

## **2014 Schiff Summer Fellows – preliminary report**

Supporting independent research in the humanities (*total awards = \$10,000*)

### **Andrew Kragie (T'15, Public Policy, Political Science)**

#### **MLK and LBJ: Political Leadership in the Civil Rights Movement**

Andrew Kragie will explore how political leadership led to the landmark achievements of the civil rights movement. Through research visits to LBJ's presidential library and birthplace, churches and museums in Alabama, and interviews with witnesses he will explore the historical understanding of political leadership as a means to moral ends.

### **Tara Trahey (T'15, Art, Art History, Visual Studies, Italian minor)**

#### **The [Woman] Riding a Bull: A Case Study of Iconography, Production, and Vase Trade in Archaic Greece**

During her freshman year, Tara Trahey discovered a common link between two "twin" ancient Greek vases, proving their uncertain provenance. This summer she seeks to identify their relationship and role in the 6th century BCE trade between Athens, Greece and Vulci, Etruria. Trahey's research will establish a database of photographic records and drawings to study the theory of 'targeted markets' through the systematic account of one particular iconography (a woman riding a bull) as it is intended for one particular export market (Vulci, Italy).

### **Joseph Wu (T'15, Philosophy, Biology, Chemistry minor)**

#### **Reconsidering Early 20th Century Philosophy of Biology: An Analysis of John Gregg and Joseph Woodger**

The purpose of Joseph Wu's project is to engage directly with the archives and published works of John Gregg and Joseph Woodger, two prominent philosophers of biology, and to assess the philosophical appropriateness of neglecting their work and impact on contemporary philosophy of biology. The proposed study will involve collection, compilation, and analysis of the archival holdings of John Gregg and Joseph Woodger located in the Duke Library system. This project will be the first chapter in a long overdue project to rehabilitate the generations of overlooked thinkers who fruitfully worked at the intersection of philosophy and biology in the early 20th century.

### **Lillian Zerihun (T'16, Biology, Global Health, Cultural Anthropology minor)**

#### **Cultural Practices and Identity in Orthodox, Islamic, and Pentecostal Religious Organizations of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Religion plays an integral role in shaping communities and individual identities in Ethiopia and its diasporas. Lillian Zerihun's study will use oral interviews, ethnographies, and participant observation in a variety of religious settings to document religious practices and experiences, developing an understanding of religion as it relates to the daily lives of Ethiopians. Her study will also compare/contrast the identities shaped by different subsets of Ethiopian Christian churches, as well as the interrelationship between Islamic and Christian communities in the capital city of Addis Ababa.

## **2014 Schiff Academic Year Awards – preliminary report**

Supporting independent research in the humanities through academic year project grants and research assistantships (*total awards = \$1200*)

### **Emily Dunkel (T'17, undecided)**

#### **Emerging Art Markets: Paris** (*Hans VanMiegroet, Art and Art History*)

Emily Dunkel will conduct advanced database-driven research on dealer-consumer behavior in Paris in the eighteenth century. She will apply regression analyses and consumer theories to use digitalized archival records to uncover how art expertise and preferences were constructed.

### **Shivee Gilja (T'17, undecided)**

#### **Refining Taste and Preferences in 18th Century Parisian Auction Catalogues** (*Hans VanMiegroet, Art and Art History*)

The study of ‘taste’ as an art historical question has largely centered on individual collectors and their collections. The subsequent assumption is that the sum of these objects represents a general taste. By focusing solely on the highest-priced paintings owned by prominent collectors, scholars have studied taste largely ignoring the market mechanisms in which the objects move and change hands. Shivee Gilja will look at how the importance of artist name and size of the painting might have an impact on the price, using methodology to measure taste in a concrete manner through consumer preferences, by focusing on what people choose to buy and how much they pay for what they buy.

### **Gabrielle Weiss (T'17, undecided)**

#### **Using Auction and Game Theoretical Models to Determine Art Dealer Strategies** (*Hans VanMiegroet, Art and Art History*)

Art auction catalogues are the primary archive for understanding business transactions in the art world, and a window to measure changes and developments in the resale market. Equally important, however, are the vacation sheets appended to the catalogue, indicating the actual lot order as determined by the auctioneer. These vacation sheets may reflect the auctioneer's strategy for maximizing sales revenue. Gabrielle Weiss will examine 66 surviving *feuilles de vacation* and to see if auction and game theoretical models can be used determine how the ordering of lots had an impact on prices.