Greetings from the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, which continues to grow and develop, now in our 19th year.

Over the 2014-2015 academic year and summer we honored our mission to provide premiere academic programs and to cultivate the essential connection between scholarly inquiry, education, and outreach. We have completed a very active year filled with events ranging from lectures and workshops to timely community and arts events. Students, educators, scholars and community members have found in CHGS a welcoming learning and sharing space with academically rigorous, intellectually challenging and professionally enriching programs.

Our success this past year was catalyzed by the involvement of our distinguished affiliate faculty, the help of engaged graduate students, our co-sponsors both inside and outside the university, and a valued community of participants and donors.

Thank you for your interest in and support of CHGS. We look forward to seeing you in the new academic year.

Alejandro Baer
Stephen C. Feinstein Chair and Director

Our work is motivated by the hope to inspire future generations to fight hatred and strengthen democracy, thus ensuring a more peaceful and just world.

70th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz and conclusion of WWII in Europe
* January 26 “Bearing Witness” exhibit of portraits by artist Felix de la Concha, video testimonies of Minnesota survivors, and Q&A with the artist at the Weisman Art Museum. Attended by over 180 guests.
* May 8 international symposium “War, What is it Good For?” with keynote lecture by sociologist Daniel Levy.

“Can One Laugh at Everything? Satire and Free Speech after Charlie” in response to the attack on the magazine Charlie Hebdo
* Co-organized CLA panel on January 29: discussion with scholars and experts from the Twin Cities including Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist Steven Sack. Attended by an engaged audience of over 120 students and community members.

Armenian Genocide Centennial
* April 23-25 events: keynote lecture by scholar Bedross Der Matossian; student conference with 11 young scholars from around the world; and teacher workshop with K-12 educators.

Student conference participants on guided tour of Bdote, sacred Dakota site, April 25.
CO-SPONSORSHIPS & PARTNERSHIPS

Strong partnerships and intellectual collaborations yield rewarding experiences for audiences and organizers. We thank the institutions that helped to make 2014-2015 so successful:

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

Arsham and Charlotte Ohanessian Chair
Center for Austrian Studies
Center for German & European Studies
Center for Jewish Studies
College of Liberal Arts
Confucius Institute
Department of Anthropology
Department of Art History
Department of English
Department of French & Italian
Department of German, Scandinavian & Dutch
Department of History
Department of Sociology
Department of Spanish & Portuguese
Department of Political Science
European Studies Consortium
Government of Finland / David and Nancy Speer Visiting Professorship
The Graduate School
Hillel: The Jewish Student Center
Human Rights Program
Institute for Advanced Study
Institute for Global Studies
Minnesota International Relations Colloquium
Program in Human Rights and Health
Religious Studies Program
School of Journalism and Mass Communications
Silha Center for the Study of Media Ethics and Law
Weisman Art Museum

**COMMUNITY**

Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education (St. Cloud State University)
Children of Holocaust Survivors of Minnesota (CHAIM)
Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas
Ohanessian Endowment Fund for Justice and Peace Studies at the Minneapolis Foundation
Rimon: The Minnesota Jewish Arts Council, an initiative of the Minneapolis Jewish Federation
Sabes Jewish Community Center
Twin Cities Jewish Film Festival

**INTERNATIONAL**

Centro Sefarad-Israel (Spain)
Centro Internacional de Estudios de Memoria y Derechos Humanos (Spain)
International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance

FOSTERING FUTURE SCHOLARS, EDUCATORS AND ACTIVISTS

CHGS guides and mentors undergraduate and graduate students by organizing courses and workshops, offering fellowships and providing unique opportunities for interaction with leading experts in the field.

**HGMV Interdisciplinary Graduate Group**

The Holocaust, Genocide and Mass Violence (HGMV) group is an active collaborative of graduate students, faculty, and invited scholars. CHGS co-facilitates the workshop series with the Human Rights Program. Our 2014-2015 presentations provided opportunities for students to engage in the development of research projects by providing and receiving constructive feedback. Tangible results include conference presentations and travel awards, sponsored by the U of M Graduate School, to the following students:

- **Paula Cuellar:** “Genocide in El Salvador: Where Ethnicity and Politics Collided” as the Salvadoran Ombudsperson (San Salvador, El Salvador; February 5).
- **Joe Eggers:** “The Role of Nationalism in the Armenian and Native American Genocides” at the International Association of Genocide Scholars conference (Yerevan, Armenia; July 8-12).
- **Satty Flaherty-Echeverria:** “A Voz da Raça: Race, Power and Transnational Discourses of Black Elites in 1930s” at the International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (San Juan, Puerto Rico; May 28-31).
- **Yagmur Karakaya:** “Remembering to Forget: Holocaust Memory Politics in Spain and Turkey” at the American Sociological Association’s annual conference (Chicago, IL; August 22-25).
- **Amber Michel:** “Countering Violent Extremism: Islamophobia, the Department of Justice and American Islamic Organizations” at
the 6th annual International Islamophobia Conference (Berkeley, CA; April 23-25).

• Erma Nezirevic: “Goytisolo in Bosnia: The Problem of Writing the Witness” at Intercultural Poetics (Braga, Portugal; June 18-19).

Badzin Fellowship
For the past three years, CHGS and the Department of History have awarded the Bernard and Fern Badzin Graduate Fellowship in Holocaust and Genocide Studies to graduate students in the College of Liberal Arts. This award pays the cost of tuition and health insurance, and a stipend of $18,000. Paula Sofia Cuellar (PhD candidate, Department of History, minor in Human Rights) was awarded the fellowship for 2014-2015, and Wahutu Siguru (PhD candidate, Department of Sociology) had an extension of his fellowship from the previous year for Spring semester 2015. Cuellar spent the year preparing for her preliminary exams and writing her dissertation prospectus, titled “Defining Mass Atrocities in El Salvador: The Scorched Earth Operations during its Civil War and the Question of Genocide.” She also ran a Friday film series for CHGS during Fall semester, “A Cinematic Look at Political Violence in Latin America.” Siguru travelled during the spring to Kenya and Nigeria to collect data for his dissertation on media coverage of the atrocities in Darfur and other instances of mass violence on the continent. Siguru is the author of the CHGS Newsletter series “Eye on Africa.”

Student Conference
100 Years of Genocide: Remembrance, Education, Prevention (April 24, II of M)
On April 23-25 the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, along with the Human Rights Program, Institute for Global Studies and the Arsham and Charlotte Ohanessian Chair, marked the centennial of the Armenian Genocide of 1915 with a series of events. This included a keynote lecture by Middle East scholar Bedross Der Matossian, a teacher workshop, and an international student conference. The student conference brought together 11 young scholars from Armenia, Hungary, the UK, and the US, and was moderated by Der Matossian and U of M professors Joachim Savelsberg, Barbara Frey, and Alejandro Baer. Session topics included the causes and prevention of genocide, responses to the Armenian genocide, Armenian-Turkish relations, and the psychological effects of genocide and post-traumatic stress in Armenia, clearly identifying inherited trauma as an effect.

Conference participants were treated to a guided tour the following day of the Bdote sacred Dakota site at Ft. Snelling State Park, led by Professor Iyekiyapiwin Darlene St. Clair (St. Cloud State University). Commonalities and differences between genocidal events were highlighted.

2014-2015 Course Offerings

Fall 2014
SOC 4090 and GLOS 4910: Never Again! Memory and Politics after Genocide (Alejandro Baer)
SOC 4104: Crime and Human Rights (Joachim Savelsberg)
HIST 3729: Nazi Germany and Hitler’s Europe (Gary Cohen)

Spring 2015
HIST 3727: History of the Holocaust (Adam Blackler)
GLOS 5900: The Armenian Genocide: Disrupted History, Fractured Identities (Artyom H. Tonoyan, Baylor University)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 22, 2014*</td>
<td>“Our Mothers, Our Heimat, Our Holocaust: ‘Ordinary’ Nazis on German Television, 1984-2014”</td>
<td>Lecture by Offer Ashkenazi (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22, 2014*</td>
<td>“Classical Rhetorics, Technical Communication, the Holocaust, and the Object Beyond”</td>
<td>Lecture by Steven Katz (Clemson University)</td>
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<td>November 1 &amp; 2, 2014*</td>
<td>The German Friend (Der Deutsche Freund), and 24 Days (24 Jours: La Verite sur l’affaire Ilan Halimi)</td>
<td>Film Screenings at the Twin Cities Jewish Film Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 3, 2014*</td>
<td>“Just A War Theory? American Public Attitudes on Proportionality and Distinction”</td>
<td>Lecture by Benjamin Valentino (Dartmouth College)</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 20, 2014</td>
<td>“Surviving Forced Disappearance: Identity and Meaning”</td>
<td>Lecture by Gabriel Gatti (University of the Basque Country)</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 24-26, 2014</td>
<td>“Bystanders, Rescuers, or Perpetrators? The Neutrals and the Shoah: Facts, Myths, and Counter-Myths”</td>
<td>Conference in Madrid, Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 26, 2015</td>
<td>“Bearing Witness 70 Years after the Liberation of Auschwitz” featuring artist Felix de la Concha's &quot;Portraits and Conversations with Survivors of the Shoah&quot; and honoring Holocaust survivor participants from Minnesota</td>
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<td>January 29, 2015</td>
<td>“Can One Laugh at Everything? Satire and Free Speech after Charlie”</td>
<td>CLA Panel with William Beeman, Jane Kirtley, Bruno Chaouat, Anthony Winer (William Mitchell College of Law) and Steven Sack (Minneapolis Star and Tribune)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4, 2015</td>
<td>“Bringing the Dark Past to Light: The Reception of the Holocaust in Post-Communist Europe”</td>
<td>Keynote Lecture by John-Paul Himka (University of Alberta)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 6, 2015*</td>
<td>“Heideggerian Ontology and the Holocaust: Piotr Rawicz’s Le Sang du ciel”</td>
<td>Lecture by Sven-Erik Rose (University of California, Davis)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 10, 2015</td>
<td>“Action and Body Knowledge: A Sociological Perspective on Torture”</td>
<td>Lecture by Katharina Inhetveen (University of Siegen, Germany)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10, 2015</td>
<td>“A Usable Body: Coaxing the Body Into and Out of Captivity at Black History Museums”</td>
<td>Lecture by Robyn Autry (Wesleyan University)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14, 2015</td>
<td>“The Insatiable Pursuit of Art: Nazi Art Looting – Perpetrators, Victims, Provenance Researchers”</td>
<td>Lecture by Yehudit Shendar (Yad Vashem, Israel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20, 2015*</td>
<td>“Curating Memories in Conflict: new ethnography in an old museum”</td>
<td>Lecture by Erica Lehrer (Concordia University, Montreal)</td>
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<td>April 21, 2015*</td>
<td>“What Does History Know of Nail Biting?”</td>
<td>Minneapolis video project premiere by artist Francesc Torres</td>
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<td>April 23, 2015*</td>
<td>Panel with “Shanghailanders” featuring Manny Gabler and Ellen Wiss, who lived in Shanghai as Jewish refugees during the Holocaust; moderated by Alejandro Baer</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 23, 2015*</td>
<td>“We are going to pick Potatoes’ Norway and the Holocaust, the Untold Story”</td>
<td>Lecture by Irene Berman, Holocaust survivor and author</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8, 2015</td>
<td>“The Past: Between History and Memory” as part of international symposium, “War, What is it Good For? Uses and Abuses of Second World War History”</td>
<td>Keynote Lecture by Daniel Levy (Stony Brook University)</td>
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* Denotes event organized by outside entity with CHGS co-sponsorship.
CHGS supports educators through workshops and seminars, facilitated by leading experts in Holocaust and genocide education.

**Educator Outreach**

This spring and summer, CHGS partnered with the Institute for Global Studies to offer two professional development opportunities to educators. Both events were generously supported by a grant from the Ohanessian Endowment Fund for Justice and Peace Studies of the Minneapolis Foundation.

**World War One and the Armenian Genocide**

On Saturday, April 25, as part of three days of CHGS events in commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, nearly 50 educators gathered for a one-day workshop taught by U of M faculty and graduate students. Gary Cohen, Director of the Center for Austrian Studies (co-sponsor of the event), gave an excellent introduction to the onset of World War One. Session topics included an overview of the Armenian Genocide by renowned Middle East scholar Bedross Der Matossian, who also gave the annual Ohanessian Chair talk on the preceding Thursday (a recording of the talk is available on the CHGS YouTube channel) and served on a panel for the Friday student conference (see page 3). Lou Ann Matossian also spoke about Minnesota ties to the history and memory of the Armenian Genocide, driving home a sense of connection with the material for local educators.

**Holocaust Education in a Global Context**

For four days beginning on June 15, CHGS and the Institute for Global Studies hosted a summer institute workshop with 18 educators from across the Midwest. Sessions were led by Adam Blackler (PhD candidate, History), Elizabeth Baer (Gustavus Adolphus College), and Alejandro Baer, with topics including colonial genocides, gender and memory in Holocaust literature, and the sharing of best practices in Holocaust and genocide education. The group also took a field trip to Bdote, the sacred site of the Dakota creation stories and the location at Fort Snelling where many Dakota were imprisoned and died. In conjunction with the workshop, six licensed educators were enlisted to attend the workshop and create lesson plans, resources, and information which will aid in teaching about the Armenian Genocide, the Rwandan Genocide, the Cambodian Genocide, the Dakota War, and the Holocaust. As a direct outcome of the summer institute, these educators will be presenting their materials in an upcoming daylong workshop on November 7, 2015, open by registration to educators.

**Recent Book Publications by CHGS Affiliate Faculty**


CHGS collaborates and shares expertise and resources with centers, departments, and individual faculty members at the University, across the United States and with international academic institutions.

**Conferences and Symposia**

Bystanders, Rescuers, or Perpetrators? The Neutrals and the Shoah: Facts, Myths, and Counter-Myths (November 24-26, Madrid, Spain)

CHGS partnered with the Memorial de la Shoah (Paris), Topographie des Terrors (Berlin) and Centro Sefarad-Israel (Madrid) on the organization of the three-day conference held in Madrid, Spain. This conference was co-funded through a grant from the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA).

Contested Past, Contested Present: Social Memories and Human Rights in Post-Communist Europe (March 4-6, U of M)

The symposium, organized by the IAS Collaborative “Reframing Mass Violence” and sponsored by the Human Rights Program and CHGS, opened with a keynote lecture by Prof. John-Paul Himka, who spoke about the reception of the Holocaust in post-Communist Europe, especially its legacies in Poland and Ukraine. Following sessions covered different aspects of contested memories in post-Communist European countries; from depictions in theater, museums, and film to transitional justice policies and the Ukraine conflict. Overall, the event foregrounded issues of how long a transition lasts, what are ways contested pasts are conceptualized and dealt with legally, commemorative-ly, and artistically, and how memories can be and are at times used for political purposes. The symposium also highlighted a need to balance contested memories and interpretations of the past with long-term policies that are not merely cosmetic and mechanistic but often demand a true reevaluation of a country’s history.

**War, What is it Good For? Uses and Abuses of Second World War History (May 8, U of M)**

The one-day symposium addressed the usage of war history in both international and domestic politics. For the international sphere the main focus was on the use of the war in contemporary European politics, especially in Russia, Central and Eastern Europe, the West, and in relations between them. Are history politics just a continuation of war by other means or can war history be used to build peaceful relations between former enemies? In the domestic sphere WWII history is mostly used to construct unified nations, but in the symposium participants analyzed how war history has been or could be used in emancipatory ways to empower marginalized groups within societies.

**SELECTED AFFILIATE FACULTY RESEARCH IN HOLOCAUST & GENOCIDE STUDIES**

**Kirk Allison**, Human Rights and Health

**Alejandro Baer**, Dept. of Sociology

**Bruno Chaouat**, Dept. of French and Italian

**Gary Cohen**, Dept. of History

**Leslie Morris**, Dept. of German, Scandinavian and Dutch
- Faculty Fellow with IAS, Spring 2015, to work on hybrid memoir about family Holocaust history.

**Karen Painter**, School of Music

**Joachim Savelsberg**, Dept. of Sociology

**Daniel Schroeter**, Dept. of History
AFFILIATE FACULTY

Kirk Allison
Director, Program in Human Rights and Health

Bruno Chaouat
Associate Professor, Department of French & Italian

Gary Cohen
Professor, Department of History; Director, Center for Austrian Studies

Evelyn Davidheiser
Director, Institute for Global Studies

Ana Forcinito
Professor, Department of Spanish & Portuguese

Barbara Frey
Director, Human Rights Program

Lisa Hilbink
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Hiromi Mizuno
Associate Professor, Department of History

Leslie Morris
Associate Professor, Department of German, Scandinavian & Dutch

Karen Painter
Associate Professor, School of Music

Joachim Savelsberg
Professor, Department of Sociology, and Arsham and Charlotte Ohanessian Chair

Daniel Schroeter
Professor, Department of History

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Jennifer Hammer Program Associate

Jodi Elowitz Content Coordinator

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Joe Eggers MA graduate student, Interdisciplinary Studies

Yagmur Karakaya PhD candidate, Department of Sociology

BADZIN FELLOWS

Paula Sofia Cuellar PhD candidate, History, minor in Human Rights

Wahutu Siguru PhD candidate, Department of Sociology

HGMV WORKSHOP COORDINATOR

Erma Nezirevic PhD candidate, Department of Spanish and Portuguese

CHGS E-NEWSLETTER

CHGS produces a bi-monthly newsletter, featuring center and community events, links to relevant videos on our YouTube channel, a book of the month recommendation, film reviews, and original articles including the recurring feature “Eye on Africa.” The newsletter is distributed to an engaged readership of over 1,500.
Your generous support is key to maintaining the important work of the Center. Donations help us continue to promote the highest quality of scholarship and provide the programs and resources we have created over the years. Generous annual gifts help to fund public events, undergraduate and graduate research, academic conferences and exhibitions. Endowments established by major contributors fund the ongoing operations of CHGS.

For more information on how you can make a difference, please contact:

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College of Liberal Arts
University of Minnesota
220 Johnston Hall
101 Pleasant Street S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

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