NEWS RELEASE
FOR RELEASE: Thursday, April 25, 2013
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WOODROW WILSON FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2013 NEWCOMBE FELLOWS
Prestigious $25K award supports doctoral work on religious and ethical values

PRINCETON, N.J. (Apr. 25, 2013)—Twenty-two doctoral candidates have received a 2013 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship to complete a dissertation related to questions of religious and ethical values.

Each Charlotte W. Newcombe Fellow receives a 12-month award of $25,000. Out of nearly 600 applicants for the 2013-14 Fellowships, 76 were named as finalists, with 22 Fellows ultimately selected. They come from 15 institutions nationwide and include scholars in art, history, literature, foreign language, religion, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, cultural studies, and Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies.

The 2013 Fellows are exploring topics such as the relationship between art and public execution in eighteenth-century Britain; Iran’s paid kidney donation program, the world’s only regulated and religiously sanctioned program of its kind; the historical and ethical implications of the sourcing of agricultural labor from Mexico and the Caribbean for work in U.S. fields; and the ways in which a transnational ethnic minority in Southeast Asia is using traditional religion to sustain a larger identity. (See full list of the 2013 Fellows below.)

Funded by the Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation, the Newcombe Fellowship was created in 1981. It remains the nation’s largest and most prestigious such award for Ph.D. candidates in the humanities and social sciences addressing questions of ethical and religious values. Over the past three decades, the Newcombe Fellowship has supported just over 1,100 doctoral candidates, most of them now noted faculty members at colleges and universities throughout the U.S. and abroad.

“The Newcombe Foundation Trustees are deeply gratified that Newcombe Fellowships have had significant positive impact on so many scholars’ professional lives, and that these scholars have made many noteworthy contributions to the scholarship of ethics and religion,” said Thomas N. Wilfrid, Executive Director of the Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation.

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The Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation continues Mrs. Newcombe’s lifelong interest in supporting students pursuing degrees in higher education. It has awarded scholarship and fellowship grants totaling over $50 million since 1981.

The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation identifies and develops leaders and institutions to meet the nation’s critical challenges. In these areas of challenge, the Foundation awards fellowships to enrich human resources, works to improve public policy, and assists organizations and institutions in enhancing practice.
THE 2013 CHARLOTTE W. NEWCOMBE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWS *

Samuel Anderson  •  University of California, Los Angeles, World Arts and Cultures/Dance
Celebrity, Violence, and the Mystic Arts in Postwar Sierra Leone

Hannah Barker  •  Columbia University, History
Egyptian and Italian Merchants in the Black Sea Slave Trade, 1260-1500

Christine Bourgeois  •  Princeton University, French and Italian
Saintly Asceticism and the Literary Machine: The Many Lives of Saint Anthony the Great

Anthony Byrd  •  Emory University, Religion
As a Benefit for Mankind: Qâdi ’Abd al-Jabbâr’s (d. 1025) Free Will Theodicy

Lang Chen  •  Yale University, Religious Studies
Elixir or Poison? Indian Origins and Chinese Interpretations of Buddhist Antinomian Narratives

Molly Farneth  •  Princeton University, Religion
Agon and Reconciliation: Ethical Conflict and Religious Practice in Hegel’s Account of Spirit

Meredith Gamer  •  Yale University, History of Art
Criminal and Martyr: Art and Religion in Britain’s Early Modern Eighteenth Century

Philippa Hetherington  •  Harvard University, History
Victims of the Social Temperament: Prostitution and the Campaign against the Traffic in Women in Imperial Russia and the Soviet Union, 1880-1935

Zain Lakhani  •  University of Pennsylvania, History
Bodily Harms: Rape and the Political Meaning of Violence in the Age of Human Rights

Roi Livne  •  University of California, Berkeley, Sociology
Debitum Naturae? The Moral Economies of U.S. End-of-Life Care

Elham Mireshghi  •  University of California, Irvine, Anthropology
Business with God or Kidneys for Cash: An Ethnography of Moral Uncertainty in Iran

Yasmin Moll  •  New York University, Anthropology
Producing Islam: Religion, Media and Visuality in Contemporary Egypt

Micah Morton  •  University of Wisconsin, Anthropology
From Blood to Fruit: Akha Ancestral Burdens and the Pursuit of a Modern Authenticity in Mainland Southeast Asia and Southwest China

Maria Quintana  •  University of Washington, History
Be Our Guest (Worker): Making Meaning out of Race, Labor and Empire during the U.S. Emergency Labor Programs, 1942-1964

Ayelet Rosen  •  New York University, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies
Ottomanizing a Balkan Province: The Consolidation of Ottoman Power in Bosnia, 1463-1580

Anna Rosensweig • University of Minnesota, French and Italian
Tragedy and the Ethics of Resistance Rights in Early Modern French Theater

Allison Schnable • Princeton University, Sociology
Voluntary Entrepreneurs: The Growth of Grassroots American Development Organizations

Nathaniel Sharadin • University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Philosophy
Understanding Reasons

Caroline Spence • Harvard University, History
Beyond the Black Legend: Spanish Laws and Slavery in the British Empire, 1783-1840

Natalia Suit • University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Anthropology
Qur’anic Matters: Mushaf as Object in Cairo

Andrew Ventimiglia • University of California, Davis, Cultural Studies

Winter Werner • Northwestern University, English
The Gospel and the Globe: Missionary Enterprises and the Cosmopolitan Imagination, 1795-1910

* Dissertation titles are subject to change. The titles reflected here were correct at the time the awards were made.