WISER Symposium: The Life of the Corpse
August 25, 26 and 27
WISER, 6th floor, Richard Ward Building

Programme Schedule:

Monday August 25
9:00-9:30: Tea/Coffee
9:30-10.00: Welcome
10.00-12.00: Sacrificial Politics of Death
   Achille Mbembe “Between Crucifixion and Resurrection: Theology and Politics
   of a Missing Corpse”
   Ian Muhlhauser “Transcending the Corpse: What Next After Sacrificial
   Politics”
   Katharine Geldenhuys “Relics of the Medieval West: The Influence of
   Perceptions of the Body of Christ on the Treatment of the Corpse of the Saint”
   Ravinder Kaur “Passion Politics: Notes from the Martyrs Cemetery in Iran”

12.00-1.00: Lunch

1.00-3.00: War on the Corpse
   Jon Hyslop “Inappropriate Corpses: The Organized Forgetting of those who
   fought on the wrong side in Twentieth Century South Africa Wars”
   Lucy Graham “Coetzee’s Corpses”
   Nicky Rousseau and Madeleine Fullard “The Farm, the River and the Picnic
   Spot: Topographies of Terror”
   Vanessa Barolsky “A Radical Problem of Understanding: The Moeleleki
   Execution”

3.30-4.00: Tea/Coffee

4.00-6.00: The Putrefying Corpse
   Michael Titlestad “Dead to the World, and Almost to Ourselves”
   Juan Orrantia “On Gurgling Water and Fermentation as Memory”
   Annie Leatt “Remains to be Seen: Buddhist Contemplation of Corpses”
   Pamila Gupta “Of Blood, Smell and Skin in Portuguese India”

6.00: Evening Lecture: Didier Fassin “Witnesses, Martyrs and Victims”
Tuesday August 26

9.00—11.30: Between Life and Death
- Dishon Kweya and C.J. Odhiambo "Male Corpsing as Performance of Masculinity among Abanyole of Western Kenya"
- Emily Margaretten "The Corpses Come to Town"
- Ashlee Polatinsky "Near-death"
- Hylton White "The Difficult Dead"
- Louis Greenberg "Belief in the Postmortem Condition: Vampiric Approaches to Morality and Action"

11.30-12.00: Tea/Coffee

12.00-1.00: The Sovereign Corpse
- Ulrike Kistner "Death and the 'Psychic Life of Power'"
- Deborah Posel "Blunder of all Blunders": The Assassination of H.F. Verwoerd"

1.00-2.00: Lunch

2.00-4.00: The Racial Corpse
- Lynda Gichanda Spencer "Mass Reburials: Displacing the Dead from Lugogo by-pass cemetery in Kampala"
- Amolo Milcah Achola "Race and Death in Colonial Nairobi"
- Garrey Dennie "Burying with Dignity: The Cultural Economy of Burial"

4.00-4.30: Tea/Coffee

4.30-6.00: Visual Presentation: Jay Pather "Body of Evidence"
Wednesday August 27

9.00-11.00: **Remains, Reburial and Memorialization**

**Martin Legassick and Ciraj Rassool** “South African Human Remains, Viennese Museums, and the Politics of Repatriation: Reconsidering the Legacy of Rudolph Poch”

**Louis Green and Noeleen Murray** “Notes for a Guide to the Ossuary”

**Shankar Ramaswami** “The Respectability of a Corpse: Turbulence, Death and Afterlife in Proletarian Delhi”

**Amanda Esterhuysen** “Divination and Death, Excavating the Siege of Mugombane”

11.00-11.30: Tea/Coffee

11.30-12.30: **The Migrant Corpse**

**Caroline Jeannerat** “Living and Dead Corpses: Conceptions of family, home and belonging among Christian migrants in South Africa”

**Lorena Nunez and Idah Makukule** “Unidentified Migrants’ corpses at South African Mortuaries”

12.30-1.00: Concluding Remarks by Arjun Appadurai

1.00-2.00 Lunch