

The FACULTY Notebook



VOLUME XIII, NO. 3

MAY 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Laurel Cohen-Pfister, Associate Professor of German, contributed a chapter to *Familie und Identität in der deutschen Literatur*, edited by Thomas Martinec and Claudia Nitschke and published by Peter Lang (2009). Her chapter (pages 243-257) is titled “Kriegstrauma und die deutsche Familie. Identitätssuche im deutschen Gegenwartsroman.” In it, Cohen-Pfister examines the theme of self-identity in several contemporary German family novels and shows how characters in the novels search to understand themselves within the tensions created through familial memory and public history.

Véronique A. Delesalle, Professor of Biology, with co-author Susan J. Mazer, published “Size-dependent pollen:ovule ratios and the allometry of floral sex allocation in diploid *Clarkia* (*Onagraceae*) taxa with contrasting mating systems” in the *American Journal of Botany*, Vol. 96 (2009). This paper demonstrates that in both selfing and outcrossing taxa, larger plants produce larger flowers with more pollen grains and more ovules. Contrary to theoretical expectations and contrary to most other species studied, larger plants did not allocate more to female function than smaller plants. The paper discusses possible explanations for the increasing maleness with plant size in these taxa. The article has been published online, ahead of print, at <http://www.amjbot.org>.

Daniel R. DeNicola, Professor of Philosophy, published a chapter in *Philosophy of Education 2008*, an annual collection of the best papers in the field edited by Ronald David Glass and published by the Philosophy of Education Society and the University of Illinois, 2008. Titled “Adam Smith and the Stages of Moral Development,” DeNicola’s article (pages 95-103) was originally delivered as a paper at the Philosophy of Education Society annual conference in April 2008. The article offers an explication and critique of Smith’s *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* (1759) as presenting a stage theory of moral development (unusual for the Enlightenment in its derivation of morality from emotion) and focusing on his key concepts of empathy and imagination as the capacities that drive us through the development stages.

Florence Ramond Journey, Associate Professor of French, published *Representation of the Island in Caribbean Literature: Caribbean Women Redefine Their Homelands*. Published by Edwin Mellen Press, 2009, the book examines representations of the island in Anglophone, Hispanophone, and Francophone Caribbean literature. It also looks at characters’ expressions of identity through their personal stories, their relationship to history, and their sense of their adopted homeland and island of origin.

Kim Dana Kupperman, Managing Editor of *The Gettysburg Review*, published “See Me Slant: Poetry Considers Her Mother” and “An Exercise in Artifice: On Writing ‘See Me Slant’” in *Fourth Genre. Explorations in Creative Nonfiction*, Vol. 11 (Spring 2009): 111-119. “See Me Slant: Poetry Considers Her Mother,” originally published as a Web exclusive by *AGNI*, imagines Poetry as a young woman. “An Exercise in Artifice” examines the use of persona and conceit in the personal essay.

Bruce A. Larson, Associate Professor of Political Science, contributed a chapter to *The Year of Obama: How Barack Obama Won the White House*, edited by Larry Sabato and published by Pearson-Longman (2009). Larson's chapter (pages 115-148) is titled "The 2008 Congressional and Gubernatorial Contests" and describes the candidates, campaigns, and outcomes of the 2008 congressional and gubernatorial races in the United States.

Virginia Lea, Associate Professor of Education, contributed a chapter to *Diversity & Multiculturalism: A Reader*, edited by Shirley R. Steinberg and published by Peter Lang (2009). The chapter (pages 57-56) is titled "Unmasking Whiteness in the Teacher Education College Classroom: Critical and Creative Multicultural Practice."

Yahya M. Madra, Assistant Professor of Economics, and Jack Amariglio published a chapter in *Handbook on Economics and Ethics*, edited by Jan Peil and Irene Van Staveren and published by Edward Elgar (2008). The chapter (pages 325-332) is titled "Karl Marx and Ethics" and covers the ethical dimensions of Karl Marx's critique of political economics and the various interpretations of his ethical orientations in the Marxian canon.

Laurence A. Marschall, W.K.T. Sahn Professor of Physics, published *Galileo's New Universe: The Revolution in our Understanding of the Cosmos*. Co-authored with Stephen P. Maran, and published by BenBella Books (2009), the book describes Galileo's revolutionary discoveries and brings readers up to date on what modern astronomy has learned about these same objects in the past four centuries. The book was published in commemoration of the 400 years since Galileo first used a telescope to open up the heavens.

Brian P. Meier, Assistant Professor of Psychology, and co-authors Michael D. Robinson, Maya Tamir, Benjamin M. Wilkowski, and Scott Ode published "Behavioral Facilitation: A Cognitive Model of Individual Differences" in *Emotion*, Vol. 9 (2009): 70-82. The article discusses approach motivation, which consists of the active, engaged pursuit of one's goals. In three studies, the authors find that approach motivation can be cognitively modeled, thereby providing process-based insights into personality functioning. The results indicate a systematic relationship between behavioral facilitation in cognitive tasks and approach motivation in daily life in terms of individual differences in motivation, affect, and depression.

David W. Neagley, class of 2009, with co-authors Qin Tong, Iwona Hirschler-Laszkiwicz, Wenyi Zhang, Kathleen Conrad, Dwayne L. Barber, Joseph Y. Cheung, and Barbara A. Miller, published "TRPC3 is the epo-regulated calcium channel in human erythroid cells" in *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, Vol. 283 (2008): 10385-10395. Neagley's research was carried out as part of the Penn State Hershey Summer Undergraduate Research Internship Program. Neagley's research demonstrates a two-way immunoprecipitate, showing that there is a protein interaction between EPO-R and TRPC3 receptor in primary erythroid cells.

Voon Chin Phua, Assistant Professor of Sociology, contributed to *Queer Economics: A Reader*, edited by Joyce Jacobsen and Adam Zeller and published by Routledge (2008). His chapter (pages 93-105), co-authored with Gayle Kaufman, is titled "Using the Census to Profile Same-Sex Cohabitation: A Research Note." The authors use census data to examine the characteristics of householders in different living arrangements, with attention given to same-sex cohabitators.

Sarah M. Principato, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, published "Using a GIS to Quantify Patterns of Glacial Erosion on Northwest Iceland: Implications for Independent Ice Sheets" in *Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research*, Vol. 41 (2009): 128-137. Written with co-author **Jeremiah Johnson, class of 2005**, the article develops a new method for determining glacial erosion patterns on Northwest Iceland. The patterns identified in this study illustrate distinct regions of glacial erosion and flow paths that are best explained by two independent ice sheets covering northwest Iceland during the Last Glacial Maximum.

Kathleen Sasnett, Assistant Professor of Voice and Opera in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, published a featured article entitled “Twenty-Five Works for Dramatic Soprano Voice and Orchestra” in the *Journal of Singing*, Vol. 65 (2009): 407-420. The article, a truncated version of her published book of the same title, provides a detailed listing of suitable repertoire for a dramatic soprano to perform with orchestral accompaniment. *Journal of Singing* is the official journal of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS).

Timothy J. Shannon, Professor and Chair of History, published “King of the Indians: The Hard Fate and Curious Career of Peter Williamson” in *William and Mary Quarterly*, Vol. 66 (2009): 3-44. The article unravels the fact from fiction in the trans-Atlantic career of Peter Williamson, who claimed to have lived as a captive among the Delaware Indians in Pennsylvania and operated an Edinburgh coffeehouse known as “Indian Peter’s.”

Michael Strickland, Assistant Professor of Physics, published “Transverse momentum diffusion and collisional jet energy loss in non-Abelian plasmas” in *Phys. Rev. C*, Vol. 79 (2009): 034903. Strickland and collaborators Bjoern Schenke, Adrian Dumitru, Yasushi Nara, and Carsten Greiner present results of real-time simulation of high-energy gluons embedded in colored non-Abelian fields, including stochastic binary collisions between the particle degrees of freedom. The authors demonstrate that gluon transport properties such as the transverse momentum broadening and energy loss are independent of the lattice spacing used to describe the discretized field dynamics as long as a complementary cutoff is introduced on the binary collision cross-section. This allows for first principles calculation of gluon transport at large values of the strong coupling constant. The article can be accessed at http://arxiv.org/PS_cache/arxiv/pdf/0810/0810.1314v2.pdf.

Strickland also published “Suppression of forward dilepton production from an anisotropic quark–gluon plasma” in *The European Physical Journal C - Particles and Fields*, DOI 10.1140/epjc/s10052-008-0851-8 (2009). Strickland and co-author Mauricio Martinez calculate the rapidity dependence of leading-order medium dilepton yields resulting from a quark–gluon plasma which has a local time-dependent anisotropy in momentum space. They present a phenomenological model which includes the temporal evolution of the plasma anisotropy and the hard momentum scale and find that at LHC energies, forward high-energy medium dilepton production would be suppressed by a factor of up to 3 if one assumes an isotropization/ thermalization time of 2 fm/c. Therefore, it may be possible to use forward dilepton yields to experimentally determine the time of the onset of locally isotropic hydrodynamic expansion of the quark–gluon plasma as produced in ultrarelativistic heavy-ion collisions. The article is available online at <http://www.springerlink.com/content/hhvn0q8412x52p7x/>.

Strickland also published “Constraining relativistic viscous hydrodynamical evolution” in *Phys. Rev. C*, Vol. 79 (2009): 044903. Co-authored with Mauricio Martinez, the article shows that by requiring the longitudinal pressure of the quark-gluon plasma to be positive-definite, one can derive constraints on possible initial conditions for 2nd order viscous hydrodynamical simulations of plasma evolution. This article can be accessed at <http://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevC.79.044903>.

In addition, **Strickland** authored “A Parallelized FDTD Schrödinger Equation Solver,” available under an open-source GPL license at SourceForge.net. The parallel code and supporting documentation can be found online at <http://sourceforge.net/projects/quantumfdd/>. The Parallelized FDTD Schrödinger Equation Solver solves the 3d Schrödinger equation using the finite difference time domain (FDTD) technique. The parallel algorithm is optimized to achieve nearly perfect inverse scaling with the number of computational nodes.

Robert M. Viti, Professor of French and Chair of the Department of French and Italian, published “Son, parole et silence dans *Le Ventre de Paris?*” in *Les Cahiers Naturalistes*, Vol. 83 (2009): 65-71. Critics have repeatedly spoken of Emile Zola’s attempts to incorporate the style of the Impressionist painters in his novels. It is by now commonplace to speak of *Le Ventre de Paris* as his most impressionistic work, a feast for the eyes, a novel in which the play of light and color dominates. Viti studies another sense, the auditory, in the alternation of sound, speech and silence and the crucial role they play in the fate of the protagonist, Florent.

REVIEWS

Yahya M. Madra, Assistant Professor of Economics, published “Being in Neighborhood” in *Contemporary Practices: Visual Arts From the Middle East*, Vol. 4 (2009): 190-195. The article reviews a regional contemporary art show (“Neighbours in Dialogue”) that brought together artists from the Middle East and the Caucasus—first in Istanbul (2007) and then in Sarajevo (2008).

Janet M. Powers, Professor Emerita of Interdisciplinary Studies and Women’s Studies, reviewed *Asian Islam in the 21st Century*, published by Oxford University Press, 2008, and edited by John L. Esposito, John O. Voll, and Osman Bakar in *Religion*, Vol. 39 (2009): 93-94.

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Yasemin Akbaba, Assistant Professor of Political Science, presented a paper titled “Restrictions on the Religious Practices of Religious Minorities: A Global Survey” at the International Studies Association annual meeting in New York, NY, February 15-18, 2009. Co-authored with Jonathan Fox, the paper examined identity-related causes of religious discrimination.

Akbaba and co-author Özgür Özdamar presented “Patterns of Foreign Policy in the Middle East: Role of Discrimination and Religion” at the same conference. The paper applied the foreign policy model developed by Özdamar and Patrick James, which emphasizes domestic sources of foreign policy decisions, to the Middle East.

Michael J. Birkner, Professor of History and Benjamin Franklin Professor of the Liberal Arts, delivered the keynote address to a joint session of the New Hampshire Legislature at its Lincoln bicentennial commemoration on February 12, 2009, at a ceremony attended by Governor John Lynch and the legislative leadership. Birkner’s speech, titled “Abraham Lincoln and a More Perfect Union,” was published in the legislative record.

John Commito, Professor of Environmental Studies, with co-authors Ann Commito, Mathematics Department, Frederick Community College; **Rutherford V. Platt, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies; Ben Grupe, class of 2003; Wendy Dow, class of 2003; Natasha Gownaris, class of 2009; Kyle Reeves, class of 2008; and Allison Vissichelli, class of 2008**, presented “Positive recruitment feedback and self-organization in soft-bottom mussel beds” at the Benthic Ecology Meeting, Corpus Christi, TX, March 7, 2009. The authors presented laboratory, field, and computer modeling results that demonstrate how the abundance and spatial patterns of mussel populations are controlled by positive recruitment feedback in coastal Maine. The work has implications for other seafloor species and their responses to disturbances such as overharvesting and increased storms resulting from global climate change.

At the same conference, **Commito** presented “Does wind-generated wave exposure predict soft-bottom mussel bed (*Mytilus edulis*) occurrence in Maine?” Commito and co-authors **Christine Urbanowicz, class of 2009** (first author), and Thomas Crawford, Assistant Professor of

Geography, East Carolina University, used a GIS-based approach in the Gulf of Maine to predict the relationship between representative wave energy and the occurrence of commercially valuable mussel, scallop, and clam populations. The results can be applied to the entire New England and Maritime Province region and will be useful in the management of these important coastal marine species.

Felicia Else, Assistant Professor of Art History, presented “Water Deities in the Age of Cosimo I de’ Medici” at the Renaissance Society of America meeting in Los Angeles, CA, March 19-21, 2009. The paper examined the proliferation of the river god in sixteenth-century Florence and its relationship to water management policies of the Medici Dukes.

Else delivered the keynote address at the Intercollegiate Art History Symposium, Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA, on March 29, 2009. Else’s talk, titled “Working in the Piazza: Art Historical Research from Student to Professional,” presented an overview of her research on Ammannati’s Neptune Fountain, highlighting the challenges of working in a public piazza.

Shelli L. Frey, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, presented a poster titled “Condensing and fluidizing effects of structurally related gangliosides on phospholipid films” at the Biophysical Society Annual Meeting held in Boston, MA, on February 28-March 4, 2009. Co-authored with Eva Chi, Jaroslaw Majewski, Kristian Kjaer, and Ka Yee Lee, the poster presented data on the effects of glycolipid molecular structure and charge on cell membrane organization.

At the same conference, **Frey** also presented a poster titled “Critical instability leads to labyrinthine transition in binary lipid/polymer monolayers.” Co-authored with Rita El-Khoury, Atul Parikh, and Ka Yee Lee, the poster explored work to understand a mechanism causing a labyrinthine phase in model lipid membranes. These types of phase transitions may contribute to the dynamic nature of ordered lipid raft regions in cells.

Timothy W. Funk, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, and **Robert Kowtoniuk, class of 2009**, presented a poster titled “Synthesis of substituted 2,6-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane ring systems using a Payne rearrangement-cascade epoxide opening approach” at the 237th American Chemical Society National Meeting held in Salt Lake City, UT, March 22-26, 2009. The poster described the authors’ approach to the synthesis of a structural feature found in more than 60 naturally occurring molecules. Many of these molecules have biological activity, including anti-cancer activity. The approach described may allow scientists to synthesize potential chemotherapeutics more readily.

At the same conference, **Funk** and **Daniel Ziegler, class of 2009**, presented “Selective iridium-catalyzed cyclopropanol ring-opening: synthesis of alpha-methyl ketones.” The poster described research that resulted in a simple, mild, selective process to access alpha-methyl ketones from tertiary cyclopropanols. This methodology could be used as an alternative synthetic approach when traditional methods fail.

Funk gave an invited presentation titled “Chemo- and Stereoselective Olefin Metathesis in Small Molecule Synthesis” to the University of Delaware Chemistry and Biochemistry Department on March 12, 2009, in Newark, DE.

Funk gave an invited presentation titled “From Ruthenium Catalysts to Epoxides: The Development and Applications of Chemo- and Stereoselective Reactions” to the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department of Messiah College on April 6, 2009, in Grantham, PA, as part of the department’s 2008-2009 Seminar Series.

Alvaro Kaempfer, Assistant Professor of Spanish, presented “Guerra, nostalgia y masculinidad en *Juan de la Rosa: memorias del último soldado de la Independencia* (1885) de Nataniel Aguirre y *1810: memorias de un voluntario de la patria vieja* (1905) de Luis Orrego Luco” at the Modern Language Association annual meeting in San Francisco, CA, December 27-30, 2008.

Kaempfer also presented “Simetrías postcoloniales: la ecuación política bolivariana para situar la América Latina frente a un nuevo orden decimonónico mundial” at the Mid American Council of Latin American Studies conference held in Williamsburg, VA, March 6-7, 2009.

Kim Dana Kupperman, Managing Editor of *The Gettysburg Review*, presented at and moderated a panel, “Creative Nonfiction: What are the Boundaries?” at the third annual Conversations & Connections Conference, held at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC, on April 11, 2009. Her paper, titled “To Wear a Mask,” examined the use of persona in nonfiction narrative as a technique to create boundaries between writer and reader.

Kupperman also presented at the panel “Reading to Write: The Top Ten Ways to Read Like a Writer” at the annual conference of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, held in Chicago, IL, on February 11-14, 2009. Her paper, titled “Annotation: A Process,” explored the practice of critical/reflective annotation as a way to read from the inside out. Kupperman served as moderator for this panel as well.

Bruce A. Larson, Associate Professor of Political Science, and co-author Eric Heberlig presented a paper, “Contribution Strategies and Institutional Advancement in the U.S. House of Representatives,” at the 2009 Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, April 4, 2009, in Chicago, IL. Developing a unique measure of the value of various party and committee leadership positions in the U.S. House of Representatives, this paper tested multiple hypotheses about how U.S. members win selection to these positions. The authors found that fundraising on behalf of the party and fellow party candidates is an increasingly important determinant of winning positions of power in the House. The paper concluded that current leadership selection politics in the House have increased the campaign money chase for leadership aspirants and have tied these members more closely to donors.

Virginia Lea, Associate Professor of Education, presented “The Impact of Hyper-Accountability Mandates in California and English Classrooms: Hegemonic Discourses and Critical Multicultural Resistance” at the 30th Ethnography in Education Research Forum at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, February 27-28, 2009. The paper covered research Lea has been conducting into secondary school teacher responses to government mandates that emphasize standardization, scripted curriculum, and accountability.

Lea presented “Answering Hyper-Accountability in Teacher Education Foundations with Community Action Projects” at the 3rd Annual Equity and Social Justice in Education Conference at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Pomona, NJ, March 28, 2009. The presentation was a report on the new Social Foundations of Education course that Lea is piloting at Gettysburg College. Through the course, pre-service teachers learn, in collaboration with their family/community partners, to help their students “read the world” as well as “read the word.” The presentation included a video made by the EDUC 209 student facilitators addressing many of the course issues.

Lea and Dave Powell, Associate Professor of Education, presented “Disrupting hegemony and developing critical consciousness in the Social Studies classroom: Crossing epistemological and cultural borders” at the meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education at Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA, April 3-4, 2009. The presentation explored how teacher educators best help pre-service teachers recognize the hegemonic, selective nature of dominant social studies and education foundations narratives and develop and implement a pedagogy of empowerment in their classrooms to identify and produce counter-narratives that challenge the normalization of hegemony and its consequences for social injustice.

Yahya M. Madra, Assistant Professor of Economics, presented “Accounting for Surplus Enjoyment: Communism as an Axiom” at the annual conference of the Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society held October 24-26, 2008, in New Brunswick, NJ. Co-authored with Ceren Ozelcuk, the paper explored the intersection between Marxian economics and Lacanian psychoanalysis. The authors juxtaposed how “enjoyment” (*jouissance*) was organized under the free credit economy of President Bush and under the limited credit economy of President Obama. The paper proposed that an alternative to these two modes of capitalism lies in rethinking one’s relation to enjoyment.

Madra also presented “Public Economics After Neoliberalism: A Historical and Theoretical Perspective” at the History of Public Economics Conference within the Public Goods, Public Projects, Externalities workshop series, held at ERMES/Panthéon Assas University, Paris, France, December 10-12, 2008. Co-authored with Fikret Adaman, the paper focused on developments in the subfield of Public Economics since the 1970s.

Madra also presented “Question of Subjectivity and the Forms of the Commune” at The Common and the Forms of the Commune – Alternative Social Imaginaries Symposium held at the John Hope Franklin Humanities Center, Duke University, Durham, NC, April 9-10, 2009. Co-authored with Ceren Ozelcuk, the paper critiqued recent behaviorist understandings of how neoliberalism has shaped contemporary social subjectivities and argued that that one needs to take into account “enjoyment” (a psychoanalytical category) to understand how neoliberal ideology takes hold of contemporary social subjectivities.

Joanne E. Myers, Assistant Professor of English, presented “Projecting an Alternative Public Sphere” at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies held in Richmond, VA, on March 25-28, 2009. Myers proposed that the negative cultural reaction to early eighteenth-century pamphleteering was part of a broader reaction against enthusiasm in the period.

Kerri Odess-Harnish, Reference and Instruction Librarian, Musselman Library, presented a paper titled “How to Green a Library Conference” at the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) 14th National Conference, Seattle, WA, March 14, 2009. The presentation focused on the efforts of the first ACRL Green Component Committee to reduce the environmental impact of the ACRL conference through membership education, on-site waste-reducing strategies, green programming, and more.

Voon Chin Phua, Assistant Professor of Sociology, presented a poster at the 136th American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition, October 25-29, 2008, in San Diego, CA. The presentation, co-authored with Sela Panapasa (first author) and James McNally, was titled “Economic Hardship among Elderly Pacific Islanders in the United States.” It examined the economic well-being of a traditionally under-studied minority group.

Phua also presented a paper titled “The Portugueseness in Brazilians: Social Identity and Personal Identity?” at Narrating the Portuguese Diaspora (1928-2008): International Conference on Storytelling, University of Lisbon, Portugal, October 23-25, 2008. Phua’s paper examined the extent to which Brazilians incorporate their Portuguese roots in their identities.

Jonelle Pool, Associate Professor of Education, along with **Kenneth Pool, Executive Director of the Leonard Bernstein Center for Learning**, and **Charles Dittrich, Lead Trainer and Facilitator of the Leonard Bernstein Center for Learning**, presented “Integrating an Arts-Based Model Into Teacher Education Curriculum” at a roundtable session at a meeting of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education held in Chicago, IL, on February 7, 2009. Their presentation reported on a project in which preservice teachers at Gettysburg College participated in standards-linked applications of the Artful Learning model by infusing arts-based experiences, inquiry, reflection, and original creation into existing teacher education curriculum. Kenneth Pool was the first author, and Jonelle Pool was the second author of the paper.

Jonelle Pool (first author), **Charles Dittrich** (second author), and **Kenneth Pool** (third author) presented “The Role of Arts-Based Pedagogy in Promoting Content Accessibility for Diverse Learners” in a workshop at a meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education, Huntingdon, PA, April 4, 2009. Participants in this workshop explored how the use of arts-based activities promote content accessibility and improve student motivation for academic tasks.

Janet M. Powers, Professor Emerita of Interdisciplinary Studies and Women’s Studies, gave an invited panel presentation titled “Sacred Space in Three Novels by Raja Rao” at the Sacred Arts Festival, held in New Delhi, India, February 21-26, 2009. The presentation focused on ways in which Raja Rao created a sense of sacred space in secular locations through human sympathy (*Kanthapura*), ration-card manipulation (*The Cat and Shakespeare*), and a ritual to expiate the Holocaust (*The Chessmaster and His Moves*).

Sarah M. Principato, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, and co-author **Julie T. Markus, class of 2009**, presented a paper titled “Holocene environmental conditions interpreted from coastal mudflats and peat in Washington County, Maine” at the Northeast Geological Society of America meeting in Portland, ME, March 22-24, 2009. Their results showed climatic instability in the Holocene, with fluctuations in precipitation interpreted from 5000 years ago through the present.

At the same meeting, **Principato** and **Markus** presented a poster titled “Sedimentology and humification index of peat deposits in New York and Maine.” They presented sedimentology results from three high resolution cores from New York and one site from Maine. A weak correlation between the sedimentology data and the degree of humification data suggest a complicated interpretation of past climatic change. Julie Markus was the first author of the poster.

Michael Ritterson, Professor Emeritus of German, presented “Übersetzungsgeschichte als Beitrag zur Rezeptionsgeschichte: The Case of Wilhelm Raabe” at the Northeast Modern Language Association conference in Boston, MA, February 26–March 1, 2009. The paper documented the history of English translations of Raabe’s (1831–1910) novels and stories from 1882 to the present, examining the history as a measure of his critical and popular reception in Germany and abroad.

Stephanie A. Sellers, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies and English, spoke to Native American literature classes at Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, MD, and West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV, on February 28 and 18, 2009, respectively. Her talks stressed the importance of grounding literary theory in culture and avoiding Eurocentric perspectives when reading indigenous texts.

Dustin Beall Smith, Adjunct Instructor of English and Peer Tutor Coordinator, presented at a panel titled “Creative Nonfiction: What are the Boundaries?” at the third annual Conversations & Connections Conference, held at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC, on April 11, 2009. His paper was titled “The Boundaries Between Truth and Art.”

Smith also delivered a two-hour presentation titled “The Art of Creating a Scene” at Carlow University’s MFA in Creative Writing, in Pittsburgh, PA, on January 8, 2009.

Barbara A. Sommer, Associate Professor of History and Coordinator of Latin American Studies, presented “Indicators of Social Difference in the Portuguese Captaincies of Para and Rio Negro, 1778” at the Rocky Mountain Latin American Studies Conference, Santa Fe, NM, held March 4-7, 2009. The paper analyzed census data to trace a socio-economic portrait of the Portuguese colony on the Amazon.

Eileen Stillwaggon, Professor of Economics and Director of the International Affairs Program, was invited to address the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations headquarters in New York, NY, on March 3, 2009. Her talk, titled “Poverty, Risk, and the Failure of AIDS Policy,” was sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme and addressed the greater risk of infectious disease transmission for people living in poverty.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Yasemin Akbaba, Assistant Professor of Political Science, served as a discussant for the panel “Religion and Nationalism in Contemporary Europe” at the International Studies Association meeting in New York, NY, February 15-18, 2009.

Michael J. Birkner, Professor of History and Benjamin Franklin Professor of the Liberal Arts, was elected to the Board of the Pennsylvania Historical Association at its annual meeting in October 2008, for a three year term.

Janet M. Powers, Professor Emerita of Interdisciplinary Studies and Women’s Studies, took part in a Crossroads Encounter debate at the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, PA, April 28, 2009. Along with Professor Mohamed Esa of McDaniel College, Powers represented the Palestinian point of view in a discussion with pro-Israeli Lutheran theologians.

Jack Ryan, Associate Provost for Faculty Development and Associate Professor of English, accompanied five of his students to the 23rd National Conference for Undergraduate Research held at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse, on April 16-18, 2009. The students, **Jeremy Arnold, class of 2010; Annela Levitov, class of 2010; Ian Forester, class of 2009; Kayla Toher, class of 2009; and Kelsey Lamagdeleine, class of 2009**, presented eight papers. Six of the papers emerged from Ryan’s *Beats and Beyond* course. Jeremy Arnold also presented a paper from *Living for the City*, taught by **Shirleen Robinson, Instructor of English and Africana Studies**, and Annela Levitov presented a paper from *The Dream of the Artificial Wo/Man: Golems and Cyborgs from Adam to Superman*, taught by **Temma Berg, Professor of English**.

Deborah Sommer, Associate Professor and Chair of Religion, served as co-chair for the 2008-2009 academic year of the University Seminar on Neo-Confucian Studies at the Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University, New York, NY. In her capacity as chair, Sommer organized a monthly series of visiting speakers on Chinese intellectual history.

Donald G. Tannenbaum, Associate Professor of Political Science, chaired and served as a discussant on a panel titled “Individual and Collective” at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association at Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, PA, on March 27, 2009.

Tannenbaum has accepted an invitation to serve on the PhD dissertation committee of **Dan Ballentyne, class of 2002**, who is writing on political history at American University in Washington, DC. The title of his study is “Republicanism Recast: the Fusion of Hamiltonian and Jeffersonian Thought in the Republican Party of the 1920s.”

AWARDS

Kay Etheridge, Associate Professor of Biology, received a three-year \$354,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for *Advancing Science*, the K-12 outreach program that she directs. This grant will fund pre-college science education and professional development for teachers, focusing on environmental study of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Kim Dana Kupperman, Managing Editor of *The Gettysburg Review*, was awarded the 2009 Katharine Bakeless Nason Prize in Nonfiction from Middlebury College's Bread Loaf program. The contest was judged by author Sue Halpern. The award includes publication (in 2010 by Graywolf Press) of the submitted manuscript, *I Just Lately Started Buying Wings*, and a fellowship at the 2010 Bread Loaf Writers Conference. *I Just Lately Started Buying Wings* is a collection of discrete essays.

Carolyn Snively, Professor of Classics, was awarded a \$3000 grant by the Dumbarton Oaks Trustees for Harvard University in support of her project "Archaeological Investigation at Golemo Gradiste, Konjuh: The Intramural Church." The grant is for the fiscal year 2009-2010.

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Kathleen Sasnett, Assistant Professor of Voice and Opera in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, soprano, performed two benefit concerts for the newly established Adams County School for Musical Theatre in its new location in Gettysburg, PA, on February 13 and February 15, 2009, singing favorite musical theatre numbers, including "So in Love" from *Kiss Me Kate*, "All I Ask of You" from *The Phantom of the Opera*, and "Climb Every Mountain" from *The Sound of Music*. Chad-Alan Carr, director of the new school, and Wayne Hill joined in the hour and a half concert.

Sasnett, soprano, **Scott Crowne, Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music**, piano, and **Leah Crowne, Adjunct Instructor of Voice in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music**, soprano, performed a Faculty Lecture Recital featuring the music of Richard Strauss' dark opera, *Elektra*. The hour-long lecture and concert were presented on April 6, 2009, in the Paul Recital Hall in Gettysburg, PA, and were open to the public.

Jocelyn A. K. Swigger, Assistant Professor of Piano and Coordinator of Keyboard Studies in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, performed a solo piano recital of American music as part of a residency at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, MI, on April 9, 2009. While at Interlochen, Swigger also performed live on the local NPR affiliate, Interlochen Public Radio.

The work of **John Winship, Adjunct Instructor of Visual Arts**, was featured in a solo exhibit of recent paintings at the F.A.N. Gallery in Philadelphia, PA, in December, 2008.



The Faculty Notebook is published periodically by the Office of the Provost at Gettysburg College to bring to the attention of the campus community accomplishments and activities of academic interest. Faculty are encouraged to submit materials for consideration for publication to the Associate Provost for Faculty Development. Copies of this publication are available at the Office of the Provost.

Reproduction of reports and articles is prohibited without permission of the Provost of Gettysburg College.