Center Headquarters

Opening. With support from the School of Arts & Sciences, the formal opening of the Center took place October 16 before an audience of 100 in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium.

Center Office. The center office opened in early October in 3900 Posvar Hall. It is adjacent to the Department of History offices; it includes four desks (for the administrator, the director, and two others), a work space, the center archives, and ample storage space. Two additional offices for center personnel are scheduled to be opened in the UCIS suite of offices on the fourth floor of Posvar.

Website. With the support of University Media Communications, the center website (at www.worldhistory.pitt.edu) was designed and released to the public in October 2008.

Visiting Scholar. Shingo Minamizuka, Professor of International Communications at Hosei University in Tokyo, Director of the Research Institute in World History, and President of the Asian Association of World Historians. Prof. Minamizuka was in residence at the center from August 27 through December 15, 2008.

Staff. The main center personnel for 2008 were Center Director Patrick Manning, who served throughout the year, and Center Administrator Regina Russian, who began work in September. Graduate student employees included Robert Fagley, staff person for the Andre Gunder Frank conference; Johan Mohd Sani, Dataverse assistant; and Ahmet Izmirlioglu, Dataverse assistant.

Collaborations

Affiliations at University of Pittsburgh. The center has worked closely with each of its main on-campus affiliates. Department of History – consultation on staffing, curriculum, and long-term planning. Global Studies Program – collaboration on teacher outreach. UCIS – collaboration with UCIS and each of the area-studies centers in UCIS in preparing a grant proposal on Muslim Minority Communities.

Collaborations Worldwide. The center’s worldwide collaborations brought three signal achievements in 2008. The Asian Association of World Historians (AAWH) was formed in Tianjin in May 2008; the new organization has now completed the program for a May 2009 conference of 100 participants in Osaka. The Network of Global and World History Organizations (NOGWHISTO) was formed in Dresden in July; this federation of five continental organizations is now applying for affiliation with the International Committee for Historical Sciences. The African Association of Global Historians, created in July 2008 as an organizing committee within NOGWHISTO, took a major step forward at a December 2008 meeting in Yaoundé, Cameroon, where plans were confirmed for an opening conference of the new organization in December 2009 at the University of Ilorin in Nigeria. For each of these advances, the participation and financial support of the World History Center has been essential. In addition, the World History Center has joined in
discussion with the **Ewha Institute for the Humanities** at Ewha Women’s University, Seoul, for cosponsorship of a conference on “World Art, World History, World Literature.” In these and other activities, the World History Center worked to articulate its close relationship with the **World History Network, Inc.**, an independent nonprofit corporation devoted to research and worldwide collaboration in world history, led by President Patrick Manning and a Board of Directors.

**Programs of Study**

**Graduate study.** *HIST 2902* – in the Fall 2008 semester, Patrick Manning taught a directed study course on the literature in world history, with five History graduate students enrolled. *HIST 2716, Empires in World History* – eight History faculty members collaborated in preparing the syllabus for this core thematic seminar, to be taken by about ten students in Spring 2009.

**Undergraduate Study.** *History 0700, World History*, a one-semester introductory survey of world history, was taught for the first time in Fall 2008 by Patrick Manning, with an enrollment of nearly 80. Videos of the lectures are posted on the university’s Mediasite website.

**Secondary teaching.** The center participated in two sets of teacher workshops during 2008. With the **NCTA program in Asian Studies**, the center presented Prof. Yinhong Cheng (Delaware State University), “From Revolution to Globalization: A Half-Century Rendezvous between Beijing and Havana”; Prof. Shingo Minamizuka (Hosei University), “Interpreting Japan’s Role in the Period 1890 – 1905” (October 21); and Prof. Shingo Minamizuka, “The Japanese Textbook Controversy” (November 11). With the **Transatlantic Slave Trade** group, chaired by Pitt Prof. John Myers (Education), the center presented “Introductory Workshop and Launch: Teaching the Transatlantic Slave Trade” (November 18).

**Research**

**Dataverse.** “**World-historical Dataverse**”—the universe of world-historical data—is now the name of the center’s program for a portal, archive, and large-scale dataset, directed by Siddarth Chandra and Patrick Manning. During 2008 the program underwent further discussion and planning. With the assistance of Johan Mohd Sani, data were collected for the Dataverse website, which is to be created at the beginning of 2009.

**Publications.** *Debating the Global Political Economy: Essays Inspired by Andre Gunder Frank.* Following the successful April 2008 conference on “Andre Gunder Frank’s Legacy of Critical Social Science,” Patrick Manning and Robert Fagley led in preparing a draft manuscript of the conference volume. Publication is expected in 2009 or 2010.

**Archives.** The archives of the World History Center include the current records of the World History Center and the records of the Northeastern University World History Center, which existed from 1994 to 2004. The archives are now housed in the Center Headquarters and, once the files are updated, will be open for consultation.

**Grant Applications.** The center participated in two major grant applications during 2008. “**Muslim Minority Populations in the U.S. and around the World.**” Center director Manning was co-PI, along with Robert Hayden (Director of the Russian and East European Center) of this application to the Social Science Research Council. The project’s collaboration of four UCIS centers (plus Global Studies, World History Center, and African Studies) would lead to eight public presentations, an art exhibit, and traveling exhibitions during 2009-2010. **A Publishing Initiative in the History of**
Science. The World History Center, along with the Department of the History and Philosophy of Science, joined in a proposal led by the University of Pittsburgh Press to support a program of research and publication in the history of science. This proposal, submitted to the Andrew Mellon Foundation, would add an editor to the press specializing in history of science and a postdoctoral fellow to the World History Center.

Events

Conferences. “Andre Gunder Frank’s Legacy of Critical Social Science.” The center sponsored this April 2008 conference, with funding from the GAP program in Global Studies. The conference, held in David Lawrence Hall April 10-13, brought nearly a hundred participants, including some from every continent. Asian Association of World Historians. The founding conference of this regional organization of world historians, held at Nankai University in Tianjin, May 1-5, relied on participation and financial support from the World History Center. Network of Global and World History Associations. The founding conference of this worldwide federation of world history organizations, held in Dresden, July 2, relied on participation and financial support from the World History Center.

Seminar. The opening session of the new World History Seminar took place on December 3. Shingo Minamizuka, Professor of International Communication at Hosei University (Tokyo) and Visiting Scholar at the World History Center, spoke on “Bankokushi—World History in Meiji Japan.” A video of the seminar and the text of the talk have been posted on the center website.