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HUMAN RIGHTS
INSTITUTE**

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FROM THE DIRECTORS...



DAVID CINGRANELLI
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ALEXANDRA MOORE
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As we look back on 2023, we celebrate the wide range of projects undertaken by the Human Rights Institute and its affiliates and the many ways both undergraduate and graduate students were involved in this work. Another hallmark of the year was partnering not only across disciplines, but also across institutions as we collaborated with faculty and students at institutions including Appalachian State University, the University of Rhode Island, the University of Connecticut, Toronto Metropolitan University, Sheffield Hallam University, and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, and with many local organizations.

The HRI saw especially prolific research activity in the areas of environmental justice, food justice, cultural representations of human rights, the far right, policing and carceral studies, and Cingranelli et al.'s CIRIGHTS data project. You can read more about the specific outcomes of these initiatives in this report. They share a commitment to transdisciplinary problem solving and to research that often informs diverse constituencies, including policymakers, academics, the private sector, and public sector service providers.

In addition, Moore represented the HRI at this year's annual conference of the international association of human rights institutes (AHRI) at the University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain.

FROM THE DIRECTORS...

The conference focus was on human rights defenders, and we've been building on the conversation at AHRI with a follow-up research project this fall on academic-defender partnerships with the help of our terrific research assistant Johanna Seppala. This research will inform many of our lab projects moving forward.

In spring 2023, Cingranelli launched a new course to introduce undergraduates to human rights as a subject to study from various disciplinary perspectives. The popular course included a human rights simulation of a scenario concerning the collapse of the rule of law and protection of human rights in Venezuela. Students evaluated the intertwining issues of human rights, national and region security, and oil and trade, assuming assigned roles to consider different responses. Meanwhile, first-year students in the Source Project stream on human rights presented their research at University Research Days and published in the *Binghamton Law Quarterly*.

Also on the pedagogical front, we had a record fourteen students graduate with the human rights minor (with another thirteen due to graduate in spring 2024). Our minors take diverse paths after graduation, including enrolling in Binghamton's Master's of Science in Human Rights program, law or other graduate schools, or embarking on private and public sector careers.

We were fortunate to have Hanna Musiol, Professor of Modern and Contemporary Literature at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, with us as a visiting scholar in the 2022-2023 academic year. Dr. Musiol is an extraordinary scholar-activist, who publishes widely on the environmental humanities, political ecology, and migration and refugee aesthetics and rights. Her work is rooted in place- and community-centered theory and storytelling.

While in residence, Musiol kicked off a public humanities methodologies series organized by and directed toward graduate students where she showcased several of her projects in the U.S. and Europe. In the spring of 2023, she and Moore organized a public seminar series, Landscapes of Injustice, Landscapes of Repair, co-sponsored by

FROM THE DIRECTORS...

the Sustainable Communities and Citizenship, Rights, and Cultural Belonging Transdisciplinary Areas of Excellence as well as the Narrating Sustainability project at NTNU (Norway). The four sessions, which brought together audience-participants from over sixteen countries, focused on environmental humanities' methodologies and practices; speculative futures; and role of the digital humanities in creating and presenting knowledge for more just futures.

Other notable events from 2023 were Kate Starbird's presentation on "Unraveling the Big Lie: Participatory Disinformation and Its Threat to Democracy" and the Lubna Chaudhry lecture series on international labor rights. In addition to her talk, Dr. Starbird, Director of the Center for an Informed Public at the University of Washington, generously met with students and faculty in the Far Rights Composite lab project about their research into the January 6th Capitol Riots. An article from that group is forthcoming this spring.

Our office continued to grow and thrive over the past year. Our longtime assistant, Lynne Hendee, was awarded the University's STAR Award for her dedicated and exemplary work. We also welcomed Amy Keough to our staff as the new Assistant Director for Operations, and Lindsay Buchta for help with budgets. With increasing numbers of courses, projects, grants, and undergraduate and graduate assistants, and Lynne's retirement, we are thrilled to have such a strong team in the office.

As we look forward to 2024, we are excited to announce a new partnership to focus on comparative carceral studies with the University of Brescia (Italy) as well as internal funding to initiate a research project on Women Peacebuilders in Exile.

As always, the HRI welcomes new affiliates. We also hope you will consider supporting the work of the institute with a contribution. All donations fund direct research costs and/or student experiences.

David Cingranelli

HRI Co-Director and Professor, Political Science

Alexandra Moore

HRI Co-Director and Professor, English

PEOPLE

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Johanna Seppala, Undergraduate Assistant

PEOPLE

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Marguerite Wilson, Human Development

Leo Wilton, Human Development

Susan Wolcott Hanes, Economics

Wan Yu, Geography

Denise Yull, Human Development

Lisa Yun, English

PEOPLE

External Affiliates

Vanessa Farr, Law and Criminology, Sheffield Hallam University

Hanna Musiol, Modern and Contemporary Literature, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Belinda Walzer, English and Rhetoric, Appalachian State University



EVENTS & COLLABORATIONS

Landscapes of Injustice, Landscapes of Repair Seminar Series (Co-sponsored by the CRCB TAE, SC TAE, and Narrating Sustainability at NTNU)

- Infrastructures of Harm, Communities of Knowledge and Environmental Justice
Marco Armiero (Autonomous University of Barcelona) and Divya Gupta (Binghamton University)
- Climate (In)justice and Advocacy: A View from the Humanities
Belinda Walzer (Appalachian State University) and Savannah Murray (Appalachian State University)
- Speculative Fictions for Decolonial Futures
Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay (University of Oslo) and Jane Alberdeston (formerly of Binghamton University, now at Old Dominion University)
- Postcolonial DH: Cartographies, Decolonial Archives, and Humanities for the Public
Alex Gil Fuentes (Yale University)



Book image: Armiero 2016, 2016, by Sara Motta. Digital Print, 11x14 cm, 109 + 121 pp.

31 MARCH 10 am (EST) / 4 pm (CET)	Infrastructures of Harm, Communities of Knowledge & Environmental Justice Marco Armiero (Autonomous University of Barcelona) Divya Gupta (Binghamton University) (Wellness)
14 APRIL 10 am (EST) / 4 pm (CET)	Climate (In)justice and Advocacy: A View from the Humanities Belinda Walzer (Appalachian State University) Savannah Murray (Appalachian State University) (Town and AS-100)
21 APRIL 10 am (EST) / 4 pm (CET)	Speculative Fictions for Decolonial Futures Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay (University of Oslo) Jane Alberdeston (Binghamton University) (Wellness)
28 APRIL 10 am (EST)	Postcolonial DH: Critical Cartographies, Decolonial Archives, & Humanities for the Public Alex Gil Fuentes (Yale University) (AD-100 President's Office Council Conf Room)

The Series is co-organized by the Human Rights Institute, Citizenship, Rights and Cultural Belonging TAE (Binghamton University), and Narrating Sustainability (NTNU, Norway), and co-sponsored by the Sustainable Communities TAE (Binghamton University). All events are free and open to the public.

Website: <http://sites.google.com/inghamton.edu/landscapes/home>

EVENTS & COLLABORATIONS



Futures of Democracy Lecture Series (cont. from 2022)

- Unraveling the Big Lie: Participatory Disinformation and Its Threat to Democracy
Kate Starbird, University of Washington

Additional Guest Lectures

- My Life in Guantánamo
Mansoor Adayfi
- My Guantánamo Writing Seminar
Mohamedou Ould Slahi Houbeini

TEDxBinghamtonUniversity - Unleashing Radiance



EVENTS & COLLABORATIONS

Lubna Chaudhry Human Rights Lecture Series

- **“Walter Rodney: What they don’t Want you to Know,” an original documentary about political murder, Cold War conspiracies, anti-colonial struggles, and how these connect to policing, surveillance practices and social movements of today**

Directed by award-winning filmmakers Daniyal Harris-Vajda and Arlen Harris, the documentary grapples with the legacy of empire and colonialism and its impact on Latin American and the Global South more broadly. Using declassified security service documents, penetrating interviews and historical reconstruction, it reveals that Rodney was under security surveillance from the age of 19, after visiting Russia and Cuba as a student. Seen as subversive both as an academic and as an anti-colonial and civil rights activist, national and international elites and state agencies worked to destroy his career. Contributors include Angela Davis, former president of Guyana Donald Ramotar and Rodney’s wife Patricia Rodney, as well as several prominent historians. Rodney, whose classic *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa* is a staple in university syllabi across the globe, continues to inspire social movements for human rights, equality and national sovereignty.

- **Ramírez Cuéllar addresses “The Legacy of Genocide and Human Rights Challenges in Colombia’s New Political Period”**

Ramírez is a Colombian lawyer, a labor and human rights activist, and author of *The Profits of Extermination: Big Mining in Colombia* (2005). He headed the Colombian miners union Sintraminercol and is a prominent member of the human rights team of the CUT (Central Unitaria de Trabajadores), Colombia's largest labor federation. He has led efforts to improve conditions for Colombian workers in the mining and petrochemicals sectors. Having survived eight assassination attempts for his trade union activism and his role in bringing lawsuits against multinational mining companies responsible for human rights abuses in Colombia, he is a tireless advocate for trade union leaders targeted by state and paramilitary violence. Currently, along with forging international solidarity networks to support persecuted labor and community activists, he is working with Colombia's newly elected progressive government to rewrite the country’s mining code.

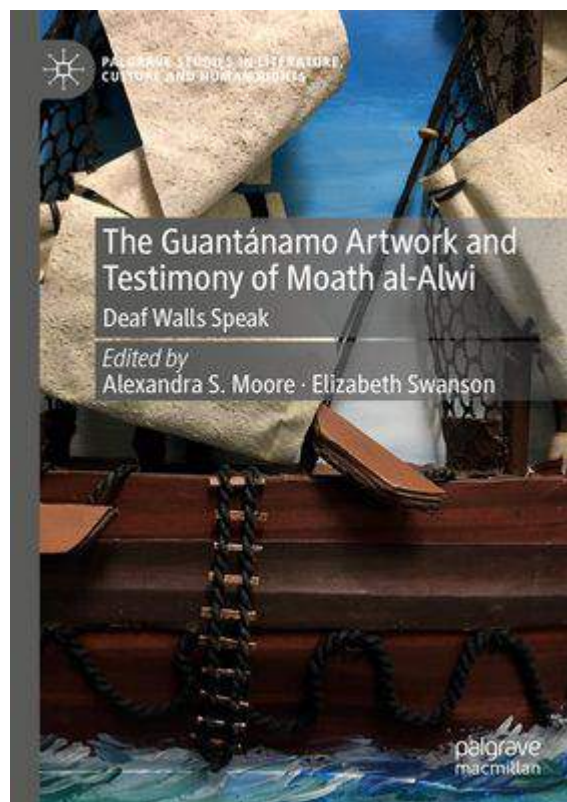
Co-sponsored by the Human Rights Institute, the Citizenship, Rights and Cultural Belonging Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence, and the Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP).

HRI PUBLICATIONS

The Human Rights Institute fosters academic and public facing scholarship that often cuts across traditional academic boundaries. Our working groups and lab projects address diverse audiences. With both scholarly and applied projects, these groups recognize the necessity of bringing multiple methodologies and theoretical frameworks to bear on pressing human rights concerns. The HRI also mentors graduate student research and publications related to our projects. Here is a snapshot of some of our major publications.

In addition to affiliates' individual work, in 2023 we celebrated publications of a scholarly monograph, write-ups of our workshop series, and student-authored reports for our campus community as well as for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The Guantánamo Artwork and Testimony of Moath al-Alwi: Deaf Walls Speak, edited by co-director Moore and Elizabeth Swanson, centers on an extraordinary chapter by Moath al-Alwi on his artwork and what it means to him to create it in prison. Moath has been imprisoned without charge at the U.S. naval base in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba since 2002. The book features essays by Binghamton University professor of anthropology Joshua Reno, HRI affiliate Belinda Walzer, former BU undergraduates Olivia Vinson and Maya Gamer, among others.



HRI PUBLICATIONS

Seven graduate students from across four different departments wrote dispatches for *Studies in Social Justice* on the Landscapes of Injustice, Landscapes of Repair workshops. The Dispatches section features a short introduction by co-Director Moore and the following essays:

- INFRASTRUCTURES OF HARM, COMMUNITIES OF KNOWLEDGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
Ysabel Munoz Martinez (NTNU Norway) and Jerome Nenger (Binghamton University)
- CLIMATE (IN)JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY: A VIEW FROM THE HUMANITIES
Shruti Jain (Binghamton University) and Le Li (Binghamton University)
- SPECULATIVE FICTIONS FOR DECOLONIAL FUTURES
Nimisha Sinha (Binghamton University)
- POSTCOLONIAL DH: CRITICAL CARTOGRAPHIES, DECOLONIAL ARCHIVES, AND HUMANITIES FOR THE PUBLIC
Amanda Ortiz Molina (Binghamton University) and Ryan Stears (Binghamton University)



REPORTS

The University of Rhode Island's Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies published its 2023 Global Human Rights Report based on the data of CIRIGHTS, the world's largest human rights data set. CIRIGHTS' principal investigators are Skip Mark (Binghamton PhD and Director of URI's Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies), HRI Co-Director David Cingranelli, HRI affiliate Mikhail Filippov, and University of Connecticut's David Richards.

Students in the human rights minor capstone course, assisted by graduate student Meegs Longacre, authored two public reports on the rights of persons with disabilities for a representative of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Students began with a deep dive into the Convention and to theories of disability rights before doing a country-by-country analysis of how the state partners with civil society organizations to advance protections and rights for persons with disabilities. The report was delivered to the UN in May 2023.

Senior Elaina Bonora worked with Meegs to examine the protections afforded to students with disabilities on campus (through international and domestic law and campus policies) in relation to students' perceptions of their needs and services. In addition to reviewing primary and secondary sources, they interviewed students, faculty, and staff service providers for their report.

The logo for CIRIGHTS features the word "CIRIGHTS" in a sans-serif font. The "CI" is in blue, and "RIGHTS" is in grey. A thick, orange, wavy line arches over the letters, starting under the "C", passing over the "I", "R", "I", "G", "H", "T", and "S", and ending under the "S".

CIRIGHTS

HRI IN THE NEWS

6 ways to gain academic and professional experience in human rights

Alexandra Moore

Fleishman Career Center blog post, October 31, 2023

“David Cingranelli Profile”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20QAIi1BVI4>

“Interns boost immigration services at local nonprofit”

Andi Stack

<https://www.binghamton.edu/news/story/4135/interns-boost-immigration-services-at-local-nonprofit>

“The power of partnership: Interdisciplinary Human Rights Institute changes lives”

Jennifer Micale

<https://www.binghamton.edu/news/story/4110/the-power-of-partnership-interdisciplinary-human-rights-institute-changes-lives>

“Empathy and law: Public law interns tackle issues ranging from refugees to rental rules”

Jennifer Micale

<https://www.binghamton.edu/news/story/4075/empathy-and-law-public-law-interns-tackle-issues-ranging-from-refugees-to-rental-rules>

“Ukraine has a mixed record of treating its citizens fairly – that could make it harder for it to maintain peace, once the war ends”

David Cingranelli and Brendan Skip Mark

<https://theconversation.com/ukraine-has-a-mixed-record-of-treating-its-citizens-fairly-that-could-make-it-harder-for-it-to-maintain-peace-once-the-war-ends-197503>

“Data project ranks how well countries around the globe protect human rights”

Jennifer Micale

<https://www.binghamton.edu/news/story/4059/data-project-ranks-how-well-countries-around-the-globe-protect-human-rights>

AWARDS

Binghamton University's STAR Award recognizes, affirms and supports examples of outstanding quality service by any faculty or staff member within the Binghamton University community. We're thrilled that our own **Lynne Hendee**, assistant to the Directors, received this award in 2023. It could not be more deserved.

Each year the Human Rights Institute internal advisory board reviews submissions for the best undergraduate essay in human rights. The 2023 award winners were Source Project students Abigail Connors, Robert Rose, Abigail Rothleder, all of whom combined academic research with an in-person internship in the Broome County Public Defender's Office. Abby Connors examined protections for reproductive rights in the post-Dobbs era, and Abby Rothleder and Robert Rose combined forces to examine the theory and practice of public defense in the U.S. and in New York State. Congratulations to all three.

- **Abigail Connors**, "Abortion: More to the Story than the U.S. Constitution"
- **Robert Rose** and **Abigail Rothleder**, "Navigating Systemic Limitations on Public Defense"



Broome County Family and County Courts, Downtown Binghamton

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

In addition to our partnerships with organizations hosting human rights student interns, the HRI initiated two new international partnerships.

Binghamton University and the University of Brescia (Italy) signed a memorandum of understanding to launch a comparative carceral studies research and pedagogy project which will bring students and faculty in both cohorts together. Part of the project will include visits to the Brescia prison.

Co-Director David Cingranelli and research partners Mikhail Filippov (Binghamton University) and Skip Mark (University of Rhode Island) engaged students from URI, Babson College, and the University College London in their project on human rights and labor protections around the world.



AFFILIATE, BOARD, & DIRECTOR RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Adams, Monica (2023). Engaging in healthy eating behaviors when access to affordable nutritious foods is limited. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*.

Adams, Monica (2023). Social inequality: The pandemic's disparate impact on food insecurity among marginalized groups. In *Ohio Under COVID: Lessons from America's Heartland*, edited by Crisis L. Arduser, D. Bessett V. Carbonell, M. McGowan, K. Sorrels and E. Wallace. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

Aguero Guerra, Marta. (2023) "Representaciones de la infancia en el cómic: de la nostalgia al compromiso social." León, Universidad de León (*Grafikalismos*, 13).

Ahmadi, Amir. (2023) "Waiting for the Lights: The life of an Iranian exile" *Harper's Magazine* (September): 47-53.

Bond, Kanisha, T. Abou-Chadi, C. Dorff, J. Hagen, C. Hendrix, and C.Thies. (2023) "International Studies and Struggles for Inclusion." *International Studies Review* 25(2): 1-13.

Preety Gadhoke, **Barrett P. Brenton** and Solomon H. Katz (Editors). (2023) *Transformations of Global Food Systems for Climate Change Resilience: Addressing Food Security, Nutrition, and Health*. CRC Press: Boca Raton, FL.

Brenton, Barrett P. and Preety Gadhoke. (2023) "Addressing Food Security, Nutrition, and Health of Local Communities for Climate Change Resilience." In *Transformations of Global Food Systems for Climate Change Resilience: Addressing Food Security, Nutrition, and Health*, pp. 1-5, edited by Preety Gadhoke, Barrett P. Brenton and Solomon H. Katz. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.

Falk, Audrey, **Barrett P. Brenton**, and Martina Jordaan. (2023) "Strengthening Faculty Engagement and Partnerships through a Community of Practice." In *Proceedings of the International University Social Responsibility Summit 2022: Education and Action for a Sustainable Future*.

Hassoun, Nicole with Leon Cosler. (2023) "Global Health Impact: Neglected Tropical Disease Model." *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene* 108(4), 801.

Hassoun, Nicole. (2023) "Pandemic Preparedness and Response: Beyond the WHO's Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator," with Abha Saxena, Caesar Atuire, Amanda Banda, Brook Baker, Esther Chiwa, Marc Fleurbey, Anders Herlitz, Iwao Hirose, Karrar Karrar, and Jennifer Miller (<https://www.global-health-impact.org/pandemic>). *British Medical Journal Global Health*, 8:e01065.

AFFILIATE, BOARD, & DIRECTOR RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Hassoun, Nicole. (2023) "Falling from Grace and the Problem of Free Will." *European Journal of Philosophy of Religion* 14(4): 194-216. <https://ejpr.eu/index.php/ejpr>

Hassoun, Nicole. (2023) "The Minimally Good Life Account of What We Owe to Others and What We Can Justifiably Demand." Forthcoming in a special issue on Basic Needs: Normative Perspectives with Lukas Meyer, Thomas Pözlner, Alessandro Pinzani, Lawrence Hamilton, Daniel Petz, Frank Nullmeier, Paul Fagan, and Delamar Dutra, in *Lessico di Etica Pubblica*. <http://www.eticapubblica.it/>

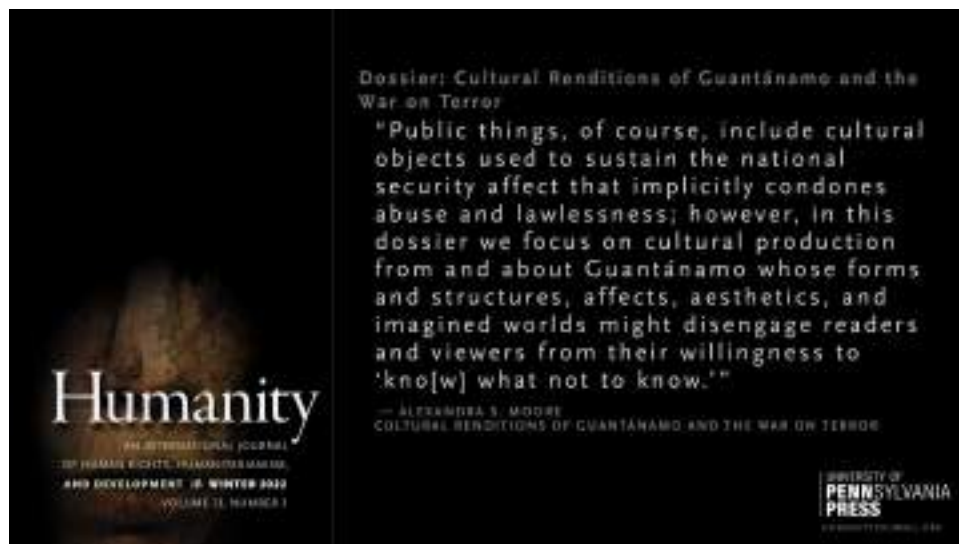
Hassoun, Nicole. (2023) "Pandemic Preparedness and Response: Advancing Research, Development, and Ethical Distribution of New Treatments and Vaccines Law and Economic Development." Forthcoming *Law and Economic Development*, eds. Ajit Mishra and Kaushik Basu. Palgrave Macmillan.

Zhong, Vivian and **Valerie Imbruce.** (2023) "From the Ground to your Grocery Shelves." In *Made Here: Recipes & Reflections from NYC's Asian Communities, Send Chinatown Love*. <https://www.sendchinatownlove.com/store/p4/madehere.html>

Imbruce, Valerie and Stella Yi. (In Press) "Food Justice and Urban Change in a Historic Chinese Neighborhood." In *Eating More Asian America: A Food Studies Reader*, edited by Robert Ji-Song Ku, Martin Manalansan IV, and Anita Mannur. New York: NYU Press.

Moore, Alexandra S. (2022-23) Dossier and introductory essay, "Cultural Renditions of Guantánamo in the War on Terror." *Humanity* 13.3 (Winter).

Moore, Alexandra S. (2023) "Genres of Slavery and Human Rights." *Cambridge Companion to Slavery in Global Literatures*, edited by Laura T. Murphy. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 13-26.



AFFILIATE, BOARD, & DIRECTOR RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Moore, Alexandra S. and Elizabeth Swanson, eds. (2023) *The Guantánamo Artwork and Testimony of Moath al-Alwi*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Musiol, Hanna and Panu Lehtovuori. (2023) “Public Art in a Tight Spot.” *WritingPlace Journal for Architecture and Literature* 8-9: 188-189.

Musiol, Hanna. (2023) “Black Ecologies, the ‘Weather,’ and ‘Renegade’ Poetic Sensorium.” *Poetry and Global Climate Crisis*, ed. Amatoritsero Ede, Sandra Kleppe, and Angela Sorby. Routledge. 158-169.

Reeves, Anthony. (2023) “Human Rights as Protections Against Rational Despair.” *Journal of Social Philosophy* 54.2: 169-182.

Valayden, Diren. (2023) “Governing “decadent cities”: The Far-Right as Agents of Climate Counterinsurgency.” *Nordia Geographical Publications*.

Walzer, Belinda. (2023) “Economies of Rights: Transnational Feminism, and the Transactional Structure of Rights.” *Peitho* 25.3.

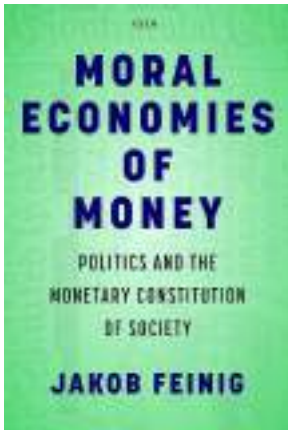
Walzer, Belinda. “A Rhetoric of Everyday Violence: Embodied Slow Violence.” *Philosophy & Rhetoric* special issue on rhetoric and violence. Forthcoming.

Yu, Wan and Qingfang Wang. (2023) “Transnational or Not: COVID Pandemic and Chinese Academic Migrants.” *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies* 21.1: 15-27, DOI: 10.1080/15562948.2022.2153394.

Yu, Wan, and John Frazier. (2023) “Evolution in the Foci of Academic Disciplines: Geography at Binghamton University as an Exemplar?” In *Higher Education in a Changing World*, edited by Orlando Taylor, Nicole Retland, and Katherine McGraw. Fielding University Press. 440-463.



WORKING GROUPS



Capitalism and Human Rights

Suzy Lee and Jakob Feinig

Jakob Feinig spent the last year presenting his book, *The Moral Economies of Money*, at national and international conferences. Suzy Lee, with co-PI Rene Rojas, has been working on a research project on the impact of deindustrialization on political identity formation. The working group meets as needed.

Carceral States

Joshua Price (Toronto Metropolitan University) and Alexandra Moore

This working group is in the process of launching a new prison writing project led by formerly incarcerated authors based in Europe. We're delighted to be partnering with Luisa Ravignan at the University of Brescia (Italy) and with author Mohamedou Ould Slahi Houbeini on this initiative.



CIRIGHTS and Measuring Human Rights Data Project

David Cingranelli and Mikhail Filippov

The goal of the CIRIGHTS project is to use the predecessor CIRI Data Project methodology to annually update the CIRI human rights scores, to expand upon the original list of rights scored so that it is more representative of the full set of rights in the International Bill of Human Rights, and to supplement human coding with machine coding to produce more scores in a shorter period. The CIRIGHTS project released its latest scores and released its 2023 Global Rights Project (GRIP) Report in December 2023.

The project directors worked with students at their respective institutions to update human rights scores for 2022 based on human rights reports issued in 2023. Both Cingranelli and Filippov teach seminars at Binghamton University where undergraduate and graduate students contribute to the project's development.

WORKING GROUPS

Skip Mark, Cingranelli and Filippov have written an article for *Human Rights Quarterly* that is forthcoming in Spring 2024 describing some of the insights gleaned from analysis of the most recent data. They also have a contract for a book with the working title, *Measuring Human Rights*, with SUNY Press.

Cultural Representations of Human Rights

Alexandra Moore

Based on her longstanding work in the interdiscipline of human rights and literary and cultural studies, Moore regularly convenes seminars and organizes publications in this area. In 2023, that work focused primarily on literary and artistic representations of the use of the Guantánamo Bay detention center on the U.S. naval base in Cuba to hold global war on terror detainees. As we marked the twenty-second year anniversary of the detention center, Moore edited two significant publications. She edited the dossier, “Cultural Representations of Guantánamo in the War on Terror” for the Winter 2022-23 issue of *Humanity* (UPENN Press). The dossier included Moore’s introductory essay and contributions by scholars in human rights literature and culture as well as by two former detainees who wrote about their own cultural participation within the prison. The detainees, Mansoor Adayfi and Mohamedou Ould Slahi Houbeni, also spoke with student researchers this past year.

With Elizabeth Swanson, Moore co-edited *The Guantánamo Artwork and Testimony of Moath al-Ahvi: Deaf Walls Speak*, which was published this fall. The book centers on an extraordinary testimonial chapter by Moath about what his artwork means to him as one of the first Guantánamo detainees who was brought in January 2002, never charged with a crime, and remains in captivity despite having been cleared for release in December 2021. The book includes Binghamton undergraduate student and faculty contributors among others.

The work of this group continues in 2024, beginning with a three-day seminar, co-organized with Brenda Vellino of Carleton University, at the American Comparative Literature Association annual conference. HRI external affiliates Belinda Walzer and Elizabeth Swanson will also participate.

Food Justice Working Group (FJWG)

Co-Facilitators: Barrett Brenton and Valerie Imbruce

This transdisciplinary working group was first established and convened in the summer of 2020. Originally focused on the impact of COVID-19 on food justice, the group has continued with a wider scope of issues related to the Right to Food. It assembles faculty, students, staff, and community partners in order to create active dialogue, organize research, and advocate for rights-based socially just food policies. The working group is founded on actions that are participatory, collaborative, and inclusive of all voices.

WORKING GROUPS

Food Justice Working Group (FJWG)

(Continued from page 23)

2023-related activities for members of the group have included biweekly meetings; public presentations; grant writing; participation on local and regional food policy coalitions; public outreach activities; academic scholarship; and course-based community-engaged learning and research experiences. Details of these activities can be found in the sections below.

FJWG Members

Barrett Brenton, PhD (Center for Civic Engagement)

Valerie Imbruce, PhD (Lammot du Pont Copeland Director, Center for Environment and Society, Washington College, Chestertown, MD)

Monica Adams, PhD (Social Work)

Sara Velardi, PhD (Environmental Studies)

Aidan Gajewski (Environmental Studies and Economics - Double-Major)

Grant Writing and Funding Activities

Grants were applied for involving the FJWG from the following sources:

- USDA-NIFA Food and Ag Service-Learning Program Farm to School grant awarded to a collaboration between Cornell Cooperative Extension, Broome-Tioga BOCES School Nutrition Services and the Rural Health Network. This USDA grant will support the Growing Towers School-Based Food and Nutrition Education Program. The FJWG group will provide consultations and program assessments for supporting this initiative during 2024-2025.
- Ross Grant awarded to CHOW and the FJWG/CCE to support a bus to take the Greater Good Grocery Store to locations throughout Broome County. The Greater Good Grocery was originally founded as a community effort to provide access to affordable fresh and healthy food on the Northside of Binghamton, NY.
- Funding from the Office of the President and a Student Affairs Divisional Diversity Initiatives (SADDI) Grant to support the university-wide collaborative partnership with the Onondaga Nation Farm to plant (May 2023) and harvest (September 2023) a Three Sisters Garden on Campus. The Garden is a living treaty statement of Indigenous food sovereignty in the spirit of the Two Row Wampum belt- Gaswéñdah. The belt symbolizes principles of peace, respect, and friendship, and the independent paths of the Haudenosaunee and settler colonizers.
- Spring 2023/Fall 2023 funding from the Human Rights Institute for undergraduate research assistant Aidan Gajewski to work on a comparison of county-level food action plans.
- Summer 2023 funding from the Sustainable Communities TAE funding for undergraduate research assistant Aidan Gajewski to work on a comparison of county-level food action plans.

WORKING GROUPS

Food Justice Working Group (FJWG)

(Continued from page 24)

Ongoing Food Justice Organization Meetings with FJWG Membership

- Partners in Campus Community Engagement -Food Security Initiatives in Higher Education Advisory Board Meetings – Monthly (Brenton)
- Broome County Food Council Steering Committee Meetings -Quarterly (Brenton)
- Broome County Food Council Meetings -Quarterly (Adams, Brenton, Velardi)
- Broome County Food Council -Underserved Communities Working Group -Monthly (Brenton)
- Broome County Food Council –Food Policy and Advocacy Working Group -Monthly (Velardi)
- Binghamton Food Pantry Advisory Board Meetings -Monthly (Brenton, Velardi)
- SUNY Food Pantry Network – Monthly (Brenton)
- Food Bank of the Southern Tier Board Meetings -Quarterly (Brenton)
- Kent County, MD Food Council representative for Washington College, MD (Imbruce).

FJWG Course-Based Community-Engaged Learning and Research Experiences

- Agri Biotech: Sci & Policy (Velardi)
- Sweet Harvests: Bees & Maples (Velardi)
- Social and Bev Determ Health (Brenton)
- Indigenous Knowledge Systems and the Environment (Brenton)

Presentations and Activities by FJWG Members

- Food Insecurity, Policy and Advocacy. Presentations to the Binghamton University Food Pantry Career Development Centralized Internship Program (CDCI). Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY. (Brenton, Velardi)
- Promoting Food Justice: The Nexus of Food Security, Food Waste and Climate Change. Binghamton 2 Degrees: Live at Confluence Park. Binghamton, NY. August (Brenton, Adams, Gajewski).
- World Food Day Panel: The Nexus of Food Security, Food Waste and Climate Change. Binghamton 2 Degrees Program. Broome County Library. Binghamton, NY. October (Brenton, Gajewski, Adams).
- Washington College, MD Food Recovery Internship to design and launch implementation of an institutional program for food recovery in partnership with area food pantries (Imbruce).
- Emerging Poverty Scholars Fellowship Grant through the Institute on Poverty Research (University of Wisconsin-Madison) (Adams).

WORKING GROUPS

Human Trafficking Data Project

Suzy Lee

The working members are still waiting for data on the T-Visa non-immigrant status applications to be released by the US Citizenship and Immigration Service, which we expect sometime in 2024.

Landscapes of Injustice, Landscapes of Repair

Alexandra Moore and Hanna Musiol (NTNU)

Last year, the HRI partnered with Sheffield Hallam University to host the Women, Climate, Insecurity international conference. A highlight was the pre-conference methodological workshop, Landscapes of Injustice, Landscapes of Repair, led by Dr. Nikiwe Solomon of Environmental Humanities South at the University of Cape Town. Building on that foundation, the HRI, in partnership with our 2022-2023 visiting scholar, Dr. Hanna Musiol, launched a working group of the same name to continue the transdisciplinary exploration of how the environmental humanities and sciences can together address the nexus of environmental degradation and targeted social harm. We began with a four-part seminar series that brought a diverse campus audience of faculty, staff and graduate students together with audience-participants from North America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Dispatches from the seminar series appeared in Studies of Social Justice. The seminar series will continue in spring 2024.

Supervised Machine Learning and Global Patterns in Human Rights

David Cingranelli

The CIRIGHTS Dataset, the largest and most widely used human rights dataset in the world, contains annual scores measuring the human rights practices of all nations over more than forty years. In 2022, David Schaffer of the Computer Science Department of the School of Engineering and the three political scientists who direct the CIRIGHTS Data Project (Cingranelli, Filippov, and Mark) began exploring possibilities for using advanced computer science techniques to analyze this dataset. In the spring of 2023, several other faculty, mostly from the BU Computer Science Department, joined us. During the summer of 2023, that larger working group met several times to assemble a data set combining CIRIGHTS data with indicators of drivers of government respect for human rights. During the fall of 2023, our group met frequently to begin data analysis. Our plan in the spring and summer of 2024 is to submit one or two journal articles showcasing the value of our approach. After the first article is published, we plan to write a grant proposal to secure external funding to continue this work.



WORKING GROUPS

Lab Projects

The HRI undertook a number of public-facing human rights projects in 2023. These projects may include academic outputs such as scholarly books and articles, however they foreground applied research and public reports.

Disability Rights

Alexandra Moore

Co-Director Moore worked with human rights minors on a capstone project on the rights of persons with disabilities. The group undertook two projects. The first focused on rights and services on our campus, and the report has been published on our website. The second project looked at how the world's least developed countries strive to meet obligations under the international Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and resulted in a two-part report for the UN OHCHR.

Far Right Composite Project

Diren Valayden

This project, underwritten by a seed grant from the Citizenship, Rights, and Cultural Belonging Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence with co-sponsorship from the HRI, continued its work with its lecture in the Futures of Democracy series and a research project on the frameworks used to understand the January 6th, 2021 Capitol riots. Working with two graduate and four undergraduate research assistants, project participants coded the criminal complaints against the 7% of the rioters with connections to New York State for the ways in which their interviews, commentaries, and social media posts reveal certain rhetorical frameworks and common understandings of their social positionality. With Belinda Walzer, a scholar of social justice rhetorics at Appalachian State University, Binghamton professors Valayden and Moore submitted an essay on the project analysis to the *Journal of Right Wing Studies* (forthcoming). Valayden and Moore are currently at work on a public-facing report on how far right and extremist monitoring organizations define their tasks and the rhetorical frameworks in which they codify their key terms.

Forced Labor in the Supply Chain

Forced Labour Lab Sheffield Hallam University

Binghamton undergraduates have worked on several of the Forced Labour Lab's reports on the use of forced labor in supply chains of industries ranging from automotives to cashmere to solar panels. One of the students also participated in a briefing of U.S. Customs and Borders. You can find a full list of the publications here:

<https://www.shu.ac.uk/helena-kennedy-centre-international-justice/research-and-projects/all-projects/forced-labour-lab>

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

The Human Rights Institute facilitated student internship placements locally, nationally, and internationally. Over the summer, and with support from Harpur College and the Harpur Law Council, four Binghamton undergraduates interned at The Refugee Hub, a legal services organization that works to reunite refugee families in Britain, at Sheffield Hallam University. Students spent six weeks in Sheffield conducting research and client interviews in The Hub, visiting court proceedings, and completing a module on trafficking. Below is a sampling of the students' comments in their final journals on their experiences.

This was by far the best experience I have ever had in my life (in terms of both travel and work!).

The experiences I got to have outside of work have also made me a more open minded and adventurous individual.

It truly was the experience of a lifetime and I am forever grateful. It has taught me a lot about myself and I can definitely go back to America feeling as though I grew as a student and a person.

Not only did this opportunity allow me to go on my first international trip ever and open my eyes to how amazing different parts of the world are, but it changed my perspective in terms of career goals. Before coming to the UK, I did not have any experience working with human rights law. I also did not have the chance to take many courses in immigration and human rights while I was attending Binghamton University. So even though I knew I liked public interest law and advocacy, I never knew that human rights law is something I would want to pursue as a career. Now I am certain that I want to explore this area further.

This was my first time working closely with clients and not just reading a set of facts or pieces of evidence from a computer or case bundle. This element of personal interaction and empathizing with clients as they shared their stories and some of the most intimate details of their lives made me recognize how meaningful and powerful the impact of the work being done at the Hub is. I am truly so honored to say that I had a hand this summer in helping to positively change the course of people's lives...whether that be through work on applications or appeals to hopefully allow them to reunite with the most important thing in their lives, their family.

Refugee Rights Hub

Sheffield
Hallam
University

Helena Kennedy
Centre for
International Justice

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

Other students internships over the course of the year included a summer placement for an editorial internship at *Human Rights Quarterly*, the world's leading human rights journal, and local semester and summer placements at the Broome County Public Defender's Office, the Broome County Assigned Counsel Program, Journey's End Refugee Services, Legal Services of Central New York, and the American Civic Association. Students remarked consistently on how the internships helped shape their passions and career goals:

This internship has pushed me out of my comfort zone, as I communicated with people with different life experiences than myself, made me adapt to a new professional setting, and helped me face heavy and emotional situations that I will face throughout my career... This semester I have found a community that inspired me to be better and get more involved in the things important to me.

This internship has made me significantly more confident in myself and my ability to navigate a law office.

I am now feeling very empowered and emboldened by this internship to continue pursuing my passion for public interest law and feel more confident and hopeful for my future dreams of being an attorney like my colleagues. I also depart from this internship with so many people's stories in my heart and wish to carry those with me in fighting to make our world a better place.

We are always looking for more support for student internships to allow all students, regardless of financial circumstances, the opportunity to have these experiences. If you would like to sponsor a student intern in any of our placement locations, please let us know.



STUDENT RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

First-year students in the human rights stream of the University's Source Project (a year-long program devoted to cultivating research skills and passions in the humanities and social sciences) published their work at the conclusion of the course in our campus student-run law journal. Congratulations to all of the students on their academic publications:

Binghamton Law Quarterly (May 2023)

Abby Rothleder, "The Importance of Triage and Holistic Defense for Public Defenders"

Ethan Moskowitz, "Racism within the United States' Death Penalty"

Harper Sanders, "Restricting the Practice of Solitary Confinement"

Julianna Raimonda, "Healthcare in Correctional Facilities: The Lack of Practicing Law"

Michel Nocera, "The Influence of Youth on False Confessions"

Emma DeOliveira, "The Legality of 'Enhanced Interrogation Techniques' at Guantánamo"

Emma Quenneville, "The U.S. Government and the Denial of Torture at Guantánamo Bay"

Isabela Fraguada, "Guantánamo Bay Hunger Strikers"

Riya Mohan, "Post Executive Order 13491 Treatment of Detainees at Guantánamo Bay"

Emily King, "Social Media Giants and Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act"

Lili Pitkowsky, "Human Rights Granted to Children of Incarcerated Parents"

Robert Rose, "'House of Cards' – The Precarious Relationship Between Human Rights Recognized in the Constitution and the Laws Put in Place to Protect Them"

Olivia Caldwell, "Government Propaganda in Military Films"

Alex Moon, "Proud Boys Commit Conspiracy in the Name of Patriotism at the January 6 Capitol Riot"

Rui Zheng, "Should the Capitol Hill Rioters Receive Harsher Sentences?"

Sara Parkhurst, "The Shift from Legal to Illegal on January 6th, 2021"

STUDENT RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Abigail Connors, “Abortion Rights: Beyond the U.S. Constitution”

Heera Narang, “Islamic Law and Women’s Rights in Iran”

Michael LoBiondo, “Extradition in New York State in the Wake of Dobbs v. Jackson”

Emma DeOliveira and Abigail Connors also have forthcoming work in the *Binghamton Undergraduate Research Journal*.

This fall Source Project students Michael LoBiondo, Abigail Connors, Robert Rose, and Abigail Rothleder were invited to a resentencing hearing for a client whose case they worked on related to New York State’s Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act. As the Broome County Public Defender wrote in his invitation, “There aren’t many college students out there who can say that they were part of a dedicated group of people who were able to achieve justice and compel the release of someone from prison.” We couldn’t agree more.



Students and faculty in the Far Right Composite lab project analyze data

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

The Upstate New York Police Research Consortium (UNY-PRC)

Laura Warren Hill, Human Development and **Andrew Pragacz**, Sociology

The Upstate New York Police Research Consortium (UNY-PRC) under Binghamton University’s Human Rights Institute aims to locate current policing practices into a historical and structural context. The UNY-PRC comprises an interdisciplinary team of scholars who embrace “the study and [debates regarding] abolition of prisons, criminalization, policing, and other carceral mechanisms of state power,” in order to advance the academic and public understanding of policing in Upstate New York and to increase citizen engagement and oversight of criminal justice administration. Founding members of UNY-PRC span four disciplines (criminal justice, sociology, computer science, and history) and three institutions in Rochester and Binghamton and will add research units from Albany, Buffalo and Syracuse during 2024. Thus, the goal of this project is to make scholarly research about policing and its impact available to the public to improve the administration of justice and the impact of justice processes on society. UNY-PRC will partner with community stakeholders engaged in activism in these communities, especially those engaged on the carceral question, both as sources of information and potential partners to reduce police misconduct, violence and wrongful convictions across upstate New York by fostering greater community interest and engagement with policing practices.



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

- American Civic Association
- Association of Human Rights Institutes (AHRI)
- Babson College
- Binghamton University Citizenship, Rights and Cultural Belonging Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence
- Binghamton University Sustainable Communities Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence
- Binghamton University Center for Civic Engagement
- Broome County Assigned Counsel Program
- Broome County Office of Aging
- Broome County Public Defender's Office
- Death Penalty Information Center
- Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice, Sheffield Hallam University
- Inter-American Court of Human Rights (Costa Rica)
- Journey's End Refugee Services
- JUST
- Legal Services of Central New York
- North Carolina Commission of Inquiry on Torture
- North Carolina Stop Torture Now
- SUNY Global Engagement Program
- TASSC: Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition
- Toronto Metropolitan University
- University of Brescia, Italy
- University of Hyderabad, India, Vulnerability Project, Dir. Professor Pramod Nayar
- University of London
- WILPF (Women's International League for Peace and Freedom)