

Humanities Center

Annual Report 2011 - 2012

Bringing Humanists Together for Collaborative Research



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OUR MISSION

The mission of the Humanities Center is to nurture interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary, and intradisciplinary work in the humanities and arts through competitions, conferences, discussion groups, and other programs for Wayne State's humanities and arts faculty and students, and for visiting scholars and artists.

The Center promotes excellence in research and creative endeavors through rigorous peer review of proposals submitted to it for funding. By sponsoring programs that involve community participants, the Center supports the university's urban mission. Through its various programs, the Center brings humanists of diverse talents and interests together for conversation and collaboration, and fosters innovation and creativity across humanistic disciplines.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2011 - 2012 OVERVIEW

The 2011 – 2012 year was a period in which the Center consolidated its role as an integral part of the intellectual and academic tapestry of Wayne State University.

In this year, for example, three of the Working Groups that the Center has been supporting with annual grants have crystallized as significant academic units in their own rights, with impressive intellectual credentials. The Digital Humanities Working Group, for instance, under the guidance of Professor Julie Klein, has disengaged itself from our financial support and has been sponsoring conferences on their own and inviting to campus distinguished scholars in that field. That group has also developed a course in Digital Humanities which is now a part of the English Department's curriculum. The Working Group on Science and Society, led by Professor Marsha Richmond, is now essentially an independent academic force on campus, sponsoring talks on a variety of interdisciplinary subjects, including the environment. Likewise, GEMS (Group for Early Modern Studies), which we began funding in 2008, has grown and is flourishing. In addition to having regular meetings at which early modernists in History, English, and Modern Languages discuss their work, the GEMS group now has an annual interdisciplinary conference which features internal and external scholars working in the early modern period.



Director, Walter F. Edwards

The work of the Center has not gone unnoticed by impartial observers. Evidence of this is an article on the Center which is featured in the April 2012 issue of Wayne State University's Alumni Association Magazine (Vol 26,1, pp. 33-34). This article, entitled "Center of Ideas: Humanities Center engages public on an array of topic" is authored by Christy Strawser, an independent journalist. Below are some quotes taken from that article:

"Loraleigh Keashly, Associate Professor of the Department of Communication, gave one of the Center's Brown Bag talks on "Incivility among the Professorate" and says that the center adds an important element to campus and the community at large. She also notes that, "The Humanities Center provides an interdisciplinary intellectual and social space for vibrant discussions for the enrichment and advancement of knowledge."

"Pradeep Sopory, a member of the Humanities Center's Advisory Committee and Associate Communication Professor, says, "I think all together these programs provide a space for different kinds of works to be showcased; it's a bundle of different events that provide a synergistic effect."

"Jan Hankin, Professor and (then)Interim Chair of the Sociology Department has attended several Brown Bag discussions and says, "These discussions are valuable because they attract people from so many disciplines. The Humanities Center is always open to different departments talking about our research and activities. The trend today is about interdisciplinary study."

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2011 - 2012 OVERVIEW

The thrust of this article is to characterize the Humanities Center as a catalyst for interdisciplinary fellowship among humanities and art scholars, and as an important contributor to enhancing the academic profile of Wayne State University.

Our work and good reputation have also attracted philanthropic attention. There has been a notable increase in the number of small donations to the Center through our Web site; and this year we introduced the Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship competition which was made possible by a grant of over \$600,000 from former provost, the late Marilyn Williamson. This annual fellowship is worth \$20,000. The first recipient is Dr. Richard Marback, a professor in the English department, whose biography and project abstract appear on page 20 of this report.

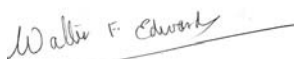
We have also attempted novel projects this year. An example is our efforts to broaden our interaction with humanists in other universities. To this end, we recruited faculty from the University of Windsor and the College of Creative Arts (Detroit) to present talks in our Brown Bag Series. The final session of our 2011 Fall Symposium on "The Post-Industrial City" was a panel discussion on the topic chaired by Wayne State Professor Robin Boyle with participants from Lawrence Technological University, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and Eastern Michigan University. We also expanded the scope of our 2012 Fall Symposium by inviting visitors from around the country and abroad to participate. The result of this latter effort is that the symposium, scheduled for November 16, 2012, will feature 16 speakers from a wide range of national and international universities and colleges discussing the timely topic "The Apocalyptic Imagination". Additionally, in early May this year I met with Dr. Antonio Rossini, Director of the Humanities Research Group at the University of Windsor, and discussed ways in which our Centers can collaborate on projects and support each other. We found several areas of common interest and will pursue them in the 2012 - 2013 academic year.

All of our regular programs are doing well. Our Brown Bag talks continue to be our most visible program. Faculty members continue to volunteer to present papers in the series and the attendance at these talks continues to be generally good. This year, the Center sponsored 52 talks by faculty from a wide spectrum of disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and arts. Similarly, our two public conferences, the fall symposium on "The Post-Industrial City" and our spring faculty fellows conference on "The Post-Racial Era?" attracted good audiences and lively participation.

In September 2013, the Center will achieve its 20th anniversary. This will be a time for us to look back on our achievements and challenges over the last two decades. We will do so proudly.

Thank you for your continued support of the Humanities Center.

Sincerely,



Walter F. Edwards, D. Phil
Professor, English
Director, Humanities Center

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Since the inception of the weekly Brown Bag Colloquium Series, literally hundreds of Wayne State humanities and arts faculty and students have participated either as speakers or as members of the audience. Each new year brings an increase in the number of faculty volunteering to present talks. As a result, the Center now regularly hosts talks twice a week. During the 2011 - 2012 academic year the talks were held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Brown Bags talks were free and open to the public.

HUMANITIES CENTER DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

Since 2010, the Humanities Center and the Graduate School have been collaborating on funding a Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship beginning in the Winter 2011 Semester. This annual fellowship awards \$15,000 to a humanities or arts doctoral candidate in the final stages of writing his/her dissertation. The fellowship also includes University health insurance coverage during the winter and spring/summer semesters. The applicant must already be in the process of writing the dissertation and must complete all requirements, including the final defense, by the end of the academic year. The fellowship award is dispensed as monthly stipends between January and August. Up to three smaller awards of \$500 each can be made to other applicants at the discretion of the sponsors.

FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

The Faculty Fellowship competition is based on an annual theme. The Humanities Center's Advisory Board selects the theme and prepares an explication for our Faculty Fellowship Competition. Awarded Fellowships now average \$6,000 and recipients are expected to participate in the annual Faculty Fellows Conference held in the winter of the following year. The theme for this year was "**Borders and Intersections.**"

FACULTY FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE

The Faculty Fellows Conference is held in the winter semester. Internal Faculty Fellows Conference speakers are the recipients of fellowships in the previous year. The conference allows the fellowship recipients to present the results of their funded work and to receive feedback from the audience. In addition to fellowship recipients from WSU, the Center invites distinguished keynoters who are experts in the area addressed by the theme. The 2012 conference theme was **The Post-Racial Era?**

FALL SYMPOSIUM

The Fall Symposium is held once a year in November. It focuses on a topic of contemporary significance in the humanities and arts. Internal speakers are chosen from abstracts submitted by WSU faculty members. In addition to speakers from WSU, the Center invites distinguished keynoters who are experts in the area addressed by the theme. This year's theme was **The Post-Industrial City.**

MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP (NEW PROGRAM)

Thanks to a generous endowment provided by the late Provost Marilyn L. Williamson, the Humanities Center offers an annual Distinguished Faculty Fellowship to tenured faculty (associate and full professors) in the humanities as defined by the NEH. The award of this single \$20,000 fellowship is based on the merit of the individual research project proposed for the fellowship term; on the exceptional contribution the proposed project will make to the humanities, and its potential for recognition, publication, exhibition or performance; and on two external recommendations in support of the project.

RESIDENT SCHOLARS PROGRAM

One of the Center's oldest programs, the Resident Scholars Program is open to all full-time faculty in the humanities, arts, and related disciplines. This program provides office space, basic office equipment, and administrative support from the Center's staff. Additionally, monthly "roundtable" meetings allow our residents to discuss their current research in an engaging interdisciplinary environment. Resident Scholars are also eligible for up to \$800 in support for travel, equipment expenses, or to pay for research assistance. Over the years, almost 60 faculty at WSU have taken part in this program.

TRAVEL AWARD PROGRAM FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Center budgets up to \$3,000 in the academic year to support travel to conferences for graduate students. Each award recipient is funded up to \$300. The Center typically supports 10-12 graduate students per year through this program.

VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Center invites applications from scholars or artists who are affiliated with other universities and who hold the Ph.D. or equivalent degree. Visits may range in duration from one month to one semester. No stipend is attached, but a Visiting Scholar who stays one full semester is eligible for a grant of up to \$3,000 for miscellaneous expenses related to his or her work. The visitor is assigned an office in the Center and receives assistance in obtaining library privileges. In return, he or she is expected to give a public lecture on his or her project.

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES AND ARTS

The Working Groups program is designed to promote collaborative and innovative research among WSU humanities and arts faculty and students. Working Groups meet regularly for discussion, exchange, and planning for events such as guest lectures and colloquia. The Center provides up to \$800 to each group for speakers, supplies, and other organizational purposes.

RESIDENT SCHOLARS

The Humanities Center's annual competition for Resident Scholars in the 2011-2012 year attracted applications from across the university. Eight research projects were selected from a broad range of specialties. Scholars used the space and resources of the Center and collaborated for feedback and professional growth. Below are statements from each resident scholar describing his or her achievements during 2011-2012.



Mary Anderson - Assistant Professor, Theatre

"Meeting Places: Site-Specific Community Performances in Australia"

Mary's work this year as a resident scholar has centered around her book manuscript, which is currently under contract with Rodopi press (Amsterdam and New York). Meeting Places expands upon Mary's dissertation research of performances in the Australian Central Desert and Tasmania, offering a new paradigm for analysis of place-based performance training by positioning the study of "mistakes" or "failures" that occur within training environments as central to the evaluation of a system's potential for transformative learning.

In addition to the book project, Mary has seen four of her articles come to publication in the last year. Two solo-authored articles appeared in the journals *Research in Drama Education (RIDE)* and *Theatre/Practice*. Co-authored articles with Doug Risner have appeared in *Arts Education Policy Review* and *Teaching Artist Journal*. Anderson and Risner also received a contract from Cambria Press to publish their co-edited volume, *Hybrid Lives of Teaching Artists in Dance and Theatre Arts: A Critical Reader*.

Mary has presented papers this year at the Theatre & Learning Conference at the University of Toronto, and at the Mid-America Theatre Conference in Chicago. Summer presentations and performances will take place at Earth Matters on Stage at Carnegie Mellon University, Society of Dance History Scholars in Philadelphia, and the International Federation for Theatre Research in Santiago, Chile.

Michael Barbour - Assistant Professor, Education

"Hands on Social Studies: The Development of Mobile Learning Apps"

As a part of my participation in the Resident Scholars' program, I proposed to create a series of social studies focused mobile learning apps that targeted for students engaged in K-12 online learning using the low-tech model created by Clemson University with their Salt Marsh, Swamp Forest, and Cove Forest apps. My plan was to purchase a series of individual lesson books (e.g., Sams Teach Yourself iPad Application Development in 24 Hours and

Programming iOS 5: Fundamentals of iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch Development), along with using the resources provided by Apple's iOS Dev Center (see <https://developer.apple.com/devcenter/ios/index.action>), to learn the process of developing mobile learning apps (specifically for iPod Touch, iPhone, and iPad devices). This had been a strategy that I had used during my doctoral program to learn Flash and Action Script programming. I had made arrangements with a series of K-12 online learning teachers to use their content within each of the apps.

Unfortunately, I was not aware that in order to master iOS programming you had to first understand object-oriented programming (as skills which I did not possess). Using resources from Stanford University's iTunes U courses, I began to work my way through their Programming Abstractions and Programming Methodology courses). Over the past nine months, while I have been able to complete Programming Abstractions, I still have six of the 28 lessons remaining in the Programming Methodology course.

Leisa Kauffmann - Assistant Professor, CMLLC

"Hybrid Historiography in Colonial Mexico: Genre, Time and Event in Fernando de Alva Ixtlilxochitl's Historia de la nación chichimeca"

The Humanities Center Resident Scholarship has been an enriching experience for me in a number of ways. The most notable has been through the important interdisciplinary environment it provided for sharing my work and learning about the research others on campus are engaged in. As a Ph. D. in Comparative Literature, I was especially fascinated to get an "up close" view of the methods of social science research, both qualitative and quantitative, and to see "in action" very different approaches to issues in the humanities from my own field of literary studies. It has also helped me to see outside my department walls (to speak) and glimpse the work happening at Wayne State on a larger scale. I have greatly enjoyed getting to know colleagues from different departments and building rapport with them has made me feel even more at home on campus. In addition to the monthly meetings and informal conversations, I have also appreciated the other side of the humanities center: the quiet office space that allows me to be on campus but removed from the

RESIDENT SCHOLARS



Resident Scholars roundtable meetings were held once per month in the Humanities Center. Each Resident Scholar volunteered to give a preview of a conference presentation or to informally discuss his or her research with colleagues. Resident Scholars were able to invite two additional colleagues to the roundtable discussions to provide extra feedback.

daily activities and distractions of my regular office. As a Resident Scholar I was able to significantly advance research on my book project on Colonial Mexican historiography, specifically the work of Fernando de Alva Ixtlilxochitl, and also finish up various revisions of essays for publication in journals.

David Merolla - Assistant Professor, Sociology

"Underclass Neighborhoods and Educational Outcomes: A Counterfactual Approach"

During my year as a resident scholar in the Humanities Center, I have made significant progress on my project on racial differences in student attitudes and beliefs. The time in the Humanities Center office, away from the distractions that arise when in my office, has allowed me a great opportunity to focus, read and write. Specifically, I am near completion of two manuscripts which will be submitted for review this summer and I will be presenting this research at the American sociological Association annual meeting in August. One of these papers was presented to the Humanities Center Resident Scholars roundtable in December. Preparing for the roundtable required me to think carefully about the ideas that I was exploring and was a significant motivator to clarify and condense my ideas. Additionally, the insightful comments from the other resident scholars and Dr. Edwards assisted me in seeing where the work was still unclear. The process of doing the roundtable further made me realize that my project could result in two rather than just one manuscript.

I have also greatly enjoyed hearing about, discussing and debate the work of the other resident scholars throughout this year. Finally, as someone that is relatively new to Wayne State, another major benefit of the resident scholar program was getting to know colleagues from other departments and to share stories and experiences about life at Wayne State, I feel much more integrated into the University as a result of my participation in the Resident Scholars Program.

Daphne Ntiri - Associate Professor, Africana Studies

"Transformational Learning and Cross Cultural Relationships"

It was Peter Drucker (1905 -2005) who once said, "Knowledge has to be improved, challenged, and increased constantly, or it vanishes". Nowhere is this saying more true than at the Humanities Center where intellectual and interdisciplinary inquiry is actively pursued as faculty converges to test paradigms, stimulate meaningful dialogue, challenge ideas and enhance scholarship. I completed my second year at the Center this year and the experience over the last two years has been totally fruitful and productive. In addition to developing new collegial acquaintances both from local and foreign backgrounds, this experience helped me build a platform of knowledge about the scope of diverse humanistic disciplines and expanded scholarship. My research this year focused on adult literacy and its significance in the lives of African Americans during the civil rights era. I was particularly interested in bringing out from obscurity an important female educator and reformer, Bernice Robinson whose work in the literacy empowerment movement for the marginalized citizens in the 1950s and 1960s effected significant changes in the political transformation of US society. The resident fellows' feedback was critical and helpful and led me to revise my paper entitled, "Adult literacy reform through a womanist lens: Unpacking the radical pedagogy of Civil-rights era educator, Bernice Robinson", before submission to a journal.

This 'home away from home' idea is a treasure for those who don't know it as it gives you quiet, uninterrupted time to think and write. Personally, I like the space; it is centrally located on campus and more accessible with ample parking all around. The staff is cordial and the perks and privileges (computer access and printing; funds to underwrite conference travel or research projects) make this a very worthwhile effort. Let's not forget also that lunch is always served and it is customized to your taste.

I must applaud Dr. Walter Edwards and his staff for their dedication and commitment to sustaining what I see as an intellectual commons, a forum where colleagues can come to dialogue and bring innovative perspectives and a shared understanding to academic presentations and exercises.

RESIDENT SCHOLARS



Resident scholars established office hours at the Center where they were able to work on their research and meet with students and colleagues. They were each provided with a private office with a computer, office furniture, and telephone; and received clerical support from the Center's staff.

George Parris - Assistant Professor, Education

"The Influence of Ethnic Minority Status and Culture on Rehabilitation Service Outcomes"

Dr. Parris made considerable progress on his project. The purpose of the study was to examine the vocational rehabilitation outcomes of rehabilitation clients within the state vocational rehabilitation system in relation to a counsellor perceived multicultural counselling competencies. Constantine and Ladany (2000) defined multicultural counselling competencies as the counsellor's attitudes and beliefs, knowledge, and skills in working with individuals from diverse backgrounds. The counselors' were provided with a multicultural case conceptualization of a client with a disability seeking services from the vocational rehabilitation system. The same scenario was used, however, the race of the client will differ, i.e., African American, Latino American and White American. The counselors' multicultural competency level was assessed by using the Multicultural Counseling Inventory (Sodowsky, Taffe, Gutkin & Wise, 1994). In addition, counselors were provided with a multicultural case conceptualization and a demographic questionnaire.

Charles Stivale - Distinguished Professor, CMLLC

"Making Men in Nineteenth Century French Narrative: Vital Romanticism and Constructions of Masculinity"

As a resident scholar during 2011-2012, my accomplishments have consisted in continued development of a book-length study entitled "Making Men in Nineteenth-Century French Narrative: Vital Romanticism and Constructions of Masculinity?" During this academic year, I revised the book's organization, completed revisions of chapters 1 and 2, undertook research for the chapters 3 through 5, prepared talks, and prepared a journal article based on material in chapter 3. I also gave talks (based on aforementioned research as well as work on Deleuze and Guattari) at conferences in October 2011 (Philadelphia), March 2012 (Long Beach), and forthcoming in June 2012 (New Orleans), and October 2012 (Raleigh NC).

Yuning Wu - Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice

"Fear of Crime among Chinese Immigrants in the United States"

I am currently a third-year assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice. I am a resident scholar in the Humanities Center during the academic year 2011-2012. My proposed project to work on during my residency is about Chinese immigrants' fear of crime in the metro-Detroit area based on survey data that I collected during summer 2011. During the first semester of my residency, I successfully conducted data analysis and reported the preliminary findings to a diverse audience in a Brown bag colloquium hosted by the Humanities Center. The Brown bag talk was an excellent way to get constructive critiques from scholars from different disciplines and promote academic exchanges. Incorporating these feedbacks into my work, I completed a manuscript that is currently under publication review at *Crime, Law, and Social Change*. More recently, to extend my research agenda on race, immigration, and crime, I have been on the process of applying for a National Institute of Justice grant, the W.E.B. Du Bois Fellowship, with a colleague from the Department. The purpose of our proposed project is to investigate Hispanic immigrants' victimization and fear of crime in Southwest Detroit, a predominantly Hispanic community. I presented our research design and survey instrument in a Resident Scholar Roundtable held in March 2012. My Co-Principal Investigator and I have obtained valuable feedbacks from fellow resident scholars on various aspects of the theoretical development, methodological concerns, and policy implication of the project, which help us to improve the quality of the research.

Besides research, I have also been taking advantage of the quiet, autonomous working environment that the Humanities Center provides to complete various teaching tasks. I have prepared for lectures, made exams, and graded student papers in my Center office, noticing improved productivity while working there. Finally, the Humanities Center has generously provided financial support (\$800) for my trip to Taipei, Taiwan to attend the 3rd annual conference of the Asian Society of Criminology in December 2011. Travel support is always important for scholars, especially for junior scholars, to disseminate their research findings and to enlarge their social network in the field.

THE POST-INDUSTRIAL CITY

2011 FALL SYMPOSIUM



The Humanities Center's Fall Symposium centered on the topic of "The Post Industrial City". Speakers from Wayne State University and other universities, came together to discuss aspects of the theme from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives.

Explication of Theme

Since the 1960s, large industrial cities in Northern Europe, the (former) Soviet Union, and the United States have undergone profound economic, social and demographic changes. Manufacturing, once the lifeblood of these cities, has declined dramatically; suburbanization and shrinking inner-city populations have led to the urban decay we now associate with the "post-industrial" city. While the economic effects of industrial decline have been well documented, far less scholarly attention has been paid to the effects of post-industrialism on the arts and humanities.

During the first half of the 20th century, industrial cities generated a disproportionate share of the growth of national economies. In a climate of economic innovation, success, and profitability, the arts flourished, as is clear from the proliferation of (small) theater companies and art museums, the expansion of art collections, and the development of new and experimental forms of music and art. The working class cosmopolitanism of Liverpool produced the Beatles, and Detroit's industrial economy of the 1960s helped to establish the Motown music industry. This period taught us that strong local economies enable and encourage new developments in the arts. New developments in art and art practices, reflecting local cultures and tastes, circulate more broadly in the global economy and bring recognition and resources back to the city in a cycle of creativity and growth.

To be sure, post-industrial cities continue to produce and enjoy artistic innovations. Techno-music is thriving in Detroit, while new-wave and hip-hop are flourishing in Manchester. But post-industrial cities are not the centers of artistic development. London still dominates British culture, but London itself, while clearly cosmopolitan, is decidedly non-industrial. Liverpool, a post-industrial city, is considered a backwater of British culture.

With the gradual disappearance of influential arts and artists from the former industrial centers, the position of the "culture industry" has changed as well. Many post-industrial cities no longer see the arts as valuable in and of themselves—as an organic part of socio-cultural developments and trends more generally. Instead, art is largely seen—and actively employed/exploited—as a tool for economic development, public relations, and merchandizing. The mid-town district of Detroit, for example, emphatically foregrounds the arts to attract visitors, to seduce new residents, and to promote its struggling economy.

There are other imaginative ways to look at, and even employ, the arts and the humanities. Urban planners argue that the key to reviving post-industrial cities is in redefining what it means to be "urban." Once associated with overpopulation and over-use, "urban" now means engaging in "smart growth," preserving historic areas for repopulation, and promoting Green enterprises that create new and sustainable lifestyles. Essential to this regeneration is the development of an inner-city core where various races, ethnicities, classes, and age groups live, work, and build new cultures together. The new urban city is an "incubator" for creative activities and innovations, including advances in communications and technologies essential for growth in a global economy. The humanities, arts and social sciences can and should play a central role in this regeneration.

Keynote: Marion Jackson, Distinguished Professor, Emerita, Art History, Wayne State University
Art in Post-Industrial Detroit

Speakers

Robin Boyle, Professor, Urban Studies & Planning (USP) and Matthew Lewis, Graduate Student, USP
Making Music, Again: An Assessment of Detroit's Contemporary Neighborhood Music Industry

Melba Joyce Boyd, Distinguished University Professor and Chair of the Department of Africana Studies
The Poetics of Destruction

THE POST-INDUSTRIAL CITY

2011 FALL SYMPOSIUM

renée c. hoogland, Associate Professor, English
Imaging Detroit: Between Surface and Depth

Tracy Neumann, Assistant Professor, History
Pittsburgh's Cultural Strategy

Frank F. Koscielski, Academic Services Officer IV, Labor@Wayne and Scott Gwinnelli, Jazz Composer, Graduate of Wayne State University's Music Department
Music in the Post-Industrial City: Detroit's Cass Corridor - A Jazz Retrospective

Renata Wasserman, Professor Emerita, English
"Zero" - A novel of repression and brutalization in Brazilian Cities

Susan Zielinski, Managing Director, University of Michigan Transportation and Research Center and Sustainable Mobility & Accessibility Research & Transformation (SMART)
New Mobility and the Post-Industrial City

Exploring the concepts of the Post-Industrial City during the 2011 Fall Symposium

The symposium was held in McGregor Memorial Center on November 18, 2011. After a call to order by Walter Edwards, Director of the Humanities Center, welcoming remarks were given by the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Robert Thomas. The moderator for the first session, Mysoon Rizk, Associate Professor of Art History, University of Toledo, introduced the first speakers, Robin Boyle, Professor of Urban Studies & Planning (USP), and Matthew Lewis, Graduate Student of USP. Dr. Boyle and Lewis presented their paper entitled, "Making Music, Again: An Assessment of Detroit's Contemporary Neighborhood Music Industry." Their presentation traced the evolution of a small neighborhood-based music industry in Detroit using survey data and a series of interviews. Tracy Neumann, Assistant Professor of History, then spoke about "Pittsburgh's Cultural Strategy" and argued that its elite-led growth coalition worked to dismantle its popular image of an industrial city. Frank Koscielski, Academic Services Officer IV of Labor@Wayne, and Scott Gwinnell, Jazz Composer and Graduate of WSU's Music Department concluded the first session with their work entitled, "Music in the Post-Industrial City: Detroit's Cass Corridor – A Jazz Retrospective." They presented a jazz interpretation of the Cass Corridor.

The moderator, Elena Past, Assistant Professor of Italian, began the second session by introducing Mame Jackson, Distinguished Professor Emerita of the Art History Department and keynote speaker, who presented her paper entitled, "Art in Post-Industrial Detroit." Dr. Jackson profiled some Detroit artists and reflected on the changing role of the arts in the city. Associate Professor renée c. hoogland, then presented her work entitled, "Imaging Detroit: Between Surface and Depth." She explored the ways in which Detroit is a site for the visual construction of the post-industrial city. Melba Joyce Boyd, Distinguished University Professor and Chair of the Department of Africana Studies, concluded the session with her presentation entitled, "The Poetics of Destruction." The thematic focus of her paper was the emotional and subjective onslaught of human experience relative to historical and socioeconomic conflict.

The moderator, Avis Vidal, Professor of Urban Studies and Planning (USP), began the third session by introducing Renata Wasserman, Professor Emerita for English and Comparative Literature. Professor Wasserman discussed "Zero," a novel of repression and brutalization during the times of Brazilian dictatorship. Susan Zielinski, Managing Director of the University of Michigan's Transportation and Research Center and SMART, concluded the session with her paper entitled, "New Mobility and the Post-Industrial City," which analyzed the impacts of modern transportation on a post-industrial city. The final session was moderated by Robin Boyle, Professor and Chair of the Department of USP, who introduced a panel discussion on "Urban Scholarship: Hidden Voices." The panel members were Constance Bodurow, Assistant Professor of Architecture in the College of Architecture and Design, Lawrence Technological University; George Galster, Hillberry Professor of Urban Affairs, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Wayne State University; Louise Jezierski, Associate Professor of Sociology and the Global Urban Studies Program, Michigan State University; Heather Khan, Assistant Professor of Planning, Department of Geography and Geology, Urban Planning Program, Eastern Michigan University; and Lara Rusch, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Urban and Regional Studies Program, University of Michigan.

THE POST-RACIAL ERA? 2012 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE



Each spring the recipients of the previous year's Faculty Fellowships participate in a conference based on that year's theme. The 2012 conference on "The Post-Racial Era?" addressed theoretical and practical issues in race relations and race theory from a variety of perspectives and across many disciplines.

Explication of Theme

Since the election of President Barak Obama, the popular press has advanced the idea that the United States is now in a "post-racial" era. Yet this media construction may obscure actual race relations in society. For example, although the United States is becoming more diverse and multi-racial with increased Asian and Latino populations bringing their own cultural and racial diversity, national policies governing immigration and recent legislation in some states against Affirmative Action reflect continued resistance to racial diversity.

From a scholarly perspective, the idea of a "post-racial" era must be critically examined historically and socially. Perceptions about race and racism have always shifted temporally and spatially. Race has been operative in this nation since its inception, and aspirations to redraw the color-line, which W.E.B. Du Bois dubbed the project for the new 20th century, are hardly new and not the sole property of the US mass media. Race is a social construction, and so is the "post-racial" era. With these considerations in mind, can we say that America has reached the point where it can be truly post-racial? What are the global implications?

In addressing this question, we must consider that attitudes differ depending on one's class, as well as race, the latter complicated by recent redefinitions, such as "biracial," "multiracial," or even Tiger Woods' invention "Cablinaisan."

It is also likely that the term "post-racial" conceals as much as it reveals by announcing a new era, a radical change, betokened by the accession to the highest office of a new and different kind of leader. Yet who uses the term and for what purposes? What does it reflect (or ignore) about race, race relations and racial discriminations? Does post racial mean post racist?

What can intellectuals across the disciplines bring to an interrogation of "post" and "racial," terms that are both academic and widely used in the media? Is the "post" in post-racial the same as the post in "post-modern"? Is the "post" in post-racial the same as other postings that signify that time has moved beyond the past and that "master narratives" – including the narrative that "race matters" -- are, for good or ill, past history?

Keynoters

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Professor, Sociology, Duke University
Racism, Discrimination, and the Illusion of Post-Racialism in Obamerica

Elvis Mitchell, Independent Film Critic, Host of the Public Radio Show, "The Treatment" & Visiting Lecturer, Harvard University
The more things change...

WSU Speakers

Heather Dillaway, Associate Professor & Interim Chair, Sociology
Menopause and Midlife in Detroit: Uncovering Race-based Contexts for Women's Experiences

Jonathan Flatley, Associate Professor, English
Liking, Likeness and the Color-Line in Andy Warhol

Barry Lyons, Associate Professor, Anthropology
More or Less White: Mestizo Identities and "Post-Racial" Multiculturalism in Ecuador

THE POST-RACIAL ERA?

2012 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

Fran Shor, Professor, History

The Constructions (and Deconstructions) of Whiteness in "Post-Racial" America

Ebony E. Thomas, Assistant Professor, Education

Multimodal "Post-Racial" Discourses of Slavery and Freedom in Marilyn Nelson's Fortune's Bones: The Manumission Requiem

Kidada E. Williams, Assistant Professor, History

After the Lynching Show

Investigating the Post-Racial Era During The 2012 Faculty Fellows Conference

The conference was held in McGregor Memorial Center on April 6, 2012. After a call to order by Walter Edwards, Director of the Humanities Center, welcoming remarks were given by the Associate Provost, Margaret Winters. The moderator for the first session, Krista Brumley, Assistant Professor of Sociology, introduced the first speaker, Barry Lyons, Associate Professor of Anthropology. Dr. Lyons spoke about "More or Less White: Mestizo Identities and Post-Racial Multiculturalism in Ecuador." Dr. Lyons presented his research on the impact of the Indian movement and multiculturalism in Ecuador on non-Indian Ecuadorians' understandings of race and ethnicity. Heather Dillaway, Associate Professor and Interim Chair of Sociology, then presented her paper entitled, "Menopause and Midlife in Detroit: Uncovering Race-based Contexts for Women's Experiences." Dr. Dillaway highlighted the importance of menopause and other midlife experiences. The premise of her study was that race determines chance and outcome of an individual's life. She also argued that race-based attitudes and experiences can be found in empirical data. Her presentation focused on the African American women in Detroit. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Professor of Sociology from Duke University and keynote speaker, gave the last presentation of the first session. His lecture entitled, "Racism, Discrimination, and the Illusion of Post-Racialism in Obamerica" addressed four issues to challenge the mantra of post-racialism. He discussed the meaning of racism, examined America's racial regime since the 1970s, explained the election of Barack Obama, and articulated a political approach for the upcoming election.

The moderator, Daphne Ntiri, Associate Professor of Africana Studies, began the second session by introducing Fran Shor, Professor of History, who presented his paper entitled, "The Constructions (and Deconstructions) of Whiteness in "Post-Racial" America." He focused on identifying and analyzing the constructions of whiteness in a so-called "post racial" America. His presentation examined three contending ideological tropes that have emerged in the political culture of the United States in the last several decades. Kidada E. Williams, Assistant Professor of History, gave the last presentation of the second session with her paper entitled, "After the Lynching Show." She explored the American collective memory of lynching and racial violence in the wake of the exhibition "Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America." She also examined the assumptions made about cultural, educational, and social benefits of displaying lynching photography and analyzed the different ways Americans engage the history of lynching and racial violence as a result of the exhibit.

The final session of the conference was moderated by Melba Boyd, Distinguished University Professor and Chair of the Department of Africana Studies, who introduced Jonathan Flatley, Associate Professor of English. His project, entitled "Liking, Likeness and the Color-Line in Andy Warhol", analyzed Warhol's representation of race and racialization in relation to his famous assertions in a November 1963 interview that "everybody should like everybody," and that "pop art is liking things." Ebony E. Thomas, Assistant Professor of Education, then gave her presentation on "Multimodal "Post-Racial" Discourses of Slavery and Freedom in Marilyn Nelson's Fortune's Bones: The Manumission Requiem." She connected the past to the present by interrogating the echoes of collective trauma in Fortune's Bones and related postmodern historical recounts of slavery that are presented to children and young adults in the early twenty-first century. Elvis Mitchell, visiting lecturer at Harvard University and keynote speaker, concluded the final session with his presentation on "The More Things Change." He argued that America's most exportable product is its culture and that the representations of African Americans in films have stagnated so one could not even tell the United States has a black president. The conference was followed by a reception where speakers and audience members had the chance to share ideas in a less formal environment.

FALL 2011

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

The Brown Bag Colloquium Series is one of the Humanities Center's most successful and visible programs. This year the series comprised 52 talks given by Wayne State University faculty members. The talks covered a wide variety of topics in the humanities and arts. Abstracts for the talks are posted on the Center's Web site. Many Brown Bag presenters have expressed gratitude for feedback they received from the faculty and students who attended their talks. Speakers particularly benefited from the perspectives of faculty from other disciplines. Each new year brings an increase in the number of faculty volunteering as presenters.



Professor Michael Stone-Richards gave a brown bag talk on "Care of the City: Detroit, with Antigone and Heidegger"

September 13 - Ellen Barton & Andrew Winckles

English, Chair & English, Graduate Teaching Assistant. "Analyzing Ethics-in-Interaction in Medical Encounters"

September 14 - Heather E. Dillaway

Sociology, Interim Chair & Associate Professor. "Conceptualizing Midlife"

September 20 - Yuning Wu

Criminal Justice, Assistant Professor. "Fear of Crime among Chinese Immigrants in Metro-Detroit"

September 21 - Anca Vlasopolos

English, Professor. "Etching the Globe: Poems about Migration. From a Work-in-Progress"

September 27 - Simone Chess

English, Assistant Professor. "And so they kissed again: Early Modern Crossdressing and Queer (hetero?) Sexualities"

September 28 - Nardina Mein, Paul Gallagher, Shawn McCann, McGlone & Neds-Fox/Joshua

Libraries, New Media & Information Technologies. "The Peacock Room Comes to America"

October 04 - Alina Cherry

CMLLC, Assistant Professor. "Becoming-Animal, The Fury of History"

October 05 - Francis Shor

History, Professor. "Declining US Hegemony + Rising Chinese Power: A Formula for Conflict?"

October 11 - Scott Richmond

English, Assistant Professor. "Flickering Flesh: Medium, Materiality, and Aesthetics Beyond the Phenomenal in Tony Conrad's THE FLICKER (1965)"

October 12 - Michael Stone-Richards

Department of Critical Theory and Literature, College for Creative Studies, Detroit, Professor. "Care of the City: Detroit, with Antigone and Heidegger"

October 18 - James Hartway

Music, Distinguished Professor. "The Creative Process in Modern Music Composition on how I wrote a concerto for jazz quintet and symphony orchestra." Presented as the Murray E. Jackson University Scholar

October 19 - Lance Gable

Law School, Assistant Professor. "Ethical Allocation of Scarce Medical Resources During Public Health Emergencies" *rescheduled for Fall 2012*

October 25 - Laura Kline

CMLLC, Sr. Lecturer. "The Revolutionary and the Prophet: the Autobiographical Myths of Russian Camp Writer Varlam Shalamov"



Professor James Hartway and his audience. He is presenting his paper on "The Creative Process in Modern Music Composition on how I wrote a concerto for jazz quintet and symphony orchestra."

FALL 2011

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Since the inception of the weekly Brown Bag Colloquium Series, literally hundreds of Wayne State humanities and arts faculty and students have participated either as speakers or as members of the audience. Each new year brings an increase in the number of faculty volunteering to present talks. As a result, the Center regularly hosts talks twice a week throughout the academic year. Brown Bag talks are free and open to the public.

October 26 - Walter Edwards

Humanities Center & English, Director and Professor. "Language Policy and Language Rights in the Creole-Speaking Caribbean: Sociolinguistic implications"

November 01 - Frances J. Ranney

English, Professor. "Touchdown Jesus Struck by Lightning: Aristotle's Four Causes in Public Discourse"

November 02 - Jose A. Rico-Ferrer

CMLLC, Assistant Professor. "A gambler's penance in Seventeenth Century Spain."

November 08 - Eldonna L. May

Music, Part-time Faculty. "Amy Marcy Cheney Beach: Calbido, Op. 149 A Critical Analysis"

November 09 - Margaret Winters & Nathan Geoffrey

CMLLC, Chair & English, Professor. "Is Prediction Possible in Historical Linguistics?"

November 15 - Ronald Aronson

History, Distinguished Professor. "Occupy Wall Street Answers the Tea Party's New Individualism."



Professor Eldonna L. May gave her brown bag talk on "Amy Marcy Cheney Beach: Calbido, Op. 149 A Critical Analysis"



Professor Anne M. Burr gave her brown bag talk on "Law and Harmony: An In-depth Look at China's First American Style Law School."

November 16 - Eun-Jung Katherine Kim

Assistant Professor, Philosophy. "The Burka Ban."

November 29 - Michael J. Giordano

CMLLC, Professor. "The Art of Emblazoning and some Portraits of Agnola Bronzino."

November 30 - Anne M. Burr

Law School, Professor, Director of Legal Research & Writing. "An In-depth Look at China's First American Style Law School."

December 06 - John Corvino

Philosophy, Associate Professor. "The Definition of Marriage."

December 07 - Barrett Watten

English, Professor. "Fascism, Democracy, Mimesis: Reading *The Baader-Meinhof Complex*"

December 13 - Abderrahman Zouhir

CMLLC, Assistant Professor. "Language Conflict in Morocco."

THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



Associate Professor, English, renée c. hoogland presenting her lecture, *Imaging Detroit: Between Surface and Depth*, at the Humanities Center's Fall Symposium on *The Post Industrial City*



Dr. Edwards and the Chair of the Department of Philosophy, Dr. John Corvino, at the May 2012 Commencement Ceremony.



Dr. Katherine Kim and a Graduate Student after Dr. Kim's brown bag talk on *The Burka Ban*.



Humanities Center Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Leonard continued to provide excellent support to the Director in managing the Center.



2011 - 2012 Resident Scholars meeting (from left to right): Dr. David Merolla, Dr. Yuning Wu, Dr. Michael Barbour, Dr. Barbour's guest, Dr. Mary Anderson, Dr. Walter Edwards, Dr. Daphne Ntiri, and Dr. Leisa Kauffmann.

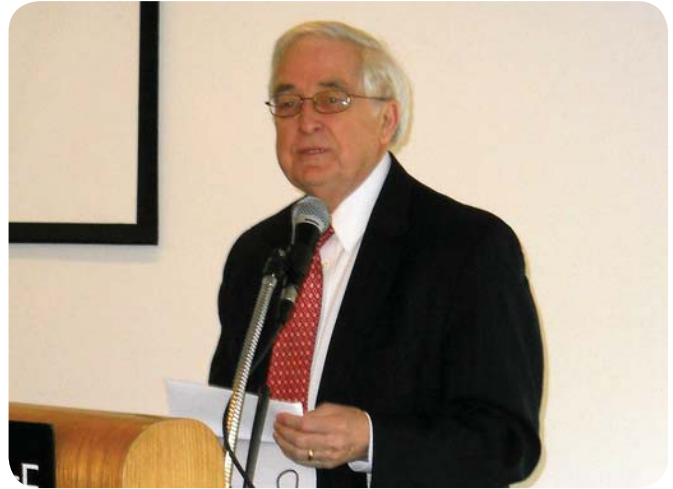


Keynote speaker, Elvis Mitchell, Independent Film Critic, presenting *The more things change...* at the Humanities Center's Faculty Fellowships Conference on *The Post-Racial Era?*

THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



Keynote speaker, Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Professor, Sociology Duke University, presenting *Racism, Discrimination, and the Illusion of Post-Racialism in Obamerica* at the Humanities Center's Faculty Fellowships Conference on *The Post-Racial Era?*



Robert L. Thomas, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, giving the welcoming remarks at the 2011 Fall Symposium on *The Post-Industrial City*.



Keynote speaker, Marion Jackson, Distinguished Professor Emerita, Art and Art History, presenting *Art in Post-Industrial Detroit* at the Humanities Center's Fall Symposium on *The Post Industrial City*.



Dr. Edwards with the Director of the Humanities Research Group of the University of Windsor, Dr. Antonio Rossini, and the Administrative Assistant, Yvette Bulmer, meeting to discuss collaborations between the two Centers.



Walter Edwards giving a public lecture on Creole Pedagogy at the University of Guyana in March 2012

WINTER 2012

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

September 13 - Ellen Barton & Andrew Winckles
English, Chair & English; Graduate Teaching Assistant.
"Analyzing Ethics-in-Interaction in Medical Encounters"

January 17 - Joe Rankin
CLAS and Criminal Justice, Associate Dean. "Social Control Theories of Crime and Deviance."

January 18 - Marsha Richmond
History, Associate Professor. "Expanding Occupational Opportunities for Women in the Early 20th Century: Women in Genetics"

January 24 - Chera Kee
English, Assistant Professor. "A Proud and Powerful Line: Women of Color as Zombie Masters"

January 25 - renée c. hoogland
English, Associate Professor. "The Ambivalence of the Face: The Case of Johan Vander Keuken."

January 31 - Liz Reich
English, Assistant Professor. "Earning Citizenship in Hollywood: Melvin Van Peebles's Transnational Soldier in Story of a Three Day Pass"

February 01 - Lance Gable
Law School, Assistant Professor. "Health Reform, Public Health, and the Elusive Target of Human Rights"

February 07 - Bill Harris
English, Professor Emeritus and Kresge Eminent Artist 2011. "Booker T. Heads Home."



Professor Bill Harris gave his brown bag talk on "Booker T. Heads Home."



Robert Sedler, Law School, Distinguished Professor, giving his talk on "Religion, Politics and American Foreign Policy in the Middle East."

February 08 - Stephen Chrisomalis
Anthropology, Assistant Professor. "A Zillion Dollars and a Jillion Junebugs: Umpteen Reflections on Indefinite Hyperbolic Numerals"

February 14 - R. Khari Brown, Ronald E. Brown & Aaron Blasé
Sociology, Associate Professor; Political Science, Associate Professor; Sociology, Undergraduate Research Assistant. "Religion and War Attitudes."

February 15 - Karen Liston
University Libraries, Librarian III. "Shh! Secrets Your Librarian Wishes You Knew."

February 21 - Sharon Lean & Kelly Krawczyk
Political Science, Assistant Professor; Political Science, Graduate Teaching Assistant. "Civil Society and Democratic Governance in Liberia."

February 22 - David M. Merolla
Sociology, Assistant Professor. "The 'Net Black Advantage' in Educational Transitions: An Educational Careers Approach."

February 23 - Robert Sedler
Law School, Distinguished Professor. "Religion, Politics and American Foreign Policy in the Middle East."

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

February 28 - Norah Duncan IV

Music, Associate Chair. "The evolution of 'Lead Me, Guide Me,' the African American Catholic Hymnal."

February 29 - James Hartway

Music, Distinguished Professor. "The Creative Process in Music Composition or How I Composed 'Dream Cruise' a futuristic String Quartet based on Reimagining the City of Detroit." Presented as the Murray E. Jackson University Scholar.

March 06 - Felecia A. Lucht

CMLLC, Assistant Professor. "Detroit's German Immigrants."

March 20 - Julie Klein

English, Professor. "New Digital Horizons in Humanities: Wayne State University's HASTAC Scholars."

March 21 - Clifford Clark

Economics, Distinguished Visiting Professor. "Inequalities and Changes in Society and Universities."

March 27 - Arifa Javed

Sociology, Lecturer. "Stability and Functionality among Post 1995 Immigrant Families."

March 28 - Selin Sertgoz & Tami Wright

Education, Doctoral Student & Clinical Director, Counselor Education Program. "Women and Career: Where is the Glass Ceiling?"



Professor Clifford Clark gave his brown bag talk on "Inequalities and Changes in Society and Universities."



Professor Felecia A. Lucht chatted with her audience before her talk on "Detroit's German Immigrants."

April 03 - Jeffrey Abt

Associate Professor in the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History. "So Why Did Jews Put Their Religious Artifacts in Museums?"

April 04 - Mary Cay Sengstock

Sociology, Professor. "Strengths and Weaknesses of Multicultural Family Child-Rearing."

April 11 - Jeff Pruchnic

English, Assistant Professor. "Maps of the New World: William Bunge's Detroit."

April 17 - Leisa Kauffmann

CMLLC, Assistant Professor. "The historiographical genre in Fernando de Alva Ixtlilxochitl's history of the Pre-Hispanic Nahua past."

April 18 - Andrew Newman

Anthropology, Assistant Professor. "The politics of green space in the global city: vigilant citizens and immigrant youth in Paris."

April 25 - Steven Stack

Criminal Justice, Professor. "On the Causes of Suicide in British and American Feature Films, 1900-2009."

MARILYN WILLIAMSON

ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP



The Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship competition is open to all tenured faculty in the Humanities. It offers a grant of up to \$20,000 to the recipient. The endowment provides funds to offer two fellowships every third year. Interdisciplinary proposals are particularly encouraged, although all distinguished projects in the humanities are fully considered. This year's recipient was Professor Richard Marback of the English Department.

Richard Marback, Professor, Department of English
The Virtue of Vulnerability in Public Persuasion



Abstract

We fail when we do in our public discussions about the risks of terrorism or natural disasters because we do not yet know how to invoke our aspirations for—as well as our experiences of—dependence, resilience, security, and vulnerability. My claim is that we can find balance in our talk about dependencies, securities, and vulnerabilities, and so become more hopeful about the prospects for our public discussions, by drawing from virtues inspired by the African concept of ubuntu.

A number of businesses, celebrities, charities, communities, and scholars have already invoked ubuntu to shift talk about the place in our own humanity of the suffering of others. Perhaps the best known of such appeals is that of the singer Madonna, who invokes ubuntu to explain her concern for the children of Malawi, “Ubuntu means we are all interconnected—that each of us has a responsibility to care

for others at least as much as we care for ourselves” (5). The financial scandal that shook Madonna’s charity, Raising Malawi, illustrates that such efforts, while well intentioned, are not always well thought through or executed. This is not necessarily a reflection of a naïveté inherent in the African understanding of interdependence. During the South African transition to democracy, appeals to ubuntu were more than straightforward appeals to care for others as we care for ourselves, they were appeals that evoked a range of emotions, from anger and guilt to sorrow and pity.

Appeals to ubuntu alone do not necessarily arouse concern for others. It is rather that appeals to ubuntu call on us to make sense of how emotions such as anger, guilt, sorrow, and pity arise out of, give expression to, and enable reflection on awareness of our presence to others.

The goal of my project is to draw from ubuntu to make sense of the emotions aroused by appeals to interdependence. My ambition to understand public discussion through the lens of South African appeals to ubuntu is aimed at describing the embodied experience of emotional appeal in a manner attentive to the lived experience of our interconnectedness, our ambitions for well being, and the embodiment of our vulnerability.



GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

The Humanities Center annually budgets funds to encourage graduate students in the humanities and the arts to present their research or artistic work at national and international conferences and exhibitions. To apply for this funding, graduate students must include a personal statement indicating how presenting their work will help them further their understanding of the topic and help their academic and future professional careers. Graduate students outside the humanities are also free to apply if their presentations are of particular interest to scholars in the humanities and the arts. The Center offered up to \$300 in travel assistance to each successful applicant.

Fall 2011 Awardees

Jehoon Jeon - Communication

Title: Effect of Attention to Conflicting Media Health Information on Behavioral Intention and Post-Decisional Regret: Mediating Role of Experienced Fear, Threat Appraisal and Coping Appraisal

Conference: National Communication Association (NCA) 97th Annual Convention

Paula Fecay - CMLLC (Spanish)

Title: Diagetical Transformations in Garcia Morales "La tia Agueda".

Conference: Association for Research on Nonprofits & Voluntary Associations

Jill Stefaniak - Education

Title: Assembling The Puzzle That Is Instructional Design: The Science, The Craft and The Art

Conference: Association for Education, Communication and Technology (AECT)'s international Conference for Instructional Design

Elizabeth Ryan - History

Title: Not Like My Mother

Conference: 2011 Social Science History Association Conference

Winter 2012 Awardees

Shelytia Cocroft - Sociology

Title: Being the Diversity in the Academy: The Challenges and Opportunities for Women and Women of Color

Conference: 2012 North Central Sociological Association Conference

Hayat Ferzouz - Linguistics

Title: The Reflexivization in Twi and their other functions.

Conference: 43rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics

Braelin Settle - Sociology

Title: Social Experiences of Voluntarily Childless Women

Conference: 2012 Eastern Sociological Society

Summer 2012 Awardees

Reem Abou-Samra - Political Science

Title: Concentric Identities in Kuwait and Bahrain and it's affect on the Arab Spring

Conference: The 3rd annual Gulf Research Meeting

Omari Jackson - Sociology

Title: The Not So Monolithic Middle-Class: A Study of Black and White Children's Educational Aspirations.

Conference: Association for Black Sociologists Annual Conference

Michelle Millard - Communication

Title: Why I Couldn't/Didn't Call it Abuse: Languaging Aggression, Violence and Abuse in A Lesbian Relationship.

Conference: Eighth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



The Working Groups program is designed to promote collaborative and innovative research among Wayne State University faculty members. Each group consists of faculty members from different disciplines or sub-disciplines and may include graduate students. Working Groups meet regularly throughout the year for scholarly interaction as well as to plan special events, including guest lectures and colloquia. This year, the Center supported Working Groups by scheduling meeting space and awarding up to \$800 for speakers, supplies, or other organizational needs. The following reports were received from supported Working Groups. The names listed are the group leaders.

Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS)

Elizabeth Acosta, Grad Student, English

Eric Ash, Associate Professor, History

Simone Chess, Assistant Professor, English and Women's Studies

The GEMS was created in 2008 through a generous grant from the Humanities Center Working Groups in the Humanities & Arts program. After a fourth successful year of programming, we reflect upon our accomplishments in 2011-2012:

1) During the past academic year, GEMS centered itself on the theme of "exchange" in the early modern period. Members from a number of departments (CMLLC, English, Philosophy, and History) held twice monthly meetings in the Humanities Center to discuss ongoing research on this theme. For instance, Professor Jaime Goodrich (English) shared her recent work on authorship in the translated work of Lady Mary Percy. Graduate students were especially active participants this year, increasingly sharing their work-in-progress and using GEMS as a space to workshop their developing ideas. For instance, Joelle DelRose (History) shared a draft of her dissertation prospectus on eighteenth-century consumer cultures (written under the supervision of Professor Eric Ash).

On March 30th, we hosted our third-annual one-day symposium on the topic of Exchange, a truly interdisciplinary event that brought together our local GEMS members, other WSU faculty and students, and the larger scholarly community within the region. This year's symposium was supported by the Humanities Center, the departments of English, History, CMLLC, and the Women's Studies Program. The symposium featured a keynote speaker, Art Historian Bronwen Wilson (U British Columbia); Professor Wilson's paper, "Assembling the Archipelego: Island Books and the Early Modern Mediterranean," came out of her larger work on landscape prospects and their rhetorical, emotional, and political interpretations. The conference featured two panels of papers presented by WSU graduate students in a number of disciplines: Carly Czajka (English), Frank Petersmark (History), Timothy Borbely (History), Ginny Owens (English), Joelle Del Rose (History), Noha Beydoun (English), and Liz Acosta (English). Core faculty members including Janine Lanza (History), Jose Antonio Rico Ferrer (CMLLC), Simone Chess (English) and Eric Ash (History) also played important roles as chairs of panels and moderators of keynote discussions. The symposium ended with a capstone roundtable discussion of the day's proceedings. By holding a symposium rather than a traditional conference, we stay true to our mission of mentoring and encouraging graduate student growth.

2) This year, for the first time, we also asked our keynote speaker to give a graduate student master-class, which we held the night before our symposium. Dr Wilson pre-circulated a paper, entitled "Melchior Lorck's Prospect of Constantinople: Inscription, the Horizon, and Duraion," and met with 10 interested graduate students to talk informally about the paper. This one-on-one time with an important scholar was hugely beneficial to our graduate students.

3) Last year, GEMS was proud to foster the creation of a new graduate student group, Students of Early Modern Studies (StEMS). StEMS has continued to grow, serving as a co-sponsor of our symposium and generating events alongside our GEMS programs.

4) In addition to our physical meetings, GEMS continues to maintain an online presence, through our

WORKING GROUPS

IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

own website (<http://gemssymposium.wordpress.com/>) and Facebook page. This has been a great way to recruit for GEMS, and has also allowed us to promote our group through WSU's Pipeline and Listserv systems.

In sum, we feel that the 2011-2012 academic year has been an incredible one for GEMS; now an established part of the academic culture at WSU, we are proud of our accomplishments and excited about future opportunities.

Politics, Culture, and the City

Jennifer Hart, Assistant Professor, History

Tracy Neumann, Assistant Professor, History

Andrew Newman, Assistant Professor, Anthropology

The Working Group on Politics Culture and the City was formed by four of Wayne State University's new faculty hires who share a common interest in urban issues: Jennifer Hart and Tracy Neumann of the History Department and Krysta Ryzewski and Andrew Newman of the Anthropology Department. The Working Group's goals were to expand upon Wayne State University's existing networks of urbanists, expand the network beyond campus by bringing invited speakers to WSU, and provide a space for interdisciplinary collaboration on works in progress.

We are happy to say that we accomplished those goals! A total of seven meetings were held. Attendees included: Tamara Bray, (Anthropology) David Fasenfest, (Sociology), Eric Ash (History) George Galster, (Urban Studies), Rayman Mohammed (Urban Studies), Jerry Heron, (English & Dean of Honors College), Andrea Sankar (Anthropology) Marsha Richmond (History), Yuson Jung (Anthropology), Tom Killion (Anthropology), and graduate students from multiple departments. We invited two speakers who gave fascinating presentations: Alesia F. Montgomery (Sociology, MSU) delivered a seminar/presentation on the politics of urban greening in Detroit that was attended by about 12 faculty/graduate students. An international guest, Kinga Pozniak (Anthropology, Western University of Ontario) – delivered a wonderful presentation that compared Detroit to a post-industrial city in Poland (Nowa Huta) that was planned and built by the Socialist regime.

The Working Group also aided its founding members in their own work. Newman, Hart, Ryzewski, and Neumann used the meetings to develop articles for peer reviewed journals, book manuscripts, and conference papers that have been presented at Wayne State as well as national & international meetings.

The Working Group served as wonderful way for new scholars to be integrated into the interdisciplinary community of urbanists at Wayne State, and it led to a rekindling of discussions within that cross-departmental network. Based on the success of the group, Working Group members plan create a Fall Symposium on the City in conjunction with the Department of Urban Studies and Planning. We are looking forwards to restarting the working group again in the Fall 2012 semester. We all wish to thank the Humanities Center for its support!

The Social and Structural Implications of Language and Immigration

Felecia A. Lucht, Assistant Professor, CMLLC (German)

Haiyong Liu, Associate Professor, CMLLC (Chinese)

Martha Ratliff, Professor, English

Eugenia Casielles, Associate Professor, CMLLC (Spanish)

Language use in historical and contemporary immigrant communities was the focus of the 2011-2012 Humanities Center Working Group titled "The Social and Structural Implications of Language and Immigration." The group explored the complexities of language contact phenomena in migration contexts, bringing together faculty and graduate students from the

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

Linguistics Program and the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures.

Participants examined various topics related to the structures of languages in contact, as well as the social dimensions of multilingualism in immigrant communities. Group discussions drew from a number of works on related topics, including research by group members. Sharing her research for the WOLD, the World Loanword Database (<http://wold.livingsources.org/>), Martha Ratliff presented on loanwords in White Hmong, a dialect of the Hmong language spoken in Laos, Thailand, northern Vietnam and parts of China (Loanwords in the World's Languages: a Comparative Handbook (Martin Haspelmath and Uri Tadmor eds., Berlin: DeGruyter, 2009). Haiyong Liu lead a discussion on the general situation for heritage language learners in the United States and talked about his study on semi-native Chinese writers (Learning to Compose: Characteristics of Advanced Chinese Heritage Writers, Hong Kong Journal of Applied Linguistics 12: 1, 2009). The group also discussed the nature of mixed languages and codeswitching, which can broadly be defined as the use of more than one language variety in an utterance or conversation. Participants discussed the applicability of the Myers-Scotton Matrix Language Frame Model and its criticisms.

The group has invited Robin Queen of the University of Michigan to give a talk in Fall 2012 on Turkish-German bilinguals.

Syntax-Semantics Working Group

Nicholas Fleisher, Assistant Professor, English

Ljiljana Progovac, Professor, English, Director of the Linguistics Program

Margaret Winters, Professor and Associate Provost

Haiyong Liu, Associate Professor of Chinese Linguistics, Chinese adviser and coordinator, CMLLC, on behalf of the group.

Benefiting from the generous support of the Humanities Center Working Group Award, the Syntax-Semantics Reading Group had a great year of inspiring discussions and a lecture by a world renowned linguist, Prof. David Gil of Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary in Germany. We read one monograph book and three articles, all on the topic of adjectives. These readings study the nature of adjectives in various languages. We had monthly meetings to discuss these readings, with both faculty and graduate student as the participants as well as reading presenters. Another advantage of our group is that we have experts of many languages: English, French, Croatian, Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Spanish, and Irish, which has made the discussions very engaging and eye-opening.

The lecture by Prof. Gil in March drew a large audience coming from various departments. He presented his cutting-edge research on the understanding of predication, based on his data collected from Riau Indonesian. One graduate student Moira Saltzman wrote her term paper on a survey of adjectives among Asian languages that took advantage of the research results represented in the readings. Another faculty member is working on a paper regarding an adjective intensifier in Mandarin Chinese. The continuous sponsorship of HC has helped make our group much better known among linguistic students and faculty and we are confident that it will attract more interested parties and bring to Wayne's campus more interesting researchers in syntax and semantics.

Visual Culture Working Group

Jonathan Flatley, Associate Professor, English (Russian and Soviet Literature)

renee c. hoogland, Associate Professor, English

Chera Kee, Assistant Professor, English and Film Studies (Film History)

Liz Reich, Assistant Professor, English, Film and Media Studies (Black Cinema)

The Working Group met three times in the Fall, two times in the Winter semester. In the Fall, we

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

discussed selected literature and individual members' work-in-progress. Thereafter, we shifted our focus to the planning of the Spring events, while widening graduate students outreach and participation. On the advice of Renée C. Hoogland, interested graduate students started a Visual Culture Student Organization, sponsored by DOSO, led by Lura Smith (English). Their support allowed us to host two separate Spring events: a public lecture (co-sponsored by the Department of English, the DeRoy Lecture Series, and the Digital Humanities Collaboratory, Office for Teaching and Learning) by Professor Nicole Fleetwood (Rutgers), who presented her work, under the title "The Anatomy of a Beatdown: Erotic Pleasure and Intimate Violence in Contemporary Black Music," to a packed audience on March 21, 2102. The first combined faculty/graduate student symposium in Visual Culture at WSU took place on April 20, 2012. Five students (in Film, English, Art History) and one faculty member (Theater and Dance) presented papers, followed by roundtable discussions, moderated by a member of the Working Group. Despite a fire alarm, which forced the group temporarily to disperse, the Symposium was a great success, enjoyed by participants and audience alike. We plan to host a similar event next Spring. The grant received from the Humanities Center has been used to cover some of the costs and the keynote speaker's expenses in March. The group intends to continue its activities in future years, which will include working toward expanding curricular offerings in Visual Culture across departments and programs.

Working Group on Science and Society

Marsha Richmond, Associate Professor, History

William Lynch, Associate Professor, History

Barry Lyons, Associate Professor, Anthropology

Rayman Mohamed, Associate Professor, Urban Studies and Planning

The Working Group on Science and Society (WGSS) has been focused this year on facilitating an initiative to implement an Environmental Literacy General Education (Gen Ed) requirement at WSU. The group has met several times over the course of the year to flesh out our proposal. The aim is to institute a campus-wide curricular focus on environmental issues across multiple disciplines. The model for the Environmental Literacy (or Environmental Citizenship) requirement would either be the current Gen Ed computer literacy proficiency requirement (in which students would take one required course and the second course could be fulfilled by a discipline-specific course) or the "staged" sequencing in the English competency requirement (in which there is a basic, intermediate, and intensive course component throughout the student's university experience).

To this end, in the Fall Core Members of the WGSS met with Howard Shapiro, Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Programs and General Education, and Monica Brockmeyer, Interim Associate Provost for Student Success, in November to seek ways in which to coordinate our initiative with the activities planned by the University General Education Oversight Committee. We received significant encouragement from them, and so went forward to develop new plans. In Winter, we formed a book discussion group that read *Teaching Environmental Literacy Across Campus and Across the Curriculum* (Indiana University Press, 2010), which we reviewed as a possible model for how to organize a campus-wide institutional structure to support a Gen Ed Environmental Literacy initiative. We plan on continuing to develop our formal proposal in Fall 2012, and then present it formally to the University.

In addition to these efforts, the WGSS held two brown-bag events. In February, Dr. Jim Schwartz (Philosophy) gave a talk entitled "Is Terraforming Mars Morally Permissible?". In May we hosted an event by members of the Union of Concerned Scientists entitled "Cooler Smarter: Practical Steps for Low-Carbon Living" followed by a discussion about how the Wayne State community can help with efforts to reduce global warming emissions by supporting the November Michigan ballot initiative proposal to require 25 percent of the state's energy to come from renewable sources by 2025.

This year we received \$200 from the Humanities Center, which we have not expended and wish to carry over to next year. The membership of the WGSS listserv currently stands at 91.

HUMANITIES CENTER'S DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

In an effort to foster exemplary doctoral dissertation work among humanities students at Wayne State University, the Humanities Center and the Graduate School have combined funding to offer an annual fellowship for PhD candidates. For 2011-2012 the Humanities Center selected one dissertation fellow, Mary Durocher, and three awardees: Elizabeth Ryan, Michael Schmidt, and Guolin Yi.

About the Award

This annual fellowship awards \$15,000 to a humanities or arts doctoral candidate in the final stages of writing his/her dissertation. The fellowship also includes University health insurance coverage during the winter and spring/summer semesters. Up to three smaller awards of \$500 can be offered to other outstanding applicants at the discretion of the sponsors.

Fellow

Mary E. Durocher - Anthropology

*Exploring Sacred Objects and Their Meanings in Catholic Mexicano Households:
Domestic Religious Practices in San Antonio*

My dissertation research explores the relationships formed with the objects/things used on traditional home altars in the Catholic Mexicano community of San Antonio, Texas to demonstrate how objects help maintain connections with past and present religious, personal, and cultural traditions and identities. Anthropological literature in the study of material culture argues that person/object/thing interactions are important to the construction and maintenance of social relations and personal identity. It is through relationships and interactions with things that people come to "know who they are." This line of thinking has led some Latino studies scholars to propose that the retention of traditional aspects of culture, such as religious practices, often serves as a way of negotiating personal or cultural identity in an ever changing social milieu. Traditionally Catholics of Mexican descent have relied on home based devotions such as home altars; therefore, the objects used on these altars are charged with sacred meanings. The objects chosen for use on the altars are also imbued with very personal meanings. Objects once considered ordinary "commodities," are transformed into "inalienable" possessions who are remembered on the altar. Objects in this way are given "biographical" meanings of personal identity. The assemblage of culturally determined objects on the home altar provides not only a sacred space for devotion but also a space to display and renew personal relationships and social and ethnic identity. The fieldwork was conducted in three phases: a short pilot study in 2008, July to December in 2009, and August to December 2010. Thirty-one formal interviews were transcribed and data were analyzed over the summer and fall of 2011. This grant has allowed me to concentrate my efforts on writing my dissertation and preparing for the defense at the end of the summer.



Grandma Emma at Ceremony

Awardees

Elizabeth Ryan - History

Transforming Motherhood: The Changing World of Single Mothers, 1970 - 1989



Since receiving the Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Award, I have continued researching my dissertation, "Transforming Motherhood: The Changing World of Single Mothers, 1970-1989." My project is a social and cultural history of single motherhood that looks at the everyday challenges the parents faced and the ways in which their solutions helped change ideologies about mothering. In addition to visits to the excellent archives at Michigan State University and the University of Michigan, I traveled to the Women's Library at the London Metropolitan University in the UK in December 2011 to utilize their extensive collection. I will also be going to Washington D.C. in May 2012 to visit the Library of Congress and National Archives. In

March 2012, I won First Place in the Oral Competition at Wayne State's 2012 Graduate Exhibition and in April I

HUMANITIES CENTER'S

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

presented a guest lecture on "Feminism and Motherhood" in HIS 5251: The History of Feminism.

My work-in-progress includes a paper proposal submitted for the 2012 Social Science History Association conference on parenting ideologies of seventies' single parents as well as a draft article entitled "Not Like Their Mothers: Baby Boomers and the Rise of Single Motherhood" to be submitted to a journal this summer. I received a Summer Dissertation Fellowship from Wayne State's Graduate School and will spend the summer working full-time on my dissertation.



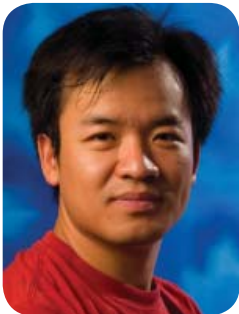
Michael Schmidt - English

Scenes of Belonging: Form and the Sensible in Modern Literature

Focusing on early twentieth-century literature, my dissertation demonstrates the ways literary form archives modes of social belonging and argues that reading for such form is a type of historiography. Bringing together primarily the late writing of Henry James, Djuna Barnes, the nightclub poems of Langston Hughes, and Gertrude Stein, my dissertation contends that these writers turn to literary form as the most powerful method to describe the dislocation and alienation of modernity, to redirect attention to the social and physical effects of modernization, and to transform the terrain of experience and their relation to the world, altering the very definitions of belonging by imagining it otherwise. This dissertation claims that attention to form - broadly conceived as aesthetic and social forms - was not only a perspective through which these writers understood belonging in its historical manifestations, but that literary form in particular was a key method, "an act of life" in James' words, that enacted new modalities of what historically counted as forms of belonging, ones often very promiscuous and public yet intimate.

Guolin Yi - History

Reading the Tea Leaves: Media and the U.S. - China Rapprochement



The U.S.-China rapprochement in 1972 is regarded as one of the most important events during the Cold War. Thus far, most scholars of Sino-American rapprochement have focused on the political aspects including the Cold War international settings, domestic politics and the policy making of the two governments. As we know more and more about diplomacy and triangulation, we still know very little about how people in the two countries came to learn about the change in relations and how each nation prepared its people for the dramatic rapprochement. While most other scholars use the media as tools to study historical events, I use these events as contexts to evaluate media performance in terms of placement, selectivity, editorial opinions and images. I examine how the media in both countries contributed to Sino-American rapprochement between

1963 and 1972 by viewing them not only as observers, but also as participants and catalysts or magnifiers of historical events. I use two sources that are seldom employed by other scholars: American TV news programs and the Reference News, an internal newspaper circulated only among high-level Chinese Communist cadres.

Up to now, I have finished the first draft of all my chapters and I am revising it before submission to all my dissertation committee members. I presented the third chapter of my dissertation at the annual conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) in June 2011, and the fourth chapter at the "Public Relations of the Cold War" conference at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom on December 1, 2011. Due to the progress in my dissertation, I have won the Graduate School Summer Dissertation Fellowship for 2012. I appreciate the Humanities Center for awarding me the Dissertation Fellowship.

BORDERS & INTERSECTIONS

2011 - 2012 FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS COMPETITION



Each year the Humanities Center sponsors a Faculty Fellowship Competition on a specific theme. This year's theme was "Borders & Intersections". Fellowships provide Wayne State University faculty with funding to help pay for expenses related to their research projects, including travel, research assistance, and summer salary. Fellowship recipients are expected to participate in the annual Faculty Fellows' Conference held the following spring. Below is the explication of the theme and the names, affiliations and the projects of the nine faculty who were awarded 2012 Faculty Fellowships. They will present their findings at the Faculty Fellowships Conference in April 2013.

Explication of Theme

The Obama administration announced in January 2011 that it was cancelling the "Secure Border Initiative," better known as the "Virtual Fence," that was to separate 2,000 miles of the United States from Mexico. Despite the fact that the project has been terminated, it has reignited contentious debates about immigration, protectionism, and the permeability of national borders. These discussions of geographic borders demonstrate the continuing relevance of borders in framing our contemporary experience of day-to-day political reality. While borders protect, they also delimit and deny. Yet when borders and boundaries are disrespected or transgressed, it can lead to national security crises, international conflicts, and even war. How do we negotiate the need for borders and boundaries, while also acknowledging their troubling limits?

Borders are of course not exclusively geo-political. They frame the way that we understand our existence, the way we structure our reality, and the way we categorize people, places, and things. When borders dissolve, when artwork defies the traditional notion of subject and frame, or when gender, race, or ethnicity challenge prevailing definitions, we are invited to reconsider the preconceived notions that guide our interpretation of the world. As borders become porous or dissolve, we often discover that rather than separating two distinct realms, they are actually spaces of convergence. These intersections are spaces of syncretism, multiculturalism, or hybridity.

2012 Recipients

Aguirre, Robert, Associate Professor, English
Crossroads of Culture: Representing Panama, 1821-1914

Al-Arian, Abdullah, Assistant Professor, History
From the Margins to the Mainstream: American Muslim Politics (1960 - 2010)

Casielles, Eugenia, Associate Professor, CMLLC
Defying linguistic borders: The hybrid voices of Latinos in the U.S.

Cherry, Alina, Assistant Professor, CMLLC
Temporal fusions, Impossible Encounters: Writing History in the Present Tense

El-Sharkawi, Mohamed, Assistant Professor, CMLLC
Migration, Urbanization and Language Shift: The Case of Egypt

Hart, Jennifer, Assistant Professor, History
Of Pirate Drives and Honking Horns: Mobility, Authority, and Urban Planning in Interwar Accra

Maguire, C. Katheryn, Assistant Professor, Communication
Families without border: The maintenance of transnational immigrant family relationships

Swider, Sarah, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Building China and Re-Constructing Asia: migration, citizenship and development

Trujillo-Pagan, Nicole, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Subfederal Immigration Regulation and Enforcement in Arizona and Alabama

A LOOK AHEAD: 2012 - 2013 ACTIVITIES

2012 FALL SYMPOSIUM



A focal point for the apocalyptic imagination in much popular discourse, the year 2012 provides an appropriate occasion to consider the way the idea of apocalypse functions within and informs our collective historical imagination. Numerous politicians, writers, religious groups, as well as works of literature, film, and the culture industry in general now regularly deploy imagery of cataclysmic destruction and the end-of-the-world. This symposium will explore a variety of inter-related issues in order to theorize and historicize the persistent fascination with apocalypse.

Conference Date: November 16, 2012.

Tentative Schedule

9:00 - 10:30: Environmentalism and Apocalypse

Chair: Elena Past, Wayne State University

Speakers: Julian Cornell, Wesleyan University; Katie Hogan, Carlow University; Michael Young, York University; John Conway, Art Institute of Pittsburgh Online.

10:40 - 12:10: Media, Science Fiction and Apocalypse

Chair: Frances Brockington, Wayne State University

Speakers: Melissa Ames, Eastern Illinois University; Eugenie Brinkema, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Nicole McCleese, Michigan State University; Andrew Cole, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

12:10 - 2:00: Lunch break.

2:10 - 3:40: Representation and End Times

Chair: Victor Figueroa, Wayne State University

Speakers: Robert Lee Sanchez Martinez, Eastern Illinois University; Mark Lounibus, Finlandia University; Shane McGowan, Georgia State University; Bill Scalia, St. Mary's Seminary and University.

3:50 - 5:20: Imagining Socio-Political Crises

Chair: Alexander Day, Wayne State University

Speakers: Timothy P. Cross, Barnard College/Columbia University; Valentina Fulginiti, University of Toronto; Carleton Gholz, Northeastern University; Anna Hellén, University of Borås, Sweden.

A LOOK AHEAD: 2012 - 2013 ACTIVITIES

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

September 11	John Reed , English, Distinguished Professor, <i>Maps, Mapping and Literature</i>
September 12	Marick Masters , Labor at Wayne, Director of Labor at Wayne, <i>Is joining a union and collective bargaining a human right?</i>
September 18	Felicia A. Lucht , CMLLC (German), Assistant Professor, <i>Detroit's Immigrant Language Press at the Turn of the Century</i>
September 19	Joan Beaudoin , Library and Information Science, Assistant Professor, <i>A Case Study of Visual Literacy among Library and Information Science Students</i>
September 25	Lauren Kalman , Art and Art History, Assistant Professor, <i>Spectacular: Images of the Body and Depictions of Illness in Resent Art Works</i>
September 26	Mysoon Rizk , Department of Art, Associate Professor University of Toledo, <i>SILENCE STILL = DEATH: The Hide/Seek Exhibition Saga</i>
October 02	Chera Kee , English, Assistant Professor, <i>Racialized and Raceless: Visions of Race After Death in Post-Apocalyptic Zombie Worlds</i>
October 03	Krista Brumley , Sociology, Assistant Professor, <i>Worker Commitment over the Gendered Life Course at a Mexican Company</i>
October 09	Thomas Kohn , CMLLC (Classics), Associate Professor, <i>The 'Publication' of Roman Tragedy</i>
October 10	Jaime Goodrich , English, Assistant Professor, <i>Getting Shakespeare's Sister to a Nunnery: Rethinking Early Modern Women Writers</i>
October 15	Robert A. Sedler , Law, Distinguished Professor, <i>The Supreme Court, the Health Care Act, and the 2012 Election</i>
October 16	Eldona May , Music, Lecturer, <i>Brazeal Dennard's Legacy & The Cultural Impact of Spirituals</i>
October 17	Kidada Williams , History, Associate Professor, <i>Lessons from Without Sanctuary</i>
October 23	Liette Patricia Gidlow , History, Associate Professor, <i>The 2012 Presidential Election in Historical Perspective</i>
October 24	Danielle Aubert , Art & Art History, Assistant Professor, <i>Detroit Publication Design of the 1960s and 70s</i>
October 30	Jazlin Ebenezer , Curriculum Instruction/Science Education, Professor, <i>Teacher Practical Arguments</i>
October 31	Jonathan Flatley , English, Associate Professor, <i>TBA</i>
November 06	Mary Cay Sengstock , Sociology, Professor, <i>Not All Iraqi immigrants Are Chaldean!</i>
November 07	Lance Gable , Law, Assistant Professor, <i>Health Reform, Public Health, and the Elusive Target of Human Rights</i>
November 13	Robert Weir , Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of Windsor, Associate Professor, <i>Galileo's Textbook?: A Journey in Time and Space from Venice to Windsor</i>
November 14	Abdullah Al-Arian , History, Assistant Professor, <i>TBA</i>
November 27	Paul R. Dubinsky , Law, Director of Graduate Studies, <i>International Law, The United States, and the Winter of Our Discontent</i>
November 28	Todd Meyers , Anthropology, Assistant Professor, <i>Sorcery and Science in Håxan (The Witch)</i>
November 29	Avis Vidal , Urban Studies and Planning, Professor, <i>Anchor Institutions as Agents of Neighborhood Revitalization: The Case of Midtown</i>
December 04	Anca Vlasopolos , English Professor, <i>Reading from Work in Progress on Maps/Migration</i>
December 05	May Seikaly , CMLLC (Near Eastern), Associate Professor, <i>The Arab Spring: A Catalyst for Democratic change in the Arab Gulf</i>
December 11	Jennifer Hart , History, Assistant Professor, <i>Avuncular</i>
December 12	Mary Anderson , Theatre, Assistant Professor, <i>Writing from Memory</i>
December 13	Mohamed Tarek El-Sharkawi , CMLLC (Arabic), Assistant Professor, <i>Migration and the Development of Arabic in the Middle East</i>
January 09	Frederic Pearson , Political Science and Peace and Conflict Studies, Professor/Director, <i>Inter-Organizational Complexities in Humanitarian Interventions in World Politics</i>
January 15	renée c. hoogland , English, Associate Professor, <i>TBA</i>
January 16	Elizabeth Dorn Lublin , History, Associate Professor, <i>Iwaya Matsuei and the Tobacco Advertising Wars of Meiji Japan</i>
January 22	John Corvino , Philosophy, Chair, <i>TBA</i>
January 22	Anne E. Duggan , CMLLC (French), Associate Professor, <i>TBA</i>
January 23	Stephen Chrisomalis , Anthropology, Assistant Professor, <i>Greatness in the Math Corps Family</i>
January 29	Dennis J. Tini , Music, Distinguished Professor, <i>Global CD Project</i>
January 30	Lisabeth Hock , CMLLC (German), Associate Professor, <i>TBA</i>
February 05	David Merolla , Sociology, Assistant Professor, <i>Re-Assessing the Role of Student Attitudes and Beliefs</i>
February 06	Frances Brockington , Music, Associate Professor, Norah Duncan +IV , Music, Associate Department Chair, <i>TBA</i>
February 12	Guerin Montilus , Anthropology, Professor, <i>TBA</i>
February 13	Zachary Brewster , Sociology, Assistant Professor, <i>Everyday Racism in American Restaurants</i>
February 14	Richard J. Smith , Social Work Assistant Professor, <i>Local Governments Welcoming Immigrants</i>
February 19	Steve L. Winter , Law School, Professor, <i>Down Freedom's Main Line</i>
February 20	Eugenia Casielles , CMLLC (Spanish), Associate Professor, Roshawnda Derrick , CMLLC, Ph.D Candidate, <i>"Livin' la vida loca": The status of Spanglish in the U.S.</i>
February 26	Arthur F. Marotti , English, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, <i>The Poetry Nobody Knows: Rare or Unique Verse in Early Modern English Manuscripts</i>
February 27	Norah Duncan IV , Music, Associate Chair, <i>TBA</i>
March 05	Janine Marie Lanza , History, Associate Professor, <i>TBA</i>
March 06	Ken Brostrom , CMLLC (Russian), Associate Professor, <i>Romanticism's Apotheosis of the Individual in 19th-Century Russian Literature</i>
March 19	Xavier Livermon , Africana Studies, Assistant Professor, <i>TBA</i>
March 20	Patricia McCormic , Communication, Associate Professor, <i>Orbital Debris: Requiring A New Paradigm for Space Policy</i>
March 26	Kyu-Nahm Jun , Political Science, Assistant Professor, <i>Citizen participation Mechanisms in US Municipal Governments</i>
March 27	Jorgelina Corbatta , CMLLC (Spanish), Professor, <i>Sexuality and Gender Identity: A Psychoanalytic Reading of the film XXY by Lucía Puenzo</i>
April 02	Katherine Quinsey , English Language, Literature, and Creative Writing, Department Head, <i>Joint Tenant of the Shade: Alexander Pope and Animal Rights</i>
April 03	Martha Rattliff , English, Professor, <i>History of Negation Marking in Hmong-Mien</i>
April 09	Roslyn Abt Schindler , CMLLC (German), Associate Professor, <i>Holocaust Literature for Children: "How Much Should We Tell the Children?" (Eva Tal)</i>
April 10	Jose Cuello , History and Latino & Latina American Studies, Associate Professor, <i>The Five Horses of the Western Apocalypse: The Predatory State, Conquest Christianity, Liberated Capitalism, Individualized Democracy, and Misapplied Technology</i>
April 11	Sangeetha Gopalakrishnan , Director, FLTC, <i>"Layers" of Ethnic Cultures in Detroit: Creating Apps to Share Detroit's Cultural Heritage</i>
April 16	Frances Ranney , English, Associate Professor, <i>When the Kitchen was Hot, and Women were Not: Nixon Serves Up the Capitalist View of Women</i>
April 17	Elizabeth Faue , History, Professor, <i>He Said/She Said: The Boundaries of Gender and Workplace Civility from "Mad Men" to "The Office"</i>
April 23	Christopher T. Leland , English, Professor, <i>Reading from 'Love/Imperfect'</i>
April 24	Caroline Maun , English, Associate Professor, <i>The Complete Poems of Charlotte Wilder: Issues in Editing</i>

A LOOK AHEAD: 2012 - 2013 ACTIVITIES

2013 Working Group Competition

The Humanities Center announces the continuation of its program for working groups in the arts and humanities. The purpose of the program is to bring together faculty and advanced graduate students to explore shared scholarly or creative interests. Groups will meet regularly to share work in progress, to read and discuss texts, and otherwise address issues that arise in their own work or in the increasingly interdisciplinary humanistic and creative fields. Group members must be drawn from at least two humanities or arts departments.

To participate in this program, three or more core faculty members should submit a proposal. A typical working group would consist of several faculty, or faculty and graduate students, organized around a topic or theme chosen by the core members. Topics or themes could reflect any humanities or artistic interest, but those that have an interdisciplinary scope are particularly encouraged. Each funded working group would be expected to submit a brief year-end report and give a public Brown Bag presentation sponsored by the Humanities Center.

Deadline: October 5, 2012

2013 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship

The Humanities Center and the Graduate School are proud to continue their collaboration on funding a Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship. This annual fellowship will award \$15,000 to a humanities or arts doctoral candidate in the final stages of writing his/her dissertation. The fellowship also includes University health insurance coverage during the winter and spring/summer semesters.

The applicant must already be in the process of writing the dissertation and must complete all requirements, including the final defense, by the end of the Spring/Summer Semester 2013 or shortly thereafter. Up to three smaller awards of \$500 each can be made at the discretion of the sponsors. The fellowship award will be dispensed as monthly stipends between January and August.

Deadline: October 19, 2012.

2013 Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship

Thanks to a generous endowment provided by former Provost Marilyn L. Williamson, the Humanities Center offers an annual Distinguished Faculty Fellowship to tenured faculty in the humanities as defined by the NEH. The award of this single \$20,000 fellowship is based on the merit of the individual research project proposed for the fellowship term; on the exceptional contribution the proposed project will make to the humanities and its potential for scholarly recognition, publication, exhibition or performance; and on two external recommendations in support of the project.

Consistent with the mission of the Humanities Center, interdisciplinary proposals are particularly encouraged, although all distinguished projects in the humanities will be fully considered. The Fellowship recipient will be asked to share results of the funded research in an award lecture to be organized during the year of (or following) the fellowship term.

Deadline: March 1, 2013.

2013 Faculty Fellowship Competition: Redefining Politics in a Monetary Age

Contemporary scholarship across the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences has, as its underlying theme, a re-envisioning of what politics means, how it is constituted and constructed in everyday life and culture, and what the Political is. So it is that feminist criticism, critical race theory, post-structuralism, post-colonial and subaltern studies, as well as in the realms of formal politics and the infrapolitics of social movements, we have seen an exploration and expansion of what constitutes the Political. Seen through the lens of presidential elections, campaigns against sex trafficking or against the global sweatshop, in boycotts and in silent protests, or in the intimate struggles in bedrooms and with language, Politics has been redefined in global, national, and interpersonal terms. We are looking for proposals that re-evaluate and re-locate, defamiliarize and discomfort our sense of what constitutes politics and the Political as well as those projects that explore what politics and the Political mean through the media of film, literature, art, music, ethnographic study, historical sources and artifacts, and in the context of political struggles across time, geography and culture.

Deadline: April 19, 2013.


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The Humanities Center
2011 - 2012 Annual Report
Designed by Medha Jha, Wenwan Li, and Nikita Pathak
Formatted by Jennifer Leonard
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Photos displayed throughout this report were selected from the published images of the annular solar eclipse on May 20, 2012