



EDMOND & LILY SAFRA  
Center for Ethics

# ANNUAL

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# REPORT



2021 - 2022

## About the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics



The Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics seeks to **strengthen** teaching and research about pressing ethical issues; to **foster** sound norms of ethical reasoning and civic discussion; and to **share** the work of our community in the public interest.

Widespread ethical lapses of leaders in government, business and other professions prompt demands for more and better moral education. More fundamentally, the increasing complexity of public life—the scale and range of problems and the variety of knowledge required to deal with them—make ethical issues more difficult, even for people of good moral character. Not only are the ethical issues we face more complex, but the people we face them with are more diverse, increasing the frequency and intensity of our ethical disagreements.

Given these changes in the United States and in societies around the globe, the Center seeks to help meet the growing need for teachers, scholars, and leaders who address questions of moral choice across many of the professions and in public life more generally, and promotes a perspective on ethics informed by both theory and practice. We explore the connection between the problems that professionals confront and the social and political structures in which they act. More generally, we address the ethical issues that all citizens face as they make the choices that profoundly affect the present and future of their societies in our increasingly interdependent world.

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## In Memoriam: Mrs. Lily Safra



Mrs. Lily Safra died on July 9, 2022 at her home in Geneva, surrounded by her family and loved ones.

Mrs. Safra was a constant friend of Harvard's Center for Ethics, embracing the role of principal benefactor and endowing the Center in her husband's name in 2004. In 2015, Mrs. Safra became our Center's only Edmond J. Safra Honorary Fellow in Ethics. From the beginning, she recognized the importance of the Center's mission, both at Harvard and beyond, and encouraged our activities and growth. She has been a presiding spirit for all that we do. This past year, we were proud to rename the Center to honor her, too. We are now the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics.

As one of the world's leading philanthropists, Mrs. Safra supported organizations dedicated to ethics, education, medicine and medical research, arts and culture, humanitarian relief, and religion for over twenty years through the philanthropic foundation established by and named for her late husband, Edmond. She was unflinching in her generosity toward the causes that she held most dear, and her philanthropy was life-changing.

"Mrs. Lily Safra graced Harvard with dedicated support for extending teaching, research, and practice in ethics and public affairs across the whole University," said Harvard President **Lawrence Bacow**. "Her exemplary philanthropy has helped us set a leadership standard in higher education for a commitment to the study of ethics on university campuses."

Mrs. Safra was careful in her philanthropy, always targeting transformational opportunities. "Lily Safra's philanthropy was visionary for us," said founding Director of the Center for Ethics, **Dennis F. Thompson**. "Her initial support for the Center came at a critical point and helped us become an enduring part of Harvard's intellectual life."

We extend our sincerest condolences to her family, friends, and loved ones. We will always carry in our hearts gratitude for her generosity and love of humankind. May her memory be a blessing to all those her extraordinary life touched.

# Letter from the Acting Director



12 August 2022

Dear Friends of the Center,

What an honor and pleasure to serve as Acting Director during **Danielle's** public service leave this past year.

This was the year we finally were able to gather in person. **Professor Pamela Hieronymi** joined us from California to deliver the Annual Kissel Lecture in Ethics, and for the Mala and Solomon Kamm Lecture in Ethics, **Professor Seth Lazar** traveled from Australia. Our Undergraduate, Graduate, Visiting, and Pedagogy Fellows all met in person at the Center to discuss their work. Our Fellows-in-Residence were truly in residence.

Thanks to the care of the Center's staff, we were able to make this transition with attention to the health and safety of our community. Thanks also to the dedication of our team and with the addition of new hires, we continued to make significant progress in advancing the Center's mission across and beyond the University—in teaching and research on ethics and civic education through the newly formed Design Studio

for Ethics and Civics Pedagogy led by **Meira Levinson** and in the policy space through the Justice, Health, and Democracy Impact Initiative (JHD).

Through all this, three themes stood out.

The first was an imperative to address headfirst the pressing issues of the day. In the opening lecture of the year, **Professor Olúfemi O. Táíwò** addressed the topic of reparations as a global project, thus requiring consideration of climate justice. The Civil Disagreement Series sponsored two public sessions, one on guns in America and the other on public safety and policing, and in the Kissel Lecture, **Professor Hieronymi** took up the ethics of public blame. During their fellowship year, the Fellows-in-Residence wrote about everything from Black trauma to predictive policing to the ethics of civil disobedience in the face of COVID-19 health restrictions and mandates.

In reflection of this first theme, this year we launched a new workstream to promote economic dignity and security for all Americans under JHD. The lack of economic inclusivity remains a pressing issue – both exacerbated by and exacerbating the fragility of our public institutions. This workstream builds on the Center's previous efforts in justice and political economy. The organizing idea is that while jobs and income remain key, it is through community wealth building at the municipal level that economic dignity and security can be realized for all. It is here that the practitioner focus of JHD comes into full effect through engaging not only policy makers, but also civil society organizations and business.

The second theme this year was a continued emphasis on technology and its responsible use and development. This emphasis should come as no surprise. Technology companies are among the largest corporations today, and their products and services permeate our personal and public lives bringing significant benefits and risks. The topic of **Professor Lazar's** Kamm Lecture was “The Nature and Justification of Algorithmic Power.” The Center hosted

**Professor Amanda Greene**, who presented her work on digital legitimacy, and **Frances Haugen** of Facebook-whistleblowing fame, who met with students and faculty across Harvard, including the College, the Divinity School, the Law School, SEAS, and the Business School. **Eric Beerbohm** and **Jeff Behrends** also hosted **Professors Rob Reich, Mehran Sahami, and Jeremy Weinstein** in Quincy House to discuss their book, *System Error: Where Big Tech Went Wrong and How We Can Reboot*.

In addition to these events and our ongoing work on the use of digital technologies in the public sphere, this year we extended our collaborations across the University to address the responsibility of business in the development and deployment of emerging technologies. We closed the year by partnering with the Carr Center for Human Rights and the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society to host a convening of experts and U.S. government officials in the updating of the U.S. National Action Plan for Responsible Business Conduct. Through the National Action Plan, the U.S. Government “encourages businesses to achieve high standards of responsible business conduct and champions U.S. businesses that demonstrate best practices in that regard.” When drafted in 2016, the National Action Plan did not address conduct in the technology sector. Our aim is to use the occasion of its updating to call attention to the outsize role played today by technology companies and to develop concrete recommendations for the U.S. government to realize responsible business conduct in the sector.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication and support of Center staff, faculty, fellows, and affiliates, which brings me to the third theme: community. Ever since I was a Graduate Fellow at the Center twenty-five years ago, a strong sense of community has long struck me as what makes our Center so distinctive and special. Grounded in a shared commitment to ethics, our sense of community serves as the foundation for the Center’s work in terms of motivation and direction. Your work and support made my transition to Acting Director seamless and my time in that role a real joy.

And it is on this theme of community that I close with a moment of remembrance and sadness. On February 14, 2022, a funeral was held for **Sungho Kimlee**, who was a Fellow-in-Residence and Berggruen Fellow in 2018-2019. Sungho had wide-ranging interests, including the history of democratic institutions and self-cultivation in ancient Greece, China, and India. Ever thoughtful and gracious, he touched the lives of so many in just a few years as part of our community.

Then, just having finished my time as Acting Director, we learned of the passing of **Mrs. Lily Safra** on July 9, 2022. A longtime friend and benefactor of the Center, Mrs. Safra made possible all that we do thanks to her generous spirit and dedicated leadership. She will be deeply missed, and we hope to continue her legacy as we transition to a new name: **the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics**.

Best regards,

**Nien-hê Hsieh**

Kim B. Clark Professor of Business Administration  
Harvard Business School

# Fellowships

## Fellows-in-Residence



### Adoulou Bitang

During his year at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics, and at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research as a joint Fellow-in-Residence, Adoulou Bitang worked on a paper titled, “The Color of Technoscience: Transhu-

manism and the Question of Race,” which addresses one of the most pressing issues related to the use of science and technology in the 21st century. The paper explores the unstated, though clearly perceptible, racial content of transhumanism, the scientific, philosophical, and social movement that advocates the intensive use of science and technology to overcome the biological limitations of human beings to the point where it would be possible to purposively “enhance evolution.” In short, transhumanists seek a better world inhabited by better humans and other creatures, and they argue that science and technology are humanity’s best allies in this quest. The paper shows that this transhumanist goal can be traced back to European Enlightenment, in a way that is not a coincidence but a tacit perpetuation of the endeavor of the later movement’s major tendency in modern and more politically correct guises. In this light, transhumanism appears to share the conceptual failures of European Enlightenment, the most striking being the restrictive concept of the “human” that is at work in both doctrines. This restrictive concept, Adoulou argues, explains how transhumanism makes a room for the revival of a threatening idea such as eugenics, a theory that historically had an interest in discriminating between individuals and people based on racial criteria. Finally engaging in depth with David Pearce’s “Abolitionist Project,” Adoulou ultimately contends that rather than preventing racial injustices and inequalities, such a project, considered in its most radical development and in keeping with the enlightened heritage of transhumanist doctrine, could reinforce and perpetuate them. This might not happen anytime soon, but the ethical issues raised by the ever-increasing impact of technology in our world need to be discussed in this century in order to prevent disastrous, yet plausible, consequences.

This project, which differs slightly from what Adoulou originally envisioned, has benefited from early informal comments and suggestions by **Nien-hê Hsieh**, and **Mathias Risse**, as well as formal comments from the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics and Hutchins Center for African and African American Research fellows, who provided precious feedback at the seminar and colloquium where it was presented and discussed. Adoulou is currently working on turning this project into a book.

During his fellowship, Adoulou contributed to a book (hopefully forthcoming in late 2022), to the *Cahiers philosophiques d’Afrique* (under review), and worked on a book manuscript on the Cameroonian philosopher **Fabien Eboussi Boulaga**. He was appointed guest editor of an issue of the *Indian Journal for Comparative Literature and Aesthetics* on African philosophy. Adoulou will be a Fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Tel-Aviv University in Israel, for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Adoulou would like to express his deep gratitude to **Danielle** for her constant support over the years, to **Nien-hê** for his advice and suggestions, to **Mathias** for his guidance, to **Emily** and **Maggie** for their invaluable dedication and assistance, to **Steph** and **Susan** for their reminders, to **Jess** for her calming conversations, and to all the fellows for their uplifting camaraderie.

Adoulou would probably not have applied for this fellowship at the Center without the enthusiastic encouragement of his friend-and-brother, and 2018-2019 Berggruen Fellow-in-Residence, **Sungho Kimlee**, who sadly passed away during the winter 2022. Adoulou dedicates this year at the Center to his lovely memory.

### Alexander Bryan

Over the course of the Fellowship year, Alexander Bryan advanced his research across an existing program of work engaging with the conceptualization of unfreedom and injustice



in markets and in a new project on the ethical and political dimensions of political resistance. Overall, Alexander developed four new papers currently under review, on topics ranging from the articulation of a right to resist domination to the impermissibility of temporary labour migration programs. In March, Alexander presented one of these papers, on the epistemic dimensions of civil disobedience, at the seminar at the Center, receiving very helpful suggestions from commentators **Candice Delmas** and **Arthur Applbaum** and other members of the Center community.

Alexander published two papers this year. One of these, published in the *European Journal of Political Theory*, provided an account of the kinds of property relations which can be accepted by those who adopt the neo-republican conception of freedom as non-domination, while the other (co-authored with **Ioannis Kouris**, and published in *Res Publica*), argued that exploitation should be conceived as a form of domination. He also presented papers at a number of conferences and workshops this year, including the APA Central in February, a workshop on rights differentiation in migration at KU Leuven in May, and the Joint Sessions of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association in July. In the Spring semester, Alexander audited the graduate course “Topics in Political Philosophy” in the Philosophy Department taught by **Lucas Stanczyk**, which engaged with normative issues concerning climate change.

Alexander would like to thank his fellow Fellows and everyone else across the E.L. Safra community for creating an exciting and supportive intellectual culture, from which he greatly benefitted. He would in particular like to thank the staff at the Center, who have been generous and supportive while steering the Center through this difficult year.



### **Klaas H. Eller**

Assistant Professor of European Private Law, University of Amsterdam

During his fellowship, Klaas Eller has worked on two main lines of research. First, he expanded his work on the distributive effects and legal architecture of global supply chains to analyze

how the latest disruptions during the pandemic and the war in Ukraine can be mitigated by legal means. One draft article identifies the emerging narrative of “resilience” of global production as a functionalist shift away from previous aspirations of “sustainability.” He also published a chapter engaging with antitrust perspectives to tackle the looming global food supply crisis. In April, he presented a

draft on changing paradigms of corporate accountability along supply chains at the Center’s Faculty Seminar, receiving helpful comments from **Galit Sarfaty** and **Meredith Dost**. Moreover, Klaas has been involved in the political debate around the European Commission’s draft legislation on supply chain due diligence. During those debates, Klaas emphasized the immeasurable influence Harvard University professor **John Ruggie** had on the creation and entrenchment of these rules. Lastly, he submitted a successful application for a three-year ‘VENI’ grant to the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) for a project titled “Recoding Global Production: Towards a Legal Ethnography of Global Supply Chains.” It investigates how global supply chains are legally coded and how companies organize compliance.

In addition, the fellowship allowed Klaas to lay the groundwork for a new project on the role of (private) law in shaping urban space. He is interested here in how private law connects cities to transnational economic dynamics, e.g., by structuring investment flows in housing and infrastructure. He completed a first article on financialization of housing markets in Europe and has built connections with housing rights activists and networks in the Boston area and elsewhere.

Throughout the year, Klaas has presented his work at a dozen of conferences and colloquia in the U.S. and in Europe and has himself organized two bigger conferences on the intersections of law with political economy. Klaas is deeply grateful for a year of stimulating intellectual exchange, exciting encounters, and benevolent support that made the E.L. Safra Center community a truly unique academic home.

### **Willa Granger**

Incoming Assistant Professor of Architectural History, Florida Atlantic University



Willa Granger joined the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics after completing her doctoral degree in Architectural History at the University of Texas at Austin. As a Fellow-in-Residence, Willa not only found community for the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis, but she was also

challenged to develop and defend her interdisciplinary work amongst a truly interdisciplinary group of scholars. She will remain forever grateful to the E.L. Safra Center staff, faculty, and “fellow Fellows” for supporting her research.

During her tenure, Willa developed her dissertation into a



book proposal which is currently under review at a university press. A chapter from this larger manuscript titled “Eldercare at the Margins: Keeping up to Code at the Stephen Smith Home,” was published in the peer-reviewed journal of the Pennsylvania Historical Society. She also used her time to develop an additional chapter from this manuscript, “Bialystok on East Broadway: Migration, Eldercare, and the Immigrant Home for the Aged,” which is presently under review at a scholarly journal. Willa was invited to workshop this latter chapter as part of the Harvard Urban Mellon Initiative, where **Dr. Ann Forsyth** of the Graduate School of Design served as a respondent.

Willa also used her time at the E.L. Safra Center to develop a second project, “Environment is Everything: Embodied Knowledge, Participatory Praxis, and the Ethics of Long-Term Care Design.” With the help of **Dr. Lachlan Farrow**, as well as other senior-care professionals throughout the Boston area, Willa conceptualized an interview study designed to engage residents in long-term care settings. This project, couched in the present pandemic moment and the failings of institutional eldercare, focuses on questions of environmental perceptions and spatial practices, ultimately with an eye towards notions of patient autonomy and participatory design outcomes for long-term care. **Dr. Jen Molinsky** (Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies) and **Dr. Simone Gubler** (University of Nevada, Reno) further helped her to develop this project as part of her Fellow-in-Residence seminar in December of 2021, as well as **Dr. Katrina Forrester**, who provided editorial feedback. In March of 2022, “Environment is Everything” received expedited IRB approval, and Willa began conducting interviews a month thereafter. She will continue collecting data until the end of June, at which point she will begin transcribing, coding, and workshopping some of her findings at various conferences in the upcoming academic year.

As a Fellow-in-Residence, Willa also found time and space for her professional development, serving on the Papers Committee for the Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF) and the Awards Committee for the Southeastern Society of Architectural Historians. She was elected as a Board Member to the VAF in May of 2022. Willa will soon begin a tenure track position at Florida Atlantic University.

## Françoise Hamlin

Royce Family Associate Professor of Teaching Excellence in Africana Studies & History, Brown University



During this fellowship year, Françoise Hamlin made progress on her book, *Freedom's Cost: Children and Youth in the Black Freedom Struggle*. The book focuses on a diverse array of African American experiences and epistemologies, particularly during struggles for freedom and equality through two primary filters: how we might repay the costs of freedom and how we tell the stories through an ethical lens. At the Center, Hamlin wrote and presented a core chapter of the book as discussions enriched the conversation around the ethics of research, the ethics of care, and an acknowledgment of black trauma. In addition, Hamlin prepared an out-of-print autobiography by a Mississippi civil rights activist for re-publication later this calendar year.

## Max Khan Hayward

Lecturer, University of Sheffield



Max Hayward is extremely grateful to the Center for this year. He has been able to take on an ambitious program of research that would not otherwise have been possible, as well as travelling extensively to conferences and workshops, making valuable professional connections in the Boston area, and expanding his profile as a public philosopher. More than anything, he loved the intellectual environment of the Center.

During the course of the year, he completed and submitted one paper in metaethics on moral realism and anti-realism, which he presented at Ludwig Maximilians University in Munich, and wrote another, which he presented to a working group in London, and will be presenting next academic year at the University of Glasgow and Trinity College Dublin. He also made progress on two further papers in this area, one destined for *Philosophy Compass* and the other for an edited volume.

He started a new research project in normative ethics, on utilitarianism, rationality and cooperation; he is close to completing two papers on this, one of which he presented at

the Center, at the University of Toronto, and at the University of York. He will also be presenting this paper next year at the University of Stirling.

These ideas about cooperation and rationality are also the basis for two new papers in applied ethics, one on political resistance and the other on the effects of digital virtual worlds on urban life. He will be presenting these papers at conferences in the summer and autumn.

Since Max finds the most time-consuming part of a project to be the initial research and drafting, he is pleased that all of these projects are in a state where he can simply work on expanding and polishing them over the next year.

He also published an essay in *The Atlantic* on happiness, and has a piece coming out next month in *The New Statesman* presenting his ideas about the competition between digital and urban spaces.



**Renee Jorgensen**  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy,  
University of Michigan

During this fellowship year, Renee Jorgensen completed the first full draft manuscript of her book, *Rewriting Rights: Making Reasonable Mistakes in a Social World* (Oxford University Press).

The book concerns how to balance the moral interests of people who unintentionally make mistakes about whether someone was consenting or whether self-defensive harm was necessary, on the one hand, against the moral interests of the victims of such mistakes, on the other. It argues that the standards typically used in contemporary moral and legal theorizing perpetuate pernicious social norms and proposes that we re-frame the task as requiring us to find a set of coordination practices that minimize and fairly distribute the risk of making or suffering such a mistake. The Center held a workshop on the manuscript in April, at which **Adam Hosein** and **Anni Raty** gave generous and helpful comments.

As a joint fellow with the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, Jorgensen made progress on a research project on the use of algorithmic tools in criminal justice contexts, presenting a paper on predictive policing at the Center's Fellows Seminar (with generous comments from **Lily Hu** and **Sharad Goel**), and giving a paper on algorithmic risk assessment tools at the Harvard Law School.

She also presented work outside the Harvard community,

giving colloquia at Queens' University, Syracuse University, Pampeu Fabra University in Barcelona, and the University of California at Davis, and presenting papers at the Manchester Center for Political Theory Workshop on Rights, Eastern and Central meetings of the American Philosophical Association, and at specialist workshops at Northwestern University, Northeastern University, and the University of Notre Dame.

## Takunda Matose

Assistant Professor, Department  
of Philosophy, Loyola University  
Chicago



During this fellowship year, Takunda completed two co-authored book chapters, "Pandemics and Race," forthcoming in *Ethical Health Policy Within Disease Pandemics* and "Analytic Philosophy of Race," forthcoming in the *Cambridge Handbook of Analytic Philosophy*. He also began work on another book chapter, "Contemporary Public Health Challenges in Africa," forthcoming in *International Public Health Policy and Ethics*. Additionally, Takunda completed a draft of "The Serena Problem: Racial Health Disparities and the Limits of Distributive Justice," currently under review. Takunda also completed drafts of three conference papers, "The Anti-Vaxxer as a Moral Equal: Democracy, Legitimation, and the Harm of Individual Freedom," "Towards a Relational Paradigm for Justice in Health Care," and "Meeting Health Needs: A Proposal for a Sound Normative Basis for the Global Allocation of Health Resources." These papers were accepted for presentation at the World Congress of Bioethics, Feminist Approaches to Bioethics, and the Oxford Global Bioethics International conferences. During the year, Takunda also completed a draft of his seminar paper, "Reconsidering Fairness: Equality, Justice, and the Fair Allocation of Scarce Health Care Resources," and appreciates everyone's feedback and engagement particularly from commenters **Kelsey Berry** and **Govind Persad**.

Additionally, Takunda moderated a discussion on "Bioethics and World-making" for the New Museum's exhibition of Lynn Hershman Leeson's work. Takunda was also honored to serve as a panelist for a discussion on "A Physician's Duty to Treat: Rethinking Medical Ethics in Carceral Spaces," co-sponsored by the Center. Most importantly, Takunda forged treasured and meaningful connections with several fellows, faculty, and staff affiliated with both the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics and the Center for Bioethics.



**Joel Suarez**  
Assistant Professor, CUNY  
School of Labor and Urban  
Studies

During the fellowship, Joel Suarez completed a draft manuscript of his first book, *The Labor of Liberty: Work and the Problem of Freedom in American History*.

The book examines how fundamental ruptures in the world of work—from abolition and industrialization to deindustrialization and the ascent of low-wage service sector work—caused debates over and reassessments of the meaning of freedom in United States’ history. Beginning with the emergence of late eighteenth century abolitionism and concluding with debates over welfare reform in the late twentieth century, the book traces the long history of how the nature of workplace domination shaped how workers understood the meaning and substance of their status as free or unfree subjects. He presented one chapter of this manuscript, titled “Free Time,” at the Center with **Katrina Forrester** and **Alex Gourevitch** serving as commentators.

Beyond the book project, Joel was also able to complete two article manuscript drafts for peer-review journals and complete a book proposal which resulted in a book contract with the University of Pennsylvania Press. He found the Center staff to be incredibly supportive and the intellectual environment created by the fellows and faculty to be exceedingly vibrant and stimulating.



Max Hayward, Willa Granger, and their partners



Nien-hê Hsieh and Adoulou Bitang



Takunda Matose, Alex Bryan, and Reneé Jorgensen

## Visiting Fellows



### Ali Aslam

Assistant Professor of Politics,  
Mount Holyoke College

Ali Aslam's fellowship period was very productive. He published or completed work on a total of three peer-reviewed articles while continuing to work on a fourth co-authored essay.

During the fellowship, he was able to complete a full draft of his second book manuscript, *To Turn the World Around: Democracy and the Politics of Repair*. The book intervenes in debates over whether or not democratic repair is possible and what it might mean, drawing together in conversation democratic theory and Black studies. He argues that neither repair that accepts the state as its horizon, nor the refusal of repair in favor of various forms of flight, refuge, or sanctuary, can address the depths of the harms that warrant healing and repair. He argues for an understanding of repair that comes out of his reading of abolitionist organizing and movement literature, where he identifies a transformative concept of repair that makes ready new subjects, norms, and institutions, through processes of healing and transformative justice that are part of a push for abolition and reparations. His argument benefitted immensely from feedback received from other fellows during the seminar presentation in September 2021. He is currently in the process of writing a book proposal that he plans to submit to publishers this fall.

In January 2022, he published an article-length version of his argument in *Contemporary Political Theory*. Over the next two months he researched and wrote his contribution to a critical exchange dedicated to the scholarship of **Lauren Berlant** that will be published in the same journal.

In addition to his solo-authored projects, he has been working on articles and a book project with two co-authors, **David McIvor** and **Joel Schlosser**. In November, they published "A Democratic Turn within Democratic Socialism?: State-Centric and Anti-Statist Visions of Socialism and the Challenge of Democratic Mirroring," in the journal *New Political Science*. In the same month they presented their work at the annual meeting of the Association for Political Theory held in Amherst, MA. That research is part of their larger book project, *Earthborn Democracy: A Political Theory of Earthly*

*Entanglements*. The book is motivated by the concern that our political practices and institutions are inadequate vehicles for meeting the challenges of living sustainably with the more-than-human world. They believe, moreover, that these inadequacies are themselves symptoms of a failing political-cultural story that centers human concerns and ways of knowing. *Earthborn Democracy* contributes to urgent conversations about the stories, practices, and rituals that can make an ecological democracy possible. They argue that narratives of interdependency are necessary to inspire and orient the work of ecological remediation needful both now and across the generations to come, and that these narratives have to suffuse political and social life in ways that they have not yet done.

The book project draws upon the diverse resources of ecology, political theory, indigenous traditions, archaeology, contemporary botany and mycology, psychoanalysis, and theories of morphic resonance to craft a unique account of democracy as rooted in earthly entanglements, to which our dominant political stories and institutions remain stubbornly and tragically unaware. In addition, they highlight and contextualize emergent efforts in ecological remediation—ranging from regenerative agriculture to "radical mycology" to somatic practices of earthly attunement—that represent the best hope for humans to reclaim their birthright as both political beings and ecological beings enmeshed in other forms of life.

### Miriam Baer

Professor of Law, Brooklyn Law  
School



Miriam Baer is grateful that she was able to spend her sabbatical year as a Visiting Fellow at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics. During that time, she made extensive progress on her book, *Myths and Misunderstandings in White Collar Crime* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming), and received extremely helpful feedback on one of the book's chapters.

One of the enduring puzzles in white-collar crime is that scholars often proclaim passionately that federal white-col-

lar crimes are extremely “broad” and yet just difficult to prove. To unpack these claims, Baer argues that it is best to conceptualize misconduct as falling across one or two thresholds. The first is what she refers to as the “liability threshold,” the moment that we would say—if all facts were known—that someone has committed a given crime. The second threshold is what she calls the “viability threshold,” the moment a prosecutor decides she has a viable case worth pursuing. Whereas liability is a relatively straight-forward and discoverable concept, viability is far more contingent and subjective. To make things more confusing, commentators often elide the distinction between the two concepts.

After establishing these two thresholds, she argues that much of what the government does in terms of enforcement is manage the gap between liability (the moment of wrongdoing) and viability (the moment a case can be pursued). Too small a gap renders the government too powerful and creates opportunities for abuse. Too large a gap, however, triggers the problems we commonly associate with underenforcement. Accordingly, the final third of the chapter contrasts “gap minding” programs with “gap narrowing” activities. The former seeks to transform a few pre-viable cases into winnable prosecutions. The latter, more ambitious approach, seeks to narrow the gap between liability and viability.

She presented her chapter to the E.L. Safra fellows and faculty in February 2022 and received valuable feedback that helped her sharpen her argument, rework certain conceptual claims, and clarify her terms. Moreover, she learned a tremendous amount from the many other workshops she attended, as well as additional lectures and programs that were offered throughout the year. For example, providing comments on a resident fellow’s draft book project helped her think about the progression of chapters within her own book.

As a fellow, she also took advantage of Harvard’s libraries and online databases to further her research. In addition to the book manuscript, she completed a symposium piece on corporate crime that will be published next year in the *Journal of Corporation Law*.

Most importantly, she benefitted simply by having the opportunity to converse with a diverse set of scholars whose interests were broad and varied and whose projects were immensely thought-provoking and well-written. She expects several of the discussions on ethics, inequality, and difficult conversations to inform her future research and she hopes to stay in touch with the fellows she met.

## Thierry Ngosso

Senior Research Fellow,  
University of St.Gallen and  
Founding Director of EthicsLab,  
Catholic University of Central  
Africa



It was an honor and a privilege for Thierry to spend part of this academic year at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics, after his first stay years ago. The few moments he was able to spend surrounded by excellent researchers and such warm and caring people were very enjoyable and productive. Although he couldn’t be present in Cambridge all the time to take advantage of all the interesting academic activities and manifestations—Faculty Seminars, Book Workshop, Public Lectures, Conferences, Ethics in Your World, etc.—he was very happy to discuss his research topic, “The Political Agency of African Societies” with colleagues and friends and was pleased to receive productive comments and feedback. This year also allowed him, after more than two years of the Covid-19 pandemic, to reconnect with many of the scholars and colleagues who helped shepherd the launch of the Ethics and Public Policy Laboratory (EthicsLab) in Yaoundé, Cameroon. He is very grateful for the unwavering support of the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics to EthicsLab.

## Iván Petrella

After being a residential-turned-virtual fellow due to pandemic in 2020-2021, Iván Petrella made the most of being physically present in Cambridge during his period as a visiting fellow.



He wrote a paper on liberation theology and artificial intelligence, “Liberation Theology and AI: a Framework and Research Agenda,” that was discussed in the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society ethical tech group. He pestered **Nien-hê Hsieh**, **Jess Miner**, **Katie Giles**, and **Adrienne Bock** with multiple emails and several meetings about the Democratic Knowledge Project’s 8th grade civic education curriculum which he is interested in adapting for Argentina. Finally, he explored the Center’s Intercollegiate Civil Disagreement Partnership (this also required pestering people) because of its focus on teaching how to have difficult conversations on divisive topics. In short, his time at the Center allowed him to work on, as well as discuss and

learn more about, his two main areas of work: ethics and artificial intelligence and democratic values and culture. He thanks everyone for their time and generosity.



**Adrienne Stang**  
K-12 History and Social Studies  
Coordinator for the Cambridge  
Public Schools and Adjunct  
Lecturer at Harvard Graduate  
School of Education

Adrienne facilitates the creation of curricula that center narratives of people of color and other historically marginalized communities. To support educators in teaching the histories of racism in truthful and developmentally appropriate ways, Adrienne incorporates research in a broad range of fields, including history, psychology, anthropology, and education. Her collaboration with **Dr. Danielle Allen** and the Democratic Knowledge Project (DKP) resulted in the pedagogical strategy of [co-processing](#), by which educators help children make sense of painful histories and realities so that students learn narratives that are truthful, developmentally appropriate, and empowering.

As a Visiting Fellow, Adrienne completed work on the DKP's "Expanding Liberty, Equality and the Suffrage (1776-1924)," a 5th grade unit where students connect the principles of the Declaration of Independence with later struggles from freedom and justice, including abolition, indigenous sovereignty, and women's rights. This curriculum is available on the [Educating for American Democracy](#) website and has been recognized by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as one of only four curricula recommended for 5th grade social studies.

Adrienne is the author of "Truth and Agency: Co-processing Histories of Racism," a working paper for the recent [Democratic Education Needs Imagination Conference](#), hosted by Protection Approaches and the Auschwitz Institution for the Prevention of Genocide and Other Mass Atrocities. For the second year, she co-taught "Teaching the Hard Histories of Racism in the United States" at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She is currently writing a book about the themes of the course.

**“ Ever since I was a Graduate Fellow at the Center twenty-five years ago, a strong sense of community has long struck me as what makes our Center so distinctive and special.”**

**-Nien-hê Hsieh**

### **Petr Urban**

Senior Researcher and Deputy  
Head of the Department of  
Applied Philosophy and Ethics,  
Institute of Philosophy, Czech  
Academy of Sciences



Petr found his three-month visiting fellowship at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics was a highly productive and inspiring one. During the first month of his stay, he finished the article "Care Ethics and the Feminist Personalism of Edith Stein" (published in *Philosophies* 7(3) in June 2022) and completed a revision of a grant proposal submitted to the program, Horizon Europe. The goal of the five-year project is to establish the Center for Environmental and Technology Ethics in Prague and was eventually funded by the European Commission. It is expected to start in January 2023. For the most part of the second and third month of his stay at Harvard, Petr worked on a book project titled *Social Cohesion Contested*, which he is co-writing with Dan Swain. He benefited from the opportunity to discuss his research on social cohesion with the Center's Fellows-in-Residence and other visiting fellows. By the end of the fellowship, he completed the first chapter of the book. Beyond the circle of the Center's fellows, he established new links of cooperation in the field of administrative ethics with Dr. Nigel Jacob and his colleagues from the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at Harvard Kennedy School.

## Graduate Fellows



**Aniket De**  
PhD Candidate, History

Spending the 2021-2022 academic year as a Graduate Fellow in the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics was an absolute delight, especially given the extraordinary circumstances of the previous year. De was delighted that the seminars

could be hosted in person, and he indeed learned a lot from the coordinators, **Mathias** and **Meira**, as from his cohort of other graduate fellows. As a historian, he was somewhat new to the tradition of normative argumentation common in the social sciences, and he enjoyed as his colleagues from philosophy and political science opened up new horizons of knowledge for him. They also served as excellent interlocutors for two of his dissertation chapters, since they brought in perspectives that were significantly different from the historian's comments he was more familiar with. The Center gave him the necessary time, funding, and office space (and, not least, printing) to research and write two dissertation chapters. He could not have imagined a more collegial and stimulating environment for executing these tasks. In December 2021, his first monograph, *The Boundary of Laughter: Popular Performances across Borders in South Asia*, was published by Oxford University Press. He was very happy when the Center recognized this release on their website, and even acquired a copy for display at the lobby. The numerous carefully-planned events were excellent opportunities for meeting distinguished scholars associated with the Center as well as guests invited from other institutions. He is, therefore, much thankful to the Center—not least, **Emily Bromley**—for making this potentially uncertain year such a stunning success



**Samuel Dishaw**  
PhD Candidate, Philosophy

Samuel Dishaw is writing a dissertation on the importance of moral understanding, in particular on the importance of understanding with others what we owe to each other. Much of moral philosophy characterizes

moral conduct by appeal to the idea of hypothetical or possible agreement: we owe it to others to act on grounds that they could rationally accept, or not reasonably reject. In his dissertation, Samuel argues that, beyond this, we also owe it to others to bring it about that we in fact inhabit the same moral world: we owe it to others to reach moral understanding together.

The chapter he presented in the fall, “Solidarity and the Work of Moral Understanding,” was an attempt to defend this idea by arguing that we ought to stand in solidarity with those who suffer at the hands of an injustice, and that solidarity requires not mere deference about moral matters, but rather a genuine attempt to understand the injustices against which we purport to stand. In the spring, Samuel presented a paper, “Moral Understanding between You and Me,” which explores these same themes in an interpersonal key. In that paper, he argued that both the activity of justifying our actions to others, and apologizing for wrongdoing, aim to bring about shared moral understanding.

**Meredith Dost**  
PhD Candidate in Government & Social Policy



Meredith is very grateful for the year at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics because it allowed her to make significant progress on her dissertation research and exposed her to new ideas and scholars to whom she would have never otherwise been introduced.

As a political scientist trained in American politics and mainly quantitative methods, she hoped to learn how to more seriously consider the ethical dilemmas that bureaucrats face when implementing public policies from her experiences at the Center. In her dissertation, she studies how the administrative choices made by bureaucrats working for U.S. state and local governments affect the political behavior and attitudes of potential recipients of means-tested government programs. Through participation in the Graduate Fellows workshop and information conversations with other Fellows, she learned a lot about and was able to deeply contemplate the interaction of ethics and policy administration.

In the Graduate Fellows workshop in the fall, she had the

time to draft and present her theory chapter; she received many helpful recommendations of political theorists and other academics even further outside of her discipline studying related topics. In the spring, having this fellowship allowed her the time to apply for and receive approval from Harvard’s Institutional Review Board (IRB) and to organize and carry out two weeks of interviews with means-tested program recipients in Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana. She presented the preliminary write-up of these interviews at the Graduate Fellow Workshop in the spring. The Graduate Fellow group offered critical and constructive feedback on her work in both semesters, asking questions which she had never been asked by the political scientist colleagues in her home department.

Other significant accomplishments during the fellowship year were submitting her first solo-authored article on dissertation research for publication at a peer-reviewed journal; applying for dissertation completion fellowships for the next academic year; and preparing for the academic job market. She also greatly appreciated the opportunity to learn about academic book publication through a Center-organized workshop with Harvard University Press, and to read **Olúfemi O. Táíwò’s** brand new book, *Reconsidering Reparations*, with the Graduate Fellow group. Overall, the time she was given by the Center to focus on her dissertation research allowed her to make huge leaps and bounds during a critical time in her PhD, and her interactions with the Center’s Fellows were incredibly valuable. She will remain grateful for everyone at the Center who contributed to these experiences.



**Lily Hu**  
PhD, Applied Mathematics and  
Philosophy

Lily had one and only task to complete this year—only it was a rather onerous one: complete her dissertation. The previous year was nearly completely lost to the pandemic work-wise, so she entered this year with quite

a bit more to do than she would be otherwise comfortable with, and certainly that would have been impossible had she also had to juggle teaching responsibilities. The Graduate fellowship relieved her of these obligations and furthermore, gave her the chance to write for and get feedback from a diverse set of readers. Her philosophical interests are driven by questions outside of philosophy and she also strives to do philosophy that is accessible and compelling to non-philosophers, so the opportunity to spend a year with fellow gradu-

ate students in history, political science, and STS was such gift to her intellectual development. With their and **Mathias’s** and **Meira’s** feedback, she improved on two chapters of the dissertation, which she thankfully delivered on time and successfully defended this spring. Aside from the dissertation, she also did an interview with **Olúfemi O. Táíwò** that was published this year in the *Phenomenal World*, which can be found here: <https://www.phenomenalworld.org/interviews/olufemi-taiwo/>.

Their conversation was greatly informed by the discussions from the graduate workshop at the start of the Spring semester, when we spent a couple of weeks reading and discussing Táíwò’s book on global reparations and climate change, *Reconsidering Reparations*, on which he presented at the Center in the fall.

**Hilton Simmet**  
PhD Candidate, Public Policy  
and Research Associate  
in the Program of Science,  
Technology, and Society (STS)



Hilton Simmet was involved in a number of projects at the intersection of ethics, political theory, and public policy over the past year as a graduate fellow at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics. Most importantly, the fellowship enabled him to extend his dissertation research examining attempts to use contemporary economic methods to analyze and solve problems of justice. He drafted one chapter of his thesis looking at John Rawls as a theorist of liberal experimentalism and refined his plans for cross-national comparative research in France and India. Through the generous financial support of the Center, he was able to attend the Second World Inequality Conference at the Paris School of Economics in December 2021. Hilton presented the results of his year of research as a guest lecturer for a course on Urban Systems at the University of Calgary’s School of Architecture, as a panelist at the Society for the Social Studies of Science 2021 Conference at the University of Toronto, and as a participant at the Danish Association for Science and Technology Studies (DASTS) 2022 annual meeting at Aarhus University, Denmark. He also completed a paper looking at the relationship between liberal political theory, epistemic democracy, and Science and Technology Studies (STS), which is currently under review with Social Studies of Science. While at the E.L. Safra Center, he deepened his study of energy and human development by drafting an early version of a book proposal. The proposal asks how broad ideas of Enlightenment and human moral progress relate



to understandings of economic material well-being that emerged out of the industrialization of Britain, France, and the U.S. Hilton continued his interdisciplinary bridge-building efforts through hosting the STS Circle, attendance at the Political Theory Workshop, and co-organizing the Graduate Research in STS (GRiSTS) conference. In the coming academic year, Hilton will undertake dissertation field research in France and India with the support of a Frederick Sheldon Traveling Fellowship from Harvard.



Lily Hu



Alysha Banerjee, Maya Cohen, Gina Schouten, Jeff Behrends (background);  
Aniket De and Meira Levinson (foreground)



Connor Chung, Marka Ellertson, Henry Cerbone, Suhaas Bhat, Jaya Nayar, and friend

## Undergraduate Fellows



### Henry Cerbone

As a special concentrator in Ontology of Autonomous Systems (OaSys), Henry found the opportunity to be a part of a like-minded group incredibly enriching. He has found the seminar and resultant friendships/collaborations to be a defining part of his college experience. The

guidance from both his co-fellows and **Professor Applbaum** are unmatched. Henry has even recently submitted part of his term paper titled, “Sheepdogs and Autonomous Systems: On a definition of agency for the modern age,” to a workshop on robotics and ethics. He greatly anticipates the continued programming for the program!



### Marka Ellertson

Marka has really enjoyed being an Undergraduate Fellow this past semester! It has been great to connect with a community of students with a common interest in ethics. She has also felt fortunate to have the opportunity to engage with visiting philosophers to

the E.L. Safra Center, including **Seth Lazar** and **Pam Hieronymi**. Being able to not only attend lectures but also have the chance to talk and ask questions in the Fellowship seminars with these philosophers has been an amazing experience.



### Michelle Kurilla

Michelle focused most of her academic efforts this year on finishing her thesis. In the thesis, she argued that the novelist J. M. Coetzee can be read alongside analytical political thinkers G. A. Cohen and Johann Frick. Her thesis examined

Coetzee’s account of standing by looking at his philosophical novels, *The Lives of Animals*, *Disgrace*, and *Elizabeth Costello: Eight Lessons*. She concluded Coetzee’s novels provide an account of standing that philosophy cannot give us alone. The Center was crucial to this process by helping her better understand these connections through Professor Applbaum’s spring 2021 class, Priya’s fall 2021 workshop, and discussions with the other undergraduate fellows along the way. She started her time at the center grateful for the opportunity to dedicate a year and a half to studying ethics in an interdisciplinary way. Now, as a graduating senior, she feels forever indebted to the Center for the ability to work closely with such brilliant minds and for the lessons that have challenged her ways of thinking for the better.

### Jaya Nayar



Jaya is a rising junior studying Government and Philosophy, likely with a secondary in Mind, Brain, and Behavior. The title of her term paper was, “Solar Radiation Management: The Billion Dollar Dilemma.” This program has been the most impactful part of Jaya’s

Harvard experience so far. **Professor Applbaum** helped her to decide on the topic of her thesis, which will address issues of governance in solar geoengineering. She’s since spent a lot of time thinking about the content we covered in the course and realized that she is most interested in questions of institutional design and how to regulate new technologies. This realization helped solidify her desire to go to law school. Without the seminar last semester, she’s not sure she would have ever learned about the philosophical topics they covered in such a systematic manner, so she doubts she would have discovered an interest in the governance of new technologies. Ultimately, this program has both impacted Jaya’s short-term goals for her time at Harvard, but more importantly, her long-term goals for her career.



## William Swett

This past year Will focused his attention on his thesis, for which he read almost everything that the English philosopher Bernard Williams wrote. The topic of the thesis, of course, was not about everything that Williams wrote, but rather a much narrower area. He

focused on a peculiar version of irony that he called philosophical irony, which is found in the works of Thomas Nagel and Richard Rorty. Will is pleased to say that he received a Magna from the philosophy department on his thesis, a Magna-plus on his defense, and graduated from Harvard with a magna cum laude in philosophy. The seminar with Arthur last spring set the groundwork for his topic. The workshop with **Priya Menon** in the fall also sufficiently prepared him. He could not have written this thesis without the support of the fellowship.

## London Vallery



London is so grateful to have been able to participate in this fellowship during her time here at Harvard. She is particularly grateful for the support she received from the Center towards her senior thesis research. Through the financial support of the Lester Kissel Summer Grant and the intellectual support of **Priya Menon** and the fellow-

ship cohort, she was able to dedicate significant time and thought into a story that meant so much to her. She thoroughly enjoyed the events throughout the year, especially the Kissel Lecture exploring “The Blame Game.” Especially since her thesis topic revolved so strongly around the concept of blame, she really appreciated being able to look at those dynamics through a different light. London is also appreciative of the work this fellowship did to prepare her for graduate school. The topic of her paper for **Prof. Applbaum’s** seminar ended up becoming her accepted research proposal for her upcoming MPhil at Cambridge, and she’s eternally grateful for the opportunity to be in a space that allowed her to explore and develop her questions about the ethics of her field. The closing event in Boston Harbor was a great moment to reflect on her time with the fellowship and with her cohort. Her time with the Center will truly be one that she cherishes for a long time.

## Andy Wang

Andy feels very fortunate to have been able to partake in the Undergraduate Fellowship this spring. Between the weekly seminar meetings, lively out-of-course discussions with classmates, and incredible events hosted by the E.L. Safra Center, he has not only learned so much about philosophy, but found a wonderful community on campus. At the end of the semester, he wrote a term paper titled, “The Concept of a Cognizer: Truth-Seeking Agents and Epistemic Wantons,” which sought to create a knowledge-based parallel to Harry Frankfurt’s concept of the wanton. He really enjoyed the challenge, and it has cemented his decision to joint-concentrate in Social Studies and Philosophy and write a thesis in the field. He looks forward to many future workshops and discussions as he works towards his thesis!



Michelle Kurilla, Satoshi Yanaizu, Tzofiya Bookstein, Will Swett, Arthur Applbaum, Ali Jebari, London Vallery, and Connor Chung



Jay Garg, Suhaas Bhat, and Andy Wang

## Intercollegiate Civil Disagreement Partnership Fellows



### Maya Cohen, Design Studio Research Assistant

In 2021-2022, the Intercollegiate Civil Disagreement Partnership (ICDP) completed its second year, achieving new successes and charting exciting possibilities. The mission of the ICDP is to advance fundamental democratic commitments to freedom of expression, equality, and agency; develop students' skills to facilitate conversations across political difference; and create spaces for civil disagreement to flourish on college campuses.

The Intercollegiate Civil Disagreement Partnership (ICDP) is a consortium of five colleges and universities located throughout the United States: Harvard, Stanford, California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB), St. Philip's College, and Santa Fe College. The partnership includes a mix of public and private institutions; two-year and four-year institutions; a historically Black college with a strong focus on education for military veterans; colleges that are primarily Hispanic-serving; and two institutions known for high research activity. This institutional diversity is a cornerstone of the partnership and reflects its core belief that we can be more effective together than on our own.

The core of the ICDP is a cross-institutional fellowship

that brings together undergraduate students from the partner schools in order to develop their abilities to engage in and lead conversations about difficult, important topics across political difference. In addition to this core function, the ICDP supports individual partners' work on their own campuses to advance civil disagreement and conducts student research about civic/political identity and the efficacy of the ICDP's efforts.

Postdoctoral Fellow **Jacob Fay** and the Center's Executive Director, **Jess Miner**, continued to spearhead the effort, with support from Design Studio Research Assistant **Maya Cohen**, Ethics Pedagogy Fellow **Alysha Banerji**, and CSUB graduate student **Ryan Fergon**. **Collin Anthony** (Stanford), **Michael Burroughs** (California State University, Bakersfield), **Andrew Hill** (St. Philip's), and **Ann Thebaut** (Santa Fe) also co-led the partnership.

Each institution chose eight undergraduate fellows to participate in the ICDP fellowship. The Harvard College fellows were **Victoria Wilson**, **Evan Gates**, **Alex White**, **Mihret Melaku**, **Amado Candelario**, **Brit Shrader**, **Chukwudi "Chudy" Ilozue**, and **Lourdes Vivanco**. In addition, each institution chose one or two senior fellows—alumni of last year's fellowship program who returned to help support the program. The Harvard College senior fellows were **Natalie Sherman Jollis** and **Salma Elsayed**.

The ICDP fellowship program began mid-October and continued with biweekly Zoom sessions throughout the academic year. During these sessions, students built community; discerned their motivations and boundaries as discussants and facilitators; learned dialogic practices of question asking, perspective taking, and deep listening; developed facilitation skills to manage challenging conversations; and put those skills into practice by leading peer-to-peer dialogues on controversial topics.

Throughout the fellowship, there are several guest presenters. At the start of the fall, the program welcomed **Lilliana Mason** (Johns Hopkins University) and **Ed Morales** (Columbia University) for a panel on American polarization and partisan conflict. In the spring, **Michelle Deutchman** (UC National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement) and **Emerson Sykes** (ACLU) led a workshop on free speech and the First Amendment on college campuses.

Each semester also featured a capstone event, which was also part of the E.L. Safra Center's Civil Disagreement

Series. The fall semester's capstone panel, Guns in America, examined the issues that motivate different people's views on gun ownership, exploring diverse perspectives that are oftentimes overlooked. The panel featured **Chris Cheng** (History Channel's Top Shot Season 4 Champion and Founding Board Member and Advisor of the Asian Pacific American Gun Owners Association), **Simone Gubler** (Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the University of Nevada), **Clark Neily** (Senior Vice President for Legal Studies at the Cato Institute), and **Maria Rivera** (33rd Mayor of Central Falls, Rhode Island).

In the spring, the second capstone panel, Public Safety & Policing in America, brought together a range of speakers who hold vastly differing views on public safety and policing, informed by their varied experiences. The panel included **Romarilyn Ralston** (Program Director of Project Rebound at Cal State Fullerton), **Chuck Wexler** (Executive Director of the Police Executive Research Forum), **Ted King** (Police Lieutenant, Bakersfield Police Department), and **Alice Yau**, PhD (Police Officer, Chicago Police Department).

Each capstone was followed by a private Q&A between the panelists and ICDP fellows. Fellows then had the opportunity to facilitate discussions among their peers about the panel topic.

**“ Students credited the fellowship with exposing them to new perspectives, developing their ability to listen, and equipping them to facilitate and navigate fraught conversations with confidence. ”**

-Maya Cohen

Other highlights of this year's fellowship program included the creation of an ICDP Handbook, which overviews the program's approach and provides key program resources and activities. Additionally, the ICDP launched an interview study examining the motivations, values, and experiences of the students who choose to join the fellowship. The aim of both efforts is to support the future success of the ICDP fellowship, and to provide insight and guidance to other programs and contexts seeking to foster effective dialogue across political difference.

As with last year, student feedback demonstrated the multi-layered value and success of the program. Students credited the fellowship with exposing them to new perspectives, developing their ability to listen, and equipping them to facilitate and navigate fraught conversations with confidence. Several students expressed the belief that the skills taught by the ICDP would significantly strengthen their campus discourse. Here are highlights from their anonymous feedback:

“I've learned from people and understood new perspectives and regained hope in the world in having these tough conversations. I really feel like I expanded my own perspective and became more tolerant of other opinions and learned how to properly articulate my own opinions.”

“I feel that I have gained tools to understand where people's opinions are coming from and be a better listener. I also think I had the opportunity to step out of my comfort zone when moderating conversations instead of sharing my opinions.”

“I feel that I have grown so much as a person with personal opinions and beliefs. I've learned how to ask proper questions without it seeming like an interrogation and how to stop and listen. I have been able to carry our conversations successfully and create connections with people across the country, which is amazing.”

“I've gained valuable tools that I will be able to apply for the rest of my life regarding how to engage in peaceful and productive conversations with others. I learned how to really dissect a question and think about how I phrase something in order to produce the most effective and productive conversations from it. I've learned to take time and fully process something before speaking on the subject.”

# Initiatives

## Justice, Health & Democracy Impact Initiative



### Jon Hack, Director of Content & Strategy

The Justice, Health & Democracy Impact Initiative (JHD) aims to revitalize the current state of public policy-making in the United States. It is clear that siloed expertise cannot address intersecting problems of health, justice, political economy, and governance. Moreover, technocratic approaches that disregard fundamental questions about values and the public good cannot meet the moment.

The JHD is a unique policy-making model that marshals ethics and value-oriented frameworks alongside scholarly expertise in a nimble and adaptive manner, designed to meet the challenges of today. The model is multidisciplinary and responsive to on-the-ground issues practitioners face. By facilitating iterative and collaborative co-design among the Initiative, think tanks, and practitioners, the JHD provides a novel approach for the social sciences and humanities to deliver and disseminate more immediate responses.

This year, the JHD prioritized building the partnerships and

infrastructure necessary for sustaining our partnership with the Brown School of Public Health and New America, and our new integrative policy-making model. We successfully acquired an additional \$3.4M in support for the next three years, allowing us to hire key personnel at the director level, both at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics and at New America, while building out our research networks and communications teams across our partnerships. We have also designed an extensive website, [www.jhdimpact.org](http://www.jhdimpact.org), which serves an integral role in disseminating our timely work. Our initial projects have focused on furthering work on pandemic resilience, health equity, justice reform, social and economic resilience, tech and democracy, and democratic governance. Each of these projects connect experts, practitioners, and policy-makers in an interactive and collaborative way, yielding dynamic and rapid public policy, aimed at strengthening well-being and equity.

### Deepening Our Practitioner Network & Extending Our Impact

Over the course of this year, we expanded the initial network of municipal leaders and facilitated regular convenings between JHD experts and municipal and county leaders in both group and individual forums.

We grew the network of mayors from seven to thirteen in 2021, garnering a diverse array of cities in terms of geography, community, socio-economic, and industrial compositions. Our New America partners helped further the JHD Impact Initiative's efforts by facilitating regular communications with municipal leaders and their staff on JHD reform initiatives and worked to expand the JHD network of policy experts.

We built new relationships with interlocutors in the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Association of County Officials and their New Practice Lab, and introduced JHD experts to counterparts at the MITRE Corporation as well as to experts and policy practitioners in the fields of health, education, technology, equity, business and economy.

## JHD Research Portfolio:

### *Alternative Emergency Response Programs (AERPs)* *Project Leads: David Knight and Benjamin Barsky*

The reverberations from George Floyd’s murder in Minneapolis have underscored the need for cities across the U.S. to rethink police responses. One approach has been the creation of alternative emergency response programs (AERPs). The goal of AERPs is to divert behavioral health crises from traditional police response, instead connecting those in crisis with trauma-informed and community-based services, thereby curbing arrests, incarceration, and other traumas all too often associated with traditional police-centric responses.

To aid in the understanding, design, and implementation of AERPs, we have partnered with four cities—Chattanooga, TN; Dayton, OH; Madison, WI; and Oakland, CA—to form a community of practice. This JHD workstream will aid in the creation of tailored ethical principles and policy design frameworks that seek to foster a culture of health that meets the needs of diverse communities and ensure racially equitable outcomes.

### *Genetics, Ethics & Society* *Project Lead: Anna Lewis*

Glaring disparities and inequalities in health care have invigorated debates about the role of race and racism in biomed-

icine. For instance, race has traditionally been seen as an important variable for diagnostic and predictive purposes. Responding to this, medical institutions are reexamining the use of racial categories in patient care. One alternative has been incorporating genetic concepts—in particular genetic ancestry and population categories—as replacements for race.

The Genetics, Ethics & Society project is motivated by the increasing importance of genetic ancestry to a broad range of disciplines, including medicine, public health, genetics, and sociology. We aim to describe how ancestry is being evoked and used across disciplines, and propose normative guidance for how it should be used. By partnering with academic and healthcare institutions like the Broad Institute, JHD is capitalizing on an important opportunity to help reshape how the biosciences think about race and genetics. A recent piece in STAT by JHD researcher **Anna Lewis** highlighting her team’s work in *Science* magazine shows how the values, ethics, and purpose of human biological research require researchers and practitioners to adopt a more complex version of genetic ancestry – one that reflects the continuous nature of genetic variation and its historical depth.

### *Economic Dignity & Security* *Project Leads: Nien-hé Hsieh and Tony Guidotti*

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted—and accelerated—increasing inequality and barriers to universal economic dignity and security. Community Wealth Building, an



Ben Barsky, jon hack, Anna Lewis, Danielle Allen, and Meg Yoder

approach that includes widespread business ownership, provides a means to create inclusive wealth for individuals, foster sustainable local economies, and advance the common good. JHD's work in this arena focuses on understanding how real wealth is built in historically disadvantaged communities.

Most recently, JHD has partnered with New America's New Practice Lab, under the directorship of **Elizabeth Garlow**, to participate in The Opportunity Project (TOP)—a program of the U.S. Census Bureau that connects government agencies with experts and practitioners to rapidly design digital solutions for the public good. In particular, we aim to identify and develop new indicators that capture dimensions of well-being beyond traditional economic indicators. This will provide federal and local policymakers with the tools to holistically assess economic well-being. Participating in TOP provides an opportunity to bring an ethically principled policy-making model to bear on federal decision-making.

***Technology & Democracy***  
***Project Lead: Joshua Simons***

Our work on technology's role in democratic governance has produced guidance on how to best integrate technology into policy-making as well as how to mitigate possible negative impacts of digital technologies. This line of inquiry looks to help practitioners and leaders identify values and frameworks that harness these powerful tools for the betterment of society.

One way in which digital technologies can promote social well-being is by providing the core digital infrastructure for citizens to live their lives, such as financial transaction systems. Instead of outsourcing the design of these systems, governments in emerging economies are increasingly seeking to build these systems themselves, using openly available digital tools built by philanthropic and international organizations. The Technology & Democracy workstream published a white paper on Digital Public Goods, shared with over 100 countries by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), that combines ethical considerations with a set of best practices for organizations that cover the design and deployment considerations for technologists, national governments, and philanthropic funders.

To further drive social change around the use and incorporation of technology in US governance, JHD has engaged the cities of Austin, TX; Boulder, CO; and Chattanooga, TN in a series of scoping conversations with mayors and their staff, understanding the challenges they are facing with integrating technology into governance and policy-making. This work, set to launch in the next academic year, will help draft a roadmap for others concerned with ethical questions

about the use, design, and impacts of technology on human well-being.

## **Organizational Growth**

This year, we hired a Director of Content & Strategy, **Jonathan Hack**, who serves as a key member of the leadership teams of both the JHD and the E.L. Safra Center. Additionally, the Initiative hired a project manager, **Elaha Rahmani**, and a communications associate, **Meg Foley Yoder**. Research fellow **Tony Guidotti** is also supporting the Initiative's work on economic dignity and community wealth building.

## **Learnings and Future Directions**

JHD has proved to be a powerful model that permits faster and better deployment of academic research into policy-making and decision-making spaces in ways that have direct and measurable impact. On the flip side, the integration of research and practice enlivens the academic community by generating research questions of great public importance. Our goal has been to develop a sustainable organizational structure to continuously mount rapid response to pressing problems. To date, the Center, through its partnership with New America and the Brown School of Public Health, has taken important steps towards bridging the divide between practitioners and scholars.

The JHD model and workflow highlights the importance of a feedback loop, where public policy issues help inform social science and humanistic research and social science and humanistic research can inform policy in turn, ultimately delivering and disseminating more immediate solutions, all with ethics at the center of the conversation. Of note, our work offers a new paradigm for translating academic research into actionable insights to address pressing societal problems. Early efforts indicate that the model is working and is applicable across jurisdictions and institutions.



## The Design Studio for Ethics and Civics Pedagogy



### Meira Levinson, Design Studio Faculty Director

The Design Studio is a hub at the Center for Ethics where scholars, practitioners, and policy-makers work together to:

- **generate** ethics and civics learning tools and assessments for use across disciplines, professions, and learners' lifespans;
- **amplify** and grow innovative initiatives across the university that are working to improve ethics and civics learning; and
- **educate** a new generation of students, professionals, and leaders to tackle the hardest civic and ethical challenges of our time.

We take an **experimental, collaborative** approach to design and implement programs that are research-based and research-driven in order to create robust, scalable resources to support life-long civic and ethical learning and engagement.

Our work extends across the lifespan, from K-12 learners to undergraduate and graduate students to faculty development and professional learning in science, computer science, medicine, public health, business, and education.

We also do work that supports civic and ethical development at individual, organizational, institutional, and systemic levels. These include direct work with young learners, parents, undergraduate and graduate students, citizens, professionals and scholars (individual); partnerships with schools, nonprofits, and professional associations (organizational), community colleges, four-year colleges, universities, and state legislatures (institutional); and collaborations with state agencies and school districts that oversee systems of learning (systemic).

Currently, there are nine initiatives affiliated with the Design Studio. Six initiatives are housed at the ELSCE itself: the Democratic Knowledge Project (DKP), Educating for American Democracy (EAD), Ethics Pedagogy Fellowship (EPF), Intercollegiate Civil Disagreement Partnership (ICDP), Harvard Ethics Bowl, and The National Ethics Project (NEP). The other three initiatives are located across the University but work in close partnership with the Center: Educational Ethics (EdEthics) is housed at Harvard Graduate School of Education; Embedded EthiCS is in the Philosophy Department; and Scientific Citizenship Initiative (SCi) is housed at Harvard Medical School.

All of the initiatives are united by a history of affiliation with the Center for Ethics. The three non-Center-based Design Studio initiatives are led by faculty who serve on the Center's Faculty Committee, including **Angela DePace** (SCi), **Meira Levinson** (EdEthics), **Alison Simmons** and **Jeff Behrends** (Embedded EthiCS). **Danielle Allen** leads the DKP and is one of the leads of EAD; **Jane Kamensky**, another EAD lead, is a Faculty Associate of the Center. EPF faculty director **Chris Robichaud** is on the Faculty Committee and serves as Director of Pedagogical Innovation. EPF and ICDP were led for the past two years by former Graduate Fellow, Pedagogy Fellow, and Postdoctoral Fellow **Jacob Fay**. Executive Director **Jess Miner** leads the NEP.

Furthermore, ELSCE Ethics Pedagogy Fellows have been essential contributors in helping to strengthen and scale many of the initiatives over recent years. This year's EPFs were **Alysha Banerji**, **Caitlin Fitchett**, **Dimitrios Halikias**, and **Ellis Reid**. Past EPFs have helped EdEthics develop, disseminate, and evaluate an award-winning digital ethical simulation; launch teaching-research-practice partnerships with major school districts; and oversee creation and publication of an international suite of normative case studies. EPFs have similarly helped SCi create robust simulations



Katie Giles and Meira Levinson

and online instructional materials to support their aim of helping scientists develop as active citizens and interdisciplinary problem-solvers who have a meaningful impact on their communities and society. Moreover, without the Ethics Pedagogy Fellowship program, the Center would not have been able to launch and support the Intercollegiate Civil Disagreement Partnership Fellowship program, the Harvard Crimson Ethics Bowl team, or launch a series of new Gen Ed courses to fulfill the Ethics and Civics requirement. These new contributions to the undergraduate experience at Harvard College have become a core part of the Center’s work and have fulfilled needs brought to the Center

by the students themselves as well as faculty and administration.

In addition to being linked historically to the Center, the initiatives also share a set of common features, which we detail below. We kicked off our collaboration in 2021-22 with a half-day retreat in October 2021 among the faculty and staff leads. That retreat led us to create monthly lab meetings throughout the academic year, which attracted 15-25 people each time from across the initiatives. Each two-hour meeting featured short presentations by two initiatives giving background about their work and often posing a problem of practice, following a tightly scripted protocol moving from presentation to questions to participant discussion to final reflections from the presenters. We then spent the final 20 minutes of each lab meeting considering the implications of what we heard for our work in the Design Studio as a whole. Our driving question for the year was to figure out if—and if so, how—the Design Studio could be more than the sum of its parts: what did (or could) the Design Studio itself add that was more than what we were already accomplishing individually?

One contribution was helping us identify, puzzle collectively about, and then both strengthen and further develop five shared features:

(1) **A shared commitment to civics and ethics content:** We aim for the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics to emerge as the national leader in ethics and civics education



(L to R:) Ariana Zetlin, Adrienne Billingham Bock, Carrie James, Katie Giles, Tina Blythe, Jennifer Guerin, Susan Orr, and David Bates

at all levels, from kindergarten to lifelong learning. Normative ethics are the lens through which we assess what our society should aspire to. Yet, to affect change, aspirations must be coupled with action. Civics becomes that vehicle. Ethics education envisions a moral society; civics education translates those lofty ideals into practice. At the Center, we seek to foster a space where students, faculty, policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders can engage with ethical questions and dynamic discourse, leading to a revitalized society through ethically rooted civic engagement.

**(2) Shared and complimentary pedagogies:** Case studies and simulations are core teaching tools for a large number of Design Studio initiatives, including EdEthics, DKP, SCI, and EPF. As noted above, Ethics Pedagogy Fellows have been essential partners in helping both EdEthics and SCI develop case studies that are core to their offerings, and they have worked with **Chris Robichaud** for a number of years on developing robust ethical simulations that are used worldwide. We plan to devote a stream of our lab work together in 2022-23 to further exploring, strengthening, systematizing, and disseminating cases and simulations as signature pedagogies in ethics education.

**(3) Shared research methods and processes:** Although the individual Design Studio initiatives have very diverse origins, we discovered that we shared astonishingly similar research practices and principles. Design Studio members are committed to: a) understanding, in partnership with stakeholders, what issues/problems need addressing within a particular context; b) implementing research to better understand the issues, context or potential solutions; c) testing out those solutions; d) conducting further research; e) redesigning/iterating on the solutions; and f) eventually identifying sustainable partnerships and platforms for to disseminate solutions at scale.

**(4) Shared research questions and goals:** We also found that Design Studio members are deeply invested in better understanding civic and ethical learning. In this respect, we began in our later lab meetings to identify shared research questions. In 2022-23, we expect to devote one strand of our lab time to beginning to generate cross-initiative research agendas, including an investigation about how we could develop nuanced evaluation and assessment instruments for ethics and civics learning.

**(5) Shared resources and support:** We discovered that many initiatives had shared needs (project management!) that we hope to be able to address institutionally in a stable and predictable way. But we also found that we had complementary capacities and areas of expertise that have proved immediately helpful thanks to the Design Studio's role as a



Tatiana Geron, Alysha Banerji, and Maya Cohen

hub. For example, Embedded EthiCS is collaborating with the DKP to investigate options to adapt/translate materials and methods from their initiative embedding ethics modules into undergraduate computer science courses into K-12 settings. Embedded EthiCS brings content expertise on ethics and technology, while DKP brings expertise in K-12 context/pedagogy. We look forward to exploring and amortizing more of these complementarities in 2022-23 as well.

In addition to continuing our internal development work through member retreats and lab meetings in 2022-23, we also are excited to expand externally-oriented work that we have started to try to achieve far-reaching impact. For example, Design Studio researchers are focusing on innovations in K-12 learning broadly to propose a next generation badging approach to improve education for all; we are working with the American Association of Colleges and University to develop a partnership to rethink ethics assessment; Design Studio members are collaborating to develop resources that support implementation of the recommendations of the report on Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery and support difficult conversations across the University; and we are expanding research-practice partnerships with a wide range of K-12 practitioners, schools, districts and states.

## A Farewell from Jacob Fay



I did not anticipate the path that my career would take. Yet I do know that I have been prepared for its various outcomes through my time at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics. Taking a moment to narrate my experience, I believe, offers a window into how this space and the people that comprise it shape and support young scholars, thinkers, and professionals in ways expected and unexpected.

I first encountered the Ethics Center as a graduate student. Like most Harvard doctoral students, I was set on a career in the academy. The Ethics Center was an important part of my preparation for that sort of career in two ways. First, I had the privilege of being a Graduate Fellow in 2016-17. This experience fundamentally shaped my dissertation work. The collaborative environment of the Graduate Fellows program strengthened the arguments and structure of my dissertation, revealing weaknesses and strengths of my project that I may not have seen on my own. My dissertation won the Kuhmerker Dissertation Award from the Association for Moral Education, undoubtedly in part due to the Graduate Fellows program.

Second, the Ethics Center offered me a chance to think deeply about what it means to teach ethics as a member of the inaugural class of Ethics Pedagogy Fellows in 2017-18. This program brings together doctoral students from across different disciplines who are committed to thinking specifically about the teaching of ethics. Through the program I was introduced to novel, innovative approaches to teaching ethics—simulations, for example—that have continued to shape my own practice as a teacher and have spurred me to continually think of creative ways to engage people in ethical reflection and analysis.

Yet the truly unique aspects of my relationship to the Ethics Center turn on the work I have been able to do since my return to the Center as a post-doctoral fellow. I have spent most of my post-doc focused on the development of a novel program for the Center, the Intercollegiate Civil Disagreement Partnership (ICDP). The ICDP is noteworthy not only for what it attempts to do—address partisanship, polarization, and other forms of democratic fracture—but also for how it attempts to do that work. The ICDP is a partnership across institutions that Jess Miner, the Center's Executive Director, and I envisioned and, along with our institutional partners, built from the ground up together. It is a unique program in the realm of this sort of work in higher education; there are few, if any, other cross-institutional partnerships doing this work.

Developing the ICDP has allowed me to fuse together my scholarly interests in theories of justice, democracy, and education with hands-on programmatic development. This fusion has been marvelously and insightfully mutually reinforcing. For example, imagining a training program for civic discourse raised questions about why such a program was necessary, which then invited questions about the role of civil disagreement in democracy. Thinking about this theoretical relationship, in turn, prompted a reimagining of the skills people need for civic discourse. I have found the simultaneous development of theory and practice to be incredibly meaningful—and it has become the precise focal point of the next step in my career.

Through my work on the ICDP I have had the opportunity to receive training on civic discourse and serve as a fellow at the National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement. Each of these opportunities expanded the skills and knowledge I have at my disposal to think about, understand, and teach about civic discourse—and civic discourse's relationship to justice, democracy, and education.

I leave the Edmond & Lily Safra Center to take up a position as a Director of Education for a non-profit committed to fostering civic discourse and dialogue across political fault lines. There is no doubt in my mind that the Center's core commitment to civics and ethics education are responsible for helping me find this passion and preparing me to do this work.

# Events and Programs

## October 7, 2021: “Reconsidering Reparations” with Olúfémi O. Táíwò

Olúfémi O. Táíwò is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University. His talk, based on his most recent book, *Reconsidering Reparations* (Oxford University Press, November 2021), considered a case for reparations linked to climate justice.

## October 8, 2021: Public Action/Private Activities: Theorizing the Tensions of Democratic Leadership and Citizen Action

This workshop brought together scholars who explore whether and to what extent ordinary citizens and their leaders can be compelled to act collectively as a basic condition of democracy. Is there a way of reconciling individual freedom with the idea that a duty to work with others is sometimes non-negotiable?

## October 22, 2021: Ethics in Your World with Myisha Cherry

Harvard Book Store and the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University welcomed **Myisha Cherry** to discuss her new book, *The Case for Rage: Why Anger Is Essential to Anti-Racist Struggle*, in conversation with **Jason Reynolds**.

## October 29, 2021: Civic Education in Polarized Times

The annual conference of the American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy focused on Civic Education in Polarized Times. Keynote addresses were delivered by **Dennis Thompson** (Founding Director of the Center) and **Sigal Ben-Porath** (University of Pennsylvania and former Fellow-in-Residence).

## November 4, 2021: Civil Disagreement Series: Guns in America

This event brought together a range of speakers who hold differing views on guns informed by their varied experiences. Together, they examined the issues that motivate different people’s views on gun ownership, exploring perspectives that are often-times overlooked.

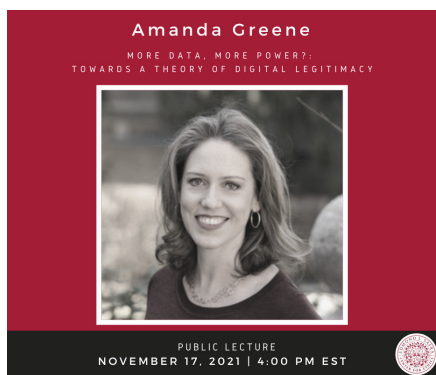


## November 9, 2021: Ethics in Your World with Michael Ignatieff

Harvard Book Store and the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University welcomed **Michael Ignatieff**—the author of *Scar Tissue*, *Fire and Ashes*, and *The Ordinary Virtues: Moral Order in a Divided World*—for a discussion of his latest book, *On Consolation: Finding Solace in Dark Times*. He was joined in conversation by **Arthur Appelbaum**, the Adams Professor of Democratic Values at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and author of *Legitimacy: The Right to Rule in a Wanton World*.

## November 12, 2021: Ethics in Your World with Deva Woodly

Harvard Book Store and the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University welcomed **Deva Woodly** to discuss her new book, *Reckoning: Black Lives Matter and the Democratic Necessity of Social Movements*.



## November 17, 2021: More Data, More Power?: Towards a Theory of Digital Legitimacy

**Amanda Greene's** lecture, titled "More Data, More Power? Towards a Theory of Digital Legitimacy," was based on a paper co-authored with **Samuel Gilbert**. In this talk, Amanda Greene questioned the logic of "more data, more power" and considered other ways of thinking about digital power and its legitimacy. The old models of sovereign power and structural power are inadequate, she said, because they fail to accommodate something crucial: the fact that digital power is an empowering power. Companies like Facebook empower users to interact through versatile permission structures.

## December 2, 2021: System Error: Where Big Tech Went Wrong and How We Can Reboot

**Jeff Behrends**, the Center's Director of Ethics and Technology Initiatives, led a conversation with Professors **Rob Reich**, **Mehran Sahami**, and **Jeremy M. Weinstein** on their exciting new book, *System Error*.



## February 15, 2022: Incarceration and Its Impact on Health

The first of the four-part event series, "Medical Justice and the Carceral State," that aims to encourage collaboration between health and legal experts, raise awareness about healthcare disenfranchisement in carceral settings, and showcase the material change that is possible through public interest law and medical partnerships. Hosted by Harvard Medical School.



## February 17, 2022: Annual Kissel Lecture in Ethics with Pamela Hieronymi

**Pamela Hieronymi** is a Professor of Philosophy at UCLA. She has published on moral responsibility and on our control over our own states of mind. She is currently bringing these two strands together into a book, *Minds that Matter*, in order to unwind the traditional problem of free will.

Event Series  
**Medical Justice and the Carceral State**

**A Physician's Duty to Treat:  
 Rethinking Medical Ethics in Carceral Spaces**



Panelists: Elizabeth Matos, Takunda Matose, & Brittany White  
 Moderator: William Weber  
 Thursday, March 10, 2022, 12:00pm to 1:30pm



## March 10, 2022: A Physician's Duty to Treat: Rethinking Medical Ethics in Carceral Spaces

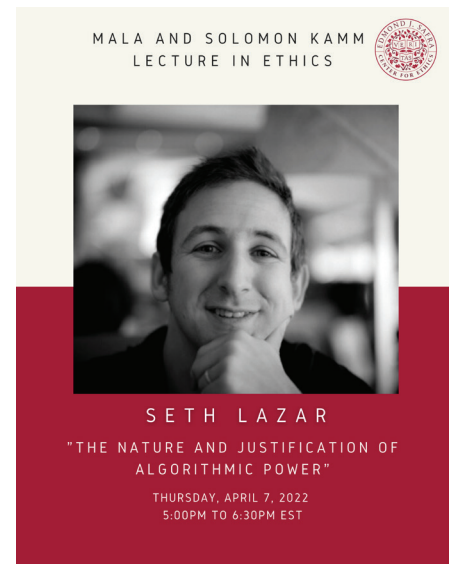
The second of the four-part event series, “Medical Justice and the Carceral State,” this conversation encouraged collaboration between health and legal experts, raise awareness about healthcare disenfranchisement in carceral settings, and showcase the material change that is possible through public interest law and medical partnerships. In this second panel discussion, the conversation will cover legal remedies for those experiencing health concerns in carceral settings, the need for expert medical witness testimony, and introduce the obligation that healthcare providers have to provide care beyond the bedside. Hosted by the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics.

## April 7, 2022: Mala and Solomon Kamm Lecture in Ethics with Seth Lazar

Seth Lazar’s talk uses political philosophy to advance that project—and uses algorithmic intermediary power to advance political philosophy. It offers an empirically-grounded theory of algorithmic power, then sets out the conditions for its justification, paying particular attention to the conditions under which private algorithmic power either can, or must not, be tolerated.

## April 15, 2022: Ethics in Your World Book Talk with Olúfémi O. Táíwò

Harvard Book Store and the Edmond J. & Lily Safra Center for Ethics welcomed Professor **Olúfémi O. Táíwò** to discuss his recent book, *Reconsidering Reparations*.



## April 21, 2022: Civil Disagreement Series: Public Safety & Policing in America

For some Americans, sustained and additional investments in police and prisons are seen as critical and necessary to ensure safety and justice for all citizens. On this view, enhanced support for law enforcement is key. Other Americans, however, call for reducing the scope of police function, focusing instead on alternative frameworks for reform or abolishing police departments altogether, advocating for greater financial and social investment in community resources and economic development as means for promoting public safety and supporting populations in greatest need.



## April 22, 2022: Ethics in Your World with Michael Schur

Harvard Book Store and the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University welcomed **Michael Schur** to present his book, *How to Be Perfect*.



## DECISIONS AND DESSERTS

with **Frances Haugen**

Advocate for Accountability &  
Transparency in Social Media

Moderated by **Marian Bothner**

Friday, April 29th from 4:30-5:30 PM  
Phillips Brooks House Parlor Room

Dessert will be served!



## April 29, 2022: Decisions and Desserts with Frances Haugen

This discussion with **Frances Haugen** was part of our series Decisions & Desserts: What I Decided and Why. These events put undergraduates in conversation with leading decisionmakers, and allow undergraduates to explore with them the ethical considerations and other factors that went into some of their major life decisions.

## May 3, 2022: Medical Justice and the Carceral State, Part 3: The Doctor's White Coat vs. The Officer's Uniform: Who Calls the Shots?

Who decides when people in prison will receive health care, how they will do so, and what kind of care they receive? Health care for incarcerated populations is often determined by elements of the correctional system, including staff interference, budget limitations, or security overrides, instead of being informed by a patient's clinical needs. Our third panel discussion focuses on how these failures in care manifest themselves and how medical justice can be achieved for incarcerated populations. The third of the four-part series on "Medical Justice and the Carceral State," hosted by the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics.

## June 29, 2022: Dobbs v. Jackson: Understanding the Post-Roe Landscape

The Supreme Court decision for *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* has shocked the country. The United States is now living in a post-Roe world, and the right to abortion has lost its constitutional protection. This discussion at the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics analyzed this landmark decision, its underpinnings, and its impacts for abortion and other areas of law.



# Community News

## **Manon Garcia Named One of the 50 Most Influential French People in the World (December 2021)**

Former Fellow in Residence, Manon Garcia, has been named one of the 50 most influential French people in the world by Vanity Fair France. [Read the list of influential French people here.](#)

## **Meira Levinson Appointed the Juliana W. and William Foss Thompson Professor of Education and Society (December 2021)**

Professor Meira Levinson was appointed the Juliana W. and William Foss Thompson Professor of Education and Society at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The chair is intended for a scholar whose work advances “the study of education and its societal context, including its relationship to economic, political and public factors” and who has demonstrated extraordinary service to HGSE. [Read more here.](#)

## **Former Graduate Fellow Karl Lauterbach becomes German Health Minister (December 2021)**

Karl Lauterbach was a former Graduate Fellow and Professor of Health Economics and Epidemiology. Appointed by German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Lauterbach is to be the new German health minister. [Read more here.](#)

## **First-Year Ethics Bowl Team Wins Online Regional Tournament (December 2021)**

The first-year ethics bowl team won their online regional tournament this past weekend. The team (Joshua Hansen, Yusuf Mian, Lucas Hustick, and Corinne Mulvey) presented cases on the ethics of defunding the police, the permissibility of doxxing, and on what steps government ought to take, if any, to limit the environmental costs of pet ownership.

## **DKP Curriculum Recognized by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (December 2021)**

The Democratic Knowledge Project (DKP) at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics has been [recognized by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education](#) for the high quality of its 8th grade curriculum, “Civic Engagement in Our Democracy.” The DKP’s curriculum was one of only four core civics curriculum materials of nearly 100 reviewed found to meet DESE’s expectations for high quality.

## **Meira Levinson’s EdEthics Multimedia Case Study Wins Global Award (September 2021)**

Meira Levinson’s multimedia case study, [Promotion vs. Retention: A Dilemma in Educational Ethics](#), won the [International E-Learning Association’s Award, Academic Division](#) in the E-Learning category. This case was co-created by three current and former Ethics Pedagogy Fellows: **Tatiana Geron**, **Maya Cohen**, and **Ellis Reid**. The case demonstrates our Design Studio principles at work as it integrates ethical theory with engaging practical curricular materials and is in fact used by university educators and by school districts, including a collaboration w/Chicago Public Schools. Congratulations, team!

## **Christine Korsgaard to Receive 2023 Rescher Medal (March 30, 2022)**

Christine M. Korsgaard, the Arthur Kingsley Porter Research Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University, has been named the winner of the 2023 Nicholas Rescher Medal for Contributions to Systematic Philosophy.

The Rescher Prize, created in 2010, is “intended to counter present-day tendencies to narrow specialization by rewarding and showcasing the work of philosophers who have addressed the historical ‘big questions’ of the field in ways that nevertheless command the respect of specialists. [You can read more about the 2023 Rescher Medal here.](#)

### **Darien Pollock New Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Boston University (March 21, 2022)**

Former Graduate Fellow, Darien Pollock join the Philosophy department at Boston University as Assistant Professor of Philosophy beginning Summer 2022. [Read the announcement here.](#)

### **Klaas Hendrik Eller Receives VENI Grant (April 11, 2022)**

Fellow-in-Residence Klaas Hendrik Eller received a VENI grant by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). The project, titled “Recoding Global Production: Towards a Legal Ethnography of Global Supply Chains,” investigates how global supply chains are legally coded and how companies organize compliance. It will provide a clearer picture of where and how exactly regulatory requirements around corporate responsibility are being altered, watered down, or deflected. [Read more about the VENI grant here.](#)

### **Martha Minow to Chair Implementation Committee for Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery Report (April 2022)**

Former Acting Director and Faculty Associate, Martha Minow, will be chairing the implementation committee for the Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery report. President Bacow has announced a commitment of \$100 million as a resource for this implementation. [Read the full Report of the Presidential Committee on Harvard & the Legacy of Slavery here.](#)

### **Gina Schouten Awarded Tenure (June 2022)**

We are pleased to share the news that Gina Schouten has been awarded tenure in the Department of Philosophy. Congratulations, Gina!

### **Tommie Shelby Elected Co-Chair of Pulitzer Prize Board (June 2022)**

Faculty committee member Tommie Shelby, along with Neil Brown, have been elected as co-chairs of the Pulitzer Prize Board. Brown is the President of The Poynter Institute, and Shelby is the Caldwell Titcomb Professor of African and African American Studies and Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University.

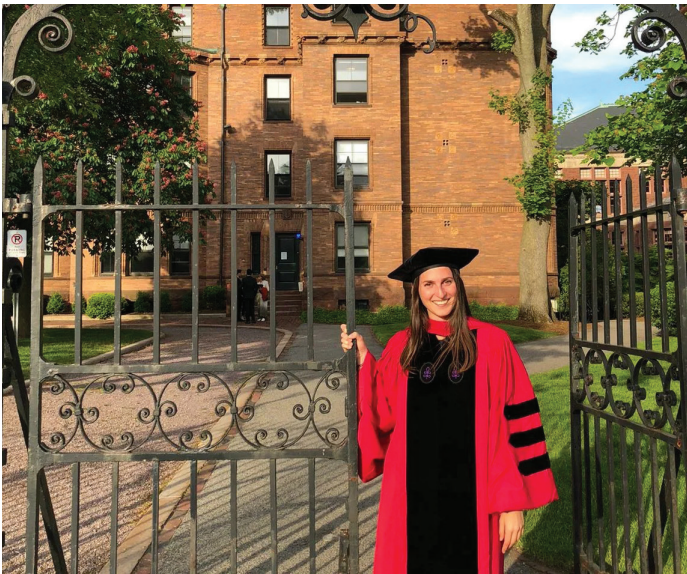
The Pulitzer Prizes, which are administered at Columbia University, have a 19-member board and are composed mainly of leading journalists or news executives from media outlets across the U.S., as well as five academics or persons in the arts. The dean of Columbia’s journalism school and the administrator of the prizes are nonvoting members. The chair rotates to the most senior member or members. The board is self-perpetuating in the election of members. Voting members may serve three terms of three years for a total of nine years.

### **Archon Fung Named Faculty Director of the Ash Center (June 14, 2022)**

Professor Archon Fung has been appointed faculty director of the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation. Fung serves as the Winthrop Laflin McCormack Professor of Citizenship and Self-Government at the Kennedy School, where he has been on the faculty since 1999. [Read the full announcement and learn more about Professor Archon Fung here.](#)

# Congratulations, graduates!

This May, Harvard held a triple commencement ceremony for graduates from the classes of 2020, 2021, and 2022. Here are just a few of our fellows and staff who celebrated this milestone. We extend our hearty congratulations to all in our community who celebrated their graduations this year!



Elettra Bietti, Eugene P. Beard Graduate Fellow 2018-19



Louis Gerdelan, Graduate Fellow 2018-19



Jennifer Guerin and David Bates, DKP Staff



Jean McVeigh, Administrative Director, 1986-2014

## FACULTY COMMITTEE

Danielle Allen  
Arthur Applbaum  
Eric Beerbohm  
Jeffrey Behrends  
Selim Berker  
I. Glenn Cohen  
Angela DePace

Richard Fallon  
Katrina Forrester  
Archon Fung  
Nien-hê Hsieh  
David S. Jones  
Meira Levinson  
Mathias Risse

Christopher Robichaud  
Gina Schouten  
Tommie Shelby  
Alison Simmons  
Lucas Stanczyk  
Brandon Terry  
Robert Truog

## FACULTY ASSOCIATES

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John Basl  
Max H. Bazerman  
Gabriella Blum  
Derek Bok  
Allan M. Brandt  
Cornell Brooks  
Flavio P. Calmon  
Emily Click  
Charlie Conroy  
Norman Daniels  
James Doyle  
Cynthia Dwork  
Benjamin Eidelson  
Catherine Z. Elgin  
Einer R. Elhauge  
Lachlan Forrow  
Charles Fried  
Howard E. Gardner  
Francesca Gino  
John C.P. Goldberg  
Erhardt Graeff

Joshua Greene  
Barbara Grosz  
Elizabeth Hinton  
Mark D. Jordan  
Jane Kamensky  
Andrew L. Kaufman  
David Korn  
Christine M. Korsgaard  
Adriaan Lanni  
Lisa Lehmann  
Lawrence Lessig  
Ann Marie Lipinski  
Jeantine Lynshof  
Jane J. Mansbridge  
Joshua D. Margolis  
Eric S. Maskin  
Frank I. Michelman  
James Mickens  
Martha Minow  
Jeffrey Moriarty  
Lynn Sharp Paine  
Intisar A. Rabb  
Julie Reuben

Dani Rodrik  
Susannah Rose  
Michael Rosen  
James Sabin  
Malcolm S. Salter  
Michael J. Sandel  
Thomas M. Scanlon  
Elaine Scarry  
Amartya Sen  
Susanna Siegel  
Doris Sommer  
Holger Spamann  
Carol S. Steiker  
Kaia Stern  
Kristen A. Stilt  
Latanya Sweeney  
Dennis F. Thompson  
Thomas C. Tsai  
Richard Tuck  
Daniel Wikler  
David B. Wilkins  
Christopher Winship

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Mrs. Lily Safra	XQ
The Edmond J. Safra Philanthropic Foundation	Galaxy Gives
The Carnegie Corporation	The Rockefeller Foundation
The Estate of Lester Kissel	Lucas Education Research
The Hewlett Foundation	Omidyar Network
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation	New Venture Fund
Eric Mindich	The Broad Institute
Ian Simmons	The National Institutes of Health
Eugene P. Beard	Public Interest Technology University Network

## STAFF

**Danielle Allen**, Director (on leave 2021-2022)  
**Nien-hê Hsieh**, Acting Director 2021-2022  
**Jess Miner**, Executive Director  
**Vickie Aldin**, Strategic Initiatives Administrator  
**David Bates**, Curriculum Design Research Coordinator, DKP  
**Adrienne Billingham Bock**, Director of Curriculum, DKP  
**Emily Bromley**, Assistant Director of Fellowships and Programs  
**Stephanie Dant**, Associate Director of Administration & Finance  
**Jake Fay**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Design Studio  
**Maggie Gates**, Assistant Director of Communications and Development  
**Katie Giles**, Strategic Initiatives Project Officer  
**Jennifer Guerin**, Curriculum Resources and Projects Coordinator, DKP  
**jonathan hack**, Director of Content & Strategy, JHD  
**Alexis Jimenez Maldonado**, Communications Assistant  
**David Kidd**, Chief Assessment Scientist  
**Anna Lewis**, Research Associate, JHD  
**Martino Ongis**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Design Studio  
**Susan Orr**, Assistant to the Director  
**Elahe Rahmani**, JHD Project Manager  
**Alex Ostrowski Schilling**, Events and Digital Programming Coordinator  
**Meg Foley Yoder**, JHD Communications Associate  
**Ariana Zetlin**, Research Program Assistant, DKP  
**Alberta Zoumar**, Grants Manager

