

2005-2006 Warren Center Programs

Fellows Programs

2005/2006 Fellows Program, “Pre-modern Others: Race and Sexuality” was co-directed by Leah Marcus (English) and Holly Tucker (French). Participants in the program were Katherine Crawford (history); Dyan Elliott (history); Lynn Enterline (English); Jean Feerick (Williams S. Vaughn Visiting Fellow, English, Brown University); Carlos Jáuregui (Spanish); Lynn Ramey (French); and David J. Wasserstein (history). Chancellor Gee joined the seminar for a lunchtime discussion once in the fall term and a breakfast discussion once in the spring term.

Guest Speakers: **Geraldine Heng** (English and Director of Medieval Studies Program, University of Texas at Austin) presented a lecture on September 26th entitled “Against PreModern Race/Toward PreModern Race.” The following day she spoke on “The Invention of Race in the European Middle Ages.” On October 17th **Elizabeth Spiller** (English, Texas Christian University) gave a lecture while on February 1st at 4:10 p.m. in Buttrick Hall **Sahar Amer** (Asian Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), gave a public lecture entitled “Saracen Eye for the French Gal.” This presentation focused on representations of same-sex love and sexual practices between women in medieval French and Arabic literatures. It argued that a large body of Arabic erotic treatises were available to medieval France and became essential to Western European constructions of same-sex desire between women. Examining these Arabic sexological treatises (“the Saracen eye”), led us to investigate the crucial impact it has for a study of the medieval “French gal.”

The Fellows Program held a one day conference on Monday, April 3rd. Invited to participate and speak were **David Nirenberg** (history, Johns Hopkins University) and **Roland Greene** (English and comparative literature, Stanford University). In the late afternoon, the group held a round table discussion that was open to the University community.

Special Events: In March of 2007 the fellows hosted a public symposium at the Newberry Library.

2005/2006 College of Arts and Science Graduate Student Fellows Kathleen Eamon (philosophy) and **Brian McGinnis** (German) are the inaugural College of Arts and Science fellows. On April 7th McGinnis presented a lecture entitled “The Core of the *corpus*: Dating the Anthropological Turn” while on April 18th, Eamon gave a talk entitled “Symbols and the Problem of Marriage.”

2003/2004 Fellows Program, “Strategic Actions: Women, Power, and Gender Norms”

The 2003/2004 Fellows program hosted a lecture by **Verta Taylor** (sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara). Taylor teaches courses on gender, qualitative research

methods, and social movements. Her works include *Rock-a-By Baby: Feminism, Self-Help, and Postpartum Depression* and the “Feminist Frontiers” series, co-authored with Laurel Richardson. Most recently, Taylor co-wrote *Drag Queens at the 801 Cabaret*, with Leila J. Rupp.

2006 Graduate Student Summer Fellows Program The Warren Center sponsored a summer Fellows Program for graduate students at the dissertation writing stage in the summer of 2006. Those selected were Carola Daffner (German); Jeongoh Kim (English); Peter Kuryla (history); Monica Smatlak Liao (Department of Religion); LeeAnn Reynolds (history); David Richter (Spanish and Portuguese); Vanessa Valdes (Spanish and Portuguese).

Special Events

Art of Dreaming

On Friday, March 24th, a reception and dinner was held at the Vaughn Home for the “Art of Dreaming” conference participants. The conference was co-directed by Barbara Hahn and Meike Warner.

Jennifer Finney Boylan

On Thursday, September 29th at 4:10 pm, the Warren Center co-hosted with the Women’s and Gender Studies Program a lecture by visiting speaker Jennifer Finney Boylan (English, Colby College). Professor Boylan is the author of the novels *The Constellations*, *The Planets*, and *Getting In* as well as a collection of short stories. Her talk was in honor of her latest book, entitled *She’s Not There: A Life in Two Genders*.

Marina Brownlee

Marina Brownlee (the Robert Schirmer Professor of Spanish and Professor of Comparative Literature at Princeton University) gave a talk entitled “The Object in Question--Torquemada and the Epistemology of Wonder” Friday, February 17, at 4:10 p.m. in 311 Furman Hall. Her recent books include *The Cultural Labyrinth of María de Zayas* (2000), and *The Severed Word: Ovid’s ‘Heroides’ and the ‘Novela Sentimental’* (1990).

Ed Colker

Noted print-maker, publisher of handmade books in the tradition of the French *livre du peintre*, and former provost of both the Pratt Institute and Cooper Union, Ed Colker presented a lecture entitled “Modern Arts of the Book” on January 16 at 4:10 p.m. in 114 Furman Hall. During a two-year Guggenheim stay in France, he visited and apprenticed with several of the printers of literary/art books. His lecture was sponsored by the Warren Center, the W.T. Bandy Center for Baudelaire and Modern French Studies, and several other departments and programs. On January 17th at 12 noon, the Warren Center hosted an informal lunchtime talk with Colker.

Mark Galanter

Mark Galanter (John and Rylla Bosshard Professor of Law and Professor of South Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and LSE Centennial Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science) presented a lecture entitled “Lowering the Bar: Lawyer Jokes and Legal Culture” on February 21, 2006, at 3:00 p.m. in the Moore Room of the Vanderbilt Law School. Galanter’s volume *Lowering the Bar: Lawyer Jokes and Legal Culture* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2005), is an exploration into lawyer jokes, which have become increasingly popular in the United States during the last twenty years. The lecture was co-sponsored by the Warren Center and the Vanderbilt University Law School.

Norman L. and Roselea J. Goldberg Lecture Series

The Warren Center hosted interdisciplinary lunch meetings on October 21st and March 24th for the Department of Art and Art History lecture series. The fall guest speaker was Sarah Burns (Ruth N. Halls Professor of Fine Arts, Indiana University-Bloomington) and the spring guest speaker was Richard Neer (art history, University of Chicago).

Harry C. Howard Jr. Lecture

Paul Freedman (Chester D. Tripp Professor of History at Yale University) delivered this year’s Harry C. Howard Jr. Lecture on Monday, February 13th at 4:10 p.m. in 126 Wilson Hall. His lecture was entitled “The Allure of Spices in the Middle Ages.” Freedman’s books include *Images of the Medieval Peasant* (Stanford University Press, 1999), *The Origins of Peasant Servitude in Medieval Catalonia* (Cambridge University Press, 1991), and *The Diocese of Vic: Tradition and Regeneration in Medieval Catalonia* (Rutgers University Press, 1983). He also co-edited, with Caroline Walker Bynum, *Last Things: Death and Apocalypse in the Middle Ages* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2000). From 1979-1997, Freedman taught at Vanderbilt. He was a Fellow at the Warren Center in 1991/92, and served as Warren Center director from 1993 through 1997.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Regional Education Summit: Exploring the Future of Holocaust Education

In conjunction with the National Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., the Warren Center hosted a workshop April 5th-7th for teachers and scholars across the Southeast region.

Susan Neiman

The Warren Center co-sponsored the Philosophy Department’s annual Berry Lecture on Monday evening April 10th given by Susan Neiman. Neiman is the director of the Einstein Forum and has previously taught philosophy at Yale University and Tel Aviv University. She is the author of *Slow Fire: Jewish Notes from Berlin*; *The Unity of Reason: Rereading Kant*; *Evil in Modern Thought*; and *Fremde sehen anders: Zur Lage der Bundesrepublik*. Her visit was cosponsored by the Warren Center and the Vanderbilt Center for Ethics. She met with a faculty seminar at the Warren Center during her campus visit.

Carole Pateman (political science, UCLA) and **Charles Mills** (philosophy, University of Illinois, Chicago) presented a lecture at 4:15 p.m. September 23, 2005 in the Moore Room of the VU Law School. Pateman, author of *The Sexual Contract*, and Mills, author of *The Racial Contract*, were scheduled to give a joint presentation entitled “Contract and

Domination: A Collaborative Debate on Social Contract Theory” but Pateman was unable to attend due to illness. After a reading of her paper by Brooke Ackerly (political science) she was, however, able to answer questions via speaker phone. Pateman’s major research has covered three broad areas: democratic theory, theories of original contracts, and feminist political theory. Mills’ main research interests are in radical and oppositional political theory, particularly around issues of class, gender, and race. Together they are working on a book tentatively titled “Contract and Domination.” This program was an outgrowth of the Diversity Reading Group, one of the Warren Center’s 2004/2005 seminars.

“Settlers, Creoles, and the Re-Enactment of History”

The Warren Center co-sponsored a conference, the third in a series, devoted to the topic of re-enactment history. The conference, organized by Jonathan Lamb (English), focused on how settler and Creole cultures affirm the fact and right of settlement by means of historical re-enactments that either alter metropolitan history to suit Creole history or celebrate foundational moments of settlement itself. The program took place November, 11-12, 2005, with over 19 guest speakers and 16 universities represented.

Warren Center/VIPPS Annual Lecture

Craig E. Colten, Carl O. Sauer Professor of Geography at Louisiana State University, gave a talk entitled “Race and Relief in New Orleans: A Hazardous Topography” on January 26, 2006 in the Moore Room at the Vanderbilt Law School. His talk focused on both the impact of New Orleans’s environmental and social legacies on the human costs of Katrina and the quality of the local and national response. Professor Colten is the author of *An Unnatural Metropolis: Wrestling New Orleans from Nature* (Louisiana State University Press, 2005). His other publications include *Transforming New Orleans and Its Environs*, *The American Environment*, *The Road to Love Canal*, and *Louisiana Geography*. The lecture is cosponsored by the Warren Center and the Vanderbilt Institute for Public Policy Studies as part of an annual series that highlights work in the humanities or social sciences that has a direct effect on public policy.

Seminars

American and Southern Studies Friday Lunch Bunch

Faculty with an interest in American Studies gathered monthly to lunch, enjoy each other’s company, and hear a presentation on work-in-progress by a member of the group. Presentations ranged across the spectrum of American and Southern Studies. Seminar coordinator: Dale Cockrell (Director, American and Southern Studies Program).

Ancient and Medieval Studies Seminar

The purpose of the group was to foster interdisciplinary study of the time periods embraced in its title, which means not only history but language and literature, chiefly,

though not exclusively, Greek, Hebrew, and Latin. The main focus was on faculty and graduate student research. Seminar coordinators: Bill Caferro (history) and Tom McGinn (classical studies).

Guest Speakers: On March 16th **Tom Kuehn** (history, Clemson University) gave a lecture entitled “Social and Legal Capital Vendetta: A Fifteenth Century Florentine Feud in and out of Court” while on March 22nd **Merry Wiesner-Hanks** (history, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) gave a public lecture entitled “Lustful Luther: Male Libido in the Writings of the Reformation.” Afterwards, the Warren Center hosted a reception.

Black Europe/Black European Studies Reading Group

The reading group was committed to exploring intellectually Black Europe as an emerging field of study on the European continent and in Great Britain, as well as the particularities of the Black European experience. The seminar held brown bag luncheon meetings on Wednesday, October 19, and November 16.

Guest Speaker: **Sabine Broeck** (American Studies, University of Bremen, Germany) gave a talk entitled “Slavery and the Making of Modern Europe,” 4:10 p.m., Wednesday, November 16. Broeck is a founding Member of the Collegium for African American Research in Europe (CAAR) and the author of *White Amnesia - Black Memory? American Women's Writing and History* (Lang, Frankfurt/New York 1999).

Other speakers included **Kathryn Gines** (African American & Diaspora Studies) on February 8th, “Sartre, Wright, and Fanon: Paris and the 'Black Atlantic'”; **Anastasia Curwood** (African American & Diaspora Studies) on March 22nd, “Jean Toomer's Trans-Atlantic Gender Journey: An African-American's Search for Modern Masculinity in France and the United States”; and **Catherine Molineux** (history) on April 6th with “Britain's Rebel Slave: Images of Mungo from the Age of Revolution.”

Circum-Atlantic Studies Group

Now in its fifth year, this group met monthly and read and treated works-in-progress authored by participants. Participants' scholarship should be interdisciplinary in nature, focus on at least two of the following regions—Africa, Europe, Latin and Central America, the Caribbean, and North America—and treat some aspect of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, colonialism, and/or postcolonialism. Seminar coordinators: Sean Goudie (English) and Jane Landers (history)

Guest Speakers: On December 5th, **Kristin Silva Gruesz** (history, University of California, Santa Cruz) gave a public lecture while on March 15th **Kris Lane** (history, College of William and Mary) gave a lecture entitled “Romancing the Stone: Atlantic Emerald Markets and the Mines of Colonial Muzo, Colombia.”

Comparative Literature

This seminar met monthly.

Culture Seminar

This interdisciplinary workshop was designed to explore the dimensions of our expressive lives--including art, entertainment, and heritage. Investigating the dynamics of both new and old cultural forms and artistic movements, participants will pay particular attention to the processes by which culture is produced and consumed both within and across different contexts. Participants will attempt to take a fresh look at the artistic and creative impulses of our country with an eye to pulling out larger trends and issues to which both scholars and citizens should pay attention. Seminar coordinator: Steven Tepper (Curb Center and sociology).

Diabetes Work Group

The diabetes working group consisted of scholars across the disciplines whose research involves the social aspects of diabetes. Seminar coordinator: Arleen Tuchman.

Language Matters

How are language, identity, and conceptual development linked? What can child language acquisition tell us about theories of the mind? What cognitive and sociocultural dynamics are involved in adult second language acquisition? With participating faculty who work in psychology, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, and modern foreign languages, the Language Matters group explored issues related to language and cognition. The seminar met from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. on the following dates: January 27th, February 10th, and April 21st. Seminar coordinators: Meg Saylor (psychology and human development) and Susan Berk-Seligson (Spanish and Latin American Studies).

Guest Speakers: **Barbara Johnstone** (Professor of Rhetoric and Linguistics, Carnegie Mellon University) met with the seminar and gave a public lecture on March 30th at 2:45 p.m. in 123 Buttrick Hall entitled "Speaking 'Pittsburghese': How Globalization Collapses Regional Linguistic Distinctions and Creates Regional Dialects." On Monday, April 10th, **Barbara Vance** (French and linguistics, Indiana University), a specialist in syntax and historical French, gave a lecture entitled "Topics and Subjects in Old French and Modern French: Using the Present to Explain the Past and vice versa." The Warren Center also hosted a lunchtime talk for Vance.

Leadership and Citizenship

This monthly seminar initiated a conversation exploring the feasibility of establishing a 15-credit-hour academic minor in Leadership and Citizenship. Given the interconnectedness of our world, and the local, national, and international leadership opportunities increasingly available to our students, this minor might serve as a link between classes exploring themes of leadership and citizenship, global religions and politics, ethics, service, health, and competency in world cultures. Seminar Coordinator: Mark Dalhouse (Office of Active Citizenship and Service)

Medicine, Health, and Society Workshop/Planning Group

This interdisciplinary seminar met monthly to discuss common concerns and hear talks by members and visiting speakers.

Guest Speakers: On Wednesday, September 7, **Kenneth Wallston** (psychology) gave a talk entitled “Hocus-pocus, The Focus Isn’t Strictly on Locus: One Man’s Odyssey with Studying Perceived Control and Health.”

The Medicine, Health, and Society fall lecture was delivered on Thursday, September 15 by **Robert Kane, M.D.**, (Minnesota Chair in Long-Term Care and Aging, University of Minnesota School of Public Health) and his sister **Joan West**, authors of *It Shouldn’t Be This Way: the Failure of Long-term Care*. The book tells the story of their mother's experience after she suffered a debilitating stroke. After speaking in Light Hall, the group met at the Warren Center for a fuller discussion of the issues they raised in their book and lecture. A reception and book signing followed at the Vanderbilt University Bookstore.

Isaac Prilleltensky (human and organizational Development) gave a lecture on Wednesday, October 12, entitled “Time for a Change: Shifting the Paradigm in Health and Human Services through Action Research.” **Laura Carpenter** (sociology) spoke on Wednesday, November 9 with a lecture entitled “The Politics of Infant Male Circumcision” while **Sten Vermund** (director of the Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health) spoke on Wednesday, November 30th. His talk was entitled “Complexities in Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV in Africa.”

Carol Etherington (School of Nursing) spoke on January 18th, 1:10 – 2:30 p.m. Her talk was entitled “The Delivery of Humanitarian Aid: Realities, Risks, and Responsibilities.”

Steven Miles (Center for Bioethics and Department of Medicine, University of Minnesota Medical School), presented the talk “The Legacy of Abu Ghraib for Military Medicine” on February 2nd, 1:10 – 2:30 p.m. A buffet supper was held on February 15th, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., for a talk by **Sydney Halpern** (sociology,) “Lesser Harms: The Morality of Risk in Medical Research.” On March 15th, 1:10 – 2:30 p.m., **Jon Lehman** (Owen School, Vanderbilt), spoke on “The Changing Health Care Market and its Implications for Management Education” while on April 19th, 1:10 – 2:30 p.m., **Lida Anestidou** (Center for Biomedical Ethics and Society, Vanderbilt), presented a talk entitled “The Ethics of Animal Experimentation.”

Nineteenth Century Seminar

This group focused upon the history, art, literature, and culture of the long nineteenth century (ca. 1760-1914). Meetings occurred on a more-or-less monthly basis during the academic year to consider current scholarship by group members and others. Meetings were scheduled from 12:30-2:00 p.m. on the following dates: February 17th and March 3rd. Seminar coordinators: Natalie Champ and Lauren Wood.

Queer Theory/Gender Theory Graduate Student Reading Group

This seminar, for graduate students, met to discuss emergent issues in queer theory and gender theory. The focus of the discussions was the ways in which current issues are developing across disciplinary boundaries. Meetings took place from 1-3 p.m. on the following dates: September 2, October 7, November 18, and December 2 and 12:00-2:00 pm on February 3rd, March 17th, and April 21st. Seminar coordinators: Rebecca Chapman

and Donald Jellerson.

Vanderbilt Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies

This was an interdisciplinary forum for faculty and graduate students with an interest in literature, history, music, art, and culture from 1400-1800. The group met monthly to discuss ongoing research by a faculty member, recent publications in the field, or the work of a visiting scholar. Graduate students are particularly encouraged to attend and contribute. Seminar coordinator: Leah Marcus (English).

Women's and Gender Studies Seminar

This seminar highlighted work being done on campus in the area of women's and gender studies.

Guest Speakers: **Dana Nelson** (Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of English) on October 6th at 4:10 pm with a talk entitled "Why Presidentialism is Bad for US Democracy" and **Lynn Clarke** (communication studies) on November 17th at 4:10 pm with "Towards the Recovery of Affect in Deliberative Politics: The Body in Marriage Controversy and An Occasion for Rhetorical Theory."

Warren Center Summer Seminars

Mellon Foundation Summer Seminar

Jonathan Lamb (English and Mellon Chair of Humanities) directed a summer seminar during the month of May 2006. The seminar was part of a grant he received from the Mellon Foundation.

Other Projects

Tina Campt

The Warren Center co-sponsored a public lecture by Tina Campt (Interim Director, Program in Women's Studies, Duke University) on Thursday, March 30th entitled "Pictures of 'Us'?—Race, Gender and the Historical Image."

Steve Dowden

On February 23rd Steve Dowden (German, Brandeis University) gave a lunchtime lecture entitled "Compassion as Ethical Problem for Literature."

Dr. James Gardner

Associate Director for Curatorial Affairs at the Smithsonian, Dr. James Gardner gave a public lecture on March 27th. His talk, entitled "A Mirror of America? Revisioning the Nation's History Museum," was sponsored by the History Department with co-sponsorship provided by the Warren Center, the American/Southern Studies Department, and the Office of Active Citizenship & Service.

Sander Gilman

On February 10th, the Warren Center hosted a lunchtime lecture by Sander Gilman entitled “Collaboration, the Economy, and the Future of the Humanities.”

Hip Hop’s Defiant Divas (Then and Now)

This interdisciplinary conference featured participants from the U.S., Canada, and France with backgrounds in political science, women’s studies, African American Studies, and media studies. It was co-directed by Kathryn Gines (African American Diaspora Studies).

Martin Luther King, Jr Observance

The Warren Center was a co-sponsor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture Series. The featured speaker, The Reverend James Lawson, spoke on Tuesday, January 17th in Benton Chapel, Divinity School with a talk entitled “Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?” The event was a joint presentation as part of the MLK lecture series.

Dr. Vanessa Vilches Norat On Friday, November 4th, Norat gave a public lecture entitled “Autobiography as Matergraphy: Carmen Boullosa’s Narrative Gesture.”

Political Feeling

The Warren Center hosted this all-day seminar on February 24th. Dana Nelson (English) was director of the seminar.

Sandra Steingraber

Sandra Steingraber (Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Ithaca College) gave a public lecture on April 20th at the historic Belcourt Theatre. Sponsored by the Women’s and Gender Studies Program and co-sponsored by the Warren Center as well as several other departments, her talk was entitled “Contamination Without Consent: How Chemicals in Air, Food, and Water Violate Human Rights.”

Frank Trommel

In honor of the dedication of the Max Kade Center for European and German Studies, the Warren Center co-sponsored a public lecture by Frank Trommel (German, University of Pennsylvania and former Director of the Humanities Program at the American Institute for Contemporary Studies). His talk, given on April 19th, was entitled “How to Cross the Atlantic in the 21st Century: Thoughts about European and German Studies.”