



Fall 2016



Dear Friends and Alumni,

Welcome to a new year of American Studies news and activities. I am pleased to announce the appointment (fall 2016) of Professor Jennifer Sterling, our new colleague in American Studies and Sport Studies. Professor Sterling has joined our department as a full time lecturer. In 2013, she received her Ph.D. in Kinesiology, Physical Cultural Studies, from University of Maryland's (College Park) School of Public Health. In 2004, she completed her M.A. in Sport and Exercise Leadership at Seattle Pacific University. She also has an artistic and Iowa background. She earned her B.A. in Art (Studio) at Central College in Pella, Iowa. Before joining our department, she was a postdoctoral fellow at Georgia Institute of Technology's School of History and Sociology.

Professor Sterling is an active scholar in Sport Studies. Her publications include: "Leroy Neiman (1921-2012) in M. Nelson (ed.) *American Sports: A History of Icons, Idols, and Ideas*," 2013. She will teach Sport Studies courses routinely offered at Iowa. But she will also eventually teach new courses such as "Science, Technology, and Sport," a course she has taught at Georgia Tech.

Professor Sterling joins a community of scholars and graduate students engaged in many American Studies/Sport Studies scholarly activities. Our faculty members have published a range of books during the last two years—including: Bluford Adams' *Old and New New Englanders: Immigration and Regional Identity in the Gilded Age* (2014); Thomas Oates' coedited collections: *The NFL: Critical and Cultural Perspectives* (with Z. Furness, 2014); and *Playing to Win: Sports, Video Games, and the Culture of Play* (with R.A. Brookey, 2015); Travis Vogan's: *Keepers of the Flame: NFL Films and the Rise of Sports Media* (2014); and *ESPN: The Making of the Sports Media Empire* (2015); Stephen Warren's *The World the Shawnees Made: Migration and Violence in Early America* (2014); Deborah Whaley's *Black Women in Sequence: Re-inking Comics, Graphic Novels and Anime* (2015) and my own edited anthology: *Dreaming Out Loud: African American Novelists at Work* (2015).

Our faculty and graduate students (in both American Studies and Sport Studies) are also active scholars—delivering papers at various American Studies and Sport Studies conferences and publishing articles in professional journals. Furthermore, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) in collaboration with the Graduate College has recently concluded a review of all graduate programs at Iowa. American Studies was declared "sustainable" (the middle category) of evaluation. And our graduate program richly deserves the affirmative ranking. Among other reasons, our graduate students are completing their dissertations at a remarkable rate—and landing appointments and postdoctoral positions at colleges and universities within the United States and overseas.

And after a departmental review (mandatory after five years for all departments) by a review committee composed of Iowa professors and American Studies and Sport Studies experts from other universities, our department received a positive evaluation. The committee made several suggestions for improvement. For example, we agreed with the suggestion that we take a revisionary look at our undergraduate major – a productive process we had already begun and have recently completed.

The review committee also suggested that we build upon the current infrastructure of our department and allow our various joint appointments—including with African American Studies, American Indian and Native Studies, Theatre Arts, English, History, Journalism and Mass Communication – to develop into alliances—formal and informal. We are in the process of thinking through alliances and collaborations. But as we note

(Continued on page 15)

## SUSAN BIRRELL RECEIVES 2016 NASSH RECOGNITION AWARD

Prof. Susan Birrell was awarded the 2016 Recognition Award, given for “exceptional contributions to the Study of Sport History,” at the 44th Annual North American Society for Sport History (NASSH) Conference, held May 27-30 at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Mary McDonald (Ph.D., 1995), Homer C. Rice Chair in Sports and Society at Georgia Tech University, believes Susan might be the first person to receive service awards from both NASSH and the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport (NASSS), which she received in 2009. The NASSS Service Excellence Award is awarded to an individual who has offered distinguished service and long time contributions to the organization (NASSS), and/or the area of the sociology of sport more generally.

Prof. Birrell was also the Recipient of the 2006 Seward Staley Award from the North American Society for Sport History, given to an outstanding scholar whose work has promoted and influenced the field of sport history.

Congratulations, Susan!



Professor Birrell and the “Birrellians”

## NEW DIGITAL HUMANITIES OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES FOR FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

*Katie Walden*

The 2016-17 academic year will be an active one for digital humanities (DH) initiatives at the University of Iowa, from research support programs to funding opportunities.

The [Digital Scholarship and Publishing Studio](#) (“the Studio”) offers staff support for faculty and graduate student digital research projects and promotes the use of digital humanities pedagogy in the classroom, including existing programs like [Iowa Digital Engagement and Learning](#) (IDEAL) and [DIY History](#).

Faculty (including lecturers) can participate in a “Get Digital with Your Scholarship” immersive three-day collaboration with Studio staff or apply for a digital humanities student research assistant. Past Studio-faculty collaborations range from digital editions of a monograph to born-digital mapping and visualization projects.

The Studio also supports graduate student digital scholarship with a “Get Digital with Your Dissertation” program that, like the faculty option, includes an immersive three-day experience and continuing follow-up support. Graduate students with a more serious interest in building a DH portfolio can also pursue a fifteen semester-hour Public Digital Humanities Certificate, launched Spring 2015. [More information about the Certificate](#) is available online through the School of Library and Information Science.

Of particular interest to faculty and graduate students in American Studies, the Studio offers support for teaching and research projects that engage specific digital archives. “Memory and Knowledge” partners faculty or graduate students with emeritus faculty member who work together “to compose a ‘living archive’ of interviews, conversations, etc. associated with the scholar’s life and work.”

For another digital archive initiative, “Embracing Difference in Iowa,” the studio invites faculty or graduate students “to investigate UI archives that shed light on people of color who have contributed to the state’s and the University’s history. The outcome of this project could be a scholarly article, an artistic production, or a new class unit.” Potential digital archives could include [African American Women in Iowa](#) and the [Mujeres Latinas Project](#) of the Iowa Women’s Archives. More information about the [Studio’s research support and funding opportunities](#) is available online.

Made possible by an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant, the “[Digital Bridges for Humanistic Inquiry](#)” partnership between Grinnell College and the University of Iowa starts its second year, with working group opportunities as well as technology and pedagogy grant funding resources. [More information about the Digital Bridges project](#) is available online.

Held in the Studio’s Main Library facility, bi-weekly DH Salons are an informal, “show-and-tell” environment highlighting faculty projects as well as other DH tools and approaches. The Studio also hosts a series of Saturday DH Workshops which provide hands-on training in a variety of digital techniques, resources, and approaches. Past topics have included collection building, paleography transcription, and text analysis. Fall 2016 dates for DH Salons and Workshops can be found on [the Studio’s website](#).



## AMERICAN INDIAN & NATIVE STUDIES PROGRAM

Jacki Rand  
AINSP co-coordinator

The University of Iowa community of American Indians and allies is small. The Native American Council and Native American Student Association are critical to the work of the American Indian and Native Studies Program. In addition to offering courses for the program certificate, the American Indian and Native Studies Program steering committee works with the Native American Council and the Native American Student Association in multiple ways. In Academic Year 2015-2016, the AINSP steering committee successfully secured internal funding to organize the joint campus visits of Pawnee hip-hop artist Bunky EchoHawk and Red Lake Ojibwe scholar Brenda Child (University of Minnesota). The joint appearance which featured Child reading from her latest work *My Grandfather's Knocking Sticks* (Minnesota Historical Society, 2015) and EchoHawk painting in his iconic style was well attended. Meskwaki students and their teachers traveled from Tama to reconnect with the visitors who just the day before had visited the Meskwaki Settlement School, with UI Provost Barry Butler. The event coincided with the celebration of the Latino Native American Cultural Center (LNACC) anniversary and the University of Iowa annual powwow.



Bunky Echo-Hawk  
(above)

Brenda Child (below)



These events rely on cooperative collaboration between the AINSP, NAC, and NASA. While each group has a distinctive focus, we have found that working together and integrating our activities not only results in more successful events, but produces other benefits as well. Faculty, students, staff, and administrators form stronger relationships. Students feel supported. The University and Iowa City community begin to perceive the University native community in totality.

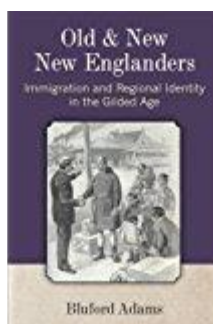
The AINSP steering committee has dedicated itself in AY 2016-2017 to building a team taught course staffed by faculty from the committee. Professor Stephen Warren is coordinating the effort in collaboration with Professors Erica Prussing and Jacki Rand. The program aims to create a dynamic introduction to American Indian issues, history, literature, culture, and arts. Through this course, the students will gain an understanding of current events through a historical, cultural, and political lens and, we hope, better understand the native communities that are not always visible, but are integral to U.S. society and history.

Jacki Thompson Rand  
Co-coordinator, AINSP  
Associate Professor, History

## RECENT FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

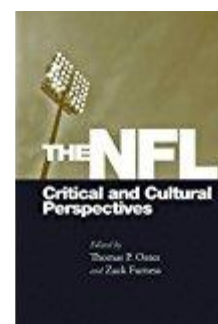
### Bluford Adams

*Old and New New Englanders: Immigration and Regional Identity in the Gilded Age* (2014)



### Thomas Oates

*The NFL: Critical and Cultural Perspectives* (with Z. Furness, 2014)



## TRIBUTE TO CARRIE LOUVAR

*Laura Kastens*

Carrie Louvar, former American Studies administrative assistant, passed away on June 6, 2016. She came to the University of Iowa in 1974 and served American studies continuously until her retirement in December 2009.

What I remember most about Carrie is her love for her family. Her children and grandchildren were her pride and joy; she talked about them every day. She loved fishing, camping, animals of all kinds, and her garden. She enjoyed helping others. At work, she'd drop whatever she was doing to help students and faculty. Her laugh was hearty, her smile huge.

When I was hired by American studies in 1999, I asked her what the department's dress code was. "Just show up with clothes on" was her reply! That casual answer set the tone for our 10 year relationship. I thought of her frequently in the years following her retirement. She was happy to be at home, taking care of her grandchildren, tending her garden, and fishing.

<http://www.lensingfuneral.com/obituaries/Carrie-June-Louvar?obId=961631#/obituaryInfo>



Carrie Louvar with three of the DEOs she served with: John Raeburn, Lauren Rabinovitz, and Kim Marra

## THE JOANN CASTAGNA AWARD

Daniel R. Champion has established The JoAnn Castagna Award to memorialize his wife, JoAnn Castagna, who passed away in December 2013. JoAnn received a 1983 M.A. and a 1989 Ph.D. from the Department of American Studies. She worked for many years as Assistant to the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Iowa. While working in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, JoAnn was involved in the startup of the Center for the Book, and it gave her great pleasure to work with Kim Merker, founder of UI Center for the Book, and Larry Yerkes, conservator. JoAnn was a book collector herself.



The JoAnn E. Castagna and Daniel R. Champion Fund is to be used to provide equal support to the UI Center for the Book and the Department of American Studies. The earnings on the endowment will be split annually between the two areas. Mr. Champion intends the American Studies portion to be used to support graduate student professional development, including travel to conferences and dissertation research in American Studies and will be known as "The JoAnn Castagna Award." The portion supporting the Center for the Book will provide a professional development stipend for graduate students engaged in the work of the Center. The award in the Center for the Book shall be known as "The JoAnn Castagna and Dan Champion Award."

Our deepest thanks and appreciation to Mr. Champion for making these awards possible.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

During 2014-2016 Ph.D.s were awarded to:

### American Studies

**Jennifer Ambrose** (2014) *Geographies of Responsibility: The Cultural Logic of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Weather Emergencies*

**Kara Fagan** (2016) *Framing Sport as Art: The Spectacle of Female Athleticism in Classic Hollywood, 1935-1955*

**Yu-kuei “Daniel” Sun** (2016) *Sporting Taiwan: Transnational Athletes in the Age of Neoliberal Imperialisms*

**Ivana Takacova** (2015) *Latent TB Positive in the U.S. War on Tuberculosis: Manufacturing the International Student as a Public Health Threat*

**Matt Thomas** (2015) *Life Hacking: A Critical History, 2004–2014*

**Allison Wanger** (2015) *“These Honored Dead”: The National Cemetery System and the Politics of Cultural Memory since 1861*

**Larissa Werhnyak** (2015) *O, Perjured Lover, Atone! Atone! : A Legal and Cultural History of Breach of Promise to Marry, 1880-1940*

### Heath and Sport Studies

**Matt Hodler** (2016) *The Greatest Olympian of All-Time?: The Ideological Implications of Celebrating Michael Phelps*

**Sang Uk Joo** (2015) *Consuming Sporting Orientals: Reading Asian American Sport Celebrities*

**Marta Mack-Washington** (2015) *From Both Sides of the Plate: Effa Manley and American Constructions of Race and Ethnicity 1900-1948*

**Eileen Narcotta-Welp** (2016) *“The Future of Football is Feminine”: A Critical Cultural History of the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team*

**Jae Chul Seo** (2014) *“Yellow Pacific on White Ice”: A Transnational and Post/Colonial Reading of Asian American & Asian Female Figure Skates in the US Media Representation*

**Dan Taradash** (2015) *Exodus of Champions: The Great Migration and the Shaping of the Civil Rights Activities of Floyd Patterson, Sonny Liston, Joe Frazier and George Foreman*



Fall 2015:

Larissa Werhnyak and Allison Wanger



Spring 2016 (left to right): Katie Walden (MA), Prof. Travis Vogan, Eileen Narcotta-Welp (PhD), Yu-kuei “Daniel” Sun (PhD), Matthew Hodler (PhD), Kara Fagan (PhD), Prof. Susan Birrell, Prof. Lauren Rabinovitz

## MEET OUR NEW GRADUATE COHORTS

### Entering August 2015

**Chris Henderson** is an M.A. student in American Studies and Sports Studies. Chris has worked as a freelance travel and sports writer and photographer, previously based in New York City. Publications include al-Jazeera English, Empire of Soccer, In Bed With Maradona, indiewire, and The Southampton Press. He has an MS in Journalism from Columbia University and a B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College. His primary research interest is comparative fan culture, power and organization, particularly within soccer.

**Holly McKee** is an M.A. student in American Studies. She received her B.A. in Art History and Philosophy from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. Concurrent with her undergraduate studies, she worked as a DJ and events coordinator for the university's radio station. Her research interests, broadly, center on the relationship between American broadcasting, the mass reproduction of images, and historical understanding in post-WWII public memory.

**Greg Rozsa** received a B.A. in Economics from UC Santa Barbara and an M.A. in American Studies from CSU Fullerton. He is interested in Settler Colonialism, Indigenous Sovereignty, Articulations/Topologies of Power and the potential of Heterotopic and other Spaces of Exception as Spaces of Resistance. Greg has written and presented on Owens Valley, Las Vegas' Water Security, and Yucca Mountain, and was also an Editorial Assistant at *American Quarterly*.

**Michael West** is a Ph.D. student in American Studies and a TA for the Interpretation of Literature. He holds a B.A. in AMST from UC Santa Cruz and an M.A., also in AMST, from Cal State Fullerton. His research interests include the intersections of race, class, and the media in sport, particularly in the story of Jackie Robinson reintegrating MLB, as well as representations of gender, sexuality, and ideology in the pin-up girls of WWII.

### Entering August 2016

**Shelby Dill** is an M.A. student in the American Studies program as well as a TA for Interpretation of Literature. She earned her B.A. in English and Women and Gender Studies from Iowa State University. Her research interests include the intersections of race, gender, and sexuality within popular culture. More specifically, she is interested in how current portrayals of these intersections impacts children's notions surrounding identity.

**Taylor Henry** is a first-year Ph.D. student. His research interests include ethnic and national identity formation through sports media, particularly through coverage of the NBA. Taylor has presented at the 2015 North American Society for the Sociology of Sport and the Northeast Popular/American Culture Association conferences. His presentation "Linsanity: Asian American Identity, Basketball, and the Battle Against Stereotypes," was delivered at both conferences and explored the role that the media played in allowing Jeremy Lin to simultaneously defy and reify stereotypes concerning Asian American masculinity. Taylor recently completed his Master's degree from the University of Massachusetts Boston in May of 2016. His final project, "Playing the Game 'the Right Way': Race, Masculinity, and Nationalism in the NBA, 1998-2005" continued to examine the intersection of professional basketball and ethnic and national identity.

**Evan Krasner** is a first-year M.A. student in American Studies. He earned his B.A. in American Studies with minors in both History and Environmental Studies from Skidmore College. His research interests include nineteenth-century American Environmental History, specifically early American ornithologists, such as John James Audubon. While studying at Iowa, he hopes to continue his research on Audubon, particularly focusing on his *Ornithological Biographies* (1831-1839), a series of

life histories of North American birds, which accompanied his *Birds of America* (1827-1838), a collection of life-size paintings of these birds.

### Sophie Kreeger

**Kacie Rubalcava** is an American Studies Ph.D. student. She received her M.A. in American Studies and B.A. in English and American Studies from California State University, Fullerton. The driving force in Kacie's research is in contemporary social issues with regard to gender, sexuality, class, and race—specifically through immigration. She is interested in the formation and construction of social issues, with emphases on the nineteenth century. Kacie also looks at attitudes about science and technology through history, focusing on the late nineteenth century, late twentieth century, and early twenty-first century. Kacie currently explores her interests by examining steampunk culture, including its influences, literature, subculture, and material culture.

## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

We gratefully recognize alumni, faculty, and friends who contribute to the Department of American Studies through The University of Iowa Foundation, the preferred channel for private support of all areas of the University. Your support allows us to intervene and assist struggling graduate students who may need plane tickets for one last trip to an archive or to a professional conference, to bring distinguished guests to campus, co-sponsor events hosted by others, or support faculty travel to national conferences. We thank you for playing a crucial role in the department.



Every gift is greatly appreciated and we thank everyone for their support of the Department of American Studies.

Ways to [donate](#) to American Studies:

*American Indian and Native Studies Program Fund* — undesignated

*American Studies Gift Fund* — undesignated

*Alexander C. Kern American Studies Award* — supports graduate student travel

*Albert E. Stone Fund* — supports visiting speakers in American Studies

*Department of American Studies B.A. Sport Studies Fund* — supports Sport studies B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. students

### Thomas Oates

*Playing to Win: Sports, Video Games, and the Culture of Play*  
(with R.A. Brookey, 2015)



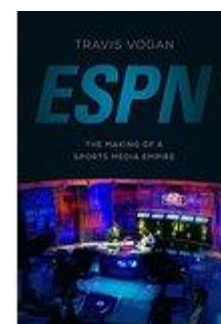
### Horace Porter

*Dreaming Out Loud: African American Novelists at Work*  
(2015)



### Travis Vogan

*ESPN: The Making of the Sports Media Empire* (2015)





## AMERICAN STUDIES MILESTONES

UndergraduateSummer 2014

Samuel Carruthers, Minor  
 Chad Diacek, B.A.  
 Brooke Elliff, B.A.  
 Brian Forrest, Minor

Fall 2014

Jessica Anderson, B.A.

Spring 2015

Robert Appelbaum, Minor  
 Virginia Davis, B.A.  
 Jennifer Dybicz, B.A.  
 Barshen Habelhah, B.A.  
 Meghan Horihan, B.A.  
 Stefan Juran, B.A.  
 Avery Stahr, B.A.  
 Emily Wallace, B.A.

Summer 2015

Ariel Currant, B.A.  
 Margaret Koren, Minor  
 Christopher O'Hare, Minor

Fall 2015

Jonathan Burke, B.A.

Spring 2016

Katarina Akridge, B.A.  
 Aimee Grubb, Minor  
 Austin Kakert, Minor  
 Lucas Rollinger, Minor  
 Lucas Smith, B.A.

Graduate**Admitted to Ph.D. Candidacy**

Diane Williams (fall 2014)  
 James Oudenhoven (fall 2015)  
 Diann Rozsa (fall 2015)

**Comprehensive Exams**

Stephanie Grossnickle-Batterton (fall 2014)  
 Diane Williams (fall 2015)

**Successful Prospectus Meeting**

Dan Taradash (fall 2014)\*  
 Stephanie Grossnickle-Batterton (spring 2015)  
 Stacey Moultry (spring 2015)  
 Dain TePoel (fall 2015)

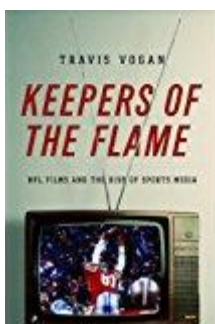
**M.A.**

Jason Daniels (spring 2015)  
 Justin Feit (spring 2016)  
 Katie Walden (spring 2016)

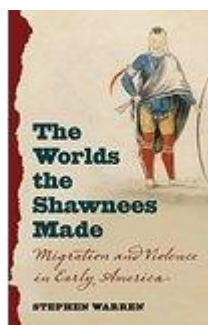
\*Health and Sport Studies

**Travis Vogan**

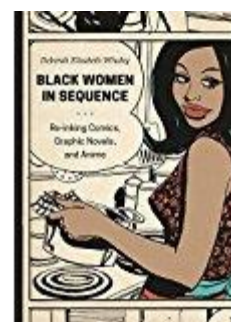
*Keepers of the Flame: NFL  
 Films and the Rise of Sports  
 Media* (2014)

**Stephen Warren**

*The World the Shawnees Made:  
 Migration and Violence in Early  
 America* (2014)

**Deborah Whaley**

*Black Women in Sequence:  
 Re-inking Comics, Graphic  
 Novels and Anime* (2015)



## FACULTY NEWS



**Kim Marra** continues her work in performance studies and animal studies. Recent essays include: "Queer Aging Bareback: A Ride with the Parthenon

Sculptures," *TDR: The Drama Review* 58:4 (Winter 2014): 147-157; "Dancing the Human-Equine Relationship under the Millennial Big Top" in the *Oxford Handbook of Dance and Theater* (Oxford University Press, 2015); and "Massive Bodies in Mortal Performance: *War Horse* and the Staging of Anglo-American Equine Experience in Combat" in *Performing Animality: Animals in Performance Practices* (Palgrave, 2015). Last summer, she developed an animal-centered performance piece as a co-PI with several other collaborators on Perform Midwest, a project funded by the HWW Global Midwest Initiative. She is also an associate editor of the Animal Lives Series of the University of Chicago Press. This semester (Fall 2016) she is delighted to be teaching her Animals and Performance in American Culture class.

**Travis Vogan** I published my second book, *ESPN: The Making of a Sports Media Empire*, in fall 2015. Since then, I've been working mostly on my next book project, a cultural and institutional history of ABC Sports that is under contract with University of California Press. Beyond the book, my early research on ABC Sports resulted in an article on the artist LeRoy Neiman's work on sports television that is forthcoming in *American Art* and an article on the intersecting racial politics and programming norms that grew out of *Monday Night Football* that is forthcoming in *Television & New Media*. I also co-authored an article on the National Football League's ambivalent relationship to fan noise for the journal *Popular Communication*.

**Deborah Elizabeth Whaley** published the book *Black Women in Sequence: Re-inking Comics, Graphic Novels, and Anime* in fall of 2015. The cover and interior design of *Black Women in Sequence*, co-designed by Whaley and UW press senior designer Thomas Eykemans, won an award in the Scholarly

Illustrated category of the [2016 AAUP Book, Jacket and Journal Show](#). In March 2017, Cedar Grove Publishing will publish two of her poems "Whispers and Lies" and "Red Scorpion" in the anthology *Towards a Black Women's Horror Aesthetic: Creative Fiction*, edited by Kinitra Brooks and Linda Addison. She is finishing a related book chapter in another volume of critical essays on Black women in horror that focuses on the Afro-Goth aesthetic of musical artist Militia Vox and comix creator Calyn Pickens-Rich, a portion of which she will present at the American Studies Association Meetings in Denver, CO in Fall of 2016. Whaley continues to address wider publics by publishing op-eds on racial micro-aggressions (the *Gazette*), displaced communities (*Iowa Press Citizen*), and teaching the rhetorics of David Bowie (*New BlackMan in Exile*), and recently published an essay on grief and being a Black female swimmer titled "Being Black Under Water: Swimming Through Loss and Into Grief" for the online magazine *For Harriet*. She delivered keynote addresses for the New School in NYC and for the regional comic-con at the University of Northern Iowa in Spring 2016, and this coming year is scheduled for numerous museum workshops at the African American History Museum in Cedar Rapids on cultural curating and sequential art. She continues to make progress on her third monograph, *Feeling Her Fragmented Mind: Women, Race, and Dissociative Identities in Popular Culture*, and a portion of one of her monograph chapters, titled "Feeling Her Fragmented Mind: Neo-Passing and Dissociative Identities as Affective Strategies in *Frankie and Alice*," will appear in the anthology *Passing While 'Post-Racial': Performance and Identity Production in Neo-Passing Narratives*. She spent this past summer in the states and abroad, going between Arizona, California, her home state of Colorado, and for ten magical days she vacationed in Toronto, Canada. She also appeared on the cover of the summer issue of the *Journal of American Studies*.



**Nick Yablon** has been wrapping up his book on the invention of the time capsule in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. A portion of it appeared in the journal *History of Photography* and he has given talks on the

subject at York University's School of the Arts (Toronto) and at the Society of Cinema and Media Studies. He is looking forward to presenting a paper on the photographer Edward Curtis' involvement with one time capsule project at the Organization of American Historians in 2017, on a panel he organized with UI American studies alumna, Jane Simonsen (Ph.D. 2001). Meanwhile, Nick has been working on his next book, which revolves around an amateur photographer's survey of New York's Broadway circa 1900. He gave a lecture on this at Boston University's Department of Art & Architectural History earlier this year. That evolved into an article which is appearing in the upcoming *Journal of Urban History*, and has just gone online.

## Graduate Student University Awards 2014-2016

### Department of American Studies Awards

#### Kern Dissertation Travel

Rebecca Dewing (2014-15)  
Michael Winslow (2014-15)  
Stacey Moultry (2015-16)  
Diane Williams (2016-17)

#### Kern Conference Travel

Diane Williams (fall 2014, spring 2016)  
Larissa Werhnyak (fall 2014)  
Kara Fagan (spring 2015)  
Diann Rozsa (fall 2015)  
Dain TePoel (spring 2016)  
Chris Henderson (fall 2016)

#### C. Pauline Spencer Scholarship

Cathryn Lucas-Carr (2015)  
Eileen Narcotta-Welp (2015)

Diane Williams (2015)  
Katie Walden (2016)  
Cathryn Lucas (2016)

#### Miriam Taylor Scholarship

Sang Uk Joo (2015)  
Matt Hodler (2015)  
Yu-Kuei "Daniel" Sun (2015)  
Dain TePoel (2016)

#### Sport Studies travel awards

Cathryn Lucas (spring 2015)  
Dain TePoel (fall 2015)  
Matt Hodler (fall 2015)  
Katie Walden (spring 2016)  
Chris Henderson (spring 2016)  
Cathryn Lucas (spring 2016)  
Matt Hodler (spring 2016)

### University of Iowa Awards

#### Ballard-Seashore Dissertation Fellowship 2014-15

Allison Wanger *"These Honored Dead": The National Cemetery System and the Politics of Cultural Memory Since 1861*

Larissa Werhnyak *Oh, Perjured Lover, Atoned! Atoned!: Breach of Promise to Marry in the United States, 1890-1940*

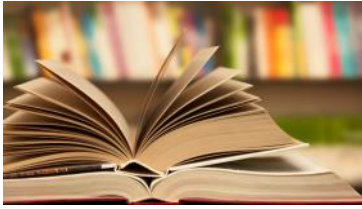
#### Ballard-Seashore Dissertation Fellowship Fall 2015

Kara Fagan *Framing Sport as Art: The Spectacle of Female Athleticism in Classic Hollywood, 1935-1955*

#### Ballard-Seashore Dissertation Fellowship Spring 2016

Michael Winslow *Sandhillers: Agriculture and the Culture of Development in North Carolina, 1870-1930*

## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS



**Stephanie Grossnickle-Batterton's** article "'Lock the Granary, Peggy': Rhetorical Appeals to Rural Women in the *Woman's Standard*, 1886-1911" will be published in the *Annals of Iowa* Volume 74 No. 4 (Fall 2016). The article examines how Iowa suffragists used rural imagery and content in their monthly periodical to address farm women at the turn of the century.

**Christopher Henderson** In his first year at Iowa, Chris's research focused on fan culture in the National Women's Soccer League. He presented the resulting paper, "Two Balls Is Too Many: Stadium Performance, Gender, and Queerness Among Portland's Rose City Riveters Supporters Club" at the North American Society of Sports History conference in Atlanta. The paper is currently under review for publication as part of a *Sport in Society* special issue on US women's soccer. In addition, his paper was mentioned in a [story](#) about the Portland Thorns women's soccer team in Willamette Week, a Portland-area alternative newspaper.

**Dain TePoel** In November 2015 my two-year position as Graduate Student Representative for the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport concluded. Since fall 2015, I've been serving on the communications committee for the *Journal of Sport History*, helping to maintain the journal's social media platforms.

I held a successful dissertation prospectus meeting late in the fall semester, 2015, and had a Graduate College post-comps research award for spring 2016. My paper "An Eco-critical Approach to Doing Sport History in the Digital Present" was accepted to the "Doing Sport History in the Digital Present" workshop held at Georgia Tech in May. The paper is currently under revision for a future forum in the *Journal of Sport History* (summer or fall 2017 issue). I presented papers at the Jakobsen Graduate Student conference as well as NASSS and NASSH.

I received a Dissertation Research Travel award from NASSH, which I used in June to research the Great Peace March for Global Nuclear Disarmament archives at the Swarthmore College Peace Collection in Swarthmore, PA. Finally, I was awarded a Ballard Seashore Fellowship for Spring 2017.

**Katie Walden** successfully completed her M.A. portfolio and was admitted to the Ph.D. program in American Studies, Sport Studies track. She was also accepted into the Public Digital Humanities program at the University of Iowa and received the C. Pauline Spencer Scholarship for Women in Sport Studies. Her self-designed general education rhetoric course, Rhetoric of Sport, was positively received by students and will be offered again this year. Katie spent the summer as a Library Researcher in the Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York.



## ALUMNI NEWS



**Sarah J. Eikelberry** (Ph.D. 2013) In May of 2016 I travelled to Atlanta with Dr. Matt Hodler and

Cathryn Lucas to attend NASSH where I presented "Eyes Right in Des Moines: Rearing Race Relations at the YWCA, 1919-1950." This project examines the cultural work advanced by various groups within this diverse organization in segregated Des Moines. In February of 2017, my chapter, "John M. Shippen Jr., and the Front Nine of American Golf," will be available in an anthology edited by Jerry Gems, titled *Before Jackie Robinson: The Transcendent Role of Black Sporting Pioneers* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press). In Spring of 2016 I secured a \$5,000 grant through a Catholic endowment dedicated to peace and justice. With the funds, St. Ambrose University was able to purchase LGBTQ Campus, a digital Safe Zone training module designed by Kognito, The Trevor Project, and Campus Pride.

**John A. Gronbeck-Tedesco** (B.A. 1998) is Associate Professor of American Studies at Ramapo College of New Jersey. In 2015 he published his first book, *Cuba, the United States, and Cultures of the Transnational Left, 1930-1975* (Cambridge University Press), and co-edited another volume, *Screening Images of American Masculinity in the Age of Postfeminism* (Lexington Books). John lives in New York City with his wife and daughter.

**Brian Hallstoos** (Ph.D. 2009) was promoted to Associate Professor of History at University of Dubuque. He also wrote a chapter of a book edited by UI's Lena and Michael Hill entitled *Invisible Hawkeyes: African Americans at the University of Iowa during the Long Civil Rights Era* (University of Iowa Press: 2016). His chapter focuses on African American grad students in the Music Department. Brian can't wait to see the finished product, and was honored to be part of this exciting project.

**Erica Hannickel** (Ph.D. 2008) recently published a chapter titled "Alcohol" in the Routledge *History of American Foodways* (2016). An associate professor of environmental

history at Northland College in Wisconsin, she's enjoying her first sabbatical researching the 19th century scientific and cultural history of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis.

**Steven Haven** (M.A. 1985) has accepted a new position as Professor of English and Director of the MFA in Creative Writing Program at Lesley University, in Cambridge, MA.

**Matthew Hodler** (Ph.D. 2016) is Visiting Assistant Professor in Cultural Studies of Sport in the Sport in the Sport Leadership & Management (SLAM) program within the Department of Kinesiology & Health at Miami University. This is a one-year appointment. His courses include Sport, Power and Inequality (which is similar to Iowa's Inequality in American Sport); and Critical Perspectives on the Body, which is essentially a lower-level course focusing on the human in/active body as a cultural object.

**Sang Uk Joo** (Ph.D. 2016) is an Assistant Professor at Messiah College in Mechanicsburg PA, teaching Sport Management and Sociology of Sport courses.

**David J. Marcou** (M.A. 1978) has three university degrees and authored 110+ books, including "Spirit of America" series and Pulitzer-nominated play "Remembering Davy Crockett". He's descended from explorer Louis Joliet, farmers, teachers, and shop-owners (including David A. Marcou, Jr., who passed in 2015 after celebrating his 65th Valentine Wedding Anniversary with wife Rose). In 1981, David J. Marcou was a London Sunday Times intern. In 1985, he photographed Mother Teresa in ROK, later receiving 18 MT letters. He's published in Smithsonian, RPSJ, BJP, nytimes.com, LaCrosse Tribune, Business Korea, etc., with works housed in archives including Smithsonian and Britain's National Portrait Gallery. Two 2008 Presidential campaign photos by David J. Marcou were displayed in Smithsonian's "Gift of the Artist" (curator: David Haberstick). David J. Marcou's son, Matthew, is an Army Special Ops veteran and university Engineering student married to Jessica Amarnek Marcou, artist and university teacher.

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**Dan Nathan** (Ph.D. 1997) is the chair of Skidmore College's Department of American Studies and the editor of the recently published *Baltimore Sports: Stories from Charm City* (University of Arkansas Press, 2016). Last fall, he is pleased to report, Skidmore hosted a lecture by fellow Hawkeye Alison Kibler titled "The Long History of Hate Speech: Irish, Jewish and Africa America Struggles Against Racial Ridicule, 1890-1930." Nathan has also organized and edited a forthcoming forum for the *Journal of Sport History* about the scholar Allen Guttmann, which includes a contribution by Iowa's Horace Porter. Nathan's review of Ken Burns's *Jackie Robinson* (2016) is also forthcoming, in the *Journal of American History*. He looks forward to seeing many Iowa folks at the upcoming North American Society for Sport History annual conference at CSU Fullerton.

**Sharon Romeo** (Ph.D. 2009) has published her first book, *Gender and the Jubilee: Black Freedom and the Reconstruction of Citizenship in Civil War Missouri* with the University of Georgia Press, 2016. She is currently at the University of Alberta, in Edmonton, Canada, working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Classics.

**Yu-kuei "Daniel" Sun** (Ph.D. 2016) This fall, I joined the Department of Kinesiology at Towson University as a visiting lecturer in the Sport Management program. I am teaching Sport in Society, Sport: Cross-cultural Perspective, and History of Sport in America. I was excited to move to Baltimore and experience the East Coast after living in the Midwest for so long. I do miss friends and colleagues in Iowa City, and hope to see many of you in future conferences!

Since late 2014, **Gyorgy "George" Toth** (Ph.D. 2012) has been living with his wife in Glasgow, and working as Lecturer in post-1945 US History and Transatlantic Relations at the Division of History and Politics of the University of Stirling, Scotland, the United Kingdom. His book titled *From Wounded Knee to Checkpoint Charlie* about the alliance between American Indian sovereignty activists and Central Europeans in the late Cold War was published in the spring of 2016 by SUNY Press. George continues to help connect Iowa faculty and Ph.D. graduates with professional opportunities and networks in the UK and Europe - with delightful recent visits by Drs. Derrais Carter (Ph.D. 2013) and Allison Wanger (Ph.D. 2015). It is never too early to start planning a visit - drop me a line at [gyorgy.toth@stir.ac.uk](mailto:gyorgy.toth@stir.ac.uk)

## FACULTY AND STAFF

### Faculty

Susan Birrell (*GWSS*)

Richard Horwitz (*Emeritus*)

Kim Marra (*Theatre Arts*)

Thomas Oates

(*Journalism & Mass Communication*)

Tina Parratt

Horace Porter

(*English & African American Studies*)

Lauren Rabinovitz (*Cinematic Arts*)

John Raeburn (*Emeritus*)

Laura Rigal (*English*)

Jennifer Sterling

Travis Vogan

(*Journalism & Mass Communication*)

Stephen Warren (*History*)

Deborah Whaley (*African American Studies*)

Nick Yablon

### Adjunct Faculty

Steven Horowitz

Russ Peterson

### Staff

Laura Kastens

Maureen Walterhouse (Administrative Assistant)\*

Neva Sheehan (accountant)

\* off site

*(Continued from page 1)*

in our response to the review committee's report, we remain confident about the future of American Studies and the centrality of our mission as a founding department of interdisciplinary scholarship and teaching. We are also keenly aware of the immediate relevance of American Studies. Our research and teaching are inextricably linked to the complex issues playing themselves out in contemporary American life and culture.

We wrote: "...We are not merely indulging our own academic interests. Food and sport -- or, to take various other topics that our faculty are researching and writing about -- amusement parks, time capsules, equestrian entertainments, comic-book superheroes, urban creeks, and boxers -- might, to some observers, appear marginal. But they are in fact crucial sites of cultural contestation...that lie at the heart of so many national and transnational issues facing us today, from conflicts over police shootings, income inequality, and foreign wars to debates over immigration reform, environmental policies, and voting rights.... American Studies' contribution thus goes beyond its methodological influence as the pioneer of interdisciplinarity. We believe it has an even larger, more crucial role to play within the public sphere...transforming the terms of society's most troubling debates to shed new light and fostering productive change."

I thank all of you for your continuing support of American Studies, including those of you who have given to our American Studies Fund. We are deeply appreciative of your generosity. Don't hesitate to contact or visit us. We continue to offer our Floating Friday Lecture Series. All lectures are free and open to the public. You are certainly invited to our Floating Friday lectures and any other events we sponsor that may be of interest to you.

Sincerely,

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

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## Contact Us

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Share your news with us at:

<http://amstud.wufoo.com/forms/submit-alumni-news/>

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Dean's Graduate Research Fellowship 2013-15

Jason Daniels

Obermann Institute on Engagement and the Academy

Cathryn Lucas-Carr (2015)

Diane Williams (2016)

Graduate College Post-Comprehensive Research Award

Stephanie Grossnickle-Batterton (fall 2015)

Dain TePoel (spring 2016)

Graduate College Post-Comprehensive Summer Research Award

Dain TePoel (summer 2015)

Cathryn Lucas, Diann Rozsa (summer 2016)

Marcus-Bach Dissertation Fellowship:

Stephanie Grossnickle-Batterton (fall 2016)

N.E.W. Leadership Conference:

Diane Williams

**Outside Awards, Fellowships, Grants and Honors**

Kara Fagan : Five College Women's Studies Research Center Research Associate, 2015-16

Matt Hodler & Cathryn Lucas-Carr : "The mother of all comebacks': A critical analysis of Dara Torres fitspirational comeback" *Journal Communication and Sport*

Eileen Narcotta-Welp : "A Black Fly in White Milk: The 1999 Women's World Cup, Briana Scurry, and the Politics of Inclusion," published in the Fall 2015 *Journal of Sport History*

Yu-Kuei Sun : Dissertation Fellowship for ROC Students Abroad from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange

## New Teaching Positions

### **American Studies**

**Jennifer Ambrose** is Director of the Writing Center at Hamilton College in Clinton, NY.

**Kara Fagan** is a Humanities teacher at Charlemont Academy, an independent middle and high school in western Massachusetts. This year she is teaching English 7, 10th grade modern world history and literature, and a 12th grade current events course.

**Yu-Kuei "Daniel" Sun** has joined the Department of Kinesiology at Towson University as a visiting lecturer in the Sport Management program. He teaches Sport in Society, Sport: Cross-cultural Perspective, and History of Sport in America. He was excited to move to Baltimore and experience the East Coast after living in the Midwest for so long. Daniel says he does miss friends and colleagues in Iowa City, and hopes to see many of you at future conferences!



**Ivana Takacova** Since September 2015, Ivana has been teaching U.S. Studies at the Safarik University in the second largest city in Slovakia. The position goes through Fall 2016. She is working on a dissertation-based book proposal for a U.S. academic publisher. She has been enjoying the summer without the humidity of the U.S. Midwest but her first winter back in Slovakia she missed the sunshine - very few sunrays here for about 3-4 months! Very much unlike Iowa.

**Allison Wanger** is a Visiting Assistant Professor in Global & Intercultural Studies (home to the American studies program) at Miami University of Ohio.

**Larissa Werhnyak** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, which is home to the American Studies program, at the University of Texas-Dallas.

### **Health and Sport Studies**

**Matt Hodler** Matt is a Visiting Assistant Professor in Cultural Studies of Sport in the Sport in the Sport Leadership & Management (SLAM) program within the Department of Kinesiology & Health. This is a one-year appointment with a 4-4 teaching load. He teaches: Sport, Power and Inequality (which is similar to Iowa's Inequality in American Sport); Critical Perspectives on the Body, which is essentially a lower-level course focusing on the human in/active body as a cultural object; and Women, Gender, & Sport, a cross-listed undergraduate/graduate level course on gender and sport.

**Sang Uk Joo** is an Assistant Professor at Messiah College in Mechanicsburg PA. He teaches Sport Management and Sociology of Sport courses.

**Marta Mack-Washington** is a Lecturer in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Promotion at the University of Kentucky.

**Eileen Narcotta-Welp** is an Assistant Professor of Exercise And Sport Science at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse.