

- January**  
 1-30 - India Unveiled Photo Exhibit - SO Atrium  
 8 - 1st day of Spring Classes  
 17- ISD Faculty Meeting
- February**  
 8 - Year of India Speaker: Dr. Mrinalini Sinha,  
 9:30 - 10:30 am SO 3021  
 21 - AMSTO Symposium - SO Atrium  
 21- ISD Faculty Meeting
- March**  
 1-30-GWST Women's History Month  
 21- ISD Faculty Meeting
- April**  
 1-6 - Spring Break  
 13 - SAUPO - Renaissance Waverly Hotel  
 25 - ISD Faculty Meeting  
 30 - Last day of classes
- May**  
 1-7-Final Exam Week  
 8-10 - Spring Graduation  
 10- Spring grades due!



**"Anatomy of a Protest: The Abolition of Indian Indentured Labor in the British Empire"**  
**Dr. Mrinalini Sinha**  
 February 8, 2018. 9:30-10:30 am  
 SO 3021

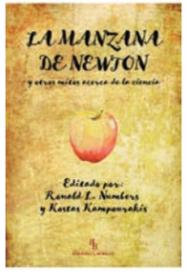
Mrinalini Sinha is a historian of colonial India and of the British empire. She is the Alice Freeman Palmer Professor of History at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and a former President of the Association of Asian Studies. She is the author of *Colonial Masculinity: The 'manly Englishman' and the 'effeminate Bengali' in the late 19th century* (1995) and *Specters of Mother India: The Global Restructuring of an Empire* (2006). She is currently working on a book on the politics of the interwar period in India.



ISD just graduate our first Peace Corps Prep Students:

- 1) Carlos Gomez
- 2) Crystal Morris
- 3) Georgia Northcutt

For more info about the program, please email: [Tpynn@kennesaw.edu](mailto:Tpynn@kennesaw.edu)



**Faculty Research**

**Julie Newell** contributed a chapter to this book project, translated into Spanish by Harvard Press (English title is: *Newton's Apple and Other Myths About Science*).

**Roxanne Donovan** and **Na Lae Kim** each received a Manuscript Completion Award from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

**Rudy Aguilar** presented his paper at the American Studies Association Conference in Chicago. The title was: "I'll Never Forget You: Chicago's Mystics, Sixties Soul, and Shared Affinities between Latinos and African-Americans."

**Rebecca Hill** contributed to a panel discussion at the ASA: Teaching Before and After Trump.

**Robbie Lieberman** presented a paper at the Peace History Society conference in October, which was held at the World War I Museum in Kansas City: "Red Scare, Black Scare: Lasting Effects of the World War I Era on African American Advocacy of Peace and Freedom." She also presented the society's Lifetime Achievement Award at the meeting. She chaired a session at the ASA meeting entitled "Can the University Teach Dissent?"

**HOMECOMING 2017 CHSS Awards**

*Outstanding MAST Alumnus: Mandy McGrew*



*Outstanding MAST Student: Stephanie Craven*



*Outstanding AADS Alumnus: Jalessah Jackson*

*Outstanding AADS Undergraduate: Arlene White*



Interdisciplinary Studies Department

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**Speaking Out by Kneeling Down**

AADS minor David Corinthian leads a student protest in support of the KSU 5, the cheerleaders who knelt during the national anthem at a KSU football game this fall. KSU's mascot, Scrappy the Owl, joined in to support the cheerleaders action and free speech on campus. Kneeling during the national anthem first received public attention when San Francisco 49ers football player Colin Kaepernick did so to call attention to issues of police brutality and racial inequality across the nation. As one of the cheerleaders put it, their action "was nothing that was meant to disrespect America . . . we just wanted to take the knee in the name of equality."

**Our Amazing Students**

In ISD, KSU's commitment to community engagement is interpreted broadly to mean making a difference in the world, especially when it comes to issues of social justice. This fall, AADS minor David Corinthian (pictured left) took what he was learning in the classroom about protest movements in another era and decided "this is our time." He initiated a protest on the Campus Green, with a march around campus, in support of KSU's African American cheerleaders, who were kept off the field after a game in which they knelt during the national anthem. Chants of "Land of the free, but we can't take a knee?" were heard all over campus. A group of students continued to pressure the administration to rescind the changes it made after the kneeling incident. The cheerleaders have since been restored to their usual place in pre-game ceremonies, and there is wide agreement in the media that student protests made a difference. As the students themselves have pointed out, another similarity between their recent actions and many protests of the past was the participation and leadership of a number of strong women, whose role was less visible in the press coverage but was critical nonetheless.

Many of the photos inside this newsletter highlight student accomplishments: the first student to graduate with a major in Asian Studies; the first three students to graduate with a Peace Corps Preparation certificate; two more AADS graduates—one with a major and one with a minor; and a Master's student who successfully

defended her thesis. We were also able to honor an outstanding student and alumnus from each of our established degree programs—AADS and MAST—at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences homecoming ceremony, attended by AADS coordinator Griselda Thomas. Hearty congratulations to all of these deserving students!

One of ISD's student workers, Fabeon Tucker, graduated and moved to New York to be with family. We will miss him. He left his mark not only on ISD but also on KSU—at a track and field meet last March, he threw the discus 49m., the third-farthest throw in Kennesaw State's history. Fortunately, Nia-Imani Mason is still with us for the foreseeable future.

In Spring 2018, in addition to the American Studies Student symposium in February and Gender & Women's Studies Focus Week in March, ISD will be hosting a distinguished speaker for the Year of India, Dr. Mrinalini Sinha from the University of Michigan, a scholar of gender, colonial India, and the British Empire. Her public talk (details on page 4) is scheduled for the morning of Feb. 8, but she will also be available for more informal discussions with faculty and students that day.

If you have not yet stopped by to tour the renovated ISD suite, we invite you to do so during the New Year.

**Robbie Lieberman, Chair**



On Saturday, November 4, Kennesaw State hosted the Latin American Association's 18th Annual Latino Youth Leadership Conference. The Conference was attended by 2,000 students, parents, teachers and volunteers. The conference aims are to motivate Latino students to finish high school and pursue college; provide them with the tools and skills they need to access a college education; develop leadership skills; and promote career exploration. Presenters from Kennesaw State included ISD's own Dr. Ernesto Silva, who spoke about study abroad experiences and opportunities and Dr. Rudy Aguilar, who spoke about music. Kennesaw State will again host the conference on Saturday, November 3, 2018. (Pictured (LtoR) Dr. Ernesto Silva, Dr. Darlene Rodriguez and Dr. Rudy Aguilar.)

**Welcome Back Dr. Bradley!**



ISD is thrilled that **Dr. Regina Bradley** is back at Kennesaw State. She was our part-time faculty member of the year before accepting a full-time faculty position at Armstrong State. (We missed her!)

She was hired by the English Department in Fall 2017 and we welcome her back to teaching as an affiliated faculty member in ISD in the African and African Diaspora Studies and American Studies Programs. This spring she is teaching an innovative course entitled: Outkast and the Hip Hop South, which filled quickly.

She was the Nasir Jones HipHop Fellow (Harvard University, Spring 2016) and has a book under contract with UNC Press entitled, "*Chronicle Stankonia: OutKast and the Rise of the Hip Hop South.*"

Welcome back Regina. We're looking forward to great classes and collaboration in 2018 and beyond.

**December Graduates**



**Anna Barnes** graduated with her Asian Studies B.A. in December. She is the first student to graduate from this exciting new degree program. Anna chose the Asian Business concentration for her studies.



Kimberly Diallo



Madyson Price

**MAST Updates**



Congratulations to **Stephanie Hogue** who defended her thesis "Pink is the new Bull: The feminization of Pit Bulls in Visual and Literary Discourses as a Rescue Tactic." Here she is pictured (center) with her committee members, Dr. Griselda Thomas (left) and Dr. Laura Beth Davis (right).

MAST alumnus **Gabriel Greaves** ('16) just passed his GATES test and is substituting in the Cobb County School System. He is looking forward to teaching social studies and history to middle and high school students.



**Wende Ballew** ('11) through her work in prisons, was able to deliver Christmas gifts to every person on death row in Georgia. Wende is studying at UGA to earn her PhD in Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methodologies.

**New ISD Limited Term Faculty Member**

Jayne Canty found herself in the world of academia studying of women of color. Ms. Canty is a native of North Carolina, where she completed high school at Millbrook High School in 2002. Ms. Canty graduated summa cum laude in 2006 from North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University (NC A&T) in Greensboro, North Carolina, where she received her Bachelor in Arts degree in Political Science. After working as a paralegal in North Carolina for two years, she returned to school to complete her Master's degree in Africana Women's Studies at Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia. She obtained a Ph.D. in Humanities with concentrations in Africana Women's Studies and Political Science at Clark Atlanta University in Fall 2017. She works as an adjunct professor at Clark Atlanta University, Spelman College, and Kennesaw State University. She currently lives with her partner in Atlanta.

Welcome Jayme!



We welcome a new member to the ISD family - Sita joined Tom Pynn's home in November. Sita is the central female figure in the Hindu epic Ramayana. Sita Sings the Blues, an animated film from 10 years ago is in the director's works, "A tale of truth, justice and a women's cry for equal treatment."



We wish Tom and Sita much happiness and many great hikes together!

Join **Dr. Seneca Vaught** and **Dr. Ernesto Silva** as they lead this adventure packed trip to Peru. Soak up the Incan sun and earn 6 credit hours in Latin American Studies as you learn the mysteries of ancient civilizations. Using a series of hands-on projects and interdisciplinary methods, you will feast on the finest foods, focus on fabulous feature films, delve in dance, and much more! In a series of challenges, you will explore archaeological wonders like Machu Picchu, analyze architectural treasures in cities like Lima and Cusco, and change lives through service learning projects.

<http://dga.kennesaw.edu/educationabroad/>



**3rd Annual Latin American Film Festival**

The Latin American Film Festival was a huge success this fall. Organized by **Dr. Ernesto Silva** and **Dr. Dan Paracka**, the festival introduced students to films from all of the South American countries and also invited local consuls general to participate in educating the students about their countries. Participants included the Consuls General of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru. This program is designed to highlight groundbreaking films from Latin America and to build awareness among the KSU campus and greater-Atlanta communities.

