

IAS Bulletin

Welcome to the new Early Career Fellows 2012!

Left to right: Emilio Jimenez, Richard Wallace, Sharifah Sekalala, Richard Aldrich, Hannah Andrews, Janosch Ortmann, Pinar Donmez, Martin Klimmek, Glen Turley, Brian Haman, Chris Clarke.



The IAS announces new Global Research Fellowships

Richard Aldrich, IAS Director

Spring 2012

IAS is delighted to launch ten newly established Warwick Global Research Fellowships (deadline 28 May 2012). The Vice-Chancellor, Nigel Thrift, said: "This exciting new initiative represents a major investment in future research leadership by the University of Warwick". The purpose is to recruit postdoctoral fellows of the very highest calibre and to work with them to accelerate their careers. The fellows will be appointed for periods of between three and five years, depending on the nature of their project. These prestigious appointments will combine extended time to pursue the best research and advanced career training, together with the resources to achieve global mobility. Fellows will visit global partners and convene major symposia that will allow them to engage with the international academic community.

The Warwick Global Research Fellows will be future research leaders and the IAS will work with them to ensure that they enjoy the support they require develop as world-leading scholars. Fellows will join a vibrant interdisciplinary research community in the IAS and will also benefit from advanced training delivered through the IAS Academic Careers and Employment programme. In keeping with the ethos of Warwick's IAS, interdisciplinary research applications will be strongly encouraged.

For more information: www.go.warwick.ac.uk/IASGRF

The Voice of the Past: The Warwick University Oral History Project

Celebrating Warwick's 50th Anniversary in 2015

The IAS and the Communications Office have begun a major initiative focusing on the life and work of Warwick University during the past half century. The Warwick University Oral History Project (WUOHP) will help to celebrate Warwick's 50th Anniversary in 2015. Dr Laura Schwartz, an IAS Postdoctoral Research Fellow who has specialised in the history of universities and colleges said: "Oral history offers fabulous opportunities to bring new and exciting perspectives to the history of institutions". The intention is to capture the everyday experiences of a diverse group of former staff and students. The cross-section of interviewees will be broad, capturing the narrative of those who have made contributions to the University, but who often are under-represented in the formal historical record. Among the themes the project will explore are the initial planning of the University, the changing nature of the student experience and the intersection between University and the local community. The interviews will be collected as high quality digital recordings and will be archived by the Modern Records Centre.



Mario Vargas Llosa, Nobel Laureate, 'In Conversation' at Warwick

Warwick Arts Centre Theatre, 6pm Thursday 7 June 2012

The IAS is delighted to welcome one of the world's greatest writers, Mario Vargas Llosa, and his wife Patricia, to Warwick University on 7 June 2012. Mario Vargas Llosa has been a regular visitor to Warwick since the late seventies and was awarded an honorary degree in 2004. The visit is sponsored by the Institute of Advanced Study and will be the first time that he has appeared in public in the UK since the award of the Nobel Prize for Literature in December 2010. This event forms part of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture series and will include a reception, offering students and staff to talk to Vargas Llosa about his work.

Mario Vargas Llosa will be 'In Conversation' at the Art Centre Theatre at 6pm on 7 June (the tickets are free and can be obtained through the Art Centre box office). He will be speaking about his latest novel, *The Dream of the Celt*, published in English by Faber and Faber to coincide with his visit. His novel is a fictional account of key moments in the life of Roger Casement, the diplomat and human rights activist, turned Irish nationalist, executed by the British government for treason in 1916. He will be joined on stage by the Peruvian novelist and critic, Alonso Cueto, the critic Efraín Kristal (UCLA) and the Irish historian María Luddy (Warwick). This 'In Conversation' will also cover broader aspects of the work of Vargas Llosa as highlighted in the recently published *Cambridge Companion to Mario Vargas Llosa* (edited by Efraín Kristal and John King).

The IAS has also co-organized a further 'In Conversation' with Vargas Llosa, scheduled for 6 June. This event, that will take place at the Royal Society in London, is co-sponsored by Warwick, the British Academy, the publishers Faber and Faber, and the Irish Embassy. It will mark the official launch of the novel *The Dream of the Celt*.

Vargas Llosa was modest about the Nobel Prize for literature and observed that writers should not think about the Nobel Prize "as it is bad for ones writing". He has written over thirty novels and plays, focusing on issues of power, resistance and revolt. His writings have been translated into thirty-three languages, including Chinese, Croatian, Hebrew and Arabic. Several of his novels have been turned into films including 'Tune in Tomorrow' (1990) which draw on his novel *Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter*. The film starred Barbara Hershey, Peter Falk and Keanu Reeves.

Vargas Llosa's wrings have always stirred controversy. In 1963, he wrote *The Time of The Hero* (La ciudad y los perros), a novel that drew upon his time at the Peruvian officers school. He had been sent there by his father at the age of only fourteen - but withdrew to work as a journalist. The book caused a storm and many copies were publicly burned by Army generals who denounced the author as 'a degenerate'. However Vargas Llosa had already begun his meteoric rise and in 1965 he published *The Green House* (La



casa verde), widely regarded as one of the greatest novels to have emerged from Latin America.

His more recent work includes *The Feast of the Goat* (La fiesta del chivo), a political thriller published in 2000, focusing on the effects of dictatorship, corruption, violence and the abuse of power. Vargas Llosa has identified himself as a liberal, opposed to the extremes of both left and right and himself entered politics in 1990, standing as a presidential candidate of Peru.

Gender, Subjectivity and Oral History Conference – 24 November 2011

Laura King, Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre for the History of Medicine

The Warwick Oral History Network is an especially vibrant group of researchers, linking a wide variety of departments and disciplines. On 24 November 2011 we held a conference on Gender, Subjectivity and Oral History, organised by IAS Early Career Fellows Angela Davis and Andrea Hajek. A keynote paper from Penny Summerfield, Professor of Modern History at the University of Manchester and an expert on Women's Lives in World War Two, set the tone for a wonderful day of debate about Oral History. It combined a fascinating description of the lives of two Cumbrian women with sharp theoretical insights about the development of oral history as a field, key issues to address as a researcher and pathways for the future.

Discussion of rich and fascinating research findings from a wide range of time periods and places was complimented by reflections on methodological and theoretical issues facing those using oral history. An exciting range of papers followed on subjects such as parenting as a role and identity in both Italy and Britain, the influence of migration on identities and identity practices, in Turkish and Ethiopian communities in London and women in China, and experiences of women as activists in post-war Oxford and 1970s Germany.

Inter-subjectivity was a key theme. There was much discussion of the sense of self constructed in an interview situation by both the participant and the interviewer. The interview in this way forms a moment through which these two people (or more) work through

a process of constructing a sense of self. The interviewer plays an active role within this. Penny Summerfield reminded us that the idea of 'composure' was important here – an individual composes a particular narrative within the interview context.

This prompted discussions of the different selves that individuals present. As an interviewer, we use different selves to facilitate the interview. This brought to light the balance between professional and personal identities as an interviewer, but also those of the interviewee. Whilst we may approach someone to interview them in their professional or personal capacity, we often would like to know about both, and accessing both parts of a person's lives simultaneously can prove difficult. This also applies to a whole range of variables, such as age, ethnicity, religion, and, of course, gender. The sex of both interviewer and interviewee brings particular dynamics to the interview, and can be both facilitating and also a barrier to finding more about a person's life.

Gender and Memory constituted a further key theme - evoking the interplay between public discourses and private narratives within the interview setting. As Penny Summerfield reminded us, the key public discourses relating to memory tend to be male – Penny gave us the example of the Home Guard in the Second World War, or Dad's Army as it is better known. Women did join the Home Guard, along with a range of other armed forces during the war, but the way the war is remembered leaves little space for this. As she highlighted, women's identities are not 'legendised' in the way that men's are, and as such, women frequently have to use these male narratives to get themselves heard. This relates to the wider theme of whether interviews can give us access to public values and ideas, or the reality of people's individual experiences. The answer, of course, is a mixture of both, but perhaps obviously from a room of people using oral history as a methodology, it was felt that interviews provided an incredibly valuable insight into people's experiences, behaviour, attitudes and sense of self. However, it was also believed that the cultural context of both the past and present were also vital, and we must be aware and reflective about the influence of these within the interview. One particular way of thinking about this was to reflect on the literal and metaphorical silences within interviews, and pursuing aspects of the narrative that had been left out.

Perhaps the most reflexive theme came from our discussion of the purpose of interviewing and the ownership of the interview. It was clear that most people pursued interviewing for academic purposes, to tell them something about the lives of their research subjects that other sources or methodologies could not. But there was another important purpose highlighted here; interviews can both empower neglected voices in the present and past and can preserve these voices for future generations, a motive felt particularly by those interviewing older people. This raises a wider question though – whose purposes are being served by the interview? Whose voice should be heard in the ensuing article or book? And should or are we as interviewers furthering a particular agenda of the interviewee? A tension was highlighted here, between the desire to accurately represent those being interviewed and the need to come to some meaningful conclusions beyond the level of the individual. Practical issues came out of these more theoretical discussions. Should we send all our interviewees their transcripts or recordings to edit? Or articles and books to get their feedback? Who really owns the interview?

All involved felt that the conference had provided us with both a wonderful opportunity for self-reflection and a space to discuss best practice for interviewing – themes that are sure to continue in next year's Warwick Oral History Network events.

IAS Current Award Schemes and Deadlines at a glance

For full details go to http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ias/funding_opportunities/

WARWICK GLOBAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS – 10 posts – 28 May 2012

Warwick is seeking to attract the most outstanding researchers to ten newly established Warwick Global Research Fellowships. The Fellowships will be of between three and five-years' duration combining time to pursue the best research with the resources to achieve global mobility. Applicants should hold a doctorate or equivalent medical qualification and be within 5 years of their PhD graduation. They should not have more than five years' postdoctoral research/teaching experience or hold, nor have held a permanent academic post. The posts are available from the beginning of October 2012.

VISITING FELLOWSHIPS – 25 June 2012 (NB this is a second round of funding)

The Visiting Fellowship scheme offers excellent opportunities for departments to enhance Impact for REF. We are especially keen to attract Fellows who can assist with Impact-related projects and additional resource will be available for this on a discretionary basis. The primary aim of this scheme is to promote visits by highly distinguished researchers and intellectuals to Warwick. This includes policy makers, representatives of the arts, business, government and industry, artists and writers which will enrich the research landscape across the disciplines at Warwick and contribute to the University's international reputation as a centre of research excellence and innovation.

EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIPS – 18 June 2012 and 7 January 2013

This programme supports Warwick doctoral candidates in the transition phase as they move towards postdoctoral careers. Fellows are expected to write research publications, conference papers, job applications, and postdoctoral fellowship/grant proposals - while engaging with the interdisciplinary activities of IAS. During their 6 months at IAS, Early Career Fellows are asked to run a symposium or workshop on campus. Autumn Fellowships are potentially extendable to ten months conditional upon satisfactory progress. The Fellowships are available on a part-time basis and many are held in conjunction with part-time employment within or outside the University.

INCUBATION AWARDS – 21 May 2012

Incubation Awards are intended to provide initial funds for identifying and pump-priming new, Warwick-based collaborative research networks that are interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary in their methodology, agenda and personnel. Incubation Awards are designed to expedite scoping activities for collaborative research networks, not to sustain such networks beyond this start-up phase. Applications involve researchers from more than one department and are often deployed to bring researchers from other institutions, including international visitors, to the University to explore collaborative links with Warwick researchers. The ceiling for bids for under this category is £4,000.

EUROPEAN FRONTIERS – 25 June 2012

(NB this is a further round of funding for activities taking place from 1 August 2012 onwards)

A new wave of European calls for proposals is imminent with deadlines in January 2013. We expect considerable preparatory work across the University in the next six months. The European Frontiers Scheme is intended to speak directly to these opportunities and to support the development of bids to a wide range of European schemes, including but not limited to: Framework programmes, European Science Foundation grants, bilateral schemes between European and UK Research Councils, and network grants. This scheme is designed to facilitate meetings between Warwick researchers and potential European partners with a view to evolving new programmes of research and/or research networks, and developing funding applications. The ceiling for bids for under this category is £4,000.

VACATION SCHOOLS AND CONFERENCES – 22 October 2012

This programme is designed to fund or co-fund research-orientated residential workshops or conferences at Warwick or Warwick's conference location in Venice. The events are geared toward early career (PhD and/or recent postdoctoral) researchers. Funded projects should be focused on specific research questions, methodologies and themes and normally extend over 5 days. The event should range intellectually beyond a single discipline or Warwick department. Successful proposals will allow Warwick-based PhD students and postdoctoral fellows as well as early career researchers drawn from a wider national or international pool to gain new understanding of emerging fields of scholarly analysis in dialogue with more senior researchers and presenters. The ceiling for bids for under this category is £22,000 (based in Warwick) or £25,000 (based in Venice).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AWARDS – Rolling deadline

The IAS Public engagement scheme promotes Warwick-based public engagement activities and is focused on the Research Excellence Framework (REF). The funding councils also highlight economic, social and cultural public engagement as a key research outcome for grant applications. Public engagement

events may occur at Warwick, however we are especially keen to promote activities that engage with non-academic partners and which showcase Warwick research in London or other centres where there is ease of access for user-communities. Achieving public engagement is challenging and IAS is happy to advise on engagement with the Third Sector, with think tanks and the world of Whitehall, Westminster and beyond. The ceiling for bids for under this category is £3,000.

RESEARCH NETWORKS – Rolling deadline

The IAS and the Wolfson Research Exchange are working together to expand the range and variety of cross-campus research networks. IAS plays an important role in assisting with collaborative, interdisciplinary networks, not only financially through Incubation awards, but also with resources such as the IAS Seminar Room in Millburn House and the IAS website where cross-disciplinary networks can be housed on a neutral IAS website rather than on any one department's pages. Modest funding is available for one-day workshops and meetings for established networks.

SPECULATIVE LUNCHES – Rolling deadline

Speculative lunches are intended to offer a forum for informal discussion, enabling Warwick staff to discuss research ideas at an early stage of formulation, with a view to potentially establishing research collaborations around particular themes. The IAS will host up to two of these 'blue skies' events each term around the table of the IAS seminar room in Millburn House. They are open to all members of staff, as well as postdoctoral fellows and postgraduate students, across all faculties, departments and research centres. Coordinators are free to structure discussion as they wish and to set their own agenda. They are often used as a forum to respond to the specific thematic calls issued by UK Research Councils.

Summary of IAS awards and deadlines

Incubation Awards	21 May 2012
Warwick Global Research Fellowship	28 May 2012
Early Career Fellowships	18 June 2012 and 7 January 2013
Visiting Fellowships (further call)	25 June 2012
European Frontiers (further call)	25 June 2012
Vacation Schools and Conferences	22 October 2012
Public Engagement Awards	Rolling deadline
Research Networks	Rolling deadline
Speculative Lunches	Rolling deadline