Week of March 26

**Monday, March 27**

“Women’s Music and Memories in Apartheid Prisons”

Sponsor: History
12:00 p.m., 255 Old Horticulture Building

Janie Cole, a visiting professor from the University of Cape Town’s South African College of Music and a visiting associate at the Centre for African Studies, is a musicologist and cultural historian. She is the author of two books, *A Muse of Music in Early Baroque Florence: the Poetry of Michelangelo Buonarroti il Giovane* and *Music, Spectacle and Cultural Brokerage in Early Modern Italy*, as well as numerous scholarly articles and publications. She has received fellowships from the Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies and from the Newberry Library in Chicago. Dr. Cole is the founder/executive director of Music Beyond Borders, an organization dedicated to research, cultural heritage preservation, publishing, and documentary film production on the role of music as a form of resistance in fighting for human rights.

**Tuesday, March 28**

“Process Driven Density—Dependent Diameter Distribution Models for Forest Biomass Prediction”

Sponsor: Forestry
4:00-5:00 p.m. (coffee and cookies at 3:50), 225 Natural Resources Building

Erin Schliep, an assistant professor at the University of Missouri, will speak. Prediction of aboveground biomass, particularly at large spatial scales, is necessary for estimating global-scale carbon sequestration. Since biomass can be measured only by sacrificing trees, total biomass on plots is never observed. Instead, allometric equations are used to convert individual tree diameter to individual biomass.
Dr. Schliep proposes a process driven model based on the number of and observed set of tree diameters, which provides understanding of how environmental covariates explain abundance of individuals and how abundance of individuals, along with these covariates, explain individual diameters. She illustrates the density-dependent diameter distribution model using data from the national Forest Inventory and Analysis database.

“Sculptural Icons and Their Painted Stories in Kamakura-period Japan”

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center, History, Japan Council, and the Japan Foundation New York
4:00 p.m., 303 International Center

Ive Covaci, a lecturer in art history at Fairfield University, will speak. She is the editor of Kamakura: Realism and Spirituality in the Sculpture of Japan and was the co-curator of the exhibition with the same title at Asia Society Museum in New York in the spring of 2016. In the Kamakura period (1185-1333), illustrated scrolls depicting the origin stories of famous temples and shrines became a popular genre of painting. Embedded within, and often forming the focus of, temple foundation legends are stories about the main icons enshrined at the temples. As the painted legends both show and tell us, these sculptures frequently have miraculous origins: they appear suddenly of their own accord, they are carved by gods appearing in the guise of human sculptors, they reveal their desire to be created in dream visions, they come to life and move about, or they refuse to move once installed in a certain place. This lecture will present several Kamakura-period illustrated scrolls depicting miraculous icons and will discuss how sculptures are brought to life for patrons and devotees through painted tales.

Wednesday, March 29

“Great Lakes International Trade and Transport Hub Initiative—Autonomous Vehicles”

Sponsor: Canadian Studies Center
11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., B 106/107 James B. Henry Center for Executive Development

This program looks at issues around autonomous vehicles. Presentations will include: Envisioning the Future, Where is the Research Taking Us?: Impact on Current Industry – Beyond Technology – What Roles Do the “Auto Capital of the World” and the Great Lakes Region Have in Putting Automated Vehicles into Everyday Use?, Impact on the Economy Translated — Innovation, Investment, and Partnership Strategies; Where are We Now?; Preparing Communities; What Are the Next-step Integration Challenges?; Safety and Risk Management; Supporting Industry, Research and Education for Advancing Mobility; Legislative Benchmarks; State and Regional Hurdles; Research Innovation and Talent Recruitment.

“Making Study Abroad Accessible to All Students: Recruitment and Support of Underrepresented Student Populations”

Sponsors: Office of Study Abroad and the Academic Advancement Network
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., MSU Union, Lake Superior Room

While recent study abroad recruitment practices have focused on increasing the number of students studying abroad, experts have highlighted the disproportionate nature of study abroad participation rates among undergraduates. Research has shown that simply offering more variety of programs will not broaden the demographic profile of study abroad participants, but that we must first understand the factors that contribute to participation. These factors will be discussed, including individual capital, financial concerns, institutional barriers, role models, program
fit, family support, and fears of discrimination. This session will focus on how we can review and model our recruitment selection processes in light of what we know about barriers to participation for underrepresented students. Registration is required and free. Please register at http://fod.msu.edu/events/making-study-abroad-accessible. Lunch will be provided.

**Eye on Africa Seminar Series**

Sponsor: African Studies Center
12:00-1:30 p.m., 201 International Center

Janie Cole, a visiting professor from the University of Cape Town, will speak as part of the African Studies Center’s Eye on Africa Seminar Series.

**“Historical Memory of Mانونaj and Vodou in Present-day Haiti” and “Contraceptive Trials in Puerto Rico”**

Sponsor: Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
3:00-4:30 p.m., 201 International Center

Graduate students Crystal Eddins, from the Department of Sociology and African American and African Studies, and Kathryn Lankford, from the Department of History, will speak as part of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies’ Spring Seminar Series.

**International Awards Ceremony**

Sponsor: International Studies and Programs
3:30-7:00 p.m., Huntington Club, Spartan Stadium (4th floor)

Each year, International Studies and Programs presents a series of distinguished awards to recognize individuals who are solving the world’s greatest problems, making the world a better place, internationalizing the student experience, advancing knowledge and transforming lives around the world.

**Arabic Tea and Conversation Hour**

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center
4:00-5:30 p.m., 305 International Center

Arabic Diwan is a gathering of Arabic students who are in the Arabic program, where they speak the language and learn about the culture in a relaxed environment with a Fulbright teaching assistant. Students from all Arabic language levels are encouraged to attend. Arabic-speaking students from the English Center are welcome as well. For more information, please email cheikh.sheibe@gmail.com.

**Hindi-Urdu Chai and Chat**

Sponsor: Asian Studies
6:30 p.m., 305 International Center

Come experience and discuss Indian and South Asian cultures and languages, especially Hindi-Urdu, while sipping spiced tea (chai) and tasting delicious desi snacks. For more information, email Assistant Professor Rajiv Ranjan, Hindi lecturer and resident chaivala at rranjan@msu.edu.
Thursday, March 30

CERES Brown Bag Lunch with Emine Evered

Sponsor: Center for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies
12:00-1:30 p.m., 302 International Center

Emine Evered, an associate professor in the Department of History, will speak as part of the Center for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies Brown Bag Lunch seminar series.

“Plant Community Reassembly in Response to Climate Change”

Sponsor: Ecology, Evolutionary Biology and Behavior
3:30 p.m., 118 Eppley Center

Janneke Hille Ris Lambers, a professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Wisconsin, will speak as part of the Ecology/Evolutionary Biology and Behavior Spring Seminar Series.

African Tea

Sponsor: African Studies Center
4:00-6:00 p.m., 303 International Center

African Tea is an opportunity to learn about and share first-hand experiences on the African Continent. Cameroon, the Congos, and Tunisia will be the focus of this tea.
“Sea(m)less Peninsulas? Italy, Europe, and the Refugee Question”

Sponsor: Muslim Studies
4:00-6:00 p.m., B-310 Wells Hall

Maurizio Albahari, an associate professor at the University of Notre Dame, will speak. In this lecture Dr. Albahari will outline the emergence of the Mediterranean Sea as the world’s deadliest international border for refugees, focusing in particular on the central migratory route — between Libya and Italy — and on the military-humanitarian role of Italy’s authorities and civil society. He will illustrate how the political and institutional separation between Northern Europe and the Mediterranean (Turkey and southern European Union countries such as Italy and Greece) constitutes state of affairs that can be sustained only at an unspeakable economic and human cost.

Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics 2017 Graduate Research Symposium

Sponsor: Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics
4:30 p.m., 75 Morrill Hall of Agriculture

This annual event is an opportunity for Agriculture, Food, and Resource Economics (AFRE) graduate students to present their research to other students and faculty, to inform colleagues about the important work being done in AFRE, as well as to hone presentation skills and to receive feedback. Research is presented at various levels of completion so that all students are able to participate and benefit. Awards are given for top presentations. There will also be a special session for prospective graduate students to learn more about the MS and PhD programs in AFRE, as well as opportunities to interact with faculty and current students.

Korean Conversation Table

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center, Korean Program, and the Council on Korean Studies
6:00-7:00 p.m., Wells Hall A-201 and A-236 Wells Hall

Practice speaking Korean with other students at our Korean conversation table. All levels are welcome.

Friday, March 31

The Center for Gender in Global Context 2017 Undergraduate Research Showcase

Sponsor: Center for Gender in Global Context
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., International Center

The Center for Gender in Global Context (GenCen) invites MSU undergraduate students to present research exploring issues of gender, women, and sexuality locally, nationally and globally for its fourth biennial undergraduate research conference on

“Biological Assemblage Conditions of Streams and Reservoirs in Brazil: Conservation and Management Implications”

Sponsors: Fisheries and Wildlife, Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability
3:30 p.m., 152 Natural Resources Building
Robert Hughes, a visiting senior scientist with Amnis Opes Institute, will speak. His current research focuses on biological assessments of streams, lakes, and rivers across large geographic extents in the USA, Europe, Brazil, and China. Dr. Hughes was a courtesy associate professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Oregon State University, a Fulbright Scholar, and a past president of the American Fisheries Society.

“A Night with Selena”
Sponsor: Latin American and Caribbean Studies
7:00-9:00 p.m., 300 Bessey Hall
Delia Fernandez, an assistant professor in the Department of History, and Yomaira Figueroa, an assistant professor in the Department of English, will lead a discussion and film screening.

Week of April 1

Sunday, April 2

Israeli Film Festival
Sponsors: Jewish Studies, Union Activities Board, College of Arts and Letters, Asian Studies Center, and James Madison College
1:45-8:45 p.m., B-122 Wells Hall
The Jewish Studies Program will show four full-length Israeli films: *Apples from the Desert*, Arabic Movie, *Baba Joon* and *Sand Storm*.

**Tuesday, April 4**

**“The Interplay Between Biotic and Abiotic Controls Over Litter Decomposition Processes”**

Sponsor: Forestry  
4:00-5:00 p.m. (coffee and cookies at 3:50 p.m.), 225 Natural Resources Building

Ashley Keiser, a postdoctoral research associate at Iowa State University, will speak as part of the Hanover Forest Science Seminar Series. Dr. Keiser will discuss the interaction between these biotic and abiotic controls, and how this interplay affects our ability to make predictions regarding patterns in decomposition and hence the cycling of carbon and nutrients. Her research explores a key ecological process, litter decomposition through the lens of the belowground, decomposer community.

**Israeli Film Festival**

Sponsors: Jewish Studies, Union Activities Board, College of Arts and Letters, Asian Studies Center, and James Madison College  
7:00-9:00 p.m., B-119 Wells Hall

The Jewish Studies Program will show four full-length Israeli films: *Apples from the Desert*, Arabic Movie, *Baba Joon* and *Sand Storm*.

**Wednesday, April 5**

**“Farmland Concentration and Rural Labor Productivity: Evidence from Tanzania”**

12:00-1:00 p.m., Koo Room of Marshall-Adams Hall

Thomas Jayne, a University Foundation Professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, will speak as part of the Department of Economics’ Development Lunch Seminar Series.

**Eye on Africa Seminar Series**

Sponsor: African Studies Center  
12:00-1:30 p.m., 201 International Center

Masako Fujita, an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, and Sabrina Perlman, a doctoral student in the Department of Anthropology, will speak as part of the African Studies Center’ Eye on Africa Seminar Series.

**Globie Awards**

Sponsor: Office of International Students and Scholars  
4:00-6:00 p.m., International Center, third floor

The journey of international students and scholars can be challenging and
those who undertake challenges sometimes need help along the way. The Office for International Students and Scholars (OISS) is only one of many offices on campus that work with MSU’s international population. Everyone on our campus and in our community plays a role in the internationalization of MSU. This award is given to individuals who have distinguished themselves by their service to international students and scholars. OISS will honor these unsung heroes who, through acts of sheer kindness both small and large, help international students and scholars through the challenges that they face.

**Arabic Tea and Conversation Hour**

Sponsors: Asian Studies Center
4:00-5:30 p.m., 305 International Center

Arabic Diwan is a gathering of Arabic students who are in the Arabic program, where they speak the language and learn about the culture in a relaxed environment with a Fulbright teaching assistant. Students from all Arabic language levels are encouraged to attend. Arabic-speaking students from the English Center are welcome as well. For more information, please email cheikh.sheibe@gmail.com.

**Hindi-Urdu Chai and Chat**

Sponsor: Asian Studies
6:30 p.m., 305 International Center

Come experience and discuss Indian and South Asian cultures and languages, especially Hindi-Urdu, while sipping spiced tea (chai) and tasting delicious desi snacks. For more information, email Assistant Professor Rajiv Ranjan, Hindi lecturer and resident chaivala at rranjan@msu.edu.

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**Friday, April 7**

**Special Film Screening: The Bacchus Lady**

Sponsors: Korean Program; Asian Studies Center; Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages; Korea Foundation, and the Korea International Trade Association
6:00-7:00 p.m. reception, 7:00-9:30 p.m. screening, 115 International Center

This special screening of The Bacchus Lady will be followed by a Q&A with Director E J-yong. So-young makes a meager living by selling herself to old men. She is a “Bacchus lady,” an elderly prostitute who approaches potential clients with a bottle of the popular Korean energy drink Bacchus and the phrase “Care for a drink?” As a young woman, she used to sell herself to American soldiers. Perhaps driven by the painful memory of giving up her half-black infant son for adoption, she is unable to ignore the motherless Korean-Filipino child she meets while visiting the hospital. Despite help from her social outcast neighbors like Madame Tina, her transgender landlady, or Do-hoon, a poor young man with a prosthetic leg, she struggles to care for the child. One day, Jae-woo, a former client, informs her that Song, another regular, has been hospitalized following a stroke. She visits the hospital to discover the man completely paralyzed. Song begs her to end his life, a request that causes her both bewilderment and dismay. This film contains adult content and themes. Viewer discretion is advised.
2017 Michigan State University Symposium on Multicultural Psychology Chinese: Chinese Psychology — Current Theories and Models in Understanding 1.4 Billion People

Advanced registration applications are due March 31, 2017. On-site registration begins at 2:30 p.m. Friday, April 14, 2017.

April 14 - 15, 2017
Kellogg Center, Michigan State University

The 2017 MSU Symposium on Multicultural Psychology, hosted by the Consortium for Multicultural Psychology Research in the Department of Psychology and the Asian Studies Center, will focus on “Chinese Psychology: Current Theories and Models in Understanding 1.4 Billion People.” This conference is part of the biennial MSU Symposium on Multicultural Psychology at Michigan State University. The four main rationales for organizing the 2017 MSU Symposium are (a) importance of globalization and international competencies, (b) increasing global importance of China, (c) rapid increase in numbers of Chinese students in U.S. colleges and universities, and (d) adjustment experiences and challenges of these Chinese college students. At MSU alone, the number of Chinese students has increased exponentially over the past decade. Questions regarding the Symposium may be directed to the CMPR Director, Frederick Leong, Ph.D. (fleong@msu.edu).

The African Studies Association Small Grants

Applications are due March 31, 2017.

The African Studies Association (ASA) invites all of our coordinate and affiliate organizations to apply for a small grant from the ASA. Grants up to $500 will be awarded to help support an event or project the organization is planning for the calendar year. In 2017 up to three grants will be awarded to organizations, supported by the 60th Anniversary Campaign Fund. Applications must be received by March 31, 2017. Grant applications will be reviewed by the ASA Board of Directors at their Spring Board Meeting and decisions will be announced in May. If you have any questions, please contact the ASA at kathryn@africanstudies.org.
Announcements

The Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa Research Grants

Applications are due March 31, 2017.

The Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA) is offering grant opportunities in conjunction with the Tenth Annual ASMEA Conference on October 19 - 21, 2017 in Washington, D.C. ASMEA is offering research grants of up to $2,500 to qualified professors and students engaged in the study of the Middle East and Africa. Applications must be accompanied by a paper proposal that represents new and unpublished research and is relevant to the qualifying research areas designated by ASMEA. Successful research grant applicants are required to present their research at the Tenth Annual ASMEA Conference and provide ASMEA the right of first refusal for potential publication in our peer-reviewed Journal of the Middle East and Africa. To stimulate new and diverse lines of discourse about the Middle East and Africa, ASMEA's Research Grants Program seeks to support research on topics that deserve greater attention. The topic areas and sub-topics listed below are intended as a guide for potential participants in the program and constitute the types of subjects that ASMEA intends to support. An applicant may submit a proposal on any topic as long as it is directly relevant to the five broad areas outlined and constitutes new and original research: status of minorities and women, modern military history, governance and economy, belief, and personal status. ASMEA is offering travel grants to qualified scholars and students whose paper proposals are accepted for presentation at the Tenth Annual ASMEA Conference. Grants of up to $750 are available for international applicants while U.S. applicants may receive grants of up to $500. Applicants with questions about the topic areas or about the program in general may contact ASMEA at info@asmeascholars.org.

GJEC Fellowships for Dissertation Research & Completion

Applications are due April 15, 2017.

The Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change (GJEC) Program, at the Center for Gender in Global Context (GenCen), is pleased to announce fellowships for MSU graduate students for the 2017-18 academic year. Generous funding provided by MSU's Graduate School allows us to offer four fellowship opportunities of up to $10,000** in the following two categories:

GJEC Dissertation Research Fellowship
Eligibility: PhD students at MSU who have completed all requirements for their degree with the exception of their dissertation research. Applicants must have dissertation projects that focus specifically on the gender dimensions of environmental and/or agricultural change.

GJEC Dissertation Completion Fellowship
Eligibility: PhD students at MSU who have completed dissertation research and all other requirements for their degree program, except for completion of the dissertation. Applicants must graduate by Spring 2018, and their dissertations must focus on the gender dimensions of environmental and/or agricultural change.

Funding must be used during the 2017-18 academic year. Applications are available at www.gencen.msu.edu/funding/gjec.htm. Email: gencenga@msu.edu.
MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon and MSU Alumni Club of Hong Kong invite alumni and friends from around the world to

**ENGAGE: International Alumni & Friends Reunion, May 19-21, 2017 in Hong Kong.**

ENGAGE brings together Spartan alumni, friends, researchers, and thought leadership from around the world for networking and high-level engagement, with plenty of Spartan fellowship. This year, the reunion's theme centers on sustainability and conservation, connecting the dots between the work Spartans are doing to combat climate change and pollution, protect the environment, and create sustainable business practices.

The reunion begins with an evening reception on Friday, May 19 and concludes Sunday, May 21 at noon. Reunion agenda, details on activities, registration and payment link, and hotel information are now available. RSVPs are kindly requested by April 17.

President Simon will be joined by a number of MSU colleagues including Steven Hanson, Associate Provost and Dean for International Studies and Programs; Sanjay Gupta, the Eli and Edythe L. Broad Dean of the Eli Broad College of Business; and Scott Westerman, Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations/Executive Director, MSU Alumni Association.

Questions can be directed to Daniel Spadafore, Associate Director of International Advancement, at dms@msu.edu or 517-884-6789.