

RICHARD NISA, Ph.D

Associate Dean | Program Lead, Sustainability

Integrative Design, Arts, and Technology (IDeATe) Program

Affiliated Faculty

School of Architecture

Carnegie Mellon University
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EDUCATION

- 2013 Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Ph.D., Geography
- 2007 Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Master of Arts, Geography
- 2000 Syracuse University
Bachelor of Architecture (*James Britton Award for Outstanding Thesis*)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2024- Associate Dean
Integrative Design, Arts, and Technology [IDeATe] Program, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2023- Special Faculty and Program Lead, Sustainability
Integrative Design, Arts, and Technology [IDeATe] Program, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2023- Affiliated Faculty
School of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2019-2023 Associate Professor of Geography
Fairleigh Dickinson University
- 2013-2019 Assistant Professor of Geography
Fairleigh Dickinson University

BOOK MANUSCRIPT

In Preparation The Global Capture Chain: Infrastructures of U.S.-Managed Military Detainment from Truman to Trump {under contract with The University of Minnesota Press}.

PUBLICATIONS (peer-reviewed)

- 2025 "The Historical Geography of Infrastructure" bibliographic entry for the *Oxford University Press* list in Geography.

- 2023 "The Political Lives of Infrastructure" introduction to issue 147 of *Radical History Review*, co-written (and journal issue co-edited) with Dr. Wesley Attewell (University of Hong Kong) and Dr. Emily Mitchell-Eaton (Colgate).
- 2019 "Capturing the Forgotten War: Detainment and Police Power in Cold War Korea," *Journal of Historical Geography*, Vol. 64 (1), 13-24.
- 2015 "Capturing Humanitarian War: The Collusion of Violence and Care in U.S.-Managed Military Detention," *Environment & Planning A*, Vol. 47 (11) p. 2276-2291.
- 2008 "Erasure, Non-Existence, and the Production of Economic Legibility in Iraq," *Middle States Geographer*. Vol. 40: pp.1-9.

BOOK CHAPTERS, REPORTS, AND INTERVIEWS

- 2023 "Careful Killing: Humanitarian Warfare and the Politics of Precision Violence," *Routledge Handbook of Critical Philanthropy and Humanitarianism*, edited by Polly Pallister-Wilkens and Katharyne Mitchell.
- 2023 "Roundtable discussion with Laleh Khalili and Deb Cowen" for issue 147 of *Radical History Review*, with Dr. Wesley Attewell (University of Hong Kong), and Dr. Emily Mitchell-Eaton (Colgate).
- 2015 "Capture at the Speed of Bandwidth: Digital Biometric Encounters in the Everywhere War," in *Algorithmic Life: Calculative Devices in the Age of Big Data*, edited by Louise Amoore and Volha Piotukh.
- 2007 Robert W. Lake, Kathe Newman, Philip Ashton, Richard Nisa, and Bradley Wilson, *Civic Engagement in Camden, New Jersey: A Baseline Portrait*, MDRC and the Ford Foundation, New York, NY.

MAPS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

In Preparation "Carceral Worlds" Solicited book review for *Contemporary Sociology*.

- 2023 "Badges Without Borders: By Stuart Schrader, an *H-Diplo* Roundtable" introduction to book review forum on *H-Diplo*.
- 2023 Maps and diagrams in: Wesley Attewell, *The Quiet Violence of Empire* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2023).
- 2022 "Useful Captives: The Role of POWs in American Military Conflicts," edited by Daniel Krebs and Lorien Foote.
- 2022 Map in: David M. Rosen, *Jewish Child Soldiers in the Bloodlands of Europe*, (New York: Routledge, 2022).
- 2019 "Interrogation Rooms of the Korean War: The Untold History: By Monica Kim," a book review on the *Society and Space Open Site*.

- 2019 Introduction to special review forum on “Transpacific Geographies” on the *Society and Space Open Site*. Co-authored with Dr. Wesley Attewell (NYU) and Dr. Emily Mitchell-Eaton (Bennington).
- 2018 Maps in Matteo Pizzolo, *Calexit, Vols 1 & 3*, (Los Angeles, CA: Black Mask Studios, 2018).
- 2017 “Rightlessness: Testimony and Redress in U.S. Prison Camps Since World War II: By A. Naomi Paik,” a book review on the *Society and Space Open Site*.

DESIGN PUBLICATIONS

- 2003 Haar, Clarke, and Hendrickson. 2003. *Architecture for Education: New School Designs from the Chicago Competition*. Business & Professional People for the Public. {project featured}.

INVITED GUEST LECTURES AND SYMPOSIA

- 2025 “IDeATe at Ten,” invited to present in Carnegie Mellon Faculty Dialogues: Exploring the Intersection of Technology and Creativity. March, 2025.
- 2024 “Capturing the Carbon-Based War Machine: Infrastructures of US-Managed Military Detainment After WWII,” invited to present in the Carnegie Mellon History Faculty Seminar, April 2024.
- 2019 “Sustainable Infrastructures: The Uneven Geographies of Life and Death,” invited lecture as part of the Independent College Fund of New Jersey-funded “Green is the New Blue: Creating a Sustainable Peacock Campus.” Speaker Series at St. Peter’s University, October 2019.
- 2019 “Wartime Detention,” guest lecture and discussion with Dr. Monica Kim presented in New York University Department of Social and Cultural Analysis course: *The Criminal Justice State* (Dr. Wesley Attewell, Instructor), October 2019.
- 2015 “Apprehensions in the Supply Chain: Networks, Logistics, and Military Detention,” invited presentation at the Turbulent Circulation: Toward a Critical Logistics workshop at the University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, October 2015.
- 2014 “Spaces and Practices of Wartime Detention,” guest lecture presented in The New School for Social Research political science course: *Prisons, Punishment, and Global (In)Justice* (Hadas Cohen, Instructor), November 2014.
- 2014 “The Architecture of the Renaissance,” guest lecture presented in Fairleigh Dickinson University history course: *The Renaissance* (Dr. Peter Burkholder, Instructor), October 2013.

- 2014 "Bodies of Information," invited lecture presented at the School of Architecture, Syracuse University: *Entanglements: Theorizing Contemporary Architecture and Urbanization*, a symposium held in March 2014.
- 2012 "On the Architecture and Geography of Detention," guest lecture presented in the Department of Art History, Rutgers University: *Curating Guantánamo: Public History and Public Awareness* (Andy Urban, Instructor), April 2012.
- 2011 "Seeing War," guest lecture presented in the Rutgers University School of Arts and Sciences Signature Course: *War: Critical Perspectives* (Ethel Brooks, Instructor), April 2011.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 "Precision is a Hole in the Ground," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Detroit, March 2025.
- 2025 "Plotting Points: Mutual Provocations Between Architecture and Geography," roundtable participant at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Detroit, March 2025.
- 2023 "The Political Lives of Infrastructure," roundtable participant at the Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Philadelphia, PA, January 2023.
- 2021 "Computation and Resistance in Cold War Detention Infrastructures," presented as part of a session on Detention as a Tool of Empire: US Carceral Colonialism in Haiti & Southeast Asia at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Historians of US Foreign Relations, Virtual, June 2021.
- 2019 "Empire's Classrooms: Care, Violence, and Curricula in the Carceral Spaces of America's Long War," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Washington, DC, April 2019.
- 2018 "Take No Prisoners: Disappearance and the Twenty-First Century American War Prison," presented at the International Conference on War and Imprisonment, New York, NY, May 2018.
- 2018 "The Transpacific War Prison," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, New Orleans, LA, April 2018.
- 2017 "Wireless Empire: Movement, Surveillance, and Control in the Herero and Nama Wars," written and presented with Dr. Robert Houle presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa in Washington DC, October 2017.
- 2017 "Laboratories of Enemy Behavior: Cold War Social Science and the Korean War Prison," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Boston, MA, April 2017.

- 2017 "The Contours of Pacification and Public Safety," Organizer and roundtable discussant at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Boston, MA, April 2017.
- 2016 "Capture and the Afterlife of Occupation: Detainment and Police Power in Cold War Korea from 1945-1953," roundtable discussant in session on Transpacific Militarization and Permanent War at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 2016.
- 2016 "Apprehensions in the Supply Chain: The Logistics of Military Detention in an Everywhere War," presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA, March 2016.
- 2015 "Apprehensions in the Supply Chain: Networks, Logistics, and Military Detention," invited presentation at the Turbulent Circulation: Toward a Critical Logistics workshop at the University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, October 2015.
- 2015 "Apprehending Enemy Prisoners of War in Korea: Cold War Geographical Imaginaries and the Making of the UN Camps," presented at the 16th International Conference of Historical Geographers, London, UK, July 2015.
- 2014 "Anxiety, Fear, and Rumor in the Vietnam War: Thresholds of Power Between Air and Ground," presented at the 20th Annual Mini-Conference On Critical Geography, Philadelphia, PA, November 2014.
- 2013 "Capture at the Speed of Bandwidth: Digital Biometric Encounters in the Everywhere War," presented at Calculative Devices in a Digital Age, Durham, UK, November 2013.
- 2013 "Capturing Counterinsurgency Math: Distorted Economies of Violence in Late Modern War," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Los Angeles, CA, April 2013
- 2011 "The Walls of the War Prison, Reconsidered: Enclosure, Control, and U.S. Military Detention after 1949," presented at the Fugitive Geographies: Symposium at the Yale School of Architecture, New Haven, CT, March 2011.
- 2009 "Cellular Geopolitics: Moving Bodies, Security, and Justice in Control Societies," presented at The Professor and the Spy: Area Studies and the Politics of Global Security, The Eagleton Institute of Politics, New Brunswick, NJ, February 2009.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2023- AS SPECIAL FACULTY, Integrative Design, Arts, and Technology [IDeATe] Program and the School of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University

Graduate Courses:

Infrastructural Landscapes: Design Histories and Futures; Issues in Global Urbanization (Masters in Urban Design); Situating Research

Undergraduate Courses:

Ethics in Architecture (in School of Architecture); Life in the Digital Factory (in IDeATe)

- 2013- ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, Department of Social Science & History, Fairleigh Dickinson University
- Environmental Geography; Ecologies of US Global Power; Honors Seminar on Sustainability for the Fairleigh Dickinson University Honors Academy (co-taught with Dr. Marzi Azar, civil engineer); Honors Seminar on the Politics and Economics of Homelessness (co-taught with former Governor Jon Corzine and Kevin Ryan of Covenant House); Global Development; Architectural History; Geography and World Issues; Economic Geography; Urban Geography; Surveillance and Security; Capture and Control: Global Geographies of Detainment*
- 2017-18 INSTRUCTOR, New Jersey Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prisons Consortium (NJ-STEP Program)
- Global History of Mass Surveillance (at East Jersey State Prison and at Garden State Youth Correctional Facility); Surveillance and Security (at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women)*
- 2007-13 INSTRUCTOR, Department of Geography, Rutgers University.
- Transforming the Global Environment; Space, Place, Location: Introduction to Human Geography; Geographic Background to Current World Affairs; Geography of Development; Cities: Urban Geography*
- 2010 INSTRUCTOR, Writing Department, Rutgers University: *Expository Writing*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2005-06 RESEARCH ASSISTANT
Center for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers University
Robert W. Lake and Kathe Newman, Principal Investigators: Civic Engagement in Camden, New Jersey

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2019 Outstanding Honors Faculty Award, Florham Campus
- 2018 Becton College Teacher of the Year, 2017-2018
- 2015 Cornell University Summer Institute on Contested Global Landscapes: *Occupation: Violence and the Long-term Control of Land and People*, Participant
- 2010-11 Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, Graduate Fellow: *Narratives of Power: New Articulations of Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Class*
- 2011 Rutgers University: University and Bevier Fellowship (*Alternate*)
- 2008-11 Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching (CASTL), Graduate Student Fellow

2008	Rutgers University Department of Geography, Graduate Teaching Award
2000	James Britton Memorial Award for Outstanding Thesis, Syracuse University School of Architecture

UNIVERSITY SERVICE *(at Carnegie Mellon University)*

Committees

2025	Associate Deans Council
	Academic Leadership Forum
	Middle States Self-Study: Standard 5 Working Group

UNIVERSITY SERVICE *(at Fairleigh Dickinson University)*

Committees

2016-23	University Senate; Member of the Faculty Rights and Welfare Committee
2015-23	Sophomore Core Task Force
2015-16	Study Abroad Task Force
2013-14	Recruitment and Retention Committee

Other Service to College/University

2022-23	Lead Author of the (NJ-State-approved) proposal for a new Environmental Studies Bachelor of Arts Major at FDU.
2020-23	Department First-Level Academic Review Committee for tenure and promotion
2018	Rewrite of Honors Program literature and promotional material design (paid)
2017-23	Committee exploring the recruitment of academically gifted students and the establishment of an Honors Academy
2017	Co-developed Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Minor
2016-23	Creator and facilitator of Geography Minor
2016	Member of the University's Sophomore CORE program Task Force
2015-16	Mentor for Becton College Student Leadership Network
2015-23	Becton College Student Leadership Network
2013-15	Study Abroad Committee
2013-23	Department Liaison: QUEST (Question, Understand, Explore, Seek and Think) Program

EXTRAMURAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2006-	INVITED ARCHITECTURAL CRITIC, Harvard University, Pratt Institute, University of Toronto, The City College of New York, Syracuse University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, College of Staten Island
2004-10	PRINT AND ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER, Lubrano Ciavarra Design, LLC—New York, New York
2003-04	INTERN ARCHITECT, Neumann Monson Architects—Iowa City, Iowa
2000-03	JUNIOR PROJECT ARCHITECT, Lubrano Ciavarra Design LLC—New York, New York
2000-	FREELANCE ARCHITECTURAL, PRINT & DIGITAL DESIGNER, New York, New York

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of American Geographers 2007-

- Chair: Urban Geography Specialty Group 2022-2024

- Vice Chair: Urban Geography Specialty Group 2020-2022

- Ethics, Justice, and Human Rights Specialty Group: Student Board Member 2011-2012

American Historical Association 2022-

American Studies Association 2013-2017; 2020; 2023-

International Studies Association 2015-2018

Center for the Study of Genocide and Human Rights: Rutgers University 2010-2013

Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis: Rutgers University 2010-2011

COMPUTING SKILLS

Mapping Software: *QGIS; Carto*

Design Software: *Adobe Illustrator; Adobe Photoshop; Adobe Aero; AutoCAD*

Web: *HTML; CSS*