

2008 - 2009

Timothy Baird

Geography

\$39,936

Tanzania

Wildlife Conservation and the Role of Inter-household Exchange in Social-Ecological Resilience

Parks and protected areas represent major perturbations in landscapes and have stimulated significant social, economic, and environmental change in much of Africa. Still, it is unclear how parks influence the social-ecological systems around them and what effect this influence has on ecosystem integrity and human well-being. I propose to advance the understanding of the impacts of parks and the processes by which parks affect social-ecological systems through a case study of Tarangire NP and local communities in northern Tanzania. I will examine how challenges and opportunities associated with the park have influenced livelihood strategies, how changing livelihoods have engendered new inter-household economic transactions, and ultimately how changing transactions impact demographic patterns and income equality at the community level.

Edward Geist

History

\$49,266

Russia

Two Worlds of Civil Defense: State, Society, and Nuclear Survival in the USA and USSR, 1945-1991

My dissertation, "Two Worlds of Civil Defense: State, Society, and Nuclear Survival in the USA and USSR, 1945-1991," is the first historical study of the Soviet civil defense program from the introduction of nuclear weapons in 1945 until the dissolution of the USSR in 1991 as well as the first comparative account of American and Soviet civil defense. Civil defense, the use of measures such as shelter and evacuation to reduce damage to life and property caused by enemy attack, presents an ideal means for exploring the impact of the arms race on Soviet citizens because it was the area in which nuclear weapons policy most intruded upon everyday life. By examining the ways in which the two superpowers prepared their citizens to survive enemy attack, my dissertation seeks to understand why Soviet and American citizens envisioned nuclear war in radically different ways, and how these alternative visions affected both official policy and the popular imagination.

Laura Premack

History

\$41,714

Brazil & Nigeria

Black Atlantic Spirit: Pentecostal Christianity and African Cosmology in Brazil, 1930-1970

My dissertation takes an innovative global historical approach which breaks new ground by treating Brazilian Pentecostalism and Nigerian Pentecostalism not as separate

phenomena but rather as two parts of a larger whole. Pentecostalism is a global religious movement which is growing at an extraordinary pace. Brazil and Nigeria, countries linked historically by the transatlantic slave trade, are home to two of the largest Pentecostal populations in the world. My dissertation seeks to demonstrate a link between “traditional” African religious beliefs and “modern” Pentecostal practices by investigating the centrality of spirit -possession to both. My hypothesis is that Pentecostalism’s phenomenal development is intrinsically related to the cultural and spiritual roots (and routes) of the African diaspora in the Atlantic world.

Rachana Umashankar

Anthropology

\$18,430

India

Contesting Sufism, Defining Islam: The Negotiation of Muslim Subjectivity and Indian Citizenship

In the post 9/11 world contestations over proper Islamic practice and belief have taken on added urgency. Such contestations have led to the formation of alliances and antagonisms among Muslim groups within both religious and secular nation-states. My research examines the processes through which shrine-based Sufism in India (one of the oldest forms of Islamic practice in the subcontinent) may resist oppositional Islamic reformist movements by finding an unexpected ally in the secular Indian nation-state. Discussions of Islam in the popular media and academia often suggest that Islamic groups gather strength for their interpretations of Islamic practice and belief when backed by Islamic states and by conforming to reformist orthodoxy. My project examining the situation in India complicates such claims.

2007 – 2008

Dennis Arnold

Geography

\$27,584

Thailand and Cambodia

SEZs in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region: Cooperation, Economic Transitions and Migrant Labor

This research will focus on the changing nature of investment seen in the use of borders through special economic zones (SEZ) that specifically target border areas as development zones. The research will examine strategies adopted by the Thai and Cambodian states, investors and migrant workers from Burma and Cambodia as they respond to these changes and the demands of the global economy that requires states and workers to be flexible.

Emily Baran

History

\$35,414

Russia and Moldova

Faith on the Margins: Jehovah's Witnesses in the Soviet Union and Post-Soviet Russia, 1945-present

My dissertation will explore Soviet religious policy and religious life after World War II and its transformation in the post-Soviet period through a case study of the Jehovah's Witnesses. I seek to answer two fundamental questions: How does the study of one marginal religious organization shed light on larger issues in postwar Soviet and Russian history? In particular, what do the Witnesses tell us about the boundaries of religious pluralism, personal autonomy, and democracy both in the Soviet Union and post-Soviet Russia? To answer these questions, my project will incorporate archival materials and published sources from Russia, Moldova, and Ukraine.

Georgina Drew

Anthropology

\$27,961

India

More Than Water: Gendered Responses to Ecological Change along the Ganges River

In Uttarkashi, India, river-focused awareness-raising initiatives along the Ganges are growing and poor women are participating despite arduous work schedules. By using ethnographic methods to investigate gendered forms of everyday practice along the Ganges River and the influence these practices have on connections with the river, the proposed research will also document the ways that poor women perceive, express, and mobilize around ecological concerns for a natural entity of cultural and religious significance. Examining how poor women's knowledge of and discourses about the river are included and/or excluded in river-focused, awareness-raising initiatives will add to understandings of social mobilization processes while also pointing to diverse articulations of environmentalism.

Elizabeth King

Health Behavior and Health Education

\$32,030

Russia

Genderizing HIV/AIDS in Russia: Identifying and Contextualizing Risk Behaviors among HIV+ Women

There is a dearth of research on the gender aspects of the epidemic in Russia. The goal of my dissertation research is to gain a comprehensive understanding of risk among HIV-positive women in St. Petersburg. The proposed research is designed to address both the behavioral and social aspects of the disease through a mixed-methods approach. In-depth interviews and observations will be conducted in high-risk maternity hospitals. Quantitative measures will be used to collect descriptive statistics on individual-level and partner-level characteristics among HIV+ pregnant women and to test a difference in factors among women receiving prenatal care and those not receiving prenatal care. The information gained from this research has value for developing HIV prevention and treatment services in Russia.

Michael Paulauskas

History
\$36,558
Russia

The View from 16th and L Streets: The Soviet Embassy and Detente, 1969-1979

My dissertation uses the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C. as a lens to examine the Soviet approach to detente, the “relaxation of tensions” between the US and the USSR from 1969 to 1979. During twelve months of research in Moscow, I will consider why the Soviet government entered detente, how officials pursued detente with their American counterparts, and why the period ended. Within this framework, I expand our conception of detente beyond high politics analyzing economic and cultural negotiations, the day-to-day affairs of lower-level bureaucrats, and the languages employed by embassy representatives in public statements, internal communiques, and talks with American authorities. Thus, I explore how diplomats on the ground shaped the implementation of policies set by the Kremlin.

Gleb Tsipursky

History
\$38,513
Russia

Pleasure, Power, and the Pursuit of Communism: The Soviet Organization of Youth Leisure, 1955-1964

My dissertation at the University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill with Donald Raleigh examines the 1955 Soviet campaign to construct model communist citizens by regulating youth leisure, in order to illuminate the momentous transition from Stalinist authoritarianism to a new populist governing style and social relations in the 1950s. My study traces the reasons underlying the initiative, its contested realization at the national, regional and local levels, and the wide-ranging youth response. The first historical analysis of the campaign, my dissertation opens a window on post-Stalin society by addressing conflicts over constructing youth identity and citizenship; in the process, I elucidate class and gender norms, the new connections between leisure and consumption, and the impact of Western popular culture.

2005 – 2006

Ethan Lechner

Music
\$22,201
Indonesia

How have we come to know each other through our music?

Ethan Lechner will travel to Indonesia to conduct research in Central Java and Bali to answer just this. He will examine how compositions can speak in two musical languages simultaneously. His case studies are of twentieth-century works that demonstrate the quality of making two statements in two languages. They are the hybrid musical creations of Americans looking towards Indonesia and Indonesians looking toward the US.

Jenifer Parks

History

\$22547

Russia

Using Soviet participation in the Olympics as a lens through which to view mid-level decision making and implementation in the Soviet Union is the title of Ms. Parks dissertation research that seeks to understand how Party goals and ideals were translated into specific policies and procedures in the Soviet Union by conducting a case study of political practices within the Soviet sports bureaucracy

2004 – 2005**William Acree**

Romance Languages

Uruguay and Argentina

Billy will explore the links between print culture, nationalism and collective identities in Uruguay and Argentina in the late nineteenth century.

2003 – 2004**Karie Morgan**

Anthropology

Namibia

Karie will conduct a year of ethnographic research in Namibia for her dissertation, *Crossroads of Correcting History in Namibia: Heroes? Struggles over Coming to Terms with the Past*, to interrogate how politico-cultural struggles over constructing a national past intersect with an emerging global movement around the theme of coming to terms with difficult pasts.

Karen Ruffle

Religious Studies

India

Karen will conduct research in India for her dissertation, *Memory Inflamed: Women's Participation in the Shi'I Community of Remembrance*. Karen's project is a textual ethnography, involving both archival research tracing the development of Dccani sacred literature of lament, and ethnographic fieldwork based upon the activities of women's Muarram associations in the South Indian city of Hyderabad.