2015 Schiff Summer Fellows
Supporting independent research in the humanities through fellowship awards up to $3000  (total awards = $8,020)

Gwen Hawkes (T’16, English)
Upon the Face of the Deep: Humanity and the Oceans  (Cathy Shuman, mentor)
Gwen Hawkes’ research will focus on exploring the continuous and historic relationship between humans and the oceans. She’ll be looking at the way the American populous communally conceptualizes and imagines the oceans, and that profound impact profound impact of that imagining on ocean conservation efforts. Gwen will carry out her research through a thorough study of maritime history using a variety of primary source accounts and records. She hopes to convey the nature of our relationship with the oceans in a way that speaks not only of the necessity and strength of that connection, but also of the beauty contained within it.

Yizhou Jiang (T’17, Art & Visual Studies, Statistics)
Ying Guo - Documentary Photographs of New Chinese Immigrants Living in the U.K.  (Antonio Bogaert, mentor)
Yizhou Jiang aims to document faithfully the living situation of new Chinese immigrants in the U.K. in order to ask: What are the lives of the new Chinese immigrants in European countries like? What do they do from day to day? Are their living conditions and challenges different from that of new Chinese immigrants in the USA? Why did they choose European countries? Yizhou will employ photographs and the narratives in the Literacy Through Photography method, developed by Duke Center for Documentary Studies.

Drew Korschun (T’16, Linguistics, Asian & Middle Eastern Studies)
Exploring Language and Identity Construction among Queer Korean Men in Seoul  (Hae-young Kim, mentor)
Drew Korschun aims to study ways in which queer Korean men in Seoul use language to represent their identity; to explore existing ideologies in South Korea at various levels about queer men’s language use; and to learn to what extent these language ideologies affect their identity construction. Drew's research will be conducted through one-on-one interviews to talk about identity, sexuality, and language, as well as recordings of spontaneous conversation among queer Korean men. Drew will develop a critical understanding of the local and global context of these conversations in terms of nationality, ethnicity, gender, and class.

Abdul Latif (T’16, Religion)
Islam, Creationism, and Evolution in Modern Istanbul  (Abdullah Antepli, mentor)
Abdul Latif will use Turkey as a case study to examine the relationship between Islam and science vis-à-vis secularism and the recent religious resurgence. Abdul will focus particularly on the fraught issue of evolution, surveying individuals in Istanbul including religious figures and the followers of Adnan Oktar's creationist movement, the largest Muslim creationist movement in the world. Abdul will seek to answer how Muslims in Istanbul view the relationship between Islam and evolution,
what Oktar's impact is on the discussion of Islam and evolution in Turkey, and what hermeneutics Oktar engages in, as well as his relationship with Christian creationists.

Rebecca Reibman (T'16, History, Medieval & Renaissance Studies)

Anti-Judaism and Anti-Semitism--A Comparative Study (Thomas Robisheaux, mentor)

Rebecca Reibman's goal is to understand anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism as they existed in three periods—the High Middle Ages, Reformation Europe, and the medieval Middle East. Through close reading and analysis, Rebecca will use primary sources from these time periods to better understand the how these ideologies became deeply engrained in these societies. Rebecca is interested in what cultural influences played the largest roles in the persistence of anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism, what influence the Islamic world had on Christian anti-Judaism and vice versa, and what comparison can be made between the sources of these three time periods?
2015 Schiff Academic Year Awards
Supporting independent research in the humanities through grants and assistantships up to $400 (total awards = $4,400)

Christine Delp (T’15, Prog II)
Abstinence and the Christian Moral Imagination (Honors Thesis in Program II)
Independent Study Grant  (Suzanne Shanahan, Dept of Sociology, mentor)

Emma Durham (T’18, Undeclared)
Paris of Waters
Research Assistantship  (Sara Galletti, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Hannah Koo (T’16, History)
Paris Of Waters
Research Assistantship  (Galletti Sara, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Rebecca Lai (T’16, Computer Science, Visual Arts)
Multi-scale in Virtual Reality
Independent Study Grant  (Raquel Salvatella , Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Julian Salazar (T’15, Mathematics, Art)
Digital Athens
Research Assistantship  (Sheila Dillon, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Yumeng Sha (T’17, Economics, Mathematics)
Digital Cities project
Research Assistantship  (Victoria Szabo, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Yifan Song (T’18, Undeclared)
Digitalizing Athens
Research Assistantship  (Sheila Dillon, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Anna Vivian (T’17, Art, Physics)
Project Title: Digital Athens
Research Assistantship  (Sheila Dillon, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Ruolei Wang (T’17, Mathematics)
Venice Interactive Visual Atlas (VIVA)
Research Assistantship  (Kristin Lanzoni, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Hanna Wiegers (T’16, Neuroscience)
Paris of Waters
Research Assistantship  (Sara Galletti, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)

Jimmy Zhang (T’17, Statistics, Computer Science)
Venice Visual World
Research Assistantship  (Nicola Lercari, Dept of Art, Art History, Visual Studies, mentor)