



*From the Director of ICAS:*

This fall we welcomed a new complement of fellows into the Project on "The Authority of Knowledge in Global Age" directed by

Timothy Mitchell of the NYU Department of Politics and Middle East and Islamic Studies. This project, which is off to a fine start and will continue for three years, ending in spring 2007, is the third of the residential fellow projects sponsored by ICAS since its creation in 1996-1997. It follows the projects on "Cities and Urban Knowledges" and "The Cold War as Global Conflict."

There now seems to be an elastic but basic routine, with the Friday Seminars the core activity of the Center. These seminars draw participants from the annual Fellows in residence, NYU faculty, and scholars from the metropolitan region. The seminar is a place where status is checked at the door; graduate stu-

dents, postdoctoral fellows, and more senior fellows, local faculty and international visitors, residential fellows and seminarians from the region are equally regarded presences and voices. The tone is consistently constructive, generally helpful rather than competitive. It is, in other words, a community of scholars, what we intended from the outset.

We began the year with a panel discussion on "Critique and the Responsibility of Intellectuals" prompted by an essay published by Bruno Latour in *Critical Inquiry* this past spring. The panel consisted of two current fellows, Philip Mirowski and Vincent-Antonin Lepinay, and members of the Advisory Committee: Frederick Cooper, Manu Goswami, and Mary Poovey. The panel sparked considerable discussion from the crowd that filled the Jurow Auditorium.

Between 1996 and 2000, ICAS co-sponsored a series of summer conferences on "Internationalizing the Study of American History"; this past summer in collaboration with the

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## *The Authority Of Knowledge In A Global Age*

The Authority of Knowledge: Year One

Timothy Mitchell

The ICAS Project on the Authority of Knowledge in a Global Age is completing its first semester of work. The three-year Project brings together an international community of scholars whose research examines the production, circulation, and legitimation of social knowledge on a global scale.

Among the questions we are asking are: What kinds of critical thinking do the challenges of contemporary global politics call for and make possible? How do the established disciplines of social science and their methods of analysis frame significant issues for public debate? What are the powers and limits of these frames? What possibilities and risks

arise from new interactions between governments and the academy, or between university experts and the lay knowledge of activists and concerned groups? Will American social science continue largely to export its forms of thought to the world, or are there new ways to learn from the political and intellectual debates of other regions?

Each year of the project has a different focus. Our theme for the first year is "The Rule of Markets." The idea of the market represents an analytic model for understanding the world and a political project for its remaking. The dual role of the market concept, at the center of recent politics and recent intellectual endeavor, offers the opportunity to explore the ways academic, technical, and political worlds interconnect.

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## The International Center for Advanced Studies

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Gilder-Lehrman Institute for American History for a week we hosted 26 high school teachers from the U.S. and abroad to encourage them to introduce a global perspective into the teaching of American History.

As always, I conclude by expressing my appreciation of our remarkable staff, the indispensable Jeryl Martin-Hannibal, the administrator, and her staff, Amy Koteles and Calvin Nguyen.



Thomas Bender  
Director

### ADMINISTRATION

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## The Authority Of Knowledge In A Global Age

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The main collective activity of the project is a seminar every Friday morning, at which the ICAS fellows, members of the NYU faculty, and other participants present their work-in-progress for discussion. The seminar is open to NYU and other New York-area scholars interested in the theme of the discussions.

There have been several large issues explored in the Fall Semester seminars. One set of questions concerns the intellectual development and political organization of neo-liberalism. From its origins among anti-Keynesian economists in the 1930s, neo-liberalism developed into one of the most successful transnational intellectual movements of second half of twentieth century. Our discussions have considered the distinctive philosophical discourse of neo-liberalism, the societies and think tanks through which it was organized, the variety of official and private forces on different continents from which it drew support, and the strategies and opportunities that enabled its translation from a marginal intellectual movement into a powerful political orthodoxy. Another set of

themes under exploration is how to think differently about the economic realm, in particular how to think about it ethically. What possibilities are there for experimentation, and what kinds of intellectual tools enable us to recognize the heterogeneous nature of the economic worlds we inhabit?

Our discussions have included a study of the political and economic organization of drug users in Thailand, examining how disempowered communities gain the agency to combat the social harms of both the drug market and

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# *The Authority Of Knowledge In A Global Age*

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of efforts to combat the market. Another discussion looked at ways of constructing non-capitalist economic subjects, taking the case of the Mondragon cooperatives in northern Spain. Can such accounts of the economy as diverse and heterogeneous, and of economic power as diffuse and unstable, open up the possibility for local non-capitalist economic practice to be the basis of new kinds of economic politics?

A further set of debates concerns the development of new approaches to the social and technical study of markets, and the strengths and weaknesses of these approaches. We have considered the work of Michael Callon, who will be a Visiting Fellow at ICAS in the Spring Semester, and discussed a number of papers offering new perspectives on the organization of financial markets, on commodity trading, and on the role of law in the organization of markets.

In the Spring Semester we will continue to discuss these and other themes. We are also planning a number of one or two-day workshops, including one on Neo-Liberalism as a Transnational Movement and another on Mixing Oil and Politics, which will examine the forms of expertise, calculation, and political authority that shape the international political economy of oil.

Finally, next semester we will also be making plans and reviewing fellowship applications for the second year of the project. The themes for year two and year three are outlined below.

## **Year 2 (2005-2006): Politics of the Unprivileged**

For most of the world, the rules of constitutional politics remain, at best, an abstract promise. Theories of democracy describe the aspirations possible for only a small number of people with privileged access to elite institutions.

On the actual terrain of politics, however, where local communities deal with the diverse powers of government, people are inventing new ways to negotiate how they should be governed.

Many scholars now study the politics of the unprivileged, but little of this work is known to orthodox social science. What can be learned from these new political forms?

Do they repeat the traditional patterns of everyday resistance to power, or have the extensive policing and bureaucratic powers of postcolonial and postsocialist states produced new kinds of political subjects, summoning up new subaltern strategies? Should the existing categories of political analysis—democracy, civil society, interest groups, and so on—be expanded to include these contemporary political forms? Or should we recognize, as some scholars now argue, that the existing categories refer to a historically narrow set of arrangements (including elite politics in many countries outside the West)? Instead of expanding those terms, can we learn from the politics of the unprivileged new concepts and categories for the study of politics?

## **Year 3 (2006-2007): Reconfiguring the Social**

The possibility of something called “society” and its place as a dynamic element of human experience was once the founding problem of sociology. But the discipline came to take this object for granted as an underlying principle of intelligibility, and turned increasingly to study the numerous micro-sociologies, understood as manifestations of this underlying whole. Today, the social often appears only as the networks or strategies connecting individual agents, or as the “social capital” these individuals accumulate.

In many fields of study, however, the concept of the social has been re-examined. In social studies of science, the separation between the social and the technical, or the human and non-human, is a problem to be explored, rather than a boundary given in advance. In ecological studies, human actions form part of a larger eco-system, whose transformations reshape the social world.

Among anthropologists and historians, new questions have been raised about the understanding of the non-secular: If social science is founded upon a commitment to the secular nature of social knowledge, what problems does this entail for understanding the majority of the world’s populations, whose lives are experienced as interactions with the divine or other forms of supra-human agency? Must the boundaries of the social world coincide with the limits of the secular?

In these and other ways, a variety of contemporary scholarships is re-examining the boundaries of the social asking how they are constituted, transgressed, and transformed.

## *The Authority Of Knowledge In A Global Age*

### **Project on the Authority of Knowledge in a Global Age**

Director	Timothy Mitchell, Politics
Advisory Committee	Frederick Cooper, History Faye Ginsburg, Anthropology Manu Goswami, History Walter Johnson, History Eric Klinenberg, Sociology Fred Myers, Anthropology Mary Poovey, English Mary Louise Pratt, Spanish & Portuguese Language & Lit Debraj Ray, Economics Xudong Zhang, East Asian Studies

#### **THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS**

ICAS fellowships provide a stipend of \$35,000, on an academic year basis, plus travel expenses. Fellows are eligible for NYU faculty housing.

**Center Fellowships:** Scholars and intellectuals at all career stages who hold a Ph.D. degree or equivalent professional experience are invited to apply for appointments as Center Fellows. The fellowship is for a full academic year, from September 1 through May 15, although on occasion semester fellowships are available.

**Postdoctoral Fellowships:** Scholars who have completed the Ph.D. degree within the previous three years are invited to apply as ICAS Postdoctoral Fellows. Postdoctoral Fellows are expected to teach one course during their residency. The fellowship is for a full academic year.

The Center generally invites several Visiting Scholars, usually as short-term visitors.

Application forms and further information are available on the Center website at [www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/icas](http://www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/icas), or by contacting ICAS at the address on the back of this brochure.

**For 2005-2006 fellowships, the application deadline is January 6, 2005.**

## *The Cold War As Global Conflict*

The Project on the Cold War as Global Conflict ended its three years in May 2004 having hosted three wonderful groups of fellows from NYU and around the world. The Project developed through conversations between us, Marilyn Young and Allen Hunter. We created an Advisory Committee and drew on its suggestions in writing an initial statement we then used in drafting grant proposals and announcements of the fellowship program. Through the Project we sought to encourage reassessments of the dominant paradigms of the Cold War. Most scholarship had focused on the policies and actions of the Soviet Union and the United States, accepting as given a world divided East vs. West. In addition, much U.S. Cold War historiography viewed it as a distinct, almost self-contained, era in U.S. history precipitated by the historically specific threat presented by the Soviet Union. In our view, neither the largely North-South dynamics of decolonization and wars of national liberation, nor many domestic political, economic and cultural developments co-terminus with the Cold War, were mere epi-phenomena of U.S.-Soviet conflict, however much they might have been modified by it.

To encourage and sustain heterodox approaches to the Cold War, we sought to bring together fellows from diverse backgrounds, disciplines, and parts of the world. During the project's three years, fellows worked in over a dozen disciplines. Their research projects addressed all continents, historically and contemporaneously. Fellows came from about two dozen countries with, again, all continents represented. In addition, speakers at seminars, symposia, and conferences included journalists, film-makers, lawyers, think-tank policy analysts and a novelist.

Most of the scholarship by the fellows was grounded in the disciplines and drew on the methods and sources characteristic of those disciplines, using or critically engaging with their prevailing assumptions. Still, fellows routinely expressed pleasure at presenting their work-in-progress to an interdisciplinary seminar, and in rewriting their papers many fellows responded to points raised in seminar discussions and drew on literatures from disciplines other than their own.

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## *The Cold War As Global Conflict*

Many of the weekly seminars, a signature feature of ICAS, gained intensity because of resonances between the topics under discussion and the collective concern with 9/11 and its aftermath. A few people temporarily shifted their research and writing priorities, often in response to requests for scholarly or popular commentary. Yet in the main, 9/11 did not derail individual projects or discussions of them; rather it influenced the overall tone and background concerns in the seminars. Through it all, the seminars maintained a tone of civility and comfort. The result was that the seminars were at once a venue in which graduate students and junior and senior scholars could comfortably present their work, confident they would be treated respectfully while also receiving rigorous critique.

While the project themes at ICAS change every few years, it is also becoming evident that there will be important continuities. One concern in the Cities Project was the changing relationship between urban life and globalization, in particular the decreasing importance of the nation-state as a mediator of urban-global interactions and dynamics. Without disputing the increased global prominence of urban political economies, the Cold War Project complicated theorizations of globalization as it attended to the ongoing power of nation-states, geo-political factors and militarism in determining the contours of the global order. Similarly, it seems likely that some of the concerns about the construction of disciplinary knowledge at the core of the next ICAS Project will expand on the Cold War Project, for Cold War dynamics both shaped many disciplines, and in turn those disciplines contributed to the course of the Cold War.

We particularly thank the Center's Director, Thomas Bender, for his support, advice, and not least for his intellectual contributions to the seminars. We also very gratefully thank Jeryl Martin-Hannibal, the Center's Administrator who kept the project well-organized despite our best efforts to overwork her. She was very ably as-

sisted by the ICAS Administrative Secretary, Amy Koteles, and work-study student Calvin Nguyen. The fellows regularly expressed their appreciation of Jeryl and Amy, and we want to recognize again the contribution they made by allowing scholars away from home to feel welcome. We thank the Project's Advisory Committee and the members of the selection committees who helped us with the difficult task of selecting the three cohorts of fellows from extremely rich pools of candidates. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support we received from the Andrew W. Mellon, Ford, and Rockefeller Foundations, the Open Society Institute, the NYU International Visitors Program, and Agnese Helms Haury as well as core funding from NYU itself. We are pleased that we were able to collaborate with other centers. At NYU these included the Center for Media, Culture and History, the Graduate School, the Geographies of Injustice Seminar, the Kevorkian Center for Middle East Studies, the East Asia Studies Program. From elsewhere they included the Institute for Policy Studies, the Arms Trade Research Center at the World Policy Institute, the Nation Institute, and the New Press. Finally, we thank the fellows-in-residence and visiting scholars, and many intellectuals from NYU and around the area, who all contributed so much to our own education and, from all reports, that of their fellow fellows.



### **2003-2004 FELLOWS: The Cold War As Global Conflict**

Charles Bright (US), Center Fellow  
Greg Grandin, Faculty Fellow  
Sandra Halperin (UK), Center Fellow  
Young-sun Hong, (US), Center Fellow  
Sean Jacobs (South Africa), Postdoctoral Fellow  
Dolores Janiewski (New Zealand), Center Fellow  
Rebecca Karl, Faculty Fellow  
Dan Link, Dissertation Fellow  
Vania Markarian (Uruguay), Postdoctoral Fellow

Tomaz Mastnak (Slovenia), Center Fellow  
Ayse Parla, Dissertation Fellow  
Dan Prosterman, Dissertation Fellow  
Suzanna Reiss, Dissertation Fellow  
Kristin Ross, Faculty Fellow  
Stephen Smith (UK), Center Fellow  
Julie Stewart, Dissertation Fellow  
Roxanne Varzi (US), Woodrow Wilson Postdoctoral Fellow

## *Seminar and Conference Schedule for 2003-2004*

### **September 12 & September 19**

General Readings

### **September 26**

Friday Seminar

Dan Prosterman, ICAS Fellow

"Creating the Cold War: Political Activism, Electoral Reform, and the Rise of Anti-Communism in New York City, 1936-1947"

### **October 3**

Friday Seminar

Sandra Halperin, ICAS Fellow

"The Eternal Return: Recurring Dynamics of Capitalist Globalization"

### **October 10**

Friday Seminar

Greg Grandin, ICAS Fellow

"The Latin American Cold War as Revolution and Counter Revolution"

### **October 17**

Friday Seminar

Bruce Altshuler

"Current Issues in Post-Communist Museums"

### **October 24**

Friday Seminar

Susan Carruthers

"Bloc-busters: Inventing the Eastern Bloc 'Escapee' in Early Cold War America"

### **October 31**

Friday Seminar

Darini Rajasingham, Fulbright Visiting Scholar

"The Economics of Peace and the International Post-Conflict Industry: Myths, Rituals, Imaginaries"

### **November 7**

Friday Seminar

Dolores Janiewski, ICAS Fellow

"Making the World Safe for Global Capitalism: The New Right's Cold War and Post-Cold War Mission"

### **November 14**

Friday Seminar

Charles Bright, ICAS Fellow

Michael Geyer, ICAS Visiting Fellow

"The American Regime of World Order in its Aftermath"

### **November 21**

Friday Seminar

Silvio Pons

"Between Eurocommunism, Détente, and Cold War: Belinguer and the Soviets"

### **November 28**

Thanksgiving, no seminar

### **December 4 & 5**

ICAS/Rockefeller Workshop on: Communist States in the Post Communist World

**Speakers:** Balazs Szalontai, Lin Chun, Tran Van Thuy, Nguyen Ba Chung, Nguyen Ngoc, Ada Ferrer, Xudong Zhang, Ana Dopico and Hyun-Ok Park

### **December 12**

Friday Seminar

Campbell Craig

"American Realism vs. American Empire"

### **January 23**

Friday Seminar

Marco Mariano

"The Cultural Construction of the Atlantic Community: *Life* Magazine and Italy, 1941-1949"

### **January 30**

Friday Seminar

Ervand Abrahamian, History Baruch College and CUNY Graduate Center

Greg Grandin, ICAS Fellow

Marilyn Young, ICAS Project Director

"A Commemoration of Fifty Years of Regime Change and Intervention: Iran, Guatemala and Vietnam"

### **February 6**

Friday Seminar

David Kim

"American Bandung and the Cold War Antinomy of the Black Pacific"

## *Seminar and Conference Schedule for 2003-2004*

### **February 13**

Friday Seminar

Rebecca Karl, ICAS Fellow

"The Asiatic Mode of Production: National and Imperial Formation"

### **February 20**

Friday Seminar

Sean Jacobs, ICAS Fellow

"Writing Chris Hani: Exile and Life Writing of the Leadership of the African National Congress of South Africa"

### **February 27**

Friday Seminar

Suzanna Reiss, ICAS Fellow

"Demonizing Coca Consumption, Extolling Capitalist Development: The US, the UN and the Andes in the Early Cold War"

### **March 5**

Friday Seminar

Dan Link, ICAS Fellow

"The Very Future of American Democracy: The Rise of Liberal Anticommunism, 1945-1949"

### **March 12**

Friday Seminar

Steve Smith, ICAS Fellow

"Talking Toads and Chinless Ghosts: Reading Rumors in the People's Republic of China, 1961-66"

### **March 19 [Spring Break]**

### **March 26**

Friday Seminar

Julie Stewart, ICAS Fellow

"When Local Troubles Become Transnational Issues: A Study of an Indigenous Rights Movement in Guatemala"

### **April 2**

Friday Seminar

Ron Robin, ICAS Visiting Scholar

"Manichean Mandarins: Roberta and Albert Wohlstetter and the Roots of Contemporary American Strategic Thought"

### **April 9**

Friday Seminar

Ayse Parla, ICAS Fellow

"They Even Let Their Women Work: Negotiations of Labor, Honor, and the Communist Legacy among Turkish Immigrants from Bulgaria"

### **April 16**

Friday Seminar

Vania Markarian, ICAS Fellow

"Uruguayan Exiles and Human Rights: From Transnational Activism to Transitional Politics, 1981-1984"

Nira Wickramasinghe, ICAS Fulbright Visiting Scholar

"The Idea of Civil Society in the South: Imaginings, Transplants, Designs"

### **April 23**

Friday Seminar

Kristen Ross, ICAS Fellow

"European *noir*: Crime and History in Recent Detective Fiction"

### **April 30**

Friday Seminar

Symposium as part of ..."Ten Years of Freedom: Films from the New South Africa"

### **May 7**

Friday Seminar

Tomaz Mastnak, ICAS Fellow

"Cold War and Reheated Concepts: Civil Society in Eastern Europe"

### **May 14**

Friday Seminar

Young-sun Hong, ICAS Fellow

"The Third World in the Two Germanys: Health and Race in the German Encounters with the Third World"

# FELLOWS 2004-2005: *The Rules of Markets*

## Center Fellows and Post-Doctoral Fellows

*Zuhre Aksoy* (Political Science)  
University of Massachusetts, Turkey  
"Market and Genetic Diversity: The Case of Turkey"

*Julie Graham* (Geosciences), University Massachusetts, U.S.  
"Inventing the Enterprise: Markets as Sites of Political Engagement and Economic Subjectivation"

*Vincent-Antonin Lepinay* (Economics)  
Columbia University, France  
"Stem Cells Banking: Production, Commodification, and Circulation of Human Body Parts"

*Philip Mirowski* (Economics), University of Notre Dame, U.S.  
"The Global Restructuring of Science as a Marketplace of Ideas"

*Dieter Plehwe* (Sociology), Yale University, Germany  
"Taking the Market from Margin to Mainstream: How Neoliberals Organize to Produce and Mobilize Authoritative Knowledge"

*Allison Truitt* (Anthropology), Cornell University, U.S.  
"Dollarization and the Limits to Economic Reform in Vietnam"

## Faculty Fellows

*Neil Brenner* (Sociology/Metropolitan Studies Program)  
"The Neoliberalization of Urban Governance in Western Europe? A Comparative Investigation"

*Caitlin Zaloom* (Metropolitan Studies Program)  
"The Discipline of Speculators: Trading and Technology from Chicago to London"

## Dissertation Fellows

*Özlem Altan*, Political Science  
"The American Third World: Globalization and Local Acculturation of Elites in the Middle East"

*LaDawn Haglund*, Sociology  
"Right to Light: State Autonomy, Accountability, and Utility Privatization in Central America, 1980-2002"

*Chia Yin Hsu*, History  
"Staging Europeanness in Harbin and the Russian Far East: Race, Modernity, and the Making of a Russian Colonial Order in China, 1898-1924"

*Susanna Rosenbaum*, Anthropology  
"Domestic Economies: Immigrant Domesticas, Middle Class Employers, and Household Work"

## Visiting Fellows

*Andrew Barry*, United Kingdom  
*Michel Callon*, France  
*Sheri Fink*, United States



WINTER 2004-2005

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