The Humanities Center
Bringing Humanists Together for Collaborative Research

Our Mission

The mission of the Humanities Center is to nurture interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary, and disciplinary work in the humanities and arts through competitions, seminars, discussion groups, and other programs for Wayne State’s humanities and arts faculty and students and for visiting scholars and artists. The Center also seeks to promote excellence in research and creative endeavors through rigorous peer review of proposals submitted to it for funding; and to complement the work of humanities and arts departments, programs, and other centers within the university by providing additional resources to faculty and students. By promoting and funding programs that involve community participants, the Center supports the university’s urban mission. Through its various programs the Center is a site to collect, promote, and celebrate the diverse humanistic talents of Wayne State University’s academic citizens and to encourage innovation and excellence in the humanities and arts.

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The 2004-2005 academic year was one of growth and achievement for the Humanities Center. We use many measures of success: attendance of our public events, applications for our awards, requests for joint sponsorship of programs, and such intangibles as the increased visibility of the center on campus and the sense that our reputation as a site for important intellectual enquiry and valuable scholarly and artistic interaction is constantly growing. Our numbers are impressive. As examples, over 200 faculty and students attended each of our major conferences, our fall symposium and spring conference, and over 20 scholars made presentations at these events. Our Brown Bag Colloquium program grew from forty talks to forty-five, an increase of 12 percent. Average attendance at these talks continues to be about 20, the audience drawn from a variety of disciplines in the humanities, providing speakers with valuable multidisciplinary feedback. In 2005-2006, the program will expand even further since 52 faculty members from six colleges and numerous departments and programs have already signed up as speakers. The fact that we were able to fill next year’s schedule within two weeks of posting a call for talks is evidence that faculty recognize the Center as a vehicle to enhance their scholarly reputations.

Our other programs showed growth this year as well. The Working Groups program is one that the Center is particularly proud of since it embodies a central ideal of our mission, namely the promotion of interdisciplinary collaboration among humanists. Thus, I am pleased that the number of proposals for forming Working Groups increased this year, as well as the number of faculty and students involved in these groups. The number of proposals we received for our Innovative Projects, Faculty Fellowships and Edward M. Wise Dissertation competitions likewise increased. The large number of applications allowed our Advisory Board to be very selective in awarding funds and, thus, to enhance the quality of the projects we support. We funded 24 graduate students through the Graduate Travel program. For the first time, we exhausted the $10,000 budget allocated for this program before the end of the academic year.

Altogether, the Center funded 88 faculty and students this year through our various programs and we estimate that some 3500 faculty, students and members of the public engaged in programs that we directly sponsored. For me, however, the numbers are less important than the intellectual quality of our work and the scholarly contribution that the Center is making to the University. Thus, I consider it a major achievement that the Center was able to bring to this campus a number of internationally recognized scholars to keynote our conferences. This year we brought Michael Berube, Sue Wells, Anne Wagner, Sander Gilman, Karmen MacKendrick and Marilyn Yalom. These scholars all gave stimulating lectures but I take particular pride in the perception that our own faculty were as brilliant and erudite as the keynoters. I was also happy that the Center gave our faculty the opportunity to interact with these distinguished academicians publicly at our conferences and more intensely at dinners and lunches arranged specifically for this purpose.

Gifts of financial support are always indicative of success, since donors support programs they consider important. This year, the Humanities Center was the recipient of a future gift of approximately $800,000 from former Provost Marilyn Williamson. We also continue to receive an annual gift of $6,000 from the estate of Edward M. Wise to help fund the Edward Wise Dissertation Fellowship and awards.

This year has not been without its challenges. For us, the sternest was our relocation and the prospect of a second move within one calendar year. In November 2004, the Humanities Center moved from the suite in Old Main that it had inhabited since 1997 to our current location in 2226 Faculty/Administration Building. We were moved so that the office of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts could be integrated in Old Main with the Office of the Dean of Sciences following the merger of these two colleges into the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The adjustment to our new home took time and patience, but by the middle of the winter 2005 semester, the Center was functioning well again. The only major disruption to our work was the temporary suspension of the Resident Scholars Program for the fall 2004 semester and the suspension of the Visiting Scholars Program for the 2004-2005 academic year. I am happy to report that through the intervention of Provost Barrett a decision was made that allows the Center to permanently remain in its current location. I am delighted with this decision and my staff and I have begun to unpack to make 2226 FAB our home.

None of this year’s accomplishments would have been possible without our talented and industrious Advisory Board. The thoughtful advice and outstanding service of this group of faculty and doctoral students helped the Center gain and maintain a reputation for excellence. The Advisory Board consists of fifteen full-time faculty members that take precious time away from their scholarship to help the Center in numerous ways. Not only do they advise me on multiple issues but they also write explications, pick up speakers from the airport, host dinners and do organizational work for the programs we offer. I literally could not manage the Center without them.

A staff of three dedicated and smart young women also serves the Center: a full-time secretary and two part-time student assistants. They work very hard to help me run the Center. Provost Barrett has been especially supportive of the Center this year, as have the Deans of CLAS, Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, the Law School, Social Work, and University Libraries. These senior administrators continue to assist the Center through their financial support, participation in programs and, not least of all, through their continual encouragement.

We look forward to the 2005-2006 academic year, which will certainly bring new challenges, but which we hope will also bring us new opportunities for us to better serve the humanities citizens of this great university.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Edwards, Director
Summary of Programs

BROWN BAG TALKS Since the inception of the weekly Brown Bag Colloquium Series, literally hundreds of Wayne State humanities and arts faculty and students have participated either as speakers or as members of the audience. Each new year brings an increase in the number of faculty volunteering to present talks. As a result, the Center now regularly hosts talks twice a week. During the 2005-2006 academic year the talks will be held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Brown Bag talks are free and open to the public.

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 Center staff. Additionally, monthly “roundtable” meetings allow our residents to discuss and present their current research 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. Over the years, more than 50 faculty at WSU have taken part in this program.

FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS The Faculty Fellowship competition is based on an annual theme. Awarded Fellowships average $10,000 and winners are expected to participate in the annual Faculty Fellows Conference held in the spring. The theme for the 2006 competition will be “Translation and Representation.”

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 several different fields as well as graduate students. Working Groups meet regularly for discussion, exchange, and planning for events such as guest lectures and colloquia. The Center will support up to five new groups for the 2005-2006 academic year, providing the use of the Center’s conference room and up to $1,000 for speakers, supplies, or other organizational purposes.

INNOVATIVE PROJECTS IN THE HUMANITIES AND ARTS The purpose of Innovative Projects awards is to promote and encourage new ideas and projects in the humanities and the arts. The Center funds proposals that will chart new research or artistic territory. These new projects may be proposed by individual faculty or by collaborative teams, with preference given to projects involving collaborative efforts by two or more faculty.

MINUSCULUM - HUMANITIES CENTER SMALL GRANTS The Center sets aside $5,000 per year for a “Small Grants” program. The program offers one time awards of up to $300 to help faculty with the following academic expenses: data base searches to support research and creative projects; reproduction (photographs, microfilms, videos) of materials viewed at libraries or museums; costs of using copyrighted materials in publications; artwork or photographs used in publications; production of camera-ready manuscripts; and direct subvention to publishers. The program does not fund travel expenses. Requests are funded on a first come-first-serve basis until the budget is exhausted.

VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM The Center, in collaboration with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Law School and the College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts invites applications from scholars or artists who are affiliated with other universities and who hold a Ph.D. or equivalent degree. Visits may range in duration from one month to one semester. No stipend is attached, but a Visiting Scholar who stays one full semester is eligible for a grant of up to $6,200 for miscellaneous expenses related to his or her work. The visitor will be assigned an office in the Center and assistance with obtaining library privileges. In return, he or she will be expected to interact with WSU faculty and students and to give a public lecture on his or her project.

EDWARD M. WISE DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP Each year the Humanities Center offers $12,000 in support to one student in the final stages of writing his or her dissertation through the Edward M. Wise Dissertation Fellowship. The Fellow may also be eligible for tuition reimbursement for up to 10 non-audit dissertation credits. In addition, the Center may offer additional awards, each worth $1,000, to deserving students who apply for the fellowship. This program is supported by an annual gift of $6,000 from the Edward Wise Estate.

TRAVEL AWARD PROGRAM FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS 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. These are good opportunities for graduate students to establish and broaden their contacts in their fields, gain valuable presentation experience, and add to their curriculum vitae. Students may apply throughout the year for travel assistance of up to $400 to present their work at conferences.

HONORS-HUMANITIES CENTER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS In collaboration with the university’s Honors Program, the Center provides funds to support Honors theses and projects in the humanities and arts. The maximum award is $500.
The Humanities Center’s Annual Competition for Resident Scholars in the 2004-2005 year attracted impressive applications. Seven research projects were selected from a broad range of specialties for a full year of funding. Scholars were able to use the space and resources of the Center and collaborated for feedback and professional growth. Below are short statements from each resident scholar describing their achievements during 2004-2005.

Our Resident Scholars program was negatively affected in 2004-2005 because the Humanities Center had an itinerant year, moving from its original home in Old Main into office space in 2226 Faculty/Administration Building in November, 2004. The move made room for the Dean’s Office of the newly synthesized College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Because of the move, the Resident Scholars program was suspended for the fall of 2004.

ZANITA FENTON
Associate Professor, Law
“GUERRILLA THEATER: USING THE SPECTACLE OF CONTEMPTUOUS COURTS TO REFORM THE JUSTICE SYSTEM”
During the semester in which I was a Resident Scholar at the Humanities Center, I made progress in various projects. I spent most of my time working towards the completion of a lengthy project concerning race, speech and participatory democracy. This project explores history and the development of the law in the areas of the first amendment and tort. I intend for this article to contribute in significant ways to the dialogue regarding “hate speech.” Secondly, I prepared and delivered a talk concerning lynching for the “Without Sanctuary” exhibit at the William H. Wright Museum for African American History. I intend to convert my notes from this talk into a short essay for future publication. Finally, I prepared and delivered a speech for a symposium held at the Boston College School of Law concerning the welfare of Black Children. A short article based on this talk is currently in publication. The time and space accorded me at the Humanities Center has been invaluable in supporting my work this past year.

SUZANNE HILGENDORF
Assistant Professor, German & Slavic Studies
“ENGLISH IN GERMANY: THE OTHER TONGUE IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC”
This year I again benefited greatly as a Resident Scholar at the Humanities Center. The Program arrangements, the Center’s intellectual environment, and the wonderful support of the director and staff all made for an excellent experience. Having an additional office in the Center where I can devote myself exclusively to my research has been invaluable. I also profited from the regular meetings with fellow scholars, where I not only received helpful input on my own work, but gained insights from the interdisciplinary exchange on my colleagues’ projects. During my stay I developed two further chapters of a monograph, which is a macro-sociolinguistic study of the English language in Germany. Funding from the Program will help support my participation in two conferences this summer, where I will present my research. I will be attending the 11th annual conference of the International Association of World Englishes at Purdue University, where I will give a paper on the impact of English in the media in Germany. At the 14th World Congress of Applied Linguistics (AILA), in Madison, Wisconsin, I will be presenting a paper on English within the German business domain as part of a panel I organized on World Englishes in Europe.
Each resident scholar established office hours at the Center where they were able to work on their research and meet with students and colleagues. They were each provided with a private office with a state-of-the-art computer, computer table, desk and telephone.

2004-2005 Resident Scholars (continued)

Katherine Paesani
Assistant Professor
Romance Languages & Literatures

Francis Shor
Professor
Interdisciplinary Studies

Lisabeth Hock
Assistant Professor, German & Slavic Studies
“Caught Between Genius and Illness: Melancholy and German Women Writers (1800-1917)”
My appointment as a WSU Humanities Center Resident Scholar has been invaluable for my research project on German Women and Melancholy in the Nineteenth Century. During my residency, I wrote conference papers on the gendering of melancholia in the nineteenth century and on the different forms of melancholy in Gabriele Reuter’s 1895 novel, From a Good Family. Versions of these papers were presented at the Women in German Annual Conference, the Annual Meeting of the Society for Literature and Science, the WSU Humanities Center spring symposium, and a Humanities Center brown-bag talk. I have expanded the paper on Reuter into an article and was also able to make progress on two chapters of my related book. In addition, Humanities Center funding has helped me to purchase books needed for my research, and regular meetings with fellow Resident Scholars have given me the opportunity to share my ideas with and receive feedback from experts in a wide range of disciplines.

Katherine Paesani
Assistant Professor, Romance Languages & Literatures
“Spiraling Language and Content in Foreign Language Programs”
During my 2004-2005 resident scholarship, I have regularly used my Humanities Center office to work on two projects, the first related to foreign language curriculum design and teaching methodology (my Resident Scholar’s project), and the second related to the syntax of nonsentential speech (my Humanities Center Working Group project). Work toward the first project has included revisions to a journal article (title: A Process-Oriented Approach to Zazie dans le métro) that will appear in the French Review in 2006. I have also prepared two conference abstracts, both of which have been accepted for presentation. The first, “Exercises de style: Improving Grammatical and Stylistic Competence through a Writing Portfolio,” will be presented in Quebec City at the 2005 meeting of the American Association of Teachers of French; the second, “Maximizing the Content of Literature: Teaching Culture, Analysis and Stylistics,” will be presented in Baltimore at the 2005 meeting of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Work toward my second project has included the preparation and acceptance (by John Benjamins) of a proposal for a volume of 12 chapters to be coedited by myself and members of my working group. I have also spent considerable time drafting my own contribution to this volume, a chapter entitled “A Nonsentential Analysis of Special Registers.”

Francis Shor
Professor, Interdisciplinary Studies
“Shall We Overcome?: SNCC and White Support”
The focus of my work as a Humanities Resident Fellow for 2004-2005 was on the role of white activists in the civil rights movement of the 1960’s. Specifically, I spent much of the year researching white activists in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee from 1960-
1966. As a consequence of the small stipend attached to the Resident Fellow position, I travelled in October 2004 to Madison Wisconsin to use the extensive archival material at the State Historical Society. I later travelled to Stanford University to look through archival material. On March 2, 2005 I presented some preliminary material on “The Question of Whiteness Among White Supporters of SNCC” at a joint meeting of the Humanities Brown Bag series and the CULMA speakers series. I hope to use the summer to develop a major article on the aforementioned issues. I appreciate both the resources and the Resident Fellows meetings that were available to me in the winter term 2005.

Avis Vidal
Professor, Geography and Urban Planning
“THEORY OF CHANGE”
My primary goal for the academic year was to identify a short list of on-going projects, delayed because of my administrative responsibilities, and bring them to completion. The support provided by the Humanities Center enabled me to complete a substantial monograph, Beyond Housing: Growing Community Development Systems, coauthored with Langley Keyes of M.I.T., to be published by the Urban Institute in June 2005. Secondly, I completed entries for two new Encyclopedias: one on James Rouse for the Encyclopedia of the City (published March 2005) and one on the urban policy of President Bill Clinton for the Encyclopedia of Urban History. Lastly, I wrote a solid working draft “The Contributions of Community Building to Achieving Community Development Outcomes,” to be published in June as an electronic Working Paper by the Aspen Roundtable on Community Change and subsequently revised and expanded for publication.

Anca Vlasopolos
Professor, English
“The Bird of Blood and Feathers”
I was hampered by not having had an office for the fall semester, when the Humanities Center was in a state of flux as to its next location. I did finish three short stories in my planned collection of stories. The collection will present either reshapings of known legends or novels or tales, such as “The Emperor and the Nightingale,” or Bleak House, from novel points of view—the captive or wild animals inhabiting the original narratives centrally or at their margins and taking center stage in my stories; or fictive imaginings taken from scientific evidence and collecting, such as animal skins revivifying in a natural-science museum, or the tortoise taken by Darwin from the Galapagos Islands to Australia, who has survived into the twenty-first century and is still feted on its presumed birthday every year. As I said above, I have completed three stories: “Revivication,” “Nightsong,” and “Isles of the Blessed.” The first is based on museum collections, the second is a retelling of “The Emperor and the Nightingale,” and the third is a narration by the captive birds in Dickens’s Bleak House. I expect to have a manuscript of around one hundred pages upon completion of the project, and of course I hope to publish it, as well as individual stories as I finish them.
The 2004 Fall Symposium gave faculty the opportunity to examine theoretical formulations and methodologies used in the Humanities and Arts. Some speakers offered explications of these theories while others contributed criticism of these positions.

The Humanities Center fall symposium for the 2004-2005 academic year focused on a self-reflexive theme: “Questioning Foundations and Methods in the Humanities and Arts.” Keynote speakers Anne Wagner, Susan Wells and Michael Berube and seven members of Wayne State faculty discussed the ethical and methodological bases of the humanities and how improvements might be made. The conference was held on November 12th, 2004, in the Alumni House Lounge.

**Pop Art and U.S. Hegemony**

Associate Provost Margaret Winters opened the symposium and welcomed audience members. The first session began with a talk by Anne Wagner. Since 1988, she has been a professor in the Department of History of Art at the University of California, Berkeley, where she is a member of the Editorial Board of *Representations*. In Fall 2003 she was Ann-Maria Kellen fellow at the American Academy in Berlin. Anne Wagner gave a talk entitled “Our Flag Was Still There: U.S. Hegemony and Jasper Johns.” She was followed by Dora Apel from WSU’s Art and Art History Department who spoke on the very timely issue of “Media Images and Public Art: The Photographs of Abu Ghraib.” The first session concluded with a talk by Herb Granger from the Philosophy Department on “Philosophical Analysis: Its Past and Prospects.”

**Where Data and Theory Coincide**

After a break for lunch, Moderator Steve Winter introduced the second keynote speaker of the day, Michael Berube from Pennsylvania State. Berube is the author of four books to date, including: *Life As We Know It: A Father, A Family, and an Exceptional Child*; and *The Employment of English: Theory, Jobs, and the Future of Literary Studies*. He has written numerous essays on Down Syndrome, and edits *Cultural Front*, a book series published by NYU Press which includes work in disability studies. Michael Berube lectured on “What I tell my Students about Post-modernism,”
covering a broad range of ideas on this important topic. He was followed by Allen Batteau from the Anthropology Department who gave a talk on “Situated Knowledge in Engineering the Arts and the Natural Sciences.” The second session concluded with a talk by Steve Shaviro from the Department of English who gave a talk entitled “Without Criteria.”

AN INTRODUCTION TO POST-MODERNISM

The final session began with keynoter Susan Wells, Chair of the Department of English at Temple University. Dr. Wells’s primary scholarly interests include rhetoric and composition, critical theory, Habermas, Lacan, and feminist studies. In her book, *Sweet Reason*, she presents a rhetorical model for understanding the diverse discourses of modernity. Susan Wells gave a talk entitled “Theory vs. Practice: The Case of Grounded Theory.” She was followed by WSU’s Ellen Barton, who spoke from personal experience on the topic “The Linguist in the English Department.” The final speaker of the day was Barrett Watten from the Department of English who spoke on “Poetry as a Scene of Decision.”

The Humanities Center is currently planning the 2005 Fall Symposium. The symposium will address the theme “Hope and Fear.”
The Humanities Center hosted its annual Fellows Conference on April 8th, 2005, in the Bernath Auditorium, David Adamany Undergraduate Library. This year the theme of the conference was “The Body”. The conference featured three keynote speakers and seven speakers from among Wayne State University faculty.

**ALTERING THE BODY: THE AESTHETICS OF PLASTIC SURGERY**

The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Dr. Robert L. Thomas, opened the conference and welcomed audience members. Moderator Guy Stern introduced the first keynote speaker, Sander Gilman, who is the Weidenfeld Visiting Professor of European Comparative Literature at Oxford University. Gilman gave a talk entitled “Glamour and Beauty – Imagining Glamour in the Age of Aesthetic Surgery” to an audience of over 100 faculty, students, staff members, and members of the public. He was followed by Thomas Abowd of the Anthropology Department who spoke on “Dangerous Bodies/Vulnerable Nations: Arabs and Muslims in a post-‘9/11’ America.” The first session concluded with a talk by Lisa Maruca, Interdisciplinary Studies, on “Reading Bodies: New Technologies of Learning in Eighteenth-Century England.”

**RELICS AND THE HOLY BODY**

After a break for lunch, Moderator Anne Duggan introduced Karmen MacKendrick, the second keynote speaker of the day. MacKendrick, an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Le Moyne College, drew from her highly acclaimed books Counterpleasures (1999) and Word Made Skin: Figuring Language at the Surface of Flesh (2004) in
In this conference, some scholars asked how the body functions as a site for the marking of identity and difference (for instance, the gendered or the racialized body). Others focused on the body in terms of power, asking how disciplined, civilized, and socialized beings are brought into existence in different cultures and historical periods. At the same time, they considered how embodiment might be a source for grounding agency or resistance.

science perspective to the theme of “The Body” that contrasted with the humanist speakers in his session.

**PORTRAYING THE FEMALE BODY**

Third session moderator Heidi Gottfried introduced the final keynote of the day, Marilyn Yalom, a senior scholar at Stanford University’s Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Yalom gave a comprehensive exposition on female iconography entitled “The Female Body as Cultural Icon: The Earth Mother, the Virgin Mary, and the Chess Queen.” She was followed by Linguistics Professor Ellen Barton, who spoke on “Experimenting on the Body.” To end the second session, Bart Miles from the School of Social Work presented on “Rewriting the Homeless Body: Highlighting a Subjugated Discourse.” Miles was able to bring a social

Below: Keynote Speaker
Karmen MacKendrick

Above: Keynote Speaker Marilyn Yalom

Following the conference there was a reception in the Community Room of the David Adamany Undergraduate Library where guests and speakers were able to socialize and discuss the day’s events in an informal setting.
Brown Bag Colloquium Series

The Brown Bag Colloquium Series is one of the Humanities Center’s most successful programs and each year it continues to grow in scope. This year the series included a record forty-five talks given by Wayne State University faculty members and several visiting professors. See page 33 for a list of the 52 talks which have already been scheduled for next year’s series. Abstracts of each of the talks given in the 2004-2005 series, as submitted by the speaker, can be found below.

FALL SEMESTER

SEPTEMBER 14 - GEORGE GALSTER, CLARENCE B. HILBERRY PROFESSOR OF URBAN AFFAIRS; “SPRAWL AND PORNOGRAPHY”
A Supreme Court Justice once remarked that, indeed, pornography was hard to define precisely, but “you knew it when you saw it.” Sprawl has been viewed in much the same manner: a vague but implicitly negative term that has been used as a noun, verb, or adjective. Unfortunately, such ambiguity is unsuitable for the scientific analysis of sprawl: its nature, causes and consequences. This talk will discuss results of a long-term research project in CULMA funded by the US Geological Survey. I will explain how sprawl can be conceptualized as a multifaceted phenomenon and present new information about how major US metropolitan areas rank on these various aspects of sprawl. Be prepared for some surprises!

SEPTEMBER 21 - BRENDT OSTENDORF, LUDWIG MAXIMILLIAN UNIVERSITY IN MUNICH; “CONSPIRACY NATION: CONSPIRACY THEORIES IN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE”
This lecture identifies five “conspiracy fears” that run through American political and cultural history and that have provided fertile soil for conspiracy theories. The first such fear is a “fundamentalist” fear of losing the Christian character of the United States to secular, liberal, hedonist influences. Secondly, there is a “patriotic” fear of the dissolution of the exceptionalist character of the American nation as well as the United States’ status as a superpower. A third fear is the “communitarian” fear of the atomization of civil society and of the loss of community. The fourth fear is a “local populist” one. Finally, the fifth fear addressed is a “racist-biological” concern that America is endangered by the radically different. Conspiracy theories are the daily bread of Hollywood and TV, from the Manchurian Candidate in 1962 to the X-Files. Looking back to the first conspiracy theory in the young Republic directed against the Society of the Cincinnati the lecture ends with some thoughts on why the “American experiment” is so susceptible to conspiracy theories and why they have multiplied in the digital age.

SEPTEMBER 23 - HERB GRANGER, PROFESSOR, PHILOSOPHY; “WHAT AILS THE HUMANITIES?”
What I find of value among the programs at the Humanities Center at Wayne State is the Brown Bag Colloquium Series. This Series permits a point of vantage upon the intellectual practices of the wide variety of humanists at Wayne, not only upon the kinds of papers they may present, but upon the way in which they discuss their presentations with their audience. I am disappointed in much of what I have been able to observe. Many humanists at Wayne appear to be satisfied with remaining within the confines of their ‘study’ and the peculiar standards of assessment they claim for it. These humanists are skeptical of any unified field of assessment, in which the same fundamental critical standards may apply (with the appropriate changes) across all disciplines. This intellectual provincialism from what I may gather has something to do with the “theoretical” dispositions that emerge from what many today call “postmodernism”. For my presentation I shall initiate an analysis of this “postmodernism” and try to identify its nature and its outstanding weaknesses.

SEPTEMBER 28 - ROBERT A. SEDLER, DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF LAW AND GIBBS CHAIR IN CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES; “SAME-SEX MARRIAGE”
I maintain that as a matter of policy and constitutional law, same-sex persons should have the same right to marry that the law provides for opposite-sex persons. The argument is based on Supreme Court decisions invalidating as arbitrary and irrational legal discriminations on the basis of sexual orientation, such as a Texas law prohibiting oral or anal sex by same sex-persons and a Colorado state constitutional provision prohibiting the inclusion of sexual orientation discrimination in state and local antidiscrimination laws. These cases hold that governmental discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation cannot be justified on the basis of societal prejudice or morality, and I argue that once these purported justifications are removed, there can be no valid or rational justification for denying same-sex persons the right to marry that the law provides for opposite-sex persons. I will also respond to the PIB argument - if we allow same-sex marriage, we also have to allow polygamy, incest, and bestiality - by showing its irrelevance to the issue of entitlement to same-sex marriage.

OCTOBER 7 - KATHLEEN MCNAMEE, PROFESSOR, CLASSICS, GREEK & LATIN, “SCHOLARS’ LIBRARIES”
The books we accumulate around ourselves (if any) are an index of our educational level, our preoccupations and pastimes, and our cultural sophistication or lack of it. This paper uses the evidence of handwriting and the few remaining scraps of archaeological information to identify as many as half a dozen personal libraries among surviving Egyptian texts. These collections belonged, evidently, to an assortment of readers. They include scholars and people possibly engaged in public life but also a number of ordinary readers. In different ways, these ‘libraries’ raise interesting questions about the extent of literacy, the prevalence of book ownership, and the principles that informed the educational curriculum in antiquity.
three-dimensional model of articulation developed from survey data. In this presentation, we focus on the role of the curriculum within the model and its importance in achieving a coherent program. Curricular decisions help establish and maintain well-articulated programs by ensuring the efficient and effective development of skills and content knowledge from one instructional level to the next. We conclude with a discussion of the implications of the model for curricular policies and practices within the foreign language context and its potential application to other disciplines.

**October 12 - Ken Jackson, Assistant Professor, English; “Shakespeare’s Richard III and Our Pauline Moment”**

Richard III is the only Shakespearean character to invoke Saint Paul (and he does so no less than five times). The anomaly has been noted as something of a side topic for sometime, of course, but this essay attempts to show that Shakespeare’s understanding of Pauline subjectivity determines the play (Richard III) as a whole. This new look at the play is made possible in part by what I call our own “Pauline moment.” While it has not been fully recognized in the circles of critical and cultural theory, Saint Paul has become a major figure for such thinkers as Agamben, Badiou, Derrida, Lyotard, and Žižek (among others).

**October 14 - Robert Arking, Professor, Biology; “Extending Longevity: Implications”**

In 1900, the mean life expectancy at birth in the US was ~48 years. Over the ensuing 100 years, this value increased to ~80 years. More and more people are now living to advanced (85+) ages. Doubling the health span from its current ~35 year length to a ~70 year period will have profound effects, such as giving us longer, healthier, more productive, and more interesting lives. The popular critics have not foreseen this future, and their pessimism is not justified. This talk will focus on the nature of the biological mechanisms involved, the nature of the present and future interventions, and some thoughts as to how this will play out. There are many uncertainties, but I believe it likely that the ability to extend healthy longevity will radically transform our age-structured society whether we wish it or not.

**October 19 - Kate Paesani, Assistant Professor, Romance Languages & Literatures, & Catherine Barrette, Associate Professor, Romance Languages & Literatures; “A Theoretical Model of Program Articulation: Implications for Curriculum Development”**

Program articulation, the coherent planning and implementation of a program of study within and across instructional levels, is an issue of concern for departments across the university. In this presentation, we use the specific context of foreign language programs to present a three-dimensional model of articulation developed from survey data. After an introduction to the topic of articulation and an overview of our empirically-based model, we focus on the role of the curriculum within the model and its importance in achieving a coherent program. Curricular decisions help establish and maintain well-articulated programs by ensuring the efficient and effective development of skills and content knowledge from one instructional level to the next. We conclude with a discussion of the implications of the model for curricular policies and practices within the foreign language context and its potential application to other disciplines.

**October 21 - Marsha Richmond, Associate Professor, Interdisciplinary Studies; “The Darwin 1909 Celebration at Cambridge: Reevaluating Evolution in Light of Mendel, Mutation, and Meiosis”**

In June 1909, more than two hundred scientists representing 167 different countries gathered in Cambridge to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of Charles Darwin’s birth and the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of the Origin of Species. With natural selection increasingly under attack, evolution theory was in disarray. Against this backdrop biologists weighed the impact of several new developments—the rediscovery in 1900 of Mendel’s laws of heredity, the mutation theory of Hugo de Vries, and the new hypothesis that linked the mechanics of sex cell division (named meiosis in 1905) to heredity. By 1915, the new Mendelian Chromosome Theory had resolved some of the apparent contradictions. The 1909 Darwin Celebration thus was a significant watershed in the history of modern biology, illustrative of a period of “cognitive dissonance” in biology. This paper will highlight some of the events and activities of the celebration with the aim of evaluating the status of evolution theory on the eve of the “new genetics.”

**October 26 - Nira Pullin, Professor, Theater, & Mary Copenhagen, Lecturer, Theater; “Victorian Secrets—Underneath It All: Dress, Deportment, and Dance of the Late Victorian Age for the Stage”**

The late Victorian/Edwardian time period, better known as Fin de Siecle in France and the Belle Epoch or Gilded Age here in the United States is a period of great interest to those of us in the theatre. Many of our most famous playwrights such as Oscar Wilde and George Bernard Shaw wrote numerous plays set in this era and they have become a mainstay in the repertoire of most educational as well as professional theatre companies. Therefore this time period is of special interest to actors, directors, designers, choreographers and movement specialists. In order to depict the time period accurately on stage it is necessary to know some of the general etiquette and fashions of the period as well as popular dances and pastimes. Through the use of slides, costume pieces and actual dance exhibition this talk will cover many of the fashions, mores, manners and taboos as well as the deportment and dance of the

Below: George Galster, standing Clarence B. Hilberry Professor of Urban Affairs, began the 2004-2005 Brown Bag Series.
period which we have discovered through our research. Come join us for a brief look at a gentler time. Tea and light snacks will be served.

**November 2 - Kimberly Campbell, Assistant Professor, Communication, & Donyle Griffin, Lecturer, Communication; “Un’Rappin’ Hip Hop: Language and Culture”**

Hip-Hop is undoubtedly a popular phenomenon. Torn between consciousness-raising rhetoric and capitalistic gain, hip-hop is becoming one of the most controversial sociocultural movements of the 21st Century. Inherent to this discussion are three key elements that this panel will address. First, we seek to narrow the discussion on defining hip-hop by exploring it as a sociocultural phenomenon. Second, we seek to promote the systematic study of hip-hop culture by academics and review recent examples of this critical area of scholarship. And third, we seek to explore manifestations of the hip-hop identity in rap lyrics that expound upon the nature of male-female relationships. During the end of our presentation we will initiate lyrical analyses of popular hip-hop songs that focus on male-female romantic relationships and discuss the merits of lyrical analysis as a valid method for understanding tenets of hip-hop culture. A short group participation exercise will be incorporated into the presentation and at least ten minutes for questions and answers will be planned.

**November 4 - Thomas Aboud, Assistant Professor, Anthropology; “The Spatial Construction of Identity and Difference in Contemporary Jerusalem”**

This lecture will explore the spatial construction of identity and the politics of difference in contemporary Jerusalem. I trace some of the multiple ways in which space, identity, and alterity are experienced, produced, and contested by Palestinians and Israelis who reside and toil in this divided urban center. Throughout, I detail many of the complexities of a national-religious order that has beset, shaped, and defined relations between competing communities over the last several decades. How is the past produced in a city vigorously characterized by a set of myths and mythic representations? How have particular urban spaces and places come to take on national meanings in a city both Palestinians and Israelis consider as their capital? My work looks at the politics of Israeli-state segregationist schemes and seeks to examine how particular communities in the city are affected in diverse ways by what I argue is a distinctly colonial form of racism and administration.

**November 9 - Elizabeth Dorn, Assistant Professor, History; “Temperance and the Modernization of Japan”**

Following its opening and subjugation by unequal treaties with five Western powers in the mid-1800’s, Japan underwent a phenomenal transformation as officials and citizens strove to modernize the country. Their efforts were shaped by the belief that the West represented the apex of civilization and thus that to modernize meant to Westernize. That conviction led to intense study of American and European institutions, ideas, and customs and the subsequent adoption of many of the same. Two practices that took root were consumption of beer and wine and abstinence from all alcoholic beverages. In this paper, I will discuss both in light of Japan’s drive to gain a position of equality with the West. I will pay particular attention to temperance and will examine arguments its advocates gave and activities they undertook to make Japan a sober yet modern nation.

**November 11 - James Tucker, Chair, Biology; “Understanding the Human Genome: What Should I Know and Why Should I Care?”**

The complete DNA sequence of the human genome has now been established. What does this mean to you and to me? Even though the average person may never understand the human genome in all its complexity, knowledge about our genome has already begun to affect our lives. It is reasonable to expect that physicians will be incorporating genomics into their medical practice on a routine basis. The mystery concerning differences among people in susceptibility to medications is already yielding to the power of diagnostic tests which are designed to predict individual responses to those drugs and to improve therapies. However, the sensitivity and specificity of these tests also open the possibility of misuse. Ethical concerns exist about access to personal genetic information, including how that access should be controlled and by whom. Beyond the DNA sequence of the human genome lies the proteome, the complete set of proteins encoded by the genes. The nascent field of proteomics offers additional intriguing possibilities for medical interventions. Deciphering the genome has opened many doors. It is now up to us to explore and use these scientific riches in a responsible and ethical manner.
November 16 - Mame Jackson, Professor, Art & Art History; “Handing it on: The Legacy of African American Art in Southeast Michigan”

This presentation is designed to accompany and contextualize an exhibition, Reverberations—Contemporary Art by African American Artists in Southeastern Michigan, at Siena Heights University, November 9-December 10, 2004. The focus will be on the work of seven artists whose recent paintings, sculptures, prints, and digital animation comprise this lively exhibition: Robert Martin (Professor of Art, WSU); Lester Johnson and Gilda Snowden (College for Creative Studies faculty); Al Hinton and Marianetta Porter (University of Michigan faculty); and independent Detroit artists, Charles McGee and Tyree Guyton. The work of these artists will be examined in historic and cultural context, with an emphasis on the heritage and connections that support their work and sustain a vibrant arts community in Southeastern Michigan.

November 18 - Rayneld Johnson, Lecturer, Fashion Design and Merchandising; “Corsets and Culture”

Throughout the ages dress and adornment concealed and embellished the human body but also revealed the soul of culture. Items of apparel and practices of adornment are partly a result of the interrelationship of social factors such technology, polity, moral patterns, economy, class structure, rituals, religion, symbolism plus others. Social factors can be used to explain the appearance of different cultures, time periods, trends and various styles. One garment style, the corset, has been worn for the last four hundred years. This discussion will explore the influence of social factors on styles and in particular, the corset. The various past and present social meanings of this controversial, alluring, restrictive and artistic garment in western dress will be discussed. Additionally, historic garments will be presented from the Dorothea June Grossbart Historic Costume Collection that will visibly show corseting in garment construction that created the corseted silhouette.

November 23 - Tony Crowley, Chair, Art & Art History; “Finding Visual Form in John Milton’s L’Allegro and Il Penseroso”

Every artist has a point of departure when he or she begins a new work. It may be a desire to meticulously reproduce the landscape or an impulse to capture the power of an emotion in a gesture. In this slide lecture, I will describe the process I used to find shape, pattern, and rhythm in John Milton’s companion poems and then translate my discoveries into visual form. I will discuss several examples of the art works I created during more than a year’s work on this project.

November 30 - Anca Vlasopolos, Professor, English; “Crossing the Equator and Other Maritime Rituals: Gender Bending on the High Seas”

This lecture will present the results of my research into 19th-century whaling culture. Of necessity and, later, by choice a homosocial group, whalers often engaged in “female” endeavors such as sewing, mending, laundering, and spinning yarn needed for the lines that were constantly frayed with wear. What is less known is that the sailors developed entertainments as well as followed rituals that destabilized gender and were distinctly homoerotic. I will be presenting two major instances: the events surrounding ships “speaking” to one another on the high seas; and the initiation rites celebrated upon the ship’s crossing the equator. One seemed to be more spontaneous and contingent on the nationality and nature of the ships encountering one another. The other followed a tradition dating at least as far back as the 18th-century. Adopted from the British Navy, it continues to the present day.

December 2 - Sandra VanBurkleo, Associate Professor, History; “Gender, State Paternalism and the Invention of Modern Citizenship in the Pacific Northwest 1879-1912”

Professor VanBurkleo will talk informally about her work in frontier Washington as it moved from the status territory toward statehood, with particular emphasis upon the ‘invention’ in the Pacific northwest of the notion of a manly republican citizen — a notion, she argues, that came to inform conversations elsewhere about the merits of women’s suffrage, female jury service and office holding, and the alleged ‘failure’ of western experiments in political and economic equality. There will be no paper in advance of or during the session. So come prepared for an extended discussion regarding civic participation in modern American and the role of the frontier west in forging our conceptions of such participation.
DECEMBER  16 - JOHN CORVINO, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, PHILOSOPHY; “PREFERENCE AND DISCRIMINATION”

People “discriminate” for a variety of reasons: some rational, some not; some admirable, some deplorable. Recently I have become interested in the issue of discrimination on the basis of “bare” or “basic” preferences—that is, preferences that are not instrumental to satisfying some other preference. In this talk I intend to explore, in a rather informal way, what the moral limits on such preferences might be, and why.

DECEMBER  9 - WILLIAM LYNCH, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES; “HOW THE WEST WAS WON... STARTING IN IRELAND”

Frederick Jackson Turner famously identified the frontier as the defining feature of American history. But where did westward expansion begin? And what were its characteristic features? In an attempt to answer these questions, I examine the massive transfer of Irish land following the Cromwellian suppression of the 1641 Irish rebellion. The English Parliament, in the midst of its conflict with Charles I, had financed troops for reconquest by offering Irish land to private investors and later confiscations were called for to satisfy army arrears. The Down Survey of land confiscated from those judged disloyal (with maps laid “down,” 1654-59), was directed by William Petty, physician general to the army and later Royal Society fellow, and carried out with the help of a pool of Commonwealth Army soldiers. Both the Down Survey and the U.S. Northwest Survey employed remarkably similar techniques of surveying and mapping, as well as similar organizational forms. Both took place in the context of ongoing colonial settlement, displacing the native population following a century of demographic expansion of the colonizing society. Both involved cash-strapped governments emerging from civil war who transferred land to soldiers, settlers, and investors to pay off governmental debts and manage internal tensions. Finally, both processes led to a recognition of the need to understand how governmental policies can help or hinder economic improvement in a context where land was plentiful and labor scarce.

DECEMBER  7 - STEPHEN SPURR, PROFESSOR, ECONOMICS; “THE PRACTICE BOUNDARIES OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS: AN ECONOMIC AND LEGAL ANALYSIS”

This talk examines the features of a labor market in which there are two professional groups that both cooperate and directly compete with each other: certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) and anesthesiologists (MDAs). We examine how the relative numbers of these two types of anesthesia providers, and differences in State regulation, affect the earnings of CRNAs, and the extent of supervision of CRNAs by MDAs.

WINTER SEMESTER

JANUARY  11 - RICHARD GRUSIN, CHAIR, ENGLISH; “DVDS, VIDEO GAMES, AND THE DIGITAL CINEMA OF INTERACTIONS”

Borrowing from the idea that electronic textuality marks what has been called the late age of print, I argue that digital cinema marks our cultural moment as the late age of cinema (or perhaps phrase differently, the late age of celluloid film). I am convinced that in this sense we already find ourselves with a digital cinema—not as a distinctively new medium but as a hybrid network of media forms and practices, what the title of my paper, alluding to Tom Gunning’s paradigmatic conception of a “cinema of attractions”, characterizes as a “cinema of interactions”. In this brown bag I will focus on the idea of digital cinema at the present historical moment, to look at the questions of convergence and hybridity in our contemporary cinema of interactions. My argument has both a social and an aesthetic dimension. I will first look at the social and economic distribution of cinema across a number of different digital media, including DVDs, video games, and the Web. I will then suggest briefly how this cinema of interactions has manifested itself aesthetically and formally in a couple of recent and forthcoming film projects.

JANUARY  18 – J. VAN DER WEG, ASSOCIATE DEAN, COLLEGE OF FINE, PERFORMING AND COMMUNICATION ARTS; “PUBLISHING YOUR RESEARCH: AN EDITOR’S PERSPECTIVE”

Acquisitions Editor. Production Editor. Managing Editor. Manuscript Editor. Copy Editor. Indexer. Proofreader. Who are all these people, and why should I care? Join an experienced editor for an informal presentation on academic journal and book publishing. Intended for graduate students and untenured faculty early in their careers, the presentation will focus on moving from ideas to manuscripts to published work. Among the topics to be discussed will be the effective marketing of research for publication, what journals and publishers expect of authors, and what authors should expect of publishers.
implications. Sufficiently large. In this talk, I discuss the economic analysis and its implications. Following this logic, it may follow that treatments that shorten one's life can be justified if the improvement in quality of life, while alive, is sufficiently large. Economic analysis suggests, however, that improved quality of life while alive lives of those treated are often deemed to be ineffective. Therefore, treatments that do not extend the lives of those treated are often deemed to be ineffective. Economic analysis suggests, however, that improved quality of life while alive may justify treatment, even when length of life is not extended. Economic analysis and its implications.

January 20 - Laura L. Winn, Assistant Professor, Communication; "Rise of the Moors: Voices of Working Class Academics and their Import for Diverse Pedagogy"

This paper explores themes within the family stories of academics from working class backgrounds, as presented in a series of edited volumes dedicated to this topic. In negotiating a new identity for themselves as academy members, working class academics must balance higher education’s denial of their working class roots with their own desires to succeed in their chosen profession—often resulting in a disconnection from their families of origin and a challenge to their working class identity. This dynamic has the impact to greatly affect the process of higher education in that working class teacher may bring different insights and strengths into the classroom, and also may face different challenges than their nonworking class peers. Because “class” within the U.S. is often a less salient identity than are other cultural identities, students from the working class may not naturally connect their own differential classroom experiences with this identity. Thus, the reflections of working class academics may also pose a valuable opportunity for all teachers to gain a better understanding of the challenges and strengths involved with being a working class origin student.

January 25 - Allen Goodman, Professor, Economics; "Can Medical Treatments that Shorten One’s Life be Efficacious?"

For medical treatments that address life-threatening diseases, the medical community typically defines efficacy in terms of extending the lives of those treated. Therefore, treatments that do not extend the lives of those treated are often deemed to be ineffective. Economic analysis suggests, however, that improved quality of life while alive may justify treatment, even when length of life is not extended. Following this logic, it may follow that treatments that shorten one’s life can be justified if the improvement in quality of life, while alive, is sufficiently large. In this talk, I discuss the economic analysis and its implications.

January 27 - Robert Elsie, Anthropology: Olzheim, Germany; "Modern Albanian Literature and its Reception in the English Speaking World"

This lecture endeavors to introduce contemporary Albanian literature. It focuses on the prose and poetry of Albanian writers, some internationally known like Ismail Kadare and many authors currently being discovered. It also provides insight into the difficulties faced by a small literature in gaining the attention of the Western reader.

February 1 - Rodney Clark, Associate Professor, Psychology; "Racism and the Health Divide: Effects across the Life Span"

Perceptions of interethnic group and interethnic group racism are disproportionately higher among Blacks in the United States. As an added stressor for many Blacks, perceptions of racism may influence psychological, social, and physiological functioning in this group, and help account for between-ethnic group and within-ethnic group disparities in health. Although the mechanistic pathways by which racism influences health have yet to be determined, conceptual models have recently been forwarded to facilitate systematic investigations of the relationship between perceived racism and health processes in Blacks. My presentation will 1) examine the major tenets and components of these models, and 2) review studies examining the empirical unity of these models.

February 3 - Donald Schurknight, Chair, Romance Languages & Literatures; "Power and Politics: Larra and the Death Penalty in Romantic Spain"

In this presentation I explore how Larra exposes the power relations that exist between the classes that form society. His essay “Un reo de muerte” is seen as his own subversive discourse opposing the official discourses of truth. In his efforts to unmask these official discourses and to make his readers understand his own “truth,” the writer, fearing censorship, employs a discourse that suggests much more than it seems to state at first glance. Hired primarily as a theater critic, Larra describes a public execution as if it were theater, i.e., as a world of fictionality. He draws attention to the fact that “performance” is what is occurring on the real stage of life: there are created illusions, fictions, masks, disguises. We see too that his discourse masquerades as an “artículo de costumbres” [article on customs] in order to make heard a dissonant political voice that indicts the ruling establishment.

February 8 - Osmanika Likaka, Associate Professor, History; "Talking Under One’s Breath: Praise Nicknames as Voices of Protest"

The literature on peasant societies of Africa and Southeast Asia indicates that under conditions of unequal power relations and
2004-2005 Events

The Year in Photos

Below: Rodney Clark, Psychology, gives a Brown Bag talk on racism and the health divide.

Below: Edward M. Wise Fellow Kelly Young, Communication, accepts his award at the annual Edward M. Wise Dissertation Fellowship Award Luncheon.

Clockwise from left: Bart Miles, Communication, Lisa Maruca, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Jonathan Flatley, English, present at the Faculty Fellows Conference on The Body.
Left: The Humanities Center moved from Old Main to 2226 Faculty/Administration Building the fall of 2004, offering us a view (below) of the construction on Wayne State's newest dormitories, The Towers.

Left: (right to left) Dr. Walter Edwards, Director of the Humanities Center, was honored for his 25 years as a faculty member at Wayne State. Here he poses with Leon Wilson, Chair of Sociology, and Dale Kingston, GTA in Conflict Resolution, who, like Dr. Edwards, are Guyanese.

Above: This year the Humanities Center hired three new staff members, (left to right) Secretary Jennifer Leonard and Student Assistants Kelly Bennett and Leah Warshaw.

Left: The new space included three conference rooms, the largest of which was used for Brown Bag Talks and other special events.
exploitation the simultaneous use of praise of and insults to authorities, seemingly a contradictory political behavior was a form of resistance motivated by a need for safety. From the outset of colonial encounters, Africans gave derogatory nicknames to despised colonial government officials. They also gave praise nicknames to express appreciation to colonial officials who were less brutal in collecting taxes, recruiting labor, and checking cash crops production. However, some of these nicknames apparently suggesting genuine praise articulated as much protest as those overtly insulting colonial officials. The oppressed used praise to keep “A smile on the lips and war in the heart.”

February 10 - Juanita Anderson, Assistant Professor, Media Arts and Studies; “Race, Culture and the American City”
Race, Culture and the American City is the title of a new television documentary series that I am currently developing. This series will examine the constructs of race and the dynamics of culture in the physical, economic and political evolution of Detroit during the 20th Century. The project takes a holistic view at the complex and interwoven factors and relationships that impact upon the rise, fall, and efforts at renewal of a city whose 20th Century history, until now, has largely been viewed in economic and political terms, and in stark terms of black and white. For this presentation, I will discuss my preliminary approach to the humanities themes that will underlie the series, as well as my approach to personal narrative and cultural artifacts in documentary filmmaking.

February 15 - Ron Brown, Associate Professor, Political Science; “Seek and Ye Shall Find: Thomas Gray, Nat Turner, St. Augustine and Rebellion”
On November 5, 1831, six acting Justices of the Peace in Southampton County, Virginia, sentenced Nat Turner to death for leading a slave insurrection, which resulted in the estimated death of fifty-six white Virginians. Turner and his coconspirators violated Chapter 42 of the Code of Virginia, enacted on January 15, 1801, which stated that it was a criminal offense for blacks to plot, conspire, or make insurrection. The fear of black uprisings led the Virginian General Assembly to allocate appropriations annually for the deportation or execution of black Americans. Why would Nat Turner and his coconspirators select insurgency knowing that their odds of success were extremely low? This essay, relying primarily on Amartya Sen’s theoretical discussion of “maximization and the act of choice” and Thomas Gray’s pamphlet, The Confessions of Nat Turner, 1831, maintains that the felt need for personal and collective autonomy as well as the belief that God was guiding his choices significantly influenced Nat Turner’s selection of political violence.

February 20 - Brown Bag Colloquium Series

Below: Leon Wilson, Chair of Sociology, discusses the myths and realities of fatherhood in the Caribbean.

February 22 - Leon Wilson, Chair, Sociology; “Fatherhood in the Caribbean: Myths and Realities”
Debates about the status of Caribbean males in familial affair abound in the extant literature. More often than not, males at worst are considered absent and at best marginal. Yet such characterizations are constructed without understanding the cultural or structural contexts of familial relationships. Additionally, such claims are seldom buttressed by adequate empirical data. This study offers a critique of the concept of matrifocality, a term developed to describe the nature of Caribbean paternal and conjugal relational structures. It provides an empirical challenge to the idea of the marginal male and provides a framework for understanding the roles males adopt in Caribbean families. Empirical results suggest that given specific contexts, the Caribbean male is not as marginal as thought and thus the need to further investigate the nature of cultural arrangements that determine relational structures in the Caribbean.

February 24 - Norah Duncan IV, Associate Chair, Music; “A Comparative Discussion of African and African American Spirituality”
As a scholar of African-American spiritual music, Norah Duncan IV often is called upon to compare the music of various Christian churches in America with the sacred music of African-Americans. In September 2004, Duncan spent time in Eastern and Northern Nigeria, in the Igbo and Hause regions, studying the religious music of these African peoples as well as teaching various Nigerian choirs the music of African-Americans. His Brown Bag lecture will be a discussion of his experiences in Nigeria and a comparison of the spiritual music of Nigeria with the music of African-Americans, paying particular attention to the similarities between the two.

March 1 - Karl Braunschweig, Assistant Professor, Music; “Master Metaphors of Musical Form: Language, Architecture, Organicism, Drama”
In this lecture, I make the argument that a complete theory of musical form must recognize the presence of a complete economy of “master metaphors” as the foundation of musical coherence—the coexistence
and interaction of several underlying models. These “master” metaphors inform the analysis of music from the level of the motive and phrase to that of the complete work. In the analytic/critical writings of such important musicians as Reicha, Marx, Schumann, Riemann, Schenker, Schoenberg, Tovey, Cone, Dahlhaus, and Rosen there have been primarily four of these master metaphors: language, architecture, organicism, and drama. Deciphering and decoding our interpretive structures and categories in the theory of form broadens our interpretations of musical meaning in the realm of abstract instrumental forms and allows us to rediscover what cultural concepts and aesthetic values we have placed in these works.

MARZ 3 - MARVIN ZALMAN, PROFESSOR, CRIMINAL JUSTICE; "THE LITERATURE AND FILM OF WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS"

At the present time the subject of wrongful conviction is the subject of active scholarship in criminal justice, law and a variety of disciplines. Wrongful convictions have also been the subject of more popular literature, including journalism, popular books and films. At least two famous mystery writers, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Erle Stanley Gardner, applied their talents to exonerate wrongly convicted persons. More recently, wrongful conviction has been the focus of celebrated documentaries (Thin Blue Line; Capturing the Friedmans) as well as a number of more straightforward documentaries, and a number of books that fall more or less into the “true crime” genre. My talk will focus on the latter form of literature. I will briefly describe and compare some of these books, and discuss the value of this sub-genre for the scholar who is interested in the issue of wrongful conviction.

MARZ 8 - AARON RETISH, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, HISTORY; "CONTESTING HEGEMONY: PEASANT AND STATE RELATIONS DURING RUSSIA’S CIVIL WAR, 1918-21"

This paper will examine the dialogue between the state and its population through a case study of an early Soviet judicial experiment, the Revolutionary Tribunal. During Russia’s Civil War the Soviet state attempted to press the peasant population for conscripts and resources while building a hegemonic authority in the countryside. The Revolutionary Tribunal was a crucial nexus between state control over social and political norms, and peasant resistance and accommodation to the new elite. Representatives of the government strove to exhibit their power over the population by defining proper conduct. However, the peasantry could use the courts to achieve, sometimes, their own victories over the dominant elite. An examination of cases from the Viatka province Revolutionary Tribunal reveals the relationship between peasant political criminals and the state, and how the provincial Bolshevik government understood and categorized peasant actions. The peasantry’s challenges to the legal and social order reveal the diverging views on social norms and justice between state and peasant. At the same time, Revolutionary Tribunal cases also show one of the few methods of direct communication between state and society. The peasants used the Soviet state apparatus to contest the hegemonic control of their rulers.

MARZ 22 - MARY GARRETT, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, COMMUNICATION; "CONFESSIONS OF AN ORIENTALIST"

Deep structures of knowledge and power condition scholars to see and not to see. What leads a scholar to self-reflect on these structures and processes and to embark on a journey of unlearning? These questions are especially significant when they involve pernicious doctrines such as racism or sexism. In my own case, my training in Chinese studies led me to Orientalism, that is, the complex of negative projections described by Edward Said. Using myself as a case study, I will analyze how I came to Orientalism and how I am trying to move beyond it.

MARZ 24 - MARY CAY SENGSTOCK, PROFESSOR, SOCIOLOGY; "MULTICULTURALISM: WHO COUNTS AND WHO DOESN’T?"

The United States is often described as a “multi-cultural” society. Yet there is ample evidence that only certain kinds of multi-culturalism are acceptable. If you are in the “wrong” group or have the “wrong” culture, you may not be acceptable. Furthermore, multi-culturalism tends to focus on the presence of a wide variety of different groups in society. However, individuals are expected to ally themselves with one or another of these several groups. Individuals who cross group lines are often ostracized by both groups. This lecture will report on a study of 30 individuals with multi-cultural origins. Typically, their parents were of different racial, religious, or nationality groups. In the interviews, they discussed their experiences growing up in a multi-cultural world - which often was not very accepting of their multi-cultural origins.
Feminist scholars Juliana Schiesari and Jennifer Radden contend that the split between melancholic inspiration and melancholic illness reveals a gender gap: whereas the melancholic temperament is often associated with male artists, the melancholic body is often female. My paper will test their hypothesis against the depiction of melancholia in psychiatric textbooks of the nineteenth-century. Although much recent scholarship has focused on neurasthenia and hysteria as gendered illnesses, German doctors, psychiatrists, and psychoanalysts as Johann Christain Heinroth, Ernst von Feuchtersleben, Wilhelm Griesinger, Richard von Krafft-Ebing, Emil Kraepelein, and Sigmund Freud maintained a strong interest in melancholia as a separate condition throughout the nineteenth and into the twentieth century. This paper will explore the extent to which and the manner in which they distinguished between melancholia in men and women, as well as the causes and cures that they propose for female melancholia. I will then discuss how this understanding of psychiatric texts might contribute to readings of the manner in which nineteenth-century German women writers represented melancholia in their texts.

Along with union density, the incidence of strike activity in the United States has fallen dramatically in recent decades. Yet, unlike nations with more corporatist or tripartite institutions, in the U.S. the right to strike is a cornerstone of the legal system of voluntary collective bargaining under the 1935 National Labor Relations Act (NLRA.) What has happened to the strike? How have structural and institutional changes affected workers’ right to strike, and what are the implications for the future of American labor relations? I propose to address these questions through the analysis of a strategic case: the 1995-2000 Detroit Newspapers strike, one of the largest and longest strike mobilizations of the 1990s. This paper will outline the significance of the case, and present initial findings from archival research and dozens of original interviews with participants in the events, including strikers, union leaders, management, non-strikers, government officials, and local community leaders.

While quantitative and highly structured approaches to understanding homelessness among older minority women are quite useful in representing this social issue, its causes, dynamics, and consequences, there are other deeper approaches to gaining insight into how women come to see their experience as homeless individuals. In this seminar, the presenters will examine some of these approaches, ones they have tested out through the Telling My Story Project in which both the investigators and percipients come to construct the meaning and texture of the process of becoming, staying, and emerging out of homelessness. Humanistic approaches help characterize the experience of homelessness in its many textures: the pain of trauma inherent in becoming and remaining homeless, the excitement and anticipation of emerging out of it, and the anxiety inherent in staying out of homelessness.

How do you understand contemporary Americans? That’s the question I want to consider. Specifically, how to understand us in relation to the things we are supposedly living after in some kind of perpetual post-culture – post-historical, post-modern, post-urban, etc. I want to propose that it’s not so much the times that are different, but the spaces we live in. We’ve become a culture of neo hunter-gatherers, dispatched on various fieldtrips, in search of spaces that provide the kind of nostalgic coddling that makes us feel at home, even though real homes are the places we wish collectively not to be in, most of the time. Taco Bell provides the theoretical basis for my inquiry, specifically the three primary iterations of the “make a run for the border” campaign. Based on crucial insights garnered there, “thinking outside the bun,” I want to investigate the cartographic deep structure of Target and Home Depot, as sites of fieldtrip hunting and gathering, and the nostalgias that motivate our post-it goings and comings.

Dean Frank Wu, who testified in the Michigan Affirmative action litigation before the U.S. District Court, will discuss the importance of considering race in remedying racial disparities. He will discuss the constitutional rules and policy concerns.
Through its Innovative Projects program, the Humanities Center continues to fund faculty members from various disciplines who perform research in the humanities and arts. This year, the Center’s Advisory Board selected six projects for funding, awarding them a total of $20,000. Descriptions of the funded projects follow.

Dora Apel, Associate Professor in the Department of Art and Art History, was awarded a grant for her project “War Culture: Essay on Art and Contemporary War.” The project examines the cultural and political work of public media images, art photography and artworks representing wars from Vietnam to Iraq in which the United States and its allies have played central roles, and specifically the relationships between such images, their functions among different audiences, and their relation to aesthetics, politics and ethics.

Debra Jozefowicz-Simbeni, Assistant Professor of Social Work, and Holly Feen-Calligan, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education, were awarded a grant for “Art from the Hearth: Using Art Therapy and Social Work in Helping Homeless Children Tell their Stories,” a service-learning project conducted at the Doorstep Shelter in Highland Park designed to use art and storytelling to empower homeless students by giving creative voice to their interpretations of being young and homeless in the 21st century.

Kypros Markou, Professor of Music, was awarded a grant for a new musical composition combining traditional instrumental ensembles with electronic instruments utilized live by electronic musicians. Markou worked with Professor Tom Court and two local electronic composers/musicians, Joshua Palay and Tadd Mullinix, on a project involving the music students of Wayne State University and which culminated in a composition for orchestra, electronic music, and DJ.

David Moxley, Professor of Social Work, and Olivia Washington, Associate Professor of Family and Community Mental Health, were awarded a grant for their project “The Women of the ‘Telling My Story’ Project.” Moxley and Washington worked with Jennifer Weinberger, an associate professor of graphic arts at Mott Community College, to create verbal and visual portraits of eight minority women who have survived homelessness in late life. The portraits are intended to educate health and human service professionals and the public at-large about the personal aspects of homelessness and consequences of this serious social issue.

Carol Vernallis, Associate Professor of Communication, was awarded a grant for her project “The Music Video Project: Producing Work Inside and Outside of the Genre.” Vernallis created a video for “Ask You,” a song by electronic music artist Lusine (on the Ghostly label based in Ann Arbor) that represented a collaboration among Wayne State University faculty from several disciplines – Megan Brunke (Dance), Corey O’Sullivan (Costume Design), Kevin Beltz (Theater Design), and Christopher Cambell (Visual Arts).

Barrett Watten, Professor of English, was awarded a grant for “Diasporic Avant Gardes: A Lecture and Performance Series,” a continuation of the work he did through co-organizing the conference “Diasporic Avant Gardes: Experimental Poetics and Cultural Displacement” held at the University of California, Irvine. The grant was used to help fund honorariums and travel expenses for visiting scholars and poets.
The Humanities Center sponsors an annual Faculty Fellowships Competition on a specific theme, this year "Globalization and the Humanities." Fellowships provide Wayne State University faculty with summer funding to help pay for expenses related to their research projects, including travel, research assistance, salary and fringe benefits. Awarded Fellowships average $10,000 and recipients are expected to participate in the annual Faculty Fellows Conference held in the following spring. This year, the Center awarded fellowships to ten faculty members from seven different departments or programs in the humanities and related disciplines. Below are brief descriptions of the funded projects.

Catherine Bogosian, Assistant Professor in the History Department, was awarded a faculty fellowship for her project “Labor, Obligation and Empire: Public Works in Colonial French West Africa.” Her work explores the social history of the deuxième portion de la contingent militaire, a quasi-military labor service in the French Soudan between 1926 and 1950. Workers drew on Western concepts of freedom and civic duty, along with local concepts of obligation and patronage, to articulate their arguments against this despised system of forced labor. She further explores how Malians have interpreted the significance of the deuxième portion which, though a transitional labor arrangement, had an enduring effect not only upon relationships between African employees and French employers, but also upon an evolving understanding of the relationship between the citizen and the state.

Robert Burgoyne, Professor in the Department of English, was awarded a fellowship for “Global Vernaculars: Film and Media Studies.” In this project, he explores new paradigms of scholarly inquiry now emerging in the field of film and media studies that are prompted in part by the recognition that film today functions as a kind of global vernacular. He suggests that cinema not only reflects the globalizing and transnational forces pervading cultures and economies today, but is in fact one of its most visible manifestations. Examples of this include the multinational production of films, massive new influence of international film festivals and transnational circulation of films.

Sarika Chandra, Assistant Professor of English, has been funded for her project “Dislocalism: Re-Assessing Americanism in the Age of Globalization.” She argues that globalization can best be understood not only as an objective historical process but also as a set of rhetorical strategies, and that the changed approaches to the study of literature may not be as sweeping as they seem. Her project examines how the rhetorical strategies generated by globalization anxiety help preserve a sense of national boundaries in precisely those disciplines, genres and texts that invoke a global context through images of mobility and displacement. These genres include American immigrant literatures, literary travel writing and tourist narratives.

* Beth Kangas, Lecturer in the Department of Anthropology, received a faculty fellowship for “Valuing Life and Death in a Global World: Technological Medicine in Yemen and Arab Detroit.” Her project will examine technological medicine in two contexts: Yemen and among Arab Americans in Detroit. Specifically, she explores the quandaries facing seriously ill patients, their family members, and physicians, and the guidance that Islamic religious scholars provide them. Arab patients contending with serious illnesses and their family members will be interviewed, along with Arab and non-Arab medical personnel at the hospitals which routinely deal with seriously ill patients. Finally, the written opinions of Islamic religious scholars in the Detroit area will be elicited regarding the role of medicine and medical technology in perpetuating life and suspending death.

Richard Marback, an Associate Professor in the Department of English, was awarded a fellowship for “What Place the Taalmonument in the New South Africa? South African Language Policy and the Culture of Language.” Analyzing shifts in reception of the Taalmonument in Paarl, South Africa, a monument to the Afrikaans language, his project documents and describes how the monument projects itself into people’s cultural investments in their languages. The dynamic relationships among artifacts, individuals, and languages shift identity and competence away from individual preference and capacity into the realm of cultural interdependence. He hopes to account for why people’s language attitudes and practices are so subtle and why they have proven so resistant to the social engineering of language policies.
Gordon B. Neavill, Associate Professor in the Department of Library and Information Science, has been funded for “Scholarly Communication in the Global Digital Environment,” an exploration of the digitization of information in libraries and its implications. His project addresses three issues: the role of the library as a social institution and locus of responsibility for the preservation of books, the distinctions between published and unpublished work in the digital environment, and the problem of citing passages in an environment where content is no longer associated with specific pages. He notes that records in digital form will survive only if their historical significance is recognized from the outset and they are copied and migrated regularly to ensure that their content remains accessible by current technologies.

Frederic Pearson, Director of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, has been awarded a faculty fellowship for his project, “The Impact of Immigration Patterns in Local Community Schools,” a study of the processes by which schools adapt to dynamic cultural diversity related to global immigration. To do so, the project will examine how migration pressures and community and parental interaction and involvement in school decision-making, affect evolving education philosophies on multi-cultural issues. It will also assess the influence of global developments ranging from violence and war to advanced communication, finance and travel as they affect one school in a selected multi-cultural neighborhood.

Anne Rothe, Assistant Professor of German and Slavic Studies, has been funded for “Constructing Post-Holocaust German Identities in Israel/Palestine, 1946-2004: An Oral History.” This is an examination of an example of globalization’s counter process of localization through an analysis of oral history interviews with 48 non-Jewish or converted Germans who chose to live in Israel temporarily or permanently. While the German expatriates attempt to acculturate into Israeli or Palestinian society and in this process de-stigmatize their post-Holocaust collective identity as perpetrators or bystanders to genocide, the host societies react in complex, often contradictory ways to these attempts due to the fact that as Germans and Gentiles (or converts) the interviewees are doubly outsiders in Israel and occupy a problematic position.

Michael Scrivener, a Professor in the Department of English, received a faculty fellowship for his project “Habermas and the Cosmopolitan Ideal.” The project explores Jurgen Haberman’s theory of cosmopolitanism, the political ideal articulated by Enlightenment philosophers and renewed by Habermas as a way to respond to globalization. Habermas’s development of cosmopolitanism contrasts with two dominant trends in contemporary politics, nationalism and reactionary antimodernism (especially fundamentalist religious movements), as well as with dominant theoretical models current in the humanities, especially poststructuralist and postmodernist modes of thought hostile to the traditions of the Enlightenment and social democratic liberalism.

Leon C. Wilson, Department Chair of Sociology, has received an award for “Western Media and Adolescent Development in Guyana,” a comprehensive assessment of the influence of Western media on the development and cultural values of adolescents in Guyana. It aims to evaluate the stability and/or changes in Caribbean and indigenous cultural influences in the light of the diffusion of Western entertainment media beginning with the availability of home television in the early 80’s and the proliferation of other media forms in the 90’s.

* These projects are still awaiting HIC approval.
2004-2005 Fellowships
Edward M. Wise Dissertation Fellowship

In an effort to foster exemplary doctoral dissertation work among humanists at Wayne State, the Humanities Center offers an annual fellowship competition for PhD candidates. For 2004-2005, the Humanities Center selected one dissertation fellow and four awardees.

2005 Awardees
Edward M Wise Fellow
KELLY YOUNG
Communication Department
A Hunt for Identity and Sovereignty: A Rhetorical Analysis of Makah Indian Discourse in the Quest to Regain Whaling Rights

Additional Awardees
TARA HAYES
English Department
Jonson's Women, Women's Jonson

DERRICK WILLIS
Anthropology Department
Coming of Age Among African American Men in Detroit

DORIS RUNEY
English Department
Lonei Teodorani's Lorelei: A Praxis in Translation and Film Adaption

TAMARA EMERSON
English Department
Translational Troubles: Moral Networks as Creating Nation in Nineteenth Century U.S. Imaginings of China

Edward M. Wise Dissertation Fellowship Award Luncheon
This year the annual Award Luncheon was held in conjunction with the Faculty Fellows Conference on “The Body”. The event was moderated by Ross Pudoloff of the English Department and was well attended by faculty members and friends and family of the five recipients. Sandra VanBurkleo, Associate Professor of History and widow of Edward M. Wise, presented certificates to this year’s fellow, Kelly Young, and awardees Tara Hayes, Derrick Willis, Doris Runey and Tamara Emerson. Each of the awardees then presented on the content of his or her dissertation.

ABOUT THE AWARD
The Humanities Center offers $12,000 in support each year to one student in the final stages of writing his or her dissertation through the Edward M. Wise Dissertation Fellowship for Doctoral Students in the Humanities and Arts. The Fellow may also be eligible for tuition reimbursement for up to 10 non-audit dissertation credits. In addition, the Center may disburse additional awards each worth $1,000. This year the Fellowship was once again supported by a gift of $6,000 from the estate of the late Edward M. Wise, administered by his widow, Professor Sandra VanBurkleo.

The late Edward M. Wise was a Wayne State University Professor of Law. He was a Humanities Center Fellow in 1997 and 2000 and a Humanities Center Resident Scholar in 1999-2000. Dr. Wise passed away in October 2000.

Below: Professor Sandra VanBurkleo presents a certificate to awardee Tara Hayes.
The Working Groups program is designed to promote collaborative and innovative research among Wayne State University faculty members. Each group includes faculty members from different disciplines and may contain graduate students as well. Below, each group outlines its activities during the 2004-2005 academic year.

**Detroit Voices: Race and Labor Activists, 1930 to the Present**

3 members from 2 different units.
Group Leader: Todd Duncan

The Detroit Voices Working Group set itself this year two complementary aims: The first was to promote at least one public forum; the second was to continue building (and drawing from) archives of Detroit Labor and Race Activists. The public event, in March 2005, brought together a rare panel of surviving members of the National Negro Labor Council, all in their 80’s and 90’s. In addition to the reminiscences of NNLC survivors, the forum facilitated exchanges across formerly rigid factional boundaries and across generations. Held at the Central United Methodist Church in Detroit, it also inaugurated the reopening of a local labor collection (The Midwest Labor Library) intended as a new venue for ongoing intergenerational exchange. The DV group’s principal archival work centered on layering new information into its core oral history (the Pettway transcription). This included digitizing documents and voiceovers, and using the oral history as a departure point for interpreting and digitizing archived news papers and other artifacts. This development has stimulated other research projects being conducted by members of the DV group and has proven to be a good illustration of the synergies of collaboration. The Group intends to continue exploring the benefits of interaction between groups and between pedagogy and archive, both print and electronic.

**Disabilities Studies**

10 members from 8 different units.
Group Leader: Sharon Milberger

The overall mission of this group is to explore common interests and develop collaborative programs in Disability Studies. The group sponsored a monthly Brown Bag lecture series on Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Disability held in the Community Room of the WSU’s Undergraduate Library. Speakers have included: Barbara LeRoy on “Women with Disabilities Aging Well,” Sharon Milberger on “Violence Against Women with Disabilities,” David Moss on “Defining Disability to Combat Stigma,” Lyke Thompson and Stephanie Bales on “Evaluation of Michigan’s Early Intervention System: Impacts on Families and Children,” and Debra Jozefowicz-Simbeni on “Perspectives on learning, emotional and physical difficulties by young adults who experience them.” In addition, the group launched an Author Lecture Series. Rachel Simon, author of the book, Reading the Bus with My Sister, was the inaugural speaker on March 29, 2005 at WSU’s Bernath Auditorium. Her book chronicles the daily bus-riding routines of her sister, who has a mental disability. It has been made into a CBS movie, starring Rosie O’Donnell and Andie MacDowell that aired on May 1st, 2005.

**A Cross-Linguistic View of the Nature of Nonsentential Speech**

7 members from 6 different units.
Group Leader: Ellen Barton

The Working Group on Nonsententials has continued to meet regularly at the Humanities Center this year. This year, we collaboratively developed a book prospectus for a volume entitled *The Syntax of Nonsententials: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*, which has received a contract for publication from John Benjamins. We are now in the process of receiving and editing chapters for the volume. The funds we received for the Working Group will be used as an honorarium for the volume reviewer, Michel DeGraff, MIT. Professor DeGraff is a prominent linguist with broad expertise not only in syntax but also in related areas that are covered in the volume, and we are pleased that he agreed to the daunting task of reading and commenting upon all of the chapters as well as the volume as a whole. Each chapter will also be reviewed by an individual area expert, and we are now sending individual chapters to these reviewers. The editors of the volume (Ljiljana Progovac, Kate Paesani, Eugnia Casielles, and Ellen Barton) will continue work this summer and next fall on the volume, including further editing of chapters, preparing the introduction, and writing an epilogue which will draw together the data and analyses of the individual chapters.

**A Cross-Linguistic View of the Nature of Nonsentential Speech**

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2004-2005 Sponsored Programs

Working Groups

Groups meet regularly throughout the year for scholarly interaction as well as to plan special events such as guest lectures and colloquia. This year the Center supported Working Groups by providing meeting space and up to $1500 for speakers, supplies, or other organizational needs.

**Working Groups in the Humanities (continued)**

**End of Life Project**
Donald Gelfand
Lynda Baker
Ardith Doorenbos
Allen Goodman
Stephanie Schim
Peter Wolf

The aim of this Project is to develop interdisciplinary research and education related to important end of life issues. The Project engaged in a number of important activities during the 2004-2005 academic year. The End of Life Issues interdisciplinary course was offered in Fall, 2004 for the fourth time with a new instructor: Dr. Sherylyn Briller from Anthropology. A large enrollment was obtained for this advanced undergraduate/graduate course. The Project focused a number of meetings on differentiating between “multidisciplinary” and “interdisciplinary” activities. Dr. Julie Klein from Interdisciplinary Studies helped the Project members in this conceptualizing and a number of articles on the topic were distributed and discussed. A subgroup of project members developed plans for a major conference on the Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the End of Life. This conference is planned for May 2006. A proposal to fund the conference has been submitted to the federal Agency for Healthcare Research Quality. Work continued on the book developed by the project. Final editing of page proofs was completed in April, 2005. The book, *End of Life Stories: Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries* is expected to be published in May 2005 by Springer Publishing Co. Arrangements were made for a guest speaker for the spring. Dr. Leslie Francis was invited and will be at the university on May 8 and 9. Dr. Francis has degrees, and is a faculty member, in both law and philosophy at the University of Utah. Her work fits closely the interdisciplinary approach of the Project.

**Exploring 20th Century Music in Concert with 21st Century Dance**
Kypros Markou
Stephen Stone
Linda Cleveland

**The Fold: Theory and Practice**
Anne Duggan
Michael Giordano
Erik Mortensen
John Richardson
Charles Stivale

This group was created to explore repertory and possible combinations of instrumental pieces that could be choreographed for future performances. The group focused particularly on chamber orchestra or chamber ensemble works that would involve 8-16 musicians and especially looked at pieces from the 20th century that reflect in some way the aesthetics of earlier music such as Baroque. The goal is to feature a Concerto Grosso by Handel or one of the Brandenburg Concertos by Bach side by side with a work by Stravinsky (Dumbarton Oaks Concerto or Concerto in D for Strings) or Bartok (Romanian Folk Dances) and then feature one or two recent works by American composers. These works would inspire choreographies that highlight interaction among dancers in a rather individual soloistic style. In other words there will be individual artistic dialogue between the dancers rather than uniform group activity and expression. This will reflect the character and spirit of the music that we will be performing. The group has already set dates to present three performances utilizing music performers from the Music Department under the direction of member Professor Kypros Markou and accompanying the dancers in choreographies under the direction of Professor Linda Simmons of the Dance Department. The performances will take place on February 17, 18 and 19 of 2006 in the Maggie Allesee Dance Studio.

**People of Detroit: A Living Project**
Shiyong Lu
Maryjean Schenk
Marilyn Zimmerman

During fall and winter semesters, the members of this Working Group (Ronald Day, Anne E. Duggan, Michael Giordano, Erik Mortensen, John Richardson, Steven Shaviro, Charles Stivale) met six times in the Humanities Center to discuss in detail two works related to Gilles Deleuze’s, *The Fold*. Leibniz and the Baroque (1988): a book by Professor Angela Ndalianis, Neo-Baroque Aesthetics and Contemporary Entertainment, in preparation for her visit to campus November 11-15, 2004. The group also read a book by Gregg Lambert, The Return of the Baroque in Modern Culture, but due to scheduling difficulties, we were unable to bring him to campus in the spring. Instead, the group used two sessions to workshop different presentations developed by group members in advance of conferences they were to attend.

**Exploring 20th Century Music in Concert with 21st Century Dance**
3 Members from 2 different units.
Group Leader: Kypros Markou.

During the summer of 2004, the People of Detroit: A Living Project was initiated and 25 interviews were conducted and photographs taken. *The People of Detroit: A Photographic Survey* exhibition and power point presentation were showcased at the National American Medical Student Association (AMSA) Conference at Cobo Hall, October 1-3, 2004.
to an audience of 400. The exhibition was also showcased at fine arts venues including The Fine Arts Gallery, Mott Community College in Flint, Michigan, October 15-November 2, and the University Art Gallery at Saginaw Valley State University, Saginaw, Michigan in November 8-20, 2005. The project and its process was presented to 200 medical students and professionals with specific interest in pediatrics at Health FOCUS: Be the Voice for Detroit’s Youth. Dr. Robert Frank, Interim Dean of the School of Medicine, honored the project in his first school address to 250 members of the Wayne State Medical School Community as a representative focus of the medical school. In addition, the National AMSA Conference in Washington, D.C. awarded this project first place in its Outstanding Project Showcase in March 2005, where it was viewed by 1500 people. A video and photographic/text exhibition was also displayed. The group met at Detroit Artists Market with curator Mitch Cope to investigate public art venue. The collaboration was later expanded to include Dr. Janet Hankin, Department of Sociology, to revise the questionnaire.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF MATHEMATICS
3 members from 2 different units.
Group Leader: Susan Vineberg.

This year the Philosophy of Mathematics Working Group concentrated on one special event by bringing David Corfield from Great Britain to the area. David has published an important book, Towards a Philosophy of Real Mathematics, with Cambridge University Press, in which he looks at recent developments in mathematics to argue for a new approach to the philosophy of mathematics. During a meeting of the group last summer at the University of Toledo the discussion suggested that he would be a most valuable speaker for the group. The group is very pleased that he was able to visit and believe that it was very fruitful. David Corfield spoke on “Revitalizing the special relationship: mathematics and philosophy” and “After Alasdair MacIntyre: Traditions of Enquiry in Mathematics.” In addition, Susan Vineberg from the Department of Philosophy hosted a party for the philosophy of math group at her home during Corfield’s visit during which there was additional discussion of his work.

SCIENCE AND SOCIETY
3 members from 3 different units.
Group Leader: Marsha Richmond.

The Working Group on Science and Society has been in existence for the past three years. The first year was spent establishing contact with faculty members across campus who are interested in science and technology studies. In the second year the group focused on exploring the various research interests of members by sponsoring a series of monthly lectures during the fall and winter semesters. In the current academic year, the group continued to focus on sponsoring a series of campus-wide lectures, both by group members as well as outside scholars. The aim was to promote a dialogue in the University about issues connected with social aspects of science and science studies. Speakers from the Working Group membership included John Strate (Associate Professor, Political Science) who spoke on “Morality Policy and the Politics of Physician-Assisted Suicide” and William S. Moore (Professor, Biological Sciences) who spoke on “A Bird’s Eye View of Evolution.” In addition, the group sponsored lectures given by three outside speakers. These included: Dr. Ida Stamhuis (Department for the History and Social Studies of Science, Faculty of Science, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands) on “The History of Statistics in the Netherlands,” Dr. Elena Aronova (Research Fellow, Institute for History of Science and Technology, Russian Academy of Science, Moscow) on “The `Molecularization’ of the Life Sciences: The Case of Immunology,” and Dr. Joanna Kempner (Research Fellow, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Health Policy Program, School of Public Health, Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan) on “Forbidden Knowledge.” Dr. Kempner’s lecture was cosponsored with Sigma Xi and was well attended, drawing approximately fifty faculty members and students from both the medical school and main campuses. In the future, we plan to collaborate in bringing to campus another speaker of interest to a wide spectrum of both scientists and humanists at the University.

WORD AND IMAGE
3 members from 2 different units.
Group Leader: Jonathan Flatley.

The main event for this working group was a seminar with Russian photographer Boris Mikhailov and Russian philosopher and art critic Elena Petrovskaya. It was a very successful event, with participation from several graduate students and faculty from various departments. We also took advantage of Mikhailov and Petrovskaya’s presence over several days to give graduate students and faculty a chance to interact with the visiting Russians in a more informal context, driving around Detroit, taking photographs with Mikhailov, and meeting and conversing over meals. We also invited Gregg Bordowitz, artist, filmmaker and critic, and Emily Jacir, artist, to come to campus. Their schedules prevented them from doing so this spring, so we have rescheduled for early in the upcoming fall.
2004-2005 Sponsored Programs

Munusculum & Visiting Scholars Program

Munusculum Grant Recipients

**Thomas Abowd**
Assistant Professor, Anthropology

**Peter Riley Bahr**
Assistant Professor, Sociology

**David A. Barondess**
Assistant Professor and Director, Biological Anthropology

**Eugenia Casielles**
Associate Professor, Romance Languages and Literature

**Jorge L. Chinea**
Associate Professor, History, and Director, Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies

**BARRY LYONS**
Associate Professor, Anthropology

**ANNE ROTHÉ**
Assistant Professor, German and Slavic Studies

Munusculum (Small Grant Program)

Beginning in 2002-2003, the Center has set aside $5,000 per year for a “Small Grants” program. The program offers onetime awards of up to $300 to help faculty with the following academic expenses: database searches to support research and creative projects; reproduction (photographs, microfilms, videos) of materials viewed at libraries or museums; costs of using copyrighted materials in publications; artwork or photographs used in publications; production of camera-ready manuscripts; and direct subvention to publishers, but excludes travel expenses. Requests are funded on a first-come, first-serve basis until the budget is exhausted.

This year seven faculty received small grants: Thomas Abowd, Peter Riley Bahr, David Barondess, Eugenia Casielles, Jorge Chinea, Barry Lyons and Anne Rothe.

Visiting Scholars Program

The Center, in collaboration with the College of Liberal Arts, College of Urban, Labor, and Metropolitan Affairs, the Law School and the College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts invites applications from scholars or artists who are affiliated with other universities and who hold the Ph.D. or equivalent degree for their field. Visits may range in duration from one month to one semester. No stipend is attached, but a Visiting Scholar who stays one full semester is eligible for a grant of up to $6,200 for miscellaneous expenses related to his or her work. The visitor is assigned an office in the Center and assistance with obtaining library privileges. In return, he or she is expected to give a talk on his or her project.

The program was suspended over the 2004-2005 academic year but the Humanities Center is currently receiving applications for the Winter 2006 semester.

Previous Visiting Scholars Have Included:


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. In order to apply, graduate students must include a personal statement indicating how presenting their work will help them further their understanding of the topic and help their academic or future professional careers. Graduate students outside of the humanities are also free to apply if their talks are of particular interest to scholars in the humanities and the arts.

The Center offers up to $400 in travel assistance to successful applicants. During the 2004-2005 academic year, twenty-four graduate students took advantage of a total of $10,000 in grant money:

Victoria M. Abboud  
English

Cheryl Alston  
Art History

Desiré Anastasia  
Sociology

John Arnold  
Communication

Kathryn Beard  
History

Andrea Berez  
Linguistics

Julie Borkin  
Communication

Marie Brasile  
Romance Languages & Literatures

Eglee Colmenares  
Romance Languages & Literatures

Kimberly Conely  
Communication

Elsa Della Torre  
Romance Languages & Literatures

Bruce Fox  
Romance Languages & Literatures

Naomi Fox  
Linguistics

Amy Goldmacher  
Anthropology

Anthony IafRATE  
Sociology

Terry Kovach  
Sociology

Bappaditya Mukherjee  
Political Science

Denise Oles  
Communication

Luisa Quintero  
Romance Languages & Literatures

Patric Spence  
Communication

Andrea Sumpter  
Sociology

Chris Vannier  
Anthropology

Nicola Work  
Romance Languages & Literatures

Tracy Wunderlich  
Anthropology

2004-2005 Sponsored Programs
Graduate Student Travel

Conferences Attended

Latin American Studies Association Conference
International Studies Association Mid-West Conference
National Communication Association Conference
American Council for Québec Studies Conference
Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas
MONA Association of Postgraduate Students Conference
20th Century Literature and Culture Conference
International Conference on Romance Studies
Brown University Graduate Conference
Central States Anthropology Conference
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference
Southeast Coastal Conference on Languages and Literatures
Central States Communication Association Conference
Society for Applied Anthropology Conference
Annual Conference of the Collegium for African-American Research
North Central Sociological Association’s Annual Meeting
Annual Meeting of the Central States Communication Association
North Central Sociological Association Conference
Conference on Endangered Languages and Cultures of Native American Indian Languages
The Humanities Center makes every effort to reserve the vast majority of its operating funds for projects which enrich the University’s research capabilities in the Humanities and Arts. The Center receives the majority of its annual budget from the interest on its endowment. In addition, we are pleased to announce that former Provost Marilyn Williamson has pledged a future gift of $800,000 to endow a distinguished Humanities Center Fellow in the future. As mentioned above, the Edward M. Wise Estate has continued its annual award of $6,000 to support the Edward Wise Dissertation Fellowship. The Center is deeply grateful for these expressions of support for our work.

Below: 2004-2005 Humanities Center Expenditures for Programs and Supplies
The following article appeared in the online version of the Guyana Chronicle on March 20, 2005.

NO BASA-BASA OVER DAN-DAN
PROFESSOR WALTER EDWARDS REMINDS OF RICH ORAL TRADITIONS

IT ALL came back with a rush at Castellani House last Thursday evening; reduplications that we once used often, stemming from our rich Afro and Indo oral traditions, splendid repetitive sayings like sprinklings of jewels encrusting our language with a unique, priceless splendour.

This tradition we grew up with is in transition, as we lose what we once treasured to television and its outlandish Americanisms, and to other media with their culturally alien imperatives.

Guyanese-born Professor Walter Edwards, director, the Humanities Centre, Wayne State University in the United States, lectured on ‘Bun-Bun, Bam-Bam and Picky-Picky: Reduplication in Guyanese Speech’.

He spoke of a long walk in the sun in Georgetown, and of seeing “Ning-Ning”!

When last did you hear someone saying, “pim-pim” (as one expected, perhaps one’s come-uppance), and does your little child preen herself in her “dan-dan” (dress) and does your young son clamour for the “bun-bun” in the cook-up rice pot.

Professor Edwards reminded us of all these and much more. Today, toddlers hardly ever ask for “din-din” (food) and do girls still tease other girls about their “picky-picky” hair, hair that is thin and scattered and short.

And there was more. Professor Edwards said the following seem to have roots in African languages: Poto-poto, soft nasty mud; warawara, of little consequence; basa-basa, noisy disagreement; kuskus, grated coconut meat, with the milk squeezed out; ju-ju, entity associated with the supernatural; bu-bu, mucus that forms in the corner of the eye after a sound sleep; and nen-nen, godmother.

Professor Edwards wondered why the word ‘pooh-pooh’ meant both a term of endearment and to defecate.

In his presentation, Professor Edwards claimed that reduplicated words such as “back-back” (back-up) and “one-one” (one at a time) are consistent with morphological trends among African languages, and thus reveal part of the linguistic heritage of Guyanese speech.

It was all so refreshing. Next time my son makes basa-basa about cleaning the car, I’ll tell him he’ll no longer be able to use it at weekends, and pim-pim, he get the chammie and the polish and get to work.
# A Look Ahead: 2005-2006 Activities

## Brown Bag Colloquium Series

The Brown Bag Colloquium Series promises to be as exciting as the 2004-2005 season, with a record 52 talks scheduled. Below is the list of scheduled talks (subject to change).

### September

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker/Panel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Sergio Rivera</td>
<td>Spanish, “Race and Power in XVII Century Colonial Mexico”</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>John Corvino</td>
<td>Philosophy, “How to be a Human Moral Realist”</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Renata Wasserman</td>
<td>English, “The Color of History: Black; Brazilian; Writers Machado de Assis and Lima Barreto”</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Joella Gipson</td>
<td>Education, “Three Perspectives for Education in Poverty Areas Outside the US”</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Sharon Vasquez</td>
<td>Dean of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, “Movement and Meaning: A Look at Laban Movement Analysis”</td>
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### October

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ken Jackson</td>
<td>English, “Is it God or the Sovereign Exception?: Giorgio Agamben and Shakespeare’s King John”</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Jeff Rice</td>
<td>English, “Digital Detroit”</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Margaret E. Winters</td>
<td>Chair, Romance Languages &amp; Geoffrey Nathan, Linguistics, “The Semantics of ‘Applied’ in Linguistics and Elsewhere”</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Bob Sedler</td>
<td>Law School, “Freedom of Speech: United States vs. the Rest of the World”</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Robert P. Holley</td>
<td>Library and Information Sciences, “You CAN Always Get What You Want and Usually Pay Much Less than You Expected: The Out-of-print Book Market in the Internet Age”</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Non-Sententials Working Group</td>
<td>“The Syntax of Nonsententials: Multiple Perspectives”</td>
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### November

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<td>2</td>
<td>Loralie Keashly</td>
<td>Psychology, “Aggression at the Service Delivery Interface: The Evolution of Patient-Staff Hostility”</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Bruce Russell</td>
<td>Chair of Philosophy, “Against Relativism”</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Robin Boyle</td>
<td>Geography and Urban Planning, “Plenty of Emptiness: Cities and Vacant Land”</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Alvin Saperstein</td>
<td>Physics, “Science and Religion: the Two-Brain Student”</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Danny Postel</td>
<td>Journalism, Columbia College Chicago, “Reading Habermans (and/ Lolita/) in Tehran: Iran’s Intellectual Encounter with Modernity”</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Bill Harris</td>
<td>English, “Reading from a Work in Progress”</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Frances Ranney</td>
<td>English, “Making Good on Our Promise(s): Women’s Studies as a Site for Collaborative Research in the Arts and Sciences”</td>
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### December

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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Christopher J. Peters</td>
<td>Law School, “Can Constitutional Rights be Under- or Overenforced?”</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Brad R. Roth</td>
<td>Political Science, “State Sovereignty and International Legality”</td>
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### January

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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Julie A. Washington</td>
<td>Audiology and Speech Pathology, “Language and Literacy: When the two don’t intersect for Minority children”</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Michael Scrivener</td>
<td>English, “Habermas and Literary Theory”</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Marilyn Zimmerman</td>
<td>Art and Art History, “People of Detroit: A Living Project”</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Ronald Aronson</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Studies, “Living without God”</td>
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### February

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Juanita Anderson</td>
<td>Communication, “African Cinema”</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Victor Figueroa</td>
<td>Romance Languages and Literatures, “A Kingdom of Black Jacobsen: Alerjo Carpenter and C.L.R. James on the Haitian Revolution”</td>
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### March

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Stanley Shapiro</td>
<td>Professor Emeritus, History, “Charles Lindbergh’s Image and Celebrity”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Jorge Chinea</td>
<td>Professor of History &amp; Director, Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies, “Transatlanticism: Re-Historicizing Puerto Rico and Cuba from a Global Perspective”</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Ollie Johnson</td>
<td>African Studies, “Afro-Brazilian Politics: Challenges and opportunities”</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Norah Duncan IV</td>
<td>Associate Chair of Music, “Organ Recital with Commentary on African and African-American Music”</td>
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### April

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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Peter Riley Bahr</td>
<td>Sociology, “Race and Remediation in Two-Year Colleges: What Do We Know, and What Do We Need to Know?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Adrian Hatfield</td>
<td>History, “Science, Art and the Contemporary Sublime”</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Joe Rankin</td>
<td>Chair of Criminal Justice, “Families and Crime”</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Sarah Bassett</td>
<td>Art History &amp; Brian Madigan, Art History, “The numinous image in the ancient Mediterranean world, being a collaborative investigation into the design and function of holy images in the polytheistic and monotheistic cultures of the Near East, Egypt, Greece, Rome and Byzantium, Part II: Greece, Rome, Byzantium”</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Bob Yanal</td>
<td>Philosophy, “Hitchcock’s Vertigo and the Tristan Legend”</td>
</tr>
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