

The Office of Sponsored Programs Presents

# Scholars Exchange

A Tuesday Morning Coffee Series  
Featuring 2014 PSC CUNY Research Awardees

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. • Faculty Commons N-227

## Sean Scanlan, English “Passport Please!” Submission, Identity, and Globalization at Global Airports

Airports such as Heathrow in London and Charles de Gaulle in France are much more than stopping points on a journey. They are, instead, centers of migration, points of techno-cultural transition, and, above all, places in which personal affiliation and national citizenship are tested. In this brief talk, I examine the ways in which international travel can become an extreme test of belonging: within the global airport, travelers are forced to both dismantle and to rebuild their identities. My textual examples range from the humorist David Sedaris to Sir Alfred Mehran, an Iranian asylum seeker who was detained at Charles de Gaulle airport for nearly seventeen years.



Photograph by Walter Sol Jr. | Painting by Vladimir Kezerashvili

## All Faculty Welcome

