis on the connections between urban agriculture and health in Rio.

Crumpler plans to pursue graduate studies that combine anthropology, public policy and global health, focusing on Latin America.
Three students win Labouisse Prize for projects in Sierra Leone and Brazil

Three Princeton University seniors have been awarded the Henry Richardson Labouisse ’26 Prize to spend one year pursuing international civic engagement projects after graduation. The $30,000 awards will support a joint initiative by Shirley Gao and Raphael Frankfurter in Sierra Leone, and a project by Courtney Crumpler in Brazil.

The award to Gao and Frankfurter will aid their work to develop a maternal health coordination center in eastern Sierra Leone. Crumpler’s prize will support her efforts to bolster community organizing in underserved communities in Rio de Janeiro in advance of the 2014 World Cup finals and 2016 Olympics there.

The Labouisse Prize enables graduating seniors to engage in a project that exemplifies the life and work of Henry Richardson Labouisse, a 1926 Princeton graduate who was a diplomat, international public servant and champion for the causes of international justice and international development. The prize was established in 1984 by Labouisse’s daughter and son-in-law, Anne and Martin Peretz.

“The committee was unanimous in its opinion that these projects best embodied what Ambassador Henry Labouisse’s life and career stood for,” said Stanley Katz, a lecturer with the rank of professor in public and international affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Katz selected the 2013 winners along with Janet Chen, an assistant professor of history and East Asian studies.

Both Gao, concentrating in the Wilson School, and Frankfurter, concentrating in anthropology, are pursuing certificates in global health and health policy. They will partner with Wellbody Alliance — a public health care and social justice nonprofit co-founded in Sierra Leone’s Kono District by physicians Daniel Kelly, a member of Princeton’s Class of 2003, and Bailor Barrie — to develop a coordination center for the organization’s maternal health care program.

According to Gao, a native of Davis, Calif., and Frankfurter, from Durham, N.H., Kono is one of the poorest regions in West Africa; 20 percent of children die before the age of 5 and one in 20 women die during childbirth. In 2012, one year after Wellbody Alliance initiated a project in Kono to combat those statistics, the duo reported, more than 5,000 women a month were seeking care through it. “The response has overwhelmed the nonprofit. Gao and Frankfurter plan to hire an additional nurse to handle complex cases; create a center for periodic community health worker retraining; develop a curriculum and train emergency medical technicians; hire two case managers; develop an effective supervisory structure for the community health workers; create a 24-hour communication system for ambulance dispatch; and develop a centralized location for coordination among nongovernmental organizations on maternal health-related activities. The pair also plan to train project managers and head community health workers to assume responsibility for the center and hope to develop fundraising mechanisms to ensure its sustainability.

At Princeton, Gao’s coursework in health policy led to an internship last summer in Sierra Leone with the Wellbody Alliance. The experience helped her develop her senior thesis, which examines how the post-conflict Sierra Leone government can build a functional health care labor force. “The Labouisse fellowship allows me to gain valuable on-the-ground experience and build on what I learned last summer and this year as I’ve engaged in my thesis,” Gao said.

She plans to pursue a career in health policy.

Frankfurter, a certified emergency medical technician, has been a member of the Health Grand Challenges research group on the Social Determinants of Health since his sophomore year. He first traveled to Sierra Leone in 2010 for an internship with Wellbody Alliance, where he worked on the development of the maternal health project.

In 2011 he received a $10,000 Davis Projects for Peace award, coordinated by the Pace Center for Civic Engagement, to implement a community health workers program in the Kono District for Wellbody. With an Adel Mahmoud Global Health Scholars grant, he returned to Kono to work for Wellbody again last summer.

After three summers of working in Kono, Frankfurter said, “I’ve witnessed firsthand the essential and lifesaving care this health care system is providing, along with gaps in coordinating that could potentially be costing lives.”

Frankfurter’s senior thesis addresses the ways patients and traditional healers are responding to the development of health care systems in Kono. His future plans include medical school and a career in international medicine.

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SEPTEMBER 2013


Deadline. PIIRS Conference Fund proposals, Sept. 30. For information go to www.princeton.edu/piirs/funding/faculty/conference-fund.

Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication. Translation Lunch Series will be held throughout the 2013-14 academic year. For more information go to www.princeton.edu/ptic.

OCTOBER 2013


Study Abroad Fair. Oct. 11.

NOVEMBER 2013

Global Seminars Information Session. Details TBA.


DECEMBER 2013

Deadline. PIIRS Undergraduate Fellowships. Applications from juniors entering their second semester due Dec. 13.