

## Program Committee Report on the American Studies Association Meeting, 2000

BY SHARON O'BRIEN, CO-CHAIR

Putting on a successful program—as we did!—is a collaborative effort, and I and the other program committee co-chairs, Brenda Dixon-Gottschild and Neil Foley, want to begin by thanking the committee members who worked together to create an exciting and useful program for ASA members: Ebele Amali, John Caughey, Nan Enstad, Betsy Erkkila, Nora Faires, Guenter Lenz, Mae M. Ngai, Deborah Schmalholz, Shirley Wajda, and S. Craig Watkins. ASA President Michael Frisch, committed to interlinking the academy and the community, provided the vision that led us to our theme “American Studies in the World/The World in American Studies” and buoyed us all with his energy and optimism. We are indebted to John Stephens and the ASA office staff, especially Larry McReynolds, convention coordinator, who offered us both the wisdom of tradition and

the support for innovation, as well as countless unseen hours of hard work to make the convention run smoothly. (You come to understand and appreciate the efficiency of the American Studies Association Executive Director and staff in the process of working on the annual meeting.)

Special thanks this year go to the co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee, Linda Borish, Nora Faires, and Sheila Lloyd, who, along with Michael Frisch, put time, imagination, and patience into organizing the Pre-Convention Collaboratives, which allowed ASA members to meet with members of community groups and organizations.

In our call for papers, we expressed our hope that the conference would draw on the range of disciplines and interdisciplines that traditionally constitute American Studies, as well as opening

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## Student Convention Travel Grant Program

The American Studies Association is pleased to announce the establishment of a new fund raising campaign to support graduate students' travel to the annual convention. The Council urges ASA members to support this new initiative by making tax deductible contributions to the new fund. The entire ASA community benefits when new scholars have the opportunity to participate in the intellectual and professional life of the association. Graduate students represent

the future of the Association; an investment in their future now should pay off in the long run.

At its October 12, 2000, business meeting, the ASA Council voted unanimously to substantially the Annette K. Baxter Student Convention Travel Grant Fund through a program of voluntary contributions. The Council committed the Association to a very active solicitation of members' contributions by a fund-raising campaign designed to underscore the

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## Approval of a Task Force for Public Practitioners in American Studies

Many American Studies scholars interpret American life in venues outside the academy, in public lectures, museums, libraries, films, local history projects, and other sites. In light of that fact, the Council voted to approve the creation of a Task Force for Public Practitioners in American Studies. The Task Force, which will be appointed by President Michael Frisch, will take as its project these goals: assessing the needs, interests, and priorities of American Studies scholars who work or plan to work in the area of public practice; recommending to the officers and the Council of the Association any

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# ASA Newsletter

The *American Studies Association Newsletter* is published quarterly (March, June, September, December) by the American Studies Association, 1120-19th Street, N.W., Suite 301, Washington, D.C. 20036; 202/467-4783; fax: 202/467-4786; e-mail: [astaff@erols.com](mailto:astaff@erols.com). The deadline for submission of announcements is the first of the month preceding the date of publication. For example, an announcement which is to appear in the March 2001 *Newsletter* must be received in the editor's office by February 1, 2001. The *Newsletter* is mailed free of charge to all ASA members. An electronic version of the newsletter is available on the website of the American Studies Crossroads Project at: <http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asanews>

Institutional memberships are \$120 per year; individual membership dues are as follows: Regular members with income under \$12,000 (\$15); \$12,000-\$24,000 (\$45); \$24,000-\$36,000 (\$55); \$36,000-\$48,000 (\$65); over \$60,000 (\$75); Life membership (\$1200); Second membership (joint w/spouse) (supply name) (\$10). Please forward address changes for ASA mailings to: *American Quarterly*, the Johns Hopkins University Press, 2715 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218-4319; 410/516-6945 or 800/548-1784; e-mail [ngarrity@mail.press.jhu.edu](mailto:ngarrity@mail.press.jhu.edu). Membership transactions may also be conducted on the web at <http://www.press.jhu.edu/associations/asa>

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### Future Annual Meetings

#### 2001: November 8–11

Renaissance Hotel  
Washington, D.C.

#### 2002: November 14–17

Westin Galleria and Oaks  
Houston, Texas

## AMERICAN PASSAGES: A Literary Survey

In the past twenty years, the field of American Literature has undergone a radical transformation. Just as the mainstream public has begun to understand America as more diverse, so, too, have scholars begun to integrate more texts by women and ethnic minorities into the standard canon of literature taught and studied. This change in content has been accompanied by a shift in the way literature is read: readers are increasingly encouraged to appreciate literature within its historical and social context. These changes can be both exhilarating and disconcerting for teachers and students alike.

To support instructors in making these transitions, and to provide further materials for those already teaching with these newer views, Oregon Public Broadcasting has partnered with the American Studies Crossroads Project, W.W. Norton Publishing and Powell's Books to create multimedia course materials for use in college classrooms. This project; *AMERICAN PASSAGES: A Literary Survey* is funded by Annenberg/CPB and has the following as its primary goal:

*To encourage readers' critical appreciation of American literature by enhancing the understanding of its diversity, continuity, and position within American history and culture.*

The course materials will use three avenues to meet this goal:

1. Encourage the critical appreciation of American Literature by fulfilling the traditional goals of an American Literature survey course:
  - (a) to teach basic reading skills
  - (b) to introduce important American writers, styles, themes, and concerns
  - (c) to stimulate students to compare, contrast and make connections between texts
  - (d) to illustrate how American Literature has changed and evolved over time.
2. Promote diversity and continuity by respectfully presenting the canonical works and thoughtfully integrating works and voices that have traditionally been unheard, ignored, or discounted.
3. Advocate for an understanding of American Literature in a broader contextual framework by using biographical, historical, and cultural contextual materials to support and enrich the readings.

The course materials will be organized around key movements in American Literature, and be comprised of sixteen 30-minute videos, a study guide, an instructor guide, a newly revised companion anthology, an online archive of materials, and online composition software for student interaction.

To create an appropriately rich contextual setting for the literary movements, the video documentaries of *AMERICAN PASSAGES* will use extensive archive materials, interviews with historians, critics and other scholars, and readings by American authors. *AMERICAN PASSAGES* will provide instructor resources including suggested thematic approaches, discussion questions, reading lists, and contextual information for lecture and discussion.

The primary users of *AMERICAN PASSAGES* are expected to be

- (a) Individuals and departments at 2- and 4-year post-secondary institutions, providing American Literature or American Studies survey courses to traditional and non-traditional students on campus and in distance learning opportunities

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- (b) Instructors at secondary and post-secondary levels seeking to expand their understanding of American Literature content and context.

Goodman Research Group has been retained to perform the Formative Evaluation. To date, they have surveyed 2 groups each of 1000 instructors who currently teach an American Literature survey course. One survey focused on content development and current teaching practices, one survey focused on uses of media in the classroom and for assignments. Preliminary results have been tabulated, and a full report is expected by March 2001.

Further evaluation will include useability studies for the web site interface, as well as focus groups (of students and instructors) which will study one integrated module containing a video documentary, instructor materials, study guide materials on the online archive and composition software.

*AMERICAN PASSAGES* is currently working with the National Council of Teachers of English Assembly on American Literature to present a session at the NCTE National Conference in 2001. This presentation will feature demonstrations using the online archive to create contextual teaching materials and for student assignments.

Through our formative surveys, our Advisory Board, our partnership with Crossroads, and meetings at the 2000 Conference, we have sparked a growing awareness of the *AMERICAN PASSAGES* project. However, we felt it important to introduce the project formally to ASA members, and to invite you to contact us for more information, or to contribute ideas for the course materials content or format.

The *AMERICAN PASSAGES* Advisory Board is drawn from the fields of American Literature, American History, Curriculum Planning, and the Use of Technology in Education, and National PBS Programming. Members of the Advisory Board represent a range of geographical regions, ethnic backgrounds,

and a breadth of fields and interests. There are voices here that speak both for the long-standing traditions in American Literary Studies, and for emergent traditions.

Randall Bass	Bruce Michelson
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Ann Green	Greg Sarris
Janice Gould	Pancho Savery
Terri Johanson	Sue Shields
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#### **Laura Arnold, Academic Director**

Laura Arnold (Ph.D. UCLA) is the Chair of American Studies and an Assistant Professor of English and Humanities at Reed College (Portland, OR). She is the recipient of numerous awards including Culpeper Grant for Educational Technology and a Fulbright Grant to teach American Literature in Panama. Her 1995 dissertation, "Crossing Cultures: Algonquian Indians and the Invention of New England," explores cross-cultural dialogues between American Indians and British colonists. She is currently working on a book-length project on ethnic American elegies.

#### **Meighan Maloney, Project Director**

Meighan Maloney has more than a decade of experience managing public television programs and educational projects. As Series Manager for the Emmy Award winning PBS series *Newton's Apple*, she managed the television series production, and was responsible for the integration of the program with a \$2 million annual education and outreach project, including teacher guides, Web site, CD ROM, videodisk educational materials and national promotion. She also headed up the program's diversity initiatives, significantly increasing the on-air presence of scientists and hosts from communities of color.

## **Student Convention Travel Grant Program**

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importance of subsidizing and encouraging graduate student participation. The Council believes that with your support this approach can succeed splendidly, and that together we can make a very substantial contribution to the capacity of graduate students to participate actively in the convention.

This campaign both underscores the importance of student participation in the meetings and the ASA's commitment to its student members.

The 2001 conference registration form will provide everyone with the opportunity to make a \$10.00 contribution to the travel fund. Beginning with the 2002 membership renewal form, members may contribute any sum to the Baxter

Travel Grant Fund. All individual contributions to the Fund will be re-granted.

The Office of the Executive Director will continue to administer the Baxter Travel Grants program with the assistance of an advisory committee. This committee will be appointed by ASA President Michael Frisch and will be charged with developing and implementing additional public education and fund-raising strategies such as possibly raising an endowment for the Baxter Travel Grant Program.

## Program Committee Report on the American Studies Association Meeting, 2000

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room for areas new or under-represented at ASA, like music, Native American Studies, and early American studies; that it would cross the boundaries between the academy and the “real” world of social and economic challenge; that it would place American Studies in a global perspective. Looking at the x sessions that constitute the formal program, it is clear that we succeeded in shaping a program that achieved these goals, as well as reflecting the range of interests and methods in our still-evolving field. What is even more satisfying is the fact that most individual sessions mingled different methods and approaches, so that interdisciplinary conversations and juxtapositions were constantly taking place. One typical session featured presenters from departments of communications, international politics, English and journalism, and film studies; another drew from art history, cultural studies, and theater studies; a third from ethnic studies, anthropology, and religion. Some of the sessions on ethnic studies focussed on one ethnic group, but featured presenters from different disciplines and backgrounds, like “Chicana/o and Latina/o Spiritualities: Negotiating Multiple Identities, Faiths and Practices,” whose presenters came from departments of comparative ethnic studies, women’s studies, religious studies, and American and Chicano studies. Other sessions on race and ethnicity were doing comparative work, like the “Reading Diasporas” sessions that juxtaposed the African diaspora in the United States and Brazil, or the two sessions on “Performing Ethnicity.”

It’s this mix of different voices and approaches on the same panel that makes the ASA annual meeting so invigorating and freeing: it’s a space where people can take the risk of doing new work, finding support from the people they encounter to develop different methods and explore new kinds of sources. Session reports from ASA chairs stressed the high levels of dialogue that took place, finding a congenial atmosphere for interchanging ideas that at times extended beyond the session (not, admittedly, into the nearby cocktail lounge, the absence of which several of you mentioned.) These comments on the chairs’ response forms are typical: “Several members of the audience got in touch with me after the session in order to establish further exchanges of information.” “The strong feeling of collaborative inquiry in this session was both invigorating and refreshing.” “The commentator delivered a really supportive and brilliant comment that helped all three panelists take their work deeper.”

We had wanted to create a conference in which such exchanges could take place among academics and non-academics, and we are particularly glad that ASA members who organized session proposals did such extensive outreach, bringing us panels that intermingled scholars and college teachers with non-profit directors, print and media journalists, public historians, film-makers, social activists, secondary school teachers, labor organizers, government workers, community organizers, poets, and performers.

We introduced some innovations in format to facilitate this kind of democratic cross-fertilization: “talk” sessions, in which

the presenter speaks rather than reads a paper (although the written paper has been sent ahead of time to the chair and commentator); an exhibit format; an on-line format. The feedback on these changes, which can allow for more interaction between presenter and audience, was extremely positive, and we hope that future program committees build on this base. (Many of you felt that in a future conference you might plunge and try a “talk” presentation, and so it’s likely that this alternative format — quite easy to arrange — could become more common.)

President Michael Frisch, along with the Local Arrangements Committee, provided the leadership and energy for another innovation that we hope future program committees will build on — Pre-Convention Collaboratives, which provided the opportunity for ASA members to meet with community activists, journalists, museum professionals, historic preservation specialists, civil rights leaders and local artists in small, focussed workshops. These collaboratives stressed the importance of Detroit, making the city more than a setting — in fact, an active participant in our conference. They also gave ASA members a concrete way to dissolve the barrier between classroom and community and embrace the local, and those who attended found the workshops valuable. Some fine-tuning needs to be done here — many of you said it was difficult to arrive in time for a pre-convention slot, and another program committee might want to simply interweave these workshops with regular sessions, and perhaps to offer fewer workshops than we did for this initial venture. But certainly these collaboratives helped to make the connection between our conference and the city of Detroit more meaningful, as did the several regular program sessions on Detroit history, culture, politics, and activism and the “community commons” accompanying the reception at the Diego Rivera court of the Detroit Museum of Art.

Last year’s Program Committee had made a commitment to integrating performance with the conference, featuring five performers over the three main conference days. We took a different approach this year, deciding to devote three performance time slots and a major part of our modest budget to one performer, Jawole Willa Joe Zollar, choreographer and dancer and founder of the performance ensemble Urban Bush Women, dedicated to interconnecting performance and social change. This decision had the advantage of bringing us a gifted artist-in-residence who was present at the conference over a three-day period; a possible disadvantage for future program committees was the fact that booking a performer of this stature requires committing money that is then unavailable for other uses, such as offering travel assistance for non-academics who are participating in the conference. We believe that the artist-in-residence idea is still worth exploring, however, particularly if the ways in which the artist will connect to the membership can become more substantial. Perhaps linking a resident artist or performer with an already established structure — such as the “Focus on Teaching Day” — would ensure



that enough people would benefit from the residency to make the financial commitment an acceptable cost. Certainly many of our members appreciate the presence of performers and artists at the conference who provide an alternative to academic sessions and allow us to think about the connections between the arts and social change.

The feedback that program committee co-chairs and members heard from the more than 1,500 ASA members attending the Detroit conference was overwhelmingly positive, and we find that very gratifying. Yes, there were a few grumbles. Some sessions were under-attended, particularly those at unattractive meeting times like Thursday noon and Sunday morning. We know it is dispiriting to have prepared a paper and then find only three people in the audience, one of whom discovers, as soon as you begin to talk, that he's in the wrong session and walks out. But the only way we can continue to offer X sessions and so have a healthy acceptance rate for proposals is to use Thursday and Sunday for sessions. Some chairs' responses pointed out problems with what we can call "conference etiquette" — people disrupting sessions by their comings and goings (hard to control this one), panelists and commentators and chairs dropping out at the last minute, at times without giving a reason, without informing anyone, and without finding replacements. "This is not acceptable behavior," wrote one session chair in his report. "Perhaps such transgressors should not be allowed to be on the program for a year." I find myself agreeing, momentarily transformed into ASA's Miss Manners, and forward the problem to next year's committee.

And, yes, there was our under-construction hotel (or "bunker"), toward which some of you turned a critical eye.

Taking a larger and more interdisciplinary perspective, we can see the — unusual? — environment of the Renaissance Center as a decided positive. The lack of food and drink sent resourceful ASA members out into the restaurants and bars of Detroit, creating a meaningful relationship with the city, as we had intended all along. And the maze-like hotel setting served to spark the metaphor-making creativity of conference goers ("fort," "moonscape," "something out of Blade Runner") and allowed lost and wandering ASA-ers to interact with local people when they asked for directions.

I attended my first American Studies meeting in Boston, over 25 years ago. The 2000 annual meeting was, in some ways, very different, reflecting the exciting new directions in scholarship and teaching we have seen over the last two decades — I'm thinking in particular of the new work in ethnic and race studies, the "crossing borders" perspectives that place the United States in a global context and view America as an entity always in the process of construction, and the impact that cultural studies, women's studies, African-American studies, queer studies, and performance studies have had on the profession. But the essence of the meeting was the same as that of the long-ago Boston meeting, which drew me to ASA: throughout the conference one could see the importance our association has traditionally placed on egalitarian practices, on respectful and supportive interchange, on innovation, on social and economic responsibility, and on welcoming junior scholars into the profession. Our organization and the annual meeting provide a strong home base from which to continue our challenging interdisciplinary and intellectual journeys.

## Approval of a Task Force for Public Practitioners in American Studies

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activities that will effectively serve the needs of public practitioners; and informing the Council and ASA membership of the issues affecting public practice in American Studies.

A first step will be to gather information from ASA members engaged in or planning work in the area of Public American Studies, consulting in particular with members of the Material Culture Caucus, the Visual Culture Caucus, and graduate students who are planning careers in public practice. The Task Force might develop a comprehensive directory of members who work either part-time or full-time in public venues. The group will also engage in and encourage formal and informal conversations—at annual breakfasts, conferences, and through face-to-face, electronic, and other media—about the particular concerns and contributions of public practitioners. Are there measures that ASA might adopt to help public practitioners create connections with one another, share ideas, and support one another's work? The Task Force will also initiate conversations with professionals in public practice not now members of the ASA, but whose work involves interpretation of American life.

As a result of these conversations, the Task Force will consider and recommend a variety of options for creating permanent support networks and connections within the ASA. Such practices as maintaining a web site, electronic discussion networks, and special sessions at regularly scheduled meetings might be useful means of fostering communication. Equally important, the Task Force will consider and recommend ways that information regarding career opportunities in public American Studies may be made more widely available to graduate students in academic departments. Finally, the Task Force will offer recommendations to the Council and the membership for ways that the ASA might bring its voice and its values to ongoing public discussions about topics within the ASA's scholarly purview.

The Council decided that the Task Force should consist of seven members, the majority of whom will have experience in public American Studies projects. Members will serve three year terms. The Council welcomes suggestions and comments on the project of the Task Force from all interested ASA members.

## ASA Conflict of Interest Statement

The Council, at its October 12, 2000 business meeting, unanimously adopted a conflict of interest policy for the American Studies Association.

The conflict of interest policy is intended to protect the Association's interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of an officer or director of the Association. The policy supplements but does not replace any applicable state laws governing conflicts of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations.

Any director, principal officer, or member of a committee with board delegated powers who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person. If a person is an interested person with respect to any part of the Association, he or she is an interested party with respect to all entities in the Association.

A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment or family-

- (a) An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which the Association has a transaction or arrangement, or
- (b) A compensation arrangement with the Association or with any entity of individual with which the Association has a transaction or arrangement, or
- (c) A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which the Association is negotiating a transaction or arrangement

The Council unanimously adopted the following conflict of interest statement:

Each member of the American Studies Association Council (or any decision-making sub-unit) must place the interests of the Association foremost in dealing with or on behalf of the Association and has a continuing responsibility to comply with the requirements of this policy. Members shall not use their position, or the knowledge gained therefrom, in such a manner that a conflict might arise between the interests of the Association and any opportunity for professional or financial gain. Whenever a conflict of interest might exist, members must fully disclose any potentially conflicting interest prior to any discussion or vote on the matter. In such circumstances, members may, and at the request of the president will, excuse themselves from any participation in the Association's decision on the matter.

It is the policy of the American Studies Association and its various boards and committees to insure that members in all of its activities avoid conflicts of interest or the

appearance of conflicts of interest resulting from their activities as members of committees or boards of the association. In particular, no persons should obtain or appear to obtain special advantages for themselves, their relatives, or their close associates as a result of their services on a board or committee. The implications in practice for this policy vary from activity to activity and this general policy should not limit the cooperation and mutual assistance that is necessary for the effective functioning of a community of scholars like the American Studies Association."

### Guidelines for Awards Committees

The American Studies Association grants a number of awards and it is very important that conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest be avoided in the process of determining who should receive the awards.

For the dissertation and student convention paper award committees, the following guidelines should be adhered to:

1. Persons who have served as a dissertation advisor or dissertation committee member should withdraw from the awards committee.
2. Persons should withdraw from the awards committee if they are a relative of, spouse of, or have a significant personal relationship with the author of the dissertation or paper.
3. It is necessary for persons to abstain from evaluation of the dissertation or paper if they are from the author's institution.
4. It is not appropriate for members of the award committee, for their own personal purposes, to make specific use of or publicize any confidential information which may have been learned through service on the committee. It is also not appropriate for members of award committees to utilize or present the results of scholarly research, which they may have learned through service on the committee without the necessary attributions and permissions. This is, however, to be distinguished from the entirely appropriate benefit obtained by committee members who become better acquainted with the state of current scholarship in American Studies.

For the book and article award committees, the following guidelines should be adhered to:

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1. Persons knowing that a book or article of which they are the author will be submitted for consideration should withdraw from the award committee.
2. Persons who have served as the primary advisor or a dissertation committee member for a dissertation which is being submitted, either in original or revised form, as a book or article for the competition should withdraw from the awards committee.
3. Persons should withdraw from the committee if they are a relative of, spouse of, or have a significant personal relationship with the author of any submitted book or article.
4. Persons who are from the same academic institution or corporation as the author of a submitted book or article should abstain from providing evaluations of that book or article as committee members.
5. It is not necessary for persons to withdraw from the committee or abstain from evaluating a book or article if they have undertaken a manuscript review for a publisher or have reviewed the book or article elsewhere.
6. Persons who have served as a series editor, advisory board member, or press board member in which a submitted book or article has appeared should abstain from evaluating that book or article.

It is not appropriate for members of award committees, for their own personal purposes, to make specific use of or publicize any confidential information which may have been learned through service on the committee. It is also not appropriate for members of award committees to utilize or present the results of scholarly research, which they may have learned through service on the committee without the necessary attributions and permissions. This is, however, to be distinguished from the entirely appropriate benefit obtained by committee members who become better acquainted with the state of current scholarship in American Studies.”

## DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS IN AMERICAN STUDIES, 2000 – 2001

The American Studies Association is proud to continue an important bibliography project that serves researchers throughout the wider scholarly community. **Doctoral Dissertations in American Studies** is an annual bibliography of completed doctoral dissertations in American Studies. It appears each year in **American Quarterly**. We are now conducting a survey of completed doctoral dissertations in American Studies, 2000–2001. We have asked each graduate department and program that offers the Ph.D. in American Studies or American Civilization, to provide a list of doctoral dissertations completed or expected to be completed between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2001.

ASA members who are enrolled in non-American Studies doctoral programs may also wish to list their completed dissertations in the new bibliography. To do so, please send entries by April 30, 2001 to American Studies Association, 1120 19th St. NW, Suite 301, Washington, DC 20036; fax: 202/467-4786; [asastaff@erols.com](mailto:asastaff@erols.com).

Entries should be written to convey information in the following order: student's name; title of dissertation; institutional affiliation including Department or Program name and University; dissertation director; date completed. To facilitate follow-up procedures, please include your current address and telephone number. We will contact you to confirm completion of your degree and to collect data for the abstract included in the final listing.

## Call for Nominations—American Studies Association

The Executive Committee of the American Studies Association invites self-nominations and suggestions for the committee positions listed below. Candidates must be association members and should possess expertise appropriate to the committee's work. Applications from minorities and women are particularly invited. Applicants must submit a brief statement outlining their qualifications and experience and a complete resume. Letters suggesting or recommending a candidate should also relate the candidate's experience to the committee's work. Materials are due on or before April 1, 2001. Send to the Executive Committee, American Studies Association, 1120 19th Street NW, Suite 301, Washington, DC 20036. Fax: 202/467-4786. E-mail: pp001366@mindspring.com

### STANDING COMMITTEES:

**Committee on American Studies Programs:** Keeps the Council and the Association's membership informed of the current interests, needs, and professional concerns of American Studies departments and programs, and has the responsibility for special tasks involving the Association's institutional membership. Two positions, three-year terms.

**Committee on Regional Chapters:** Keeps the Council and the Association's membership informed of the current activities, interests, and needs of the regional chapters; acts as a liaison between the Association and the regional chapters; and has responsibility for special tasks involving the Association's regional chapters. Four positions (one each from the Great Lakes, Hawai'i, Kentucky-Tennessee, and Southern regions), three-year terms. Nominees are also presented by the chapters.

**Committee on Secondary Education:** Keeps the Council and the Association's membership informed of the issues affecting secondary educators in the profession and has responsibility for special tasks involving secondary educators in the membership. Two positions, three-year terms. Crossroads Project Advisory Board: Assists and advises the Crossroads Project Director with the development and maintenance of the American Studies Crossroads Project, its intellectual organization, the online tools, publications, and resources it develops, and its outreach activities. Three positions, three-year terms.

**International Committee:** Promotes and coordinates research and study about the United States abroad, acts as a liaison between ASA and American Studies associations in other countries, and cooperates with foreign foundations, government agencies, and scholarly associations concerned with teaching and research about the United States. International members of the ASA especially are encouraged to apply. Three positions, three-year terms.

**Minority Scholars' Committee:** Keeps the Council and the Association's membership informed of the issues affecting minority scholars in the profession and has responsibility for special tasks involving minority scholars in the membership. Two positions, three-year terms.

**Students' Committee:** Keeps the Council and membership informed of the current interests, needs, and orientations of American Studies students. Four positions, two-year terms.

**Women's Committee:** Keeps the Council and membership informed of the issues affecting women in the profession and has responsibility for special tasks involving women in the membership. Two positions, three-year terms.

**Prize Committees (2002):** The Prize Committees for 2002 start work during the fall of the 2001-2002 academic year and complete their work by September, 2002:

**John Hope Franklin Publication Prize Committee:** Selects the best published book in American Studies submitted each year to the Committee by authors and publishers. Three positions, one-year terms.

**Ralph Henry Gabriel Dissertation Prize Committee:** Selects the best completed dissertation in American Studies submitted to the Committee by graduate programs in American Studies. Three positions, one-year terms.

**Constance Rourke Prize Committee:** Selects the best published article appearing the previous calendar year in *American Quarterly*. Three positions, one-year terms.

**Gene Wise – Warren Susman Prize Committee:** Selects the best student paper to be presented at that year's Annual Meeting, and also awards Annette K. Baxter Travel Grants to other deserving students on the meeting program. Three positions, one-year terms.

**Yasuo Sakakibara Prize Committee:** Selects the best paper by an international scholar to be presented at that year's Annual Meeting. Three positions, one-year terms.

**Mary C. Turpie Prize Committee:** Selects a person for outstanding contributions to teaching, advising, and program development in American Studies at the local or regional level. Three positions, one-year terms.

**Carl Bode – Norman Holmes Pearson Prize Committee:** Selects a person for outstanding, life-time contributions to American Studies. Three positions, one-year terms.



## Call for Nominations and Self-Nominations for the ASA Students' Committee

The Executive Committee of the ASA invites self-nominations and suggestions for a number of standing committee positions, including three, two-year terms for the Students' Committee. On behalf of existing members of the Students' Committee, we would like to encourage all student ASA members to consider applying to join our committee.

The ASA Students' Committee is charged with keeping the Council and membership informed of the current interests, needs, and orientations of the association's student members. The Committee is a conduit for student input into ASA policies and each year sponsors a number of sessions at the annual meeting. In the last few years, the committee has sponsored panels, roundtables, and workshops on such diverse topics as unionization, non-academic careers, Ethnic Studies, professionalization, and teaching with technology.

Members of the Students' Committee have come from a range of disciplines and programs, including American Studies, Cultural Studies, English, Ethnic Studies, Film Studies, History, and Women's Studies. In addition to focusing on students pursuing academic careers, the committee is interested in—and seeks additional input from—students training in museum curating, media, public history, and/or community work.

The committee's agenda recognizes the high visibility and importance of students within the ASA membership. We seek

to foster and strengthen student communities within the ASA by finding ways to make attendance at the conference more accessible, by supporting unionization of graduate students and part-time faculty, and by sponsoring workshops on such topics as navigating the job market, mentoring, activism, and the dialogue between Ethnic Studies and American Studies. We welcome new members with ideas for continuing these projects and developing new ones.

For a more detailed sense of what we do, we invite all interested student ASA members to visit our Web site: [www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/interests/student/](http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/interests/student/). We also encourage potential applicants to contact the committee via email <ASASTUDENTS-L@listproc.georgetown.edu> with questions or comments.

To apply, applicants must submit a complete resume, as well as a brief statement outlining their interest in the committee and relevant experience. Materials are due by April 15, 2001. Send to:

Executive Committee  
American Studies Association  
1120 19th Street NW, Suite 301  
Washington, DC 20036

### ASA ANNUAL MEETING November 8–11, 2001 Renaissance Hotel, Washington, DC

#### Information and forms now available online!

##### CONVENTIONS HOME PAGE

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asa2001/>

##### REGISTRATION

<http://www.walcom.com/regis/forms/asa01.htm>

##### HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asa2001/regform.html>

##### STUDENT HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asa2001/studentregform.htm>

##### RESERVING SPACE FOR

##### BUSINESS MEETINGS AND RECEPTIONS

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asa2001/reservespace2001.htm>

##### EXHIBITOR INFORMATION PAGE

<http://www.press.jhu.edu/associations/asa/exhibitor.htm>

##### EXHIBITOR INDEX

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asa2001/exhibitindex2001.htm>

## Visual Culture/Art History Caucus

The Visual Culture/Art History Caucus (VC/AH) provides a home within the American Studies Association for people working in the areas of art history and visual culture, by which we mean the wide range of visual materials, from advertising, billboards, and cartoons to visual ethnographies, photography, and the Internet. The Caucus was organized a few years ago by Patricia Hills, who was chair for two years, in order to better represent VC/AH interests within the association by working with the Nominations Committee, the Program Committee, the American Studies Council, etc. The Caucus also proposes and sponsors sessions at the ASA convention. Business is conducted at an annual meeting at the ASA conference; and the Caucus has traditionally co-hosted, along with the Material Culture Caucus, one of the best receptions at the ASA. Through our listserv we are acting as a kind of clearinghouse for persons teaching and doing research in visual culture and art history and who might be seeking to broaden their community or to gain the advice of other scholars and teachers. We are also beginning to work with museums, libraries, and visual archives in areas of shared interest.

Persons interested in joining, should contact the Chair of Membership, Elspeth Brown (elspeth.brown@utoronto.ca), who will forward your name and e-mail to our list. If you are not a member of the Caucus but wish to post a message to the list, please send it to Shirley Wajda (swajda@kent.edu).

Officers for 2000–2001 are: Miles Orvell (Chair); Patricia Johnston (Vice Chair); Elspeth Brown (Membership); David Brody and Lisa Lock (Organizing Committee); Melissa Dabakis (Program Committee); Max Marmor (Technology Committee); David Morgan (International Committee).

The Caucus is governed according to the following Bylaws:

### Bylaws of the Visual Culture/Art History Caucus Approved: October 1999

#### ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Visual Culture/Art History Caucus (VC/AHC), a body subsidiary to the American Studies Association (ASA). The VC/AHC is a non-profit organization and is not incorporated.

#### ARTICLE II: OBJECT

The purpose of the VC/AHC shall be to promote the interests of its members, who are also members of the ASA, by organizing meetings at the annual ASA convention, by sharing information regarding teaching and scholarship, by representing the interests of its members to the ASA leadership, by advancing the professional development of its members, by lobbying for visual culture issues, and by other activities as are deemed appropriate by the VC/AHC Steering

Committee and the membership, so long as they are consistent with the ASA constitution and bylaws.

#### ARTICLE III: MEMBERS

Any members of the American Studies Association shall be eligible to become members of the VC/AHC by notifying the Membership Committee of the VC/AHC of their wish to join. Any applications, dues, or other obligations of members must be approved by the Steering Committee of the VC/AHC.

#### ARTICLE IV: COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS

##### Section 1.

The Steering Committee of the VC/AHC shall consist of seven to ten officers: the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and the Chairs of the Standing Committees—currently Membership Committee, Program Committee, Organizing Committee, Technology Committee, and International Committee.

##### Section 2.

**Duties of Steering Committee:** The Steering Committee has authority over all affairs of the VC/AHC.

**Duties of the Chair and Vice-Chair:** to preside over meetings, to establish the agenda for meetings, to appoint special committees and task forces, to publish notices when necessary in the ASA Newsletter, to gather nominations to run for VC/AHC office and National Council positions, to inform the membership of national issues that affect scholars of visual culture and art history, and to be a liaison with the ASA national office.

**Duties of Membership Committee:** to take minutes at meetings, to manage membership lists and electronic mail lists, and to manage whatever monies are associated with the operation of the VC/AHC.

**Duties of Program Committee:** to propose to ASA, in consultation with the Steering Committee, sessions sponsored by the VC/AHC. To consult with members to help them develop sessions and guide them through attaining Caucus sponsorship.

**Duties of Organizing Committee:** to plan and arrange, in consultation with Steering Committee, all social activities of the VC/AHC, and to work with the local organizing committee and other caucuses to plan for the national conference.

**Duties of the Technology Committee:** to explore and report to the membership on new technologies for teaching and research.

**Duties of the International Committee:** to explore and to report on trends in Visual Culture Studies abroad.

Unexpected vacancies in the officers may be filled by appointment by the Chair and Vice Chair and with approval of the Steering Committee.

### Section 3.

Election of Steering Committee: At the conclusion of the annual Business Meeting of the VC/AHC, the Chair of the Membership Committee will conduct an election of the Steering Committee, with nominations from the floor and any nominations sent in writing to Chair or Vice-Chair prior to the meeting. A simple majority wins. All officers may run again and serve succeeding one-year terms.

### ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

A regular meeting of the VC/AHC will be held in conjunction with the ASA annual convention. All persons attending the regular meeting shall be considered a quorum.

### ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present at the regular annual meeting, provided that a previous notice of the amendment was given to members (by mail or email) eight days in advance of the meeting.

## ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

The *ASA Newsletter* is published quarterly (March, June, September, December) and has a circulation of approximately 6,000. The deadline for submission of display and employment ads is the first of the month preceding the date of publication. For example, a display ad or job announcement which is to appear in the December *Newsletter* must be received in the editor's office by November 1. The editor reserves the right to edit all copy and to refuse ads. Send ads, including camera ready copy, to the Editor at the American Studies Association, 1120 19th Street, NW, Suite #301, Washington, DC 20036; Phone: (202) 467-4783; Fax: (202) 467-4786; [asastaff@erols.com](mailto:asastaff@erols.com).

In order to confirm your ad, you must remit either a 50% deposit, or the full rental either by check or by company purchase order. Advertisers will be billed for the outstanding cost when the *Newsletter* containing the ad is published. You may also place an order by telephone if you follow your call with a confirmation letter. Advertisements taken over the telephone will be billed at the rate of an additional \$40 per advertisement.

**DISPLAY ADS** for jobs, conferences, fellowships, publications, and other items of professional interest may be placed in the *ASA Newsletter*. Rates: for a one-quarter page ad (specs. 3-3/4" x 5"), the cost is \$150; for a half-page ad (specs. 5" x 7-1/2"), \$250; and for a full-page ad (specs. 7-1/2" x 10"), \$400.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.** The American Studies Association encourages institutions to list available positions in display ad format or in the Employment Opportunities section of the *ASA Newsletter*. The charge is \$100 for each vacancy listed up to 18 typewritten lines (50 characters per line).

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ONLINE:** The ASA also accepts online advertising at the rate of \$50.00 per position announcement. For advertisers in the print edition of the *ASA Newsletter*, this fee is currently waived. The position will be listed in the continually updated *Employment Opportunities* section of the *ASA Newsletter* published online at <http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asainfo.html>. While the *ASA Newsletter* is printed quarterly, the online edition is updated on a continuing basis. The employment section is freely accessible both to ASA members and to anyone with a web access. The position will be removed two weeks after the deadline for applications or upon receipt of notification that the position has been filled.

#### SUGGESTED FORMAT

- Name of employer
- Title or rank of position
- Position description and responsibilities
- Minimum qualifications required
- Salary range and period covered
- Starting date and application deadline
- Documents required for application
- Name and address of person to whom application should be sent
- Affirmative action/equal opportunity employer designation if applicable.

The American Studies Association publishes *Employment Opportunities* as a service of ASA to both employers and job applicants. ASA recommends that all positions for American Studies practitioners should be advertised in *Employment Opportunities*. Association members should notify appropriate officials at their institutions of this service and advise them to take advantage of it.

Information in listings is assumed to reflect bona fide openings at the time the ads were placed. Applicants should contact employers for more complete information or changes in the job listing. All applications and inquiries for a position should be acknowledged promptly and courteously. ASA expects institutions in the U.S. to adhere to Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employment practices.

**ADVERTISING IN OTHER ASA PUBLICATIONS.** For advertising rates and information on the *Guide for American Studies Resources*, *American Quarterly*, or the *ASA Annual Meeting Program*, contact Advertising Coordinator, Journals Publishing Division, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2715 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218-4319; 410/516-6982; fax: 410/516-6968.

**ORDERING ASA MAILING LABELS.** Mailing labels for ASA members can be rented for a single use to promote books, conferences, journals, and other items of professional interest. Information on the list and the cost and terms of rental is available from Patricia Smith, Circulation Supervisor, Journals Publishing Division, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2715 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218-4319; 410/516-6945; fax: 410/516-6968. Orders must be placed in writing and accompanied by a copy of the piece to be mailed. The Press reserves the right to refuse orders for mailings that are not of professional interest to ASA members.

## 2001 ASA Prize Announcements

### SAKAKIBARA PRIZE 2001 (Newly Established)

International scholars who have had papers accepted for the 2001 annual meeting may compete for a new convention paper award. Scholars or practitioners whose institutional affiliation is outside the United States are eligible. The recipient will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association in Washington, D.C., November 8–11, 2001.

The Yasuo Sakakibara Prize includes a certificate and \$500.00 in cash awarded for the best paper presented by an international scholar at the meeting. The winning paper may deal with any aspect of American history, culture, or society. The winning author must be a member of the American Studies Association or an affiliated international American Studies Association.

One copy of each original paper must be sent via airmail to each of the following committee members postmarked no later than September 7, 2001; include a cover letter with author's name, institutional affiliation, paper title, and contact information.

Francis G. Couvares  
Department of History  
Amherst College  
Box 2254  
Amherst, MA 01002-5003

Gonul Pultar  
Department of English  
Bilkent University  
Ankara 006533  
TURKEY

Mary Corbin Sies  
Dept. of American Studies  
2125 Taliaferro Hall  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD  
20742-7700

The prize honors Yasuo Sakakibara, Professor Emeritus of Economics and first chair of the Graduate School in American Studies at Doshisha University, and a past president of the Japanese Association for American Studies.

### THE RALPH HENRY GABRIEL DISSERTATION PRIZE 2001

The American Studies Association is pleased to announce the competition for the 2001 Ralph Henry Gabriel Dissertation Prize. The \$500 prize will be awarded by the Association for the best doctoral dissertation in American Studies.

The period of eligibility for the Gabriel Prize will include dissertations completed between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2001. Each American Studies Program is eligible to nominate two dissertations that will have been completed under its aegis during the period of eligibility for the award. The competition is limited to candidates receiving the Ph.D.

degree in American Studies, American Ethnic Studies, or American Women's Studies. The winning author must be a member of the Association. The prizewinner will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association in Washington, D.C. November 8–11, 2001.

The procedure for submission is as follows:

1. The Director of each graduate American Studies, American Ethnic Studies, or American Women's Studies program, in consultation with the faculty, will be eligible to choose for submission up to two dissertations completed in the program during the period of eligibility. The Director will then send to the Executive Director of the American Studies Association at the national office the dissertation abstracts, a sample chapter from each dissertation selected, and a cover letter explaining why each dissertation deserves the award.
2. The Executive Director of the Association will forward this material to a three-member prize selection committee. Based on their reading of the materials submitted, the prize committee will then invite a short list of up to seven nominees to submit their completed dissertations for formal review.

Please note that the Ralph Henry Gabriel Dissertation Prize does not include publication with any individual press or publishing house.

The members of the 2001 Gabriel Prize Committee are Nan Enstad (University of North Carolina, Greensboro), William Graebner, Committee Chair, (State University of New York College at Fredonia), and John Carlos Rowe (University of California, Irvine). The deadline for submission is **May 19, 2001**.

The prize honors Ralph Henry Gabriel, Professor Emeritus at Yale University, and a founder and past president of the American Studies Association.

### CARL BODE – NORMAN HOLMES PEARSON PRIZE 2001

The American Studies Association is proud to announce it is accepting nominations for the **Bode-Pearson Prize for Outstanding Contributions to American Studies**. The Bode-Pearson Prize, established in 1975, is one of the oldest and most prestigious awards in American Studies. The prize is awarded periodically at the annual meeting of the American Studies Association and includes lifetime membership in the ASA for the recipient. The Prize is awarded to an individual for a lifetime of achievement and service within the field of American Studies.

Previous winners include John Hope Franklin, Guenter Lenz, Gary Okihiro, Bernice Johnson Reagon, Allen Davis, Leo Marx, Daniel Aaron, Arthur P. Dudden, Betty Ch'maj,



John A. Hague, Albert E. Stone, Michael Cowan, Warren Susman, Gene Wise, Ralph Henry Gabriel, Robert E. Spiller, Henry Nash Smith, Merle Curti, Mary Turpie, and Norman Holmes Pearson. The prize honors two founders and former presidents of the American Studies Association, Carl Bode of the University of Maryland, and Norman Holmes Pearson of Yale University.

To nominate a candidate for the award, submit a letter and supporting materials detailing the rationale for putting forward the candidate's name. One set of nominating materials must be sent to each of the following committee members no later than **June 30, 2001**.

Gary Y. Okihiro  
Center for the Study of  
Ethnicity and Race  
Columbia University,  
Hamilton Hall  
1130 Amsterdam Avenue  
New York, NY 10027-7039

Paula Rabinowitz  
English Department,  
207 Lind Hall  
University of Minnesota  
207 Church Street, SE  
Minn., MN 55455-0156

Vicki Ruiz  
Department of History  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, AZ 85287

### **NOMINATIONS REQUESTED FOR THE MARY C. TURPIE AWARD 2001**

The American Studies Association is proud to announce it is accepting nominations for the **Mary C. Turpie Award**. The Award is given to the candidate who has demonstrated outstanding abilities and achievement in American Studies teaching, advising, and program development at the local or regional level.

The Award is named for the late Mary C. Turpie, co-founder, chair, and for many years, the guiding force behind the American Studies Program at the University of Minnesota. The prize is awarded periodically at the annual meeting of the American Studies Association and includes life-time membership in the ASA for the recipient. Previous winners include Jesper Rosenmeier, Simon Bronner, Jay Mechling, Lois Rudnick, Michael Aaron Rockland, Alma Payne, Richard Slotkin, Paul Baker, and Charles Bassett.

To nominate a candidate for the award, submit a letter and supporting materials detailing the rationale for putting forward the candidate's name—for example, letters from colleagues, former colleagues, former students, and current students (if any); syllabi and course descriptions; a c.v.; and any evidence that speaks to excellence in teaching, program development, and hands-on involvement under the nominee's direction. Chapters and programs may nominate for this award. For more information, potential nominators may contact the committee chair. One set of nominating materials must be sent to each of the following committee members no later than **June 30, 2001**.

Jonathan Holloway  
Department of  
African American Studies  
POB 203388  
Yale University  
New Haven, CT  
06520-3388

Leslie Prosterman  
Department of  
American Studies  
Room 453 Fine Arts,  
1000 Hilltop Circle  
University of Maryland,  
Baltimore County  
Baltimore, MD 21250-5398

Eric Sandeen, Committee Chair  
American Studies Program  
Box 4036, Cooper House  
University of Wyoming  
Laramie, WY 82071

### **WISE-SUSMAN PRIZE AND BAXTER TRAVEL GRANTS 2001**

Student members of the American Studies Association who have had papers accepted for the 2001 annual meeting may compete for two student paper awards. The recipients will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association in Washington, D.C., November 8–11, 2001.

The Gene Wise – Warren Susman Prize includes a certificate and \$500.00 in cash awarded for the best paper presented by a graduate student at the meeting. The winning paper may deal with any aspect of American history, literature, or culture, but should reflect the breadth, the critical imagination, the intellectual boldness, and the cross-disciplinary perspective so strongly a part of the scholarship of both Gene Wise and Warren Susman. The winning author must be a member of the Association.

In addition, Annette K. Baxter travel grants will be awarded to nurture graduate student participation on the annual meeting program. For at least five more graduate students on the program, the American Studies Association will provide reimbursement for travel and expenses up to a maximum of \$300 per recipient. The winning authors must be members of the Association.

One copy of each original paper (dissertation chapters are not acceptable) must be sent to each of the following committee members postmarked no later than September 7, 2001; include a cover letter with author's name, institutional affiliation, paper title, and contact information.

Michele Mitchell  
Department of History  
1029 Tisch Hall  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003

Siva Vaidhyathan,  
Committee Chair  
110 Blecker Street, #18F  
New York, NY 10012-2105

Janet Zandy  
580 Hillside Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14610-2920

# ASA Regional Chapter News

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asa/chapters/>

Edited by Gena Caponi-Tabery, Chair  
Committee on Regional Chapters

## AN INVITATION TO GRADUATE STUDENTS

Members of the ASA Regional Chapters' Committee invite and encourage all graduate students to participate in regional chapter activities and conferences. Regional chapter conferences offer an important venue for scholarly exchange and create opportunities for professional development and for collegial relations with faculty in American Studies and related programs. At regional conferences, students seeking careers in American Studies can develop collegial and scholarly relationships with faculty and graduate students outside their home institutions and even outside the chapter region. Such relations can be inspiring and helpful to one's scholarship and professional development. Graduate students will find that the quality of scholarship at regional meetings can be on a par with national meetings, yet the setting is more intimate. Keynote speakers and presenters for these conferences can include past presidents of ASA, Officers in ASA, and well-established scholars in interdisciplinary work. The smaller size of regional meetings means that graduate students get to spend more time with other participants and scholars at all levels of professional activity. Graduate students can also learn from scholars in their chapters through peer review of paper abstracts, feedback on works in progress, and participation in such sessions as vitae-writing workshops, mock interviews, publishing strategies, and the job application process. Many regional chapters reduce costs for graduate students, or in some cases, waive registration fees for graduate students whose abstracts are accepted for presentation. Such assistance is further measure of the regional chapters' commitment to the development of future scholars of American Studies.

## News from California ASA:

**CONFERENCE:** The California American Studies Association (CASA) and the Rocky Mountain American Studies Association (RMSA) are co-sponsoring CASA's annual meeting, to be held in Reno, Nevada, May 4-6, 2001. The theme of the joint conference is Millennial Transgressions: Social, Legal, Sexual, Environmental, Literary, and Pedagogical. For more information contact: Program Chair Travis Silcox, [SilcoxT@scc.losrios.cc.ca.us](mailto:SilcoxT@scc.losrios.cc.ca.us), or visit the CASA website: <http://hss.fullerton.edu/amst/casa/casa.html>.

## News from Great Lakes ASA:

**CONFERENCE:** The Great Lakes American Studies Association Annual Meeting, hosted by Ball State University and the Minnetrista Cultural Center, Muncie, Indiana takes place March 16-18, 2001. The theme for the conference is "Community, Family, and Youth: "Growing America, America

Growing". Organized in conjunction with the French American Studies Association; the GLASA conference welcomes American Studies scholars and graduate students from the United States and Europe.

Highlights of the GLASA conference include a Keynote Address by award-winning author and filmmaker Peter Davis, whose films include Emmy-winning documentaries "The Selling Of The Pentagon" [CBS 1971], *Middletown* [PBS 1982], "Jack" [CBS 1993], and his Academy Award-winning film on the Viet Nam War, "Hearts and Minds" [1975]. Davis's keynote address is titled "Against the New: Continuity in America." A Penary address will be given by Jacques Pothier, from the University of Versailles, St Quentin-en-Yvelines. Professor Pothier's talk is titled "American Literature and the Concept of Community in a European Looking Glass." For additional information on the GLASA conference and to register please contact GLASA Conference Chair, Anthony O. Edmonds, History Department, Ball State University, Muncie, IN, email: [00aoedmonds@bsuvc.bsu.edu](mailto:00aoedmonds@bsuvc.bsu.edu) or 765-285-2779, or GLASA President, Linda J. Borish, Department of History, Western Michigan University, email: [linda.borish@wmich.edu](mailto:linda.borish@wmich.edu), or 616-387-4631. GLASA conference materials can be found on the GLASA web site at [www.muohio.edu/glasa/](http://www.muohio.edu/glasa/).

**CALL FOR PAPERS:** The 26th annual Great Lakes History Conference, sponsored by Grand Valley State University, will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on November 9-10, 2001. The theme of the conference is "The History of the Great Lakes Region." Keynote speaker will be Dr. Robert P. Swierenga of the A.C. Van Raalte Institute, Hope College. We invite papers and arranged sessions in all areas of historical study, with preference given to those that relate to the theme. If you are interested in presenting a paper, please send an abstract of approximately 200 words, together with a short c.v. by May 15, 2001. Those interested in chairing and commenting on a session should send a c.v. and indicate areas of expertise. Please address all inquiries and abstracts to Dr. Carolyn Shapiro-Shapin, Department of History, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI 49401.

Email: [ShapiroC@gvsu.edu](mailto:ShapiroC@gvsu.edu). Fax: 616-895-3285. Phone: (616) 895-3445.

## News from Middle Atlantic ASA:

**CONFERENCE:** The Mid-Atlantic American Studies Association announces its program for the 2001 meeting in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, March 30-31, on the theme "Remembering the Twentieth Century." The conference begins Friday, March 30, 7 p.m., at the Johnstown Heritage

Discovery Center with a special viewing and reception of the new permanent exhibition "America: Through Immigrant Eyes," hosted by director Richard Burkert. The interactive exhibition re-creates the different environments experienced by those who came to Johnstown from Eastern and Southern European countries from 1870 to 1914.

Panel presentations on Saturday at the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown Conference Center include "Remembering Popular Music in the 20th Century," "War and Memory," "Recollecting the 20th Century for Public Heritage," "Images of the Century," and "Books of the Century." A plenary session will feature a preview and discussion with Allen Stein of his forthcoming documentary "Rocking the Boat: Studs Terkel's 20th Century." To preregister and receive local arrangements information, contact Simon Bronner, American Studies Program, Penn State Harrisburg, 777 West Harrisburg, Middletown, PA 17057-4898, 717-948-6039, 717-948-6724 (fax), [sjb2@psu.edu](mailto:sjb2@psu.edu).

#### News from New England ASA:

**CONFERENCE:** The New England ASA annual conference will feature more than 75 session and paper proposals on the conference theme "Making Spaces: Travels, Tourism, Geographies, and the Construction of Place in the Americas." The conference will be held on April 27–29, 2001 at the University of New Hampshire-Manchester, in the restored grounds of the historic Amoskeag Millyard. Manchester, a city undergoing rapid economic and physical transformation, is served by several major air carriers and is easily accessible from all parts of the country. For further information on the 2001 NEASA conference, contact Adam Sweeting, NEASA Program Committee Chair, Boston University, College of General Studies, 871 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215, or [sweeting@bu.edu](mailto:sweeting@bu.edu).

**PAPER PRIZE:** At the 2001 conference, NEASA will award the Mary Kelley Prize for the best paper given at the conference by a graduate student, independent scholar, or non-tenure track faculty member. NEASA will also announce the recipient of the Lois P. Rudnick Book Award, given biennially for the best book written by a NEASA member.

**OTHER NEWS:** NEASA continues to make preliminary local arrangements for the 2003 national American Studies Association convention, scheduled to be held in Hartford, Connecticut. NEASA is looking forward to working with Hartford area colleagues as we develop preconvention collaboratives with educational, civic, and community groups in and around Hartford. NEASA would like to welcome and recognize Council members elected or re-elected for two year terms in NEASA's recent elections. The newly elected Council members are: Rick Walters, University of New Hampshire (graduate student representative); Kathy Eldridge, Westborough High School, Westborough, MA (secondary school representative); Kim Brinck-Johnsen,

Salem State College (re-elected); Michael Hoberman, Boston University; Sean McCann, Wesleyan University; Elizabeth Nichols, University of New Hampshire, and Siohban Senier, University of New Hampshire.

#### News from Pacific Northwest ASA:

**CONFERENCE:** The Pacific Northwest ASA (PNASA) will hold its annual conference on April 19–21, 2001 on the Oregon coast at The Inn at Spanish Head in Lincoln City, Oregon. The theme of the conference is "Archiving the American Past and Present, Envisioning the Future." ASA President-Elect George Sanchez will deliver the keynote address on "Adventures in Post-Nationalist American Studies: The Difference Race Makes." For more information about the conference program and accommodations, see the PNASA web page at <http://www.gonzaga.edu/faculty/simmons/pnasa.html#update>, link to the PNASA conference site from the Regional Chapters page at <http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads>, or contact the PNASA President, Walter Hesford, Department of English, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844; Fax: 208-885-5944; e-mail: [hesford@uidaho.edu](mailto:hesford@uidaho.edu)

#### News from Rocky Mountain ASA:

The Rocky Mountain American Studies Association will be holding a joint meeting with the California American Studies Association, May 4–6, at the University of Nevada, Reno. The theme of the conference will be "Millennial Transgressions — Social, Legal, Sexual, Environmental, Literary, Pedagogical, etc." We will elect a new slate of officers at the meeting and discuss strategies for increasing participation in regional activities. For further information about the meeting contact Eric Porter at [porter@unm.edu](mailto:porter@unm.edu).

#### News from Southern ASA:

The Southern American Studies Association held its biennial conference on February 22–25, 2001 at the Downtown Renaissance Hotel in Atlanta. The theme of the conference was "Commencement de Siecle: American Culture in New Centuries." The meeting, which was co-sponsored by Emory University, featured some fifty papers as well as plenary sessions by Professor George Lipsitz, University of California–San Diego, Professor Nellie McKay, University of Wisconsin, and Professor Frances Smith Foster, Emory University.

#### News from Texas ASA:

The American Studies Association of Texas held its annual conference at Baylor University, Waco, Texas this past November. New officers elected are President: Donald E. Greco, Baylor University; Vice-President: Gene Young, Sam Houston State University. Secretary–Treasurer remains Elizabeth Roth. Councillors are Traci Thompson, Gena Caponi-Tabery, and Marvin Harris. ASAT's 2001 conference will be held at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas.



# Opportunities & Resources

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/resources.html>

## Submission Guidelines for Opportunities and Resources

All announcements (excluding employment opportunities) should conform to the following guidelines, similar to those followed in the **Guide to American Studies Resources**. The ASA staff reserves the right to edit announcements to the format described below.

- Announcements must be no longer than 7 lines of text in MS Word format, but should ideally be between 4-6 lines of text.
- Announcements should provide only essential information and a brief description (2-3 lines).
- Announcements following these guidelines will run free of charge in the print and online versions of the ASA Newsletter. Regular advertising rates of \$100.00 (print text ad) and \$50.00 (online only) will apply if a longer announcement is desired. All announcements will be formatted according to these guidelines unless otherwise directed.

### Suggested format for fellowship/prize announcements

- Institution; Name of Fellowship; Brief Description, 2-3 lines (amount, qualifications, etc); Deadline; Contact Info;

### Suggested format for paper calls / conferences / exhibitions

- Deadline / Dates; Location; Title of Conference; Organization; Brief Description—2-3 lines; contact info; Example.

## Conferences

**April 5–8, 2001.** Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) will hold its 14th annual conference at the Radisson Miyako Hotel in San Francisco, California. The conference theme will be “Visible, Yet Marginalized: Voicing a National Agenda for Asian/Pacific Americans in Higher Education. For more information please consult the conference website at <http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~ethnicst/apah/main.html> or contact Ms. Janet Duong, Asian American Studies, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720-2570. (510) 642-6717; fax: (510) 642-6456; e-mail: [jduong@uclink4@berkeley.edu](mailto:jduong@uclink4@berkeley.edu).

**April 25–29, 2001.** The Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF) will hold its annual meeting and conference in historic Newport, Rhode Island, focusing on “The Early Architecture and Landscapes of Newport and the Narragansett Basin. Planned events include a discussion panel, paper presentations

as well as walking and bus tours of Newport and surrounding areas. Contact and Information: John Vaughan, Conference Coordinator; [www.vaf20001.org](http://www.vaf20001.org); E-mail: [VAFinfo@aol.com](mailto:VAFinfo@aol.com).

## Call for Papers—Conferences

**March 26, 2001 Deadline.** “Spaces and Places in Early America,” An Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference hosted by the McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, September 21-22, 2001. Contact: The McNeill Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 3619 Locust Walk, 3rd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6213, (215) 898-9251 [bhunter@udel.edu](mailto:bhunter@udel.edu) or go to [www.mceas.org](http://www.mceas.org).

**March 30, 2001 Deadline.** “From Bacon to Bartram: Early American Inquiries into the Natural World, 1600-1800.” The Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture proposes a topical conference, to be held in March 2002, examining the impact that early America had on conceptions of nature. Please submit proposals of two to five pages outlining subject, argument, and relevance to topic and time period. Include curriculum vitae. Send three copies to: Natural Science Conference, OIEAHC, P.O. Box 8781, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8781. No email versions. For more information visit <http://www.wm.edu/oieahc/>

**April 3, 2001 Deadline.** The Historical Society, 3rd Meeting, Atlanta, May 2002. The Program Directors welcome proposals from individuals active in all fields of historical inquiry. The theme of the conference will be “Historical Reconstructions.” Please send five copies of your paper proposal, a brief abstract no more than two pages in length. Send proposals to this address by postal mail: 2002 Program Directors, The Historical Society, 656 Beacon Street, Mezzanine, Boston, MA 02215-2010. No e-mail attachments. Questions? Feel free to contact us with preliminary questions. Telephone: (617) 358-0260, Email: [historic@bu.edu](mailto:historic@bu.edu).

**April 15, 2001 Deadline.** Announcing the fifth multidisciplinary Conference on Holidays, Ritual, Festival, Celebration, and Public Display. The conference will be held on June 1-3, 2001, Bowling Green State University. Proposals for individualized papers and panels as well as film-video presentations are welcomed. Proposals should show original research and/or new theoretical perspectives and familiarity with existing scholarship. For more information contact Jack Santino, Department of Popular Culture, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43403-0226, FAX: (419) 372-2577, E-mail: [jsantini@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:jsantini@bgnet.bgsu.edu)



**April 30, 2001 Deadline.** International Conference on American Culture in the Era of Globalization, University of Lodz, Poland, October 20-23, 2001. Papers and panels on the following topics relating to globalization are welcomed: National identities and the Americanization of European cultures; American mass media; Impact of American "high" and "low" cultures; role of the Fulbright Program; Americanization vs. cultural globalization. Send title and half page abstract to: Jaroslaw Wojcizek, Department of American Studies and Mass Media, University of Lodz; Narutowicza 54/11, 90-136 Lodz, Poland. E-mail: wojcie@krysia.uni.lodz.pl.

**May 1, 2001 Deadline.** "The EmBodyment of American Culture," October 26-28, University of Klagenfurt, Austria. The Austrian Association of American Studies (AAAS) invites proposals for the annual conference, which will address the various fixations, within contemporary American culture, on the body. Contact: Maureen Devine, American Studies Program, University of Klagenfurt, A-9020, Austria. Phone: +43-463-2700-2514; Fax: +43-463-2700-2599; E-mail: maureen.devine@uni-klu.ac.at.

**May 31, 2001 Deadline.** "Content Providers of the World Unite! The Cultural Politics of Globalization." The John Douglas Taylor Conference seeks proposals for papers to be presented at its meeting on October 26, 2001, sponsored by the Department of English, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario. Send abstracts, queries, or suggestions to: Susie O'Brien and Imre Szeman, Department of English, McMaster University, 1280 Main Street W., Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8S 4L9, Phone: (905) 525-9140 x23424 or x23725; Fax: (905) 777-8316; E-mail: obriensu@mcmaster.ca or szeman@mcmaster.ca.

**June 1, 2001 Deadline.** The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) holds its annual conference in New Haven on November 2-3, 2001 at Southern Connecticut State University. Proposed papers, panels or presentations on any pop culture or American culture topics may be submitted (one page abstract & brief CV) by June 1. Contact Peter Hollran, Worcester State College, Department of History, Worcester, MA 01602; pch@world.std.com or see our new web site: [www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html](http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html).

**June 1, 2001 Deadline.** "Producing and Consuming Natures," American Society for Environmental History, Denver, Colorado, March 20-23, 2002. The program committee seeks proposals for panels and papers on topics related to how humans have historically drawn nature into their lives. Information requests and proposals for papers and panels may be submitted to Christopher Sellers, Department of History, SUNY at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794, (631) 632-7514, csellers@notes.cc.sunysb.edu.

## Call for Papers—Publications

**May 15, 2001 Deadline.** "The American Child." The editors for this collection seek original essays that are Americanist

in focus and address how the child operates as a conceptual or ideological force, at any historical point from the nation's inception to the present. Inquiries or two page abstracts and c.v. to Caroline Levander, Dept. of English, MS 30, Rice University, 6100 Main ST., Houston, TX 77005-1892, clevande@rice.edu; or Carol Singley, Dept. of English, Rutgers University, 31 N. Fifth St., Camden, NJ 08102, singley@crab.rutgers.edu.

**July 15 Deadline. Popular Music and Society** seeks articles for a special issue entitled "Digital Music Delivery: It's Past, Present, and Future." Direct queries and submissions to Tom McCourt, Guest Editor, Communications Program, J-139, P.O. Box 19243, University of Illinois at Springfield, Springfield, IL 62794-9243, e-mail: mccourt.tom@uis.edu. Website: <http://www.niu.edu/popms/>.

**Gender and Slave Emancipation in the Atlantic World.** We are in the process of editing a collection of primarily original essays on Gender and Slave Emancipation in the Atlantic World, and welcome abstracts of 500 words for chapters from people working on appropriate topics. Please contact: Diana Paton, The Queen's College, Oxford, OX1 4AW, diana.paton@queens.ox.ac.uk, fax: (44) 01865 790819 / Pamela Scully, Denison University, Ohio, scully@denison.edu.

## Fellowships and Grants

**The John Nicholas Brown Center for the Study of American Civilization Research Fellowship Program.** Fellowships for scholarships in American topics provide up to a \$2,000 stipend, office space, and access to Brown University resources for one to six month residencies. Deadlines: **November 1** for residence between January and June; **April 15** for residence between July and December. Contact: Joyce M. Botelho, Director, The John Nicholas Brown Center, Box 1880, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. (401) 272-0357; Fax: (401) 272-1930. Joyce\_Botelho@Brown.edu.

**The Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)** is preparing to launch three new programs to compliment its core Fulbright Scholar Program. One of these is the Fulbright Senior Specialist Program, a flexible, short-term U.S. Fulbright option offering two to six week grants. 20-25 grants will be made in the initial year, with applications being accepted in early 2001 and on a rolling basis thereafter. For full details visit [www.cies.org](http://www.cies.org). Contact: CIES, 3007 Tilden Street NW, Suite 5L, Washington, DC 20008-3009. (202) 686-4000, fax: (202) 362-3442.

**American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and Ortho Pharmaceutical** sponsor fellowships in the history of American obstetrics and gynecology. Maximum award: \$5,000. Deadline: **October 1, 2001**. Contact: History Librarian, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Resource Center, 409 12th St., SW, Washington, DC 20024-2588; 202/863-2578; [www.acog.com](http://www.acog.com); e-mail: [srishwor@acog.com](mailto:srishwor@acog.com).

**The Minnesota Historical Society's Research Department** annually makes grants available to support research/writing leading to interpretive works on Minnesota history. Four application categories. Deadlines are **January 1 and April 1, 2001**. Contact: Deborah L. Miller, Research Supervisor, Minnesota Historical Society, 245 Kellogg Blvd. West, St. Paul, MN 55102. E-mail: [debbie.miller@mnhs.org](mailto:debbie.miller@mnhs.org) or visit the following website: <http://www.mnhs.org/about/grants/research.html>.

## Prizes and Awards

**The Forum for History of Human Science** invites submissions for its Article Award for 2001. Articles related to the history of the human sciences published between 1998 and 2000 may be submitted. Deadline: **July 1, 2001**. Send three copies to Dr. Henrika Kuklick, Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, Logan Hall, Suite 303, 249 South 36th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6304. More information available at <http://www.majbill.vt.edu/history/jones/fhhs/fhhs.htm>.

**Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (SHGAPE)** announces its biennial competition for the best published article dealing with any aspect of United States history between 1865–1917. The article must have appeared in a journal dated 1999 or 2000. Deadline: **December 1, 2001**. Submit three copies of the article plus the table of contents of the issue in which it appeared. Contact: Robert G. Barrows, SHGAPE Prize Committee, Department of History, Indiana University at Indianapolis, 425 University Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140.

**The History of Education Society** awards a \$500 prize for the best unpublished paper written by a graduate student in the history of education, broadly defined to include work on schools, higher education, families and a wide range of cultural and educational institutions. Essays should be no longer than 25 pages exclusive of notes. Topics are not limited to U.S. subjects, but essays must be written in English. Entrants should send six copies of the paper by **April 15, 2001** to Dr. Jonathan Zimmerman, New York University, 246 Greene Street, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10003.

## Exhibitions

**Historic Deerfield, Flynt Center of Early New England Life** will be installing two new major exhibitions in 2001: **Delicate Deception: Delftware at Historic Deerfield, 1650-1800**, September 15, 2001 to August 10, 2002; **The Shape of Man: Men's Fashion, 1760-1860**, September 15, 2001–April 2002. Both exhibitions will be on view from 9:30am to 4:30pm daily. Contact: Historic Deerfield, Grace Friary, Director of Public Relations, Box 321, Deerfield, MA 01342; (413) 774-5581 or (413) 775-7127; fax: (413) 775-7220; e-mail: [grace@historic-deerfield.org](mailto:grace@historic-deerfield.org).

**The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts** will feature paintings and gouaches by the Philadelphia based Neysa Grassi, March 2–May 6, 2001, as part of the Museum's Morris Gallery exhibition program, an ongoing series featuring regional talent. The Museum is located at 118 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19102; (215) 972-7600, fax: (215) 569-0153; [www.pafa.org](http://www.pafa.org).

## General Announcements

**Reynolda House, Museum of American Art**, Winston-Salem, North Carolina: John Hallmark Neff, former director and curator of collections at the Terra Museum of American Art in Chicago, Illinois, has been appointed executive director of Reynolda House, Museum of American Art, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Dr. Neff will assume his duties on February 5, 2001.

**Collaborative Online Collection Celebrating Presidential Inaugurations Now Available on American Memory.** The Library of Congress has made available at its American Memory Web site an online collection of selected materials to celebrate the inaugurations of the presidents of the United States. Please visit: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pihtml/>.

**Common-place—An Interactive Journal of American Life.** *Common-place* is not a traditional scholarly journal, differing in content, tone, and procedure. Its essays and reviews, along with its on-line discussion board, provide a forum for examining the story of America. Subscription is free and available to anyone who uses the web. For more information see [www.common-place.org](http://www.common-place.org) or contact the editors: [jlepore@bu.edu](mailto:jlepore@bu.edu) or [kamensky@brandeis.edu](mailto:kamensky@brandeis.edu).

**LGBT Caucus:** Are you interested in restarting and working with the Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Caucus? Email Stephanie Foote ([s-foote@uiuc.edu](mailto:s-foote@uiuc.edu)) or Shelli Fowler ([sbfowler@mail.wsu.edu](mailto:sbfowler@mail.wsu.edu)).

## Member News

**Margaret Crocco**, Associate Professor of Social Studies and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, and **Cally Waite**, Assistant Professor of Education at Teachers College, Columbia University have received a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to study "The Education of Southern African Americans in Northern Research Institutions from Plessy to Brown (1896-1954)."

**Jacqueline Goldsby**, Department of English, Cornell University, has been named a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow through the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture to work on her project entitled, "A Spectacular Secret: The Cultural Logic of Lynching."

**Steven J. Holmes** has been awarded the 17th annual MLA Prize for Independent Scholars for his book, **The Young John Muir: An Environmental Biography**.



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