

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce that *Towards a Global Humanities: Critical Traditions from the Global South*, will be convened this coming summer, from May 31- June 13, 2009 at Brown University in Providence, RI. This letter is to inform you that the Institute is now accepting applications online at [www.brown.edu/biari](http://www.brown.edu/biari) and that applications received before April 15 will be assured a full review.

The Institute is part of a larger faculty development initiative launched by International Affairs at Brown University, the **Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI)**. The objective of the program is to provide a platform for promising young faculty from the Global South to engage in a sustained intellectual and policy dialogue with leading scholars in their fields, and to foster scholarly networks among young faculty, while providing them an opportunity to develop their scholarship agendas.

The major objectives of *Towards a Global Humanities: Critical Traditions from the Global South* will be to examine critical intellectual traditions in the humanities that have emerged from the Global South, and their relation to questions of contemporary scholarship. The Institute is divided into four thematic clusters:

*Theories from the Global South* will examine a number of important intellectual traditions, including subaltern studies, post-colonial theory, black radical intellectual traditions, and theories about the coloniality of power.

*Theorizing Violence* will examine how different disciplines and intellectual traditions have framed and interpreted violence, and how they have interrogated the relationship between the articulation of violence and structural injustices.

*Opening Up Epistemes* will focus on indigenous knowledge systems and the productive spaces that emerge from the imbrications of different knowledge systems. This cluster will explore some of the conceptual spaces where two epistemological meta-categories - global sciences and local indigenous knowledge systems - increasingly interact.

*Trauma, History, Memory and Democracy* will pose questions about what democracy means and looks like in places where historical injustices persist in leaving their mark. It will also examine political communities that emerge from the historical memories of trauma and their implications for meanings of citizenship and freedom.

Each cluster will combine discussions and workshops, designed to engage ongoing scholarship by participants who work in that field. Participants will present their own work, in the form of written papers, visual presentations, creative projects, or performance pieces where applicable, and will receive comments both from their peers and from leading scholars in their field.

Among the Institutes' faculty are:

- 1 *Veena Das*, Johns Hopkins University
- 2 *Taieb Belghazi*, Director, Graduate School of Letters , University of Rabat
- 3 *Verene Shepherd*, University of the West Indies, Mona
- 4 *Wally Serote*, Novelist and Chief Executive Officer, Freedom Park, South Africa
- 5 *Ronald Judy*, University of Pittsburgh
- 6 *John Beverley*, University of Pittsburgh
- 7 *Michael Hanchard* , John Hopkins University
- 8 *Anani Dzidzienyo*, Brown University
- 9 *Ron Eglash*, Rensselaer Polytechnic
- 10 *Lori Alvord*, Dartmouth College
- 11 *Deidre Brown*, University of Auckland
- 12 *Moustafa Bayoumi*, Brooklyn College
- 13 *Elliott Colla*, Brown University
- 14 *Nauman Naqvi*, Brown University
- 15 *Patricia Ybarra*, Brown University

The Institute will also feature plenary lectures by *Lindsay Waters* (Executive Humanities Editor at Harvard Press), and others, as well as special performances and evening events.

For successful applicants from the Global South, BIARI is committed to keeping the Institute as nearly cost-free as possible, including travel, lodging and meals.

The Institute is also part of an initiative between the Cogut Center for the Humanities, The Office of International Affairs, The Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research of Women and the Africana Studies Department at Brown University. As part of the BIARI program, generous support comes from Brown University and Santander Universities.

We ask that you share this information with potential applicants, particularly emerging scholars who you think will both benefit and contribute to the intellectual life of the Institute. All further questions can be directed to [biari@brown.edu](mailto:biari@brown.edu)

Thanks very much for your cooperation in this matter.

The Convening Faculty,

Anthony Bogues

Geri Augusto

Vasuki Nesiah