

center for 21st century studies

a newsletter from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee ■ fall 2006

Center Receives Research Growth Initiative Award

As part of the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee's campaign to increase external funding for research through its new Research Growth Initiative (RGI), the Center has been awarded a \$90,000 grant to create a new position of Associate Director for Advancement and Planning (ADAP).

In response to the Graduate School's launch of the RGI last fall, the Center scheduled a series of meetings of its Faculty Advisory Committee and other Center constituents to explore the most effective way to participate. The consensus was that, in keeping with the overall goals of the RGI as well as the mission of the

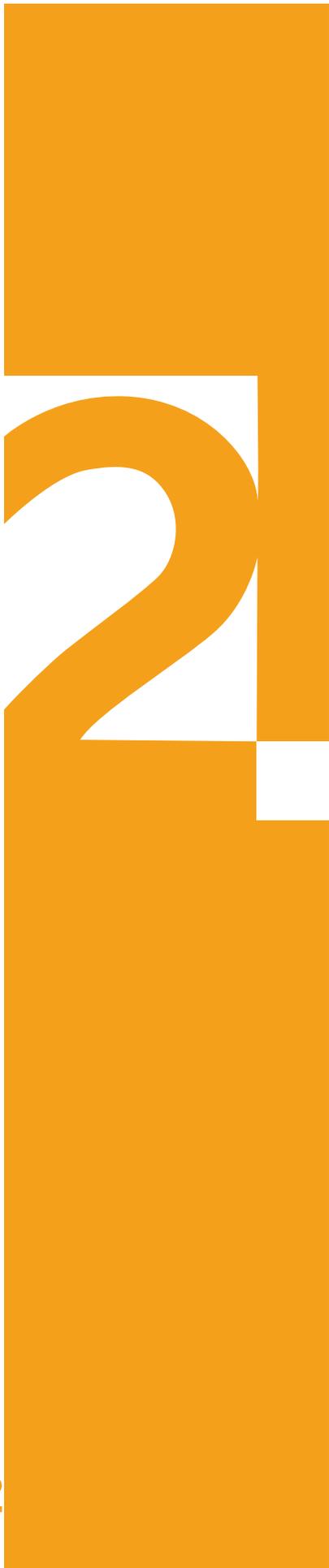


Center RGI Principal Investigators Merry Wiesner-Hanks, Center Interim Director 2006-07, and Daniel J. Sherman, Center Director (on leave 2006-07)

Center, we should expand our activities on behalf of interdisciplinary humanities research into the area of advancement and planning. In addition to assisting individuals who seek outside funding for their research projects, a staff member in this area will have the primary responsibility of bringing faculty together for joint projects that lend themselves to external support. In addition, the ADAP will further the Center's ongoing efforts to increase outside funding for its current programs, including the search for major endowment gifts. The grant also includes funds for a graduate student Project Assistant (PA) dedicated to supporting the ADAP's work.

The Center proposal received the highest ranking from the RGI's panel of outside evaluators and was endorsed at the campus level in May. In discussions this summer, the Graduate School and the Center, with the strong support of Dean of the College of Letters and Science Richard Meadows, agreed to a new timetable and milestones that will assure funding for the ADAP position for two years. Early in 2007 we will assemble a search committee, consisting of Center Director Daniel Sherman, Interim Director Merry Wiesner-Hanks, and one representative each from

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From the Director

I have spent the last year on sabbatical, not exploring strange new archives and boldly going where no historian has gone before, but trying to finish up several writing and organizational projects and not agree to too many new ones. I succeeded relatively well in the first aim, but failed completely in the second. The sense of calm that comes from not having teaching responsibilities or committee meetings must be readily apprehensible, for others know that this is an excellent time to offer interesting possibilities. The opportunity to serve as the director of the Center for a year was one of these. I have been fortunate to have served as the director of two other interdisciplinary units at UWM—the Center for Women’s Studies and the Comparative Study of Religion program—and found the cross-campus contacts and friendships that developed professionally enriching and personally rewarding. Thus although I had looked forward to coming back from sabbatical as a “regular” faculty member with no administrative duties for the first time in twenty years, the chance to work on programming for this year’s theme, and with this year’s group of fellows, was too tempting.

This year’s theme, “Autonomy, Gender, and Performance,” generated a diverse group of fellowship applications, with the fellows chosen coming from five different departments in the College of Letters and Science, two from the Peck School of the Arts, and a UW-System fellow from UW-Stevens Point. Their projects will take the form of creative work that appears in space as well as between two covers, and will explore ways in which issues of autonomy and agency are inflected by gender and other axes of difference, ways in which cultural and social forms enable and limit human autonomy and freedom, and ways in which the gendered body is theorized simultaneously as a site of control and of possibility. Center events for this year will be similarly diverse, with speakers from many fields, including anthropology, English, Hispanic studies, history, theatre and film studies, philosophy, and musicology. The Center will sponsor two performances during the spring semester, both of which interrogate gendered cultural icons and have generated a wide array of co-sponsors from across campus. The year will end with the major conference, “In Terms of Gender: Interdisciplinary and Cross-Cultural Perspectives,” to which we have invited scholars from a number of countries and disciplines and for which we are again working with multiple on- and off-campus partners, including Joan Scott from the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton and Mary Louise Roberts from UW-Madison.

I have just returned from the Early Modern Workshop in Jewish History, an annual workshop that this year focused on the family, gender, and social structures. As many of the speakers there noted, one of the key changes in Jewish life during the early modern period was the formation of self-governing Jewish communities, particularly in eastern Europe and the Ottoman Empire. These communities have traditionally been celebrated as sites of autonomy and agents of modernity (or at least “early” modernity), but our discussion of the gendered nature of the communities’ institutions and their intervention in family life problematized and complicated this trajectory. As we explore the impact of gender in this second year of the Center’s two-year thematic focus on autonomy, I look forward to similar reconceptualizations in many fields of scholarly analysis and creative production.

—Merry Wiesner-Hanks, *History*, Interim Director

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2005-06 Fellows Jasmine Alinder, Ellen Amster, Susan Laikin Funkenstein, John McGuigan, Melanie Mariño, and K.E. Supriya (from left to right) will present their research in September 2006 (please see Calendar of Events, page 10, for details).

RGI Award *continued from front cover*

the Graduate School and L&S. We expect to interview candidates in early spring, with the goal of having our new colleague on board in the summer of 2007. Look for a full description of the position and other information in our Winter newsletter.

The RGI award represents a strong endorsement of the expansive notion of the humanities as crossroads for interdisciplinary exchange that the Center has long embraced; we expect the ADAP, building on our existing connections, to bring together work with a humanistic dimension from around the university. We are genuinely excited about the prospects of expanding the Center’s core activities of the fellowship program, public programs, and publications—all in the interest of interdisciplinary work on the UWM campus and beyond.

Center website updates

This past summer, the Center was fortunate to have the assistance of UWM music major Kent Heberling in its efforts to update various archive sections of its website (<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/21st/>). This work is ongoing, but with the help of Kent we made big strides in updating images from past Center events (see “archive”) and the posting of the annual reports by recent Center fellows (see “people”). If you are a recent speaker at the Center, you may also come upon your picture in our “random rotation” of images on the right-hand side of most pages (just keep hitting the “refresh” button in your browser if you really want to know). The Center website is designed as a place where one can find all pertinent information on current and upcoming activities, and it also serves as the Center’s virtual archive. Do check it out, and do send us any suggestions you, as a user, may have.

Thank You!

The Center is grateful to the following people who have made financial donations in support of its programming and the Tennesen dissertator fellowship since Spring 2006: Jasmine Alinder, Elisabetta Cova, Derek Counts, Susan Laikin Funkenstein, Edward Hinchman, Melanie Mariño, John McGuigan, Eric Michaud, Robin Pickering-lazzi, Paula Sanders, Julius Sensat, and K.E. Supriya. As you have seen in our cover story, the Center continues to intensify and systematize its fundraising activities. Part of this remains our Fall appeal sent to friends and constituents. You should receive this year’s letter in November. Your donations are used exclusively in support of Center programming or the Tennesen Graduate Research Fellowship, depending on your designation. If you’d like more information, please contact Center Deputy Director Kate Kramer at kkramer@uwm.edu or 414-229-4141. Thank you in advance for your support!



EVENTS

*“The evidence of legal cases is too juicy to leave to the lawyers.”
—Michael Willrich*

Scars of Citizenship: Public Health, Personal Liberty, and the Law in Progressive-Era America: A Seminar with Michael Willrich

The final speaker in the Center’s 2005-06 research theme **States of Autonomy** was historian Michael Willrich (Brandeis), the author of the award-winning *City of Courts: Socializing Justice in Progressive-Era Chicago* (Cambridge University Press, 2003). Joined by Professor Rachel Buff’s graduate history seminar, several members of the Department of History, former and current Center fellows, and a number of community members, Willrich led a seminar focused on his pre-circulated article manuscript entitled “Scars of Citizenship: Public Health, Personal Liberty, and the Law in Progressive Era America” on Friday, May 5, 2006.

Willrich explained that his manuscript is part of a book project on the history of vaccination in 20th-century America. “Scars of Citizenship” concerns itself with problems of personal liberty in the Progressive era. The essay describes the “remarkably pervasive popular resistance to compulsory vaccination during outbreaks of smallpox epidemics around the turn of the century.” While the resistance took various forms, Willrich focuses on widespread legal challenges that “rested on distinctly modern claims to personal liberty and bodily autonomy in an age of growing governmental authority.”

The results of these cases were mixed, with courts often upholding the state’s right to compel while indicat-

ing that the conditions under which the state used its power, and the standards it applied, mattered greatly. His research, Willrich concluded, should lead to a re-thinking of traditional narratives of liberty claims in 20th-century America (usually associated with the post-World War II era) both in terms of the scope of these claims and the time period in which people began to assert them. The early court struggles even speak to issues in our own time: “The standards set in those cases have today begun to return to the fore, as civil libertarians and public health advocates debate the enormously complicated question of how to balance individual liberty, collective security, and public power in an age of growing fears about bioterrorism and global pandemics.”

Many seminar participants joined a lively discussion, in turn raising methodological questions, emphasizing the importance of the medical context during the Progressive era, and, in a variety of ways, further delving into questions about the use of state power in response to actual or anticipated national emergencies.

Center Staff News

Daniel Sherman (Center Director) delivered a paper, "The Impossible Museum: Creating the Musée des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, 1960-1975" at the annual meeting of the Society for French Colonial History in Dakar, Senegal, in May, and at the conference "France and Its Others: New Museums, New Identities," at the University of Chicago Center in Paris in June. In July he gave a presentation on "The Challenge of Integration: Immigration to France" at the UWM Global Studies Summer Institute for K-12 teachers.

Ruud van Dijk (Center Assistant Director and Editor) has published "Die 'new' Cold War History und die Ursprünge des Kalten Krieges 1945 bis 1947," *Jahrbuch für Historische Kommunismusforschung* (Aufbau Verlag, 2006), 153-167.

The Center welcomes its new Graduate Project Assistants for 2006-07: **Scott Canevit** (PhD student in Urban Studies) and **Stella Lineri** (MA student in Human Resources).

Center Faculty Advisory Committee for 2006-07

- Joe Austin** (History)
- Derek Counts** (Art History)
- Jane Gallop** (English)
- Lane Hall** (Visual Art)
- Kristie Hamilton** (English)
- Raymond Isaacs** (Architecture)
- Jennifer Jordan** (Sociology)
- John Koethe** (Philosophy)
- Tasha Oren** (English/Film Studies)
- Caroline Seymour-Jom** (French, Italian and Comparative Literature)
- Carol Stabile** (Journalism and Mass Communication)
- William Washabaugh** (Anthropology)

Ex officio members: Center (Interim) Director Merry Wiesner-Hanks, L&S Associate Dean Charles Schuster, a representative of the Graduate School, and Masters of Liberal Studies Director Jeffrey Hayes.

The Center would like to thank members who are cycling off the committee for their service: **David Allen** (JMC), **Margaret Atherton** (Philosophy), **Paul Brodwin** (Anthropology), **Nik Heynen** (Geography), and **Anthony Lemelle** (Africology and Sociology).

Congratulations

The Center would like to congratulate the following former fellows who were promoted to Associate Professor with tenure during the 2005-06 academic year: **Rina Ghose** (Geography, 2004-05), **Anne Hansen** (History, 2000-01, 2006-07), **Carrie Yang-Costello** (Sociology, 2000-01), and incoming fellow for 2006-07 **Jon McKenzie** (English and Modern Studies).

Former Center Fellows

Jasmine Alinder (History, 2005-06) gave an invited public lecture: "Born Free and Equal: Ansel Adams at Manzanar," May 13, 2006, Manzanar National Historic Site, Manzanar, CA.

Ellen Amster (History, 2005-06) gave a paper "Magic of the Moors: Judeo-Islamic Exchange and Medical Practice in Morocco" at the Society for the Social History of Medicine Conference at the University of Warwick, UK, June 28-July 1. She was also accepted by the Coolidge Scholars Program of Crosscurrents Magazine at Columbia University in New York City for Summer 2006, allowing her to continue her work on "Magic of the Moors" project at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

Bettina Arnold (Anthropology, 1998-99) has published "Arierdämmerung: race and archaeology in Nazi Germany." *World Archaeology* 38, 1 (2006): 8-31.

Joan Dobkin (Visual Art, 2002-03) exhibited parts of her new project, "Cell," in juried group shows at the 49th Chautauqua National Exhibit of American Art, the 15th National Juried Show Art Center of Northern New Jersey, the 5th Lessedra Word Art Mini Print Annual 2006 (Sofia, Bulgaria), and at Art Futura 2006 in Chicago. In August, she had a one-person show, "One from Wisconsin," at the West Bend Art Museum. Work deriving from her 2003 Center project "Giant Puppy/Distractions" was

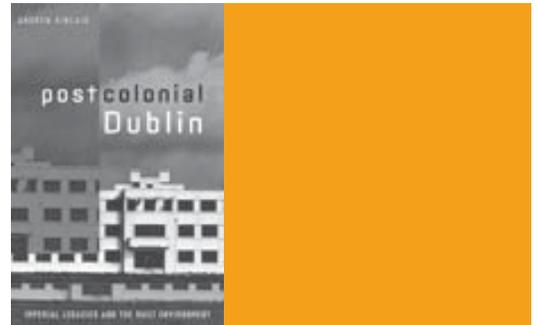
part of an invited, five-person show at Alpan Gallery, Huntington, NY.

Susan Laikin Funkenstein (Art History, UW-Parkside, 2005-06) delivered a paper "Picturing Palucca: Abstraction, Mass Culture, and the Dancing New Woman at the Bauhaus" at the Society of Dance History Scholars Conference in Banff, Canada, in June 2006.

Rina Ghose (Geography, 2004-05) has been awarded a 2006 Graduate School/UWM Foundation Research Award, for demonstrating excellence in research.

Jennifer Jordan (Sociology, 2001-02) has received a Fulbright grant in Spring 2007 for research on open-air folk museums in Central Europe, based in Vienna.

Andrew Kincaid (English, 2003-04) has published *Postcolonial Dublin: Imperial Legacies and the Built Environment* (University of Minnesota Press). In this book Kincaid illustrates how the architecture and urban planning of Dublin have been integral to debates about nationalism, modernism, and Ireland's relationship to the rest of the world. Looking at objects such as Londonderry's Market House, Patrick Abercrombie's Dublin of the Future, and the urban renewal project of today's Temple Bar, Kincaid highlights Ireland's colonial history and the significance of architecture in the evolution of national identity. In doing so, he demonstrates how ideology "spatializes" itself. Bringing the tools



of literary criticism and postcolonial theory to bear on the field of urban studies, Kincaid places Dublin at the forefront of debates over modernism, modernity, and globalization.

Saltanat Mambaeva (Manas University, Kirghizstan and Open Society Institute Faculty Development Fellow Spring 2004 and Spring 2005) has been invited to sit on the Open Society Institute advisory board that selects new participants for the Faculty Development Program.

Amanda Seligman (History, 2001-02) lectured on her new book, *Block by Block: Neighborhoods and Public Policy on Chicago's West Side* (University of Chicago Press, 2005) at Valparaiso and Northwestern Universities in April.

FELLOWS



Anne Hansen is Associate Professor of History at UWM. Her book *How to Behave: Buddhism and Modernity in Colonial Cambodia, 1860-1930* is forthcoming in March from the University of Hawai'i Press. Her research at the Center will focus on a genre of Khmer Buddhist ethical texts about the self and community composed in Cambodia during the mid-19th century. This research will culminate in a book.



Barbara Ley, Assistant Professor of Journalism and Mass Communication at UWM, has published articles in *American Behavioral Scientist* and the *Journal of Anthropological Research*. As a Center fellow, she will examine the role that online support communities play in the lives of women who are pregnant or trying to conceive, focusing on how these women use the sites to gather information and on how they construct notions of pregnancy, in/fertility, the not-yet-pregnant body, motherhood, and womanhood.



Jon McKenzie is Associate Professor of English and co-coordinator of Modern Studies at UWM. In addition to his book *Perform or Else: From Discipline to Performance* (Routledge, 2001), he has published in journals such as *Parallax*, *Style*, and *Journal of Popular Culture*. His current project investigates the ways that performativity operates globally through nation-states, multinational corporations, and international organizations at the turn of the 21st century, and also how it is being resisted by networks of artists, activists, and others seeking local and global justice.



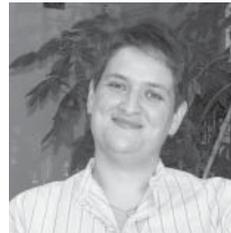
Kristin Pitt is Assistant Professor of French, Italian and Comparative Literature at UWM. Her articles have appeared in the journals *Latin American Literary Review* and *CLCWeb: Comparative Literature and Culture*. Her project, "Disappearing Citizens: Gender, Race, and Nation in the Americas," investigates narrative representations of the nation in the literature and political discourse of the Americas, focusing in particular on the ways in which metaphorical associations between the natural environment and citizens or subjects have reinforced conceptions of the human body as a national resource or commodity.

CENTER FOR 21ST

Mat Rappaport, Assistant Professor of Visual Art at UWM, has exhibited his work in places as varied as Serbia, Montenegro, the University of Notre Dame, Boston, and Milwaukee. His work at the Center will explore the performance of identity in built environments, specifically the Hoan Bridge, the Milwaukee River, and the interiors of local theaters, culminating in multiple video installations around the city.



Gillian Rodger is Assistant Professor of Music at UWM. Her articles have been published in journals such as *Popular Music*, *American Music*, and *The Women's Review of Books*. Her research considers the emergence of variety entertainment in America from 1850 to 1890, including the ways that this history reflects the social tensions between the moral reformers of America's middle-class, and working-class ethnic populations they sought to influence through legislation and forms of direct intervention.



Tanya Tiffany, Assistant Professor of Art History at UWM, has published in numerous journals and essay collections, including *Sixteenth-Century Journal* and *Seventeenth-Century News*. At the Center, she will finish her manuscript, "Envisioning Velázquez: Painting and Culture in Seventeenth-Century Seville." This work explores Velázquez's role in fashioning identities by analyzing theories of the body, the gaze, and constructions of the Other.



Robert Wolensky is Professor of Sociology at UW-Stevens Point, where he serves as co-director of the Center for the Small City and co-coordinator of the minor in Small City Analysis. He specializes in community and urban sociology, industrial/economic sociology, and environmental sociology. As a Center fellow, he will draft chapters of "Needlepoint Narratives: Work, Gender, and Community in the Ladies' Garment Industry of Northeastern Pennsylvania, 1940-2000," a companion volume to his co-authored book *Fighting for the Union Label* (Penn State, 2002).



CENTURY STUDIES

The 2006-07 Center research theme, **Autonomy, Gender, and Performance**, builds on the 2005-06 theme **States of Autonomy**. We will continue our conversations about the nature of autonomy, the conditions under which it is developed, and the terms that both express and constrain it. Programs and Center fellows' research in 2006-07 will be particularly concerned with the performative dimensions of autonomy and with the perspectives that concepts of gender bring to bear on autonomy in theory, in practice, and in performance.

Fall 2006 Calendar of Events

FRI SEPT 15

2005-06 Center Fellows Presentations

The Body: Locating Autonomy with **Jasmine Alinder** (History, UWM), **Ellen Amster** (History, UWM), **K.E. Supriya** (JMC, UWM), **Susan Laikin Funkenstein** (Art History, UW-Parkside), **Melanie Mariño** (Art History, UWM), **John McGuigan** (English, UW-Whitewater)

2 pm; CRT 118

Center Open House

4 pm; CRT 939

FRI SEPT 29

Amanda Anderson (English, Johns Hopkins)

a lecture, *Argument, Autonomy, and the Novel*

3:30 pm; CRT 118

FRI OCT 13

Open Forum I

informal meeting to discuss research opportunities at the Center for 21st Century Studies

Noon; CRT 939

WED OCT 18

Open Forum II

informal meeting to discuss research opportunities at the Center for 21st Century Studies

9 am; CRT 939

FRI OCT 20

Stephen Darwall (Philosophy, Michigan)

a lecture, *Autonomy, Respect, and Mutual Accountability*

co-sponsored by UWM Department of Philosophy

3:30 pm; CRT 118

FRI OCT 27

David Román (English, American Studies, USC)

a lecture, *A Streetcar Named Deseo*

3:30 pm; CRT 118

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Interim Director, 2006-07
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FRI NOV 10

Conversion Tales: Missionaries, Mary Magdalene, and Catholic Culture

a symposium organized by Merry Wiesner-Hanks (History; Center Interim Director) with **Jodi Bilinkoff** (History, UNC-Greensboro) "**Missionary Lives,**" and **Elizabeth Rhodes** (Hispanic Studies, Boston College) "**Who was Mary Magdalene—Really?: A Literary Archaeology**"

co-sponsored by UWM Department of History, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, and the Comparative Study of Religion Program
 3:30 pm; CRT 118

FRI DEC 1

Philip Auslander (Literature, Communication, and Culture, Georgia Tech; Theatre and Film Studies, Georgia)

a lecture, ***Performing Glam Rock: Gender and Theatricality in Popular Music***
 3:30 pm; CRT 175



**2006
Tennesen
Graduate
Research
Fellow**

This past Summer, the Center hosted the second Tennesen Graduate Research Fellow, Aaron Krall (English and Modern Studies). Aaron spent most of June, July, and August at the Center working on his dissertation, entitled "Chicago's Performative Urbanism." His project analyzes theatrical productions in relation to architecture, city planning, and other modes of urban performance to argue that theatre works to theorize the city in ways that contribute

to and contest traditional modes of urban inquiry. While making good use of his Center office, Aaron also took time to travel to Chicago to finalize his research on theatre during the World's Columbian Exposition and the Federal Theatre Project. As he notes, "nothing complements dissertation writing like digging through the theatre archives at the Harold Washington Library." In addition to the use of a Center office, a Tennesen fellowship award includes a two-month stipend, allowing recipients to concentrate fully on their work. Aaron believes the fellowship was a success: he was able to finish up his research, revise some of his early drafts, and write a significant amount of new material for his dissertation. He is now confident that his defense will be scheduled during the 2006-07 year.

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Research Workshops

The Center continues to support faculty-initiated, interdisciplinary research workshops on the UWM campus. Currently, six active groups are affiliated with the Center:

- Ancient Mediterranean Studies/Classical Tradition
- Cognitive Studies
- Early Modern Group
- Feminist Theory
- Race and Justice
- Science, Technology, Medicine and Society

You can find contact information and the latest on their Fall 2006 activities on our website, <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/21st/workshops/index.shtml>. There, people interested in starting new groups, reviving dormant ones, or bringing existing interdisciplinary groups into the Center will also find information on how to become a Center-affiliated research workshop. While members determine the nature of a group's activities, the Center encourages all research workshops to seek tie-ins with Center programming, for example by sharing a speaker, or by arranging joint seminars. The Center makes its conference room available for workshop meetings and also assists group coordinators by notifying members and distributing readings. In addition, active groups may qualify for Center funds for outside speakers.