Join us as Dr. Shlossberg discusses his community-based ethnographic and oral-historical research.

Dr. Shlossberg’s work documents contemporary danzas, such as the pastorelas, and related masking customs in central Michoacan. His work also examines how knowledge about masks and masking is often falsified in popular and scholarly work through the repetition of colorful myths that envelop the craft and the disavowal of items produced for the tourist and curio markets as inauthentic and low-grade. The debates over the authenticity/inauthenticity of tourist and curio arts shed light on how relations of class, status, and inequality are constructed and contested in community rituals, Mexican national/regional culture, and cross-border markets for Indian arts.

Dr. Pavel Shlossberg completed his PhD in Communications at Columbia University and is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow in the UNM Department of Communication and Journalism.