



Administration Undergraduate Studies Graduate Studies Faculty Alumni Departments & Programs



## Professional Activities

11/17/2015 [\\_Archive](#)

**Mohan Ambikaipaker**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication, published three articles this year. One article in particular, "Liberal exceptions: violent racism and routine anti-racist failure in Britain" has considerable contemporary current affairs resonance in the light of the questions of police violence, racism, #Blacklivesmatter movement, and a concept to which Ambikaipaker contributes known as 'routine antiracist failure'. The piece was published in a leading discipline journal, [Ethnic and Racial Studies](#).

**Carl L. Bankston III**, Professor of Sociology, attended the Catholic Immigrant Integration Conference in El Paso, Texas from Oct. 1 through Oct. 4. While there, he met with immigrants and refugees along the U.S.-Mexico border. Additionally, Bankston has completed the proofs for his most recent book, [The Rise of the New Second Generation](#) (co-authored with Min Zhou; Polity Press), due out in April 2016.

**Alan Barreca's** research linking Global Warming to a decline in the birth rate was recently featured in an article on [CNN](#). Barreca, who is an Associate Professor of Economics, has found that sex drive diminishes when there is a spike in the outside temperature. The hotter weather subsequently leads to a decline in the U.S. birth

**William Brumfield**, Professor in the Department of German and Slavic Studies, added to his *Discovering Russia* series entitled "Russia Beyond the Headlines," with his [137th article](#), devoted to the historic town of Dmitrov, north of Moscow. Each article in the series focuses on Russia's historic architecture and cultural heritage and is written for the foreign-language service of the Russian national newspaper *Rossiiskaia Gazeta*. Additionally, Brumfield recently published a new book entitled [Architecture at the End of the Earth: Photographing the Russian North](#).

Louisiana's Poet Laureate and Director of SLA's Creative Writing Program, **Peter Cooley**, recently gave readings of his work for several organizations and events: the Louisiana Endowment of the Humanities, The Louisiana Book Festival, the Community Theatre, and the Dream Caravan at The Arts Estuary. Additionally, Cooley's poem "Another of the Happiness Poems" appeared on The Academy of American Poet's website, [poets.org](#) on September 12, 2015. Other poems by Cooley have been featured in *The Midwest Quarterly*, *The New England Review*, *The Christian Century*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Image*, and in the anthologies *In Like Company* and *the Well-Versed Parent*.

**Katharine Jack**, Associate Professor in Anthropology, Director of Environmental Studies, hosted a working group meeting with 6 colleagues from around the US over fall break. The group is working collaboratively on a

project entitled "Limits to collective behavior: theoretical and empirical assessment of the lower and upper limits of group size to effect cooperative behaviors." The project is funded by a \$100,000 competitive research grant awarded to the group by the National Academies Keck Futures Initiative in June 2015.

**Joan Jensen**, Senior Professor of Practice in the Newcomb Department of Music, presented a session at the La. Music Teachers Association's 63rd Annual convention in Lafayette, La. October 2, 2015 entitled "The Power of Two – Reducing Performance Anxiety with Ensemble Repertoire." She also performed in the Ensemble Recital with Louise Bush playing works of Aaron Copland.

**F. Thomas Luongo**, Associate Professor of History, presented a paper at [Women Leaders and Intellectuals of the Medieval World](#), University of Notre Dame, 1-3 October. Luongo also presented on "Birgitta of Sweden and Catherine of Siena as Authors," at Sainly Power Performed and Contested, a seminar at the Norwegian Institute in Rome, Italy, November 5.

**Michael McKelvey**, Professor of Practice in Music and Artistic Director of Summer Lyric Theatre at Tulane, served as musical director for the regional premiere of *MR. BURNS, a Post Electric Play*, at the Mary Moody Northern Theatre in Austin, Texas. Also, McKelvey recently received eight B. Iden Payne Award nominations for his work as a stage director, music director, and producer in Austin. His production company, Doctuh Mistuh Productions, garnered 16 nominations in total for their productions of *Heathers* and *The Rocky Horror Show*, which ran this past June.

On October 29th, **Vicki Mayer**, Professor of Communication, spoke at the event, "[The Changing Landscape of History: Digital Initiatives in New Orleans](#)."

**Kevin Morris**, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, presented at the 31st Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science. His paper was entitled "[Truthmaking, Levels of Reality, and the Mysteries of Emergence](#)".

**Esra Özcan**, Professor of Practice in the Department of Communication, published a journal article entitled "[Women's headscarves in news photographs: A comparison between the secular and Islamic press during the AKP government in Turkey](#)" in the *European Journal of Communication*.

**Chris Rodning**, Associate Professor of Anthropology, recently visited the [New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts](#) (NOCCA), to speak to high school students and teachers in the NOCCA Academic Studio about the archaeology of Native American settlements and monumental earthworks in Louisiana.

**Antony Sandoval**, Associate Professor in the Theatre & Dance Department, had his featurette "[Medea Redux](#)" invited to be an official selection of the Hong Kong [Pineapple Underground Film Festival](#) (PUFF 2015). PUFF is dedicated to showcasing the spirit, passion and skills of bona fide independent filmmakers from around the world to the audience in China.

**Oliver Sensen**, Associate Professor of Philosophy, presented a paper at the University of Arizona's Freedom Center, titled: "Constitutivism and Free Will."

**David Smilde**, Favrot Professor of Sociology, had an article he co-authored with Matthew May accepted for publication: "[Minority Participation and Well-being in Majority Catholic Nations: What Does It Mean to be a Religious Minority?](#)" *Journal of Religion and Health*. He was also quoted in the *Washington Post* and *The Guardian* in September, regarding the sentencing of Venezuelan opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez. In addition, with the support of Tulane's Center for Inter-American Policy Research, Smilde held a conference from October 29-31 called "The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela," that brought fifteen scholars to New Orleans from across the hemisphere. Smilde participated on November 9, in a forum at the Brookings Institution called "Venezuela's High Stakes Elections." And finally, with the support of Tulane's Center for Inter-American Policy Research, Smilde is organizing an event called "Symposium on the Venezuelan Elections," on December 3.

**Richard Velkley**, Celia Scott Weatherhead Professor of Philosophy, gave a lecture at St. John's College, Santa

Fe, New Mexico, on October 2, 2015, entitled "The Tyranny of Beauty: on Art and Truth in Lessing's Laocoon."

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