



# CULTURAL HERITAGE AND PRESERVATION STUDIES

FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

## **Welcome to the first newsletter of the Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies Program at Rutgers University.**

I am delighted to share with you exciting news and keep you connected to our ever-developing program. Since taking up the position of Director of CHAPS in January of 2017, I have been working towards making CHAPS a reflection of a fast-growing field that presses the boundaries of several disciplines and is supported by rigorous field research into heritage and preservation practices across the world. We aim to examine cultural heritage and preservation practices that relate to real-world concerns with social justice, environmental degradation and climate change, international and diplomatic relations, current geopolitics, and human rights, among others.

Thank you,

*-Trinidad Rico, Director.*

### **New Faculty Updates**

Since July 2018, CHAPS has grown with the addition of a full-time Assistant Director, Dr Salam Al Kuntar, who is based in the Department of Classics. Before joining Rutgers, Salam was a research fellow at the Penn Museum where she co-directed the Safeguarding the Heritage of Syria and Iraq Project, and worked at the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums in Syria in a number of capacities from 1996-2012. She has extensive museum and archaeological fieldwork experience, and has been active in the field of cultural heritage preservation. In addition, this will be the second year in a two-year term for CHAPS Postdoctoral Associate Rui Gomes Coelho, who has been teaching and organizing events for the program, including the exciting Spring 2017 CHAPS Symposium Heritage and the Visual Archive. If you missed it, you can still watch the day-long event in its entirety through the Rutgers YouTube channel!

### **Upcoming Events**

In the Fall of 2018, CHAPS will be offering three seminars to Rutgers students: Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies (Dr. Rico), The Politics of Heritage (Dr Gomes Coelho), and Heritage in the Middle East: Identity and Historic Narratives (Dr Al Kuntar).

Save the date for our Cultural Heritage Now lecture for Fall 2018: *Preserving the Stuff of Culture*, by *Jean-François de Lapérouse*. Jean-Françoise has been an objects conservator at The Metropolitan Museum of Art for the last 28 years, working primarily with the Ancient Near East and Islamic Art collections.

The event will take place Monday, October 22 in Academic Building at 15 Seminary Place, 6th floor, Seminar Room 6190 on the Rutgers College Avenue Campus in New Brunswick, New Jersey from 4:30-6:00 p.m.