

American Studies Newsletter

Fall 2011



FROM THE CHAIRS

HANDING OVER THE REINS

After an extraordinarily challenging and rewarding term as DEO, I am delighted to hand over the reins to Susan Birrell, Professor of American Studies and Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies, for the Fall 2011 semester, and to Horace Porter, F. Wendell Miller Professor of English, American Studies, and African American Studies, for a term beginning Spring semester 2012.

To put it mildly, American Studies has undergone considerable change in the last three years. We became the administrative home of American Indian and Native Studies, and sport studies has merged fully into our department, tripling the size of our undergraduate population, increasing our graduate cohort by fifty percent, adding two senior tenure-track scholars (Susan Birrell and Tina Parratt) and a full-time lecturer (first Jen Metz and now Megan Chawansky) to our faculty, and necessitating substantial transformations of our curricula, bylaws, and budget. Even as we gained wonderful colleagues and moved in exciting new directions, an era ended when a mainstay of our faculty, John Raeburn, retired a year ago in May after four decades in our department. Staff restructuring following the retirement of Carrie Louvar, who had served continuously in American Studies since 1974, has meant that our devoted Secretary, Laura Kastens, has had to take on even more duties, which she has executed expertly and graciously. Many of these changes were prompted by historic budget cuts and the threatened closure of our graduate program. We were fortunate to prevail over adversity through a remarkable collaboration among faculty, staff, graduate students, alumni, and supportive colleagues across campus and the wider regional and national American Studies networks. Relative to programs facing similar exigencies at other universities, American Studies has fared well at Iowa and earned the support of the upper administration. We didn't ask for all these changes, but we have managed to embrace and benefit from them.



Outgoing DEO Marra "handing over the reins" to new DEOs Susan Birrell & Horace Porter

LOOKING AHEAD

Although my tenure as DEO of American Studies will be only one semester – I am serving this fall between two outstanding leaders, Kim Marra and Horace Porter – my commitment to American Studies remains long-term, having been involved in the department for over twenty years. This past year has been a year of reinvention for the department. Among other things, my former program, sport studies, was warmly welcomed into American studies, and both programs have worked to nurture our new mutual strengths. The CESA conference focused this year on ethnic relations in sport revealed great depths of commonality, and we all anticipate great things as we build on this solid beginning.

Our plans for the immediate future are to undertake a formal review of CESA (the Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts) and to continue our valued collaboration with American Indian and Native Studies. AINS will have a new coordinator this fall, Erica Prussing, associate professor in Anthropology. A new leader for CESA will be named during the fall semester as CESA founder Lauren Rabinovitz moves back full time into her teaching and research life. Horace Porter will chair the review committee.

Sport studies faculty and students will miss Jennifer Metz who departed this summer for a tenure track position at Towson University. Over the past five years, Jen taught a variety of our undergraduate courses, advised many undergraduate students, and was a valued member of many graduate student comps and dissertation committees. Sad as we are to see Jen head east, we are heartened by the arrival of Megan Chawansky, who will bring new interests and strengths to the department. Dr. Chawansky earned her PhD in the humanities of sport program at The Ohio State University. Since then she has been a lecturer at the University of Bath in England, where she developed an interest in sport as a means of international development, particularly for girls and women. This fall she will be teaching the sport studies foundation course Inequality in Sport and the elective

PERFORMING ETHNICITIES THROUGH SPORT, APRIL 1-3, 2011

This past Spring, the Department of American Studies and the Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts co-sponsored a three-day symposium, *Performing Ethnicities through Sport* (full program available at: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~cesa/news.html>). The aim was to celebrate the merger of Sport Studies into American Studies and to show how sport studies enhances our commitment to diversity and dovetails with our strengths in areas such as popular culture, performance, and the arts in everyday life. Both Linda Maxson, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Lauren Rabinovitz, Director of CESA, gave welcoming remarks. Three of our distinguished alumni were invited to give keynote talks: Sarah Fields, Mary McDonald, and Dan Nathan. They were featured in a program of 21 papers that critically engaged diverse issues of identity in historical and contemporary American sport culture. Sport was viewed as a live performance whose study powerfully addresses questions of the body, its markings and capabilities, and its interactions with natural and built environments. Several papers examined the ways sport is widely broadcast and represented in the media. Interspersed on the program, critical sport scholars and American studies scholars used a range of theoretical perspectives and drew from many fields to illuminate these and other historical and contemporary resonances of American sport in U.S. domestic and transnational contexts. On Friday night, the Department hosted a banquet for presenters at the University Athletic Club. On Saturday night in Theatre B of the Theatre Building, Kim Marra presented her autobiographical solo piece, *Horseback Views: A Queer Hippological Performance*, after which the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies generously sponsored a wine reception upstairs in the Café.



Daniel Nathan
Skidmore College

Dan Nathan's lecture, "**Playing Together, Playing Apart: Sport, Community, and Identity**," used sport to examine the complicated, double-edged process of cultural inclusion and exclusion. He discussed different ways in which sport brings people together and divides them, sometimes simultaneously, sometimes profoundly. Focusing on disparate, eclectic examples—the Negro baseball leagues, an isolated Alaskan village, a small town on the Kansas plains, and an Atlanta suburb—Nathan demonstrated that for many people sports are an important source of communal belonging, and can provide us (and "them") with shared touchstones even when we play apart.

"In the Embrace of Michelle Obama's Arms: Intersectionality and Celebrity Body Politics in 21st Century America"

The body and fashion sense of US First Lady Michelle Obama have been the object of considerable analysis and scrutiny in public discourses: Her clothing style is subject to an almost daily critique by such liberal blogs as the Huffington Post, and conservative and liberal media pundits and bloggers alike continue to scrutinize her athletic body. After her husband, Barack Obama, assumed the presidency Michelle Obama's apparent preference for sleeveless attire ignited a debate over whether or not it is appropriate for a sitting First Lady to reveal her well-developed biceps. Drawing upon black feminist and cultural studies perspectives, this paper suggests that narratives about Michelle Obama's body are part of global capitalism's mobilization of digital technologies, which has generated persistent and new images of black womanhood. This analysis additionally suggests that representations of Michelle Obama's arms are also instructive in revealing deep anxieties about redefining and reconstituting nationhood within the contemporary global economic crises, and in terms of race and gender relations.



Mary McDonald
Miami University
of Ohio

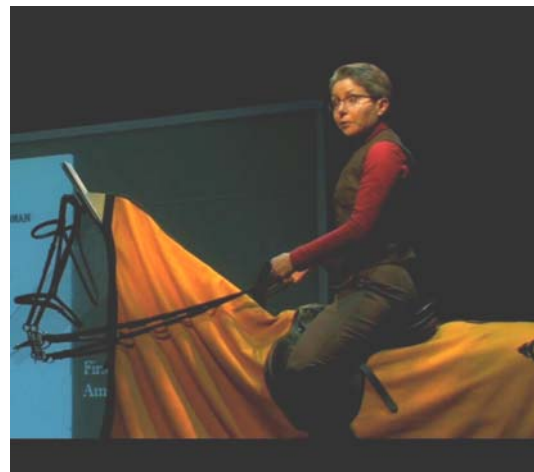
"The Presence and Absence of Race: Ross v. Creighton University"

In 1982 Kevin Ross left Creighton University, where he had played varsity basketball for four seasons. When he departed, his language skills tested at the fourth grade level, and he enrolled at the Westside Preparatory Academy in Chicago. His experience and an iconic photo of him in a classroom with small children made national news. As a result, the National Collegiate Athletic Association changed its eligibility requirements. Ross sued Creighton for negligent admission, educational malpractice, and breach of contract; he ultimately got a settlement. Although the media and the published legal decisions failed to acknowledge the role of race in the story, Critical Race Theory argues that race matters. It mattered in this case of mis-education.



Sarah K. Fields
The Ohio State
University

On Saturday night of the conference in Theatre B of the UI Theatre Building, Kim Marra presented "**Horseback Views: A Queer Hippological Performance**," her 75-minute autobiographical solo piece in which she uses her own multi-generational family history with Thoroughbred race horses and her personal experience as a former competitor in the cavalry-derived sport of three-day eventing to open up the history of Anglo-American women's riding. Kim developed this performance as part of her research for a book she is writing entitled *Fashioning the Thoroughbred Ideal: Show Women and Show Horses on New York Stages, 1865-1930*.



(HANDING OVER THE REINS — Continued from page 1)

Throughout this turbulent time, we sustained a vibrant intellectual community with full rosters of Floating Friday talks; Presenting American Studies, a new series for rehearsing conference papers; an Ida Beam Distinguished Visiting Professor (Tracy Davis in Fall 2009); "Through an American Lens: A Symposium in Honor of John Raeburn" in May 2010; and, just this past Spring, a national symposium "Performing Ethnicities through Sport," co-sponsored with the Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts. We celebrated the tenure and promotion of two colleagues: Nick Yablon in 2009 and Deborah Whaley in 2011. And we welcomed Harry Stecopoulos, Associate Professor of English, to a new quarter-time appointment in American Studies.

Thus, Susan Birrell and Horace Porter take over a department that is quite a bit larger and significantly different from the one I inherited in 2008, but that remains a dynamic, productive, and collegial unit central to the mission of the university in its embrace of interdisciplinarity and diversity. With Lauren Rabinovitz so generously agreeing to continue as Director of Graduate Studies, and Susan Birrell continuing as Coordinator of Sport Studies through and beyond her semester as DEO, the transition should be smooth and the future bright. We extend deep gratitude as well to Michelene Pesantubbee, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, for her dedication as Coordinator of AINSP during my DEO tenure and welcome her successor, Erica Prussing, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Community and Behavioral Health, beginning in Fall 2011. Under this new configuration of leaders, we can look forward to building further on the synergies among American Indian and Native Studies, Sport Studies, and American Studies in our research and the programming and training we offer.

After a research leave in Fall 2011, I will go back to working 75% time in my primary department, Theatre Arts, and 25% time in American Studies. Among the greatest rewards of serving as DEO has been the opportunity to get to know our colleagues, students, and alumni much better, both on campus and at meetings of ASA and MAASA. I will value continuing those relationships even as I return to a "regular" faculty load, or at least to as "regular" a load as a queer hippologist can carry...

Kim Marra
Outgoing DEO

(LOOKING AHEAD — Continued from page 1)

course Women, Sport, and Culture, and making the difficult transition from Buckeye to Hawkeye.

We are also sad to be losing our colleague Joe Cilek, the primary advisor for the sport studies major who has been a solid foundation of our undergraduate program. Joe has been moved fulltime to an advising position in the Department of Health and Human Physiology. We will miss his wise council very much. However, in true Scottish tradition, Tina Parratt will be leaping into the breach to serve as the undergraduate chair for both sport studies and American studies and will be our undergraduate programs liaison with other College offices. This summer Tina and doctoral students Amanda Curtis and Matt Hodler spent several weeks in Scotland in a cultural exchange focused on sport. The groundwork they laid will form the basis for additional summer exchanges in the future. As Tina takes over DUS duties, Lauren Rabinovitz will serve as DGS for both American studies and sport studies.

We all owe many thanks to outgoing DEO Kim Marra who has steered the program through three eventful years. The DEO's job is never smooth sailing, even in a quiet year, but Kim was handed three years of unusual challenges. Most notable during her term was the tremendous effort she led to retain our nationally respected American Studies graduate program during the recent campus-wide Graduate Task Force review. Kim spearheaded a thoughtful and passionate defense of the graduate program and solicited such an outpouring of support from alums and other colleagues that the Task Force recommendation was overturned and the proper visibility of American Studies on campus was restored. Kim was also central to the process that brought sport studies into American Studies last year, and she was successful in arguing for the AINS program to retain its organizational ties to American Studies. Our "retirement" party (see page 9) for her last May was a delightful event that gave us the opportunity to thank her for her wonderful service to American Studies these past years.

We have an exciting line-up of presentations in our Floating Friday venue this fall, and we anticipate a very busy fall semester as we prepare for the American Studies Association meetings in Baltimore in October and the North American Society for Sociology of Sport meetings in Minneapolis in November.

I look forward to collaborating with Professor Porter and working with you all in the coming semester.

Susan Birrell

AMERICAN INDIAN & NATIVE STUDIES PROGRAM

The AINSP steering committee is energized to begin a new year, with a new coordinator (Erica Prussing, from Anthropology and Community & Behavioral Health) and two new members (Laura Rigal, from English and American Studies; and Glenn Penny, from History) working in concert with returning members Margaret Beck (Anthropology and AINS), Cathy Komisaruk (History), Michel Laronde (French & Italian), and Steven Williams (American Studies, graduate student representative).

We are continuing to promote our revised certificate and minor programs among undergraduate and graduate students, and to organize events for both fall and spring semesters that will attract further student interest from across diverse



James Luna will perform
"Phantasmagoria"

departments and colleges. We are very pleased that the Department of American Studies is featuring talks and events related to American Indian & Native Studies in its Floating Fridays seminar series this fall; and we are especially excited to be hosting performance artist James Luna in early November, whose work emphasizes satirical reflections upon cultural representations of Native North Americans. Many thanks are due to Phil Round (English and AINS) for his hard work in bringing about this event.

AINS FACULTY NEWS

Erica Prussing (Coordinator) uses ethnographic methods to analyze the cultural dimensions of how Native American health problems are defined and addressed. Her first book, *White Man's Water: The Politics of Sobriety in a Native American Community*, has just been released by University of Arizona Press. She is now beginning a new project that examines the rising international trend towards indigenous-controlled health research, comparing and contrasting how indigenous groups in New Zealand and the United States are using epidemiological research as a tool in their broader advocacy to improve indigenous health.

Cathy Komisaruk (Steering Committee Member) specializes in Latin American history, but engages also with broader questions about Native America and the Atlantic World. She has recently completed a book project on gender, ethnicity, and labor in colonial Guatemala, and is beginning a new research project on gender and rebellions in native communities in colonial-era Mesoamerica. Her courses emphasizing native history include Colonial Latin America, History of Mexico, and a section of the Colloquium for History majors titled "Nahuas and Mayas in Early Mexico."

- Erica Prussing

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

We gratefully recognize alumni, faculty, and friends who contributed to the Department of American Studies through The University of Iowa Foundation, the preferred channel for private support of all areas of the University. Every gift is greatly appreciated and we thank everyone for their support of the Department of American Studies.

To donate to American Studies, visit

https://www.uifoundation.org/GiveToIowa/WebObjects/GiveToIowa.woa/wa/goTo?area=liberal_arts

NEW AMERICAN STUDIES FACULTY—MEGAN CHAWANSKY

I have just completed a post-doctoral research position at the University of Bath (UK), where I taught and supervised undergraduate students within the Coach Education and Sports Development major. I attended The Ohio State University for my graduate work, and I earned my PhD in Sport Humanities in 2008, and my MA in Women's Studies in 2002. In addition to my academic training, I possess varied professional experiences within sport and physical culture including work with the Women's Sports Foundation, PeacePlayers International-Cyprus, and Women Win, an organization interested in the use of sport for international development.

My teaching and research interests coalesce around the broad themes of power, gender, and sexuality. In particular, I am interested in better understanding the ways in which struggles within these arenas shape the subjectivities and reveal themselves on the bodies of girls and women. My current research projects involve examinations of the nascent 'Sport for Development and Peace' (SDP) movement, and consider not only sport and gender, but globalization, global civil society, transnational corporations, peace, and human development. At present, I am working on several projects that call upon insights from Girls' Studies to locate the role of sport in the production of transnational 'future girls' within the SDP movement.



FACULTY NEWS

Bluford Adams has been busy finishing revisions for his book: *Old and New New Englanders: Immigration and Regional Identity in the Gilded Age*.

Susan Birrell was invited to present the Alan G. Ingham Memorial Lecture at the University of Miami in February 2011. Her presentation was entitled "Storming the Mountain: Mt. Everest as Adventure and Narrative." She also gave the keynote address at the Western Society for Physical Education for College Women conference in November 2011: "Watch Yourself: Women on Women in Sport Films."

Megan Chawansky has two articles that will be published in the next few months:

Chawansky, M. & Francombe, J. (forthcoming). "Cruising for Olivia: Lesbian Celebrity and the Cultural Politics of Coming Out in Sport." *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 28(4).

Chawansky, M. (forthcoming). "New Social Movements, Old Gender Games?: Locating Girls in the Sport for Development and Peace Movement." *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change*, 32: 123-136.

In July, she presented a paper at a conference in Havana, Cuba:

Chawansky, M. (2011). "From Girl Power to Girl Effect: Cultivating future girls in sport for development and peace programmes" at the ISSA World Congress for the Sociology of Sport. Havana, Cuba.

Rich Horwitz reports he is "still very busy, plugging away on my second (or is it third or fourth) career, which I think of as "applied American Studies." I still have a couple of academic appointments: one as the salaried "Outreach Coordinator" for the Office of Emergency Response at Virginia Tech and the other as a contract consultant to the Coastal Institute of the University of Rhode Island. At VT my job is to "improve the culture of emergency preparedness" on-campus as a whole, and at CI my job is to help evaluate the "Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship" and help coordinate the "Scientific Support of Environmental Emergency Response Team," both of which are designed to build functioning bridges between academia and government in formulating policy, managing and responding to environmental challenges. My main job (about 75% time), though, is as a contract consultant to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, working on a "Secure Milk Supply" for New England, engaging farmers, dairy coops, truckers, and dairy processing and marketing companies to improve the sustainability of regional dairies.

All of this has me reading and writing a ton of stuff that is new to me and that seems to be getting more and more marginal relative to the most celebrated trends in American Studies (which seem to resemble what I used to think of as "comp lit") . . . which I must say, makes me sad. As far as helping make the field matter in the world or even maintaining opportunities for AS students and faculty, I don't see much evidence that the "latest" is very promising.

But I do also continue to keep up with whatever remains recognizable within "my" field. For sure, the one book that I'd recommend as a personal favorite of the year is Isabel Wilkerson's *The Warmth of Other Suns*. It's flat-out terrific from many of points of view . . . and I hope this sort of work can be included in the latest AS fashions. My choice for the most teachable of AS books that I've encountered this year is Alfred Young's *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party* (which invites comparison with *The Cheese and the Worm* . . . but more accessible)."

Laura Rigal's essay "Benjamin Franklin, the Science of Flow, and the Legacy of the Enlightenment" was published this Fall in the new Blackwell *Companion to Benjamin Franklin*, edited by David Waldstreicher. Her essay on Melville, "Pulled by the Line: Speed and Photography in *Moby Dick*" will be out this spring in *New Essays on Melville and Aesthetics* (Palgrave), ed. Sam Otter. She is presently working hard to complete *Overlooking Ralston Creek*, an environmental history of Iowa City's only urban creek. The book foregrounds ways of seeing this (roughly) 300,000-year-old creek, which has been viewed variously as a laboratory by hydro-scientists, as a playground by children, a menace by health officials and urban planners, and simply as a drainage ditch by most city residents. She will also be giving an essay on Thomas Eakins' 1880 painting *Shad Fishing at Gloucester in New Jersey* at the upcoming ASA meeting in Baltimore -- on a panel that includes Ulowa American Studies PhD Erica Hannickel.

Deborah Whaley published an article "Black Cat Got Your Tongue? Catwoman, Blackness, and the Alchemy of Postracialism," in the *Journal of Graphic Novel and Comic Book Studies*, (2):1 (June 2011); edited and published an introduction and article in a special theme issue of the

journal *Poro'i* on Black popular culture, cultural production, and sexualities; published a book review in the *Journal of African American Studies*; did the keynote for The University of Iowa's women's history month, which was sponsored by the UI library Women's Archives, the Women's Research and Action Center, and Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies; co-organized the Critical Whiteness symposium for which the historian David Roediger was the keynote and which was sponsored by the Project on the Rhetoric of Inquiry and the Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts; and was elected to the American Studies Association's Women's Committee. Deborah will also facilitate two incoming student programs in Fall 2011: One to discuss pedagogy in diverse environments with graduate students and teaching assistants in the Department of History, the other to assist first generation undergraduate students in college success. Finally, she launched a new website: deborahelizabethwhaley.com.

Nick Yablon published an article in *Winterthur Portfolio* (Spring 2011) on the nineteenth-century origins and fictional imaginings of the time capsule, and an article in *American Art* (Summer 2011) on John Sloan's paintings and etchings of rooftops, and the immigrants and working-class New Yorkers who used them for drying laundry, sleeping, sunbathing, or other activities. He also delivered a lecture to the Iowa Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA), on the unfinished monuments which littered the nineteenth-century American landscape. He is currently on leave in Berlin, Germany, where his wife is a research fellow for the fall semester.

AMERICAN STUDIES FACULTY

Lafayette (Bluford) Adams
(English)

Susan Birrell (GWSS)

Megan Chawansky

Richard Horwitz (Emeritus)

Kim Marra (Theatre Arts)

Tina Parratt

Horace Porter (English & African-American Studies)

Lauren Rabinovitz
(Cinema & Comparative Literature)

John Raeburn (Emeritus)

Laura Rigal (English)

Harry Stecopoulos (English)

Albert Stone (Emeritus)

Deborah Whaley
(African American Studies)

Nick Yablon

Staff

Laura Kastens

SKLOWAYE 2011

In June, at the invitation of the local co-ordinator of the Scottish Executive's Active Schools program and Skye Camanachd (*camanachd*, Scottish Gaelic: shinty), a group of Iowa sport studies scholars spent several weeks working with teachers, students, athletes and administrators on the Isle of Skye. The visit was the first of what we hope will be a long-term project exploring the cultural links between the Highlands and North America and, particularly, the role of sport as a medium of transatlantic, transnational, and global encounters and exchanges.

Throughout the month, Amanda Curtis, Matt Hodler and Tina Parratt, together with Professor Maureen Smith of Cal State Sacramento, worked as peripatetic PE teachers and coaches on Skye and laid the groundwork for future fieldwork with Skye Camanachd and other community groups. We taught Ultimate Frisbee and Chicago softball to both primary (elementary) and high school children, attended shinty tournaments and Highland Games, and hung out at training sessions and matches with Skye Camanachd.



Ultimate Frisbee class at Portree High School

In non 'work' hours, we made the most of the cultural, historical and natural treasures Skye and its people have to offer:



Skye Camanachd versus Lochcarron

ceilidhs and "wee drams" at the Beaton-McHattie home; free WiFi, comestibles and beverages at the Gabbro Bar and Broadford Hotel (the "Home of Drambuie"); castles, cream teas, and clan histories courtesy of the MacLeods and MacDonalDs (to be honest, the best were on the mainland at Eilean Donan, courtesy of the MacRaes); otter- and seal-spotting trips (though these were not successful, Matt did find a clutch of Oyster Catcher eggs and has the photo to prove it); summer solstice communings with the "old people" at An Sithean (*an sithean*: fairy mound) in Strath Suardal; somber wanderings around Clearance villages.

The culmination of the trip for Matt, Mo and Tina was a symposium at the University of Huddersfield in northern England at which we presented a paper entitled "Sklowaye, Sport & Transatlantic

Crossings: Learning to Live in the Neo-Liberal University." Amanda, meanwhile, had headed off to the bright lights of London's West End where she saw Catherine Tate and David Tennant in *Much Ado About Nothing* – and has the stage-door-Jenny photo to prove it!

We will be presenting another paper on the Sklowaye project at the North American Society for Sport Sociology meeting in November. Plans are also afoot for future research visits to Skye and the continued exploration of sport's transnational and transatlantic resonances.



Our home base in Strath Suardal, Skye

Tina Parratt, July 29, 2011

THANK YOU, KIM MARRA!

On Friday evening, May 6th, faculty and friends gathered to celebrate Professor Kim Marra for her outstanding service as chair of American Studies from 2008-2011. The dinner was held in the Wine Room of *Chef's Table*. Professor Lauren Rabinovitz hosted the occasion and started off a series of champagne toasts by praising Professor Marra for her vigilant leadership during a period when American Studies faced several unexpected threats. Professor Susan Birrell praised Professor Marra for how deftly she managed the merger of American Studies and Sports Studies. Others mentioned Marra's award-winning book, *Strange Duets: Impresarios and Actresses in the American Theatre, 1865-1914*. Professor Marra also spoke and thanked everyone for their ongoing cooperation and support. She also thanked Professor Susan Birrell (DEO, fall, 2011) and Professor Horace Porter (DEO, spring 2012-14) who will chair the department in the future. All guests enjoyed the splendid ambience of the Wine Room and the delicious three course meal.



The Wine Room at *Chef's Table*.



MEET OUR NEW GRADUATE COHORT!

Stephanie Grossnickle-Batterton My name is Stephanie Grossnickle-Batterton and I am thrilled to begin course work in the American Studies Department at The University of Iowa. I grew up on a small farm in Maryland and attended Elizabethtown (Pa.) College where I earned a B.A. in English with a concentration in secondary education. Since graduating, I have lived in San Antonio, Texas, first spending a year as a full-time volunteer in a soup kitchen/shelter and then teaching high school English for the past five years. My research interests include religion in America, particularly in social justice movements, the rural working class, popular culture, race and ethnicity, and gender studies. In my free time I enjoy watching movies and television shows, reading about politics and culture, and taking road trips with my husband.

Stacey Moultry Hello! My name is Stacey Moultry. I was born and raised in Northern California, mostly in the Sacramento region. I earned my Bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of California, Davis. I took a year off from school before starting a Master's program in American Studies at California State University, Fullerton, which I graduated from this past May. My research interests include comparative ethnic studies, social movements, and popular culture. When I carve out spare time for myself, I like to catch up on television shows and movies that I have missed, read books that typically do not relate to research, and go on day trips when I get the chance. To sum it all up, I am very excited to begin the American Studies department here at The University of Iowa.

Daniel Sun My name is Daniel (Yu-Kuei) Sun and I am originally from Taipei, Taiwan. In my undergraduate years, I attended National Taiwan University and majored in Sociology. In 2008, I came to The University of Iowa to study for my Master's degree in Health and Sport Studies and graduated in spring 2011. As for research interests, I am interested in the global context of the sport world, the migrating athletes/bodies, and how race and/or ethnicity interact with the meanings being generated, especially on Asians or Asian Americans. I am also interested in the history of baseball in Taiwan.

When I am free, I love cooking, playing mahjong, table tennis, and slo-pitch softball. I am currently the coach and the center fielder of The University of Iowa Taiwanese Student Association Softball Team, and we welcome anyone who would like to join us!

Stephanie Weise My name is Stephanie Weise and I'm from Dortmund in the Ruhr Area of Germany. I study English and American Studies and Protestant Theology to become a secondary school teacher in Germany. So far I have studied at RWTH Aachen and at TU University in Dortmund. My research interests in American Studies include interdisciplinary junctures with theology as well as Crosscultural and Ethnicity Studies. I enjoy music, reading, and socializing with friends and family.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Derrais Carter This summer I participated in the Clinton Institute for American Studies at University College Dublin from July 11-17. I worked with graduate students and junior faculty from numerous countries in a week-long workshop led by Donald Pease. I also workshopped and presented a paper on Gordon Parks' photographic study of black firefighters.

Sarah Eikleberry held a successful prospectus meeting this spring. Also in the spring, her article "A 'Chief' Year for the 'Iowa Braves': Native American (Mis)appropriation at the University of Iowa and the Brief Gridiron Career of W. Mayes McLain" appeared in *The Annals of Iowa*.

Sharon Lake successfully defended her dissertation, "The Accidental Feminist: Iowa's Breastfeeding Firefighter and the National Struggle for Workplace Equity" in July. This fall she is the faculty lecturer for the American Studies Department's introductory course, 45:001 Understanding American Cultures.

Matt Thomas In May, I participated in the third iteration of the THATCamp digital humanities "unconference" at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. In June, I gave a paper at the Media Ecology Association's 11th annual convention held at the University of Maine in Orono, ME.

Charlie Williams (ABD) and Loren Glass, Associate Professor of English at The University of Iowa, have an edited anthology forthcoming from Ohio State University Press next spring: *Obscenity and the End of Liberalism*.

CONGRATULATIONS!

During 2010-2011 The Department of American Studies awarded FIVE American Studies PhDs! Congratulations to :

Sharon Lake "The Accidental Feminist: Iowa's Breastfeeding Firefighter and the National Struggle for Workplace Equity"
Laura Rigal & Linda Kerber, co-directors

Mark Warburton "'For the Purposes of Example and Justice': Native American Incarceration in the Upper Mississippi Valley, 1803-1849" Laura Rigal, director

Karen Smith "Framing Quilts/Framing Culture: Women's Work and the Politics of Display" John Raeburn, director

Betsy Loyd Harvey "Same Place Next Summer: Permanent Chautauquas and the Performance of Middle-Class Identity"
Kim Marra, director

Danielle Rich "Global Fandom: The Circulation of Japanese Popular Culture in the U.S." Kim Marra & Jane Desmond, co-directors

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS 2010-2011

Ballard-Seashore Dissertation Award 11-12

Cinda Nofziger

Graduate Diversity Award—

North American Society for the Sociology of Sport

Nik Dickerson

2010-2012 Robert Olson Fellowship

Gyorgy Toth

State Historical Society, Inc. Grant

Wayne Anderson

Graduate College Summer Fellowship

Jennifer Ambrose
Nikolas Dickerson
Sarah Eikleberry
Sara Shreve

2011 Obermann Graduate Institute

Barrett Gough

Kern Professional Travel Awards

Cinda Nofziger
Danielle Rich

The Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Early American Literature and Material Texts, The McNeil Center for Early American Studies and the Library Company of

Philadelphia

Mark Mattes

Burns H. Weston International Human Rights

Essay Prize

Alexis Stevens

The 13th Annual James F. Jakobsen

Graduate Conference

Michael Winslow (3rd place, Humanities)

Summer Dissertation Travel Awards

Sarah Eikleberry
Barrett Gough
Sara Shreve
Nathan Titman
Gyorgy Toth

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LEOLA BERGMANN PASSES AWAY

Dr. Leola Bergmann, our program's first female PhD recipient, passed away at Oaknoll Retirement Residence, Iowa City, on August 22. She was 98.

Leola Bergmann truly was a great lady. She was generous, caring, gracious, and special to everyone who met her. She led a remarkable life. Originally from a small South Dakota town, she went to St. Olaf College at the end of the Depression. At St. Olaf, she was chosen to sing in the St. Olaf Choir under the direction of its well-known conductor and composer F. Melius Christiansen. Christiansen was also the subject of Leola's dissertation, "Music Master of the Middle West: The Story of F. Melius Christiansen and the St. Olaf Choir" (1944). Her biography expressed what was a lifelong passion for music.

Leola Nelson married Gustav Bergmann, a UI professor of philosophy and psychology, in 1943. Living in Iowa City, she continued her scholarly career throughout the 1940s and 1950s. She wrote *Americans from Norway* in 1950. Her article "The Negro in Iowa" for the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* (1948) was a pathbreaking piece still in print and still cited by scholars today. Half a century after it first appeared, this essay was still so important that it led the State Historical Society of Iowa to ask Leola to write the forward for the book *Outside In: African-American History in Iowa, 1838-2000* in 2000.

In the 1960s, Dr. Bergmann turned her attention to the visual arts, studying drawing, painting and printmaking at UI. Her works were exhibited at various Iowa galleries and at the UI Museum of Art in 2003 and, in March 2004, her portrait of May Brodbeck was presented to the Iowa Women's Archives at The University of Iowa Library (where Leola's papers are also archived).

In 2004, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences named Leola Bergmann an Alumni Fellow, an honor reserved for the College's most distinguished alumni.

Our condolences to Leola's entire family and especially to her daughter, Hannah Weston.

--submitted by Lauren Rabinovitz, Professor of American Studies and Cinema

ALUMNI NEWS

Hannah Brenner (BA, 1994, JD 1998) is a Lecturer in Law and Co-Director of the Kelley Institute of Ethics and the Legal Profession at Michigan State University College of Law; her research and teaching interests surround intersections of law and gender. Recent publications include "Gender and the Judiciary in South Africa: A Review of the Film *Courting Justice*," *Yale Journal of International Affairs*, Fall 2010; "A Summary and Analysis of Warrantless Arrest Statutes for Domestic Violence in the United States" (with Dr. April Zeoli and Alexis Norris), *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, forthcoming; "Rethinking Gender Equality in the Legal Profession's Pipeline to Power: A Study on Media Coverage of Supreme Court Nominees (Phase I, The Introduction Week)" (with Prof. Renee Knake), forthcoming, *Temple Law Review*, 2012.

Dr. Harry Denny (BA 1990) recently published *Facing the Center: Toward an Identity Politics of One-to-One Mentoring*. Director of the University Writing Center, he was also granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor of English at St. John's University in New York City.

Dr. John Gronbeck-Tedesco (BA 1998) Last year I

married and began a tenure-track position in American Studies at Ramapo College of New Jersey. I have published essays in the *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *Journal of American Studies*, and *Studies in Latin American Popular Culture*. I am completing a draft of my first book manuscript, *Exceptional Nations: Cuba, the United States, and Revolutionary Culture*, which I hope to submit for publication by the end of 2011. Other than that, my wife and I relish the cultural environs of New York City, where we have been living for over a year (though our hearts still belong to the Midwest).

Dr. Paul Gutjahr (PhD 1996) published *Charles Hodge: Guardian of American Orthodoxy* by Oxford University Press, 2011. It is the first biography of this important Princeton theologian to appear in 130 years.

Dr. Erica Hannickel (PhD 2008) has been named Northland College's Altenburg Professor of Environmental Studies through 2013, an honor which includes course releases and a research stipend. "Cultivation and Control: Grape Growing as Expansion in 19th Century United States and Australia" was published in *Comparative American Studies* 8:4 (December 2010). This June, she

was an invited speaker at a Yale Workshop on Intellectual Property, where she presented her work on grape culture in the early U.S. Patent Office. She's excited to be on one of the Environment and Culture Caucus's designated panels at the Baltimore ASA this fall with Laura Rigal--where she won't be talking about grapes!

Dr. Frank R. Lloyd (PhD 1975) has published numerous articles this past year on leadership and management that appear in trade and general business publications such as *Exploration and Production* (oil and gas industry) or *Leadership Excellence*.

"Leadership Demands Ballet Dancers and Basketball Players," *Training Magazine*, April 2011

"Training: Key to Employee Engagement," *American Oil & Gas Reporter*, January 2011

"Upping the Ante for Leadership Accountability in Oil and Gas," *Offshore Magazine*, January 2011

"Creating Leaders in a Volatile Industry: Case Study," *Chief Learning Officer*, December 2010

"The Spinning Globe Inside a Crystal Ball: Educating Executives," *Offshore Engineer*, October 2010

"A Dual Perspective on the Changing Leadership Demands of Oil and Gas," *Journal of Petroleum Technology*, September 2010

Plus the following in *Leadership Excellence*:

"Engagement Gap: Close it with Affirmation," February 2011

"Executive Graduation Speech: Leaders Need to be Reminded of Five Things," Summer 2011 (co-author with Albert Niemi, dean of SMU Cox)

In addition, he has numerous radio and newspaper mentions. Lloyd is Associate Dean of the Southern Methodist University Cox School of Business.

David Marcou (MA 1978) In June-July 2011, I authored/published six photobooks. They are: Three Volumes of *The Tenacity of Pleasant Surprises: Recent Documentary Photography from the Eastern United States*, photographed by me --Two Volumes of *Shine and Rise: Portraits from Life*, photographed by me and my son, Matthew A. Marcou -- and *Fame--Among the People*, photographed by me and my son. Also, in July 2011, I authored/published an update to *If I Do the Research, the Lord Brings Me Luck: The Plain-Spoken Autobiography of David J. Marcou* (1992). My update is titled, *Yes, The Tenacity of Pleasant Surprises: A Little Book (in Four Parts) About Life*. Though I've photographed many everyday people over time, providing the basis for many of my best works, among notables in *Fame--Among the People* are four US Presidents, four Nobel Peace Laureates (including Blessed Mother Teresa, who sent me and my son 17 personal letters), Cardinal Raymond Burke (a La Crosse Diocese Native and currently Head of the Vatican's Supreme Court), Bert Hardy, Lord Robert

Runcie, Jesse Jackson, Andrew Young, Miss America 2003 Erika Harold, Bart Starr, Paul Hornung, Mike Ditka, Brett Favre, former University of Iowa Football Captain and current UW-Madison Football Coach Bret Bielema, Michelle Obama, Chelsea Clinton, Jenna Bush, Mike Huckabee, John McCain, Playwright O Hye-Yong, Jim Lehrer, Margaret Warner, Judy Woodruff, Haari Svreena-Vasen, Barry Alvarez, Andrew Bogut, Herb Kohl, Ron Kind, Paul Ryan, American Writers' Museum Founder/Director Malcolm O'Hagan, Drama Scholar/Teacher Patricia S. Angelin, Tommy Thompson, Judge Dennis A. Marcou, Crime Novelist Daniel J. Marcou, Top-Level Federal Employees Tom and Joy Marcou, and my parents, David A. Fitzgerald-Marcou and Rose C. Muskat-Marcou, on the occasion of their 60th Valentine Wedding Anniversary in 2010. Many of my celebrity photos are in the Smithsonian, the Wisconsin Historical Society, the British National Portrait Gallery, and the La Crosse Public Library, among many leading Archives. Also included in these books are my son's beautiful night-view of a Fountain in Washington's WWII Memorial, and Matt's memorable family portrait of the Marcous, which he photographed when he was nine years old, on Memorial Day 1997. Matt now serves in the US Military. My sequel to Sean O'Casey's classic Dublin tragicomedy *Juno and the Paycock* -- (sequel) *Song of Joy--Or the Old Reliables* --will be performed in April 2012, as a community event at the school I graduated from in 1968, La Crosse's Aquinas H.S. I've revised my sequel recently, based on a positive 2010 critique from the National Theatre of Ireland (the Abbey Theatre).

Eriko Ogihara (MA 2005) Hello from Germany! In January I defended my PhD thesis "Anime as a Medium of Inter-Religious Dialogue: American and German Receptions of Japanese Animism through Hayao Miyazaki's Films" at TU Dortmund University and in March our son Hikaru arrived. Since May I've been back to teaching at TU Dortmund, and in June I delivered a paper titled "The Schoolbook as 19th Century Transnational Popular Culture: Constructing Japanese National Identity through *Peter Parley's Universal History*" at the annual conference of the German Association for American Studies. Currently I am revising my thesis for publication from Cambria Press, and concurrently exploring possible topics for a Post-Doc project. A portion of my dissertation has been published as a chapter in *Religion in the United States* (Jeanne Cortiel et al., ed) under the title "'Estranged Religion' in Anime: American and German Translations of Hayao Miyazaki's *Spirited Away*."

Russell Peterson (PhD 2005) was invited to take part in a sort of roundtable discussion of the Jon Stewart/Stephen Colbert rally on the New York Times website. <http://>

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www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2010/10/28/when-does-a-fake-political-rally-turn-real/the-opposite-of-cynicism

Russ continues to teach our on-line course on American Political Humor.

Barbara Shubinski (PhD 2009) is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Rockefeller Archive Center, a repository of historic documents in a wide variety of media and a research center dedicated to the study of philanthropy and the diverse domains shaped by philanthropy located in Sleepy Hollow, NY.

Jane Simonsen (PhD 2001) I am finishing up (I think) my third year as President of MAASA, and had the pleasure of working with a number of Iowa grad students and former COGS members at MAASA's joint conference with UW-Madison's Material Culture Focus Group last spring. The conference was a wonderful blend of great papers and interesting workshops. My essay, "Descendants of Black Hawk: Generations of Identity in Sauk Portraits" was published in the June 2011 issue of *American Quarterly*. Mike has been the Director of Advising at Augustana for the last two years, and was awarded Augustana's Jaecke Award for Administrator of the year this spring. Amusingly, he'll be an undergraduate again when the award is officially presented. He was done administrating as of August 1, and is looking forward to taking physics classes, spending time with our youngest, Toby, and doing some more woodworking and gardening this fall. Never a slacker, though, he had an essay published in the collection *Papa, Ph.D.* (Rutgers 2011) this past winter.

Terri Snyder (PhD 1992), currently Professor of American Studies at Cal State Fullerton, was awarded the Judith Lee Ridge Prize from the Western Association of Women Historians for her article "Suicide, Slavery, and Memory in North America" published in *The Journal of American History* (June 2010).

Lori Vermaas (PhD 2000) I've got a few new publications I've appeared in, or soon will be:
 "Making the Perfect Cigar In Iowa and America," *Iowa Heritage Illustrated*, forthcoming (it's about cigar making in the state).
 "Pantoum for the Blessed," *Boundless 2011: The Anthology of the VIPF Rio Grande Valley International Poetry Festival* (McAllen, TX: El Zarape Press, 2011).
 "Book Review of Dan Flores, *Visions of the Big Sky: Painting and Photographing the Northern Rocky Mountain West*" (University of Oklahoma Press, 2010), *Environmental History*, April 2011 16(2): 337-38.

SPORT STUDIES CONFERENCES

The department was well represented at the **North American Society for Sport History** meetings in Austin, Texas in May 2011. Sarah Fields, American Studies PhD 2000, gave the John Betts Honor Address: "What's Law Got to do with It? How Legal studies Can Contribute to Sport History." Associate Professor Tina Parratt, President-Elect of NASSH, was the conference organizer.

Several current Sport Studies graduate students presented papers:

Cathryn Lucas-Carr "Cross-Country Women Motorcycle Riders"

Jae Chul Seo "Sport Film and Sport History: Based on True Sport Stories"

Debra Shattuck "Burlesque *Al Fresco*: Women's Baseball in the 1870s"

Yu-Kuei Daniel Sun "Myth Creating or Breaking? Asian American Baseball"

Daniel Taradash "The Coldest War: Billy Mills and the Politics of Native Identity"

Sport Studies and American Studies alums were among the conference presenters: Rita Liberti (SS '98), Dan Nathan (AS '97), Jaime Schultz (SS '05), Theresa Walton (SS '02)

A number of sport studies graduate students presented at the **North American Society for Sociology of Sport conference** in San Diego in November 2010:

Nik Dickerson "Visible Whiteness: Sport Films as a Form of Pedagogy"

Lis Erickson "How Will You Be Remembered? Representing the Midwest in Film"

Matt Hodler "Sport Films and Resistance"

Sang Uk Joo, "Gender and Nation in Women's Sport Films"

Kris Newhall (GWSS PhD student) "Genderqueer Identity in Women's Softball"

Yu-Kuei Daniel Sun "Model Minority on the Mound: Media Representations of Chien-Ming Wang"

In addition, several sport studies alums were on the program: Seong Sik Cho (1993), Mary McDonald (1995) Brian Menaker (MA 2008) LeQuez Spearman (MA 2010) and Jane Stangl (1999) as well as former Iowa lecturer Jennifer Metz.

CONGRATULATIONS!

B.A.

Summer 2010

Craig Mellick
Jonathan Moran
Mary Reasoner

Fall 2010

Lauren Baker
Jamie Branch
Michael French
Brittini Stille

Spring 2011

Noah Bodner
Lindsey Castellano
Jason Daniels
Alexandra Drehman
Kelsey Godwin
Nicole Hosette
Veronica Kurtz
Ashlea Lawrence
Elizabeth Loggins

James Malewig

Sean McDonald

Whitney Overmire

Alexandra Romans

David Scrivner

Mark Smith

Meggen Weeks

Admitted to PhD Candidacy

Becky Dewing

Kara Fagan

Eloisa Valenzuela-Mendoza

Allison Wanger

Michael Winslow

Comprehensive Exams

Rob Albanese

Derrais Carter

Barrett Gough

Nick Yanes

Successful Prospectus Meeting

Amanda Curtis *

Nik Dickerson *

Sarah Eikleberry *

Barrett Gough

Jonathan Hansen

Sara Shreve

Matt Thomas

Nathan Titman

Amy Wilson *

M.A.

Cydney Gaines *

Vanessa Nakoski

Austin Showalter *

Dong Hyuk Shin *

Yu-Kuei Daniel Sun *

* Sport Studies

CURRENT GRADUATE STUDENTS

Rob Albanese
Jennifer Ambrose
Wayne Anderson
Kirsten Archer
Derrais Carter
Tom Collins
Amanda Curtis*
Becky Dewing
Nik Dickerson*
Sarah Eikleberry*
Craig Eley
Lis Erickson*
Kara Fagan

Barrett Gough
Stephanie Grossnickle-
Batterton
Jonathan Hansen
Matt Hodler*
Eric Johnson
Sang Uk Joo*
Cathryn Lucas-Carr*
Mike Maciejewski
Marta Mack-Washington*
Mark Mattes
Stacey Moultry
Eileen Narcotta-Welp*

Cinda Nofziger
Patrick Oray
Brad Parsons
Carolann Schroeder*
Jae Chul Seo*
Sara Shreve
Alexis Stevens
Yu-Kuei Sun
Ivana Takacova
Dan Taradash*
Matt Thomas
Nate Titman
Gyorgy "George" Toth

Eloisa Valenzuela-Mendoza
Allison Wanger
Stephanie Weise (Dortmund
Exchange)
Larissa Werhnyak
Charlie Williams
Steven Williams
Amy Wilson*
Michael Winslow
Nick Yanes

*Sport Studies