



PennState

# GPSu

April 2016

The Center for Global Studies  
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## UNIVERSITY PARK EVENTS

### ***"Decolonizing Our Wombs: Gender Justice and Petro-Pharma Culture"***

**Cara Judea Alhadeff, UC Santa Cruz**

Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

157 Burrowes Building, 12:15pm-2:00pm

### ***"Dum Laga Ke Haisha"***

**CGS Staff**

Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Foster Auditorium, 6:30pm-9:00pm

### ***"Annual Undergraduate Symposium"***

**Penn State and University of Pittsburgh Students**

Monday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Penn State Innovation Park, 9:00am-4:00pm

### ***"Dealing with North Korea"***

**Evans Revere, Albright Stonebridge Group**

Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

012 Katz Building, 11:15am-12:30pm

### ***"Omar (2013)"***

**Reham Aly, Penn State**

Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Foster Auditorium, 6:30pm-9:00pm

### ***"Seeking Spiritual Resemblance by Abandoning Imagistic Imitation: Philosophical and Aesthetic Roots of the Differences Between Chinese and Western Performing Art"***

**Ming Dong Gu, University of Dallas, Texas**

Monday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016

102 Kern Building, 12:15pm-1:30pm

### ***"Kafka's Humor: German Reception and the (U)translatability into the American Idiom"***

**Lauren Brooks, Penn State**

Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016

157 Burrowes Building, 12:15pm-2:00pm

## Time Traveling Luncheons

By Kayla DeStefano

Penn State's Comparative Literature Luncheon is a weekly informal lunchtime gathering of students, faculty, and other members of the University. Each Monday, there is a twenty-minute presentation by a visitor or a local speaker on a topic related to any humanities discipline. Lunch is provided, and there is a question and answer session at the end of each lecture, providing attendees with a chance to directly communicate with the lecturer. The Luncheon series also welcomes guest speakers from around the world to give presentations on various topics of global literary research.

On Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>, Biwu Shang, a distinguished research fellow of English at China's Jiaotong University in Shanghai presented a lecture titled *"Unnatural Narratives in Contemporary Chinese Time Travel Fiction"*. His talk was focused on the patterns and means of time travel, as well as the unnaturalness derived from such perspectives, such as self-contradictory narration and multi-person narration. He explained the consequences and values of being unnatural, and offered a way to naturalize it by suggesting the intersection of unnatural narratology with ethical narratology.

He also added that time travel fiction in China is extremely popular and many of these novels are made into television dramas.



*Students and faculty listen to Shang's presentation*

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*"Luncheons" continued from page 1*

Each week, speakers from Penn State, local universities, or abroad, give talks on research such as this.

The lectures during the month of March are all Science Fiction related. If you are interested in attending the luncheons, they are held every Monday from 12:15pm to 1:30pm in 102 Kern Building.

Please see <http://complit.la.psu.edu/news-events/comp-lit-luncheon-series> for a list of future research topics and presenters.

## College Town Film Festival Returns to State College

By Lauren Kokoskie

From Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup> through Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup>, *"The College Town Film Festival (CTFF)"* returned to State College for the fourth consecutive year in a row. The festival took place in The State Theatre and other University locations and featured a variety of film categories, including: international student films, workshops, documentaries, horror shorts, and much more. The series was a way for students to get involved and be inspired to produce films and create conversation based on these films.

After the film was shown, the audience was invited to ask questions about the film and talk about issues involving the film, in their community and internationally, with the director.



*"College Town Film Festival: Facebook Page"*

*Students, faculty, and the community discuss the film "The Duck Diaries" with producers*

According to Penn State's very own Matt Jordan, president of "CTFF," they wanted to *"create something that brings the University and the community together by talking about one idea and bring in new ideas."*

Jordan continued to explain *"this event started because of a showing of a film several years back, which sparked a conversation in the community that we wanted to continue."* That film inspired the team to be involved with other events in State College such as *"Thaw,"* a music festival in February that was used as an alternative option for students during the infamous *"State Patty's Day"* weekend. The group has also held events at Ohio University similar to the *"CTFF"* in State College.

Jordan says in the future *"he hopes to do something on the road but also wants to have a larger festival similar to Thaw in the spring."*

For more information on *"CTFF"* and future events please visit <http://collegetownfilmfestival.com/>

## Spring Break and Peace Talks in Cuba

By Bridget Adduce

While Penn State students and faculty enjoyed their Spring breaks on various beaches and in beautiful cities, one of the university's newest faculty members, Dr. Alex Fattal, spent his time off in a rather unique location. Dr. Fattal, who joined Penn State's Department of Film-Video and Media Studies in January, traveled to Cuba for the length of Spring break to continue research for his upcoming book, *"Guerrilla Marketing: Information War, Capitalism, and Counterinsurgency in Colombia."*

The book focuses on the negotiations between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, a rebel group that has been fighting for more than 50 years. More specifically, Dr. Fattal writes about the demobilization program used by the government to draw rebels out of the insurgency individually using marketing campaigns and military intelligence operations.

Dr. Fattal describes the book's focus as, *"the convergence between tactics, strategies, and practices of marketing on the one hand, and counterinsurgency on the other, and how the two types of expertise are..."*

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*"Religious Freedom" continued from page 2*

*... coming together. Fattal adds, "what is interesting is that advertising, which now is going to great lengths to hide its commercial intent is linking up with a type of warfare that hides its military objectives. I think about it as the intersection of advertising as non-advertising and war as non-war. I am working to develop the concept of 'brand warfare,' which builds off of the double meaning coded into Guerilla Marketing."*



*Dr. Alex Fattal*

During his trip, Dr. Fattal had the opportunity to interview two vital members of the rebel FARC insurgency: one member of the FARC's secretariat, which is the top 7 most powerful people in organization, and its director of media operations, who is playing a fundamental role in preparing for the FARC's possible transition from an armed movement to political life.

After returning from Cuba, Dr. Fattal has noted that the peace talks are in their final stages, but there's still a lot of common ground that needs to be forged. The research from this past trip will contribute to the epilogue of Dr. Fattal's upcoming manuscript, which he plans to complete by the end of 2016.

For more information on these events, or any other Center for Global Studies events please visit <http://cgs.la.psu.edu/events>

## Quote of the Month

"Be less curious about people and more curious about ideas."  
-Marie Curie

### Our Mission

The Center for Global Studies (CGS) has been designated a Title VI National Resource Center by the Department of Education. Working in collaboration with Penn State's many excellent international initiatives, faculty and students from multiple disciplines, and K-12 schools in the region, the CGS is dedicated to the growth and support of global studies

### Our Staff

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