

2016–2017

# NEW FACES

We are pleased to introduce the new faculty, postdocs, students, and staff who are arriving in the Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences between July 1, 2016, and June 30, 2107. Please welcome them to HSS!



## MAURA DYKSTRA

*Assistant Professor of History*

Dykstra joined Caltech after spending last year as an An Wang postdoctoral fellow at Harvard's Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies. She received her PhD from UCLA in 2014. She is fluent in modern and classical Chinese, and her research interests include legal and economic history, as well as the history of the transition from the late imperial to the modern Chinese state.

## SARAH GRONNINGSATER

*Assistant Professor of History*

Gronningsater is a historian of the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century United States, with a focus on slavery and abolition. She works at the intersections of legal, political, constitutional, and social history. She earned her PhD from the University of Chicago in 2014. Her current book project is titled *The Arc of Abolition: The Children of Gradual Emancipation and the Origins of National Freedom*.



## DEAN MOBBS

*Assistant Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience*

Previously an assistant professor of psychology at Columbia University, Mobbs joined the HSS neuroscience faculty this summer. He received his PhD from University College London in 2008. He is interested in the intersection of behavioral ecology, economics, emotion, and social psychology. His awards include the APS Janet Taylor Spence Award for Transformative Early Career Contributions (2015) and the NARSAD Young Investigator award (2015).



## LUCIANO POMATTO

*Assistant Professor of Economics*

Pomatto is a theorist interested in understanding economic interactions in situations of uncertainty. His research focuses on matching markets with incomplete information, the theory of Bayesian learning, the problem of strategic forecasting, and the evaluation of aggregate risk. Prior to his arrival in HSS, Pomatto was a postdoctoral associate at Yale University's Cowles Foundation for Research in Economics after earning his PhD from Northwestern University in 2015.



## STEFANO GATTEI

*Eleanor Searle Visiting Instructor in History*

Gattei joins HSS for the 2016–2017 academic year to teach two courses and continue his work on contemporary issues in the philosophy of science. His varied research interests include Karl Popper and critical rationalism, Thomas Kuhn and the incommensurability thesis, the rationality of theory-change and conceptual change, and truth and relativism.



## LYNDA NEAD

*Moore Distinguished Scholar*

Nead will visit Caltech during the spring term of 2017 from Birkbeck, University of London, where she is the Pevsner Chair of History of Art. Her work focuses on the history of British art, and her books on the topic include *Victorian Babylon: People, Streets and Images in Nineteenth-Century London* (2000). Nead is also interested in contemporary art and curated the recent exhibition "The Fallen Woman" at the Foundling Museum in London, which brought in record attendance.



## LEAH KLEMENT

*Caltech-Huntington Humanities Collaborations Postdoctoral Instructor*

Klement is joining HSS after earning a PhD in comparative literature from Princeton University in 2015. Her other interests include premodern concepts of indigeneity, ethnicity, and political belonging; the medieval classical commentary tradition and textual transmission; and medieval Irish language and literature. Klement will split her time for the next two years between Caltech and The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens as part of the new Caltech-Huntington Humanities Collaborations (CHHC) program.



## BETTINA KOCH

*Caltech-Huntington Humanities Collaborations Fellow*

Also here for the 2016–2017 academic year as part of the CHHC program, Koch is currently an associate professor at Virginia Tech. Her research interests include Western and non-Western political theory; issues related to the interaction of politics and religion; political violence in trans-cultural comparison; the concept of terrorism as a topic in political theory; and mass-surveillance-related topics.



## CINDY HAGAN

*Research Assistant Professor of Neuroscience*

Hagan joins HSS as a member of the Adolphs Lab, coming most recently from Columbia University. In her research, she uses cognitive neuroscience tools to understand the neural basis of psychiatric illness. Hagan's current work focuses on how emotional processing contributes to psychopathology, with a particular emphasis on stress and fear systems.



## ALETA QUINN

*Ahmanson Postdoctoral Instructor in Philosophy of Science*

Quinn is joining HSS for two years after receiving her PhD in history and philosophy of science at the University of Pittsburgh in 2015. Her research explores the relationship between evolutionary theory and systematics. She is also interested in the role of social values in science, particularly in the contexts of conservation biology and biomedical research.



## FRANCESCO LANFRANCHI

*Graduate Student*

Lanfranchi received both his BS and MSc from Bocconi University in Italy, where he focused on economics and the social sciences. His research interests include behavioral economics, political economy, behavioral and social neuroscience, and economic theory.



## CAROLINE J. CHARPENTIER

*Postdoctoral Scholar in Neuroscience*

Charpentier received her PhD in cognitive neuroscience from University College London. Her research delves into the behavioral and neural mechanisms underlying human information seeking and how positive versus negative emotional contexts can influence our decisions to seek or avoid information. She will continue her research as a member of the O'Doherty Lab.



## SONG QI

*Graduate Student*

Using ecologically inspired paradigms and such brain-imaging techniques as fMRI, Qi is interested in understanding the neural dynamics behind fear/anxiety-driven behaviors. He received his BS in electrical engineering and biomedical engineering from the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China and his MSc in psychology from Columbia University, where he studied with Dean Mobbs.



## EMRECAN BUYURUCU

*Graduate Student*

Buyurucu has studied real analysis, graph theory, measure theory, and probability theory, and he would like to learn more about experimental economics and matching theory at Caltech. He received his BS in economics at Middle East Technical University and completed an MA in economics at Koç University in Istanbul.



## FANGYI "LULU" XU

*Graduate Student*

Xu earned her BS in mathematics and psychology from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. She is interested in behavioral and experimental economics research.



## SABA DEVDARIANI

*Graduate Student*

Devdariani earned his MA from the International School of Economics at Tbilisi State University in the country of Georgia. He wrote his master's thesis on matching theory, and his other areas of interest include microeconomics, game theory, mechanism design, and industrial organization.

## FLORENTINE "TYNA" ELOUNDOU NEKOUL

*Graduate Student*

After receiving her BA in economics from Cornell University, Eloundou Nekoul worked as an associate economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Her research interests include microeconomic theory, mechanism design, behavioral and experimental economics, contract theory, development, and networks/matching markets.



## SHIYU ZHANG

*Graduate Student*

Zhang is interested in international economics, development economics, and mathematical finance. She received her BA in mathematics and economics from Claremont McKenna College. Her most recent research project studied the relationship between the Chinese equity market and real-estate market.



## LINDSEY GAILMARD

*Graduate Student*

Gailmard holds two master's degrees: one in public policy from the Harris School of Public Policy Studies at the University of Chicago and another in political science from UC Berkeley. Among her research interests are applied game theory and American politics, including candidate selection in electoral agency problems in which voters and interest groups compete to influence a representative's behavior.

## HANNA STORLIE

*Communications and Events Coordinator*

Storlie started working at Caltech in 2009 for the Division of Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy. Since then, she received her BS in communications/public relations from Cal Poly Pomona. Her responsibilities in HSS include maintaining the division websites, promoting division news and events, and helping to organize special events.



## KISOO KIM

*Graduate Student*

Kim's research interests lie in political economy, media, voting, information, and political institutions. During his graduate studies, he would like to focus on the role of information in the democratic political process. He received his BA in economics and mathematics from Rice University.

