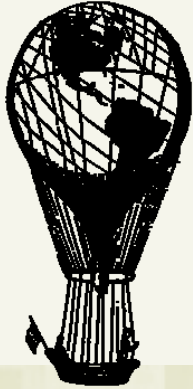


October 2005

INDIANA UNIVERSITY



American Studies Program Newsletter

Cynthia Gwynne Yaudes, editor

A PROUD PAST AND A PROMISING FUTURE

The American Studies Program announces its year-long speaker series, commencing 9 November 2005 with Donald Pease. See page 3 in this newsletter for complete series details.



The annual Gunderson Award lecture (honoring the best graduate student essay in American Studies) will be held 24 October 2005 in Ballantine Hall 004 at 4pm.

David Naze will present a brief version of his winning essay "Rooting for the Home Team?"

Jackie Robinson's HUAC Testimony as a Lesson in Democratic Dissent"

This 40th anniversary year of the IU American Studies Program has been an occasion to reflect on the academic directives and ideological traditions around which the Program was founded. (See the *Milestones* article on page 6 of this newsletter for the second installment in the celebratory series.)

Certainly each of the Program's successive administrative bodies have looked back with some pride on the accomplishments of their predecessors. But they have done much more than simply reflect on what has come before. Each administration has made that past usable, toward improving all aspects of the Program's graduate curriculum, and, most recently, forging paths into undergraduate education.

The possibility of an undergraduate major in American Studies at IU has been raised from time to time during the past decades. But under the directorship of Eva Cherniavsky and Joan Hawkins (prompted by an incredibly

successful external Program review process) that prospect was made more real, with the drafting of an undergraduate major proposal. The new directorial team of Matthew Guterl and Deborah Cohn have inherited the tasks of further developing that plan and seeing it to official fruition. The first step toward that end, of course, is to lay out the curriculum.

The major will be anchored by a series of core courses (bulleted below) organized to "self-consciously examine the relation between nationality and culture" that is implied by the very concept of "American" Studies. Methodologically, the courses are intended to develop students' versatility with interdisciplinary modes of thought.

• **Citizenship in the Americas**, the gateway to the major, asks students to "compare and contrast different ideas about citizenship, national identity and the social contract across the hemisphere."

• **Comparative American Identities** employs a comparative framework to "explore critically and historically the constitution of national identities within the United States and its 'possessions'."

• **American Studies in Transnational Contexts** emphasizes "alternative, comparative or transnational rubrics" in asking students to think critically about the relation of culture to nation.

• **Topics in Interdisciplinary American Studies** offers "sustained critical reflection on established disciplinary methodologies and explores possibilities for new interdisciplinary syntheses." (Each specific course will center on a variable issue or event.)

• A year-long **Senior Seminar** will serve as a capstone to the major, ensuring that students demonstrate their competence as critical, interdisciplinary thinkers by putting what they

(Continued on page 2)

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have learned in coursework toward a visual project or more traditional thesis.

Additional electives within American Studies and other courses outside of the field will allow the further construction, deconstruction and reconstruction of "American" identities through a wide variety of subject lenses.

Although still in draft form, it is nevertheless clear that the proposed curriculum finds a neat niche between the Program's (and the field's) past and future. It draws broadly on the classic interdisciplinary traditions of American Studies, the spirit of the search for



FUNDING OPTIONS

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
Scholars in Residence Program
Application deadline 13 January 2006

Open to all conducting research on Pennsylvania history, the program provides support for eight weeks of full time research between 1 May 2006 to 30 April 2007, with a \$375/week stipend. More information and application details are available at: www.phmc.state.pa.us.

The American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts offers long term visiting academic research fellowships tenable for four to twelve months each year, intended for scholars beyond the doctorate. The American Antiquarian Society also offers short-term visiting academic research fellowships tenable for one to three months each year. These short-term fellowships are available for doctoral candidates engaged in dissertation research. All awards are for a period of residence to use the AAS library's resources for research and writing. Visit americanantiquarian.org for more information and application details.

an identifiable and peculiarly "American" culture. But it takes that tradition as the impetus for the exploration of a more critical American citizenship. Specifically, the proposal nods to the movement within American Studies to consider the role of the United States in the world and ponder the significance of diaspora, migration and globalization for national cultures.

This, then, is a moment of opportunity for the IU American Studies Program: to offer a degree that can prepare undergraduates for the challenges of national citizenship in an interconnected, internationalist world.



The **John Carter Brown Library** in Providence, Rhode Island will award approximately twenty-five Research Fellowships for the year 1 June 2006 to 30 June 2007. Sponsorship of research at the John Carter Brown Library is reserved exclusively for scholars whose work is centered on colonial history of the Americas, North and South, including all aspects of European, African and Native American involvement. More detailed fellowship information and application forms are available at: www.brown.edu/facilities/John_Carter_Brown_Library/pages/fr_resfellow3.html

The Clark/Oakley Humanities Fellowship
Postmark deadline 13 January 2006

In conjunction with the Oakley Center for the Humanities and Social Sciences at Williams College, the Research and Academic Program at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute announces a new fellowship for a scholar in the humanities whose work takes an interdisciplinary approach to some aspect of the visual. The selected fellow will have his or her office at the Oakley Center, be housed at the Clark scholars' residence, and participate fully in the rich intellectual life of both advanced research institutes. The preferred term of the fellowship is for one academic year, though applicants available only for one semester will be considered. Stipends are generous and are dependent on salary and sabbatical replacement needs. The Clark is one of a small number of institutions in the United States that combines a public art museum with a complex of research and academic programs, including lectures, workshops, symposia and international conferences. It offers between fifteen and twenty Clark Fellowships each year, ranging in duration from less than a month to ten months. The Oakley Center supports interdisciplinary scholarship across the humanities and social sciences. Applications and further information are available at: www.williams.edu/resources/oakley

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

With US or Against US: American Culture and Anti-Americanism in the Developing World

Proposal and CV deadline 30 October 2005

Contributions are solicited for a volume of essays tracing the impact of American culture on major countries and regions in Africa, Asia and South America, including the Middle East and Central Asia. An additional section might cover Canada and Australia. Each essay should employ an interdisciplinary approach to analyze the transmission and reception of American culture, including anti-Americanism. Essays must be written in English and should not exceed 9,000 words. They should be accompanied by a bibliography relevant for the country or region. All submissions (and inquiries for information) should be submitted via email to stephan.30@osu.edu.

Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism

This biannual, fully-refereed journal published in the Department of Government at the London School of Economics, invites the submission of high-quality articles of no more than 8,000 words—including bibliography and references—on issues pertaining

to ethnicity, nationalism, conflict, identity and related topics. The editors welcome submissions of both theoretical and empirical projects, work in progress as well as contributions from professionals and post-graduate students.

Article submissions, abstracts, author biographies and further queries should be addressed to sen@ise.ac.uk. For more information, and to consult the style guide, visit: www.iue.ac.uk/collections/ASEN/guidlines2.htm.

South Park and Popular Culture

Proposal deadline 1 November 2005

Contributions are invited for a collection of academic essays on the animated program *South Park*. Possible topics include, but are not limited to, *South Park* and historical, political and television context; representations of race, gender, sexual orientation, class or disability; constructions of childhood and parenthood; viewership practices; indecency and pornography; the carnivalesque; *South Park* and the academy; *South Park* and youth culture.

Submit all materials to editor Jeffrey Andrew Weinstock/Department of English/Central Michigan University/ Mount Pleasant, MI 48859.

Special Issue of Life Writing

"Mixed Race, Hybrid, Transnational: Writing Lives in National and Global Frames"

Submission deadline 30 December 2005

The editors invite articles that theorize and read mixed race, hybrid and transnational subjects represented in all forms of life writing—autobiography, memoir, biography, diaries, letters, autobiographical novels, other forms of creative non-fiction, and more. We are open to new research on hybridity, multiple subjectivities, interculturalism, flexible citizenships, and all forms of crossings and overlapping identities and narratives, and are particularly interested in studies that recuperate historical and neglected texts and that move their interpretative perimeters to include experimental and mixed life writing genres.

Please send submissions to guest editor Shirley Geok-lin Lim or associate guest editor Caroline Hong at the Department of English/University of California/Santa Barbara, CA 93106



AN IU AMST SPEAKER SERIES



The Indiana University American Studies Program presents:

"Where Are the Americas in "American Studies"?"

A year-long speaker series exploring critically important questions about the hemisphere. What does it mean to re-imagine the United States, emphasizing its links to Latin America and the Caribbean? And, as importantly, how does this change the meaning of American Studies and of the term "American"?

Donald Pease "The Mexican American War in Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself*"
9 November 2005 at 4pm in Ballantine Hall 008

Jane Landers "An African's Diaspora through the Atlantic Revolutions"
17 February 2006 at 4pm (location to be announced)

Marshall Eakin "What's the Place of Latin America in American Studies?"
27 March 2006 at 4pm (location to be announced)

Kirsten Silva Gruesz "The Once and Future Latino"
20 April 2006 at 4pm (location to be announced)

OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT

**Tenure Track Assistant Professorship
American Studies/Urban Studies
George Washington University
Review of applications begins 23 October 2005**

The Department of American Studies is searching for a scholar focused on topics related to the life of cities physically, culturally, and/or ethnographically, in the past or in the present. The scholar must be able to participate actively in building American Studies programs. ABDs will be considered but must complete the Ph.D. by 15 August 2006. The Department of American Studies at GWU offers undergraduate, masters and Ph.D. degrees. Current areas of faculty research include urban culture, the built environment, folklife, and public history; African American, women's, transnational, and immigrant history, cultural studies, sexuality and religion. The university is also developing a strong urban studies faculty located in multiple departments. It is hoped that the successful candidate will complement research in both the American Studies Department and among the larger urban studies faculty. Comparative approaches are welcome.

To apply, send a letter of application, vita, three letters of reference to:

Urban Search Committee/Department of American Studies/George Washington University/2108 G. St. N.W./Washington D.C. 20052

**History/American Studies
University of Connecticut
Review of applications begins 15 November 2005**

Applications are invited for a tenure-track appointment at the beginning or advanced assistant professor level in United States History/American Studies at the Avery Point campus. Suggested specializations: nineteenth- and twentieth-century U.S. history combined with an interdisciplinary focus on American culture. An interest in coastal and maritime history is also preferred. The appointee will assume responsibilities as coordinator of the Avery Point American Studies Program. S/he will also have the opportunity to teach courses at the Storrs campus, if desired. Salary is competitive and will reflect the extended duties of coordinating the American Studies Program.

To apply, send a letter of application or nomination to: Professor Robert A. Gross, Chair/American Studies Search Committee/History Department/U-Box 2103/Wood Hall/University of Connecticut/Storrs, CT 06269

**American Studies
University of California at Davis
Postmark deadline 15 November 2005**

The Department of American Studies seeks an assistant professor for a tenure track appointment, beginning fall 2006. Applicants should share our enthusiasm for teaching and have demonstrated interdisciplinary research expertise in media studies, with an emphasis in visual and/or acoustic cultures (other than film). Candidates should have completed by 1 July 2006 a Ph.D. in American Studies or closely related field.

To apply, send a letter of application, cv, names and addresses of three references, and a brief publication or writing sample to:

Carolyn de la Pena, Search Committee Chair/American Studies Program/One Shields Avenue/University of California/Davis, CA 95616

**Tenure Track Assistant/Associate Professorship
American Studies
State University of New York (Buffalo)
Application deadline 21 November 2005**

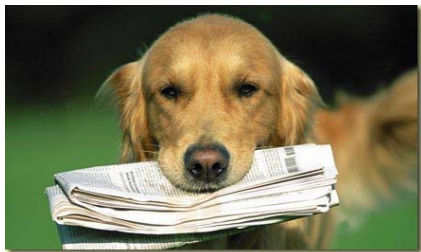
This tenure line position in the Department of American Studies requires a specialization in Asian American and/or Asian Diaspora Studies. We seek a scholar committed to interdisciplinary research and teaching with an emphasis on one or more of the following areas: history, law and social policy, urban studies, immigration and labor studies, critical race theory, and/or gender studies. Applicants must have the Ph.D. in hand by August 2006.

To apply, send a letter of application, cv, and three letters of recommendation to:

Chair of the Search Committee/Department of American Studies/1010 Clemens Hall/SUNY at Buffalo/Buffalo, NY 14260



AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSMAKERS



Professor **Yeidy Rivero's** book Turning Out Blackness: Race and Nation in The History of Puerto Rican Television, was recently published by Duke University Press.

Rebecca Gordon (English) has accepted a Visiting Assistant Professorship in Cinema Studies at Oberlin College. Last year, she was the Cesar Chavez Fellow at Dartmouth College.

"Just Some Bum From the Neighborhood': The Resolution of Post-Civil Rights Tension and Heavyweight Public Sphere Discourse in *Rocky* (1976)" by **Victoria Elmwood** (English) has just appeared in volume 35.2 of *Film and History*. An earlier draft of the article was the winner of the Virginia Gunderson Award in 2001.

The Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology will be sponsoring a book party for Professor **Sandra Dolby's** latest work, Self Help Books. Why Americans Keep Reading Them. The book (along with other of Dr. Dolby's publications) will be available for discounted sale at the gathering, to be held 4 November 2005 from 3:30 to 5:30pm in the Georgian Room of the IMU.

Professor **Eric Sandweiss** will deliver the presidential address at the National Conference on Planning History in Miami on 22 October. The conference marks the end of Eric's term as president of the Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH), an interdisciplinary group of scholars, planners, architects, and policy makers. On 17 November, Eric will deliver a gallery talk on the IU Art Museum's Art Sinsabaugh exhibition; on 2 December, he will appear in the Geography Department's regular colloquium series to present his ongoing research into early color photographs of the American vernacular landscape.

Kim Trager (English) has received a Fulbright grant to do dissertation research in Singapore.

Professor **Helen Gremillion's** invited article "The Cultural Politics of Body Size" will appear in the October 2005 issue of the *Annual Review of Anthropology*. In November 2005, she will present an invited talk at a conference in Victoria, B.C., entitled "The Race and Class Politics of Anorexia Nervosa: Unravelling White, Middle-Class Standards in Representations of Eating Problems."



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



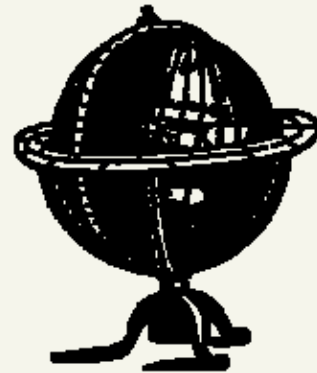
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Matthew Guterl, Director
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MILESTONES

It seems fitting, at the time when the Program unveils its undergraduate major, to continue the *Milestones* series of articles (commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Indiana University American Studies Program) with a look at the scope and substance of the original graduate curriculum launched during the 1965 academic year.

The core of the graduate program was the Interdisciplinary Seminar in American Studies. Robert Gunderson offered two of the first three seminars: "Romantic Nationalism in America, 1820-1840" and "Crusade for Freedom: Backgrounds of the Contemporary Civil Rights Struggle." The third seminar, "The Strenuous Life," was led by Edwin Cady (another key Program founder).

Dean Walter T. K. Nugent presented "The 1870s" during the second semester of the Program's first year. Using Nugent's method of rhetorical

analysis for exploring social and intellectual history, students representing History, English, Folklore, and Speech and Theatre explored the 1870s from such diverse data fields as popular religion, fiction, theatre, labor history, the folklore of the robber baron, the management of the Treasury Department, and utopian community experiments.

Sigmund Skard, Visiting NATO Professor in English and American Studies from Oslo, Norway, examined "The American Image in Europe" during that same semester. Skard came as an authority in the field having "led both Norway and the Continent in the post-war development of American Studies Programs."

At the same time, David Smith, then Director of the Program, led a seminar in "Methodological Problems in American Studies." The direct outcome of this seminar was the creation of a new



course, "Introduction to American Studies," which now forms a part of the core curriculum for the IU doctoral program. Smith's class had recognized the need for an early initiation into the problems and possibilities of interdisciplinary study. From those roots has grown a curriculum that not only keeps pace with the changeable idea that is American Studies, but also makes its own unique contributions to the content and form of the field.