Speakers List

Dr. Mimi Abramovitz, the Bertha Capen Reynolds Professor of Social Policy at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College and The CUNY Graduate Center written extensively about women, work, poverty, and social welfare policy. She is the author of Regulating the Lives of Women: Social Welfare Policy From Colonial Times to the Present, the award-winning Under Attack, Fighting Back: Women and Welfare in the US, and co-author of The Dynamics of Social Welfare Policy and Taxes Are A Women’s Issue: Reframing the Debate. Dr. Abramovitz is currently investigating the impact of austerity policies on the human service workforce, and writing a book entitled Gender Obligations: The History of Low-Income Women’s Activism Since 1900. Her research has appeared in major academic journals as well as in the popular press including New York Times, Washington Post, MS Magazine Women's Review of Books. An activist and a scholar, Dr. Abramovitz is regularly invited to present at national and international conferences; serves on various policy making, foundation and community organization boards. She frequently interviewed by the print and broadcast media. The recipient of numerous prestigious awards for her contributions to social work and social policy, she was recently inducted into the Columbia University School of Social Work Hall of Fame.

Rene Arcilla, Professor of Philosophy of Education, NYU. Recent publications include Mediumism: A Philosophical Reconstruction of Modernism for Existential Learning; “Why Aren’t Philosophers and Educators Speaking to Each Other?” Educational Theory, and For the Love of Perfection: Richard Rorty and Liberal Education.

Deborah Carr is professor and chair of the department of Sociology at Rutgers University. She also holds faculty appointments at the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy & Aging Research and the School of Social Work. She earned her PhD at University of Wisconsin, and formerly was on the faculties of University of Michigan and University of Wisconsin. Her research and teaching interests include aging and the life course, the family, social psychology, and demography. She is the author of nearly 100 journal articles and book chapters, and editor or author of several books including Worried Sick: How Stress Hurts Us and How to Bounce Back (Rutgers University Press, 2014), Making Up with Mom: Why Mothers and Daughters Disagree about Kids, Careers, and Casseroles (and What to Do about it) (2008, St. Martin’s Press/Thomas Dunne); and Spousal Bereavement in Late Life (2006, Springer). She is a deputy editor of Journal of Marriage & Family, and a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America. She also has extensive experience in the design, collection, and analysis of survey data. Carr is Chair of the Board of Overseers of the General Social Survey, and is a co-investigator on the Midlife Development in the United States (MIDUS) and Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS).

David Chen is Executive Director of the Chinese American Planning Council, the first Chinese American non-profit social service, education and community development agency in New York City. It provides daycare, youth and senior citizen services, employment and training programs and community services for Asian Americans, and is one of the largest organizations of its kind.
in the United States, serving over 6,000 people daily through over 49 service programs throughout the city. After September 11, 2001, which threw one-quarter of Chinatown’s workforce out of work, CPC developed long-term employment and training programs for over 800 clients.

Steven Choi is currently the Executive Director of the New York Immigration Coalition, a coalition of nearly 200 member groups that represents New York State’s immigrant communities. From 2009 to 2013, Mr. Choi was the Executive Director of the MinKwon Center for Community Action, which organizes, advocates for, educates and serves Korean and Asian community members in New York. Prior to that, Mr. Choi was Director of the Korean Workers Project at the Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund, the only project on the East Coast focused on providing free legal services to low-wage Korean immigrants. His previous experience includes working for the Hale and Dorr Legal Services Center in Boston, Greater Boston Legal Services, and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Los Angeles. Mr. Choi received a J.D. from Harvard Law School, a M.A. from the University of Hawai‘i, and a B.A. from Stanford University in History with Honors. He is the recipient of the 2013 New York Law Journal’s “Rising Stars” Award, the 2012 NAPABA Best Lawyers Under 40 Award, the Korean American Association’s “Man of the Year” Award, the Skadden Fellowship, the Wasserstein Fellowship, the Skirnick Public Interest Fellowship, and the Harvard Law School Asian Pacific American Alumni Award.

Nicholas Confessore is a New York-based political reporter at The New York Times. He led the paper’s coverage of super PACs, campaign finance issues, and political fundraising during the 2012 presidential campaign. Previously, he wrote about New York state politics and government for the Metropolitan Desk. He has also worked in the Brooklyn and City Hall bureaus of The Times. Before joining The Times in 2004, Mr. Confessore was an editor at The Washington Monthly and a contributor to The New York Times Magazine, The Atlantic Monthly, and Rolling Stone, among other publications. He began his career as a staff writer at The American Prospect. In 2003, Mr. Confessore won the Livingston Award for national reporting. He was part of a team of reporters whose coverage of the downfall of New York governor Eliot Spitzer won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for breaking news reporting and the Sigma Delta Chi award for deadline reporting from the Society of Professional Journalists. Mr. Confessore grew up in New York City and graduated from Princeton University.

Ralph Engelman is the Chairman of the Department of Journalism & Communication Studies at Long Island University. He is also the Faculty Coordinator of the George Polk Awards, a journalism award conferred by Long Island University. Professor Engelman has published articles and reviews in The Yale Review, Journalism Quarterly, Journalism History, Journalism Monographs, American Journalism, The Dictionary of Literary Biography, Television Quarterly and the Approaches to Learning series of the Modern Language Association. He serves as a journalism consultant for the Interactive Encyclopedia of Television, a project of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Foundation, and is a former board member of the Pacifica Foundation and was the former Chairman of the Board for the radio station WBAI.

Daniel Feldman, Associate Professor of Public Management at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Former Special Counsel for Law and Policy, New York State Comptroller, and Deputy
Attorney General of New York and New York State Assemblyman, Feldman served as a member of the New York State Assembly from 1981 through 1998 and thereafter as a senior member of Attorney General Eliot Spitzer’s staff through 2005. In the fall he has a new book coming out, *The Art of the Watchdog: Fighting Fraud, Waste, Abuse and Mismanagement in Government*, with co-author David Eichenthal (SUNY Press, 2013), at which point he will have been the author or co-author of four books on government and one on law.

**Daniel Flamberg** was ordained as a rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1975, and later earned a BA, MA and PhD in Political Economy at Columbia University. He began his career as an Associate Professor at Columbia, later switching to journalism and working as a senior producer for Public TV’s MacNeil-Lehrer Report. After several years Flamberg began work as a communications consultant representing the Aga Khan and the Ismaili Muslim community and *The New York Times*, American Express, The Mutual Radio Network, Metromedia and CBS. Currently Managing Director of The Kaplan Thaler Group, he previously worked as SVP, Director of Interactive Marketing at Juice Pharma Worldwide, as CMO of DuplicatePoker.com, as SVP, Direct Commerce at Everlast Boxing, as Vice President of Global Marketing at SAP, as Managing Director at Digitas in Europe and as President of Relationship Marketing at Lowe Worldwide. He has been active in Jewish affairs at the global, community and local levels. He is a practicing Jew who performs rabbinic duties occasionally.

**James W. Fraser** is Professor of History and Education at the NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development. Fraser is Senior Vice President for Programs at the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation where he is responsible for coordinating the work of the different Fellowship programs especially the Foundation’s new signature program, Fellowships for Teachers. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of the *History of Education Quarterly*. Fraser was the founding Dean of Northeastern’s School of Education. He was also a lecturer in the Program in Religion and Secondary Education at the Harvard University Divinity School from 1997 to 2004 and has taught at Lesley University, University of Massachusetts, Boston, Boston University and Public School 76 Manhattan. He was ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and was pastor of Grace Church in East Boston, Massachusetts from 1986 to 2006.


Alyshia Gálvez is the Director of the CUNY Institute of Mexican Studies. Author of two books on Mexican immigration in New York, Patient Citizens, Immigrant Mothers Mexican Women, Public Prenatal Care and the Birth Weight Paradox (Rutgers University Press 2011) and Guadalupe in New York (NYU Press 2009; published in Spanish on Iberoamericana Puebla 2012), she is a cultural anthropologist and Associate Professor of Latin American and Puerto Rican Studies at Lehman College. Her research focuses on the efforts by Mexican immigrants in New York City to achieve the rights of citizenship. Her second book Patient Citizens, Immigrant Mothers, was awarded the 2012 ALLA Book Award (Association of Latino and Latin American Anthropologists).

Thomas Halper, Professor and Department Chair, Political Science, Baruch College, CUNY. Halper teaches constitutional law and civil liberties. He has authored four books and numerous articles, including Positive Rights in a Republic of Talk: A Survey and a Critique. He was awarded Baruch’s Presidential Scholarship Achievement Award and has presented many scholarly papers in the United States and abroad.

Richard A Harris holds a joint appointment in Political Science and Public Policy & Administration at Rutgers University-Camden Campus where he has served as Chair of both departments and as Associate Dean of the Graduate School. He is the founding Director and currently Senior Fellow at the Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs, a university-based center for applied research and technical assistance focused on policy issues facing southern New Jersey, and Rutgers’ host city of Camden. Dr. Harris’ research expertise is in American Politics with a concentration on environmental and regulatory policy, business-government relations, and the legislative process. In addition to numerous scholarly articles, he has authored or co-authored three books and is currently collaborating with Daniel Tichenor on a study of the development of organized interests in America. Their 2003 Political Science Quarterly article, “Organized Interests and American Politics” won both the Jack Walker Prize and the Mary Parker Follett Award from the American Political Science Association. They are completing a book manuscript on this project, Abiding Interests, forthcoming with Cambridge University Press.
Ellis Henican is a columnist for Newsday, a political analyst at the Fox News Channel and the host of a nationally syndicated weekend show on the Talk Radio Network. He is also a stand-up comedian and the voice of “Stormy” on the hit Cartoon Network series, “Sealab 2021.”

William Henning spent 30 years as a Vice President of Local 1180 of the Communications Workers of America. The local union represents 9000 members, mainly New York City government workers, as well as several prestigious private non-profit organizations including Planned Parenthood, Amnesty International USA, Human Rights Watch, Human Rights First, and the ASPCA. In addition, Henning served for twenty years as the Chairman of the Board at the New York Committee on Occupational Safety and Health and has been for 10 years the President of the Board of the Working Theater. A leader of the progressive labor movement, Henning has been outspoken on a number of issues affecting American workers, hosting for 26 years the Communique, which aired in New York, the longest running labor-produced radio broadcast in the country (1986-2011).

Neil Hickey, Adjunct Associate Professor, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and former editor at large of the Columbia Journalism Review. He has written hundreds of articles on issues relating to the press, television, cable and telecommunications. He covered the Vietnam War, the first Persian Gulf War, the coming of glasnost, the IRA hunger strikes, and the U.S.-sponsored TV/Radio Marti of Cuba. On the domestic front, Mr. Hickey has reported extensively on presidential politics, covering several political conventions, including a four part series on the 1968 Democratic convention, and has interviewed presidents Clinton, Ford, Nixon, Carter and Johnson. He is the author of a number of books, including Adam Clayton Powell and the Politics of Race.

Dr. Michelle Holder is Senior Labor Market Analyst at the Community Service Society of New York where she analyzes and writes about labor market and poverty trends in New York City. Her research also covers the issue of incarceration in communities of color as well as the impact of imprisonment on subsequent labor market outcomes.

Carol Krinsky, Professor of Art History, NYU. Her major interests include architectural and urban history and medieval and early Renaissance art history. She is past president of the Society of Architectural Historians and several other scholarly organizations. She has published many articles and five books on architecture, including Rockefeller Center, Gordon Bunshaft of Skidmore, and Contemporary Native American Architecture: Cultural Regeneration and Creativity. She has won a national teaching award from the College Art Association and another from New York University.

John Krinsky is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the City College of New York, CUNY. He is author of numerous articles on welfare and labor politics in New York City, and a book, Free Labor: Workfare and the Contested Language of Neoliberalism (University of Chicago Press, 2008). He has also published on social movements and is a co-editor of the journal, Social Movement Studies. He is currently working on a book project with Maud Simonet of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) on the changes in public service work as exemplified in the maintenance of New York City's parks, and is also working with a homeless activist group, Picture the Homeless, and a range of other organizations on a project to
develop a citywide organization to preserve affordable housing through community-based, non-market, land-ownership.

Karen Kupperman, Silver Professor, History, NYU. Her major interests are in the early modern Atlantic world, colonization, and Native American history. Her most recent books are The Atlantic in World History, a volume in the Oxford New World History series and an edition of Richard Ligon’s True and Exact History of Barbadoes. Among her other books are The Jamestown Project, Indians and English: Facing Off in Early America, and Roanoke: The Abandoned Colony, and numerous scholarly articles and book chapters. Among her many awards are The American Historical Association Prize in Atlantic History, the Albert J. Beveridge Award of the American Historical Association for the best book in American History, including Canada and Latin America, the Binkley-Stephenson Award of the Organization of American Historians.

Marilyn McMillan is the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Technology Officer for NYU. She leads the delivery and evolution of University-wide services, infrastructure, policies, and plans for information technology and related activities. She has served as NYU’s first Chief Information Technology Officer since the role was created in 1998. Before NYU, she held numerous IT Leadership roles at MIT and subsequently at Stanford, with earlier IT experience in government and private industry. Marilyn has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Educause and on the Board of National Lambda Rail. She currently serves on the Board of NYSERNet, the New York State Research and Education Network and is an active participant on committees for Internet2. She is a graduate of Douglass College at Rutgers University in Political Science.

Gabriel Moran is Professor Emeritus of Educational Philosophy at NYU. He is the author of 25 books and numerous essays in edited collections, among which are: Uniquely Human: The Basis of Human Rights, Living Nonviolently: Language for Resisting Violence, and A Grammar of Responsibility. He has also published 200 articles in such publications as Commonwealth America, Theological Studies, Cross Current, and Education Week.

Terence P. Moran is Professor of Media Ecology in the Department of Media, Culture, and Communication at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at New York University where he has been a faculty member since 1967. He is the co-editor of Language in America (1969), the co-author of Selling War to America: From the Spanish-American War to the Global War on Terror (2007), and the author of Introduction to the History of Communication: Evolutions and Revolutions (2010). With Neil Postman, he co-founded the MA and PhD programs in Media Ecology and founded the undergraduate program in Communication Studies. An executive producer and writer of video documentaries, he received the 1987 New York Area Emmy Award for Outstanding Arts/ Cultural/ Historical Programming for McSorley’s New York, a history of the oldest continuing operating saloon in Manhattan.

John Pavlik, Professor and Associate Dean for Research, Northwestern University in Qatar. A recipient of the Presidential Citation for Service and Dedication as an Officer of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Pavlik is the author of a number of books, including Journalism and New Media; New Media Technology: Cultural and Commercial
Perspectives; Video on Demand Systems: Technology, Interoperability and Trials; and The People’s Right to Know: Media, Democracy and the Information Highway.

**Stacy Pies**, Clinical Associate Professor, Gallatin School of Individualized Study, NYU. Stacy Pies teaches courses that explore the role of narrative and culture in texts and human relationships, as well as courses exploring poetry and poetics. She has presented papers and chaired panels at the MLA, ACLA, Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, and Twentieth-Century Literature conferences, among others and has published essays in *French Forum, Nineteenth-Century French Studies*, and *Poetry’s Poet: Essays on the Poetry, Pedagogy, and Poetics of Allen Grossman*.

**Isabel Pinedo**, Associate Professor in the Department of Film and Media at Hunter College. Pinedo teaches courses in the history and interpretation of various aspects of the mass media, notably television, film, journalism, and advertising. She seeks to challenge pre-existing ways of thinking and enlarge understanding of our mass mediated society. Her book, *Recreational Terror: Women and the Pleasures of Horror Film Viewing* (SUNY Press, 1997), deals with the formal dynamics, ideological effects, social functions, racial politics, and the complex relation to gender of the contemporary horror film. Similarly, her article, “Recreational Terror: Postmodern Elements of the Contemporary Horror Film,” published in *The Journal of Film and Video*, analyzes the popular appeal of the contemporary horror film in relation to its postmodern elements.

**Richard Pious**, Professor of Political Science and Adolph S. and Effie Ochs Chair in History and American Studies, Barnard College and Columbia University. Among his books are *Why Presidents Fail*, *The Power to Govern*, *Presidents, Elections and Democracy*, *The American Presidency*, *American Politics and Government*, and *The President, Congress and the Constitution*. He has also published numerous articles in the *Political Science Quarterly*, the *Wisconsin Law Review*, the *Journal of International Affairs*, the *Journal of Armed Forces and Society*, and *Constitution Magazine*.

**Russell Roybal** is the Deputy Executive Director for External Relations of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the nation’s first national lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights organization. Russell leads the organization’s marketing and development efforts while also producing the National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change. He is a noted fundraiser, trainer and social justice leader, having served as development officer and director for local and national nonprofit organizations. For example, he served on the staff of the San Diego LGBT Center and the National LGBT Latina/o Organization (LLEGÓ). Russell was also on the staff of the Gill Foundation for over six years, serving as their Director of Training and Capacity Building. Additionally, he has served on the board of directors of several nonprofit organizations, large and small, local and national. He is the immediate past chair of the board of the Grassroots Institute for Fundraising Training (GIFT), a nonprofit focused on building the fundraising skills of people of color working for social justice. He has also served on the board of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy and the International Court Council.

**Joel Sachs**, Director of Contemporary Music, The Julliard School, Director of the New Julliard Ensemble, and Co-Director of Continuum, one of the nation’s leading contemporary music
groups. An internationally recognized pianist and director of contemporary music, he is the author of one hundred articles on contemporary art music, as well as *Kapellmeister Hummel in England and France*, The Complete Works for Piano: a Six-volume Collection of Reprints and Facsimiles, and *Charles Ives the Visionary: Piano, Chamber and Vocal Works*.

**Robert M. Seltzer** is Professor of history at Hunter College and the Graduate School of The City University of New York and Director of the Hunter interdisciplinary program in Jewish Studies. Seltzer’s book, *Jewish People, Jewish Thought: The Jewish Experience in History*, is an overview of the development of Jewish life and ideas from biblical times to the present. He is the author of articles and reviews on Jewish historiography, on East European Jewry in the nineteenth century, and other areas of Judaism’s encounter with modernity. Among the books he has edited is, *The Americanization of the Jews*. Seltzer was a principal consultant for the Museum of Jewish Heritage-New York Holocaust Memorial’s permanent exhibit, has been general editor of three publication series, “Reappraisals in Jewish Social and Intellectual History,” “Essential Papers in Jewish Studies,” and “Hunter College Occasional Papers in Jewish Studies.” He has served as president of the Association for Jewish Studies.

**Gunja SenGupta** is Professor of History at Brooklyn College. She specializes in the US Civil War and Reconstruction, African American history, Women’s history and Comparative Slavery. She is a Leonard and Claire Tow Professor, and was a recipient of the Whiting Fellowship for Distinguished Teaching. Among her publications are: “Elites, Subalterns and American Identities: A Case Study of African American Benevolence,” American Historical Review; “Black and ‘Dangerous’? African American Working Poor Perspectives on Juvenile Reform and Welfare in Victorian New York,” Journal of Negro History; and *For God and Mammon: Evangelicals and Entrepreneurs, Masters and Slaves in Territorial Kansas, 1854-1860*.

**Norman Siegel** is a law attorney in private practice. From 1985 to 2000 he was Executive Director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, and before that, Project Director for MFY Legal Services, Inc., which assisted poor people in neighborhoods in Manhattan. He has been active in a number advocacy campaigns, including efforts to limit the use of eminent domain in Harlem and Brooklyn and the public release of all information related to the events of September 11, 2001. He is a frequent contributor to the *New York Times*, *Newsday*, the *Daily News*, and the *Amsterdam News*. He has served on the board of directors of the Jackie Robinson Foundation and is a founding board member of the Amadou Diallo Foundation.

**George David Smith** is Clinical Professor of Economics and International Business and Academic Director of the Langone Program at the NYU Leonard H. Stern School of Business. He is author and co-author of several books, among which are *Anatomy of a Business Strategy; From Monopoly to Competition; The New Financial Capitalists; Cotton’s Renaissance and Wisdom from the Robber Barons*. He has also authored a number of scholarly and popular articles and is currently at work on a concise history of Wall Street.

**Josef** (pronounced Yo-sef) **Sorett** is Assistant Professor of Religion and African-American Studies at Columbia University. He is an interdisciplinary historian of religion in America, with a particular focus on black communities and cultures in the United States. Professor Sorett holds a Ph.D. in African American Studies from Harvard University, a B.S. from Oral Roberts
University and an M.Div. from Boston University. In support of his research, Josef has received fellowships from the Fund for Theological Education, Harvard’s Charles Warren Center for American History and Princeton University’s Center for African American Studies. He has published essays and reviews in *Culture and Religion*, *Callaloo*, the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, and *PNEUMA: Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*. Josef’s current book project, *Spirit in the Dark: A Religious History of Racial Aesthetics* illumines how religion has figured into debates about black art and culture. He is also editing a volume that explores the sexual politics of black churches.


**Lynda Spielman** is a Business Consultant and Former Director of Deployment, Global Human Resources, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu. She received her Ph.D. in Latin American History from Indiana University in 1975. Before joining the Deloitte organization, Spielman worked on global economic development issues for international organizations such as the United Nations and the Carnegie Endowment. At Deloitte she has developed innovative programs in cross-cultural learning and communications for multinational business settings for 25 years. Her most recent publication is *Transformational Diversity*, which develops a strategy of inclusiveness that prepares organizations for globalization.

**Ida Torres**, President Emeritus of Local 3 of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union. Awarded an Honorary Doctor of Law from Queens College CUNY in 2000, Torres began as a telephone operator for Local 231 UOPWA. She was elected Secretary-Treasurer Local 3 in 1984 and President in 1998. She has received numerous awards from such organizations as the National Organization of Women, the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, and the Black Trade Unionists Leadership Committee. She also received the AFL-CIO Distinguished Services Award.

**Thuy Linh Tu** is Associate Professor of Social Cultural Analysis at NYU. Her research has been focused on understanding the relationship between culture and economy, particularly the ways that these converge to produce new identities, labor formations, and social networks. She has explored this relationship in a variety of projects that consider how material structures, including commercial markets, state policies, and cultural geographies, shape seemingly immaterial productions, like art, fashion, and beauty. These include *The Beautiful Generation: Asian American Designers and the Cultural Economy of Fashion* (Duke UP, 2011), which was
winner of the Cultural Studies Book Award presented by the Association for Asian American Studies and was Finalist for the Laura Romero Prize from the American Studies Association. She is currently working on a new project, tentatively titled, *The Science of Hope: Race, Biology, and Beauty in the Multinational Cosmetics Industry*, which examines the production, market, and consumption of a new “science of skin” and its role in shaping global discourses of race and beauty. She is also co-editor of two collections, *Alien Encounters: Popular Culture in Asian America* (Duke UP, 2004) and *Technicolor: Race, Technology, and Everyday Life* (NYU Press, 2001).

**Daniel Walkowitz**, Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis, History, NYU. Long-time Director of Metropolitan Studies, the NYU College of Arts and Science’s urban studies program, he served as the College’s inaugural Director of College Honors from 2004-2007, and Director of Experiential Education from 2007-10. An American Social and Cultural Historian with a focus on labor and urban history, Walkowitz is the author or editor of nine books and four films, including *Worker City, Company Town: Iron and Cotton Worker Protest in Troy and Cohoes, N.Y., 1855-1884* and *Working with Class: Social Workers and the Politics of Middle Class Identity*. His most recent film, *City Folk*, is a collaborative project with the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural heritage and is scheduled to air in 2014. He is presently writing a book, *Looking for Bubbe: The Lost Left and Jewish Heritage Tourism in Eastern and Central Europe*. 