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Society for Urban, National, Transnational/Global Anthropology Election 2009

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STUDENT COUNCILLOR 2-year term

Instructions: (Your vote is optional) Please vote for only one choice.

Fethi Keles 

COUNCILLOR 3-year term

Instructions: (Your vote is optional) Please vote for only one choice.

Jason C. Pribilsky 

Ruti Talmor 

Faedah M.Totalah 



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View details for: STUDENT COUNCILLOR 2-year term

Fethi Keles



FETHI KELES (MA, Syracuse University, 2008)
Positions Held: "Settling into Motion" Fellow (2008-
2010) Zeit-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius; Gr...

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Society for Urban, National, Transnational/Global Anthropology Election 2009

View details for: **STUDENT COUNCILLOR 2-year term**

Fethi Keles



FETHI KELES (MA, Syracuse University, 2008)

Positions Held: "Settling into Motion" Fellow (2008-2010) Zeit-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd

Bucerius; Graduate Assistant, (2007-2008)

Program on the Analysis and Resolution of Conflicts (PARC), Syracuse University; Graduate Assistant (2006 -2007) Department of Anthropology, Syracuse University; Teaching Assistant (2005 - 2006)

Department of Anthropology, Syracuse University.

Interests and/or Activities: forced migration, refugees, presented paper at the Interdisciplinary

Conference held by Princeton Institute for Regional Studies Graduate Student Conference at Princeton University; **Significant Publications:** "Bridging the Macro with the Micro in Conflict Analysis: Structural Simplification As A Heuristic Device" *Cutting Edge Theories and Recent Developments in Conflict Resolution*, special edition of *Journal of Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change* (RSMCC), December 2008; "The Structural Negligence of U.S. Refugee Resettlement", *Anthropology New*, May 2008; "The Antinomies of Samuel P. Huntington: Some Anthropological Reflections on the American Pundit", *Journal of Third World Studies*, Fall 2007.

I am a Ph.D. Candidate in Cultural Anthropology at Syracuse University. My interest in serving as the SUNTA student councilor stems from my demonstrated passion to contribute to efforts to show the relevance of anthropological knowledge to various issues of urban, national as well as transnational nature. While studying forced migration and refugees in my capacity as a temporary migrant from Turkey, I focus on questions of cultural belonging and exclusion, identity formation in diaspora, and the relationship between collective memory and transnational identities. My fieldwork will involve a comparative ethnography of Bosnian refugees in two urban contexts in Central New York, and regional dynamics that facilitate and/or impede refugee population - host society relations.

Spanning across two countries and various disciplines, my background allows me to foreground the importance of anthropological knowledge to understanding human mobility and its consequences. As SUNTA student councilor, I will strive to help raise awareness that anthropology is unique among the social sciences to understand and tackle with the challenges posed by processes of global scope (such as massive human displacements), sometimes with disastrous social consequences on an urban and national scale. Thank you for your consideration.

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View details for: COUNCILLOR 3-year term

Jason C. Pribilsky



JASON C. PRIBILSKY (PhD, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs- Syracuse University, 2003) **Positions Held:** Associate Professor of Anthropology (2009-pr...

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Ruti Talmor

RUTI TALMOR (PhD, New York University, 2008) **Positions Held:** Postdoctoral Research Fellow; 2008-2009, University of Michigan...

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Faedah M. Totah



FAEDAH M. TOTAH (PhD, The University of Texas at Austin, 2006) **Positions Held:** Assistant Professor of International Studies (2007-Present) Virginia Commonwealth ...

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View details for: **COUNCILLOR 3-year term**

Jason C. Pribilsky



JASON C. PRIBILSKY (PhD, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs- Syracuse University, 2003) **Positions Held:** Associate Professor of Anthropology (2009-present) Whitman College; Assistant Professor of Anthropology (2003-2008) Whitman College **Interests and/or Activities:** Transnational migration; migrant health; history of anthropology; Andes; Urban US **Significant Publications:** *La Chulla Vida: Men, Migration, and Gender in Andean Ecuador and New York City*, Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2007; "Development and the 'Indian Problem' in the Cold War Andes: *Indigenismo*, Science, and Modernization in the Cornell-Peru Project at Vicos" *Diplomatic*

History, Forthcoming; "Community" *Health and Transnational Communities: Undocumented Andean Migrants and Tuberculosis Control in a New Immigrant Gateway*, "Immigration and Integration in Urban Communities: Renegotiating the City." Lisa M. Hanley, Blair A. Ruble and Allison M. Garland, eds. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press/Woodrow Wilson Center Press, 2008; "Aprendemos a Convivir": *Conjugal Relations, Co-parenting, and Family Life among Ecuadorian Transnational Migrants in New York City and the Ecuadorian Andes.* *Global Networks*, 2004.

I have been an active member of SUNTA for over 7 years, most recently serving as the Chair of CORI. For me, SUNTA remains vibrant by not being too closely tethered to any one brand of anthropology. It is this vibrancy that I would hope to tap into as a councilor and to help see SUNTA further define itself, raise membership numbers, and encourage more graduate student participation and interest. A critical area of interest and expansion for me is the continued cultivation of international ties with foreign scholars, students and anthropology associations world-wide whose perspectives from the global south can enrich our mission and sharpen our scholarship and advocacy.

I am also committed to see SUNTA continue capitalizing on its core strengths and interest groups, principally through CORI and the PHWG. While our commitment to these groups can help attract new members, world trends also implore us to strengthen our focus in these areas - as processes of often painful urbanization continue unclipped, the contentious politics of migration deepen in the US, Europe and elsewhere, and the current recession makes critical (ethnographic) analyses of poverty more germane than ever. I look forward to being a part of making SUNTA a force for change in the world.

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View details for: **COUNCILLOR 3-year term**

Ruti Talmor

RUTI TALMOR (PhD, New York University, 2008) **Positions Held:** Postdoctoral Research Fellow; 2008-2009, University of Michigan, Center for Afroamerican and African Studies; Instructor; 2008, New York University, Gallatin School Masters Program; Instructor; 2007-2008, New York University, Department of Anthropology. **Interests and/or Activities:** Global circulation of art, craft, and media representations of Africa, leading to transformations of self, family, community; colonial intercultural production of the category of Africa and its mobilization for postcolonial nationalism; African architecture and urban space, especially built space as a materialization of multiple histories. **Significant Publications:** "Building Africa: the Work of Alero Olympio." Introductory essay and other texts for the exhibition, Visible Cities: XV Quito Architectural Biennale. www.baq-cae.ec, 2006; "I Came to Meet Your Absence': Western Girls, Rasta Boys and Intercultural Romance in Ghana" In *Sexing Travel: Intimacy and Subjectivity in Women's International Tourism*, Susan Frohlick, Jessica Jacobs & Ara Wilson, eds. In preparation; "The Black and White Keys to Colonial Modernity: The Invention of Art and Africa at Achimota College" *The Journal of Modern Craft*, Glenn Adamson, Tanya Harrod & Edward S. Cooke, Jr., In preparation.

I have been a member of SUNTA for several years. It brings together several of my interests: in particular transnationalism, urbanism, and space and place. My work centers on the various intercultural art worlds of Accra, Ghana, especially the Accra Arts Centre, a "place" which encapsulates many of the issues that bring the members of SUNTA together. Work on African cities as national magnets and as nodes in transnational networks has influenced my work strongly. So has the anthropological literature on space and place, in particular that which investigates who subjects create place even as they are constrained by it. I am interested in this position for several reasons: first, as a way to become acquainted with new work in the field; second, as a way to meet other scholars; and finally as a way to work collaboratively, something I very much enjoy.

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View details for: **COUNCILLOR 3-year term**

Faedah M. Totah



FAEDAH M. TOTAH (PhD, The University of Texas at Austin, 2006) **Positions Held:** Assistant Professor of International Studies (2007-Present) Virginia Commonwealth University; Visiting Assistant Professor (2006-2007) Knox College. **Interests and/or Activities:** Space and place, heritage, colonialism. **Significant Publications:** Return to the Origin: Negotiating the Modern and Unmodern in the Old City of Damascus. *City and Society*, forthcoming; The Future of the Bayt Arabi (Courtyard House): Preserving or Recreating a Syrian Tradition, *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Working Papers Series*, (221) 2009.

I am running for the position of Councillor for SUNTA to contribute to this society's important role in promoting scholarship on the broad theme of urbanism, transnationalism, and globalization within AAA. SUNTA does not only offer a forum for scholars to present their work and exchange ideas, it highlights the importance of urban issues in the contemporary globalizing world. The wide appeal of SUNTA brings together scholars from around the world creating a unique opportunity for cross-cultural exchange and cooperation. This is reflected in the quality of panels and programs it organizes each year for AAA that cut across boundaries both in the disciplinary and geographical sense. In my work on urban issues in Syria I find such an opportunity for scholarly exchange invaluable. The similar processes of urban change and globalization can be recognized in different parts of the world but it is the role of anthropology to highlight the human impact and local circumstances. As a Councillor I look forward to becoming part of this dynamic group and to work towards promoting the work and activities of SUNTA within the AAA structure. I will also work on increasing the involvement and contribution of members.

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