

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 – 2025

# Humanities Research Center

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY



**VCU**



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**CHRISTINE CYNN**

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Designed by Rani Sisavath  
and Ellie Musgrave

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# Letter from the Director

Dear Friends of the HRC,

*In a year marked by unprecedented challenges to humanities funding—including the near-elimination of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the cancellation of existing grants—the work of the Humanities Research Center has never been more vital. Yet even amid this uncertainty, we have not merely persevered; we have flourished. As we celebrated our 10th anniversary this year, we achieved milestones that demonstrate what happens when a university invests in asking difficult questions, preserving cultural memory, and creating spaces where diverse perspectives can engage in rigorous, meaningful exchange.*

*I am thrilled to share that, in collaboration with the College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), the HRC secured VCU's first research grant from the prestigious Mellon Foundation in April 2025, an achievement which enables us to launch the HRC Indigenous Humanities Lab, welcome our first postdoctoral fellow, and work to develop a new minor in Native American and Indigenous Studies (NAIS) in CHS. This milestone reflects years of strategic relationship-building and positions us alongside leading humanities centers nationwide.*

*Our inaugural Humanities Week in September 2024 brought the university community together to celebrate a decade of humanities scholarship at VCU. Over 2,090 people registered for HRC events this year, with more than 5,000 views of our recordings—a testament to the hunger for humanistic inquiry across our campus and beyond. Our eight humanities labs continue to incubate innovative research, from Environmental Humanities to AI Futures, bringing together scholars and students to explore questions about sustainability, health equity, migration, technology, and more.*

*The On Native Ground Initiative achieved a historic milestone when the VCU Board of Visitors approved a university-wide Land Acknowledgment in September 2024. We continue to build on this momentum through our partnership with the Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival, which welcomed over 4,000 community members to the VMFA for Family Day in November 2024, and through our Karenne Wood Native Writer/Artist Residency; this year we were delighted to host Rappahannock artist Sequoyah Fortune.*

*Our international reach expanded significantly with our second symposium, "The Indian Citizenship Act at 100," held at the University of Bordeaux Montaigne in June 2024. This gathering of leading scholars from the U.S., Europe, and Canada generated new collaborations and strengthened VCU's position in global Indigenous Studies networks. As Harvard Professor Philip Deloria, one of the keynote speakers noted, these are "the kind of focused symposia that can advance a field in definitive ways." Closer to home, in April 2025 we partnered with VCUarts, Rams in Recovery, and Richmond's Inclusive Recovery City Initiative to host "Recovery in Practice," a three-day symposium featuring artists, writers, and activists with lived experience addressing substance use, recovery, and decarceration.*

*Looking ahead to 2025-26, we are energized by new partnerships and initiatives. We are honored to co-organize the Provost Lecture Series this year, launch our first Humanities Symposium in April 2026, continue to develop the On Native Ground initiative, welcome 5 new undergraduate fellows in Applied Humanities, and welcome two new labs to the center: Indigenous Humanities and Spirituality, Care, and Culture. We are also excited to host our second Humanities week in 2025 (thematically organized around topics in Applied Humanities). Our commitment to supporting faculty research remains steadfast—this year we provided seven residential fellowships, allowing faculty and graduate students to devote time to completing writing projects; we also offered numerous travel and research grants, partnered across the university on symposia, guest lectures, and grant teams, and continued to support scholarly writing and publishing in the Arts, Humanities, and Humanistic Social Sciences.*

*The HRC exists because of you—our dedicated faculty, staff, students, board members, and community partners who believe in the power of humanistic inquiry to enrich our lives. As we navigate an uncertain funding landscape for the humanities, your engagement and advocacy are more crucial than ever. Together, we will keep doing what we do best: teach our students not just what to think, but how to think; cultivate empathy to see through another's eyes, the courage to ask uncomfortable questions, and the wisdom to live thoughtfully and purposefully in an uncertain world.*

*Thank you for making our 2024-2025 anniversary year so meaningful! I look forward to our continued collaboration in the year ahead.*

Sincerely,  
**Cristina Stanciu, HRC Director**





Attendees of the HRC Writing Retreat at Roslyn Center,  
Richmond, VA, May 2025

# About the Humanities Research Center

**The Humanities Research Center is a hub for the humanities at Virginia Commonwealth University.** Its mission is to provide a forum for intellectual exchange and humanistic inquiry, promote cutting-edge interdisciplinary research in the humanities and social sciences, and raise the visibility of scholarly work in the humanities within and beyond VCU. The HRC fosters innovative and inclusive collaborations between faculty, students, staff, local communities, as well as other institutions, to provide critical perspectives and context to some of our most pressing societal questions.

[OUR WEBSITE](#)

**FACULTY ADVISORY BOARD**

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD**

**STAFF**

# Year in Review



7

Residential  
Fellows  
Supported



28

Faculty  
Grants



42

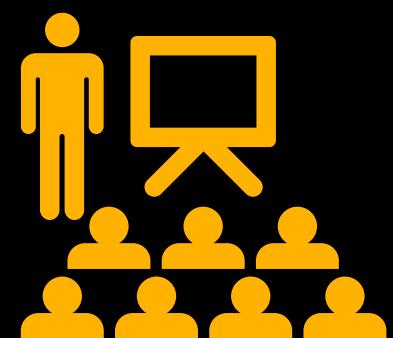
Student  
Fellowships and  
Assistantships



7

Research Groups  
Supported

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35

Public Events

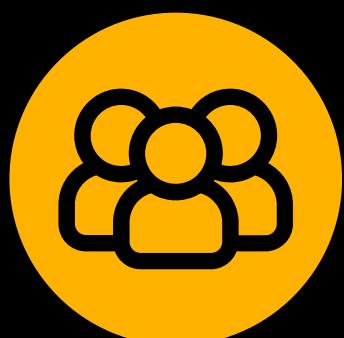
1,435

Attended Events

5,293

Viewed Event Videos

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8

Humanities  
Labs Seeded



29

External Grants  
Submitted

# Testimonials

*“The HRC is thriving thanks to supporting a true diversity of VCU humanities faculty research. That work is so often transdisciplinary, aligning with current goals at the university. The humanities are stronger here because of the HRC!”*

**John Glover**

Humanities Research Librarian, VCU Libraries

*“The HRC Writing Retreat at Roslyn was by far my favorite, most impactful HRC event of the year.”*

**Mary Caton Lingold**

Associate Professor of English  
Director of the MATX Ph.D. Program

*“The HRC has provided a home for my discussions with colleagues regarding individual research projects and the broader, cross-disciplinary challenges involving such research. It has also provided financial support allowing me to travel to a community-engaged conference.”*

**Ryan K. Smith**

Professor, Department of History

*“Write on Site has helped me establish a good writing pipeline to have pieces at various stages of completion.”*

**Nick Wong**

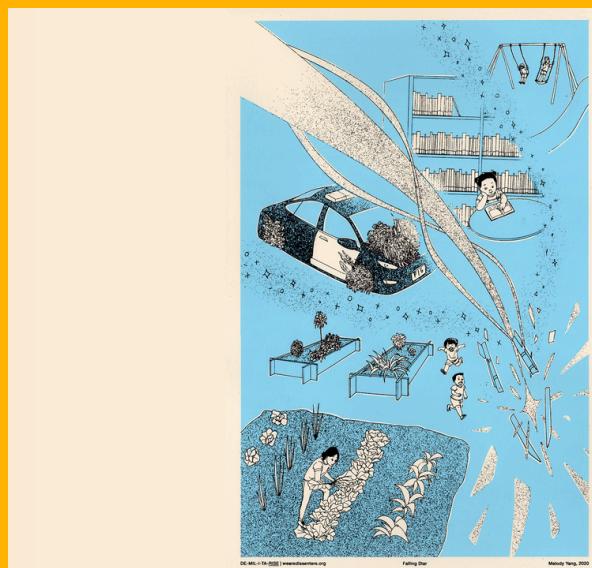
Director of Introductory Mathematics  
Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

*“The HRC has allowed Mellon Pathways to deliver one of its goals: the creation of research opportunities for transfer students who are usually not afforded such opportunities.”*

**Peter Henry**

Assistant Director, Mellon Pathways to the Arts and Humanities Program at VCU

# HRC Labs



## Transformative Justice Collaborative Lab

### CO-DIRECTORS

**Liz Canfield**, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies

**Travis Williams**, Sociology

[VISIT OUR PAGE](#)



## Health Humanities Lab

### DIRECTOR

**Chris Cynn**, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies

[VISIT OUR PAGE](#)



## Environmental Humanities Lab

### DIRECTORS

**Kai Bosworth**, School of World Studies

**Jesse Goldstein**, Sociology

[VISIT OUR PAGE](#)



## Migration Studies Lab

### CO-DIRECTORS

**Daniel Morales**, History

**G. Antonio Espinoza**, History

[VISIT OUR PAGE](#)



## AI Futures Lab

### DIRECTORS

**Caddie Alford**, English

**Jennifer Rhee**, English

[VISIT OUR PAGE](#)



## Graphic Narratives Lab

### CO-DIRECTORS

**Bernard K. Means**, School of World Studies

**Grace D. Gipson**, African American Studies

**Francesca Lyn**, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies

[VISIT OUR PAGE](#)



## Memory Studies Lab

### CO-DIRECTORS

**Gabriel Reich**, School of Education

**Hilary Levinson**, Focused Inquiry

[VISIT OUR PAGE](#)



## Public & Digital Humanities Lab

### DIRECTOR

**Scott Breuninger**, Dean of the Honors College

[VISIT OUR PAGE](#)

2024-2025

# Residential Fellows



## Caddie Alford, Ph.D.

**Associate Professor,  
Department of English**

*Rhetorical Restoration: A  
Paradigm of Repair for the  
Aftermath of Digitality*

“

My time as a Humanities Research Residential Fellow was an invaluable experience and made for a productive and re-energizing transition from my first book to the next stages in my career. The Fellowship allowed me to sink into reading, exploring, and discussing leads and complications with my generous and interdisciplinary cohort, which meant that I could pursue and publish all the research projects that I previously had to push to the side. It is not an exaggeration to say that the HRC Residential Fellowship breathed new life into my scholarly trajectory.”

“

The Fellowship enabled me the time, space, and support required to finish writing my book, in addition to providing a very supportive cohort of people with whom I will remain in community.”



Julian Kevon  
Kamilah Glover, Ph.D.

**Assistant Professor,  
Department of Gender, Sexuality,  
and Women's Studies**

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*Black Boundlessness:  
Performance, Ethics and  
Aesthetic Under Duress*



**Ying-Chao Kao, Ph.D.**  
**Assistant Professor,**  
**Department of Sociology**

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*Transtopia in Trans\*-formative Education: Trans-locally Comparing the Institutions and Practices of Gender Equity, Pronouns, and Indigenous Justice in Virginian and Taiwanese Democratisations*

“

Thanks to the two course releases and a supportive community, participating in this prestigious Fellowship substantially increased my productivity in scholarship and cultivated a behavioral pattern for sustainable career development. It has strengthened my long-term career sustainability.”

“

The Fellowship reignited my love of humanities scholarship and solidified my confidence in my contributions to it. As an eclectically-trained scholar, I realize how routinized I have become with the social science methods to which I have become accustomed. The HRC Fellowship was very much a ‘homecoming’ for me and, as I see it, an essential turn in my next era of scholarship.”



Sarah E. Raskin, Ph.D.

**Associate Professor,  
L. Douglas Wilder School of  
Government and Public Affairs**

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*Structural Racism in U.S.  
Professional Dentistry,  
1815-present*



Jessica Trisko  
Darden, Ph.D.

**Associate Professor,  
Department of Political Science**

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*The Accused: How Women  
Escaped Justice for Nazi-Era  
War Crimes*

“

During the Fellowship year, I was able to complete a draft manuscript, receive reader reports, and revise the full manuscript for publication... I had the opportunity to meet colleagues in a wide range of departments that I would otherwise not have interacted with. I learned a lot from their responses to my work, their style and manner of providing feedback, and their diverse viewpoints.”

“

I have found a supportive community outside of my department that under different circumstances I would have never found. This type of consistent weekly support, from creating schedules to holding accountability meetings, really increased my writing productivity during the Fellowship year.”



Jatia Wrighten, Ph.D.

**Assistant Professor,  
Department of Political Science**

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*Oppression Made Us  
Leaders: Black Women,  
Heavy Lifting, and  
Leadership*



## Rian Johnson

**Ph.D. Candidate,  
Media, Art and Text Program**

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*The Fantasyscape Quotidian:  
On Life in Other Worlds*

“

During the final year of my Ph.D. program, the structure, accountability, and inspiration I gained from the Residential Fellowship with the HRC were invaluable. The Center and Fellowship helped guide me in the transition from graduate student to faculty in critical and unexpected ways. I am proud to be a part of the HRC community and so grateful for its continuous support.”

# Spotlighting Student Fellows in Humanities Labs

## AI Futures Lab

### Undergraduate Student Fellows

**Kate Ogden**, Art Education

**Anupama Nair**, Biology

**Sedenia Dawit**, Pre-Nursing

**Starr Goodridge**

(*Mellon Pathways Fellow*)

### Graduate Student Fellow

**Weitong Sun**, Kinetic Imaging

## Migration Studies Lab

### Undergraduate Student Fellow

**Nati Feliciano**, Mass Communications

(*Mellon Pathways Fellow*)

### Graduate Student Fellow

Briany Cruz, School of Social Work

## Environmental Humanities Lab

### Undergraduate Student Fellows

**Ajax Balane**, Political Science

**Grace Blair**, Political Science

**Christina Sayegh**, International Studies

**Caroline May**, Communication Arts

**Ben Haskett**, Sociology

**Savannah Morris**, Political Science

(*Mellon Pathways Fellow*)

## Graphic Narratives Lab

### Undergraduate Student Fellows

**Deja Wilson**, Graphic Design

**Cloud Easterly**, Communication Arts

**Madelyn Spicer**, Anthropology

## Health Humanities Lab

### Undergraduate Student Fellows

**Shanna Black**, Political Science

**Patience Obasi**, Computer Science

**Keziah Yeboah**, Sociology

**Merilyn Arikat**, Pre-medical

**Tobi Ojo**, Health Science

**Jala Harris**, Nursing

**Kayla Johnson**, Biology

**Pooja Balamurugan**, Biology

**Divya Amancherla**, Informatics

**Alfreda Harder**, Nursing

**Zaina Salman**, Nursing

**Sylvie Lister**, Sociology

**Ashley Burks**, Psychology

**I-Kamilah Hiwott**, African American Studies

**Rome Kamarouthu**, Business

**Neha Potla**, Biology

**Arya Hanjagi**, Biology

**Maryam Shaw**, Pre-medical

**Victoria Vidal**, Biochemistry

**Olivia Washington**, Psychology

**Sunday Wright**, Biology

### Graduate Student Fellows

**Jenae Kocinski**, Sociology

**Asma Almutairi**, Nursing

**Maggie Bertsche**, Graduate RA

**Micah White**, Graduate RA

# Technology Humanities Speaker Series



EVENT VIDEOS

**SEPT. 19, 2024**

## HOW THE HUMANITIES AND STEM CAN FIND COMMON GROUND IN THE HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY

MAR HICKS, Ph.D.  
University of Virginia

**FEB. 13, 2025**

## BEYOND “ALWAYS ON” CULTURE

DAMIEN PFISTER, Ph.D.  
University of Maryland College Park

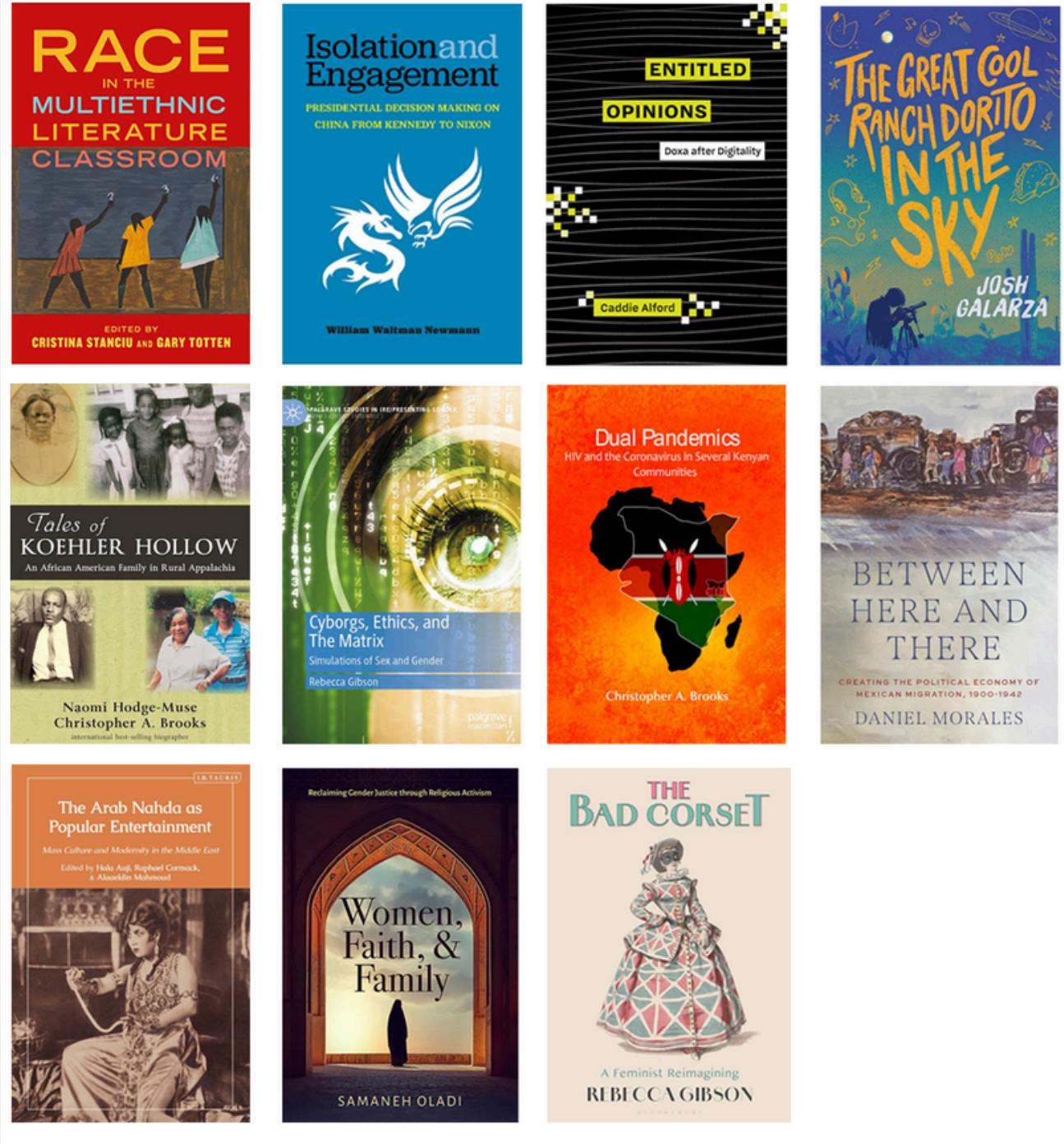
**APR. 23, 2025**

## PUBLIC INTEREST TECHNOLOGY IN THE AGE OF AI

MARGARET HU, Ph.D.  
The College of William & Mary

# Meet VCU Authors

## EVENT VIDEOS



**AUG. 26, 2024**

RACE IN THE MULTIETHNIC  
LITERATURE CLASSROOM  
CRISTINA STANCIU, Ph.D.  
Professor of English

GARY TOTTEN, Ph.D.  
Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, University of Nevada,  
Las Vegas

**SEP. 9, 2024**

ISOLATION AND ENGAGEMENT:  
PRESIDENTIAL DECISION MAKING ON  
CHINA FROM KENNEDY TO NIXON

WILLIAM NEWMANN, Ph.D.  
Professor of Political Science

**SEP. 23, 2024**

ENTITLED OPINIONS: DOXA AFTER  
DIGITALITY

CADDIE ALFORD, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of English

**OCT. 7, 2024**

THE GREAT COOL RANCH  
DORITO IN THE SKY

JOSH GALARZA  
MFA Student in Creative Writing

**OCT. 21, 2024**

TALES OF KOEHLER HOLLOW: AN  
AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY IN RURAL  
APPALACHIA

CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, Ph.D.  
Professor of Anthropology

**NOV. 4, 2024**

CYBORGS, ETHICS, AND THE MATRIX:  
SIMULATIONS OF SEX AND GENDER

REBECCA GIBSON, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Anthropology

**FEB. 10, 2025**

DUAL PANDEMICS: HIV AND THE  
CORONAVIRUS IN SEVERAL KENYAN  
COMMUNITIES  
CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, Ph.D.  
Professor of Anthropology

**MAR. 3, 2025**

BETWEEN HERE AND THERE: CREATING  
THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF MEXICAN  
MIGRATION

DANIEL MORALES, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of History

**MAR. 24, 2025**

THE ARAB NAHDA AS POPULAR  
ENTERTAINMENT: MASS CULTURE AND  
MODERNITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

HALA AUJI, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Art History

**MAR. 30, 2025**

WOMEN, FAITH, AND FAMILY:  
RECLAIMING GENDER JUSTICE THROUGH  
RELIGIOUS ACTIVISM

SAMANEH OLADI GHADIKOLAEI, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies

**APR. 7, 2025**

THE BAD CORSET: A FEMINIST  
REIMAGINING

REBECCA GIBSON, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Anthropology

2024-2025

# International and Cross-Campus Collaborations



MAR. 28, 2025

## LATINX SCHOLARSHIP SYMPOSIUM

Co-hosted by the HRC Migration Studies Lab  
and VCU Libraries





APR. 12, 2025

## UNBURYING VOICES: COMMUNITY-ENGAGED REPARATIVE JUSTICE

Co-hosted by the HRC Health Humanities Lab, the Office of Health Initiatives, and the Virginia Museum of History and Culture



APR. 17-19, 2025

## RECOVERY IN PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM

Co-hosted by the HRC, the Institute for Contemporary Art at VCU, Rams in Recovery, Richmond's Inclusive Recovery City Initiative, and Recovery in Practice in the VCU School of the Arts

# On Native Ground

Through the On Native Ground initiative, the HRC has been collaborating with local tribes and tribal leaders to support Indigenous art, film and scholarship, and to organize public programming.

In Fall 2024, the HRC welcomed to campus Rappahannock artist Sequoyah Fortune as our third Karenne Wood Artist in Residence and, for the third year in a row, supported the annual Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival in November 2024.

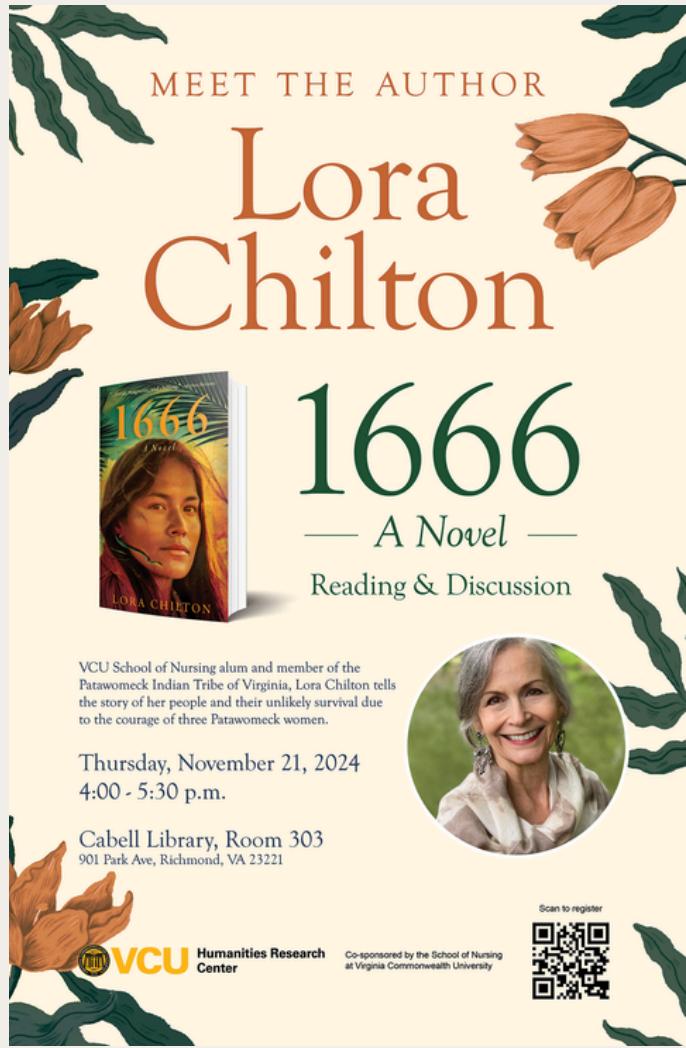


Dean Ingrassia, President Rao, and Dr. Stanciu after Dr. Rao's remarks at the Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival, Nov. 2024



Directors' Reception, Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival, Nov. 2024

The HRC also invited several Indigenous speakers to VCU in 2024 and 2025, including Ray John, Jr., a member of the Oneida Nation of the Thames, Canada, and experienced educator, counselor, and advisor; and novelist Lora Chilton, a member of the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia.



Lora Chilton signing books at her event,  
“1666: A Novel” at VCU Libraries



Arica Coleman and audience following her event,  
“Denying Blackness: The Enduring Legacy of the  
‘Science’ of Racial Purity in the Federal  
Recognition Process”

On Native Ground  
Events, Fall 2024

# News Highlights



SEPT. 19, 2024

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER CITES THE TIMELY NEED FOR WHAT THE HUMANITIES TEACH US – AND HOW THEY CAN GUIDE US

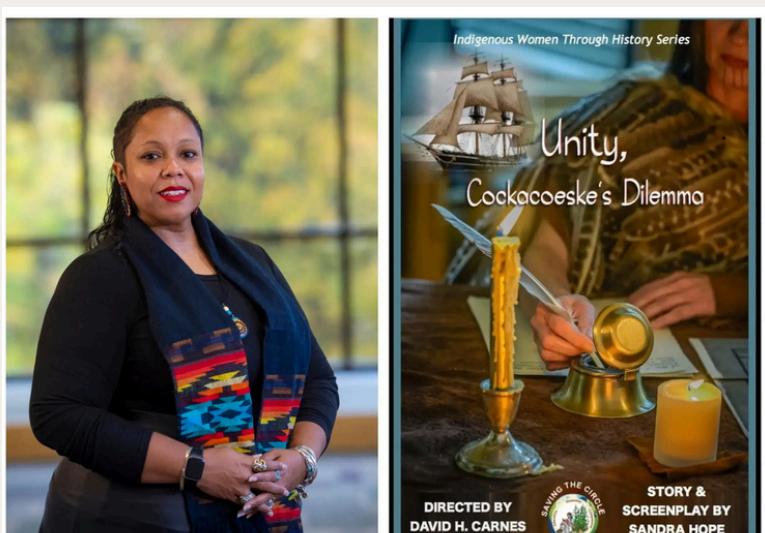
Kicking off Humanities Week at VCU, Paula Krebs, executive director of the Modern Language Association, connects those lessons to science, technology, education and society.



NOV. 1, 2024

## VCU AND VCU HEALTH ADOPT LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECOGNIZING THEIR PRESENCE ON NATIVE AMERICAN HOMELANDS

The institutions commit to cultivating meaningful relationships with Virginia's 11 recognized tribes and highlighting their history and contributions.



NOV. 25, 2024

## POCAHONTAS REFRAMED FILM FESTIVAL HAS VCU SPIRIT IN FRONT OF AND BEHIND THE CAMERA

Instructor and alum Christina Davis has a prominent role in one film, and the Humanities Research Center co-sponsored the spotlight on Indigenous stories.



DEC. 4, 2024

## MELLON PATHWAYS PROGRAM SUPPORTS AND GUIDES BRIGHTPOINT, REYNOLDS STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO VCU

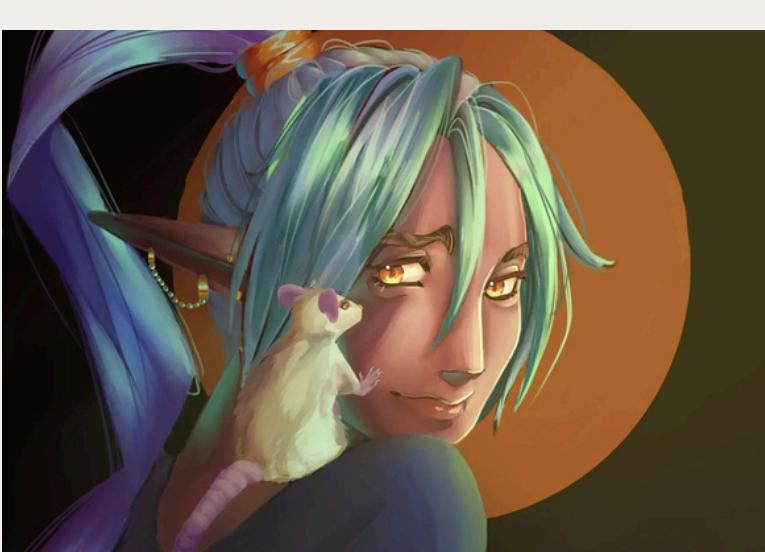
From intensive advising to on-campus meals, the partnership creates a welcoming pipeline from the community colleges to VCU's opportunities for research, internships and more.



APR. 2, 2025

## MELLON FOUNDATION GRANT WILL SUPPORT LAUNCH OF INDIGENOUS HUMANITIES LAB AT VCU

Through a partnership of the Humanities Research Center and the College of Humanities and Sciences, Cristina Stanciu and Catherine Ingrassia are expanding the university's focus on Native programs.



APR. 24, 2025

## UNDERGRADUATES FLEX THEIR COMICS CREATIVITY IN VCU'S GRAPHIC NARRATIVES LAB

The initial cohort of students explores visual storytelling and scholarship.

*Image credit: Cloud Easterly*

[VIEW ALL HRC NEWS STORIES](#)

# Events 2025-2026

## 2025



### AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

#### MEET VCU AUTHORS

**What Does a Religion Feel Like? Thoughts on Emotion in Early Christianity**

Andrew Crislip  
Aug. 25, 2025

**From The Wiz to Wakanda: Afrofuturism in Pop Culture**

Grace Gipson  
Sept. 8, 2025

#### CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS

**For the Love of Education: Black Virginian Pedagogy**

Leah Brown

#### MEET VCU AUTHORS

**One Planet, One Sky: Internationalism in Modern Astronomy**

Jörg Matthias Determann  
Sept. 22, 2025

#### RESEARCH FRIDAYS

**Trauma and the Self across Media: From Graphic Memoirs to Autobiographical Video Games**

Loredana Bercuci  
Sept. 26, 2025

### OCTOBER

#### ON NATIVE GROUND

**Transborder Nahua Futurisms**  
Federico Cuatlacuatl

Oct. 1, 2025

**Pamunkey Portrait Screening**  
Ethan Brown

Oct. 13, 2025



#### SECOND ANNUAL HUMANITIES WEEK

**Applied Humanities: Solving Problems and Equipping for Careers**

Scott Muir | Oct. 20, 2025

**Discover Your Unique Genius: The Foundation of a Meaningful and Successful Career**

Cristi Cooke | Oct. 21, 2025

**Public Humanities in Action: Project-Based Learning That Transforms Communities and Careers**

Teresa Mangum | Oct. 21, 2025

**Connecting Classroom to Career: An Applied Humanities Design Workshop**

Teresa Mangum | Oct. 22, 2025

**Dean's Research Seminar**

Aspen Brinton, Joshua Eckhardt  
Oct. 22, 2025

**Humanities and AI: Large Language Models and the Returns of Critical Theory**

Wendy Chun  
Oct. 23, 2025

**Walking Tours with The Valentine Museum**

Oct. 24, 2025

#### MEET VCU AUTHORS

**Informatics of Domination**  
Jennifer Rhee, Melody Jue, Zach Blas

Oct. 27, 2025

#### CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS

**What Can We Learn from Arizona's Ethnic Studies Ban About Latino/a/e Education**  
Julio Cammarota

Oct. 29, 2025

#### ON NATIVE GROUND

**Our Land, Our Art: Virginia Native Artists Reclaim Space**  
Rebecca Hill and Siera Hyte

Oct. 30, 2025

### NOVEMBER

#### CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS

**Teaching Native Histories in Virginia: Historical Considerations and Contemporary Possibilities**  
Meredith McCoy

Nov. 3, 2025

#### ON NATIVE GROUND

**The Worst Trickster Story Ever Told: Native America, the Supreme Court, and the U.S. Constitution**  
Keith Richotte

Nov. 12, 2025

**Provost Lecture Series: "On Native Ground:" Virginia Native Nations, Sovereignty, and Persistence**

Chief Stephen R. Adkins, Chickahominy

Nov. 18, 2025



# 2026



## JANUARY

### RESEARCH FRIDAYS

**Structural Racism in the History of U.S. Professional Dentistry**  
Sarah Raskin

Jan. 16, 2026

### ON NATIVE GROUND

**Indigenous Elder in Residence Welcome Reception**  
Robert Gray

Jan. 21, 2026



### RESEARCH FRIDAYS

**Oppression Made Us Leaders: Black Women, Heavy Lifting, and Leadership in State Legislatures**  
Jatia Wrighten

Jan. 30, 2026

## FEBRUARY

### MEET VCU AUTHORS

**The Cambridge Companion to American Prison Writing and Mass Incarceration**

David Coogan, Liz Canfield, Becca Ringle

Feb. 2, 2026

**Cinema of Crushing Motherhood: A New Feminist Cinema**

Olivia Landry

Feb. 9, 2026

### CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS

**Boundaries and Backlash: Resegregation and Recent Political Trends in Virginia's Public Schools**

Dennis Williams

Feb. 11, 2026

### CO-SPONSORED

**Abolition Time**

Jess Goldberg

Feb. 12, 2026

**Alumni Memoir Writing Workshop**

Sonja Livingston

Feb. 27, 2026

## MARCH

### MEET VCU AUTHORS

**The Crown's Silence: The Hidden History of the British Monarchy and Slavery**

Brooke Newman

Mar. 2, 2026

### CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS

**"Destiny" Revisited: Inclusions and Erasures of Indigeneity in K-12 U.S. History Standards, 10 Years Later**

Sarah Shear

Mar. 4, 2026

### MEET VCU AUTHORS

**The Accused: How Women Faced Justice for Nazi-Era Crimes**

Jessica Trisko Darden

Mar. 16, 2026

## APRIL

### CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS

**Community as Curriculum: When Cultural Solidarity, Critical Care, and Collective Healing Become Pedagogy**

Apr. 1, 2026

### MEET VCU AUTHORS

**Secret Addressee: Essays on How Poetry Matters**

David Wojahn

Apr. 13, 2026



## FIRST ANNUAL VCU HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM

### Humanities Now

Apr. 23, 2026

[VIEW ALL UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

# Giving Opportunities

Along with support for our core original programming, your gift will help the Humanities Research Center empower student and faculty research in 3 key initiatives over the next 3 years.

01

## **Graduate and Undergraduate Student Research Funding**

We are committed to expanding our research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students through lab fellowships, residential (cohort) fellowships for advanced graduate students, and professional development funds for students working on humanistic projects.

02

## **Humanities Labs**

These highly interdisciplinary humanities labs bring together faculty and students (post-docs, graduate and undergraduate) to work on ground-breaking research projects responding to the most pressing challenges to humanity today.

03

## **Faculty Fellowships**

These fellowships provide on-campus, semester-long leaves for faculty members in the humanities and humanistic social sciences to pursue research and creative work that leads to publication, exhibit, community engaged project, or public-facing event. This type of faculty support is in the service of students and the public good.

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Unrestricted gifts to the Humanities Research Center General Fund enable the work of the HRC to continue to grow and meet the needs of the community.

Your gift, no matter the amount, supports the following initiatives:

**Programs and Partnerships:** Support strategic campus partnerships and new, original programming that benefit the wider community.

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*For more information on how you can support the HRC, please contact James Romanik at [romanikjv@vcu.edu](mailto:romanikjv@vcu.edu).*

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