

BETWEEN *the* LINES

A PUBLICATION OF UC IRVINE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

FALL 2008

Humanities and sciences forge innovative collaborations at UCI

From scholars who have devised a project that analyzes references to the word "love" in Dickens' novels aided by computer code to one that digitizes historical archives from the antiquities, researchers in the humanities are finding relevance in increasingly digital and technology driven academic fields.

Leading this effort at UC Irvine is comparative literature professor David Theo Goldberg, a renowned scholar of critical race theory. Goldberg serves as director of the University of California Humanities Research Institute (UCHRI), which aims to bridge gaps between disciplines across the humanities and human sciences, particularly relating to technology and innovation.

According to Goldberg, "Over the last 10 years humanities research has changed a great deal as humanists explore the use of emerging digital technologies to augment conventional research." He



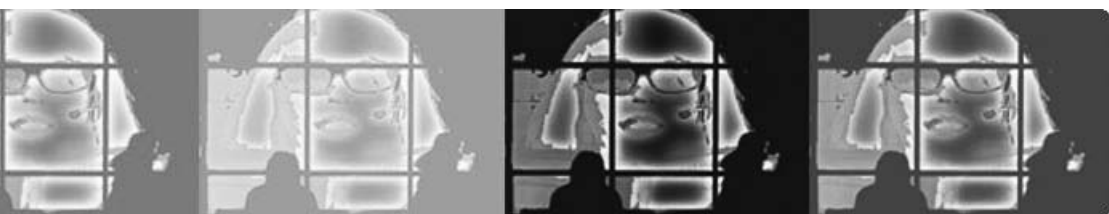
adds, "One of UCHRI's primary goals is to deepen this exchange between the humanities and the sciences."

A former filmmaker, Goldberg has become increasingly interested in the intersection between these seemingly divergent fields. He has several projects underway that incorporate traditional research in critical race theory with the tools of computer science and

digital multimedia.

Goldberg's work on race and racism has led to a unique collaboration with computer scientists at the San Diego Supercomputer Center at UCSD and UNC Chapel Hill in which redlining maps (redlining is the practice of denying loans or insurance to people based on their race and neighborhood) from the 1930s and 1940s are being placed online in a digital collection. And his new book on race and racism out this year, *The Threat of Race*, will feature a companion Web site housing multimedia images, videos and a blog.

continued inside...



Dean's Message



The School of Humanities provides a vibrant intellectual environment that inspires and challenges our students and ourselves. This newsletter provides a sampling of our individual and collective accomplishments over the last academic year. Of note, the lead article highlights the innovation and collaboration taking place between the humanities and sciences. Several scholars within the School are enhancing their research with the help of computer science, geographic information systems and other new digital technologies—modes of investigation unheard of in the humanities in the not too distant past. Comparative literature professor David Theo Goldberg leads this effort as director of UCHRI and as the recipient of grants totaling more than \$8 million from the MacArthur Foundation.

While innovation and cross collaboration abound in new and exciting ways throughout the School, we also continue to attract the very best talent. I am particularly proud of the roster of new faculty—15 scholars with interdisciplinary connections from African American studies, global cultures, critical theory, visual studies, to women's studies. Indeed, the School of Humanities promotes a culture of excellence and inclusion with more than one-third of our new

hires reflecting the demographic diversity of California.

"Above Scale" Professor is reserved for scholars of the highest distinction and remains a title that only a select few of our colleagues attain in the UC system. Six of our colleagues were recently promoted to "Above Scale." Please join me in congratulating Ermanno Bencivenga (Philosophy), James McMichael (English), Jaime Rodríguez (History), Gonzalo Navajas (Spanish and Portuguese), Gabriele Schwab (Comparative Literature) and Brook Thomas (English).

Across the School, graduate education remains a pivotal priority and I am pleased to announce our new *Select a Seat...Support a Student* campaign to endow graduate summer fellowships (mentioned on the back of this issue). I encourage you to consider purchasing a seat in our new film screening room, which will be located in the Humanities Gateway Building. In appreciation for what the humanities can bring to our daily lives, please consider a gift in support of this campaign—it will benefit our students tremendously.

Vicki L. Ruiz, Dean

continued from cover...

While interested in incorporating computer science in his own work, Goldberg also wanted to facilitate other efforts happening in the humanities—both on campus and in the academic community at large. His interest in technology and digital media, he says, spurred "A desire to start a deep and reflective conversation among humanists, social scientists and computer scientists out of which collaborative projects can take shape."

So five years ago, together with Cathy Davidson of Duke University, Goldberg founded the Humanities, Arts, Science and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC), dedicated to the idea that this complex and world-changing digital environment requires all the lessons of history, introspection, theory and equity that the modern humanities have to offer.

As a result of Goldberg's work with HASTAC, grants totaling more than \$8 million over three years have been awarded to UCHRI by the John D. and Catherine T.



David Theo Goldberg with Cathy Davidson

MacArthur Foundation's \$50 million Digital Media and Learning Initiative. The grants fund the Digital Media and Learning Competition, which seeks innovators who use new digital technologies to envision the future of learning.

The second annual open-call competition, announced last month, will provide \$2 million in awards to innovators shaping the field of digital media and learning.

This year's competition winners will join an existing community of 17 awardees from last year, including a mobile musical laboratory, a digital humanitarian assistance game derived from existing military simulation technology, and a mobile phone project that connects young African social entrepreneurs with young North American professionals.

Elsewhere in the School of Humanities, projects that merge digital technology and traditional research have taken on broad forms. Housed at UCI and run by classics professor Maria Pantalia, the Thesaurus Linguae Graecae is a comprehensive digital library of Greek literature from antiquity to the present and was one of the very first digital projects to aid researchers in the classics.

In the history department, professor Patricia Seed is working on a digital mapping project, which will create an interactive GIS (Geographic Information Systems) database of 15th-century Portuguese maps of the African coastline. Digital technology applied to this historically significant collection of maps not only allows collective display, but also will create a research resource enabling entirely new modes of scholarly investigation.

For the humanist, says Goldberg, "These projects use digital technologies and ever-increasing virtual worlds to reflect upon what makes us human and how we understand ourselves and the world around us."

For more information on UCHRI or the Digital Media and Learning Competition, visit <http://www.uchri.org> and www.dml-competition.net.

We are proud to acknowledge the recipients of this year's named scholarships in the School of Humanities.

AWARD

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NEW FACULTY

Christine Bacareza Balance, Asian American studies, specializes in performance studies, Filipino American cultural studies, Asian American popular culture, queer and feminist theory.

Jami Bartlett, English, specializes in Victorian literature and culture, novel theory, philosophy of language and logic, game theory and the development of British social science.

Dorian Bell, French and Italian, examines modern French literature and culture, with an emphasis on the history of empire, anti-Semitism and reactionary ideologies.

M. Oreste Fiocco, philosophy, explores metaphysics, epistemology, the philosophy of language and also has research interests in ethics.



Lilith Mahmud, women's studies, is a cultural anthropologist specializing in gender, elites, secrecy and nationalism in Western Europe.

Lyle Massey, art history, specializes in Renaissance and early modern art focusing on the relationship between art, science and the body, gender studies and the history of collecting.

Nancy McLoughlin, history, is a historian of medieval Europe, including gender, intellectual, religious and political history.

Jessica Millward, history, focuses on slavery in the United States with broader interests in African American studies, women's history and gender studies.

Santiago Morales-Rivera, Spanish and Portuguese, specializes in modern peninsular studies, Spanish film, narrative and affectivity and the crossovers between arts and ethics.



Amy Powell, art history, examines late medieval and early modern visual culture of northern Europe, critical theory and historiography.

Bert M. Scruggs, East Asian languages and literatures, focuses on modern and contemporary Chinese fiction and film, cultural studies, postcoloniality, indigenization and the Cultural Revolution.

Thomas Sizgorich, history, specializes in late ancient and early Islamic history.

Tiffany Willoughby-Herard, African American studies, explores South African racial formations, third world feminisms, decolonizing theory, U.S. foreign policy, diaspora, internationalism, whiteness and economic justice.



Henry Weinstein, literary journalism, specializes in law and also is one of the founding faculty members at the new UCI Law School.

Roberta Wue, art history, emphasizes 19th and 20th century Chinese visual culture, including painting, photography and print culture.

AWARDS AND HONORS

German professor **Anke Biendarra** has been awarded a year-long Postdoctoral Fellowship from the American Association for University Women (AAUW). This highly competitive fellowship is awarded to only 20 scholars a year across the arts and humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.

History professor **Sarah Farmer** was recently awarded a fellowship from the National Humanities Center. The fellowship provides funding for Farmer and 41 other humanities scholars to conduct an individual research project and share ideas with other academics through seminars, lectures and conferences.

Edward Fowler, East Asian languages and literatures professor, was one of three UCI professors selected this year for a 2008 Guggenheim Fellowship for his work on a family memoir.

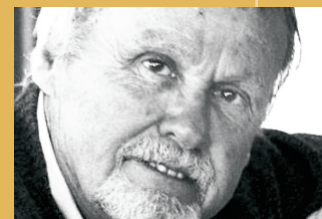
Ruth Kluger, German professor emerita, has been awarded the Bundesverdienstkreuz erster Klasse (German Order of Merit, First Class/Officer's Cross) by the president of the Federal Republic of Germany. The award, Germany's only state decoration, is given to Germans and foreigners for achievements in political, economic, social or intellectual realms.

Dean Vicki L. Ruiz was recently appointed to the Advisory Board of the National Museum of American History. The board currently has 27 members, including noted historians, business and community leaders, and members of philanthropic organizations.

Fascinated by China? Check out the China Beat blog, recently named one of the "Best of the China Blogs" by *The Wall Street Journal*. Contributors include UC Irvine history professors **Kenneth Pomeranz**, **Yong Chen** and **Jeffrey Wasserstrom**. The China Beat: Blogging How the East is Read can be found at thechinabeat.blogspot.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Oakley Hall, English professor emeritus, passed away May 12. The legendary author of critically-acclaimed works such as *Warlock*, Hall was director of UCI's Programs in Writing and instrumental in the development of the university's renowned creative writing program.



A leading literary critic and cultural theorist, **Lindon Barrett** enriched the school as a faculty member in the departments of comparative literature and African American studies until 2007. He was among the founding faculty of the program in African American studies in 1994 and served as director from 2004-2007.

EVENTS

Dates, times and locations listed below are subject to change. Please visit our Web site www.humanities.uci.edu for up-to-date information about Humanities events. Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and open to the public.

OCTOBER

Film screening of "U-Carmen"

Friday, Oct. 3, 2008 – 7 p.m.
Winifred Smith Hall
Pre-screening reception in
HIB 135, UC Irvine

A film screening of *U-Carmen*, a South African adaptation of Bizet's opera *Carmen*. The event will feature the film's star and translator, opera singer Pauline Malefane. Sponsored by the International Center for Writing and Translation (ICWT). E-mail icwt@uci.edu for more information.

Panel on Translation with Antje Rávic Strubel and Zaia Alexander

Monday, Oct. 13, 2008 – 2:00 p.m.
HIB 135, UC Irvine

Award-winning German novelist Antje Rávic Strubel and her English translator Zaia Alexander will speak about the task of translating.

Sponsored by the German department, ICWT, Poets & Writers, Inc., the literary journalism program and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program. E-mail kilowe@uci.edu for more information.

Oakley Hall Memorial

Friday, Oct. 17, 2008 – 4 p.m.
University Club, UC Irvine

A memorial by UC Irvine writers honoring Oakley Hall as a teacher, mentor and friend. Reception to follow.

Public Spheres, Blogospheres

Friday, Oct. 24, 2008 – 9 a.m.
HIB 135, UC Irvine

This one-day conference will feature conversations among important contemporary bloggers in the U.S. political and academic scene, focusing on the evolution of democracy and democratic participation in a digital age. Presented by the Humanities Center and HumaniTech®.

E-mail hctr@uci.edu for more information.

Kant Conference

Oct. 25–26, 2008
HIB 135, UC Irvine

Sponsored by the Pacific Study Group of the North American Kant Society.

E-mail s.bernecker@uci.edu or visit <http://www.humanities.uci.edu/SOH/> for more information.

Indo-Muslim Cultures in Transition

Oct. 31–Nov. 2, 2008

Social Science Plaza B 1208, UC Irvine
This interdisciplinary conference highlights the social, economic, literary, and artistic/architectural transitions taking place in Indo-Muslim cultural centers during the 18th and 19th centuries. For more information, visit <http://www.humanities.uci.edu/arhistory/indomuslimcultures/>

NOVEMBER

The Future of Writing

Nov. 6–7, 2008
HIB 135, UC Irvine

A two-day conference of panels, exhibits and demonstrations that brings together scholars to explore how new communications technologies, particularly the Internet, are challenging previous conceptions of what "writing" is. Presented by the UCI Office of the Campus Writing Coordinator and HumaniTech®.

Reading and Booksigning by poet Cornelius Eady

Monday, Nov. 17, 2008 – 5 p.m.
HIB 135, UC Irvine

A reading by Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award-nominated poet Cornelius Eady. Booksale and signing to follow.

Co-hosted by ICWT and the program in African American studies. E-mail icwt@uci.edu for more information.

Death and Dying in Premodern Cultures

Friday, Nov. 21, 2008 – 10 a.m.
Administration Building 338, UC Irvine
Part of the series "Translating Faith in Premodern Cultures."

Sponsored by UCHRI, religious studies, early cultures, and the department of English.

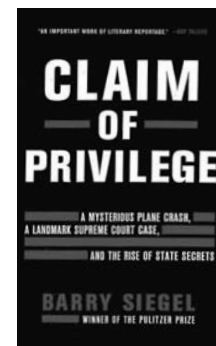
For more information e-mail Elizabeth Allen at eallen@uci.edu.

The Film and Video Center is UCI and Orange County's premiere art house cinema, screening new, independent, experimental and groundbreaking films and videos. For screenings, visit www.humanities.uci.edu/fvc/ or call (949) 824-7418.

Ticket prices: \$5 general, \$4 staff/seniors and \$3 students. Unless otherwise noted, all screenings begin at 7 p.m. each Thursday in HIB 100 Lucille Kuehn Auditorium.

Co-director of UCI's Programs in Writing, **Michelle Latiolais'** second novel, *A Proper Knowledge*, tells the story of a gifted psychiatrist haunted by the death of his young sister. Her book seeks to penetrate the mysteries of childhood autism in this beautifully written, insightful investigation into the misunderstood pathways of the brain and the heart.

In 1948, three civilian engineers died in the crash of an air force B-29 bomber that was testing a missile guidance system.



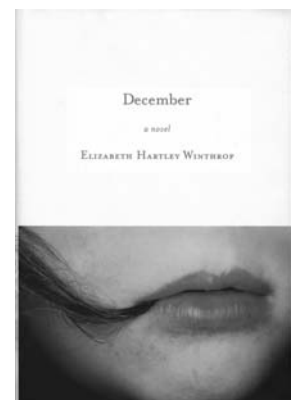
In their widows' lawsuit, the Supreme Court upheld the air force's refusal to divulge accident reports

that it claimed held military secrets.

In *Claim of Privilege*, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and director of the literary journalism program, **Barry Siegel**, recounts the case, a scandal and cover-up with grave constitutional implications.

Creative writing program graduate **Elizabeth Winthrop's** second novel, *December*, focuses on the turmoil wrought by the loss of a child.

Although Wilson and Ruth Carter's 11-year-old daughter, Isabelle, is very much alive, she hasn't spoken in nine months, an elective muteness brought on by no known trauma.



to Barabehel

Return Service Requested

New director of development joins Humanities

The School welcomes our new director of development, Carolyn Canning-White. Carolyn joins the School from the central advancement office at UC Irvine. A development professional for more than 15 years, she most recently served as both director of stewardship and the director of the Chancellor's Club at UCI. Prior to coming to UCI in 2005, Carolyn worked at UCLA's Anderson School of Management and on the building campaign fundraising team for the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in downtown Los Angeles.

You are invited to make a difference for graduate education through our *Select a Seat...Support a Student* campaign. For a \$1,000 donation, faculty, staff, alumni and friends can purchase a seat in the state-of-the-art film screening room located in our spectacular new Humanities Gateway Building, which will be completed in summer 2009. In return for your generous gift, a plaque with your name (or a name of your choice) will adorn a seat in the screening room auditorium. The 90-seat screening room will allow faculty and students to view films as intended by filmmakers, offering a true cinematic experience. More importantly, the screening room addresses the diverse technological needs of our programs, providing facilities for art history and film and media studies comparable to those found at other premier institutions. To learn more about the *Select a Seat...Support a Student* campaign, please contact Kristie Williams at (949) 824-1342 or E-mail kwilliam@uci.edu.

