

## Research Workshops Build on Productive Year

The Center's support for faculty research workshops on the UWM campus now enters its third year, with new groups continuing to be added to the list and with Center resources available to active groups expanding as well.

The **Ancient Mediterranean Studies/Classical Tradition** group held six meetings during last academic year, whose format varied from discussion of work in progress by UWM faculty to seminars by visiting scholars H. Alan Shapiro (Johns Hopkins University) and Vincenzo Di Giovanni (Fulbright Scholar). True to its commitment to the Classical Tradition, the group's workshops have covered a wide range of topics from fifth-century BC Athenian hero-cults to the reception of Vitruvius in the modern age to the teaching of (classical) rhetoric in the twentieth century.

Members of the **Cognitive Studies** research workshop focused on the perennial question of the effect of language on thought. Most of the group's discussions have centered around a collection of papers published under the title *Language in Mind* (2003), edited by D. Gentner and S. Goldin-Meadow. The group is resuming its weekly meetings in Fall 2004.



Anne Hansen (Colonialisms)

The **Colonialisms** workshop considered work by Anne Maxwell, Dipesh Chakrabarty, Paula Sanders, and Gauri Viswanathan. In addition to its discussion of recent works treating comparative colonialisms, the workshop has served an unforeseen instrumental purpose as an informal writing "support group" for assistant professors. All of the regular attendees are currently writing or revising manuscripts for first books on colonial topics; the workshop has thus given members an opportunity to talk about problems in their own work, as well as to share ideas for and encourage each others' writing processes.

On May 12, the **Early Modern** group discussed a pre-circulated paper by guest speaker Christopher Warley (Oakland University) entitled "Sonnet Sequences and Social Distinction." With a membership of over 20 representing seven disciplines and four regional universities, the group met five times to discuss pre-circulated work by group members. During the new school year the group plans to bring in two outside speakers, while also continuing its discussions of work-in-progress by members.

Discussions of **Ethics Across the Disciplines** were based on article-length readings proposed by members of the workshop. Members read works by Alan Donegan, Michael Walzer, Thomas Scanlon, Bernard Williams, Thomas W. Pogge, and Terry Nardin. In Fall 2004, the group will continue with a more structured format designed to foster cross-disciplinary communication and more focused discussion.

The **Feminist Theory** research workshop has explored themes such as feminism and multiculturalism; feminist methodologies; "third wave" feminism; feminism, democracy, and citizenship; feminism and transgender identity; and feminism and domestic labor. The group met six times over the 2003-04 year and discussed works by Seyla Benhabib, Donna Haraway, and Elizabeth A. St. Pierre, as well as members' work-in-progress.



Sukanya Banerjee  
(Colonialisms;  
Feminist Theory)

You can find detailed information on all the groups on the Center website. Click the "research workshops" link at <http://www.21st.uwm.edu>.

## From the Director

With the Center immersed in an unusually busy season of transition, I've been mulling over the relationship between the Center and the people who constitute its life force. When I was an undergraduate, a senior administrator at my university was reputed to have responded to a student concern by saying, "You are here for four years. I am here for life. The institution is here forever." The loftiness of this remark still rankles, and its pithiness comes at the expense of many groups central to the life of "the institution," notably graduate students, untenured and adjunct faculty, and staff. But both its spoken and its unspoken assumptions do set out the multiple timeframes of academic life with admirable concision.

A colleague who has been at UWM for nearly fifteen years, and around the Center for much longer, commented to me not long ago that with Carol Tennesen's retirement this summer, closing a chapter that goes back to the late 1970s, everyone at the Center seemed to her like a newcomer. After a little over four years at the Center, our business manager, Maria Liesegang, is now our veteran; I am starting my third year in residence, assistant director Ruud van Dijk his second, while our new program coordinator and deputy director, Kate Kramer, has a jump of only two months on our new graduate program assistants, Matt Cook and Amity McGinnis, whom we welcome at the start of the academic year. Of course the turnover at research centers tends to be higher than in the academy in general: every year brings a new crop of fellows, at least a few new members of the faculty advisory committee, and, we hope, new participants to our public events and research workshops. Because a research center always functions as a kind of pulse-taker of its chosen fields, we need a constant supply of new ideas, new voices, new perspectives. I hasten to add that we are always happy to see old stalwarts as well, and we value their loyalty and the institutional continuity they represent. But, without any smug sense of permanence, we always have to be thinking about the future, not only of the institution but of the fields of learning the Center seeks to advance.

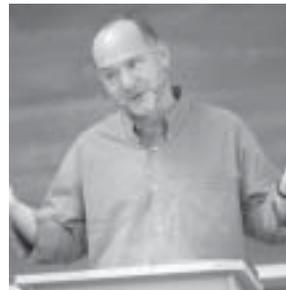
People, as I became aware in my work on collective memory, themselves offer a fascinating, ever fluctuating intersection of past – our habits, memories, web of relations – and future – our curiosity, ambitions, willingness to take risks. It's a special pleasure to see Kate Kramer take over from Carol Tennesen, for whom she worked as a project assistant at the Center over a decade ago and whom she credits in great part for her decision to make a career in humanities administration. Kate honors Carol's achievement and knows the vital importance of her contribution, but she has her own ideas and her own style, which are already proving of great benefit to the Center. That continuing search for fresh perspectives and new energy also motivates the campaign to build a lasting tribute to Carol in the form of a summer fellowship for graduate students at an advanced stage of dissertation research. Graduate students have always played an important role in the life of the Center, and we are very conscious that they represent the future. Many thanks to all who have contributed to that campaign, and in general to all the people who, in every sense, make the Center run.

–Daniel Sherman

## Ferguson Talk Concludes 03-04 Program

The last Center guest in 2003-04, Stanford anthropologist James Ferguson, directed our attention on May 7 to Africa under the title: "Globalizing Africa? Observations from an Inconvenient Continent."

Addressing an attentive audience of three dozen, Ferguson focused on the general instead of the local, using recent, interdisciplinary literature on contemporary Africa to examine widely



held assumptions about "globalization." While globalization literature has had little to say about Africa, Ferguson's central and persuasively argued central thesis is that "thinking globalization through Africa" can be an illuminating endeavor.

Using the categories of culture, capital flows, and governance, Ferguson was able to convey both the inadequacies of much globalization discourse and the depth of the challenges many African countries face in trying to keep pace with a changing world. Examining Africa's experience with globalization in the cultural realm, Ferguson argued, serves both to debunk the notion of a worldwide cultural convergence and to remind us that for many on the continent simply catching up with "modernity" remains an elusive goal.

A look at African economic realities made the point in an even starker fashion. Capital, according to Ferguson, does not "flow" in the global economy, it "hops," skipping over many areas and people; capital does not "cover" the globe, but connects certain points. For Africa this means that investment is ever more precisely targeted at areas suitable for mineral extraction while bypassing the rest of a country and its economy. Investment, therefore, does not necessarily contribute to general development.

Ironically, these pernicious economic trends have been facilitated by a political development often associated with globalization, namely the weakening of the traditional nation state, never very strong to begin with in many African countries. Political fragmentation, according to Ferguson, has contributed to the creation of a "useful" or "usable" Africa: enclaves of investment that are part of transnational networks of economic development whose owners are unconcerned with those existing on the outside. In his conclusion, Ferguson observed that if "global" indeed, as the African experience suggests, means separation and segregation, it divides the planet as much as it unites it, and "global" forums alone may be inadequate to address contemporary problems.

## Former Center Fellows Promoted

The Center would like to congratulate the following former fellows who were promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure during the 2003-04 year:

**David Allen**, (Fellow 02-03), Journalism and Mass Communication

**Carla Bagnoli**, (99-00), Philosophy

**Mark Netzloff**, (01-02), English

**K.E. Supriya**, (98-99), Communication

**Javier Tapia**, (01-02), Education

## Center Fellows for 2004-05



**Gilberto M. Blasini** is an Assistant Professor of Film Studies in the English Department. His working manuscript, entitled *Cine-nomadisms: Road Movies and U.S. Society, 1967-2000*, explores the way in which road films as a genre are dialogically engaged in constructing national myths central to the contemporary configuration of the U.S. social imaginary. His research, publications, and teaching interests also include areas such as Latin American and Caribbean cultures, post-1980s U.S. television, and Puerto Rican performance art and contemporary dance. He earned his Ph.D. in Critical Studies in Film and Television from the University of California, Los Angeles (2002).



**Derek Counts** is an Assistant Professor in the Art History Department. He holds a Ph.D. in Archaeology from Brown University (1998). His research involves primarily the material culture of Greece, Cyprus, and the Eastern Mediterranean, and he is currently associate director of the Athienou Archaeological Project in Cyprus. Derek's current project at the Center is a monograph on the iconography and function of the principal male divinity worshipped in the sanctuaries of ancient Cyprus during the first millennium B.C. His recent publications include two articles on Cypriote sculpture and iconography in the *Cahier du Centre d'Études Chypriotes*.



**Rina Ghose** is the Dhaliwal Assistant Professor of Geography and a member of the Urban Studies faculty. She received her Ph.D. in Geography from UWM in 1998. Rina has multiple research interests in the areas of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Urban Geography. She has published in journals such as *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*, *Transactions in GIS*, *URISA Journal*, *Journal of Urban Technology*, *Cartographica*, *Urban Geography*, and *Progress in Human Geography*. Her research project at the Center will explore the complexities involved in accessing and effectively utilizing spatial data and GIS by marginalized citizen groups in order to effectively reconstruct blighted urban space to create new "spaces of hope."



**Douglas Howland** is the David D. Buck Professor of Chinese History in the Department of History. He teaches historiography, east Asian history, and the development of global processes; his ongoing research concerns the spread of western political theory to east Asia in the nineteenth century. He is the author of *Borders of Chinese Civilization: Geography and History at Empire's End* (Duke, 1996) and *Translating the West: Language and Political Reason in Nineteenth-Century Japan* (Hawai'i, 2002), and he is currently writing on the reception of John Stuart Mill's theory of liberalism in east Asia. His Center project concerns the development of international law and conceptions of sovereignty in China and Japan.



**Raymond Isaacs** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Architecture. His scholarly work focuses on urban landscape networks, particularly at the neighborhood scale. Active work includes research in the relationship between designed environments and patterns of human activity and studies of the expression of urban places through the interaction of social practices and natural processes. After practicing architecture for several years, Ray earned his Ph.D. from Berkeley in 1998 and was a Senior Fulbright Scholar in Germany in 2000-2001. He has published articles in the *Journal of Urban Design* and *Places*. At the Center, he will be exploring the links between urban ecology, community building, and neighborhood identity.



**Thomas Malaby** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology and a member of the Modern Studies faculty. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1998. He has published articles and essays on practice theory, risk, mortality, and history. His book, *Gambling Life: Dealing in Contingency in a Greek City* (University of Illinois Press, 2003) explores human attitudes toward risk and illicit action through an examination of the practice of gambling in Crete. His project at the Center, entitled "Virtual Worlds of Difference: Programming Distinction in Online Game Development," examines how social difference is encoded and emergent in the production of massively complex online games, such as Everquest, UltimaOnline, and others.



**Andrea Westlund** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy and the Center for Women's Studies. She earned her Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Michigan in 2001. Her current research is on the moral psychology of friendship and love, with a particular focus on personal autonomy, joint deliberation, and the formation of shared interests and identities. Her project at the Center, entitled "Particular Others and the Self in Dialogue," focuses on parallels between public and private deliberation and explores the significance of these parallels for the ethics of personal relationships. Andrea has published in the journal *Signs* on the topic of domestic violence, and her paper "Selflessness and Responsibility for Self: Is Deference Compatible with Autonomy?" is forthcoming in *The Philosophical Review*.



**Jian Xu** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of French, Italian, and Comparative Literature. He received his Ph.D. in 2001 from University of Iowa's Department of Cinema and Comparative Literature. His current research focuses on modern and contemporary Chinese literature and cinema. He has published in such journals as *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture*, *positions: east asia cultures critique*, and *The Journal of Asian Studies*. His work at the Center will focus on the theme of exile and migration in contemporary Chinese fiction and film.

## Fall Calendar of Events

**Fri Sept 10:** "Of Fear, Of Contact, and Of Entanglement"  
a lecture by **Irit Rogoff** (Goldsmith's College, University of London); 3:30 pm; Mitchell Hall B91  
preceded by a film screening of "Border" by **Michal Rovner** (50 min., 1997); 2:30 pm; Mitchell Hall B91

**Wed Sept 22:** Open House at the Center  
2:30-5 pm; Center Conference Room, Curtin Hall 939

**Thu, Fri Oct 7, 8:** Symposium on Milwaukee History: Current Understandings and Future Research starts Thu, Oct 7; 9:30 am; Fourth Floor, Golda Meir Library (cosponsored with UWM Urban Studies Programs, the Department of History, and the Center for Economic Development)

**Fri Oct 15:** The Racialized Landscape and Rancho California (por favor)  
a screening and presentation by **John Caldwell** (UCLA)  
3:30 pm; Mitchell Hall B91

**Fri Oct 29:** "Histories and Geographies of Difference":  
a symposium on Australia and America  
1 - 5:30 pm; Curtin Hall 118

"The Writer's and Artist's Perspective," 1-3 pm

**Ihab Hassan** (UWM): "Views of the Void: Painting a Continent"  
**Nicholas Jose** (Sydney): "The Dreaming and the Dream: Australia and America"

**Chris Wallace-Crabbe** (Melbourne): "Slouching Toward the Nightmare of History"

Chair: **Patrice Petro** (UWM)

"Multicultural Australia," 3:30 - 5:30 pm

**Diane Bell** (George Washington University): "Engaged Ethnography: A Feminist Exploration of the Politics of Gender, Race, and Religion"

**Patricia O'Brien** (Georgetown University): "White Australia and the Brown Pacific: National Interest and Colonialism in Australia's Papuan Frontier"

**Elizabeth Povinelli** (University of Chicago): "Without Shame: The New Cultural Unilateralism"

Chair: **Daniel Sherman** (UWM)

**Fri Nov 12:** "Global Trade in Ideas"  
a lecture by **Bonnie Smith** (Rutgers University)  
3:30 pm; Holton Hall 341  
(cosponsored with the Department of History)

**Fri Dec 3:** "Imperial Cities," a symposium  
**Sue Alcock** (University of Michigan): "Making Sure You Know Whom to Kill: Spatial Strategies in Roman Imperial Cities"  
**Michael Herzfeld** (Harvard University): "Fabricating Cultural Authority: Eccentric Angles on Urbanity and Western Identity"  
3 pm; Curtin Hall 118

## Future Conferences at the Center

### Routing Diasporas: Labor, Citizenship, Empire

In April 2005, as a culmination of its two-year research project on "Geographies of Difference," the Center will host the conference "Routing Diasporas: Labor, Citizenship, Empire." The conference, organized by three UWM faculty members who were Center fellows this past year, Sukanya Banerjee (English), Aims McGuinness (History), and Steven McKay (Sociology), intends to push both the historical boundaries and the theoretical possibilities of diaspora. While remaining grounded in the material and contextual circumstances and lived intimacies of migrants past and present, the conference will also explore new metaphors and interpretations of mobility, displacement, or globalism. Papers will foreground how the labors (physical, intellectual, sexual, political, economic or aesthetic) that inform, predetermine, and emerge from a range of diasporas reformulate cartographies of empire; notions of territoriality, community, and citizenship; and vectors of gender, race, class, and sexuality.

### The Center Conference Proposal Initiative: Events for 2005-06

This past spring, the Center issued its first call for proposals for conferences and symposia from UWM faculty and staff. A committee composed of four members of the Center's advisory committee – Sherry Ahrentzen (Architecture), Margo Anderson (History), Jane Gallop (English), and Thomas Malaby (Anthropology) – as well as Center director Daniel Sherman reviewed the applications and selected three for further consideration. After working with the organizers to refine their proposals, we are pleased to announce the following events for 2005-06:

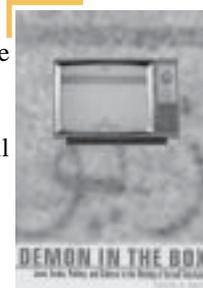
**The Art of the State: Sovereignty Past and Present**, a conference to be held October 21-22, 2005, organized by Douglas Howland (History, 04-05 Center Fellow) and Luise White (History, University of Florida).

**Religion, Violence, and the Limits of Liberalism**, a symposium to be held in late fall 2005, organized by Peter Paik (French, Italian, and Comparative Literature, 02-03 Center Fellow)

**In/Dependence**, a symposium to be held in Spring 2006, organized by Anne Basting (Theatre) and Andrea Westlund (Philosophy, 04-05 Center Fellow).

### New Book by Former Fellow

What does a country's television programming say about its deep character, beliefs, dreams, and fears? In *Demon in the Box* (Rutgers, 2004), Tasha Oren (English, 01-02 Center Fellow) recounts the volatile history of Israeli television and thereby reveals the history of the nation itself. Former Center speaker Henry Jenkins (Director, MIT Comparative Media Studies Program) offers the following praise: "Oren effectively shows how debates about television become debates about the limits of state power. As such, this book will be important not only for those studying television but also those interested in larger debates about nations as imagined communities."



## Poetry as Archive: Dipesh Chakrabarty

## Fundraising at the Center

Eminent scholar Dipesh Chakrabarty presented a talk entitled “Poetry as Archive: A History of Romanticism” to an attentive audience of around 30 at the Center on April 2. A founding member of the Subaltern Studies Group and the Lawrence A. Kimpton Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago, Chakrabarty is widely acclaimed for his work on liberal theory, nationalism, and modernity, especially as they relate to questions of historiography. Focusing on the ways in which literature operates as a site for articulating or formulating the “spirit” of the nation,



Chakrabarty’s talk at the Center dwelled on the historical and political significance of literary genealogies. With reference to India, especially Bengal, he argued for the ways in which strands of nineteenth-century European Romanticism informed a vernacular literary tradition that had tremendous purchase in negotiating between individual and collective subjectivities. He pointed out that the death of romanticism in many ways also marked the death of vernacular literature. Suggesting that in an era witnessing the globalization of English we need to redirect our attention to the role of vernacular traditions, Chakrabarty’s talk raised important questions about the possible relationship between vernaculars and the Left in addressing contemporary global politics.

## New On-Line Working Papers Posted

The Center has added two new working papers to its On-Line Working Papers series, both by members of the 02-03 fellowship class. Working Paper 2, “Creating Meaning, Creating Citizens: The U.S. Supreme Court and the Control of Meaning in the Public Sphere,” was written by David Allen (Journalism and Mass Communication); Working Paper 3, “The Pessimist Rearmed: Zizek on Christianity and Revolution,” is by Peter Paik (French, Italian, and Comparative Literature). Working Paper 4, by Marc Abélès (Centre Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique), one of the speakers at the Center’s 2003-04 symposium “New European Frontiers,” will appear during Fall 2004. To access the papers, click the “working papers” link on the Center’s home page.

## Advisory Committee Changes

The Center welcomes several new members of its Faculty Advisory Committee and would like to thank outgoing members for their service.

**New members:** Joe Austin, History; Derek Counts, Art History; Kristie Hamilton, English; Nik Heynen, Geography; Linda Krause, Architecture; Caroline Seymour-Jorn, Foreign Languages and Linguistics. **Departing:** Anita Alkhas, French, Italian, and Comparative Literature; Margo Anderson, History; Sherry Ahrentzen, Architecture; Thomas Malaby, Anthropology; Leslie Vansen, Visual Art; Ying Wang, Art History. **Continuing:** David Allen, Journalism and Mass Communication; Margaret Atherton, Philosophy; Paul Brodwin, Anthropology; Vicki Callahan, Film; Jane Gallop, English; Anthony Lemelle, Africology; and Terry Nardin, Political Science.



Kristie Hamilton

Donations to the Center demonstrate support for the Center among core constituents such as faculty, and as such are an essential component of our grant writing efforts. We would like to thank the following friends of the Center for their generous response to our **annual request for financial donations:**

Professor Sukanya Banerjee, Professor Richard Blau, Louis Cooper, Professor Joan Dobkin, Professor Kristin Espinosa, Professor Bruce Fetter, Professor Carlos Galvao-Sobrinho, Professor Alice Gillam, Professor Jeffrey Hayes, Professor Judith Kenny, Professor Andrew Kincaid, Professor Lisa Moline, Professor Robin Pickering-Iazzi, Professor Robert Schwartz, Claire and Stanley Sherman, Professor Daniel Sherman, Zelma Sherman, Professor Leonard Smith, Professor Steven Winspur, and one anonymous donor.

Last Spring, the Center also launched its campaign to raise funds for the new **Tennessee Graduate Research Fellowship**, established in honor of long-time executive director Carol Tennessee, who retired this summer. As we explained previously, Tennessee fellows will be dissertators from the Center’s traditional areas of emphasis who will spend the three summer months at the Center working toward the completion of their dissertations while also having the opportunity to share their work in the Center’s faculty seminar in the semester following their fellowship.



We are pleased to report that the **Tennessee Fund campaign** is off to a very good start, with donations coming in at a steady rate, and that the Center looks forward to welcoming its first Tennessee fellow next summer. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of all who have helped put the Tennessee Fund on its way so successfully. At the same time, we are still some way off from an endowment large enough to fund one or more fellowships on an annual basis. **If you have not yet taken the time to send a contribution, please consider doing so now**, with the new school year getting underway. You can make out your contribution to the “Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Studies - Tennessee Fund” and mail it to the Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Studies, University of Milwaukee-Wisconsin, P.O. Box 413, 53201.

For more information about supporting this or other Center initiatives, or to discuss other opportunities to contribute, please contact the Center’s deputy director, Kate Kramer, at [414] 229-5044, [kkramer@uwm.edu](mailto:kkramer@uwm.edu).

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