



APRIL 2015


# GDS NEWSLETTER



The Global Development Section draws together scholars broadly concerned with development and global justice working across a number of fields, for example, postcolonial studies, development studies, critical political economy, critical security studies, social and political theory, history, sociology, gender studies, and public policy. The Section approaches the phenomenon of development in its broadest sense as the study of change, rather than in its narrow hegemonic conceptualization as technical interventions in social worlds. GDS is further concerned with investigating alternative understandings, especially those that excavate the intimate links between

development, colonialism and global capitalism. In this respect, the Section seeks to cultivate an intellectual space of provocation, supporting many ways of seeing and being in the world. And for this purpose the Section is committed to facilitating diverse modes of inquiry, establishing research networks and supporting early-career scholars in their professional endeavours.

**Spread the Word...**

**Follow us on Twitter!**  [@GDS ISA](https://twitter.com/GDS_ISA)

When you renew your ISA membership, please remember to renew your membership to the Global Development Section.

## NOTE FROM THE INCOMING SECTION CHAIR (2015-2016)

Dear All,

I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Professor Mustapha Kamal Pasha, Section Chair (2014-15), for the really interesting and stimulating program that he coordinated for the New Orleans Convention. GDS had an outstanding and distinguishable presence at New Orleans! We also extend our thanks to Dr Matt Davies for all his efforts as Newsletter Editor (2014-15) and a warm welcome to Dr Shiera Malik, Newsletter Editor 2015-16 and Section Chair Elect 2017-18.

Last but not least, thank you to all of you who participated in GDS panels! Together, we made for some of the most exciting and interesting contributions to the New Orleans Convention!

We look forward to continuing in this spirit at the Atlanta Convention.

All the very best,  
Heloise Weber  
Section Chair, GDS (2015-16)  
[h.weber@uq.edu.au](mailto:h.weber@uq.edu.au)

## ISA-GDS: CALL FOR PROPOSALS, ISA ANNUAL CONVENTION 2016, ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

After our very successful New Orleans Convention we are now with much excitement and enthusiasm moving to plan for the GDS proposals for the ISA 2016 Convention in Atlanta. Those of you who attended the New Orleans conference will probably agree that the GDS suite of panels was, once again, an outstanding presence, and it is down to all of us to build on this success for the next round.

Please have a look at the ISA's recent call for papers (here is the link in case you missed it: <http://www.isanet.org/Conferences/Atlanta-2016/Call>). The Conference Theme "Exploring Peace" should provide ample resonance for core concerns in and around our Section (of course, we are not confined to that theme!) That said, the Program Chairs have made it clear to us that the theme is to be interpreted broadly. If a panel you are thinking about is a potential fit for the theme, it can be co-sponsored between GDS and the Convention Theme allocation; just one more way to increase GDS' presence at the conference!!!

**Circulating calls for panel proposals for 2016:** Please consider putting together Panels for the Atlanta Convention to be sponsored by the GDS!!! While we have been able to 'construct' great panels from individual papers, we are faring, in general, much better with well-planned and cohesive panel submissions. If you would like to reach out to other people in order to put together a panel proposal for Atlanta, do let us know and we will include this information in our next Newsletter, which we will send out in the **early May 2015**. Send a **proposed title** for the panel, as well as a **brief abstract** to **Shiera Malik** ([smalik6@depaul.edu](mailto:smalik6@depaul.edu)) by **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April**.

**Please also use your networks to invite others who may not be members of GDS (yet!) to submit panel proposals (or papers) for sponsorship by our Section** (and remind them that signing up to the GDS as a member would be great, too 😊).

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

## SECTION CHAIR'S REPORT

The most recent Section Chair's Report can be found at:  
<http://www.isanet.org/ISA/Sections/GDS/Reports>

## FORTHCOMING WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES, AND CFPs

### Thinking With/Against/Past the "Subaltern"

Annual Workshop

BISA Colonial/Postcolonial/Decolonial working group (CPDBISA)

Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015

SOAS, London

The figure of the "subaltern" is at the heart of philosophical debates in postcolonial studies regarding the politics and limits of knowledge production. One of the central texts, in this regard, is Spivak's "Can the Subaltern Speak" wherein, in the context of elite and western academic inquiry, the answer given is no. However, Spivak has changed her orientation to this question since the 1980s, when it was written. And there have always been other traditions of thought, both within and outside of the academy, which have refused the efficacy of working with the subject of the subaltern. Indeed, there are many nuanced and shifting positions on the relationship between liberation and representation amongst intellectuals who study the colonial question. This workshop will dwell on these nuances in order to unpack and bring into dialogue different apprehensions of the "subaltern" and its value to the politics of colonial critique.

**Places are limited. Please indicate your interest in attending to Robbie Shilliam**  
[r.shilliam@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:r.shilliam@qmul.ac.uk)

**The cut-off date for expressing interest will be 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015.** We will calculate attendance with a sensitivity to geographical representations (i.e. to ensure there are participants from outside London and the UK), career level (phd, postdoc, faculty etc), as well as job type (contract, permanent etc). **Please do indicate your geographical, career and job attributes when you email.**

CPDBISA workshops are not organized around "paper-giving", but rather each session is introduced by a couple of five minute opening interventions. **Therefore, if you are interested in attending please do also indicate whether you would like to provide one of these five-minute interventions, and if so, on what issue area or key text.**

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### Fragments of Empire after the American Century

American University of Beirut

Center for American Studies and Research (CASAR)

CASAR's 6th International Conference:

January 13-16, 2016

Beirut, Lebanon

This conference will provide a forum to focus on and debate the consequences and residues of imperial (and neo-imperial) presences across the Middle East, as well as the legacies of empire in the so-called metropolises or in comparative consideration to other regions and eras.

The concept of “fragments” can be interpreted literally, as in pieces or cuts to elicit analysis on a specific context, relationship, cultural or historical manifestation, and/or it can be interpreted metaphorically to reflect on diffusions, refractions or realignments of power, culture, space and so on. In this unwieldy moment, American power unfolds in diffuse sites and often in scattered or incongruous ways. The phrase “after the American century” aims to be suggestive; it can be interpreted either as a reflection of the waning US power in support of contradictory strategic interests, or as a question about whether we are, indeed, entering an “after” phase of imperial hegemonies.

We invite disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and un-disciplined papers that address any aspect of transnational American Studies (or America’s transnational fragments).

Although CASAR focuses primarily on the transnational relations between the United States and the Middle East, we also invite papers that address transnational American studies in other geographies, such as hemispheric borders in the Americas, provided these papers speak to broad methodological and theoretical questions relating to the theme.

For more information please see:

For abstract submission information, please see:

<http://www.aub.edu.lb/fas/casar/Conferences/FragmentsOfEmpire-2016/Pages/CallforPapers.aspx>

For other questions: [casar@aub.edu.lb](mailto:casar@aub.edu.lb)

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**Call for Chapter Contributions: Edited Volume on Researching Violence** Editors:

Dr. Althea-Maria Rivas, University of Bath, United Kingdom

Dr. Ann Laudati, University of Bristol, United Kingdom

We are calling for abstracts of 450 words max. for 6000- 8,000 word chapter contributions. Please send your abstracts by June 15, 2015 via email to either [ann.laudati@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:ann.laudati@bristol.ac.uk) or [ar826@bath.ac.uk](mailto:ar826@bath.ac.uk) with the subject line “Call for Chapters – Researching Violence”.

Embedded in the unique spaces of violence and conflict are particular sets of issues that face researchers. These particularities present a rich but difficult terrain of inquiry for scholars attempting to navigate these complex warsapes. A scattering of instructional texts has emerged alongside the reported rise in conflict incidents around the world (HIIK 2014; UCDP 2014), however, attention to the subject of ‘doing research in violent settings’ remains lacking. Rather, the majority of textbooks on conducting research in conflict zones rarely diverges from mainstream texts despite the obvious and overwhelming evidence that the very process of working in conflict regions around the world does not fit current academic guidelines which have no clear guidelines for negotiating with warlords or working with rape survivors.

In this edited volume we aim to draw attention to the process of conducting fieldwork in conflict affected regions. Unlike previous books on the subject of doing conflict fieldwork, this edited volume does not seek to present a traditional handbook on methodologies or delineate a clear how to toolset for undertaking conflict related research.

Our purpose is to offer up a broader lens than the common focus on technical questions of methods and ethics allow. The book aims to deconstruct what it means to ‘do’ research in conflict affected or violent contexts – which we understand to be as much a reflective, emotive,

and critical inquiry of the research process as it is a practical one. This volume thus seeks to go beyond academic-centric conversations about how we can achieve rigour or handle our data collection and rather it aims to draw out the broader implications of such research efforts and our place within it.

The tone of the volume therefore is a reflective one that casts a critical eye (as much as an uncomfortably honest one) on understanding the self and practice in the process of doing research in and on conflict and violence. In this way, this volume seeks to interrogate, as much as, highlight the spaces and experiences that are overlooked in traditional methodology texts. By doing so we hope to present a more nuanced and grounded view of research that is unapologetic and unafraid to demystify and declare the messiness that is inherent in the process of research in/on violence, in order to set forth a new set of sensibilities about approaching fieldwork in conflict settings.

Papers discussing fieldwork experiences from the perspective of different academic disciplines and fields of practice are particularly welcome. Contributions may include (but are not limited to) the following broad themes:

The Embodied Politics and Positionality of the Researcher  
Rumors, Representations and Perceptions  
The Emotive and the Emotional in Fieldwork  
Collaborations, Collusions, and Contradictions  
Partnerships and Working (with) Others  
Alternative methodologies  
Naming and Negotiating power  
Understanding the Researcher Self  
Claiming and Re-examining privilege  
Race and racism  
Gender and identity  
Sexuality and fieldwork  
Diaspora and transnational research engagements  
Fieldwork, arms, weapons and security  
Covert missions

We especially invite contributions from a diverse suite of researchers including junior scholars, NGO staff and practitioners whom collectively will span a range of different methods, subjects, and localities.

Please feel free to contact us with queries at the emails above.

## **RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS**

BOOKS:

***The Black Pacific: Anti-Colonial Struggles and Oceanic Connections***  
**By Robbie Shilliam** (Bloomsbury Academic, 2015)

See more at: <http://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/the-black-pacific-9781472519252/>

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***The Handbook of Research on Fair Trade***

Edited by Laura T. Reynolds and Elizabeth A. Bennett (April 2015).

The introduction can be downloaded for free here:

<http://www.elgaronline.com/abstract/9781783474608.xml?rskey=nImdnn&result=1>

And more information about the Center for Fair and Alternative Trade (CFAT) is here:

<http://cfat.colostate.edu/>

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***Food Security Governance: Empowering Communities, Regulating Corporations***

By Nora McKeon (London: Routledge, 2015)

For more information see:

<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415529105/>

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***Property, Predation, and Protection: Piranha Capitalism in Russia and Ukraine***

By Markus, Stanislav (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015).

For more information, please see:

<http://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/politics-international-relations/russian-and-east-european-government-politics-and-policy/property-predation-and-protection-piranha-capitalism-russia-and-ukraine>

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***Homegrown Development in Africa: Reality or Illusion?***

By Chukwumerije Okereke and Patricia Agupusi (London: Routledge, 2015).

For more information, please see: <http://www.sponpress.com/books/details/9780415525749/>

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Cornwall, A and A.M. Rivas. 2015. 'From "gender equality" and "women's empowerment" to global justice: reclaiming a transformative agenda for gender and development.' *Third World Quarterly* Vol. 36, Iss. 2

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ctwq20/36/2#.VRZ7k94t1UQ>

el-Malik, Shiera S. 2014. 'Against Epistemic Totalitarianism: The insurrectional politics of Bessie Head.' *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* 34(4), 493-505. Available at:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02589001.2014.978554#abstract>

el-Malik, Shiera S. 2014. 'Interruptive Discourses: Léopold Senghor, *African Emotion* and the poetry of politics.' *African Identities* 12(3), 1-13. Available at:

[http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14725843.2014.961280#.VS\\_Z2ULDPOc](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14725843.2014.961280#.VS_Z2ULDPOc)

Grovogui, Siba. 2014. 'Remembering democracy: anticolonial evocations and invocations of a disappearing norm.' *African Identities* 12(3), 1-15. Available at:

[http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14725843.2014.961282#.VS\\_cxELDP0c](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14725843.2014.961282#.VS_cxELDP0c)

Gruffydd Jones, Branwen. 2014. 'From rupture to revolution: race, culture and the practice of anti-colonial thought.' *African Identities* 12(3), 1-15. Available at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14725843.2014.961277#abstract>

Hopewell, Kristen. 2014. 'Different Paths to Power: The Rise of Brazil, India and China at the WTO.' *Review of International Political Economy*. OnlineFirst June 16, 2014. Available at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/9CbTjwaVyciMAWfUBNNR/full>

Hopewell, Kristen. 2014. 'The Transformation of State-Business Relations in an Emerging Economy: The Case of Brazilian Agribusiness.' *Critical Perspectives on International Business* 10(4):291-309. (Special issue on Brazilian Corporations and the State). Available at: <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/abs/10.1108/cpoib-03-2014-0019>

Kamola, Isaac. 2014. 'Steve Biko and a critique of global governance as white liberalism.' *African Identities* 12(3), 1-15. Available at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14725843.2014.961281#abstract>

Opondo, Sam Okoth. 2014. 'Cinema is our "Night School": Appropriation, Falsification, and Dissensus in the Art of Ousmane Sembéne.' *African Identities* 12(3), pp 1-15. Available at: [http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14725843.2014.961279#.VS\\_bQULDP0c](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14725843.2014.961279#.VS_bQULDP0c)

Parasram, Ajay. 2014. 'Postcolonial Territory and the Coloniality of the State.' *Caribbean Journal of International Relations & Diplomacy* 2/4: 51 – 79. Available at: <http://journals.sta.uwi.edu/iir/>

Santiago, Anne Pitsch. 2014. "Guaranteeing Conflict Free Diamonds: From Compliance to Norm Expansion Under the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme" *South African Journal of International Affairs*. V. 21(3): 413-429. Available at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10220461.2014.972441 - abstract>

Heloise Weber. 2014. 2014. 'When Goals Collide: Politics of the MDGs and the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda'. *SAIS Review of International Affairs*, 34(2): 129-139. Available at: <http://www.saisreview.org/issues/current-issue/>

## **LAST**

If members have announcements – including of published books or calls for papers or proposals – would you please email them to me at [smalik6@depaul.edu](mailto:smalik6@depaul.edu), with the words "GDS Newsletter" in the subject line.