HSS

2017-2018
NEXT STEPS

This June, Caltech hosts its 124th annual commencement ceremony, and the Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences celebrates another group of outstanding graduate students and postdoctoral fellows as they depart to take their "next steps." Please join us in wishing them well in their future endeavors!

RYO ADACHI
Data Analyst, DeNA

After successfully defending his thesis, *Computational and Neural Mechanisms Underlying Decision-Making In Humans*, Adachi received his PhD in January of this year. His advisor was John O'Doherty. Since leaving HSS, he started working as a data analyst at DeNA, a gaming, e-commerce and entertainment content distribution company based in Tokyo, Japan.

MARCELO FERNANDEZ
Assistant Professor of Economics, Johns Hopkins University

During his final year in HSS's Social Sciences PhD program, Fernandez received an HSS Chair's Council Graduate Fellowship and successfully defended his thesis, *Essays on Market Design*, with Federico Echenique as his advisor. In the fall, Fernandez will join the faculty of Johns Hopkins University as an assistant professor of economics.

LI SONG
Business Development Consultant, Xenon Health

After completing her dissertation, *Three Essays on Mechanism Design*, last summer, with Leeat Yariv as her advisor, Song is now a business development consultant for Xenon Health. In her new role, she analyzes and designs digital marketing strategies for the company and provides technical support for the website and application development.

JUN CHEN
Assistant Professor of Finance, Renmin University of China School of Business

Chen receives his PhD this month after a successful defense of his thesis, *Essays on Early-stage Financing and Firm Behavior*, with Michael Ewens and Jean-Laurent Rosenthal as his advisors. As a graduate student in HSS, he was awarded a 2017-2018 Linde Institute Graduate Fellowship to support his studies. Chen will start his new position as an assistant professor of finance at the Renmin University of China School of Business this fall.

LUCAS NÚÑEZ
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University

Núñez graduates this month after completing his dissertation, *Unobserved Heterogeneity in Observational Studies of Political Behavior*, with Michael Alvarez as his advisor. During his final year of graduate studies, he received an HSS Chair's Council Fellowship to support his research on statistical methods and political behavior. Núñez has accepted a position as an assistant professor of political science at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University, starting August 2018.

PENGFEI SUI
Assistant Professor of Finance, School of Management and Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen

Sui receives his PhD this month after successfully defending his thesis, *Essays on Investor Beliefs and Asset Pricing*, with Lawrence Jin as his advisor. He received a Linde Institute Graduate Fellowship during his final year in HSS. This fall, Sui will start as an assistant professor of finance at the School of Management and Economics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen.

MALI ZHANG
Consultant, Boston Consulting Group

This spring, Zhang successfully defended her thesis, entitled, *Information and Strategic Decision-Making in the Oil and Gas Industry: An Empirical Assessment*, with Matt Shum as her advisor. In her final year, Zhang was a Clarence J. Hicks Scholar. After Caltech, she will join the Boston Consulting Group.

WOLFGANG MARTIN PAULI
Artificial Intelligence Developer, Microsoft Research Artificial Intelligence

Postdoctoral Scholar in Neuroscience Pauli spent the last few years in HSS, working in the O'Doherty lab. His research focused on the neural computational mechanisms of human decision-making, particularly regarding the role of inference about decision-structure in choice performance. Since leaving HSS, he joined Microsoft Research Artificial Intelligence (MSR AI) in Washington.

DIRK SCHEELE
Postdoctoral Scholar, Klinik und Poliklinik für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie, University of Bonn

Scheele was a postdoctoral scholar in the Adolph's lab where he worked on a project in social neuroscience involving fMRI studies in autism. In March, he left HSS to start another postdoctoral scholar position at the Klinik und Poliklinik für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie (Clinic and Polyclinic for Psychiatry and Psychotherapy) at the University of Bonn in Germany.

JURI MINXHA
Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Neuroscience, Columbia University

Minxha has been a postdoctoral scholar in neuroscience with the Adolphs lab. After receiving his PhD from the Computation and Neural Systems graduate program at Caltech, he continued his research in face processing with single-unit recordings from the human amygdala. This summer, he will take up another postdoctoral scholar position in the department of neuroscience at Columbia University.

KEITH PLUYMERS
Assistant Professor of History, Illinois State University

As the inaugural Howard E. and Susanne C. Jessen Postdoctoral Instructor in the Humanities, Pluymers taught several undergraduate courses focused on environmental history. He was the recipient of teaching awards from both HSS and the Associated Students of the California Institute of Technology (ASCIT). Pluymers' first book project, under contract with the University of Pennsylvania Press, examines ideas about wood scarcity and English colonial expansion into Ireland and the Atlantic World during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. In the fall, he will become an assistant professor of history at Illinois State University.

ANITA TUSCHE
Assistant Professor, Queen's University

As a postdoctoral scholar in neuroeconomics in the Adolph's lab, Tusche's research focuses on computational and neurobiological foundations of altruism, including the design of fMRI experiments, collection of data, and sophisticated statistical analyses. Later this year, she will join the faculty of Queen's University in Ontario, Canada, as an assistant professor in the economics and psychology departments.

CLASS OF 2018

Among the seniors expected to graduate in June, 15 percent (36 out of 241) are completing an option (major) or minor in the humanities or social sciences. One student chose to pursue Business, Economics, and Management (BEM) as his first and only option. Twenty-seven students selected one of our tracks for their second option (double major): nine in BEM, two in English, 12 in History, and four in Philosophy. And eight students completed a humanities minor: four in English, two in History, and two in Philosophy.