



Thanks to the Herbert E. Carter Travel Award, issued by the Graduate Interdisciplinary Programs, I was able to attend the *Imagined Futures: Ruins of the Present and Horizons of the Past* Conference in late February at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where I presented on a panel titled “Ruins and Reconstruction: Failure, Memory, and Rebirth.” The experience was both edifying and inspirational.

This opportunity allowed me to present a paper that is still in progress and receive valuable feedback from attendees from various disciplines, which greatly helped in clarifying my ideas. I also had the chance to network and connect with members of a reading and working group I am part of at UPenn, which was an especially rewarding experience.

I am truly grateful for this award for making my travels possible.

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