

HSS

2017–2018

NEW FACES

We are pleased to introduce the new faculty, postdocs, students, and staff arriving in the Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018. Please welcome them to HSS!

PROFESSORIAL FACULTY



LAURA DOVAL

Assistant Professor of Economics

Doval is a microeconomic theorist whose research investigates incentive problems in dynamic environments, both in single-agent settings (e.g., search and experimentation) and in multi-agent settings (e.g., mechanism design).

She spent the last year as a postdoctoral fellow at the Cowles Foundation for Research in Economics at Yale University after receiving her PhD in economics from Northwestern University.



GABRIEL LÓPEZ-MOCTEZUMA

Assistant Professor of Political Science

López-Moctezuma comes to Caltech from the Cowles Foundation for Research in Economics at Yale University, where he was a postdoctoral fellow. He earned his

PhD in politics (part of the political economy program) at Princeton University. His research analyzes collective decision making in committees and elections using different quantitative methods, such as structural estimation, causal inference, and text analysis.



MICHAEL GIBILISCO

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Gibilisco earned his PhD from the University of Rochester, where he received the Outstanding Dissertation Award for the Social Sciences. His research and

teaching interests include formal political theory, comparative political economy, and political methodology. He applies dynamic game theory to study the evolution of inter-group conflict, legislative policymaking, the selection of institutions, and implications for minority rights.



JOCELYN HOLLAND

Professor of Comparative Literature

Most recently based at UC Santa Barbara, Holland joins the humanities faculty as a professor of comparative literature.

Her work focuses on the intersections of literature, science and technology in the Enlightenment, the Goethe era, and

Romanticism. She has published two books, one dealing directly with that intersection of German Romanticism and science. The other is a translation of a large body of the writings of J. W. Ritter, an early explorer of electricity and the chemistry of batteries.

OTHER FACULTY



JENNY FACTOR

Lecturer in Poetry

Factor is a published poet whose work explores motherhood, marriage, sexuality, and transformation. She received her BA from Harvard University and MFA in literature and poetry from Bennington College.

Factor has worked as a freelance writer and editor, and she is also a member of the core faculty at Antioch University in Los Angeles.



MEGUMI FUJIO

Lecturer in Japanese

Fujio received her PhD in second-language education from McGill University in Canada. She focuses on corrective feedback in second-language learning, computer-assisted learning in foreign-language classrooms, and

content-based language learning at the post-secondary level. Before coming to Caltech, she taught Japanese at the University of Arizona.

OTHER FACULTY



ROBERT GINGRICH

Lecturer in Finance

Caltex alumnus Gingrich (PhD '02, physics) was a financial engineer at Pacific Investment Management Company before taking his current position as head of Quantitative Investment Solutions Group and Manager of Derivatives and Alternatives Risk at Western Asset Management Company.



ROGER B. MYERSON

Moore Scholar

Myerson is the Glen A. Lloyd Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago. He is best known for his research in the fields of economics and political science. In 2007, Myerson was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences in recognition of his contributions to mechanism design theory.



NICCOLÒ GUICCIARDINI CORSI SALVIATI

Francis Bacon Visiting Professor in History

Guicciardini is an associate professor at the Università degli Studi di Bergamo in Italy. He is a historian of the exact sciences in the modern period, with a particular interest in Isaac Newton. He is the author of four books, the latest being *Isaac Newton on Mathematical Certainty and Method* (MIT Press, 2009). This winter, Guicciardini will receive the Francis Bacon Award in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology from HSS.



JOHN STYLES

Moore Scholar

Styles specializes in the history of eighteenth-century England. He is a professor at the University of Hertfordshire and has published extensively on the history of everyday things used by the common people. Styles has done important work at the intersection of cultural and economic history and, in particular, on the diffusion of cotton textiles.



DAN LEWIS

Lecturer in History

Lewis is chief curator of manuscripts and Dibner Senior Curator of the History of Science and Technology at The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. He is also a research associate professor of history at the Claremont Graduate University. His research interests include the history of science, American history, Latin American history, and environmental history.



AMANDA VICKERY

Eleanor Searle Visiting Professor

Vickery is a historian, writer, radio and television presenter, and professor in early modern history at Queen Mary University of London. She has written on social history, literature, the history of romance and the home, politics, law, and crime, with an emphasis on women's studies and feminism. Her first book was *The Gentleman's Daughter: Women's Lives in Georgian England* (1998), for which she received the Whitfield Prize, the Wolfson History Prize, and the Longman-History Today award.



ALESSANDRO LIZZERI

Moore Scholar

Lizzeri is a professor of economics at New York University and a research fellow at the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR). His research focuses on transparency and its role in economic policy and bureaucracy, and the relationship between political institutions and economic policy as it relates to electoral competition and incentives.



PETER WESTWICK

Lecturer in History

Westwick is an assistant professor of history at USC Dornsife and director of the Aerospace History Project at the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West. His research interests include the history of modern science and technology, the history of Southern California aerospace, international relations and national security, the Cold War, and the history of surfing.

POSTDOCS & FELLOWS



BORIS BABIC

Weisman Postdoctoral Instructor in Philosophy of Science

Babic earned his PhD in philosophy and MA in statistics from the University of Michigan. He also holds a JD from Harvard Law School. His research focuses on epistemology, philosophy of science, and statistical theory and also includes work in rational choice, game theory, and philosophy of law. Prior to beginning his graduate studies, Babic practiced intellectual property law in Los Angeles.



RORY COX

Caltech-Huntington Humanities Collaborations Fellow

Cox's research covers intellectual and military history, including the ethics of war and violence, the relationship between the just war tradition and applications of violence, and the connections between premodern ethics and contemporary ethical and politico-military challenges. He is an associate director of the University of St. Andrews Institute of Intellectual History and a lecturer at the University of St. Andrews School of History in Scotland.

POSTDOCS & FELLOWS



BOWEN FUNG

Postdoctoral Scholar in Computational Affective Neuroscience

Fung earned his PhD from the University of Melbourne in cognitive science. As a postdoc in the Mobbs Lab, his work will focus on the theoretical, computational,

and neurobiological basis of decision making, emotion, reward, and social valuation in healthy populations.



KIYOHITO IIGAYA

Postdoctoral Scholar in Neuroscience

Iigaya has held postdoctoral positions at the Max Planck UCL Centre for Computational Psychiatry and Ageing Research and University College London. Before starting his postdoctoral research, he completed his PhD in physics, with an

emphasis on theoretical neuroscience, at the Center for Theoretical Neuroscience and the Physics Department at Columbia University. In the O'Doherty Lab, his primary research goal is to understand the neural computation of decision making under uncertainty.



UMIT KELES

Postdoctoral Scholar in Neuroscience

Keles received his PhD in physics and completed a postdoctoral appointment at Bilkent University in Turkey. His research focuses on how the human brain represents semantic information in natural visual and auditory scenes. By integrating data

science and machine learning techniques with functional neuroimaging (fMRI) studies as a member of the Adolphs Lab, he aims to develop computational models that describe how the brain responds to specific features in stimuli.



JEONGBIN KIM

Postdoctoral Scholar in Economics

Kim joins HSS as a postdoc in the Social Science Experimental Laboratory (SSEL) after earning his PhD in economics from Brown University. His research interests include experimental economics,

behavioral economics, and microeconomic theory.



DORIT KLIEMANN

Postdoctoral Scholar in Cognitive Neuroscience

Kliemann received her PhD in psychology from the Max Planck Institute for Human Development at Freie Universität Berlin in Germany, and she previously held

postdoctoral research positions at MIT and Harvard. As a postdoctoral scholar in the Adolphs Lab, she will continue her research into how humans process social information in the brain, with a focus on the social deficits in autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their underlying biological basis.



SOYOUNG KWON

Postdoctoral Scholar in Computational Psychiatry and Affective Neuroscience

Kwon is a postdoc in the Mobbs Lab, and her research focuses on normal brain function and how it is altered

in anxiety disorders. She plans to investigate fear and anxiety circuits in panic disorder and general anxiety disorder patients. She earned her PhD in neural and behavioral science from the International Max Planck Research School at the University of Tübingen in Germany.



TANAZ MOLAPOUR

Postdoctoral Scholar in Computational Affective Neuroscience

Molapour holds an MA in psychological research from San Francisco State University and a PhD in clinical neuroscience from the Karolinska

Institutet in Sweden. While a postdoctoral scholar in the Mobbs Lab, she will study the theoretical, computational, and neurobiological basis of decision making, emotion, reward, and social valuation in healthy populations.



OMAR PEREZ

Postdoctoral Scholar in Neuroscience

Perez comes to the O'Doherty Lab from the University of Cambridge, where he received his PhD in psychology. His research interests include learning and decision making, goal-directed and habitual behavior, value-based choice,

computational modeling, causal and predictive learning, stimulus generalizations, economic psychology, and rationality.



MELANIE M. SHERAZI

Howard E. and Susanne C. Jessen Postdoctoral Instructor in the Humanities

Sherazi's research and teaching focus on modern and contemporary American and African American literature, archives, and critical theory. She received her

PhD in English at UC Riverside. Most recently, as a University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellow in English at UCLA, she conducted research examining African American writers, artists, and performers in postwar Rome and their collaborations with Italian artists and filmmakers.

REMINDER

HSS FALL WELCOME PARTY

Thursday, September 28, 2017

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Dabney Lounge and Garden

GRADUATE STUDENTS



ANASTASIA BUYALSKAYA

Graduate Student

Buyalskaya's research interests lie in behavioral and neuroeconomics—in particular, how an understanding of psychology and neuroscience can

contribute to the building of more accurate economic models of individual and group decision making. After earning her MSc in economics and business strategy from Imperial College London, she worked in the Behavioral Finance Group at BlackRock.



WADE HANN-CARUTHERS

Graduate Student

Hann-Caruthers earned his BS in mathematics with a minor in computer science from Caltech in 2016 and then joined HSS as a research assistant, working

with Assistant Professor of Economics and Mathematics Omer Tamuz. While here, he contributed to several projects, including a paper that measures the asymptotic rate of learning in a sequential learning model. His research interests lie at the intersection of algorithms and economics, with a particular interest in games on networks.



SUMIT GOEL

Graduate Student

Goel received his Bachelor of Technology degree in computer science from Delhi Technological University (DTU) and an MS in quantitative economics from the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Delhi. His

background in real analysis and measure theory led to his current research interests: game theory, microeconomic theory, social choice, and mechanism design.



JOANNA HUEY

Graduate Student

Huey is interested in analyzing law and policy related to science and technology, using tools from experimental social science, political economy, and behavioral economics. She holds a BA in physics and math from Harvard College, an

MPP in science and technology policy from the Harvard Kennedy School, and a JD from Harvard Law School. She has worked as a law clerk, a corporate attorney, and a startup co-founder, and she is currently associate director of the Center for Information Technology Policy at Princeton.



DANIEL GUTH

Graduate Student

Last year, Guth served as a research assistant to Axline Professor and Linde Leadership Chair Jean-Laurent Rosenthal. In 2016, Guth received his BS in mathematics from Caltech. His research interests include measure

theory, probability, and stochastic processes. During his graduate studies, he intends to use microeconomic theory and empirical analysis to answer historical and public policy questions.



JEFFREY ZEIDEL

Graduate Student

After earning his BA in applied mathematics and economics from UC Berkeley in 2015, Zeidel worked there as a research assistant. His research focuses on behavioral economics and applied microeconomics and, more recently, on

belief formation, learning, inattention, social preferences, behavioral industrial organization, and crime and optimal law enforcement with behavioral agents.

STAFF



LETTY DIAZ

Administrative Assistant

Diaz joined the Caltech community in 2006, working as an administrative assistant in the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) with Caltech attorneys and various departments across campus and JPL. Diaz joined HSS this

summer to work with the social sciences faculty and division administrative staff.

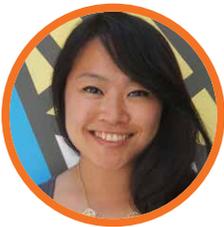


SANDY TANWISUTH

Research Assistant

Tanwisuth is a research assistant in the O'Doherty Lab, where she facilitates studies related to the computational modeling of decision neuroscience. She received her BS in mathematics-statistics and a minor in cognitive psychology from Arizona State

University. She is interested in computational decision neuroscience, especially learning algorithms like reinforcement learning.



CECILIA YO LU

Special Assistant to the Humanities

Lu arrives in HSS in early October from California State University, Northridge (CSUN), where she worked with the chairs of the Asian American Studies Department and the Gender & Women's Studies Department and other faculty. In Dabney, she will support the humanities faculty and assist with the humanities teaching schedule, the Japan Internship Program, student prizes, and other division projects.