Templeton, Residential, and Graduate Student Fellowships at the NDIAS

2015-2016 Fellows at the NDIAS

Laura E. Bland, University of Notre Dame

Graduate Student Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)

“Unfriendly Skies: The Comet of 1680 in the Spanish and English Empires”

Laura E. Bland is a Ph.D. Candidate in the History and Philosophy of Science at the John J. Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values at the University of Notre Dame. Her research examines the cultural and religious background of scientific ideas in the early modern Atlantic World. In particular, she explores how writers without scientific training understood questions about the role of God in nature, superstition, and natural order. At the broadest level, her work contributes to ongoing historical discussions of the “disenchantment of the world,” the decline of magic, and the secularization of society in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Her dissertation compares Catholic and Protestant conceptions of superstition and divine intervention in nature as they were articulated in several hundred pamphlets printed in the wake of the “Great Comet” of 1680 in Spain, England, New England, and Latin America.

Ms. Bland has presented her research at the Sixteenth Century Society, the Renaissance Society of America, and the Latin American Studies Association. In addition to participating in Notre Dame working groups in the history of science and the history of medicine, she has worked with the executive offices of the History of Science Society.

Ms. Bland was awarded the Paul G. Tobin Dissertation Fellowship by the Nanovic Institute for European Studies in 2014. She has received research support from the Nanovic Institute and the Institute for the Liberal Arts, as well as a grant from the Center for Languages and Cultures to study Dutch and undertake archival research in Belgium and the Netherlands. She has also received residential grants from the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island, and the Dibner Fellowship in the History of Science and Technology from the Huntington Library in Los Angeles.
Diego De Brasi, University of Marburg, Germany

Residential Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)

“The Relation of Body, Mind and Soul in Lactantius’ De opificio Dei, Gregory of Nyssa’s De hominis opificio and Nemesios of Emesa’s De natura hominis”

Diego De Brasi is Assistant Professor of Classical Philology / Greek at the University of Marburg and specializes in Ancient Philosophy. His scholarship focuses on Plato’s political thought and the poetics of philosophical dialogue, Philo of Alexandria, late antique Christian anthropology and the interpretation of Platonic dialogues by modern and contemporary philosophers.


Professor De Brasi’s research has been supported by a doctoral fellowship form the Elite Network of Bavaria, grants from the German Academic Exchange Service and from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. His doctoral dissertation won the prize as best dissertation of the academic year 2010-2011 at the University of Bamberg. He has been Fellow of the Hardt Foundation in Geneva. Diego De Brasi’s research at NDIAS is supported in part by a Humboldt post-doctoral fellowship, under the umbrella of the Feodor Lynen program and supervised by Dr. Gretchen Reydams-Schils. During his stay at the University of Notre Dame he will also be affiliated with the Notre Dame Workshop on Ancient Philosophy (http://www3.nd.edu/~ndwap/).

Bjarne Sode Funch, Roskilde University, Denmark

Templeton Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)

“An Existential-Phenomenological Study of Artistic Creativity”

Bjarne Sode Funch is Associate Professor in psychological aesthetics at the Roskilde University, Denmark. His scholarly interests are in the areas of psychological aesthetics, phenomenology, and existential psychology. Much of his research is dedicated to the curatorial and educational programs at art museums.

His book The Psychology of Art Appreciation (1997) is not only one of the most comprehensive reviews of how different schools of psychological thought have concerned themselves with the
topic of art since the time of Gustav T. Fechner’s epoch-making approach to formal beauty in the 19th century until recent works by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, it also offers a new existential-phenomenological theory of art appreciation. It is suggested that an aesthetic experience as a transcendent phenomenon provides an emotion with a distinct form, and it is concluded that art is a supreme option for constituting fleeting emotions caused by previous or current existential circumstances. This emotional constitution contributes to existential well-being.

His most recent monograph *Matissekapellet: Et jordisk paradis* (2010) [*The Matisse Chapel: An Earthly Paradise*], which has only appeared in Danish, is about the French painter Henri Matisse and his work on a small chapel, *Chapelle du Rosaire des Dominicaines de Vence*, in the south of France. With a focus on four major works of art, it is demonstrated how Matisse brings his own artistic force into play with Christian ideas of paradise, purity, love, and suffering. It is argued that Matisse’s work on the Vence Chapel is not only a major work of art, but it also contributes significantly to contemporary conceptions of Christianity.

Bjarne S. Funch has written a great number of articles and other scholarly writings on art appreciation and art’s importance for emotional and existential integrity, as well as articles about ethics of confrontational drama in museums, the phenomenological method in museum studies, silence as an existential utopia, and on many other topics. He is currently participating in research projects on art curatorial studies at the Esbjerg Art Museum and on the aesthetic experience and the pre-reflective self at the University of Copenhagen. He is participating in research networks on existential-phenomenology, interdisciplinary aesthetics, and museum studies. He is a member of the American Society for Aesthetics, International Council of Museums, International Association of Empirical Aesthetics, European Society for Aesthetics, and Society for Existential-Phenomenology.

Ilana Gershon, Indiana University

*Residential Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)*

“Getting a Job in the Digital Age”

Ilana Gershon is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Indiana University. She is interested in how new media affects highly charged social tasks, such as breaking up or hiring in the United States. She has written about how people use new media to end romantic relationships in her book *The Breakup 2.0: Disconnecting over New Media*. Her current research addresses how new media affects hiring in the contemporary U.S. workplace.

She has a new edited volume, *A World of Work: Imagined Manuals for Real Jobs*, a collection of imagined job manuals for real jobs around the world, written for people who want to know how to be a professional wrestler in Mexico or a professional magician in Paris. She has also published *No Family Is an Island: Cultural Expertise among Samoans in Diaspora*, and edited special issues on topics ranging from ignorance, reflexivity, media ideologies, to the “newness” of new media. Her intellectual interests range from linguistic anthropology, science studies, media studies, legal anthropology, anthropology of democracy, and anthropology of work.
She has been a fellow at Stanford’s Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, a New Zealand Society fellow at Birkbeck College’s Center for New Zealand Studies, and received grants from the National Science Foundation, the Social Science Research Council and the Wenner-Gren Foundation. She has also co-organized a Mellon Sawyer Seminar on science and technology studies at Indiana University.

Kevin G. Grove, University of Cambridge, UK  
*Residential Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)*  
“Memory and the Whole Christ: Augustine and the Psalms”

Kevin Grove is a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and he completed his Ph.D. in Philosophical Theology at the University of Cambridge in 2015. He joins the NDIAS from L'Institut Catholique of Paris, where he was a post-doctoral researcher for spring semester 2015. A systematic theologian, his scholarship focuses on Christology, memory, St. Augustine, and the history and spirituality of Blessed Basil Moreau.

Grove has been invited to present his research in international contexts including England, Belgium, Poland, Malta, and France, in addition to the United States. The forthcoming publications from his research will appear from presses Ashgate, Brepols, LIT-Verlag, Verlag Friedrich Pustet, and the University of Notre Dame. Grove is also the co-editor of *Basil Moreau: Essential Writings* (2014) as well a regular writer of academic book reviews.

During Grove’s graduate studies, he was a member of Trinity College, Cambridge as well as a Gates Cambridge Scholar. He was the Rev. John Zahm, CSC, lecturer at the University of Portland for 2014. In addition to his academic activities, he served as Assistant Roman Catholic Chaplain to the University of Cambridge during his studies.

Tomáš Halík, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic  
*Templeton Fellow at the NDIAS (Fall 2015)*  

Msgr. Professor Ph.Dr. Tomáš Halík Th.D., Dr. h.c. is full professor of philosophy at Charles University in Prague (Institute of Philosophy and Religious Studies), and he specializes in philosophy of religion and sociology of religion, interreligious dialogue and dialogue between believers and nonbelievers. He is also president of the Czech Christian Academy (since 1990).
Professor Halík is the author of many books, in which he chiefly focuses on a spiritual diagnosis of our times and the dialogue between faith and atheism. His books have been published in 14 languages and received a number of awards. His book *Patience with God* received the prize for the best European Theological Book 2009/10 by the decision of European Society for Catholic Theology, and in the United States of America it was named book of the month in July 2010. His book *Nachtsgedanken eines Beichvaters (Night of the Confessor)* was selected to be the best theological book of July 2012 in Germany, and his book “*Berühre die Wunden*” (*Touch the Wounds*) was selected to be the best theological book of May 2013.

He has been a visiting professor at universities including Oxford and Cambridge, and he has lectured at a number of universities and international scholarly conferences in Europe, the United States of America, Asia, Australia, Canada, Latin America, and Southern Africa. He read annual lectures at Harvard University (The Inaugural Greeley Lecture 2009), at Cambridge University (von Huegel lecture 2005), at Calvin College (January Series 2001), at Catholic University Leuven (St. Thomas Feast 2013), etc. He was appointed a member of the European board of experts (Comate des sages) of the Commission of the Bishops’ Conferences of the European Community (COMECE) in Brussels (2006). He has been a member of the OSCE International Advisory Panel (since 2002).

In 1998 he was appointed a member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. In 1992, Pope John Paul II appointed him advisor to the Pontifical Council for Dialogue with Non-Believers and in 2009, Pope Benedict XVI granted him the title of Monsignor – Honorary Prelate of His Holiness.

Tomáš Halík has received several prizes at home and abroad for literature, for services to the cause of intercultural and interreligious dialogue, and for his promotion of human rights and spiritual freedom, including the Cardinal Koenig Prize (2003) and the Romano Guardini Prize (2010), the honorary title Man of Reconciliation 2010 for his contribution to dialogue between Christian and Jews, the Medal for intercultural and religious dialogue from the Islamic Fund, Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland (2012), and Templeton Prize 2014. In 2014 he received an honorary doctorate in theology from the University of Erfurt (Germany).

**Lawrence O. Hall, University of South Florida**

*Residential Fellow at the NDIAS (Fall 2015) and Melchor Visiting Professor of Engineering*

“Mining ‘Big Data’ for Small and Impactful Nuggets”

Lawrence O. Hall is a Distinguished University Professor and the Chair of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of South Florida. His research interests lie in distributed machine learning, extreme data mining, bioinformatics, pattern recognition and integrating AI into image processing. The
exploitation of imprecision with the use of fuzzy logic in pattern recognition, AI and learning is a research theme.

Hall has authored or co-authored over 80 publications in journals as well as many conference papers and book chapters. Recent publications have appeared in *IEEE Access, Pattern Recognition, IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems*, and the *Journal of Magnetic Resonance Imaging*. According to Google Scholar his research work has been cited over 12,000 times. He has received over 3M in research funding from agencies such as the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Department of Energy, NASA, etc.

He is a fellow of the IEEE, the AAAS, and IAPR. He received the Norbert Wiener award in 2012 from the IEEE SMC Society. In 2015 he was a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Technology, Sydney. He received the IEEE SMC Society Outstanding contribution award in 2008. He received an Outstanding Research achievement award from the University of South Florida in 2004. He is a past president of NAFIPS, the former vice president for membership of the SMC society, and he was the President of the IEEE Systems, Man and Cybernetics society for 2006-7.

He was the Editor-In-Chief of the IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man and Cybernetics, Part B, 2002-05. He served as the first Vice President for Publications of the IEEE Biometrics Council. He is currently on the IEEE Publications and Services Products Board and Chairs its Strategic Planning Committee. He also Chairs the IEEE PCC. Also, associate editor for IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems, International Journal of Intelligent Data Analysis, the International Journal of Pattern Recognition and Artificial Intelligence and International Journal of Approximate Reasoning. He is on the IEEE Access editorial board.

David Bentley Hart, St. Louis University  
*Templeton Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)*

“Mind and Nature, Soul and Machine”

David Hart’s most recent appointment is as the visiting Danforth chair of St. Louis University; he has also held positions at The University of Virginia, Duke University, and Providence College. His specialties are philosophical theology, systematics, patristics, classical and continental philosophy, and Asian religion. His most recent work has concerned the genealogy of classical and Christian metaphysics, ontology, the metaphysics of the soul, and the philosophy of mind.

Hart’s principal scholarly books are *The Beauty of the Infinite* (2003); *The Doors of the Sea* (2005); *In the Aftermath* (2007); *Atheist Delusions* (2009); and *The Experience of God* (2013). He has also published a popular history of Christianity (2007), a volume of short stories, and over 150 articles in such scholarly journals as *Modern Theology, The Scottish Journal of Theology*, and *Pro Ecclesia*, as well as in such trade publications as *The Times Literary Supplement, The Wall Street Journal, First Things*, and *Commonweal*. 
He is the winner of the 2011 Michael Ramsey Prize of the Church of England, and he has served as visiting chair both at Providence College and St. Louis University. He has also been an endowed fellow of the Center for Theological Inquiry in Princeton.

Mary M. Keys, University of Notre Dame

Residential Fellow at the NDIAS (Spring 2016)

“Pride, Politics, and Philosophy: The City of God and Augustine’s Apologia for Humility”

Mary M. Keys is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame, where she is also a Fellow of the Medieval Institute and the Nanovic Institute for European Studies. Her research and teaching interests span a broad spectrum of political theory and history of political philosophy, with a special focus in Christianity, ethics, and political thought.


Professor Keys’s research has been supported by fellowships and grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Earhart Foundation, the Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion at the University of Chicago, the National Association of Scholars, the Erasmus Institute, and the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts of Notre Dame. She has held visiting research positions at the University of Chicago’s Martin Marty Center and at Harvard University’s Center for the Study of Constitutional Government in the Government Department. Professor Keys has received an Edmund P. Joyce, C.S.C. Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching from the University of Notre Dame and a Best Paper in Politics and Literature Award from the American Political Science Association. In 2012 she gave a series of invited lectures at China’s Huazhong University of Science and Technology, and in 2014 invited lectures in Philosophy and Humanities at Emory University.
Henrike Moll, University of Southern California

Templeton Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)

“Towards a Transformative Account of Human Cognition”

Henrike Moll is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Southern California who studies the early social-cognitive abilities of human infants and young children. Most of her research deals with joint attention and the origins of perspective-taking. She tries to supplement her experimental investigations with philosophical inquiries.

She is co-author of more than thirty articles, which were published in high-profile journals like *Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, and *Developmental Science*, among others. Some of her writings have appeared in journals of philosophy such as *Deutsche Zeitschrift für Philosophie* and *Grazer Philosophische Studien*. One of the early theoretical papers she co-authored has been cited over 2,300 times.

Throughout her post-doctoral studies, the Volkswagen Foundation funded Professor Moll’s work with the prestigious *Dilthey Fellowship*. In 2011, she was awarded the *Young Mind and Brain Prize* from the University of Turin. In the same year, she was elected a member of the *Young Academy*, a German science academy for junior scholars. She was also elected an external faculty member of the *Berlin School of Mind and Brain* at Humboldt-University.

Jaime M. Pensado, University of Notre Dame

Residential Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)

“Catholic Youth in Cold War Mexico”

Jaime M. Pensado is Carl E. Koch Associate Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame. He specializes in contemporary Mexican history, student movements, youth culture, the sixties, and the Cold War. He is currently working on a second book project that examines Catholic Youth in Cold War Mexico.

Professor Pensado’s research has received the support from the Mellon Foundation and the Latin American Studies Department at Lehigh University. At Notre Dame, he is the Co-Director of the Mexico Working Group (MWG), the Director of the Latin American Studies Program (LASP), and a fellow of the Institute for Latino Studies (ILS) and the Kellogg Institute for International Studies.

Aleta Quinn, University of Pittsburgh

*Residential Fellow at the NDIAS (Fall 2015)*

“Hypotheses and Inference in Biological Systematics”

Aleta Quinn graduated from the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Pittsburgh in 2015.

She is a philosopher of science with research interests in the history and philosophy of biology and the role of values in science. Her research has focused on systematics, the science that discovers biodiversity.

She has published in the *Journal of Mammalogy, Mammalian Species Accounts,* and *Zookeys.* She is co-author of “Taxonomic Revision of the Olingos (*Bassaricyon*), with Description of a New Species, the Olinguito” (2013). The discovery of the Olinguito received the 2014 Top 10 New Species Award from the International Institute for Species Exploration.

Her research awards include a Smithsonian Institution Predoctoral Fellowship and a Provost’s Development Fund Award from the University of Pittsburgh.

Otto Santa Ana, University of California Los Angeles

*Templeton Fellow at the NDIAS (2015-2016)*

“Toward Consilience in our Accounting of Human Laughter and Humor”

Otto Santa Ana is Professor in the César Chávez Department of Chicana/o Studies at the University of California Los Angeles. As a critical discourse analyst, he studies how the mass media reinforces unjust social relations, from newspapers to television news to mass media humor. As a sociolinguist, he has written widely about the languages of Latinos in the classroom and the community.

His most recent monograph is *Juan in a Hundred: Representation of Latinos on Network News* (2013). His latest anthology (co-edited with Celeste González de Bustamante) is *Arizona Firestorm: Global Immigration Realities, National Media & Provincial Politics* (2012). His first edited volume, *Tongue-Tied: The lives of multilingual children in U.S. public education,* is used in dozens of schools of education and has received exceptional critical reviews. His first
monograph, *Brown Tide Rising: Metaphoric Representations of Latinos in Contemporary Public Discourse*, is often considered a definitive critical discourse analysis on the topic. He has published more than 40 articles and scholarly writings.

His two monographs have received national awards. *Juan in a Hundred* was awarded the 2013 Ralph J. Bunche Award of the American Political Science Association for the best scholarly work in political science that explores ethnic and cultural pluralism. *Brown Tide Rising* was awarded the American Political Science Association Best Book on Ethnic and Racial Political Ideology 2002.

He has previously received fellowships from the Rockefeller Foundation and the Ford Foundation, as well as an award from the National Endowment for Humanities.