ANNUAL REPORT 2003-2004
The Humanities Center
Our Mission

Bringing Humanists Together for Collaborative Research

The Humanities Center

aims to foster interdisciplinary and intra-disciplinary studies in the humanities and arts through themed and unthemed competitions, seminars, forums, and research discussions among groups of faculty and graduate students at Wayne State University and through the ideas of invited visiting professors. The Center seeks to promote excellence in humanistic and creative endeavors through rigorous peer review of proposals submitted by faculty and students for funding through its various programs, and to involve departments, programs, and other centers and institutes at the University in collaborative efforts to advance humanistic and artistic work. Through these activities, the Center aims to become a site of innovation and excellence in the humanities and arts with a strong commitment to interdisciplinary or trans-disciplinary study in the arts and humanities.

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This year’s message is excerpted from an address given by the Director on the occasion of the Humanities Center’s 10th Anniversary Reception, November 13, 2003:

Dear colleagues and friends of the Humanities Center,

After a decade of serving the Humanities Center, I’m proud of the accomplishments of the Center yet humble that I have had the privilege of being its Director throughout its history so far. Thus, we pause at this historical moment, the Center’s 10th anniversary, to reflect on this last decade.

The Center’s journey began in the spring of 1993 when I was an associate dean of the Graduate School and Garrett Heberlien was VP for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. I recall poignantly the morning in May when Gary walked into my office and asked me if I’d like to take on the task of writing up a charter for a new Humanities Center. Gary, a biologist, had been given this strange assignment by President David Adamany who wanted a charter written almost immediately. Dr. Adamany had put together an endowment fund of some MS2.5, and wanted to use the earnings to support a Humanities Center that would encourage interdisciplinary work across the traditional humanities, and would forge alliances between humanists and scholars in the social, natural and medical sciences. I worked on the charter; Gary and the President piloted the application through the Senate and Board of Governors. And on a November day in 1993 our Center was officially born.

In the beginning, the Center was just a funding agency, operating out of my office in the Graduate School and providing summer fellowships to faculty doing interdisciplinary work based on annual themes identified by our advisory board. However, it was immediately clear that faculty saw the need for the Center’s mission. This was evident from the surprisingly strong response to our very first faculty fellowship competition in 1994 on the theme “Constructing Identity from Above and Below: Urban, Transnational, and National Perspectives”. A total of 34 faculty sent in proposals; we funded 15 of these projects, and we were on our way. To date we have awarded grants totaling some $800,000 to fund 102 projects.

Since 1994 we have had an annual spring conference that showcases the research and art accomplished by our grant recipients, and a fall symposium on an interdisciplinary theme. Through these gatherings we have further explored the annual themes and also such topics as “The Humanities and Civic Engagement”, “The Notions of Beauty and Truth”, “The Meaning of Citizenship;” and “The Humanities and Social Change.” These conferences and symposia have featured our own faculty and students along with distinguished scholars who have been keynote speakers. Our keynoters have included Arnold Rampersaud, Bell Hooks, David Hickey, Patricia Williams, Eric Foner, Nancy Leiberman-Kline, Donna Haraway, Thomas Sugrue, Emilio Vergara, Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Elaine Scarry.

In 1994-95 the Center added its doctoral dissertation fellowship, which has now become the Edward Wise Dissertation Fellowship. Since then we have awarded 19 doctoral students some $114,000. In 1997, the Center moved into Old Main and introduced our Resident Scholars program which allows us to have humanists from different disciplines working in the same place with the opportunity to nurture each other’s work. So far we have housed and funded 55 such scholars. We initiated our Tuesday Brown Bag colloquia in 1997 and it has grown exponentially each year. By the end of 2004 year we will have hosted 152 Brown Bag presentations. The Innovative Project competition was added in 1999, and so were our Working Groups program, our Visiting Scholars program and our Graduate Travel program. In 2001 we added our Honors Thesis support program and in 2002 we added the Grant Mentoring program.

Any successful enterprise owes its achievements, at least in part, to its leadership. The Center is no exception. From its inception, the Center had been led by its advisory boards: multi-disciplinary panels of twelve faculty and graduate students drawn from humanities and related departments across the campus. With their guidance, the Center has been able to demonstrate that it is a partner with colleges and departments in supporting the work of humanists at Wayne State. Our board members have helped the Center garner the support of faculty, chairs and deans in all the relevant departments and colleges, and from the administration. The breadth of that support is evident in this audience. Through the intellectual rigor with which they review proposals, the boards have helped to characterize the Center as a prestigious academic institution whose grants are won only through the submission of excellent proposals.

Finally, I wish to salute the contributions that the humanities continue to make to our civilization. The theologian Daniel Maguire asserted that humanists are “the midwives of new consciousnesses, the heralds of suppressed or previously unsuspected human possibility”. The humanities are the mirror which shows us the reflection of our experience. Through the humanities we revive and insistently maintain our capacity to feel, affirm and rejoice over our dignity and worth. Through the humanities we carry on a discourse about our societies, we actively contemplate and negotiate meanings and values. Through the humanities we explore the most central aspects of our humanity: our minds, feelings, and our culture. It is because of the importance of humanities that Centers such as ours are crucial to our academic and intellectual infrastructure. This Humanities Center seeks and has sought, via systematic encouragement, to provide the experimental, interactive, interdisciplinary culture that is supportive of the humanities and arts, and we shall continue to do so. In this gathering of friends I wish to ask for your continued support for the humanities and the Humanities Center at WSU. In a complex university like ours where many excellent programs are competing for support, it is important that you let your voices be heard in support of the Center. In the poem “The Second Coming”, W.B. Yeats observed that in our contemporary society, “The best lack conviction while the worse are full of passionate intensity”. I’d like to encourage you to reverse that paradigm and be passionately intense about your support of the Center wherever and whenever the opportunity presents itself. And so I ask you to raise your glasses: “To the humanities, to the arts, to you, and to the future!”

Thank you!
10th Anniversary Celebration
The Humanities and Social Change

Tenth Anniversary Reception and Exhibition, November 13, 2003

On the evening of November 13, 2003, the halls of Old Main outside the offices of the Center were filled with faculty, students, and supporters of the Center gathered to celebrate the mission, achievements, and future of the Center. Diane Sybeldon of the University Libraries emceed the event. An oral history was given by Walter Edwards, who has been Director of the Center from its inception in 1993. Mame Jackson (Former Chair of Art and Art History, WSU) Mary Garrett, (Chair, Communications) and Margaret Winters (Associate Provost) offered welcome, greetings, and support for the Center’s goals. Later, those gathered were treated to music, poetry readings, food and drink, and the company of other supporters of the humanities and the Humanities Center.

Christopher Collins and members of his band performed his stirring composition “The Banshee”, among other selections; William Harris read from one of his plays in progress; Robert Conway performed his interpretation of classical pieces for piano; Melba Boyd read several of her poems, including “I want my city back”; and M.L. Leibler performed several of his own poems.

An exhibition of published books, articles and CDs resulting from the Humanities Center’s financial support over the last decade was also on display during the reception, along with a commemorative booklet listing the winners of awards over the last ten years (see list, pp. 6-7).

Tenth Anniversary Conference
November 14, 2003

The next day, November 14th, the Center’s Tenth Anniversary Conference took place in McGregor Hall, with keynote lectures given by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Elaine Scarry, both of Harvard University. Wayne State faculty and one former WSU faculty member also presented the following at the conference:

COMMEMORATIVE VOLUME SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION TO WSU PRESS

In addition to our special anniversary reception and conference, the Humanities Center decided to issue a call for papers that had resulted from the Center’s faculty fellowships awarded over the last ten years. The Wayne State Press has agreed to consider publishing this as a commemorative volume of previously unpublished work. The volume, entitled REMAPPING THE HUMANITIES: Identity, Community, Memory, (Post)Modernity will be edited by Mary Garrett (Communication), Heidi Gottfried (CULMA), and Sandra Van Burkle (History). It will include a preface, “Integrating the Humanities and the Arts”, by Walter F. Edwards, Humanities Center Director.

Part I of the volume will focus on Identity and Community and will include “Staged Feminisms” by Anca Vlasopolos (English); “Prolegomena to a Becoming-Free: Mapping Liberty over Bodies, Identities and Multiculturalism” by Fabienne Chauderlot (Romance Languages & Literatures); “Utopians at Play” by Philip R Abbott (Political Science); “Manufacturing Citizens: Steeltown and Literate Practices” by Gwen Gierzelsky (English); and “Homosexuality and Biblical Interpretation” by John Corvino (Philosophy).

Part II, Memory, will include “The Double Deployment of Memory: Enacting and Remembering the Paterson and Star of Ethiopia Pageants” by Francis Shor (Interdisciplinary Studies), “The Sibling Archipelago: Brother-sister Love and Class Formation in Nineteenth-Century France” by Christopher Johnson (History); “Six Centuries of Collaboration” by Lisa Vollendorf (Romance Languages & Literatures); “The Affair - Pinochet in London: Its Echoes in Chilean Authors and Its Mirror in Spain” by Jorgelina Corbatta (Romance Languages & Literatures); and “Brer Rabbit” by William Harris (English).

Part III, Nationalism and Globalism will include “The Making of the English Hunting Seat” by Donna Landry (English); “The Sultan’s Beasts: James Bond Goes to Istanbul” by Gerald MacLean (English); “Narratives of Place” by Richard Marback (English); and “Mexico in 1824: The Consequences of Freedom” by Robert Aguirre (English).

The final part of the volume is entitled Toward (Post)Modernity and will include “In The Shadows of the Galileo” by Bob Strozier (English); “Adults at Play” by Anne Duggan (Romance Languages & Literatures); “Depopulated Landscapes (reproductions)” by Jim Nawara; “The Cajun/Zydeco Music and Dance Arena Online: Diaspora in Cyberspace” by Charles Stivale (Romance Languages & Literatures); and “Coercion and the Quest for Substantive Freedom” by Brad Roth (Political Science).

We are excited about the prospect of publishing this anthology as a celebration of the Center’s rich tradition of supporting scholarship covering a broad spectrum of humanities disciplines.
2003-2004 Anniversary Celebration

Humanities Center Awardees, 1993-2003

Over the past ten years, the Humanities Center has awarded over $800,000 in grants, fellowships, and travel support to faculty and students for outstanding innovative, collaborative, humanistic and creative research projects. The next two pages list major awardees.

Faculty Fellows
1993-1994
Corey Creekmur, English
Cynthia Erb, English
Jerry Herron, English
Jacqueline Huey, Sociology
Christopher Johnson, History
Marc Krumain, History
Nancy Locke, Art & Art History
Janice Mann, Art & Art History
Eva Powers, Dance
Alana Barter, Dance
John Reed, English
Francis Shor, Interdisciplinary Studies
Charles Stivale, Romance Languages
Robert Strozier, English
Anca Vlasopolos, English
Joseph Ward, Donna Landry, Gerald MacLean, History, English, English (respectively)

1994-1995
Jeffrey Abt, Art & Art History
Ellen Barton, Linguistics
Nancy Baym, Art & Art History
Jackie Byars, Communication
Kenneth Cory, Library & I.S.
Henry Golemba, English
Effie Hanchet, Nursing
Jack Kay, Communication
James Hartway, Music
Barbara Humphries, Philosophy
James Lantini, Music
Gerald MacLean, English
Charles Stivale, Romance Languages
Horst Uhr, Art & Art History
Barrett Watten, English

1995-1996
Phillip Abbott, Political Science
Ronald Brown, Political Science
Jorgelina Corbatta, Romance Languages
John Eipper, Romance Languages
Michael Giordano, Romance Languages
Michael Goldfield, C.U.L.M.A.
Christopher Johnson, History
Osumaka Likaka, History
Kathryne Lindberg, English
Gordon B. Neavill, Library & I.S.
Martha Ratliff, Linguistics
Monica Schuler, History
Melvin Small, History
Cynthia Erb, English
Linda Hogle, Anthropology

Faculty Fellows
1996-1997
Karen Jankowsky, German & Slavic
Nancy Locke, Art & Art History
Arthur Marotti, English
Manuel Martin-Rodriguez, Romance
Michele Valerie Ronnick, Classics
Anca Vlasopolos, English
Peter Williams, Art & Art History

1997-1998
Robert Aguirre, English
Ellen Barton, Linguistics
Lesley Brill, English
John J. Bukowczyk, Alfred Cobbs, Lisa
Gurr, Sheila Lloyd, History, German & Slavic, Anthropology, English (respectively)
Fabienne-Sophie Chauderlot, Romance
Jorge L. Chinea, History
Brad Roth, Political Science
Frances Trix, Anthropology
Sandra Van Burkleo, History
Olivia Washington, Nursing
Edward M. Wise, Law

1998-1999
Cynthia Erb, English
Jerry Herron, English
Linda Housch-Collins, History
James E. Nawara, Art & Art History
Ruth Ray, English
John Richardson, Tom Paul Fitzgerald, Robert Martin, Jiro J. Masuda, Erika Wolf,
Art & Art History
May Seikaly, Near Eastern Studies
Marilyn Zimmerman, Art & Art History

1999-2000
Phillip Abbott, Political Science
Abigail Butler, Music
Robert Conway, Music
Jorgelina Corbatta, Romance Languages
Anne Duggan, Romance Languages
Kirsten Thompson, English
Lisa Vollendorf, Romance Languages
Edward M. Wise, Law

2000-2001
Christopher Collins, Music
William Harris, English
Donna Landry, English
Gerald MacLean, English
Anca Vlasopolos, English
Peter Williams, Art & Art History

Faculty Fellows
2001-2002
Jeffrey Abt, Art & Art History
Dora Apel, Art & Art History
John Corvino, Philosophy
Margaret Franklin, Romance Languages
Gwen Gorzelasky, English
Richard Marback, English
Laura Reese, Geography & Urban Planning
Barrett Watten, English

2002-2003
Elizabeth Dorn, History
Anne Duggan, Romance
Ken Jackson, English
Janet Langlois, English
Brian Madigan, Art & Art History
Arthur Marotti, English
Robert Martin, Art & Art History
Jennifer Sheridan Moss, Classics
Bruce Russell, Philosophy
Francis Shor, Interdisciplinary Studies

Innovative Projects
1999-2000
Ronald Aronson, Interdisciplinary Studies
James Hartway, John Reed,
Music, English (respectively)

2001-2002
Dora Apel, Art & Art History
Barrett Watten, Carla Harryman, English
John Corvino, Philosophy
M.L. Liebler, Olivia Washington,
English, Nursing (respectively)

2002-2003
Jean Andrusi, Eugenia Casielles,
Audiology & Speech Language Pathology,
Romance Languages (respectively)
Tamara Bray, Anthropology
Chris Tysh, English
Sandra Dupret, Mame Jackson,
Art & Art History
Lisa Vollendorf, Romance Languages
Ronald Aronson, Interdisciplinary Studies
Barrett Watten, Carla Harryman, English
Daphne Ntiri, Feleta Wilson,
Interdisciplinary Studies, Nursing
(respectively)
## 2003-2004 Anniversary Celebration

### Humanities Center Awardees, 1993-2003

### Ten Years of Excellence 1993 - 2003

#### Resident Scholars

- **1997-1998**
  - Ronald Aronson, *Interdisciplinary Studies*
  - Cynthia Erb, *English*
  - Marion Jackson, *Art & Art History*
  - Osumaka Likaka, *History*
  - Gordon Neavill, *Library & I.S.*
  - Guy Stern, *Romance Languages*

- **1998-1999**
  - Ron Brown, *Political Science*
  - Marion Jackson, *English*
  - Osumaka Likaka, *History*
  - Olga Tsoudis, *Criminal Justice*
  - Sandra VanBurkleo, *History*
  - Edward M. Wise, *Law*

- **1999-2000**
  - Ron Brown, *Political Science*
  - David Canales-Portalatin, *Criminal Justice*
  - Jorgelina Corbatta, *Romance Languages*
  - Li-Mei Chang, *English*
  - Valerie Felita Kinloch, *English*
  - Sandra Van Burkleo, *History*
  - Leon Wilson, *Sociology*
  - Edward M. Wise, *Law*

- **2000-2001**
  - Richard Bilaitis, *Art & Art History*
  - Ron Brown, *Political Science*
  - Donald Haase, *German & Slavic*
  - Chris Leland, *English*
  - Kathryn V. Lindberg, Zanita E. Fenton, *Law (English)*
  - Sandra Van Burklo, *History*
  - Kathleen McNamee, *Classics*
  - Edward M. Wise, *Law*

- **2001-2002**
  - Richard Bilaitis, *Art & Art History*
  - Donald Haase, *German & Slavic*
  - Chris Leland, *English*
  - M.L. Liebler, *English*
  - Jennifer Sheridan Moss, *Classics*
  - Steven Stack, *Criminal Justice*
  - Lisa Vollandorf, *Romance*
  - Renata Wasserman, *English*

- **2002-2003**
  - Alfred Cobbs, *German & Slavic*
  - Anne Duggan, *Romance Languages*
  - Marc Kruman, *History*
  - Janet Langlois, *English*
  - Robert Silverman, *Sociology*
  - Elizabeth Faue, *History*
  - Kathryn Paesani, *Romance Languages*
  - Roslyn Abt Schindler, *Interdisciplinary Studies*

#### Working Groups in the Humanities and Arts (Topics)

- **1999-2000**
  - Interdisciplinary Approaches to Folk Tales and Fairytales
  - Justice Studies
  - Digital Culture
  - Justice Studies
  - Interdisciplinary Approaches to Arabian Nights
  - End of Life
  - Philosophy of Mathematics
  - Fairy Tales in Visual Culture
  - Justice Studies
  - Digital Culture
  - Gender and Workplace
  - Detroit Voices
  - Detroit Voices
  - Diasporic Communities in North America: Expressions of Displacement and Evolving Identities
  - A Cross-Linguistic View of the Nature of Nonessential Speech
  - The Fold: Theory and practice
  - Transatlantic Exchanges: Interchange of Cultures between Great Britain/Europe and the Southern Western Hemisphere

#### Dissertation Fellows

- **1994-1995**
  - Deborah Najor, *English*
  - Marie-Claire Simonetti, *Communication*

- **1995-1996**
  - Stephen Germic, *History*
  - Suchitra Mathur, *English*
  - David Riddle, *History*
  - David Smith, *History*

- **1996-1997**
  - William Elster, *History*
  - Jodi Wyett, *English*

- **1997-1998**
  - Jose Ibanez, *Romance Languages*
  - Robert Mellin, *English*

- **1998-1999**
  - Maria Pons-Hervas, *Romance Languages*
  - Natalie Atkin, *History*
  - Glen Bessemer, *History*

- **1999-2000**
  - Li-Mei Chang, *Communication*
  - Susan Honeyman, *English*
  - Valerie Felita Kinloch, *English*
  - Lisa Marie Portiz, *Romance Languages*

- **2000-2001**
  - Joseph Helminkski, *English*
  - Jane Yamazaki, *Communication*

#### Edward M. Wise Dissertation Fellows & Awardees

- **2001-2002**
  - Julie Towell, *English* (Fellow)
  - Craig Smith, *History* (Awardee)
  - Mark Huston, *Philosophy* (Awardee)

- **2002-2003**
  - Erik Mortensen, *English* (Fellow)
  - Kyoung Lee, *English* (Awardee)
  - Parvinder Mehta, *English* (Awardee)

#### Grant Mentors

- **2002-2003**
  - Arthur Marotti, *English*
  - Nancy Locke, *Art & Art History*
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 $600 in support for travel and equipment expenses, or to pay for research assistance. Over the years, over 50 faculty at WSU have taken part in this program. The work of the Resident Scholars for 2003-2004 is described below.

Eugenia Casielles
Assistant Professor
Romance Languages

Dr. Casielles describes her residency, “I really enjoyed being a resident at the Humanities Center for a full year. It was a great experience personally and professionally. I was able to finish revising my manuscript The Syntax-Information Structure Interface: Evidence from Spanish and English, which will be published by Routledge in 2004. I also started working on a new research project on bilingual first language acquisition, which I am developing in collaboration with two colleagues at WSU: Jean Andruski and Geoff Nathan. This interdisciplinary project was initially supported by the Center’s Innovative Projects Awards and has been recently funded by the President’s Research Enhancement Program. I am very thankful to the Humanities Center for funding and for providing such calm, stress-free environment, which is perfect for residents to concentrate on their research projects. I also appreciated the stimulating interaction between faculty promoted by the Center. It was a real pleasure to share projects, and ideas with other residents and to participate in the Center’s Brown Bag presentations and Working Groups Program.” Dr. Casielles used her Resident Scholar award to purchase audio recording equipment for this project.

Suzanne Hilgendorf
Assistant Professor
German & Slavic Studies

During her year in residence, Dr. Hilgendorf received Center support for her expansion and revision of her dissertation for publication as a volume. The tentative title of the volume is English in Germany: The Other Tongue in the Federal Republic. Dr. Hilgendorf describes this work as “a qualitative, macrosociolinguistic examination of the impact of the world’s lingua franca in Europe’s most populous country as well as its most powerful economy.” Dr. Hilgendorf reported that much progress was made toward her goal during her residency. She also used part of her Resident Scholar award toward travel expenses to attend the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages conference in Philadelphia.

Christopher Johnson
Professor
History

Dr. Johnson’s year-long residency at the Center allowed him to pursue several goals. He prepared a manuscript, “Kinship,
Civic Action, and Power in Nineteenth-Century Vannes” for publication in a Cambridge University Press volume. He also used his residency to complete the text of a paper presented in Berlin in March 2004, and used the Center’s financial award for travel to that conference. Dr. Johnson’s third project was a paper on masculinity, gender relationships and regional loyalties within the French-speaking Bretons in the 1800s, which he subsequently presented at a conference in Paris. Dr. Johnson also worked on a book manuscript, Becoming Bourgeois: Class, Family, and Kinship in Vannes, 1650-1900.

**Daniel Marcus**  
**FULL YEAR RESIDENT**

Dr. Marcus utilized the Center’s Resident Scholarship to pursue research on a project entitled Dollar Signs: The Media, the Economy, and American Politics. Dr. Marcus writes in his proposal, “In what I foresee as a book-length project, I will examine media coverage of economic issues in American life from 1980 to the present day. The support of the Center will assist me in completing two major parts of the project during the forthcoming year. The interaction with other resident scholars will undoubtedly enrich my understanding of the work, given the interdisciplinary nature of the project, which addresses media, economics, history, and politics.”

**Kate Paesani**  
**FULL YEAR RESIDENT**

During her 2003-2004 residency at the Center, Dr. Paesani worked toward development and revision of her ongoing research into the French passe supercomposée for her forthcoming book. “The seven chapters of my book project develop a semantic characterization of the temporal-aspectual meaning of passe supercomposée sentences, and a syntactic characterization of its tripartite verbal structure, all articulated within the theoretical principles of generative grammar.” Using her Winter 2004 sabbatical, Dr. Paesani utilized her office in the Center almost daily, and participated in Brown Bag talks and Working Groups presentations as well. She made significant progress toward the completion of her manuscript.

**Steven Stack**  
**WINTER RESIDENT**

About his Winter 2004 residency at the Center, Dr. Stack reported, “I have been analyzing the influence of religiosity on attitudes towards deviant behavior in 36 nations. Data refer to over 50,000 respondents in the World Values Surveys. Religiosity can help to make secular society possible through discouraging deviation from the normative structure. My Humanities Center fellowship has assisted me in my research by providing a most pleasant working environment. The provision of an office, in particular, has protected me from distractions in my home department. Thus far I have analyzed 3 types
of deviant behavior: suicide, tax fraud, and prostitution. A paper on suicide and religion was presented at the annual meetings of the American Association of Suicidology, Miami, FL, April 15-17, 2004. A second paper on attitudes towards tax fraud and religion will be presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Social problems in San Francisco, August 13-17, 2004. The third paper will be completed this summer. All papers will be submitted to journals for publication this summer.”

Anca Vlasopolos
FULL YEAR RESIDENT

Dr. Vlasopolos reports, “I expect to have finished my book, now entitled A Japanese Odysseus: A Heroic Journey in Whose Wake Lay the Deaths of Whales and Albatrosses, by the end of May, 2004. I cannot imagine having been able to complete this manuscript without the Humanities Center residence I had the fortune to hold for two years. The quiet of the office, the up-to-date technology of a new computer that allowed me not to waste time in slow web connections, the interaction with scholars from other fields who asked pertinent questions about my project, and the general feeling of intellectual excitement, and the welcome we as residents have from the Director, the staff, and the other members make the residence invaluable. I don’t want to think of myself as undergoing Pavlovian conditioning, but I do think my computer in my Humanities Center is in an uncanny way magical. When I sit before it, I write.”

Lisa Vollendorf
FALL RESIDENT

Continuing her one year residency which began in Winter 2003, Dr. Vollendorf began work on a new book project, Women and Intimacy in the Hispanic World: 1500-1800. Dr. Vollendorf also utilized the Center’s monetary award to travel to the National Women’s Library in London to further this research. Writes Dr. Vollendorf, “I am deeply grateful to the Humanities Center for the generosity and intellectual stimulation the Center has provided over the years.”

David Weinberg
FULL YEAR RESIDENT

Dr. Weinberg’s residency in 2003-2004 enabled him to continue work on his project on European Jewish reconstruction after World War II which he began in the previous year. Writes Dr. Weinberg, “Thanks in part to the support of the Humanities Center, I have had an opportunity to present my findings at colloquia and conferences at Arizona State University, the YIVO Institute in New York, the Western Jewish Studies Association in Portland, and Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. I have also published two essays drawn from my research – one in a scholarly journal, the other in a collection of essays.” Dr. Weinberg also reported that two publishers have expressed interest in his planned manuscript on which he worked during his 2003-2004 residency.
This program continues to encourage faculty members from a variety of departments to develop unique projects in the humanities and the arts. For 2003-2004 the Center offered grants of up to $4000 and made eight awards, an increase of three over last year.

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 from faculty 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. Following are the projects funded in 2003-2004:

**Global Poetics: A Reading and Lecture Series: Barrett Watten, Johnathan Flately, and Carla Harryman** (all of the English department). The project presented a series of lectures by specialists on the literature, culture and theory of Modernity in an age of globalization to multidisciplinary audiences. The speakers were emerging innovative writers whose work is grounded in their relation to transnational urban environments.

**Toward a Virtual Reconstruction of a 19th-Century Black Scholar’s Library: Michele Ronnich** (Classics). William Sanders Scarborough (1852-1926), the first African American classicist of international renown, collected a famous library, but it has never been studied. Born in slavery when most blacks had no access to books, he nonetheless craved learning. This project seeks to reconstruct his cherished collection of approximately 2000 volumes.

**Creative Storytelling and the Urban Child: Pilot Program: Donald Haase** (German) and **Anne Duggan** (Romance). Based on the premise that cultural and personal narratives play a defining role in our lives, this project builds on the innovative model documented by Jack Zipes in Creative Storytelling: Building Community, Changing Lives to establish a storytelling program in collaboration with upper-elementary Detroit schoolteachers.

**Telling My Story Project: Olivia Washington** (Nursing). The “Telling My Story Project” employs innovative strategies to present results of research finding of an NIH-sponsored study that portrays eight women’s survival of homelessness. The project documents first-person accounts of women surviving homelessness in late life, examines the dynamics and causal experiences associated with the women’s homelessness, and explores how they view homelessness, their experiences with recovery, and factors that promote their healing.

**Exhibition on Imagery of Lynching: Dora Apel** (Art & Art History). Dr. Apel traveled to Minneapolis to hold discussions with representatives of the Weisman Art Museum and colleagues at the University of Minnesota on a possible art exhibition addressing contemporary racial narratives rooted in lynching. Her upcoming book Imagery of Lynching: Black Men, White Women, and the Mob serves as a foundation for the exhibition.

**Opening the Curtain on Process Drama and the Teaching of Language Arts: Gina DeBlase** (Education), and **Mary Cooney** (Theatre). The power of process drama as a teaching tool grows out of the power it gives students: they learn to explore issues, alternative courses of action, and relationships among people. This pilot project uses “process drama” to prepare youth to attend a Hillberry Theatre performance of Macbeth, resulting in a significant increase in the relevance of classical theatre to these young people.

**Jazz & Conspiracy: America through European Eyes: Christopher Collins** (Music), **M.L. Leibler** (English), and **Mark Ferguson** (German). This project combines music, literature, German Studies and performances in two different programs at Wayne State University and The Scarab Club. The project also invited internationally acclaimed scholar Brendt Ostendorf, Ludwig Maximilian University’s American Institute Founding Director, to Wayne State to offer two innovative and very accessible educational programs to faculty and students. Professor Ostendorf will also make several classroom visits to both American Studies and German Studies classes while visiting the University in Fall 2004.

**Evanescence Held Fast: Christian Kreipke** (Psychiatry), and **Anca Vlasopolos** (English). This project is the production of a CD that combines several of Dr. Vlasopolos’s poems with the music composed by Christian Kreipke specifically for these poems. The CD also includes poems by two other poets, giving a total of 24 tracks.

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2003-2004 Awardees

**Dora Apel**
Art & Art History

**Christopher Collins**
Music

**Mary Cooney**
Theater

**Gina DeBlase**
Education

**Anne Duggan**
Romance Languages

**Johnathan Flately**
English

**Mark Ferguson**
German & Slavic

**Donald Haase**
German & Slavic

**Carla Harryman**
English

**Christian Kreipke**
Psychiatry

**M.L. Leibler**
English

**Michele Ronnich**
Classics, Greek, Latin

**Anca Vlasopolos**
English

**Olivia Washington**
Nursing

**Barrett Watten**
English
Edward M. Wise Dissertation Fellowship

$16,000 Fellowship Awards Made

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. 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 year the Edward Wise Estate generously agreed to support the fellowship with an annual grant of $6000.

For the 2003-2004 academic year the Center received many excellent applications. From these, the following awards were made:

- **Susan Lynne Beckwith**, a PhD candidate in English, was named the Edward M. Wise Fellow for her thesis titled *Fractured Voices, Failing Bodies, and the Art of Narratives: Tracing the Self and Other in Narrative Form and Function from the Victorians to Today*.

- **Carolyn Psenka** of the Anthropology department was awarded $1000 to support her work, *Semantic Drift and Complex Organizations: Appropriation and Translation of Text in Engineering Networks*.

- **Stephanie Hall-Sturgis**, a doctoral student in English received an award of $1000 for her thesis, *Does Community-Based Pedagogy Foster Critical Consciousness?*

- **Jennifer Tatsak-Danyliw**, a candidate for a PhD in Communication, was also awarded $1000 for her work, *The ‘Great Good Place’ for Some People: A Rhetorical Criticism of Starbucks Coffee Company.*

The awardees were honored at a luncheon on April 2, 2004, during which they each made a short presentation summarizing their dissertation project.

**ABOUT THE AWARD**

The Edward M. Wise Dissertation Fellowship for Doctoral Students in the Humanities and Arts is named for the late Edward M. Wise, who was a Wayne State University Professor of Law and Humanities Center Fellow in 1997-1998 and 2000-2001 and a Humanities Center Resident Scholar in 1999-2000. Dr. Wise passed away in October 2000.
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 on both Tuesdays and Thursdays. Brown Bag talks are open to the public. See page 31 for a list of talks already scheduled for next year’s series. Abstracts of presentations from the 2003-2004 year follow.

September 9 - Margaret Winters, Associate Provost & Professor, Romance Languages & Literatures, and Geoff Nathan, Associate Professor, English, “How Many Ounces in a Stanley Cup? On Butter, Sports Trophies, and Categorization”

A major point of controversy among linguists since fairly early in the twentieth century is whether structure or meaning should be the basis of language analysis. Indeed, beliefs about the very nature of language crucially depend on one’s stand on this issue. For those who, like us, choose semantics as the point of departure, there is an obligation to be explicit about the nature of meaning and how it functions, both in Language in the abstract and in individual languages. Our presentation, accordingly, is on Cognitive Grammar, a theory of language and meaning that crucially makes use of the psychological notions of prototypes and mental categories. We will illustrate this theory by discussing the meaning of individual words, grammatical markers (e.g. ‘plural’), and full constructions. We will also address how phonemes (the basic sounds of a language which are not meaningful in their own right but contribute to the communication of meaning) can also be understood within Cognitive Grammar. Finally, we will discuss some aspects of language change as semantically based and analyzable using the same tools as synchronic (descriptive) linguistics.

September 16 - Steve Winter, Professor, Center for Legal Studies, “What Makes Modernity Late?”

The aim of this paper is to tease out the philosophical and socio-political implications of the claim that human knowledge is contingent. Philosophically, this will entail a reconfiguration of our understanding of the concepts of foundations, contingency, relativism, nihilism and of the relationships among them. Socio-politically, this will imply, first, that that there is a constitutive relation between social practice and normative reasoning; and, second, that the consequent contingency of normative projects places severe constraints on what social and political theory can meaningfully contribute in any particular era. I develop these claims in a discussion of how we came to the condition that many identify as “late” or “post” modernity. In place of the conventional story that focuses on the intellectual transformations wrought by the Enlightenment, I take up Charles Taylor’s dialectical account that emphasizes the reflexive relation between the social developments of modernity and the concomitant changes in social understandings. I extend this approach to consider the nature and import of contemporary practices and conditions of late modernity, their relation to the “postmodern,” and their implications for the spread of democracy under conditions of globalization.

September 23 - Charles Stivale, Professor, Romance Languages & Literatures; “Zydeco Will Never Die: Affirmation and Identity in Louisiana Nouveau Zydeco”

All music, to a greater or lesser extent, is the result of the intersection and overlapping of prior influences, themes, and even forms of instrumentation. In my research on Louisiana Cajun music and the Afro-Caribbean musical form known as zydeco, I have been impressed by the complex forms of mixing, blending, and fusion, a kind of hybridity that provides the source and the strength especially in the zydeco musical tradition. In this presentation, I introduce very briefly zydeco with an excerpt from the king of zydeco, Clifton Chenier, and then provide a number of excerpted examples that show the breadth of borrowings by the 1990s generation of zydeco musicians. This younger, so-called “nouveau zydeco” group — notably, Keith Frank, Chris Ardoin, Sean Ardoin, Lil’ Brian Terry and the Zydeco Travelers, among many others — have borrowed unapologetically from folk, hip-hop, rap, reggae, do-wop, and Motown, and have deliberately incited reaction from neo-traditionalists. Although this talk can only be a rudimentary outline, I hope to provide sufficient examples (as well as a selected discography as a handout) to emphasize some crucial paradoxes in contemporary zydeco.

September 30 - Avis Vidal, Chair, Geography and Urban Planning, “Social Capital and Community Development”

Robert Putnam’s research on social capital and William Julius Wilson’s research on the social structure of poor African American neighborhoods have sparked lively debate about the relationship between social ties and economic well-being. Prof. Vidal argues that community development — broadly understood as the strengthening of assets in poor communities
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Brown Bag Colloquium Series

– properly includes attention to building social capital. In this colloquium, she will examine different types of social capital and how they can benefit poor individuals and communities. Then, drawing on material in Building Community Capacity (written with Rob Chaskin, Prudence Brown and Sudhir Venkatesh), she will discuss four approaches that community development can take to build social capital in poor communities.

OCTOBER 7 - CANNON SCHMITT, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH, EDITOR OF CRITICISM, "VICTORIAN BEETLEMANIA"

The Victorians were inordinately fond of beetles. With the help of such publications as J. F. A. Stephens’s Manual of British Coleoptera, they gathered and identified beetles at home and abroad; in a less technical register, they arranged beetles in pleasing designs in display cases and wore clothing patterned after beetles or studded with the carapaces of dead beetles. In this paper, I resist the temptation to dismiss these pursuits as merely faddish. That they can appear to us so alien and frivolous dramatizes the necessity of retheorizing what it meant to know the natural world in the nineteenth century. To begin that retheorization, I attend to beetlemania as it manifests itself in the work of two Victorian scientists: Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace. Close scrutiny of passages dealing with beetles central to Darwin’s Autobiography (1887) and Wallace’s My Life (1905) reveals something like a coleopterous epistemology: a way of knowing nature that exceeds the bounds of the merely positivistic and classificatory. Beetles in these texts are not objects of curiosity so much as organisms whose alluring alterity—for what could be more unlike humans?—occasions paroxysms of desire and bouts of miserly acquisitiveness. Darwin’s and Wallace’s treatment of beetles, and of the whole inhuman array of crabs, snakes, spiders, flies, and slugs for which beetles stand by way of synecdoche, enables a new way of thinking about the consequences of evolutionary theory for how the Victorians went about knowing nature and knowing themselves. Those consequences are usually analyzed in terms of the transformation of what had been a relation of similitude (between apes and humans, say) into one of kinship. But at once more distressing and more obviously demanding of less straightforward models of relation than self/other was the transformation of what had been radically unlike humans (beetles, say) into kin.

OCTOBER 9 - ABBY BUTLER, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, MUSIC EDUCATION, "REMEMBERING, PRESERVING, DISCOVERING… THE LEGACY OF THE BRAZEAL DENNARD CHORALE"

The year 2002 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Brazeal Dennard Chorale. Dedicated to the preservation and promotion of African American choral music, this Detroit based ensemble has inspired audiences throughout the United States and around the world. Through their moving performances, numerous recordings, and conference appearances, the Chorale has worked hard to further our understanding and appreciation of the African-American spiritual. Brazeal Dennard founded the Chorale in 1972 to provide an opportunity for highly trained African American singers to perform quality music within a variety of professional venues. In order to extend these performance opportunities to other African Americans within the Detroit area, the Chorale organized the Brazeal Dennard Community Chorus and the Brazeal Dennard Youth Chorale. The Community Chorus offers opportunities for amateur singers to develop their vocal skills and perform in a variety of settings while the Youth Chorale provides young singers between the ages of 13 and 22 with the chance to study and perform music of the highest caliber. Using historical and qualitative methodologies, this paper will present a history of the Brazeal Dennard Chorale, documenting the contributions of the ensemble and the founding director, Dr. Dennard, toward the advancement of African American choral music. In addition, this paper seeks to explore the role of the Chorale in shaping both a cultural and musical identity for African Americans as well as their perceptions of that identity.
October 14 - Sandra VanBurkleo, Associate Professor, History, “Breaking Promises: The Strange Case of Legislative Divorce in 19th Century America”

Over the course of the 19th century, roughly from 1819 into the 1890s, public officials in the states and territories gradually adopted judicial divorce in the place of the more traditional (and English) legislative or parliamentary divorce. Historians have not been clear as to when and why this transition occurred, ascribing it — when it is mentioned at all — to such amorphous and seemingly competing forces as “democratization,” “progressive reform,” “legalization,” “juridification,” “bureaucratization,” “modernization,” or “judicial patriarchy.” A sufficient, if not complete, explanation for this change can be found in constitutional pressures, illustrated dramatically in a century-long conversation among state and territorial justices about the constitutionality of legislative divorce in the American Republic. The resulting change seems to move against the prevailing wind — from “contract” to “status” — in an age supposedly characterized by a shift from “status” relationships to black-letter contractualism. To make matters even more puzzling, many women’s rights advocates pointed disapprovingly to such developments, characterizing them as part and parcel of a conservative reaction against marital reform, and noting that the parallel rearticulation and mystification of the marital contract (supposedly mandated by the transition to judicial divorce) made it much more difficult for women, particularly impoverished or illiterate women, to divorce abusive men. Although VanBurkleo will be working from well over a hundred judicial rulings and other, similarly turgid texts, she promises not to read all of them to her audience.

October 21 - Eugenia Casielles, Assistant Professor, Romance Languages & Literature, “Towards a Typology of Topics”

It has recently been pointed out that linguists appear to have given up on a definition of “topic”. Although several different notions can be found in the literature, none of them allow us to characterize what are viewed as topical elements in different languages and identify the topic of a sentence in a particular structure. In this talk I will suggest that the reason why no appropriate definition of topic has been found is because this unitary entity we have been trying to define does not exist. That is, due to the variety of phonological, morphological, lexical and/or syntactic ways in which languages can mark, if at all, topical elements, any specific definition of topic based on a particular language will not be adequate to characterize topical elements in a different language. Thus, I propose abandoning the traditional view of topic in favor of a feature-based typology of topics. I suggest that particular combinations of certain phonological, syntactic, semantic and discourse features will give us different types of topical elements, and I offer a preliminary collection of features that can be used to characterize topics in different languages. From this point of view, the long term research agenda is to examine in detail how languages encode non-focal elements, isolate the relevant features, find out how they combine, and ultimately establish a typology of topics.

October 28 - Jack Kay, Associate Provost for Assessment and Retention and Professor of Communication, “The Music of Contemporary Hate Groups: Cyberspace and the Language of Oppression”

In this excursion to the ugly side of the World Wide Web, listeners are invited to interrogate the lyrics and sounds of such bands as Angry Aryans, Aggravated Assault, Blue Eyed Devils, Rahowa, Extreme Hatred, Berserkr and Extreme Hatred; groups recording on such labels as Resistance Records, Panzerfaust, Tri-State Terror and Imperium. The multi-media presentation focuses on the music used by white supremacist groups to recruit members and articulate an ideology of othering, separatism, and racialism. Musical genres including Reich’n’roll, White Power Rock, Skinhead, Oi!, National Socialist Black Metal, Facist Experimental, and Racist Country and Folk are presented and discussed. The use of music on “Cyberhate” web sites is also be explored. Concepts such as communication as culture and the language of oppression and liberation are used to describe, interpret, evaluate, and, perhaps, understand the pathology of hate. Ultimately, the relationship of humanistic inquiry and social responsibility is addressed. November 4 - Robert Thomas, Dean, College of Science & Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts, “‘Da Ja Ting’ (Big Family) - A Personal Perspective on Two Decades of Scientific and Cultural Exchanges With Friends From China.” This talk discussed the following in the context of Dr. Thomas’ associations, scientific and cultural, with many friends from China. “Reverse Brain Drain”: Those who study and perhaps work abroad for a time, but ultimately return to their home.
countries. Is the United States “giving away the store” – allowing the transfer abroad of its technology and manufacturing base? Are “we putting our money and our best talent into training our economic competitors? Those who have returned have opened up economic opportunities for the United States through Science & Technology partnerships and have benefited the U.S. diplomatically by allowing the U.S. to demonstrate its leadership in enabling developing countries to achieve their national scientific capabilities.

November 11 - Jerry Cleveland, Assistant Professor, Theatre, “Witticism and the Devotee of the Antilles as seen by Derek Walcott: The Bliss of Ignorance or Living in Accord with the Nature of Things”

Winner of the 1992 Nobel Prize for literature, Derek Walcott is a professor of English and Playwriting at Boston University and an internationally known poet and playwright. While the style and imagery for most of Derek Walcott’s poetry and plays are largely influenced by the Eurocentric, while he fully embraces the English language as his primary mode of expression, his themes reflect an affinity towards Afro-Caribbean life. In the case of “Dream on Money Mountain” the topic centers on the Afro-Caribbean and their resiliency under British colonial rule. The humor in this play is derived from signification and the African trickster element. The play of Afro centric and the voice of the imperialists is absent except for the mumbo-jumbo of Corporal Lestrange. The silent, female Apparition dressed in white serves as metaphor and symbol for the imperialists’ cultural and religious influences in the islands. The subject of this discourse will be examined using those elements contained within the play-language, mime, dance and music. This lecture anticipated the Bonstelle Theatre’s production of Walcott’s “Dream on Monkey Mountain” in January 2004.

November 18 - Barrett Watten, Associate Professor, English, “Modernism at the Crossroads”

What’s wrong with this picture? Bambi has two heads. A fish perched on a see-saw holds a kite string that arcs upward toward the sky—but there is no kite. The little girl running toward her mother has an X on her sleeve. The sky over the playground is, in fact, black. Modernism and postmodernism walk hand in hand under the weeping willow tree. The new modernist studies was brought about by a sustained critique of the certainties of modernist authorship, form, and, finally, agency. But in the process of opening up modernism and showing its constitutive lack, modernism was reinvented—as a register of the aporia of the modern, rather than a defense against it. If the negativity of the postmodern turns out to have been anticipated, in its major features, in the earlier period, modernism is thereby reinstated—as a historically contingent, rather than universalist, model for literary and cultural value. This paper questions the nature of modernist form after the challenge of the postmodern, and seeks to expand the formal criteria of the modernist work to account for a broader range of cultural agency. I will also touch on the nature of avant-garde paradox (from The Constructivist Moment: From Material Text to Cultural Poetics; Wesleyan University Press, 2003). We will look at a series of modernist and postmodern literary examples—to defend the cultural importance of modernism, but also to test its limits.

November 25 - Tamara Bray, Museum Director, Associate Professor, Anthropology, “Imperial Inca Iconography: The Art of Empire in the Pre-Columbian Andes”

Scholars of pre-Columbian art have long viewed the imperial style of the Inca state as formulaic and homogenous. This general attitude has discouraged serious interest in the imagery of the Inca empire. A closer look at the beautiful polychrome ceramic tradition associated with the Inca, however, reveals considerable variability in details of manufacture, dimensions, decorative elements, and design structure. In this paper, I discuss how the imagery expressed in the corporate art of the Inca aided in the construction of state authority and informs upon the nature of rulership. In analyzing the imagery of the Inca state as it relates to the processes of imperial expansion and political legitimation, the study highlights the relationship between art, ideology, and politics.

December 2 - Norah Duncan IV, Assistant Professor, Music, “New Trends in African American Spiritual Music”

From slave songs to contemporary gospel music, African American Church music has long been a source of strength and encouragement for Black Americans. This lecture will discuss the current state of music in African American churches by taking both a theoretical and reflective look at important writings on this topic. Through an assessment of resources provided by traditional African American denominations, we will look at what has been and is being done now to preserve this rich musical heritage, which will forge a path for the continual growth and development of African American church music.

December 9 - Matthew Seeger, Professor, Communication, “Lessons from Enron, Anthrax and 9/11: Crisis and Risk Communication in a Threatening World”

(Co-sponsored by WSU’s Institute for Information Technology and Culture). From the recognition of risk, to the coordination of response, and explanations of cause, communication is recognized as an essential feature of crisis man-
agement and disaster response. Mathew Seeger from the Department of Communication will discuss the role of communication in such events as the recent SARS outbreak, 9/11, the Enron collapse and the anthrax attack. In addition Seeger will describe the emergence of theory in the study of crisis communication as described in his book, Communication and Organizational crisis (2003 Quorum), and provide an overview of two of his recent research projects, Media Use, Information Seeking and Reported Needs in the Post 9/11 Context (2002) and Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication as an Integrative Model (in press) prepared with the Centers for Disease Control Crisis Communication Division.

DECEMBER 11 - ROBERT HOLLEY, PROFESSOR, LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE PROGRAM, “THE ETHICS OF SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND THE INTERNET”

The Internet is challenging long held ethical conventions in the area of scholarly research. Bob Holley will recount how his research for an article in the second edition of Library and Information Science Encyclopedia led him to reflect on the methodological differences between this article that made heavy use of Internet resources and a similar one written a decade ago when print was the only option. He will articulate his concerns that started from using an internal document that, though available on the Web, seemed more private and internal than officially published sources. His comments will focus on whether availability on the Web is “publication” as accepted in the print world and whether internal documents can be used in scholarly research where the document’s author would have been hesitant to speak on the topic in a journal article or professional newsletter. To help continue his research in this area, Bob hopes to have many questions and comments from the audience.


The title of this paper is based on an exploration of the French Renaissance’s penchant for pitting the sayable against the visible in its revitalization of classical humanism. In the disputes about whether thought was primarily visual or verbal, or inextricably mixed, Renaissance writers found it necessary to verbalize the significance of what could be visualized, because they felt that one or the other medium alone was incommensurate with the demand for adequate expression. This skepticism at the heart of complex cultural transvaluations could be obscured by the unquenchable enthusiasm for renewal and rejuvenation in such areas as the Classics (Heraclitus, Epicharmus, Pythagoras), religious reform (Marguerite de Navarre), astronomy (Copernicus), medicine (Paracelsus), descriptive anatomy (Vesalius), and pedagogy (Pierre de la Ramée). But this joyful reawakening to human potential tended to de-emphasize smoldering tensions that would later flare up in religious disputes and the fulgurations of civil war.

JANUARY 27 - DANA SEITLER, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ENGLISH, “HIRSUTICAL EXCHANGE: APE, GORILLA, WOLF, MAN”

It has been well-noted that Freud persistently turned to human prehistory as the ground and means of his theories, especially but not only in works like Civilization and its Discontents and Totem and Taboo. Freud’s over-riding interest in these works concerns not only what the individual may tell us about human prehistory, but also what human prehistory may tell us about our modern selves. This talk takes up Freud’s case studies “The Wolf Man” and “The Rat Man” to further explore questions about the way in which the persistent figure of the animal, operating as a sign of evolutionary precedent, conventionalizes human sexual drives as atavistic and the desiring subject as a “savage” subject. When Freud compared the content of the unconscious to “a primitive population in the mental kingdom,” he characterized the psyche as a residue of the past and figured the hermeneutics by which human sexual development could be comprehended. I argue that the trope of the animal in these case studies illuminates a particular history in which the archaic, the evolutionary past, is deployed to orient the unfamiliar terrain of sexual modernity. Sexuality itself is deployed as an archaic and “primitive” category or practice as a relay through which knowledge of human being can be both established and deferred. Freud’s animals, then, not only complicate the nature of sexual identification, but supplement what remains inarticulable about sexual desire.
February 3 - Michele Ronnick, Associate Professor, Classics, "Classical Elements in the Writing of Percival Everett, Contemporary African American Novelist"

Fiction and poetry of every sort looking back to classical antiquity for settings, plots or characters is nothing new in Western literature. But an attempt to analyze the African American contribution to this endeavor is. Classical elements are found in works of poetry written by 18th, 19th and 20th century authors ranging from Phillis Wheatley and Pauline Hopkins to Countee Cullen, Robert Hayden, Derek Walcott and Rita Dove. Here, in an effort open the question of black classicism up to wider examination, is a survey of some African American novelists who published works in the last hundred years. We’ll start with W.E.B. Du Bois’ Quest of the Silver Fleece (1911) and move to the experimental novelist Percival Everett. Two of Everett’s novels, For Her Dark Skin (1990) and Frenzy (1997), use themes from classical mythology.

February 5 - Julie Klein, Professor, (Humanities) Interdisciplinary Studies, CULMA "Interdisciplinarity, Humanities, and Culture: The Changing American Academy"

Three major ideas – interdisciplinarity, humanities, and culture — converge with particular force in the current term “American cultural studies.” Although the term is usually linked with American studies, the study of American culture is not confined to a single field. It is a broad-based set of interests located within and across disciplines and interdisciplinary fields. When disciplines became professionalized specialties in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the “culture camp” of humanities asserted a competing vision, upholding a generalist model of knowledge and culture with deep historical roots. The generalist model found a new home in the general education movement that arose in the early twentieth century. From the beginning, however, competing notions of interdisciplinarity were apparent and, in the latter half of the century, a plurality of developments fostered new interdisciplinary approaches. Their history extends from the importation of European theories to today’s field of cultural studies. This talk will give an overview of the implications for current theory, practice, and institutional forms of interdisciplinarity in three disciplines (literary studies, art history, and music) and three fields that center on American cultural experience (American studies, African-American studies, and women’s studies).

February 10 - Gary Sands, Associate Professor, College of Urban, Labor and Metropolitan Affairs, "Well Made Places? Resident Satisfaction in New Urbanist Suburbs"

The principles of New Urbanism advocate for a form of urban development that incorporates higher densities, mixed uses and a pedestrian (rather than an auto) oriented public realm. The New Urbanist paradigm is quite distinct from the typical suburban pattern of development. This research examines the relative level of satisfaction of the residents in two New Urbanist communities with those characteristics of their neighborhoods that set them apart from the surrounding areas. There appears to be a good deal of support for most elements of the New Urbanist model, although there may be an element of self-selection involved.

February 12 - Sheila Lloyd, Assistant Professor, English, "Letting Daddy Do It to/for You and Other Obscenities of Black Political Cultures in the Writings of Chinua Achebe and W. E. B. Du Bois"

My questions for this presentation are: why is group identity still at the forefront of U.S. multicultural thinking and criticism, and what might multicultural critics gain from examining other literary formations in which the question of identity is more marginalized or at least more vexatious? Looking at one author’s representations of decolonization and nationalisms, my claim is that the process by which group identity is established and maintained may also result in the undoing of the political aims associated with that group. This is perhaps even more the case when the enjoyment purportedly derived from an identitarian logic requires that some fixed point—be it linguistic, social, or ideological—serve to signify the uniformity of group identity. Oddly, the manifestation or narrativization of this uniform identity is only possible when some obscene display of power has not been rendered visible. This particular play of presence and absence is one that the Nigerian novelist and poet Chinua Achebe textualizes to great effect in his early novels. In these works, structural excesses of state power signal an exploitative disregard for “unanimism”— and this excess is metaphorically rendered through paternal figures that cannot be restricted to the single function of securing group feeling. That unanimism itself might prove disabling, through its promotion of passive identification with predetermined concepts, is something that Achebe queries in novel after novel. The disidentifications practiced by many of his protagonists, as they blindly move about in the symbolic spaces represented in the early novels, might be instructive when we find that “daddy” keeps doing it for and to us.
**February 17 - Beth Bates, Associate Professor, Africana Studies, “A Tale of Two Cities: Black Workers Challenge Paternalism in Detroit and Chicago, 1920’s - 1930’s”**

In the early part of the Twentieth Century, African American workers in two cities—Chicago and Detroit—led the challenge that eventually overthrew the paternalistic labor relations of leading employers and ushered in an era of growing support for organized labor. Local branches of the NAACP eventually embraced and supported labor unions. By World War II, both Chicago and Detroit had leading chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Yet in the early thirties these NAACP locals had been dismissed as irrelevant by the black majority because they were perceived as high-brow organizations controlled largely by white patronage. What brought about this dramatic change in the way these chapters were perceived by the larger local communities? This paper uses the local NAACP chapters in the two cities as windows for examining the shift in power relations within the black communities of Detroit and Chicago and argues that black workers’ challenge to paternalism set the tone for revising the approach and agenda of the NAACP. The paper suggests that overturning the politics of patronage which had defined labor relations for black workers employed by the Pullman Company in Chicago and the Ford Motor Company in Detroit unleashed challenges that focused on broadening the agenda of the NAACP to include the interests of black workers.

**February 24 - Dennis Tini, Professor & Chair, Music, “Dennis Tini: The Man and His Music”**

Dennis J. Tini, Professor of Music and Chair of the Department of Music, will overview the creative/artistic process involved with his newly-released CD album The Eyes of Youth. Many of the compositions featured on this Dennis Tini Quartet-Trio-Quintet CD were composed in the Swiss Alps, and have been performed throughout Europe, South Africa, and South America. (Musical examples will be played/viewed.) Professor Tini has been on the WSU faculty for over 28 years, and is in his 12th year as Department Chair. Tini is also Past-President of the International Association for Jazz Education, with 9000 members throughout 38 countries. In 1992 while IAJE President, Professor Tini founded the International Music Relief Effort for South Africa in Johannesburg. He has taken five voluntary trips presenting masterclasses, concerts and offering donated music, instruments and textbooks to impoverished schools throughout South Africa. Professor Tini will briefly discuss his global concert tours as a pianist/guest conductor, and as Conductor of the WSU Jazztet. Tini is also Director of Choral Activities and Co-Founder of the Jazz Studies Division at Wayne State University.

**February 26 - Dora Apel, Assistant Professor, Art & Art History, “Antilynching Images: Strategies of Representation and the Problem of the Abject”**

In contrast with lynching photographs that became the benchmark for the representation of racial violence and the departure point for antilynching art, antilynching artworks into two exhibitions of the 1930s demonstrate that similar imagery could be mobilized and aesthetically modulated for radically different political ends. But this raises some important questions. How did antilynching artists contend with the problem of representing lynching, based as it was on inherent forms of sadistic voyeurism, without unwittingly recreating a position of mastery and control for the viewer of abject and victimized black bodies? How did artists produce antilynching images that avoided the effects of souvenir postcards meant to glorify lynching and reaffirm white supremacy? This talk will examine some of the disparate strategies of representation for antilynching imagery and their ideological effects.

**March 2 - Stuart Henry, Professor & Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies, ”Crime as a Collaborative Project: Personal Roles in the Creation of Crime”**

Traditional approaches to criminological theory often take a reductionist approach in which the cause or multiple causes of crime are identified and criminal justice policy is developed to prevent and control its occurrence. In 1991, my colleague, Dragan Milovanovic and I embarked on a radical new postmodernist inspired approach to thinking about crime which we call “Constitutive Criminology.” We describe this approach, which has resulted in two books and numerous articles through 2003, as “a broad sweeping, wide-ranging holistic perspective on crime, criminals and criminal justice...whose objective is to help build a less harmful society.” The core of the constitutive argument is...
that crime and its control cannot be separated from the totality of the structural and cultural contexts in which it is produced, nor from human agents’ active production of these contexts, and through them, crime itself. Constitutive criminology rejects the argument of traditional criminology that crime and “criminals” can be separated from that total coproductive process and analyzed and corrected apart from it. Crime is an integral part of the total production of society, and insofar as societies are interconnected through globalization processes, crime is also a global production. It is a coproduced outcome of humans and the social and organizational structures that people develop and endlessly (re)build. Therefore, criminological analysis of crime must relate crime to the total social, and ultimately, global picture, rather than to any single part of it. This is not an easy task. In this talk, I will outline the theory and discuss the implications of the observation that we all have a role in the production of crime.

March 23 - Jean Andruks, Assistant Professor, Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology, Eugenia Casuelles, Assistant Professor, Romance Languages & Literatures and Geoffrey Nathan, English, "The Nature of Bilingual First Language Acquisition"
The investigation of the concomitant acquisition of two languages from birth is a research priority in language acquisition studies for several reasons: a) our ever more globally-oriented world, where bilingualism is the norm rather than the exception; b) the fact that bilingual children are ideal subjects for cross-linguistic studies, since with them we can control otherwise interfering factors such as cognitive development, personality, cultural differences, etc.; and c) the new research questions that bilingual acquisition offers, namely, to what extent the bilingual’s two languages are differentiated and to what degree bilingual acquisition parallels monolingual acquisition. Although earlier studies claimed that children acquiring two first languages start with one system and that their language acquisition differs significantly from monolingual acquisition, recent research has rejected this single-system hypothesis and suggests that bilingual children are able to differentiate between the two languages from early on. However, this two-system hypothesis still needs to be refined in order to explain the precise nature of the development of the two systems. Most investigations have been restricted to one domain: either the acquisition of sounds, or words, or the morphosyntactic features of each language. In this talk, we suggest that what is needed is a multidisciplinary approach, that is, a study that takes into account several domains and their interaction. From this perspective, our research project will start by investigating prosody, the earliest linguistic feature monolingual infants are known to be able to discriminate and the master interface, which is influenced by virtually all levels of linguistic structure, from phonetics, to syntax, to pragmatics.

March 25 - Susan Widawski, Lecturer, Clothing Design, Art and Art History, "Identity and the Use of Clothing in Displaced Persons Camps in Austria After WW II"
Many factors influence clothing acquisition and use. Personal characteristics such as age, gender, economic status and values as well as social environment support individual choice and consumption. Under normal and stable living conditions these factors can reflect the importance of clothing in our everyday lives. However, if a major event such as war, overturns the order of life, would these factors continue to influence clothing practices? My research examines how clothing was used to sustain identity and culture in two German and Austrian Displaced Persons Camps after World War II. This presentation will outline how the study was conducted and the results from the data collected. Additionally, original “in-camp” photographs will be examined.

March 30 - Jose Cuello, Associate Professor, History, "Is There an Underlying Common Structure to Racialized Societies in the Americas?"
The hypothesis I put forth for your consideration, comment and debate is that racialized societies across the Americas do indeed share a common substructure despite the tremendous variety of conditions in which they exist or have existed. Beneath their ecological and cultural variations, they share common purposes, ideologies, principles of organization and operation, systems and mechanisms of enforcement, along with social stereotypes and roles. Racism or racialization can be seen as an operational principle and system that interacts with the other principles and systems of social organization: gender, age, cultural identity, economic status, and political position. All social identities are, therefore, racialized (coded by skin color and defined by collective stereotypes) and play a major role in organizing human relations at all levels of public and private interaction. I will draw on my research on colonial Mexico and my experiences in the United
States to draw some comparisons in support of the hypothesis that common patterns are at work. I invite your active participation.

APRIL 6 - MEL ROSAS, PROFESSOR, ART & ART HISTORY, “MAGIC REALISM AND CONTEMPORARY LATIN AMERICAN PAINTING”

The term “Magic Realism” in present-day conversation, has nearly become synonymous with “surrealism” in the minds of its users. However, though sharing similarities, these two movements possess their distinctive attributes. From 1924 to 1945, a tight group of artists constituted the highly political movement of surrealism. They shared in Freudian ideas based in sex, dreams, and the subconscious. Magic Realism, as described by The Columbia Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition, 2001, “mingles realistic portrayals of ordinary events and characters with elements of fantasy and myth, creating a rich, frequently disquieting world that is once familiar and dreamlike.” Currently, Magic Realism refers, but is not exclusive to, Latin American writers such as Marguez (Columbia), Rulfo (Mexico), Allende (Chile), Cortazar (Argentina) and Fuentes (Mexico) to name a few. My own experience with their writings is one of familiarity and a strange connection to the people, places and events. My interest lies within the “ambiguity of time” in these novels. The blending of the “ancient” and the “modern” creates difficulty in contextualizing the story. This sensation is not unlike my experiences when traveling throughout Latin America.

APRIL 13 - DERYCK M. BERNARD, HUMANITIES CENTER VISITING SCHOLAR, PROFESSOR, GEOGRAPHY; DEAN, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMANITIES, UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA, “THE AFRICAN FOLK MUSIC TRADITION FROM GUYANA: A DISCOURSE AND PERFORMANCE”

The traditional folk music of the African rural communities in Guyana is consistent with the ethnomusicologist’s characterisations of the range of the syncratic forms of ritual and entertainment which evolved in the Afro Caribbean Diaspora in the Caribbean. This evolution of the form was noted in the observations of European visitors to Guyana from the beginning of the nineteenth century to the recognised Creole culture creating a duality within which the folk tradition was regarded as the primitive and backward underground aspect of the black existence. The form survived and indeed had a renaissance in the pre and post independence era. Unfortunately, its survival in the face of pressure from the global cultural industry is by no means certain. Guyana is complex of several cultures from Europe, Asia, and Africa. The descendants of African slaves have evolved cultural forms which though similar in structure have a unique place in the Diaspora and reflect the cultural clashes and interactions within the African community and interactions with the Dutch and British colonial experience.


The formation of partnerships between K12 schools, universities, and community agencies has played a major role in implementing K12 urban school reforms. Partnerships intended to address teacher preparation needs among urban schools have similarly assumed increased significance in recent years. What are some of the personal experiences shared among partners attempting to address urban teacher preparation needs? What is the impact of these experiences upon improving urban teacher preparation? To learn more about the effects of partnership experiences upon preparing urban teachers, the focus of this research project was to examine selected partnership team experiences within partnerships in five major cities. These partnerships, comprised of representatives from urban schools and urban teacher preparation programs, are a major initiative of the Urban Educator Corps (UEC) within the Great Cities’ Universities (GCU). Successor to the Urban 13, the GCU is a consortium of 21 urban, public research universities committed to addressing urban issues in areas/strands such as community development, education and teacher preparation, transportation, and workforce training. In the present study, partnership team group interviews were conducted and audio-taped in April, 2003. Each group responded to 23 questions listed in the group moderator guide. Audio-tapes from the group interviews were transcribed into verbatim hard-copy narratives for analysis. Results will be presented and discussed that hold implications for improving partnership experiences that impact developments in urban teacher preparation.

APRIL 20 - NANCY BARRETT, PROVOST, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, “THE ECONOMICS OF GENDER”

Decades have elapsed since the passage of the Equal Pay Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and still a sizeable pay gap between men and women persists. Over the past four decades, women have entered the workforce in increasing numbers and now represent the majority of college graduates in the United States. But the majority of adult women still work in relatively low-paying, stereotypically female jobs, or in female-dominated subspecialties in traditional male occupations. This presentation will analyze these trends and suggest some barriers to women’s full economic participation.

APRIL 22 - DAVID WEINBERG, PROFESSOR, HISTORY; DIRECTOR, COHN-HADDOW CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES, “FINDING A VOICE: ISSUES IN POSTWAR EUROPEAN JEWISH RECOVERY”

All Lectures are Free and Open to the Public There is a tendency to assume that European Jewry disappeared during the Holocaust, with its scattered remnants fleeing to either America or Israel. The reality is far more complicated. Despite numerous material and psychological obstacles in the post-war period and continuing threats of antisemitism, a number of communities have managed to revive themselves. The presentation discusses the challenges and opportunities facing the Jews of Europe today as they attempt to find their own distinctive path, separate from that of both American and Israeli Jewry.
Two Newest Programs Flourishing

Faculty Grant Mentorship Program

The faculty grant mentorship program aims to facilitate external grant writing by allowing faculty with experience in obtaining grant funding in the humanities and arts to share advice with colleagues seeking external grants. The Center appointed two mentors for the academic year. Grant mentors for the 2003-2004 year were Sarah Bassett and Arthur Marotti.

Sarah Bassett, Associate Professor of Art & Art History. Dr. Bassett has been successful in winning external funding from sources such as NEH, Dumbarton Oaks Research Center/Library of Harvard University, and the American Research Institute of Turkey. She also has received a number of internal grants. She presented a grant writing workshop on March 9, 2004.

Arthur Marotti, Professor of English. Dr. Marotti has a long history of writing successful grant proposals. He has held a Guggenheim Fellowship, an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, and a NEH Fellowship. He was also a Humanities Center Fellow at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Marotti presented a grant writing workshops on September 12, 2003 and April 7, 2004.

This year’s mentors met with grant seekers to give advice at the workshops in March and April. In addition, mentors met with grant-seekers for one-on-one advising. In all, the mentors assisted with over a dozen grant proposals in 2003-2004.

Munusculeum (Small) Grants

Beginning in 2002-2003, the Center set 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; 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 sixteen faculty received small grants: Eugenia Casielles, Dora Apel, John Bukowczyk, May Seikaly, Daphne Ntiri, Robert Aguirre, Michele Ronnick, Barrett Watten, Jorgelina Corbatta, Daniel Marcus, Naomi Liebler, Donald Haase, Tamara Bray, Marsha Richmond, Ken Jackson, and Jeffrey Abt.
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.

The Humanities Center budgeted $10,000 to support this program in 2003-2004. By the year’s end, this amount was exhausted. The twenty-seven graduate students who took advantage of travel support are listed below.

**Julie Borkin**
Communication

**Nancy J. Brown**
English

**Christine Alston**
Art History

**Christine Miller**
Anthropology & Organization studies

**Adrina Garbooshian**
Romance Languages and Literatures

**Lina Beydoun**
Sociology

**Shonu Nangia**
Romance Languages and Literatures

**Nicola Work**
Romance Languages & Literatures

**Joy Slack**
Romance Languages and Literatures

**Caroline Jumel**
Romance Languages and Literatures

**James Dutcher**
Rhetoric/Forensics (Communication)

**Sarah LaBeau**
English

**Victoria M. Abboud**
English

**James Jenner**
English

**Nancy L. Welter**
English

**Naomi Fox**
Linguistics

**Sarah James**
English

**George Latimer-Knight**
Philosophy

**Narissara Taweelakulkit**
Communication

**Patric R. Spence**
Communication

**Elsa DellaTorre**
Romance Languages and Literatures

**Lisa Quintero**
Romance Languages and Literatures

**Maria D. Ramos**
Romance Languages and Literatures

**Brian Bittner**
Communication

**Kim M. Davis**
English

**Kelly McDowell**
English

**Tobin Sterritt**
English

**Conferences Attended**

- National Communication Conference
- Texas Medieval Association
- College Art Association
- American Anthropological Association
- American Society for 18th Century Studies
- Middle East Studies Association
- Modern Languages Association
- Society for the Interdisciplinary Study of Social Imagery
- Twentieth-Century Literature
- Michigan Academy of Science, Arts & Letters
- Northeast Modern Language Association
- Denaina Language Workshop
- UC Santa Barbara Hispanic and Lusophone Conference
- Midwest American Academy of Religion
- International Association of Asian Studies
- Central States Communication Association
- Southeast Conference on Languages and Literature
- Twelfth Annual International Conference on Romance Studies
- Cultural Studies Association
- American Literature Association
- Conference on College Composition and Communication
This year’s Faculty Fellows Conference was held on April 2, 2004 in the David Adamany Undergraduate Library’s Bernath Auditorium. The annual Faculty Fellows Conference is an opportunity for the previous year’s Faculty Fellows to present their findings to the academic community. This year’s theme was “The Religious and the Secular: Past, Present, and Future.” Ten Wayne State University faculty members, and two keynote speakers comprised the roster. The keynote speakers were Michael Eric Dyson, the Avalon Professor in the Humanities at University of Pennsylvania, and John D. Caputo, the David R. Cook Professor of Philosophy at Villanova University.

After opening remarks by the Humanities Center Director Walter F. Edwards, Dr. Dyson kicked off the conference with his talk, “Light and Darkness: Blending the Sacred and the Secular in Everyday Life”, which was extremely well-received by the audience.

Jerry Herron (English, Honors Program Director) moderated the first session of the conference, which included talks entitled “The Religious in the Midst of the Secular: Religious Rhetoric in the Civil Courts of Roman Egypt” by Jennifer Sheridan Moss; “Roman Ceremonial Sculpture” by Brian Madigan, “From ‘Beloved Community’ to Black Power: The Religious/Secular Dialectic in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee” by Francis Shor; and “‘Other Worlds’: An Ethnographic Study of Personal Accounts of the Return of the Dead and Other Mystical
Experiences in Health-Related Contexts” by Janet Langlois.

The day’s second keynote speaker, John D. Caputo of Villanova University, began the second session of the day’s presentations. His talk, “Religion and Post Secularism” sparked a debate among the philosophers in attendance.

Moderator Barrett Watten took charge of the second session of Wayne State faculty presentations, which included “The Existence of God” by Bruce Russell; and “The Turn to Religion in Early Modern English Studies”, a joint presentation by Arthur F. Marotti and Ken Jackson.

The final session of the conference was moderated by Diane Sybeldon (University Libraries) and included “For God, Home and Country: The Woman’s Christian Temperance Union and Reform Efforts in the Meiji Period” by Elizabeth Dorn; “The Bishop of Belley’s Bloody Stories: Divine Justice in the Theater of the Other World” by Anne Duggan; and the electronic visual and musical experiment that Robert Martin, has entitled, “’Voudou’: An Interactive Opera”.

A short reception was held after the conference in the Undergraduate Library’s Community Room, to offer audience members and speakers the opportunity for additional exchange on the topic of “The Religious and the Secular”.

About the Keynoters:

Michael Eric Dyson is the Avalon Professor of the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania and a Baptist minister. His books include Beyond God and Gangsta Rap: Bearing Witness to Black Culture; Why I Love Black Women; and Mercy, Mercy Me on the life, career, and death of Marvin Gaye.

John D. Caputo is the David R. Cook Professor of Philosophy at Villanova University. He is the author of On Religion, and The Religious (Blackwell Readings in Continental Philosophy). He is the subject of the forthcoming book, A Passion for the Impossible: John D. Caputo in Focus edited by Mark Dooley (release pending).

Facility Fellows Conference Presenters

John Caputo
Keynote Speaker

Janet Langlois
English

Bruce Russell
Philosophy

Arthur Marotti
English

Ken Jackson
History

Elizabeth Dorn
Art & Art History

Robert Martin

Below: John D. Caputo, David R. Cook professor of Philosophy, addressed the audience in the afternoon.
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 speakers and colloquia. The Center supports working groups by providing meeting space and up to $1500 for speakers, supplies, or other organizational needs. The Center staff are working on an external grant proposal to increase the funding for Working Groups. Supported Working Groups for 2003-2004 and summaries of their work are listed below. Core members as reported by Working Groups are listed in the left and right margins.

Science and Society
Marsha Richmond, Interdisciplinary Studies
David Bowen, Interdisciplinary Studies
Heather Dillaway, Sociology
Jazlin Ebenezer, Teacher Education
Laurie Evans, English

When Cultures Collide: Diversity at WSU
Kimberly Campbell, Communication
Andela Jay, Communication
Jason Booza, Political Science
Martha Dowling, Anthropology
Raymond Mohamed, Geography

Disabilities Studies
Barbara LeRoy, Disabilities Institute
David Moss, Law
Jane Deprister-Morandini, Educational Accessibility
Todd Duncan, English
Robert Erlandson, Engineering

When Cultures Collide: Diversity at WSU
21 members from 9 different units.
Group Leaders: Andela Jay, Kimberly Campbell

In the 2003-2004 academic year, this group met on a regular basis to discuss important issues related to diversity at Wayne State University. These included the impact of urban planning, perceptions, verbal and non-verbal communication, student/teacher interaction, student/student relationships, and an evaluation of Wayne State University's mission statement. The group also discussed current events and supported one another with individual projects that were created outside the group. For example, one member of the group conducted a study of cross-cultural friendships among Wayne State University students. Currently, this project has been extended to the spring/summer semester so that the group could conduct a study of its own. Focus groups sessions with undergraduate students have been planned for July which will allow students to discuss their experiences, attitudes and opinions about diversity. This will promote understanding of the challenges and issues that enhance or impede diversity at Wayne State University.

Science and Society
20 members from 8 different units.
Group Leader: Marsha Richmond

With the participation of WSU in the Life Sciences Initiative along with the University of Michigan and Michigan State University, one component of which involves funding for social and ethical issues of biomedical science, it is a particularly propitious time for the University to establish ties between faculty members in the humanities interested in topics connected with science, engineering, or medicine. This continuing project in Science and Society brings together an interdisciplinary group of faculty and advanced graduate students who are interested in social, cultural, historical, philosophical, and literary aspects of science, engineering, and medicine. In June 2004 this group brought Ida Stamhuis to Wayne State as a visiting scholar from Amsterdam. Dr. Stamhuis's research concentrates on women in the field of genetics early in the 20th century.

Disabilities Studies
16 members from 11 different units.
Group Leader: Sharon Milberger

The Disability Studies Working Group consists of a team of Wayne State University scholars from multiple disciplines committed to research and teaching on disability-related issues. The overall mission of this group is to explore common interests and develop collaborative programs in Disability Studies. Since receiving a Humanities Center grant, the Disabilities Studies Working Group has been meeting on a bi-monthly basis to develop a course on Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Disability. This course will use lectures, feature films, readings, and discussions to bring multiple viewpoints to bear upon disability issues and culture.
Word and Image

4 members from 3 different units.  
Group Leader: Jonathan Flatley

This new Working Group aims to address an area of persistent concern among humanities scholars across the disciplines: the encounters, dialogues, and mutual collaboration (or hostility) between verbal and visual languages. Our proposal seeks to build upon interest already existing among graduate students and faculty who work in film, art history, literature, cultural studies, and new media to examine the intersection between word and image in several different ways. These would include: visual artists working with language and writers who use images to challenge and/or disrupt ideas about and boundaries between “art” and “literature” respectively. The first focus of this group was an Andy Warhol film series and discussion, aiming to introduce viewers to the range of Warhol’s surprisingly extensive and varied film productions. This group also worked to bring artist Michal Rovner to Wayne State, and to organize a series of seminars and discussions that approach the “word and image” topic from the angle of racial and gender politics in conceptual art.

Central European Studies

10 members from 5 different units.  
Group Leader: Kenneth Bronstrom.

During the Winter semester of 2003, a group of 20 faculty members drawn primarily, but not exclusively, from the College of Liberal Arts came together under leadership from the Department of German and Slavic Studies to investigate the possibility of creating a program in Central European Studies at Wayne State. During 2003-2004, this new group worked toward developing a cohesive program of study for this region whose future will undoubtedly impact the future of the western Eurasian continent. Humanities Center funds were used to bring one more expert to campus over the winter break of 2003 to further these plans. The group also met regularly to discuss readings and issues relating to Central Europe, and to reshape a grant proposal to be submitted to the NEH.
A Cross-Linguistic View of the Nature of Nonsentential Speech
5 members from 2 different units.
Group Leader: Ellen Barton
This group has met throughout the 2003-2004 academic year at the Humanities Center. The group discusses nonsentential speech, or speech utterances that do not seem to meet the requirements for being a complete statement according to traditional grammatical criteria. During the academic year, the “Nonsententials” Working Group sponsored two seminars and was able to secure some of the top linguists in the field as guest lecturers. The final seminar of the 2004 year focused on a variety of views relating to acquisition, syntax, pidgins and aphasia. Three guest speakers were in attendance: Tom Roeper, University of Massachusetts - Amherst, Herman Kolk, University of Nijmegen, and Donald Winford, The Ohio State University.

Justice Studies: Normative and Empirical Approaches
12 members from 8 different units.
Group Leader: Richard Marbeck
This working group, begun in 2001, met regularly in 2003-2004 to discuss published political philosophy works such as Antonin Scalia’s A Matter of Interpretation. The group also discussed their own individual works in progress for constructive feedback. These discussions were important to accomplishing the group goal of redefining its interests in terms of the culture and language of justice. This goal was identified as most important as a way of infusing new interdisciplinary concerns into discussions and to make the group more productive. The group began negotiations with legal scholars from the University of Michigan and the University of Toledo to come to the Wayne State campus.

The Fold: Theory and Practice
6 members from 4 different units.
Group Leader: Charles Stivale
The members of this Working Group have devoted themselves to the scholarly project of creating an ongoing dialogue about the complex intersections and overlaps inherent to “the fold.” This focus arises from two major works of the 1980s by the French philosopher, Gilles Deleuze, Foucault (1986) and The Fold: Leibniz and the Baroque (1988). and sections of these two works serve as the main topics of study and discussion. Gilles Deleuze’s writings, alone and in collaboration with the French psychoanalyst Félix Guattari, span four decades and at least twice as many domains of reflection. In regards to Deleuze’s study The Fold: Leibniz and the Baroque, Deleuze discusses how this concept creates spatio-temporal conjunctions at once with material textures, physical movements, corporeal functions, creating in this way a conceptual resonance in artistic and scientific as well as literary and philosophical fields. It is no exaggeration to say, therefore, that Deleuze is ideal for work in the context of the Humanities Center because, however challenging, Deleuze’s work is one of the very few in the twentieth century to achieve a truly conjoined and interdisciplinary potential for critical reflection. The group’s work therefore has consisted of ongoing discussions each week. In these efforts, the Humanities Center’s continued support has been crucial.
In collaboration with the College of Urban, Labor and Metropolitan Affairs, the Law School, and the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, the Humanities Center hosts Visiting Scholars from various universities around the country and the world. This program provides the mutually beneficial opportunity for the Visiting Scholar and Wayne State faculty to have exposure to each other’s ideas and work, and creates a forum for interaction and collaboration. The Visiting Scholar has use of Humanities Center office space and equipment, University Library privileges, and gives a public lecture on his or her project.

The Visiting Scholar for Spring 2004 was Professor Deryck M. Bernard, the Dean of the School of Education and the Humanities at the University of Guyana. In residence at the Center from March 14 until April 30, 2004, Professor Bernard worked on two different projects. In ‘Cultural Policy and Development’, Bernard hoped to articulate a cultural policy as a basis for facilitating patriotism, tolerance and national confidence in the solution of Guyana’s political and economic dilemmas. This work used as its basis two assumptions: 1) The formation of Social Capital is a vital aspect of reform and reorganizing for strengthening development capital, and 2) that the subscription to a constructive and consistent policy on culture and development in nation building is an essential aspect of the formation of Social Capital. Professor Bernard attended seven talks, met with several WSU faculty members, and delivered three presentations including a Brown Bag talk on April 13, 2004 which summed up his research while in residence at the Center.

A second Visiting Scholar, Dr. Ida Stamhuis, Department for the History and Social Studies of Science, Vrije University, Amsterdam was in residence from June 8 to July 9, 2004. The Center collaborated with the department of Interdisciplinary Studies and CULMA to sponsor this visit. Dr. Stamhuis’s research focuses on both the history of genetics and statistics and the role of women in these fields.

Other Supported Programs

Other projects that the Humanities Center co-sponsored during the 2003-2004 academic year include: 1) Co-sponsorship of the Black History Month Program ‘A Celebration of Colors: Honoring our Ethnic and Cultural Diversities’ held on February 17, 2004 at the David Adamany Undergraduate Library’s Community Room. 2) Support of a lecture given by Marce LaCouture entitled “Louisiana Cajun and Creole Roots: The Home Music Tradition”, held February 27, 2004 at the Schaver Music Recital Hall. Ms. LaCouture’s visit was supported by the Humanities Center and the department of Romance Languages and Literatures. 3) A visit from Charles Fishman, accomplished poet, to WSU campus October 7, 2004, co-sponsored with the English department. 4) Travel support for Professor Ran-E Hong’s visit to WSU on March 3, 2004 to give a talk entitled, “Social Immobility in 17th-Century France” which centered on Moliere. This event was co-sponsored by the department of Romance Languages and Literatures.
Announcing...
Faculty Fellows 2004-2005

Faculty Fellows 2004-2005
“THE BODY”

Congratulations to these Faculty Fellows, who were named in Spring of 2004. They will present papers at the Fellows Conference in spring 2005. Awards ranged from $2000 to $8000.

Thomas Abowd
Anthropology
Dangerous Bodies/Vulnerable Nations: Arabs and Muslims in a post-‘9/11’ America

Robert Aguirre
English
Embodying American Indigenes

Lisabeth Hock
German & Slavic Studies
Caught Between Genius and Illness: Melancholy and German Women Writers (1800-1917)

Lisa Vollendorf
Romance Languages & Literatures
Sex, Violence, and the Law in the Hispanic World

Ellen Barton
Linguistics
Experimenting on the Body

Jonathan Flatley
English
Bodies as Machines: Affect and the Experience of Modernity

Bart Miles
Social Work
Rewriting the Homeless Body: Highlighting a Subjugated Discourse

Lisa Maruca
Interdisciplinary Studies
Printing Technology and the Body of Learning

A LOOK AHEAD: 2005-2006 COMPETITION
Theme: GLOBALIZATION AND THE HUMANITIES

With the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Gulf War and the resulting “New World Order,” and the expansion of the global economy came new political and cultural frameworks for development, competition, and antagonism. Global economic, political, and cultural change has been relentless, and the humanities can offer frameworks for understanding what globalization means, its consequences, and its possibilities.

Drawing on work in transnational, poststructuralist, postmodern, and postcolonial literary and cultural theory over the preceding two decades, scholars who study globalization and its literary, aesthetic, and cultural implications have found new approaches to inquiry, representation, and expression. These multifaceted, interdisciplinary endeavors seek to create a global framework for literary and cultural analysis and to renew the project of critical theory as a result.

The imperative to “think globally, act locally” has repositioned specific disciplines in the humanities. Scholars are exploring from new perspectives the notions of philosophical universals; national and group identity; postmodern and postcolonial theory; diaspora, emigration, and minority cultures; the politics of language; psychoanalysis and trauma theory; and digital culture. In focusing discussion on the impact of globalization on the humanities at Wayne State, critics, scholars, and creative artists might ask the following:

- How do we rethink humanist universals in an age of global capitalism and cultural antagonism, and institutional change and transformation?
- What does the framework of globalization mean for the integrity of the nation state—in terms of the emergence of a dominant global superpower (the United States) or the proliferation of smaller nation states (the breakup of the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc) or the creation of new societies?
- How does globalization expand and continue the processes of postmodern and postcolonial cultural change, and how might we understand new works of art and cultural products within its wider horizon?
- How does the new global economy foster cultural change through processes of emigration and cultural dispersion?
- How can minority and indigenous cultures preserve their identities in the face of destructive economic rationalization and standardization?
- What does the global economy mean for the politics of language, particularly English as a global commercial and scientific language?
- How have the destructive antagonisms of global politics, after Rwanda, Kosovo, 9/11/2001, and Iraq, arguably led to a culture of trauma and the subsequent demand for global security?
- What new global order has been made possible by the internet, and how is the new global culture emerging in the domain of cyberspace?
- How can the humanities influence globalization and the forces that are reframing personhood internationally?
Brown Bag Colloquia
Planned for 2004-2005 (Subject to Change)

September
14 George Galster, Dean of CULMA, “Sprawl and Pornography”
21 Brentd Ostendorf, Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, “American Conspiracy Theories from a European Perspective”
23 Herb Granger, Philosophy, “What Ails the Humanities?”
28 Bob Sedler, Law, “Same-Sex Marriage”
30 Shiri Katz-Gershon and Jean Andruski, Speech Language Pathology, “Speech Perception and Vocabulary Development”

October
5 John Corvino, Philosophy, “Preference and Discrimination”
7 Kathleen McNamee, Classics, Greek & Latin, “Scholars’ Libraries”
12 Ken Jackson, English, “Shakespeare’s Richard III and our Pauline Moment”
14 Robert Arking, Biology, “Extending Longevity: Implications”
19 Kate Paesani, Romance Languages & Literatures, and Catherine Barrette, Romance Languages & Literatures, “A Theoretical Model of Program Articulation: Implications for Curriculum Development”
26 Nira Pullin and Mary Copenhagen, Theatre, “Victorian Secrets - Underneath It All: Dress, Deportment and Dance of the late Victorian Age for the Stage”
28 James Tucker, Chair, Biological Sciences, “The Human Genome: What it Might Mean to Me”

November
2 Kimberly Campbell and Donyale Griffin, Communication, “Un’Rappin’ Hip Hop: Language and Culture”
4 Thomas Abowd, Anthropology, “The Spatial Construction of Identity and Difference in Contemporary Jerusalem”
9 Elizabeth Dorn, History, “Temperance and the Modernization of Japan”
16 Mame Jackson, Art & Art History, “Handing it on: The Legacy of African American Art in Southeast Michigan”
23 Tony Crowley, Chair, Art & Art History, “Finding Visual Form in John Milton’s L’Allegro and Il Penseroso”
30 Anca Vlasopolos, English, “Crossing the Equator and Other Maritime Rituals: Gender Bending on the High Seas”

December
2 Sandra Van Burkleo, History, “Gender, State Paternalism and the Invention of Modern Citizenship in the Pacific Northwest 1879-1912”
7 Steven Spur, Economics, “An Experimental Study of Lesser Included Offenses in Criminal Law”
9 William Lynch, Interdisciplinary Studies, “How the West was Won... Starting in Ireland”
18 J. Van Der Weg, Associate Dean, “Publishing Your Research: An Editor’s Perspective”
20 Laura Winn, Communication, “Rise of the Moorlocks: Voices of Working Class Academics and Their Import for Diverse Pedagogy”
25 Allen Goodman, Economics, “Can Medical Treatments that Shorten One’s Life be Efficacious?”
27 Jerry Herron, English, “Readings from the Fieldtrips Project: The Deep Structure of Target, Home Depot, Taco Bell”

January
1 Rodney Clark, Psychology, “Racism and the Health Divide: Effects across the Life Span”
3 Donald Schurknight, Chair, Romance Languages & Literatures, Power and Politics: Larra and the Death Penalty in Romantic Spain”
8 Osaumaka Likaka, History, “Talking Under One’s Breath: Praise Nicknames as Voices of Protest”
10 Juanaita Anderson, Communication, “The Representation of African American Culture in Public Media”
15 Ron Brown, Political Science, “Nat Turner”
17 Vanessa Middleton, Library & I.S., “International Librarianship: Building an Online Professional Development Learning Community”
22 Leon Wilson, Chair, Sociology, “Fatherhood in the Caribbean: Myths and Realities”
24 Norah Duncan IV, Music, “A Comparative Discussion of African and African American Spirituality”

March
1 Karl Braunschweig, Music, “Master Metaphors of Musical Form: Language, Architecture, Organicism, Drama”
3 Marvin Zalman, Criminal Justice, “The Literature and Film of Wrongful Convictions”
8 Aaron Retish, History, “Contesting Hegemony: Peasant and State Relations During Russia’s Civil War, 1918-21”
22 Mary Garrett, Chair, Communication, “Orientalism: An Autoethnography”
24 Mary Cay Sengstock, Sociology, “What Do We Really Mean By Diversity?”
29 Lisabeth Hock, German & Slavic, “Shades of Melancholy in Gabriele Reuter’s From a Good Family (1895)”

April
5 Heidi Gottfried, CULMA, “Regularizing Labor: Gender and Work in an Era of Restructuring”
19 Frank Wu, Dean, Law School, TBD