November/December 2006

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

American Studies Program Newsletter

Cynthia Gwynne Yaudes, editor

Due for some Tropical Heat

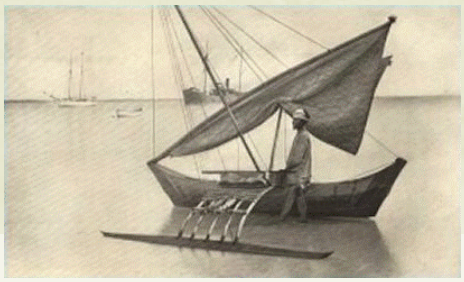
Dr. Christine Skwiot

The approval of the proposal for a Bachelor's Degree in American Studies has paved the way for an entirely new set of undergraduate AMST course offerings. One of these is A350 ("Topics in Interdisciplinary American Studies"), designed, broadly, as an upper level application of interdisciplinary methods to a variable topic. New faculty member Kathryn Lofton teaches the course this semester, under the topic of *Finding Indiana*. Next semester, the course will be offered by a visiting professor, the first of a series of visiting instructors the Program plans to invite.

Dr. Christine Skwiot, Assistant Professor of History at Georgia State University, will teach *The United States and the Pacific*. Her course explores the historic relationships between the U.S., Pacific Islands, and Oceania through art, dance, film, literature, music, popular culture, and travelogues.

Whereas Euro-Americans have tended to view the vast Pacific as a largely empty space dotted with tiny islands, Oceanians have lived in a more intimate and interconnected "sea of islands." Early U.S. explorers, seafarers, and whalers indeed relied on the skills of Islanders to navigate, sail, and come to "know" the Pacific. Participants in the course will examine this voyaging and the settlement of Oceania, the cosmologies, societies, and interactions among diverse Pacific peoples centuries before anyone ever imagined a United States. Through historical descriptions of ancient and modern voyaging, government documents, film, and two novels (Herman Melville's Typee and Milton Murayama's Plantation Boy) they'll travel to Guam, Hawai'i, Micronesian and Marshallese Islands, Samoa, and Tonga.

Studying Hawai'I brought Skwiot to the study of Oceanian and Pacific history, and in teaching a variety of academic courses on imperialism, she was struck by how many students ended up studying Hawai'I as their final project. "It really seems to blow students away to learn that the 'Aloha State' of so many tourists, surfing and musical fantasies has a long, deep, rich history before Euro-Americans arrived on the scene and that Native Hawaiians have been engaged in a struggle to keep or restore their independent nationhood for more than a century and a half. Few people know about how much the U.S. has changed Oceania and the Pacific—and vice versa"



Skwiot's interests (and her course) will make a significant contribution to the IU American Studies Program; in turn, she is "excited to be joining one of the most innovative Programs in the nation" and is anxious to explore what hemispheric studies of the Americas can contribute to her own study of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and islands.

Prize Possibilities

Carl Bode-Norman Holmes Pearson Prize
Nomination deadline 30 June 2007

The American Studies Association is proud to announce it is accepting nominations for the Bode-Pearson Prize for Outstanding Contributions to American Studies. The Bode-Pearson Prize, established in 1975, is one of the oldest and most prestigious awards in American Studies. The prize is awarded periodically at the annual meeting of the American Studies Association and includes lifetime membership in the ASA for the recipient. The Prize is awarded to an individual for a lifetime of achievement and service within the field of American Studies.
To nominate a candidate for the award, submit a letter and supporting materials detailing the rationale for putting forward the candidate's name. One set of nominating materials must be sent to each of the following committee members:

Chair: Gordon Hutner
Department of English,
University of Illinois
608 S. Wright St.
Urbana, IL 61801

James A, Miller
Department of English
The George Washington University
Rome Hall, Room 761
801 22nd Street NW
Washington, DC 20072

Elaine Tyler May
Department of American Studies
104 Scott Hall 72 Pleasant Street, SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0225

Ralph Henry Gabriel Dissertation Prize
Submission deadline 20 May 2007

The Ralph Henry Gabriel Prize is awarded annually to the best doctoral dissertation in American Studies, American Ethnic Studies or American Women's Studies. The prize honors Ralph Henry Gabriel, Professor Emeritus at Yale University, and a founder and past president of the American Studies Association.
The period of eligibility for the Gabriel Prize will include dissertations completed between 1 July 2006 and 30 June 2007. Each graduate American Studies, American Ethnic Studies, or American Women's Studies program may nominate two dissertations that will have been completed under its aegis during the period of eligibility for the award. The competition is limited to candidates receiving the Ph.D. degree in American Studies, American Ethnic Studies, or American Women's Studies. Individuals may not nominate their own dissertations. The winning author must be a member of the Association. The winner will be announced at the annual meeting of the American Studies Association, to be held in Philadelphia, 11-14 October 2007.
The Director of each graduate American Studies, American Ethnic Studies, or American Women's Studies program, in consultation with the faculty, will be eligible to choose for submission up to two dissertations completed in the program during the period of eligibility. The Director will then send to each member of the prize committee the dissertation abstracts, a sample chapter from each dissertation selected, and a cover letter explaining why each dissertation deserves the award. A separate letter listing each entry should also be sent to the members of the 2007 committee so they can verify the arrival of all nominating materials.

Chair: Stanley L. Corkin
Department of English and Comparative Literature
University of Cincinnati
356 Thrall St
Cincinnati, OH 45220

Carol Henderson Belton
Department of English
University of Delaware
170 The Grn Rm 212
Newark, Delaware 19716-2595

Joanna Brooks
Department of English and Comparative Literature
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego CA 92182

Based on their reading of the materials submitted, the prize committee will then invite a short list of up to seven nominees to submit their completed dissertations for formal review.

Publication Opportunities

<u>At the Intersection of Race and Religion</u>
Submission deadline 15 January 2007
We are accepting proposals for an edited volume on race and religion in American politics, and invite scholars interested in the intersectionality and mutual constitution of religious and racial thinking, institutions and politics to submit proposals for chapters of up to 1000 words in length. Proposals, requests for the full Call for Papers, or other inquiries may be emailed to: *nwadswor@du.edu or rjacobso@bucknell.edu.*

Henry James Review
Submission deadline 1 March 2007
Submissions are invited for a Fall 2007 forum on Jamesian Forms. Contributions may address any aspect of the topic, such as: Book History; Genre; Narrative; Style. Contributions should be submitted in duplicate and produced according to MLA style. Enclose return postage with your manuscript. Send one-page proposals or short (10-12 page) essays to:
Susan M. Griffin, Editor
Henry James Review
Department of English
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292
More information is available at *http://www.press.jhu.edu/journals/henry_james_review/calls.html*

Representing Segregation
Submission deadline 1 May 2007
Is there an identifiable literary tradition responding to, representing, or protesting U.S. racial segregation? Examination of individual works, authors, genres, or movements are welcome for a special issue of *African American Review* slated for early 2008. More information, including a link to the special issue website, is available at *http://aar.slu.edu/*

Funding Options

Pre– and Post-doctoral Fellowships
Lemelson Center
National Museum of American History
Application deadline 15 January 2007
The National Museum of American History supports projects that present creative approaches to the study of invention and innovation in American society. The Center offers fellowships to scholars and professionals who are pre- or postdoctoral candidates or who have completed advanced professional training. Fellowships are awarded for a maximum of ten weeks and carry a prorated stipend. Application materials are available on the web at *http://invention.smithsonian.org/fellowships*.

Research Fellowships
The Mary Baker Eddy Library
Postmark deadline 9 February 2007
Applications are now available for Summer 2007 Research Fellowships at The Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston. Open to university faculty, postdoctoral and independent scholars, and graduate students. Areas of research may include women's history, spirituality and health, religious studies, nineteenth-century history, and journalism. Stipend provided. For further information regarding Library collections and Fellowship program, including the fellowship application and instructions, please visit our website *http://www.marybakereddylibrary.org*

One-year Fellowships
Princeton University
Center for the Study of Religion
Application deadline 5 January 2007
The Center for the Study of Religion announces a small number of one-year fellowships for pre-tenure scholars and recent Ph.D. graduates. Fellowships are in the areas of Christian Thought and Practice (focusing on the historical and contemporary religious life of North American Christians, congregations, or clergy) and Public Theology (contemporary issues bridging theology and the social sciences; requires some training in theology or equivalent). Fellows will conduct own research, attend a weekly interdisciplinary workshop, and participate in Center events. Applicants may be in any relevant field. For requirements, visit *http://www.princeton.edu/~csrelig/opportunities/postdoc_ops.html.*

CONFERENCE INVITATIONS

"American Values, American Practices"
Organization of American Historians
Annual Meeting
Minneapolis, Minnesota
29 March—April 1 2007

In addition to commemorating the centenary of the organization, the meeting is dedicated to the theme of "American Values." The United States has from its beginnings justified its existence and its role in the world in terms of universal values, but has at the same time laid claim to a particular set of American values. These values, however, have been contested: different social groups have offered different versions, they have changed over time, and they have been used to justify exclusion from as well as inclusion in civic life for those living within American boundaries. Many values presented as national derive from, or lay claim to, sets of values that transcend American boundaries. To deepen the puzzle further, it is often unclear how these values—universal or national—actually shape national or private practice or behavior.

Historical Formalism: Aesthetics and American Literary History
Huntington Library and Gardens
San Marino, California
18-19 May 2007

Addressing the renewed interest in aesthetics, this conference seeks to consider the ways that cultural and historical methodologies have encouraged us to rethink the very nature of literary genre, form, and aesthetics; to investigate how a return to aesthetics might reshape not just literary studies but broader studies of American culture and history; and to identify the problems as well as the potentials of a new type of historical formalism for the study of American literature and culture.
For more information, contact Susi Krasnoo at skrasnoo@huntington.org

"Saving Places 2007: Planning, Growth and Preservation"
10th Annual Historic Preservation Conference
Denver, Colorado
7 February 2007

Colorado Preservation Incorporated's 10th annual historic preservation conference will take place in February at the historic 1770 Sherman Street Event Complex in downtown Denver. The program features 180 national and regional preservation experts profiling current trends, technologies, programs, and projects that address not just buildings, but landscapes, communities, archaeological resources, and financial and management tools. Registration information is available at *www.coloradopreservation.org*

American Studies Newsmakers

Professor **Stephanie Kane** (Criminal Justice) sends greetings from the port city of Salvador, Bahia, where she is doing research on water management.

She also writes to share that "A Feminist Perspective on Bioterror: From Anthrax to the Critical Art Ensemble" (co-authored with Pauline Greenhill of the University of Winnipeg and greatly influenced by Joan Hawkins' work on the Critical Art Ensemble) has been accepted for publication in *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* (special issue on "War and Terror: Race-Gendered Logics and Effects).

Please share your news, personal or professional, with us at any time. Email the editor at cyaudes or the Program at amst.

We're on the Web!
www.indiana.edu/~amst/

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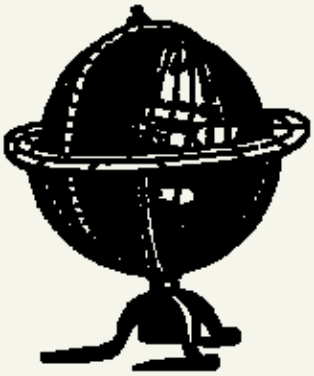

A Semester of Opportunities

The Indiana University American Studies Program has a reputation of offering a wide variety of courses that engage current debates about the content and form of the field and put its methods to use on unique subjects. The spring semester schedule is no exception to this tradition, as graduate students will have the opportunity to study topics ranging from intellectual rhetoric to "everyday life". [Several of these courses still have seats open; see Nancy May-Scott in the AMST office (BH 520) for course details and enrollment information.]

Undergraduates will likewise have access to the usual attractive list of Associate Instructor-taught electives, but will also be able to begin work toward an undergraduate degree in American Studies. The B.A. proposal was recently, finally approved, and has paved the way for the offering of the gateway course (A100) and an upper level topics course (A350) [profiled on page 1 of this newsletter]. Please help us to advertise these courses and the new undergraduate degree to your advisees and students.

Undergraduate Courses
A100 Democracy in the Americas 2:30-3:45 M/W Lofton
A200 Comparative American Identities (A&H) 4:00-5:15 M/W Maxwell
A201 From Diaries to Graffiti (A&H) 9:30-10:45 T/R McConnell
A201 Crisis and American Democracy (A&H) 1:00-2:15 M/W Higgins
A202 Home/Made (A&H) 9:30-10:45 M/W Lindquist
A202 Bugs Bunny (A&H) 1:00-2:15 T/R Aldred
A350 The United States and the Pacific (A&H) 2:30-3:45 T/R Skwiot

Graduate Courses
G604 Perspectives in American Studies 1:00-3:30 T Cohn
G620/HIST H650 Black Women in American History 3:30-5:30 T Myers
G620/EDUC J664 Western Intellectual History 4:00-6:45 R Goodman
G620/CMCL C505 Productive Criticism of Political Rhetoric 3:00-5:30 M Ivie
G620/CMCL C615 Problem of Protest in America 9:30-12:00 T Terrill
G620/CMCL C617 Rhetoric and Visual Culture 2:30-5:00 W Lucaites
G620/ANTH E320 Indians of North America 4:00-5:15 T/R DeMallie
G620/ANTH E600 Anthropology of Human Rights 2:30-3:45 M/W Sterling
G620/FINA A548 History of American Architecture 11:15-12:30 M/W Burns
G620/REL R532 Studies of Religion 11:15-12:30 M/W Lofton
G751/AAAD A694 Race and Josephine Baker 2:30-5:00 R Guterl
G751/FOLK F609 Perspectives in African American Music 4:00-6:30 M Maultsby
G751/CMCL 793/CULS C701 Fans and Fan Culture 11:15-1:45 W Klinger
Film Screening 7:00—10:30 T
G751/CMCL C793/CULS C701 Culture and Everyday Life 9:30-12:00 R Striphas
G751/HIST H750 The Senses in History 4:00-6:00 M Linenthal