

American Studies Newsletter

Fall 2010



FROM THE CHAIR



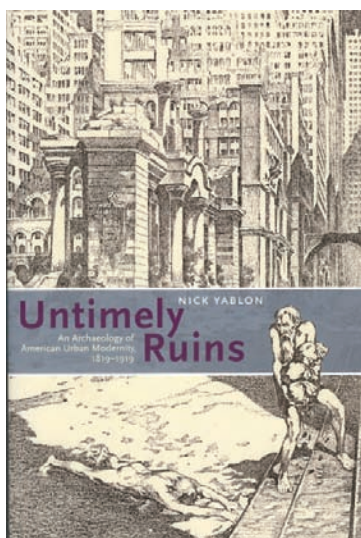
FOND GOOD-BYES AND AUSPICIOUS HELLOS

In July and August, the halls of the seventh floor of the Jefferson Building were filled with boxes and random pieces of furniture, material evidence of the major changes underway in our department. What began as a painful process arising from historic budget cuts has evolved into an exciting and distinctive emphasis in our interdisciplinary purview, as Sport Studies moves into American Studies, beginning this Fall. Other momentous change has resulted from life's passages. While saying good-bye to treasured colleagues, we embrace new arrivals and new challenges.

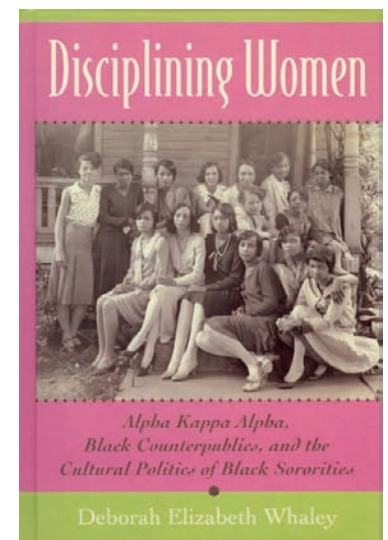
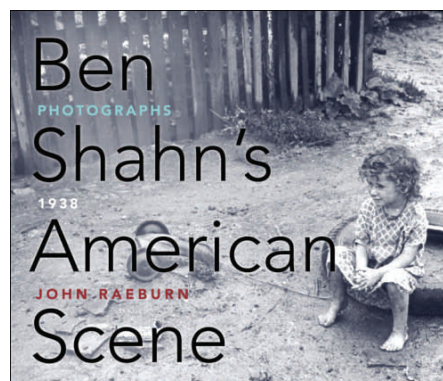
After thirty-five years on The University of Iowa faculty, Professor John Raeburn retired in May. Those years included two terms as chair of American Studies (1983-1985, 1994-2000). The department hosted a two-day symposium "Through An American Lens" featuring a number of his former students to mark the occasion (program and pictures appear on p. 9). Special thanks to our planning committee, chaired by Nick Yablon and including Horace Porter, Lauren Rabinovitz, and Eric Sandeen (PhD 1977), with excellent assistance from Laura Kastens. Eloquent papers and personal tributes attested to the enduring legacy he built through a distinguished record of scholarly accomplishments and exemplary teaching and service as a colleague and citizen of the university. It was indeed a fitting highlight of the symposium when Mike Augspurger (PhD 2001), as nominator, presented John with the Elizabeth Kolmer Award for Graduate Mentoring from the [Mid-America American Studies Association](#). Rather than a dust-collecting silver plaque, MAASA President Jane Simonsen (PhD 2001) thoughtfully arranged for John to receive an engraved beer mug. Generous to the end as he packed up his office, John opened his book cases to colleagues and students who came away with choice volumes meticulously inscribed with the dates and places he read them. These are cherished mementoes of how carefully and insightfully he read our work, in every sense, during his long tenure.

Our long-serving administrative associate, Carrie Louvar, also retired this past year. Carrie worked at The University of Iowa for 43 years and served continuously in American Studies since 1974, assisting a long succession of our program and department heads: Alexander Kern, Chadwick Hansen, Albert Stone, Richard Horwitz, John Raeburn, Lauren Rabinovitz, and myself. It was Lauren's inspiration to honor Carrie, in keeping with her favorite hobby, during a December celebration

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Three Faculty Books Published in 2009-2010



CENTER FOR ETHNIC STUDIES AND THE ARTS (CESA)

The UI Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts (CESA) joined the UI Obermann Center for Advanced Studies to sponsor "From Field to Tablet: A Symposium on Food, Culture and the Law" on February 26, 2010. Organized by UI Associate Professor of English and (by courtesy) Law Doris Witt, the symposium brought together five legal and cultural scholars from within the U.S. and beyond its borders. The symposium's audience included students, faculty from the UI and community members.

The papers all examined the intersections of law and culture across time and space. Christopher Buccafusco, Assistant Professor of Law, Chicago-Kent College of Law, examined copyright jurisprudence through the lens of culinary creativity in "Copyrighting Canapés: What Cooking and Chefs Can Tell Us about Creativity, Authenticity and Incentives." Professor of Law at Villanova University School of Law Penelope Pether examined the work of chef and food writer Edna Lewis, a Southern and African American woman who co-founded the Society for the Revival and Preservation of Southern Food within the context of slave narratives and other African American literature. Her paper was entitled "beating back the past': Edna Lewis, (Re)constructing the Black Family, and Culinary Jurisprudence." Fabio Parasecoli, Academic Director at Gustolab, Visiting Professor, University of Gastronomic Sciences, Adjunct Professor, Department of Nutrition, Food Studies, and Public Health, New York University discussed the cultural, social, political, economic and ecological values of "Geographical Indications," a method of categorizing agricultural processes and food production in "Geographical Indications: Food, Politics, and the Law." He described the potential benefits geographical indications could have for traditional and artisanal food producers, as well as the costs of this sort of political delineation. University of Calgary's Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Charlene Elliott examined the complex history of the status of yellow margarine in Canada in "Canada's Great Butter Caper: On Law, Fakes and the Biography of Margarine." Denis Stearns, Founding Partner, Marler Clark, LLP PS, Seattle, WA ended the afternoon with an examination of the development of tort law to protect consumers and insure the wholesomeness of their foods, in his paper "On Faceless Transactions: How Tort Law Evolved to Manage the Sale of Food Between Strangers." As a practicing attorney who works on cases involving unsafe and defective food products, Stearns offered insights into why legal protections may not be enough. Each paper indicated that because food is such a fundamental part of life, an examination of the intersections of food, law, and culture is extremely revealing.

*Cinda Nofziger
Graduate Assistant, CESA*



Charlene Elliott



Fabio Parasecoli



Christopher Buccafusco



Denis Stearns



Doris Witt



Penelope Pether

(FROM THE CHAIR — Continued from page 1)

with an engraved tackle box inscribed with her dates of service and the words "Gone Fishing" (see photos on p. 12).

We also bid good-bye to Visiting Assistant Professor Fay Botham, who graced our halls and taught a range of courses for us in American Studies and American Indian and Native Studies over the past two years. Happily, she remains on The University of Iowa faculty, as she is now Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, and can continue to work with interested students in American Studies and AINS.

Meanwhile, the dissolution of the department formerly known as Health and Sport Studies (HSS) has brought the Sport Studies major and four additional faculty and staff members into our midst. Professor Susan Birrell, who has been a contributing member of our faculty for many years but who technically only held a 0% appointment in American Studies, now holds a 75% appointment in American Studies with the remaining 25% in the renamed Department of Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies (GWSS). While pursuing her current research project on Mount Everest as a site of cultural production in the U.S. and elsewhere, she will continue to teach a range of graduate and undergraduate courses on the cultural meanings of sport, as well as the Sport Studies foundation course *Inequality in Sport*. A sport historian and the President-Elect of the North American Society for Sport History, Associate Professor Catriona "Tina" Parratt, now 100% in American Studies, teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on American sport and sport and nationalism. She is completing a book on the politics of land use involved in sporting practices of the Scottish diaspora, including those that have taken root in the Americas. Dr. Jennifer Metz comes to us as a Lecturer who not only carries a full load of U.S.-centered undergraduate courses (*Inequality in Sport*; *Women, Sport and Culture*; *Sport and Media*; *20th Century Sport*) but also serves on graduate committees and maintains an active research agenda. Her current research concerns African American athlete mothers. Joe Cilek joins the department quarter-time (ten hours a week) as undergraduate advisor to help support 150 Sport Studies majors.

With Susan Birrell's leadership as Coordinator of Sport Studies in American Studies, we have already worked through most undergraduate curricular issues so that students entering the department can now pursue B.A. degrees in both American Studies and Sport Studies. We began the process of merging our graduate programs last Spring and look forward to completing the process this Fall. Eighteen continuing graduate students have moved from HSS into American Studies. They will complete their degrees in HSS. The plan under discussion is that new graduate students interested in Sport Studies will apply for the PhD in American Studies and pursue a track in Sport Studies, which can be accommodated within our system of custom-designed fields of study.

Along with bringing us wonderful new faculty, staff, and students, this merger makes exciting intellectual sense, as sport studies enhances our commitment to diversity and dovetails with our strengths in areas such as popular culture, performance, and the arts in everyday life. Few phenomena are bigger in America than sport; it behooves us to understand its far reaching cultural impact in depth. To mark the merger and galvanize our mutual scholarly interests, we are planning a Spring symposium (April 1-3, 2011), "Performing Ethnicities through Sport," that will critically engage diverse issues of identity in historical and contemporary American sport culture and will be held jointly with the Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts. (See Call for Papers on page 13)

The Sport Studies/American Studies symposium will cap another robust season of American Studies sponsored talks that continue to enrich the intellectual life of the Department, the College, and the University. Last year we hosted Ida Beam speaker Tracy C. Davis (see article p. 12) and Floating Friday talks by eight speakers, including Corey Creekmur, Lena Hill, Rebekah Kowal, Kembrew McLeod, Dan Raeburn, and Michael Veal. This year's roster includes, from The University of Iowa faculty, Santiago Vaquera-Vásquez (Spanish and Portuguese), Laura Rigal (American Studies and English), Andre Brock (SLIS), Miriam Thaggert (English and African American Studies), and Marian Wilson Kimber (Music); new and imminent American Studies PhDs Sharon Lake and Danielle Rich; and, from Grinnell College, Sarah Purcell, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Rosenfield Program in Public Affairs, International Relations, and Human Rights. Thanks to Nick Yablon for all of his work as Floating Fridays planner.

We will also be continuing our series Presenting American Studies for developing the art of the 20-minute conference paper

(Continued on page 11)

Sam Graber wins 2010 D.C. Spriestersbach Dissertation Prize

At a March 26, 2010, ceremony in the Senate Chamber of the Old Capitol, Sam Graber (PhD 2008; currently a lecturer in humanities and English in Christ College at Valparaiso University) was awarded the Spriestersbach Prize in humanities and fine arts for his dissertation "Twice-Divided Nation: The Civil War and National Memory in the Transatlantic World," which was directed by John Raeburn. The award carried a \$2,500 prize along with a Graduate College award certificate.

The D.C. Spriestersbach Dissertation Prize was established to recognize excellence in doctoral research. Each year the winners of the D.C. Spriestersbach Dissertation Prize become The University of Iowa's nominee in the national competition for the Council of Graduate Schools/University Microfilms International Distinguished Dissertation Award.

Prizes are awarded annually in two of four broad disciplinary areas—Humanities and the Fine Arts, Mathematical and Physical Sciences and Engineering, Biological Sciences, and Social Sciences. The Graduate College, in turn, holds two D.C. Spriestersbach Prize competitions in the areas specified by the Council of Graduate Schools.

Sam's dissertation was thus considered the best of humanities dissertations filed at Iowa in the last two years, and it became the university's nominee in that category for the national competition. Congratulations, Sam!



Sam Graber with thesis director John Raeburn



D.C. Spriestersbach, Graber, John Keller

Lauren Rabinovitz wins 2010 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence



Lauren Rabinovitz became the first American Studies faculty member to win the Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. This is one of the most prestigious awards given at the University, and it is given in recognition of superlative achievement in all three areas of faculty endeavor—teaching, research, and service. While scholarly achievements such as Lauren's become well known because they are not only prodigious and excellent but public, her enormous and inspired contributions in the areas of teaching, mentorship, and service to the Department, College, and University over a twenty-five-year career at Iowa have sometimes gone unsung. We are thrilled that she has come through her medical leave and is back this Fall continuing her so deservedly award-winning work.

Her latest book, *Electric Dreamland: Amusement Parks, Movies, and American Modernity*, has been accepted by Columbia University Press and is slated for publication in 2011.

American Indian Native Studies Program

The AINSP steering committee is looking forward to another productive year as well as working with our students who make our classes exciting as well as challenging. The steering committee completed the revision of the requirements for the certificate and minor in American Indian Native Studies this past spring. The new requirements provide more flexible options as well as more regularized offerings of courses. We also are thankful to the creativity and support of Laura Kastens, who worked hard on our new and improved web page which is still under construction but well on its way to completion.

In April the AINSP hosted Prof. Matthew Sakiestewa Gilbert (Hopi), American Indian Native Studies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Prof. Gilbert showed his documentary film, "Beyond the Mesas" and talked about Hopi boarding school experiences.

Faculty News

Micheline Pesantubbee (Coordinator) continues to work on her project on Shawnee women during the Shawnee movement (1805-1812). In November she presented a paper, "Wounded Knee Memorial: A Monument to Lakota Sovereignty or a Bulwark for American Nationalism," at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting. She also taught courses on American Indian environmentalism; American Indian Women: Myth, Ritual and Sacred Power; and Introduction to Native American religious traditions.

Michel LaRonde (Steering Committee Member) teaches and publishes in the domain of the postcolonial literatures and cinema from France, represented mostly by immigration from North- and subSaharan Africa. An area of global transit for postcolonial subjects and cross-cultural encounters, the literatures and cultures of (im)migration and exile include all sorts of practices that modify 21st-century France as well as the diverse cultures of the Francophone world. He regularly teaches "Quebecois literature," a graduate course that focuses on the culture, literature and cinema of Quebec.



AINSP Steering Committee (L-R): Erica Prussing, Micheline Pesantubbee, Phil Round, Margaret Beck, Steven Williams. Not pictured: Theresa Heitz, Catherine Komisaruk, and Michel LaRonde.

Micheline Pesantubbee

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Thank you to our donors!

We gratefully recognize alumni, faculty, and friends who contributed to the Department of American Studies through The University of Iowa Foundation, the preferred channel for private support of all areas of the University. Every gift is greatly appreciated and we thank everyone for their support of the Department of American Studies.

Faculty News

Susan Birrell received the Distinguished Service Award at the annual North American Society for Sociology of Sport meetings in November held in Ottawa.

Rich Horwitz A bit of an update (especially because I keep on hearing that people think I am actually retired -- vs. retired from UI). I wish I had been around for the Raeburn retirement celebration, but I was glad to have stopped by the week before, while passing through. In case I didn't see you . . .

I am still busy, enjoying life with Noni in Rhode Island, working very full time on several projects. Carl is still teaching out in the Bay Area, living in the Haight. For this year, I'm mainly occupied in three jobs: As a contract consultant for the US Department of Agriculture (USDA/APHIS), developing a plan designed to assure the survival of dairies in New England in the event of a disease outbreak (like what happened in the U.K. in 2001 and is happening in Japan and Korea now).

As a salaried "Outreach Coordinator" at Virginia Tech, engaged to "improve the university's culture of emergency preparedness."

As a consultant for several projects at the University of RI, chiefly as a coordinator of the state-university alliance that I helped build for "Scientific Support of Environmental Emergency Response" (e.g., oil spills, hurricanes, flu, etc.) and as an "External Evaluator" for the "National Science Foundation's flagship interdisciplinary training program," IGERT.

So, very busy -- but still plying connections between interdisciplinary academia and public service.

As for reading, viewing, etc., I have tons to recommend, but my latest favorite (not about America, but use-

ful to an AS curiosity, I think) is "Rebel Land" by Christopher de Bellaigue.

Kim Marra was inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Theatre at a ceremony at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, in April. Last Fall, she was elected into the National Theatre Conference at the Player's Club in New York City. These honors are awarded in recognition of

both scholarly accomplishments and service to the profession. She staged her 65-minute lecture-demo piece "Horseback Views: A Queer Hippological Performance," which uses her own embodied practice as an equestrian to open up the history of Anglo-American women's riding, at the Performance Studies International Conference in Toronto in June. She also gave three conference presentations: "Equine Passion Play: *The Life, Death, and Restoration of the High-Mettled Racer; Or, Harlequin on Horseback*" at the American Society for Theatre Research Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico last November; "Theatrical Hippology: Innovations in Horse Training on the Nineteenth Century U.S. Stage" at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, New York, August 2009; and "Maude Adams, Lesbian and Equestrian," at On History and Performance: Performance Studies Preconference, Association for Theatre in Higher Education, New York, July 2009. She continues her service on the American Studies Association's Committee on Programs and Centers and as the Mid-America American Studies Association's representative to ASA.



American Studies Faculty at a recent Floating Friday

John Raeburn I gave a keynote lecture in January at a conference sponsored by the Reina Sophia Museum in Madrid centered on the worker-photography movement in the 1930s. My lecture's title was "The Politics of Documentary in Thirties America."

My book, *Ben Shahn's American Scene: Photographs, 1938*, was published this summer by the University of Illinois Press.

I am the 2010 recipient of the Elizabeth Kolmer Award for

teaching and mentoring in American studies, awarded by the Mid-America American Studies Association.

Harry Stecopoulos published "Hemispheric Drama and Performance" in *The Blackwell Companion to American Studies* (2010). "Leslie Fiedler's Medieval America" (co-authored with Kathy Lavezzo of the English Department) will appear in the November issue of *American Literary History*.

Deborah Whaley's first book, *Disciplining Women: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Black Counterpublics, and the Cultural Politics of Black Sororities* (SUNY 2010), is an interdisciplinary look at Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA), the first historically Black sorority.

In addition, she delivered a paper at MAASA this past spring: "Trimming the Fat in Lean Times: Arguments for Emergent American Studies."

Nick Yablon My book, *Untimely Ruins: An Archaeology of American Urban Modernity, 1819-1919* came out earlier this year with University of Chicago Press. Since then, I've completed a couple of new articles:

(Continued on page 7)

one on the invention of the time capsule in the Gilded Age (the subject of my next book), and the other on the surprisingly widespread phenomenon of unfinished monuments in nineteenth-century America. I presented an early version of the time capsule article to the department as a Floating Friday lecture last year, and lectured on unfinished monuments at a Huntington Library symposium on "American Ruins" that was organized by Karen Halttunen and Seth Cotlar. Upcoming talks include a lecture in November to the Iowa Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA).

Graduate Student Awards 2009-2010

Ballard-Seashore Dissertation

Award 10-11

Danielle Rich

Kern Dissertation Travel Awards

Eric Johnson
Cinda Nofziger
Gyorgy Toth

Graduate Diversity Award—North

American Society for the Sociology of Sport

Nik Dickerson

Kern Professional Travel Awards

Mark Mattes
Gyorgy Toth

2010-2012 Robert Olson

Fellowship

Gyorgy Toth

Graduate College Summer

Fellowship

Wayne Anderson
Craig Eley
Matt Thomas

Faculty

Lafayette (Bluford) Adams
(English)

Susan Birrell (GWSS)

Richard Horwitz (Emeritus)

Kim Marra (Theatre Arts)

Jennifer Metz

Tina Parratt

Horace Porter (English & African-
American Studies)

Lauren Rabinovitz
(Cinema & Comparative Literature)

John Raeburn (Emeritus)

Laura Rigal (English)

Harry Stecopoulos (English)

Albert Stone (Emeritus)

Deborah Whaley
(African American Studies)

Nick Yablon

Staff

Joe Cilek

Laura Kastens

Lisa Krause

Current Graduate Students

Rob Albanese
Jens Althoff
Jennifer Ambrose
Wayne Anderson
Kirsten Archer
Derrais Carter
Tom Collins
Amanda Curtis*
Becky Dewing
Nik Dickerson*
Sarah Eikleberry*
Craig Eley
Lis Erickson*
Kara Fagan
Cydney Gaines*
Barrett Gough
Jonathan Hansen
Betsy Loyd Harvey
Matt Hodler*
Eric Johnson
Sang Uk Joo*
Sharon Lake
Cathryn Lucas-Carr*
Mike Maciejewski
Marta Mack-Washington*
Mark Mattes
Vanessa Nakoski
Eileen Narcotta-Welp*
Cinda Nofziger

Patrick Oray
Brad Parsons
Mira-Lorelei Radu*
Danielle Rich
Carolan Schroeder*
Jae Chul Seo*
Debra Shattuck
Austin Showalter*
Sara Shreve
Karen Smith
Alexis Stevens
Yu-Kuei Sun*
Ivana Takacova
Dan Taradash*
Matt Thomas
Nate Titman
Gyorgy "George" Toth
Eloisa Valenzuela-Mendoza
Allison Wanger
Mark Warburton
Larissa Werhnyak
Charlie Williams
Steven Williams
Amy Wilson*
Penny Winberg*
Michael Winslow
Nick Yanes

*Sport Studies

Meet Our New Graduate Cohort!

Jens Althoff is 26 years old. He has been studying English/American Studies and History at TU Dortmund University and Ruhr University Bochum in Germany since 2005. Research interests include African American literature and culture, Hip Hop music and culture, popular music and film. His BA thesis was entitled *The Influence of Blaxploitation on Hip Hop Music*. He was one of the organizers of the international conference *Hip Hop in the Ruhr Area* on 2nd and 3rd of July 2010 which took place in Dortmund.

In his little free time, he likes to go out with friends, visit concerts, especially US and German Hip Hop, among other things. Germans are soccer crazy, so is he. Therefore he often goes to the Dortmund Soccer Stadium, the Signal-Iduna-Park, which is not only the biggest stadium in Germany but also hosts the best German team, his precious BVB.

Jens looks forward to teaching German and taking courses in American Studies, meeting a lot of new people and contributing to the cultural dialogue while at The University of Iowa.

Mike Maciejewski Beginning his undergraduate work in Business Management at Ithaca College in 2002, Mike transferred to the University of Vermont in 2004, changing his focus from business to history. Mentored by Dr. Paul Deslandes and Dr. Amani Whitfield, Mike earned several departmental honors including the Jerry Felt Scholarship and the Paul Evans Award for Excellence in the Study of History. After graduating from UVM, Mike earned his Master's Degree in History from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. Mike has come to Iowa in order to continue his research in sport history, with particular interest in studies of

physical culture, masculinity, and the body.

Growing up in Jericho, Vermont Mike has recently come to Iowa by way of Fort Mill, SC. A rower in college, Mike spends most of his free time away from school at the gym, watching and photographing minor league baseball, or relaxing at home with his girlfriend.

Debbie Shattuck is a retired Air Force Colonel who is delighted to have the time to pursue her PhD in American Studies. Having spent 25 years traveling around the globe with husband, Cliff, and three children, David, Kristen & Katie, she is looking forward to spending the next few years "planted" in Iowa researching the history of nineteenth century women baseball players for her forthcoming book, *Bloomer Girls: Women Baseball Pioneers*. Debbie was born and raised in northern Ohio. She earned a B.A. in American History and Secondary Education from Cedarville College and a Masters in American History from Brown University. She taught world, military & American history at the Air Force Academy for 4 years and created the school's first Sport History course. Among her many interesting experiences while in the Air Force, Debbie served at the Pentagon and was there on 9/11 when the terrorists flew a plane into the building. When not reading history books or lighthearted mysteries, Debbie enjoys sports of all kinds and playing guitar.

Graduate Student Accomplishments

Derrais Carter This summer I participated in the Clinton Institute for American Studies at University College Dublin from July 11-17. I worked with graduates students and junior faculty from numerous countries in a week-long workshop led by Donald Pease. I also workshopped and presented a paper on Gordon Parks' photographic study of black firefighters.

Sharon Lake successfully defended her dissertation, "The Accidental Feminist: Iowa's Breastfeeding Firefighter and the National Struggle for Workplace Equity" in July.

Matt Thomas In May, I participated in the third iteration of the THAT-Camp digital humanities "unconference" at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. In June, I gave a paper at the Media Ecology Association's 11th annual convention held at the University of Maine in Orono, ME.

Charlie Williams (ABD) and Loren Glass, Associate Professor of English here at The University of Iowa, have an edited anthology forthcoming from Ohio State University Press next spring: [Obscenity and the End of Liberalism](#).



American Studies & Sport Studies graduate students at a recent Floating Friday

Through An American Lens

On Saturday, April 10, many current and former colleagues and students of John Raeburn gathered to pay tribute to him with a day-long symposium on the occasion of his retirement. It was a spectacular event!

Introductory remarks by **Michael Veitch** (The Frances Xavier Warde School)

SESSION I: GOING NATIONAL: LITERATURE'S AUDIENCES

Sam Graber (PhD 2008, Valparaiso University), "*The Poetry of Pulp: Literature, Memory, and the News*"

Commentator: **Jennifer Pustz** (PhD 2004, Historic New England)

Mike Augspurger (PhD 2001, Augustana College), "*Archibald MacLeish and Professional Leadership*"

Commentator: **Jay Satterfield** (PhD 1999, Dartmouth College)

SESSION II: FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE 1930s

Barb Shubinski (PhD 2009, independent scholar), "*Introducing America to Americans: The Farm Security Administration and the Shaping of American Documentary Photography, 1936-1976*"

Commentator: **Cinda Nofziger** (ABD, The University of Iowa)

Chuck Maland (University of Tennessee - Knoxville), "*A Neurotic State of Wanting Perfection: Chaplin, Studio Records, and the Making of City Lights*"

Commentator: **Lori Vermaas** (PhD 2000, independent scholar)

SESSION III: PREWAR/POSTWAR HOLLYWOOD

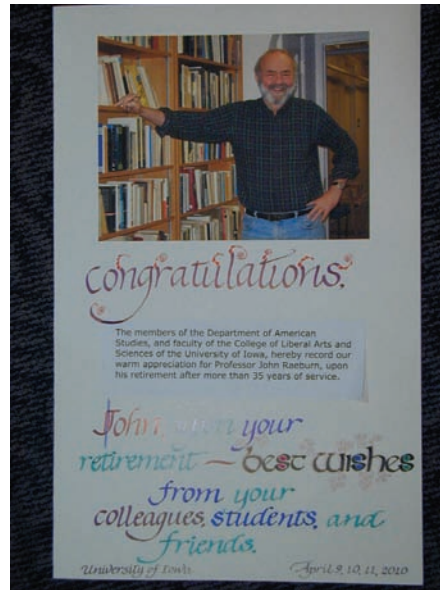
Thomas Doherty (PhD 1984, Brandeis University), "*Warner Bros. and the Nazis, 1933-1939*"

Commentator: **JoAnn Castagna** (1989, independent scholar)

Eric Sandeen (1977, University of Wyoming), "*The Best Years of Our Lives and the Post-War American Landscape*"

Concluding remarks by **John Raeburn**

Followed by pizza, drinks, roasts & toasts at The Sanctuary Restaurant and Pub



Miriam Gilbert toasts John during the celebration at The Mill



Back row: Barb Shubinski, Jane Simonsen, Jen Pustz, Jen Denniston, Mike Augspurger
Front Row: Russ Peterson, Jay Satterfield



John listens attentively



Nick, John & Dan Raeburn

Alumni News

Dorit Azoulay (BA '09) was admitted to the Bank Street Graduate School of Education.

Margot Canaday (BA '92) was awarded the Ellis W. Hawley Prize (given for the best book in the history of the political economy, politics, or institutions of the United States, in its domestic or international affairs, from the Civil War to the present) for *The Straight State: Sexuality and Citizenship in Twentieth Century America* (Princeton University Press, 2009) by the OAH. Canaday is an Assistant Professor of History at Princeton University.

Julie Deuble (MA '89) I went back to school--something I never thought I would do--and earned a BFA in Interior Design from the State University of NY College at Buffalo in May of this year. I am currently a kitchen designer at Artisan Kitchens & Baths in Buffalo NY and loving it. I finally figured out what I want to be when I grow up! There are a lot of historic homes in Buffalo, so my background in American Studies and cultural history comes in handy.

Brian Hallstoos (PhD '09) was invited to present a paper in Los Angeles in August at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education as part of the Black Theatre Association panel. He also received a \$1000 State Historical Society of Iowa Research Award for his project on the links between African American women's activism and the Black church in Iowa.

Elizabeth Kenyon (BA '10) was admitted to UI Law School.

David J. Marcou (MA '78) of La Crosse, WI, a freelance writer, photographer, and editor, has published another photobook, "Most of the Time, I See Photographs: New American Views in the Public

Arena." Inspired by his son's (Matthew A. Marcou's) dramatic night-view of a WWII Memorial fountain on the National Mall from 2006, (the main photo on this book's cover), David photographed Washington, D.C., in April 2010. He is working on his 29th book, with his son, "American Eyes: A Father and Son's Best Photos, Documenting Everyday and Well-Known, via Moments of Their Own," and also recently revised his sequel to Sean O'Casey's "Juno and the Paycock," entitled "Song of Joy--Or the Old Reliables," after receiving positive critique suggestions from the National Theatre of Ireland (the Abbey). He will soon also take part in StoryCorps, the mobile oral history project administered through NPR, with the interview (of David and his cousin Steve Kiedrowski) to be donated to the Library of Congress, among many participant-interviews.

Kay Mussel (PhD '73) became Interim Senior Vice Provost and Dean of Academic Affairs of American University, where she has served on the faculty since 1974, in June 2009. She is the author of Women's Gothic and Romantic Fiction: A Reference Guide and Fantasy and Reconciliation: Contemporary Formulas of Women's Romance Fiction. She was honored by The University of Iowa with a Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 2007.

Dan Nathan (PhD '97) Beginning his second year as Chair of the Department of American Studies at Skidmore College, Dan Nathan recently published a chapter in David K. Wiggins and R. Pierre Rodgers's *Rivals: Legendary Matchups That Made Sports History* (University of Arkansas Press) and an essay, "Painting Pride and Prejudice: Kadir Nelson's *We Are The Ship*," in *Black Ball: A Negro Leagues Journal*.

Matt Nelson (BA '05) is in his second year of the PhD program in Literary and Cultural Studies at Carnegie Mellon University.

Eriko Ogihara-Schuck (MA '05) recently got married in Germany. In addition, her first article, "Golden Peril?: Monetary Representations of Asians in 20th Century Detective Fiction," came out from Lit Verlag Vienna recently. This past summer her chapter "The Christianizing of Animism in Manga and Anime: American Translations of Hayao Miyazaki's Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind" came out from Continuum.

Barb Shubinski (PhD '09) has received an invitation to present a paper at the National Council on Public History annual meeting in April 2011 to be held in Pensacola, FL.

Jane Simonsen (PhD '01) has been named the director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program at Augustana and is continuing as President of MAASA for one more year.

Lori Vermaas (PhD '00) has citations of three book/film reviews forthcoming or already in print this year.

"Review of *Big River*," Dir. Curt Ellis, 2009, Mosaic Films, ISBN (DVD): 1-59458-930-5, 27 min. (Distributed by bullfrogfilms), Green Theory & Praxis: The Journal of Ecopedagogy, forthcoming.

"Review of John Hausdoerffer, *Catlin's Lament: Indians, Manifest Destiny, and the Ethics of Nature*" (University Press of Kansas, 2009), Environmental History January 2010 15(1): 154-56.

"Review of John Opie, *Virtual America: Sleepwalking Through Paradise*" (University of Nebraska Press, 2008), Environmental History January 2010 15(1): 157-58.

(FACULTY NEWS—Continued from page 3)

and serving as a forum for sharing graduate student work. The dissertation writing group that Laura Rigal started last spring continued through the summer and will meet regularly through both semesters of the coming academic year. We are very grateful to Laura for taking the initiative to create and sustain this vital new endeavor to foster the writing process.

Congratulations to our three new PhDs—Brian Hallstoos, Sharon Romeo, and Barb Shubinski, and three new MAs—Jennifer Hagedorn, Mary Shannon Kelly, and Julie Shanahan. Welcome to three new American Studies graduate students, Col. Debra Shattuck (ret. U.S. Air Force) and Mike Maciejewski, both interested in sport studies, and Jens Althoff, our master's exchange student from Dortmund. Our continuing graduate students won numerous awards (see p. 8), including a Ballard/Seashore Dissertation Fellowship won by Danielle Rich and the two-year Robert A. and Ruth Bywater Olson Fellowship awarded by The University of Iowa Special Collections and Archives to Gyorgy Toth.

Among many impressive faculty achievements in the past year, we celebrate the publication of three books: Nick Yablon's magnificent *Untimely Ruins: An Archaeology of Urban Modernity, 1819-1919*, from the University of Chicago Press; John Raeburn's beautifully rendered *Ben Shahn's American Scene: Photographs, 1938* from the University of Illinois Press; and Deborah Whaley's just released *Disciplining Women: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Black Counterpublics, and the Cultural Politics of Black Sororities* from SUNY Press, with a stunning cover design by Deborah herself. Auspicious hellos indeed!

Kim Marra

*Chair, Department of American Studies
Professor of American Studies and Theatre Arts*

Congratulations!

B.A.

Summer 2009

Kelli Sutterman

Fall 2009

Nellie Fisher

Mark Hood

Spring 2010

Kierra Baker

Jake Bush

Darcy Hansen

Trevor Johnson

Elizabeth Kenyon

Katherine Mothershead

Maxwell Nedved

Dennis O'Shea

Elizabeth Pittman

Ana Rodriguez

Elizabeth Smith

Admitted to PhD Candidacy

Rob Albanese

Kirsten Archer

Derrais Carter

Vanessa Nakoski

Alexis Stevens

Nick Yanes

Comprehensive Exams

Craig Eley

Barrett Gough

Jonathan Hansen

Sara Shreve

Matt Thomas

Nathan Titman

Larissa Werhnyak

Successful Prospectus Meeting

Jennifer Ambrose

Bradley Parsons

Mark Mattes

Ivana Takacova

M.A.

Jenny Hagedorn

Mary Shannon Kelly

Julie Shanahan

Ph.D.

Summer 2009

Barbara Shubinski

"DOCUMERICA'S America: Environmentalism, Documentary Photography and Landscape in the Environmental Protection Agency, 1971-1977"

Fall 2009

Sharon Romeo

"Freedwomen in Pursuit of Liberty: St. Louis and Missouri in the Age of Emancipation"

Brian Hallstoos

"Windy City, Holy Land: Willa Saunders Jones and Black Sacred Music and Drama"

Ida Beam Visiting Speaker

In October 2009, American Studies hosted Tracy C. Davis, Barber Professor of Performing Arts and Professor of Theatre and English at Northwestern University, as Ida Cordelia Beam Distinguished Visiting Professor. At the time of her visit, Professor Davis was completing her terms as President of the American Society for Theatre Research and as Director of Northwestern's Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Theatre and Drama. Her Ida Beam residency was co-sponsored by the Departments of English, History, and Theatre Arts, as well as the Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts (CESA), and the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Interdisciplinary Colloquium (ENCIC).

While in residence, Professor Davis gave two public talks that together demonstrated the scope of her own research and the wide applicability of performance studies approaches: "Acting Black, 1824" and "The Witness Protection Program: Making Theatre, Every Day." She also visited Professor Deborah Whaley's 45:020 Sources for American Studies class for undergraduate majors where she discussed the intriguing range of materials she used in her latest book, *Stages of Emergency: Cold War Nuclear Civil Defense* (Duke University Press, 2007), a stunning interdisciplinary study of how the U.S. (and two NATO Allies, Great Britain and Canada) prepared civilian populations for atomic attack through staged drills, evacuations, and field exercises. In addition, she led a session of Professor Kim Marra's graduate proseminar on Performance Studies/American Studies taught in conjunction with her visit, and conducted a lunch discussion of performance studies research methodologies for graduate students in American Studies and co-sponsoring departments.



American Studies students during lunch discussion



Tracy Davis

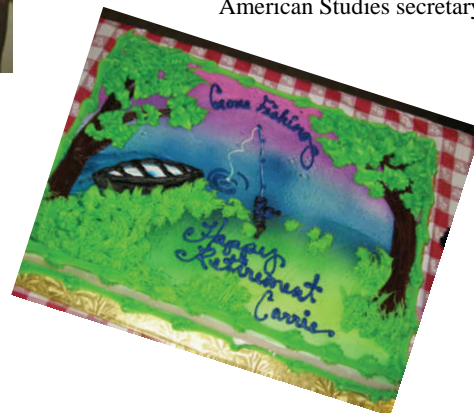
Retirement Celebration for Carrie Louvar



Administrative Assistant Carrie Louvar with three of the DEOs she served with: John Raeburn, Lauren Rabinovitz, and Kim Marra



American Studies secretary Laura Kastens with Carrie



**The University of Iowa Department of American Studies and the
Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts (CESA)
Announce a Call for Papers for
PERFORMING ETHNICITIES THROUGH SPORT**

**April 1-3, 2011
The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA**

To mark the merger of Sport Studies into American Studies at The University of Iowa, the Department of American Studies and the Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts are sponsoring a three-day symposium: Performing Ethnicities through Sport.

Sport can be understood as a live performance whose study powerfully engages questions of the body, its identities and capabilities, and its interactions with natural and built environments; sport is also widely broadcast and represented in the media. Critical sport scholars and American studies scholars use a range of theoretical perspectives and draw from many fields to illuminate these and sport's other manifold historical and contemporary resonances. This symposium aims to bring together scholars engaged in critical and historical studies of American sport in U.S. domestic and transnational contexts to explore the performance of ethnicities through sport.

We invite proposals for standard 20-minute paper presentations and panels, as well as other formats, including roundtables, workshops, and performances on this theme.

Keynote Speakers

Three distinguished Iowa alumni will give keynote talks. They are:

Sarah K. Fields, The Ohio State University, author of *Female Gladiators: Gender, Law, and Contact Sport in America* (2005): "The Absence and Presence of Race: Ross v. Creighton University."

Daniel A. Nathan, Skidmore College, author of the award-winning *Saying It's So: A Cultural History of the Black Sox Scandal* (2003): "Playing Together, Playing Apart: Sport, Community, and Identity."

Mary G. McDonald, Miami University, Ohio, co-editor of the award-winning *Reading Sport: Critical Essays on Power and Representation* (2000): "In the Embrace of Michelle Obama's Arms: Intersectionality and Celebrity Body Politics in 21st Century America."

For each proposal, please submit:

- Name(s) of all participants
- Address, telephone number, and e-mail address for each participant
- Institutional affiliation(s), if any
- Title(s) of paper
- 250-word proposal
- 100-word biographical note for each participant

Send proposals via electronic mail by December 1, 2010, to: cesa@uiowa.edu.

Proposals will be evaluated by the conference program committee, and notification of acceptance will be made by January 15, 2011.

For further questions or information on PERFORMING ETHNICITIES THROUGH SPORT, please contact: Center for Ethnic Studies and the Arts, Department of American Studies, The University of Iowa, 210 Jefferson Building, Iowa City, IA 52242; phone (319) 384-3490; e-mail: cesa@uiowa.edu; http://www.uiowa.edu/~cesa