

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY



Humanities Center

Annual Report 2015-2016



James Scott Memorial Fountain at Belle Isle

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 2015 - 2016 OVERVIEW

I am happy to report that the Humanities Center has had another year of operational success. We ran our programs successfully and continued to be recognized on campus as a valued partner in funding, promoting and celebrating humanistic research and artistic projects. As is predictable for any complex organization, we had both positive and negative experiences, but fortunately the former far exceeded the later. In the rest of this report I'll share some of both kinds of experiences.



Dr. Edwards with Dr. William D. Adams, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

The Brown Bag Series had a felicitous start with Shakespeare scholar and English Department Chair Ken Jackson giving a talk on "The visit to Detroit of the first folio: The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare" to a packed audience. This was an auspicious beginning to the series that has become a signature program for the Center. Professor Jackson's talk introduced the WSU community to a week of scholarly activities surrounding the historic visit of the First Folio to Michigan and specifically to Detroit. The Humanities Center co-sponsored these programs that brought Shakespeare scholars from around the country to Detroit to attend an international conference on Shakespeare and to visit exhibitions in the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) and in the Adamany Library on the WSU campus.

The Brown Bag series continued apace after Dr. Jackson's stimulating initial talk. By April 20 when we hosted the last presentation in the series, a total of 51 talks had been given involving over 80 presenters from a wide array of disciplines and from six of our colleges. Thus, through this Brown Bag series the Center continues to promote cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary fellowship and collaboration among WSU humanities and arts scholars.

This year, we continued our celebration of the 50th anniversary of the NEH- a highlight of our 2014-15 season-- by participating centrally in the program that hosted a visit of NEH chairman Dr. "Bro" Adams to Michigan, February 15-17. I helped organize a public lecture by Dr. Adams at WSU followed by a town hall meeting at which Dr. Adams interacted with humanities faculty and students from across campus. It was refreshing to hear Dr. Adams articulate some of the ideas about change and innovation that our Humanities Center has promoted over recent years in the publications and proposals we have funded. Dr. Adams, for instance, urged that the humanities embrace the digital culture that has become an integral part of modern communication; and that humanities scholars and artists should make their work interesting and useful to the general public. These have been emphases of the Humanities Center in recent years. Accordingly, the Center funded a Digital Humanities Working Group (led by Professor Julie Klein) for three years. The work of that group has matured and flourished to the extent that they now hold conferences and prepare proposals for external funding independent of the Humanities Center. Their work has also led to the development of courses in the English Department and in Library Science on the topic of digital humanities. The Center has also funded a Working Group on "Ethic Layers of Detroit: Experiencing Place through Digital Storytelling" that has developed an app for smart phones that introduces viewers to the history and cultural heritages of a variety of ethnic neighborhoods in Detroit. In this way the work of this Working Group helps to connect humanities scholarship with the general public in Detroit and across the world. This latter group has also submitted a successful grant proposal to the NEH to further develop their app. Digital Humanities promises to be a

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2015 - 2016 OVERVIEW

catalyst to facilitate collaboration between the Humanities Center and other humanistic entities on campus, including University Libraries with whose dean, Dr. Sandra Yee, I met in July to discuss collaborating with University Libraries on digital humanities.

Dr. Adams's visit had the salutary effect of stimulating considerable interest in the grants and fellowships funded by the NEH. His visit led directly to the submission of a proposal to the "Next Generation of Humanities Scholars" grant competition for graduate training. As part of this proposal I contributed a supporting letter in which I characterized the group of applicants (including faculty from English, Political Science, History and, Anthropology) as being highly motivated, and very experienced in graduate education. NEH's decision is expected by the end of July 2016. I am also aware that two other proposals were written and submitted to the NEH as a direct result of Dr. Adams's visit.

Our Fall Symposium in November was on the theme "The Good Life" and was also a highlight of this year's programming. The theme was provocative enough to elicit both optimistic and pessimistic responses to it and this led to a very stimulating symposium in which the notion of the good life was addressed from several disciplinary perspectives, including sociology, social work, communication, history, music, anthropology, psychology, philosophy and literature. The keynote speaker, Professor Robert Kurzban, a psychologist from the University of Pennsylvania, delivered a lecture on "Willpower--What it is, What it isn't, and What it's For" in which he proposed that strong motivation together with the willpower to persevere in effortful tasks could lead to the attainment of a good life. The symposium thus provided another illustration of how the Center fulfills its mission to facilitate interdisciplinary discourse.

One major highlight for us this year was the generosity of Provost Margaret Winters in providing funds for the Center to hire a part-time Development Specialist and Grant Writer. For years I have been asking for both the appointment of an associate director to the Center and the hiring of a development specialist to undertake the important role of seeking grant opportunities for the Center and writing proposals. Consequently, I am very pleased that Provost Winters saw fit to grant one of these requests. We were able to hire Jynil Schneider, an experienced development professional, to fill the Development Specialist and Grant Writing position beginning February 1, 2016. Since then she has submitted two grant proposals. I have high hopes that Ms. Schneider's work will lead to the Center attracting external grants to increase funding for all of our current programs, to introduce new programs, and to increase our staff.

On the positive side as well was the fact that we had a very healthy response to the competition for our Faculty Fellowships on the theme of "Mobilities: Velocity, Rhythms, & Flows (Practices, Spaces, Agents)". We received over a dozen good proposals from faculty affiliated with a variety of disciplines including Art & Art History, Political Science, Sociology, and Literature. We selected eight proposals for funding. This response to the competition served to reassure our Advisory Board that we are continuing to select themes that capture the research and artistic interests of humanities and arts faculty on campus.

Also noteworthy this year is that we had an increase in the number of applications for the Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Faculty Fellowship and that the competition continued to attract applications from outstanding senior scholars. We selected Dr. Tamara Lynn Bray as the recipient. Professor Bray is an accomplished anthropologist whose work has attracted national and international approbation.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2015 - 2016 OVERVIEW

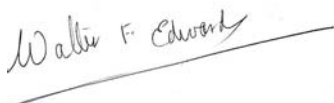
On the negative side of the ledger is the fact that attendance of the Center's public events declined this year. Our Brown Bag talks, for instance, saw about a fifteen percent decrease in attendance, from an average of about 22 attendees per talk (excluding the speaker and the Center's staff) to just under 20. We attribute this decline in part to the fact that several units, perhaps modelling the Humanities Center, are now holding noon-time Brown Bag talks in their departments. Nonetheless, the Advisory Board is looking critically at this trend and has begun to reimagine the Brown Bag series. We are considering scheduling fewer talks and also collaborating with such departments as Anthropology, Music and Political Science in hosting Brown Bag lectures. Attendance of our Fall Symposium and Faculty Fellows Conference has also declined slightly, but this might be a function of the conference themes and session topics. To help reverse this trend, I plan to do more aggressive and targeted advertising of these events.

Provost Margaret Winters retired effective May 31, 2016. While we are very happy that Dr. Winters will be able to have a much less busy professional schedule and will have more time to pursue her personal interests, we will miss her. She was a firm friend of the Center throughout her tenure as Provost. She was also supportive of the Center during her earlier WSU appointments, first as associate provost and then as Chair of the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures (CMLLC). As Provost she was always accessible to me and was always a good source of advice and encouragement. In many ways she exhibited practical friendship to the Center: she shared her linguistics scholarship in Brown Bag presentations for the Center, attended the Center's events when her schedule permitted, she arranged meetings between me and officials of external units, (including with the Chair of the Michigan Humanities Council), and even helped the Center secure reliable and affordable IT service. Most recently, her office funded a part-time Development Specialist and Grant Writer position for the Center, as mentioned above. We wish Dr. Winters a fruitful and happy retirement. We also look forward to having an equally pleasant and beneficial relationship with the new Provost, Dr. Keith Whitfield.

The Center also mourns the untimely death in Guyana in May 2016 of my compatriot Dr. Perry Mars who served the Center as a member of our Advisory Board from 2007 to 2009. Professor Mars also gave talks in our Brown bag Series, and presented a paper in one of our fall symposia. He was a friend of the Center and a personal friend of mine. May he rest in peace!

All in all, the Center has had a good 2015-16 academic year. We look forward to a successful 2016-17 season, and to the continued support of the Humanities community at Wayne.

Sincerely,



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

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

BROWN BAG TALKS: Since the inception of the weekly Brown Bag Colloquium Series, hundreds of Wayne State faculty and students in the humanities and arts 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 between 50 and 60 talks each academic year. During the 2015-16 academic year, the talks were held mainly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In total, 51 talks were held. Brown Bag Talks are free and open to the public.

HUMANITIES CENTER DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP: The Humanities Center and the Graduate School continued their collaboration on funding a Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship. 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 Spring/Summer Semester or shortly thereafter. Up to three smaller awards of \$500 each can be made at the discretion of the sponsors. The fellowship award is dispensed as monthly stipends between January and August. The 2016 fellowship recipient was Erin Bell of the English Department. Additional awards of \$500 were given to Vincent Haddad and Katrina Newsom both of the English Department.

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 spring of the following year. This past year's theme was *Mobilities: Velocity, Rhythms, and Flows*. The 2017 theme will be *Revolution*.

FACULTY FELLOWS 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 a distinguished keynoter who is an expert in the area addressed by the theme. The 2015 conference theme was *Exploring the Everyday*; the 2017 theme will be *Mobilities, Velocity, Rhythms and Flows (Practices, Spaces, Agents)*.

FALL SYMPOSIUM: The Fall Symposium is held once a year in the fall. It focuses on a topic of contemporary significance in the humanities and arts. Internal and external speakers are chosen from abstracts submitted to the Center's Advisory Board. In addition, the Center invites distinguished keynoters who are experts in the area addressed by the theme. This year's symposium theme was *The Good Life*. The Symposium was held on November 6, 2015. The 2016 theme is *Ideology*.

MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP: Thanks to a generous endowment provided by former WSU Provost Marilyn L. Williamson, the Humanities Center offers an annual Distinguished Faculty Fellowship to tenured faculty (associate and full professors) in the humanities, social issues and arts. The award of this single \$20,000 fellowship is based on the merit of the research project proposed; on the exceptional contribution the proposed project will make to the humanities and its potential for scholarly publication, exhibition or performance; and on two external recommendations in support of the project. The endowment provides funds to offer two fellowships every third year. Consistent with the mission of the Humanities Center, interdisciplinary proposals are particularly encouraged, although all distinguished projects in the humanities are fully considered. The fellowship recipient is asked to share results of the funded research in a public lecture organized during the year of (or following) the fellowship term. The 2016 recipient was Tamara Lynn Bray Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Museum of Anthropology.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

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 or creative project in an engaging interdisciplinary environment. Resident Scholars are also eligible for up to \$800 in support for travel and equipment expenses, or to pay for research assistance. The Humanities Center hosted eight Resident Scholars during the 2015-16 year.

TRAVEL AWARD PROGRAM FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS: The Center budgets up to \$3,000 a year to support this program. In an effort to spread this funding across the full academic year, the Center budgets \$1,200 for the Fall Semester, \$1,200 for the Winter Semester and \$600 for the Spring/Summer Semester. Each award recipient was funded up to \$300 for travel to conferences or exhibitions held nationally or internationally between September 1, 2015 and August 15, 2016. This year the Center funded ten students from four different departments.

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. Groups typically include faculty from different fields as well as graduate students. Working Groups meet regularly for discussion, exchange, and planning for events such as guest lectures and colloquia. Each group is provided with up to \$800 for speakers, supplies, and other needs. This year the Center supported seven groups.

HUMANITIES CENTER DISSERTATION WRITING SERIES: Beginning in the Summer of 2014, the Humanities Center has provided a quiet, spacious workspace for graduate student in the humanities and social sciences who are ready to make serious progress on their thesis, dissertation or other major writing project. Faculty volunteers from the Humanities and Social Sciences are on hand to provide advice and encouragement. The series is held during the summer month from mid May until mid August. So far this year, 15 students and five faculty have participated in the program.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Humanities Center - Dissertation Writing Series

Dates: EVERY Wednesday and Thursday from May 18, 2016 to August 11, 2016. **Starts Wednesday May 18th!**

Hours: 11:00 am to 3:00 pm (drop in)

Location: Humanities Center, 2226 FAB

Graduate Students in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Are you ready to make serious progress on your thesis, dissertation or other major writing project this summer?

The Humanities Center will provide a quiet, spacious workspace with plenty of outlets for your laptop, coffee, tea, and treats. Faculty volunteers from the Humanities and Social Sciences will be on hand to provide advice and encouragement. All are welcome.

RESIDENT SCHOLARS

The Humanities Center's annual competition for Resident Scholars attracted applications from across the University. Residents this year were affiliated with the following disciplines: Communication, English, History, Law, Political Science, and Urban Studies and Planning. Below, each resident scholar provides a summary of his/her experience in the Center this year.



**Robert Ackerman - Professor,
Law School**

"Communitarian studies and the law"

It is my pleasure to report on my experience as a Resident Scholar at Wayne State University's Humanities

Center during the 2015-16 academic year. My appointment as a Resident Scholar has allowed me to rub elbows with colleagues from other disciplines. At least once each month, we attend roundtable presentations by our fellow scholars, during which we learn about works-in-progress and have the opportunity to discuss them from an interdisciplinary perspective. As a communitarian scholar, I have found these sessions quite enlightening, as I have learned that a great deal of scholarship in the humanities intersects with communitarian concerns (although it is not frequently labeled as such). My own presentation is scheduled for almost two weeks from now, and I look forward to comments from my academic colleagues.

My appointment has also afforded me a place to which I may retreat to work on my scholarship, to read, and to think, without the distractions of my usual office setting. This has allowed me to jump-start a project on Communitarianism and the Roberts Court that otherwise would have had to await the summer for the beginning of serious work. (The looming date of my upcoming roundtable presentation has also stimulated progress along these lines.) Unfortunately, my opportunities for "water-cooler" interactions with other resident scholars at the Center have been somewhat less frequent than I had hoped, as we maintain schedules that only occasionally allow our time in the Humanities Center to overlap. This problem is no doubt exacerbated by my inability to maintain as consistent hours at the Humanities Center as I had hoped, due to other pressing demands.

Nevertheless, the Humanities Center remains a most effective vehicle for the removal of academic silos and for interdisciplinary collaboration at Wayne State. I thank Dr. Walters Edwards and his staff for their many kindnesses and for the hospitality extended during my residence at the Humanities Center.



**Stein Eckert - Vice-Chair
Feminist Scholarship Division,
ICA; Assistant Professor,
Communication**

"Fluid Public clusters: Advancing Public Sphere's Theory in Western Democratic Contexts"

The Humanities Center Resident Fellowship has greatly helped me to consistently dedicate hours toward my research, on how social media and gender intersect in Western democracies, in multiple ways. The Residency gave me a calm office space away from my busier main office to focus on my research writing without interruptions and a discussion space to present my work among colleagues from other disciplines. Their input during our Roundtable discussion in January brought up several ideas that will strengthen my theory paper on how public spheres operate on social media. Further, the Residency has crucially aided in financing a conference presentation in October 2015 at the annual national conference of the Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) in Phoenix, AZ where I also received valuable encouragement and advice on including literature into my study on public spheres on social media. Moreover, I have enjoyed learning about my colleagues' work, especially studies touching on gender and justice issues as well as studies that illuminate the developments in Detroit. Through the Residency I also heard about the 13th Annual Conference in Citizenship Studies on Gender, Sexuality and Citizenship, hosted by Wayne's Center for the Study of Citizenship and Dr. Kruman. This prompted me to submit a presentation proposal, which was accepted. I am also looking forward to hearing back if my application to be

RESIDENT SCHOLARS

Resident scholars kept office hours in the Humanities Center and collaborated with one another for feedback and professional growth.



Above: Artwork at the Dequindre Cut

included in the Humanities Brown Bag series for 2016-2017 is approved. Without the Center's Residency I would not have been aware of this lecture series, which I hope will provide me with another opportunity to elicit interdisciplinary feedback from colleagues. In sum, the Residency has connected me with colleagues beyond my department, sparking ideas I would not have conceived of easily otherwise. It made it possible for me to discuss and promote my research within the wider university community as well as at national conferences. It's been a very enjoyable and valuable experience so far and I am looking forward to the remaining five months of my Residency to further push my research while getting to know more of my colleagues and their work in other related disciplines.



Marc Kruman - Professor, History and Chair Center for the Study of Citizenship

"Projects: A Project on Civic Engagement in Higher Education and a History of the Fifteenth Amendment to the US Constitution"

Thank you for an extraordinary year as a Resident Scholar of the Humanities Center. During my year's leave, you and your staff have provided an interdisciplinary home away from my home in the History Department. Regular conversations with other resident scholars—like Avis Vidal, Sarah Swider, Alisa Moldavanova, and Stine Eckert have enriched my own scholarship. Having an urban planner, a labor sociologist, a journalism professor with a specialization in social media, and a specialist in public administration read my work, opened by eyes to a variety of different intellectual perspectives on my current project. I also have enjoyed the challenging monthly

seminars when each of the scholars presents work to the group. Finally, although I have often attended and presented at the Humanities Center's brown bag series in the past, this year I made a special effort to attend a wide array of brown bag presentations, and enjoyed an intellectual feast.

Finally, thank you for the quiet space to think and to write. The combination of time and space, enabled me to co-author a report on civic engagement in Michigan, co-edit a volume on the meaning of citizenship (both of which have been published), write a chapter on citizenship in Detroit for a volume on The Changing Meaning of Citizenship, edited by Bryan Turner and Jürgen Mackert and to be published by Routledge, to edit a volume on governance and citizenship (in progress) and advance research on a study of citizenship in 21st century Detroit.



M.L. Liebler- Senior Lecturer, English

"Heaven Was Detroit: Essays on Detroit Music from Jazz to Hip Hop and Beyond"

This school year 2015-2016 as a Resident Scholar of the Humanities Center has been a very productive time for me. I am grateful for the time, space and creative and scholarly environment I have been fortunate to work in since August 2015. During this appointment, I have finished three important book projects that will all be released in 2016 from The Wayne State University Press. Actually, two of my books are out and available now.

While my major project for this year's residency has been the completion of my 600 page anthology

RESIDENT SCHOLARS



Above: Inside the renovated Fox Theatre on Woodward

Resident Scholars held monthly "roundtable" meetings at the Humanities Center. Each scholar volunteered to give a preview of a conference presentation or to informally discuss his/her research with colleagues. Each scholar was allowed to invite two additional colleagues to the meetings to provide extra feedback.

of essays on Detroit Music from Jazz through Hip Hop (see attached cover), I was also able to use my time to finish work on copy edits for my new poetry book and for an anthology of short stories by Michigan authors. All three of my books are available through the Wayne State University Press. The major work on the music anthology that occurred during this residency included the final compiling of essays, the securing of permissions and creation of publisher credits, creating an index of subjects and artists included in the book, compiling a detailed bibliography, and writing authors' biographies. Since January, I have worked mostly with the copy editor and photo editor to get everything in place and correct for the final manuscript before it is sent to the printer. *Heaven Was Detroit* will be released in August 2016, and currently I am reviewing and signing off on the first batch of copy edits.



Rahul Mitra - Assistant Professor, Communication
"Communicative Complexities of Enacting Environmental Resource Management Policy in the U.S. Arctic"

My residency at the Humanities Center allowed me to complete my research project examining the communicative complexities and processes related to implementing resource management policy on the ground, in the U.S. Arctic. Communication is a vital part of negotiating the seemingly intractable conflicts of environmental policy—building productive collaborations among stakeholders, deliberating political and economic policy, and designing effective messages for broader publics. The findings of

this study should benefit informed decision-making not just in the Arctic, which is a key strategic and environmental resource for the U.S., but in other fragile systems affected by climate change (e.g., the Great Lakes region). During my residency, I analyzed the gathered qualitative data (in-depth interviews, field notes from participant observations, and policy texts) with my research assistant, and compiled a research paper for submission to a scholarly conference and academic journal. A white paper was presented at the monthly meetings of the Humanities Center Residency Scholars, and at a research colloquium organized by the Department of Communication.



Alisa Moldavanova - Assistant Professor, Political Science
"Deterritorializing Language with Deleuze: A Question of Style"

I have been very fortunate to have an opportunity to join the group of Resident Scholars at the WSU Humanities Center during the academic year 2015-2016. As a junior scholar and a new member of the Wayne State University's community, I truly enjoyed the engaging interdisciplinary environment created by the Humanities Center for its scholars, and I greatly benefitted from being part of that environment. Together with other Resident Scholars, we formed a productive learning community, discussed each other's research and supported each other's creative endeavors. During this year, I had an opportunity to learn the languages and understand symbols from multiple disciplines, thus expanding my own creative horizons and developing my scholarly network.

During my residency, I focused on finishing the data

RESIDENT SCHOLARS

Each scholar received clerical support from the Center's staff, and was provided a private office equipped with a computer and office furniture.

Left: Image of the Cadillac Tower shot from Campus Martius



collection, conducting initial data analysis, and developing a conference paper for the project entitled, "The Public Purpose of the Arts: Social Connectedness, Survival, and Sustainability of Arts Organizations in the Detroit Metropolitan Area." Humanities Center's support allowed presenting preliminary findings from this study at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Public Administration.

Critical, yet friendly, feedback from other resident scholars on my writing and research have been instrumental to finishing a grant application and submitting the manuscript "Understanding the Puzzle of Organizational Sustainability: Towards a Conceptual Framework for Social Connectedness as a Sustainability Theory" for a journal review. Furthermore, the time spent at the Humanities Center allowed me to focus on advancing and expanding my current research agenda, as well as consider additional angles and new ideas to pursue. Importantly, I found my Resident Scholar colleagues to be a source of my motivation, inspiration, and personal growth.

Finally, the friendliness and welcomeness of Walter Edwards and the Humanities Center's staff and assistants made my residency hours productive, creative, and intellectually stimulating.



Sarah Swider - Associate Professor, Sociology

"Race, space and Gender: African American Women Entrepreneurs in Detroit's Informal Economy"

I am writing to report on my year as a Humanities Center's Resident Scholar. This year at the Humanities Center has been truly transformative. I benefited in three main ways. First, the Center has allowed me to develop

relationships with senior scholars who are not in my Department but are in related fields and offered great insights into my work. Second, I was able to present my work to the group of Resident Scholars and gained invaluable feedback on a paper which was a thought piece that I want to push forward for publication. Finally, the Center has provided a quiet space and set time for working on my Detroit project which has been moving forward.

This year at the Center I have developed a relationship with Avis Vidal in the Urban Studies Department and Marc Kruman in the History Department. I have met with both of them for coffee and lunch and chatting more in-depth about a number of topics ranging from methodological and theoretical issues with framing my research to professional developing advice. I have found these opportunities to be very special given that it is difficult for junior scholars to develop these kinds of relationships with senior scholars outside of our respective fields. These relationships with senior scholars have been supplemented with those from junior scholars who, again, are from different disciplines across the University. One of the important intangible benefits from these connections has been the exchange of information on how to maneuver being a junior scholar at Wayne State and how to effectively move my career forward.

My project on Detroit's informal economy has benefitted tremendously from being a Resident Scholar. The project started from the idea stage and has developed to the point where I have collected exploratory data, presented the data and I am currently working to finish the first two publications; one is a joint publication with a student and the other is a sole authorship. Once these two publications are out (which should be in about a month) I will spend part of my summer

RESIDENT SCHOLARS



Left: Detroit Renaissance Center from the Infinity Yacht

applying for larger external grants to fund this work. Again, my time at the Center has created the space and time to focus this project and help get it off the ground. I look forward to pushing it to the next stage.

Finally, our monthly meetings where one of the Resident Scholars presents their work and the rest of us offer critiques and suggestions has been a highlight for me. I find it to be one of the forums on campus that offers really interesting intellectual exchange. I have enjoyed participating and I have felt that the scholars have appreciated my comments, even if they didn't agree. Some of the presentations led to lively debates and interesting perspectives. When I presented my work, scholars came prepared and had closely read my paper. They helped me parse out the different arguments and figure out what should go in the paper. Furthermore, what proved to be invaluable is that Dr. Edwards allowed us to invite one or two experts to the discussion for the week we were presenting. I took advantage of this and invited a China specialist who graduated from University of Michigan. It proved to be a great experience for both of us. Also, even though we know each other, because of our busy schedules we had not had the chance to benefit from our relationship to any great extent. This seminar allowed that to happen.

The Resident Scholar Program has been of immense benefit to my career and the development of my Detroit project. I look forward to applying to outside funding sources this summer and will be sure that the Humanities Center's Resident Scholars Program is noted in the acknowledgments. The Center is doing important work necessary to create intellectual spaces that help us be the best we can be. I truly am thankful for the opportunity to participate.

I will end this report by saying thank you. Thank you Dr. Edwards and the Humanities Center staff for all of your time and attention. The staff was

always upbeat and professional. They made sure that all the Fellows had what they needed and always went the extra mile to make things happen. The office was a pleasant place to be; well maintained, organized and clean. Perhaps most importantly, Dr. Edwards's leadership permeated throughout the office. He was in the office everyday, many times late into the evening and, despite his busy schedule, he was always willing to take some time to chat, debate a point or topic or offer suggestions and advice.

Again, thank you to everyone who puts in time and energy to make sure that intellectual spaces like this exist on our campus. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Avis Vidal - Professor, Urban Studies and Planning

"Revitalization efforts in Midtown and Downtown Detroit"

I have always valued and enjoyed my experiences with the Humanities Center, but this year's appointment as a Resident Scholar has been especially rewarding. In addition to making progress on my on-going research (now nearing completion) studying local efforts to stimulate the housing market in Midtown, I got some very helpful feedback on a potential new project focused on federal efforts to build the capacity of community-based housing organizations, and made a good start on a book chapter exploring in some detail the challenges of combining community development and community organizing in neighborhood revitalization practice. This year's cohort of Resident Scholars is a very congenial group engaged in some very stimulating, albeit quite diverse, projects, and the seminars at which we each presented our work-in-progress were consistently stimulating; they were not a feature of the Residency that last time I held such an appointment, and they are a wonderful addition.

THE GOOD LIFE

2015 FALL SYMPOSIUM

The Humanities Center's Fall Symposium, centered on the theme "The Good Life," took place on November 6th, 2015. Two dozen scholars presented papers at the symposium, which was moderated by WSU scholars. The theme was discussed from a variety of perspectives across many disciplines. Below is the explication of the general theme, followed by the abstracts of the talks presented. The symposium was organized into sessions according to common sub-themes.



Explication of Theme

"The unexamined life is not worth living." With these words, Socrates famously explained his decision to choose death over exile or silence after he had been convicted of corrupting the youth of Athens. Socrates' quest to understand the good life helped establish the Western philosophical tradition, and his life and death pose questions that still resonate today. The good life—it is what we all want, but what is it exactly? Is it food on our plate, swinging from a hammock on the beach, or personal fulfillment from spirituality or work? How can we recognize it, and how can we find it? What happens when different ideas of the good life collide?

Since Socrates' death over two thousand years ago, influential thinkers from Cicero to Montaigne have sought to identify the good life. Augustine, Aquinas, and other theologians have viewed the good life from a religious perspective, and political theorists and leaders like Vladimir Lenin, Ronald Reagan, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau promised a good life after radical economic change. Meanwhile, authors from Thomas More and Jonathan Swift to Margaret Atwood and Suzanne Collins have imagined utopian and dystopian societies that satirize our inability to achieve the good life. While musicians like Pharrell Williams and Bobby McFerrin have encouraged us to be happy and Men at Work boasted of their land of plenty, other musicians from Tony Bennett to Weezer take more pessimistic views of the good life as sugarcoating our personal deficiencies. Social psychologists have argued that the modern quest for material things never leads to the good life, and cultural anthropologists like George Foster posited that peasants believed in a world of limited good.

The good life also connects the humanities and sciences. Disciplines such as medicine, psychology, and the life sciences seek to ensure health (both mental and physical) by understanding and preventing disease. The intersection of these two senses of the good life—as a scientific and philosophical enterprise—has recently led to the creation of interdisciplinary fields (the medical humanities, medical ethics and bioethics, and the philosophy of healthcare) that seek to answer pressing questions: What is the ethical basis of medical research? How does the moral obligation of the doctor relate to the rights of a patient?"

THE GOOD LIFE 2015 FALL SYMPOSIUM

BIOGRAPHY



Robert Kurzban – Keynote Speaker
Psychology, University of Pennsylvania

Robert Kurzban is an associate professor of psychology and the director of the Pennsylvania Laboratory for Experimental Evolutionary Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. His research focuses on the nature of evolved cognitive adaptations for social life. These include processes involved with cooperative decision making, punishment, morality, close relationships, and mate choice. He uses methods drawn from experimental economics and cognitive psychology to study these processes.

Professor Kurzban is the editor-in-chief of the journal *Evolution & Human Behavior*, and an associate editor of *Evolutionary Psychology*.

KEYNOTER'S ABSTRACT

Willpower-What it is, What it isn't, and What it's For

Why is it so difficult to exercise willpower? A leading explanation among psychologists is that there is a physical resource in your brain – the fuel for willpower – that is depleted over time. As this resource is consumed, it becomes harder and harder to resist temptation. However, a growing body of evidence suggests that, as compelling as this explanation might be, there are very good reasons to doubt it. Instead, I'll suggest that failures of willpower are better thought of in the context of motivation. Specifically, the reason that it is difficult to persist on effortful tasks is that our brains are continuously entertaining the possibility of switching to another task that is likely to be psychologically rewarding. Put more technically, engaging in effortful tasks carries the opportunity cost of not engaging in a more pleasurable task. These costs, I'll suggest, are at the heart of why it is difficult to exercise willpower. I'll conclude with the question of why our brains are wired this way, and how we can use this knowledge to live the sort of lives we would like to.

ABSTRACTS OF OTHER PRESENTERS

Holly Feen-Calligan, Associate Professor, Education

Siobhan Gregory, Senior Lecturer, Art & Art History

Marilyn Zimmerman, Associate Professor, Art and Art History

"The Good Life: Creative Action for Health and Happiness"

As artists and social activists we propose that the "good life" is one anchored in art, service, reflection and self-care. We refer to authors from the arts and humanities including Jane Addams, Saul Alinski, Grace Lee and James Boggs, Ellen Dissanayake, Josef Garai, bell hooks, Miles Horton, Jeff Howard, Edith Kramer, Richard Sennett, Gail Straub, Marianne Williamson and others to support our hypothesis that the responsibilities and demands of present-day living result in a sense of emptiness, isolation and disconnection from others and the earth. We argue that the methods of creative production and the process of making—observation and visualization; touch and feel; handwork and craft, human-material

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Above: Merry-go-round on the Riverwalk

interaction; experimentation and reflection—lead us to empirical truths about ourselves, our relationships to one another and to the natural world (including animals, plants, organic and in-organic materials). In essence, creative practice serves to counteract loneliness and social detachment and contributes to a sense of satisfaction, purpose and pleasure; creative practice contributes to the good life.

In this presentation we explore the transformative qualities of art-making for individuals, and art making in a social context. We point to the value of art in the lives of individuals, while emphasizing that the health of individuals and the health of the world are intertwined: Through compassionate care for ourselves and others the good life is created together. In this presentation we share examples from the ways that we are working within our classes through art-based service-learning, community collaboration, design interventions and in-class fellowship and support. Our collective efforts comprise conscious participatory citizenship and other tools needed for the future.

Tam Perry, Assistant Professor, Social Work, Wayne State University

Luke Hassevoort, MSW

Justin Petrusak, LMSW-Macro and Clinical, Neighborhood Service Organization, Homeless Recovery Services

“Does the Good Life Include Walls? Gendered Trajectories of Housing”

Does the “good life” include housing? For whom? What if the “good life” included housing, but due to a sudden loss, prospects for a roof over one’s head change? This paper explores the lives of men experiencing homelessness because of a specific trigger, the death of a parent or parental figure. This Humanities Center funded project has already investigated concerns of identity and survival as understood through the voices of practitioners. This presentation goes to the root of the experience, presenting themes articulated by men who have experienced this trigger to homelessness in Detroit, Michigan. This research was conducted in collaboration with Neighborhood Service Organization.

Many people living without a permanent residence struggle to survive day-to-day, navigating unemployment, hunger, and exploitation. In older adult populations experiencing homelessness there is frequently accompanying mental illnesses and chronic substance abuse, which can contribute to poor health (alcohol related seizures, amputations from drug use, COPD, cancer, heart disease, etc. (McDonald et al., 2008)), and frequent use of emergency services. Additionally, elemental factors such as the long, cold winter Michigan residents recently experienced creates a number of challenges for those living on the streets, such as frost-bite and hypothermia, and reduced mobility and access to services. And because of the lack of research done with this specific sub-population of people experiencing homelessness (McDoland et al., 2008), it is unclear as to the prevalence of older adults becoming homeless after losing a parent. It’s possible that this phenomenon is unique to Detroit’s urban context in this historical moment, and the dynamics currently at play within the United States as older adults live longer, and economic hardship has hit Detroit particularly hard. With that in mind, our research would be a way of allowing the stories of this population to survive, to interrogate gendered trajectories at the intersection of housing and aging.

Denise Vultee, Lecturer, Communication, Wayne State University

“Women as Artisans, Women as Entrepreneurs: A Fractured Vision of the ‘Good Life’”

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Left: Photo of Old Main from Woodward

The handmade movement and the trend toward entrepreneurship often meet in the form of small businesses run by artisans—predominantly women—who aspire to make a living selling their handmade goods. On the global level, numerous special projects promote the revival of traditional handcrafts as a route to economic independence for women in developing countries. Yet the ideals and aspirations of artisans and entrepreneurs—even when the two are embodied in the same individual—are often at odds. This paper uses symbolic convergence theory and its associated method, fantasy theme analysis, to trace the history of tensions between artisanal and entrepreneurial constructions of the “good life.” It then uses the lens of feminist critical theory to interrogate this rhetorical vision in the context of women’s lives and work, both as artisans and as entrepreneurs.

Lee Wilkins, Professor & Chair, Communication, Wayne State University

“The Good Life: It’s About Getting There”

This paper provides an informal and to some extent first-person account of the challenges facing journalists and public officials in Slovenia as they prepare for the successive waves of refugees who are arriving at the country’s borders. The project first provides some background on Slovenia itself and the context of the first-person comments and interviews that inform the paper. The remainder of the project considers the specific ethical issues facing Slovenian journalists as they report on these events and the way the country’s political and NGO bureaucracies are trying to work through the problems the crisis has created. The paper contrasts the questions Slovenian journalists are confronting with the reporting some US news outlets are doing on the refugee issue. It concludes with some analysis of how journalists frame human flourishing in this instance.

Sandra F. VanBurkleo, Professor, History, Wayne State University

“Words As Hard As Cannon-Balls”: Liberty of Speech and the Pursuit of Happiness in 19th-century America”

When we think of ‘the good life,’ as the symposium call for papers suggests, we think most often of enjoyment, time away from public responsibility, perhaps the absence of intrusive governments. In the past, however, as now, these phenomena were outcomes of extended, often wrenching processes of change or development. To take a vacation, e.g, workers had to successfully prosecute an eight-hour movement. In a new book (“Words As Hard As Cannon-Balls”: American Experiences of Freedom of Speech in the Long 19th Century), I examine the ways in which disparate Americans sought to contribute to civil society through written or spoken speech – to express themselves as citizens or, in some cases, as foreign onlookers or aspirants to citizenship – only to discover that access to the forum, with many other incidents of a public personality, had been unevenly distributed. In some cases – white working men, for example, or black people or women of all classes – the right to speak alongside men therefore formed part of what Hendrik Hartog has called constitutions of aspiration. Without the ability to participate in decisions that directly affected collective or individual well-being, whether at home or elsewhere, the majority of Americans hardly experienced what they themselves would have called happiness or satisfaction. Hence, thousands of women’s rights activists – male, female, black, white – pushed the boundaries of acceptable public deportment for women; Maria Stewart dared to speak of and

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Right: Beautiful flowers lining the Dequindre Cut

denounce rape to mixed-sex audiences and in newspaper essays, in effect announcing her legitimacy as social critic; Frances Harper, Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and a myriad of other, lesser known figures did much the same thing.

Joshua S. Duchan, Assistant Professor, Music, Wayne State University

"Glimpses of Reagan-Era American Culture in the Songs of Billy Joel"

American singer Billy Joel (b. 1949, New York) has enjoyed a pop music career spanning twenty-two years and including twelve albums, six Grammy awards and twenty-three nominations, and a host of other honors. Despite a testy relationship with critics—he was called “vaudevillian” and a “lounge lizard” whose performances embodied not a pop aesthetic but one rooted in a “Las Vegas format”—his music met with great commercial success, perhaps because of his keen ability, rooted in the singer-songwriter mode in which his career began, to translate larger cultural trends into compelling musical narratives.

This paper provides a close musical and semiotic reading of two of Joel’s songs, “Pressure” (from *The Nylon Curtain*, 1982) and “Running On Ice” (from *The Bridge*, 1986), which express deep anxieties of middle-class American life in the late twentieth century. In “Pressure,” Joel dispenses advice to an unnamed, naïve subject who relies on faith, “Peter Pan advice,” and “some cosmic rationale.” His vocal delivery borders on sinister, while the musical accompaniment conveys a sense of certainty unlike any other track on that album. In “Running On Ice,” Joel’s character is more vulnerable, expressing apprehension and bewilderment at the quickening pace of daily life and shifting cultural values. The rapid keyboard lines are played on a cold, metallic-sounding synthesizer, while percussion cuts through the musical texture with machinelike precision.

Through these two songs, Joel reveals a world in which a generation—the baby boomers—has come of age and recognized its cynicism and limitations. In this way, Joel’s musical portraits offer glimpses of moments of discovery, when the lofty promises of the American dream’s “good life” are shattered by Reagan-era realities.

José Cuello, Associate Professor, Center for Latino/a & Latin-American Studies, Wayne State University

"'The Good Life' as a Form of Idolatry in Modern Society: The Fatal Transformation of the Spiritual Instinct into a Material Appetite"

In this presentation, I posit the idea that “The Good Life” is a term that best represents the worship of material consumerism that has come to define the “American way of life.” The massive advertising propaganda that bombards our senses through every medium of communication constitutes a national ideology of celebratory participation in the entertainment excesses of modern post-industrial society. Consumerism has become a religion of personal acquisition of goods and experiences that can never satisfy the mind or the spirit, leaving the everyday person to hunger for even more. The pursuit of material happiness has ironically created the opposite condition of “The Good Life” for millions of human beings. It has led to massive debt loads in credit cards, college loans, and home mortgages. It has led to the destruction of communities, families, individual psychologies and what otherwise would have been healthy bodies were it not for the epidemics in obesity and diabetes. The illusion that one can achieve “better living through chemistry” (consumerism) has led humanity to the brink of ecological disaster on

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Left to Right: Deroy Auditorium and Prentiss Building Complex on the Campus of Wayne State

our planetary home. Perhaps, a common sense return to an appreciation of the value of positive social relations, community-building, and doing more with less can mitigate the impact of the impending apocalypse that the human species has created for itself in pursuit of "The Good Life." Appropriate statistics on consumerism and its impact will be presented to support the Chicken Little Thesis that the sky is falling.

Jessica Robbins-Ruszkowski, Assistant Professor, Gerontology/Anthropology, Wayne State University
"Imagining and Living a Good Old Age in Postsocialist Poland"

In contemporary Poland, dominant cultural ideals of a good life in old age are best represented by the proliferation of educational institutions for older adults, or Universities of the Third Age (UTAs), perhaps the most visible model of what gerontologists alternately call "successful," "active," "healthy," or "productive" aging. Older Poles who participate in UTAs often understand such experiences in political-economic and spatiotemporal terms; attending UTAs is associated with living—and aging—in a world reshaped by postsocialist transformations and European Union membership. "Active aging" in Poland can thus be seen as a political practice through which older people aspire to overcome stigma associated with the socialist past by striving for a European future. Certain activities indexical of the new world order provide the most potential for older Poles to become what one institutional leader has called "Euroseniors."

However, this dominant model may work to reproduce forms of inequality. First, this possible future is not equally available to everyone, as class and health status limit participation in (and aspirations to) UTAs. Second, this model's focus on the new (e.g., English, computers) ignores other "traditional" practices (e.g., embroidery, gardening, religious practices) through which Poles achieve a worthy old age. In this paper, I draw on twenty-two months of ethnographic research to show that similar practices of sociality and relatedness occur among diverse groups of older Poles, demonstrating that moral personhood is possible for older people who do not fit normative models. Therefore, a postsocialist analytic framework is insufficient to fully understand the complexities of experiencing and imagining aging in contemporary Poland. Using anthropological theories of personhood, kinship, and the moral imagination, I argue that ethnographic attention to practices of sociality can illuminate deeper histories that continue to shape contemporary moral imaginations of aging and of life itself.

Joseph M. Fitzgerald, Professor, Psychology, Wayne State University
"Images of What Might Have Been and What Might Be in Life Stories: Meaning Making, the Good Life, and Well-Being"

Two significant developments in contemporary psychology are relevant to the study of the images and memories of the good life. One is the realization that the memory system can be conceptualized as a time travel system that allows us to move not only back to past but forward to the future or back to a revised past. We now apply methods previously reserved to the study of memories of the past to images of what might have taken place in the past or what might take place in the future. The other development has been a rediscovery of the important role that meaning making plays in human happiness. The work of humanistic psychologists especially Victor Frankel is framing large empirical studies. The attention to meaning making draws together psychologists and humanists, so it is not uncommon to see references to Augustine and neuroscientists such as Daniel Schacter in the same paper.

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Right: Artwork on the Detroit Recycling Building on Holden Street

We will discuss our approach to meaning making in the context of study of memories and images of live stories reported by a diverse group of 175 adults aged 40 to 80. The participants wrote four events along with their image of an event they wished/hoped had happened in the past or will happen in the future. Consistent with the conference theme, we focus our attention on the wished/hoped for events. Our focal analyses concern the valence (positivity-negativity) of these responses in relationship to other qualities of the descriptions including specificity, coherence, primary theme, age, tension and emotionality, and centrality of the event to identity. This approach generates large quantities of data, but the confluence of methods reduces to a small number of idiographic and normative patterns of meaning making that predict the well-being of the individual.

Eun-Jung Katherine Kim, Assistant Professor ,Philosophy, Wayne State University

"Developing Human-Heartedness: A Confucian Conception of the Good Life"

"Do not seek life at the expense of human-heartedness (ren). Some even sacrifice their lives to complete their ren" (Analects XV, 8). According to Confucius, a life without human-heartedness is not worth living. The Chinese character ren consists of "human" and "two," and captures the human characteristics that are conducive to flourishing human relationships. This paper examines the moral and political dimensions of ren by considering the following questions: What is the fundamental basis of ren? How does a person of ren resolve the conflict between love and justice? What are the rules of propriety (li) and how do they constrain ren? How does the ideal ruler display ren? What are the political outcomes of ruling with ren? By answering these questions, we will see that the Confucian virtue of ren is related to human relations and differs from Aristotle's notion of virtue, which is human excellence with regard to human function.

Jorgelina Corbatta, Professor, CMLLC, Wayne State University

"The Pleasure of Telling/Being Told Stories as a Key for a Happy Life"

Why do children like to be told stories over and over again? Why do we need to tell stories to our beloved ones, and when in distressed it is advised to write our own life story, to write a diary, to express ourselves? Why from the Greek tragedy to contemporary films, novels and television shows, human beings have the need to watch, listen and make narratives?

After a life of reading literature and watching movies, of telling and being told narratives I have the conviction that those activities are important components of a happy life. Thus, the purpose of this paper is to explore, through different lenses, how creativity enriches our well being. One is Sigmund Freud's contribution on creativity ("The Relation of the Poet to Day Dreaming", "The Uncanny", "The Theme of the Three Caskets", his studies on Leonardo and Michelangelo, "Beyond the Pleasure Principle"); in addition I would like to consider Peter Brook's rereading of Freud, and Lacan, in his famous "Freud's Master-plot" (Reading for the Plot), and in his exemplary study Psychoanalysis and Storytelling.

Brooks' interest, following Freud's "Beyond the Pleasure Principle" as Master plot, consists in superimposing Freud's conception of the mind onto literature, also a product of the mind. "Psychoanalysis and literature—he says in an interview-- are mutually illuminating: according to psychoanalysis, man is a fiction-making animal, one defined by fantasies and fiction." In that direction human beings need, and

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enjoyed fiction, not only as an re-enactment of children's play as wish fulfillment, equivalent to the day-dreaming adult, but also because of their curative effect. By modifying the Latin statement, "Mens sana in corpore sano" by "Mens sana in fabula sana", Brooks establishes that the ability to narrate a coherent life story is the representation of mental health. Also, from a clinical point of view, contemporary studies demonstrate that a way of obtaining happiness is writing about yourself ("Writing Your Way to Happiness", The New York Times, Tuesday January 20, 2015, D6).

Bruce Russell, Professor, Philosophy, Wayne State University

"What is the Best Sort of Life?"

Socrates argued that the life of virtue is the best sort of life. His interlocutors asked him about the just man who is thrown into prison, tortured, has his eyes burned out, and is then impaled? Socrates had to say that this virtuous man was happy. Aristotle said that "no one would call [such a person] happy, unless he were maintaining a thesis at all costs." Happiness is an intrinsic good but so is virtue. Perhaps the best life is one that combines the two. But what if it is impossible to be both virtuous and happy? Kant's "cool villain" has reason in control of his passions, as Plato and Aristotle required of their virtuous person, but the villain uses reason to enrich himself at the expense of others. Why shouldn't he if he will be much happier if he takes advantage of others than if he were virtuous and did not? The "why be moral?" question was first posed by Plato in The Republic through the story of the shepherd, Gyges, who found a magical gold ring that allowed him to become invisible and then to steal and kill without fear of being caught. I will argue that no one has been able to meet the challenge that Kant's cool villain and the story of Gyges pose to those who say it is always better, or more rational, for a person to act morally than to do wrong, even if doing that requires a sacrifice of personal happiness.



Dr. Ackerman, moderator of Session III of the Fall Symposium, introducing Dr. Fitzgerald from the Psychology Department.

MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

Thanks to a generous endowment provided by the former WSU Provost Marilyn L. Williamson, the Humanities Center offers an annual Distinguished Faculty Fellowship to tenured faculty (associate and full professors) in the humanities. 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 publication, exhibition or performance; and on two external recommendations in support of the project.

2016 Awardee



Tamara Lynn Bray, Professor, Anthropology
Copacabana and the Imperial Inca State: Topography and Temporality of a Sacred Place

The modest town of Copacabana has been a pilgrimage destination and a site of extraordinary reverence from early Formative times to the present. Situated on the Bolivian side of Lake Titicaca, Copacabana formerly comprised one of the most sacred ceremonial complexes in the Inca Empire. The Marilyn Williamson Faculty Fellowship I have been awarded will aid me in initiating a new interdisciplinary research project focused on the central religious precinct of Copacabana proper this coming summer. The principal aim of the study is to investigate the nature of Inca engagement with this powerful locale as evidenced archaeologically

through spatial and material patterns and practices. I anticipate that the proposed study will ultimately provide insights into the ways in which topographies of the sacred are constructed, how attachments to place are formed and transformed over time, and how power, place, and identity are materially and mutually constituted.



MARILYN WILLIAMSON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP LECTURE

The fellowship recipient is asked to share results of the funded research in an award lecture organized during the year of (or following) the fellowship term.

About the 2015 Awardee



renée c. hoogland is a Professor of English at Wayne State University, Editor of Criticism, and Senior Editor in Chief of MacMillan Handbooks: Gender. Her areas of interest include literature and culture after 1870; visual culture, critical theory, American studies, comparative literature, modern and contemporary art, gender and sexuality studies, queer theory, postmodernism, film and media studies, popular culture, new body theory.

Abstract

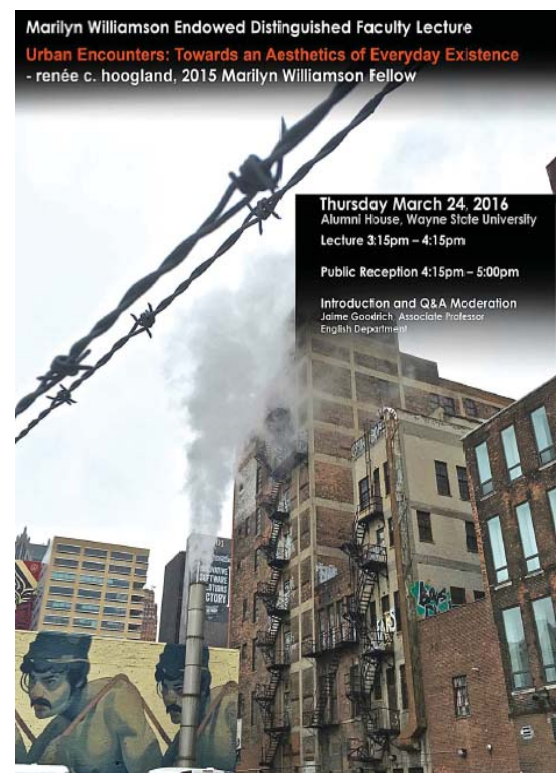
Urban Encounters: Towards an Aesthetics of Everyday Existence

Urban Encounters focuses on the everyday in challenging and simultaneously furthering contemporary philosophical aesthetics. Combining theoretical inquiry and philosophical reflection with case studies of urban encounters in art and literature, I aim to explore possibilities for an aesthetics of existence that keeps the paradox of banality and significance, the inherent doubleness of everydayness in suspense—as Maurice Blanchot writes, the “everyday is platitude (what lags and falls back . . .); but this banality is also what is more important, if it brings us back to existence in its very spontaneity and as it is lived”—and that nonetheless does not lose its explanatory power nor its political accountability. Such explanatory power and accountability are ensured by my dual focus on “urban encounters” in various postindustrial cities themselves, and in a realm in which the elusive “everyday” may be captured in its specific “affective tones,” i.e., in the realm of art and literature.

Ultimately, I suggest, the language of art is as crucial for thought as that of philosophy in that the former, in its subject- and objectlessness, in its “extra-dailyness” forces the latter: “Thought is nothing without something that forces and does violence to it. More important than thought is ‘what leads to thought’; more important than the philosopher is the poet,” Gilles Deleuze writes. It is precisely in their operation beyond representation, in their affective force therefore, that the “signs of art force us to think; they mobilize pure thought as a faculty of essences. They release within thought what depends least on its goodwill: the act of thinking itself.”

By engaging both recent developments in continental philosophy and works of art and literature, the project of this book is to do justice to and critically to interrogate the two aspects so central to Henri Lefebvre’s critique of everyday life: everydayness as a potential site for resistance, change, and novelty on one hand, and, on the other, the flattening, deadening, and in-differentiating effects of globalization and informationalization that jointly mark the 21st century city.

Dr. hoogland presented her results on March 24, 2016.



FALL 2015

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 51 talks given mainly by Wayne State University faculty members.



Chair of English Ken Jackson presents "First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare" starting the 2015-2016 Brown Bag Colloquium series with a full house.

September 15th Kenneth Jackson, Chair, English,
First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare

September 16th Robin Boyle,
Professor, Urban Studies and Planning,
Growth Management - Learning from Melbourne,
Australia

September 22nd Geoff Steven Nathan,
Professor, English,
Parallelisms Between Language and Music

September 23rd Jorgelina Corbatta,
CMLLC*, Professor,
Background to the Crisis of Stateless Dominicans of
Haitian Descent: The Dictator Rafael Trujillo's Border
Campaign against Haiti, 1930-1961

September 24th Edward Paulino,
**Assistant Professor, Global History, John Jay College/
CUNY,**
Background to the Crisis of Stateless Dominicans of
Haitian Descent: The Dictator Rafael Trujillo's Border
Campaign against Haiti, 1930-1961

September 29th Chera Kee,
Assistant Professor, English,
Diversity in Comics: Xombi and the Curious Case of
David Kim

September 30th Anne Rothe, Associate Professor,
CMLLC*
The Survivor Figure in American Culture: Intersections
of Social Darwinism, Holocaust Memory and Popular
Culture

**October 6th Emery Stephens, Music, Assistant
Professor; Joshua S. Duchan, Music, Assistant
Professor; and Wendy K. Matthews, Music, Assistant
Professor,**
Race, Class, and Gender in Narratives of Contemporary
American Musicians

**October 7th Marvin Zalman, Professor, Criminal
Justice,**
Reinventing the Criminal Trial to Increase Accuracy and
Prevent Wrongful Convictions

**October 13th David Goldberg, Assistant Professor,
African American Studies; L.T. Duncan, Senior
Lecturer, English,**
Citizen Pettway

**October 14th R. Khari Brown, Associate Professor,
Sociology, WSU; Ronald Brown, Associate Professor,
Political Science, WSU; James Jackson, University of
Michigan,**
Understanding Policy Attitudes about Social Inequality

October 20th Lisa Maruca, Associate Professor, English
Teaching Shakespeare in the Eighteenth Century

**October 22nd Andrea Sankar, Professor & Chair,
Anthropology; Arlene Weisz, Assistant Professor, Social
Work & Anthropology; Jessica Robbins-Ruskowski,
Social Work & Anthropology (SWAN)**
Social Work and Anthropology (SWAN): Launching a
new Interdisciplinary Doctoral Degree



Professors Ron Brown, Khari Brown and James Jackson presenting their lecture on "Institute for Social Research: Understanding Policy Attitudes about Social Inequality."

***Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures**

FALL 2015

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

The talks covered a wide variety of topics in the humanities, social sciences, and arts. Abstracts for the talks are posted on the Center's website. Presenters benefit from feedback received from the faculty and students who attend the talks, especially from scholars in other disciplines.



Professor Robin Boyle (left) presenting "Growth Management - Learning from Melbourne, Australia" on September 16th.

October 27th George Parris, Assistant Professor & Coordinator, Education,

Integrating Emotional Intelligence and Creative Thinking into the Curriculum

October 28th Kristin O'Donovan, Assistant Professor, Sociology

Learning After Disaster

November 3rd John Corvino, Professor & Chair, Philosophy,

Bake Me a Cake: Emerging Conflicts Around Religious Liberty, Tolerance, and Discrimination

November 4th Stephen Calkins, Professor, Law School,
An American Academic in Dublin: Reflections on Almost Four Years in the Irish Government

November 10th Katheryn Maguire, Associate Professor, Communication,

Communication, Paradox, and the Long Distance Experience

November 11th Stella M. Resko, Assistant Professor, Social Work and Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute,

Changes in Marijuana Policy, Perceived Risk and Adolescent Marijuana Use

November 12th Noah Horn, Assistant Professor, Music,
Spatial Music

November 17th Richard Raspa, Professor, English,
Cassius, Brutus, and Antony in Shakespeare's Julius Caesar

November 18th Robert Sedler, Distinguished Professor, Law School,

The Constitution and Marriage Equality

December 1st Mary Elizabeth Anderson, Associate Professor, Theatre,

Mobile Homestead: Spatialities of Artistic Citizenship

December 8th Sarah Swider, Assistant Professor, Sociology,

Race, Space and Gender: African American Women Entrepreneurs in Detroit's Informal Economy

December 9th Marc W. Kruman, Professor of History & Director of the Center for the Study of Citizenship

Citizenship in Detroit in a Time of Bankruptcy

Professor Jorgelina Corbatta presenting "Eroticism and Mysticism in *The Holy Girl* by Lucrecia Martel: A Reading in Key with Freud's *Dora*".



*Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures

THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



Professor Bruce Russell (standing), Philosophy Department, answering questions at the 2015 Fall Symposium



Professor Holly Feen-Calligan speaking to packed room during the 2015 Fall Symposium themed "The Good Life".



The Humanities Center's Resident Scholars' Round table discussion held on November 18.



Professor Lisa Winters (standing left) answering questions on her topic "Black Magic in Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century African American Literature" at the Humanities Center's Faculty Fellows conference in the spring.



Philosophy Chair John Corvino presenting "Bake Me a Cake: Emerging Conflicts Around Religious Liberty, Tolerance, and Discrimination" at a Brown Bag talk on November 3.



Professor renee hoogland presenting her work at the Marilyn Williamson lecture. This year the lecture was held in Alumni House on campus.

THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



Reception for renee hoogland the recipient of the 2015 Marilyn Williamson Endowed Distinguished Fellowship.



Dr. Edwards working with his Akawaio research assistant in Guyana in June 2016.



Dr. Matthew Younglove, Director of Athletic Bands, performing during his Brown Bag talk on "Mixed Media: The Overlapping Sound Worlds of Live Performance and Digitization".



Right to Left: Dr. Hiddleston, Dr. Edwards and Dr. Retish at the Humanities Center's last Advisory Board meeting for the year. Dr. Hiddleston and Retish are holding their certificates of appreciation from the Humanities Center.



The Humanities Center's Team L to R: Shamira Tellis, Gloria Shakory, Dr. Walter Edwards (Director), Rodina Peace and Shruthropriya Sornjerry Baskar. (Not shown, Jennifer Leonard, Administrative Assistant and Jynil Schneider, Grant Writer and Development Specialist.)



Jennifer Leonard,
Humanities Center's
Administrative Assistant



Jynil Schneider,
Humanities Center's Grant
Writing and Development
Specialist

WINTER 2016

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

The Brown Bag Colloquium Series provides speakers with feedback from scholars within and outside of their disciplines. This interdisciplinary interaction is a unique feature of this series.



Professor Melissa Wooten, guest speaker from the University of Massachusetts, answers a question after her Brown Bag lecture on "In the Face of Inequality: How Black Colleges Adapt"

January 12th Lee Wilkins, Professor & Chair, Communication,

Dystopia on Camera: Political Power and Individual Development in a Mediated State

January 13th Wendy K. Matthews, Assistant Professor, Music,

On the Flipped Side: Can We Reach Millennials Through the "Flipped Classroom" Method?

January 20th Denise Marie Vultee, Lecturer, Communication,

Symbolic Communication Theories in the 21st Century: An Interdisciplinary Research Agenda

January 26th Thomas Trimble, Senior Lecturer, English; Jule Wallis, Lecturer, English; Adrienne Jankens, Lecturer, English; Clay Walker, Lecturer, English,

Learning Windows: Using Reflective Writing to Promote Learning Transfer

January 27th Marsha L. Richmond, Associate Professor, History

Rachel Carson, Gender, and the Rise of Environmental Citizenship

February 2nd Natalie Bakopoulos, Visiting Assistant Professor, English, University of Michigan

Blurred Boundaries: Narration, Knowledge, and Other Selves

February 3rd Kelly Young, Associate Professor, Communication

The N- and R-words: the National Football League's Shameful Attempts to Regulate Rhetoric and Personal/Institutional Conduct

February 9th Melissa Wooten, Visiting Professor from UMASS,

In the Face of Inequality: How Black Colleges Adapt

February 10th Michelle R. Jacobs, Assistant Professor, Sociology,

Off the Reservation: American Indian Life in the City

February 16th Tam Elisabeth Perry, Assistant Professor, Sociology; Vanessa Olivia Rorai, Graduate Student, Social Work,

Landscapes in Older Adulthood

February 17th Donyale Padgett, Associate Professor, Communication,

Exploring Retention Challenges at Wayne

February 23rd Victor Figueroa, Associate Professor, CMLLC,

Commodity and Sacred Realm: The Representation of Caribbean Nature in the Poetry of Luis Palés Matos

February 24th Shenika Hankerson, Lecturer, English,

Journeys Toward Equity: Cultivating Successful Writing Experiences and Outcomes for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students

March 1st Eric Douglas Hiddleston, Associate Professor, Philosophy,

Why consciousness is a Hard(er) Problem in the Philosophy of Mind

March 2nd Matthew Younglove, Director of Athletic Bands/Applied Saxophone, Music,

Mixed Media: The Overlapping Sound Worlds of Live Performance and Digitization

WINTER 2016

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES

See page 51 for the preliminary 2016-2017 Brown Bag Colloquium schedule. Abstracts for talks will be posted on the Center's Web site and can be accessed at <http://research2.wayne.edu/hum/Programs/brownbag/16-17.html>.



L to R: Professor Eric Ash and Dr. Edwards after Dr. Ash presented his topic "Mixed Media: Interpreting the Wetlands: Expertise and Resource Management in the English Fens"

March 8th Youson Jung, Assistant Professor; Andrew Newman, Assistant Professor; Erika Carrillo, Graduate Student; Jaroslava Pallas, Graduate Student: Anthropology,

Good Food, Better City? Politics, Pedagogy, and the Reimagining of Detroit's Food Landscape

March 9th Mysoon Rizk, Associate Professor & Head of Art History, Department of Art, University of Toledo,
Dirty Work: The Art of David Wojnarowicz

March 22nd Eric Ash, Associate Professor, History,
Mixed Media: Interpreting the Wetlands: Expertise and Resource Management in the English Fens

March 23rd Frederic Pearson, Professor, Political Science and Director of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies,
International Intervention and the Consequences for Insurgent Strategy in Civil Wars

March 29th GERALYN E. STEPHENS, Associate Professor, Education,
ONLINE TEACHING: Maximizing the Use of Collaborative Groups

March 30th Anne E. Duggan, Professor and Chair, CMLLC,
The Animal Sublime, or Scudéry's Of Chameleons

April 5th Jorge Chinaea, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies,

Slavery and Child Trafficking in Puerto Rico in the Age of Abolition: Majesty Incident, c. 1859-1865

April 6th Hal Weary, Lecturer, Music,
Educating 21st Century Musicians: Artistry, Industry, Technology, & Pedagogy

April 12th Charles Frank Klahm, Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice,

Blurred Boundaries: Collateral Damage: Assessing the Impact of Broken Windows Policing Policies on Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior

April 19th Eldona May, Lecturer, Music,

The Role of MOOCs in Transnational Higher Education: Instructional Design in the African Diaspora, and the Impact of Technology on Teacher Development

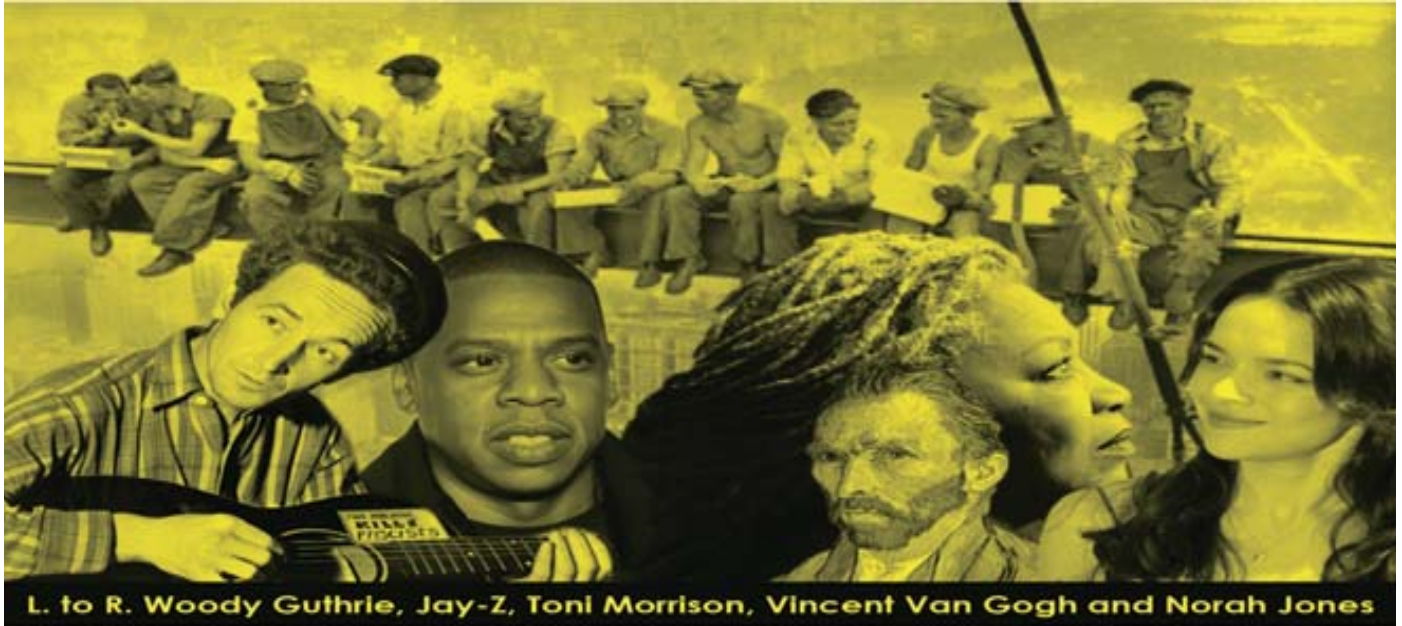
April 20th renée c. hoogland, Professor, English,
Doing Something Close to Nothing: Maria Abramovic's War Machine



Dr. Figueroa's audience listening to his presentation on "Commodity and Sacred Realm: The Representation of Caribbean Nature in the Poetry of Luis Palés Matos"

EXPLORING THE EVERYDAY 2016 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

Each spring the recipients of the previous year's Faculty Fellowships participate in a conference based on the previous year's theme. The 2016 conference was on "Exploring the Everyday." Below is the explication of the theme that was published by the Center to invite proposals, followed by the abstracts of the lectures presented.



Explication of Theme

The "everyday" encompasses the local, the personal, the quotidian, the episodic. Practitioners of the everyday search for what is extraordinary about the mundane, exploring and reconstructing the material realities of "ordinary" people, focusing on their qualitative, subjective, and lived experience – in all its varied complexity. The everyday has served through the ages as an inspiration for artists and musicians, dramatists and filmmakers, poets, novelists, and other writers of fiction – from Vermeer to Van Gogh, from Woody Guthrie to Woody Allen to Willy Loman, from Zola to Jay Z. Historians and social scientists have also discovered the everyday as a window on the world of the anonymous in history – the nameless multitudes, the excluded and deprived. In so doing, they show the ways in which the supposed "casualties" of progress and modernity have and exercise agency and are not the mere "subjects" of blind historical forces, i.e., of History writ large.

What is the relationship between the everyday and "high" culture, between the everyday and "high" politics? What can studies of the everyday tell us about grand themes like love and death, life and loss, the metaphysical and the metaphorical? In an age that valorizes looking at the "larger picture," to what extent can a close-up, intimate focus on the proverbial trees reveal the true nature of the forest?

We are looking for proposals that examine "Exploring the Everyday" theme from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary, humanistic, and artistic perspectives. We anticipate that scholars working in literature, law, political science, history, sociology, anthropology, art, languages, and other disciplines would find this topic appealing.

EXPLORING THE EVERYDAY

2016 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

The conference was held in the McGregor Memorial Conference Center on campus on April 8th, 2016. Seven scholars presented papers in the conference. Aside from the keynote speaker's, the abstracts of the talks presented are sorted alphabetically by the speaker's last name.



Right: New businesses revitalizing Midtown next to Detroit Thermal LLC on Woodward and Willis



James Scott, Keynote Speaker
Professor of Political Science & Anthropology, Yale
'Harmonization?': The Struggle between Vernacular Life and Official Life

BIOGRAPHY

James Scott is the Sterling Professor of Political Science and Professor of Anthropology and is Director of the Agrarian Studies Program. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, has been awarded grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Guggenheim Foundation, and has been a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Science, Technology and Society Program at M.I.T., and the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. His research concerns political economy, comparative agrarian societies, theories of hegemony and resistance, peasant politics, revolution, Southeast Asia, theories of class relations and anarchism. He is currently teaching Agrarian Studies and Rebellion, Resistance and Repression.

Professor Scott's recent publications include "Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed", Yale University Press, 1997; "Geographies of Trust: Geographies of Hierarchy," in Democracy and Trust, 1998; "State Simplifications and Practical Knowledge," in People's Economy, People's Ecology, 1998 and "The Art of Not Being Governed: An Anarchist History of Upland Southeast Asia" (Yale Press, 2009).

KEYNOTER'S ABSTRACT

Once upon a time, all knowledge was vernacular, local, specific. The major institution manufacturing "official" knowledge overlaying and often replacing vernacular knowledge, is the state. One can trace this process through place names, road names, and personal names. In the modern world the drive for official knowledge extends to the creation of standardized institutions spearheaded by the IMF, the World Bank, the WHO, the EU and the UN. This drive, backed by sanctions, goes by the charming euphemism "harmonization". I try to examine both the process of standardization, resistance to it, and its implications.

ABSTRACTS OF OTHER PRESENTERS

Zachary W. Brewster, Assistant Professor , Sociology, Wayne State University
"Dining while Black/Brown: Everyday Discrimination in Full-Service Restaurants"

"While racial minorities report experiencing discrimination across a wide domain of public spaces, an emerging body of literature indicates that they might be particularly vulnerable to subtle and covert forms of mistreatment when engaging in everyday commercial transactions" (Ainscough and Motley 2000; Harris,

EXPLORING THE EVERYDAY

2016 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE

Henderson, and Williams 2005). Full-service restaurants, for instance, constitute a frequently utilized market context wherein customers of color are particularly vulnerable to mistreatment. This increased vulnerability stems, in part, from the common sentiment among restaurant servers that African Americans, Asians, and Hispanics tend to be poor tippers relative to their white counterparts (see Brewster and Nell Rusche 2012; McCall and Lynn 2009). Thus, servers are able to rationalize discriminatory service delivery to their racial minority patrons by couching such mistreatment within the context of their economic dependence on customer gratuities. In other words, they are able to justify giving less attention to black, Asian, and Hispanic customers (i.e., discriminate) because they do not perceive that they will be fairly compensated for their efforts (Margalioth 2006). It is undoubtedly only by couching racial biases and discriminatory behaviors within such an economic frame that servers are willing to not only openly convey their disdain towards minority customers but also to readily admit to giving their customers relatively inferior service (see Brewster and Rusche 2012; Brewster, Brauer, and Lynn 2015).

Jennifer Hart, Assistant Professor , History, Wayne State University

"Accra Mobile: Mapping Mobility, Culture, and History in Contemporary Ghana"

This new project grows out of my current book manuscript, *Ghana Must Go!: African Mobility in the Age of Motor Transportation*, which details the emergence and growth of motor transportation and its significance in the development of an African culture of mobility through the socio-cultural history of African drivers in Ghana. In this new digital humanities project, I draw this broader historical and cultural study to focus my attention on Ghana's capital, Accra, as a space of intense integration and contestation over the meaning of mobility and the formation of urban cultures. In particular, this project seeks to create an interactive map of the city's trotro (mini-bus) system, effectively bringing the map (and the system it represents) to life by integrating people, their stories, and their cultures of mobility into the map itself. In doing so, "Accra Mobile" attempts to bridge the gap between academic research and public interest, bringing historical research into the public sphere and engaging directly with issues of contemporary interest and significance in Ghana and around the world. "Accra Mobile" will also allow me to explore the culture of Ghanaian streets – a culture in which I was deeply embedded throughout my research and which defines life in contemporary Ghana – in ways that were not possible in written texts and historical scholarship, bringing those streets to life through the images, sound, and voices of Ghanaian drivers and passengers. The honking of horns, the signaling of drivers, the social behaviors of passengers, and the decoration of vehicles are all essential to understanding the life of the street.

John Patrick Leary, Assistant Professor , English, Wayne State University

"A Brief History of Urban Decline, 1898-Present"

This project engages debates around American exceptionalism and the discourse of progress in the United States, two examples of what the fellowship explication call "larger picture" of U.S. cultural history. I approach these broad ideas, however, through the lens of "everyday" metropolitan life: specifically, the urban built environment and the city-dweller's integration with it. While urban studies often takes "growth" and "development" as an object of study, my project concentrates studies on what has long been an equally potent discourse about cities in American culture: their decline. I consider "decline" as a perennial component of American urbanism, rather than an anomalous feature of post-war metropolitan life. I argue that the specter of decline, as a sign of moral degradation and infrastructural decay, has in fact haunted urban modernity since the beginnings of the "American Century." The triumphal notion of American progress phrase is often imagined as a movement in space, into the west and across the oceans, which decline describes a movement in time. Decline is best understood as a displacement of the spatial inequities of urban capitalism - - the racial and class stratifications of the American city – onto a temporal framework. The spaces on the "other side of the tracks" come to illuminate the idealized past from which our troubled present is supposed receding.

EXPLORING THE EVERYDAY

2016 FACULTY FELLOWS CONFERENCE



Left: Fischer Building shot from Anthony Wayne Drive

Aaron B. Retish, Associate Professor , History, Wayne State University

"At Court in USSR: Peasants, Legal Culture, and Social Control, 1917-1939"

"At Court in the USSR" is a book-length study of how peasants in the Soviet Union used people's courts from the Communist revolution in 1917 until the eve of the Second World War in 1939. People's courts were the courts of first review that adjudicated petty crimes and heard most civil claims – where everyday people fought over everyday disputes. They were the most widely used courts by both citizens and state prosecutors and an important entry into what peasants and state expected from the Soviet legal world. I show that Soviet peasants had a deep sense of legality and used these local courts for their own good. I also argue that the courtroom acted as an arena of political negotiation between state and peasants and among peasants themselves. I use local courts as a lens to examine three interrelated themes. First, how did the state control the discipline its citizens and shape their value systems and identities; second, what do peasants' use of the courts reveal about the vibrancy of peasant legal culture in the Soviet Union and what do their cases tell us about everyday life; and finally, how did citizens deliberate over and mete out justice within the Soviet framework. It is also a universal story of how people accept authoritarian regimes and work within their structure as much as it is a tale of how the modern state controls its citizens through the law. The project should appeal to scholars of Soviet history, legal scholars, and historians of citizenship in the modern state.

Scott C. Richmond, Assistant Professor , English, Wayne State University

"Identifications: On Encountering Others in Media"

Identifications: On Encountering Others in Media will be a book-length work of film and media theory that offers a new account of viewers' identification with others on a variety of screens. Identifications extends the phenomenological project of my first book, Resonant Perception: Cinema, Phenomenology, Illusion (forthcoming in 2016 from the University of Minnesota Press), by drawing on recent work in phenomenological media theory, while revisiting the history of film theory. Identifications proposes that identification is best understood as an embodied process organized and modulated by media technologies.

Lisa Ze Winters, Associate Professor, African American Studies and English, Wayne State University

"Black Magic in Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century African American Literature"

Identifications: On Encountering Others in Media will be a book-length work of film and media theory that offers a new account of viewers' identification with others on a variety of screens. Identifications extends the phenomenological project of my first book, Resonant Perception: Cinema, Phenomenology, Illusion (forthcoming in 2016 from the University of Minnesota Press), by drawing on recent work in phenomenological media theory, while revisiting the history of film theory. Identifications proposes that identification is best understood as an embodied process organized and modulated by media technologies.

GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS



Right: Detroit People Mover line.

The Humanities Center budgets funds each year to help graduate students in the humanities and arts present their research or artistic work at national conferences and exhibitions. To receive these funds, graduate students must submit application letters with personal statements indicating how presenting their work will help their academic and professional careers. Graduate students outside the humanities are also encouraged to apply if their presentations are of particular interest to scholars in the humanities and the arts. The Center offers up to \$300 in travel assistance to each approved applicant. This year, ten students were funded through the program.

Fall Awardees

Amanda Walter - History

Conference: "Where Do We Go From Here?" Post-Civil Rights Era Resistance in the United States, Baltimore, Maryland

Maya Stovall - Anthropology

Conference: 114th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association with the theme "Familiar/Strange", Colorado Convention Center

Peter Marra - English

Conference: The Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present 7: "Arts & the Public", Greenville, SC

Winter Awardees

David Kraus- CMLLC

Conference: The 47th Northeast Modern Language Association Conference in Hartford, Connecticut

Georgia Coates - CMLLC

Conference: "Teaching of Foreign Languages" - The 48th Annual Central States Conference in Columbus, Ohio

Lacey A. Skorepa - English

Conference: Conference for the study of the Fantastic in the Arts, in Orlando, Florida

Nour Seblini - CMLLC

Conference: Conference of Southwest Council of Latin American Studies in New Orleans, LA

Spring/Summer Awardees

Bosik Kim - English

Conference: 8th Triennial Conference of the International John Bunyan Society in Aix-en-Provence, France

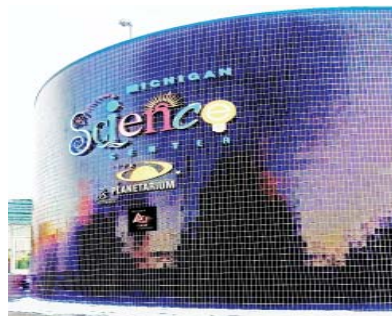
John Landreville - English

Conference: "Coming to Terms with Film-Philosophy Conference" in Toronto, Canada

Srinawati - Anthropology

Conference: 20th International Symposium on Malay/Indonesian Linguistics (ISMIL20) in Melbourne, Australia

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



Above: Detroit Science Center

The Working Groups program is designed to promote collaborative and innovative research among WSU humanities and arts faculty and students. This year the Center funded eight groups of which seven groups have sent their reports. Their reports are below.

Group on Digital Humanities Teaching and Research

Core Members include:

Jennifer Hart, Assistant Professor, History
 Lisa Maruca, Associate Professor, English
 Tracy Neumann, Assistant Professor, History

By the end of the winter semester, the Digital Humanities Working Group will have met at least 3 times over the course of the 2015-2016 Academic Year. The first two meetings each attracted 15-20 faculty, staff, and students; our listserv now has over 40 members. We have also established a presence on Twitter (@dhatwayne) and Facebook, and started a blog for the group (<http://blogs.wayne.edu/dhatwayne/>), where we have begun sharing information about Digital Humanities-related work at Wayne and in the broader scholarly community.

In our first meeting we agreed to take over responsibility for the Network Detroit Conference, which is a conference of Digital Humanities scholars and practitioners from the greater Detroit region (and southeastern Michigan more generally). The conference is currently scheduled for September 30, 2016, with an "un-conference" scheduled for October 1, 2016. A sub-committee crafted a CFP, which was approved by the Working Group at our second meeting. We are currently pursuing additional support from regional partners and community organizations, both in terms of financing as well as participation. More information can be found at our conference website, <http://detroitdh.org/>.

In April, we are planning a Digital Humanities Showcase where faculty and students can present their ongoing work in using digital technologies in research and in the classroom. In the fall of 2016, in the aftermath of the conference, we also hope to have a "retreat" organized through the Office for the Vice President for Research where we discuss our future plans for the group and plot a path forward. We are very grateful for the Humanities Center's support of the Working Group, which has drawn together otherwise disparate interests from across campus. We hope to continue to establish the group's presence on campus and expand opportunities in the Digital Humanities.

Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS)

Core Members include:

Eric Ash, Associate Professor, History
 Simone Chess, Assistant Professor, English
 Todd Breijak, Graduate Student, English

This year, the Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS) continued our interdisciplinary work on the early modern period (c. 1400-1800). A rotating slate of facilitators led monthly meetings centered on their current research. Professor Jonny Cottrell (Philosophy) shared a chapter in-progress on David Hume's *Treatise of Human Nature* and its controversial approaches to space and time, while graduate students Melanie Zynell, Bosik Kim, and Sean Levenson (all English) led sessions on conference presentations and dissertation research, receiving valuable feedback on their projects.

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS

Groups typically include faculty from different fields as well as graduate students. Working Groups meet regularly for discussion, exchange, and planning for events such as guest lectures and colloquia..



Above: Rebuilding of downtown Detroit

This year, we paused our very successful tradition of an annual themed symposium, replacing it with the one-time-only events surrounding the Folger Shakespeare Library's First Folio programming at Wayne State, the Detroit Institute of the Arts, and the Detroit Public Library. GEMS faculty members Simone Chess and Lisa Maruca (English) both presented talks at the folio conference, which featured highly regarded literary scholar David Bevington (University of Chicago) and Mary Thomas Crane (Boston College). The folio conference continued the GEMS symposium's tradition of reaching out to regional universities, and included papers by faculty from Eastern Michigan University, Western Michigan University, Michigan State, and University of Michigan. The morning before the event, Professor Crane presented a master class, sponsored by GEMS, for faculty and graduate students on representations of new science in Shakespeare's plays and poems. GEMS faculty member Jaime Goodrich (English) also gave a workshop at the DPL for graduate and undergraduate students. Finally, GEMS graduate students and faculty are organizing a "Speed Shakespeare" event as a fun and informal contribution to the Folio programming.

This has been an unusual and exciting year for GEMS, and we have been delighted to participate in and contribute to the events surrounding the Folio's visit to Detroit. We remain grateful to the Humanities Center, whose support allows our continued growth, and we look forward to many more years of early modern collaboration at Wayne State!

Language and Genetics

Core Members include:

Natalia Rakhlin, Associate Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders

Stephen Chrisomalis, Associate Professor, Anthropology

Lara Jones, Associate Professor, Psychology

The Genes and Language group was established during the winter semester of 2015. During the 2015-2016 academic year, we have expanded to include six faculty members and four graduate students (MA and Ph.D.) from different fields, including Linguistics, Anthropology, Modern and Classical Languages, Communication Sciences and Disorders and Biology. As of the writing of the report, we have held 7 meetings this year, during which we discussed key readings on the genetic bases of language variation and planned our investigation on the relationship between language typology and genetic variation. Our goal is to search for meaningful statistically significant associations between points of language variation and inter-population differences in allele frequency among SNPs and haplotypes of certain genes. The goal is to identify the aspects of linguistic variation that are not merely superficial (i.e., a result of chance events in the course of language change or cultural-historical factors), but those that are rooted in the constraints of human cognition and hence may have genetic correlates. We are interested in documenting these correlations when they are not attributable to shared geography or history, but may have arisen independently in diverse populations. The idea is that the presence of certain genetic variants may confer on a carrier a cognitive bias that would have a subtle but important effect on language processing in individual children. This subtle difference, over many generations in the course of historical language change, would translate into certain linguistic features becoming established in the languages spoken by populations that have a high frequency of the allele associated with the language processing bias in question.

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



The Center offers up to \$800 annually to new groups and \$600 to continuing groups.

Left: Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

This is a very ambitious goal with very little published research to date. Undoubtedly, the work we have undertaken so far is only a first step in a long-term research program. However, we have a number of accomplishments to report.

1. We have identified two public databases of genetic data containing information on allele frequency in anthropologically defined populations, namely Allele Frequency Database (ALFRED), maintained by Yale University, and "1000 Genomes" project database maintained by the International Genome Sample Resource (IGSR).
2. We have identified a list of published candidate "language genes".
3. We have identified a list of diverse languages from all major geographic regions of the world that overlap with the populations represented in the genetic databases (see above), which will be the focus of our investigation.
4. We have made a list of linguistic parameters (points of broad variation in the sound systems, grammatical organization, and lexical packaging of meaning across languages) to be examined in the languages of interest, such as the use of linguistic tone, ergative case pattern, accusative case pattern, reduplication, large phonetic inventory of consonants, uncommon vowels, semantic or formal gender, etc.
5. Currently, each member of the group is researching the assigned to him/her set of features vis-à-vis the list of the languages of interest and entering binary values for each feature (1 if the feature is present and 0 if it is absent in a given language) in a shared database we have created.
6. We have hired a graduate student assistant from the Biology department to be responsible for entering genetic data into our database and conducting statistical analyses looking for meaningful statistical correlations between linguistic and genetic variation.

We are very grateful to the Humanities Center for their generous support of our Working Group.

Race, Class and Gender in Narratives of Contemporary American Musicians

Core Members include:

Joshua S. Duchan, Assistant Professor, Music
Wendy Matthews, Assistant Professor, Music
Emery Stephens, Assistant Professor, Music

Professors Joshua S. Duchan, Wendy Matthews, and Emery Stephens received a Working Groups Grant for their collaborative project, "Race, Class, and Gender in Narratives of Contemporary American Musicians." This is the second year that the group has pursued this project under the auspices of the Humanities Center. Duchan, a musicologist, looked at the role of social class in several songs by singer-songwriter Billy Joel; Matthews, a music education scholar, studied the role of gender in the life and work of trumpeter

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



Right: Hart Plaza Fountain

Carol Dawn Reinhart; and Stephens, a baritone and teacher of voice, examined advocacy for racial diversity in the life and career of singer Louise Toppin. Their efforts were presented as a panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology, held on April 9 at Michigan State University.



Panel discussion hosted by the Humanities Center's working group "Sustainability Scholars Forum".

Sustainability Scholars Forum

Core Members include:

David Fasenfest, Associate Professor, Sociology
Rahul Mitra, Assistant Professor, Communication
Alisa V. Moldavanova, Assistant Professor, Political Science
Tam Perry, Assistant Professor, Social Work

In its second year of operations now, the Sustainability Scholars' Forum (SSF), is the only research working group on campus that highlights the contributions of the humanities and social sciences disciplines in articulating what sustainability means for the contemporary era. We

draw from the diverse methodological and disciplinary backgrounds of our 26 members to redefine sustainability in terms of its social, ecological, cultural and economic intersections. Presently, our members hail from academic departments (and schools) as varied as Communication, Political Science, Fine Arts, Sociology, Economics, Social Work, History, Law, Anthropology, Fine Arts, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Physiology. Our core members are (listed in alphabetical order of last name): David Fasenfest (Sociology), Rahul Mitra (Communication), Alisa Moldavanova (Political Science), Tam Perry (Social Work), and Jeffrey Ram (Physiology).

At our monthly meetings, we have hosted research presentations by faculty members on topics as diverse as the impact of emergency managers in Michigan, social and institutional infrastructure to serve homeless and older populations in Detroit, the sustainability of cultural institutions, and fostering healthy communities. We have also exchanged information on grant announcements, research calls for papers, and university news pertinent to members' interests. We have continued to use our blackboard group and email listserv to facilitate contact among SSF members.

On September 11, 2015, we organized an interdisciplinary research symposium, on the theme of "Social Institutions and Sustainability," at Wayne State University to showcase the work of SSF members and to establish WSU as an influential national institution in social studies of sustainability. The daylong event attracted around 25 scholars from across the U.S. and Canada, with a peak audience of about 70 during the keynote talk by noted environmental studies and management researcher, Dr. Andrew Hoffman (Holcim Professor of Sustainable Enterprise, at the University of Michigan). The event was a huge success, and attracted funding from the departments of Political Science, Communication, and Sociology, from the Office of Vice President of Research (OVPR), and from the journal *Critical Sociology*. Director of the Humanities Center, Dr. Walter Edwards, offered opening remarks for the symposium, along with Dean of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, Dr. Matthew Seeger.

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



Left: A building in Midtown Detroit with intricate lattice pavers

Buoyed by the success of the symposium, the SSF will organize a Research Poster event this year, and host a “practice-based keynote” to highlight the everyday implications of sustainability. We have settled on September 9, 2016, as the date for the poster conference, and noted journalist Curt Guyette of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), who helped break the news on the ongoing Flint water contamination crisis, has agreed to deliver the keynote. Calls for abstracts for the poster conference will go out shortly.

Finally, two of the SSF’s core members (Drs. Mitra and Moldavanova) are coediting a Special Interdisciplinary Issue of the peer-reviewed journal *Critical Sociology*, on the theme of “Social Institutions and Sustainability.” The submitted manuscripts are presently undergoing peer review, and the issue is expected to be out in print in 2017.



Panel Discussion held on February 11 on the Flint Water Crisis.

Working Group on Science and Society

Core Members include:

Marsha Richmond (Coordinator), Associate Professor,
Department of History

Barry Lyons, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology

William Lynch, Associate Professor, Department of History

The Working Group on Science and Society was relatively dormant during the 2015-2016 academic year. However, the one event it sponsored was a major one and well exemplified the overall aim of the group, namely: to carry out a campus-wide discussion of important issues connected with the social impact of science.

On 11 February, WGSS sponsored a university-wide panel discussion on the Flint Water Crisis from 2:00-4:00pm in the Bernath Auditorium. The aim of the panel was to inform the university community about many different aspects of the water crisis in Flint through forming an interdisciplinary panel of WSU experts in different areas. The flier information, including the list of speakers, is copied below:

Panel Discussion:

“The Crisis in Flint: Context, Concerns, and Lessons Learned”

The lead crisis in Flint touches upon multiple issues pertaining to contemporary urban problems that Detroit shares--provision of public amenities and urban planning in cities challenged by a declining tax-base and declining populations; coordination between different governmental entities and private agencies; addressing problems with crumbling infrastructure; providing for the medical, nutritional, and educational needs of underserved children; basic questions about environmental justice; not to mention issues connected to assessing public health needs.

WORKING GROUPS IN THE HUMANITIES & ARTS



Right: Water tower on top of the Canfield Loft

Join a panel of Wayne State faculty from many disciplines across the campus who will bring their academic expertise to bear to discuss the multiple issues raised by the Flint crisis and reflect on lessons to be learned.

Panelists	Unit	Topic
Marsha Richmond (Moderator)	History	Background of the Crisis
Shawn McElmurry	Civil Engineering	The Water Infrastructure System in Flint and what went wrong
Kami Pothukuchi	Urban Studies and Planning	Urban food systems
Carolyn Gillespie Loh	Urban Studies and Planning	Emergency Managers and the provision of urban amenities
Josiah Rector	History	Lead in urban environments
Andrea Sankar	Anthropology	Community response to environmental hazards
Dawn Misra	Public Health	Epidemiology
Noah Hall	WSU Law School	Water issues and the law
Kristin O'Donovan	Political Science	Intergovernmental relations and the politics of disasters

The event was a great success. The audience was a reasonable size for an event held in the afternoon and included both WSU students and faculty as well as a few members of the public. (The event was not advertised widely as a public event in order to discourage protesters from attending.) Each speaker had 10-15 minutes, followed by a questions and answer session. The panel discussion was videotaped by Dr. José Cuello (History) and made available to all participants.

Funding: \$100

Dr. Edwards graciously provided matching funds to those of the History Department to cover the costs of renting Bernath Auditorium and paying for the audiovisual equipment, as well as the printing of posters to advertise the event.

Participants:

The membership of the WGSS listserv currently stands at just under 200.

The core members of the WGSS thank the Humanities Center for its continuing support of the working group's activities.

HUMANITIES CENTER'S DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

The Humanities Center and the Graduate School continued their collaboration on funding the Humanities Center's Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship. 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.

About the Award

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 2016 or shortly thereafter. Up to three smaller awards of \$500 each could be made at the discretion of the sponsors. The fellowship award is dispensed as monthly stipends between January and August.

This year the Center selected three recipients: the fellow, Erin Elizabeth Bell (English), and two awardees: Vincent Haddad (English), and Katrina Newsom (English).

Fellow



Erin Elizabeth Bell - English

"Words [Don't Always] Fail Me: The Complexities of Gender and Sub-Genres in American Short Fiction by Women"

This project focuses on American short stories written by women from roughly the mid-twentieth century into the contemporary era, because, as I argue, these short stories function as a means of dissent against phallogocentric literary practice and hegemonic ideologies regarding gender, race, and class through the utilization of the short form itself. Ultimately, I categorize short stories by Carson McCullers, Tillie Olsen, Grace Paley, and Lydia Davis into sub-genres of short fiction that appropriate literary forms with complicated histories of representing gender. These sub-genres include epistolary fiction, the odyssey, and the bildungsroman. I approach my analysis of short stories with an eye toward the genre's ambivalent status within canonical literary studies, arguing that the female authors' decision to write short fiction constitutes an artistic act of revolution and defiance, due in part, to history of the American short story as a genre of writing outside of the norm. Such acts of literary revision and appropriation are best understood as what postmodern literary theorist Linda Hutcheon describes as postmodern parody. By reading the four authors in relation to one another, I show the breadth and range of stories by women from the mid-twentieth century on, and how the use of sub-genres relay messages about the cultural climate of their respective times and literary aesthetic.

Erin has worked as a Graduate Teaching Assistant teaching courses in American literature as well as a Graduate Student Assistant at the Writing, Research and Technology Zone at Wayne State University. Her work has been published in *The Explicator*, *Criticism*, and *Lilith: A Feminist History Journal*.

HUMANITIES CENTER'S DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

Awardees



Vincent Haddad - English

"Intimacies of Print: How the Future-Oriented American Novel Looked Backwards"

My doctoral project, "The Intimacies of Print: How the Contemporary Novel Looked Backwards," hypothesizes that popular-literary authors, in concert with an increasingly sophisticated book marketplace, have successfully excavated and extended earlier models for intimacy that print culture afforded under-represented groups, specifically female, queer, and/or African-American authors to imagine alternate futures. My project offers both a socio-historical perspective of print and reader reception as well as close readings of the works of David Foster Wallace, A.M. Homes, Kiese Laymon, and Chris Ware,

to illustrate the ways race, gender and sexuality undergird the relationships between reader, narrative, and book.

Katrina Newsom - English

"Toward a Theory of Work: Responsibility, Self-Regulation and Identity in the Age of Neoliberal Capitalism"

This dissertation examines how American literature, particularly in the areas of ethnic, working-class, cultural, and literary studies, grapples with work and responsibility as shaped by neoliberal work values. I investigate such terms as subjectivity and autonomy, as characteristic of America's identity and culture in the age of neoliberal global capitalism. Conventional view of neoliberal work values is that work in the Postfordist era ushers in a labor reality that requires everyone to engage work personally and emotionally and to self-regulate to the patterns and demands of capitalist modes of production. In the case of literary and cultural studies, the "intrapersonal mandates" of this work value emerge not only in the production of American literature and culture and the reading of those productions; but also, in the ways the field examines itself. Through an exploration of contemplations of work, as configured by intrapersonal mandates in the form of responsibility, I locate the ways self-regulation and its operational modes mystify questions of work and identity formations for what appear as more advanced questions of race, class, and gender represented in concepts of subjectivity and autonomy. I demonstrate this by examining literary and cultural productions of the post-1980s, ranging from literature and exposé-style investigative reporting to film.





MOBILITIES: VELOCITY, RHYTHMS, AND FLOWS (PRACTICES, SPACES, AGENTS) 2015 - 2016 FACULTY FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Each year the Humanities Center sponsors a Faculty Fellowship Competition on a specific theme. This year's theme was "Mobilities". 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 a list of the eight faculty who were awarded 2016 Faculty Fellowships. They will present their findings at the Faculty Fellowship Conference in March 2017.

2016 Faculty Fellowships Competition Explication of Theme

From the lure of adventure to the tedium of a daily commute, and from the call of the unknown to the familiarity of home, various forms and aspects of mobility have always been at the core of human existence and preoccupations. Newly emerging technologies are constantly changing our view of time and space, and impacting our relationship to the surrounding environment. The advent of the railroad, the automobile, and the airplane provides a perfect example of how the perception of distance, and consequently of time, is influenced by increased velocity. The incremental development of telecommunication devices has rendered distances and physical barriers superfluous, thus contributing to trends of globalization, cosmopolitanism, and global governance on the one hand, and escalated scrutiny and surveillance on the other hand.

Living implies movement; this vital association encompasses heterogeneous flows of people, things, and ideas. The corporeal travel of people relates not only to everyday practices or to touristic, leisurely pursuits, but also to historical phenomena such as political upheaval and regime change. From biblical accounts of the Israelites' wanderings to the Great Migration of African Americans during the 20th century, shifts in population have redefined political, cultural, and religious landscapes. Embodied practices such as walking, driving, and flying help us create new spaces (roads, airports, public transportation, etc.) that modify existing infrastructures, geographies, and topologies. Meanwhile, disability studies has shed new light on the social and medical nature of different kinds of mobilities, from the wheelchair to the crutch. Travel also occurs in more than one dimension. While the concept of social mobility is central to disciplines such as anthropology, economics, and sociology, Jules Verne's fertile imagination took 19th-century readers on a trip to the moon almost a century before technological advances made it possible. Today's imagination contributes various accounts of imaginative travel and virtual travel to mobility studies, from the space journeys depicted in movies like *Interstellar* to the time-traveling exploits of *Doctor Who*.

We invite submissions of scholarly and/or artistic works which explore past and present conceptions of mobility, broadly defined. How are the different facets of mobility – artistic, literary, geographical, political, sociological, anthropological, historical, linguistic, philosophical – represented? How do these representations consider the entanglement of ethnicity, gender, and class that is common to the flows of subjects, objects, and concepts? How do the velocity, rhythm, and flow of mobility emerge from the practices of specific cultures or agents?

2016 Recipients

Robert Aguirre, Associate Dean of CLAS and Associate Professor of English
Indigenous Mobilities: Muybridge and the Making of Western Americana

Mary Anderson, Associate Professor, Theatre and Dance
Mobile Homestead: Cycles of Representation and Disruption in the Work of Mike Kelley

Danielle Aubert, Assistant Professor, Art and Art History
The Graphic Legacy of Fredy Perlman and the Detroit Printing Co-op

Alina Cherry, Associate Professor, CMLLC
Bodies in Motion: Spaces, Crossings, Journeys

Nicole Coleman, Assistant Professor, CMLLC
Privilege of Border Blindness: Transnational (Im)Mobility in A.T.'s Noise of B. and A.K.'s Village Indian

Hernán M. Garcia, Assistant Professor, CMLLC
Performing the Low-Tech Cyborg: The Poetics of Peripheral Technology in Alex Rivera's Film 'Sleep Dealer'

Nadejda Marinova, Assistant Professor, Political Science
Engaging Diasporas: Insights from US Policymaking and Lebanese-American Organizations

David Merolla, Associate Professor, Sociology
Racial Differences in Social Mobility across Three Generation

A LOOK AHEAD: 2016 - 2017 ACTIVITIES

GRADUATE TRAVEL COMPETITION

**WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY**

THE HUMANITIES CENTER

Travel Support for Graduate Students Application Guidelines 2016-2017



PURPOSE

The Humanities Center wishes to encourage graduate students in the Humanities and the Arts to present their research or artistic work at national conferences and exhibitions.

ELIGIBILITY

All graduate students in the humanities, arts, or related disciplines. Students outside of the traditional humanities should demonstrate that their proposed presentations have significant humanistic or artistic content. The applicant must be the sole presenter, or the principal presenter in a group presentation. In the latter case, only one student will be funded from the group. Only one student per department will be funded to go to a particular conference. We do not fund students participating in graduate student conferences. Graduate students can only receive one award per year.

FUNDING

The Center will budget up to \$3,000 in the 2016-2017 academic year to support this program. **In an effort to spread this funding across the full academic year, the Center will now budget \$1,200 for the Fall Semester, \$1,200 for the Winter Semester and \$600 for the Spring/Summer Semester.** Each award recipient will be funded up to \$300 for travel to conferences or exhibitions held **nationally** or **internationally** between September 1, 2016 and August 15, 2017.

GUIDELINES

There is no application form. Each applicant must submit the following before attending the conference:

1. A cover letter including the student's department affiliation, a mailing address and e-mail address, the name and location of the conference to be attended and the dates on which he/she will travel.
2. Evidence that his or her paper/artwork has been accepted by the conference or exhibition. This should take the form of a letter or e-mail to the student from the conference/organizers.
3. An abstract of the paper to be presented or description of the work to be exhibited.
4. A short personal statement indicating the significance of this presentation to the student's future professional career.
5. An itemized estimated budget including, if applicable, financial support from other units.
6. A letter from the student's advisor in support of his/her application

DEADLINE: September 16, 2016 for Fall 2016
December 09, 2016 for Winter 2017
April 14, 2017 for Spring/Summer 2017

REVIEW

Applications will be reviewed by a committee from the Humanities Center. Decisions will be communicated promptly to applicants.

Applications should be sent to:

The Humanities Center
Attn: Walter F. Edwards, Director
2226 Faculty/Administration Bldg.

The Humanities Center
2226 Faculty/Administration Bldg
Wayne State University
Detroit, MI 48202

(313) 577-5471
Fax (313) 577-2843
<http://www.research.wayne.edu/hum>



*Bringing Humanists
Together for
Collaborative Research*

A LOOK AHEAD: 2016 - 2017 ACTIVITIES WORKING GROUP COMPETITION FELLOWSHIP

WORKING GROUPS

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Application Deadline: September 30, 2016

2016-2017 program description and application guidelines

DESCRIPTION

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 following the guidelines below.

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.**



ELIGIBILITY

Groups of three or more Wayne State University faculty, or faculty and advanced graduate students, in the humanities, arts, and related disciplines willing to commit to regular meetings throughout the academic year are encouraged to submit proposals. The Center will give favorable consideration to newly formed working groups.

FUNDING

In 2016-2017 the Humanities Center will fund up to five working groups making available a maximum of \$800.00 each for three new groups and \$600.00 each for two continuing groups. Funded working groups will be able to use their grants for photocopying, inviting speakers, and other organizational expenses. The Center will give preference to new working groups. The Center is willing to assist groups find meeting places in the Faculty/Administration Building.

GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals for new working groups should consist of:

1. A brief (1-2 page) summary of the issues or theme the group proposes to address, the relevance of that theme to the humanistic and/or artistic fields, and ways in which the group intends to address that issue or theme;
2. The names, departmental affiliations, and contact information for core members of the proposed group and names of potential participants;
3. An estimated budget, listing any planned projects and expenses.

Proposals for continuing groups should consist of a 1-2 page summary of the group's progress in the previous year and the direction in which the group wishes to proceed; as well as items (2) and (3) listed above. Preference will be given to proposals for new groups.

Proposals should be submitted no later than September 30, 2016 for consideration for the 2016-2017 academic year. Proposals should be sent to:

The Humanities Center,
Attn: Walter F. Edwards, Director
2226 Faculty/Administration Bldg., Wayne State University
Detroit, MI 48202



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656 Reuther Mall #2226
Phone: 313-577-5471
Fax: 313-577-2843

Working Groups
currently
supported by
the Humanities
Center

Language & Genetics

Sustainability Scholars Forum

Group on Digital Humanities Teaching and Research
Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS)

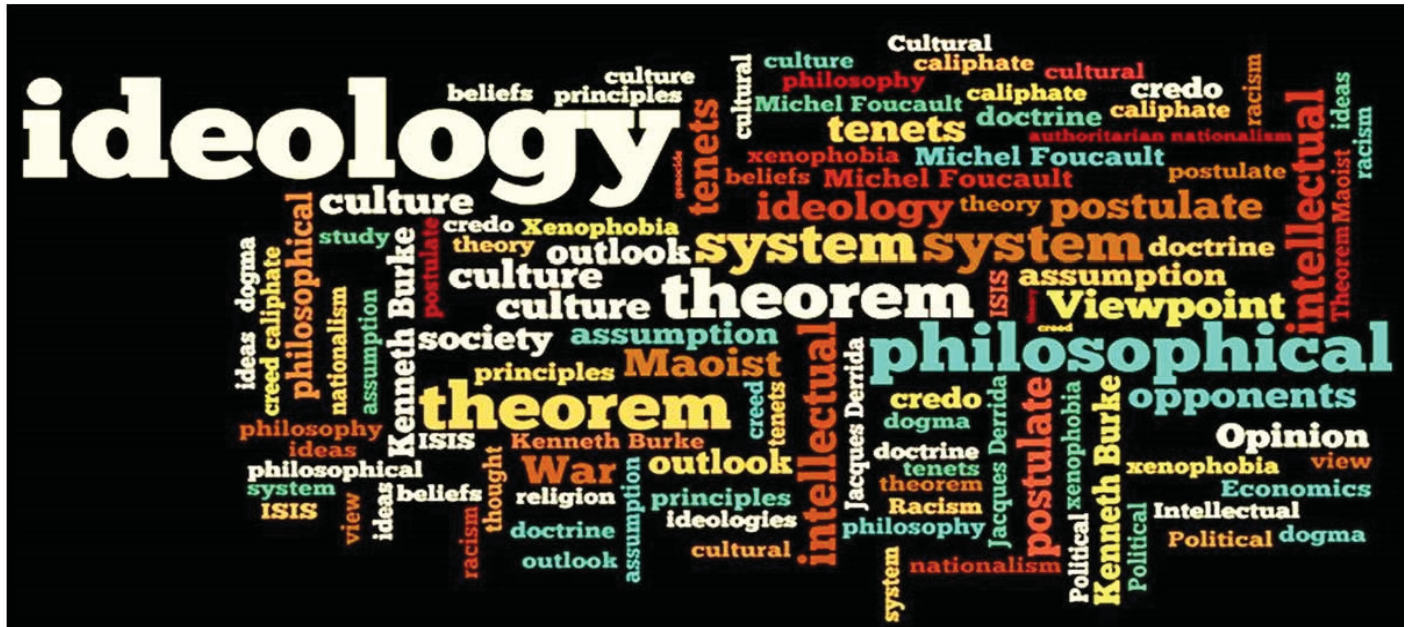
Race, Class & Gender in Narratives of Contemporary
American Musicians

Visual Culture Working Group

Working Group on Science and Society

A LOOK AHEAD: 2016 - 2017 ACTIVITIES

FALL SYMPOSIUM



Explication

From the reinstatement of Maoist ideology in Xi Jinping's China, to the resurgence of authoritarian nationalism in Putin's Russia, to the repugnantly self-righteous justifications for genocide and sexual slavery offered by ISIS in the name of a "caliphate", to homegrown xenophobia and racism, to the persistence of climate-change denial and supply-side economics in the U.S., and to the hegemony of standard language, we are living in an age of reborn, resilient, renewed ideology. Ideology was no less central to earlier periods of human existence, as shown by the religious ideologies of the medieval and Renaissance periods, the new discourses of class and gender fostered by the Enlightenment and the colonialist, imperialist and racial narratives on the 19th and 20th centuries. How does ideology refract our daily perception? Reframe our political discourse? Reflect our (non) responses to legal, social and cultural injustice? Reproduce itself in popular narratives? Theorists and practitioners of all relevant disciplines are invited to address and explore these questions and related ones at the Humanities Center's 2016 Fall Symposium.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Date: Friday, October 14, 2016

Location: McGregor Conference Center

Keynoter

Jason Stanley, Jacob Urowsky Professor of Philosophy, Yale University

WSU Speakers

A. Ronald Aronson

Distinguished Professor Emeritus, History

Anne E. Duggan

Chair, CMLLC

Jeffrey T. Horner

Director & Senior Lecturer, Urban Studies & Planning

Eun-Jung Katherine Kim

Assistant Professor, Philosophy

Alina W. Klin

Senior Lecturer, CMLLC

Sean Charles Stidd

Senior Lecturer, Philosophy

Elizabeth Stoycheff

Assistant Professor, Communication

Barrett Watten

Professor, English

Steven L. Winter

Walter S. Gibbs Professor of Constitutional Law, Law School

Kai Xu

PhD Student, Communication

A LOOK AHEAD: 2016 - 2017 ACTIVITIES

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP



The Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship



WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Humanities Center and the Graduate School are happy to announce the continuation of their collaboration on funding the **Humanities Center Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for the 2016-2017 Academic Year**. This annual fellowship will award **\$15,000** to a humanities or arts doctoral candidate in the final stages of writing his/her dissertation. 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** or shortly thereafter. The fellowship award will be dispensed as monthly stipends between January and August.

Up to **three smaller awards of \$500** each could be made to other applicants at the discretion of the sponsors.

Applicants for this fellowship must be doctoral candidates preparing dissertations in the humanities, arts, or related disciplines. These disciplines include philosophy, languages, linguistics, literature, history, jurisprudence, archaeology, comparative religion, ethics, the arts, those aspects of social sciences that have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods, and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment.

To be eligible for the Humanities Center dissertation fellowship, an applicant **must** be enrolled in good standing as a PhD candidate in a humanities or arts discipline at WSU; must have the dissertation topic, outline, and prospectus approved by his/her dissertation committee, and by the Graduate School by the application deadline and must have completed all requirements for the PhD, except the dissertation. The recipient of the fellowship cannot hold a teaching position or have other major employment.

Applications may be downloaded in PDF format for the Humanities Center website at www.research.wayne.edu/hum, or picked up from the Humanities Center at 2226 Faculty/Administration Building. For more information, contact the Humanities Center at (313)577-5471.



*Jointly sponsored by the
Humanities Center and the
Graduate School*

Humanities Center
2226 Faculty Administration Bldg.
Detroit, MI 48202
Phone (313) 577-5471
Fax (313) 577-2843



A LOOK AHEAD: 2016 - 2017 ACTIVITIES

RESIDENT SCHOLARS COMPETITION

Humanities Center



Resident Scholars Program 2017 - 2018



2014-2015 Resident Scholars meeting: Meghan Wilson, Poli-Sci; Walter Edwards, Director; Sharon Lean, Poli-Sci; Zachary Brewster, Sociology; Chera Kee, English and Sarah Swider, Sociology (not shown: Dan McCaffery, Art and Art History; and Kyunahm Jun, Poli-Sci)

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2017

The Humanities Center of Wayne State University announces the continuation of its Resident Scholars Program. The aim is to create a community of humanities and arts faculty from different disciplines working in the same physical space at roughly the same time. Such an arrangement could facilitate the formation of valuable research networks and promote interdisciplinary collaborations and joint grant applications. Resident Scholars meet periodically to share progress, experiences, and emerging conclusions from their research or creative work. Resident Scholars will also be expected to keep office hours at the Center, making research collaboration possible. The program should be attractive to all full-time faculty, but faculty on sabbatical leave should find it particularly appealing. Each office is equipped with a personal computer, and office furniture. Additionally, resident scholars have access to a network printer, the internet, a photocopier, and a fax machine. The Center also has a conference area.

Eligibility

All full-time faculty in the humanities, arts, and related disciplines are eligible to apply, including those who are on sabbatical for all or part of the academic year.

Funding

Each resident scholar will be eligible to apply for up to \$800 to support his or her approved project. The resident scholar may use this money for travel to conferences to report on his or her approved project, or for payment for research assistance. This amount will be prorated for residents who are appointed for periods shorter than one full academic year.

Conditions

Each Resident Scholar must agree to:

1. Establish office hours at least twice a week for a minimum of three hours per session; or three times per week for two hours per session. This is the central requirement of the program since it provides the opportunity for residents to interact frequently and, thus to influence each other's work and develop collaborative projects.
2. Spend his/her office hours working on his/her research project, or interacting with other resident scholars having office hours.
3. Participate in roundtable sessions with other residents when these are arranged.

Application

Applicants should submit three (3) copies of a proposal with the following content **no later than July 8th, 2016.**

1. A description of the project that the applicant would be working on during the period of his or her residency.
2. A statement indicating how the residency would enhance the professional career of the applicant.
3. A commitment to keep regular office hours throughout the residency.

The Humanities Center
Walter F. Edwards, Director
2226 Faculty/Administration Building
Wayne State University
Detroit MI 48202

Testimonials

"During my year (№#-2014) as a Resident Scholar in the Humanities Center, I have completed a draft of my article "Deterritorializing Language with Deleuze: A Question of Style" that will also serve, in a modified form, as the introductory chapter in a book manuscript on Deleuze and style; I hope to start developing the new book manuscript during academic year 2014-15."
Alina Cherry, Assistant Professor, CMLLC

"I have had an amazing productive year as a Humanities Center Resident Scholar. My primary goal was to take full advantage of my course relief this year to produce papers based on my dissertation, jump starting my research program here at Wayne. I felt like I could best do this surrounded by other scholars who were also in a period of intensive thinking and writing. I was right. Over the course of the year I was able to polish a long manuscript and get it published at Semantics & Pragmatics, which is one of the top journals in my subfield."
Robert Henderson, Assistant Professor, Linguistics

"This year spent as a Humanities Center Resident Scholar has allowed me an opportunity to redefine and reshape my work on interdisciplinary education, public awareness and promotion of African American art songs and spirituals. After receiving feedback from fellow research scholars during a roundtable discussion, I expanded my unit lesson on William Grant Still (1895-1978), along with a teacher's guide, to reflect the wider influence of underrepresented African American composers in classical music."
Emery Stephens, Assistant Professor, Music

"It is hard to describe how wonderful my year as a Resident Scholar at the Humanities Center has been. Having returned from a sabbatical conducting fieldwork on accountability institutions in Mexico to new service and teaching responsibilities in my department, the Humanities Center provided a quiet space - and an uncluttered office - where I could focus on my research and writing. My commitment to spend two mornings a week in the Center allowed me to carve out time to keep my research moving forward. I met colleagues from across the campus and gained a new appreciation of the depth and breadth of the work we do at Wayne. I benefited from their generous and insightful interdisciplinary feedback on my own work, found new opportunities for collaboration and made new friends. Walter Edwards and the staff and program assistants create a warm and supportive environment. My only regret is that I did not apply to be a Resident Scholar sooner!"
Sharon Lean, Associate Professor, Political Science

(313) 577- 5471 Fax: (313) 577-2843 www.reseach.wayne.edu/hum
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A LOOK AHEAD: 2016 - 2017 ACTIVITIES

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 (associate and full professors) in the humanities as defined by the NEH, the arts and related disciplines. 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 and publication, exhibition or performance; and on two external recommendations in support of the project. The endowment provides funds to offer two fellowships every third year. 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.

Funding

The Center will fund one proposal annually, but with the intention every third year to open the competition to two such awards. Applicants should limit their total budgets to \$20,000, and should prepare a budget statement which includes expenses related to a specific research project, e.g. travel, research assistance, salary and fringe benefits.

Conditions

1. All tenured WSU full-time faculty in the humanities as defined by the NEH, the arts and related disciplines are eligible to submit proposals, except faculty who received a research award, whether external or internal, of \$20,000 or more in the previous two years.
2. A faculty member may submit one proposal for which he or she is the sole applicant.
3. Approved projects must be completed within three years, and a copy of the final product (book, article, exhibition catalog, video, etc.) must be submitted to the Humanities Center.
4. Requests for course buyouts and summer salary supplements must be approved by the recipient's college and follow college guidelines.
5. 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.
6. Recipients must submit bi-annual interim reports on their approved projects to the Humanities Center through the term of the award project's completion.
7. Recipients are encouraged to participate in activities sponsored by the Humanities Center.

Guidelines for proposals

Each proposal must consist of a narrative of not more than twelve double-spaced pages (excluding the application cover page), a detailed budget (explaining the budget information requested on the application cover page), and the professional record of the applicant.

The body of the proposal must include the following elements:

1. A completed application cover page with all required signatures (not part of the twelve-page limit).
Note: in the case that a department head is applying for a fellowship, he or she should obtain the signature of his or her dean.
2. The applicant's name, and his or her discipline corresponding to the project.
3. A project narrative of no more than twelve pages, which includes:
 - statement of purpose
 - description of the preliminary hypotheses
 - theoretical framework
 - research methodology
 - possible outcomes of the project, with publication and future research plans, if follow-up studies are anticipated
 - contribution that the project will make to the profession and to the applicant's career
4. A bibliography or list of relevant sources, not to exceed one page (included in the twelve-page limit).
5. A detailed budget and justification by category (in addition to the budget summary on the application cover page).
Summer salary, if requested, and fringe benefits costs for all relevant employees must also be included in the total budget request.
6. A list of awards and fellowships received over the last five years
7. The professional record and contact information of the applicant.
8. Two external letters of recommendation in support of the project proposed for the fellowship.

Fourteen (14) copies of the application and professional record should be submitted to the Director, Humanities Center, by 5:00 PM on **February 24, 2017**. Each application must have an application coversheet. The application cover sheet will be available shortly on-line: www.research.wayne.edu/hum



A LOOK AHEAD: 2016 - 2017 ACTIVITIES

FACULTY FELLOWSHIP COMPETITION



REVOLUTION

Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship Competition 2016-2017

Tentative Deadline: Friday, April 14, 2017

Explication

2017 marks the centennial of the Russian Revolution and the fifty-year anniversary of the Detroit Revolution. It is a time to reflect on the causes and lasting impacts of these events locally and worldwide. But what makes a revolution? A revolution can be a dramatic political upturning—the French Revolution, the Chinese Revolution, and the global revolutions of 1968 and 1989 are but a few. It can be a change of a scientific paradigm (the Scientific Revolution), an intellectual breakthrough (advances in quantum physics and genetic biology), a literary or cultural explosion (the Reformation, new art forms), a musical landmark (a signature Beatles album), or an economic change (the Industrial Revolution). Revolution describes everyday changes in how we relate to each other, from the Sexual Revolution to the development of the Internet and wearable technology. Revolution is also a mathematical and physical concept of movement (turning around), whether performed by a wheel, a planet, or a dancer. Who makes a revolution? Is it people against authority, or authority against its people? Is it a new philosophy? What constitutes a revolution? What are its lasting impacts? The 2017 Faculty Fellowship welcomes proposals that interrogate the concept of revolution in its broadest sense.

All WSU full-time faculty in the humanities, arts, and related disciplines are eligible to submit proposals, except those who have received a faculty Fellowship Award from the Center within the last two years. The submission guidelines for this competition and the cover page will soon be available on our website at <http://research-2wayne.edu/hum/Hum/facultyfellowship/16-17.html>

Please send all the applications to: The Humanities Center
Walter F. Edwards, Director
2226 Faculty Administration
Bldg. Wayne State University
Detroit, MI 48202

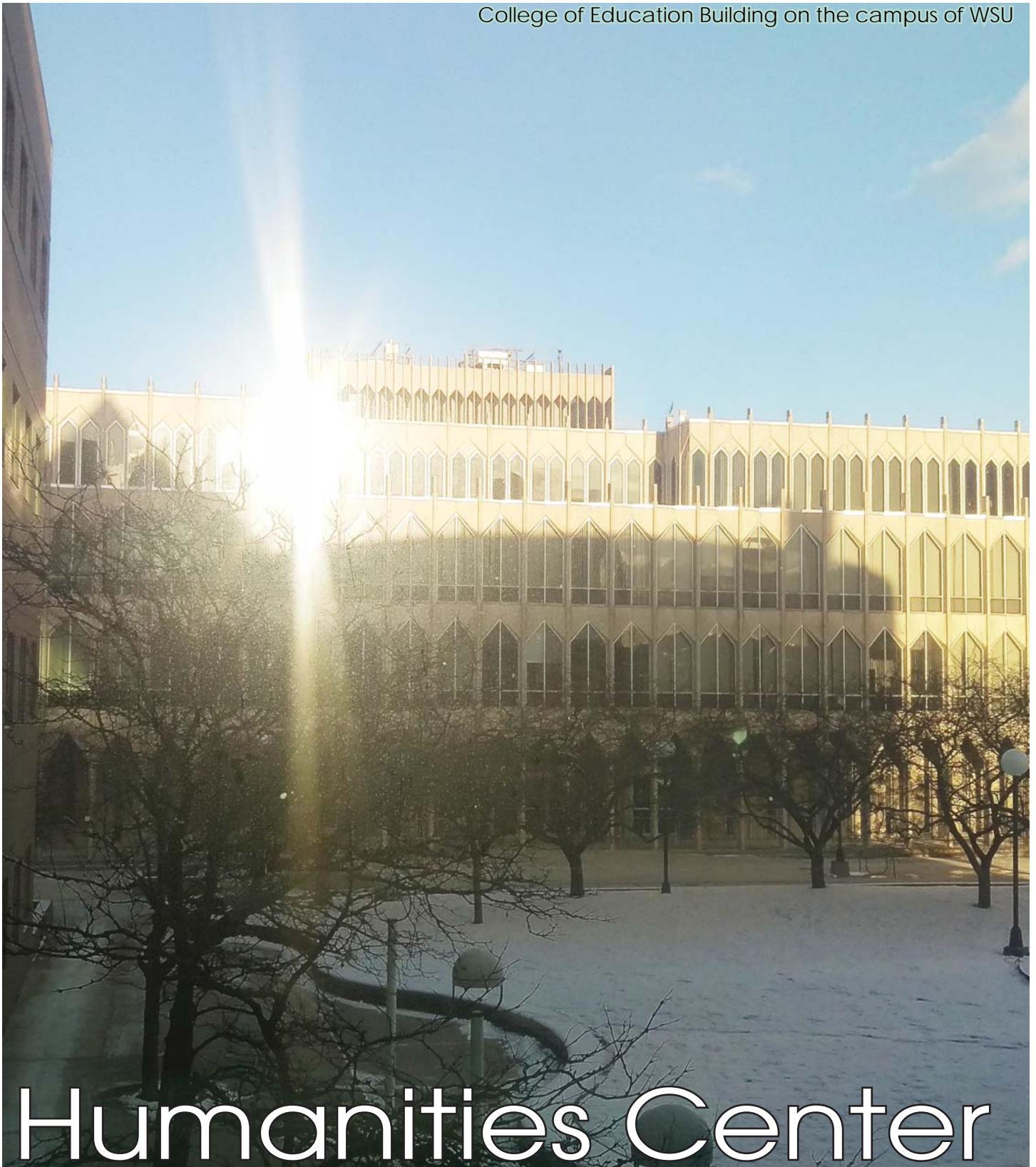


A LOOK AHEAD: 2016 - 2017 ACTIVITIES

BROWN BAG COLLOQUIUM SERIES



- Fall**
- 09/13 **Gregory Fox**, Law School, Professor, *The Security Council and the New Law of Internal Armed Conflict*
- 09/14 **Steven Shaviro**, English, Professor, *Cyborg/Goddess: Dawn Richard's Music Videos*
- 09/16 **Joo Won Park**, Assistant Professor of Music Technology, *Music Technology: An Evolving Field* (Schaver Music Recital Hall – 11:45 a.m. Co-Sponsored with the Department of Music)*
- 09/20 **Janet Hankin**, Sociology, Professor and **Allen C. Goodman**, Economics, Professor and Graduate Director, *Obama Care: Myths and Realities*
- 09/21 **Jonathan Flatley**, English, Associate Professor, *TBA*
- 09/27 **Lai Sze Tso**, Sociology, Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Citizenship, WSU, *Building Collaborations between Hospitals, Schools, and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to Implement Sexual Health Education Programs in Urban China*
- 09/28 **Robert Ackerman**, Law School, Professor, *Communitarianism and the Roberts Court*
- 10/04 **Ollie Johnson**, African American Studies, Associate Professor, *President Obama and the Black Panther Party*
- 10/05 **Jacqueline Wilson**, HIGH Program, First Lady of WSU and Director of HIGH Program, *Supporting Student Success: Wayne State University's "Helping Individuals Go Higher" (HIGH) Program*
- 10/11 **Richard Raspa**, English, Professor, *The English Terrorist: Shakespeare's Richard III and the Politics of Memory*
- 10/12 **Jerry Davis**, Management and Organizations, Professor University of Michigan, *The Vanishing American Corporation*
- 10/18 **Dovie Jenkins**, Anthropology and Philosophy, Graduate Student, *Hedonic Adaptation and Utilitarianism*
- 10/19 **Stein Eckert**, Communication, Assistant Professor, *Professional, Personal, Liminal: Media Scholars' use of Social Media for Peer Communication*
- 10/20 **Richard Marback**, English, Professor, *Appeals to Shame and the Rhetoric of White Privilege in Post-Apartheid South Africa*
- 10/25 **Holly Feen-Calligan**, Art & Art History, Associate Professor, Co-Presenters: **Kayla Lopez**, **Valerie Smith**, **Kenzie Timm**, and **Elizabeth Webster**, *How Art Making informs Meaning-Making in Service-Learning*
- 10/26 **Jorgelina Corbatta**, Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Professor, *TBA*
- 10/27 **R. Khari Brown**, Sociology, Associate Professor, *Race, Religion, and Politics*
- 11/01 **Billicia Hines**, Theatre & Dance, Assistant Professor, *Dominique Morisseau: Exploring Detroit's Community through the Three-Play Cycle Detroit Projects*
- 11/02 **Michele Ronnick**, Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Professor, *William H. Anderson (1857-1916): African American Newspaperman and Novelist in Detroit*
- 11/08 **John Patrick Leary**, English, Assistant Professor, *'It Looked Exactly Like Mexico': Kerouac, Hemingway, and the Modernist Desire for Underdevelopment*
- 11/09 **John Gruda**, Independent Scholar, *The Persecution of the Bahá'ís of Iran: Education is Not a Crime*
- 11/15 **Kevin Deegan-Krause**, Political Science, Associate Professor, *Perishable Goods: Accelerating Cycles of Party Birth and Death in Europe and Everywhere Else*
- 11/16 **M.L. Liebler**, English, Senior Lecturer, *Heaven was Detroit: Essay on Detroit Music from Jazz to Hip Hop*
- 11/29 **Mary Anderson**, Theatre & Dance, Associate Professor, *TBA*
- 11/30 **Sarah Swider**, Sociology, Assistant Professor, *Putting Precarious Workers in Place*
- 12/02 **Wendy K. Matthews**, Assistant Professor of Music Education, *The Changing Field of Music Education* (Schaver Music Recital Hall – 11:45 a.m. Co-Sponsored with the Department of Music)*
- 12/06 **Danielle Aubert**, Art & Art History, Assistant Professor, *Fredy Pearlman and the Detroit Printing Co-op*
- 12/07 **Timothy Kirschenheiter**, Philosophy, Graduate Teaching Assistant, *How Should Ethicists Respond to Taboo Sexual Interactions?*
- 12/08 **José Cuello**, Latino/Latina Studies, Associate Professor, *The Privatization of the Industrialized University Education System in America*
- 12/13 **Avis Vidal**, Urban Studies & Planning, Professor, *Community Development vs Community Empowerment: The Challenges of Combining them into a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy*
- 12/14 **Marc Kruman**, History, Professor, *The Humanities and Student Civic Engagement*
- Winter**
- 01/10 **Ken Jackson**, English, Chair and Professor, *"It is the Sheep, Stupid!" -- From the Cotswolds to Florence and Back Again, How the Wool Industry Shaped Early Modern Art*
- 01/11 **Sharon Lean**, Political Science, Associate Professor, *Accountability Institutions in Mexico*
- 01/17 **Janine Lanza**, History, Associate Professor, *Heads Lost & Found: Rationalizing the Guillotine*
- 01/18 **renée c. hoogland**, English, Professor, *TBA*
- 01/24 **Richard Marback**, English, Professor, *Rhetoric Rhodes Must Fall*
- 01/25 **Robert Sedler**, Law School, Distinguished Professor, *Our 18th Century Constitution and the Two Party Political System: The 2016 Election*
- 01/31 **Barrett Watten**, English, Professor, *TBA*
- 02/01 **R. Khari Brown**, Sociology, Associate Professor, **Ronald E. Brown**, Political Science, Associate Professor, **Randall Wyatt**, Sociology, Graduate Student, *Testing Dog Whistle Politics Thesis using Public Opinion Data*
- 02/07 **Lisa D. Alexander**, African American Studies, Associate Professor, *"Hey, Where are the White Women at?:" The Presentation of Racism and Resistance in Blazing Saddles*
- 02/08 **Rayman Mohamed**, Urban Studies & Planning, Associate Professor, *TBA*
- 02/14 **Rahul Mitra**, Communication, Assistant Professor, *Sustainable Organizing and Communicative Practice*
- 02/15 **José Cuello**, Latino/Latina Studies, Associate Professor, *A Strategic Plan for the Self Transformation of Cut-and-Paste University Students into Proactive Critical Thinkers*
- 02/21 **Donyale Padgett**, Communication, Associate Professor, **Amyra Woods**, Communication, Graduate Student, *Using Dialogue to Facilitate Inclusion on College Campuses: The Case of the University of Missouri*
- 02/22 **Tam Perry**, Social Work, Assistant Professor, *Understanding Displacement in a Changing City: Perspectives of Older Detroiters*
- 02/23 **George Parris**, Education, Assistant Professor, *TBA*
- 02/28 **Alia Benabdellah-Pickel**, African American Studies, Visiting Scholar, *Black Techno Music in Detroit*
- 03/01 **Carolyn Loh**, Urban Studies & Planning, Associate Professor, *Beyond the Plans: How to Help Cities Get Placemaking Done*
- 03/07 **Fred Vultee**, Communication, Associate Professor, *Security as Storytelling: Framing Conflict, Crisis and Threat*
- 03/08 **Richard Haley**, Art & Art History, Lecturer, *Digital Withdrawal: Attempting to Define Digital Space Through the Lens of Object Oriented Ontology*
- 03/21 **Jennifer Ward-Batts**, Economics, Assistant Professor, *TBA*
- 03/22 **Hilary Fox**, English, Assistant Professor, *Angry Women in Premodern England*
- 03/23 **Stephen Chrisomalis**, Anthropology, Associate Professor, *TBA*
- 03/28 **Jonathan Cottrell**, Philosophy, Assistant Professor, *TBA*
- 03/29 **Alisa V. Moldavanova**, Political Science, Assistant Professor, **Lyke Thompson**, Political Science, Professor, *Making Sense of the Environment: Investigating the Locational Patterns of Cultural Organizations in Southeast Michigan*
- 04/04 **Richard Smith**, Social Work, Assistant Professor, *Political Machine or Bureaucratic Incorporation? Immigrant-Friendly Communities and Municipal Structure*
- 04/05 **Siobhan Gregory**, Art & Art History, Senior Lecturer, *Building Trust and Community Prosperity Through Participatory Design*
- 04/11 **Margi Weir**, Art & Art History, Associate Professor, *We are all Targets (in a World that Worships Guns)*
- 04/12 **David Merolla**, Sociology, Associate Professor, *Clarifying the Link between Family Wealth and Mathematics Achievement*
- 04/18 **Mohamed El-Sharkawi**, Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Assistant Professor, *The Ecology of Case in Modern Arabic*
- 04/19 **Kelly Jakes**, Communication, Assistant Professor, *TBA*
- 04/25 **Eric Hiddleston**, Philosophy, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, *TBA*
- 04/26 **Brad Roth**, Political Science & Law School, Professor, **Loraleigh Keashly**, Associate Dean of CFPCA* and Associate Professor, *TBA*



Humanities Center

Bringing Humanists Together for Collaborative Research



The Humanities Center 2015-2016 Annual Report

Designed by Jennifer Leonard

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Photos of Detroit displayed throughout this report were provided by: Professor renée hoogland, front cover, pages 10,12,18,19, 20, 31, 34, 36, 38, 39 and 40; Jennifer Leonard, Administrative Assistant, back cover and pages 13, 16, 17, 33 and 35; Rodina Peace, Research Assistant, page 37.