

THE OBSERVER MAY 1, 2019

NEWS

General Membership Meeting

The final General Membership meeting of the academic year will be held on Thursday May 9 from 3-5PM at the First Presbyterian Church, 12 West 12th Street, on the corner of 5th Avenue. We are using the church because large spaces at TNS are all booked at this very busy time in the academic calendar.

Come to the GMM to celebrate the completion of our successful year. It has not been easy and it has tested our resilience, flexibility, good humor, and commitment to the IRP—but we have done it. Also see friends and colleagues you may not have seen during the semester and make plans before we take off for the summer.

As usual, food and drink will be available after the business portion of the meeting.

Announcing the Summer 2019 Term

We are pleased to announce the 6-week summer offerings, which begin on Thursday, May 30 and end on July 11. We have a full slate of eight diverse and interesting study groups, a choice of two in each of the Tuesday and Thursday slots. Please note, as an accommodation to the widely held IRP preference, there are no

early classes—first period begins at 12:20 and the second period at 2:10.

You can access the [summer grid here](#). As always, by clicking on the title, you will see the study group description and syllabus. Members may take up to four study groups; the cost is \$125 for one and \$200 for two or more. A bargain!

Please note, registration will officially open when you are sent the registration form, which you will receive shortly. Please review the offerings so that you are ready to register, as the priority registration period ends on May 10. (Members will be able to register for any remaining seats any time before the start of summer classes.)

What is the Zine? First in a Series

For some, it is as mysterious as the Lost City of Z: Hard to find, Impenetrable, Mysterious, and perhaps even an Ancient Myth. However, unlike the lost city with all of its fabulous but mythical riches, the IRP Zine does [exist](#) and it does hold a wealth of rich information. If you clicked on the word "[exist](#)" you will come to a very straightforward web page with identifying tabs. Click on any one of these tabs and you will enter the IRP Zine world. Do you want to find out what's being offered this [summer](#)? Just click back there on the word summer. Are you looking for that syllabus for the study group you took in [2015](#)? Just click there. Are

you trying to remember the name that goes with the [face](#) of a fellow member? (Ahh...for privacy sake this last one requires that you remember a password and ID, so if you forgot it, call the First Desk 212.229 5682). [Tuesdays with Friends](#)? You get the idea. All of this plus more is available to you on the IRP Zine. Try it, noodle around. You'll find lots of interesting stuff. More to come next week and more Zine improvements to come.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Openings on Admission Committee

The Admissions Committee is looking for two new members whose terms will begin July 1, 2019. The Committee works to create a dynamic and diversified membership that will contribute to the continued excellence of the IRP. Activities include organizing and participating in information sessions (up to 6 sessions per year); organizing and participating in interview sessions for new applicants (up to 6 per year); recommending applicants who would be appropriate to join the IRP; seeking feedback on the success of admitted applicants and on the information and admissions processes; and interacting with other IRP committees.

Committee member responsibilities include: 1. Attending required meetings and functions; 2. Being available for six interviewing sessions per year, including summer months; and 3. Being familiar with IRP history, philosophy, mission, structure, and study groups. Committee members should also have a commitment to peer learning and participation as well as the ability to communicate these

core principles to applicants at information and interview sessions.

Skills and Experience: Committee members should have strong interviewing skills including: 1. Listening skills, attuned to verbal and non-verbal responses by candidates; 2. A clear, appropriate, and focused conversational style; and 3. Ability to write succinct evaluations of interview results.

For more information, [click here](#) to view our entry on the Zine.

Applications should be emailed by May 31 to Admission Committee co-chairs Barry Cooper and Laini Gerald, at coopb889@newschool.edu and geraldmsw@gmail.com. Be sure to address how you meet the Skills and Experience criteria for the position.

From Our Committees: OSOL's Workshop

The committee's workshop on *Feeling Alone* drew 18 IRP members last Saturday morning. Facilitated by Renee Solomon and Myriam Bucatinsky, the workshop focused on achieving open and honest relationships when the natural/organic way of getting together through regular school and work interactions is less available. Forming and strengthening relationships now requires planning as well as the willingness to take risks and tolerate feelings of vulnerability. Many of the members expressed gratitude to the IRP for providing the opportunity to make friends through its many activities, including workshops like this one. As one member wrote to Renee: "The best thing about this workshop was having it and talking from our hearts."

From Our Study Groups: IRPers Try Fiddler's Bottle Dance

Stas Kmiec, the choreographer for the current Yiddish version of "Fiddler on the Roof," one of the many fabulous guest speakers at Ed Brill's Jerome Robbins study group, brought with him the secrets of the Fiddler "bottle dance." After Stas' instructions and demonstration, two intrepid IRPers, Michael Shapiro and Carol Sterling, tried their luck. Michael walked; Carol danced a bit. To the amazement and admiration of their fellow classmates, both were able to keep the bottles in place. Who says seniors are set in their ways?



Book Talk

Tom Ashley, chair of the Marketing Committee, informs us that Erich Goode, former IRP member, is giving a talk about his new book, *The Taming of Washington Square*, at the NYU Bookstore, 726 Broadway (8th Street) this Thursday, May 2nd at 6PM. "Erich is an excellent writer," Tom reports, "and I'm sure some members would enjoy this talk...even with a one day notice."

Want to Go to the Movies?

IRP film enthusiasts are invited to join Marcia Hearst and Nancy Small for Film Meet-Ups during the summer. Marcia and Nancy offer you the chance to meet and view the most interesting films offered at NYC theaters and then share your thoughts afterward at a nearby casual eatery. The meet-ups will begin in late May/early June. Details regarding the film, location, and mid-day meet-up time will be emailed about a week prior to the event. To be included on the invitation list, please email your contact information to Nancy Small, nasmall7@gmail.com.

Encore – Spring Concert

ENCORE, the nation's largest choral group for singers 55 and over will be holding its Spring Concert, free and open to the public, on May 15, 7:00PM, at the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, Kirkland Chapel, 7 W. 55th. Under the baton of a professional choral master, the 35 member choir will perform medleys of *The Music Man* and Gershwin, as well as traditional hymns and gospel songs. Carol Groneman and Lucy Kirk are members and enjoying this musical experience so much and they hope that some of you will be interested in joining them.

REMINDERS

IRP@Waterside Lecture

INSTITUTE FOR RETIRED PROFESSIONALS PRESENTS

IRP@WATERSIDE THE INNOCENCE PROJECT



Speaker
REBECCA BROWN
Director of Policy, The Innocence Project

Rebecca, daughter of IRP Member Susan Herman, joined the Innocence Project in 2005. She now directs its federal and state policy agenda.

MONDAY, MAY 6 — 2:00-3:30PM

Waterside Plaza, Lewis Davis Pavilion
25 Waterside Plaza, New York, NY 10010
Located at the East River at 25th Street, accessible via M34 and M23 buses.

ADMISSION IS FREE; REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

**TO REGISTER FOR THE EVENT, GO TO:
[HTTPS://NEWSCHOOL-INNOCECEPROJECT.SPLASHTHAT.COM](https://newschool-innocenceproject.splashthat.com)**

Topic: The Innocence Project: Development & Implementation of Policy
Date & Time: Monday, May 6, 2-3:30PM
Speaker: Rebecca Brown, Director of Policy, The Innocence Project
Place: Waterside Plaza, Lewis Davis Pavilion (East River at 24th Street, accessible via the M34 and M23 bus. Details available in the office.)

To register, go to: <https://newschool-innocenceproject.splashthat.com/>.

The IRP, in coordination with TNS and Waterside Plaza, will host a talk and discussion on The Innocence Project for

IRP members and residents of the complex. The Project was founded in 1992 by Peter Neufeld and Barry Scheck at Cardozo School of Law to free innocent people who are incarcerated and to reform the criminal justice system. Thus far, the Project has exonerated 364 prisoners through DNA testing.

Rebecca Brown is IRP member Susan Herman's daughter. Rebecca, who joined The Innocence Project in 2005, now directs its federal and state policy agenda. She has had a distinguished career in the criminal justice field, having held research, planning, and policy positions in the NYC Mayor's Office, the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES), and the NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board. A Barnard graduate, she has a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from the Wagner School at New York University, where she received the Public Service Scholarship.

Please join us in making this inaugural lecture in the IRP/Waterside collaboration a smashing success.

Active Listening Workshop

Date & Time: Wednesday May 8, 2PM
Place: Room 910

Improve your listening skills, and your new and old relationships, by attending this workshop, sponsored by the Diversity Outreach Committee. Facilitated by Ron Russo, the workshop will help you identify strategies to improve your communication skills with family, friends, and colleagues. Attendance is limited to 25; to register, [click here](#).

Women's Group Meetings

The Women's Group will meet in May!

- Monday, May 6, 3:30PM in Room 909
- Friday, May 17, 2PM in Room 910

Mentors

Join the growing list of IRP members eager to mentor new arrivals. The Mentoring Committee seeks new and experienced members to share the IRP experience and culture with our entering class. The Committee will provide guidelines and workshops to help you succeed. If you are interested, please email Susan Belkin at scbelkin@gmail.com.

Community Building: Lunch-Mate

The new Community Building Committee, chaired by Jan Adler, is asking all IRP members to join in the effort to strengthen our communal bonds. As a first step, ask a new or recent member you met in your study group or in the hallways to join you for lunch, starting in September. It can even be someone you don't usually talk to who has been here awhile. If you're interested, sign up in the office as a LunchMate so we can get an idea of how many people will participate. We trust you to honor your promise. That's it! If you have other ideas about the focus of this committee, email Jan Adler at: adlerjan@optonline.net.

Travel

The Travel committee announces two trips.

Berkshires Theater Tour, July 18-21, under the auspices of Carew Travel. The trip itinerary includes tickets to 4 performances: Tanglewood Music Festival, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Berkshire Theatre Group, and Music Mountain. Visits to local museums and historic sites are also included. Carew provides transportation from midtown Manhattan to and from the Berkshires, handles hotel reservations at the Pittsfield Crowne Plaza in Pittsfield, MA, and provides a tour director. The price is \$1,499 per person, with a single supplement of \$300.

Canadian Theater Festival, August 13-17, includes performances of "Brigadoon" and "Getting Married" at the Shaw Festival and "The Merry Wives of Windsor" and a world premiere imagining of "The Front Page" at the Stratford Festival. Fly to Toronto on Air Canada and spend two nights in charming Niagara on the Lake, then spend two nights in lively Stratford, Ontario. The cost is \$2,300, including air fare from NYC/JFK with a single supplement of \$400.

You can sign up for these trips by calling Carew Travel Consultants at 1-800-621-1113. For more information, contact Bob Gerace of the Travel Committee at: rgerace234@yahoo.com.

Michael Markowitz Memorial

Date & Time: Sunday, May 5th, 4PM
Place: Middle Collegiate Church, 112
Second Avenue (between East
6th & East 7th Streets).

Michael's spouse, Sam Turn, has extended a special invitation to members of the IRP to attend the memorial, as IRP played such a singular role in Michael's life, and occupied such a significant place in Michael's heart. The memorial will be followed by a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception.

NEW SCHOOL RESOURCES

Events Calendar

[Click here](#) to learn more about upcoming events at The New School.

TNS Mobile App

TNS official mobile app offers one-stop access to the latest University information.

For in Instructions on how to download the app, go to:

<https://www.newschool.edu/mobileapp/>.



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