When I arrived at the Institute for the Social Sciences (ISS) in the summer of 2015, I was excited by the opportunity to help build new collaborative research strength in the social sciences at Cornell. ISS serves as an organizational bridge that connects academic programs and researchers across the university. The ISS collaborative projects, in particular, are designed to incubate research ventures among Cornell’s social scientists at the different colleges, disciplines, and units. We also are seeking collaborations between social scientists and faculty members in the physical and biological sciences. How can the social sciences build on existing strengths throughout the university community?

The first collaborative project, China’s Cities: Divisions and Plans, led by Jeremy Wallace in government, was selected in the fall 2015. Focusing on the economic, political, and social phenomena at play in China’s urbanization, the project runs from 2016-2019. Aside from Wallace, the project members are Panle Barwick in economics, Shanjun Li at the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Eli Friedman in international and comparative labor, and Jessica Weiss in government. They are using traditional social science methods — surveys, ethnographies, interviews — along with big data to understand the factors that divide migrants and native city dwellers.

Some of the most pressing issues of our time, such as maintaining democratic institutions, addressing climate change, providing public transportation, and ensuring food production and distribution, have large behavioral and social science components. Addressing these challenges will likely require social scientists to incorporate big data and computational resources, in tandem with traditional tools, as the China’s Cities project plans to do.

Recognizing change does not happen overnight or in isolation, ISS launched the Social Science Research Centers’ Council with the directors of other social science institutes and centers on campus. The council meets each semester to facilitate understanding of one another’s missions and goals, and identify shared priorities and funding opportunities. I also reinvigorated the ISS’ advisory committee that played a key role in guiding me through my first year at the ISS. I am grateful for the committee’s assistance.

Thank you for your support.

Daniel T. Lichter
Robert S. Harrison Director
The Institute for the Social Sciences nurtures the careers of Cornell’s social science faculty members by encouraging scholars to delve into interdisciplinary research collaborations addressing some of the world’s most complex challenges and disciplinary concerns. Through three signature programs—Collaborative Projects, Faculty Fellows, and Small Grants—the ISS provides financial support for research, including quantitative, qualitative, and computational social science studies.

In the summer 2015, Daniel T. Lichter, professor in both the Departments of Policy Analysis and Management, and Sociology, was named the Robert S. Harrison Director. He took over for Kim Weeden, professor in the Department of Sociology, who was director from January 2013-July 2015. The ISS moved in the summer 2015 to the seventh floor of Rhodes Hall where scenic and bright offices overlook either the gorge or the baseball field.

**MISSION**

ISS funding and programmatic initiatives foster systematic, evidence-based, and collaborative research addressing important disciplinary and public policy concerns. ISS recognizes the critical value of basic research in the social sciences and strives to nurture world-class scholarship that contributes to our fundamental understanding of the social world. Consistent with Cornell’s mission as a Land Grant Institution, the ISS disseminates knowledge in service to the public good.
Creativity, Innovation, & Entrepreneurship (2013-16)

Faculty Fellows
Melissa Ferguson, Psychology
Jack Goncalo, Organizational Behavior
Olga Khessina, Organizational Behavior
Aija Leiponen, Dyson School
Trevor Pinch, Science and Technology Studies
Michael Roach, Dyson School
Wes Sine, Johnson School
David Strang, Sociology
Richard Swedberg, Sociology

Mass Incarceration (2015-18)

Faculty Fellows
Maria Fitzpatrick, Policy Analysis and Management
Anna Haskins, Sociology
Julilly Kohler-Hausmann, History
Christopher Wildeman, Policy Analysis and Management

Deportation Relief (2015-18)

Faculty Fellows
Steven Alvarado, Sociology
Kate Griffith, Labor Relations, Law and History
Jordan Matsudaira, Policy Analysis and Management

Matthew Hall
Policy Analysis & Management
Co-Leader

Shannon Gleeson
Labor Relations, Law, and History
Co-Leader
Collaborative Project: 2013-16

Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship

The CIE project, led by M. Diane Burton at the ILR School, explored how novel ideas capture others’ attention and financial backing, giving birth to new organizations and industries. Spanning from 2013-16, the project co-sponsored events with 17 different units, connecting with hundreds of people across campus. The project’s culminating event — the Capstone Lecture — was held March 11, 2016, when research findings were spotlighted.

Melissa Ferguson in psychology and Jack Goncalo in organizational behavior explained the Creativity Misattribution Procedure — a tool they designed to measure implicit measures of creativity. Their work is featured in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

Research by Aija Leiponen at the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management shows there is no intellectual property right on data observation and virtually no recourse to controlling what purchasers can do with the data. Charles Whitehead discussed the new Masters of Laws program at Cornell Tech — what he calls the pedagogical counterpart to the CIE project — and a tangible outcome of the CIE project.

The project supported 14 graduate student projects in six departments and four colleges/schools. Graduate students in sociology Abdullah Shahid and Fedor Dokshin, along with CIE project members David Strang in sociology, Charles Whitehead at the Law School, and Burton used natural language processing and computational social science techniques to study risk and innovation in the financial sector.


In fall 2014, the CIE project’s doctoral seminar, *Doctoral Research Workshop on Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship*, brought students together and built the foundations of an interdisciplinary research community.

Project members garnered more than $2 million in external funding. In addition, graduate student Jae Beum Cho received a $20,000 fellowship from the Kauffman Foundation to complete his dissertation.
Led by Peter Enns in government, the Mass Incarceration project is examining the factors that cause mass imprisonment and the consequences of imprisonment on individuals, families, and society. A story describing the project’s plan and purpose ran in the Cornell Chronicle.

During the project’s first year, two book manuscript workshops were held for Peter Enns and Julilly Kohler-Hausmann in history. These workshops provided important feedback and exposure for the team members’ research.


Project member Maria Fitzpatrick received tenure in 2015-16. The project funded Alyssa Goldman, a Ph.D. student in sociology, to work with Fitzpatrick, and project members Christopher Wildeman and Anna Haskins on data collection pertaining to the consequences of incarceration for children. The work was critical to a major collaborative grant application submitted.

The project supported an Annals conference, “Tough on Crime, Tough on Families? Criminal Justice and Family Life in America.” This conference featured work by Wildeman and Haskins and brought prominent criminal justice scholars from around the country to Cornell.

The project planned events for 2016-17, including a conference on the consequence of mass incarceration for children. In 2016, just before the presidential election, there will be a forum for students, faculty and members of the community, where policy experts are to debate key issues relevant to the election, including criminal justice matters.
Co-led by Shannon Gleeson in labor relations, law, and history at the ILR School, and Matthew Hall in policy analysis and management, this mixed-methods project is examining how temporary protected status (TPS) is affecting immigrants in the United States.

During the project’s first year, Hall and project member Steven Alvarado, along with graduate student Alex Currit, designed a study examining the impact of temporary protected status on Salvadoran child migrants. In November 2016, these findings were presented at the Annual Upstate Population Workshop of the Cornell Population Center, and the Center for Aging and Population Studies at Syracuse University.

In January 2016, workers’ rights attorney Joshua Stehlik from the National Immigration Law Center held a workshop, *Issues Faced by Daca-mented and Other Immigrant Workers*, to educate project members about the rights of beneficiaries of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

In April 2016, the project brought legal expert Shoba Sivaprasad Wadhia to campus to discuss the role of prosecutorial discretion in immigration cases and the constitutionality of the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans Program. Steven Yale Loehr, a member of the ISS’ *Immigration Project* (2010-13), participated in the discussion with Professor Wadhia that was open to the Cornell community.

During Spring 2016, Kate Griffith and Shannon Gleeson prepared a review of the literature on the impacts of temporary protected status. They also applied for outside funding and sought Institutional Review Board approval of a qualitative interview instrument of TPS recipients in New York City, which commenced in summer 2016.

Throughout the academic year, Hall and project member Jordan Matsudaira worked to access various elements of federal administrative data on immigration enforcement and workforce characteristics.
Outcomes: Prior Projects

ISS theme projects ran for three years each between 2004-15 to launch interdisciplinary research investigations. In 2015-16, faculty fellows of prior projects secured grants, published their research findings, and earned recognition — all seeded with initial ISS support.

Two members of the ISS’ Theme Project, Judgment, Decision Making, and Social Behavior (2009-12), Cornell psychologist Valerie Reyna and law professor Valerie Hans, received a $390,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to better understand damage award decision-making. The grant builds on evidenced-based scientific theory developed at the ISS. The grant was made by the NSF Law and Social Sciences Program, supporting interdisciplinary research proposals that promote a greater understanding of the connections between law and human behavior while advancing scientific theory.


ISS’ Contested Global Landscapes project (2012-15) team leaders, Wendy Wolford and Charles Geisler, are co-authors, along with Sara Keene and Marygold Walsh-Dilley on the 2015 paper, “A View from the Top: Examining Elites in Large-Scale Land Deals,” in Canadian Journal of Development Studies.

“From Pangaea to Partnership: The Many Fields of Rural Development,” also by Wolford, was featured in Sociology of Development in 2015. This paper follows the $229,000 award Wolford received from the National Science Foundation in 2014 for her research concerning Brazil and Mozambique.

Sara Pritchard, another member of the Contested Global Landscapes project, received a $102,000 scholars’ award from the National Science Foundation for her project, “Light Pollution's Social and Ecological Consequences and Contexts.” Pritchard, Wolford and Steven Wolf, co-edited “Knowledge and the Politics of Land,” included in a special issue of Environment and Planning A 48.

Maria Cristina Garcia, a member of the ISS’ Immigration project (2010-13) was named an Andrew Carnegie Fellow. A professor of American Studies, she was awarded $200,000 in 2016, for her project, Climate Refugees: The Environmental Origins of Refugee Migrations.

Another Cornell University Press publication, *Working Through the Past: Labor and Authoritarian Legacies in Comparative Perspective*, edited by Teri L. Caraway, Maria Lorena Cook, and Stephen F. Crowley, was published in 2015. Two articles co-authored by Maria Lorena Cook, ISS faculty fellow on both the Immigration and Contentious Knowledge (2006-09) projects, are included in the volume.

The book, *Changing Course in Latin America: Party Systems in the Neoliberal Era*, by Ken Roberts, on the Contentious Knowledge team, was awarded the 2016 Best Book Award from the Comparative Democratization Section of the American Political Science Association.


Michael Macy on the Networks project (2005-08) published articles in the *American Journal of Sociology* (awarded Best Paper in Mathematical Sociology), *A Review of Behavioral Economics, Social Science Research, Sociological Science, PLoS One, and Nature Human Behavior*. He gave keynote addresses at two major international conferences (Barcelona and Helsinki) and 11 invited lectures in five countries.

Designed to nurture Cornell’s most promising social science faculty early in their career, ISS Faculty Fellows receive relief from teaching and major administrative responsibilities, and an office in the ISS to devote concentrated time to their research. In 2015-16, the ISS sponsored its largest cohort to date — 13 fellows from three colleges, Agriculture and Life Sciences; Architecture, Art and Planning; Human Ecology; and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

**Professional Development**

ISS Faculty Fellows meet weekly over lunch to share their research findings and discuss their work. The lunches “build community,” said ISS Faculty fellow Jane Mendle. They also can lead to new research collaborations, such as a project between ISS Faculty Fellows, Michael Manville and Adam Levine.

Professional development and training sessions are also provided. The most popular events were the two media-training workshops given by Cornell’s Media Relations Office, along with Amitra Verma’s explanation of the Institutional Review Board process, Deputy Provost’s John Siliciano’s talk on the tenure process and procedures, and a discussion by Kim Weeden, former ISS director and chair of the Sociology Department, on opportunities and challenges in the social sciences.

**Awards and Publications**

While at the ISS, the fellows focused on research resulting in key outcomes. Levon Barseghyan published papers in the *Journal of Monetary Economics*, *American Economic Journal*, *Quantitative Economics*, and *European Economic Review* in 2016.


Eli Friedman’s book, *China on Strike: Narratives of Workers’ Resistance*, was released by Haymarket in 2016. Kurt Jordan published “Categories in Motion: Emerging Perspectives in the Archaeology of Post Columbian Indigenous Communities” and a second co-authored article, both in the journal *Historical Archaeology* in 2016.

Adam Levine’s, *American Insecurity* won Best Book award and his paper, “Citizen Engagement (and Disengagement) in Response to Social Ills” received the Best Paper award from the American Political Science Association in 2015. Jane Mendle received tenure and was promoted to associate professor in the summer 2016. She co-wrote articles published in the *Journal of Research on Adolescence and Clinical Psychological Science*, both in 2015.


Laura Tach received a $350,000 award for a five-year-long research project on U.S. families from the William T. Grant Foundation in 2015.

In June 2016 the National Institute on Aging awarded Erin York Cornwell and co-investigators $3 million for their project, *Activity Space, Social Interaction, and Health Trajectories in Later Life*. York Cornwell’s paper about racial disparities was published in the *American Journal of Public Health*, also in 2016.

Connie Yuan co-authored two articles in *Communication Research* and *Human Communication Research*. 
Small Grants: Fall 2015

Twice yearly, the ISS awards up to $12,000 for research and $5,000 for conferences to tenure-line Cornell faculty members. The ISS provided 15 awards supporting 11 research projects and 4 conferences in the fall 2015. The awards, described on the ISS website and in the Cornell Chronicle, are listed below:

- The Causes and Consequences of Financial Crises Evidence from New Historical Data, 1900-2015
  Matthew Baron, Johnson School

- Understanding Our Influence Over Others’ Moral Decisions
  Vanessa Bohns, Organizational Behavior, Industrial and Labor Relations

- LabPhon15-Speech Dynamics and Phonological Representation
  Abigail Cohn, Linguistics, Arts and Sciences
  Sam Tilsen, Linguistics, Arts and Sciences

- Influence of Body State on Cognition and Emotion in Shaping Environmental Interactions: Implications for Aging
  Eve DeRosa, Human Development, Human Ecology

- Postcolonial Commemorations: How Revolutionaries Became Freedom Fighters in Independent India
  Durba Ghosh, History, Arts and Sciences

- Developing a Longitudinal Database of Smallholder Coffee Growers to Assess Impacts of Participation in Specialty Markets
  Miguel Gomez, Applied Economics and Management, Business

- The Nth of the Month Effect: Consumer and Retailer Response to SNAP Benefit
  Tatiana Homonoff, Policy Analysis and Management, Human Ecology

- Economic Methods for Historians Workshop (aka History of Capitalism Summer Camp)
  Louis Hyman, Labor Relations, Law, and History Industrial and Labor Relations

- Labor Unions and the Spread of Healthcare-Associated Infections
  Adam Seth Litwin, Labor Relations, Law, and History, Industrial and Labor Relations

- Using Cost Effectiveness Analysis to Assess the Double Up Food Bucks Farmers’ Market Incentive Program for SNAP Participants
  Rebecca Seguin, Nutritional Sciences, Human Ecology

- Political Economy and Public Law Conference
  Jed Stiglitz, Law

- Exploring the Role of Culture in Event Segmentation
  Khena Swallow, Psychology, Arts and Sciences

- Citizens and the State in Authoritarian Regimes: Comparing Mass Politics and Policy in Russia and China
  Jessica Chen Weiss, Government, Arts and Sciences

- The Impact of Noise and Perceived Crowding on Consumer Emotions and Repatronage Intentions in a Food Service Context: An Exploratory Study in a Real and Virtual Restaurant
  So-Yeon Yoon, Design and Environmental Analysis, Architecture, Art, and Planning
Small Grants: Spring 2016

In the spring 2016, the ISS funded 15 proposals, including 14 research projects and 1 conference. The awards are described below and additional details are on the ISS’ website and in the Cornell Chronicle.

- The Impact of Restaurant Menu Labeling on Food Choice
  John Cawley, Policy Analysis and Management, Human Ecology
  Alex Susskind, Hotel

- Housing Redevelopment and the Evolution of Suburban Immigrant Communities
  Suzanne Lanyi Charles, City and Regional Planning, Architecture, Art, and Planning

- Exile and Enclosure
  Raymond Craib, History, Arts and Sciences

- Dissociating the Effects of Attention and Expectation on Visual Conscious Perception
  Shimon Edelman, Psychology, Arts and Sciences
  Roy Moyal, Graduate student in Psychology, Arts and Sciences

- Crafting Modern Islam: Mustafa Kemal’s Turkey in Southeast Asia (1920s-1940s)
  Chiara Formichi, Asian Studies, Arts and Sciences

- Latin American Alternatives to the Security Prison: An Ethnographic Study of Prisoner Self-Governance and Survival
  Chris Garces, Anthropology, Arts and Sciences
  Sacha Darke, Visiting Scholar, Latin Studies Program, Arts and Sciences

- Altruism Pays: How Marketing Exclusively to Free Patients at Aravind Eye Hospitals Supports the Enterprise
  Sachin Gupta, Johnson School

- The Fifth Urie Bronfenbrenner Conference – Minimizing the Collateral Damage: Interventions to Diminish the Consequences of Mass Incarceration for Children
  Anna Haskins, Sociology, Arts and Sciences
  Christopher Wildeman, Policy Analysis and Management, Human Ecology

- The Impact of Accountable Care Organizations on Physician Referral Patterns
  Samuel Kleiner, Policy Analysis and Management, Human Ecology

- The Power of Skin in East Africa
  Stacey Langwick, Anthropology, Arts and Sciences

- Gist in Criminal Adjudication: Testing the Effects of Mental Representation on Juror Deliberations and Verdicts
  Valerie Reyna, Human Development
  Valerie Hans, Law

- The Catholic Origins of French Dignity
  Camille Robcis, History, Arts and Science
- Creative Academic Writing: Exploring the Relationship between Artful Prose and Scholarly Production
  Aaron Sachs, History, Arts and Sciences
  John Forester, City and Regional Planning, Architecture, Art, and Planning
  Paul Sawyer, English

- Manufacturing Revolutions: The Rise and Decline of a Chinese Automobile City
  Victor Seow, History, Arts and Sciences

- Enhancing the Community Impact of School-Based Health Centers in Rural New York
  John Sipple, Development Sociology, Agriculture and Life Sciences
  Sharon Tennyson, Policy Analysis and Management, Human Ecology

- Do Policies Affect Father Involvement, and How Much Does Involvement Reduce Inequality in Child Outcomes?
  Maureen Waller, Policy Analysis and Management, Human Ecology
  Daniel Miller, Human Behavior in the Social Environment, Boston University
  Lenna Nepomnyaschy, School of Social Work, Rutgers University

- Understanding the Impact of Austerity on New York’s Local Governments
  Mildred Warner, City and Regional Planning, Architecture, Art, and Planning
  Yunji Kim, Grad Student, City and Regional Planning, Architecture, Art and Planning
In 2015-16, small grant recipients listed below secured grants, published their research findings, and earned recognition — all seeded by initial ISS support.

**Ricardo Daziano** in civil and environmental engineering received a $375,000 award from the National Science Foundation to quantify and qualify the effects that information about energy and environmental costs play on travel demands. This award, provided in the fall 2015, follows ISS support granted in the fall 2014 to understand the cognitive processes involved in consumers purchasing low-carbon and energy efficient technologies.

Using a small grant provided in fall 2014, **Sarah Kreps** in government examined why the U.S. public supports humanitarian inventions. Her work generated an article, co-authored with **Gustavo Flores-Macias**, also in government, that was published in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution* in 2015.

**Kelly Musick** in policy analysis and management was awarded approximately $415,000 from the Swedish Research Council Project for her 2016-18 project, *His and Her Earnings Following Parenthood and Implications for Social Inequality: Cohort and Cross-National Comparisons*. ISS support provided in the fall 2013 for her research, *Parents’ Time with Children and Subjective Well-being*, helped to seed this subsequent grant.

The National Science Foundation issued a CAREER award in summer 2016 to **Rebecca Slayton** in science and technology studies. She received $172,299 grant over five years for her project, *Enacting Cybersecurity Expertise*. Initial support provided by the ISS in the fall 2014 for her project, *Balancing Risks: Making Smart Grids Efficient, Reliable and Secure*, led to this NSF grant.

Research funded by a 2007 small grant awarded to **Rohit Verma** at the Johnson School supported a 2013 paper published in *Production and Operations Management Journal* that was named “most influential service operations paper” in 2015.


**Erin York Cornwell** in sociology is co-investigator on the 2016-19 project, *Activity Space, Social Interaction, and Health Trajectories in Later Life*, receiving a $3 million award from the National Institute on Aging. The ISS provided initial small grant support in the fall 2013 for her project, *Moving Behind the Census Tract: Activity Space and Social Networks in Later Life*. 
Grantsmanship

Working with the Office of Sponsored Programs and Faculty Diversity and Development, the ISS co-organized a workshop on the federal grant application process in the social sciences. More than 30 Cornell social science faculty members attended this event on June 2, 2016.

The ISS also created new webpages highlighting social science grant opportunities offered by government agencies, foundations, and academic institutions.

Co-sponsored Events

The ISS supported several events, organized by other units, on campus during the Spring 2016. For example, the Global Finance Initiative of the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies and the Meridian 180 Project of the Cornell Law School convened an international conference attended by social scientists, scholars, former and current central bankers, and other financial market professionals from East Asia, Europe and the U.S. In addition, two seminar series, Inequalities: How Deep? Why? What Should be Done? organized by the Cornell Program on Ethics and Public Life and another seminar hosted by the Cornell Institute for China Economic Research, received ISS support.

Student Engagement

A dozen graduate students participated in a poster session and gave presentations at the CIE’s project’s capstone lecture on March 11, 2016. In addition two Cornell graduate students worked with the Deportation Relief project laying the groundwork for research, and a doctoral candidate played a substantive role working with the Mass Incarceration project on key data.

The CIE team engaged eight undergraduates over the course of their term to assist with faculty research projects. Another undergraduate affiliated with the Workers’ Institute helped the Deportation Relief project.

Communication

A new brochure about the ISS was created as were a tri-fold display and banner — all designed to broaden the Cornell community’s awareness of activities and programs at the ISS. We also created and maintained listservs to ensure affiliate members of ISS projects know about current research and upcoming events.

Several articles about the ISS appeared in the Cornell Chronicle, including Daniel T. Lichter to lead Institute for the Social Sciences; ISS project examines reasons for mass incarceration, and ISS supports 15 research projects, three conferences, and ISS wraps up ‘creativity’ project. Additionally, working with Cornell’s Media Relations Office, the ISS helped prepare tip sheets on topics such as immigration and incarceration that showcased Cornell social science research for reporters.

February 16, 2017