During the 2011-2012 academic year, the American Studies program at Purdue University conferred **seven** doctoral degrees to students from diverse academic backgrounds. **Mark Bousquet**, who concentrated in English, successfully defended his dissertation entitled, “Drifting; Round the World in a Blubber Hunter”: Nineteenth-Century American Whaling Narratives.” Currently, he is the Assistant Director of Core Writing at the University of Nevada-Reno. In June 2012, Bousquet published another book of fiction entitled, Gunfighter Gothic Volume 0: Blood of the Universe. Recent Ph.D. graduate, **Philathia Bolton**, will serve as a lecturer in English during the forthcoming academic year. Her dissertation was entitled, “Making Dead and Barren”: Black Women Writers on the Civil Rights Movement and the Problem of the American Dream.

Another Ph.D. graduate, **Jamie Hickner**, successfully defended her dissertation in the fall of 2011. Hickner’s dissertation entitled, “History Will One Day Have Its Say”: Patrice Lumumba and the Black Freedom Movement, built upon her lengthy research and study on this Congolese independence leader during her time here at Purdue. During the same semester (and in the same week), **Charles Park** defended his dissertation which was entitled, “Between a Myth and a Dream”: The Model Minority Myth, the American Dream, and Asian Americans in Consumer Culture.

In the spring semester, **Kathy Mullins**’ dissertation entitled, “Let Women build Houses”: American Middle-Income, Single-Family Housing in the 1950s and the 1956 Women’s Congress on Housing extended the work she conducts outside the academy. Mullins serves as President & CEO of the historic Edsel & Eleanor Ford House and the Henry Ford Estate. Another spring semester graduate was **Neal Gill** who was based in the department of English. His dissertation was entitled, “When We Got Beat”: The WWII Era Labor Camp Origin of the Beat Movement. Lastly, **Kendra Unruh**’s dissertation, “Jubilant Spirits of Freedom”: Representations of the Lindy Hop in Literature & Film from the Swing Era to the Swing Revival was defended at the end of the spring semester. Unruh has accepted a teaching position and is currently awaiting a contract.

The aforementioned dissertation topics speak to the true interdisciplinary nature of our research interests—one of our program’s strengths. The AMST community celebrates the accomplishments of our most recent alumni and wishes them much success in their future endeavors!
2011 ASA Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland

Written by Pam Sari (Ph.D. Student)

The Purdue American Studies program has been a committed participant of American Studies Association (ASA) Annual Meeting. In 2011, the ASA Annual Meeting was held in Baltimore, MD on October 20-23, carrying the theme “Imagination, Reparation, and Transformation.” American Studies students Heather C. Moore, Pamela K. Sari, Lisa Beringer, Tony Perry, Walt Moore, and Shivohn Garcia had the opportunity to attend the conference, enjoy several panels, and network with other scholars, educators, and activists.

In this event, Heather Moore and Pam Sari had the wonderful opportunity to present their work. On Thursday, October 20, Heather presented her paper titled “What You Wanna Be… A Pay Lawyer? Black Masculinities as Tangible to School Success.” In this paper, Heather discussed the representations of black male youth in the HBO hit television series, *The Wire*. She argued that their experiences outside the classroom could be actively implemented into their formal school curricula.

On the same day (and same time!), Pam presented together with her undergraduate professor who flew to Baltimore from the American Studies program at Diponegoro University, Indonesia. As part of a workshop titled, “Teaching the American ‘Other’ in Diverse Cultural Contexts,” Pam and Professor Laksono spoke about the development and future of American Studies in Indonesia, as well as brainstormed together about what a transnational American Studies program would look like when involving Indonesian and American students and scholars.

As part of the ASA highlights, 2011-2012 ASA President Priscilla Wald gave her presidential address on Friday, October 24. Opening up with and centering her address on the case of Henrietta Lacks, Wald spoke about important conversations and debates between humanities and sciences and articulated what activist scholarship may look like. These themes were timely in response to the Occupy Movement and also mindful about the history of Baltimore in conjunction with Lacks’s case.

For American Studies students, staff, and faculty who could not make it to the 2011 ASA, I brought home a few pictures for all of us to enjoy and reflect. I look forward to stories from this year’s ASA Annual Meeting that is scheduled for November 15-18 in San Juan, Puerto Rico!
Hana Lee, Nick Krebs, and I were each honored to serve on the AMST Symposium committee for the 2011-2012 school year. After much thought, we chose the theme, “National Tragedies: Perceptions, Receptions, and Expectations” because we wanted to engage in scholarly conversations which interrogate those moments in both history and contemporary society, that have affected the American psyche consciously and/or unconsciously. We were happy to have such a wide range of papers from panelists who attend Purdue and well as many from other various institutions throughout the U.S, including Hawaii. Presentations at this year’s symposium explored various topics as it related to gender and sexuality studies, race and ethnicity studies, media studies, education, and psychology among many other disciplines.

We were also thrilled to have had two excellent keynote speeches throughout the conference. Our first keynote speaker for this year’s symposium was Dr. Emily Godbey (Department of Art and Design, Iowa State University) whose talk entitled, “Regarding Tragedy’s Visual Legacy” looked at the role postcards played in America’s response to various disasters. Our second keynote was Dr. José Capino (Department of English and Cinema Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) whose talk entitled, “American Tragedy: Third World Melodrama,” analyzed two films—*Once a Moth* and *PX* -- as a way of exploring the oft-ambivalent relationship between the Philippines and the United States. Each of their keynote addresses spoke to how identities are constantly being negotiated and shaped through various tragedies and forms of injustice occurring both within and beyond America’s geo-political borders.

We ended this year’s symposium with a small celebratory party hosted by Dr. Curtis at her home. We would like to thank both Delayne Graham and Dr. Susan Curtis for all of their diligence and help, as well as everyone who attended, participated, and moderated, making this year’s symposium a success.
The academic year of 2011 – 2012 was a big one for the American Studies Graduate Student Organization (ASGSO). It ushered in four new officers that had never served in ASGSO but had recently been involved in other committees and groups in American Studies at Purdue. This fresh start meant there was a lot of unknown terrain however, it provided a wealth of new opportunities.

Through the initial guidance of the ASGSO of years past, this year’s ASGSO restarted the mentor mentee program between first year Masters and PhD students and older graduate students, held several brown bags dedicated to not only important information for getting through graduate school but also focused greatly on professional development beyond the student life, as well as established some needed behind the scenes documents that will serve to help transition incoming ASGSO office members for years to come. The Brown Bags covered CV writing tips, interview tips for students on the job market, as well as served as a different venue for graduate students and faculty to connect and network on topics that may not always come up in our graduate seminars.

In addition to the Brown Bags, ASGSO was able to raise money through their semi annual book sale for travel as has become tradition for ASGGO. However, this year ASGSO was able to fundraise money through other outside sources which allowed ten graduate students to receive $100 to aid travel expenses to various conferences including the American Studies Association conference in Baltimore, Maryland, National Women’s Association Conference in Atlanta, Georgia and many more that spanned the entire United States.

Throughout the year, ASGSO remained an advocate and liaison between administration, faculty, and students as they took suggestions during the year to incorporate events that students wanted to host.

Last but certainly not least, ASGSO hosted social events that brought out everyone’s friendly competitive nature in ping pong, spades, and we cannot forget the famous Taboo! The laughter, great food, and excuse to get out of the books and around people allowed for the American Studies family to get together which everyone agrees does not happen enough. All in all, ASGSO had a successful year in connecting the various pockets of people involved in our great big family.
Meet the 2011-2012 New American Studies Students!

Juanita Crider comes to American Studies as a master’s student. She earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Ball State University in History. Juanita currently works at the Black Cultural Center here on campus. Juanita has been in the American Studies program this past year as a non-degree student.

Melissa Esh will enter our Ph.D. program having earned her Master’s from Fairleigh-Dickinson University in Secondary English Education. She completed her baccalaureate at Houghton College in English.

Chelsea Frazier will begin the M.A. program after completing her bachelor’s from Banard College in Women’s Studies. Chelsea is the recipient of a Lynn Fellowship.

Nicholas Krebs will be a Master’s student after completing his bachelor’s from Purdue University in History, Law & Society and African American Studies. He is a teaching assistant in the African American Studies Research Center (AASRC).

Arielle McKee comes to our M.A. program from the University of Texas at Austin. While at UT Austin, Arielle earned her bachelor’s degree in Psychology.

Kelly Patrick enters our M.A. program after completing her bachelor's degree in journalism from Butler University.

Virginia Pleasant comes to our Master’s program from Ball State University. She earned her bachelor’s degree in Anthropology.

APAC Announcement

By Arthur Banton (Ph.D. Student)

American Studies students, Hana Lee, Ping Qiu, Arthur Banton, and Pam Sari are members of the Asian Pacific American Caucus (APAC). Officially formed in 2010, APAC strives to address the needs of the Asian and Asian American communities on campus. APAC will be sponsoring or co-sponsoring numerous events throughout the academic year. For more information about APAC visit their Facebook page at:

Facebook.com/PurdueAPAC
When I began my graduate work in the American Studies program at Purdue, I felt the urge to build a connection with the community external to the academic world. I spent three years cultivating relationships with faculty and community members who had ties to public schools in Lafayette and early on made the decision to work with working class African American students in this diverse community. Through candid conversations with parents and administrators, I found out that a large majority of black students who come to Lafayette are what I deemed contemporary “migrant” families, originating from metropolitan centers in the Midwest and Southern United States. I was honored to have the opportunity to work alongside these youth that were from these urban under-represented communities.

Thus, I started The Black E.L.M. Project in September 2011 with a specific focus on the holistic education of the black male student. I met with these youth once a week at Lafayette Jefferson High School and discussed issues and material that was absent from their formal (high school) education. Many of these young men were introduced to the work of bell hooks, the literary scholarship from prolific icon Tupac Shakur, and were taught the story of Sarah Baartman. These text(s) inspired stimulating conversations about black masculinity, disenfranchisement, and identity that carried us through our first academic year, together.

Through my conversations with a few of my former classmates, I was given the opportunity to continue this work at Lafayette’s Oakland High School. I expanded my program to include a black female component where we discussed issues that directly impacted their social group. My organization also helped Oakland students create their first annual Black History Month program. For the upcoming academic year, my program will be part of the Oakland curriculum as I will work closely with the administration to acknowledge what scholarship is missing in the education of urban, black, migrant, Lafayette youth. I am humbled to have the opportunity to work so closely with this community and I plan to continue this organization for the remainder of my time here at Purdue. These youth transform my understanding of scholarship and consistently challenge me to be a better student, scholar, and mentor.
Many might think back to the summer of 2011 and are immediately reminded of the small earthquake that hit the east coast or Hurricane Irene which ravaged much of the Caribbean. When I mediate on the summer of 2011, I am humbled. It was through the generous funding of the Chester E. Eisinger Research Award that I was able to experience my dissertation in a way that could never have been possible through book learning.

My dissertation is an attempt to recover what I believe was a Spanish Harlem Renaissance, a largely Puerto Rican social and cultural movement that began in the 1930s. It examines the life and work of Jesus Colón-activist, Juan Avilés-writer, and Pura Teresa Belpré-librarian, who were central figures in the flowering of Puerto Rican culture in New York City. To identify each in a word does not even begin to illustrate the multifaceted achievements, talents, and cultural products of each, but is necessary here. My research in New York City made it clear that I needed to travel to Puerto Rico in order to visit the National Archives and interview two community leaders who were personal friends of two of my central figures, Juan Avilés and Pura Teresa Belpré. I was unprepared for what I experienced.

The small earthquake and Hurricane Irene are not simply interesting opening lines. They were actual characters that shaped my experience on the island. The weather shut down many roads, cut power lines and sources for clean water for much of my visit. The result was an extended stay with one of my interviewees and her daughter. It was through one of many informal conversations with them that I was taken on another journey, but only after answering this one question: What are you? Instinctively, I knew they were not referring to race or ethnicity, but to political affiliation. My answer: Independentista. The next day I was taken to small town to meet legendary activist, 104 year old Isabel Rosado who dedicated her life to the fight for Puerto Rican independence. She is better known on the island as La Madre Patria. She hugged me and I cried.
American Studies students and faculty have volunteered their time and energy to offer courses to students enrolled in the Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association (WALLA) for several years now, including the 2011-12 year. The WALLA program is a nonprofit that provides a venue for local persons over 50 to take classes in a variety of areas.

The fall session included several courses from American Studies students, including Kendra Unruh’s "Dance Sampler," which included instruction in swing dance, salsa dance, and tango. April Phillips presented in a course on Early American Texts. Jessica Kaiser continued her course, “American Identity and Culture,” from the spring, with American studies students Abby Stephens, Ping Qiu, Hana Lee, and (MA graduate) Kera Lovell also presenting.

In the spring session, Abby Stephens further built upon WALLA participants’ interest in local history when she coordinated a class titled “West Lafayette Memories,” which showcased some of the work she has been doing as the research assistant for the City of West Lafayette. Presenters from American Studies for Abby’s class, in addition to Abby, were Kristina Bross, Susan Curtis, and Lisa Young. Kendra Unruh coordinated “Women’s History and Culture,” for which American Studies graduate students Philathia Bolton, Arthur Banton, Suzanne Thompson Clemenz, Emma Bertolaet, Juanita Crider, and Lily Marsh all did presentations.

These courses have been extremely popular with WALLA participants, and some presenters have built continuing relationships with WALLA participants and organizers, including Mary Gardner, Purdue’s WALLA coordinator. This collaboration between American Studies students and the community members has been an immensely rewarding opportunity for those in both groups to learn and grow.

Dr. Nancy Gabin

Recipient of Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award

Professor Gabin, an affiliated AMST faculty member and professor in History, received the prestigious Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in Memory of Charles B. Murphy. She has been a devoted and inspiring teacher and mentor for not only undergraduate students but also many of our own AMST graduate students. We are honored to have her as part of our American Studies community!

It is now even easier to donate to the American Studies Program using Purdue-gift. Purdue-gift makes it simple to make a gift by credit card to Purdue. Go to the following web address:

http://www.purdue.edu/UDO/pages/how_to/egift.html

Click on “Make a Gift”, choose “Other” from a dropdown menu, then type “American Studies Program” in the text box, enter some information about yourself, submit your payment information, and the transaction is completed through Purdue’s secure server. Make your gift now in three easy steps. It takes just a few minutes.
The archive class led by Dr. Bross and Dr. Curtis once again had a stellar semester. With projects ranging from local recipes and food ways to local figures and civic interaction, community research produced a plethora of archival analysis. The semester began quickly with an immersion into theory. Our visit to the Karnes Special Collections and Archives center provided hands on training with full time archivists who demonstrated proper techniques for document care, maintenance and protection. Their further availability as consultants in methods and terminology throughout the semester was invaluable. We also toured the West Lafayette Library and Community Memory Project archival center where director Nick Schenkel and our own Abby Stephens were hard at work.

Our actual practice began with a campus based memory project. We recovered memorial sites around campus, preserving their legacy, stories and information pertaining their creation. Cary quad served as interracial student housing during WWII's increased enrollment of ROTC training corps. David Ross' gravesite commemorates the man largely responsible for the campus design as we know it and the research fund that has supported and guided many successful ventures. Other sites included the stained glass window in PMU and Matthews Hall.

Our community partnerships began to take over halfway through the semester with heavy hours logged in preparation for the Block Party held April 28th. Although the weather was overcast and the farmers market had to be cancelled, many turned out to view research projects, and provide living testimony to the memories of the Morton School in West Lafayette. The Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer and other City officials even recreated a photo outside of Eclectic Hair Salon.

Despite the challenges constantly presented by graduate level education, the class successfully stepped up to the task of balancing the roles of archivists and researchers to produce fantastic presentations, projects and archival sustenance.
Meet Our New Affiliated Faculty!

**Professor Shannon McMullen**  
*Visual and Performing Arts*

Professor McMullen received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California - San Diego. She analyzes how urban spaces are shaped by art practices. Since May 2012, Professor McMullen and Professor Fabian Winkler have installed a 200 square foot designed field of soybeans in front of the City Hall of Singen/Hohentwiel in southern Germany. This art installation, National Security Garden, creates a local public image of soybean plants, with the intention of initiating a public discourse about the complex issues embodied in this one plant. Last semester in American Studies, she taught AMST 630, our capstone course for our most recent M.A. alumni. In the fall of 2012, she will be joint appointed in Art & Design and American Studies.

**Professor Lisa Banu**  
*Design History*

Professor Banu received her Ph.D. in Philosophy from The New School for Social Research. Her research focuses on art history, art theory/criticism, and art in South Asia. Professor Banu’s current research examines the mediation of culture in the context of design thinking and practice in developing countries. She previously served as a teaching fellow at Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts in New York.

**Professor Cheryl Cooky**  
*Health and Kinesiology*

Professor Cooky received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Southern California- Los Angeles. She specializes in gendered media representations of sport, qualitative methods in sport, and the sociological aspects of urban recreation sport programs for low-income young women of color. She has taught courses in both Health and Kinesiology and Women’s Studies at Purdue. Professor Cooky received an Honorable Mention for the prestigious “Article of the Year” award for her article “If You Let Me Play: Young Girls’ Insider-Other Narratives of Sport” from the *Sociology of Sport Journal*. 
Faculty News

**Professor Robert Lamb**'s *Art Matters: Hemingway, Craft, and the Creation of the Modern Short Story* (Louisiana State UP 2010) was lavishly praised as “literary criticism at its finest” in a feature review in Twentieth-Century Literature (56.4: 559-66). Two of the book’s chapters were reprinted in collections edited by Harold Bloom and Henry Claridge. The sequel to this two-volume study, *The Hemingway Short Story: A Study in Craft for Writers and Readers* will be published by LSU Press in fall 2012. In fall 2011, Professor Lamb was a Fellow at the CLA Center for Undergraduate Instructional Excellence, and last year he received two more English Department Excellence in Teaching Awards for his undergraduate and graduate instruction.

**Professor Ryan Schneider** continues to serve as Director of Graduate Studies for the English Department. He also recently completed a term on the national review committee for the American Council of Learned Societies Postdoctoral Fellowship. Prof. Schneider presented a paper on Transcendentalism and Critical Race Theory for the Thoreau Society panel at the Modern Language Association Conference in Seattle. He also presented a paper for the Emerson Society panel at the American Literature Association Conference in San Francisco.

**Professor Evelyn Blackwood** and Professor Ryan Plis were awarded the Faculty award for research on diversity and inclusion for their article, “Trans Technologies and Identities in the United States.” It will be published in *Technologies of Sexuality, Identity and Sexual Health* (Routledge 2012).

**Professor Yvonne Pitts** recently published an article entitled, “Disability, Scientific Authority, and Women’s Political Participation at the turn of the Twentieth Century United States” in the Journal of Women’s History (24.2: 37-61).

**Professor Chris Lukasik** recently published *Discerning Characters: the Culture of Appearance in Early America* (University of Pennsylvania Press 2011) as part of the McNeil Center for Early American Studies book series. In the past year, his work has appeared in Studies in American Fiction as well as the American Historical Review, and he has presented papers at the Modern Fiction as well as the American Historical Review. He has also presented papers at the Modern Language Association (MLA) annual convention, the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR) conference, the American Literature Association (ALA) conference, and the Society for Early Americanists (SEA) conference.


**Professor Darren Dochuk** received the Dunning Prize for his book, *From the Bible Belt to the Sun Belt*. The prize is for the best book on any subject pertaining to the history of the United States and it will be presented at the upcoming annual meeting of the American Historical Association.

**Professor Kristina Bross** will be co-directing a one-day symposium at the Newberry Library that will consider Anglo-Dutch indigenous relations in the early modern world. The event is designed to bring together American Studies scholars with British Studies and Postcolonial or Native Studies scholars to sketch out the edges of a global field of study. One of the participants will be Sabine Klein (Ph.D. 2008). This symposium, which is one of two that the Newberry will sponsor next year, builds on the work of her current book, a chapter which was published recently: “From London to Nonantum: Mission Literature in the Transatlantic English World,” in *Empires of God: Religious Encounters in the Early Modern Atlantic*, ed. Linda Gregerson and Susan Juster (Penn Press 2011).
Michelle Carreon (current Ph.D. candidate) participated in an international conference at the Rockefeller Foundation Center in Bellagio, Italy. The conference titled, “Women’s Studies North and South,” focused on addressing global gender and social justice issues. The conference brought together scholars, activists, policy-oriented researchers, and representatives from the U.N. and transnational networks. Michelle assisted Dr. Valentine M. Moghadam, conference organizer and former Director of Purdue’s Women’s Studies Program. Michelle also had the opportunity to present her own dissertation research, received invaluable feedback from conference participants, and established international contacts.

Heather Cherie Moore (current Ph.D. student) presented a paper at the annual National Council of Black Studies (NCBS) conference entitled, “I’m the One Y’all Need to Be Worried About: An Analysis of Bishop from Juice and Michael from The Wire as Neo-Bad YOUTH.” She was also named the 2012 Howard G. McCall service award winner at the Purdue University Black Cultural Center’s annual awards banquet. Heather was recently asked to serve as the graduate student representative on the CLA Diversity Action committee. This fall, she will be presenting a paper at the first annual Tupac Amaru Shakur conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

Suzanne Clemenz (current Ph.D. candidate) presented papers at two conferences. She gave a talk titled, “Remapping Eden: The Fiction of Olympia Vernon” at the Gender Matters Interdisciplinary Conference at Governor’s State University in Illinois. At Purdue’s annual American Studies symposium, Suzanne presented a paper titled, “Bullying, Queerness, and the Interminable Search for Tolerance.” She also participated in the spring WALLA Women’s Studies course, delivering a presentation on Rebecca Skloot’s The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks.

Professor Karen Salt (Ph.D. 2011) was named Vice-President for the recently formed Early Caribbean Society.

Professor Heidi Lewis (Ph.D. 2011) was offered a tenure-track position at Colorado College. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Feminist & Gender Studies after serving as a Riley scholar-in-residence dissertation fellow. Last semester, she was awarded the Lloyd E. Worner Teacher of the Year Award at Colorado College for her outstanding teaching.

Professor Lee Bebout (Ph.D. 2007) is an Associate Professor of English at Arizona State University. His book, Mythohistorical Interventions was one of the featured books on the opening panel of the Conference on the Emerging Historiography of the Chicano Movement held at the University of California-Santa Barbara.

Professor Ernest Gibson (M.A. 2007) successfully defended his dissertation in the W.E.B. DuBois department of Afro-American Studies at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. His dissertation is entitled, “In Search of the Fraternal: Salvific Manhood and Male Intimacy in the Novels of James Baldwin.” He recently accepted a tenure-track position in the English department at Rhodes College.

Christopher Warren (current Ph.D. candidate) was selected to teach three courses for the Lion Education International Summer program at Xi’an Jiaotong University this summer. He also recently published an article in the Journal for Critical Educational policy titled, “The Effect of post-Racial Theory on Education.” He was also awarded a Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship for the upcoming fall semester.
Meet the 2012–2013 New American Studies Students!

Jolivette Anderson-Douoning will continue to the Ph.D. after earning her Master’s from our program in August 2012. Jolivette currently works at the Black Cultural Center.

Mariedith Ashford will enter our Ph.D. program after earning both the bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of California-Los Angeles, both in African American Studies. Mariedith will be a teaching assistant in the African American Studies Research Center (AASRC).

Jenean Cox will be a Master’s student after completing her bachelor’s from Purdue University in Sociology.

Aria Halliday comes to our M.A. program having earned her bachelor’s from Davidson College in Africana Studies. Aria is the recipient of a Lynn fellowship.

Stephen Horrocks will begin the M.A. program after completing his bachelor’s in American Studies from Utah State University. Stephen will be a teaching assistant in the Department of English.

Jaimalene Hough enters our Ph.D. program having earned her Master’s degree from the University of Illinois-Urbana Campaign. She received her bachelor’s degree from Eastern Washington University. Both her degrees are in Communication.

Maria Daniela Jimenez comes to our M.A. program from the University of California-Berkeley. While at Berkeley, Maria earned her bachelor’s degree in Anthropology. She is the recipient of a Lynn Fellowship.

Hana Lee continues to the Ph.D. program after completing her Master’s here at Purdue. She will continue to be a teaching assistant/instructor for Asian American Studies.

Michael Loeffelman enters our Ph.D. program having earned his master’s degree from the University of Virginia in Social Foundations of Education. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Miami University in Ohio. Michael works as the Assistant Director of the Honors Program in the College of Liberal Arts here at Purdue.

Kera Lovell returns to the Ph.D. program after having completed her Master’s in American Studies in 2011. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Agnes Scott College in History. Kera will be a teaching assistant in the Department of History.

Christopher Munt comes to American Studies as a Master’s student. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Purdue University in Religious Studies. Christopher currently works as the Coordinator for Student Diversity Services in the Diversity Resources Office here on campus. He has been in the American Studies program this past year as a non-degree student.

Antonio Ramos will be a Master’s student. He earned his bachelor’s degree from SUNY at Binghamton in Anthropology.

Jennifer Sdunzik will be a Ph.D. student. She earned both her Master’s and bachelor’s degrees in American Studies from Humboldt University in Germany. Jennifer will be a teaching assistant in German in the School of Languages & Cultures.

Na’emah Webb comes to our Master’s program after completing her bachelor’s from Lane College in English. Na’emah is the recipient of the George Washington Carver Fellowship.

Jeffrey Wimble enters our Ph.D. program after earning his Master’s from Indiana University-South Bend in English. His bachelor’s degree is from the University of Southern Mississippi in Library & Information Science. Jeffrey is the recipient of a Lynn Fellowship.

Annagul Yaryeva will be a Ph.D. student beginning in the fall semester. Annagul recently completed her Master’s in American Studies here at Purdue. She earned her baccalaureate in American Studies from the American University in Central Asia.

Lisa Young continues into the Ph.D. program from our Master’s program. Lisa is the recipient of a George Washington Carver Fellowship.
# FALL ASGSO CALENDAR

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**American Studies Program**  
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