The Center for Latino Research recently hosted a visiting play about Frida Kahlo. Read more about the center as it celebrates 30 years on campus on page 6.
French and accounting add up to fulfilling career

By Jennifer Leopoldt

French and accounting may not seem like the most compatible courses of study, but together they have helped Lorraine Evanoff (LAS ’87) maintain a long and fruitful career in the international film and entertainment industry. Today, as the director of finance for CineSky Pictures, Evanoff draws on both her areas of expertise.

A Chicago native, Evanoff worked as a model and actress in several long-running local commercials to help pay for college. She transferred from Triton College to DePaul, and though she first began studying accounting, she graduated with a bachelor’s degree in French. “Putting myself through college was a challenge that required me to work full time. Accounting was not an exciting subject to me—I was taking it for practical reasons,” Evanoff explains. “For some creative respite, I used my electives to take French classes. It turned out to mean much more than I had ever imagined.”

That French degree is what enabled Evanoff to take a big leap after graduation and move to Paris, where she worked as an English teacher and American phonetics coach for French actors. She balanced coaching with taking classes toward a Licence en Lettres Modernes (degree in modern literature) at the University of Paris Censier. Evanoff also did contract work for Cannon France, translating films from English to French for subtitles. This work led to her role as a founding member of Sideral Productions, the French distributor of New Line Cinema and other studio films. She also continued to dabble in acting, including being cast as the lead of Sideral’s “Dark at Noon,” helmed by famed Chilean director Raúl Ruiz, which competed in the 1992 Cannes Film Festival.

Evanoff was fueled on her journey by lessons from Sideral. “I learned strengths and weaknesses about how to sell yourself,” she says. “I learned to present my qualifications and never take anything for granted.”

For them, questions about the value of their degrees are not mere academic exercises. “Students yesterday, graduates today, alumni forever”—“students yesterday, graduates today, alumni forever”—and join the ranks of “lifelong learners and citizens of the world,” becoming the newest readers of this newsletter.

For them, questions about the value of their degrees are urgent. Again and again, they are asked, “So, what will you do with a degree in X?” Confident in the growth we have already seen, we might answer glibly, “What can’t you do?” Or we might reframe the question, “What kind of person, thinker, searcher, citizen, maker have you discovered yourself to be through your dedicated, even passionate, exploration of X? And, given that, what kind of job or future study will you pursue?”

At the alumni reception in April, I asked attendees to think how they would answer the latter question and to share their answers with current students, helping them understand prospectively as well as retrospectively the value of their learning at DePaul. I suspect these stories are not only about what you learned in school, but also about how you learned. Some of you may remember Father Guido Sarducci’s “Five Minute University” Saturday Night Live sketch: For a mere $20, he promises to teach you in five minutes everything that the average college graduate remembers five years after graduation. The skit is funny because, well, yes, we would now have to Google most of the facts we once mastered in our college courses. But it’s also funny because we recognize the fallacy: That’s not all there is to it, as you well know. We look forward to hearing from you at dpaumni@depaul.edu.

Lorraine Evanoff’s tips for recent graduates:

Interview as much as possible. You learn more about what you want and don’t want through interviews. Questions will make you focus on what your strengths are and how to sell yourself.

Don’t accept “no.” If you want a job in entertainment, take the best one you can find for the best salary you can bear, then work your way up.

Work sideways. If you can’t find a job directly in entertainment, find one in advertising or something media-related. Then, when you get a good reputation, recruiters will find you.

Have a great work ethic. Don’t be afraid to take on any task, no matter how menial, and always do your best. Work to make yourself indispensable by doing more than what is expected and surpassing expectations.
DePaul, Rush University Medical Center launch the Center for Community Health Equity

Ever since the advent of managed health care in the 1970s, the focus of treatment has been shifting gradually from the traditional, reactionary approach to a more community-based, preventive model. This process has accelerated under the Affordable Care Act, which requires hospitals to administer community health needs assessments every three years and implement changes based on the findings. Fernando De Maio, associate professor of sociology, and John Mazzeo, director of the Master of Public Health program, began brainstorming with Dr. David Ansell from Rush University Medical Center about a joint project regarding these health needs assessments. “What could we achieve if we brought the resources, skills and passion of DePaul and Rush together?” De Maio asks. “But could we achieve if we really link social sciences and health sciences in a meaningful way? What kind of impact can we make on Chicago if we work together?”

Together with Dr. Raj Shah, associate professor in the department of family medicine and the Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Center, De Maio, Mazzeo and Ansell seek to answer those questions and more through the newly established Center for Community Health Equity. The center brings together community leaders, faculty and students from various disciplines to execute innovative research and development interventions that promote community health equity. “We have a strong interest in addressing issues around health equity and making the situation better for our community,” explains Shah. “To make these changes happen, it takes a team that’s broader than just what may be at a medical center. Bringing on a team from DePaul that has skills in epidemiology, sociology and medical anthropology is really beneficial. Working together will get us closer to finding creative solutions with communities facing issues of health inequity.”

LAS’s newest center operates independently of a single department, and faculty can integrate its resources into their classes. For example, in one of De Maio’s sociology courses, students used actual data from Rush’s 2012 community health needs assessment to develop new methodologies for analyzing data. At the end of the quarter, they shared their findings with Rush, contributing to the development of a new round of community health needs reports. “It’s not just about providing more data,” stresses De Maio. “It’s about making that data more meaningful, especially for Chicago communities.” Another of the center’s projects compares Chicago’s health inequities to those of similarly sized cities. “Wouldn’t it be great if we could learn lessons from what other cities in other countries have done to reduce the gap?” De Maio says. “I think there are a lot of lessons to be learned about community engagement and the role of communities in reducing health inequities from other countries, including seemingly poorer places.”

Mazzeo is excited to implement changes based on the findings. “Inequities fall along class, race and gender lines,” he explains. “We know that there are some major problems, and we can identify the determinants of these problems. The challenge is how we act on this information.” He looks forward to exploring this challenge with his students. “An important part of the center is how we can design innovative ways of addressing health inequities that respond well to the climate that was created by the Affordable Care Act.” Mazzeo has begun this work as part of his Coleman Foundation fellowship, in which he and Marty Martin, associate professor and director of the human resources graduate program at the Driehaus College of Business, are addressing ways in which social entrepreneurship can be used to promote health equity. They work with their students to develop new apps, service models and intervention methods. “Chicago has one of the highest not-for-profit ratios in the country, and a lot of these organizations are looking for new and innovative ideas to help them to serve their populations,” Mazzeo says.

As the Center for Community Health Equity gains traction, its impact could be immense. “The whole landscape of health delivery and responsibility is changing,” Mazzeo says. “How organizations are held accountable for populations and communities they serve is very different, and there’s a big push for health providers not only to consider the clinical, individual-level outcomes, but also to think about the population and community level.” De Maio looks forward to the role the center will play in this changing landscape. “This is a real opportunity. Not just to collect data, but to link data to action and do something to address the health inequities in the city, which we know are some of the most severe in the United States,” he stresses. “There is a 20-year gap in life expectancy between the worst-off and best-off communities in Chicago. This is the product of an unjust social structure. If we continue to focus on individual behaviors at the expense of community-level factors, we will never close that gap. Our center will be a launching pad for that kind of work.”
Digital academic journals yield direct connections with readers

LAS hosts a numbers of journals in a variety of fields, including four student journals. In addition, many faculty serve as editors of national and international journals. The two featured journals break down traditional barriers by offering content free of charge, charting a new direction in academic publishing.

When exploring concepts of business ethics, Thomas O’Brien, director of the Center for Interreligious Engagement, and Scott Paeth, associate professor of religious studies, noticed a gap in the literature. Despite several social and political theories having strong religious undertones—including the free market theory in Adam Smith’s “The Wealth of Nations”—the religious aspects often were stripped away. “That ends up being misleading at some level, because it doesn’t tell the whole story,” says O’Brien.

O’Brien and Paeth co-founded the Journal of Religion and Business Ethics in 2009 to address that gap head on. “It gives religious voices in business ethics a place to be heard,” asserts Paeth. The interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal explores ethical and religious issues in today’s business world using a digital platform. While a majority of the arguments are framed from a Christian perspective, the editors welcome submissions from all faiths. “We’ve looked at Judaism, Islam and Hinduism,” explains Paeth. “Those traditions have valid and distinct ways of thinking about business ethics that aren’t available in Christianity.”

Previous topics include a comparison of Buddhist ethics, an exploration of Lakota values, the framework for shalom and the influence of the bible in Christian ethics. New content is published on a continuous basis, and readers are notified via email when the journal is updated. “There’s a lot of religious underpinning to things both in business and in ethics,” stresses O’Brien. “It’s important to reveal these things.”

The Journal of Religion and Business Ethics is available at via.library.depaul.edu/jrbe.

A selection of academic journals students and faculty scholars participate in is listed below.

HOUSED IN LAS
• Diálogo
• Journal of Video Ethnography
• Latino Studies
• Philosophy Today
• Poetry East
• Journal of Religion and Business Ethics
• Slag Glass City

EDITED BY LAS FACULTY
• Journal of Popular Romance Studies
• Journal of Islamic Law and Culture
• Modern Theology
• Oxford Literary Review

LAS STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
• Creating Knowledge
• Crook and Folly
• Mille-Feuille
• Magazine Littéraire


Center for Latino Research celebrates three decades of accomplishments

Since Elizabeth Martinez, professor of Latin American and Latino studies, joined the Center for Latino Research (CLR) as director in 2010, she’s been crusading tirelessly to up hold its mission to empower and recognize Latino communities through scholarship and community engagement. Martinez began this work by expanding the center’s journal, Diálogo, to biannual publication, converting it to a refereed journal of interdisciplinary studies on Latin American and Latino issues, and recruiting a national and international editorial board. Assistant Director Cristina Rodriguez (CDM ’09, MS ’14), who handles production and layout of the journal, has helped bring it to a more professional, standardized look.

Each issue includes research articles, shorter essays, interviews, book and film reviews, and a short section for creative work. “Diálogo’s mission has been to serve as a bridge to the Latino community, rather than research conducted in an ivory tower,” says Martinez, who notes that the journal has a wider reach and participation by scholars from many universities and nations. “That’s what makes Diálogo special. It’s accessible to anybody and everybody,” adds senior Latino studies major Alejandra Amezcua, Diálogo’s editorial intern, who published a poem in the fall 2014 issue. Martinez has been working to get articles indexed in academic databases, and issues more than five years old are available in open access through the DePaul library.

In addition to publishing Diálogo, the CLR has administered a faculty fellowship program since 2003. Each year, three DePaul faculty are selected for the one-quarter teaching release. The fellowship also includes funding for a student research assistant. Previous projects run the gamut from Latino youth participation in health outreach programs to an exploration of Mexico City’s water crisis to Hispanic perceptions of race in video games. The CLR organizes annual events, including a fall forum on current issues, artistic exhibits, film screenings and special presentations, and co-sponsors events with other university units and community organizations, most recently the National Museum of Mexican Art.

In 2015–16, the CLR will celebrate its 30th anniversary. “There isn’t another office or department quite like the center,” says Rodriguez. “We continue to provide things folks are interested in, and that feeds the continuous work of the center.” As she prepares to graduate, Amezcua remains proud to have been a part of the center through her work on Diálogo. “This is our history,” she says. “I’m happy that scholars are immersing themselves in these particular topics because we need to tell our stories. I felt oftentimes in history books, my history wasn’t included. My history is American history, and I feel this is what we’re doing here.”

The CLR was a founding partner of the Midwest Consortium for Latino Research and is a member of the Inter-University Program for Latino Research.

For more information, visit bit.ly/Clrdepaul.

The grittiness of what remains of the steel industry, melded with the glittering downtown skyline, is synonymous with beauty for Barrie Jean Borich, assistant professor of English. Slag, a by-product of iron ore processing, is a component of slag glass, a material used in decorative arts and crafts, and that inspired Borich to create Slag Glass City, an online literary journal that focuses on nonfiction arts. “I want to convey the beauty and art of what people make in the city,” explains Borich.

Launched in November 2014, Slag Glass City contains essays, interviews, stories, lyric essays and photography that emphasize issues of urbanity and sustainability in the city. Topics run the gamut from the city’s changing landscape to food and hunger in the city, while the digital platform allows the journal to integrate multimedia content. “My long-term goal is to broaden coverage to include anything that deals with creating art from the actuality of the urban environment,” she says. Slag Glass City publishes on a continuous basis, and students enrolled in Borich’s American literary magazine course have assisted with website design, content curation and social media. “We lack the texture and weight of a book in the hand, but what we gain is immediate connections with readers,” she says. As the journal continues to grow, Borich is excited about expanding her niche in the literary magazine world.

To learn more, visit slagglasscity.org or contact slagglasscity@gmail.com.
Faculty collaboration enhances the student experience

Students bring a fresh perspective to ongoing faculty research projects and often generate renewed energy that reminds faculty exactly how much fun teaching can be.

Children's burials in Chicago's historic cemeteries

From the moment sophomore Morgan Krause stepped onto campus, she found a mentor in Jane Baxter, associate professor of anthropology and author of “The Archaeology of Childhood: Children, Gender, and Material Culture.” A passion for archaeological research led Krause to take two classes with Baxter her freshman year. Baxter quickly took note of this tenacious freshman and invited her to participate in a research project on children's burials in Chicago's historic cemeteries. “To be approached by someone who I look up to so much is unbelievable,” enthuses Krause. “That's something you dream about.”

Supported by an undergraduate research assistant program grant, Baxter and Krause set out to catalog and photograph headstones from 1859 to 1909 in Graceland Cemetery in Chicago’s Uptown neighborhood. “Children are an interesting topic to study because there was a high mortality rate in the 19th century,” explains Baxter. “Children were buried before parents were fully settled in an area, so they hadn’t had time to create a family plot or other kinds of memorials. They are putting a lot of time and energy into individual child burials, trying to say something about the family.”

Krause will present the initial findings of this research at the American Anthropological Association’s annual meeting in November 2015, and she and Baxter will co-author a peer-reviewed article on the project as well. “I had hoped coming into college that I would find my niche in the anthropology department, and I think the personal relationships that I’ve developed have been invaluable,” she says. “I can’t quantify the effect it’s had on me. I have no idea where I’d be without them!”

**Vénus Noire: Black Women, Haiti, and the Production of Gender and Race in France, 1750–1850**

Clare Stuber’s (LAS ’14, MA ’15) passion for theory perfectly aligned Assistant Professor Robin Mitchell’s historical knowledge while she helped edit Mitchell’s forthcoming book, tentatively titled “Vénus Noire: Black Women, Haiti, and the Production of Gender and Race in France, 1750–1850.”

The pair became so close that they began to finish each other's sentences. “At one point, we had an argument about who had written a sentence,” laughs Mitchell. “It got to the point where the book didn’t feel like it was just mine. It felt like it was ours.”

Stuber began working with Mitchell as an undergraduate and continued through graduate school as part of the combined BAMA program in women’s and gender studies. Mitchell was able to hire Stuber as her research assistant thanks to a DePaul grant. During the editorial process, Stuber often acted as a mediator between Mitchell and her freelance editor, David Carr. “It’s so rewarding because as much as I am a part of this, at the end of the day, it’s [Mitchell’s] work,” says Stuber. “It’s an honor to step into the process and help negotiate.”

Discussions led to the generation of new content, including the development of a groundbreaking theory. “Multi-Tiered Puppet Mastery is an explanation for how white French men—being the universal subject—use different bodies to communicate codes of Frenchness and what it means to be French,” explains Stuber. Following the book’s publication, they will co-author an article outlining this theory in depth.

Stuber will continue to work with Mitchell through the book’s publication, and after graduation, she will join Carr as a part-time editor. “It’s always amazing as a scholar to watch someone become exactly who they’re supposed to be,” says Mitchell. “[Stuber] became exactly the scholar she was supposed to be, and she became an editor like I’ve never seen. Whenever there was a problem, Carr would say, ‘Just call [Stuber]!’”

**The Returns of Antigone**

Sean Kirkland, associate professor and director of graduate studies in philosophy, and Tina Chanter, formerly of DePaul’s Department of Philosophy and currently head of the School of Humanities at Kingston University London, co-edited “The Returns of Antigone” (SUNY Press). This interdisciplinary essay collection focuses initially on the figure of Sophocles’ Antigone in her original Greek context, then extends the interpretation to the contemporary reception and deployment of this figure in European, Latin American and African political activism, arts and literature.

**Women in Early America**

Thomas Foster, professor and chair of the history department, co-edited “Women in Early America” (NYU Press), a collection of essays that examines the myriad women who shaped early modern North America. The volume recovers the stories of lesser-known historical women to enrich the scholarship of early modern women in order to rethink and better understand the past.

**The End of the World and Other Teachable Moments**

Caterina Mongiat-Farina, Italian program director and assistant professor in the Department of Modern Languages, and Geoff Farina, lecturer at the School of Music, translated Umberto Eco’s “How to Write a Thesis” (MIT Press), in which Eco offers advice on the process of researching and writing a thesis. This is the first English translation of Eco’s classic manual, originally published in 1977.

**How to Write a Thesis**


**The Aesthetics and Ethics of Faith: A Dialogue Between Liberationist and Pragmatic Thought**

In “The End of the World and Other Teachable Moments” (Fordham University Press), Professor Michael Naas analyzes French philosopher Jacques Derrida’s final seminar, “The Beast and the Sovereign” (2001–2003). Following the seminar chronologically, Naas traces Derrida’s exploration of the themes of sovereignty, the relationship between the human and the animal, death, mourning, survival, the status of the archive and the end of the world.
Map of the Month demonstrates modern geography

This fall, nine geography students and recent alumni were recognized by various organizations for their exceptional work in the field. As a result, Euan Hague, geography department chair and co-director of the Master of Arts in Sustainable Urban Development program, received a call from Cook County, looking to fill open positions with DePaul graduates. “We’re this hidden gem, producing excellent students who are highly employable, with in-demand skills for one of the fastest-growing industries in the United States,” says Hague. In fact, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the employment of geographers to grow 29 percent by 2022—much faster than the national job outlook average of 11 percent.

Geography is much more than identifying states, countries and their capitals, and with the advent of GIS and geographic information systems (GIS), mapping data is more important than ever. To highlight student work, the geography department launched the Map of the Month project in September 2013. Each month, Department of Geography faculty choose a map produced in one of the department’s eight GIS course offerings to distribute to the university community through the library’s Via Sapientiae website. Topics range from hate crimes in the United States to thermal plumes in Fukushima. “We really wanted to showcase student skills in mapping, data analysis and visualization using maps,” explains Hague. “A map is a very visual image, and we thought the Map of the Month project was a way to reward students, to showcase student excellence and to provide the university with resources they can draw on for other classes.”

Students often approach Hague with critiques of maps used in other courses. “People, when they want to map or illustrate something, they just search on the internet,” he says. “They don’t think about where those maps come from. Someone’s got to make them. Our students are making those maps.”

Students use industry-standard ESRI digital mapping technology to create maps using data. “Everything on a map you have to make a choice about,” explains Hague. “How big is your type size? What’s the color scheme? How thick are the lines? We teach all of this. A map doesn’t just come out of nowhere—it’s a curated editorial, as well as data analytical, experience.”

Research papers supplement the information presented in the maps, demonstrating that students not only know how to present data, but interpret it as well. “A map in isolation can’t explain everything,” Hague says. “It can present data in a very interesting and appealing way, but the maps of the month are always part of a larger project that involves analysis of the issues from a number of different angles.”

So when looking at urban sprawl in Kane, Kendall, Will and McHenry counties, Elisa Addlesperger, student and reference librarian at DePaul, explored urban-planning policies, real estate development and economic trends in addition to examining satellite data analysis in her April 2015 Map of the Month. “Suburban sprawl is a complex issue and isn’t necessarily driven simply by homeowner preference to live in a new house or to be surrounded by more open space,” says Addlesperger. “The greater affordability of land in semi-rural suburbs, as well as the fact that farmers can profit by selling to developers rather than continue agricultural activity, all play important parts in encouraging sprawl. Unfortunately, suburban sprawl reduces arable land, endangers water sources and local ecologies, degrades air quality, and can greatly reduce the quality of life for homeowners who have to commute longer distances for employment.”

Sevier Hannah Eboh used data from the U.S. Geological Survey to map evacuation routes for hospitals near Washington’s Mount Rainier for her January 2015 entry. Bob’s interest in hazard geography inspired Hague to approach her about an internship opportunity at the Chicago office of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. For three months, she worked on Region V’s Threat and Hazards Identification and Resource Assessment, which identifies threats and outlines responses throughout Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. “The best part was getting to know the employees who work for FEMA, both on personal and professional levels,” she says. “Their work interests me greatly, and through observation and conversations, I was able get a better idea of what it’s like to be a federal employee.”

The Map of the Month helps Hague highlight the strengths of DePaul’s program. “I can now show an employer what a student can do,” stresses Hague. “Despite spatial data analysis being one of the fastest-growing industries in the United States, it’s not well understood by the general public. We teach our students to pursue their passion based on what they want to map, but the techniques and skills they develop are applicable in any number of fields. We can turn any kind of data into a map, and the Map of the Month project demonstrates that variety.”

Visit via.library.depaul.edu mom to view the Map of the Month project.
In brief

1 **Chinese New Year**
DePaul ushered in the Year of the Goat with its 6th annual Chinese New Year Gala on Feb. 19 at the Lincoln Park Student Center. Attendees enjoyed a Chinese buffet dinner and live music, dance and martial arts performances. The event was sponsored by the Center for Intercultural Programs, the Department of Modern Languages, the DePaul Chinese Studies Association and the Driehaus Center for International Business.

2 **Liberal arts in the 21st century**
John W. Rowe, former chairman and CEO of Exelon Corp., spoke about liberal arts in the 21st century on Feb. 24 at Cortelyou Commons. Rowe shared insights about the importance of liberal arts education, drawing on his experience as co-chair of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences that produced “The Heart of the Matter,” a 2013 report on the role of the humanities and social sciences in American society.

3 **National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship**
Marcy J. Dinius, associate professor of English, received a 12-month National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship to complete her book, “Anxiety and Influence: David Walker’s Appeal and Antebellum Print Culture.” The book is dedicated to rethinking the consequences of David Walker’s self-published, radical antislavery pamphlet not just for the slavery debate and the laws and practices regulating slaves’ lives, but also for the production and regulation of print itself in the antebellum United States.

4 **Fulbright grant**
Scott Bucking, associate professor of history, received a Fulbright grant to conduct research in Israel during the 2015–16 academic year. He will partner with the Israel Antiquities Authority to continue his archaeological fieldwork at the Roman-Byzantine site of Avdat in the central Negev highlands. While in Israel, Bucking will also be a visiting scholar at The Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. Bucking is in the initial phase of a groundbreaking regional study of ancient Christian monasticism.

5 **Student Fulbright awards**
Five LAS alumni and current students received awards in the 2014–15 Fulbright U.S. student competition: senior Kevin Cole to complete a master’s program at Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey, and Humboldt University in Berlin; Jason Czerwec (LAS ’14) to study migration and assimilation policy in Lithuania; PhD candidate Ian Moore (LAS MA ’12) to explore German philosopher Martin Heidegger’s alleged anti-Semitism in Wuppertal, Germany; Sowmya Sastri (LAS ’12) to be an English teaching assistant working with adolescents in India; and Rebecca Son (LAS ’13) to conduct a research project that uses geographic information systems to identify the mechanisms and spaces of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in Bangalore, India. Two additional winners from DePaul were Natalie Hengstebeck (CSH ’11), a graduate student at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and communication graduate student Susannah McFaul.

6 **Celebration of art and light**
Lighting design students from The Theatre School illuminated the exterior of St. Vincent de Paul Parish Church on May 21. The students worked with Paul Gregory (THE CER ’73) and Christos Prezas (THE ’07) to create a storytelling light show that was inspired by four artists selected by students: Leonid Afremov, AJ LaGasse, Vincent van Gogh, and Professor and Art, Media, and Design Department Chair Mary Ann Papanek-Miller. Drawing inspiration from children’s stories, toys and figures representing the innocence of childhood, Papanek-Miller’s influences from nature, depicted above, represent growth and the winding, unpredictable journey of life. (Photo credit: DePaul University/Jamie Moncrief)

7 **Visiting fellow**
Morag Kersel, assistant professor of anthropology, is serving as a visiting fellow at the University of Chicago Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society. She will be working on ‘The Past for Sale: New Approaches to the Study of Archaeological Looting,’ which is an interdisciplinary study of the global circulation of antiquities. Visit bit.ly/kerselfellowship for more information. (Photo credit: Austin C. Hill, courtesy of the Follow the Pots Project)
Between 1986 and 2006, northern Uganda was the site of a protracted civil war between government forces and the Lord’s Resistance Army, displacing nearly 2 million civilians from their homes. To better understand this forced migration, Matthew Sebastian (LAS ’10, MA ’14) interviewed nongovernmental organization representatives, government officials and community members about their plans for sites of memory and documentation and memorialization projects. “I was thinking about the contingencies of archival production, what is said, how it’s collected and the politics of its collections, but also what is not said in the way that it’s collected and the way it’s memorialized,” explains Sebastian. He’d been traveling to Uganda to explore these issues since 2009, but the support he received from the Graduate Research Funding (GRF) program in 2012 and 2013 helped defray the cost.

“The GRF was designed to help our graduate students do research at many different levels and who are getting professionalization within their disciplines to be able to travel to conferences,” explains Associate Dean Shailja Sharma. 

Awards are offered to students presenting at national and international conferences, as well as those conducting research related to a thesis or other class project. Students are eligible to apply once a year, and award amounts are offered in the form of partial reimbursement.

Mallory Warner (LAS MA ’11), currently the international studies academic advisor, used the GRF in 2011 as a graduate student to participate in the International Studies Association annual convention held in Montreal. “This conference had a huge impact on my and my fellow students’ educational experiences,” she enthuses. “The conference provides an important networking opportunity for students who are interested in continuing to a PhD program and also in presenting their thesis work to the international studies community.” Sharma believes presenting at these conferences can be useful for all students, regardless of their future plans. “Whether they enter academia or not, they learn whether their work is current with the discipline and what their peers in the field think of their work. These are things they can’t have unless they actually go there.”

Sebastian had a similar experience attending a summer research institute at Northwestern University’s Center for Forced Migration Studies in 2011. “It expanded the way I think about forced migration,” he says. “My research is not about refugees (those who flee their home country), it’s about internal displacement, which has some important legal and significant social differences. I was able to expand my horizon and think about them comparatively in a way that I hadn’t before. Honestly, I would not have done that summer institute without the GRF.”

Visit bit.ly/dpulasgrf to learn more.

THANK YOU FOR...

...all of your financial support! Thanks for all the opportunities you’ve helped provide for the DePaul community. Education is so important in the world, and you’re part of the process of providing education to those who may have not been able to pursue it without your help. –Vila Ahmeti, International Studies & Sociology

...making the future possible for the next generation of Blue Demons! –Allison Wood, History of Art & Architecture

...allowing me to pursue my academic dreams by endowing the school with state-of-the-art facilities and first-rate professors. Your gifts quite literally saved my academic career –Julian Brett, Sociology

...supporting education and the opening of minds. The university contributes so much to its students and the surrounding community by focusing on important Vincentian values that support real social change. Your contribution is making the world a better place! –Kayla Walker, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies

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