

# American Studies Newsletter

Fall 2012



## FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to a new academic year. In January, I started as American Studies' new Department Executive Officer (DEO). It was a propitious moment. Two previous leaders—Professors Lauren Rabinovitz and Kim Marra—guided the department through various crises, facilitated a synergistic union between American Studies and Sport Studies, and enhanced an evolving relationship with AINSP (American Indian and Native Studies Program). Susan Birrell, who served as DEO during fall semester 2011, co-chaired the search with Journalism and Mass Communication, which led to the hiring of our new colleagues Professors Thomas Oates and Travis Vogan. Later, we hired Professor Nikolas Dickerson, one of our own Sport Studies doctoral recipients, to fill the position vacated by Professor Megan Chawansky. It has been my pleasure and rare privilege to inherit a growing department whose faculty members—familiar and new—work harmoniously together to help American Studies continue to thrive.

Our graduate students are a vital part of our thriving community of teachers and scholars. They have received fellowships from the Graduate College as well as coveted external fellowships and grants. They serve faithfully as teaching assistants in some of our large lecture courses and sometimes independently teach their own courses in American Studies, General Education Literature, and the Rhetoric Department. During the past year, our graduate students sped up their academic pace. Some completed their prospectuses; while others passed their comprehensive exams. Five doctoral candidates—Nickolas Dickerson, Eric Johnson, Cinda Nofziger, Charles Williams, and Steven Williams—(several aided by the superb dissertation workshop taught by Professor Laura Rigal) finished their dissertations during the past year.

Our faculty members and graduate students continue to be active and productive scholars. Here are a few representative examples of intellectual activity and scholarly publications. Professor Nick Yablon has organized another exciting year of Floating Friday lectures. Professor Tina Parratt continues to play a leadership role in NASSH (North American Society for Sport History). Professor Bluford Adams has a forthcoming book, *Old and New New Englanders*. And recent publications include Nicholas Yanes' and Derrais Carter's (two American Studies doctoral candidates) edited volume of essays: *The Iconic Obama, 2007-2009: Essays on Media Representations of the Candidate and a New President*. Professor Deborah Whaley recently published an article entitled: "Interrogating the Look of the Gaze: Theorizing a Latina Cine-subjectivity" in *Women: A Cultural Review*. Professor Lauren Rabinovitz's book *Electric Dreamland: Amusement Parks, Movies, and American Modernity* is hot off the press.

A few months ago, I was asked by a major university's provost to serve as an external reviewer for a proposed doctoral program in American Studies. In their proposal, Iowa's American Studies graduate program was referred to as a model for the success of their own future program. Therefore, I'm looking forward to working with CLAS and Chaden Djalali, our new Dean, as American Studies grows and continues to serve as a model interdisciplinary department within and beyond The University of Iowa.

Horace Porter  
F. Wendell Miller Professor of English and American Studies  
Chair of American Studies  
Chair of African American Studies



## NEW AMERICAN STUDIES FACULTY

**Nik Dickerson** is originally from Rochester, NY. He received his bachelor's degree in Psychology and Sport Studies at Ithaca College, his master's from the University of Maryland in Physical Cultural Studies, and his PhD in Health and Sport Studies from The University of Iowa. His research primarily deals with mediated representations of race and masculinity within sport.



His dissertation examined mediated narratives of athletes who were arrested, tested positive, or admitted to using marijuana. The athletes included in this analysis were Tim Lincecum, Michael Phelps, Ricky Williams, Joakim Noah, and Josh Howard. This project used the healthy, productive sporting body to challenge dominant conceptions of marijuana users as unhealthy and unproductive. In addition his dissertation also highlighted the ways in which discourses in favor of marijuana prohibition have often been connected to ideologies concerning race, gender, and social class. Thus this scholarship was a part of a political project to challenge dominant conceptions of marijuana use in hopes that medical marijuana could become more widely available for the sick and to help advocate for an end to the War on Drugs, a war that has had a disproportional impact on poor minorities.

Moving forward Nik Dickerson's work is going to continue to examine mediated representations of drug use. In particular he is interested in examining the connections between the selling and production of drugs, whiteness and gender in the television shows *Weeds* and *Breaking Bad*.

**Tom Oates** Since I was barely able to read, I have been intensely interested in media coverage of sports. I spent much of my childhood reading and re-reading clippings from the sports pages, devouring every book I could find about sports history, using the VCR to record games when I couldn't watch them live, and listening to Jack Buck and Mike Shannon call Cardinals baseball on the powerful KMOX signal. On rainy summer days, I would sometimes accompany my father to work at the local college and read old *Sports Illustrated* magazines at the library.



As I matured, my love of sports never waned, but I became troubled by the casual racism, sexism and homophobia I saw generated around sports. With these concerns never far from my thoughts, I earned bachelor's (at Georgetown University) and master's (at Saint Louis University) degrees in American Studies and came to Iowa for a PhD in Mass Communication. While at Iowa, I was guided by some very wise people to connect my interest in critical/cultural studies with contemporary sport in a rigorous, serious way. After graduating in 2004, I have pursued research and teaching interests in sport media, race, gender and sexuality at Hampshire College, Penn State – New Kensington (near Pittsburgh), and Northern Illinois University. My work on the contemporary National Football League (NFL) and National Basketball Association has recently been published in scholarly journals and online. I have co-edited a forthcoming edited volume of critical/cultural scholarship on the NFL with Temple University Press, and am at work on a separate book about new media and the contemporary NFL, as well as a co-edited collection on sports-themed video games. I am thrilled to be joining the department, where my odd combination of bookishness and an all-consuming interest in sport media can find a useful outlet. My partner Rebecca (also a sports fan) and our dog Rucker (not so much) and I are very happy to be back in Iowa City. We are looking forward to raising our young daughter Eleanor in Iowa City, where girls and women can enjoy an unusually wide range of sporting opportunities.

**Travis Vogan** I grew up in the high deserts of eastern Washington—the less exciting and slightly less caffeinated half of the state. I eventually migrated across the Cascades to attend Western Washington University, where I majored in English and Liberal Studies. After that, I earned a master's in English at the University of Vermont, where I began to study the intersections among sport, media, and culture. To consider these topics further, I pursued a PhD in Communication and Culture with a minor in American Studies at Indiana University in Bloomington—a town that I find eerily similar to Iowa

City (in all the best ways). At Indiana, my research focused on nonfiction media, television, and media industries. My dissertation provided an institutional and cultural history of NFL Films, the National Football League's subsidiary film production company.

My work has appeared in publications that include *The Moving Image*, *Journal of Sport History*, and *International Journal of Sport Communication*. I am currently working on a book manuscript titled *Keepers of the Flame: NFL Films, Pro Football, and the Rise of Sport Media in America*.

I spent last year as an Assistant Professor of Communication at St. Anselm College—a small liberal arts school in New Hampshire. I am thrilled to be returning to the Midwest and joining The University of Iowa. Beyond my work life I enjoy running, collecting records and seeing live music, and following the reliably abysmal Seattle Mariners.



## FACULTY NEWS

**Bluford Adams** has been finishing revisions on his book *Old and New New Englanders: Immigration and Regional Identity in the Gilded Age*. It will be published by The University of Michigan Press.

**Kim Marra's** solo performance piece *Horseback Views* had its professional debut at Chicago's Links Hall May 18-19 in a series of performances about animals called "Standing Heat," curated by Holly Hughes. The piece was directed by Meredith Alexander.



**Lauren Rabinovitz** I am happy to announce that my book has come out: *Electric Dreamland: Amusement Parks, Movies, and American Modernity* has been published by Columbia University Press.

So many of you heard or read pieces of it along the way. The book is about how mechanically-based spectacles -- especially movies and amusement parks -- encouraged people to embody a national urban identity at the turn of the last century. I argue that this phenomenon occurred across regional, racial, class, and ethnic lines even while it served as an important response to conflict among social groups. This is a book that furthers how leisure functioned as the new means for providing both individual and national identity in modern industrial society.

And...I am even happier to say that there is a Kindle version available as well -- for those of us switching to e-readers.

**Deborah Elizabeth Whaley** published an article, "Interrogating the Look of the Gaze: Theorizing a Latina Cine-subjectivity," in the journal *Women: A Cultural Review*. She continues to make significant progress on her second book, *Sequential Subjects*, and will deliver a paper based on the fourth chapter in that book, "Japanese Dreams for African Girls: *Nadia and the Secret of Blue Water*," at the American Studies Association Meetings in San Juan, Puerto Rico this November. In 2012-2013, she will direct one of The Obermann Center for Advanced Studies' new working groups on Comparative Ethnic Studies. The highlight of her year was the early summer, when she visited the Picasso Museum in Barcelona and spent nearly a month in Europe touring and vacationing throughout the Mediterranean (e.g., Barcelona, Spain; Cannes, France; Pisa, Rome, and Naples, Italy; Ephesus, Turkey; Athens and Santorini, Greece). While the former trip was a non-working vacation, she became enthralled in the intricate graffiti throughout Europe and thus dedicated much of her picture taking to capturing images of street, mural, and subway art. She hopes that she can use these images at some point within the next few years, and write a comparative essay on the cultural work of urban art in Southern Europe. [Editor's Note: Congratulations to Deborah, who has been appointed to the editorial board of the journal *American Studies*. *American Studies* is a quarterly interdisciplinary journal



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## REMEMBRANCES OF AL STONE

*Al Stone, former chair of the Department of American Studies, passed away on Friday, January 13, at age 88. Emeritus Professors Rich Horwitz and John Raeburn, as well as several former students, provide remembrances of him.*

Al Stone's tweedy sport jackets, grey flannel slacks, striped neckties, and Oxford cloth shirts, not to mention his rubicund complexion, silvery hair, and tortoise-shell glasses, made him look like the quintessential Ivy Leaguer of the Cold War era. Adding to the impression of Old School *par excellence* was the fact that he had prepped at Phillips Andover before twice graduating from Yale, and following his second Yale degree he also taught there. But if his appearance prominently featured many of the public earmarks of the buttoned-down, buttoned-up, and emotionally constipated personalities of the New Criticism/Consensus History years, that only proved that appearances lie, because Al was in fact among the most open, warm, kind, and generous persons I have ever known. He was and always will be for me the pre-eminent exemplar of the common decency that experience—as well as my reading of George Orwell—has persuaded me is the most admirable, encompassing quality a human being can evince.

That decency showed itself in innumerable ways, large and small. One that I especially remember is that every Thanksgiving Al and Grace would invite graduate students in American Studies who were unable to travel home (this was in the days when the Thanksgiving break began after Wednesday's classes, meaning that if home wasn't in Iowa you might as well forget it), especially including foreign students, to Thanksgiving dinner at the Stones' rambling farm house atop the hill across Highway 6 from Kent Park. As befitted the occasion the table groaned and no one went home less than sated, but what particularly stays in my mind is the attentive emotional generosity with which Al and Grace made every guest feel his or her presence had been essential for making the occasion a success. And festive occasions they always were, so that I imagine that even now around the globe come late November the memory of Thanksgiving in that Iowa farmhouse is fondly recalled.

He always bought football season tickets, two of them, theoretically so that Grace could also watch the Hawkeyes in action. She really wasn't much interested but usually would humor him by going to one of the early non-conference games, and for the remaining schedule he would invite a disabled and socially isolated man to attend the games with him. Al had become acquainted with this man, I believe, through the social outreach activities of the Trinity Episcopal Church, where he and Grace were congregants. I never knew the details of the man's afflictions, but they were both mental and physical, so that picking him up, getting him to his seat in the stadium, and then returning him home required extra attention. Al himself was moderately disabled, although you hardly ever were aware of it. As a serviceman in 1945 he was interrogating a Japanese prisoner in the Philippines and had been shot by an enemy sniper unaware of the Japanese surrender on the previous day. His wound necessitated a long hospitalization and surgery that resulted in one of his legs being several inches shorter than the other, to compensate for which he wore a specially built-up shoe. He loved golf but his disability prevented him from participation in most other athletic activities, although I never heard him complain of it, nor did he seem to think that his choice of a football companion merited any special commendation. That humility was just like Al, but of course this kind of decency was extraordinary.

Lest I make Al sound like a plaster saint, let me recall a few personal traits that gave him a more human visage. One that always surprised me was his perpetual lateness, which I suppose was another way his buttoned-up appearance was deceptive. Tardiness is the most minor of faults but still can exasperate those who have shown up on time. He also occasionally suffered from foot-in-the-mouth disease, saying something to a group of students, usually in his role as American Studies chair, that seemed to him innocently self-evident about something they needed to do or pay attention to, but to graduate students—practiced in the art of parsing utterances for hidden meanings—whatever he had said could sometimes seem threatening or insulting or dismissive. In my judgment these gaffes, if they were that, were insignificant and so I don't actually remember any details, but their general tenor would be something like this: Al would be encouraging graduate students to submit papers for conference presentation and then would say something like, "If you don't, you might not get a job." One or more students would interpret this statement as a covert threat that, without conference presentations on their CVs, Al as chair would refuse to write favorable letters of recommendation in their behalf. That was nonsense, of course, but there would be some huffing and puffing until someone would finally say, quite accurately, that Al wasn't the kind to make veiled threats much less carry them out, and his advice was sensible even if it might have been phrased more tactfully.

Al's death in January coincided with the beginning of 2012's graduate admissions process and made Lauren remember serving with him on the admissions committee in the late Eighties, and her recollection reminded me of it too. Admissions is the most labor-intensive, time-consuming activity the faculty undertakes collectively, with hours of reading and assessing applicants' materials prior to the committee meeting where decisions are made. There are always a handful of applications so weak as to be uncompetitive, making a rejection so obvious as to preclude all but the most minimal discussion. That is, a rejection was obvious to all but Al, who fairly regularly would fish one of these applications out of the reject pile and designate that applicant as "a diamond in the rough" whose special if rather hidden qualities merited more favorable consideration from the committee. As he warmed to polishing this diamond for the committee he would start to take hold of his glasses and push them up onto his forehead, then in a second or two return them to the bridge of his nose for a few seconds, then up and down they'd go again, and he'd keep up that rhythm for as long as it took for him to spell out the surprising promise in an application that to the rest of us seemed dismal. When Al's glasses began going up-and-down I knew we were not going to get as deep that day into the pile of applications as I imagined, and that reduced efficiency could be irksome. On the other hand, Al's generosity in this circumstance was characteristic of him, and someone who sees sunlight where most only find shadow is a valuable counterweight to the habitual negativity that especially afflicts the mooting of potential students' application materials, not to mention academic life more generally.

I have innumerable cherished memories of Al, including his being my Best Man when Kathleen and I married in 1986, but the image that comes most often to mind is of him, natty in his jacket and tie, tilted back in his office chair or sitting on a couch in the Gerber Lounge in EPB (before American Studies moved to the Jefferson Building) and eating the lunch he had brought from home. He carried it to campus in a small red-and-white "Playmate" cooler, because his lunch always included a cooled bottle of beer to go with his sandwich and fruit, preferably his favorite, Pilsner Urquell, each bottle of which carried memories of his year in Prague as a Fulbright professor at Charles University, where he arrived at just about the same time as the Russian army after the heartbreakingly betrayed "Prague Spring" of 1968. If anyone joined him he unfailingly offered that person some of his lunch, even sharing the beer if a glass could be found (he always drank it straight from the bottle). Who could ever have imagined at the time that such an ordinary, everyday occurrence would become so precious? Certainly not me. But it has, and it's because its congenial ordinariness brings Al back so vividly to my consciousness. Thinking of him evokes many emotions, the strongest of which is how fortunate I was to have known and loved him. In that, I know I speak for many others.

*John Raeburn, professor emeritus*

When John Raeburn first welcomed Al and me to The University of Iowa more than thirty years ago, the American Studies operation (then a "program" limping along with umpteen graduate students but just one, part-time faculty line) was in deep trouble, even by today's standards. Al was the one who helped us all to find the proverbial opportunity in the challenge. We—and I think it is fair to say, students and faculty to this day—should credit him with leading us to a better place for us as scholars, intellectuals and citizens but also as G-d's creatures. I was just one of a large number of people who considered him not only a professional mentor but also a model human being.

Admittedly, Al and I shared being white, bookish liberals, and we both did a lot of our growing up in New England, a part of the country long associated with hegemonies of wealthy, Anglo, Protestant stock. In fact, Al might have passed for one himself. His alma maters included Andover Academy and Yale University, where classmates included William Buckley, George Bush and kindred silver-spooners. But as a military brat, Al was there on scholarship, and hence, for example, required to wait on such folks in the Andover cafeteria. His low opinion of them rivaled mine, even from a much greater distance -- Jewish former hippie and SDSer from a decidedly green-horn and, I guess you could say, "non-intellectual" family. So, Al and I came to simpaticos intellectual and political positions by decidedly different routes. Among the greatest joys of our friendship was stumbling onto points where those routes happened to parallel or cross. As often as not, due to the difference, the targets of my ever-adolescent wrath were national elites whom Al just so happened to know. He probably could have been one of them, but as best I can tell, the thought never crossed his mind. He was grateful for the chance to learn amidst them, but he would apply the lessons toward more generous ends. (E.g., when I mentioned my affection for Melville's short stories, Al recalled reading passages to fellow troops under the stars, on-deck of the ship headed for the campaign at Guadalcanal that left him with a limp for the rest of his life.) There was nothing confrontational about that path he chose, just a determination to question everything and then to choose what's best, no matter who notices.

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## AMERICAN INDIAN & NATIVE STUDIES PROGRAM

The AINSP steering committee is pleased to begin a new academic year, with plans for interesting campus events as well as continued work to develop our program in ways that best meet the interests and needs of students at The University of Iowa. Current faculty on our steering committee include Erica Prussing (coordinator; Anthropology and Community & Behavioral Health); Margaret Beck (Anthropology); Catherine Komisaruk (History & Latin American Studies); Michel Laronde (French & Italian); Tom Arne Midtrød (History); Glenn Penny (History); and Laura Rigal (English & American Studies).

Each year, AINSP aims to sponsor and co-sponsor events that highlight experiences and perspectives from indigenous worlds through the arts and humanities as well as the social sciences. Last year our events included an October visit by performance artist James Luna, and an April workshop on "cultural competency" in the health and social service professions featuring presentations by Joseph Gone (Department of Psychology, University of Michigan) as well as our own Vanessa Simonds (Assistant Professor, Department of Community & Behavioral Health, College of Public Health) and Catherine Burnette (PhD candidate, School of Social Work).

Look for publicity for upcoming AINSP events, which this fall include a talk on **September 28** by Bernard Perley, Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, in the Department of Anthropology colloquium series. Professor Perley has recently published *Defying Maliseet Language Death: Emergent Vitalities of Language, Culture, and Identity in Eastern Canada* (University of Nebraska Press, 2011). In the evening of **October 2**, we are also hosting a screening of a new documentary film about marching bands in Native North America and visit from filmmaker Cathleen O'Connell; more information about O'Connell and this 30-minute film, "Sousa on the Rez" can be found at [http://www.nativetelecom.org/producer\\_profile\\_cathleen\\_oconnell](http://www.nativetelecom.org/producer_profile_cathleen_oconnell)

We are very pleased to congratulate Steven Williams on the completion of a PhD in American Studies and graduate certificate in American Indian & Native Studies in summer 2012. Dr. Williams will give a talk based on his dissertation in the American Studies Floating Fridays seminar series on **October 26** this fall. In the spring semester, he will also offer 149:085 Native American Material Culture, a course that examines the complex politics of representing artifacts from Native North America in museums.

Finally, we also congratulate steering committee member Tom Arne Midtrød on the 2012 publication of *The Memory of All Ancient Customs: Native American Diplomacy in the Colonial Hudson Valley* by Cornell University Press.

- Erica Prussing

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sponsored by the Mid-America American Studies Association and the University of Kansas. It has been published since 1959.]

**Nick Yablon** is continuing to research and write his book on the emergence of time capsules in late nineteenth-century America, and has just presented the second chapter as a lecture at the Religion, Literature, and the Arts Conference at The University of Iowa. He has also published an essay called "'Land of Unfinished Monuments': The Ruins-in-Reverse of Nineteenth-Century America" in the journal, *American Nineteenth Century History*. Later this semester, he'll be giving a talk on spectacles of the destruction of Pompeii at the Getty Villa in Los Angeles, as part of its upcoming exhibit, *The Last Days of Pompeii: Decadence, Apocalypse, Resurrection*.

## MEET OUR NEW GRADUATE COHORT!

**Anne Kellermann** hails from Berlin, Germany. At TU Dortmund University she received her B.A. in English with a minor in Psychology. After spending a semester at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa, she wrote her Bachelor's thesis on reconciliation in post-apartheid South African literature. Currently, she is completing her M.Ed. for Secondary Education in English and Psychology at TU Dortmund University. This semester, she is looking forward to following the presidential election and learning more about the campaign process and populist movements in the U.S.. Her research interests include drama, modern history, politics, and race. You will often see Anne biking through Iowa City, but on Thursday evenings you might also hear her singing in a gospel choir in Hubbard Park.

**Dain TePoel** Most recently (Spring 2012) I earned an MA in Sport Humanities from Ohio State University. My current research interests include representations of gender and sexuality in sport media, women in sport journalism, and the globalization efforts of Major League Baseball in transnational, postcolonial contexts. Originally from Rochester, MN, I graduated from Luther College (Decorah, IA) in 2005 with a BA in Communication Studies. I enjoy spending precious free time with my partner and two young daughters (4 and 8 months).

## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

**Robert Albanese** won third prize in the humanities division at this year's Jakobson conference for the clunkily-titled "The Free Sale of Objectified Freedom: Professional Athletes and the Monetization of Subjective Value."

**Derrais Carter Nicholas Yanes** and I published our edited collection on Barack Obama in June.

*The Iconic Obama, 2007-2009: Essays on Media Representations of the Candidate and New President*, McFarland Press. I also published an interview in an online journal called Reconstruction:

<http://reconstruction.eserver.org/122/contents122.shtml>

**Sarah Eikleberry** In November of 2011 I attended the North American Society of Sport Sociology Conference in Minneapolis and gave a paper called "The Convenient Truth: The Politics of Sam Bradford's Transition from Redshirt to Redman." This summer I attended the Iowa N.E.W. Leadership Institute in Iowa City, IA. The program is designed to empower women across the political spectrum and increase the participation of underrepresented groups in all sectors of public leadership.

**Craig Eley** has been awarded a 2012 Smithsonian Pre-doctoral Fellowship in Washington, DC. He'll be working with Jeff Place in the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage on research related to his dissertation project, *Making Silence Audible: Sound, Nature, Technology, 1900-1970*.

**Nicholas Yanes** Derrais Carter and I published our edited collection on Barack Obama *The Iconic Obama, 2007-2009: Essays on Media Representations of the Candidate and New President*, McFarland Press.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

During 2011-2012 PhDs were awarded to :

### American Studies:

**Eric Johnson** *Crossover Narratives: Race, Genre, and Authenticity in 20th Century American Popular Music*  
Harry Stecopoulos, director

**Cinda Nofziger** *Vacation Views: Tourist Photography in the American West, 1945-1980*, John Raeburn, director

**Charlie Williams** *Eros in America: Freud and the Counter-Culture*, Loren Glass, director

**Steven Williams** *Smudging the Book: The Role of Cultural Authority in Tribal Historical Narratives and Revitalization at Rocky Boy*, Laura Rigal, director

### Heath and Sport Studies

**Nikolas Dickerson** *Don't Fear the Reefer: Producing the Unproductive Body in Sport, Film, Advertisements, and Medicine*  
Susan Birrell, director

## GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS 2011-2012

### Ballard-Seashore Dissertation Award 2012-2013

Barrett Gough  
Sara Shreve

### Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award 2012

Ivana Takacova

### Graduate Merit Fellowship 2011-2012

Stacey Moultry

### Outside Fellowships and Grants

Wayne Anderson :

Iowa State Historical Society Grant (2011-2012)

### Graduate College Summer Fellowships

2011:

Jennifer Ambrose  
Nik Dickerson  
Sarah Eikleberry  
Lis Erickson  
Sara Shreve

Craig Eley :

2012-2013 Smithsonian Predoctoral Fellowship

Mark Mattes :

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, 2011-2012

2012:

Carolan Schroeder  
Nathan Titman  
Steven Williams

### N.E.W. Leadership program

2012: Sarah Eikleberry  
2011: Carolan Schroeder  
2011: Lis Erickson

## CURRENT GRADUATE STUDENTS

Rob Albanese  
Jennifer Ambrose  
Wayne Anderson  
Kirsten Archer  
Derrais Carter  
Tom Collins  
Amanda Curtis\*  
Becky Dewing  
Sarah Eikleberry\*  
Craig Eley  
Lis Erickson\*  
Kara Fagan  
Barrett Gough  
Stephanie Grossnickle-Batterton  
Jonathan Hansen

Matt Hodler\*  
Sang Uk Joo\*  
Anne Kellermann (Dortmund Exchange)  
Cathryn Lucas-Carr\*  
Mike Maciejewski  
Marta Mack-Washington\*  
Mark Mattes  
Stacey Moultry  
Eileen Narcotta-Welp\*  
Patrick Oray  
Brad Parsons  
Carolan Schroeder\*  
Jae Chul Seo\*  
Sara Shreve  
Alexis Stevens

Yu-Kuei Sun  
Ivana Takacova  
Dan Taradash\*  
Dain TePoel  
Matt Thomas  
Nate Titman  
Gyorgy "George" Toth  
Eloisa Valenzuela-Mendoza  
Allison Wanger  
Larissa Werhnyak  
Amy Wilson\*  
Michael Winslow  
Nick Yanes

\*Sport Studies



## SPORT STUDIES CONFERENCES

The department was once again well represented at the **North American Society for Sport History** meetings, held this year in Berkeley in June 2012. Associate Professor Tina Parratt, President of NASSH for 2012 and 2013, presided over the conference and emceed the banquet. Iowa will continue to play a central role at NASSH when Tina retires after next year's conference: President-elect, Dan Nathan, earned his PhD in American Studies in 1997.

Sport Studies and American Studies graduate students provided a range of interesting papers:

**Matt Hodler** "Deciphering Sybil Bauer: Gender Politics in the 1924 Olympics"

**Cathryn Lucas-Carr** "The 'Enthusiast Girl' Tours the Country: Vivian Bales, Harley Davidson, and Emergent Sexuality"

**Eileen Narcotta-Welp** "Imagine Me This? Mia Hamm and the Creation of a Women's Soccer Imaginary"

**Jae Chul Seo** "A Post-Colonial Reading of *Olympia* (1938)"

**Daniel Yu-Kuei Sun** "Taiwanese Women Immigrants' Sports Participation in America"

**Dain TePoel** "A Knit Cap and Knack for Social Change: Mary Garber's Coverage of Black Sports in the Segregated South, 1944-1964"

Faculty members also presented papers:

**Susan Birrell** "The Loneliness of Learning to Labour: The Dilemma of Resistance"

**Travis Vogan** "Maintaining Masculinity in Sport History: CBS' 'One Shining Moment'"

Several other Sport Studies and American Studies alums were also on the program: **Laura Chase** (SS '02), **Sarah Fields** (AS '00), **Rita Liberti** (SS '98), **Shelley Lucas** (SS 01) and **Jaime Schultz** (SS '05).

## AMERICAN STUDIES FACULTY AND STAFF

Lafayette (Bluford) Adams (English)

Susan Birrell (GWSS)

Nikolas Dickerson

Richard Horwitz (Emeritus)

Kim Marra (Theatre Arts)

Thomas Oates (Journalism & Mass Communication)

Tina Parratt

Horace Porter (English & African American Studies)

Lauren Rabinovitz (Cinema & Comparative Literature)

John Raeburn (Emeritus)

Laura Rigal (English)

Travis Vogan (Journalism & Mass Communication)

Deborah Whaley (African American Studies)

Nick Yablon

### Staff

Laura Kastens

Maureen Walterhouse (Administrative Assistant)\*

Mae Weng (accountant)\*

\*off site

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Charlie Dee** (MA 1973) retired in May from Milwaukee Area Technical College as well as from his position as Executive Vice President of American Federation of Teachers Local 212.

Dee taught at MATC for 32 years and was an officer of Local 212 for 31. He taught in both the English and History Departments and initiated the first course on the History of the Vietnam War in Wisconsin.

Steve (PhD American Civilization 1975) and Sara Loevy came up from Chicago for Dee's retirement party.

**Sam Graber** (PhD 2008) began a tenure track job this fall as Assistant Professor of Literature and Humanities in Christ College, the interdisciplinary honors college of Valparaiso University.

**Paul Gutjahr** (PhD 1996) Professor of English, American Studies and Religious Studies at Indiana University recently published *The Book of Mormon: A Biography* (Princeton University Press).

**Brian Hallstoos** (PhD 2009) has been hired as Assistant Professor of History at the University of Dubuque. Courses include two World Civ courses: "Developing Nations of the Word" and "The History of Music." In addition, he will also be developing courses in African American history and other topics of his choosing.

**Stephen Haven** (MA 1984) My third book of poems, *The Last Sacred Place in North America*, was selected by poet/critic T.R. Hummer as winner of the New American Press Poetry Prize. The book was published in March 2012 and is available on Amazon. I work for Ashland University, in Ashland, Ohio, where I direct the MFA Program in Poetry and Creative Nonfiction.

**Frank R. Lloyd** (PhD 1975) My area of the Cox School of Business at SMU is developing special expertise and programming in the areas of Hispanic leadership development and in what we are calling "fourth dimension" leadership. The latter adds an external perspective (purpose, ethics, and multiple stakeholders) to the dimensions of self, interpersonal, and organization. These two new areas are described in these articles which have appeared in *Diversity Executive* and *Exploration and Production* magazines.

**David Joseph Marcou** (MA 1978), of La Crosse, Wis., has published via Blurb in San Francisco, 15 of his own documentary-art photobooks since Spring 2011 -- "The Tenacity of Pleasant Surprises" (4 Vols., US East Coast work); "Shine and Rise" (2 Vols., portraits); "Fame: Among the People" (1 Vol., celebrities); "Found Life" (2 Vols.,

everyday life.); "Photo-Flow" (1 Vol., everyday life); and "Human Character" (5 Vols., positive images of people), plus a new collection of his plays, "Love Songs in the Key of Life," making 48 published books, so far, he's authored as personal books (35) and directed/edited as anthologies (13) since 1986. In addition, his original play "Remembering Davy Crockett" was performed in April 2012, with David directing, and Steve Kiedrowski playing Davy's Old Friend. From Nov. 2011 through Feb. 2012, two of David's Presidential Campaign 2008 photos were on display in the Smithsonian Group-Exhibition "Gift of the Artist," at the National Museum of American History Archives Center. David's son, Matthew, successfully completed an overseas tour of duty with the US Army recently, and is engaged to be married in 2013 with his fiancée, Jessica. David's 1993 photo of the (UI) Old Capitol Building, published in the *Online Spectator*, has been published in some of his books, too.

**Dan Nathan** (PhD 1997) recently published "The Nonpareil, The Runner of the Ages: Paavo Nurmi and his 1925 American Exhibition Tour" in the *Sport History Review*. This fall he will be attending the ASA annual conference in Puerto Rico.

**Eric Sandeen** (PhD 1977) In February I had the pleasure of going on a lecture tour in India, courtesy of the U. S. State Department. My wife Sue and I visited Delhi, Chennai, Jaipur, and Rajamundry in farthest Andhra Pradesh. We also surveyed the former American Studies Resource Center in Hyderabad. Echoes of Alex Kern, our former Program Director at Iowa, still reverberate between those impressive walls. This Fall I begin my 30th year as director of The University of Wyoming American Studies Program.

**Yuval Taylor** (MA 1988) W. W. Norton published *Darkest America: Black Minstrelsy from Slavery to Hip-Hop*, a book I co wrote with Jake Austen, in August.

"A provocative, compelling exploration of one of the most controversial elements of the black entertainment world. . . An innovative, marvelous book about comedy, stereotypes and the struggle to steer through the sometimes-fierce internal debates over African-American identity in a society still struggling with its racial past." —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

*(Continued from page 5)*

An example (possibly with a detail wrong here or there, but the point remains):

Noni and I were visiting Al and Grace at their cabin in a staggeringly beautiful spot along the Kennebec River in Maine. In response to a prompt from Grace (a common source of inspiration), Al jokingly noted that on that very weekend Andover Academy would be hosting a celebration of the 50th anniversary of his class graduation. Obviously Al wasn't planning to go. Buckley and Bush would be there, no doubt congratulating themselves for advancing positions that Al, Grace, Noni, and I despised. What's worse, Andover had required that attendees pay "only" a couple of hundred dollars for a bunk in one of the dorms for the weekend's activities. Al wrote a polite note (the only kind I could imagine he'd ever write) saying that he wouldn't be going and, instead of paying some fee to Andover, he would send a check for that amount to an historically black college in the South, a donation in the name of his classmates. We all laughed. And then Al excused himself to take a surprise call from "Bill," clearly pressing Al to reconsider and join the reunion. "Bill," as it turns out was William Sloane Coffin. He wanted to make sure that the celebration included progressives as well as conservatives, and he wanted Al to help carry the alternative flag. Al reluctantly agreed and cut our visit short to make a massive day trip: drive to Andover, assure everyone that there was more to the Andover/Yale legacy than gloating conservatives, and then drive back to Maine, with his cash directed to more worthy causes.

I doubt that Noni and I would have learned anything about the whole affair unless we happened to be visiting at the time. And no doubt, Al would have objected to my mentioning it. It was, in fact, hardly a major moment in the history of anything. But the moment did say a lot about Al's ethics, strength and kindness, his humility and humanity, and why I treasure having known and worked with him for many years. I hope these words help you remember him fondly, too.

Back in 2001-02, mainly thanks to Lauren as I recall, Al came back to campus. During his return, I interviewed him for the AS crowd -- focusing on career/life review -- and then edited the transcript into an article that was published in our regional journal under the title "American Studies as a Way of Life," *American Studies* 43:3 (2002), pp. 83-104. The article -- which includes a retrospective on Al's career, mainly in his own words, can be viewed at the journal's on-line archives, <https://journals.ku.edu/index.php/amerstud/issue/archive> . The URL for the specific article is <https://journals.ku.edu/index.php/amerstud/article/viewFile/3046/3005> .

*Rich Horwitz, professor emeritus*

Al was a super professor (he was my first advisor at Iowa) and a kind, decent man. I still use some of his work in my American Autobiography class.

*Dan Nathan*

I am saddened to hear of the loss of Prof. Albert E. Stone to the intellectual community of UI and the country. He was one of my teachers at UI, and I will always remember him as hard-working, demanding of himself and his students, yet with a sense of humor and a great mind. His thoughts about American autobiographical writings may even have influenced me to write my own autobiography. In fact, a number of my writings have been autobiographical, among the many writings and photos I've had published. My thoughts and prayers are with Grace Stone, and their extended family. And I hope Prof. Al, himself, is in a very good place in heaven, for all time.

*David Marcou*

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### B.A.

#### Summer 2011

Jason Schwab

#### Fall 2011

Andrew Blessing  
Christopher McKeag  
Amber Tucker

#### Spring 2012

John Bender  
Jeremy Blumberg  
Christina Carberry  
Tyler Harris  
Joseph Jensen  
Jordan Phillips  
Kylie Schnitker  
Allen Seitz  
Austin Turner  
Christine Wagner

### Admitted to PhD Candidacy

Mike Maciejewski  
Yu-Kuei "Daniel" Sun

### Comprehensive Exams

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Tom Collins #  
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### Successful Prospectus Meeting

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### M.A.

Alexis Stevens

\*Sport Studies  
# MA en passant

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