In organizing "Global Flashpoints: Transnational Performance and Politics," our purpose was to open up an international exploration of transnational/global practices concerning social organization, gender, and sexuality through performances and academic research across a variety of countries and colleges. To that end, we hosted performances from India, Mexico, Taiwan, and Los Angeles, with themes concerning the abusive practices surrounding the taking of child brides in The Wife’s Letter, the role of the arts in metaphysical discourses and social protests in Dialogues Between Darwin and God, deconstructing orientalist fantasies of women in Dancing Mother Courage and The Good Person, and imagining homoerotic relationships between slaves in the antebellum South in bonded. The performances took place in various sites across the campus, including Royce Hall, Glorya Kaufman Hall, and MacGowan. They were attended by students and scholars from UCLA, USC, CSULA, as well as local community members from various ethnic and diasporic communities.

– Sue-Ellen Case
Professor, Department of Theater
Director, Center for Performance Studies