IAS Welcomes New Director

In August the IAS welcomed its new Director, Giorgio Riello. Giorgio is a Professor of Global History and Culture at Warwick and joined the Department of History in 2007. His area of expertise lies in the history of globalisation, with a particular focus on industrialisation and economic divergence and was previously co-director of Warwick’s Global History and Culture Centre. Giorgio said:

“The Institute of Advanced Study is an international centre for excellence in research and has a key role in the academic and intellectual life of our University. I look forward to seeing the IAS fostering new and original thinking across the disciplines represented by all Warwick faculties”

On the right: (From Right To Left): Director Giorgio Riello with Rachel Corke (Research Strategy & Programme Manager), Lila Tennent (IAS Programme Coordinator), Charlotte Mathieson (ACE & IAS Warwick Knowledge Coordinator), Karen Simecek (Senior Editor, Exchanges Journal), and Grace Huxford (Research Fellow, ‘Voices Of The University’ Oral History Project)

New cohort of Early Career Fellows

The start of term has seen the arrival of our new cohort of eleven Early Career Fellows and the continuation of another six who started with us in May. This term as part of our Academic Careers and Employability Programme not only will our Fellows be participating in mock-interviews and giving presentations, they will also be learning about Open Access publishing, producing a podcast and public engagement and impact.

Three Early Career Fellows from our May cohort have already secured research appointments. Philip Carter and Richard Puxty have been offered post-doctoral positions at the University of Bristol and in the USA respectively, while Sruti Das Choudhury has received a 2 year Post-Doctoral appointment at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where there were 958 applicants for one post.
Voices of the University: Memories of Warwick, 1965-2015

The IAS continues to coordinate the ‘Voices of the University’ oral history project, marking the 50th Anniversary of the University by interviewing those who have studied, worked or lived near to the university since 1965. IAS Research Fellow Grace Huxford reports:

“We now have over 200 interviews. This growing collection will provide a unique and comprehensive insight into Warwick’s history and the University’s contribution to Higher Education and research in the UK”.

If you would like to know more about the project or to participate go to: www.warwick.ac.uk/voicesoftheuniversity

Five things you might not know about Warwick

• Pink Floyd, Cream and The Killers have all played at the Students Union
• In November 1967 the University’s first computer, an Elliott 4130 Computing System, was installed in the Engineering Department
• Before the University was built, one of the farms in the area (Tocil Farm) was nationally famous for its Shire Horses
• Fourteen members of Warwick’s management have gone on to be registrars of other universities
• In December 2000 Bill Clinton made his final UK speech as US President in the Butterworth Hall. For the duration of Clinton’s visit, the Arts Centre was temporarily deemed to be United States territory

My time with the IAS

Dr Rebecca Johnson, ECF Autumn 2013 - Spring 2014

Reflecting on my time as an Early Career Fellow (ECF) with the IAS is easy for me. In some respects, the fellowship was an opportunity for me to step away from the PhD and reflect on the big picture. It was a return to normal, from the myopic world of submitting, preparing, passing and making corrections on my thesis.

During my time as an ECF, I feel I have developed a more realistic view of what to expect from academia in the present and for the future. It has given me training, and perhaps more importantly time to practice and improve my all around academic skills – thinking on my feet, being interviewed, grant-writing, knowledge of the system (how it is likely to change). This has helped me to focus my research and academic career plan into themes, and begin to write/publish/present in each of these areas.

The IAS fellowship exposed all of the ECFs to other innovative ways of thinking, seeing, and appraising the research worlds that surround us. That interdisciplinary focus helped renew my sense of collaboration and creativity (that was admittedly lost somewhere along the path to my PhD). I have had time to reflect on where I situate my research and how I think about it, and how others view it. I feel I now have a more realistic, robust context and platform from which to proceed in my own career.

As part of my award, an IAS colleague (Dr Rebecca Williams) and I implemented a symposium in July 2014. It was interdisciplinary to its core – bringing history, politics and public health together. The more valuable lessons I learned from this event were, firstly, to reflect on the practice I had at being an independent researcher and leader – there were no senior academics there to lead the way, or (dare I say) get in the way. We led the way, and that gave me confidence in my ability to do so again. Secondly, we arranged the content not for ourselves or the sole presentation of our own research, but to present the collective body of research, thinking how the topics would fit together and how we could make the most of the common ground we shared for the symposium participants. Both of these accomplishments, I feel, have moved me into a more professional frame of mind, something I think would not have happened as quickly or with as much success as has happened as a result of my time as an ECF.

Rebecca is now a Research Fellow in Mixed Methods at the Division of Health Sciences, University of Warwick
IAS in Focus

Gemma meets the President!

In April IAS Global Research Fellow Dr Gemma-Louise Davies holder of a Royal Society small grant was invited to meet the President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins as part of his historic UK visit at a reception hosted by the Royal Society (RS) in London. The event was promoting scientific achievement at the RS and Gemma spoke with the President and delegates from the Irish Government, describing her research and research links between the UK and Ireland. (Photograph credit: The Royal Society)

Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship

We are delighted to announce that since taking up an IAS Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in August 2013 Dr Christabelle Peters has secured a 3 year Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship. This will be held within the department of Hispanic Studies at the University of Warwick and during the course of the Fellowship Christabelle will be working on her second Monograph, “Angola in the African Atlantic”.

Research Impact and Public Engagement Awards

This year saw the inaugural Research Impact and Public Engagement Awards at the University and of the eight winners, three had previously received IAS support for their projects. Both Professor David Anderson who won the Arts Faculty Research Impact: Established Career for ‘Torture, Colonial Abuse and Britain’s Secret Archives’ and Margaret Low who won Faculty of Science: Public Engagement for ‘Technology Volunteers’, were recipients of IAS Public Engagement funding. In addition, Dr Chet Trivedy, who won the Faculty of Medicine: Public Engagement for ‘Cricket Health Initiative’, held an IAS Incubation award which funded a pilot study looking at assessing the feasibility and impact of health promotion and screening through sport.

Supporting External Research Collaborations

IAS Residential Fellowships – Rolling deadline

In recognition of the extensive global research partnerships fostered by Warwick academics, the IAS Residential Fellowships programme offers the opportunity to bring collaborators to Warwick for a short, intensive stay specifically to deliver joint outputs.

The scheme aims to facilitate the delivery of collaborative research activity by providing the opportunity for external partners to be based at Warwick to work on a shared deliverable at the same time as supporting the continuation of the partnership.

For more information on this scheme please visit our website: go.warwick.ac.uk/ias/funding_opportunities
IAS Visiting Fellows 2014-15

The IAS is excited to welcome an initial intake of nine Visiting Fellows this year with a further call for applications closing in December targeting Visiting Fellowships that are engaged with the University’s Global Research Priorities.

Last year we had 18 Visiting Fellows from 10 different countries including a joint visit by 3 Visiting Fellows connected with the Food Global Research Priority. Please see the table to the left for our current list of Visiting Fellows coming in 2014/15, with the names of the University of Warwick Nominators in parentheses.

Calls to support more visiting fellows this year will be published here: www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ias/funding_opportunities/visitingfellows

On the left: IAS Director Professor Giorgio Riello with IAS Visiting Fellow Professor Ashwini Deshpande

IAS Current Award Deadlines at a Glance

For full details go to www.warwick.ac.uk/ias/funding_opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of IAS awards and deadlines</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional Call - Visiting Fellowships</td>
<td>8 December 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Career Fellowships</td>
<td>12 January 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Fellowships</td>
<td>9 February 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Fellowships</td>
<td>Rolling deadline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Find out more at www.warwick.ac.uk/go/ias
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